Wild Plants in Cyberspace

Have you discovered the CalFlora Database yet? At www.calflora.org you will find:

- taxon reports for every plant recognized in California by the Jepson Manual and the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory.

- over 15,000 synonyms to clarify plant names and identifications.

- over 20,000 photos of California’s vascular plants and fungi.

- over 790,000 plant observations and related documentation.

- geographical information system (GIS) tools to illuminate plant location data.

Your CNPS East Bay Chapter is well connected with this remarkable resource. In addition to licensing our unusual plant data to CalFlora, we contributed early this year toward their efforts to digitize invasives.

CalFlora’s user base is booming . . .

In May alone, CalFlora attracted over 14,000 database inquiries every day (over 500 per hour—three times the rate of a year earlier). This translates into 28,000 unique users searching CalFlora for photos and information (or nearly three times the current statewide membership of CNPS!).

. . . yet CalFlora’s sustainability remains uncertain

If CalFlora does not successfully manage the transition from research-based experiment to self-supporting non-profit organization, the conservation work and education of tens of thousands of Californians could be severely compromised.

If you share the East Bay Chapter’s and CalFlora’s commitment to conserve and promote California’s plant diversity via freely accessible information please consider what you can do to help CalFlora’s support keep pace with its phenomenal growth.

Conservation Committee Ready for Action

After 15 years of hiking and photographing wildflowers in the East Bay hills, I hope to become more involved in local conservation issues by becoming the new East Bay CNPS conservation chair. Much good work has been done by past committees on many fronts; I hope to build from this base to promote sensible conservation. Joining me on the committee are Peter Rausch, Joe Willingham, Sue Bainbridge, Staci Markos, Tim Heelan and Dan Gluesencamp. If you are interested in single or multifaceted conservation issues please contact me at asztalos1@llnl.gov.

Steve Asztalos

Fall Garden Tour

On September 9th at 1:30 p.m. Steve Asztalos will lead a tour of the California native section at the UC Botanical Garden. Steve has been a docent at the Botanical Garden for the past several years and is eager to introduce new people to this beautiful and accessible location. The California section, which occupies nearly a third of the garden’s acreage, contains nearly one-half of the state’s native vascular plant species, including 174 taxa on CNPS’s list of rare and endangered species. At this time of the year one can expect to be treated to a variety of flowering plants, including Zauschneria californica, Eriogonum ssp., Bushmallow, various composites and other Fall treats. The garden is located on Centennial Drive, east of Memorial Stadium, above the main campus of the University of California in Berkeley. There is a $3 entrance fee for non-UC students.
One of the more notable achievements of CNPS over the years has been the development of the Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California. The updated statewide accounts of our rare plants in each edition of the Inventory have been widely used by environmental consultants, developers and legislators alike in making planning decisions, and have influenced policy at both the State and local levels. Very soon, the sixth edition of our Inventory will be available in printed form, containing new and revised information for many species as well as some exciting additions.

While we often hear of the threat and reality of species extinctions on a global scale, there is better news about some of our plants. The number of natives “presumed extinct” in California has actually declined from 34 in the 1994 edition of the Inventory to about 29 today. Just a few of these 29 are known to survive in other States. The rediscoveries happen because CNPS members and other enthusiasts have discovered small new populations of several of these plants, often in remote places or on private land, but usually in or near the historic range originally known for the plant. The finds emphasize the value of detailed botanical explorations by knowledgeable people, and the need to follow through with communicating new information when it is obtained.

The latest Inventory also contains new species not previously known in California, and newly described species not previously known to science. An example of the former is the fern Botrychium virginianum, with recently found populations in Siskiyou and Mendocino Counties. This fern was previously known from all the mainland US states except California, and brings the number of our known native ferns and fern allies to exactly one hundred. Species new to science include members of such charismatic genera as Erythronium and Calochortus, as well as the distinctive tarweed Deinandra bacigalupi. This is from our own Chapter’s area near Livermore and was recognized as new by our tarweed expert, Bruce Baldwin. Finally, the new Inventory include rare Bryophytes (mosses, liverworts and hornworts) for the first time, thanks to efforts by Dan Norris and Jim Shevock.

Our rare plant botanist Dave Tibor deserves major credit for bringing the Inventory up to date, together with many others including the hundreds of people who have provided information. Let’s remember in our wanderings that 29 lost species are out there, each waiting to make someone’s year by being re-discovered.

John Game

Don’t expect me to do the right thing, make me do it.
U.S. Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt
## Elected Officers

**President:**
Barbara Ertter, 1859 Catalina Ave., Berkeley 94707, h/526-4592, w/643-0600

**Vice President, Administration:**
Tony Morosco, 2329 7th St., Berkeley 94710, 549-2238, w/642-8468

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

**Secretaries:**
- **Recording:** Michele Lee, 2923 Sheldon Dr., Richmond 94803, 234-7667
- **Corresponding:** Joanne Kerbavaz, Calif. State Parks, 250 Executive Park Blvd., Suite 4900, San Francisco 94134, w/415-330-6323

**Members at large:**
- John Game, 1155 Spruce St., Berkeley 94707, 527-7855
- Jim Sharp, 2663 LeConte Ave., Berkeley 94709, 644-9344
- Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna St., Berkeley 94704, 841-4681

## Bay Leaf Editors

- Brett Boltz, 2210 Spaulding Ave., Berkeley 94703, h/549-3327, w/643-0448
- Joe Willingham, 2512 Etna St., Berkeley 94704, 841-4681

**Recorded Chapter Information:** 464-4977

**CNPS Home Page:** [http://www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org)

**East Bay Chapter CNPS Home Page:** [http://www.ebcnps.org](http://www.ebcnps.org)

**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

Printed on recycled paper

## Membership Application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Zip</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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 St., 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
We had a great work party at Skyline Serpentine Prairie on June 2. It seems we are really helping to make a difference up there. Join us for one or all of our upcoming events.

