



OCTOBER 2016

# The Bay Leaf

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY + EAST BAY CHAPTER  
ALAMEDA & CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES

[WWW.EBCNPS.ORG](http://WWW.EBCNPS.ORG)

[WWW.NATIVEHERENURSERY.ORG](http://WWW.NATIVEHERENURSERY.ORG)

## OCTOBER MEMBERS MEETING

### A Taster's Guide to the Landscape

**Speaker: Margit Roos-Collins**

**Wednesday, October 26, 7:30 pm**

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

This month we'll learn about edible native and introduced plants from Margit Roos-Collins, the author of the newly re-issued local foraging classic, *The Flavors of Home: A guide to wild edible plants of the San Francisco Bay Area*. Margit will share some favorite native nibbles, weeds worth harvesting, and good plants to harvest with children. She also will bring a selection of edible plants from Native Here Nursery, all of them attractive and low-water garden additions.

Tasting plants in the wild bonds people to their environment with an intimacy and intensity unmatched by most outdoor activities. Land managers both understand this and struggle to protect plants from the ravages of commercially-motivated harvesting. We'll hear about some of the challenges associated with foraging and tips for keeping it safe, legal, and sustainable.

Margit Roos-Collins is a Life Member of CNPS. She learned the local edibles by taking ranger walks, attending Ida Geary's community college course and Alice Green's seaweed course, and by comparing local floras to foraging books. She's led foraging walks for the California Academy of Sciences and as benefits for Greenbelt Alliance and other non-profits. Copies of *The Flavors of Home* will be available for purchase after the program.

East Bay CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting takes 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 opens at 7 pm; the meeting begins at 7:30 pm. Email [programs@ebcnps.org](mailto:programs@ebcnps.org) or call 510-496-6016 if you have questions.

### Directions to Orinda Public Library at 24 Orinda Way:

From the west, take Hwy 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 Hwy 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 two-story building on your right. There is additional free parking beneath the building as well as on the street.

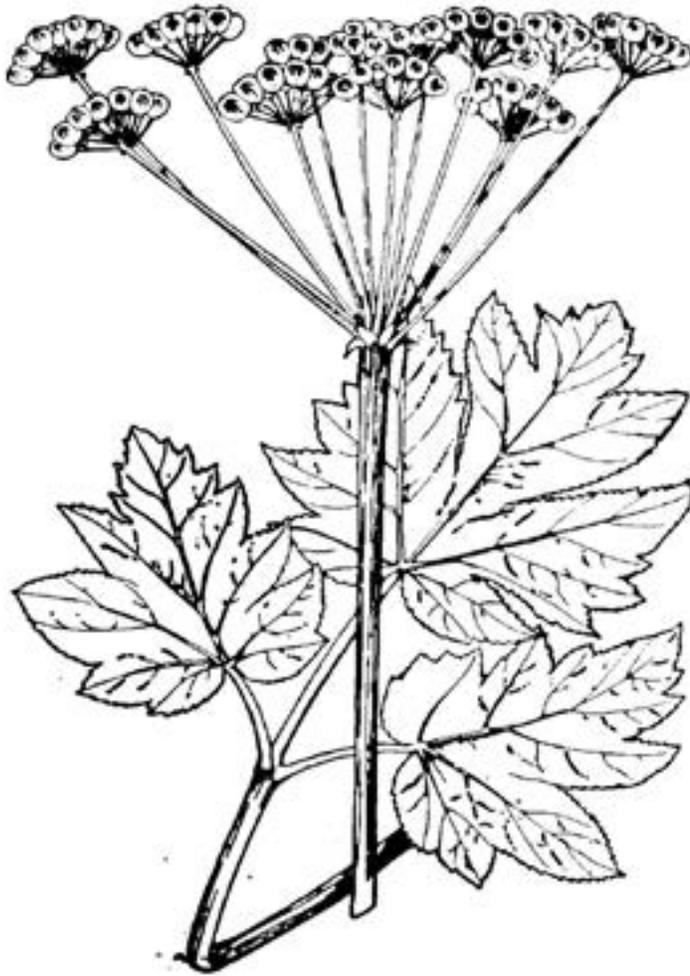
From BART (4 blocks): Exit the Orinda station, turn right and cross a pedestrian bridge, then cross a second pedestrian bridge on the left. Go 1 short block on the sidewalk to the third pedestrian bridge. Go 2 blocks on Orinda Way to the Orinda Library.



