November 2004

The Bay Leaf

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Plant Sale Activities, p. 3
Tuesdays, November 2, 9, 16, 30, 9 a.m. to noon, Merritt College, 1255 Campus Drive, Oakland, off Redwood Road

Board of Directors' Meeting, Wednesday, November 3, 7:30 pm, home of Sandy McCoy, 1311 Bay View Place, Berkeley

Native Here Nursery, p. 4
Fridays, November 5, 12,19, 26, Native Here Nursery open 9-noon
Saturdays, November 6, 13, 20, 27, nursery open 10-1

Field Trips, p. 2
Sunday, November 14, 2 pm, field trip to San Bruno Mountain
Saturday, November 20, 10 am, field trip to Lake Chabot

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Speaker: Pamela C. Muick, Ph.D.
Loving California's Oaks (with a special focus on Bay Area oaks)

Wednesday, November 17, 2004, 7:30 pm
Conference Center, University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley (directions below)

This month we are very fortunate to have as our speaker Pamela C. Muick, Executive Director of the California Native Plant Society. Pam's presentation will focus on the common oak trees of the Bay Area. She will discuss the distribution of these oaks in California, how to identify them without a hand lens, a brief natural history of each species, and how they are affected by land use and management practices.

Prior to her position at CNPS, Pam served as the Executive Director of Solano Land Trust for six years, where she was responsible for raising more than $7 million and protecting over 4,000 acres of farmland and 4,000 acres of open space, including King Ranch, Jepson Prairie, and Lynch Canyon. Pam developed the first comprehensive countywide plan for farmland protection in Solano County.

Before joining the land trust, Pam was actively engaged in land management, particularly of California's oak habitats, for over twenty years. She designed and implemented habitat restoration projects in San Joaquin, Sonoma, and Monterey counties. On these and other projects she has collaborated with a broad spectrum of public and private entities.

From 1992 to 1994, Pam worked with the US Agency for International Development in Washington, DC on biodiversity issues in Asia as an American Association for the Advancement of Science fellow. This prestigious fellowship included travel assignments in Nepal, Pakistan, and Thailand.

Based on her years of experience in oak habitats, Pam originated the idea for the book *Oaks of California*, which she co-authored. Copies of this book will be available for purchase at the meeting. Pam also was an editor of *The Ecological City: Preserving and Restoring Urban Biodiversity*, and has written numerous articles. Pam has taught at San Francisco State University, UC Berkeley, and UC Extension. Pam received masters and doctoral degrees from UC Berkeley in Forestry and Wildland Resource Policy and Management, based on research on oak regeneration and restoration.

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MEMBERSHIP MEETING

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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 in Berkeley. The Garden gate will open at 7:00 pm; the meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. Please contact Sue Rosenthal, 510-496-6016 or rosacaliforn ica@earthlink.net, if you have any questions.

Upcoming Programs

December, 2004: No meeting (happy holidays!)

Wednesday, January 26, 2005, 7:30 pm: Bob Case, "6000 Miles in the Northern Rockies: Roadside Wildflowers and Invasive Threats"

Sue Rosenthal

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, November 14, 2 pm, **field trip to San Bruno Mountain**
David Margolies will lead a walk along the ridge at the top of San Bruno Mountain, in San Mateo County. The mild climate caused by the nearness of the ocean means that some things will likely be in bloom. Even if not, there are plenty of shrubs and other unusual plants of interest. Meet in the parking lot by the radio transmitters at the summit, where the walk begins.

Directions: From the Bay Bridge, go on Highway 101 south, and then take the Cow Palace exit, which goes to Bayshore Boulevard. Turn right onto Bayshore Boulevard and stay on it for a fair distance, passing out of San Francisco and Geneva and Main streets all the way to Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, a major intersection with traffic lights. Turn west (right, the only way) onto Guadalupe Canyon Parkway toward the mountain and go to the park entrance, a right turn. Stop at the pay station, because you must pay the parking fee even if no staff is on duty. Do not park in the lot near the pay station. Instead, proceed past the lot and through the tunnel under Guadalupe Canyon Parkway. Follow the road to the summit. Park in the lot there. Contact David Margolies at 510-654-0283 or e-mail to divaricatum@aol.com for further information.

