



February 2012

The Bay Leaf

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

www.ebcnps.org

www.groups.google.com/group/ebcnps

***Bay Leaf* to Reduce Number of Printed Issues**

Starting in April, which is the first month of the East Bay Chapter's next fiscal year, we are reducing the number of printed *Bay Leaf* issues from 11 to 4 per year. There will continue to be online versions every month (except August). The Chapter Board of Directors is making this change to reduce expenditure, but it believes that by concentrating more on online content, our members will receive more timely information. Please send your comments to the *Bay Leaf* editor, by email to pepe1066@comcast.net and US mail to The California Native Plant Society, East Bay Chapter, PO Box 5597, Elmwood Station, Berkeley CA 94705.

If you would like to subscribe to the electronic issues by email, and you haven't already supplied your email address to CNPS, please send your email address to the *Bay Leaf* editor at pepe1066@comcast.net. The California Native Plant Society does not share its mailing or email address lists with any other organization.

Joe Willingham, editor and *David Margolies* assistant editor

MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN FEBRUARY

California Native Shrubs for the Garden

Speaker: **Ted Kipping**

Wednesday, February 22, 7:30 pm

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

In 2007, Ted Kipping informed and delighted East Bay CNPS members with a presentation on gardening with native shrubs. Since then, he has created a new presentation on the subject, surveying California shrubs from *Arctostaphylos* to *Zauschneria* that are proven performers in gardens. Through his beautiful photographs, he'll provide lots of inspiration and examples of different ways to enhance our gardens with native shrubs.

Ted's interest in the natural world began early and led to studies of natural history and a passion for plants. After working at Strybing Arboretum, Ted founded a tree pruning business and has earned a reputation as one of the most artistic of Bay Area arborists. In addition, Ted is an accomplished and widely published plant photographer who is active in a variety of horticultural societies.

East Bay CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting takes 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 opens at 7 pm; the meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016 or rosacalifornica2@earthlink.net, if you have 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 two-story building on your right. There is additional free parking beneath the building as well as on the street.

Next Program

March 28: Daniel Gluesenkamp--Using Calflora's integrated mapping platform to understand and conserve California flora

NATIVE HERE

Is it raining yet? Are you thinking of a nice wet growing plant? This month the half off special is on yellow-eyed-grass (*Sisyrinchium californicum*), from our Wildcat section. These plants have been propagated by seed and division from one wild seed collection from a spring high in Wildcat Regional Park several years back. These colorful plants need a wet spot or frequent water to thrive. They are suitable for planting in the Berkeley and El Cerrito Hills, El Sobrante, Pinole, San Pablo, and Orinda.

Come visit the nursery during open hours Tuesdays noon to 3 pm, Fridays 9 am to noon, and Saturdays 10 am to 2 pm, in Tilden Park across from the golf course on Golf Course Drive. Visa, Mastercard and a number of debit cards are accepted as well as cash or checks.

Charli Danielsen



Yellow-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium californicum*)
Photo by Janice Bray from the CD East Bay Native Plants.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT NATIVE HERE MAY 5, 6

Native Here Nursery has applied to be part of the Garden Tour Nursery Extravaganza on May 5 and 6, 2012. That means the nursery will be open from 10 am to 5 pm both those days. Volunteers are needed to become familiar enough with the nursery layout and sales practices to be able to help sell plants, books, and other merchandise on those days. We could also use help watering and tending plants, getting the inventory up-to-date and posted, and putting out the "plant cards" which are pages from Janice Bray's work available

on CD. Come join the nursery "regulars" any Tuesday afternoon noon-3, Friday morning 9-noon, or Saturday 10-2 and let Margot, Charli or John know you are interested in volunteering, specifically with an eye to the Garden Tour weekend. 510-549-0211, nativehere@ebcnps.org

Charli Danielsen

PLANT FAIR 2012 PLANNING MEETING

Did you attend last year's Plant Fair? Would you like to participate in planning this year's? Contact Native Here Nursery nativehere@ebcnps.org, 510-549-0211, and let us know what you'd like to help with: publicity, plant grooming, watering, volunteer scheduling, care and feeding of volunteers, plant

sales, organizing other activities for the fair, traffic, loading, updating the inventory, etc.

