
IN MEMORIAM: CHRIS DAVIDSON (1944–2022), THE IDAHO BOTANIST WHO BOTANIZED THE WORLD

Christopher Robert Davidson was a 4th-generation Idahoan, and specifically a 4th-generation son of Boise, who was passionate about the world's plants (Fig. 1). The geographic center of his botanical world was Idaho, but his botanical interests and travels took him across six of the world's seven continents. Chris had a deep, lifelong pleasure and wonder in all of the natural world, but particularly in geology and living organisms, and especially the flowering plants. He delighted in living plants equally in cultivation and in their natural habitats, and found his life's work in cultivating plants and documenting them in their natural living places. Chris contributed personally to our knowledge of phytodiversity, biogeography, morphology, systematics, taxonomy, and paleobotany for dozens of plant families, and to the development of capacity for plant science and conservation across dozens of countries. Through all of his work and life he was unfailingly collaborative, supportive, faithful, enthusiastic, and scientifically solid as a colleague, and a friend to many people around the world.

Chris's Idaho forebears included C. W. Moore, a successful figure in the 1860s gold rush of Idaho, and Moore and his descendants went on to help found and develop Boise through investment and philanthropy. Chris grew up in Boise, but spent many of his summers in the skiing and backcountry jumping-off town of McCall, on Payette Lake in west-central Idaho, where he discovered and nurtured his passion for natural history (Ertter, 2023). His mother, Marjorie "Moonie" Moore Davidson (1910–2000), divorced his father, Robert Davidson, when he was a child and married his father's cousin Charles M. "Charlie" Davidson (1897–1971), who became Chris's father in all ways that mattered. And, Charlie introduced Chris early on to the love of gardens and plants that became the focal point of his life.

Chris grew up in Boise, Idaho, from 1944 through 1962, in a time when broad new social changes were underway in American culture, and he matured during the heyday of the West Coast counterculture movement. He read widely in literature, science, and mainstream as well as counterculture publications, and looked at all the new ideas in the air in those days. In 1964 he ran into Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters on their psychedelic bus, and invited them up to McCall where they were courteously hosted by Charlie and Moonie. As a young man, Chris began his own life of travel and

roamed all the way to western Washington State for undergraduate studies at Whitman College in Walla Walla. Here he started with geology but quickly moved his gaze to botany, and graduated in 1966 with a degree in biology. Chris then continued his botanical studies with Ph.D. work at Claremont College in southern California. Here he worked with Robert Thorne and Sherwin Carlquist, and spent his free time exploring the plants and geology of southern California. His dissertation work focused on the morphology, anatomy, and biogeography of the Datisceae (Davidson, 1973, 1976). The relationships and distribution of this family were enigmatic for a long time. At that time the Datisceae included three genera and four species, with one species in western North America, one ranging from southern Europe to central Asia, and two species found from southeastern Asia through Australasia. (These genera are currently treated in two families, the Datisceae with one genus and the disjunct North American–Eurasian range, and the Tetramelaceae with the tropical Asian–Australasian range.) Chris's graduate studies included extensive botanical fieldwork in Mexico, various Pacific Islands, and eight countries from southeast Asia through Australasia: Philippines, Hong Kong, Sabah, western Malaysia, Singapore, Java, Bali, and New Guinea (e.g., Davidson, 1975). This travel and the in-depth study of Datisceae were the beginning of three more lifelong interests: tropical plants in their native habitat; poorly studied flowering plant families of uncertain affinity; and long-distance range disjunctions.

Chris finished his M.A. in 1968 and his Ph.D. in 1973, and immediately took a job as a curator at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. He worked here during 1973–1981, and developed an active scientific program of fieldwork and herbarium development. In the LAM herbarium, he expanded the collection significantly with his own collections, specimen gifts, and an exchange program, and he also accepted, incorporated, and curated 70,000 specimens transferred to LAM from the University of Southern California. Chris's botanical vision had already expanded far beyond the documentation of southern California's particular flora to all of western North America, and now he joined the growing U.S. scientific community's turn to the biology of the American tropics (Raby, 2017). Here he found a wonderland of new plants. In these years he was in the field as much as possible, and



Figure 1. Chris Davidson with echidna in Western Australia, 2016. Photo by Sharon Christoph.

developed an active program of botanical exploration and collecting. He traveled widely across Mexico and through Central and South America, and also developed several individual field projects in Guatemala, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Brazil, and Peru. Here, in these few years he personally collected ca. 10,700 specimen numbers. In Brazil he joined field parties from the New York Botanical Garden's Programa Flora project exploring the lowland Amazon forest; in Costa Rica he ran his own project to document the coastal Tortuguero area; and in Bolivia he roamed across the eastern slopes of the central Andean region. He also collaborated with the Missouri Botanical Garden in tropical plant exploration, and was appointed a Research Associate there in 1978. The flora and fauna of the American tropics were only generally known in the 1970s, so many of his collections were discoveries of new species or new distributions. The logistics of travel to tropical regions were also significantly less sophisticated than today, so field trips in those times were expeditions that required careful preparations, hard physical work, and some per-

sonal risk, and took the explorer out of communication with home for long periods. Study continues today of his specimens from those trips, and they still provide important distributional data for those regions.