The delicious, locally native thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus*) Photo by Jerry Kirkhart

# Native Here Nursery

## 2016 Fall Plant Sale Weekends



Saturday & Sunday  
September 24th & 25th  
10am to 2pm

Saturday & Sunday  
October 22nd & 23rd  
10am to 2pm

Saturday & Sunday  
November 12th & 13th  
10am to 2pm

*Special plants & offers  
each weekend!*

Native Here grows locally native plants from Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, plants that are especially suited to Bay Area landscapes and gardens.

We have plants for all types of gardens and designs, from drought-tolerant, low water gardens, to stream-side, water-loving plants, and everything in between.

101 Golf Course Drive  
Berkeley, CA 94708

[www.NativeHereNursery.org](http://www.NativeHereNursery.org)

Across from Tilden Park  
Golf Course

## IN MEMORIAM: TED RADKE

### In Memoriam: Ted Radke

The East Bay lost a dedicated conservationist and friend when Ted Radke died on August 29, 2016. Ted was the longest serving member of the East Bay Regional Park District's board, serving from 1978 through 2014, a period that saw Park District lands double in size. He was especially committed to and effective in preserving lands in Contra Costa County, including the John Muir National Historic Site, Alhambra Creek, Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline, Martinez Regional Shoreline, and expansion of Briones Regional Park.

Born in Richmond, California, Ted always considered Martinez his home. At the young age of 24, Ted was elected to the

Martinez City Council, and later co-founded Contra Costa Ecology Action. He taught history, sociology and political science at Contra Costa Community College for 30 years.

Ted was a member of the California Native Plant Society and a true ally within the Park District. He listened carefully to CNPS's science-based arguments for land protection and management, and acted with wisdom and thoughtfulness. EBRPD General Manager Bob Doyle called him "a conservation lion." He will certainly be missed, and he is remembered with gratitude and appreciation.

*Charli Danielsen and Barbara Leitner*

## PADRE PICNIC AREA TILDEN PARK

**On Sunday, Oct. 23, 11 am - 4 pm, at the Padre Picnic Area on S. Park Drive in Tilden Park, we'll be holding the third annual joint picnic for the SF Bay Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TWS) and EBCNPS.** TWS likes to call it the Gourmet Greens and Beasts Feast. This year, the cost of the Padre Picnic Area rental is being waived by EBRPD, thanks to efforts by enthusiastic picnic participant Doug Bell, who's a wildlife biologist at EBRPD. So the costs will just be for beverages, plates, utensils, etc., and we hope to cover them with the small admission donation (\$5 adults, \$3 students and children).

Even if I weren't an organizer, I would have to say this is one of the most fun and friendly picnics I have attended – ever! The games are spectacularly creative, the laughs are many, the people are wonderfully friendly, and the food (including

native plant and animal food from those who want to bring it) is outstanding. Last year, we had many delicious native plant foods and a very tasty gourmet preparation of duck that was hunted by Doug Bell's pet peregrine falcon (I'm not joking!).

I encourage you to save the date and come to the picnic (you don't have to bring fancy food). We want to build up the attendance, and everyone who comes has a fantastic time. It's more fun that a barrel full of monkeyflowers – or monkeyface eels (<http://baynature.org/article/lombards-darling-monkeyface/>)!

*Sue Rosenthal*

See page 8 for picnic poster. -Ed.

## MT. DIABLO FIELD TRIP

**Mount Diablo field trip, on October 16 at 9:45 am from Regency Drive trailhead (9:20 carpool from Orinda BART station)**

Gregg Weber will lead this day trip to Back Canyon, Meridian Point and Meridian Ridge, for roughly a 5 mile round trip and 1200 feet elevation gain. Be sure to bring at least one liter of water and some lunch. This trip introduces many

plants in fruit, but also some late bloomers. For details, go to <http://www.meetup.com/ebcnps/> and look for the trip called Mount Diablo, Back Canyon. Be sure to RSVP on the meetup site.

