



June 2008

The Bay Leaf

California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter • Alameda & Contra Costa Counties
www.ebcnps.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Membership Meeting: on hiatus until September (see below)
No board meeting in June.

Native Here (see page 2)

Fridays, June 6, 13, 20, 27, Native Here open 9 am – 12 pm

Saturdays, June 7, 14, 21, 28, open 10 am to 1 pm

Tuesdays, June 3, 10, 17, 24, Seed collecting outings for Native Here, 9 am – 1 pm

Various days and dates, Seed collecting listed at www.ebcnps.org/seedtrips.html

Tuesdays, June 3, 10, 17, 24, 1-4 pm, Volunteers welcome

Field Trips (see page 3)

Sunday, June 8, 11:30 am-1 pm (or longer), UC Santa Cruz, Evolutionary Sleuthing in the Genus *Trifolium* with Randy Morgan.

Saturday, June 14, 9:30 am - Mount Diablo: Falls trail, Middle trail, Bruce lee Spring trail, Wasserman trail.

Sunday, June 22, 10:00 am - Mt Diablo: Knobcone point road, Blackhawk ridge road.

Restoration projects (see page 5)

Sunday, June 15, 9:30 am, Huckleberry Preserve.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: NEXT ONE IS IN SEPTEMBER

Membership meetings will be on summer recess for the months of June, July, and August. But mark your calendars now for a great program when we resume on our regular fourth Wednesday evening of the month in September:

Date and time: Wednesday, September 24, 7:30 p.m., Orinda Public Library Garden Room

Speaker: Lech Naumovich, East Bay CNPS Conservation Analyst

Topic: Fighting the Right Fight: Why Our East Bay Chapter's Native Plant Conservation Program is Cutting Edge

Learn how our CNPS chapter protects precious land in the ever-growing East Bay, which provides habitat for many threatened and endangered species as well as for the beautiful native plant communities we all know and love. Go on a photo tour of these special places and be inspired by the amazing work of our Conservation Analyst and our Conservation, Rare Plants, Unusual Plants, and Vegetation committees.

NEW BYLAWS APPROVED BY BOARD

A committee appointed by the Board to recommend revised bylaws has completed its work. The committee, chaired by Carol Castro, submitted its proposed revised bylaws to the Board in time for the May Board meeting. The Board approved them and they will

be submitted to the membership for final approval later this year. The July/August *Bay Leaf* will have more information about the new bylaws and will provide details of the approval process.

OCTOBER PLANT FAIR EARLY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Plant Fair is scheduled for October 18-19. The Plant Fair and regular sales of plants from Native Here Nursery make up a large portion of the chapter's annual revenue. Help is needed year-round to keep the nursery full of wonderful native plants, both the local "Native Here" plants and the "All California" plants that will be sold only for the Plant Fair.

Volunteers can come any Tuesday afternoon 1 pm to 4 pm, Friday morning 9 am to noon or Saturday morning 10 am to 1 pm to help with potting, weeding, other fun jobs. Some tasks can be done with children--come check it out!

If those times are not convenient, contact nativehere@ebcnps.org to arrange a time and training session.

Join the Watering Team at Native Here Nursery. Watering plants is a delightful meditative task that is extremely important now that we are in the dry months. Volunteer for one to two hours, once a week; vacations allowed.

Delia Taylor and Charli Danielsen, 2008 Plant Fair Co-Chairs

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

EBCNPS was able to table at some of the many Earth Day Events this last April, but not as many as we would like to have liked. We could use your help! Carol Castro did a great job with the Oakland Wildflower Show (see page 5), Janet Gawthrop and I were in Sunol and we also covered John Muir's Birthday-Earth Day Celebration (see picture of John's Birthday cake).

Have any questions about upcoming events? Interested in getting more involved? Please don't hesitate to contact us. elainejx@att.net ~ 925.372.0687 or carollbcastro@hotmail.com ~ 510-352-2382.

Getting More Involved and Having Lots of Fun Doing It: Think Globally, Volunteer Locally

Walnut Creek – Heritage Day, Borgus Ranch **June 14th** ~

Contact Elaine P. Jackson ~ elainejx@att.net

Thanks to Nancy Dawson Dollard, Supervising Ranger, Open Space we now have the correct date for this event.

