

January 2018



The Bay Leaf

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

www.ebcnps.org

www.nativeherenursery.org

JANUARY MEMBERS' MEETING

Photo Sharing Night!

Wednesday, January 24, 7:30 pm

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

East Bay CNPS photo sharing nights are eye-popping, educational, and fun. Everyone is invited to share photos or videos of flora, fauna, landscapes, gardens, hikes, trips and adventures, work parties, plant art, you name it! Come to share your images or just to enjoy those that others bring. Non-members are welcome to present and/or enjoy, and both amateur and pro photographers are invited and appreciated.



Conway Summit, Eastern Sierra, October 16, 2010, photo by Tucker Hammerstrom (CC BY-ND 2.0).

Guidelines

1. **IMPORTANT:** Please contact Sue (programs@ebcnps.org or 510-496-6016) by January 17 if you want to show photos or videos. Each presenter will have time for up to 20 images or up to 7 minutes of video. Bring images you think will appeal to nature lovers.
2. Provide your images in advance so we can reduce set-up time at the meeting.
3. When you contact Sue (by January 17), you'll receive a link to an online Dropbox for this meeting, along with instructions on how to upload your photos or videos. If you haven't used Dropbox before, rest assured that it's easy to upload images (and less stressful than trying to do it via flash drive on the night of the meeting). Dropbox can

accommodate large file sizes. Upload your PowerPoint, digital images, or videos to the Dropbox by January 22. Sue will be available to help if you have questions or problems with uploading.

4. Prints are also welcome; we'll have a table on which you can display them.

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

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.

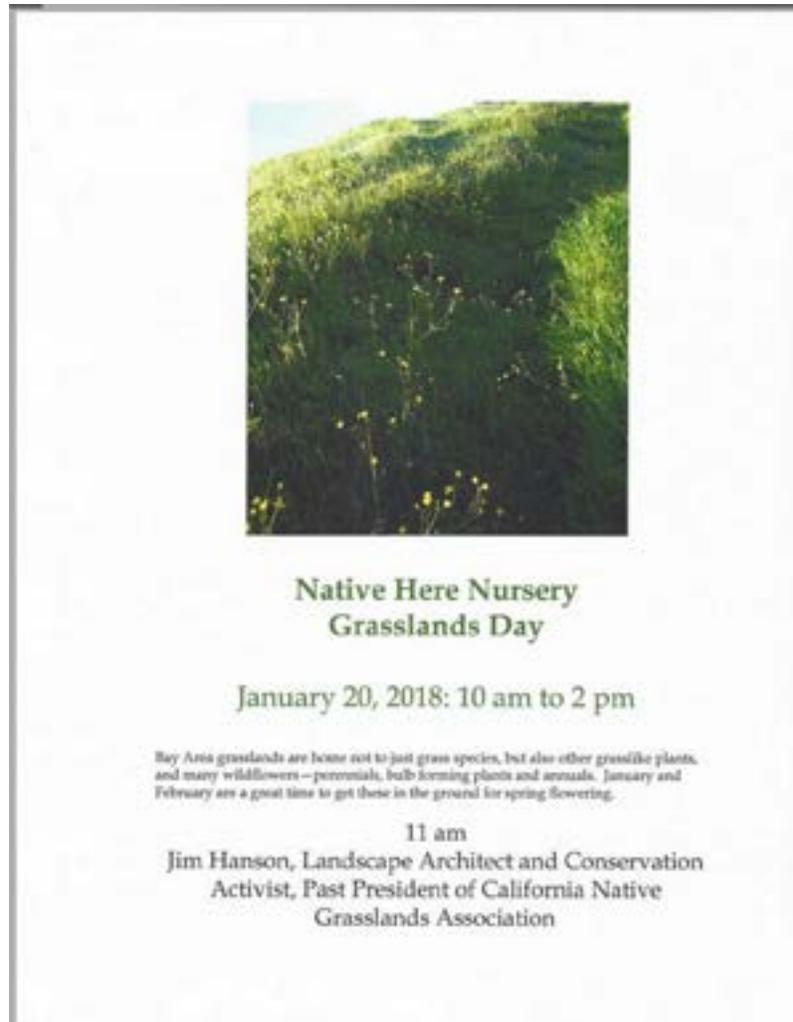
Once on Orinda Way, go 1 short block to the parking lot on the southeast side of the two-story building on your right. There is additional free parking beneath the building as well as on the street.

