Calendar of Events

**Plant Sale Activities**, p. 3
See the calendar on page 3 for schedule of Plant Sale activities

**Native Here Nursery**, p. 6
Tuesdays, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: seed collection team departs from Native Here at 9 a.m.
Fridays, September 5, 12, 19, 26: Native Here Nursery open 9 a.m. - noon.
Saturdays, September 6, 13, 20, 27: Native Here Nursery open 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Board of Directors Meeting**
Wednesday, September 3, 7:30 p.m., home of Charli Danielsen, 10 Kerr Avenue, Kensington

**Native Plant Restoration Team**, p. 6
Saturday, September 6, 9 – noon, work party at Strawberry Lodge, 1326 Addison, Berkeley

**Field Trips**, p. 2
Saturday, September 13, 10:30 a.m., Tarweeds and other blooming plants of eastern Alameda County
Sunday, September 21, 1:00 p.m., Huckleberry Regional Preserve

**Annual Picnic**, p. 4
Saturday, September 20, 3:00 p.m. at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden in Tilden Regional Park

**Membership Meeting**, see below
Wednesday, September 24, UC Botanical Garden, Berkeley

**Grants for Projects**, p. 5
Wednesday, October 1, deadline for project applications

**Annual Plant Sale**, p. 3
Saturday, October 4, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Sunday, October 5, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Merritt College in Oakland

Membership Meeting

**The Flowering of Natural History Institutions in California**
Speaker: Dr. Barbara Ertter

**Wednesday, September 24, 2003, 7:30 p.m.**
Conference Center, University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley (directions below)

The origins and early years of many of the major institutions of natural history in California form a single story with numerous interwoven threads and a common cast of characters. This is particularly evident in the botanical realm, beginning with Albert Kellogg’s role as a founder of the upstart California Academy of Sciences in 1853. As the Academy’s initial spurt of activity began to wane, it was re-energized by the California Geological Survey in the 1860’s, under the leadership of Josiah Dwight Whitney and William H. Brewer. When Whitney failed to obtain State support for housing the collections amassed by the Survey within the Academy, he turned his efforts instead to ensuring that responsibility for the collections was written into the charter of the fledgling University of California, established in 1868. Among the numerous other threads emerging from this basic framework are those leading to the early years of other institutions with a natural history component, including the California Department of Forestry and the Sierra Club, by way of Joseph LeConte, John Gill Lemmon, Willis Linn Jepson, and others.

This month’s speaker, Dr. Barbara Ertter, weaves a fascinating story in words and pictures of the connections between these early natural history institutions (most of which were located in the Bay Area) and the often eccentric personalities behind them. Dr. Ertter may not be as eccentric as the early founders of our natural history institutions, but her accomplishments are many and varied. Just to name a few, she is Curator of Western North American Flora and Collections Manager at the UC and Jepson Herbaria at UC Berkeley; co-author with Mary L. Bowerman of the new edition of The Flowering Plants and Ferns of Mount Diablo, California; and an active leader of the East Bay Chapter of CNPS, most

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recently as president in 2000-2001. Her interests span an equally broad range, from her current self-described obsession with the Potentilleae (Rosaceae), to her deep interest and extensive research into the historical aspects of western floristics and the people behind them, to the botany of Iran (which she has visited twice in the past few years), to local conservation projects including community stewardship of Albany Hill.

We’re offering a new activity this month for 30 minutes before the meeting starts—a plant identification clinic. Come to the meeting room at 7:00 with your mystery flowers and plant identification questions and Tony Morosco, our chapter president, will help you solve them (he will have a copy of the Jepson Manual).

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 and west of the Lawrence Hall of Science, 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. Please contact Sue Rosenthal, rosacalifornica@earthlink.net, 510-496-6016, if you have any questions.

**Upcoming Programs**

**Saturday, September 20, 3:00 p.m.** (at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden):
Annual East Bay chapter picnic

**Wednesday, October 22, 7:30 p.m.** (at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden):
Emily Roberson—Bush Administration, 108th Congress: Agenda for Native Plants and the Environment

**Wednesday, November 19, 7:30 p.m.** (at the Orinda Library):
Ron Russo—Plant Galls of California

Sue Rosenthal

**Field Trips**

**Tarweeds and other summer blooming plants of eastern Alameda County**

Saturday, September 13, 10:30 a.m.

