



December 2018

The Bay Leaf

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

www.ebcnps.org

www.nativeherenursery.org

BALLOT INSERT IN THIS PRINTED EDITION

This edition of the December 2018 *Bay Leaf* contains an insert with a ballot for election of Chapter officers. Please mark and mail in your ballot.

MEMBERS' MEETINGS IN 2019

East Bay CNPS Members' Meetings are great for:

- Learning about native plants (and wildlife) and their habitats
- Virtually visiting beautiful and interesting places
- Being inspired by conservation challenges and success stories
- Meeting people who share your interests

Our meetings are always free and open to everyone, members and nonmembers alike. We meet at 7:30 pm on the fourth Wednesday evening of the month in January-May and September-November, with a slight adjustment in the schedule to avoid Thanksgiving week. Most of our meetings take place at the Orinda Library, which is centrally located in our big, two-county chapter area.

2018 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The numbers:

- 228 new members joined our chapter from January through October 2018
- Almost half of these new members are from east of the Berkeley/Oakland Hills
- Our net gain was about 155 members

The analysis:

Back in April of this year a *Bay Leaf* article discussed looking to eastern Alameda and Contra Costa counties, both to focus on conservation issues and to promote CNPS at Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour (<https://www.bringingbackthenatives.net/>). A number of engaging volunteers worked at membership tables of east-side gardens at the BBTNT event

We welcome your ideas for topics or speakers (some of our best programs have come from members' suggestions), so please feel free to contact programs@ebcnps.org with your ideas.

Here's what's coming up in the next few months:

December: No meeting (happy holidays!)

January 24, 7:30 pm, Orinda Library Garden Room:
Cynthia Powell: New Calflora Tools for CNPS Users

February 27, 7:30 pm, Orinda Library Garden Room: TBA

March 27, 7:30 pm, Orinda Library Garden Room: Ann Riley:
Restoring Unlikely Urban Environments

and coincidentally we gained 102 members in these areas. Cause and effect? I think so!

And why was the net gain not 228 members? Because alas even EBCNPS members are human and despite best intentions, many forget to renew. Starting last year, we have been sending reminder emails to those with recently-lapsed memberships, and though the reminders have been effective, sometimes the Membership Committee lapses also and the reminders are not as timely as they could be.

Sally de Becker

Membership Committee Chair
ebcnps-membership@ebcnps.org

NATIVE HERE NURSERY YEAR END REPORT

Our year got off to a good start with a couple of successful special events and, at the end of the fiscal year in March, our first profit in several years. Then in May things took a turn for the worse when Charli Danielsen, our founder and propagation manager, had a serious stroke. We had a difficult summer without her and her husband John, but our many volunteers made extra efforts. We did cross training for several tasks to make people more self-sufficient, and we got through it. John returned to the nursery in August, supervised the propagation effort, and was available to answer questions.

Both our inventory assistants resigned in August. After a two-month delay, we received permission from the state CNPS office to hire new ones. We'll start interviewing the week after Thanksgiving.

We submitted our final application for a state CNPS phytophthora grant and received word that we had been recommended for funding; we must supply a 50% match. We have some last items to clear up and then we'll sign a contract with the CNPS state office.

NATIVE HERE NURSERY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Running a nursery as large as Native Here—the largest CNPS chapter-run nursery in the state—is a multi-faceted enterprise requiring all kinds of skills. If you would like to get to know native plants better—and work with a team of friendly, dedicated, knowledgeable people—there is a place for you at Native Here!

