



October 2007

The Bay Leaf

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Native Plant Fair and Silent Auction

Fair Saturday, October 20, 10 am to 3:00 pm, and
Sunday, October 21, noon to 3:00 pm;
Auction Sunday, October 21

Board Meeting

Wednesday, October 3, 7:30 pm, at the Danielsens', 10 Kerr
Avenue, Kensington.

Native Here Nursery p. 6

October 1, 8, 15, Mondays: Volunteer help needed at Na-
tive Here
October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Tuesday: Native Here Seed forays
October 4, 11, 18, Thursdays: Volunteer help needed at Na-
tive Here

October 5, 12, 19, 26, Fridays 9 am to noon, and
October 6, 13, 20, 27, Saturdays 10 am to 1 pm: Native Here
open for business and volunteer help needed.

Field Trips: no field trips scheduled in October.

Membership Meeting p. 4

Wednesday, October 24, 7:30 pm, Orinda Public Library

Restoration projects p 2 and p 5

Saturday, October 6, Redwood Regional Park
Saturday, October 13, Huckleberry Preserve

NATIVE PLANT FAIR OCTOBER 20 AND 21

Saturday, October 20 and Sunday, October 21 are days of
great importance to the East Bay Chapter of CNPS. Those
are the dates of our 2nd Annual Plant Fair held at Native Here
Nursery! Bring your checkbook (no credit card facility) to the
Fair at Native Here Nursery, 101 Golf Course Drive in Tilden
Park, across from the golf course main parking lot.

Vendors of plant related art and crafts will be there. Those
who have confirmed their participation include photogra-
phers Dianne Lake, Gregg Weber, and Yu-Lan Tong; multi-
media craftsperson and photographer Heidi Rand; and
potters Ginger Markley and Tina Cheung.

David Bigham, Landscape Architect, has confirmed that he
will give the 1 pm talk on Saturday. Lech Naumovich will
talk Saturday at 3 pm. David Margolies will speak about
Wildflower Walks on Sunday at 12:30. Lyn Talkovsky,
landscaper, will speak Sunday at 1:30. One other speaker
is planned.

Check the chapter website www.ebcnps.org throughout
October for updates to the schedule.

Selected plants from habitats throughout California have

been brought in for the Fair to augment the thousands of
local natives grown at Native Here. Hundreds of Douglas
Iris will be ready for planting.

Seeds will be sold by the Regional Parks Botanic Garden's
Seedy Friends. Bulbs will be available, most of them grown
from locally collected seed. The Fair will offer a wide selec-
tion of books related to native plants, gardening and natural
history.

Special plants, books and other items will be silently auc-
tioned, with the auction closing at 2:30 on Sunday.

Proceeds from the Fair will support the work of the Chapter
throughout the year.

Volunteers are needed to help sell plants, bulbs, seeds and
books; to write up sales and cashier; to help in the holding
area; and offer breaks to other volunteers. Contact Elaine
Jackson, Elainejx@mindspring.com, to volunteer for either
day of the Fair or to help with set-up and/or clean up
immediately before and after the Fair.

continued on page 2

PLANT FAIR

continued from page 1

Volunteers are also needed to complete a variety of tasks (see sidebar) before the Fair. If you are available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday mornings in October, come to Native Here Nursery at 101 Golf Course Drive in Tilden Park and there will be a task for you! You may also contact the nursery by e-mail nativehere@ebcnps.org or leave a phone message at 510 549-0211. (We could also use a volunteer to retrieve and return calls the week preceding the Fair).

PLANT FAIR: SPEAKER SCHEDULE

Saturday

1 pm David Bigham. "Gardens as working landscapes"

2 pm TBA

3 pm Lech Naumovich. "Native plant gardening and fuels management"

Sunday

12:30 pm David Margolies. "Wildflower walks in the East Bay"

1:30 pm Lyn Talkovsky. "Planning a native garden using local plant communities"

PLANT FAIR: VOLUNTEER TASKS

Tasks to Prepare Native Here Nursery for the Plant Fair

- Inventory 15 gallon material
- Inventory each geographical section
- Inventory "Native There" plants
- Make sure all plants have labels
- Even chip cover with rake
- Collect seeds and deadhead container plants
- Sift and sort bulbs into marked paper bags, store in wire cages
- Prepare colored and starred plant labels
- Put price labels in plant containers
- Prepare card "keys" so everyone will know what the price labels mean
- Groom Iris by cutting out brown leaves
- Remove dormant or dead plant from display, leave next to display palette
- Weed out Himalayan blackberry, thistle, hemlock, from grounds
- Weed and clean up entrance plantings
- Grade speaker area for folding chair set-up
- Help sow and plant new entrance
- Sign up for an ongoing watering assignment
- Help move *Helenium*, *Mimulus guttatus* and *Mimulus aurantiacus* to new spot under the tables.
- Make sure plants have labels
- Post plant cards and other information signs
- Pot up plants to next container size and start seedlings for next year.