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.

Next Month's Program

February 28, 7:30 pm, Orinda Library Garden Room
Leslie Buck—*Cutting Back: Garden Memoir Reading and Pruning Demonstration*

NATIVE HERE NURSERY GRASSLANDS DAY, 1/20/18



NATIVE HERE NURSERY

As we start the new year, we continue to thank our loyal customers who have been so steadfast in purchasing plants through the years. Customers made Fall 2017 a great time for the nursery, coming to our monthly special sales events for manzanitas, ferns, riparian plants and trees. Many favorable comments were received about our speaker series that introduced each of the special events. These special events will continue in 2018, with our Grasslands Day on January 20 and Trillium and Other Treasures on February 24.

The speaker for Grasslands Day will be Jim Hanson, a Bay Area landscape architect, past president of the California Native Grasslands Association, and chair of the Conservation Committee of the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. This promises to be an engaging day at the nursery. For details of this event and for others in the series, please see the nursery website at www.nativeherenursery.org, which also contains mid-month updates of our plant inventory.

Volunteers are the key to the continued success of the nursery. We have an active team of experienced and permitted seed

collectors who provide so much of the initial seed inventory, and, at the nursery, a dedicated core of volunteers who work one or more of our open days, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays to provide customer support, propagation, grooming, watering and nursery maintenance, as well as any of the many last minute needs it takes to keep things going. Our student volunteers generously represent far off lands and provide a special international flavor to the nursery. If working with plants intrigues you, and if you would like to be with other wonderful volunteers, please consider dropping by during our open hours on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and sign up to volunteer or contact our volunteer coordinator Ruth Ann Pearsons rpearsons1@mac.com.

John Danielsen
Native Here Nursery

RESTORATION PROJECTS

On Wednesdays 2 pm to 5:30 pm and Sundays 9:30 am-1 pm, Skyline Gardens Project holds workday in the Berkeley/Oakland hills on Skyline Trail and its environs. RSVP Skylinegardens@ebcnps.org if interested. The Skyline Gardens Project is a combination botanical survey and restoration project in the Skyline Trail area of the Oakland-Berkeley Hills. The purpose is to document the native flora and to remove invasive plants to restore the full native diversity of the area. The project is sponsored by the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) in collaboration with East Bay MUD. We hold workdays twice weekly, Wednesday late afternoons (after work), and Sunday mornings for three and a half hours.

Saturday, January 6 and Saturday, January 20, Saturday, December 2, 9:30 am, Point 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, January 6, 9 am to 1 pm, park restoration French broom removal. For event location and meeting place, lease contact park staff via phone: 510-544-3127, or email: redwood@ebparks.org. No registration required. Rain cancels event.

Sunday, January 7, 10 am-1 pm, Eastshore State Park north shore basin/Schoolhouse Creek outlet John Kenny leads this monthly weeding and planting group, but you can show up without RSVP.

Saturday, January 13, 9:30 am, Huckleberry Regional Botanic Preserve. Meet at the parking lot, where we look at weather and soil to decide the best worksite for the month. We had enough volunteers this month to split and work on two locations. With luck, there may be early flowers on the pallid manzanita. Heavy rain will cancel (soil erosion on slopes).

Sunday, January 14, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, park restoration French broom removal. For event location and meeting place, please contact park staff via phone: 510-544-3127, or email: redwood@ebparks.org No registration required. Rain

FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, January 7, 2018, 2:00 pm, field trip to Huddart County Park to see fetid adder's tongue

Location: Huddart County Park, 1100 Kings Mountain Road, Woodside (San Mateo County) California

Meet in the parking lot just past the pay station. David Margolies (510-393-1858 cell, divaricatum@gmail.com) will lead a hike on the Crystal Springs Trail where fetid adder's tongue (*Scoliopus bigelovii*, Liliaceae) usually blooms in early January. (In most locations outside botanical gardens it blooms in late January or early February. We have seen it here almost every year except 2013 and 2016.)

cancels event.