We love dependable volunteers with a regular time slot for many tasks, but we also have lots of one-time, on-call, or flexible jobs. Most jobs are at the Nursery during our open hours, some can be done when the Nursery is closed, and others can be done at home. Here are some examples:

- **Propagation:** most potting is done on Tuesday afternoons, Friday mornings, and Saturdays when the nursery is open. You can learn a lot about native plants alongside this highly experienced team. Drop-ins are welcome.
- **Watering:** this essential need is greatest in the dry season, best for someone who can commit to a fairly regular schedule. Watering is a lovely, meditative task, and can be done when the Nursery is closed and you share the space with the wildlife.
- **Grooming:** who doesn't benefit from a little grooming to look one's best? The same is true for plants. Less demanding than the preceding, very flexible timing.
- **Infrastructure:** we have ongoing maintenance, such as bench improvements, and one-time projects of many

Meanwhile, we continue to work on our infrastructure projects. The tree work is complete. We've started cleaning out 20 years of junk behind the back fence in preparation for EBRPD removing some pine trees. The grant-related work of raising our plant benches continues; we're nearly a third done. Our last maintenance project for the year is to buy and spread some more chips.

All these projects plus the grant matching funds will use up most of last year's profit, but the nursery will be in a position to move forward. Next year we'll focus on doing exactly that – streamlining some of our procedures, looking at ways to gather better data, doing more marketing and publicity, and training more volunteers.

Sales have been good and attendance at our special events has been gratifying. We have two more events planned – one in January, and another in early March featuring flowering annuals.

Lesley Hunt

kinds. Electrical, plumbing, carpentry, and general skills are welcome. We have jobs for group service days.

- **Customer support:** become a docent! See accompanying article.
- **Administrative support:** we can always use more help with all kinds of office functions, recordkeeping, running errands, and generally keeping things humming.
- **Outreach:** love native plants and want to share with the world? We would love more publicity! Great opportunities if you like to write, photograph, speak to groups, or maintain our public presence in the media.
- **Phytosanitation:** Native Here is constantly improving its systems and practices for ensuring our plants are healthy and happy. For example, we will soon be getting some new equipment to sanitize soil and pots and need someone to take charge of its operation and documentation.
- **Seed collecting:** this is for advanced volunteers at the Nursery, an opportunity to learn the art of ethical seed collection with John Danielsen. Seed collection forays are usually on Tuesdays from spring through fall or early winter.

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Ruth Ann Pearsons at rapearsons1@mac.com.

Barbara Leitner
NHN Committee

BECOME A DOCENT AT NATIVE HERE NURSERY

This is a great opportunity to learn about growing locally native plants from the people who know them best!

You can become a docent/salesperson at Native Here Nursery. Learn the basics of how the Nursery is organized and operates, informational resources about native plants, and the cultural needs of the most popular species grown at Native Here. Some classes will be held at the Nursery; others will be tours of Alameda and Contra Costa County gardens featuring local native plants, and walks in parks to visit native plants in their natural homes.

Registration is \$20 for a six-class series beginning Saturday, January 26 at Native Here Nursery. You must attend at least four sessions.

FIELD TRIPS

Tuesday, December 25, 2018, Manzanitas, Toyon at Mount Diablo, hosted by Gregg Weber

See this notice for more information: <https://www.meetup.com/ebcnps/events/rdjpgmyxqbf/>

Sunday, January 6, 2:00 pm, field trip to Huddart County Park to see fetid adder's tongue

Leader: David Margolies

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 will lead a hike on the Crystal Springs Trail where fetid adder's tongue (*Scoliopus bigelovii*, Liliaceae) usually blooms

RESTORATION PROJECTS

Skyline Gardens restoration: Workdays are held twice weekly, Thursday afternoons (after work) and Sunday mornings for three hours each. Since May 2016, 88 volunteer workdays have been held, involving 142 people in some 550 volunteer shifts totaling over 1600 hours on site. Click on this link for more information: <https://www.skylinegardens.org/contact>

Saturday, December 1 at 9:30 am Greens at Work at Pt Isabel with Jane and Tom Kelly. Join Greens at Work near the parking lot at the end of Rydin Road, on the side next to the salt marsh.

Sunday, December 2 at 10 am, Northshore Basin weeding and planting (if it ever rains again) with John Kenny at Eastshore State Park.

Saturday, December 8 at 9 am Sibley Park, starting from Old Tunnel Road staging area.