Saturday, November 20, 10 am, field trip to **Lake Chabot**
Join Barbara Ertter for a hike around Lake Chabot, with a special focus on California's "other flora", i.e., the wetland plants that can be found in the water, on receding shorelines, and in surrounding marshes. For those willing to risk muddy shoes, a whole new world of botanizing opens up, including otherwise infrequently encountered families ranging from *Alismataceae* to *Elatinaceae* to *Zannichelliaceae*, We may or may not hike the full loop trail; bring drinking water and lunch in any event.

Meet at 10 am in the Marina parking area off of Fairmont Ridge Road, You can park in the parking area for a fee, or along Fairmont Ridge Road for free. From Berkeley, Oakland, and other points north, exit 580 southbound at the Fairmont Drive/150th Ave. exit. Go east (uphill) on Fairmount Drive to the ridge at the top and turn left to enter the Marina parking lot. Directions and more information on Anthony Chabot Regional Park are available on the park's web site at http://www.ebparks.org/parks/anchabot.htm.

Janet Gawthrop

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

It is the time of year when we hold elections. The nominating committee members this year are Charli Danielsen and Laura Baker.

We are interested in finding members who would like to get more involved in the chapter, not just to fill board positions, but also to join and support committees chaired by board members. Some committees regularly invite your participation in the *Bay Leaf*, but others are more behind the scenes. There might be tasks that no one is currently working on because the chapter board possibly has not thought of it, that you might like to take on.

Botany skills are a necessary asset only for some of the work of the chapter. Skilled writers are needed for a number of tasks, such as publicizing our work, as well as for helping draft letters or minutes. Photographer's work is welcome to support the plant sale, native here, conservation, education, plant science, etc.

Do you like to sell things? We need people selling posters, selling books, helping to sell plants with the plant sale committee or at Native Here. Transporting

books and posters is another task that could use more help.

Do you enjoy throwing parties (well, not really parties, but how do you feel about organizing lectures and workshops)? Do you have accounting or computer skills? Your assistance would be welcome. Feel free to contact either of us, or our president, Joe Willingham. The leadership of the East Bay Chapter of CNPS is by no means a "closed club". We welcome your participation. See the roster for contact information.

Charli Danielsen

PLANT SALE ACTIVITIES

Many thanks to all the folks who worked on the Plant Sale to put it together and during the sale to assist the customers.

The response to our plants and bulbs was very gratifying. The funds raised will enable our chapter to locally continue its work in native plant preservation: habitat protection, conservation, plant surveys, education, scholarships, and publications.

Work sessions on Tuesday mornings have resumed, and during them, plants remaining from the sale will be sold through February. We still have numerous selections available. Call for specifics (925-376-4095) or come up and visit.

The nursery will also be open on Saturday morning, November 20, 10:00-12:00.

Tuesdays
November 2, 9, 16, 30
9 a.m. to noon
Merritt College, Oakland
Landscape Horticulture

About those new plants . . .

Our garden soils may still be warm, and that makes for good planting time – but if the fall rains are late or fail, do not let the soil dry out. Before your natives get their roots down and become established (and winter rains soak in and take over) they need to be watered by you.

Many will continue to need regular water through a few summers too. Much will depend on your soil, slope, exposure, etc. This is true for all plants, native or not, and comes down to getting acquainted with what you have.

Since our chapter does not have a discussion group to address horticultural concerns, talk to experienced gardeners among the members. One contact is our Tuesday propagation group at the nursery. Others are the volunteers in Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Tilden Park, Thursday mornings, and our own Native Here Nursery in Tilden.

Shirley McPheeters

CONSERVATION

The presence of our Conservation Analyst is increasing the effectiveness of the chapter's conservation outreach. Staff members of other conservation organizations and planning agencies are talking freely with her, and CNPS is being included in more conservation discussions than we have been for some time.