## CHAPTER COUNCIL MEETING IN BERKELEY

**The December 2-4 Chapter Council meeting will held in Berkeley.**

The Saturday night banquet requires pre-registration. A talk on "The first land plants: the diversity and distribution of bryophytes in California" will be given by Jim Shevock.

We have two Sunday afternoon field trips:

1. Botanic Garden at Tilden Regional Park: bryophytes will be included along with vascular plants displaying our evolving definition of the California Floristic Province. Leader: [KLudwig@ebparks.org](mailto:KLudwig@ebparks.org)

2. Redwood Regional Park: bryophytes on trees, soil and deadwood, the must-know genera of mosses (etc.) for every well-rounded Bay Area naturalist. Leader: [paulsiriwilson@gmail.com](mailto:paulsiriwilson@gmail.com)

These events (and others) are open to the membership. Nearer to the meeting, find details and register at <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/admin/cc>

We will need some help. Contact Delia to help or for information. [deliataylor@mac.com](mailto:deliataylor@mac.com)

## THE WAR ON STINKWORT

### Stinkwort Sagas, Part 3

I've gotten some feedback from my stinkwort (*Dittrichia graveolens*) stories, so here is the last one for the year. Why do I spend my time on this? It's all over the place, so why bother? I do it because doing nothing would make me feel worse than doing something. If I idly watched stinkwort from seedling to flower to blowing fruit, it would take away a little bit of my spirit. So I guess I'm doing it for myself.

Another reason is that stinkwort is bad for the environment. It's poisonous for some livestock, useless for wild mammals, birds, reptiles, and insects. I still haven't seen one bit of damage to these plants; nothing eats it, it just takes up space. And it competes with native plants, some of them rare or restricted.

The final reason: It's bad for us. Here is a picture of a colleague who got a heaping big exposure to stinkwort last week. Okay, he knew better and should have been more careful. He let me share this picture because I wanted you to see what can happen. Ouch, right?

This plant produces a rash every bit as bad as poison oak, but most people don't know this. Stinkwort loves to grow on the sides of hard-packed trails. I just think about chubby

little baby toes waving from strollers and those polite people who step off the trail to make room for others to pass—they could brush up against stinkwort and not know they need to wash up. This could happen to them and they would never know what hit them.

Even if you decide you are going to make your corner of the world just a little bit better by removing stinkwort or some other weed, just know that it's as much for your spirit as for everyone else. And you might not get a thank-you, but then again maybe you will.

This afternoon I was out with my friend Sandy, we were both in our safety vests, down on our knees on the sides of Highway 24, pulling little plants we somehow missed last month. With the roar of the traffic, I didn't even hear the CHP motorcycle stop. The officer was halfway to me before I looked up with a start. I explained what we were doing, and he was curiously friendly. He ended by thanking us for our hard work, and we thanked him for his.

*Barbara Leitner*  
President, East Bay Chapter CNPS



A wounded stinkwort warrior who didn't wear long sleeves and gloves, or clean up equipment after contact. He recovered after a cortisone shot. Precautions similar to those for poison oak are needed.

## RESTORATION OCTOBER 2016

**Saturdays, October 1st and 15th at Pt. Isabel, 9:30 am to 2 pm.** Hosted by Greens at Work at Eastshore State Park, west of I-580 at the end of Rydin Road. Contact Tom Kelly at tkelly@kyotousa.org for details.

**Saturday, October 1, 9-1 and Sunday, October 9, 9:30-1:30, Redwood Regional Park.** It's time to get out and pull some broom! Both the Oct. 1 and Oct. 9 weeding dates start at 9:30 am from the Canyon Meadows picnic area. If someone is staffing the kiosk, be sure to tell them that you're volunteering with the French broom crew so that they don't charge you admission.

We will meet at the Canyon Meadow picnic area and hike up Canyon trail to Eastridge where we will take a left on Eastridge. There is still a lot to do between Canyon trail and the EBMUD gate. As always, we will serve delicious snacks and the company is always good. I will be in Vermont cycling with my sister, so I will not see you Saturday. We will move back to Pinehurst gate once the weather gets wet.

