The mission of the California Native Plant Society is to conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants.
Action-Packed April at Elderberry Farms
by Chris Lewis, Nursery Leadership Team

Nursery Leadership Team has a new member! Linda Maurer has stepped up to be a Nursery Leader. You may recognize her when you meet her—she is on hiatus from Effie Yeaw Nature Center where she was a interpretive specialist. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience (geology and education). This hiatus affords her the time to learn more about California native plants. Join Betsy, Robin, and me in welcoming Linda aboard!

Friday Walks on the Parkway One Friday walk while looking for Dudleya we found Saxifraga was in full bloom! Growing together on a north-facing little roadside ditch wall is a perfect little plant community of Dudleya, Saxifraga, Polypodium californicum (a fern), and Narrow-leaf Miners Lettuce. Individually they’re beautiful plants, but together they’re spectacular! I encourage you to get out and explore the American River Parkway.

Wednesday Workdays 9:30 to 12:30 (or so) We will be at the Nursery rain or shine. If it’s raining we’ll work inside the office. Feel free to bring your lunch. Please let Linda Maurer know if you plan to come and help. n8trlady@surewest.net or (916) 202-9307.

Plant Sale Preparation work, Friday April 9 & Saturday April 10 If you can help out with prep work, please contact Linda at n8trlady@surewest.net.

Notes from the Demo-Garden: Spring 2010
by Sabrina Okamura-Johnson

We’ve been busy in the garden this past year with our regular Sunday “garden-parties”, preparing a planting plan for the south area, updating our plant lists and signage and submitting an irrigation plan for the area along the Veteran’s aisles. Below are some notes about what’s coming up and other goings on at the demo-garden.

Open Garden, Saturday April 17. Spring is here and our garden has the blossoms, fragrances, busy bees and hummingbirds to prove it! The native plant demo-garden volunteers have all been busy weeding, deadheading, pruning and planting in preparation for the Historic City Cemetery Open Garden Saturday April 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Open Garden Day will feature history and garden tours of the CNPS Native Plant Demonstration Garden, the Hamilton Square and a raffle will raise funds for garden maintenance. This is an exciting event and a wonderful opportunity to socialize with other community garden enthusiasts. We still need folks to help with setup, take down, staffing the tables and sales, and being available to answer questions about native plant gardening, so please contact me if you can help out.

Earth Day @ the Garden w/ KPMG Volunteers, Saturday May 1. KPMG LLP, an audit/tax service firm, has contacted us about volunteering at the garden as part of their Earth Day activities. About 20 volunteers from the firm will come out on

Spring is here and our garden has the blossoms, fragrances, busy bees and hummingbirds to prove it!

Perennial Plant Garden and the Sacramento Historic Rose Garden. Plant, book and seed sales, snacks and continued on page 6
Partial Plant List
These are some of the native plants that will be available for sale at the Wildflower Wonders Spring Plant Sale on Sunday, April 11. View them on our website: www.SacValleyCNPS.org

Botanical Name
Common Name

**Trees**
- *Acer macrophyllum* - Big leaf maple
- *Acer negundo* - Box elder
- *Aesculus californica* - California buckeye
- *Cercis occidentalis* - Western redbud
- *Cercocarpus betuloides* - Mountain mahogany
- *Fraxinus latifolia* - Oregon ash
- *Pinus edulis* - Pinyon pine
- *Pinus ponderosa* - Ponderosa pine
- *Ptelea crenulata* - Western hoptree
- *Quercus lobata* - Valley oak
- *Quercus wislizenii* - Interior live oak
- *Sambucus mexicana* - Blue elderberry

**Vines**
- *Aristolochia californica* - California pipe vine
- *Clematis ligusticifolia* - Virgin’s bower
- *Loniceria hispida* - Virginia creeper
- *Honeysuckle*
- *Vitis californica* - California wild grape

