

# The BAY LEAF

June 2000



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

## Calendar of Events

June 2, 9, 16, 23 and 27, FRIDAYS:

■ **Native Here Nursery** open, 9 a.m.-noon (see p. 2).

June 6, 13, 20 and 27, TUESDAYS:

■ **Propagation and planting sessions** for the October sale of native plants (see below).

June 6, 13, 20 and 27, TUESDAYS:

■ **Native Here seed forays**, 9 a.m. (see p. 2).

June 7, WEDNESDAY:

■ **Board of Directors' meeting** at the home of Phoebe Watts, 1419 Grant St., Berkeley. 7:30 p.m. All members welcome.

June 10 and 24, SATURDAYS:

■ **Native Here Nursery** open, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. (see p. 2).

June 12, MONDAY:

■ **Deadline for July-August Bay Leaf.** Give items to Phoebe Watts or Brett Boltz.

June 28, WEDNESDAY:

■ **Membership meeting**, 7:30 p.m. (see right).

July 7-9, FRIDAY-SUNDAY:

■ **Field trip to Monitor Pass** (see p. 3).

■ **There will not be a Board of Directors' meeting in July.**

## Plant Sale Activities



### Potting Sessions this month:

Tuesdays, June 6, 13, 20, and 27  
9 a.m.- noon

Merritt College Landscape Horticulture Area

Come up to the growing grounds at Merritt and join us on Tuesday mornings. We are potting plants we have grown, and watering and weeding all the plants. Handling the plants as you care for them is an excellent way

## Membership Meeting

Wednesday, June 28, 7:30 p.m.

### The Draft Yosemite Plan

Speaker: Susan Gonshor

You can help shape the future of Yosemite Valley!

Yosemite National Park has released the Draft Yosemite Valley Plan for public review. This plan presents several proposals that seek to restore degraded areas and reduce development within the Merced River ecosystem, reduce automobile congestion, remove some housing and administrative operations, and relocate campgrounds and parking in Yosemite Valley. It is based on the broad goals of the park's 1980 General Management Plan.

Susan Gonshor, a National Park Service representative, invites you to come learn more about the plan and provide your vital input at this special event.

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.

to become familiar with their characteristics and to memorize their names. Learn while you help with our Chapter's main fund-raiser. There are jobs for all.

**Plant sale dates are October 7 and 8.**

Bring two quarters for the parking permit machine at the gate, and a bag lunch if you can stay. More information at (925) 376-4095.

## Native Plant Restoration Activities

### Native Here Nursery

Volunteers are welcome to join Charli on Tuesday mornings to travel around the Chapter's area in search of seeds. Permits have been issued by East Bay Regional Parks and California State Parks. Meet at the nursery at 9 a.m. Sites visited will vary according to conditions and what is likely to be ripe. If interested, just show up at the nursery at 9 on a Tuesday, or e-mail [cwd@wli.net](mailto:cwd@wli.net).

The wonderful group of Friday volunteers will be dwindling soon—Helga will be returning to Germany, Cam will be graduating, and Al will be going to Africa. Many seedlings await planting into larger containers. Do you have an hour or two or three on Fridays or Saturdays? Native Here is a wonderful, peaceful place to spend a few hours, on a weekly basis, or just now and then. Nesting hawks, deer, and songbirds abound. To volunteer is easy, all you have to do is show up at the nursery willing to slip on some gloves (provided) and dig into the soil bin. Other tasks include answering the phone, writing up sales, weeding, watering, and tidying up the nursery. Native Here is at 101 Golf Course Drive in Tilden Park directly across from the Golf Course Clubhouse entrance. Phone is 549-0211.

### Restoration of a Native Bunchgrass and Wildflower Grassland

#### Mitchell Canyon, Mt. Diablo State Park

Seed collection started at the end of April. *Nassella pulchra* is early this year. Blue-eyed grass seed will be ready by June and it looks as though there may be enough California poppy that the ground squirrels will leave some for people to collect.

The newly opened area (burned in 1999) will need a midsummer mowing as there are patches of yellow star thistle taking advantage of the open areas. Mowing is best done with only two people working, so big work-days are not scheduled. Please get in touch with Charli Danielsen 525-9076, [cwd@wli.net](mailto:cwd@wli.net), to set up a mowing date. Midweek is possible for her, and some weekends, Sundays usually best. Walter Koop has been doing a lot of the mowing this year. Thanks, Walt!