RESTORATION PROJECT, OCTOBER 6

Saturday October 6, 9:30 am French broom removal at Redwood Regional Park

Join volunteers of our chapter and East Bay Regional Parks in this monthly project to clear French broom (*Genista*) from the oak-bay woodland community in this park. Bring gloves and tools if you have them, but some gloves and tools will be available for loan. Meet at the edge of the parking lot, and we will hike from there to the work site.

Directions: From Highway 13 in either direction, exit at Moraga/Thornhill, and proceed on Moraga parallel to 13

after the exit ramp. Proceed straight through several traffic lights as Moraga changes its name to Mountain Blvd. Turn left at the stoplight for Mountain and Snake Road. Go uphill on Snake, and stay straight at the intersection of Snake and Shepherd Canyon; the same road will change its name to Shepherd Canyon. Turn right onto Skyline at the stop sign for Shepherd Canyon and Skyline, and follow Skyline to the Skyline Gate lot on the left.

Overflow parking is allowed curbside.

See also page 5.

East Bay Chapter California Native Plant Society

NATIVE PLANT FAIR



Rosa californica

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20 10 am-3 pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21 Noon-3 pm

AT NATIVE HERE NURSERY

101 GOLF COURSE DRIVE, TILDEN PARK, BERKELEY

(ACROSS THE STREET FROM TILDEN GOLF COURSE ENTRANCE)

Special selections of favorite plants and bulbs from all over the state

Thousands of plants native to Alameda and Contra Costa Co.

Extensive selection of books for sale on gardening & horticulture

Free afternoon talks by experts on gardening with native plants

Beautiful plant themed arts and crafts

Silent auction of special items will close Sunday at 2:30

Please bring boxes for carrying your plant purchases * Parking will be limited* Checks and cash only *

Transit info: AC Transit #65 to Grizzly Pk Blvd / Shasta or #67 to Brazil Bldg • Schedules @ www.actransit.org or call 511

• In case of rain, fair to be held the following weekend * For more info. visit www.ebcnps.org or contact Janice Bray at janicebray@mindspring.com or nativehere@ebcnps.org

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Human Connections to the Survival of Species: Return of the Bay Checkerspot Butterfly to Edgewood Park

Speaker: Dr. Stuart Weiss

Wednesday, October 24, 7:30 pm

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

If you've been following the Bay Area environmental news, you may have heard about a happy event this spring: the reintroduction of the threatened Bay checkerspot butterfly to Edgewood Park in San Mateo County. After two decades of declining numbers, the Bay checkerspot disappeared completely from Edgewood after 2002. Researchers, most notably Dr. Stuart Weiss, determined that the Edgewood butterfly population was the victim of what Dr. Weiss calls a "drive-by extinction." Ammonia released by our cars' catalytic converters fertilizes areas near freeways with several pounds of nitrogen each year. This atmospheric fertilizer from nearby I-280 enriched the nutrient-poor serpentine soil at Edgewood, allowing invasive Italian ryegrass to thrive and choke out native plants including *Plantago erecta*, the primary food source for Bay checkerspot larvae. Dr. Weiss devised a program to control the ryegrass through strategic mowing, and the native plants are recovering. This spring, he reintroduced Bay checkerspot larvae to the restored habitat at Edgewood. In his presentation, Dr. Weiss will talk about his work at Edgewood and its implications for other areas.

Dr. Weiss is a freelance environmental scientist involved in all aspects of conservation and restoration. He received his Ph.D. from Stanford in 1996 and collaborates with academics, government agencies, business, conservation groups, and others in the US and abroad. The Creekside Center for Earth

Observations is his home office on the banks of San Francisco Creek in Menlo Park.

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

Sue Rosenthal

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

2008 is creeping up and we are not ready to say goodbye to 2007. Just as we welcome with open arms our New Members, we are not ready to say goodbye to our non-renewed members.

