



October 2006

The Bay Leaf

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

EAST BAY CHAPTER CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

NATIVE PLANT FAIR

Saturday October 28 10 am – 3 pm

Sunday October 29 12 pm – 3 pm

at Native Here Nursery, 101 Golf Course Dr., Tilden Park, Berkeley



Epilobium septentrionale 'Select Mattole.'

Special selection of favorite plants, bulbs, and seeds from around the state plus thousands of beautiful plants native to Alameda and Contra Costa Counties • Free talks by experts on many aspects of gardening with native plants • Beautiful garden-themed art and crafts for sale • Extensive selection of books on California botany and horticulture • Fun activities for children

Support the chapter and enjoy a weekend celebrating California's flora

Schedule of Talks

Saturday, October 28

10:30 a.m.	Greg Wolford	Weeds and You
11:15 p.m.	Amanda Jorgenson	Current Status and Perspectives of CNPS
12:00 p.m.	Alan Bade	Growing California Native Bulbs
12:45 p.m.	Speaker TBA	Gardening For Wildlife
1:30 p.m.	Charli Danielsen	Why Garden with Local Natives?
2:15 p.m.	David Bigham	Designing a Garden with Native Plants

Sunday, October 29

12:30 p.m.	Lech Naumovich	Conserving the East Bay's Unique Flora
1:15 p.m.	Susan Schwartz	Growing Natives on Urban Creek Banks
2:00 p.m.	David Amme	Gardening with Native Grasses

Please bring boxes for carrying your plant purchases • If it rains, we'll hold the plant sale without talks or vendors
For more info. visit www.ebcnps.org or contact Sue Rosenthal at rosacalifornica@earthlink.net or 510-496-6016
Transit info: AC Transit #65 to Shasta/Grizzly Pk Blvd or #67 to Brazil Bldg • schedules at transit.511.org or call 511

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board of Directors meeting

Wednesday, October 4, home of Barbara Leitner, 2 Parkway Court, Orinda

Native Here p. 5

Fridays, October 6, 13, 20, 27 Native Here Nursery open 9 am-noon

Saturdays, October 7, 14, 21 nursery open 10 am-1 pm

Native Plant Restoration Team p. 8

October Work Party, Saturday, October 14, 9:30 am-12:30 pm, Cape ivy removal, Joaquin Miller Park, Oakland

Membership Meeting see below

Wednesday, October 25, 2006, 7:30 pm, Auditorium, Orinda Public Library, Orinda

Native Plant Fair p. 1

Saturday, October 28, 10 am-3 pm, Sunday October 29, noon-3 pm

Field Trip p. 4

Saturday, November 11 at 1:00 pm, field trip to **San Bruno Mountain** (co-sponsored by Yerba Buena chapter)

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wildflowers of Anza Borrego State Park: A Photographic Extravaganza

Speaker: **Terry Sozanski**

Wednesday, October 25, 2006, 7:30 pm

Auditorium, Orinda Public Library, Orinda

Covering over 600,000 acres of southeastern California, Anza-Borrego Desert State Park encompasses some of the most diverse desert landscape in the world. Included within its boundaries are dry lake beds, sandstone canyons, granite mountains, palm groves fed by year-round springs, and more than six hundred kinds of desert plants. After the winter rains, many of these plants burst into bloom, sometimes carpeting the desert floor with color, sometimes revealing their beauty only to those who know where to look.

Terry Sozanski, our speaker this month, has visited and photographed Anza Borrego in the spring over a period of ten years. Through the medium of his outstanding photographs, Terry will take us with him to see the beautiful wildflowers and landscapes of this spectacular desert in springtime.

Terry Sozanski grew up in Sydney, Australia. After graduating from Sydney University, he worked as a chemist before embarking on a world journey in 1975. He settled in Marin County and has lived there since 1981, working as a painting contractor. His keen interest in horticulture led him to direct his prodigious photographic talent, honed over more than 25 years, toward plant and landscape photography.

East Bay CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting will take place in the Auditorium of the Orinda Public Library at 24 Orinda Way (in Orinda Village). The Auditorium is on the second floor of the building, accessible by stairs or an elevator. The Auditorium 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 off ramp, 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.