Sunday, December 9 at 9 am Redwood Park French broom bash, starting from Pinehurst Gate.

Your commitment to the Nursery is to help with sales once monthly on Saturdays during open hours (10 am-2 pm). Scheduling is flexible. When you complete 12 volunteer hours you will receive a gift certificate for \$20 to be used at Native Here.

To start, all you need is a willingness to learn and a desire to help customers with their native plant needs.

Native Here Nursery is located in Tilden Regional Park at 101 Golf Course Drive.

To sign up or get more information, contact Barbara Leitner at bleitner@pacbell.net.

Barbara Leitner

in early January. (In most locations outside botanical gardens, it blooms in late January or early February. We have seen it here every year except 2013.)

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. (Other plants out of flower will also be identified.) The area is second growth redwood and mixed evergreen forest.

See [meetup.com/ebcnps/](https://www.meetup.com/ebcnps/)

Saturday, December 15 at 10 am Garber Park Stewards, starting from Claremont Avenue trailhead above the hotel 17 at 9:30 am Huckleberry Park, starting from the parking lot.

Sunday, December 16, at 9:30 am, help restore Huckleberry Regional Botanic Preserve. Click on this link for more information: <https://www.meetup.com/ebcnps/events/dqwthyxqblb/>

Saturday, December 15 at 9:30 am Greens at Work at Pt Isabel with Jane and Tom Kelly. Join Greens at Work near the parking lot at the end of Rydin Road, on the side next to the salt marsh.

TASH (Tending the Ancient Shoreline Hill). Plant Albany Hill natives on the little hill, Sunday, December 9 and Saturday, December 29, 9 am-11:30 am. Email tashorehill@gmail.com or locations. Gloves, tools, and snacks provided. Wear sturdy shoes and clothes that can get dirty. www.tend-ancienthill.org

Margot Cunningham

POINT ISABEL RESTORATION IN NOVEMBER

In Daniel Chamovitz's fascinating book, "What a Plant Knows", he relates the story of the plant experiments conducted by Charles Darwin and his son Francis that reveal that plants "see". The chapter begins with this quote from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*: "She turns, always, towards the sun, though her roots hold her fast, and, altered, loves unaltered." The book illustrates that parts of a plant have "eyes" that see light. Plants "know", for example, whether you are wearing a red or a blue t-shirt. The recounting of what plants are capable of is a real eye opener.

With that in mind, we have been conducting our own experiment with a tenacious area of Bermuda grass on the Adopt-a-Spot at the corner of Central and Rydin. And we think it fair to report that the Darwins got it right! We tried every environmentally friendly method to get rid of the Bermuda grass and have only now succeeded by laying opaque tarpaulins over the area and covering them with soil and mulch. Nevertheless, though the rhizomes under the tarp remain leafless, the Bermuda grass continues to poke out leaves and flowers around the edges of the tarps. They see the light!

Over these past weeks, we scheduled a special work party at the Richmond Adopt-a-Spot with Steward Lewis and new volunteer Vincent to tarp another large section of Bermuda grass while adding naked buckwheat (*Eriogonum nudum*) to a small collection of buckwheats growing at this spot. We consider the Adopt-a-Spot a gateway to the Hoffman Marsh section of the Bay Trail. If we can keep it clean while showcasing a collection of California native plants, it may encourage passersby to develop a greater appreciation for native plants and the value of volunteerism in improving a section of vacant city property.

Boy Scout Nicholas at work (photo by Jane Kelly).



On November 1, we hosted a terrific Boy Scout (Star rank), Nicholas, from Troop 104 in El Cerrito. Nicholas, who was accompanied by his mother Jennifer, is working on a Merit Badge and is on his way to eventually becoming an Eagle Scout. The work party of 11 volunteers continued clearing the stretch to be planted this coming winter by digging out large fennel root systems, some remaining exotic mallows, and clearing out the annual oat grass. You will see from the accompanying photo just how much of the oat grass was removed!

