

April 2018



The Bay Leaf

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

www.ebcnps.org

www.nativeherenursery.org

APRIL MEMBERS' MEETING

Protecting *Arctostaphylos pallida*, the East Bay's Endangered Endemic Manzanita

Speaker: Michele Hammond

Wednesday, April 25, 7:30 pm

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

The beautiful East Bay hills–endemic pallid manzanita (*Arctostaphylos pallida*) has been in decline for decades, but restoration is in its future. With narrow environmental tolerances – it needs shallow, nutrient-poor soil; prolonged foggy periods; and regular occurrence of fire to regenerate – pallid manzanita is restricted to a small number of sites in the hills. Nearby development reduced its numbers in past decades, but its greatest current threats include infection by a soil-borne pathogen (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*), shading by surrounding shrubs and trees, and the effects of fire suppression on its ability to regenerate.



Arctostaphylos pallida in bloom at Sobrante Ridge Regional Preserve, photo by Pete Klosterman

Many individuals and organizations are now working to protect the pallid manzanita and secure its future. Volunteers from CNPS and Friends of Sausal Creek help restore habitat in some of the areas where pallid manzanita grows in the Oakland Hills. And the East Bay Regional Park District, whose lands support the two largest stands of the plant in Huckleberry Botanic Regional Preserve and Sobrante Ridge

Regional Preserve, has developed a management plan to protect those populations. Our speaker, Park District botanist Michele Hammond, will share stories and information about the pallid manzanita and describe efforts to protect and expand healthy stands of this iconic plant.

Michele Hammond is the Botanist for the East Bay Regional Park District and currently assesses rare plant communities on park land in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. She also maps and manages rare plants as well as newly acquired park land within the East Contra Costa Habitat Conservation Plan. Michele earned a B.A. and M.S. in Environmental Science from U.C. Berkeley.

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 26 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 or call 510-496-6016 if you have questions.

Directions to Orinda Public Library at 26 Orinda Way

DRIVING: 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. **VIA 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.

Next Month's Program

Michael Chassé – Restoring Habitat for San Francisco's Rare Endemic Manzanitas
May 23, 7:30 pm, Garden Room, Orinda Public Library

CONSERVATION ANALYST REPORT

The East Bay Chapter supports better Congdon's tarplant protections for IKEA and Zeiss project proposals in the City of Dublin.

The Chapter took action and submitted comments in response to two project proposals in the City of Dublin, the Zeiss Innovation Center, and IKEA Retail Center, with potentially significant impacts to Congdon's tarplant (*Centromadia parryi* subsp. *congdonii*, synonym *Hemizonia parryi* subsp. *congdonii*, CNPS Rare Plant Rank 1B.1). This summer-flowering herb is found mostly in the Central Western California region and on terraces, swales, floodplains, grassland, and disturbed sites (Jepson eFlora, 2018). CNPS considers Congdon's tarplant to be severely threatened by development.



Congden's tarplant *Centromadia parryi* ssp. *congdonii*©2011 Neal Kramer

We made some key recommendations in our letters, among them to perform adequate biological surveys that are the foundation for analyzing impacts, to avoid rare native plants both during project design and later during construction, and to provide necessary compensatory mitigation where avoidance is not possible. Our analysis had revealed that proposals for the Zeiss Innovation Center and IKEA Retail Center did

not adequately meet these basic standards for rare native plant protection.

Both proposals consist of large commercial developments on private land that was heavily disturbed in the past. These sites together total fewer than 50 acres located just west of our chapter's East Dublin and Tassajara Botanical Priority Protection Area (Bartosh H., *et al.*, 2010). Remarkably, in both cases surveys uncovered thousands of Congdon's tarplant individuals overlaying many acres at each of the sites, as well as several acres of seasonal wetlands. Refugia of rare plants can exist even in disturbed areas with altered topography and ruderal habitats.

Both project proposals built upon the environmental analysis contained within the East Dublin Specific Plan EIR (1994) as well as guidance from the Eastern Alameda County Conservation Strategy (EACCS, 2012). Both documents are regional frameworks important to understanding how native plants can be conserved in Dublin. For example, the EACCS document recommends up to a 5:1 (mitigations: impacts) ratio for significant impacts to Congdon's tarplant because of its statewide and local rarity. East Bay CNPS requested that the projects adhere to this mitigation recommendation.

