



February 2011

The Bay Leaf

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

www.ebcnps.org

www.groups.google.com/group/ebcnps

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Exploring components of the historical landscape: From oak woodlands to freshwater tidal wetlands

Speaker: Alison Whipple

Wednesday, February 23, 7:30 pm

Location: Founders Auditorium, Orinda Community Center (next door to the Orinda Library, see directions below).

Understanding the ecological characteristics and function of historical landscapes helps us identify opportunities for building sustainable future ecosystems. Historical ecology describes these landscapes as they existed prior to Euro-American modification and involves research methods that compile and synthesize historical maps, texts, and photographs.

In this month's presentation, historical ecologist Alison Whipple will discuss historical habitats and relate them to the greater Bay Area landscape. Driving on Highway 101 through southern Santa Clara Valley, few of us can imagine the once-dense oak woodlands that supported much of the biodiversity of the area. Research on the historical extent and stand density of oak woodlands can help us re-imagine what has long been lost from our valley floors. On the wetter side of the habitat spectrum, freshwater tidal wetlands of the historical Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta present a level of habitat complexity unknown in the contemporary landscape. Alison Whipple's presentation will draw from projects of the Historical Ecology Program of the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI; <http://www.sfei.org/he>).

Alison Whipple is part of the Historical Ecology Program at SFEI, where she is currently studying the historical ecology of the Delta. She received her MS and BS in Earth Systems from Stanford University, where she pursued her interests in watershed science, hydrology, and environmental history.

NEW RARE PLANT PROGRAM

Here are some rare plants known from our chapter area. Pictured are plant species considered rare based on the *CNPS Inventory* or the East Bay's locally rare plants database. Rare plants appearing in the *CNPS Inventory* are considered to be rare statewide whereas locally rare plants are rare in our chapter area even though they may be more common elsewhere in California or beyond. In the March *Bay Leaf*, and at

East Bay CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting takes place in the Founders' Auditorium of the Orinda Community Center at 28 Orinda Way (in Orinda Village). The Founders' Auditorium is across the hall from the main entrance to the Community Center building. The Founders' Auditorium opens at 7:00 pm; the meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Please contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016 or rosacalifornica@earthlink.net, if you have any questions.

Directions to Orinda Community Center at 28 Orinda Way

From the west, take Hwy 24 to the Orinda/Moraga exit. At the end of the off ramp, turn left on Camino Pablo (toward Orinda Village), right on Santa Maria Way (the signal after the BART station and freeway entrance), and left on Orinda Way.

From the east, take Hwy 24 to the Orinda exit. Follow the ramp to Orinda Village. Turn right on Santa Maria way (the first signal) and left on Orinda Way.

Once on Orinda Way, go 1 short block to the parking lot on the west side of the one-story Community Center building set back from the street on your right. There is additional free parking on the street, next door beneath the library building, and in the parking lot south of the library.

From BART (4 blocks): Exit the Orinda station, turn right and cross a pedestrian bridge, then cross a second pedestrian bridge on the left. Go 1 short block on the sidewalk to the third pedestrian bridge. Go 2 blocks on Orinda Way to the Orinda Community Center.

Next Month's Program

Wednesday, March 23: Ralph and Lisa Shanks—California Indian baskets: New findings in anthropology and botany.

the March Members Meeting, Heath Bartosh will announce a new Adopt-a-Rare-Plant program, where volunteers will monitor plant species in our Chapter area included in the *CNPS Inventory* in order to update occurrence information and make observations to aid in population stewardship.

continued on page 2

NEW RARE PLANT PROGRAM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



SPECIES PICTURED ON PAGE 2

Acanthomintha lanceolata – Santa Clara thornmint – CNPS List 4.2 Sunol Regional Wilderness, Alameda County

Downingia pulchella – flatface calicoflower – Locally Rare from Springtown Wetlands Preserve, Alameda County

Dudleya cymosa subsp. *paniculata* – Diablo Range dudleya – Locally Rare from Sunol Regional Wilderness, Alameda County

