Calendar of Events

**Chapter Plant Sale Activities**, page 4
April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (Tuesdays), 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

**Native Here Nursery**, page 5
April 5, 12, 19, 26 (Fridays): Native Here Nursery open 9-noon
April 6, 13, 20, 27 (Saturdays): Native Here Nursery open 10-1
April 30 (Tuesday): Seed collection walk, 9 a.m. from Native Here
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (Fridays): Native Here Nursery open 9-noon
May 4, 11, 18, 25 (Saturdays): Native Here Nursery open 10-1
May 7, 14, 21, 28 (Tuesdays): Seed collection walks, leave Native Here 9 a.m.

April 10, Wed., 7:30 p.m., **Board of Directors meeting**, home of Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna St., Berkeley.

**Native Plant Restoration Team**, page 5
April 6, Saturday, 10 a.m. Native Here work party and planning session
May 4, Saturday, Berkeley Waterfront with Friends of Five Creeks
June 1, Saturday, Skyline Serpentine Prairie

**Membership Meeting** See below.
April 24, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

**Field Trips**, page 4
April 21, Sunday, 10 a.m., Black Diamond Mines Regional Park
April 27, Saturday, 9:00 a.m., Rose Peak, Ohlone Regional Wilderness
May 11, Saturday, 10 a.m., Driving tour of Mines Road/Del Puerto Canyon Road

Membership Meeting

Wednesday, April 24, 2002, 7:30 p.m.
Conference Center, University of California Botanical Garden

**Mycorrhizal interactions with native plants**
**Speaker: Dr. Tom Bruns**

Mycorrhizae are symbiotic associations between fungi and the roots of higher plants. In their simplest forms these interactions involve a trade of sugars produced by the plant for mineral nutrients (for example, phosphorus and nitrogen) from the fungus. Most plants form these interactions, and many require them.

Tom Bruns will review some of the fundamental aspects of mycorrhizal interactions and will include more detailed information from his recent work in California pinaceous plant communities and with non-photosynthetic plants.

Dr. Bruns is a professor in the Department of Plant and Microbial Biology at the University of California at Berkeley. He received his PhD in Botany at the University of Michigan in 1987 and has been at Berkeley since that time. His research interests are centered on fungal ecology and evolution, and he has a special love for mycorrhizal fungi.

East Bay Chapter CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month’s meeting will take place in the Conference Center of the University of California Botanical Garden on Centennial Drive, east of Memorial Stadium, above the main campus of the University of California at Berkeley. The Garden gate will open at 7:00 p.m.; the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. CNPS books and other publications will be on display and available for purchase. Please contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016 or rosacalifornica@earthlink.net, if you have any questions.

**Upcoming Program**
May 22, 2002 **Deborah Rogers: Biological expedition to Guadalupe and Cedros Islands**

*Sue Rosenthal*
As the days get longer and the poppies push forward to welcome the sun, I too emerge from my winter doldrums with renewed energy and vigor. Time to think about sunscreen and camping trips, where has the rain fallen this year and what are the early wildflower reports like?

As I write this in early March, it looks like a dry year for southern California. The lack of rain will likely bring out only the most stalwart annuals and perennials into scattered bloom, unless we get a series of “March Miracle” rainstorms. The north coast is looking much better, with the Bay Area having an average year.

A list of good places to visit locally this month might include a drive down Mines Road and Corral Hollow in the southern part of Alameda County and the northern part of Santa Clara County. I’ve made this trip several times thanks to generous fellow plant enthusiasts, and always seem to find something of note in April and May. There are not many places to stop, but if you are a bit adventurous and very careful, there are roadside areas with fascinating wildflowers that are little more than a blur going by in a car.

One particular spot that comes to mind on the east side of Mt. Hamilton is a wonderful shale slope that is a mosaic of pink gypsum spring beauty (Claytonia gypsophilum), red canyon larkspur (Delphinium nudicaule), and purple sickle-leaf onion (Allium falcifolium). Since I recently acquired a digital camera, I’m itching to visit this area again to document what I’ve seen and share it with others.

Other opportunities to take advantage of this month include “April on the Mountain” hikes at Mt. Diablo hosted by the Mount Diablo Interpretive Association (www.mdia.org), or perhaps visiting the Briones Crest and Spengler Trails at Briones Regional Park. It’s also a great time to visit our local botanical gardens to see plants in bloom from all over the state. Spring has sprung, and I hope you can enjoy the riches of our backyard!

*I invite members to contact me with questions or suggestions regarding chapter activities at any time at tony-morosco@calflora.org.  

