

The BAY LEAF

October 2000



California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter • Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

Calendar of Events

October 3, 4, 5, and 6 TUESDAY-FRIDAY:

■ **Prepare for the Plant Sale** (see p. 2).

October 4, WEDNESDAY:

■ **Board of Directors' meeting** at the home of David Bigham, 1542 La Loma Ave., Berkeley. 7:30 p.m.

October 9, MONDAY:

■ **Deadline for November Bay Leaf**. Give items to Phoebe Watts or Brett Boltz.

October 10, 17, 24, and 31 TUESDAYS:

■ **Clean up** after this year's plant sale, and **start preparing plants** for 2001. Leftover plants will be for sale. 9 a.m.-noon.

October 25, WEDNESDAY:

■ **Membership' meeting** (see below).

November 1, WEDNESDAY:

■ **Board of Directors' meeting** at the home of Barbara Ertter, 1859 Catalina Ave., Berkeley. 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 7 & 8

Native Plant Sale

Saturday  Sunday
9 am - 3 pm

(See page 2 for all of the details)

Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 25 ♦ 7:30 p.m.

Planning for a New University Campus in Merced

Speaker: Christopher Adams

Christopher Adams is a planner and architect whose career has involved town planning and university planning in Europe, Canada and the United State. He has worked on the site selection and planning of a new University of California campus in the San Joaquin Valley for over 10 years.

He will discuss the social, economic, and environmental issues which confront the University of California as it plans for its new campus near Merced.

The meeting will take place in the Conference Center of the University of California Botanical Garden on Centennial Drive, east of Memorial Stadium, above the main campus of the University of California in Berkeley. The Garden gate will open at 7 p.m. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. CNPS books and other publications will be on display and available for purchase. Please contact Holly Forbes, 234-2913, if you have any questions.

CNPS Sale of Native Plants ✧ **October 7 & 8** ✧ **9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Our Chapter's **34th annual Sale of Native Plants** is being held on Saturday and Sunday, October 7 & 8, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Merritt College in Oakland.

In the week prior to our plant sale volunteers will be on hand at our sale site at Merritt College Horticulture area between 9 a.m. to early afternoon preparing for the sale. If you have a few free moments, come up and help out. There are always last minute tasks to attend to. This is a perfect opportunity to get a sneak preview of this year's plants.

We still need volunteers for a morning or an afternoon shift during the plant sale. Some of the jobs that need to be filled are: selling plants, books, posters, being a cashier, and/or directing traffic and people. If you have helped in the past, you should have received a reply postcard last month. If you did not, or if you would like to volunteer for the first time, please call Shirley McPheeters at (925) 376-4095 or Phoebe Watts at (510) 525-6614.

We will sell plants that remain after the sale every Tuesday morning through January, 2001, from 9 a.m. to noon.

A list of plants and a locator map will be available at the sale site. Plan to pay for plants with cash or a check, please. Bring boxes in which to carry plants.

After This Sale

We start preparing for the next sale . . .



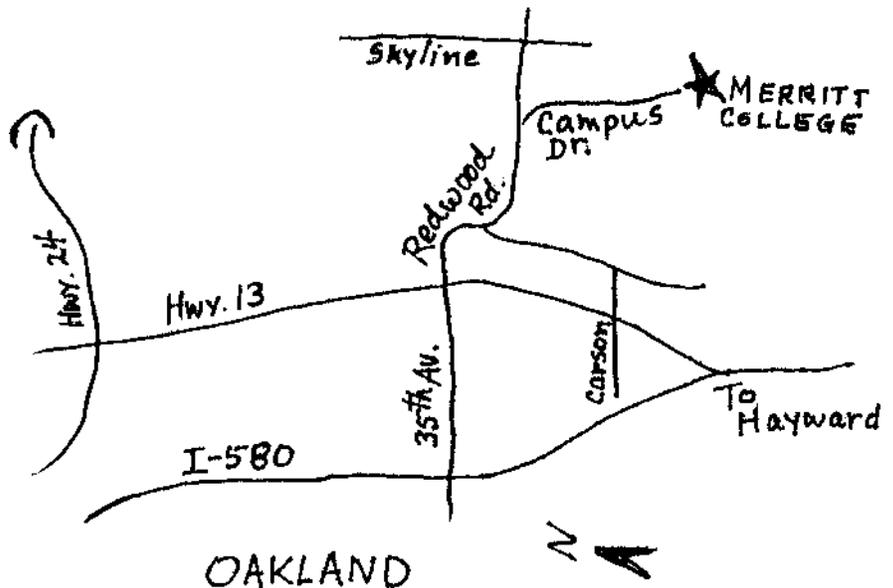
Propagating and Potting Sessions:

Tuesdays, October 10, 17, 24, 31
9 a.m. to noon

On October 10 (Tuesday following the sale) some extra help would be greatly appreciated. We need to take stock of our remaining beauties, and generally straighten up the place so that we can begin our cycle for next year's plant sale. A reminder, the remaining stock will be for sale through January.

We start at 9 a.m. every Tuesday, and break for brown-bag lunch at noon. Remember to bring two quarters for parking. For directions to our work area at the Landscape Horticulture Department on Merritt College campus or for other information, call Shirley at (925) 376-4095 or Phoebe at (510) 525-6614.

. . . *Plant Sale Committee*



Native Plant Sale

Oct. 7 & 8

Saturday & Sunday
9 am - 3 pm

Native Plant Restoration Activities

We need YOU!!!

Throughout my time as an active member of the California Native Plant Society, I repeatedly am asked, "Why doesn't CNPS do more about [fill in the blank]?" The answer, of course, is that CNPS does not have an existence independent of its membership, and the level of activity in CNPS depends strictly upon whatever it is that individual members are motivated to tackle. Do we want field trips? Then someone has to organize and lead field trips. Do we want more CNPS evaluation of environmental assessments? Then someone has to be willing to critically read and comment upon the reports.

The good news is that the East Bay Chapter has been fortunate to have, over the years, an abundance of talented and dedicated members who have chosen to devote a portion of their time and energies to CNPS, thereby making possible our long tradition of field trips, plant sales, programs, advocacy, and general outreach activities. Some of these contributions of time and energy have been truly outstanding, but even modest contributions are extremely significant, incrementally adding up to the sum total of all that CNPS accomplishes.

The present time represents an excellent opportunity for those of you who would like CNPS to become more active, or to ensure that an existing level of activity is maintained. Several of our current committee coordinators have recently moved out of the East Bay or otherwise decided to step down, after providing us with years of greatly appreciated service. Not only are replacements needed for these positions, but now is also an excellent time to recruit committee members to work with the coordinators, especially in the conservation arena at a time when so many threats to our treasured local flora are occurring simultaneously throughout the East Bay. The full tally of positions for which replacements or additional committee members are needed are:

- * *Bay Leaf* co-editor: works with continuing co-editor to do editing and lay-out of the monthly Chapter newsletter
- * Program chair: lines up and introduces speakers for monthly membership meeting (with suggestions often provided by other members); prepares description of program for *Bay Leaf*; is responsible for meeting room and projection logistics
- * Conservation coordinator: tracks and addresses conservation issues affecting native plants throughout the East Bay; recruits and coordinates the efforts of conservation committee members
- * Conservation committee members: track and address specific conservation issues [representation needed

from all parts of the East Bay, especially outlying areas]

- * Membership coordinator: with the assistance of recruited volunteers, sets up and staffs membership table at Chapter functions and appropriate outreach events (e.g., Solano Stroll); sends welcoming letter to new members
- * Education co-chair: develops appropriate education and outreach programs to increase appreciation of native plants
- * Plant Communities committee member: works with Plant Communities coordinator to define and map plant communities in the East Bay; advocate protection of threatened plant communities [contact Sue Bainbridge if interested: 510-548-2918]

So., you can see that we have LOTS of opportunities!!! Given the 1,270 members of the East Bay Chapter, I'm optimistic that there are excellent candidates for all of these positions, but ONLY if you don't all assume that "someone else" will step forward. If any of these positions catch your attention, please contact me [Barbara Ertter, ertter@uclink4.berkeley.edu, 510-526-4592], or one of the other officers, for further information or to toss your name into the hat. We look forward to welcoming you on board!