Along the trail, coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*) is in full seed and California fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*) is still producing her hummingbird attracting flowers. Wildlife sightings this month include a burrowing owl, white-crowned sparrows, a black phoebe, snowy egrets, a great blue heron, Canada geese, turkey vultures, and a sweet pair of mallards.

Very special thanks this month go to Supervisor Scott Possin and staff from the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) and to Greg Hardesty and Shannon Elliott from the City of Richmond for clearing out a new load of trash by the Adopt-a-Spot and for delivering mulch. We are heartened and encouraged by the consistent and friendly support we receive from these crews.

Our next work parties will be held on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays in December and in January 2019. Contact tkelly@kyotousa.org

Have a Wonderful New Year!

Jane and Tom Kelly

Fall at Point Isabel (photo by Nina Barton).



CONSERVATION REPORT FOR THE YEAR

Local media reported this summer that if the Bay Area were a nation it would command the 19th-largest economy in the world, surpassing oil kingdom Saudi Arabia and finance center Switzerland over the last four years.

The internationally high rate of economic growth in the Bay Area has inevitable impacts on natural areas and all of us. EBCNPS works to protect the resilient, but sensitive quilt of native plant communities that hold our soils in place, help filter water, recycle carbon, provide habitat to diverse species, and feed the soul.

This is a chance to say thanks for the work Conservation Committee who take the lead on critical issues - David Bigham, Sally de Becker, Janet Gawthrop, Lesley Hunt, Marcia Kolb, Barbara Leitner, Peter Rauch, Glen Schneider, Judy Schwartz, Beth Wurzburg, and Karen Whitestone (who, after serving as a hard-working Conservation Analyst for over two years, has left to take a position with an

environmental firm). Thank you to Board members Delia Taylor, Barbara Leitner, Clara Gerdes and Sue Rosenthal who organized the annual drive appeal to fund the Chapter's half-time Conservation Analyst position. Thanks to each of you who makes a difference locally by supporting the Conservation fund and by connecting with local elected-officials on conservation alerts.

In the following pages are some highlights of our Chapter's conservation work. As with anything worthwhile, many of these conservation issues take active perseverance, passion, and patience over many years. Each conservation result is worth it. This year, let's become an even more potent voice for conservation of the Bay Area's important biodiversity and natural beauty.

Jim Hanson, Conservation Committee Chair

EBMUD ADOPTS SENSIBLE TRAIL USE POLICY

Following two years of advocacy by the Safe Trails, Environmental Protection Alliance (STEP) the EBMUD Board approved opening two service roads to mountain biking while keeping all narrow trails - including the narrow trail section site of the Skyline Gardens project work - for hikers and horses (left - Eagle's Nest service road was opened for the first time to biking, right - typical narrow trail found along the Oakland

ridges of the Skyline trail and adjoining Regional Park District trails). EBCNPS members Glen Schneider and Jim Hanson represent EBCNPS on the STEP Alliance of equestrian and environmental organizations.



POINT MOLATE PLANNING



Residents call for a balanced plan for Richmond's Point Molate. This summer and fall the people of Richmond completed a community planning ("visioning") process for Pt. Molate. Residents repeatedly asked that the ecologically-rich south valley and bluffs be repurposed from their former use as a WWII fuel depot shipping area to a public resource, including recreation, hiking, and an outdoor family gathering spot. The north valley, where the historic Winehaven building is located, would be the center of commercial, hospitality businesses and other forms of development. When the City Council was presented with the "Pt. Molate Vision Plan" in October, the plan did not include the majority of the public's input that was in favor of a balanced mix of public park and commercial development. Residents spoke out and the Council required that the Pt. Molate Alliance "Community Plan" (above) and a plan with many similar land uses by the Richmond Community Development Enterprise be included in the official

City vision for Pt. Molate (with only Mayor Tom Butt voting "no"). This long-awaited public planning for Pt. Molate takes place against the backdrop of an already-approved settlement agreement between a Council negotiating committee headed by the mayor and past casino developer Jim Levine. That agreement stipulates a minimum number of condominiums be built at Pt. Molate. It was approved before the public's vision came to the Council. EBCNPS has long spoken for the conserving the heritage botanical diversity of the south valley and bluffs. This requires keeping the south valley and bluffs as a public resource, centering commercial development around Winehaven, while favoring housing development downtown where City services and transportation are already in place and where any new housing is likely to be affordable to a greater number of people (map plan courtesy of Pt. Molate Alliance).