Contributions have been generous. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the fund. Those who have not yet done so may send a check to CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816. Be sure to indicate that it is for the East Bay Conservation Analyst Fund.

Read on to learn all that our Conservation Analyst is doing to protect the East Bay's native plants.

Charli Danielsen

Conservation Analyst's Monthly Report

After making the last of my initial contacts with individuals and organizations associated with plant conservation and land use planning in the East Bay, I delved into several conservation issues that face the East Bay Chapter. Early in the month, Sue Bainbridge informed the conservation committee that the botanically significant area Springtown is slated for potentially "significant impact" in the Livermore Intensive Agriculture Expansion Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). A large portion of my time has been devoted to following the progress on this planning document and informing other conservationists and Department of Fish and Game staff of the potential impacts. I have also been following Concord's Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a DEIR by attending scoping meetings and drafting a comment letter in response to the NOP. Carnegie Off Highway Vehicle Expansion and Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan are also on my radar screen, with the next opportunity to comment in late October. Further, I am continually checking with each city planning office to see if any new development proposals come up.

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CONSERVATION

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Working with the East Bay Chapter suits me well since I can use the interdisciplinary approach that I was taught in school. I enjoy coordinating my love and knowledge of science and of plants with my enthusiasm for environmental advocacy.

Jessica Olson

NATIVE HERE

Fridays, November 5, 12,19, 26, Native Here Nursery open 9-noon.
Saturdays, November 6, 13, 20, 27, nursery open 10-1

Thanks to the dedicated collectors of local seeds, many plants are for sale at the nursery now, and many seeds are being sown to provide next year's plants.

If the rains have cooperated, bulb plants will be peeking out of the soil and ready for purchase this month. Some of the herbaceous perennials will also be revitalized. I like to plant in November and keep planting into early spring. Come in and shop whenever the nursery is open.

Volunteers are welcome. Someone will be happy to "train" you on Friday and Saturday mornings. There is no need to call ahead or wait for a phone invitation. Just show up ready to work at 101 Golf Course Drive in Tilden Park.

Charli Danielsen

JEPSON HERBARIUM

Jepson Herbarium Weekend Workshops in 2004-2005

The Friends of the Jepson Herbarium are pleased to present a broad range of topics for this year's weekend workshop series. For more information on the workshops, or to register, please consult our web page at http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/jepwkshp.html or phone Cynthia Perrine, Public Programs Coordinator at the Jepson Herbarium, 510-643-7008.

Nov 13-14,2004: *Introduction to Medicinal Fungi and Herbs*; Dec 4-5,2004: *Plant Evolution and Diversity*; Dec 11,2004: *Reconstructing the Tree of Life*; Jan 29-30: *Photoshop for Botanical Photographers*; Feb 5: *Diversity and Ecology in the Archaea*; Feb 26: *What Happened to "Plants"?*; Mar 12-13: *Introduction to Morphology and ID of Flowering Plants*; Mar 19-20: *Basics of Botanical Illustration*; Mar 26-27: *Introduction to Digital Photography*; April 2-3 and April 9-11: *Fifty Plant Families in the Field*; April 23: *Ferns and Flowering Plants*; April 21-24: *Flora of San Diego County*; April 28-May 1: *Painting Coastal Wildflowers*; May 6-8: *Boraginaceae*; May 7-8: *Poaceae*; May 12-15: *Flora of Eureka Dunes and Inyo Mts*; June 2-5: *Spring Mts. (Nevada) Flora II*; June 3-5: *Pygmy and Redwood Forest Ecology*; June 17-19: *Concepts in Applied Wetland Restoration*; June 25-26: *Thistles*; June 24-26: *Seaweeds*; July 7-10: *Plants of Bear Basin Butte Area*; July 15-17: *Salix*; July 21-24: *Flora of the Convict Lake Region*; July 28-31: *Sierra Nevada Plants*; Aug 20-21: *Aquatic Plants*; Aug 27-28: *Compositae*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Many thanks to East Bay Chapter member Tom Kelly for the picture of the Restoration Team at work that appeared in our September issue.