. . . Barbara Ertter

Grassland Student Research Grant

The Nature Conservancy announces the annual Dr. Oren Pollak Memorial Grassland Research Grant. TNC will be granting up to \$5,000 for assistance to a student to conduct research on grasslands in California or southern Oregon. Proposed projects should focus on restoration, management or basic grassland science, and may include research on grassland plants, animals, or community ecology. Locating projects on TNC preserves is desirable but not mandatory. Any high school, undergraduate or graduate level student needing assistance for the implementation of a grassland project may apply.

The project prospectus should be no longer than two pages (single side). Final date for submission is October 31, 2000. Direct questions about the prospectus to The Nature Conservancy, 958 Washington Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080, attn: Rich Reiner or call (530)527-0494.

Native Plant Restoration Activities

In lieu of our regular work day in October, all CNPS and Team members are urged to volunteer at the Chapter's Annual Plant Sale.

In November, we shall return to work on Algerian Ivy with the El Sobrante creek lovers. Come see the progress made since our April work day. On Saturday, November 4 meet at 10 a.m. at San Pablo Creek in El Sobrante (we will NOT meet at Native Here Nursery beforehand, as we usually do). Directions: Off San Pablo Dam Rd., turn north on Appian Way, then left, into the parking lot of the El Sobrante Library. Team member extraordinaire Gudrun Kleist will lead the activities, which will include ivy removal, mulching and some native plant identification. Wear pants and a long sleeved shirt, sturdy shoes, a rain coat just in case; bring water and lunch. Heavy rain cancels.

On December 2 we will return to our Oblong Spurge/*Euphorbia oblongata* site in Tilden Park, along the Selby Trail. Please note that in December we will switch back to our winter (afternoon) schedule so folks can attend the EBRPD Botanic Garden lectures: meet at 2 p.m. at Native Here Nursery. January 6 we hope to return to Canyon School for creek work. For a monthly Team email update, please send a note to casartunda@aol.com.

. . . Noah Booker

Plant Family of the Month

Simmondsiaceae (jojoba family)

Look for evergreen, smooth-barked shrubs with simple, entire, leathery, opposite leaves. The shrubs are dioecious. The male flowers are borne in small clusters in leaf axils; the female flowers are borne singly in leaf axils. Each flower has five green sepals and no petals. The male flowers have a variable number of stamens, the female flowers a single pistil with a superior, three-chambered ovary and three feathery stigmas. The ovary ripens into a nutlike, one-seeded capsule.

This family has a single species, *Simmondsia chinensis* (jojoba or goatnut), a medium-sized shrub restricted to the Sonoran Desert of California and adjacent Mexico and Arizona. Often jojoba is placed in the boxwood family (Buxaceae), of which we have no native species. Jojoba seeds are high in an oil whose properties are the equal of sperm whale oil, and are edible and nutritious. Jojoba has now entered the mainstream economy as an ingredient in cosmetics and lotions.

. . . Glenn Keator

Curatorial Volunteers Needed

Curatorial Volunteers Needed at the University and Jepson Herbaria!

Are you interested in: a) learning more about the California flora; b) gaining first-hand experience with herbarium techniques; c) providing much-needed assistance with the specimens that are the raw data on which our knowledge of the California flora is based; d) socializing with fellow native plant enthusiasts; e) all of the above? Then have we got a deal for you! The third Saturday of each month is a Group Volunteer Day in the Herbaria at the University of California at Berkeley, in which we hope to welcome back participants from previous years and greet a diversity of new faces. What better way to spend those rainy winter weekends!