It is taking three (3) of us, Carol Castro, me, Elaine P. Jackson, and an as yet unappointed outreach person (open position) to replace one (1) Delia Taylor as East Bay CNPS Membership and Outreach Chair. Although Delia has moved on and left a huge vacuum that three, and sometimes four, volunteers now fill, we honor her choice and welcome her as Vice President and Statewide Council chairwoman of CNPS-East Bay.

Carol and I would like to start placing our new members' names in the membership area in the next issue of our *Bay Leaf* as a small recognition/thank you.

We would also like to thank our renewing members with a show of gratitude for the continuing support given to our Society.

We are finding that members frequently lapse due to an oversight and, when reminded, most renew. What do you think about an automatic renewal system? Do you have any other ideas? Carol and I are looking forward to hearing from you.



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



Elaine P. Jackson elainejx@mindspring.com 925-372-0687

NATIVE HERE NURSERY

Not only is Native Here Nursery hosting the 2nd Annual Native Plant Fair on October 20th and 21st, it is an operating nursery with year round propagation and sales. The Fair and other nursery operations are responsible for raising approximately half of the chapter's budget for the current fiscal year, so when you purchase a local native plant from Native Here, you are supporting all the chapter's programs.

Fall is an exciting time at Native Here, as it is when the optimal planting time begins. *Iris douglasiana* will again appear on the "sales floor". Bulbs will be sifted from the soil and offered for the Plant Fair. Trees, shrubs and perennials have weathered the summer and are ready for planting. This year there is a wonderful selection of trees and shrubs from east of the Berkeley Hills including *Forestiera pubescens* (desert olive), and three species of *Fraxinus* (ash), as well as *Quercus lobata*, *Quercus agrifolia*, and *Quercus kelloggii*.



Seedlings such as these await a volunteer to "pot them up" into containers for future sale. Come to the nursery any Friday or Saturday to learn how this works at Native Here.

During the Plant Fair, volume and trade discounts will not be offered, so those planning big projects are advised to shop the weeks before the Fair. (That way you are also free to volunteer to work during the Fair, selling plants, cashiering, or helping with the holding area).

Important as the Fair is to the chapter and to the nursery, there are also ongoing responsibilities requiring lots of volunteer help. You will notice a long list of tasks in the article about the Plant Fair, but there are other tasks that keep the nursery growing for next year:

- Seed collection, led by Gregg Weber on Tuesday mornings (contact nativehere@ebcnps to get on a special list for notification of destinations and for forays to make cuttings through the late fall and winter).
- Seed sowing, led by Charli Danielsen will coincide with last minute preparations for and the aftermath of the Plant Fair (just show up on Friday, Oct 12; Saturday, Oct 13; Monday, October 15; Thursday, October 18; Friday, October 19th and Monday, October 22 to help with this enjoyable and important task).
- Potting up of small plants throughout the month.
- Watering (mid-week and weekend watering assignments are available with shifts from 2-4 hours).

Native Here is also a great place to contemplate nature nearby. Many species of birds, reptiles and amphibians may be observed as we go about our volunteer tasks. New volunteers are always welcome.

Native Here Nursery is located in Tilden Park at 101 Golf Course Drive, across the street from the entrance to the Tilden Golf Course. Contact info: 510-549-0211, nativehere@ebcnps.org, www.ebcnps.org, click on Native Here link.

Margot Cunningham, Native Here Nursery

RESTORATION PROJECT, OCTOBER 13

Saturday October 13, 9:30 am Huckleberry Regional Preserve

This restoration crew will resume where it left off in mid-summer. Meet in the parking lot for Huckleberry Preserve, where we will take in the staff's Eucalyptus removal and decide on work locations. The poison-oak sensitive may wish to work on cape ivy and *Vinca* removal near the parking lot. Workers in search of shade and unusual plants can proceed into the park to choose locations to pull *Vinca* or *Myosotis* (forget-me-nots). Bring gloves, water, and tools.

Directions: From Highway 13 in either direction, exit at Moraga/Thornhill, and proceed on Moraga parallel to 13 after the exit ramp. Proceed straight through several traffic lights as Moraga changes its name to Mountain Blvd. Turn left at the stoplight for Mountain and Snake Road. Go uphill on Snake, to the intersection of Snake and Shepherd Canyon. Turn left to follow Snake Road up to the intersection with Skyline. Turn left at Skyline, and follow it around several curves to the parking lot preserve on the left.

See also page 2.