Upcoming Programs:

November 15: Orinda Library Garden Room
Speaker: Debbie Viess, *Edible and Poisonous Mushrooms of the San Francisco Bay Area*

January 25: Orinda Library Garden Room
Speaker: Nevin Smith, author of *Native Treasures*
February 28: Orinda Library Garden Room
Speaker TBA

March 28:
Speaker: Doris Sloan, author of *Geology of the San Francisco Bay Region*

LEE MCCAFFREE

Lee McCaffree joined the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society in 1997. She started volunteering as a plant propagator with Shirley McPheeters the following year. A botanical illustrator of distinction, she has created the chapter's poster for the annual Native Plant Sale for the past 8 years. Her specialty is water color. Lee resides and works in Orinda with her husband Chuck. They have 4 daughters and 8 grandchildren that are spread from coast to coast. As her husband's job moved the family around the globe every five years, Lee found that volunteering with children's activities was a way to meet people and develop organizational skills. She is an avid hiker, reader, and gardener. She is developing her garden under oaks with native plants.

One of her gardening projects is gradually removing ivy on her hillside and replacing it with *Ribes viburnifolium* to keep the bank from destabilizing. The Ribes are beginning to gain a foothold.

While living in London, England Lee started studying botanical art with Christabel King of Kew Gardens and Claire Dalby in Somerset, England. She received Silver Gilt Medals for showing her *Pinus* series and her *Plants in Peril* series at the 1992 and 1994 Royal Horticultural Society exhibitions in London. Her work is included in the collection of the Hunt Institute of Botanical Documentation and was shown at their 10th International Exhibition. Lee won Best of Show at the Northwest ASBA Exhibition in Portland, Oregon. Her

showings include juried exhibitions at Pacific Science Center, Seattle; Contemporary Art Center, Museum of Modern Art, New York; Longwood Gardens; Flinn Gallery, Greenwich, Connecticut; Horticultural Society of New York; Missouri, Chicago and Denver Botanic Gardens; Strybing Arboretum; New York State Museum; Johnson & Johnson Headquarters; Oakland Museum; Loveland Museum (Colorado); Filoli; and other venues.



Lee McCaffree (l.) with Christabel King at Yosemite

Lee is a Board member of the American Society of Botanical Artists. She is also an artist in the Florilegium Guild at Filoli Historic Gardens in Woodside, CA where she teaches botanical art classes. She also does private commission paintings. Much of her work concentrates on native plants. Lee uses her

art to increase the exposure of native plants so that they will be used more in landscaping. She enjoys helping students learn botanical art and successfully presenting all plants in a pleasing way.

Please contact her at the following addresses:

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Lncmccaffree@comcast.net

ABOUT MY PAINTING

A botanical illustrator must take the time to observe every aspect of the plant and its flowers, fruit, leaves, stems and roots. Details such as texture, color, shape and posture need to be recorded accurately. In the effort to make botanical illustration become fine art the precise, scientific details must be kept and good composition must be emphasized.

The painting process is long and getting the details accurate through sketches must be done. This is especially important when the plant cannot be removed from its habitat. There is a continual problem of the plant changing or finishing its cycle or even dying before the painting is complete. Painting is best done with live specimens.

The enjoyment of nature is the inspiration for my art. I love to be outdoors. The opportunity to observe and record seasonal colors, habitats, and the flora provides me endless pleasure. I am always looking at plants with a question in my mind about how to make a painting that is exciting. With my botanical

art I can pass on my enthusiasm for nature by painting the exquisite details of an observed plant. Through my work I hope that others gain a new perspective on plants and their wonders. I also try to pass this on to my students.

My painting procedure:

- A. Observe
- B. Sketch including color samples
- C. Draw plant portrait
- D. Transfer to watercolor paper if not done in step C
- E. Begin painting with light washes
- F. Add shading to give 3-D form
- G. Continue adding color layers
- H. Use dry brush painting for details
- I. Critically evaluate and make adjustments for clarity and variance.

Lee McCaffree

PLANT SALE ACTIVITIES



In late August, we were invited to meet with representatives of the City of Oakland and Dunsmuir House and Gardens, Inc. to discuss the feasibility of relocating our chapter's plant sale and growing grounds to the Dunsmuir Estate. The tone of the meeting was very positive and all agreed that the "grotto" area of the estate grounds would be a good

potential location for our nursery and sale. This is the site of one of the estate's three former greenhouses (all are long gone). It contains a charming historic building and an unusual "grotto" feature, as well as lots of space and a creekside setting. Our next step will be to make a more detailed proposal to the city about our site preparation and building plans, with the shared goal of a signed contract by the end of this year.