Guillenia flavescens – yellow mustard – Locally Rare from Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve, Contra Costa County

Leptosiphon pygmaeus subsp. *continentalis* – pygmy leptosiphon – Locally Rare from Lime Ridge, Contra Costa County

Mentzelia lindleyi – Lindley's blazing star – Locally Rare from near Calaveras Dam, Alameda County

Quercus palmeri – Palmer's oak – Locally Rare from Garin Woods, Alameda County

Sparganium eurycarpum var. *eurycarpum* – bur reed – Locally Rare from Alameda Creek near Niles Canyon, Alameda County

Viburnum ellipticum – Western viburnum – CNPS List 2.3 from near Sulphur Spring, Contra Costa County

Text and photos by Heath Bartosh

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, February 13, 9:30 am, Mount Olympia at Mount Diablo State Park. Gregg Weber will return to the canyons above Clayton to see many late winter flowers, with possible performances by sun, sky and clouds. Winter blooms to look for include two species of manzanita, violas, *Nemophila*, and some early tidy tips and Mt. Diablo jewelflower. This is a strenuous walk with a 2300 foot elevation gain on the way out, and all downhill on the return trip. The round trip distance is about 6 miles, so the trip will take 6-7 hours. Bring lunch and water, and be prepared for a wide range of temperatures. The trip will proceed despite official predictions of rain, and we will decide on the day of the trip if the weather is sufficiently inclement before postponement. If there is a heavy rain the trip will take place on February 20 at the same time.

Directions: Take 24 or 680 to Ignacio Valley Road. Continue on Ignacio Valley Road into the city of Clayton, where you turn right onto Clayton Road. Take Clayton Road past the first intersection with Marsh Creek Road; in about a mile, it becomes Marsh Creek Road. Continue straight on Marsh Creek Road and turn right onto Regency Drive. Go three blocks on Regency Drive, turn left onto Rialto Drive and follow it to the end. Regency Drive also ends at a trailhead, but that is for a different trail; be sure to turn left onto Rialto. Meet the group at the end of Rialto.

Sunday, February 27, 2 pm, Redwood Regional Park. David Margolies will lead a walk along the stream and on the slopes above Redwood Creek in this large East Bay redwood forest,

looking at early flowering plants and the trees and shrubs of the redwood forest. We will also look for newts and rainbow trout in Redwood Creek. The whole walk is about 2.5 miles with steep uphill and steep downhill portions. Walkers who want to avoid the steep trails can return along the stream trail about halfway through the walk. Meet at the Redwood Gate parking area at 2:00 pm.

Directions: To get there from the northern East Bay, get on 13 South (go east on Ashby Avenue in Berkeley, for example) and take the Redwood Road exit.

From Oakland, go east on 35th Avenue (which turns into Redwood Road).

From the southern East Bay, take 580 West to 13 North and exit at Redwood Road (immediately after the junction).

From San Francisco, take the Bay Bridge, staying to the right (but do not go to San Jose). Take 580 East, and then 24 East (towards Walnut Creek). Take the 13 South exit from 24 and then the Redwood Road exit. Once on Redwood Road, go east (uphill). At the top of the hill you will cross Skyline Boulevard and then pass various equestrian facilities. Go down into the valley. About two miles from Skyline Boulevard, turn left into Redwood Regional Park, following the entrance road to the end to the parking lot. Walk takes place rain or shine.

NATIVE HERE

New payment options available at Native Here!

We are now equipped to accept Master Card and Visa credit cards, and also debit cards.

Minimum credit card purchase is \$20. Our setup requires that the actual card be present when we record the transaction. Because the equipment is telephone-based, we will now be writing up all sales in the office.

Are you aware of the volume discount at Native Here? Sometimes you may not find \$500 worth of plants at a given time, but you can achieve that amount by purchasing gift certificates to use later.

As of this writing, it is continuously cold day and night. It will be interesting to see how the plants respond. Those that make it through the winter should be pretty hardy plants! Many of the shrubs have leaf buds now that there is a little sunshine.