VICTORY ON MEASURE FF

CNPS and other environmental organizations helped East Bay Regional Park "FF" funding measure reach 84% voter support. The EBCNPS Board voted to endorse this measure. Members put Yes on FF signs in front of their houses. Some of the natural resources stewardship projects that will be funded by this measure include the Pt. Pinole coastal prairie

management, start up funds for pallid manzanita recovery in Huckleberry and Sobrante Ridge Reserves, invasive weed removal at Miller-Knox, and conservation of lower-fuel load native flora consistent with the District's wildfire risk reduction plan.

SAVE SAND CREEK INITIATIVE



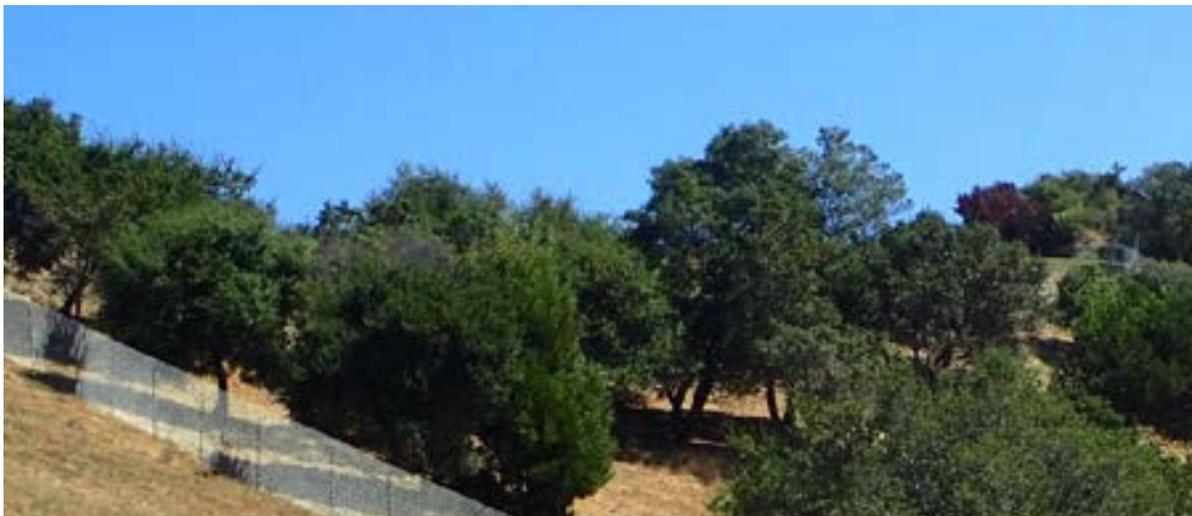
CNPS helped Antioch Save Sand Creek initiative reach the 5,000 voter signature mark. The Sand Creek area in south Antioch was headed to become a sprawl development of over 4,000 housing units until organizations and community members of Let Antioch Voters Decide – Antioch Community to Save Sand Creek organized an initiative to rezone 1,850 acres (shaded area) to less intense development. EBCNPS volunteers, organized by Lesley Hunt, helped gather enough signatures for the initiative to reach and surpass the required 5,000 voter signature mark. The Antioch City Council subsequently adopted both the Save Sand Creek initiative and a somewhat similar initiative by the Richland Development Company that allowed a larger development area (Richland owns the area to the upper right above). Both these successful initiatives are now being legally challenged. This issue is not over. (Graphics provided by Let Antioch Voters Decide – Antioch Community Save Sand Creek <https://letantiochvotersdecide.org/>).