If you would like to see the site, you can walk on the Dunsmuir Estate grounds every Tuesday through Friday between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. The Estate is located at 2960 Peralta Oaks Court in Oakland. The walking entrance is through the driveway near the top of Peralta Oaks Court; parking is on the street. The grotto is near the south end of the Estate, on

the west side of the road. You can also take a virtual tour of the Estate at www.dunsmuir.org.

If you would like to know more or keep track of our progress on the Dunsmuir location electronically, you can do so at www.monocot.com/cnps, the web page Roy West has set up to provide current project information.

In the meantime, we're gearing up for our Native Plant Fair on October 28 and 29 (for details, see the announcement on page 1). We'll be working to get Native Here Nursery ready for the event and can use help there on Saturday mornings in the weeks before the sale, beginning at 9:00 am. We also need many volunteers for the day of the sale. If you have time to help in any way, please contact Elaine Jackson (elainejx@mindspring.com or 925-372-0687).

As always, feel free to contact me if you have questions or comments about the Native Plant Fair or about our plant sale in general: rosacalifornica@earthlink.net or 510-496-6016.

Sue Rosenthal

FIELD TRIP

Saturday November 11 at 1:00 pm, field trip to **San Bruno Mountain** (co-sponsored by Yerba Buena chapter)

Join Doug Allshouse and Jake Sigg to walk Saddle Trail and view the results of past restoration on the mountain. In October 2004, work began to remove more than 35 acres of gorse (*Ulea europaea*) in the state-owned saddle area of San Bruno Mountain State & County Park. Funds were provided by a Proposition 12 state grant, and work will cease by November 2008. We will be monitoring plants both good and bad that have moved into the areas where massive amounts of gorse were removed. The host plants of endangered Mission Blue butterfly (*Lupinus albifrons*) and of the endangered Callippe Silverspot butterfly (*Viola pedunculata*) will be present, and we'll discuss efforts to keep the gorse at bay in several of those areas. We'll also visit the Colma Creek restoration site originally started by the Yerba Buena chapter and now continued by the Watershed Project. We will see a Franciscan coastal sage scrub community on the Saddle Trail, as well as a disturbed freshwater marsh community on the Bog Trail. Wear

shoes that you don't mind getting muddy. The terrain will be mostly flat or descending. Meet in the main parking lot (**not** the summit) of San Bruno Mountain, just past the rangers' kiosk. For those who want to rip gorse, meet Joe Cannon's work party before the hike at 10:00 am. For details, call Doug Allshouse at 415-584-5114 or e-mail to dougsr@rcn.com.

Directions: From the Bay Bridge go south on 101 after entering San Francisco, and then exit 101 at the Third Street exit marked for Cow Palace/Brisbane/3Com Park/Geneva Avenue. Keep right at the fork to go on Bayshore Boulevard and follow it south out of San Francisco until you reach the traffic light with the 3-way intersection of Bayshore Boulevard and Guadalupe Canyon Parkway. Turn uphill and right onto Guadalupe Canyon Parkway and follow it to the turnoff for the main parking lot. Bring \$\$ for parking or a state parks pass.

Janet Gawthrop

The CNPS Board of Directors and Chapter Council will meet in Berkeley December 8-10, 2006. Chapter members have the opportunity to host CNPS members who come from all over the state. If you have space to house one, two or three of these folks, please send a brief description of accommodations to Charli Daniels, charlid@pacbell.net. It is good to note whether there are pets in the home, whether you are offering floor space, couch space or an actual bed. Put your contact information, as these will be circulated to

the board members and chapter delegates who will "answer your ad" for housing.

The Council meeting theme will be plant science, including rare plants and vegetation. Any CNPS member may attend, but only Chapter Delegates may vote. Chapter members are also welcome to attend the Saturday night dinner on December 9 at the Faculty Club (details in the November issue).

VEGETATION COMMITTEE



Erin McDermott

The Vegetation Committee collects information about plant communities in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. When most people think of vegetation, they think of general groupings such as chaparral, oak woodland, riparian forest, or grassland. While the grouping of plant communities into these

broad terms is a good first step, these names do not give us enough information. For example, chaparral can be used to describe any type of vegetation dominated by evergreen shrubs with leathery leaves, whether it is dominated by oaks, manzanita, ceanothus, or chamise. Information about the plant species present in the vegetation and their abundance is more meaningful. This information is used for conservation planning, identifying rare vegetation types, and assessing habitat for sensitive plant and animal species. If everyone uses the same method for collecting information about the vegetation, we can analyze the data correctly. Otherwise, we are comparing apples and oranges.