*Ranger Monica*

**Sunday, October 2, 10 am-1 pm the monthly North Basin restoration meets at Eastshore State Park,** on the Bay shoreline south of Tom Bates soccer fields. A map of the area can be found at <https://goo.gl/rqdZQW>. For directions to the work site or more information about this project, contact John Kenny (johnkenny54@yahoo.com).

The project started about 5 years ago through Friends of Five Creeks. A small group of us have been removing radish, thistle, fennel and hemlock from a strip next to the Bay and planting natives. The East Bay Regional Park District supervisor, Scott Possin, recently gave us a larger area to continue working on with these first Sunday monthly work parties.

**Saturday, October 8, 9:30 am, Huckleberry Botanic Preserve** Join us at the newly paved parking lot, where we will pick up tools, water and gloves and decide where to work after looking at the soil and weather. There may be a bicycle rack to park and join us, but bicycles are still prohibited on all trails in this botanic preserve. We will work until 12:30 or 1 pm, depending on whether we need time to walk back to the lot.

**Saturday, October 15, 9:30 am, Garber Park Stewards** You can start attacking Algerian ivy just above the Claremont Avenue entrance, or start by digging out ehrharta grass near the upper park entrance at the end of Evergreen Lane. If you do not have tools contact Shelagh or Bob to get loaner tools and gloves. This group keeps going until about 12:00 or 12:30 pm, leaving time to drive Claremont Avenue into Tilden Park and check out the Native Here tree sale until 2 pm. Contact

Shelagh and Bob at garberparkstewards@gmail.com. A map and directions can be found at garberparkstewards.org.

**Sunday, October 16, 9:00 am, Sibley Park restoration** Join us at 9 am at the Skyline parking lot (Oakland-side), where you can pick up loaner gloves, tools and water. Or, you can walk in from the Old Tunnel Road staging area (Orinda side). The wall of broom is still there, despite the dents that we've pushed in it. Nonetheless, in September we saw some coyote mint in flower along the Tilden-to-Sibley trail, at a trailside spot where we pulled broom last spring. If you have questions or just need to notify us when you're arriving from Old Tunnel Road, you can e-mail either janetgawthrop47@gmail.com or [sibley@ebparks.org](mailto:sibley@ebparks.org).

We need help! We have significantly dented the wall-o-broom, but there is re-growth. These plants are not big - there are just a lot of them.

The native grasses and other forbs come in as we remove the big broom bushes, which we've now done in a large area, and the natives along the Stream Trail are impressive and worth protecting. We could sure use a few extra hands.

*Wendy Tokuda*

**Saturday, October 22, 9:00 am, Sabercat Creek restoration in Fremont** Join Sabrina Siebert and other Fremont city workers at "Site 5" near Becado Place, to continue weeding and planting at this creekside restoration. You can call (510) 494-4570 to confirm your attendance.

**Sunday, October 23, daylong until 4 pm, Friends of Sausal Creek open house in Joaquin Miller Park**

**Saturday October 29 at 9:30 am Friends of Albany Hill** Margot Cunningham organizes this monthly restoration on the last Saturday of the month, usually starting from the northeast side of the hill at Creekside Park just on the El Cerrito side of the city boundary. Bring tools (especially tools suited for removing Algerian ivy), gloves and water if you have them, but there may be a few loaners available. For more details, contact Margot at friendsalbanhill@gmail.com.

## CONSERVATION ANALYST'S REPORT

Every year one of the four CNPS Chapter Council meetings features a conservation theme. This year's Conservation Symposium was hosted by the San Luis Obispo Chapter and held in beautiful Morro Bay. The 2016 focus: Climate change and managing California's native plants, with three main climate change topics: on-the-ground projects; modeling of future vegetation dynamics; and, regional planning. I had the good fortune to attend and I would like to tell you about the presentations, the sights, the people, and the current state of our conservation program. See expanded conference discussion, and more links and graphics on the conservation blog: <https://ebcnps.wordpress.com/>

Want to attend the next quarterly conference December 2-4th, 2016? You needn't travel far: the East Bay Chapter and Bryophyte Chapter will proudly co-host in Berkeley. More details soon. We hope you can make it!