Tony Morosco

And this our life, exempt from public haunt, 
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, 
Sermons in stones, and good in everything.

Shakespeare, As You Like It

Wildwood Creek in El Cerrito in Danger

A pristine, free-flowing creek, called Wildwood Creek by some, is in danger of being destroyed. A developer who plans to build 14 homes at the site also plans to fill in a portion of the creek and remove 109 trees on the property. Coast live oak, coffee berry, monkey flower and other native plant species grow on the banks. When I visited the creek a few weeks ago, I saw deer, squirrels, juncos, chickadees and towhees, all within the first 5 minutes I was there. Destruction of the creek’s riparian habitat would eliminate a wildlife corridor. The proposed development’s final EIR was certified in 1995, but the plans for the development have changed since then.

To show your support for Wildwood Creek, I encourage you to attend the Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, April 3, at 7:30, at the El Cerrito Community Center on Moeser where the development will be discussed.

Letters are also crucial.

Address your letter to Dennis Carrington, Planning Manager, and Ms. Regina Adams, Associate Planning Manager, City of El Cerrito, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

Please copy your letter to:
Mr. Ed Wylie
District Engineer
United States Army Engineers
San Francisco District
333 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-2197

Ms. Nicole Kozicki
California Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 47
Yountville, CA 94599

Ms. Christine Boschen
San Francisco Bay Regional Quality Control Board
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612

Janet Abelson, City Council, City of El Cerrito
Gina Brusatori, City Council, City of El Cerrito
Mark Friedman, City Council, City of El Cerrito
Leticia Moore, City Council, City of El Cerrito
Kathleen Perka, City Council, City of El Cerrito
c/o City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Supervisor John Gioia
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors
Irene & Herbert G. Baker Memorial Lecture

Saturday, April 6, at 2:00 p.m. Auditorium, Lawrence Hall of Science, Centennial Drive, Berkeley.

The Irene & Herbert G. Baker Memorial Lecture and the Herbert G. Baker Memorial and Bench Dedication Ceremony will be hosted by the University of California Botanical Garden, Berkeley, with the sponsorship of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and the University’s Department of Integrative Biology.

Renowned ethnobotanist Dr. Paul Cox, Director of the National Tropical Gardens, Florida & Hawaii, will lecture on: Ethnobotanical Insights into the Cause of ALS, Alzheimer’s Disease and Parkinson’s Disease among the Chamorro of Guam.

This lecture will be the first public announcement of a major discovery, published in the March 26 issue of Neurology with noted neuropathologist, Oliver Sacks. RSVP if you can attend by contacting Janet Williams at (510) 643-2937 or janetwil@uclink4.berkeley.edu.

UC Versus Vernal Pools

At its March meeting the East Bay CNPS Chapter Board passed the following motion:

To allocate $1,000 for a lawsuit against the Regents of the University of California.

The lawsuit in question was filed on February 19, 2002 by three San Joaquin Valley based groups against the Regents of the University of California, charging failure to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act; the segmentation of project components; and piece meal of the review process. Also named on the suit are Merced County, the Virginia Smith Trust, and the Merced Irrigation District.

The project referred to is described in the State CNPS resolution below. Since the resolution was passed, the original plan has been significantly modified, but some vernal pool area is still slated for destruction. For further information see www.vernalpools.org.

Resolution of CNPS (the state organization) concerning the placement of a University of California Campus at Lake Yosemite, Merced County:

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Resolution of CNPS (the state organization) concerning the placement of a University of California Campus at Lake Yosemite, Merced County:
1. CNPS supports expansion of the University of California system to meet increasing student enrollment needs and would support the development of a tenth campus on an environmentally suitable site in the Merced area, or elsewhere in the San Joaquin Valley.

2. CNPS opposes use of the proposed Lake Yosemite site for the campus and its ancillary community as it will have major unmitigatable impacts on endangered species, unique natural landscapes, and important wetland habitats through destruction, disturbance and fragmentation.

3. CNPS therefore favors constructing the 10th UC campus on another site that would minimize environmental consequences and limit urban sprawl, while providing long-term economic and natural heritage benefits for the local residents. CNPS believes the endangered species and wetland impacts associated with development of the Lake Yosemite site would result in regulatory and legal burdens that will delay or prevent construction of the campus.

4. CNPS commends the University of California’s intent to establish an Institute for the study of the Sierra Nevada’s natural history, but believes there is a fundamental contradiction in establishing it at the Lake Yosemite site. Therefore CNPS urges the University of California to acquire the Lake Yosemite site as part of its Natural Reserve System so that its vernal pools and their associated plants and animals may be studied by future University of California students.

