



March 2008

The Bay Leaf

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board of Directors' Meeting

Wednesday, March, 7:15 pm (snacks at 7:00 pm), home of Barbara Leitner, 2 Parkway Court, Orinda.

Native Here (see page 7)

Fridays, March 7, 14, 21, 28, Native Here open 9 am-12 pm
Saturdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Native Here open 10 am-1 pm

Field trips (see page 4)

Sunday, March 2, 2008, 9:30 am, Mount Diablo
Saturday March 15, 10:00 am, Strentzel Meadow to Mt. Wanda (Muir National Historic site area)
Sunday March 16 2:00 pm, Bird Trail in Chabot Regional Park
Saturday April 5, 10:00 am, Mitchell Canyon at Mt. Diablo

Membership Meeting (see page 2)

Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 7:30 pm, (in the Garden Room of the Orinda Library):
Gordon Frankie — Bees in the City

Restoration Project (see page 4)

Sunday March 9, 9:30 am, Restoration Work at Huckleberry Regional Preserve, Oakland

Shows, Sales, Events

March 16-20 SF Garden Show (see page 7)
Saturday, March 29, 1 pm, CNWS Planning Event (see page 7)
April 19-20 Oakland Museum Wildflower Show (see page 7)
April 19 Regional Parks Botanic Garden Plant Sale

JENNY FLEMING, 1924-2008

Jenny Fleming and her husband Scott were among the founding members of CNPS in 1965 and Jenny became a Fellow of the California Native Plant Society in 1985 (Article and picture in April, 1985 issue of *Fremontia*). Jenny was active in both the local chapter and statewide CNPS except for the years 1971-1975 when the Flemings lived outside of California. Her presence among us at chapter events has been missed the past few years as her health declined.

I first met Jenny when she became president of what was then the San Francisco Bay Chapter of CNPS following Jim Roof. I had been recruited as field trip chair for the chapter and got to know Jenny on field trips and at plant sale potting sessions. She was an avid gardener, and we shared an interest in native bulbs and their habitats—rocky places and grasslands. Jenny was committed to saving California's wild places and would often comment when we would spot a wonderful assemblage of rocks and plants on a CNPS or Regional Parks Botanic Garden field trip that nature was the best landscape architect imaginable. At our chapter board meetings she would often hand me an EIR that would have come in for some project or development, and before long, she had me commenting on developments in writing or showing up at hearings and public meetings.

As president of the chapter, Jenny made a clean sweep of the chapter committees, then reassigned most people to the jobs they'd had before. The second year of her presidency, I was the vice president for administration (we also had a vice president for plant sales at

that time). The Flemings were always alert to prospects for new leadership in CNPS. Jenny and Scott took John and me along to state board meetings, introduced us to everybody, and encouraged us to take state CNPS offices.

Jenny decided that chapter presidents needed to get together so that their concerns would not be dismissed as "too localized" for discussion at the statewide CNPS board meetings, so she instituted the "Chapter President's Meetings" that took place in the morning or at noon. Those meetings initiated some CNPS policies and gave chapter presidents a chance to talk about problems of administering chapters and to share solutions. In some ways those meetings were the prototype for what became the Chapter Council of CNPS.

Jenny was dedicated to field trips and programs, serving the chapter as program chair for many years after she was no longer president. She encouraged chapters to share information about potential speakers and found great ones for our chapter meetings. That tradition is continued with our current programs chair, Sue Rosenthal.

Jenny and Scott created a beautiful native plant garden on their Berkeley hillside. Jenny would dig out mature ferns to divide for the chapter plant sale and the Regional Parks Botanic Garden sale. She always had boxes of bulbs at her house—more in the boxes than in the ground because the gophers tended to get them once they were planted out! She generously shared her knowledge and

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Jenny Fleming and Wayne Roderick at Shingle Springs in 1982. Photo by Al Seneres.

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experience with other native plant enthusiasts. Sometimes she'd show up at a potting session, laughing because she had hired someone to work in her own garden while she came to pot up plants with the other volunteers.

She was active in the California Horticultural Society, especially the Native Plant Study Group, and worked tirelessly on the monographs publication with a wonderful group of native plant horticulture icons—Marjorie Schmidt, Roz Day, Linda Haymaker, and Kristen Jacob were at one of the meetings she invited me to attend when they were working on grasses.