**Shrubs**
- *Baccharis pilularis* - Coyote brush
- *Ceanothus cuneatus* - Buckbrush
- *Cornus stolonifera* - Redstem dogwood
- *Fremontodendron* (hybrid)
- *Flannel bush ‘Pacific Sunset’*
- *Heteromeles arbutifolia* - Toyon
- *Keckiella breviflora* - Bush beardtongue
- *Lotus scoparius* - California broom
- *Lupinus albifrons* - Silver bush lupine
- *Mimulus aurantiacus* - Sticky monkeyflower
- *Philadelphus lewisii* - Mock orange
- *Rhamnus californica* - California coffeeberry
- *Rosa californica* - California wild rose
- *Rubus ursinus* - California blackberry
- *Styrax redivivus* - Snowdrop bush

**Grasses, Annuals, & Perennials**
- *Achillea millefolium* - Common yarrow
- *Apocynum cannabinum* - Indian hemp
- *Artemisia douglasiana* - California mugwort
- *Aster chilensis* - California aster
- *Carex barbara* - Santa Barbara sedge
- *Carex praegracilis* - Slender sedge
- *Elymus glaucus* - Blue wildrye
- *Epilobium canum* - California fuchsia
- *Eriogonum latifolium* - Wild buckwheat
- *Eriophyllum lanatum var. grandiflorum* - Woolly sunflower
- *Eschscholzia californica* - California poppy
- *Fragaria vesca* - Wild strawberry
- *Grindelia hirsutula* - Hairy gumplant
- *Hoita orbicularis* - Clover family
- *Iris douglasiana* - Douglas iris
- *Juncus effuses* - Common rush
- *Mimulus cardinalis* - Scarlet monkeyflower
- *Mimulus guttatus* - Seep monkeyflower
- *Monardella villosa* - Coyote mint
- *Muhlenbergia rigens* - Deer grass
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- *Muhlenbergia rigens* - Deer grass

**Plant Experts**

**Exhibits:**
- Oak Woodland
- Vernal Pool Grassland
- California Prairie
- Riparian Woodland

For more information or to volunteer:
Betsy Weiland / flweiland@yahoo.com
(916) 488-3894 or
Christina Lewis (916) 812-2876

*Sacramento Earth Day*
Sunday April 11 • 12 noon - 5 p.m.
Southside Park
T Street between 6th & 8th Streets
Sacramento

**Kidz Zone**
- Gardening Books
- Field Guides

**Plant Experts**
- *Plant Holding Area*
- *Plant Valet Service*

**Exhibits:**
- Oak Woodland
- Vernal Pool Grassland
- California Prairie
- Riparian Woodland

www.SacValleyCNPS.org
Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery at Soil Born Farms - 2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova

Nursery Work Days

Wednesdays, 12:30-2:30
Contact Linda Maurer at n8trlady@surewest.net or (916) 202-9307

Sat., 4/3 Nursery Work Day
Contact Chris Lewis lewisc916@yahoo.com or (916)812-2876

Nursery Furlough Friday walks, every Friday.
Sign up for the Nursery’s listserve. Just send an email to: Elderberry_Farms_Native_Plant_Nursery-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Sat., 4/17 9:30 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Historic City Cemetery Open Garden
The Open Garden Day will feature history and garden tours of the CNPS Native Plant Demonstration Garden, the Hamilton Square Perennial Plant Garden and the Sacramento Historic Rose Garden. Plant, book and seed sales, snacks and a raffle will raise fund for garden maintenance.

Fri., 4/23, 8:30 a.m.-noon
Bobelaine Sanctuary History Meets Natural History, Part 1
Leader: John Huls, 284-7021
johnhuls@sbcglobal.net

Meander through this lush sanctuary as John gives a brief history of natural history. Starting with Linnaeus and Joseph Banks, hear about some of the botanical and ornithological explorers from the 18th and 19th centuries. Bring something to sit on, as we will stop several times to appreciate birdsong and floral aromas. Bring lunch to enjoy several times to appreciate birdsong and floral aromas. Bring lunch to enjoy.