The East Dublin & Tassajara BPPA further describes the biological value of this area that remains in need of protection. Congdon's tarplant is undergoing initial evolutionary divergence in our area, a process from which we could learn much about the formation of species. The alkaline habitat that supports Congdon's tarplant is itself botanically rich and rare within the Bay Area. This area's landscape is dominated by one of the last remaining matrices of grasslands and vernal pools that once characterized the greater Livermore Valley. However, habitats such as these are typically considered wasteland due to lack of horticultural appeal. The eastward march of the City of Dublin continues to threaten these imperiled East Bay habitats. Conservation plans such as EACCS probably help bring attention from biologists and planners to the resources of this area, hopefully with an eye towards preservation. Even so, with continued urbanization there is a potential to lose diversity within these refugia prior to its discovery or full characterization. (Bartosh H., *et al.*, 2010).

Citation as noted: Bartosh H., Naumovich L., and Baker L. 2010. *A Guidebook to Botanical Priority Protection Areas of the East Bay*. East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

Karen Whitestone

CAL-IPC/EBRPD WORKSHOP ON INVASIVE PLANTS

The California Invasive Plant Council and the East Bay Regional Park District are sponsoring a **free** workshop **Working with Volunteers: Invasive Plant Management**. The workshop takes place on Saturday, April 7, from 9 am to 3 pm. Topics include the biology and ecology of invasive

plants, tools for invasive plant management, and a field trip to a serpentine prairie.

Visit cal-ipc.org/wvn to register or to get more information.

BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES GARDEN TOUR: 5/6/18

The Garden Tour - [Forty bird- and butterfly-friendly, pesticide-free, water conserving, low maintenance gardens](#) that contain 60% or more native plants will be open on Sunday, May 6, 2018, from 10 am to 5 pm at various locations throughout Alameda and Contra Costa counties. More than forty garden talks will be offered throughout the weekend of the Tour.

Art and Music in the Gardens - Join us for a day of art and music in the gardens on the day of the Tour! Whether you are interested in enjoying sculptures in situ, browsing art for sale, or sketching a garden yourself, this is the Tour for you! In addition, you are invited to settle down in one of a number of beautiful gardens to hear Bluegrass, Baroque, Jazz, or Renaissance music, as well as flutes, woodwinds, guitar, and even sitar.

Join California's Native Plant Movement! - [Special Offer for Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour Registrants](#): Become a California Native Plant Society (CNPS) member for just \$15 (normally \$45) when you register for the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour. That's 66% off the regular membership price. Members receive the beautiful *Flora* magazine, filled with native gardening tips, inspiring interviews, and photo essays. You'll also be put in touch with your local chapter for field trip, volunteer, and other event information. Simply complete your online registration for the Tour, and in your registration confirmation email you'll find a discount code for a one year individual membership. Don't miss this rare opportunity to join CNPS in its mission to save California's native plants and their habitats. Offer good through midnight, May 6 and does not apply to current CNPS members.

Be sure to add Kathy@KathyKramerConsulting to your address book, so you receive the Tour registration confirmation e-mail, which contains the CNPS discount link, as well as other emails the Tour will be sending out this spring.

Workshops - A [series of workshops](#) on native plant propagation and garden sustainable gardening will be offered this spring. (Think chickens, pond, rainwater harvesting, native plants, fruit trees, seed collection, and more!). These workshops will fill; register early to avoid being disappointed.

Garden Art and Native Plant Extravaganza at East Bay Wilds, Saturday, April 28

[Shop for garden art and native plants](#) at this special fundraiser for the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour. Browse through owner Pete Veilleux's extensive, eclectic collection of garden benches, tables, chairs, statues, planters, antiques, and tchotchkes for sale at great prices. Peruse the more than 800 species of native plants - many of them not available elsewhere - grown at this amazing nursery. East Bay Wilds is not normally open to the public, so don't miss this opportunity to bring home garden art and native plants that are just right for your garden! 15% of all purchases will go to support the Tour. Can you print and distribute [Tour fliers](#)? - Due to budgetary constraints, we are not distributing Tour fliers this year. If you are able to print and distribute the Tour flier (to your local library, nature center, coffee shop, co-workers or neigh-

bors), we would be grateful.