Scott and Jenny opened their home to CNPS, often hosting the chapter meetings, putting up CNPS members from out of town

who came to Berkeley for the December meetings, and inviting CNPS members to visit their garden on both a formal and an informal basis.

Jenny's generosity of spirit, demonstrated by the way she shared knowledge, enthusiasm, contacts, as well as plants from the Fleming garden, characterized her long-time and enduring contributions to the CNPS, native plant conservation and horticulture.

There is a transcript of a 1993 interview with Jenny posted at http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/ROHO/collections/subjectarea/natres/hort_bot_land.

Charli Danielsen

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Bees in the City

Speaker: Gordon Frankie

Wednesday, March 26, 2008

Location: Garden Room, Orinda Public Library (directions below)

Here's a quick quiz: How many species of bees live in the Berkeley-Albany area? A: 3, B: 12, C: 26, D: 81. The answer is an amazing 81 species, most of them California natives. A complete list of the bees in other San Francisco Bay Area cities is not yet available, but when it is, researchers expect the overall number to increase well beyond 100.

Though we've known the power of bees in agriculture for centuries, we are just beginning to realize their power in our humble residential gardens. Dr. Gordon Frankie has been studying urban bees since the late 1990s and has made many fascinating discoveries about their ecology. In this month's presentation, you'll learn about Dr. Frankie's research and how his team's findings can be used to design and plan gardens that encourage native bees and other flower visitors. Dr. Frankie will also describe his team's outreach projects in schools that are connecting children with the natural world through school gardens.

Dr. Gordon Frankie is a professor and research entomologist in the Division of Insect Biology, College of Natural Resources, Uni-

versity of California, Berkeley. His specialty is behavioral ecology of solitary bees in wildland and urban environments of California and Costa Rica. He also teaches conservation and environmental problem-solving at UC Berkeley.

East Bay CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting takes place in the Garden Room



Bumblebee on *Wyethia*. Photo by Janice Bray.

of the Orinda Public Library at 24 Orinda Way (in Orinda Village). The Garden Room is on the second floor of the building, accessible by stairs or an elevator. The Garden Room will open at 7:00 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Refreshments will be served after

the presentation. Please contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016 or rosacalifornica@earthlink.net, if you have any questions.

Directions to Orinda Public Library at 24 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 southeast side of the new 2-story building on your right. There is additional free parking beneath the building as well as on the street.

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 Library.

Upcoming Programs:

Wednesday, April 23, 2008, 7:30 pm (in the Garden Room of the Orinda Library):

Glenn Keator—Designing California Native Gardens

Wednesday, May 28, 2008, 7:30 pm (at the UC Botanical Garden Conference Center):

Matteo Garbelotto—Sudden Oak Death: New Developments

SHARE YOUR IDEAS FOR OUR HORTICULTURE PROGRAM

The East Bay Chapter horticulture program is at a crossroads, and we would like your input on its future direction. Our chapter has a successful, growing Native Here Nursery that propagates and sells plants native to the East Bay, mostly from wild seed. For most of our chapter's existence, we have had an "All-California" plant sale, an important outreach and fundraising event. We recently had to give up our "All-California" growing grounds at Merritt College and are searching for another site. Finding a new location has been more challenging than anticipated, and developing a new nursery facility will require considerable time and resources.

Before we proceed further, we want to know what our membership thinks: How can the horticulture program be most effective in achieving CNPS' mission to increase understanding and appreciation of California's native plants?

We invite you to participate in developing a consensus on the future of the horticulture program. You can help us most at this time by answering a set of questions designed to elicit your ideas about

the horticulture program's role and its future direction. This can be done in a telephone interview or by answering the questions on your own via email (visit the website <http://www.ebcnps.org/hortsurvey.html> for an electronic copy of the survey). We hope to complete this phase by April 7. We will compile results, and then will schedule a workshop to develop a plan for the horticulture program. Watch the *Bay Leaf* for updates.

For more information, or to arrange for an interview or questionnaire, please contact Barbara Leitner at bleitner@pacbell.net or Sue Rosenthal at rosacalifornica@earthlink.net or 510-496-6016.