CNPS uses the same approach for vegetation data collection as *A Manual of California Vegetation* (Sawyer and Keeler-Wolf 1995). It is based on a hierarchical classification similar to that used in floristics, where species are grouped into genera and then families and then orders and so on. In vegetation classification, the association type is the most specific and the most useful category.

An example of a hierarchical classification of a vegetation type:

Physiognomic types: Riparian and Bottomland Habitat

General habitat type: Riparian Forest and Woodland

Alliance Type: Red Alder (*Alnus rubra*)

Association Type: Red Alder/ Arroyo Willow (*Alnus rubra/ Salix lasiolepis*)

The East Bay Vegetation Committee collects field data following a standard CNPS protocol. The data will be used in updating future editions of the *Manual of California Vegetation* and towards determining priorities for protection and restoration in the East Bay. The Vegetation Committee will be going out in the field and collecting vegetation data in early 2007, mostly on weekends. If you are interested in helping to collect this valuable information, please contact me via email at erinmcd2004@yahoo.com.

Erin McDermott

CONSERVATION

Efforts to stop the illegal annexation of two parcels on the Pittsburg/Concord border were successful. Greenbelt Alliance coordinated efforts to stop a development agreement before the legally required completion of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). These two ridgetop parcels owned by Faria and Montreux are important viewsheds and may be home to rare species found in the Mt. Diablo vicinity.

Seth Adams donated his time to give an informative talk on fundraising for the East Bay Chapter's Board of Directors (EBCNPS BoD). He articulated strategies which may dovetail with conservation projects.

EBCNPS is sending written responses to a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for a project in Moraga that involves the filling of a stream and taking of two rare plant populations, *Ludwigia peploides* ssp. *peploides* and *Glyceria leptostachya*, as well as an established riparian corridor. Volunteer Suzanne Jones has been instrumental in conservation efforts.

EBCNPS is sending written responses to the DEIR for a project in San Ramon developing an important parcel of land near Las Trampas Regional Park where populations of *Helianthella castanea* and *Amsinckia lunaris* may persist. Additional issues include the destruction of an intact riparian corridor, and the fact that only very limited open space would be protected on the site.

EBCNPS sent in written comments on a low-density development at the southern edge of Pleasanton, where known habitat for the Callippe Silverspot butterfly would be affected. EBCNPS suggested this habitat not be fragmented, and that seasonal drainages and a blue oak grove be protected.

We continue to work on protecting the Livermore Alkali Sink area. Mary Ann Hannon has been crucial in the process of building awareness and continuing to invite interested parties into the discussion. She arranged for a tour with several CNPS members (including Heath Bartosh who provided excellent technical materials and

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CONSERVATION

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maps) and a local Tri-Valley Conservancy board member. EBCNPS, Livermore Area Regional Parks, the Tri-Valley Conservancy, East Bay Regional Park District, and other organizations held a meeting to continue discussions on this issue on September 14.

EBCNPS submitted written comments on a programmatic development plan for Roddy Ranch in Antioch. There are many rare plants and interesting plant communities in this area and we are trying to either eliminate the development or reduce its footprint.

Final comments on the wetlands portion of the ECC-HCP were sent to Contra Costa County. A final plan is due for public review in the next few months.

Members of environmental organizations including EBCNPS (Laura Baker and Lech Naumovich), Friends of Sausal Creek (Karen Paulsell), and the Center for Biological Diversity (Ralph Kanz) have been addressing the City of Oakland's fuel management practices and their impacts on native plants. EBCNPS is sending a representative to the Oakland Wildfire Assessment District's ad hoc committee formed to create policies to prevent damage to listed plant species from the City's fuel management practices. Among the sensitive plant species we are concerned with are pallid manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pallida*) and Presidio clarkia (*Clarkia franciscana*) which have sustained damage from previous management practices.

Lech Naumovich and Laura Baker

NATIVE HERE

Fridays, October 6, 13, 20, 27 Native Here Nursery open 9 am-noon

Saturdays, October 7, 14, 21 nursery open 10 am-1 pm

Native Plant Fair, Saturday October 28, 10 am-3 pm,
Sunday October 29, noon-3 pm

We're hosting the CNPS Plant Fair on October 28 and 29. You will be able to buy both Native Here plants and horticultural natives the Chapter is growing at the same time (no separate invoices). *Iris douglasiana* will be available starting at the time of the fair. Many vendors will be at the fair as well, and there will be talks throughout each day. Volume customers please note that discounts will not apply the days of the Plant Fair.