Conservation Committee

Field Trips

Sunday, April 21.  **Black Diamond Mines Regional Park.** Joe Willingham will lead a half-day hike, with an additional section for the more energetic. Take Highway 4 east from most of the Bay Area and look for the Somersville Road exit in the vicinity of Antioch. Go south on Somersville Road and stay in the left lane past Buchanan Road. At 1.5 miles from the Somersville exit on the odometer, follow Somersville Road (straight ahead, while the main road bends sharp left and away). Start looking for the sign for Black Diamond Mines Regional Park, and the entrance kiosk and park headquarters will be at 2.6 miles. At 0.9 miles past the park entrance, turn into the large parking lot on the right, where the group will meet at 10:00 a.m. Bring water and lunch.

Saturday, April 27.  **Rose Peak, Ohlone Regional Wilderness.** Dianne Lake will lead a one-day field trip to Rose Peak, a rare chance to take in one of the richest floras in the East Bay.

Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot for Sunol Regional Park Headquarters.

**Please note:** As soon as possible, participants need to contact Janet Gawthrop at (510) 654-3066 or _janetg24@excite.com, in order to list their names on the permit and arrange vehicular access. Because access to Rose Peak is restricted, we must specify the number of participants in order to comply with the permit for day use in the Ohlone Wilderness. Bring water, lunch, sunscreen, and all other necessities for a day hike.

Saturday, May 11.  **Driving tour of Mines Road/Del Puerto Canyon Road.** With all the rain, this should be a good year on Mines Road. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Dublin/Pleasanton Bart Station Parking Lot, organize into car pools, and drive to Mines Road (which is at the south end of Livermore). We will stop numerous times on Mines Road and Del Puerto Canyon Road. We will return to the meeting point at approximately 5:00 p.m. Bring lunch and something to drink. Be warned that this is a tick area.

This region of eastern Alameda County, northeastern Santa Clara County, and western Stanislaus County has a large number of wildflowers and shrubs, among them Brewer’s clarkia, thornmints, and blazing stars. Contact David Margolies (510-654-0283, email dm@franz.com) to sign up for the trip. Maximum number is 20.

Janet Gawthrop

Plant Sale Activities

**Propagation and Potting Sessions**

Tuesdays:  April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Merritt College, Oakland
Landscape Horticulture
Parking fee:  50 cents

Rain does not cancel.

Come for all or part of the sessions. No experience is necessary. Bring a bag lunch for the noon break.

For information call 925-376-4095.

**The East Bay Chapter Annual Plant Sale** will be held on October 4-5, Saturday and Sunday at Merritt College.

Plant Sale Committee
Native Here Nursery

April 5, 12, 19, 26 (Fridays): Native Here Nursery open 9-noon
April 6, 13, 20, 27 (Saturdays): Native Here Nursery open 10-1
April 30, Tuesday: Seed collection walk, 9 a.m. from Native Here.
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (Fridays): Native Here Nursery open 9-noon
May 4, 11, 18, 25 (Saturdays): Native Here Nursery open 10-1
May 7, 14, 21, 28 (Tuesdays): Seed collection walks, leave Native Here 9 a.m.

Some native bulbs will be blooming in the nursery in April. Purchase to enjoy in the container this year, hold dry over the summer and plant the bulbs in fall.

It is a bit late for planting, so spring should be a slow sales period. It is the time for getting those little seedlings from the 2001 seed collections moving along on their way to planting-out size. There are plants for contracts that need growing and attention, too. I'm not much of a telephone person and find it hard to find the time to return calls, so if you want to volunteer, please just show up at the times posted. You will be welcomed, and Margot or I will immediately put you to work! The nursery is in Tilden Park across from the entrance to the Golf Course, 101 Golf Course Drive, Berkeley 94708.

April is an ideal time to place orders for plants for the fall of 2003. Seed collection begins at the end of April (walk on April 30 meets at the entrance to Native Here at 9 a.m. - again, just show up) and continues through the fall. If orders are placed later in the year, it may not be possible to find the correct seeds until 2003, so think ahead! Orders may be placed by phone 510/549-0211, FAX 510/525-9076 or e-mail charlid@pacbell.net.

Destinations for the Tuesday seed walks are not announced beforehand. Usually the walks end about 12:30 or 1:00 p.m. Some walks take longer, but we adjust according to the time constraints of the participants and the locales where ripe seeds can be expected.

Mitchell Canyon Bunchgrass Restoration

Anyone willing to mow to control star thistle, annual grasses, etc. please contact Charli Danielsen, charlid@pacbell.net, in order to arrange to “train” on the mower, the areas to be mowed, and to work out a schedule with the State Parks.