Thank you,

Barbara Leitner and Sue Rosenthal

FIELD TRIPS IN MARCH AND EARLY APRIL

Sunday, March 2, 2008, 9:30 am, Mount Diablo

Meet at 9:30 am at the end of Rialto Drive in Clayton. See the February *Bay Leaf* for complete details.

Saturday March 15, 10:00 am, Strentzel Meadow to Mt. Wanda (Muir National Historic site area). Join Friends of Alhambra Creek in this half-day trip through a limited access portion of the Alhambra Creek watershed. Shirley and Igor Skaredoff will show us the back way up to Mt. Wanda from Strentzel Meadow, and Brett Stevenson will be identifying early spring plants both in and out of bloom. Strentzel Meadow is located at 5026 Alhambra Valley Road in Martinez. The meadow access is off a private driveway and parking is limited. Bring water if desired.

Directions: Take Highway 4 and exit at Alhambra Avenue. Turn onto Alhambra (away from downtown and the Carquinez Strait) under the trestle, which is a left turn approaching from 680 on the east and a right turn approaching from 80 on the west. Go less than one mile and then turn right onto Alhambra Valley Road. The John Muir Grove will be on the left as you turn. Continue past Sheridan and Strentzel Streets to the left, and then you will see the meadow on your right, across from Jose Lane. Turn right onto the private drive at 5026 Alhambra Valley Road. Strain is the name of the folks adjacent to the meadow; in fact this was their meadow until they sold it to the National Parks System for the watershed/flood/plant restoration project.

Sunday, March 16, 2:00 pm, Bird Trail (Chabot Regional Park)

This short (about 1/2 mile, with insignificant elevation gain) trail is a botanically interesting transition zone between redwood forest and mixed evergreen (mostly oak/bay) forest. At this relatively early in the season date, there will be osoberry, flowering currant, gooseberries, and lots of western leatherwood in bloom, along with early wildflowers such as *Trillium chloropetalum*. The trail may be muddy. The trail starts close to the MacDonald Staging Area in Chabot Regional Park off Redwood Road in Oakland.

Directions: in the East Bay, from the north, take 24 to 13 south. From the south, take 580 north to 13. From San Francisco, take the Bay Bridge, staying to the right (but do not go to San Jose), and take 580 East, and then 24 East (towards Walnut Creek) and then 13 South. Once on 13, take the Redwood Road exit. 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 right into the MacDonald Staging Area parking lot. (It is a large lot and you cross a bridge over a creek; there is a small lot about 1/4 mile to the north which is not the correct place; if coming from the north you reach the entrance to Redwood Regional Park on the left, you have gone about 1/4 mile too far.) Please contact David Margolies (510-654-0283 or 510-393-1858 (cell), divaricatum@comcast.net) if you need further information.

Saturday, April 5, 10:00 am, Mitchell Canyon at Mt. Diablo State Park (with Yerba Buena CNPS)

Yulan Chang Tong will lead this half-day trip up the canyon on the shady side of the mountain. Some of you may have heard Dr. Tong's talk on Mt. Diablo last spring with the Yerba Buena chapter, and others have enjoyed *Lilies of the Field*, her book of photographs of the mountain's flora. According to *The Flowering Plants of Mt. Diablo* (Ertter and Bowerman, CNPS 2002), there are 841 taxa of flowering plants in Mount Diablo State Park. Now you have a chance to revisit some of this amazing flora firsthand on a morning trip for those who did not choose the rigors of an all-day hike to Mt. Olympia. Participants will hike the Mitchell Canyon trail on the north side of the park. If the weather cooperates, treasures will include *Calochortus pulchellus* (Mt. Diablo fairy lantern) and *Helianthella castanea* (Mt. Diablo sunflower), as well as 30 to 40 other wildflowers. The trail is a relatively level loop with a short, steep end portion and a total distance of about 4 miles. Bring water and lunch. Depending on the number of flowers that we see and how much we want to talk about them, expect to be back at the trailhead between 2 and 3 pm.