Clayton – Help needed at the Native Plant Garden at the Clayton Library. Contact Lisa Anich at (925) 689-2642 or email admin@diablocreek.info.

Walnut Creek - Native demonstration garden on The Iron Horse Trail in Walnut Creek near the Walnut Creek Intermediate ~ Contact Judy Adler ~ jadlermtnmama@sbcglobal.net.

(Do you have or know of a local event coming up in your neighborhood that would be a good location for CNPS to have a display

table? You can host it. Come on up to our Native Here Nursery (during business hours) and pick up supplies to pass out. Call us with any questions.)

New Members

Please join us in welcoming those who joined in March; Patti Cole, Barbara T. Eaton, Dennis Hall, Cesar G. Labarca, Ingrid Morken, Kelly A. Neary, Kevin Otis, & Kate Tollefson.

Elaine Jackson

Carol Castro



John Muir's Birthday Cake, served on Earth Day.

NATIVE HERE NURSERY

Many people came to the nursery to buy plants and books during the Native Plant Sale Extravaganza as part of the *Bringing Back the Natives Tour* in May. Now we can concentrate on getting ready for the Native Plant Fair on October 18-19, 2008.

It's too dry this time of year to plant shrubs and trees, but we have perennials, such as yarrow, that can be planted. It's a good time to think about what to plant in the fall and winter. We have a greater selection of shrub and trees than ever and will have more in the fall. Come see our selection and make plans for future planting.

We have started our seed collecting forays. We have permits to collect in East Bay Regional Parks as well as Mt. Diablo. Most of the plants sold year round at Native Here are grown from the seed collected on these trips. Regular Tuesday morning trips meet at 9 am at the bottom gate of the nursery and will end by 1 pm. Kids are welcome to come along on Tuesday mornings. Gregg is leading longer trips on various days. He lists the date, time and meeting place at www.ebcnps.org/seedtrips.html or you may call him at 510 223-3310 for more information.

Volunteers are always welcome at the nursery to help with seed sowing, transplanting, weeding, watering, and other tasks. We need volunteers to water plants during the week this summer. If interested, email us at nativehere@ebcnps.org.

We are located in Tilden Regional Park, across the street from the entrance to the Tilden Golf Course, 101 Golf Course Dr, Berkeley, CA 94708, 510-549-0211, nativehere@ebcnps.org, www.ebcnps.org.

Margot Cunningham



Linanthus ciliatus (whisker brush). Photo by Gregg Weber.

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, June 8, 11:30 am-1 pm (or longer), UC Santa Cruz, Evolutionary Sleuthing in the Genus *Trifolium* with Randy Morgan. Meet at 11:30 am with organizer Celia Zavatsky at the UCSC Arboretum parking lot in Santa Cruz. From there we will proceed to a rooftop garden on campus (with elevator access). We will see nearly a thousand pots of *Trifolium*, approximately 150 species, as Randy is growing out all of the major taxonomic groups worldwide. A subset of the collection includes nearly all of the California native clovers as well as undescribed ones, with many variations of each. After Randy introduces a plethora of taxonomic puzzles, you may simply enjoy the flowers, or join in the research and preservation efforts, and stay late after class! Possible follow-up dates may be scheduled to observe more species as they come into flower. If you can't make this date, but want to be notified of future opportunities, email Celia Zavatsky. If you have any mysterious clovers in need of identification, feel free to bring them! Please email Celia Z at pogogyne1@yahoo.com if you are planning on coming, so we will know to wait for you before we drive up to the science building from the meeting place. You may bring a bag lunch and eat before or after our visit (or during); the Arboretum is a lovely place to visit as well.

Directions from the East Bay: Go south on 880 or 680. Get on 17 south toward Santa Cruz (880 becomes 17 where it intersects 280). Approaching Santa Cruz on 17, follow the signs for Hwy 1 North/Half Moon Bay. When the freeway ends, veer to the right onto Mission St. Almost immediately turn right on Highland. Go a couple of blocks and turn left on High St. You will drive on that for several blocks and then cross the intersection with Bay St. That intersection (Bay & High Sts) is the entrance to the UCSC campus which we will return to later. Continue on High St a short distance (maybe the equivalent of a city block or two) and turn right into the parking lot of the Arboretum, where we will meet. There is a bathroom there as well.