Many shrubs and trees have lost their leaves, but now you can see their bark and shapely limbs. The dogwoods and some

willows have beautiful smooth, red bark. Buckeyes have silver bark. Gooseberries look fierce with their gangly, thorny limbs. Many people want evergreen plants, but deciduous trees and shrubs add variation to your garden. Instead of seeing the same green form you can observe the plant's change from bare limbs to leafy canopy and back again over the course of a year. It's like having two different plants in the same spot.

This month we hope that some of the cuttings we took in November will be ready to pot up. Volunteers are welcome whenever the nursery is open.

Plant Fair Planning

If you'd like to be involved in planning the Plant Fair for this coming October, e-mail Charli at nativehere@ebcnps.org or come to the nursery on Saturday, February 12 at 1 pm (or earlier to help with nursery tasks).

Charli Danielsen and Margot Cunningham

CONSERVATION ANALYST FUND REPORT

This past month new donors contributed approximately \$5000 to our Conservation Analyst Fund, bringing us to a total of \$28,668. Thank you for boosting us ever closer to our goal of \$35,000! You, our donors, play a critical role in keeping our conservation program alive. Without your generous donations, there would be no Conservation Analyst. If you have not yet donated, please join the distinguished ranks of donors listed below in supporting our chapter's conservation program through your gift. With your help, we will reach our goal. Visit our conservation blog at www.ebcnps.wordpress.com/ for full reports on what our conservation program is doing to make sure that native plants are protected in the East Bay.

We are grateful to the following donors for their contributions to the Conservation Analyst Fund. Note: we are updating our membership list to be sure that it reflects those individuals in families that wish to be identified. If we have inadvertently omitted a family member or partner, please contact Membership Co-Chairs, Elaine Worthington-Jackson (elainejx@att.net) or Carol Castro (carollbcastro@hotmail.com) to correct the listing. Thank you!

Donors to the 2010 Conservation Analyst Fund as of January 10, 2011

Anonymous, John Alcorn, Lisa Ann Anich, Elly and William Bade, Laura Baker and Lewis Lubin, Joe Balciunas, Laura Beckett, Robert Berman, David Bigham and Howard Arendtson, Liz Bittner, Terry Blair, Susan Blanc, Peter Boffey, Richard Bogaert, Martha Booz, Barbara Brandiff, Martha Breed, Mary Breunig, Shelagh and Robert Broderson, John Callaway, Rob-

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Schwartz, Brenda Senturia, Mary Shea, Shirleymae and Igor Skaredoff, Suzanne Skrivanich, Doris, Sloan, Anne Smith, Jennifer Smith, Lincoln Smith, Susan Smith, Elizabeth Sojourner, Nicki Spillane, Malcolm Sproul, Jacqueline Steiner, Amy Stewart and Lionel McNeely, Ruth and Donald Stiver, Emilie Strauss, Ted Tawshunsky, Delia and John Taylor, Nancy and Martin Thomas, Carol Thornton, Laurie Umeh, Elizabeth

Varnhagen, Jeanne Walpole, Leslie Webster, Berthold Weis, Karen Wetherell, Joseph and Doris Willingham, Christina Wistrom and Jeremy Thorsness, Susan Lepore Wijeyesekera, Myrtle Wolf, Tamara Wood, Elaine Worthington-Jackson, Roberta Zorzynski.

The donation by Kimra and Scott McAfee was in honor of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Sausal Creek.

RESTORATION PROJECTS

Tuesday, February 1, 10 am, Garber Park Stewards (Oakland city park in Claremont Canyon) Saturday, February 19, 10 am, Garber Park Stewards. Join the Garber Park Stewards at Evergreen Lane to help with ongoing removal of exotic species. This small park is often overlooked, but has an unusually rich indigenous flora that returns as the team opens space to them. Meet the stewards at the Evergreen Lane entrance, for which there is no fee and no parking lot. For directions to Evergreen Lane and more information on the site, you can contact GarberParkStewards@gmail.com or see their blog at <http://garberparkstewards.blogspot.com>. Meet at the Evergreen Lane entrance.