Directions: To get to Mitchell Canyon staging area, take Highway 24 east to its end in Walnut Creek at the junction with 680. As you approach the 680, steer left to the northbound 680 ramp, but take the rightmost of these lanes to exit at Ygnacio Valley Boulevard, which appears before the transition to 680 north is complete. At the exit ramp, turn right (east) and proceed straight on Ygnacio Valley Road about five or six miles until you reach the intersection with Clayton Road, a major intersection controlled by a stoplight. Turn right onto Clayton Road and continue to the intersection with Mitchell Canyon Road. Take a right on Mitchell Canyon Road and drive to the end. Bring at least \$4.00 to enter and park. Meet Yulan in front of the visitors' center.

Janet Gawthrop

HUCKLEBERRY PRESERVE RESTORATION, MARCH 9

Sunday March 9, 9:30 am, Restoration Work at Huckleberry Regional Preserve, Oakland

Meet volunteers and East Bay Regional Park staff in ongoing work to control cape ivy, forget-me-nots and *Vinca* at this early blooming preserve in the Oakland Hills. Be sure to note alternate directions

on the field trips web page <http://www.ebcnps.org/fieldtrips.html> because the two-way closure on Snake Road may still be in effect.

Janet Gawthrop

LOCAL AMATEUR BOTANIST DISCOVERS NEW SPECIES

John Thomas Howell once wrote of Alice Eastwood, that whenever someone showed her a flower, she would examine it closely. She didn't dismiss the plant out of hand with 'Oh, I've seen that flower before.' Recently, the careful eye of local botanist David Gowen made the world and our chapter in particular, aware of one more rare plant species. It is with great pleasure that the Bay Leaf announces the recognition of *Navarretia gowenii*, a newly identified native plant species found at Lime Ridge in Contra Costa County.

Navarretia gowenii: Its Morphology, Habitat, and Rarity



The genus *Navarretia* is in the phlox family (Polemoniaceae) and is named after Francisco Fernandez de Navarrete, an 18th century Spanish physician. *Navarretia* is a new world genus distributed in western North America, Argentina and Chile. Identification to species can be problematic due to subtle differences and variability in morphology.

Navarretia gowenii. Photo by David Gowen.

Navarretias are armored by stiff leaf lobes, inflorescence bracts and calyces that can end in narrowed tips. All navarretias are annual and generally grow erect, with spreading or ascending branches. *N. gowenii* can reach 30 centimeters in height; its lowermost leaves are opposite becoming alternate but congested in a loose rosette. The most striking characteristic of this *Navarretia* is its white flowers with purple dots at the base of the corolla lobes and purple streaking in its throat.

N. gowenii is known to grow within Lime Ridge Open Space in central Contra Costa County and in Quinto Canyon of western Stanislaus County, about 70 miles to the southeast. The soil at Lime Ridge contains calcium carbonate, and there is also clay soil, where at least one specimen was found. The soil at Quinto Canyon is serpentine. The only associates noted with this species, from a Gowen collection from Lime Ridge, are an *Eryngium* sp. and *Hesperolinon californicum*.

The preliminary conservation assessment for *N. gowenii* places this species in the Red List Category "DD – Data Deficient". This designation means that there is inadequate information to make a direct or indirect assessment of its risk of extinction based on its distribution and/or population status. A taxon in this category may be well studied and its biology well known, but appropriate data on abundance and/or distribution are lacking. However, based on the CNPS ranking system and the species' rarity, endangerment, and distribution, *N. gowenii* is likely to be listed as 1B.1 since it is

rare throughout its range, endemic to California, and seriously endangered in California. A state or federal listing may also be sought in the future.

The Importance of Lay Botany

Gowen is a self-taught botanist. Dr. Leigh Johnson, who described the species in the journal *Novon* in December 2007, writes, "This species is named after David Gowen, an avid naturalist, plant enthusiast, and volunteer at the Jepson Herbarium. Mr. Gowen recognized the essential differences distinguishing this species from other *Navarretia* and brought them to the author's attention. He has since made substantial contributions to this author's study of *Navarretia*. Mr. Gowen's consideration of detail, love of nature and fieldwork, and persistence are admirable traits worth emulation of all students of botany."

Sometimes new species are found in areas not yet surveyed, but in this case, previous surveys had been done. Gowen notes that "even with botanical surveys, things are missed." For Gowen there are strong implications for conservation. "We often make land use decisions based on relatively quick snapshots of an area, probably often with incomplete knowledge of what's there, and no understanding of how things interrelate."