Life changes were in the wind, however, and in 1981 Chris resigned his position at the Museum and returned to Boise. Various family factors drew him back, especially that his beloved daughter, Sara, was on her way into his life and he wanted to raise future Davidsons back in Idaho (Fig. 2). Here he set up his new life as a father and after his first year, a single one, with some family income and a house near the family estate where his mother lived. He began his new botanical career as an independent botanical scholar and gardener. Chris read widely, rambled in the field, and spent his spare time white-water rafting on Idaho's wild rivers. He also now started a new botanical life that included research on a suite of new projects. In his "spare time" here during 1980–1985, he was variously the co-editor or sole editor for *Madroño's* volumes 28 through 31, which comprised ca. 1200 pages and 210 articles.

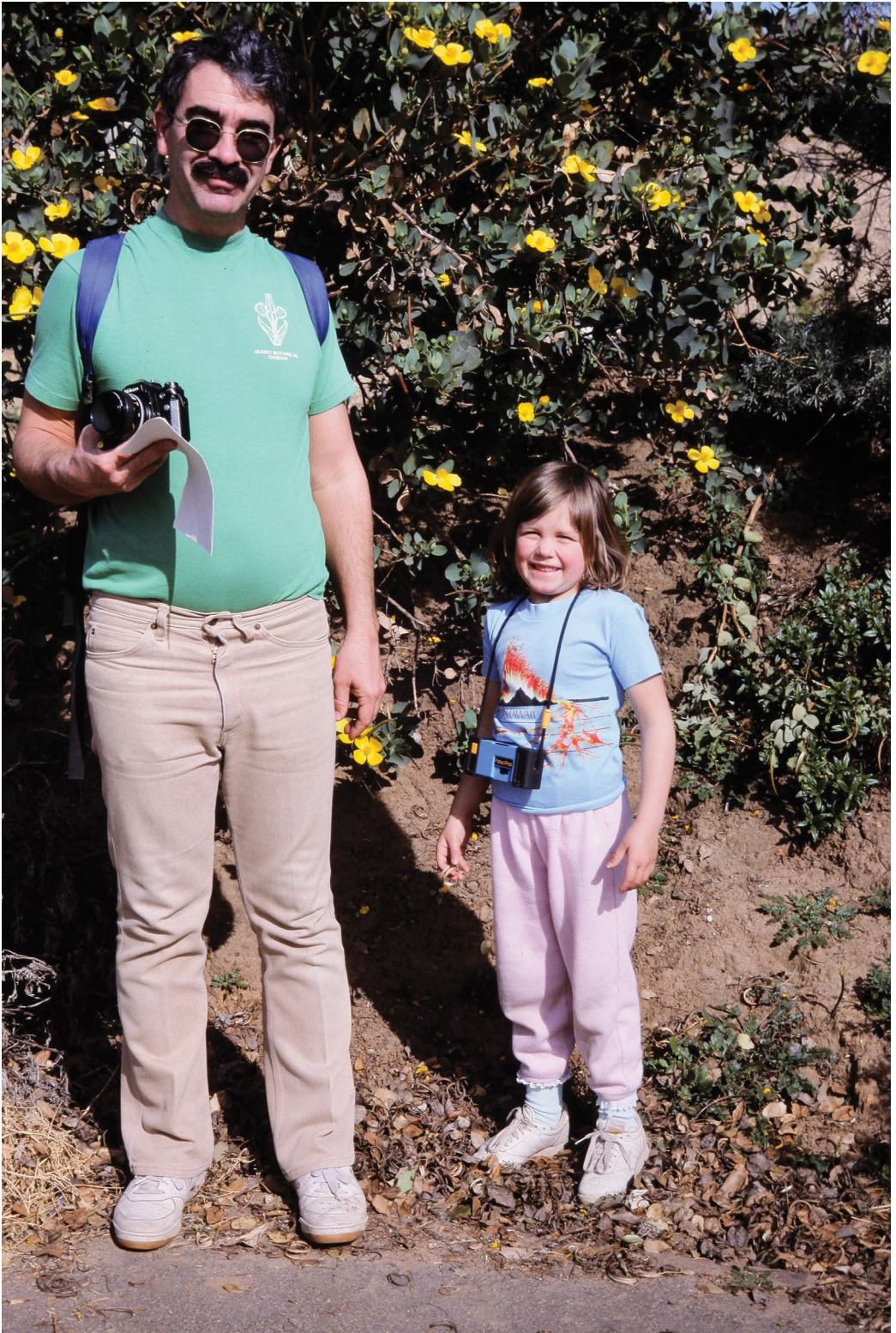


Figure 2. Chris and Sara Davidson, 1988. Photo courtesy of Barbara Ertter.

Chris now added another new botanical phase of his life, with a focus on living garden collections in Idaho, in both Boise and McCall. In 1984 Chris started a new, larger, public garden project closer to home, the Idaho Botanical Garden. For this he arranged the lease of a plot of municipal land on the east side of Boise, which had once been the farm for the old Idaho State Penitentiary. A new prison facility had been built on a different site in the 1970s, and by the 1980s the old prison was a popular historical venue of the Idaho Historical Society. The associated open lands were untended, and represented horticultural opportunity to Chris. He assembled a board of local leaders to act as directors and some financial backing from his mother, and created the second public botanical garden in the state. This new botanical garden project leased this land, and Chris was appointed its Executive Director in 1985. In this role he oversaw the Garden's initial establishment and guided its development. He preserved the existing trees and shrubs, and interwove among them irrigation and trails and gardens with different ecological and horticultural themes. Education and volunteer programs were also started, and the new botanical garden began to bloom with plants, students, and community support. Chris maintained a leadership role here for several years, and had a broad vision for a garden with a horticultural focus, an ongoing educational component, and a formal scientific research component. The K-6 education program he and his staff set up was coordinated with the science program of the Boise public schools, and has hosted thousands of students and continues through today. Chris also began his own scientific project here to understand the pollinators of the native flora, and conducted numerous, as yet unpublished observations for this over several seasons (Erter, 2023). However, the visions of the future for the Idaho Botanical Garden began to diverge among the management team, and Chris eventually resigned from his role here and moved his attention to his other priorities. Chris did, however, continue to benefit from one of his projects at the Botanical Garden: while he was the trainer of volunteer docents there, he met Sharon Christoph (Fig. 3), who eventually became his wife and long-term close botanical collaborator.