April 12-14 Vernal Pool Plant Taxonomy
Instructors: Carol Witham, Nick Jensen, & Dr Robert Preston (invited)
This three-day course is a combination of laboratory and field studies of the taxonomy of vernal pool plants with a focus on difficult genera.
Locations: The herbarium at UC Davis Center for Plant Diversity and vernal pools at Jepson Prairie, Tule Ranch, Rancho Seco, and Howard Ranch
Cost: CNPS members: $395; non-members : $420

April 15-16 Classification of Vernal Pool Plant Communities
Instructors: Dr Michael Barbour and Dr Ayzik I. Solomeshch
An intensive and pragmatic course on plant community identification, sampling design, and ecology. Also reviews general plant community attributes and the relationship between vernal pool community classification and rare species occurrence, conservation, restoration, and vegetation mapping. Experience with vernal pool plants is recommended.
Locations: Yolo Bypass Visitors Center, Davis, and field sites at Glide Tule Ranch and Mather Field
Cost: CNPS members $320; non-members $345

Randy Jensen, Membership Director
See our calendar online at <www.sacvalleycnps.org> for more, updated events and happenings!

Native Plant Demo-Garden Old City Cemetery
1000 Broadway, Sacramento
Sundays, 9 a.m.-11 a.m.
Wear hat, long shirt, boots & bring water, gardening tools, gloves, and knee pads. If interested in volunteering during the week contact Sabrina (916) 929-7896 or soj@surewest.net.

Chapter Meeting & Guest Speaker
2nd Wed. of month, 7:00 p.m.
(Jan-June; Sept.-Nov)
Shepard Garden & Arts Center, McKinley Park, Sacramento
See page 1. Meetings are free and open to the public. Books, Wildflower Seeds, and our SacValley t-shirt always available for purchase. Refreshments. For info: Jen Stock, (916) 443-3484 jstock2409@sbcglobal.net

Chapter Board Meetings
4th Wed. of month 7:00 p.m. SMUD Art Gallery & Community Center, 6301 S Street, Sacramento, CA95817 (Jan-June; Sept.-Nov) For more information call Jennifer Stock (916) 443-3484 or e-mail jstock2409@sbcglobal.net

Ceanothus – Plant identification
Email for date, time and directions.
Michael Bower mjbower@ucdavis.edu
Debra Sykes

Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery at Soil Born Farms - Nursery Work Days
2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova
See page 2. Contact Chris Lewis (916) 812-2876 or lewisc916@yahoo.com for work day schedule. To join the garden listserv, send a blank email to: Elderberry_Farms_Native_Plant_Nursery-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Habitat 2020
Day and Time TBD
For information contact Glen Holstein (530) 758-6787, holstein@cal.net
Hibiscus welcomes news and listings from our Stockton subchapter, serving San Joaquin Valley CNPS Sac Valley members. If you would like to contribute, please contact Martha Mallery at (209) 477-3966 or Bob Stahmer at (209) 943-2277.

Stay up to date on Stockton subchapter activities by visiting them on the web:
http://www.sacvalleycnps.org/stockton/stockton.html

April Field Trips
To be arranged. Call trip leader for more information.
For additional field trips in April please phone (209) 477-3966.

Chico Grunder’s
Table Mountain near Oakdale.
Myriads of goldfields and meadowfoam decorate vernal pools atop this volcanic plateau overlooking the Stanislaus River. Phone (209) 477-3966.

Tuesday April 6
6:30 p.m.
“Sexual Encounters of a Floral Kind”
Nature Center, Oak Grove Regional Park at the corner of I-5 and Eight Mile road in Stockton.
You’ll never look at flowers in the same way again after viewing this mind-boggling DVD about how far flowers will go to attract pollinators.