NPRT Star Thistle Bash, Mitchell Canyon Bunchgrass Restoration Site, Saturday, July 7. See June Bay Leaf or web site for details.

Saturday, August 1, 10 a.m.: Work with us along the Berkeley waterfront, spitting distance from the Bay. We will be pulling Yellow Starthistle in the Eastshore State Park and Cesar Chavez Park. There seems to be less YST this year (partly thanks to our efforts), so we may work on other invasives as well. Meet off Spinnaker Way, opposite the Berkeley Marina Radisson, at 10 a.m. (look for the red Toyota pickup and the dangerous looking, tool-toting weed nuts). Please meet on site; do not go to Native Here this day. Thanks to Susan Schwartz for the inspiration.

Saturday, September 1, 10 a.m.: Native Here work party! Come hang out in this delightful spot with Charli and the gang. We’ll work around the nursery on Oblong Spurge and assorted other nasties, and also bust a move inside the fence on potting and other needed chores. This will be a good time to start eyeing what’s available at the nursery for the fall planting season. Meet at Native Here, 101 Golf Course Drive, Tilden Park, across from the Golf Course entrance.

No reservations are needed . . . just show up and pitch in. Wear protective clothing—sturdy shoes, long sleeves and pants, a sun hat; bring water, gloves and your favorite weeding tool. We also have gloves and tools to lend. Would you like to get on our email list? Drop me a line at casartunda@aol.com.

Charli Danielsen

Another task is for someone with a pickup to cart away the things that we just can’t find a way to compost, recycle or reuse, on a monthly basis. Native Here will pay the dump fees, we just don’t have the appropriate vehicle.

Want some wonderful trees for fall and winter planting? We are offering Sequoia sempervirens from the grove that flows from Joaquin Miller Park through Redwood Regional Park and over into Canyon. They are in three-gallon long containers and might even be an unusual holiday tree. These are ideal for planting as memorial trees in Joaquin Miller Park (with City permission, of course). Quercus douglasii from Mitchell Canyon is available in D-pots (maybe in long gallon pots by fall). Sycamore seeds have germinated for us this year. This Platanus racemosa is from Sunol. There are also Quercus lobata and Quercus agrifolia from Sunol. These would make great street trees for Sunol when they grow up!

Come in and start your wish list for fall and winter planting. The nursery is at 101 Golf Course Drive, across the street from the golf course parking lot exit. The phone there is (510) 549-0211.

Charli Danielsen

We had a great work party at Skyline Serpentine Prairie on June 2. It seems we are really helping to make a difference up there. Join us for one or all of our upcoming events.

NPRT Star Thistle Bash, Mitchell Canyon Bunchgrass Restoration Site, Saturday, July 7. See June Bay Leaf or web site for details.

Saturday, August 1, 10 a.m.: Work with us along the Berkeley waterfront, spitting distance from the Bay. We will be pulling Yellow Starthistle in the Eastshore State Park and Cesar Chavez Park. There seems to be less YST this year (partly thanks to our efforts), so we may work on other invasives as well. Meet off Spinnaker Way, opposite the Berkeley Marina Radisson, at 10 a.m. (look for the red Toyota pickup and the dangerous looking, tool-toting weed nuts). Please meet on site; do not go to Native Here this day. Thanks to Susan Schwartz for the inspiration.

Saturday, September 1, 10 a.m.: Native Here work party! Come hang out in this delightful spot with Charli and the gang. We’ll work around the nursery on Oblong Spurge and assorted other nasties, and also bust a move inside the fence on potting and other needed chores. This will be a good time to start eyeing what’s available at the nursery for the fall planting season. Meet at Native Here, 101 Golf Course Drive, Tilden Park, across from the Golf Course entrance.

No reservations are needed . . . just show up and pitch in. Wear protective clothing—sturdy shoes, long sleeves and pants, a sun hat; bring water, gloves and your favorite weeding tool. We also have gloves and tools to lend. Would you like to get on our email list? Drop me a line at casartunda@aol.com.

Charli Danielsen

Another task is for someone with a pickup to cart away the things that we just can’t find a way to compost, recycle or reuse, on a monthly basis. Native Here will pay the dump fees, we just don’t have the appropriate vehicle.

Want some wonderful trees for fall and winter planting? We are offering Sequoia sempervirens from the grove that flows from Joaquin Miller Park through Redwood Regional Park and over into Canyon. They are in three-gallon long containers and might even be an unusual holiday tree. These are ideal for planting as memorial trees in Joaquin Miller Park (with City permission, of course). Quercus douglasii from Mitchell Canyon is available in D-pots (maybe in long gallon pots by fall). Sycamore seeds have germinated for us this year. This Platanus racemosa is from Sunol. There are also Quercus lobata and Quercus agrifolia from Sunol. These would make great street trees for Sunol when they grow up!

Come in and start your wish list for fall and winter planting. The nursery is at 101 Golf Course Drive, across the street from the golf course parking lot exit. The phone there is (510) 549-0211.

Charli Danielsen