Jeremy Saito | Recreation Supervisor | Interpretive and Recreation Services, East Bay Regional Park District
jsaito@ebparks.org | www.ebparks.org

Saturday, January 20, 9:30 am-12:30 pm. Please join us for our first workshop in 2018, Garber Park. Workshop with Lech Naumovich: Fungi, Soil and the World Beneath Us: Restoration in Focus. Lech will be guiding us on a walk through the damp forests of Garber Park specifically with eyes on the world below. We will talk about basic fungal ID, timing, and reproduction as well as nutrient cycling and their use in restoration as amendments. We will dig into the soil and ID some anatomy of the fungus. FYI - January is typically a good month for seeing lots of fungi - especially if it's a warm, dry winter, which this one appears to be so far.

Meet at the Claremont Avenue entrance to Garber, sign in, enjoy some coffee and snacks. Wear: long sleeves and pants and sturdy boots or shoes as the trails and slopes in Garber are rugged and steep.

RSVP to Shelagh garberparkstewards@gmail.com as space is limited. Directions or more information can be found at garberparkstewards.org.

Shelagh Brodersen

Sunday, January 21, 9:00 am, Sibley Park Meet at the Old Tunnel Road staging area. If the Bay Ridge trail is muddy then we will start in from the paved road above the wall of broom. If you have questions e-mail janet-gawthrop47@gmail.com or sibley@ebparks.org.

Saturday, January 27, 9:30-11:30 am, Friends of Albany Hill for the last Saturday of the month weeding and planting work party. Email for location (address below). Gloves and tools provided but bring a favorite weeding tool if you like. Wear closed-toed shoes with good traction and clothes that can get dirty. Long pants and long sleeves recommended. For more info: friendsofalbanyhill@gmail.com, friendsofalbanyhill.org.

Margot Cunningham, www.friendsofalbanyhill.org

This is a gentle trail, losing about 200 feet over about 1/2 mile to the creek. We will walk to the creek and then return the same way. It is unlikely that there will be any other flowers out this early, but the fetid adder's tongue's presence tells us that the new flower season has started.

Plants out of flower will also be identified. The area is second growth redwood and mixed evergreen forest.

See www.meetup.com/ebcnps for more information.

CONSERVATION ANALYST APPEAL DONATIONS

Conservation Appeal for 2018 - We're getting close to our goal! Our generous members and friends continue to respond to our appeal, bringing us ever closer to our 2018 goal of \$40,000 to sustain our Conservation Analyst and conservation activities.

Loyal members also continue to provide donations to support Chapter activities. Many thanks to all below for your donations received this fiscal year:

John Alcorn, Mary Alderson, George Ayala, Elly Bade, Ronald Barklow and Viola Saima-Barklow, Robert Berman, David Bigham and Howard Arendtson, Terry Blair, Susan Blanc, Peter Boffey, Barbara and Robert Brandriff, Zelda Bronstein, Margaret Brostrom, Robert Case, Carmen Castain, Sheila Castilla, Albert Chung, Jean Ciriello, Patricia Coffey, Carol and Robert Coon, Margot Cunningham, Charli and John Danielsen, Jessica Davenport, Elizabeth Davidson, William Davis, Sally de Becker, Adrienne Debisschop, Mark Dettman, Tri Do, Julie Dobson, John and Lisa Doyen, Sue Duckles, Chris Erickson, Barbara Ertter, Leesa Evans, Nada and Bruce Ferris, Mary Fisher, Gerald Ford and Holly Forbes, Judith Frank, Gordon and Jutta Frankie, Dorothy Frantz, Christine Gaber, Ellen Garber and Glenn Hunt, Linda Gavenda, Clara Gerdes, David Gilpin, Sara Goolsby, Greenberg Family Trust, Sandy Pearson Greenwald, Ann Gurbaxani, Helen Hancock, Marguerite Harrell, Christie and John V. Hastings, Barry and Ellen Hecht, Claudia and Scott Hein, Hillside Gardeners of Montclair, Peter Hopkinson, Kristen Hopper, Bill and Lesley Hunt, Mike and Karen Ivankovich,