Native Plant Garden
If you can help for a few hours at the Golden Currant at the Nature Center in Oak Grove Regional Park, please call Martha Mallery at (209) 477-3966.

Meetings
Our subchapter does not have regularly scheduled meetings, but a few of us usually attend the Sacramento programs on the second Wednesday of each month. If you would like a ride, please call (209) 477-3966.

To invite others to join you on field trips, please notify:
Field Trips Chair:
HikingTony@comcast.net (916) 448-3230
Newsletter Editor: bwolf@surewest.net
Webmaster: tjstarbuck@ucdavis.edu

You are welcome to join the field trips of other chapters!
Links to chapter websites and newsletters are at:
http://www.cnps.org/cnps/chapters/list.php

CONSERVATION NEWS

Roseville Vernal Pool studies released
The long awaited vernal pool studies funded by the West Roseville lawsuit settlement agreement are now available on the Placer Land Trust Website.
http://www.placerlandtrust.org/vernalpoolreport.aspx
The Summary Report is a must read!

Mustang Airport expansion approved, appealed
Jim Morgan and Frank Cirill
The Sacramento County Planning Commission approved the proposed expansion of the “Mustang Airport,” adjacent to the Cosumnes River Wildlife Preserve. As the Sacramento Bee reported on 2/22/2010, the expansion would convert the seldom-used private airport to a larger and more heavily used public airport. Preserve partners including the Nature Conservancy oppose the expansion, citing “disruption of large areas of wetland, grasslands and vernal pool habitat as well as danger to aviators from birds such as the hundreds of geese at nearby Horseshoe Lake,” according to the Bee. A Bee editorial (2/25/2010) noted that “the 46,000 acre preserve ... is a critical stop on the Pacific Flyway for migrating and wintering birds and considered a ‘globally important bird area.’”

With 20,000 to 40,000 birds of more than 250 species using the area, it is clear that expanding airport use to a minimum of 15,200 flights per year will considerably increase the risk of bird strikes. The Nature Conservancy and State Lands Commission are appealing the approval to the Board of Supervisors. A hearing is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., April 14 at the Board of Supervisors chambers. Please write to your district representative to the Board of Supervisors, opposing the expansion of the Mustang Airport. Also consider attending the hearing.
Effie Yeaw Nature Center - April 2010
Ancil Hoffman County Park, 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael, CA
All programs are FREE unless stated otherwise. Donations welcome.
Park entrance fee: $5.00 per car or FREE to ARNHA members.
Nature Center Hours: Wed.–Sun., 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Mon.–Tues., 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Please call to confirm hours.
For more information contact: www.effieyeaw.org or (916) 489-4918

New Interactive Exhibit: Bountiful Harvest: An Exploration of Maidu Culture

Friday, April 9 through Saturday, April 17
Creek Week
Be part of an area-wide volunteer effort to improve our creeks by collecting and removing trash and invasive exotic plants.
For information, go to: http://www.creekweek.net/

Sat., 4/10 at 10:30 a.m.
Go with the Flow
Why are water striders, backswimmers and diving beetles so important to the health of a creek, pond or river? Join a naturalist and learn how to get involved in caring for our waterways.

Sun., 4/11 at 1:30PM
Family Friendly Nature Hike
Discover the many plants and animals that live along the American River while enjoying the sights and sounds of Spring.

Wed., 4/14 at 9:00 a.m. – Noon
Phoenix Field Vernal Pool Walk
Meet Jack on Sunset, east of Hazel Ave. and discover the beauty of these rare and amazing seasonal gardens.

Sun., 4/18 at 8:00 a.m.
Habitat Improvement
Our Nature Area needs some special care. Join Jack in making improvements that will benefit our riparian woodland. Call Jack at 967-0777.

Sat., 4/24 at 10:30 a.m.
Wildflower Walk
Join Natural Resource Specialist Mary Maret for a special guided walk to see Nature's spring floral display in the Nature Preserve.