Saturday, June 14, 9:30 am - Mount Diablo: Falls trail, Middle trail, Bruce lee Spring trail, Wasserman trail.

This is a moderate round trip of 5 miles with 1200 feet elevation gain on the way out. It will be mostly downhill on the return trip. Trip will take 4-5 hours. Bring lunch and at least 1.5 L. water. We will take Clayton Oaks trail, Bruce Lee Spring trail, lower Donner trail, Wasserman trail, Falls trail, Middle trail.

Expect to see *Monardella douglasii*, *Collinsia tinctoria* in flower, several *Castilleja* spp., *Clarkia biloba* in flower, *Parvisedum pentandrum*, *Campanula exigua*, *Silene californica*, *Pickeringia montana*, *Asclepias californica*, and lots of common native plants. We should arrive back at the parking lot around 3 pm.

Trip leader is Gregg Weber. Call him at 510 223-3310 if there are questions.

Directions: Take 24 or 680 to Ignacio Valley Road. Continue on Ignacio Valley Road into City of Clayton, turn right on Clayton Road. Take Clayton Road past first intersection with Marsh Creek Road in about a mile, it becomes Marsh Creek Road. Continue straight on Marsh Creek Road. Turn right on Regency Drive. Go 3 blocks, turn left on Rialto Drive. Go to end of Rialto Drive and park. Do not go to the end of Regency, that is a different access point.

Sunday, June 22, 10:00 am - Mt Diablo: Knobcone Point Road, Blackhawk Ridge Road.

We will go through woodland, grasslands, chaparral areas, with *Pickeringia*, *Salvia*, *Arctostaphylos*, *Quercus*, *Garrya*, *Calochortus splendens* and lots of *Clarkia rubicunda*. This can be a very hot walk, so dress for heat and bring at least 1.5 liters of water, and lunch. The road loses about 500ft, down to a creek, then gains 700 feet to the top of the loop, and reverse on the way back. We should arrive back at the parking lot around 4 pm.

Trip leader is Gregg Weber. Call him at 510 223-3310 if there are questions.

Directions: Take 680 to Diablo Road. Go east on Diablo Road. At Green valley Road, only one lane goes straight ahead. After green valley Road, go past and do not turn at the Diablo country club sign. In about a mile, turn left at the Mt Diablo State park sign. Continue to end of Mount Diablo Scenic boulevard. It becomes south gate Road as it enters the park. Pay fee of \$6 at main entrance station. Continue for about a mile, and park at the large parking area at Curry Point. That is where we will meet at 10 am.

Janet Gawthrop



Balsamorhiza deltoidea (balsam root) at Mount Diablo. Photo by Gregg Weber.

THE BRIONES FIELD TRIP, MAY 10, 2008

On Saturday, May 10, Gregg Weber led a field trip to Briones Park, taking the Blue Oak Trail and the Spengler Trail. This was a somewhat strenuous hike, as the first picture shows, about five miles and 700 feet up and down. Here we show some photos of the participants and some of the plants that were seen. Gregg is leading two field trips in June, as described on page 3.

The photos, all by Phred Jackson, on the left show (top to bottom) the group climbing a hill, a wind poppy (*Stylomecon heterophylla*), and a globe lily (*Calochortus pulchellus*) being examined. On the right, top to bottom, are a yellow mariposa lily (*Calochortus luteus*), a hazel (*Corylus cornuta*) nut, and the group again.



OAKLAND WILDFLOWER SHOW

EBCNPS' s involvement in the 50th Annual Oakland Wildflower Show was an active and rewarding experience. This year, the flow-ers were from blooming regions all over the state. Many visitors exclaimed their admiration for this year's display.

Susan d'Alcarno, a longtime member of CNPS, was the master or-ganizer of the wildflower collections. Collectors took three days in the field finding the best specimens; identifiers keyed out the plants to provide the correct botanical names; labelers, and arrangers and exhibit set-up people set the plants in alluring, charming and sometimes whimsical vases. Many of the volunteer hours for these behind the scene tasks were provided by EBCNPS members.