Lime Ridge Open Space Preserve

The fact that Lime Ridge is an open space preserve underscores the importance of the role that conservation plays in protecting biodiversity, even when its full extent is not yet known or understood. Lime Ridge Open Space was created by the people of Walnut Creek after a twenty-year battle to protect it from development. Lime Ridge has a rich geological history as well as abundant wildlife and native flora (for more complete information, see Mt. Diablo Interpretive Association, <http://www.mdia.org/mdialimeridge.htm>).

The recognition of *N. gowenii* as a new species is just as important as the rediscovery of Mt. Diablo buckwheat in 2005 because it shows that there are still discoveries to be made in our chapter area and throughout California. According to Gowen, the discovery is significant because "it points out that there is still much to learn. We might tend to think that new discoveries are possible in far-away or unexplored areas and that we already know what there is to know close to home. You wonder how many other folks find or see things that they just mentally file away as interesting or odd, with no way to incorporate their observations into a larger body of knowledge." Thanks to the richness of the repository collection at the Jepson Herbarium, there is a large body of knowledge. Thanks to the people of Walnut Creek, there is a wild in which *Navarretia gowenii* can continue to grow. And thanks to David Gowen, the East Bay Chapter has much cause to celebrate.

Heath Bartosh and Laura Baker

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

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

Oakland—Oakland Museum Wild flower show April 19th and 20th. Contact Carol Castro, carollbcastro@hotmail.com

Martinez—Earth Day Birthday, John Muir National Historic Site April 19th. Contact Elaine P. Jackson, elainejx@mindspring.com

Bay Area—Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour May 4th. Contact Janice Bray—janicebray@mindspring.com

Walnut Creek—Heritage Day, Borgus Ranch June 8th. Contact Elaine P. Jackson—elainejx@mindspring.com

Clayton—Help needed at the Native Plant Garden at the Clayton Library. Contact Lisa Anich at 925-689-2642 or email admin@diablocreek.info. For more information about the garden visit www.diablocreek.info/3garden.htm

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. Have any questions about upcoming events? Interested in getting more involved? Please don't hesitate to contact us: elainejx@mindspring.com or 925-372-0687 carollbcastro@hotmail.com or 510-352-2382

New Members: Please join us in welcoming those who joined in December Michael Ashmore, Maureen Decombe, Jeff Haman, & Thomas Phillips.

Elaine Jackson and Carol Castro

Plant Fair planned for October 18-19, 2008

Plans are underway for the next Plant Fair, hosted again by Native Here Nursery.

What would be good to have at the fair? A couple of workshops? Talks by experts? What topics should be covered?

Would you like to help Delia with the All - California Plants? We will have popular California native plants from all over California that will be purchased from wholesale nurseries as small plants. We'll transfer them to larger pots, give them water and care and watch them grow to a good size for sale at the fair.

Can you come on Friday or Saturday mornings? How about a Tuesday afternoon?

There are still task coordinator positions open, and there is a need for volunteers on a more casual basis as well.

Join the Native Here "regulars" to collect seeds, grow plants, move things around the nursery, groom the grounds, water etc.

To volunteer for the Fair Committee, contact Charli Danielsen nativehere@ebcnps.org or Delia Taylor at deliataylor@mac.com or 510-527-3912. or come to Native Here on Friday or Saturday morning or on Tuesday afternoons. Delia, Charli or Margot will help you get started on one of the many tasks at hand. Just indicate whether you are volunteering specifically for the Plant Fair.

The Plant Fair planning committee will meet again on Saturday, March 29 at 1 pm at Native Here. Volunteers are welcome.

Delia Barnes Taylor

BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES: DATES AND VOLUNTEERS

The **Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour** is seeking volunteers who will spend a morning or afternoon greeting tour participants and answering questions at this free native plant garden tour. More than 60 local gardens will be showcased on this tour, which will take place on Sunday, May 4, 2008. Volunteers can select the garden they would like to spend time at by visiting the "Preview the Gardens" section at www.BringingBackTheNatives.net.