Our CNPS Conservation Program Director, Greg Suba, led us straight into the cactus over morning coffee on Saturday. The Bakersfield cactus (*Opuntia basilaris* var. *treleasei*), that is. Although receiving federal and state endangered status protections since 1990, and once occupying an enormous range around Bakersfield, it has continued to suffer substantial losses. Ellen Cypher of the Endangered Species Recovery Program at CSU Stanislaus decided on a radical experiment: would Bakersfield cactus succeed if harvested, propagated, and relocated within its historic range? This is known as an assisted colonization experiment. Given that neither inbreeding depression nor significant species differentiation has yet occurred, I thought it reasonable to assist its distribution back into areas where it once existed. Ms. Cypher kindly detailed her extensive harvest selection process, propagation and planting methods.

The climate change prediction process involves calculated guesses at where a species will perform best, given that there are a number of climate change assumptions and models from which to choose. This was the conservation symposium theme—how do we know when calculated assumptions are in a given native plant species' best interest for survival? We also broached core ideologies behind such work: when is it ever appropriate to colonize? What makes "locally native" the best option? A basic way to start a responsible approach to these questions evaluates impact on source populations and recipient ecosystems, probability of success, and a cost-benefit analysis. (Very different from a group I once encountered, handing out clay-and-seed "flower bombs" at a festival. I looked around for someone to laugh with when they described their mission, which consisted basically of throwing stock birdseed into the forest.) I heard some great questions, and for me, an open inquiry environment is just as important as the presentation content.

Next we heard about an intriguing "common garden" type experiment with valley oak (*Quercus lobata*), led by Jessica

Wright of the USDA Forest Service. We considered how much a plant species' current strengths are hidden within its populations' genetic variation, and how these strengths might allow it to survive predicted dramatic changes. Why, and where, are plant populations more at risk to climate change? She guided us with a useful triangle schematic, which showed approaches to study of adaptive genetic variation. Collecting from around the state and immediately planting out these thousands of acorns was an extraordinary effort. I could sympathize with her graduate student researchers, who reported that they had nightmares of racing around the state and making improper collections.

Besides continued inquiry into which climate model is best, smaller details came to light to consider here. When we are measuring successes for an experiment that tests resilience to future climate change how can we accurately measure that success today? For example, which valley oak seedling is most successful for the future? (The taller ones or shorter ones? Those with the deepest roots? Ones with best water use efficiency?) Perhaps the ones displaying maladapted traits today will perform the best in future conditions.

I learned how Joshua tree (*Yucca brevifolia*) currently suffers from drought and fire induced stresses, and its intriguing response to "race north" and slowly push its leading edge into ecotype hybridization territory. ("The Race North," presented by Todd Esque of Western Ecological Resource Center.) Can you believe this giant has a minimum reproductive age of 70 years old? Enormous fire damage in Joshua Tree National Park in 1999 led some to nickname it cheatgrass national park. The Joshua trees responded so poorly that measured "scorching profiles" of even 10% correlated with less than 10% survival rates. This was besides more unburned trees suffering from increased herbivory in drought conditions. Two ecotypes in the eastern and western edges (not defined as different species) grow and fork at separate rates, and each ecotype's bell-shaped blooms attract different species of moth (*Tegeticula* spp.) pollinators, all overlapping in the unique Tikaboo Valley, Nevada. The struggle with fire control and recovery reminded me of working on the 2013 Rim Fire burn area near Yosemite, witnessing afterwards its intense damage and waves of floristic beauty. How could we have predicted this seemingly resilient response from the case of the Joshua tree?

How do we document the importance of conservation, distribute the needed information along the most powerful channels, and convince the public to care about our cause? How do we address so many challenges (documentation, distribution, and emotional appeal) with our own adaptive management response? There is a magic to an entire roomful of intelligent and committed people considering and driving forward with these ideas.

It was a treat to delve into this finely tuned research with the primary investigators themselves. I appreciated the emphasis

at this Conservation Symposium on openness to questions. Even questions aimed at the foundational assumptions and mission of our organization were fair game, refreshing our collective mindset about the importance of clear and open communication. The whole weekend reminded me of my favorite facet of scientific inquiry: the fact that an experiment that raises more questions than it answers can lead to strong contributions to the field.