Charli Danielsen

CONSERVATION ANALYST APPEAL

EBCNPS donors: a huge **thank you** once again. In the month of December, 2011 ten more members/donors participated in our vital Conservation Analyst fund drive. With these contributions added to monies received since September, almost 90% of our Conservation Analyst's salary has been funded by donor generosity and commitment to our chapter's conservation efforts. Please join me in thanking Carol Casterman, Pedro and Carol Castro, Daniel Glusenkamp, Jim Hanson, Howard Lacheen, Kay Loughman, David Margolies, Cyrlle Perry, George Strauss, Joe and Doris Willingham and Myrtle Wolf for their financial help in support of this important work.

Perhaps you saw the suggestion to donate in honor of a person, thing, place, event, idea, etc. or perhaps in memory of someone or something special to you. Kay Loughman responded to the online announcement in Martha Booz's listserve about the opportunity to donate to the CA Fund in

honor of someone. Here's what Kay wrote:

"This donation is in appreciation of Janet Gawthrop who has shared freely of her time, energy, and expertise to help me learn about plants in Claremont Canyon."

Thank you so much Kay for giving in appreciation of Janet, who is an energetic, dedicated volunteer and reminding us that Claremont Canyon is an on-going restoration project location. Your hours there are much appreciated, as well as your donation for the Conservation Analyst.

We still need about \$3,500 to completely reach our goal of \$35,000.00. Do you have a bit you can give? Any amount, large, medium or small makes an impact as what projects can be attended to throughout 2012. Every dollar counts. Please help with as much as you can.

Carol Castro, Conservation Analyst Fund Committee

CONSERVATION ANALYST REPORT

Richmond Shoreline

As I reported in the December *Bay Leaf*, at the October 20th Richmond Planning Commission meeting, the Commission voted to forego a decision regarding the zoning designation for the North Shoreline and instead send the item on to the City Council to make the decision. On January 10th, I attended the City Council Meeting for this item and made comments on behalf of EBCNPS noting the importance of habitat preservation in the North Shoreline and requesting that the Council keep the draft General Plan zoning designation of “open space” for the entire North Shoreline area. Unfortunately, the Council could not come to a consensus on this issue, with three pro-development council members voting to change the zoning to “business/light industrial” while the other three voted for maintaining the “open space” designation as it was written in the draft General Plan. After much deliberation, the Council decided to send this issue back to the Planning Commission for a third time in the hopes that the Commission will be able to clarify some of the development standards for each zoning option. EBCNPS remains hopeful that the North-Shore area of Richmond will retain its draft General Plan designation of “Open Space” and that this long awaited general plan will be finalized, achieving what we believe is a great general plan that prioritizes Richmond’s incredible natural resources and protects them for its citizens’ education and enjoyment.

Oakland Zoo Expansion

A quick correction from my last update: In the January *Bay Leaf*, I mistakenly noted that the court would hear our brief in the second week of January. Actually, our opening brief will

be submitted to the court in the second week of January, but our hearing is currently scheduled for April 2. In other news, a new judge has been appointed to our case. We are hopeful Judge Evelio Grillo will be advantageous to our case. Our attorneys at Shute, Mihaly and Weinberger believe we have a strong case and are looking forward to presenting it. I have reviewed our opening brief and am very impressed with the strength of our arguments. We also have a new PR campaign that is about to launch. By the time this is printed, we should have everything up and running. A major part of this campaign will center on a new website we have designed along with our litigation partners, the Friends of Knowland Park. The address for this site is: <http://saveknowland.org>. I will still be posting regular updates on the EBCBPS conservation blog about this project, but the new website will have much more in-depth information about Knowland Park with beautiful photos, a variety of blogs, maps, and lots of information on our campaign to save the park.