Sun., 4/25 at 10:30 a.m.
Fly by Butterfly
What is a Pipevine Swallowtail? Find out as you explore the life cycle of the butterfly and create your own coffee filter butterfly. Then take a walk throughout the Nature Area and investigate the Pipevine Swallowtail's world.

SPRING FUN DAYS PROGRAM
Pre-registration required, call 489-4918.
$21 per child, per class, space is limited. All classes meet from 9 a.m. – 12 noon.

Thurs., 4/1
Dirt and Bugs Made My Lunch
A close-up look at some creepy-crawly garden helpers, then plant some seeds to take home to your garden.

Help support Nature Center programs. Join the American River Natural History Association (ARNHA)
ARNHA, a nonprofit organization since 1981, supports educational and interpretive activities in the American River Parkway in cooperation with the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. It provides critical fundraising, volunteer and advisory support for the Nature Center’s mission to introduce thousands of school children each year to the beauty and diversity of the Parkway. Due to County budget cuts, the Nature Center needs your help more than ever. Join ARNHA at the Nature Center or at www.arnha.org. Check out the member benefits!

Support Sacramento County Parks by purchasing a Parks Pass at the Nature Center or visit www.sacparks.net

Demo-Garden, continued from page 2

May 1 from 9 a.m. to noon, primarily weeding and cleaning up the garden plots along the Veteran's aisles. We need about 4 people to identify the weeds to be removed from the plots. If the city provides mulch, the volunteers will also mulch the plots. If you enjoy getting your hands dirty and meeting new people please consider volunteering as a weeding-team leader for this event. We also need someone to provide refreshments.

Irrigation Plan for Veteran's Aisle.
Demo-garden volunteer and landscape architect Amanda Meier's irrigation plan for the Veteran's aisles on the west side of the garden has been submitted to City Cemetery staff and the Old City Cemetery Committee for approval. The goal of this plan is to provide 100% irrigation coverage for the grassy Veterans' Plot/Aisle with little or no irrigation of the native plants in our area. To accomplish this the plan proposes to extend the irrigation line east to the native plant area and new rotors/risers to be set up for 180-degree watering of the Veteran Plots. The Sacramento County Sheriff’s work crew will provide the installation work. Steve Meier, Amanda's husband, got Donald Franklin (a Hunter Douglas rep and CNPS member) to donate a box of irrigation heads to this project. Thanks to Amanda, Steve, and Donald Franklin!

Plantings in the South Area. South area preparation and new plantings are almost done thanks to the help of the Sheriff’s work crews and our dedicated volunteers. Some of the plants added to the garden include: bush poppy (Dendronmecon rigidii), Eaton's penstemon (Penstemon eatonii), lemonade berry (Rhus integrifolia), red larkspur (Delphinium nudicaule), serviceberry (Amelanchier alnifolia), soap lily (Chlorogalum pomeridianum), sugar bush (Rhus ovata), and the variegated Carmel Creeper (Ceanothus ‘Diamond Heights’).

Needs/Wish list: Novice gardeners interested in learning about native
plants and to help with basic assignments. Knowledgeable horticulturists to donate 1-2 hours a month to lead general public tours of the garden. Volunteers to work Saturday mornings with Sheriff crews and others. Arborist with access to equipment to prune/top our large Pacific Sunset Fremontias. 1-gallon pots, gloves, hand tools and pruning equipment, shovels, knee pads. Old CNPS bumper stickers (used to label our tools).

Join us and thanks! Please join us this spring at the open garden, Earth Day or any of our regular Sunday work days. Your help with ongoing pruning, mulching, weeding, deadheading, plantings and seeding would be much appreciated. A big thank you also goes out to this past year’s dedicated volunteers: Bridgette Dinaberg, Renate Sperlich, Kim Courtright, Amanda Meier, Alicia Riese, Dana Nolan, Julie Jones, Josie Denzer, Lourei Jones, Paul Townsend, Andy Phillips, Mitchell Alford, Darya Mishchuk and our week day weeder.