Greeters do not need to be familiar with natives. They staff the entry tables, take tickets, and are friendly to the visitors. Garden Assistants help the hosts and should be able to answer basic questions about native plants. Benefits to volunteers include: invitations to Garden Soirees, where tour gardens are open to hosts and volunteers for leisurely viewing including a pre-tour meeting with the owner and private tour of the garden, a guaranteed tour reservation for the half day you are free, a t-shirt, and heartfelt thanks for helping to educate the public about gardening with California natives. To volunteer, just fill out the registration form at www.BringingBackTheNatives.net and be sure to indicate the

volunteer section. For more information, please e-mail Kathy Kramer at Kathy@KathyKramerConsulting.net, or call 510-236-9558 between 9 am and 9 pm.

Registration for the 2008 Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour, which will take place on Sunday, May 4, 2008, is now open at www.bringingbackthenatives.net. This free, award-winning tour features 60 pesticide-free gardens that conserve water, provide habitat for wildlife, and contain 50% or more native plants. In addition to the free tour on May 4, this year's Select Tours – private tours of signature native plant gardens – offer something for everyone. Accompanying the popular "Meet the Designer" series there is a "Gourmet Bicycle Tour" to Walnut Creek and Lafayette gardens; a "Fraction of a Century Biking Tour" in Oakland; and a walking tour to three Berkeley gardens. Eight different Select Tours are offered on April 12, 13, 26, 27, and May 3, 18, and 25, 2008. (Go here for more details: <http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/selecttour.html>) Register early, as the Select Tours are expected to fill quickly.

OAKLAND AND SAN FRANCISCO SHOWS

50th Annual Oakland Museum California Wildflower Show,
Saturday & Sunday, April 19–20, 2008

A dazzling display of fresh, fragrant wildflowers from across the entire state. Hands-on activities (microscopes, drawing) and slide shows both days. There will also be lectures on using natives in the garden, where to go to find wildflowers, why botanical names change, a history of the show by Kathy Hamilton, daughter of Barbara Menzies, and others. All Included with museum admission.

Oakland Museum of California
510 238-2200 www.museumca.org

If you would like to help with this event please contact Carol Castro
carollbcastro@hotmail.com or 510-352-2382

SF Flower and Garden Show March 16-20

Help is needed for the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show at the Cow Palace March 16 to 20. CNPS has reserved a booth. Last year, we displayed our posters and had a big bouquet of natives and literature about CNPS and the local Bay Area Chapters. We had a couple of chairs and a table or two. It is a fun job and then there are speakers, and the rest of the show to see.

And there is free entry for people who take a shift at the show, a savings of \$20.

Help is also needed to set up and take down the exhibit.

Contact Peigi Duvall cnpsshort@comcast.net

NATIVE HERE

We have a lot of plants available this year, thanks to our busy seed and cutting collectors. Our buttercups are starting to bloom. We have *Clarkia*, annual lupines, shooting star, *Arabis breweri* (Brewer rock cress), and other wildflowers.

Among the shrubs, we have osoberry, a deciduous woodland shrub. We have the small, rambling sub-shrub, *Monardella villosa* (coyote mint). It has pink flowers and mint-smelling leaves. We have several interesting chaparral shrubs, including *Rhamnus ilicifolia* (holly-leaf redberry), *Ptelea crenulata* (hop tree), *Malacothamnus* (mallow), *Forestiera pubescens* (desert olive), and *Fraxinus dipetala* (foothill ash).

Native grasses are great for planting on hillsides and they also make a nice presence in flat yards. Their seed stalks, straight and fluffy, or bowed and paniced, add seasonal interest to your yard. *Nassella*., *Bromus carinatus*, *Elymus glaucus*, *Koeleria macrantha*, *Melica californica* and *M. imperfecta*, and *Poa secunda* are good for sunny, dry areas. *Agrostis*, *Danthonia californica*, *Deschampsia cespitosa*, and *Hordeum brachyantherum* like sunny to partly shady and somewhat moist areas. *Festuca californica* and *Melica torreyana* do well in partly shady areas.

For wet areas, we have rushes and sedges that love to be wet,

as well as cardinal and creek monkeyflower, rosilla, *Prunella vulgaris* (self-heal), *Oenanthe sarmentosa* (white flowers), and *Cicuta douglasii* (water hemlock – white flowers).

We have some reference books available for browsing, and a binder of pictures and descriptions of many of the plants we have available throughout the year at the nursery.