And although he had retired from the Idaho Botanical Garden, Chris was nowhere near finished creating gardens. When his mother died in 2000, he inherited his childhood house with its grounds and water rights, and some expanded financial resources from the family legacy. Chris and Sharon married in 2001, razed and rebuilt the deteriorating Warm Springs Avenue residence, and developed its grounds into an extensive private garden just for themselves. Chris retained and nurtured the numerous old fruit trees his mother and stepfather had grown, including many varieties of plums,

and he and Sharon nurtured their new "hybrid" family of Chris's daughter and Sharon's two children. The home garden at the family estate covers almost three acres, and today contains a diverse collection of botanically notable Asian and North American plants that are adequate in their diversity for teaching a botany course. And, the Boise home garden is landscaped with numerous, carefully selected ornamental rocks, selected variously for their ornamental value and geological interest; some of these come from as far afield as China.

Simultaneously, Chris refurbished and expanded the large horticultural gardens on the family land on Payette Lake, in central Idaho. His stepfather Charlie had trained as a landscape architect at Harvard, after an adventurous youth with summers spent in what was then central Idaho's backcountry in McCall. Here Charlie's father fell in love with Payette Lake, and made his summer spot where the rustic, Adirondack-style Sylvan Beach Resort had hosted tent camping in 1906–1929 (Newcomer, 2015). Charlie's father built a lakeside cabin by hand in 1918 for a local family, and eventually took it over for himself. This cabin has been continuously used and updated by family relations through today. The owner of the old tenting resort managed to keep his land most of the way through the Depression, and in the final years, 1938–1939, some facilities here hosted the production crew for the film *Northwest Passage*. This land was then purchased by Charlie's father, and eventually passed down to him. Where the resort's vegetable garden had been, Charlie built his dream horticultural garden in the 1950s under mixed conifer forest dominated by ponderosa pine. Charlie actively maintained this personal garden until his death in 1971, and it was then kept going by Chris's mother and brother, and became a focal point for botany in Chris's life. Chris took over managing Charlie's Garden in 2001 and began building extensively on what his stepfather had made. Chris significantly expanded the garden with additional ornamental beds, water features, expanded irrigation, and many new botanically interesting perennials. He also landscaped both Charlie's Garden and the Sylvan Beach house site with more rock installations. Many of these rocks were "wild-collected" in Idaho by Chris himself, using his customized pickup truck with a heavy-duty crane installed on the back. Charlie's Garden is still a private garden, but the public has visited since the 1950s. The site is much beloved in McCall. More than 700 couples had been married there by the year 2000, and the weddings have continued steadily since and include that of Sharon and Chris's own son Pat.

In 2002 Chris began yet another phase of his botanical work when he and Sharon started traveling around the world to find and photograph various plant families,



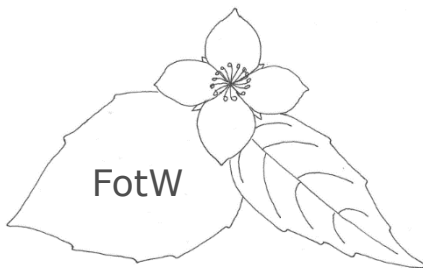
Figure 3. Chris Davidson and Sharon Christoph in Charlie's Garden, McCall, Idaho, 2012. Photo courtesy of Barbara Ertter.

especially those with unusual morphology and enigmatic relationships and distribution (Fig. 4). These adventures turned into the work that occupied their next years, *floraoftheworld.org* (FotW) and the Botanical Research Foundation of Idaho. These two organizations formed an integrated whole for a systematic exploration and documentation of the world's living plant diversity, and provided support for a broad program of capacity development in tropical botany and conservation. And, these were entirely self-funded by Chris. The first of these two projects was officially initiated in 2008, with the development of a website they registered as <https://floraoftheworld.org/>, purchase of a shiny new server in their basement to host it, and the formulation of specific project objectives (Fig. 5). For the FotW project Chris and Sharon set out on a systematic plan to document all the world's flowering plant families and genera, with vouchered photos of living plants in their habitats, and they made these photos

freely available on their website (Miller, 2018). To date, FotW has available more than 230,000 electronic images, corresponding to around 11,200 plant species (and 13,000 total taxa) with carefully confirmed identifications and vouchers deposited in public institutions. Their herbarium specimen vouchers are deposited in both the country where they were collected and one or more U.S. herbaria, mainly the Snake River Plains (SRP) and Missouri Botanical Garden (MO) collections. The target plants were all photographed in the field by Chris, Sharon, and a few colleagues across the world, and in collaboration with local botanists worldwide. Their FotW project aimed to fill a gap in knowledge of the world's plants by systematically documenting with digital images the living morphology of all flowering plant diversity, and their photos have been widely used (e.g., Fig. 6). The FotW project was fully mapped out and well underway toward basic coverage of all the world's plant families, with the final travel plans and