The Livermore Valley and surrounding areas have a surprising diversity of late season bloomers, including quite a number of tarweeds (members of the subtribe Madiinae in the Asteraceae). Most of these produce sticky, often strongly scented resins, probably to protect them from both herbivory and dessication in the heat of summer. Chris Thayer will lead a trip to look at an assortment of these fascinating plants and the unusual habitats many of them require. With luck we should see about ten different tarweeds in flower, including the rare Livermore tarplant (*Deinandra bacigalupii*) endemic to a few and possibly threatened populations east of Livermore. Other rare tarweeds we can expect to see are big tarplant (*Blepharizantha plumosa*) and Congdon’s tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* ssp. *cordonii*). We will discuss ecology, distribution and current systematics of our local tarweeds, as well as some regional conservation issues. As a bonus, we will also be in the habitat of a few rare *Atriplex* species, as well as the federally endangered palmate-bracted bird’s beak (*Cordylanthus palmatus*) and its cousin, hispid bird’s beak (*Cordylanthus mollis* ssp. *hispidus*) which in most years can still be found in late September. This will be primarily a driving trip, with short walks at various stops. Parking is limited at some stops, so keeping vehicles to manageable numbers is essential. Meet in Livermore at 10:30 a.m. at the corner of Dalton Avenue and Broadmoor Street.

**Directions**: Take 580 east of Livermore, exit at North Vasco Road, and go north approximately one mile, then left on Dalton. Broadmoor is in a residential area on the left about one half mile west of Vasco Road. Bring appropriate sustenance and clothing, bearing in mind that sometimes the heat in September can be punishing. Expect to be out for a few hours. We will probably eat and drink on the fly. RSVP to Chris by e-mail, christhayer@sycllc.com, or by telephone 925-279-0265, or by mail, Chris Thayer, Botanical and Wetland Specialist, Sycamore Associates, 2099 Mount Diablo Boulevard, Suite 204, Walnut Creek CA 94596.

**Huckleberry Regional Preserve**

Sunday, September 21, 1:00 p.m.

Meet at the Skyline Drive entrance to Huckleberry Regional Preserve for a look at shrubs of the East Bay in fruit. Charli Danielson, founder of the chapter’s Native Here Nursery, will lead an afternoon walk to collect seeds for nursery propagation. If you are not able to join the Tuesday morning forays, this is your chance to learn about seed collection and seed preparation. Charli has a letter of permission to collect in East Bay Regional Parks. While you can try these techniques at home, you may not collect on your own in parks or anyone else’s property without permission.

**Directions**: From the north, take the Thornhill Drive exit from 13 and follow Mountain Boulevard south until you reach Snake Road. Take a left onto Snake Road and go all the way up to Skyline. Left on Skyline, and then look for the signs to the parking lot on the right about ½ mile north. From the south, leave 13 at the Park Boulevard exit, go north on Mountain Boulevard and then right on Snake Road and follow through as outlined above.

Janet Gawthrop
October 4 & 5
Sat. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Come early Saturday morning for best selection. Follow the signs to Landscape Horticulture at Merritt College.

A plant list will be available at the gate. You may want to check the list posted on the Chapter website about a week prior to the sale. Or be surprised—some plants few in number may not make the list.

Many more native bulbs are available to tempt you this year: Calochortus, Brodiaea, Erythronium, Fritillaria, Allium.

Seeds, posters, and books will await your perusal.

Be prepared:
- Bring a friend to help you collect, move, and load your plants.
- A wagon or small cart will be handy; sturdy boxes will work.
- Plan on using the loading zone at the curb after retrieving your car unless you have brought a wagon with you.
- Bring cash or personal check (we can’t process credit cards).

Help us set up for the Sale!

September is a very busy month as we move every plant at least once before the sale, put price tags on every plant, groom them, replace labels, assemble temporary structures, arrange furniture, and much more ... We’d appreciate whatever skills and time you can offer, and you will get a thorough preview of what plants are available. People who can drop in to help for just half a day make a big difference in keeping us on schedule.

Check the calendar below for our work schedule. Shaded days are work days. We will be there from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Landscape Hort area to the west of the greenhouses. Bring your lunch if you can stay after a noon break. Campus parking does require two quarters in the machine.

Volunteer at the Sale, Saturday and Sunday, morning or afternoon!

We need many volunteers, especially on Saturday during the plant sale to cashier, sell plants, and assist people.

If you’ve helped us in recent years you should receive a reply postcard soon.

Please respond ... even if only to let us know you aren’t available this year but would like to stay on the mailing list. If you don’t hear from us, or you’d like to volunteer for the first time, please call 925-376-4095 or 510-525-6614.