We accept donated pots when we are open. We use many of them and put the rest in our pot bin located outside our top gate. Feel free to take any pots from this bin for your own planting projects.

Volunteers are always welcome to help with seed sowing, transplanting, weeding, watering, and other tasks. 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

CONCORD NAVAL WEAPONS STATION EVENT

Event: Envision the Future of the Concord Naval Weapons Station

On March 29, see for yourself how and where the development of the Concord Naval Weapons Station will occur—and find out how you can make sure this development is done well. At roughly 5,028 acres, the Concord Naval Weapons Station is the largest undeveloped and unprotected area of land in Contra Costa County. Greenbelt Alliance and the Community Coalition for a Sustainable Concord are pushing to preserve 80% of the base as open space, and create a compact and vibrant new community around the BART station.

At the March 29 event, we'll hear from experts on parks and open space, native plants, wildlife, and smart growth about the once-

in-a-lifetime opportunity we have to shape the base's future. Then we'll go out on a tour where you can get a firsthand look at where development would occur and which environmentally sensitive areas are critical to protect. Join us to learn about the site, the process to develop it, key dates and events, and how to make your voice heard.

What: Concord Naval Weapons Station Visioning Tour

When: 1:00 – 3:00 pm, Saturday, March 29

Where: Willow Pass Center, 2748 East Olivera Road, Concord

RSVP: Christina Wong at 925-932-7776 or cwong@greenbelt.org
Light refreshments will be provided.

Lech Naumovich

Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President
Charli Danielsen
510-549-0211
nativehere@ebcnps.org

Vice President
Delia Taylor
510-527-3912
deliataylor@mac.com

Treasurer
Holly Forbes
hforbes@berkeley.edu
h 510-234-2913
w 510-643-8040
FAX 510-642-5045

Recording Secretary
Barbara Malloch Leitner
925-253-8300
bleitner@pacbell.net

Corresponding Secretary
Laura Baker
510-849-1409
Lbake66@aol.com

Past President
Elaine Jackson
925-372-0687
Elainejx@mindspring.com

Education/Outreach
Bay Leaf Editor and Web-
master
Joe Willingham
510-841-4681
pepe1066@comcast.net

Bay Leaf Assistant Editor
David Margolies
510-654-0283
divaricatum@comcast.net

Bay Leaf Mailing
Holly Forbes
510-234-2913
hforbes@berkeley.edu

Education
Linda Hill
510-849-1624
Lhillink@aol.com

Field Trips
Janet Gawthrop
_janetg24@excite.com

Regional Parks Botanic
Garden Liaison
Sue Rosenthal
510-496-6016
rosacalifornica@earthlink.
net

Grants
Sandy McCoy
sandymccoy@mindspring.
com
Hospitality
open
Membership
Elaine P. Jackson
925-372-0687
Elainejx@mindspring.com

Carol Castro
510-352-2382
carollbcastro@hotmail.
com

Plant Sale
Interim Chair
Sue Rosenthal
510-496-6016
rosacalifornica@earthlink.
net

Programs
Sue Rosenthal
510-496-6016
rosacalifornica@earthlink.
net

Publicity/Media
open

Conservation
Conservation Committee
Chair
Laura Baker
510-849-1409
Lbake66@aol.com

Conservation Analyst
(Staff)
Lech Naumovich
510 734-0335
conservation@ebcnps.org
Stewardship
Native Plant Restoration
Team
Mike Perlmutter
774-279-6416
mperlmutter@audubon.
org

Native Here Nursery
Charli Danielsen Project
Manager
Margot Cunningham Sales
Manager
Janice Bray Liaison to
Board
510-549-0211
nativehere@ebcnps.org

Plant Science
Bryophytes
John Game 510-527-7855
jcgame@lbl.gov

Rare Plants
Heath Bartosh
925-957-0069
hbartosh@nomadecology.
com

Unusual Plants
Dianne Lake
510-741-8066
diannelake@yahoo.com

Vegetation
Erin McDermott
erinmcd2004@yahoo.com

Members at Large
Gregg Weber
510-223-3310

Roy West
rwest@monocot.com
650-906-1100

Peter Rauch
peterar@berkeley.edu

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

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

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