Figure 4. Chris Davidson and Sharon Christoph in the field, on Volcán Chimborazo, Ecuador, 2011. Photo courtesy of Carmen Ulloa.



www.FloraoftheWorld.org

Figure 5. The original logo for *floraoftheworld.org*, featuring *Philadelphus lewisii* Pursh, the state flower of Idaho.

completion celebration all arranged, when the APG II classification of the flowering plants was published (Angiosperm Phylogeny Group, 2003). APG II was a deeply revised classification of all the flowering plants based on the first widely sampled molecular systematic data, and this new classification recognized more than twice as many plant families as previous ones. APG II

rocked the botanical world by altering our entire understanding of flowering plant diversity, and making the reference books immediately obsolete. As a result, Chris and Sharon's finish line for having pictures of at least one member of all the flowering plant families was abruptly moved from around 200 families, depending on taxonomic taste, to 486. After taking a deep breath and a bit of time to adjust to this change, Chris and Sharon adopted APG II's family list as their new project plan and set out to add all the newly recognized ones to their photograph set. For this project they flew around the world to 45 countries—many of them more than once—and met with local collaborators in each place to drive, and often walk, and sometimes travel by boat to widely separated, often remote areas where the world's most unusual plants can be found in their natural habitats (Fig. 7). Between 2000 and 2020, they spent 1214 days in the field photographing and collecting (exclusive of travel to and from the field), or ca. 3.3 years' worth of their time. This heroic trekking left them only five families short of completion when Chris died.

As Chris pursued his worldwide program of field exploration, he further expanded his botanical vision and

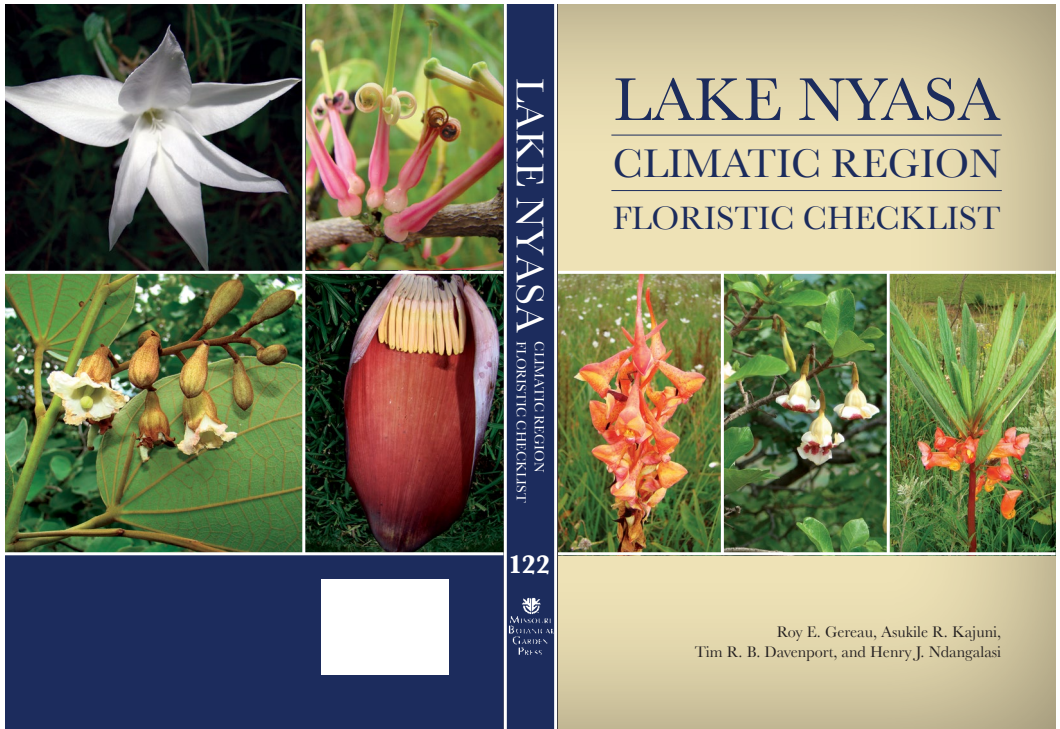


Figure 6. Book cover using photos from *floraoftheworld.org*.

goals: to give encouragement and financial support for individual botanical projects of merit and need, and to form international networks and initiatives for biodiversity study and conservation. This support was given through his and Sharon's Botanical Research Foundation of Idaho, also formalized in 2008 (Fig. 8). They generously provided funding for a wide variety of floristic projects that they considered significant, such as *Flora of North America's* Volume 9 (*Flora of North America* Editorial Committee, 2014), an updated edition of the *Flora of the Pacific Northwest* (Hitchcock et al., 2018), a popular wildflower guide for ecotourists in the Andes of Ecuador (Ulloa Ulloa & Fernández, 2015), an online technical botanical glossary (Mori & Smith, 2012), botanical research and infrastructure support for Boise State University, and a guide to gardening with native species in coastal East Africa (Outwater et al., 2019). They also provided small grants for travel to meetings and fieldwork by numerous individual botanists around the world, and much-needed support for individual projects of interest to them, often botanical gardens, as well as several international botanical programs. These programs included a collaborative network among botanists in various countries in the Caucasus, and botanical exploration plus herbarium development at the Limbe Botanical Garden in

Cameroon, the CHAPA herbarium in southern Mexico, and the HOXA herbarium in central Peru. In particular, these last two institutions both used their support to recruit and train numerous students and collect tens of thousands of plant specimens in explorations of areas never previously visited by scientists. Their work has discovered hundreds of new plant species as well as rediscovering some thought to be extinct, and has provided the data needed to supported formal conservation measures in those areas.