We are successful resource champions here at CNPS, but today and within the next year huge conservation battles are being fought around California, setting precedent for the 21st century. I am proud to be contributing on the side of CNPS. I encourage you to join our conservation program with your local chapter.

### **Urgent Update on Tesla**

On October 21, 2016 the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission will likely approve its General Plan and Final EIR for Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area State Park. The East Bay Chapter of CNPS is allied with the Friends of Tesla Park, whose primary objective is that the entire potential expansion area be re-characterized as not appropriate for OHV use.

What are the points our organization wants to make about Tesla? We believe the EIR inadequately addresses the environmental impacts of their expansion plan. We are talking about 3400 acres. Carnegie SVRA currently uses about 1200 acres. The expansion would have huge implications due to both the size of the parcel and the high significance of biological resources present.

The State Parks stated: "No comments received on the DEIR resulted in the discussion of any new impact; resulted in a

change in the significance level of an impact disclosed in the DEIR; or required new mitigation, consideration of new alternatives, or any other substantial change to the DEIR." I am still analyzing for a complete understanding of statements with which our organization does not agree, but already I can tell you there are quite a few issues outstanding. Please see the conservation blog throughout October for updates leading up to the meeting and our suggested letter templates for help in composing comments to submit to the commission.

I hope to make use of upcoming opportunities to discuss the value and priority of Tesla with the Altamont Landfill Open Space Fund Committee and Bay Area Open Space Council groups. The danger of approving the EIR and General Plan in their current form lies in the immediate ability for Carnegie SVRA to implement OHV recreation projects. Because the Carnegie SVRA does not adequately mitigate for its impacts today, we do not believe that it will plan projects so as to enforce avoidance of illegal off-trail riding, protect occurrences of special-status plant species and other valuable biological resources and provide adequate mitigation measures for future projects.

Did you submit comments at the early February meeting? Please examine Chapter 8, Individual Comments and Responses (see Appendix A) in order to confirm that your comments were received and a response given. Chapter 2 Master Responses are a relatively quick read that reveals the commission's intent to avoid making significant changes to the EIR. Your comments may refer back to one of these Master Responses.

*Karen Whitestone*

East Bay Chapter CNPS Conservation Analyst

## **VOLUNTEERING TO HELP WITH FALL PLANT SALE**

A heartfelt thanks to all the native plant enthusiasts who came to the first of our three Fall Sale weekends and stocked up on trees. It was great to meet so many new visitors to Native Here and to see the familiar faces of folks who have supported the nursery over the years. An extra special thanks goes to all of our volunteers who helped us get the nursery ready for the sale and propagated the plants, and to our volunteer salesperson extraordinaire, Jane Kelly -- we couldn't have done it without you guys!

In October and November the nursery will have two more sale weekends with special plants available at each one:

### **Saturday, October 22nd from 10 am to 2 pm and Sunday, October 23rd from 10 am to 2 pm**

Our October weekend sale will feature native bulbs as well as our regular selection of East Bay native plants. We'll also have a special on grasses and sedges -- buy one, get one free.

### **Saturday, November 12 from 10 am to 2 pm and Sunday, November 13 from 10 am to 2 pm**

Several different East Bay *Arctostaphylos* species will be available at Native Here, along with our usual large selection locally native plants.

Native Here will continue to be open our regular weekday hours for volunteers and sales alike: Tuesdays from 12 pm to 3 pm, Fridays from 9 am to 12 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm.

If you've volunteered at a plant fair in the past and have the time to help us out again this year please contact Steve Toby at [plantfair@ebcnps.org](mailto:plantfair@ebcnps.org). Even though the Fall Sale format is slightly different this year, the nursery still needs your help to put on these fun events that get native plants into the lives of a new audience each year.

The details of the early winter and spring 2017 Plant Sale schedule are still being sorted out, so check back in again next month for more information about when we'll be setting out special plants like ferns and trillium.