Saturday, February 5, 9:00 am, Redwood Regional Park. Meet park staff and other volunteers at the Skyline Gate, from where we'll venture out to rip French broom (genus *Genista*, not to be confused with Scotch broom, also nasty stuff but in genus *Cytisus*). The exact site will depend on the weather and how well the trails are holding up. You can bring your own gloves and tools, or the park staff can provide a loaner. Extremely heavy rain cancels, but the crew goes out in most weather. See below for directions.

Saturday, February 12, 9:30 am, Huckleberry Regional Park. Meet at the parking lot, where we will sign in, pick up loaner tools as needed, and decide on the worksite for the month. Several invasive species are still trying to crowd in at the edges of the park, including *Vinca*, cape ivy, French broom, and forget-me-nots. Dress in long sleeves to prevent poison oak contact, and be sure to let us know if you need gloves before we start work. Gloves matter because they prevent much poison oak dermatitis, even if your hands resist cold and blisters.

Directions (to both worksites): From Highway 13, exit at Park if you are coming from the south. Turn left at the end of the

ramp to go over 13, and turn left again at the traffic light on the other side. You will now be on Mountain, on which you drive north a couple of blocks before turning right on Snake. If you are coming from the north, exit at Moraga/Thornhill and drive south on Moraga to Snake.

To get to Redwood Regional Park, keep going straight uphill as Snake turns off to the left. You will now be on Shepherd Canyon Road, and you should see Shepherd Canyon Park to the right. Follow this road to the end, and turn right at the junction of Shepherd Canyon and Skyline. Follow Skyline as it winds south, and turn left when you see the Skyline Gate parking lot, to the left off Skyline.

To get to Huckleberry Regional Park, follow the directions above until you turn right onto Snake. Then, be prepared to make a hard left turn to stay on Snake after only 2 short blocks. Follow Snake to where it ends at Skyline, a distance of roughly 2 miles. Turn left onto Skyline and follow it a short distance to the Huckleberry parking lot on your right.

This newly established crew returns to widen the dent in the French broom patch, and also to pull Eurasian onions, bristly ox-tongue, *Eucalyptus* sprouts and other exotics to the north of the parking lot. You can bring your own gloves and tools, or let us know if you need a loaner; e-mail janetgawthrop47@gmail.com. To get to the Sibley parking lot, exit Highway 13 at Park, go left on Park over 13, left again on Mountain, and right on Snake. Stay left on Snake a couple of blocks further uphill (not straight on Shepherd Canyon), and follow Snake all the way to the intersection of Snake and Skyline. Turn left on Skyline, and follow it north to the Sibley parking lot on the right, past the Huckleberry Preserve entrance.

ACTIVITIES OF OTHERS

13th Annual Bay Area Conservation Biology Symposium
Saturday, February 12th, 2011, 8 am – 7 pm
International House, UC Berkeley