Chris also worked to develop capacity through other organizations. He spent a number of years on the board of the Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS), from the mid-1990s through 2009, where he helped develop educational as well as research infrastructure at their international network of field stations, and supported their field biology classes. He also spent a decade on the board of the ACEER Foundation, whose mission in southern Peru is to develop "local and global environmental leaders who work to conserve and restore functioning landscapes in the Amazon Basin and beyond" (<<https://aceer.org/>>). Chris was given the 2020 ACEER Legacy Award for his outreach work with this organization, including significant funding of their Conservation Fellows and Conservation Learning programs.



Figure 7. Chris Davidson and the HOXA herbarium team in the field in Peru. Photo courtesy of Rodolfo Vázquez.

Chris Davidson and Sharon Christoph
Botanical Research Foundation of Idaho

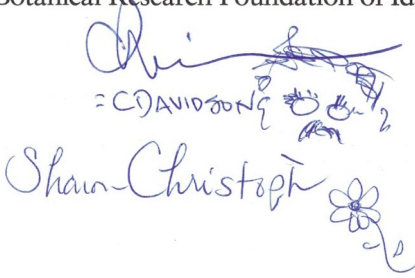


Figure 8. A Botanical Research Foundation of Idaho sponsorship acknowledgment, with characteristic signatures from Chris Davidson and Sharon Christoph. Courtesy of Barbara Ertter.

In the 2010s Chris and Sharon also began to work closely with another plant conservation and capacity-building organization, the Center for Conservation and Sustainable Development (CCSD) of the Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG). The CCSD has a long-term commitment to training and infrastructure development with a set of institutions in Latin America, which continues and formalizes collaborations that MBG had for more than three decades in four Andean countries. Chris began developing even more new ways to implement his tropical conservation and training goals in collaboration with CCSD director Olga Martha Montiel. They formulated a program to implement capacity-building via fellowships and training courses, and explore other ways that a U.S. institution can help sustain in-country tropical infrastructure. Chris and Sharon formalized this association in 2015, with an advisory position for him and a contribution from their Botanical Research Foundation to CCSD's endowment to fund these activities into the future. This set the test of his ideas in motion, and Chris found that this approach very nicely produced the capacity-building he wanted to see, and he began to develop similar programs with other U.S. institutions. His next initiative was aimed at creating a similar program for tropical African botany, in collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution. Unfortunately, Chris did not have time to bring this next project to fruition, but the framework is now developed for others to use.

During all these years Chris maintained his deep and active interest in botanical gardens, for both their traditional role of display and research and their now-growing role in plant conservation. He worked on this theme with the American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboreta (now the American Public Gardens Association), and had a particular interest in devel-

opment of African gardens. In particular, in 2002 he helped launch the African Botanic Gardens Network (Willis et al., 2002), and separately provided advice and support for maintenance work at the Limbe Botanic Garden in Cameroon and development of the private Brackenhurst Botanical Garden in Kenya.

In addition to these numerous and varied projects and the wide-ranging fieldwork for FotW, Chris also continued his own scientific research (Appendix 1). He developed a collaboration with colleagues at Boise State University and the Snake River Plains Herbarium (SRP), conveniently located close to his home. From the small plant family Datisceae he now turned his attention to the large tropical plant family Piperaceae, which has more than 4000 species found in tropical regions worldwide but is not well studied. These plants are notable for their reduced morphology, making it difficult to find their differentiating characteristics, and for having a very large number of species that, however, nearly all belong to two genera, *Peperomia* L. and *Piper* L. Chris collaborated on Piperaceae with James F. Smith, botany professor and molecular systematist at Boise State, along with various colleagues and students there and elsewhere to understand the relationships and diversification of these plants. His interest focused on their evolutionary relationships, morphology, biogeography, and time of origin (Smith et al., 2008; Jaramillo et al., 2008; Simmonds et al., 2021). The dating of Piperaceae's origin and diversification took Chris back to his original scientific interests, botany and geology. Chris also worked to bring Boise State plant evolutionary biologist Sven Buerki from his native Switzerland to join the faculty there. Chris and Sven had collaborated when Sven was a freshly graduated post-doctoral fellow (Buerki et al., 2013; Fig. 9), and Chris strongly believed that Sven's capacities would improve Boise State's program. He then worked with Jim Smith and the newly arrived Sven to organize a scientific conference on ways to understand and conserve global biodiversity at Boise State in 2018, with a stellar group of invited speakers. This was a test for another new scientific project, to develop a regular symposium program there similar to the recently terminated Annual Systematics Symposium of the Missouri Botanical Garden. Since then Chris and Sven developed a close ongoing collaboration in tropical plant exploration, studies of Piperaceae, Sapindaceae, and Pandanaceae, and development of FotW, and Sven will support carrying their projects forward now.

