



November 2005

The Bay Leaf

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 2, 7:30 pm, home of Elaine Jackson, 3311 Estudillo Street, Martinez

Native Here Nursery p. 4

Native Here open extended hours, Friday, November 4-Saturday, November 12, 9 am-4 pm
The rest of November the nursery will be open our usual hours: Fridays, November 18, 25 open 9-noon, Saturdays, November 19, 26 open 10-1.

Field Trip p. 5

Sunday, November 13, 9:30 am, Sausal Creek/Dimond Park

Native Plant Restoration Team p. 4

November restoration work party, Saturday, November 19th, 9:00 am, Cape ivy removal at Sausal Creek headwaters

CNPS Anniversary Party (see insert)

Friday, December 2, 7:30 to 10:30 pm, Brazilian Room, Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. See insert for details.

CNPS Chapter Council Meeting p. 3

Chapter Council Meeting and annual banquet, Saturday, December 3, Faculty Club, University of California at Berkeley campus

MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Baskets and cordage in a sedge bed. Photograph and handiwork by Charles Kennard.

Traditional Uses of North Bay Plants

Speaker: Charles Kennard

Wednesday, November 16, 2005, 7:30 pm

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

Many appreciate the beauty and diversity of plants in our local parks and wildlands, but few know much about their historical and current usefulness to people. This month's speaker, photographer and naturalist Charles Kennard, will present a slide show on native and introduced plants and their uses for food, medicine, baskets, cordage, and boat-building. He will show a wide variety of plants in their natural habitats and discuss their gathering, preparation, and uses, mainly following central California Indian practices but also including some European techniques. Most artifacts depicted will be his own handiwork.

A professional photographer for many years, Charlie combined this skill with an interest in local history for his book *San Francisco Bay Area Landmarks: Reflections of Four Centuries*. During the past ten years he has taken workshops and received hands-on training in habitat restoration through the Golden Gate National Park Conservancy and other organizations, while he also developed a fascination for local botany and botanical photography. Since 1988 he has been attending classes in traditional California Indian skills through the Miwok Archeological Preserve of Marin and other groups, and is self-taught

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in European basketry techniques. He is on the board of Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed in Marin County, being active in the areas of public education and habitat restoration.

East Bay CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting will take place in the Garden Room of the Orinda Public Library at 24 Orinda Way (in Orinda Village). The Garden Room is on the second floor of the building, accessible by stairs or an elevator. The Garden Room will open at 7:00 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Refreshments will be served after the presentation. Please contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016 or rosacalifornica@earthlink.net, if you have any questions.

Directions to Orinda Public Library at 24 Orinda Way: From the west, take Highway 24 to the Orinda/Moraga

exit. At the end of the offramp, 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 Highway 24 to the Orinda exit. Follow the ramp to Orinda Village. Turn right on Santa Maria Way (the first signal) and left on Orinda Way. Once on Orinda Way, go 1 short block to the parking lot on the southeast side of the new 2-story building on your right. There is additional free parking beneath the building as well as on the street. From BART (4 blocks): Exit the Orinda station, turn right and cross a pedestrian bridge, then cross a second pedestrian bridge on the left. Go 1 short block on the sidewalk to the third pedestrian bridge. Go 2 blocks on Orinda Way to the Orinda Library.

MARY BOWERMAN

In Memory of Mary Bowerman

A brief glance at Mount Diablo evokes a sense of the past when sleepy pastoral valleys, fields of wildflowers, oaks and scrublands protected its flanks. And while some of those sentinel plant communities remain, many are now gone. These living communities likely recall a young woman named Mary Bowerman who attentively recorded plant names, associates and living arrangements in order to preserve the natural history of Mount Diablo. Mary's 1944 *The Flowering Plants and Ferns of Mount Diablo, California*, guided by Willis Linn Jepson, is an invaluable snapshot and cross section of what the flora east of San Francisco Bay once was; this seminal work also recorded ecological information on each species. Her efforts both raised the botanical bar and provided a new model and way of thinking about plant species and their interrelationships. Mary was truly the matriarch of East Bay botany, and subsequent generations of botanists have been held to the highest standards thanks to her achievements.

Mary was much more than an outstanding field botanist; she was also a tireless conservationist and champion of preserving Mount Diablo's lands. We of the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society lament the loss of Mary Bowerman and are forever indebted to her for her contributions to East Bay floristics, plant ecology and land preservation. Her pioneering spirit and tremendous accomplishments should inspire all of us to look toward the future for

innovative ways to advance plant science and conservation.