*Amy Leonard*

Native Here Nursery manager

# GREENS AND BEASTS FEAST

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23**

**11 AM - 4 PM**

**PADRE PICNIC AREA**  
in TILDEN REGIONAL PARK

## **GOURMET GREENS AND BEASTS FEAST**

### **A FAMILY-FRIENDLY POTLUCK PICNIC**

for **EAST BAY CNPS** and the  
**SF BAY CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

Suggested donation: \$5 adults | \$3 students | \$3 children

**Delicious food and drink:**

Ethically and legally harvested "Wild Food" potluck dishes are encouraged (but *all* dishes are welcome)  
Beverages will be provided

**Fun games and activities for all ages:**

- ❖ Wild food potluck dish raffle
- ❖ Native plant raffle
- ❖ Trivia contest
- ❖ Scavenger hunt
- ❖ And more!

Get to know your fellow CNPS members and  
our Wildlife Society counterparts!

### **MORE FUN THAN A BARREL OF MONKEYFLOWERS!**

For more information, directions, and questions:  
<http://gourmetgreensandbeastsfeast.wordpress.com>  
[programs@ebcnps.org](mailto:programs@ebcnps.org)  
510-496-6016

## POINT ISABEL RESTORATION OCTOBER 2016

September is the month for spiders and praying mantises at Pt. Isabel. While most of the weeds have been plucked or have expired, these two creatures are coming into their own. We are also seeing bumblebees visiting the willow herb (*Epilobium ciliatum*) that is now in full bloom and hummingbirds enjoying the nectar from the flowering California fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*).

We have started to clear a new area that will be under the stewardship of Tom Kelly and that will bring us one step closer to connecting the southern and northern sections of the project. Thanks to a small grant from the EBRPD, we placed a plant order at The Watershed Nursery in Richmond and are looking forward to getting those plants into the ground in late fall/early winter.

On September 21 we hosted a Botanic Garden Docent Enrichment tour of the project that was organized by Idell Wedemeyer. The docents were delightful and the plant conversations were lively. Idell provided the docents with our project FAQ that described the history of the project and our plant list (originally created for us by CNPS member and Pt. Isabel volunteer Janet Gawthrop). We discussed the challenges of

removing the masses of French broom (weed wrenches rock!) and trash that used to obscure Hoffman Marsh, the multitude of weeds we encountered (ice plant, cape ivy, vinca, radish, mustard and more), the struggling native plants we found onsite that are now flourishing, and the excitement we experienced when we saw native plants (e.g. *Madia sativa*, *Artemisia californica*, and *Epilobium ciliatum*) emerging once the area was cleared. The docent training that Jane received at the EBRPD Botanic Garden has been key to the progression of the Point Isabel project and she expressed her thanks to Glenn Keator and Sue Rosenthal for the in depth instruction and assistance they provided. Jane also thanked Mike Uhler from the Botanic Garden for coming to Point Isabel and identifying the marsh plants and Bert Johnson for his recommendation to plant wax myrtle (*Morella californica*) that is now thriving at the site.

The project prospers thanks to our remarkable stewards, core volunteers, and the large number of other volunteers who come out to join in the fun. We also thank and count on the EBRPD and CNPS East Bay for all their consistent and enthusiastic support.

*Jane and Tom Kelly*



September 3<sup>rd</sup> crew. Photo by Jane Kelly.

## POINT ISABEL RESTORATION PHOTO



Docent enrichment tour. Photo by Jane Kelly.

## TALK ON BLACK WALNUTS

**Tuesday, October 4, 7-9 pm, talk on black walnuts**

Did you know that the tallest black walnut in Contra Costa County is found on San Pablo Creek? Come to a talk by Heath Bartosh, Rare Plant Chair of the East Bay CNPS Chapter.

El Sobrante Library Meeting Room, 4191 Appian Way, El Sobrante  
www.spawners.org - 510-665-3538 - helen@thewatershedproject.org  
Heath Bartosh, Nomad Ecology

Learn about black walnuts  
Their ecology  
Historical distribution

## FRIENDS OF SAUSAL CREEK OPEN HOUSE & PLANT SALE

**Sunday, October 23, 10 am to 4 pm, Friends of Sausal Creek (FOSC) Native Plant Sale and Open House at FOSC Nursery in Joaquin Miller Park, Oakland.**

Native plant experts will be available all day to help shoppers pick appropriate plants for their planting areas. The day's festivities include a presentation on Gardening for Bees by UC Berkeley Urban Bee Lab at noon and a workshop on propagating native plants at 2 pm. For a list of available plants and a full list of tablers see [www.sausalcreek.org](http://www.sausalcreek.org) > Programs > Native Plant Nursery (at bottom of page under "Native plant sale").