Volunteers - are needed on the day of the Tour (Sunday, May 6, 2018), to spend a morning or afternoon greeting Tour participants or answering questions about natives. Complete the volunteer section of the registration form if you would like to help out this year. Benefits to volunteers include a free garden guide, invitations to Garden Soirees, in which Tour gardens are open to hosts and volunteers; a pre-Tour meeting with the owner and private Tour of the garden you will be staffing; a guaranteed Tour reservation for the half day you are free; a Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour t-shirt, and, perhaps best of all, heartfelt thanks for helping to educate the general public about the many pleasures and benefits of gardening with California native plants. Prior to signing up to volunteer, [browse the gardens](#) to choose the garden you would like to be assigned to. [Click here for more information on volunteering.](#)

2019 Tour - Applications for the 2019 Tour are now being accepted. You can download the [application form](#) from the Tour website. Garden visits will be made in May and June. (Please note that gardens must contain at least 60% or more native plants.)

Donations - A \$15 per person donation is requested to help cover the cost of putting on the Tour. Please help ensure the Tour's continuation by donating generously; we are counting on your support. In addition to the requested \$15 per person for Tour attendance, please consider making a donation above and beyond that amount to help ensure the Tour runs in the black, and can continue on into the future. If you are not attending the Tour, but would still like to support it, you can make a donation [here](#).

Garden Guides

To cover the expense of creating, printing, and mailing the Tgarden guide, a \$10 fee will be charged for each guide. (One garden guide will serve up to four people.) Payment can be made with your credit card (via the PayPal site).

Advertise with us at <http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/ads>. A limited amount of ad space is still available in the printed garden guide. Please contact me asap if you are interested in ad space, as the guide is being laid out now.

Facebook - Like us on Facebook! This spring the Garden Tour's [Facebook page](#) at <https://tinyurl.com/ya3vtx77> will run articles such as "What to do in your native plant garden each month" and "What's in bloom now?", describe the spring workshops, feature specific gardens, and show you before-and-after garden photos.

Kathy Kramer

Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour Coordinator
(510) 236-9558

kathy@kathykramerconsulting.net
www.bringingbackthenatives.net
[Visit the Garden Tour on Facebook](#)

NATIVE HERE NURSERY

Rain, rain, rain! The good news is that the March rains have stimulated lots of growth in new seedlings. The bad news is the hail and heavy rain were hard on some new plants.

While we have not had to do a lot of watering, the time is coming when the plants will need regular weekly attention. Volunteers are welcome any time the nursery is open, and — once trained in our procedures — may come in to water, pot up or weed at times convenient to the volunteer even when the nursery is not open. If interested contact Ruth Ann Pearsons, the nursery's volunteer coordinator at rapearsons1@mac.com or come to the nursery during open hours.

Training sessions in March went well when the weather cooperated. The watering training will be repeated on Tuesday, April 3 from 10:30 to noon, before the nursery opens. Training on seed sowing will be offered on Tuesday, April 17 from 10:30 to noon.

Many pots of annuals from both the Diablo area and the Bay Hills are available. April is still a good time to divide these and put them in your garden. *Clarkia purpurea* from the Bay Hills and *Papaver heterophyllum* from Mt Diablo germinated well and are in good supply.

Charli Danielsen

MAJOR BEQUEST FROM JEAN ROBERTSON

Our esteemed Jean Robertson, devoted to EBCNPS chapter conservation in life, has given us yet another generous gift. In her will, Jean specified a bequest to the chapter, and she expressed the wish that the funds be used for conservation. That is a promise we will be pleased to keep.

One challenge in conservation is the need to continually *react* to resource threats; a proactive stance, while desirable, is not always an option. And sometimes it seems as though projects

needing attention come along just when we are stretched too thin. Having resources, including funds, allows us to react appropriately, with courage and mindfulness.

Special thanks to Claire Wings, Jean's life partner, who worked hard to make Jean's gift a reality. Jean's many contributions to the chapter will long be remembered with gratitude.

Barbara M. Leitner



The late Jean Robertson with former chapter vice president Bill Hunt (left) and with current vice president Judy Schwartz.

MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY SETTLEMENT

The East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (EBCNPS) and the Mountain View Cemetery Association have reached a settlement regarding the chapter's appeal of the Mountain View Cemetery Expansion Project. The project was opposed by EBCNPS, who appealed the Oakland Planning Commission's certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) in November 2017.