Mary was a member of the East Bay Chapter and a Fellow of the California Native Plant Society, which published the 2002 edition of her *Flowering Plants and Ferns of Mount Diablo*, co-authored by Barbara Ertter. Following in her footsteps to expand knowledge of East Bay flora and recognize its botanical inhabitants, CNPS has also published Ertter's 1997 *Annotated Checklist of the East Bay Flora* and Dianne Lake's 2004 *Rare, Unusual and Significant Plants of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties*, Seventh Edition. These three works are essential in undertaking plant conservation as they provide ecological and distributional information of common and sensitive plant species here in the East Bay. As development pressure mounts, conservationists with the East Bay Chapter of the CNPS applaud and relish these works and the woman who inspires us all. Through her modest senior project, Mary Bowerman set a fine example and motivated us to attempt to walk in her footsteps as field botanists, academics, conservationists and visionaries.

Thank you, Mary Bowerman, for your support and guiding light, you will be missed but never forgotten.

East Bay Chapter
California Native Plant Society

PLANT SALE ACTIVITIES



As we finished closing up after our October sale at Merritt College, and I stepped out of my job as Plant Sale Chairman, I looked back on 15 years of a marvelous relationship with native plants and the gardeners who grow them.

My thanks go out to the loyal volunteers who grew the plants year-round, the helpers who worked our sales, and the customers who introduced our plants into their gardens.

With a lot of hard work ahead, the Chapter Board members will eventually acquire a new nursery site and develop it for propagation and sales. CNPS members will be kept informed, through the *Bay Leaf*, or may contact Board members directly to be involved.

Gardeners looking for natives need go no further than Native Here, or the Regional Parks Botanic Garden in Tilden and UC Botanical Garden sales.

Shirley McPheeters

CNPS CHAPTER COUNCIL MEETING

Chapter Council Meeting and Annual banquet Saturday December 3

The CNPS Chapter Council meeting and annual banquet will be held Saturday, December 3, at the Faculty Club at the University of California at Berkeley campus. The meeting theme will be Horticulture and Education. Highlights of the banquet will include honoring all of the fellows of the California Native Plant Society.

The speaker at the evening banquet will be Dr. Thomas Bruns, Professor in the Department of Plant and Microbial Biology at the University of California, Berkeley.

The topic will be "Dispersal and establishment strategies of ectomycorrhizal fungi in post-fire California forests". Dr. Bruns is a world expert on fungal ecology and has studied the interaction of plants and fungi at Point Reyes before and after the Mount Vision fire.

All chapter members, family and friends are welcome. To reserve a place, contact the CNPS state office at 916-447-2677. Call as soon as you know you can go as sometimes the banquet sells out. The cost is usually under \$25 each.

GIFT FOR NATIVE PLANT ENTHUSIASTS

Cachuma Press is publishing another of their splendid books about California native plants. This one is about gardening with natives, and is titled *California Native Plants for the Garden*. The authors are Carol Bornstein from Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, Bart O'Brien from Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, and David Fross of Native Sons Wholesale Nursery. Hardcover copies will be \$37.95 each, and paperbacks will be \$27.95. The book will be issued on December 5.

I will be able to place an order for copies for East Bay Chapter members before the holidays, but we will not have a general membership meeting in December.

If you wish to place an order with me for a copy, or for a gift copy, I think we will be able to get them by mid-December, in time for the holidays. I would be unable to mail your copy to you, but it would be available the morning of Saturday, December 17th, at my house for you to pick up.

To order (no later than the 19th of November) please send a check for your book(s), made out to CNPS, c/o Elly Bade, 2699 Shasta Road, Berkeley, CA 94708. The retail price of the book includes the sales tax. Please include your name, address, and telephone number so that I can contact you in case the books have not been received. If they are not delivered in December, your copy(s) will be available at the membership meeting in January 2006.

Elly Bade

As in old times they who dwelt on the heath remote from towns were backward to adopt the doctrines which prevailed there, and were therefore called heathen in a bad sense, so we dwellers in the huckleberry pastures, which are our heath lands, are slow to adopt the notions of large towns and cities and may perchance be nicknamed huckleberry people.

Henry David Thoreau, from the *Journal* (December 30, 1860)

WAYNE RODERICK LECTURES

The Wayne Roderick Lectures, a series that honors that famed and beloved friend of CNPS and former director of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, are held most Saturday mornings at 10:30 am, November through February. The Garden is located at the intersection of Wildcat Canyon Road and South Park Drive in the middle of Tilden Regional Park. (South Park Drive is closed from November through March.) The lectures are free of charge. Free parking is available at the Camp Oaks parking lot across from the Garden's main entrance, but also along the Brazil Lawn, whence guests may enter the Garden at the west gate. Seating is limited, so it is advisable to arrive a little early and save a seat, then enjoy the garden until lecture time.