This is the first year EBCNPS has been allowed to sell CNPS publica-tions at this event. We deeply appreciate the groundwork laid and the persistence given by Ellen Gierson, who developed the relation-ship with the Museum administration and opened the door to this possibility. We sold over \$430.00 in CNPS publications.

A surprise for show visitors was a display from the Jepson Herbar-ium concerning the re-finding of Mt. Diablo Buckwheat (*Erigoneum truncata*) on Mt. Diablo by Michael Park in 2005, accompanied by flowering specimens provided by the UC Botanical Garden.

Carol Castro, Delia Taylor, Ellen Gierson, and Elly Bade organized the EBCNPS membership table and sale of books. Ellen Gierson, David Margolies, Delia Taylor, Yulon Tong, Monika Olson, and

Carol Castro took turns at shifts to staff the table, kept tabs on the publication sales, and fielded botanical questions from Show visi-tors. Professor Bruce Pavlik's students from Mills College provided assistance to the visitors by moving around through the crowd and providing informal personal contact for botanical conversations.

Six new members joined during the show. Delia and I sincerely thank all of you who participated in any way in this year's Wild-flower Show. You all helped make this year's event successful and enjoyable.

Carol Castro



Participants at the Oakland Museum wildflower show examine books on sale.

HUCKLEBERRY RESTORATION PROJECT

Sunday, June 15, 9:30 am: After you're done with June 14 Flag Day activities, join the chapter restoration crew for the ongoing patri-otic chore of uprooting and bagging *Vinca*, *Myosotis*, *Delairea* (cape ivy), and other exotics trying to crowd in from Skyline Blvd.

Directions: From either north or south of Oakland, take Highway 13 and exit at Moraga/Thornhill Avenue. Follow Moraga Avenue straight from the traffic light at the exit ramp as it parallels 13 and changes its name to Mountain Boulevard. Turn left onto Snake Road at the traffic light for Snake/Mountain Boulevard. Go uphill on Snake, but be prepared to make a hard left turn to follow

Snake several blocks uphill at its intersection with Shepherd Canyon. (If you see a soccer field on your right, then you missed the turn--go back.) Follow Snake through residential Montclair to the intersection with Skyline Boulevard. Turn left onto Skyline and follow it several blocks to the Huckleberry parking lot. From south of Oakland, exit 13 at Park, turn left on Mountain, right on Snake, and then same directions apply. Bring gloves, water, and your tools if you prefer.

Janet Gawthrop

NEW BOOKLET ON MOUNT DIABLO TREES AND SHRUBS

The Mount Diablo Interpretive Association has published a new booklet *The Trees and Shrubs of Mount Diablo*, by long time chapter member Glenn Keator. The purpose of the 89-page booklet is to provide the beginning naturalist, amateur botanist, and nature lover with a tool to identify ninety percent of the woody plants, subdivided into trees and shrubs, encountered in Mount Diablo State Park. The association was able to publish the booklet because they received a generous grant from the California State Parks Foundation.

The booklet's introduction describes the different common plant communities of shrubs and trees, locations on the Mountain where

the plants can be found, and information on how the plants are named and categorized. The main body of the booklet contains a section on trees followed by a section on shrubs. There are color photographs (taken by Glenn) of the trees and shrubs described, along with common and scientific and the vicinity where it can be found in the Park. Final sections recommend sites and hikes to view certain trees and shrubs, provide a glossary of terms, and an index.

The booklet is \$5 and can be purchased at the Mitchell Canyon or Summit Visitor Centers, or online from www.mdia.org.

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Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

I wish to affiliate with:

___ East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

___ Other _____

E-mail _____

(optional)

Membership category:

- ___ Student, Limited income, \$25
- ___ Individual, Library, \$45
- ___ Household, Family, or Group, \$75
- ___ Supporting, \$75
- ___ Plant lover, \$100
- ___ Patron, \$300
- ___ Benefactor, \$600
- ___ Mariposa Lily, \$1500

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

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