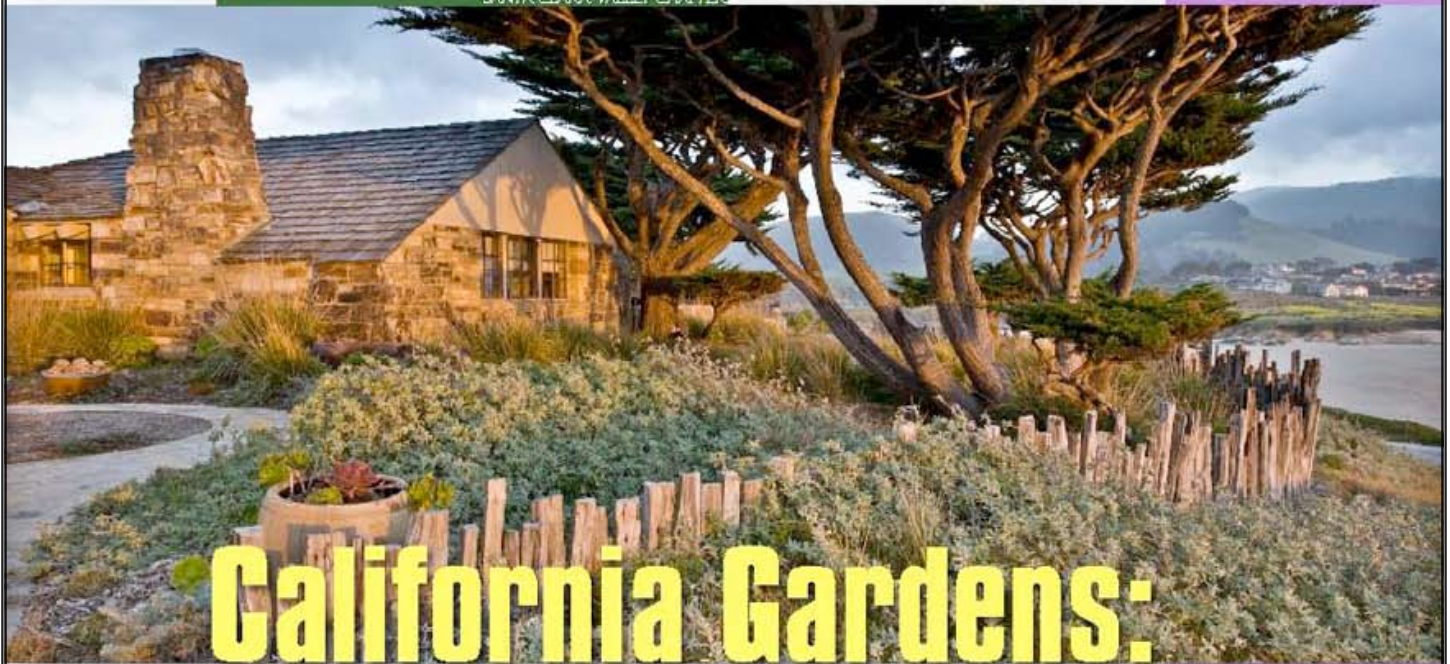
Featuring speakers:

Ivettte Perfecto, University of Michigan, Co-author of *Nature's Matrix: Linking Agriculture, Conservation and Food Sovereignty*.

Michelle Marvier, Santa Clara University, Co-author of *Conservation Science: Balancing the Needs of People and Nature*

Joel Reynolds, Natural Resources Defense Council
Senior attorney and director of NRDC's urban program

<http://www.cnr.berkeley.edu/consbio/symposium2010/index.htm>



California Gardens:

Beauty & Sustainability With Native Plants

A symposium on native plant gardening & design

Talks by California's top horticulturists and designers:

Bart O'Brien, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

Bernard Trainor, Bernard Trainor + Associates

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Dr. Glenn Keator, Merritt College

Judith Lowry, Larner Seeds

Nevin Smith, Suncrest Nurseries

Paul Kephart, Rana Creek

Plus: Plant Sale, Book Sale, and more

Saturday, February 19, 2011, 9am-6pm

Foothill College Appreciation Hall
12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills

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To register, visit:
symposium.cnps-scv.org

Credits:
Above: Bernard Trainor
(design & photo)
Left: Sherri Osaka (design)
Steve Rosenthal (photo)

Chapter Directory

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Sales—Margot Cunningham
bunchgrassmarg@gmail.com

Seed Collection

Gregg Weber
510-223-3310

Plant Fair

Gudrun Kleist
510-222-2320
gkleist@sbcglobal.net
and Charli Danielsen
Coordinators

Restoration Projects

Leaders:
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Point Isabel—Tom and Jane Kelly
510-704-8628 (w)
510-684-6484 (c)
kyotousa@sbcglobal.net
Strawberry Creek—Tom and Jane Kelly

Officers and Committee Chairs serve on the Board.

Committees are formed based on chapter needs and the interests of volunteers. Proposals for committees and projects are welcome and will be considered by the board.

FAREWELL FROM LECH NAUMOVICH

Lech Naumovich left his job as Chapter Conservation at the end of January. We wish Lech well in his new endeavors. The editors.