The timely settlement allows the Cemetery to proceed with construction during the current year according to schedule, and provides significant additional protections for oaks on Cemetery land, both during and after construction. The agreement ensures protections for oaks near the limits of grading; provides for an independent oversight arborist during earthmoving activity that could harm protected oaks; requires implementation of phytosanitary measures and arborist best practices during construction; calls for phytosanitary measures during purchase, installation and maintenance of replacement oaks; monitoring and replacement of planted oaks that die during the five-year performance period; and avoidance of summer watering once replacement oaks are established.

In addition to these on site protections for oaks on Mountain View Cemetery lands, the settlement agreement includes establishing a fund for the protection, conservation, and/or restoration of oak woodlands. EBCNPS will soon begin a process of identifying and prioritizing those projects most in line with the mission of CNPS and the intent of the settlement. The EBCNPS team believes this settlement provides an exceptional opportunity to ensure a better future for Oakland's iconic tree species.

As EBCNPS begins its new partnership with the Mountain View Cemetery, both parties have agreed to start with a clean

slate, leaving behind past differences. The Chapter has also agreed to respect project limits by not opposing the project further, not trespassing in the construction area, and not intervening with personnel or equipment associated with construction operations.

A special tip of the acorn cap to several people deeply involved in the success of this process: Martin Bern, the Munger, Tolles & Olson attorney who provided essential pro bono advice, leadership and guidance through the CEQA and settlement process; Judy Schwartz, who organized the local community, meticulously collected data, and analyzed documents; Karen Whitestone who helped mobilize our local membership and spoke at hearings; Jim Hanson, who shared his real world experience with contracts and construction; and Beth Wurzburg, who took time away from all her other CNPS responsibilities to oversee and manage negotiations. Behind all of this was Jean Robertson's memory, which we all aimed to honor by doing our best to protect the magnificent coast live oaks.

Barbara M. Leitner

Barbara Leitner took on Jean's role, was the point person with Martin, and was Judy's partner in the complaint process. She used her considerable organizational skills and tenacity to keep us on track. It was a great team effort.

Please contact Judy Schwartz if you would like to help with live oak conservation and restoration as part of the Mountain View Cemetery settlement. Judy's email, vice-president@ebcnps.org or lupine15@gmail.com.

Beth Wurzburg, East Bay Chapter president



An oak in Mountain View Cemetery

SKYLINE RESTORATION REPORT: FEBRUARY 2018

Rain today (Sunday, March 21); in fact we've had nearly 3 1/2 inches at Skyline in the last 7 days, which brings us to about 25 inches for the season. Yearly normal is 33 inches, so we're getting back in the game with more on the way.

Last week, we focused on hand weeding more thistles and six-weeks or rattail fescue (*Festuca myuros*). These are now flowering and they set seeds quickly. On Sunday I think we'll bring up the weed eater and give them a haircut.

The overall goal this year is to prevent the invaders from setting seeds in our target areas. In the big picture, we're right on target for that. We're like a surfer who's caught the big wave and so far, so good. As long as we keep up the pace we'll be fine.

New species - in the last two weeks, we've found two new native plant species. Both were found on the steep, southerly slope to the west of the big Bay Grove, looking down on the tunnel. We had not explored there previously. Both are very unusual for the area and both are basically southern Californians who have been seen on Mt. Diablo but not in the High Ridge Volcanic area between Tilden and Sibley. Here is one, a little sun cup (*Camissonia micrantha*):



This one is just coming into flower. The leaf rosette is about four inches across, and the flower is about the size of the nail on your little finger. Sun cups are members of the evening primrose family, along with other greats such as *Clarkia*, California fuchsia, evening primrose, and fireweed. Some of the evening primroses are night bloomers, but sun cups bloom by day. We've found several hundred of these plants in the area; most grow on bare (rabbit and rodent browsed) soil under California sage (*Artemisia californica*) in the same area we find fairy mist (*Pterostegia*). We've also found them in the browse zone next to coyote bush.

The other new one is a popcorn flower (*Cryptantha muricata* - we think). This one is just starting to bloom, and this plant is now about ten inches tall. This is a new species for me, but my guess is that in time, this one will be two feet tall with

scores of flowers. We found just one patch of about 20 plants on a very steep outcrop below the Bay Grove. Up till now, this species is known in the East Bay from several spots on Mt. Diablo, and in the Bay Hills at Miller Knox Park in Richmond and the Leona Heights area (south of Merritt College) in East Oakland. This is a really cool find and we hope there are more up there.