This ten-year-old project is in a light maintenance stage requiring only mowing and seed distribution.

Native Plant Restoration Team

Saturday, April 6, 10 a.m. Native Here work party and planning session—bring your ideas for upcoming work party sites, events, etc. Meet at Native Here Nursery, 101 Golf Course Drive (across from the Golf Course) in Tilden Park.

Saturday, May 4. Berkeley Waterfront with Susan Schwartz and the Friends of Five Creeks. Meet at 10 a.m. behind the Seabreeze Market, at the foot of University Avenue, just west of I-80.

Saturday, June 1. Skyline Serpentine Prairie. Bring your favorite gloves or tools; we also have such to share. Call 510/840-9367 if rain is falling for a recorded update on the morning of the event.

The April 19 Botany Lunch at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden will host Charli Danielsen talking about the Vegetation Management Almanac. The Almanac is available from the Environmental Education Center in Tilden Park. They do take phone orders. There will be some classes this spring (dates yet to be determined). Watch for future notices, as some may be open to the public.

The classes will be in the field using the decision making processes outlined in the manual.

Noah Booker

A very close view of the moss Grimmia pulvinata. The capsules seen here are about 2 mm long.

Photo by John Game
Activities of Others

Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m. 2050 Valley Life Sciences Building, U.C. Berkeley campus. Dr. Matteo Garbelotto, Forest Pathologist, U.C. Berkeley will lecture on “Emergent Forest Diseases in California: Real or Potential Threat to California Biodiversity?”

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Visitor Center of the Bay Regional Parks Botanic Garden. Course on Water Chemistry of Creeks and Ponds. $25.00 members/$30.00 nonmembers.

Come and explore the hidden ingredients of ponds and creeks in the Garden: the salts and the minerals, the dissolved gases, the pH, and more. The composition of our water sources determines how well water plants can grow in them, on them, or near them. After an introduction to water chemistry (no previous chemistry knowledge required) we'll head out in groups to water bodies in the Garden, equipped with kits and test strips. We'll reconvene later back at the classroom to pool our findings, and to discuss and evaluate our water analyses.

U.C. Jepson Workshops

Fire Ecology
May 4-5
Location: UC Berkeley and a local field trip

Coastal Dunes
May 17-19
Location: Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes, San Luis Obispo County

Pollination Ecology
May 31-June 2
Location: Hastings Reserve, Carmel Valley

Thistles
June 15-16
Location: UC Berkeley and a local field trip

Lupinus
July 11-14
Location: White Mountains research station, Crooked Creek (near Bishop)

For more information or to enroll, call Staci Markos (510) 643-7008 or visit the U.C. Jepson web site: ucjeps.berkeley.edu.

Kids in Gardens

Spring Session:
Saturdays, April 13 & 20, 2002 from 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at Canyon & Vannoy Schools, Castro Valley

This two-day workshop focuses on using safe gardening techniques in home and school gardens with the goal of reducing pesticide use within the community. Participants will engage in hands-on activities to learn the skills and techniques to create healthy, low-maintenance gardens; propagate native plants for wildlife habitat; attract beneficial insects; compost yard and household waste; garden with less water, and much more.

Pre-registration is required for $25, which includes a curriculum guide and extensive resource materials. Academic credit is available through California State University, Hayward and all workshop graduates will receive AOI's twice-yearly Watching Our Watersheds newsletter. Graduates working in EBMUD’s service area are eligible to apply for seed money grants up to $2000.

To register, please download a registration form at www.aoinstitute.org or contact Scott Weintraub at the Aquatic Outreach Institute at (510) 231-5655.

California Wildflower Show

The Oakland Museum is seeking volunteers to assist with the collection, preparation, display, and interpretation of wildflowers for this year’s show, to be held in May. This is a great opportunity to see fresh flowers from the Sierra foothills, and to interact with professional botanists.

Especially needed are volunteers with a background in botany to answer questions from the public during the weekend. Volunteer skills will be matched with tasks available.

Contact Tony Morosco to volunteer (510) 528-5426.

CNPS Seeks Executive Director

CNPS is seeking an Executive Director who will be a strong and articulate leader for one of California’s most effective conservation groups. The Executive Director will expand the fund-raising program, develop programs that advance its mission, and implement the Society’s strategic plan by working closely with chapters and an active Board of Directors. The Executive Director will also develop communications strategies that promote greater public awareness of the Society and its mission. Salary is competitive, commensurate with experience. See the CNPS web page www.cnps.org for details.