He who knows what sweets and virtues are in the ground, the waters, the plants, the heavens, and how to come at these enchantments, is the rich and royal man.
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882), *Essays, Second Series*, 1844

Civilization began around wetlands; today's civilization has every reason to leave them wet and wild.
Edward Maltby, *Waterlogged Wealth*, 1986

In this light, my spirit saw through all things and into all creatures, and I recognized God in grass and plants.
Jacob Boehme (1575-1624)

A root, a stem, a leaf, some means of capturing sunlight and air and making food—in sum, a plant. The green substance of this earth, the chlorophyll, is all summed up in the plants. Without them we perish, all of us who are flesh and blood.
Hal Borland (1900-1978), *Our Natural World*, 1969

A plant is like a self-willed man, out of whom we can obtain all which we desire, if we will only treat him his own way.
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

THE WAYNE RODERICK LECTURES
WINTER 2004 - 2005

Regional Parks Botanic Garden
Wildcat Canyon Road and South Park Drive (South Park Drive **is closed** Nov.-March)
in Tilden Park, Berkeley
(510) 841-8732 E-mail Address: bgarden@ebparks.org www.nativeplants.org

Saturday Mornings 10:30
Free to the Public

Notice: Seating is limited. To be sure of a seat, come early and save a chair.

Saturdays

2004

NOVEMBER

6 Botanical forays in the northern Sierra of Nevada and Sierra counties—Steve Edwards
13 A wildflower transect of Idaho and Montana—Bob Case
20 Botanizing the Drakensburg Mountains of South Africa—Ted Kipping

DECEMBER

4 Tangible memories--a history of California gardens—Dr. Judith Taylor
11 Asclepias assignation: hunting California's wild milkweeds—Gene Thomas
18 Crossing the Swiss Alps on hands and knees—Ted Kipping