Speaking of popcorn flower, the more common species is really blooming like crazy along Diablo Bend. Here's a close up of the flowers:

Aren't these amazing flowers? This is *Plagiobothrys nothofulvus*, how's that for a tongue twister? I like to think of them as white forget-me-nots.



The early bloomers are now hitting their stride at Skyline. Here's one of my very favorites (shown on the next page), biscuit root (*Lomatium utriculatum*) which grows all along the spine of the Barberry crest.

SKYLINE RESTORATION REPORT: CONT.



The flowers are a clear, sulfur yellow and they just pop on a cloudy day. Each flower head has the trademark 'umbrella shape' that puts them in the parsley family. They have very finely dissected foliage. These will bloom by the hundreds along the rocky crest of Barberry Ridge, but nearly always on the east side. In the summer they die down to a biscuit-like tuber in the ground.

Star lilies are now in full bloom. Here is a close up:



These are reputed to be poisonous, but still lovely. A picture on the next column shows them *en masse*.

This is along the upper terrace just before Skyline Peak. In many places, you will find these by the ones and twos, but at Skyline, they are out by the hundreds. In two weeks' time, many of these will already have faded and be over the hill. Now is the time to see them.

Lastly, wooly mules ears are rolling out. On sunny south slopes a few have already dropped their petals and moved on to making seeds. But in other places, they are just budding. These will be in bloom in various spots for the next few weeks. Here is a close up with a little visitor:



This is yet another species of native bumblebee, different from the yellow-faced and black-tailed ones we have already seen.



Big prize waiting for the proper ID on this one.

Happy Trails,

Glen Schneider

POINT ISABEL RESTORATION

This month was a test of volunteer dedication. And to no one's surprise, everyone passed with flying colors. Rain was in the forecast for our first work party on March 3 but a crew came out and worked between the showers removing oat grass and oxalis from around the California native shrubs and poppies.

On March 10, with another rainy forecast, we held a special work party welcoming the newest group of amazing college student volunteers from Japan who are attending the English Studies Institute (ESI). Ayumi, Manami, Rie, Ryosuke, Sachiko, Shuya, Tetsu and assistant John Alex were our special crew for the day. Along with the project introduction and safety instructions, Tom gave the visitors a (clearly very successful!) class on how to eat bagels. We teamed up two students plus one of our stewards or core volunteers and they set to work amongst the California native plants and the weeds. The crew worked tirelessly through mid-afternoon rescuing countless stands of California poppies (*Eschscholzia californica*) as well as red flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum*), California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), bee plant (*Scrophularia californica*), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*) and more from the encroaching oat grass and oxalis. During the break the students told us what they were studying in Japan and answered our questions about the meanings of

their names. To add to their English vocabulary and to their knowledge of restoration activities we gave them a copy of our Point Isabel FAQ along with an EBRPD bandana as a souvenir of their voluntourism.

On March 17 (Erin Go Bragh!), another rainy day, we worked with Steward Nancy and Core Volunteers Karen and John removing carpets of oxalis and invasive grasses that were taking over the site across from the end of Rydin Road. We fled just as the rains started pouring down. Then the sun shone for two days and Tom and Jane spent the afternoons working under a dead Catalina ironwood (*Lyonothamnus floribundus*) upon which we have grown western morning glory (*Calystegia occidentalis*). We were watched throughout by an Anna's hummingbird who waited patiently for us to clear away the non-native grass from the *Salvia spathacea* (hummingbird sage) with blooms matching the bird's bright pink throat.

Thanks go to all the EBRPD staff, who give us their enthusiastic support for this project. Come and visit Point Isabel in April – it should be spectacular!

Jane and Tom Kelly



The rainy day March crew. Photo by Jane Kelly.

PT. ISABEL RESTORATION CONT.



Above, Gudrun and Japanese students with bagels. Below left, Ayumi, Suya, and Gudrun. Below right, Sachiko, Tom, and John. Photos by Jane Kelly.



RESTORATION IN APRIL

Sundays, Skyline Gardens Restoration, April 1, 14, 21, 28, for 3 1/2 hours. Also most Wednesday afternoons.

Bring: Water, snack, hat, gloves, boots, long pants and shirts. Tools will be provided. A most welcome storm front has helped to ensure the longevity of the recently planted natives up on Skyline as well as encourage more flowers to appear. Now is the time to see white popcorn flowers, pink California currant and blue dicks as well as our Golden State flower, the glorious California poppy!