Our focus will be chipping away at the unmounted backlog of pressed plant collections, from California and around the world, some brand new, some decades old. Expect a diversity of "buried treasures" to come to light, primarily new records of noteworthy plants that have been languishing in dead storage. Volunteers are desperately needed to mount, sort, and file these collections, and to assist with related projects. No previous herbarium experience is necessary, but a level of dexterity and attention to detail is valued.

Group Volunteer Saturdays for 2000-2001:

October 21
November 18
December 16
January 20
February 17
March 17
April 21
May 19

Group Volunteer Saturday begins at 10 a.m. and finishes up by 5 p.m. (participants do not need to stay the full time). The University and Jepson Herbaria are in the Valley Life Science Building on the campus of the University of California at Berkeley. The entrance is on the ground floor of the atrium, in front of the *Tyrannosaurus rex*. The central Berkeley BART station is convenient, as are numerous bus lines. Parking can generally be found along the streets north of campus (2-hour time limit only on weekdays).

To be added to the Group Volunteer reminder list, please call Ana Penny 642-2465. We also welcome individual volunteers who can come in during our regular hours (M-F 8-5). We will try to match your unique interests, abilities and schedule to one of the numerous curatorial projects that has been gathering dust. For more information about individual volunteer opportunities, call Barbara Ertter 642-2465.

2000 Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President:

Barbara Ertter 1859 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707 h/526-4592
w/643-0600

Vice-president:

Administration:

Tony Morosco 2329 7th St., Berkeley 94710 h/549-2238
w/642-8468

Treasurer:

Holly Forbes 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530 234-2913
w/643-8040

Secretaries:**Recording:**

Michele Lee 2923 Sheldon Dr., Richmond 94803 243-1265

Corresponding:

Joanne Kerbavaz Calif, State Parks, 250 Executive Park Blvd.,
Suite 4900, San Francisco 94134 w/(415) 330-6323

Advisors

Members-at-large:

John Game 1155 Spruce St., Berkeley 94707 527-7855

Jim Sharp 2663 LeConte Ave., Berkeley 94709 644-9344

Joe Willingham 2512 Etna St., Berkeley 94704 841-4681

Bay Leaf Editors

Phoebe Watts 1419 Grant St., Berkeley 94703 525-6614

Brett Boltz 2210 Spaulding Ave., Berkeley 94703 h/549-3327

w/643-0448

Recorded Chapter Information: 464-4977

CNPS Home Page:

<http://www.cnps.org>

East Bay Chapter CNPS Home Page:

<http://www.ebcnps.org>

All area codes are 510 unless noted



Printed on Recycled Paper

Committee Coordinators

Bay Leaf Mailing:

Holly Forbes 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530 234-2913

Conservation:

Tim Heelan 6009F Joaquin Murieta Ave., Newark 94560 226-8294

Plant Communities:

Susan Bainbridge 2408 Parker St., Berkeley 94704 548-2918

Rare Plants:

Brad Olson 4442 Arcadia Ave., Oakland 94602 482-0794

Unusual Plants:

Dianne Lake 1050 Bayview Farm Rd., #121, Pinole 94564 741-8066

Donations:

David Bigham 1542 La Loma Ave., Berkeley 94708 848-6308

Myrtle Wolf 181 Stonewall Rd., Berkeley 94705 843-8759

Education:

Elly Bade 2699 Shasta Rd., Berkeley 94708 644-1656

Kathleen Dickey 2374 Eunice St., Berkeley 94708 525-6489

Field trips:

Janet Gawthrop 3640 Grand Ave. #212., Oakland 94610 654-3066

Hospitality:

Irene Wilkinson 440 Camino Sobrante, Orinda 94563 (925) 254-3675

Legislation:

Roy Buck 848-4169 email: roybuck@msn.com

Membership:

Delia Taylor 1851 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707 527-3912

Native Here Nursery:

Charli Danielsen 101 Golf Course Dr., Berkeley 94708 549-0211
email: cwd@wli.net

Native Plant Restoration Team:

Noah Booker 6366 Valley View Rd., Oakland 94611 h/339-1588
w/840-9367 email: casartunda@aol.com

Posters:

Heather Koshinsky 2033 Carquinez Ave., El Cerrito 94530 w/522-8180

Plant Sale:

Shirley McPheeters 104 Ivy Dr., Orinda 94563 (925) 376-4095

Phoebe Watts 1419 Grant St., Berkeley 94703 525-6614

Publicity:

Elaine Jackson 3311 Estudillo St., Martinez 94553 (925) 372-0687

Programs:

Vacant

EBRP Botanic Garden Liaison:

Jenny Fleming 2750 Shasta Rd., Berkeley 94708 848-3455

New Membership Application

The California Native Plant Society is open to all. The mission of the California Native Plant Society is to increase understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and to preserve them in their natural habitat through scientific activities, education, and conservation. Membership includes a subscription to the quarterly journal *Fremontia*.

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

I wish to affiliate with:

East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

Other _____

Membership category:

Student, Retired, Limited income, \$20

Individual, Library, \$35

Household, Family, or Group, \$45

Supporting, \$75

Plant lover, \$100

Patron, \$250

Benefactor, \$500

Life, \$1000

Mail application and check to:

Membership Chairman, California Native Plant Society, 1722 J St., Suite 17, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Activities of Others

California Species: Biological Art & Illustration is on view at the Oakland Museum of California now through May 13, 2001. This juried exhibition of 60 recent, original works by 46 artists celebrates the diversity of plant and animal species native to California. Some CNPS members among the artists represented are Lee McCafree, creator of our Plant Sale poster this year and for several years past; Svetlana Buchli, one of the state poster series artists; and Peg Steunenber.

Bay Interpretive Training Program. The City of Berkeley's Docent Program trains volunteers to assist naturalists in teaching school children about the ecology of the San Francisco Bay Area. It offers hands-on experience in each of the local marine environments: rocky shore, intertidal zone, dock, and open water, and in two boat programs. The training programs take place on Thursday and Friday mornings at the Shorebird Nature Center at the Berkeley Marina, starting October 6. The training is ongoing and make-up sessions allow you to start any time during the school year. For details contact Patty Donald or Denise Brown at 644-8623.

San Pablo Creek Watershed Awareness Program meetings will be on Wednesdays, October 4 and November 1, 7 - 9 p.m. at the El Sobrante Library, 4191 Appian Way (at San Pablo Dam Road), El Sobrante. **Water Quality Monitoring** will happen at the same place on Saturday, October 28, 9:30 a.m. - noon. For more information, call Shannah Anderson at 231-5704.

The Jepson Herbarium Public Programs, a series of weekend workshops on **botanical and ecological subjects**, have been announced for 2000-2001. For a complete list contact Staci Markos or Betsy Ringrose at 643-7008; <smarkos@socrates.berkeley.edu > or <ringrose@uclink4.berkeley.edu>

The Gardens at Heather Farms will have a **Garden Faire** on Sunday, October 15 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Fun & free for all! Heather Farms is at 1540 Marchbanks Drive, Walnut Creek.

The Bio-Integral Resource Center presents **Healthy Gardening Workshops** on Saturdays in October in Walnut Creek, Antioch, and El Cerrito. Building healthy soil, selecting plants suited to the Bay Area, and managing pests and weeds with least-toxic, common-sense strategies are among the topics. Workshops are 1-5 p.m. except on October 7 (10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.). Workshop fee is \$15. Pre-registration required. For more information contact Tanya Drlik at (510) 524-8404, <birc@igc.org>

Carquinez Regional Environmental Education Center (CREEC) will have a **sale of plants native to the Carquinez Strait and the greater East Bay area** on Saturday, October 21, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. at the CREEC greenhouse at East Bay Regional Park, 1350 Crockett Blvd., Crockett. Questions? Call Sandra Dare at (510) 787-2265.

**California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley, CA 94705**

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