CONSERVATION: PROJECTS IN OUR OWN BACKYARD

One of the greatest battles we face as botanists is overcoming the public's general lack of understanding of plants, vegetation, and ecological process. In many cases, the importance of protecting native plant species is not well recognized unless framed in a regulatory context. For example, most people won't immediately understand the intrinsic value of protecting Loma Prieta hoita (*Hoita strobilina*, a CNPS 1B plant in Richmond), but if we state that we're "protecting a local creek by saving the Loma Prieta hoita," the message is often palatable without greater explanation.

In many cases, a regulatory strategy is the only effective way of communicating our interests to developers, city and county staff, and especially developers. We have also been successful when we fill the information gap by helping select a native plant palette for landscaping or offering management suggestions for a natural area.

I would like to highlight three important projects that have been monitored by the EBCNPS conservation committee. We hope to get our members active in participating by writing a letter stating that you support native plants and regulations that protect them. You don't have to be an expert in botany! Please contact me with any questions or ideas.

Richmond General Plan – This is a once-in-thirty-year opportunity to help shape extremely important policies and guidelines regarding native plants, landscapes and devel-

opment. Legally, policies of the General Plan must be cited and considered in any development project! Please see the City website (www.cityofrichmondgeneralplan.org) and the EBCNPS website for further information.

Pittsburg Hillside Ordinance - After 6 months of open dialogue and after receiving comment from hundreds of citizens on a Hillside Protection Ordinance, the City of Pittsburg's Planning Commission publicly asked a developer what he would recommend for standards for hillside protection, and then voted based on his recommendations, ignoring public comment. The City Council, which should represent the will of its constituents, will hold the final vote on this ordinance most likely in November or December. See www.saveourhills.org.

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Expansion Project – The SFPUC is undertaking an enormous "Water System Improvement Project" (WSIP) which will likely have enormous impacts, not only upstream on the Tuolumne River but also locally on Alameda Creek and areas near the Sunol Valley and Calaveras reservoir. We are pressing the SFPUC for the justification of this project, viable alternatives, and how mitigation will be assessed appropriately. Please see our site (www.ebcnps.org/conservation/SFPUC.htm) for comment letters and the primary documents.

Lech Naumovich



Point Molate remnant coastal prairie, Richmond, looking at the Richmond Bridge
Photo by Lech Naumovich.

CONSERVATION: ANALYST FUND

Our CNPS chapter, our Conservation Committee, and our Conservation Analyst thank all of our members who have so generously donated to the 2007-2008 Conservation Analyst Fund. The funds support the Conservation Analyst position. Lech Naumovich, pictured to the right, is our Conservation Analyst.

There is always time to make a donation. To do so, make your check payable to CNPS, indicate in the memo line that it is for the Conservation Analyst Fund, and mail it to: CNPS, East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley, CA 94705

We thank the following members for their contributions:

Linda Adams	John A. Ferguson
John Alcorn	Mrs. W. B. Flick
John K. Anderson	Gerald Ford & Holly Forbes
Mary Anderson	Norman C. Frank
Dr. Steve Asztalos	Dorothy Frantz
Joe Balciunas	Jerry & Irene Fritzke
Philip Batchelder	Sara & Jean H. Gabriel
Bob Battagin	Christa Goldblatt
Laura Beckett	Marilyn Goldhaber
David Bigham & Howard	Paul Grunland
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Arla Bonnett	Mary Ann Hannon
Margaret A. Bowman	Marguerite & John B.
Robert Case	Harrell
Pedro & Carol Castro	John H. Harris
Patricia E. Coffey	John H. Heckman
Alex Craig	Claudia and Scott Hein
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John T. & Lisa Doyen	Clark Jen
Catherine C. Dunlap	Dwight L. Johnson
Arthur K. & Norma M.	Robert Jolda
Dunlop	Larry M. Jones
Claire Englander	Suzanne Jones & Robert Elia
Chris Erickson	Meredith Kaplan
Nancy Falk	Tim S. Kask



Our Conservation Analyst, Lech Naumovich.

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Helen & Tom Phillips	Elaine P. Worthington-
Catherine Powers	Jackson
Genevieve Prlain	George & Carol Yokoi
Peter Rauch	

PLANT SALE ACTIVITIES

We are currently investigating the intriguing possibility of locating our plant sale and nursery on the grounds of Mills College in Oakland. Thank you to our members who have contacted us with suggestions. If you know of a possible site, please contact Roy West (650-906-1100 or rwest@monocot.com). Our basic need is for approximately 5,000 square feet,

deer-proof or easily deer-proofable and with access to power and water, where we can build a small greenhouse and related structures and host a popular event once a year.

Sue Rosenthal

Board of Directors

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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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Time Value
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