. . . Charli Danielsen

### Native Plant Restoration Team

We had a very successful joint work day on May 6 with the Friends of Five Creeks at Albany's lovely Buchanan Salt Marsh, at the mouth of Codornices Creek. About 22 people, two kids and a dog pulled literally tons of invasive *Carpobrotus edulis* out of this area. Local native plants of note included creeping wildrye, *Limonium californicum*, marsh gumpant and pickleweed.

On June 3 the Team will return to an EBRPD crown jewel, one of the most diverse associations of native perennial grasses in the Central Coast Ranges, Oakland's Skyline Serpentine Prairie. This small "pocket prairie" boasts 16 species of native perennial grasses, the endangered *Clarkia franciscana*, and a whole host of other botanical treasures. And it's threatened by one of the West's worst weeds, yellow starthistle. We'll be pulling this nasty plant and soaking up the good atmosphere. This is a great place to bone up on your native grass ID skills. July 1 will find us at the same place; we may also do some vegetational monitoring/line transects and photo documentation on that day.

Meet Saturday, June 3 at 10 a.m. in the usual place: Native Here Nursery, 101 Golf Course Drive in Tilden Park, across from the Golf Course main entrance. Or meet us at 10:30 a.m. or a little after at the Prairie, south of the junction of Skyline Blvd. with Joaquin Miller Blvd., behind the old EBRPD's main office (easy to get to—take Hwy. 13 to Joaquin Miller, go east/up the hill, hang a left into the parking lot). Wear protective clothing—sturdy shoes, long sleeves and pants, a sun hat; bring water, lunch, gloves if you have them. We also have gloves and tools to lend. Would you like to get on our email list? No junk emails are allowed. Send me a note at [casartunda@aol.com](mailto:casartunda@aol.com).

. . . Noah Booker

## Vernal Pool Conservation

### Proposed UC Merced Campus

Many members of CNPS and other interested in wildflowers are concerned that the proposed location for the new University of California Campus outside Merced will damage the largest remaining contiguous area of vernal pools left in California. While all of us recognize the need for a new campus, the currently proposed site would fragment a pristine area of pools on a critical area of diverse soil types. The Board of Directors of the East Bay Chapter therefore passed the following resolution at the May meeting:

"Because of the danger of fragmenting the largest contiguous vernal pool ecosystem left in California, The East Bay Chapter of CNPS encourages the University of California to site the proposed UC Merced campus in such a way as to minimize the destruction of vernal pools or preferably to eliminate the danger of fragmentation altogether by choosing alternate siting."

Members who wish to learn more about this issue will find information at the following website: [www.vernalpools.org](http://www.vernalpools.org). Also, a brief photo-essay about vernal pools in general is available in the photo gallery at [www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org).

. . . John Game

## Field Trip



The Milo Baker Chapter invites other CNPS members to join a weekend adventure in the **eastern Sierra**, Friday to Sunday, July 7-9. On Friday afternoon, explore trails through Jeffrey pine forest and meadows. On Saturday, botanize around **Monitor Pass**, 8,000 feet elevation, an open sagebrush and meadow landscape fringed by groves of quaking aspen and enriched with desert and montane wildflowers. At Grover Hot Springs State Park, five campsites are reserved for Friday and Saturday nights. Camping fee is \$10/person for one night, \$15/person two nights. Each campsite has a firepit and grill, cupboards, bear-proof lockers and tables, and is near drinking water and restrooms (no showers). The park's mineral springs are

channeled into concrete pools, where you can swim or just soak (\$4 for adults, \$2 children). Bring supplies for cooking. Each campsite accommodates a maximum of 8 people and two cars. Please carpool for this trip. Drivers of extra vehicles will need to arrange for offsite parking at the park and/or pay a fee.

Reservations can be made by sending payment (payable to CNPS-Milo Baker Chapter) to Peter Warner, 555 Magnolia Ave., Petaluma, CA 94952-2080. For more information contact leaders Peter Warner at (707) 763-7405 or <peterwarner@earthlink.net> or Ann Howald at 939-0775 or <annhowald@vom.com>.