Shirley McPheeters
ANNUAL PICNIC  
East Bay Chapter CNPS

Saturday, September 20, 2003  
beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Regional Parks Botanic Garden  
Intersection of South Park Drive and Wildcat Canyon Road  
in Tilden Park, Berkeley

All are welcome—bring your friends and family and a dish to share

Celebrate the beauty of our California fall equinox at the annual East Bay Chapter potluck picnic. This year the picnic will take place on Saturday, September 20, beginning at 3:00 p.m., at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden (at the intersection of South Park Drive and Wildcat Canyon Road in Tilden Park, Berkeley). Come join old and new friends in a breathtakingly beautiful setting to savor great food and drink, win native plants in an everyone-wins raffle, travel the state (botanically) on a garden tour, play challenging and wacky plant games (fun for the whole family), listen to mellow live music, and enjoy the company of fellow native plant enthusiasts.

Bring a dish to share (main dish, salad, side dish, or dessert). We’ll provide beverages and utensils, great native plants for the raffle, games, music, books and posters to buy, and a tour of the Botanic Garden. Mother Nature will provide the warm weather (the Fog Goddess permitting).

To get to the Garden, take Hwy 24 to the Fish Ranch Road exit (just east of the Caldecott Tunnel). Follow Fish Ranch Road up the hill to Grizzly Peak Blvd. Turn right on Grizzly Peak and follow it for 1.5 miles to South Park Drive. Turn right on South Park Drive and follow it for 1.5 miles to Wildcat Canyon Road. Turn left on Wildcat Canyon Road for one block and then turn right on Anza View Drive. Park along the lawn side of Anza View Drive and enter the Garden through the open gate on Anza View. (Restrooms are located in the main parking lot on Wildcat Canyon Road at South Park Drive.)

If you have questions, if you need assistance with access to the picnic site, or if you have mobility concerns, please call or e-mail Sue at 510-496-6016 / rosacalifornica@earthlink.net.
Grants Committee

Your Grants Committee has decided on the 2003 East Bay Chapter scholarships. These are granted to graduates and undergraduates in botany, horticulture, and related fields whose studies include some aspect of the California native flora. This year scholarships in the amount of $1,200 were awarded to:

Christopher Di Vittorio, University of California at Berkeley (UCB), for study in applied ecosystems management and projects involving alders on the Eel River,

Letitia Brown, UCB, for studying Ecosystems Science and work on Sudden Oak Death, and

Diana Benner, San Francisco State, for study in Conservation Biology and study on salt-marsh dodder.

Also, the Grants Committee selected Christal Niederer to receive the Myrtle Wolf Scholarship. The Myrtle Wolf Scholarship honors longtime chapter activist Myrtle Wolf and is given to an outstanding student by the Committee. Ms. Niederer will receive a grant of $1,200 as well as an additional grant of $750 to help her to continue her studies in parks management and biology at San Jose State.

Ms. Neiderer has worked on restoration projects in Yosemite and at Edgewood Park. She is very active in various CNPS projects. As one supporter said, Christal is clearly both a supporter and an implementer of the CNPS mission, with much to offer to the projection of native plant habitats. As she continues her education, her contributions will become even more significant.

The Committee will solicit applications for scholarships again next spring.

The Grants Committee will accept applications for support for projects this fall.

Project Grants

The East Bay Chapter of CNPS supports scholarly, scientific and conservation projects involving native plants. Preference is given to projects in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, although other applications will be considered. Send your application, preferably by e-mail (please put “EBCNPS Project Support” in the subject line), by October 1, 2003 to:

CNPS, East Bay Chapter Grants Committee
c/o Sandy McCoy
1311 Bay View Place
Berkeley, CA 94708
SandyMcCoy@mindspring.com
510-414-1789

Time sensitive projects will be considered on an ad hoc basis. Proposals should be concise but should contain basic technical information (perhaps five pages, but not 25 pages). Letters of support and auxiliary materials of limited length are also helpful. I would be pleased to discuss proposals. Please be aware, however, that this announcement contains all the guidelines you will need.

Sandy McCoy
Grants Committee Coordinator

University and Jepson Herbaria

Volunteer Opportunities at the University and Jepson Herbaria

Are you interested in: a) learning more about the California flora; b) gaining first-hand experience with herbarium techniques; c) providing much-needed assistance with the specimens that are the raw data on which our knowledge of the California flora is based; d) socializing with fellow native plant enthusiasts; e) all of the above? Then have we got a deal for you! One Saturday of each month is Group Volunteer Day in the Herbaria at the University of California at Berkeley. What better way to spend those rainy winter weekends?