As always, we hope to see you in the garden soon.

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Volunteers still needed for Wildflower Wonders at Sacramento Earth Day!
Sunday, April 11

Please contact Betsy Weiland at flweiland@yahoo.com or Chris Lewis lewisc916@yahoo.com if you can help. We still need volunteers for:
- Set up canopies (team of 4) 8:00-8:30
- Plant pick up at Nursery on Saturday
- Plant delivery to Southside Park on Sunday by 8:00 a.m.
- Plant return to Nursery on Sunday at 5:00 p.m.
- Book/t-shirt table - 11:30-2:30, 2:30-5:30, or all day!
- Cashier - 11:30-2:30, 2:30-5:30, or all day!
- Plant advisors - 11:30-2:30, 2:30-5:30, or all day!

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New Chapter Board member

Jill Spear is our new Rare Plants Chair. Jill is a botanist with a passion for plants. She recently graduated from UC Davis as an Environmental Horticulture and Urban Forestry major with a focus in biodiversity/restoration. Jill works part time at Fish & Game mapping rare plants and part time at UC Davis. She has also assisted Ellen Dean with plant collections for projects at the herbarium. Welcome!
April 14 Chapter Meeting: Verbal Pool Visitors

April 14, 2010

Robbin Thorp, Ph.D., UC Davis

Verbal Pool Visitors

New Rare Plants Chair
Stockton Subchapter
Conservation News
California Native Plants
Wildflower Wonders
Elderberry Farms
Demo Garden Notes

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

New Rare Plants Chair

Sacramento Earth Day
Wildflower Wonders Native Plant Exhibit and Plant Sale, green technology, health and wellness, the latest in sustainability, real food, and exciting hands-on activities. ‘Wildflower Wonders’ will be open to the public.
Free admission • Free bike rental • Free parking at 2175 6th St. • Sacramento Effie Yeaw Nature Center • Enter on T, Sal, 6th and 8th Sts. • 9am-11am, April 11, 2-5 pm • Stockton Subchapter

April 10, 2010

Hibiscus

Sacramento Valley Chapter

Hibiscus is published monthly, except for July, August, and December. Subscriptions are $10 per year. To subscribe to this newsletter, send your $10 check to: CNPS Sac Valley Membership, 2707 K Street, Ste. 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113. Deadline for Hibiscus contributions is midnight of the Friday after the monthly meeting for possible inclusion in the next month’s newsletter. Email to bwolf@surewest.net.

Be sure your membership is current! See your address label for your renewal date.

http://www.sacramentoearthday.net

Transit info: http://www.sacrt.com/systemmap/central.stm

Effie Yeaw Nature Center is safe for now, but could be on the chopping block again if the County Parks Board doesn’t agree to a County Parks Pass, requiring applicants to have an RNHA (see page 9). Join the important work by joining June’s Sacramento Native Gardens tour on June 5 at 9 am.

Elderberry Farms on the chopping block again in June. Support the Native Gardens tour by joining June’s Sacramento Native Gardens tour on June 5 at 9 am.

Our chapter meetings are free and open to the public.

Sacramento Earth Day Festival

Wildflower Wonders Native Plant Sale at Sacramento Earth Day!

Sunday, April 11

Wildflower Wonders Native Plant Sale at Sacramento Earth Day!

April 2010 Hibiscus

www.SacValleyCNPS.org

The Sacramento Valley chapter newsletter, Hibiscus, is published monthly, except for July, August, and December. Subscriptions are $10 per year. To subscribe to this newsletter, send your $10 check to: CNPS Sac Valley Membership, 2707 K Street, Ste. 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113. Deadline for Hibiscus contributions is midnight of the Friday after the monthly meeting for possible inclusion in the next month’s newsletter. Email to bwolf@surewest.net.

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