Most recently Chris's attention had circled back again to geology, this time investigating plant fossils at sites both in remote areas visited by international expeditions, and right at home in Idaho. One of the speakers in the 2018 symposium, Peter Wilf, highlighted astounding new discoveries in his field site in Patagonia,

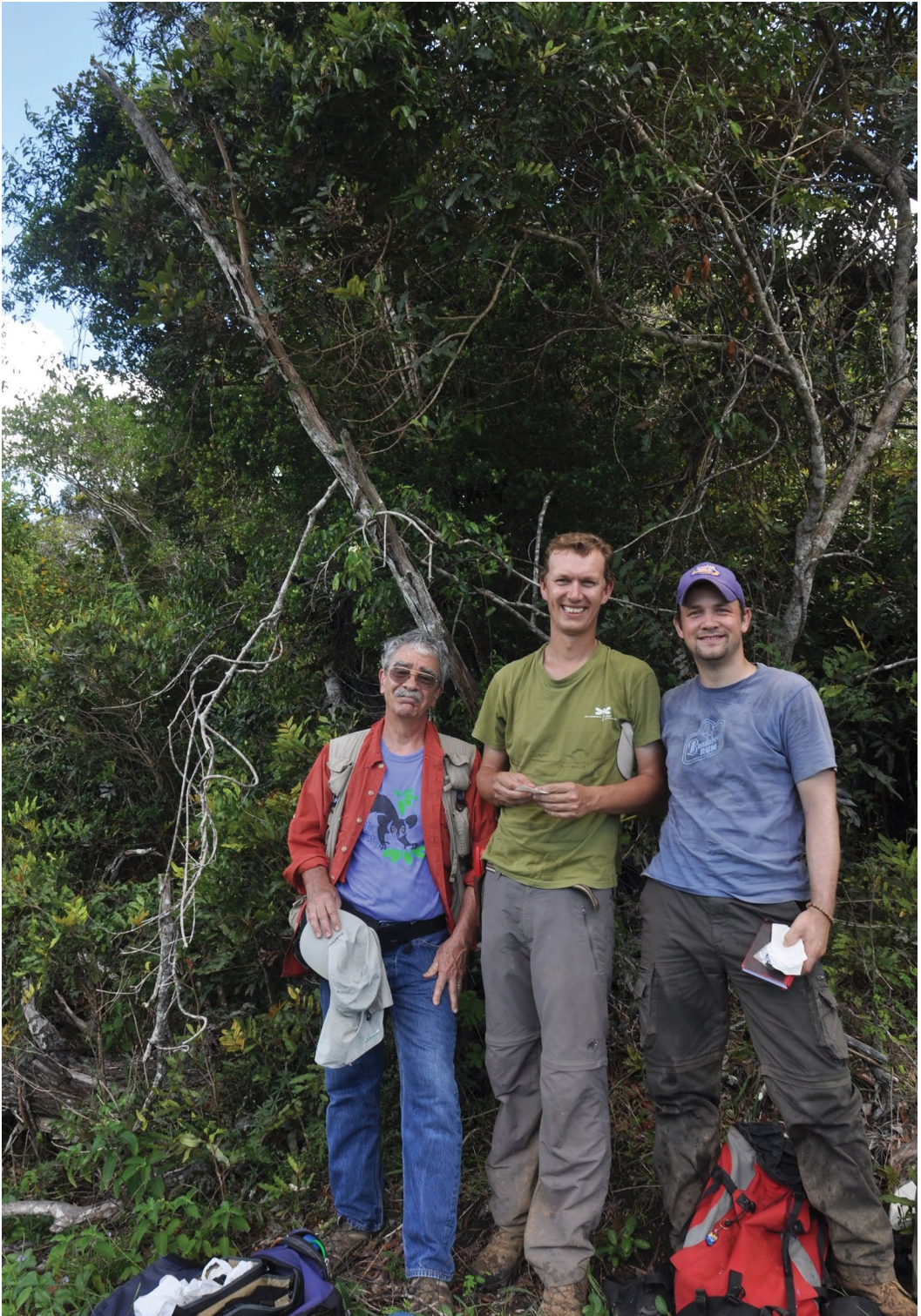


Figure 9. Front, left to right, Chris Davidson, Martin Callmänder, and Sven Buerki; back, the tree from which the type collection was made for *Podonpheiium davidsonii* Munzinger, Lowry, Callm. & Buerki (Sapindaceae); New Caledonia, 2011. Photo courtesy of Porter P. Lowry II.

Argentina, in Lower Paleocene strata, which has exceptionally well-preserved fossils including flowers. Wilf and his team have documented a variety of new records, including earlier first dates for various plant families (e.g., Escapa et al., 2018; Wilf et al., 2017) and the survival here of individual Gondwanan plant groups through the catastrophic end of the Cretaceous (e.g., Jud et al., 2018). Chris was intoxicated by the discoveries, and immediately volunteered to join them in the field. He worked with Wilf's team on two trips to the cold Patagonian desert, under challenging physical conditions but surrounded by rocks filled with new discoveries. Chris was also fascinated by fossil discoveries being made in Idaho, by Robert Rember at his private site in northern Idaho and by long-time Idaho botanist, friend, and McCall neighbor Barbara Erterter right on the shore of Payette Lake. In fact, Chris first discovered this last site in 1977, but its finds were deemed uninteresting by paleobotanists of the time so it was abandoned. Barbara rediscovered the site in 2014, and it is no longer considered uninteresting. This site, accessible only in low water, has yielded unexpected new Miocene ecological and floristic records for the area and some significant new fossil species. This fossil outcrop lies in Ponderosa State Park, so it is protected, and the work on this dig was conducted by Erterter and park staff and watched by Chris and Sharon from their cabin deck across the lake.