Our focus will be chipping away at the unmouted backlog of pressed plant collections, from California and around the world, some brand new, some decades old. Expect a diversity of “buried treasures” to come to light, primarily new records of noteworthy plants that have been languishing in dead storage. Volunteers are greatly needed to mount, sort, and file these collections, and to assist with related projects. No previous herbarium experience is necessary, but a level of dexterity and attention to detail is valued.

Group Volunteer Saturdays for 2003-2004 are September 20 (wrapping up in time for the Chapter Potluck Picnic), October 18, November 8, December 13, January 17, February 21, March 13, April 10, and May 15. Group Volunteer Saturdays begin at 10 am and finish up by 5 p.m. (participants need not stay the full time). The University and Jepson Herbaria are in the Valley Life Science Building on the campus of the University of California at Berkeley. The entrance is on the ground floor of the atrium, in front of the Tyrannosaurus rex. The central Berkeley BART station is convenient, as are numerous bus lines. Parking can generally be found along the streets north of campus (2-hour time limit only on weekdays).

To be added to the Group Volunteer reminder list, please call Ana Penny 510-642-2465, or just stop by during any Volunteer Saturday. We also welcome individual volunteers who can come in during our regular hours (M-F 8-5). We will try to match your unique interests, abilities and schedule to one of the numerous curatorial projects that has been gathering dust. For more information about individual volunteer opportunities, call 510-642-2465.

Barbara Ertter
Native Here

Calendar

Tuesdays, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Seed collection team departs from Native Here 9 a.m.
Fridays, September 5, 12, 19, 26: Native Here Nursery open 9 a.m. - noon.
Saturdays, September 6, 13, 20, 27: Native Here Nursery open 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

September is the time when seeds collected earlier get planted, even as late germinating seeds from last year are going into little pots, and larger seedlings into larger pots, getting ready for the planting season yet to come.

Volunteers are kept very busy—collecting seeds on Tuesdays, potting up plants, making labels and weeding on Fridays and Saturdays.

Native Here is at 101 Golf Course Drive in Tilden Park across the road from the Golf Course parking lot.

Charli Danielsen

Native Plant Restoration Team

Albany Bulb-Eastshore State Park

August’s work party was a great success – with huge piles of fennel hauled off to the green waste site (many thanks to all our volunteers and especially to Rolland of Shelterbelt who used his truck for the disposal). Weeding was primarily focused on the areas immediately adjacent to the trailhead (located at the West end of Buchanan Street, Albany). On that morning, the trail was very popular with local folks, some of whom stopped to ask questions about what we were doing and why, and to thank us for our efforts.

Possible future Restoration Team projects: 1) removal of large remaining stands of invasive exotic weeds; 2) re-planting of some of the lovely members of our coastal chaparral: poppies, lupine, cow parsnip, monkey flower, yarrow, etc.

September’s work party at Strawberry Creek, Berkeley

Saturday, September 6, 9 – noon at Strawberry Lodge located at 1326 Addison, Berkeley
Please join the CNPS Restoration Team, along with the Friends of Strawberry Creek — for another weed bash-ing event to restore a section of the lovely year-round Strawberry Creek.

Directions: heading West on University Avenue, take a left on Acton, then a right onto Addison). Located only a ten (10) minute walk from the North Berkeley BART station. Limited street parking (usually within a few blocks). Walk through the main front entrance in the Lodge and join us in the rear garden (the creek runs along the back side of the Lodge).

Supplies and gear: For each work party, we ask that you wear long sleeves and pants, a hat, sunscreen/clothing layers as needed for varying weather, sturdy shoes, your favorite gloves, and bring weeding/garden-ing tools, adequate water and a snack as needed. We do have some gloves and tools to lend.

Plant Sale

The CNPS East Bay Chapter’s Annual Native Plant Sale at Merritt College needs you!

The native plant demonstration garden and plant sale areas need immediate weed removal and general pruning/clean-up to prepare for our many visitors during the plant sale on October 4 and 5, 2003. Shirley McPheeters is asking that people who can come and spend a few hours either on Thursdays or Saturdays contact her ASAP (number below).

Join the many volunteers in preparing for or working during the plant sale at Merritt College, Oakland. Contact Shirley McPheeters at 925-376-4095 for further information on how to match up what you’d like to do and how much time you have.

E-mail reminders: To be on the Restoration Team’s e-mail list for work parties, and other related events/issues, please notify Jim Sharp at itsa@dnai.com.

Questions or comments? Please contact Sarah Ginskey, 510-558-8139.