SIBLEY-MCCOSKER PARK EXPANSION

The Sibley-McCosker park expansion plan has substantial benefits overall, but EBCNPS is not in favor of adding mountain biking onto a proposed new narrow walking trail that is also in an ecologically sensitive area. A proposed new narrow Meadow Barley trail the Regional Park District's draft Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) included plans to add mountain biking to a new narrow walking trail in an area of rare and sensitive native perennial grassland. A post EIR botanical report documented five sensitive plant communities in the path of the currently proposed new Meadow Barley trail and two other new trails: Valley Needlegrass Grassland, Foothill Needlegrass Grassland, California Brome Prairie, Dense Sedge Marshes, and White-Root Beds. The post EIR report goes on to state that "these vegetation types are considered sensitive natural communities and are considered to have a high inventory priority based on their Subnational Conservation Status Rank (CDFW 2018)."



OAK PROTECTION AT MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY



One year ago the Mountain View Cemetery filed an Environmental Impact Report with the Oakland City Planning Commission to remove 92 live oaks and build a 7.5 acre cemetery expansion project on the ridgetop above the historic cemetery designed by Frederick Olmstead. The Oakland Planning Commission approved their application in November 2017, but not without adding several conditions advocated by CNPS conservation volunteers who spent tens of hours reading thick documents, writing comments, and speaking at City Hall evening meetings.

EBCNPS appealed the Oakland City Planning Commission's approval of the EIR, Design Review and Conditional Use Permit in order to gain additional protections for oaks at

risk of injury during the construction project. In a settlement agreement with MVC in March 2018 negotiated with the pro bono assistance of attorney Martin Bern of Munger, Tolles, & Olson LLP, they agreed to hire an independent arborist during the construction phase to advise the Cemetery on protective measures for up to 200 live oaks at the limit of grading.

In the last several months the independent arborists are visiting the cemetery as needed to monitor the live oaks that will not be removed. In addition, the Conservation Committee is developing guidelines for an Oak Fund that was negotiated as part of the settlement agreement. Judy Schwartz serves as the Conservation Committee lead on the project. This project was dear to the heart of Jean Robertson.

SAVING TESLA PARK



State legislation to preserve Livermore's TESLA progressed this year. The Alameda-Tesla Expansion Area bill (SB 1316 by Glazer) passed the Senate and made it through the Assembly to the Appropriations Committee. While the bill progressed further than last year's legislative session, it was not released from suspense and therefore did not make it out of the 2018 session. The bill would have allowed the sale of this state property to public agencies for use as a park. Chapter President Beth Wurzburg traveled to Sacramento to support the bill. In the final stages California State Parks communicated their opposition to the bill. Save TESLA Park and supporters, including EBCNPS and State CNPS, will continue to advocate for a change in state policy and work to open new opportunities in the new year (photo- Desert Olive Grove in TESLA area proposed for state off road vehicle expansion. Courtesy Save TESLA Park <http://www.teslapark.org/>)

DONORS TO CONSERVATION FUND

Thanks to the following generous donors, the 2019 fund has grown to \$29,893 as of November 19, 2018! We are almost three quarters there for our goal of \$40,000. We truly appreciate your support!

Donations to the East Bay Chapter's Conservation Program are tax deductible and are used to support a half-time Conservation Analyst position as well as the work of the East Bay Chapter's Conservation Committee. Donations may be made via PayPal at the Chapter's website, www.ebcnps.org, or by check to "CNPS", sent to the Chapter's address: PO Box 5597, Elmwood Station, Berkeley CA 94705.

Dues to CNPS do not go to the chapters and are used for the many important projects of the State office in Sacramento. If a donation is sent to the Sacramento office and is intended for a chapter it must be designated as such i.e. East Bay Chapter.