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/FriendsOfSausalCreek](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfSausalCreek)  
Kimra McAfee, Executive Director  
Friends of Sausal Creek  
P.O. Box 2737  
Oakland, CA 94602

510.501.FOSC (3672)  
[coordinator@sausalcreek.org](mailto:coordinator@sausalcreek.org)  
[www.sausalcreek.org](http://www.sausalcreek.org)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH EAST BAY CNPS

Making a valuable volunteering contribution to CNPS's programs doesn't require a lot of technical knowledge or a vast amount of time. We have many opportunities that you might find interesting and rewarding. Here are some ideas that might suit your strengths:

**Friendly?** We are looking for someone to greet people at the membership meeting, offer (free) tickets for the monthly plant drawing, encourage sign-ins, and follow up with an invitation for non-members to join. This is a good job for someone who enjoys the membership meetings, or needs a good reason to be sure to attend. The extra time for prep and follow-up is about 2 hours per month.

**Organized?** Native Here Nursery is looking for someone to help with scheduling and substitutions for the watering and potting crew. This might take a couple of hours per month. It's more fun if you spend some time at the nursery, as you get to know the needs and the people better, but this is not a requirement.

**Nurturing?** Native Here Nursery needs lots of people for watering plants. The best time is also the most beautiful time in the nursery: early morning. This job needs someone who can commit to a regular hour or two per week, although we are organizing vacation substitutes, too. Think about whether

you could come in before work or take a long lunch, and enjoy the solitude, or come in when the nursery is open.

**Sociable?** Native Here Nursery is always looking for "potters" – people who take tiny seedlings and move them into larger pots, and larger seedlings into gallon containers. The big days for potting are sociable, friendly days, when you can learn more about the plants from experts. This can be a drop-in or regular weekly commitment.

**Meditative?** Many of the jobs at Native Here Nursery can be done more or less alone, as you please. Many people enjoy the quiet of the nursery even during open hours. Many jobs are calming and meditative, such as weeding, grooming plants, and – did we mention watering?

To find out more about these opportunities, contact Barbara Leitner at [president@ebcnps.org](mailto:president@ebcnps.org) or Amy Leonard, Nursery Manager at [nativehere@ebcnps.org](mailto:nativehere@ebcnps.org).

*Barbara Leitner*

President, East Bay Chapter CNPS

## BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES

### Save that Date! Native Plant Sale Extravaganza

Join us on Sunday, October 23, at this year's fall Native Plant Sale Extravaganza, when seven nurseries will be open from 10:00-4:00, with knowledgeable staff on hand to help you select native plants for your garden. Fall is the time to plant natives; take advantage of this great opportunity to purchase hard-to-find plants. Shop to your heart's content, as a portion of the proceeds from this event go to support the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour.

*Kathy Kramer*

Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour Coordinator

(510) 236-9558

[kathy@kathykramerconsulting.net](mailto:kathy@kathykramerconsulting.net)

[www.bringingbackthenatives.net](http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net)

Visit the Garden Tour on Facebook

# DIRECTORY

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Rare Plants  
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## EBCNPS Sponsored Activities

East Bay Chapter News list  
Emailed announcements of  
upcoming EBCNPS events  
List manager--Martha Booz  
mlbooz@calnatives.com

Native Here Nursery  
510-549-0211  
Manager—Amy Leonard  
nativehere@ebcnps.org

Native Here inventory specialist  
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510-684-6484 (c)  
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elainejx@att.net

Walnut Creek  
Lesley Hunt, leader  
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ldhunt@astound.net

## Membership Application and Renewal Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to affiliate with:

\_\_\_ East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Membership category:

\_\_\_ Individual, \$45

\_\_\_ Family, Library, Group or International, \$75

\_\_\_ Plant lover, \$100

\_\_\_ Patron, \$300

\_\_\_ Benefactor, \$600

\_\_\_ Mariposa Lily, \$1500

\_\_\_ Limited Income or student, \$25.00

\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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