The Conservation Committee is always looking for new volunteers to get involved in our many projects. If you are interested in working with me on any of the above projects or others that you have read about on our blog or in past Conservation Analyst updates, please feel free to contact me by phone at 510-734-0335 or by email at conservation@ebcnps.org. And as always, for more detailed updates on all of our conservation projects, please visit the Conservation Blog at <http://ebcnps.wordpress.com>.

Mack Casterman, East Bay Chapter Conservation Analyst

PLANTING PARTY AT POINT ISABEL

The first work party of 2012 was an incredible success. Twenty-three amazing (and very productive) volunteers came out on a bright and sunny Saturday to help in the revegetation effort at Pt. Isabel. Zach, an Eagle Scout candidate, came out with his Fremont crew to film and interview the volunteers. Several students from Berkeley High School came out to help for the first time and worked with us clearing two new areas of every blade of invasive oat grass. We filled in both areas with red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) grown from Pt. Molate seed. At the end of the day, after several attempts to agree on the count, we tallied 71 plugs of this beautiful bunchgrass that we had put into the ground and irrigated. We’ll add more over the coming weeks and, once the rains come, we’ll spread some California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*) seeds in among the grasses. We were supported as always by the EBRPD’s Scott Possin and Bruce Adams.

We wish to also thank the Chapter for its ongoing support for this activity – in the

form of advice, assistance, encouragement, and regular reports printed in the *Bay Leaf*. See page 5 for information on February’s work day at Pt. Isabel.

Jane and Tom Kelly



MEMBERSHIP REPORT



Welcome Tim Kask, new Membership Chair (photo by Elaine Jackson taken at Native Here Nursery)

I am pleased to be taking on responsibility as the new Membership Committee Chair. I have lived in California my entire life, and in the Oakland-Bay area for nearly 20 years with my wife Joan. Being a member of the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (EBCNPS) since the fall of 1999, I've noticed over the years that most administrative roles in the Chapter are carried out by a fairly small number of individuals, so I decided to see if I could help out. EBCNPS is a great and active organization, certainly worth giving a bit more of my time to. I have not been active previously, outside of participating in the Adopt-a-Rare Plant effort with Heath Bartosh. I have volunteered for many years with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and found that to be very interesting and rewarding. I expect working with EBCNPS to be equally rewarding.

I have been studying California plants for over ten years now and feel like I am finally starting to scratch the surface. Like many I started with picture books, soon grew frustrated with that approach, so invested in a *Jepson Manual*. I can now consider myself a collector of Northern California floras. I have many from different regions of this end of the state. I've taken many of the workshops offered by Friends of the Jepson Herbarium, and learned a great deal from them. I've taken classes at Merritt College with Glenn Keator and

others. The best education is to go out in the field and look at lots of plants, which I do every chance I have.

Much of my botanizing is done in the East Bay Parks, which are an incredible resource, as is Mount Diablo State Park. These are my favorite local areas, and I spend a great deal of my time hiking in our local parks. I have been working with the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Santa Cruz County establishing plant lists for some of the newer small refuge properties near Watsonville. I was fortunate to find a new population of a CNPS 1B.2 listed plant, *Centromadia parryi* ssp. *congdonii*, near Harkin's Slough in 2008. This taxon was considered extirpated in the county, and hadn't been collected since 1909. One of the rewards of volunteering with the Fish and Wildlife Service is the chance to work on the Farallon Islands four times over the last several years, including some vegetation surveys on the islands. My wife and I have a cabin near Lassen Volcanic National Park, and I am very interested in the Lassen area flora. I worked as a park ranger with the Plant Ecologist for two summers, doing plant related activities. I have searched out many of the rare or locally rare plants in that region. I have also done volunteer work of various plant and wildlife activities with Lassen Park for a number of years.

I look forward to getting to know many more members, and working with the other committee and board members.

Tim Kask

Please join us in welcoming our new members for October, November, and December: Leslie Bartholic, Mack Casterman, Michal Crawford-Zimring, Laurie Liguori, and Eric Smith. As always, a huge thank you to our renewing members.