Nature will bear the closest inspection; she invites us to lay our eye level with the smallest leaf, and take an insect view of its plain. —Henry David Thoreau
Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President:
Tony Morosco, 2329 7th St., Berkeley 94710, 549-2238, w/528-5426, tony-morosco@calflora.org

Vice President, Administration:
Elaine Jackson, 3311 Estudillo St., Martinez 94553, 925-372-0687

Treasurer:
Holly Forbes, 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530, 234-2913, w/643-8040

Secretaries:
Recording:
Michele Lee, 2923 Sheldon Dr., Richmond 94803, 243-1265
Corresponding:
Joanne Kerbavaz, 1709 Berkeley Way, Apt. B, Berkeley 94703, JKERB@parks.ca.gov

Past President

Barbara Erter, 1859 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707, h/526-4592, w/643-0600

Advisors

Members at large:
John Game, 1155 Spruce St., Berkeley 94707, 527-7855
Jim Sharp, 2663 LeConte Ave., Berkeley 94709, 644-344, itsa@dnai.com

Bay Leaf Editors

Brett Boltz, 2210 Spaulding Ave., Berkeley 94703, h/549-3327, w/643-0448, bbltz@uclink2.berkeley.edu
Joe Willingham, 2512 Etta St., Berkeley 94704, 841-4681, pepe@dnai.com

Recoded Chapter Information: 464-4977

CNPS Home Page: http://www.cnps.org

East Bay Chapter CNPS Home Page:
http://www.ebcnps.org
Bay Leaf &
Board meeting minutes online

Chapter CNPS-EB-Alerts E-mail List:
Find out more; email to listserv@usobi.org with:
INFO CNPS-EB Alerts

All area codes are 510 unless noted

Membership Application

Name ________________________________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________________
Zip _______ Telephone _______________ E-mail ____________________________
(I optional)

I wish to affiliate with:
___ East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)
___ Other ____________________________

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 1722 J Street, Suite 17, Sacramento CA 95814

Membership category:
___ Student, Retired, Limited income, $20
___ Individual, Library, $35
___ Household, Family, or Group, $45
___ Supporting, $75
___ Plant lover, $100
___ Benefactor, $500
___ Life, $1000

Bay Leaf Mailing:
Holly Forbes, 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530, 234-2913, w/643-8040,
hforbes@uclink4.berkeley.edu

Bryophytes:
Dan Norris, 802 Lexington Ave., El Cerrito 94530, 435-2004,
dhnorris@uclink.berkeley.edu

Conservation:
Steve Azztalos, 839 York St., Oakland 94610, asztalos1@llnl.gov

Plant Communities:
Susan Bainbridge, 2408 Parker St., Berkeley 94704, 548-2918

Rare Plants:
Brad Olson, 4442 Arcadia Ave., Oakland 94602, 482-0794

Unusual Plants:
Dianne Lake, 1050 Bayview Farm Rd. #121, Pinole 94564, 741-8066,
diannelake@yahoo.com

Donations:
Sandy McCoy, 1311 Bay View Place, Berkeley 94708, wmbmccoy@earthlink.net

Education:
Elly Bade, 2699 Shasta Rd., Berkeley 94708, 644-1656

Field Trips:
Janet Gawthrop, 360 Monte Vista Ave. #214, Oakland 94610, 654 3066, _janet24@excite.com

Hospitality:
Irene Wilkinson, 440 Camino Sobranate, Orinda 94563, 925-254-3675

Membership:
Delia Taylor, 1851 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707, 527-3912,
delialtaylor@mac.com

Native Here Nursery:
Charli Danielsen, 101 Golf Course Dr., Berkeley 94708, 549-0211,
charli@pacbell.net

Native Plant Restoration Team:
Noah Booker, 6366 Valley View Rd., Oakland 94611, h/339-1588,
EBRP Botanic Garden Liaison:
Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornica@earthlink.net

East Bay Public Lands:
Peter Rauch, 526-8155, peterr@socrates.berkeley.edu

EBRP Botanic Garden Liaison:
Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornica@earthlink.net
California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley CA 94705

PLANT SALE

Saturday, April 20, 2002
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Regional Parks Botanic Garden
Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley

The Botanic Garden volunteers invite you to explore the garden and buy some plants for your garden. Refreshments will be available.

All proceeds benefit the Botanic Garden. Please bring boxes for carrying your plants home, and an umbrella if it rains.

The garden is located on Wildcat Canyon Road at the foot of South Park Drive near the Brazil Building in Tilden Regional Park. Admission is free (510) 841-8732
www.nativeplants.org

Dendromecon rigida
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Time Value

April 2002 issue