Sarah Ginskey

Another diabolical change

In addition to the two unbranched scouring-rushes (Equisetum hyemale ssp. affine, and E. laevigatum) included in the newly revised Flowering Plants and Ferns of Mount Diablo, it turns out that their hybrid is also present. Ferris’s scouring-rush (Equisetum ferrissii Clute) is the updated identification of Bowerman 2460 from Alder Creek Springs and Bowerman 3720 from Willow Spring, both currently cited under E. hyemale on p. 133. As expected, Ferris’s scouring-rush is morphologically inter-mEDIATE between the two parent species, having a faint dark band on the upper sheath margin but lacking the rigid point on the cone. Clinching the identifi-cation are malformed spores. They indicate that the ster-ile nature of the hybrid, which maintains itself by veg-etative propagation.

Barbara Ertter
Early California resident botanists Albert Kellogg (1813-1887, co-founder of the California Academy of Sciences), John Gill Lemmon (1832-1908, botanist for California Board of Forestry); and Sara Plummer Lemmon (1836-1923; driving force behind selection of California poppy as state flower in 1903). As will be discussed at the September membership meeting, these are three of the botanists who played seminal roles in the interconnected origins of many of California’s institutions of natural history. Their gravesites in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland, will be visited as part of a Día de los Muertos field trip on November 1.
Activities of Others

Enjoy the outdoors while bashing invasive non-natives with **Friends of Five Creeks’ Weekday Weed Warriors**. The group meets weekly, usually at 10 a.m. on varying days, at creek and park sites from Berkeley to Richmond. To be notified of times, dates, and places, send an email to f5creeks@aol.com.

Aquatic Outreach Institute

**Kids in Gardens** (for Grades K-12)
This two-day workshop focuses on demonstrating the connection between garden-related pesticides and urban runoff pollution. It will help educators develop organic vegetable or wildlife gardens, engage students in the natural world, design and manage a successful school or classroom garden, and build parental and community involvement. Educators will learn how to attract beneficial insects and birds, make worm bins, and propagate California native plants that conserve water and reduce fertilizer and pesticide use in the garden. Participants will also become eligible for a $150 stipend by doing a pollution prevention outreach project, and East Bay educators will gain access to Teacher Action Grants of up to $2,000.

Alameda County educators
Saturday, September 6, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Amador Valley High School in Pleasanton, or
Saturday, February 21, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Redwood Day School in Oakland

Contra Costa County educators
Saturday, October 4, 2003 from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at La Casita Montessori School in Pinole

**Watching Our Watersheds** (for Grades K-12)
This one-day educator workshop teaches concepts for developing pollution prevention projects and activities in the school and at home. We will focus on household hazardous wastes, urban runoff, and their effects on local watersheds.

Contra Costa County educators
Saturday, September 27, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Hannah Ranch Elementary in Hercules

Santa Clara County educators
Saturday, September 20, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Guadalupe River Parks & Gardens in San Jose

For each workshop, a $25 pre-registration fee is required. Academic credit (1.5 units) is available through California State University, Hayward.

For more information, please visit our web site at www.aoinstitute.org or contact Mary at 510-231-9430 or mary@aoinstitute.org.
Board of Directors

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Recorded Chapter Information: 464-4977

CNPS Home Page: www.cnps.org

East Bay Chapter CNPS Home Page: 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

Membership Application

Name
________________________________________________________
Address
________________________________________________________________________________________
E-mail ______________ (optional)

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

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

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816
Wayne Roderick

Shortly before this issue of the *Bay Leaf* went to press, Wayne Roderick died at the age of 83. Wayne made an immense contribution to California botany and to CNPS. He was a founding member of our society and served on the board of directors of the East Bay Chapter for many years. On his frequent field trips he introduced many of us to such wonderful places as Cook and Green Pass, the White Mountains, and Winnemucca Lake. He was widely known for his knowledge of California bulbs and his skill at growing them, and was active in the American Rock Garden Society and other groups. He introduced many California plants to horticulture both in this country and in Europe. He shared his knowledge widely through his many articles, lectures and excursions. Wayne was at separate times in charge of the California area of the University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley, and director of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden in Tilden Park. A fuller account of Wayne, his life, and his contributions will be published in a subsequent issue of the *Bay Leaf*.

A memorial celebration of Wayne’s life will be held at the East Bay Regional Parks Botanic Garden on September 28 at 2:00 p.m.

Wayne Roderick in July 1997 standing in front of the “alpha” Bristlecone Pine Tree while leading an East Bay Chapter Trip to California’s White Mountains.

*Photo by John Game*