Ann Adams, John Alcorn, Carl Anderson*, Carol Baumann, James Barse and Loren Corbridge, Luann Beadle, Carol Bieri, David Bigham and Howard Arendtson, Liz Bittner, Terry Blair, Peter Boffey, Richard Bogaert, Barbara and Robert Brandriff, Margaret Brostrom, Robert Case, Albert Chung, Patricia Coffey, Robert and Carol Coon, Elizabeth Crews, Colette Cussary, Mary Frances Dahlquist, Charli and John Danielsen, William Davis, Mary and Jay Davis, Sally de Becker, Isabelle de Geofroy, Adrienne Debisschop, Gene DeMar, Mark Detterman, Tri Do, John and Lisa Doyen, Sue Duckles, David Edelson and Karen Garrison, Chris Erickson, Marsha Feinland, Andrew Fitanides, Gordon and Jutta Frankie, Clara

Gerdes, Krista Glickman, Greenberg Family Trust, Ann Gurbaxani, Miao He, Claudia and Scott Hein, Peter Hopkinson and Wendy Woolpert, Russell Huddleston, Robin Hunter, Toris Jaeger, Ashok Jethanandani and Arvind Kumar, Nicole Jurjavcic, Jane and Tom Kelly, John Kenny, Caroline Kim, Julie Kinder, Arti Kirch and Cindy Siegel, Gudrun Kleist, Marcia Kolb, Kathy Kramer, Eve Lednicky, Barbara and Phil Leitner, David and Evelyne Lennette, Ed Leong, Vera Lis, Patricia Litton and Peter J. Ralston, David Loeb, Ronald Lutsko, Jr., Joel Lym, Matthew Madison, Thomas McCall, Lisa McCarty, Shirley McPheeters, Christina McWhorter, Jon Merkle, Louise Miller, Caroline Moyer, Steve Mullin, Sheldon Nelson, Linda Newton, Meredith Nielsen, Jana Olson, Sharon and Erik Ordeman, Christine O'Rourke Gaber, Elizabeth O'Shea, Anita Pearson, Stefanie Pruegel, Linda Ramus, Kira Reoutt, James Ringland and Karen Ivy, Krehe and Katherine Ritter, San Leandro Garden Club, Carol Schneider, Judy Schwartz, Shirleymae and Igor Skaredoff, Doris Sloan, Karen Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Lionel Sorenson, Robert Sorenson, Douglas Stinson and Joy Barnitz, Ruth and Donald Stiver, Emilie Strauss, Aaron Sunshine, Mary Jo Sutton, Chris Tarp, Delia and John Taylor, Elizabeth Thomas, Iris Tommelein and Jim Lovekin, Laurie Umeh, Michael Vandeman, Jeanne Walpole, Stephen Walsh and Brenda Buxton, Wendy Weikel, Berthold and Risa Weis, Karen Wetherell, Shirley White, Susan Wickham, Steve Wiley, Joe and Doris Willingham, Kelly Woodard, Elaine Worthington-Jackson

*In loving memory of Margo Hart Anderson

MYRTLE WOLF GRANTS

The chapter sponsors research grants to students in East Bay colleges and universities studying aspects of California native plants. Both horticultural and botanical projects are eligible. This year, we sent out announcements for the program in August with a deadline of October 19. Out of the applications, we accepted seven to receive grants. The projects are:

1. Systematics of the genus *Isoetes* (quillworts) in the California Floristic Province. The student believes that there are more species of quillwort than have been described and plans to use DNA studies to demonstrate this.
2. California kelp forest health: obtain results about the kelp forests in Monterey Bay and also study the feasibility of monitoring population health using drones as a demonstration of using drones for monitoring the health of other plant communities.
3. Study of bishop pine (*Pinus muricata*), a relict pine species in California. The project involves seed collection from populations across the range in the state and then testing the fitness of plants from different populations in various controlled environments.
4. Seed collection and seed banking of the rare *Eriastrum errerae*.