Announcement

Let us all give a big welcome to our new Membership Chair, Tim Kask
timkask@yahoo.com

Still looking for join dates prior to 1986

- Outreach Coordinator position still vacant
- Restoration Chair, vacant
- Be sure and visit our updated membership page at <http://ebcnps.org/index.php/membership/>

Elaine Jackson

As you simplify your life, the laws of the universe will be simpler, solitude will not be solitude, poverty will not be poverty, nor weakness weakness.

Be not simply good, be good for something.

Be true to your work, your word, and your friend.

Henry David Thoreau

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, February 12, 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 19 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.

RESTORATION PROJECTS

Saturday, February 4 (first Saturday of each month) at Pt. Isabel on the Bay Trail, 10 am to 2 pm. We remove invasive plants and re-vegetate with native plants grown from plants found at the site. We are located at the end of Rydin Road just off the I-580 next to Hoffman Marsh. Contact info: e-mail: kyotousa@sbcglobal.net, cell: 510-684-6484

Saturday, February 4 at 9:00 am Redwood Regional Park. Join the monthly *Genista* (aka French broom) rip at a new location: the Canyon Meadow Picnic Area. You can bring your own gloves or tools, or park staff can provide you with loaner gloves and tools. We usually finish up around 1 pm, but you are welcome even if you can't stay the entire time.

Directions: From Oakland or Highway 24, take Highway 13 south, exit at Redwood Road (35th Ave. exit from 580). Turn left at the end of the exit ramp, and follow Redwood Road over the ridge, past Skyline, and continue downhill for about 3 miles. You will see an entrance sign on the right for Lake Chabot Regional Park, but keep going. The entrance to Redwood Regional Park will appear on your left a short distance further. Drive past the entrance kiosk, and go straight through on the entrance road until you see the signs for Canyon Meadow picnic area. From Castro Valley or other points south, take 580, exit at 35th Ave, and turn right to follow 35th Ave. uphill. 35th Ave. will change its name to Redwood Road—follow the rest of the directions for Oakland. If you have questions, you can contact DRosario@ebparks.org or janetgawthrop47@gmail.com.

Sunday, February 26, 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 the southern East Bay, take 580 West to 13 North and exit at Redwood Road (immediately after the junction). 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.

Saturday, February 11 at 9:30 am Huckleberry Regional Park. Meet at the main parking lot, where we will decide on the month's worksite in light of early February weather. If you need loaner gloves or tools, please e-mail jmanley@ebparks.org or janetgawthrop47@gmail.com. We will finish up around 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 19 at 9:00 am Sibley Regional Park. We will meet at the Skyline parking lot in Oakland, not the Old Tunnel Road area. If we finally get substantial winter rain, we may continue work on near the volcanic overlook path by the parking lot. If the weather stays on the dry side, we may try denting the wall of broom on the far side of the creek.

Directions: From Highway 13, exit at Moraga/Thornhill if you are coming from Highway 24 or other points north. Stay on southbound Moraga as it parallels Highway 13 until it changes its name to Mountain. Turn left (uphill) onto Snake at the stoplight for Mountain and Snake. To go to Redwood Park, keep going straight as Snake changes its name to Shepherd Canyon Road and follow it until it ends at the intersection with Skyline. Turn right onto Skyline and follow it to the Skyline Gate entrance on the left side of the road. For Huckleberry and Sibley parks, follow all of the directions up to the left turn onto Snake. You will then make a hard left turn (more than 90 degrees) to stay on Snake. Follow Snake to its end at Skyline, and then turn left to follow Skyline to the parking lots. Huckleberry Park appears first on the right side, and Sibley Park is a scant half mile further north on Skyline.

Cal-IPC Habitat Restoration Workday

Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge

Saturday, February 25th
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Workday Topics:

The history of Antioch Dunes
Working with Safe Harbor Agreements
Invasive plant control in threatened and endangered species habitat
Basal bark and Glove of Death treatments

Meeting location:

501 Fulton Shipyard Rd
Antioch, CA

Registration: Free and open to the public

Please bring a bag lunch

We will break for lunch on the beach

Cal-IPC Habitat Restoration Workdays provide both learning opportunities and hands-on field experience controlling invasive plants under expert guidance.