Serving as the EBCNPS Conservation Analyst for the past 5 years, I've learned a few things. One thing is certain. CNPS conservation work is incredibly challenging. Luckily I had a whole boatload of support from superhuman volunteers, most importantly Laura Baker, the Conservation Chair.

You see, I've found developer and conservationist alike recognize CNPS as an institution. The organization isn't merely a quirky amalgam of plant nerds, it's a promise. A promise that our Society will embrace and protect the diversity of flora that blesses California. Member commitment over the

past 45 years has helped CNPS set an international standard for plant conservation work. I want to thank you all for the unwavering support you have given me over the past half decade. I feel honored to have worked with you all.

I'll be moving on from my formal position at the end of January, but will continue to stay involved with the State CNPS Conservation Committee and the 2012 Conservation Conference. You can find some of my other personal projects at www.goldenhour.org and www.lechphoto.com. Please stay in touch with me at lechroy@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Lech Naumovich

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Please join us in welcoming our new members for the November/December 2010 time frame. Marsha Feinland, Larry Dwyer, Naomi Sorbet, John Slaymaker, Joshua Bahr, Juan Sanchez, & Jerome Myszk. As always, a huge thank you to our renewing members.

Did you join CNPS prior to 1986? If you are one of the many EB Members that joined before 1986, this column is written for you. The CNPS State Office is in the process of updating the membership database and would like to have as many join dates as possible. Right now the records go back to 1986. If you are like me, you don't remember when you joined; I just

remember I have been a member since some time in the early 70's. One suggestion is to look back on your bookshelf where you most likely keep your *Fremontia* and see what the oldest date is. I did that and found one from 1976 so I am guessing that is about when I joined.

If you could do that and find a date that you are comfortable with, or use other means, perhaps friends you joined with, maybe you were in school at the time? Please let me know and I will forward your information to the State Office.

Elaine Jackson, EBCNPS Membership Committee Co-Chair
elainejx@att.net, 925-372-0687

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East Bay Chapter
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Time Value
February 2011 issue

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wayne Roderick Lectures, winter 2010-2011, at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Wildcat Canyon Road and South Park Drive (South Park Drive is closed Nov.-March) in Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley, CA (510) 544-3169 E-mail Address: bgarden@ebparks.org, http://www.ebparks.org/parks/vc/botanic_garden www.nativeplants.org
Saturday Mornings 10:30 Free Notice: Seating is limited. To be sure of a seat, come early and save a chair
Feb. 5 **California Indian medicinal uses of plants past to present** - Bev Ortiz
Feb. 12 **Vernal pools, fire displays, and rambles from Solano to Colusa** - Steve Edwards
Feb. 19 **Alpine plants of Wyoming** - Ted Kipping
Feb. 26 **Geology and plants of the northern Sierra Nevada** - Steve Edwards

Native Here (see page 4)

Tuesday afternoons - nursery open noon to 3 pm
Friday mornings - nursery open 9 am to noon
Saturdays - nursery open 10 am to 2 pm

Saturday February 12 plant fair planning meeting, 1 pm

Restoration (see page 5)

Tuesday, February 1, 10 am, Garber Park Stewards (Oakland city park in Claremont Canyon) Saturday, February 19, 10 am, Garber Park Stewards

Saturday, February 5, 9:00 am, Redwood Regional Park Saturday, February 12, 9:30 am, Huckleberry Regional Park Sunday, February 20, 9:00 am, Sibley Regional Park

Field Trips (see page 3)

Sunday, February 13, 9:30 am, Mount Olympia at Mount Diablo State Park

Sunday, February 27, 2 pm, Redwood Regional Park

Membership Meeting (see page 1)

Wednesday, February 23, 7:30 pm, "Exploring components of the historical landscape: From oak woodlands to freshwater tidal wetlands"

Speaker: Alison Whipple

Membership Application and Renewal Form

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

I wish to affiliate with:

East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

Other _____

Membership category:

Individual, \$45

Family, Library, Group or International, \$75

Plant lover, \$100

Patron, \$300

Benefactor, \$600

Mariposa Lily, \$1500

Limited Income or student, \$25.00

Other _____

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816