We will have many species of native grasses, including *Nassella*, *Melica*, *Poa*, *Elymus*, *Hordeum*, *Koeleria*, *Bromus*, and *Festuca*. For shrubs we have coffeeberry, pink-flowering currant, cream bush, sticky monkeyflower, a couple of wax myrtles, snowberry, hop tree (*Ptelea crenulata*), golden-yarrow (*Eriophyllum confertiflorum*), gooseberries, dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) a few *Arctostaphylos glauca*, California sagebrush, black sage, California hazelnut, rose, ninebark, twinberry, thimbleberry and others. For trees we have many species of oaks, California bay, madrone, big leaf maple, box elder (*Acer negundo* var. *californicum*), ash (*Fraxinus dipetala*), buckeye, cypress from Mines Road in Livermore, and others.

For smaller plants, we have yarrow (*Achillea millifolium*), baneberry (*Actaea rubra*), mugwort, aster (*Aster chilensis*), marsh baccharis (*Baccharis douglasii*), bluff lettuce (*Dudleya farinosa*), buckwheat (*Eriogonum nudum*), western wallflower (*Erysimum capitatum*), *Grindelia*, sneezeweed (*Helenium puberulum*), cow parsnip, alumroot (*Heuchera micrantha*), fringe cups (*Tellima grandiflora*), rushes and sedges, yampah (*Perideridia kelloggii*), penstemon (*P. heterophyllus*), California bee plant (*Scrophularia californica*), sticky cinquefoil (*Potentilla glandulosa*), California blackberry, blue-eyed grass, and more.

We still need help getting ready for the plant fair. The parking lot and grounds need weeding and trimming. Come by when we are open on Fridays 9 am-noon or Saturdays 10 am-1 pm. If you would prefer to help at other times, contact us by e-mail at nativehere@ebcnps.org.

In November we will have extended hours on Saturdays and Sundays for at least the first three weekends. If you would like to help staff the nursery, email us at nativehere@ebcnps.org.

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

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California Native Plant Society East
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Berkeley CA 94705

Chapter web site
www.ebcnps.org

Chapter Information
510-549-0211

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, Limited income, \$25

___ Individual, Library, \$45

___ Household, Family, or Group, \$75

___ Supporting, \$75

___ Plant lover, \$100

___ Patron, \$300

___ Benefactor, \$600

___ Mariposa Lily, \$1500

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

NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION TEAM

October Work Party, Saturday, October 14, 9:30 am-12:30 pm, Cape ivy removal, Joaquin Miller Park, Oakland

In the spirit of “keeping with it until it’s done” we return in October to a major cape ivy infestation, located at the headwaters of Sausal Creek in Oakland’s Joaquin Miller Park. In collaboration with Friends of Sausal Creek, the EBCNPS Restoration Team has been working at this site for a number of years. We have had outstanding results: the infestation has been reduced by over two-thirds! With a good turn out of volunteers this could be the year we really turn the situation around.



This concentrated infestation of Cape ivy is all that remains.

Though not a dramatic site, it is a very public one, allowing a highly visible opportunity for public outreach. Easily accessible and dappled in shade, the work is not strenuous or physically demanding—those of limited ability will find this an extremely favorable location to participate.

Come join us October 14. Healthful drinks and snacks will be provided, and Friends of Sausal Creek have been known to donate native plant starts as a thank you for those who attend.

Directions

On Highway 13 take the Joaquin Miller exit and go east up the hill on Joaquin Miller. About 3/4 of a mile to the left will be the park entrance. Look for the “Native Plant Nursery” or Woodminster Theater signs and turn left into the park. As you enter you will see a gated fire road where you walk a short distance to the work site. There is parking at the visitor center parking lot or along Joaquin Miller Road.



The site was covered past the point at the right of the photo.

For further information contact Greg Wolford at 510-684-2473 or at californica@mac.com.

Greg Wolford

ACTIVITIES OF OTHERS

Job opening at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden

Starting in early December, the Interpretive Student Aide position will be open at the garden. This is a temporary position, but it runs year-round, with the aide working two or three days per week. The candidate

must be taking classes in school concurrent with employment in this position. To find out more about what the job involves, contact Steve Edwards at the garden (510-841-8732). Anyone interested should contact the Human Resources Department at the East Bay Regional Park District headquarters (510-635-0135) and ask for an application ASAP.

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

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