510-841-8732

bgarden@ebparks.org

www.nativeplants.org

Saturdays

November 5 *Twenty-five years of botanizing the Fort Bragg coast of Mendocino County*—Steve Edwards

November 12 *City Bees and their plants in California*—Gordon Frankie and Natasha Lanni

November 19 *Plant lovers as watchdogs and whistle blowers: invasive plant detection in the hands of trained amateurs—we can help*—Bob Case

November 26 *Wildflowers as John Muir described them: Bear Valley and Walker Ridge, Colusa and Lake counties*—Steve Edwards

December 3 *Serpentine soils and plant communities from Alaska to Baja*—Earl Alexander

December 10 *Botany of the northern Sierra from Lakes Basin to the Feather River country*—Steve Edwards

December 17 *Anza-Borrego Desert State Park: a feast of flora and fauna*—Larry Albers

NATIVE HERE

Native Here Nursery is open **extended hours**, Friday, November 4 through Saturday, November 12, 9 am-4 pm. The rest of November the nursery will be open our usual hours: Fridays, November 18, 25 open 9-noon. Saturdays, November 19, 26 open 10-1.

We'll be open extended hours this month to take advantage of optimal planting time. From Friday November 4 to Saturday November 12 we will be open from 9 am to 4 pm. Come get plants for your planting projects.

We'll have oaks, wild roses, ninebark, California fescue, dogwood, hop trees (small, deciduous chaparral tree) from Mt. Diablo, sedges and rushes, coffeeberries, irises, and much more. We'll have the parking lot near the bottom gate open for extra parking.

If you would like to help us during these extended hours, we need people to sign up for shifts from 9-12:30 and 12:30-4. Email Charli at charlid@pacbell.net or stop by the nursery if you can help.

The rest of the month volunteers are welcome to help transplant, weed, water, and sow seeds. We are located in Tilden Park at 101 Golf Course Drive (across the street from the entrance to the Tilden Golf Course), 510-549-0211.

Margot Cunningham, Native Here Nursery

NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION TEAM

Restoration work party, Saturday, November 19th, 9:00 am

Cape ivy removal at Sausal Creek headwaters

November will find us once again joining Friends of Sausal Creek at Joaquin Miller Park to carry on with the theme of "stick with it until it is done" regarding the removal of an expansive infestation of cape ivy. It is rewarding to see this problem shrink with each visit. We can certainly use your help in the ongoing effort to remove this invasive plant completely so that a native planting can be installed in its place. The site is in a heavily used public area, so the hard work will not go unnoticed.

Directions

1) From Highway 13 take the Joaquin Miller exit and turn east up the hill.

2) Go 3/4 mile up the hill, look for Sanborn Road on your left. This is easiest to find by looking for the sign in the median of the road that says "Native Plant Nursery". The road is labeled Sanborn to the left and Robinson to the right. (Note that Sanborn Road loops and connects to Lincoln further below but is not a real road entrance.)

3) Park along Joaquin Miller near Sanborn and walk to the northeast corner (up hill left) of the intersection. There you will see a locked yellow fire gate.

4) The Cape ivy infestation is down the fire road and just over the bridge.

Restoration work party: Saturday December 3, 9:00 am

French broom removal: Skyline Gate Staging Area

Ever wonder what one person can really do to make a difference? Come see a rewarding example at our December work party in the Oakland hills.

It started with a CNPS member being so fed up with seeing so much French broom along her favorite local dog walk that she simply started pulling the plant during her time off. Pulling alone for some time, one day another dog walker passed by and was bewildered at what she was doing . . . and then joined her in the effort!

A request to our restoration team for help led to a work party that was so successful that from it evolved an ongoing monthly effort (taking place the 1st Saturday of every month) that continues to this day. The transformation of this area has been dramatic, and the Park staff, who have been enlisted to help, are thrilled with the results.

This kind of evolution from one person's vision to an ongoing stewardship group is a great model for others to follow. Please join us December 3rd and see for

yourself what one person can do to help make things better.

We'll be meeting at the Skyline Gate Staging Area parking lot at 9:00 am. To reach the work site, take the trail to your left, the East Ridge Trail to the Eucalyptus Trail. Go right on the Eucalyptus Trail. It is a bit of a hike (a little over half a mile). Where the Phillips and Eucalyptus Trails converge is the site. There are maps at the bulletin board in the parking lot.