In between all those projects Chris managed to get in regular fieldwork, in any spare moment, to explore, photograph, and collect in North America in the company of numerous colleagues, both locals and visitors from other parts of the country and from other countries. Between international trips, he documented the flora across Idaho and widely elsewhere, including the Appalachian Mountains in North Carolina, Death Valley and the Mojave Desert in California, Zumwalt Prairie and Steens Mountain in Oregon, and the Owyhee Mountains and Hell's Canyon on the Idaho-Oregon border. True to form, he had more trips planned that could not be completed in the final year when his health failed, including western Paraguay, his newly discovered world of Japan, the Ozark Mountains, and the Raft River Mountains in northern Utah.

And, along with all these projects Chris had returned in recent years to another of his early scientific interests, disjunct plant distributions. When he died, he was in the process of synthesizing his decades of study of plant families and genera, their distributions, and geology into a broad review of our current understanding of this aspect of plant diversity. He had started to draft this synthesis, and it is to be hoped that we, his friends with lesser but diverse knowledge, can finish a small part of the review of plant disjunctions and document the last few families for FotW.



Figure 10. Chris Davidson's characteristic hedgehog signature.

Chris's nature was unfailingly generous and positive in outlook, and his work to improve the world around him ranged far beyond botanical activities. He and Sharon were significant funders of various recipients they found worthy, ranging from Boise cultural institutions and a science building for his undergraduate alma mater to a school in rural Ghana. Also of deep value to them both was the understanding of their goals and recognition from scientific colleagues, who have so far named one genus and ten extant species of flowering plants in their honor (Appendix 2), and soon will name a new fossil species from Payette Lake (Erterter, 2023). Chris was a well-loved husband, father, and grandfather, and he was a valued colleague and much-appreciated friend to many, many colleagues in the worldwide botanical community. His influences on our botanical field are extensive, and were effected through quiet collaborations that let others take the visible credit.

Chris was deeply connected to the natural world, including in having his own animal totems. He found kinship in the hedgehog and echidna (Fig. 1), and considered himself fortunate when he met with one of them personally. He adopted this as one of his personal identities, El Erizo (Fig. 10). Another identity was Harald Harebrush, who looked surprisingly like Groucho Marx (Fig. 8) and whose commentary sounded a lot like that of Mark Twain. Chris regarded himself as hedgehog kin due to his supposedly spiny personality, but he was never anything like that. Chris was notable personally for his gentle manner, sly wit, broad botanical knowledge, generosity in all things, intense curiosity, and love of both plants and champagne; for being a thoroughly good man; and for his endless, pure sense of wonder.

—Charlotte M. Taylor,¹ Roy E. Gereau,¹ W. D. Stevens,¹ Sven Buerki,² Olga Martha Montiel,³ and Sharon Christoph⁴

¹Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63110, U.S.A. Author for correspondence: charlotte.taylor@mobot.org

²Department of Biological Sciences, Boise State University, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho 83725, U.S.A.

³Wildwood, Missouri, U.S.A.

⁴Boise, Idaho, U.S.A.