5. *Carex albida* is now considered the same as *Carex lemmonii*, and as a result, the few *C. albida* sites are no longer monitored or protected. This study will look at variation within *C. lemmonii* and consider its implications for conservation.

6. The effects of drought on California chaparral plant communities. The study will look at plants on greenhouse, doing chemical and spectral analysis and then see whether data collected by drones can be used to monitor community health during droughts.

7. Genetic studies of two rare Bay Area plants (*Streptanthus glandulosus niger*, *S. glandulosus secundus*). These two subspecies have very different distributions, one in two locations with many individuals and, the other is scattered at locations with few individuals. The study will measure the genetic diversity of the two species over their ranges and consider their likely ability to survive environmental change caused by climate change.

At the end of the projects (in about one year), recipients will write an article for the *Bay Leaf* on the research and what was accomplished.

David Margolies

CANDIDATES FOR CHAPTER OFFICERS

Judy Schwartz, candidate for Chapter President, gives this biographical sketch: "I grew up in the East Bay and have been passionate about plants most of my life. Three years ago I became involved in monitoring pallid manzanitas in the East Bay and restoring habitat for them at the Chabot Space and Science Center. As a member of the Conservation Committee I helped to increase protections for the coast live oaks that would be impacted by the new development plan at Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland. If I become President of our chapter, I will look forward to becoming involved in more of our chapter's conservation projects.



Sally de Becker, candidate for Chapter Vice President, currently is the Membership Committee Chair, has been a member of CNPS since 1982, and in the past served our chapter as President, Vice President, and Field Trips Committee Chair. She grew up at the foot of Mount Tamalpais always hiking there and throughout California with her family. With that background, who wouldn't fall in love with California flora, even if while at UC Davis, she earned a Zoology degree.



David Margolies, candidate for Chapter Treasurer, was born in Washington DC and moved to California in 1970 to attend graduate school at UC Berkeley, where he was awarded a PhD in Mathematics in 1977. After working at a government lab for some years, in 1985 he joined Franz Inc., a local software company, where he has worked ever since. He became interested in plants as an adult and learned about them from Glenn Keator, taking courses at the California Academy of Sciences. He is an active volunteer at the Jepson/UC Herbaria and regularly takes Jepson courses. He joined CNPS in the 1990s, and soon started giving field trips for the chapter. He has been assistant editor of the *Bay Leaf* for some years and treasurer of the chapter since 2010. He lives in Oakland.



Clara Gerdes, candidate for Chapter Corresponding Secretary, has been a member of the California Native Plant Society for a number of years and the Corresponding Secretary since 2014. Clara has been a dedicated volunteer for restoration projects in Redwood Regional, Huckleberry and Sibley regional parks, where she wields her weed wrench with enthusiasm. Clara gained her appreciation for the outdoors and the environment from her mother, taking long walks along the paths and woodlands of western Michigan.



Sue Duckles, candidate for Chapter Recording Secretary, is a biomedical scientist. She grew up in Oakland, close to Redwood Park, where she developed a life-long love of wild places. After a career as a medical school Professor, Sue and her husband returned to Oakland, where she spends her time maintaining a large native plant garden reclaimed from an ivy covered hillside, volunteering at Native Here Nursery, with Friends of Joaquin Miller Park, and as a Weed Warrior in Regional Parks. Sue has served as EBCNPS Recording Secretary for the last three years.

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Vegetation

Megan Keever, Co-Chair
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Nicole Jurjavcic, Co-Chair
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EBCNPS sponsored activities

East Bay Chapter News list

Emailed announcements of upcoming EBCNPS events
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Native Here Nursery

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Penny Spear, infrastructure
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Gudrun Kleist, bulbs
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John Danielsen, propagule collection
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Restoration Projects Leaders

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John Muir NHS (Martinez)
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Marsh Creek
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Tom and Jane Kelly, leaders
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510-684-6484 (c)
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Skyline Gardens
Glen Schneider, leader
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Walnut Creek
Lesley Hunt, leader
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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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