So far 253 native species have been identified in the mile-and-a-half corridor. (List pdf available on request.) Because of the high density of native plants, it is a great place to botanize, learn, and observe – not only species, but how they behave and associate in plant communities. We will learn natives not only as flowers, but also as seedlings, plants, seed heads, and at rest. We will learn them in community – what species they grow with, and how they disperse and interact. We will learn the botanical seasons in detail.

The project is open to anyone with a strong interest and commitment, regardless of background. Because of the nature of our permit from EBMUD, each outing will be limited to 15 persons, so RSVP is mandatory.

Saturday, April 1, 10 am, John Kenny's crew at Northshore Basin in Berkeley. Contact johnkenny54@yahoo.com.

Saturday, April 7, 2018, 9 am-noon, Sabercat Creek Restoration, Becado Place. For details and registration, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yc7zmajv>. If you have questions, please contact Sabrina Siebert at ssiebert@fremont.gov or call 510-494-4589.
Sabrina Siebert

City of Fremont Environmental Services Division
Office phone #: 510-494-4589
Mobile phone #: 734-649-3795
www.fremont.gov/SabercatRestoration

Saturday, April 7 and Saturday, April 21, 9:30 am, Poand int Isabel restoration. Join Greens at Work near the parking lot at the end of Rydin Road, on the side next to the salt marsh. This crew now carries into the afternoon, with a break at noon if you need to leave for Saturday errands.

Saturday, April 14, 9:30 am, Huckleberry Regional Botanic Preserve, crew led by Janet Gawthrop. Click on this link for more information: <https://www.meetup.com/ebcnps/events/dqwtthxygbsb/>.

Celebrate Earth Week in Garber Park. This year we are celebrating Earth Day all week long with several Habitat Restoration Days the week before Earth Day. We want to make an assault on the invasive weeds and get a head start on making Garber as fire safe as possible. We have projects to suit all ability levels from easy weed removal on flat, easily accessible areas along the Loop Trail to the more heavy lifting

activities of Algerian ivy removal on the steep hillsides along the Claremont Avenue Trail. The City of Oakland will place a green waste bin at the Claremont Avenue parking lot on Monday, April 16. Our goal is to fill the bin by the following Monday when the bin will be hauled away. Please join us for one or more of these days.

Garber Park Stewards, Earth Week Schedule of Restoration Events, Wednesday, April 18 and Thursday, April 19 from 3:00 pm-6:00 pm. Saturday, April 21 and Sunday, April 22 from 9:30 am -12:30 pm.

Come early for drinks and snacks and to meet fellow participants or stay late and join Janet Gawthrop and/or Shelagh Brodersen on a guided walk through Garber. Using our new self-guided trail map to learn about the history of Garber and its abundant native resources, and admire the work of fellow volunteers in this gem of a park at the base of Claremont Canyon.

Meet at the Claremont Avenue entrance, 0.4 miles up Claremont Avenue (towards Grizzly Peak Boulevard) from the intersection of Claremont Avenue and Ashby. For more information, a map, and directions visit our website garberparkstewards.org or contact Shelagh at garberparkstewards.org. Wear long sleeves, long pants and shoes or boots with good treads. We provide gloves, tools, snacks, and water. No experience necessary. Students looking for community service hours are welcome. Anyone under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. For groups of 10 or more please contact Shelagh at garberparkstewards@gmail.com for final arrangements.

Shelagh Brodersen

Volunteer Coordinator, Garber Park Stewards
garberparkstewards@gmail.com
510-540-1918
www.garberparkstewards.org

Sunday, April 15, 9 am and Sunday April, 22, 9 am, Sibley Volcanic Regional Preserve, Oakland Meet us at the Old Tunnel Road staging area on the 3d Sunday to take out your tax prep frustrations on the notorious wall of broom (*Genista monspessulana*, aka French broom, as opposed to Scotch broom or Spanish broom. Park staff provide tools, gloves and water, so it is best to RSVP (but not required) to either sibley@ebparks.org or janetgawthrop47@gmail.com. Steady rain will cancel because of clay soil on the slopes of this work area.

April 28, 9:30 am-11:30 am, last Saturday of the month work party, TASH (Tending the Ancient Shoreline Hill) Email for location – tashorehill@gmail.com. Gloves and tools provided. Wear sturdy shoes and clothes that can get dirty. For more info: www.tendancienthill.org.