Literature Cited

- Angiosperm Phylogeny Group. 2003. An update of the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group classification for the orders and families of flowering plants: APG II. *Bot. J. Linn. Soc.* 141(4): 399–436.
- Davidson, C. 1973. An anatomical and morphological study of Datisceae. *Aliso* 8(1): 49–110.
- Davidson, C. 1975. Kinabalu: Borneo's sacred mountain of the dead. *Terra* 14(2): 3–8.
- Davidson, C. 1976. Anatomy of xylem and phloem of the Datisceae. *Contr. Sci. Nat. Hist. Mus. Los Angeles County* 280: 1–28.
- Erter, G. 2023. In Memoriam Christopher Davidson 1944–2022. *Sage Notes* 45(1): 10–16.
- Escapa, I. H., A. Iglesias, P. Wilf, S. A. Catalano, M. A. Caraballo-Ortiz & N. Rubén Cúneo. 2018. *Agathis* trees of Patagonia's Cretaceous-Paleogene death landscapes and their evolutionary significance. *Amer. J. Bot.* 105(8): 1345–1368.
- Flora of North America Editorial Committee (editors). 2014. *Flora of North America North of Mexico*, Vol. 9. Magnoliophyta: Picramniaceae to Rosaceae. Oxford University Press, New York.
- Hitchcock, C. L., A. Cronquist, D. E. Giblin, B. S. Legler, P. F. Zika & R. G. Olmstead. 2018. *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*. University of Washington Press, Seattle.
- Jud, N. A., M. A. Gandolfo, A. Iglesias & P. Wilf. 2018. Fossil flowers from the early Palaeocene of Patagonia, Argentina, with affinity to Schizomeriaceae (Cunoniaceae). *Ann. Bot. (Oxford)* 21(3):431–442. <https://doi.org/10.1093/aob/mcx173>
- Miller, M. 2018. A quest to document the world's flowering plants. TNC Cool Green Science blog. <https://blog.nature.org/2018/08/14/a-quest-to-document-the-worlds-flowering-plants/>.
- Mori, S. A. & N. P. Smith. 2012 onward. The New York Botanical Garden's Glossary for Vascular Plants. Virtual Herbarium of The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. <https://sweetgum.nybg.org/science/glossary/>.
- Newcomer, M. A. 2015. Charlie's Garden: Gem of the Idaho Mountains. *Rocky Mountain Gardening Summer 2015*: 26–29.
- Outwater, A., I. M. Locker & R. E. Gereau. 2019. A garden guide to native plants of coastal East Africa. Mkuki na Nyota Publishers Ltd., Dar es Salaam.
- Raby, M. 2017. *American Tropics: The Caribbean Roots of Biodiversity Science*. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.
- Ulloa Ulloa, C. & D. Fernández (editors). 2015. *Plantas de los Páramos del Distrito Metropolitano de Quito, Ecuador*. Serie de Publicaciones Museo Ecuatoriano de Ciencias Naturales del Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad. Publicación Patrimonio Natural del Ecuador N. 2, Quito. <http://www.missouriherbarium.org/Portals/0/staff/PDFs/ulloa/PlantasParamosDMQ.pdf>.
- Wilf, P., M. R. Carvalho, M. A. Gandolfo & N. R. Cúneo. 2017. Eocene lantern fruits from Gondwanan Patagonia and the early origins of Solanaceae. *Science* 355: 71–75. <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.aag2737>
- Willis, C. K., G. Owusu-Afriyie & C. Dalzell. 2002. Launch of the African Botanic Gardens Network. *Botanic Gardens Conservation News* 3(9): 35–38. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/24821346>.
- Appendix 1. Chris Davidson's publications, in chronological order.
- Davidson, C. 1973. An anatomical and morphological study of Datisceae. *Aliso* 8(1): 49–110. <https://scholarship.claremont.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1638&context=aliso>.
- Davidson, C. 1975. Kinabalu: Borneo's sacred mountain of the dead. *Terra* 14(2): 3–8.
- Davidson, C. 1975. Pollen size and polyploidy: A review with studies in *Dichelostemma* and *Triteleia* (Liliaceae). *Contr. Sci. Nat. Hist. Mus. Los Angeles County* 262: 1–24.
- Davidson, C. 1976. Anatomy of xylem and phloem of the Datisceae. *Contr. Sci. Nat. Hist. Mus. Los Angeles County* 280: 1–28.
- Smith, J. F., A. C. Stevens, E. J. Tepe & C. Davidson. 2008. Placing the origin of two species-rich genera in the late cretaceous with later species divergence in the tertiary: A phylogenetic, biogeographic and molecular dating analysis of *Piper* and *Peperomia* (Piperaceae). *Pl. Syst. Evol.* 275(1): 9–30. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00606-008-0056-5>
- Jaramillo, M. A., R. Callejas Posada, C. Davidson, J. F. Smith, A. C. Stevens & E. Tepe. 2008. A phylogeny of the tropical genus *Piper* using ITS and the chloroplast intron *psbJ-petA*. *Syst. Bot.* 33(4): 647–660. <https://doi.org/10.1600/036364408786500244>
- Buerki, S., C. Davidson, J. T. Pereira & M. W. Callmander. 2013. A new endemic species of *Trigonachras* (Sapindaceae) from Sabah, Malaysia (Borneo). *Phytotaxa* 88(2): 19–24. <https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.88.2.1>
- Salomo, K., J. F. Smith, T. S. Feild, M. S. Samain, L. Bond, C. Davidson, J. Zimmers, C. Neinhuis & S. Wanke. 2017. The emergence of earliest Angiosperms may be earlier than fossil evidence indicates. *Syst. Bot.* 42(4): 607–619.
- Simmonds, S. E., J. F. Smith, C. Davidson & S. Buerki. 2021. Phylogenetics and comparative plastome genomics of two of the largest genera of angiosperms, *Piper* and *Peperomia* (Piperaceae). *Molec. Phylogen. Evol.* 163(107229): 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2021.107229>
- Appendix 2. Plant taxa named for Chris Davidson and Sharon Christoph.
- GENUS
- Christopheria* J. F. Sm. & J. L. Clark, *Syst. Bot.* 38(2): 453. 2013. Gesneriaceae; French Guiana, Guyana. In honor of both Chris and Sharon. <https://doi.org/10.1600/036364413X666723>
- SPECIES, IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER
- Philodendron davidsonii* Croat, *Aroideana* 6(2): 39. 1983. Araceae; Costa Rica.
- Stenostephanus davidsonii* Wassh., *Harvard Pap. Bot.* 4(1): 285, figs. 4, 6. 1999. Acanthaceae; Bolivia.
- Weinmannia davidsonii* A. Fuentes & Z. S. Rogers, *Novon* 17(3): 327, fig. 1. 2007. Cunoniaceae; Bolivia.
- Chrysochlamys chrisharonii* Vásquez & R. Rojas, *Arnoldia* 16(2): 23, figs. 1, 2. 2009. Clusiaceae; Peru.
- Sibara davidsonii* Al-Shehbaz, *Harvard Pap. Bot.* 15(1): 142, fig. 1. 2010. Brassicaceae; Mexico.
- Pseudomiltemia davidsonii* Martínez-Camilo & Lorence, *Brittonia* 63(2): 198, figs. 1, 2. 2011. Rubiaceae; Mexico.

Podonephelium davidsonii Munzinger, Lowry, Callm. & Buerki, Syst. Bot. 38(4): 1112, fig. 5. 2013. Sapindaceae; New Caledonia.
Aphelandra davidsonii Wassh., J. Bot. Res. Inst. Texas 7(1): 113, fig. 3a–h. 2013. Acanthaceae; Peru.

Xanthosoma davidsonii Croat, Aroideana 40(2): 157, figs. 91–98. 2017. Araceae; Ecuador.
Epidendrum chrisii-sharoniae L. Valenz. & E. Santiago, Phytotaxa 543(2): 163, figs. 1D, 2A–F, 3A–F. 2022. Orchidaceae; Peru.