Register at: www.cal-ipc.org/fieldcourses



Help enhance habitat for the endangered Lange's Metalmark Butterfly, Antioch Dunes Evening Primrose, and Contra Costa Wallflower



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Cal-IPC

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diannelake@yahoo.com

EBCNPS Sponsored Activities

Native Here Nursery

510-549-0211
Manager—Charli Danielsen
nativehere@ebcnps.org

Sales—Margot Cunningham
bunchgrassmarg@gmail.com

Plant Fair

Charli Danielsen, Chair
510-549-0211

nativehere@ebcnps.org

Lesley Hunt, Native Here/
Plant Fair-East Bay
Chapter Board liaison
925-937-6791
ldhunt@astound.net

Restoration Projects

Leaders:
Huckleberry—Janet
Gawthrop
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.

ACTIVITIES OF OTHERS

Antioch Dunes: The California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) and PG&E are sponsoring a restoration work day at the Antioch Dunes in Contra Costa County on Saturday, February 25th. Please call or write with questions or comments. Edmund O. Duarte, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner, Alameda County Department of Agriculture, 3575 Greenville Road, Livermore, CA 94550; 925-245-0853, ed.duarte@ac.gov.

To learn about the work of Cal-IPC visit <http://www.cal-ipc.org/>

Garber Park: Tuesday, Feb. 7 and Saturday, Feb. 18, 10 am to Noon. Garber Park is a 13-acre City of Oakland woodland park located behind the Claremont Hotel in Claremont Canyon. The Garber Park Stewards have been working for the past two years towards protecting and restoring the native woodland resources.

Visit our blog www.garberparkstewards.blogspot.com for details on our restoration activities.

We will attack the French broom and Cape ivy in specified spots along the Loop Trail, continue clean-up of the Fireplace Plaza area, and search for, flag and cage Oak, Big Leaf Maple and California buckeye seedlings to protect them from the deer. In addition, we could use help with our Mapping the Garber Oaks Project.

Wear long sleeves and pants and boots or shoes with treads. Meet at the Evergreen Lane Entrance.

Directions: nearest address is 144 Evergreen Ln. From Alvarado Rd, take Slater Lane, turn R onto Evergreen Lane. The park entrance is at the end of the street. For further information email garberparkstewards@gmail.com, or visit www.garberparkstewards.blogspot.com.

There is not one big cosmic meaning for all, there is only the meaning we each give to our life, an individual meaning, an individual plot, like an individual novel, a book for each person.

Anais Nin

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Time Value
February 2012 issue

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wayne Roderick Lectures, winter 2012, 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. Saturday Mornings 10:30. Free. Notice: Seating is limited. To be sure of a seat, come early and save a chair.

Feb. 4 Indian uses of California native plants - John Kipping

Feb. 11 Peripatetic botany from Modoc to San Benito - Dick O'Donnell

Feb. 18 Island of Fogs: exploring Cedros Island in Baja California - Mike Uhler

Feb. 25 The western Mohave - Steve Edwards

Native Here (see page 2)

Tuesday afternoons—nursery open noon to 3 pm

Friday mornings—nursery open 9 am to noon

Saturdays—nursery open 10 am to 2 pm

Restoration (see page 5)

Saturday, February 4, 10 am, Point Isabel (and first Saturday of every month)

Saturday, February 4, 9 am, Redwood Regional Park, Canyon Meadow Picnic Area

Saturday, February 11, 9:30 am, Huckleberry Regional Park

Sunday, February 19, 9:00 am, Sibley Regional Park

Field Trips (see page 5)

Sunday, February 12, 9:30 am, Mt. Olympia at Mt. Diablo State Park

Sunday, February 26, 2:00 pm, Redwood Regional Park

Membership Meeting (see page 1)

Wednesday, February 22, 7:30 pm, "Native Shrubs for the Garden"

Speaker: Ted Kipping. Orinda Public Library, Orinda CA

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