Margot Cunningham

Tending the Ancient Shoreline Hill
www.tendancienthill.org

RESTORATION (CONT.)

Saturday, May 4, 4 pm, Hillside Natural Area in El Cerrito, starting from Madera Elementary School on top of the ridge, crew led by Janet Gawthrop

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, April 8, 9:30 am. Fire recovery and succession at Sugarloaf State Park. Join Ann Howald and Milo Baker chapter on this trip to scope out fire followers in the burned areas of this local mountain outside of Santa Rosa. You'll need to bring your favorite plant key or befriend someone from Milo Baker chapter--because this area just burned, this trip will be to find plants rather than vibe them out from an established list. Bring lunch and water for this hike of about 5 hours. You can direct further questions to Betty Young at youngb0721@msn.com or call (707) 595-1463.

Directions to Sugarloaf State Park Meetup points east and west are as follows: From Santa Rosa and points west: Meet Betty at the east end of the Park & Ride lot under Highway 12, across from the fairgrounds. From the East Bay, pick up 101 north from either 580 or 37, drive north through part of Santa Rosa until you reach the exit for Highway 12. **From points east of Sugarloaf:** Meet Ann at the Kenwood Deli, 8910 Sonoma Highway in Kenwood. If you take 80 and then 37 to Highway 121 to reach Sugarloaf Park, then Kenwood Deli will be closer. If you want to meet at the Sugarloaf parking lot, bring \$8 or your state parks pass, and look for Milo Baker folks just beyond and to the left of the entry kiosk. Take 580 west to the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge. Next, take 101 northbound to Highway 12 in Santa Rosa, and then east to the turnoff for Sugarloaf State Park.

THANKS TO CONSERVATION ANALYST DONORS

Conservation Appeal for 2018 - Goal Achieved! The momentum continued as we reach the end of our fiscal year. Loyal and generous members and supporters really stepped up, taking us over our 2018 goal of \$40,000.

In addition, we continue to receive donations to support chapter activities, such as our regular programs.

Many thanks to the individuals and organizations who recently contributed:

Mary Alderson, Maria Alioto, Elena Alioto, Laura Baker, Laura Beckett, Carol Bier, Shelagh Brodersen, Jean Circiello, Adrienne Debisschop, Sheila Dickie, Barbara Ertter, Ronald Felzer, Margaret Flaherty, Holly Forbes, Dorothy Frantz, Lisa Frost, Ellen Garber, Jaine Gilbert, Mary Ann Hannon, Jim Hanson, Peter Hopkinson, Kristen Hopper, Irrigation Equipment Co., Jerry Kent, Allison Kidder, Julie Kinder, Gudrun Kleist, Christopher Kroll, David Margolies, Scott McAfee, Lisa McCarty, Caroline Moyer, Beatrice O'Keefe, Carol Pacht, Sue Rosenthal, Marjorie Sauer, Richard Schneider, Catherine Smith, Edward Smyth, Susan Spiller Acquistapace, Nancy Thomas, Diana Wahl, and Joyce Walton.

Meet again at the parking lot, and we'll figure out where soil conditions make it safest to work (safest for both local flora and us). See Meetup.com/ebcnps/ for details and to RSVP.

Sunday, April 22, 2 pm, David Margolies will lead a trip to Sunol Regional Park. The walk will take the Canyon View Trail to Little Yosemite and return along the fire road. Meet at the bridge near the visitor's center. The walk is about two miles long and will take about two hours, with several hundred feet up and down. We will see and identify wildflowers and trees. There should be many wildflowers, including two *Calochortus*, wind poppies, gillias, goldfields, and more. There is a parking fee.

Saturday, May 5, 4 pm, Janet Gawthrop will lead a beginner-oriented plant walk at Hillside Natural Area in El Cerrito. I will be looking for the Oakland star tulip population, but there are many other species of native plants here. We will start from the recently acquired open space next to Madera Elementary School. For the car-haters among us, you can get up the hill to Madera School by taking the AC Transit #7 bus from El Cerrito del Norte BART.



Miriam, Ryosuke, and Rie working at Point Isabel. Photo by Jane Kelly.

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Committees are formed based on chapter needs and the interests of volunteers. Proposals for committees and projects are welcome and will be considered by the Board

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