Ashok Jethanandani and Arvind Kumar, Robert Jolda, Nicole Jurjavcic, Jane and Tom Kelly, John Kenny, Caroline Kim, Marian Kirch and Cindy Siegel, Gudrun Kleist, Marcia Kolb, Jill Korte, Eve Lednicki, Elizabeth Leite, Nancy Leite, Barbara and Philip Leitner, David and Evelyne Lennette, Ed Leong, Arthur Levy, Patricia Litton and Peter J. Ralston, David Loeb, Barbara Lyss, Matthew Madison, Ruth Malone, Tamia Marg, William McCormack, Jean McKenzie, Shirley McPheeters, Christina McWhorter, Jamie Menasco, Jon Merkle, Louise Miller, Brian Napolitan, Lech Naumovich, Linda Newton, Roberta O'Grady, Beatrice O'Keefe, Charles and Anne Olsen, Sharon Ordeman, Elizabeth O'Shea, Ellen Pearce and Linda Aurichio, John Roberts, Cecelia Ronis and Sandy Steinman, Rose Foundation, Krehe and Katherine Ritter, San Leandro Garden Club, Carol Schneider, Judy Schwartz, Pamela Seifert, Brenda Senturia, Greti and Carlo Sequin, Mardi Sicular-Mertens, Jake Sigg, Shirleymae and Igor Skaredoff, Suzanne Skrivanich, Karen Smith, Elizabeth Sojourner, Lionel Sorenson, Robert Sorenson, Douglas Stinson and Joy Barnitz, Ruth and Donald Stiver, Aaron Sunshine, Mary Jo Sutton, Sylvia Sykora, Ted Tawshunsky, Delia and John Taylor, Steve Toby, Laurie Umeh, Liz Varnhagen, Linda Vida-Sunnen, Elizabeth and Craig Wahl, Jeanne Walpole, Stephen Walsh and Brenda Buxton, Karen Wetherell, Shirley White, Susan Wickham, Joe and Doris Willingham, Christina Wistrom, Jessica Woodard, Elaine Worthington-Jackson, E William and Mary Alice Yund, David Zippin, Roberta Zorzynski



The December work crew, including the students from Japan attending the ESI school. Photo by Jane Kelly.

POINT ISABEL RESTORATION REPORT: DECEMBER 2017

December was a big month for hundreds of California native plants.

On December 2nd we welcomed a total of 21 volunteers to Point Isabel including a crew of eight Japanese students attending the English Studies Institute (ESI) chaperoned by their leader Brian. New volunteers Glen, Nathan, John (who arrived 4 weeks prior from Washington DC), and microbiologist Claire joined Nina, Miriam, John Kenny, Gudrun, Mayu, Sue Schoening + Snowy, Rob and Janet Gawthrop.

The volunteers planted 18 blue wild rye (*Elymus glaucus*) and 20 red fescue (*Festuca rubra*). We spoke about the value of these plants as perennial grasses with deep root systems sequestering CO₂ and with seeds that are irresistible for our local birds. With the assistance of Steward Sue and Core Volunteer Miriam, the crew also planted 4 young coffeeberry (*Frangula californica*) shrubs donated to the project by Miriam. After getting the plants into the ground and irrigating them the volunteers cleared oat grass from around the newly planted California grasses and they cut down fennel across the Hoffman Channel. We also removed newly emerging oxalis. If anyone has discovered a fool-proof and environmentally safe method for eliminating oxalis we welcome your advice! "Our" Ridgway's Rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*) showed up again sheltering in the lizard tail (*Eriophyllum staechadifolium*) as the tide rose in Hoffman Marsh. We spotted many snowy egrets and mallards in the marsh.

On December 16th, in a relentless wind storm, a determined and experienced volunteer crew succeeded in planting and irrigating all the remaining plants donated by the EBRPD. These included deerweed (*Acmispon glaber*), California sage (*Artemisia californica*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) great salt bush (*Atriplex lentiformis*), California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*), lizard tail (*Eriophyllum staechadifolium*), lippia (*Phyla nodiflora*), toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), California wild rose (*Rosa californica*), black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), and bee plant (*Scrophularia californica*). We will continue to irrigate these precious new plantings until we have significant rain. It's time to say thank you to all those who made this project expansion possible: Scott Possin, our EBRPD Supervisor, who enthusiastically supports this project and who advocated for the plant stipend; the Contra Costa County 2017 Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund whose grant allowed us to purchase soil, tools and gloves needed for all the work accomplished in summer and fall; the Watershed Nursery in Richmond for growing such healthy plants for us; our great EBRPD Ranger Bruce Adams; and all the amazing volunteers whose energy and support inspires us. All the previous plantings are starting to awaken so please stop by one day to see how amazing everything is starting to look!

Jane and Tom Kelly
Photos by Jane Kelly



An ESI student at work (upper left), red fescue planted (lower left), and California sage brush planted (right). Photos by Jane Kelly.



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Officers and Committee Chairs serve on the Board

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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