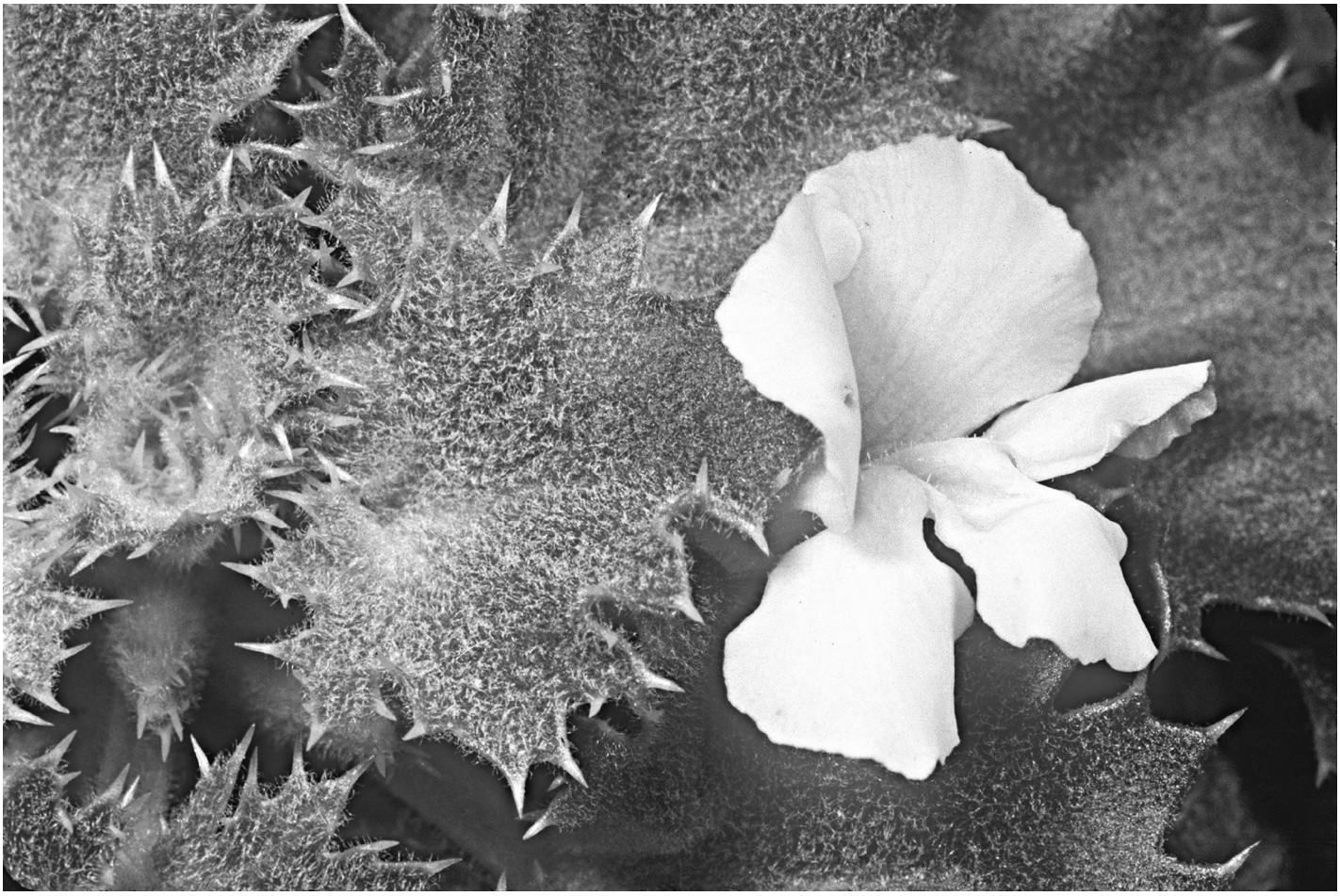
2005

JANUARY

8 Another year on the Oat Hill Mine Trail and studies of endemism in the region—Dick O'Donnell
15 Botanical gems of Mineral King—Larry Abers
22 Botanical high points in the mountains of the eastern Mohave—John Game
29 Paleobotany of California—Steve Edwards

FEBRUARY

5 Ecology and conservation of vernal pools—Carol Witham
12 Reconnaissance botany and volcanology of the Clear Lake region, Lake County—Steve Edwards
19 In search of the elusive Trailing Bearberry—Bert Johnson
26 Rare plants of Marin County—Doreen Smith



Rock lady, *Maurandya petrophila*, is one of California's quintessential rare plants. Confined to Inyo County, it is a desert plant known only from cliffs in a few sites in the Mountains to the east of Death Valley. Unlike other species of *Maurandya*, which are mostly vines, *M. petrophila* emerges from rock cracks to form distinctive rosettes of toothed leaves flat against the cliff face, with occasional white two-lipped flowers marked with yellow in the throat, as seen here from Titus Canyon in April of 2004. *Maurandya* is a genus in the Scrophulariaceae, with one other species in California and several in Mexico.

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 online

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

ELECTRONIC BAY LEAF

The East Bay Chapter would like know if you would prefer to receive electronic notification of the posting of the *Bay Leaf* to the chapter web site instead of receiving a paper copy through the mail.

There are two advantages to receiving electronic notification: 1) you have access to the latest *Bay Leaf* more quickly and 2) the chapter saves money on printing and postage.

The *Bay Leaf* is available on the chapter web site as a PDF (portable document format) document, which you can print on your personal printer in whole or in part if you wish.

If you would like to receive electronic notification of the posting of each *Bay Leaf*, and not get the mailed paper *Bay Leaf*, please send an e-mail message to Holly Forbes at hforbes@berkeley.edu with RECEIVE E-NOTIFICATION BAY LEAF in the subject line, and your name in the body of the e-mail message, so we can modify our data base accordingly.

Holly Forbes

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