## 2000 Board of Directors

### Elected Officers:

#### President:

Barbara Ertter h/526-4592  
w/643-0600

#### Vice-president: (Administration)

Tony Morosco h/549-2238  
w/642-8468

#### Treasurer:

Holly Forbes 234-2913  
w/643-8040

#### Recording Secretary:

Michele Lee 243-1265

#### Corresponding Secretary:

Joanne Kerbavaz (415) 330-6323

### Bay Leaf Editors:

Phoebe Watts 525-6614

Brett Boltz h/549-3327

w/643-0448

### Advisors:

#### Members-at-Large:

John Game 527-7855

Jim Sharp 644-9344

Joe Willingham 841-4681

### Committee Coordinators:

#### Bay Leaf Mailing:

Holly Forbes 234-2913

#### Conservation:

Tim Heelan 226-8294

#### Plant Communities:

Susan Bainbridge 548-2918

#### Rare plants:

Brad Olson 482-0794

#### (Unusual Plants):

Dianne Lake 741-8066

#### Donations:

David Bigham 843-4247

Myrtle Wolf 843-8759

#### Education:

Elly Bade 644-1656

Kathleen Dickey 525-6489

### Field trips:

Janet Gawthrop 654-2065

### Growing Natives Group:

Glenn Keator 527-9802

### Hospitality:

Irene Wilkinson (925) 254-3675

### Legislation:

Roy Buck 848-4169

roybuck@msn.com

### Membership:

Delia Taylor 527-3912

### Native Here Nursery:

Charli Danielsen 549-0211

cwd@wli.net

### Native Plant Restoration Team:

Noah Booker h/339-1588

w/840-9367

casartunda@aol.com

### Posters:

Heather Koshinsky h/528-8954

w/559-5977

### Plant Sale:

Shirley McPheeters (925) 376-4095

Phoebe Watts 525-6614

### (Publicity):

Elaine Jackson (925) 372-0687

### Programs:

Jodi McGraw 528-5090

jmmcgraw@socrates.berkeley.edu

### EBRP Botanic Garden Liaison:

Jenny Fleming 848-3455

All area codes are 510 unless noted.

**Recorded Chapter Information: 464-4977**

### CNPS Home Page:

[http://www.calpoly.edu/~dchippin/cnps\\_main.html](http://www.calpoly.edu/~dchippin/cnps_main.html)

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## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail application and check to:

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

### 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

## Activities of Others

**Friends of Sausal Creek** will meet on Wednesday, June 21, 7-9 p.m. After a short business meeting celebrate the summer solstice by spending time outside. Dimond Library, 3565 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland. **Restoration Days.** FOSC restoration coordinator Stu Richardson will hold weekly workdays in Dimond Park and Dimond Canyon. Currently, work is focusing on oak woodland restoration in the canyon; the particular tasks and "flavor" of each day are determined by the volunteers who join in. Every Saturday morning, 9 a.m.-noon. Dimond park, Oakland. For more information on these activities, contact Anne Hayes, Aquative Outreach Institute, 231-9566. For workday information, contact Stu Richardson, oaklandsaigon@worldnet.att.net.

*Friends* of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden sponsor the following: **Flora of the White Mountains.** Glenn Keator leads a trip to an area outstanding in its stark beauty, rugged terrain, varied geology, isolation and diversity of plant life, including the world's oldest trees, the bristlecone pines. Wednesday, July 12 to Monday, July 17. \$650 (\$200 contribution to Regional Parks Botanic Garden). Includes all meals at the research station, all accommodations, and instruction. Maximum 15. **Painting Native Plants and Butterflies.** Turn preliminary pencil drawings into color paintings. Detailed course outline, explanatory technique notes and supply list will be provided. Taught by Peg Steunenberg. Tuesday, July 25, Wednesday, July 26 and Thursday, July 27, 1-4:30 p.m. \$60 members/\$65 nonmembers. Maximum 15. For additional information about these courses contact Ron Clendenen, (925) 631-6614.

**Wildflower and Landscape Photography,** July 23-25. Steven Ruley, professional photographer and CNPS member, leads a workshop around Hope Valley and Carson Pass for beginners and advanced amateurs. \$140 (\$250/couple). For details and equipment list call (925) 449-2245.

**Design with native Plants** with instructor Katherine Greenberg will be offered at Merritt College on four Saturdays: August 26 and September 9, 16 and 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The class includes design concepts, information about plants, visits to native gardens and a native nursery, and a design project. Fee \$70. For more information call 436-2418 or 283-4322. To register, call 436-2413.

**Wildflower photographs at the Oakland Airport.** If you traveling through Oakland Airport now through June 19 be sure to see the exhibit of wildflower photographs. Some of them are by our Chapter member John Game.

**The 110th Anniversary of the University of California Botanical Garden** will be celebrated at a garden party featuring fabulous food and wine, talks by experts, tours of the garden and more. At the garden on Saturday, June 3, 3-7 p.m.

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

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