Directions: Take Highway 13 to the Park Boulevard. Go east to the first intersection: Mountain Boulevard. Left onto Mountain a short distance to Snake Road, right on Snake (uphill) straight through onto Shepard's Canyon. Take Shepard's Canyon all the way to Skyline Boulevard. Right on Skyline a short distance to the Skyline Gate Staging Area. If you frequent Sibley and Huckleberry Preserves, Skyline is the next major staging area beyond them going southeast.

For further information contact Greg Wolford at 510-848-6489 or at californica@mac.com.

PARTY ORGANIZERS NEEDED

Helpers needed for the Anniversary Party December 2

We are planning a big party (see invitation in this Bay Leaf) and need helpers. We'll need help from the Willis Jepson Chapter and the East Bay Chapter. Many hands make light work.

We will assign people to one-hour shifts, so that all will be able to join the party.

Please contact Sue Rosenthal at rosacalifornica@earthlink.net or 510-496-6016 to volunteer or for information. Thank you!

Jobs for Party

- Parking directors
- Drink chilling prior to the party and delivery to party
- Decorations
- Silent auction tables set-up
- Persons to receive auction items
- Persons to display auction items
- Monitors to announce opening and closing of auction tables
- Cashier to accept entry payment of \$10 from guests
- Cashier to sell drink tickets
- Cashier to release silent and live auction purchases
- CNPS membership table
- Clean-up

More about Donations

If you are unable to attend the anniversary party December 2 and wish to donate goods or services, we would be grateful indeed. Please contact Sue Rosenthal to make arrangements—see contact information above.

Delia Taylor

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday November 13, 9:30 am, Sausal Creek/Dimond Park

Join the Friends of Sausal Creek to view riparian vegetation planted from their nursery or uncovered by consistent removal of invasive exotics. We will meet creek-side by the Dimond Park Tot Lot and hike upstream along the creek through various restoration sites and habitats and reemerging volunteer flora. You may bring your kids, but be on the lookout for occasional poison oak or a dog off leash. For more information about the site and photos, see www.sausalcreek.org.

Directions: from 580, take the Park Boulevard exit and go east under the freeway. Shortly past the Glenview shopping district, take a right on El Centro. Park in the Dimond Park parking lot and go down the stairs to the native plant demonstration garden and Tot Lot. By mass transit: take AC Transit #53 from Fruitvale BART and get off at MacArthur Boulevard. Walk one

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FIELD TRIPS

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block north on MacArthur to Dimond, turn right onto Dimond, and walk about 2 1/2 blocks to Dimond Park.

Janet Gawthrop

VEGETATION WORKSHOP

Please join the California Native Plant Society (CNPS), the California Department of Fish and Game, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) and Upland Habitat Goals for a public vegetation and habitat workshop on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 15-16, 2005. The meeting will be held at Rancho San Antonio Preserve in Santa Clara County. See the East Bay Chapter web page for the announcement and registration form.



Clematis lingusticifolia with sun shining on seedpods Photo by Jance Bray

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California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
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Berkeley CA 94705

Chapter web site
www.ebcnps.org

**Recorded Chapter
Information**
510-464-4977

State CNPS web site
www.cnps.org

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

I wish to affiliate with:

East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

Other _____

E-mail _____

(optional)

Membership category:

Student, Retired, Limited income, \$20

Individual, Library, \$35

Household, Family, or Group, \$45

Supporting, \$75

Plant lover, \$100

Patron, \$250

Benefactor, \$500

Mariposa Lily, \$1000

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

**East Bay Chapter, California Native Plant Society
Ballot for Chapter Officers to take office January, 2006**

Vote for one for each office.

<p>President and Delegate to Chapter Council Chairs chapter board and membership meetings, Assures that appropriate committees and coordinators perform the chapter's work.</p>	Elaine Worthington-Jackson	
<p>Vice President and Alternate Delegate to Council Assists and acts as back-up to the president. Keeps an inventory of chapter equipment.</p>	Laura Baker	
<p>Treasurer Keeps the chapter financial records, makes disbursements as required. Serves on budget committee.</p>	Holly Forbes	
<p>Recording Secretary Takes, edits and distributes minutes of board meetings. Maintains a file of minutes and related documents.</p>	Barbara Malloch Leitner	
<p>Corresponding Secretary Maintains a file of chapter correspondence. Is responsible for receiving and answering correspondence, and for sending official letters from the chapter.</p>	George McRae	

Why vote in an uncontested election? The CNPS members who have agreed to serve as officers deserve the support of the membership. These are volunteer positions requiring dedication and a considerable amount of time.

Please vote and send your ballot to PO Box 5597, Elmwood Station, Berkeley, CA 94705.

**California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley CA 94705**

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**Time Value
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