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.

See, I know this!
Plant I.D. with Ceanothus

Ceanothus is back! Join them for an evening of collaborative keying—plant identification. Fun whether you have no plant identification knowledge or are highly experienced in California plant taxonomy, because Ceanothus encourages you to learn and share your knowledge of California plants as you meet other new and experienced botanists.

Chose your group—work at a slower pace with some instruction for beginners, or join a faster paced group for the more advanced. For those with plant identification experience, bring your Jepson Manual, a hand lens, and some plants that you are excited to learn more about.

Ceanothus, California Field Botanists Association, consists of professional, hobby, and student field botanists interested in educating each other to keep botany alive. They create a supportive environment in which to learn botanical identification skills from one another and to share knowledge of plants and plant communities. Visit the Ceanothus website at www.ceanothus.org for other information and upcoming meetings in the Sacramento region.
Native Plant Gardening Committee Launched
by Chris Lewis, Native Plant Gardening Chair

With a wide variety of interests and talents present, the ideas and energy flowed at our May committee meeting. Here are some projects we’re interested in so far. Remember that many of us have no previous experience and that we learn as we go. Feel free to join us! These projects already have leaders and need supporters:

Sacramento Valley Garden Tour – Among the Gardening Committee’s ambitious goals is to sponsor a tour of local native gardens similar to those put on by other CNPS chapters. Linda Roye has agreed to chair this event but is looking for a co-chair. The tour might be as early as next spring, so there is a lot of planning to do to and Linda needs help. Contact Linda at lroye@surewest.net

Public Gardens – Develop a list of places you can see native plants. Member Dennis Dahlin is compiling a list of native plant locations in the Sacramento region, for the Chapter’s use in educating gardeners about the value of native plants. Particularly helpful would be plants in public gardens or other accessible locations where species have been identified with signs. Photos are appreciated too. Send information to dennis@dahlinland-design.com.

Children’s literature – something for toddlers (Go Diego Go just had a program on the symbiotic relationship between hippos and a bird that eats the insects that irritate hippos!) Jann MacDonald is developing a children’s book series starring gnomes. Because of gnomes’ diminutive stature and extensive botanical knowledge, they are an excellent vehicle for capturing the imagination of pre-school children and introducing them to the natural world. If you have a children’s literature project idea of your own, contact Jann at jann.mac@hotmail.com.

Tending the wild – Do you have a favorite public natural spot, perhaps on a trail? The idea here is to organize small work parties to do small restorations that will inspire the general public in a big way! These areas can be as small as 5’x 5’; and should be highly visible and/or botanically significant. 1) Upper Sunrise river overlook: Jennifer Alexander is the contact for this beautiful one. Jennifer’s first workday will be Sat., June 12, from 8:00 a.m.-noon. To help or for more information, contact Jennifer at jennifer.alexander08@comcast.net 2) American River Ranch @ Mile 14, botanically wonderful spot. Chris Lewis is the contact for this one, lewisc916@yahoo.com.

Speaker series – Gardening talks on a range of subjects at local libraries and other free venues. These can be repeated for different groups and venues. Chris Lewis will be organizing this.

- **Lazy Landscaping with Drought Tolerant Plants (native, of course!)** - Chris Lewis will present this at two locations in September.
- **Gutter gardening** - Mary Schiedt
- **Hedgerows** - Mark Berry

Please contact Chris with your suggestions for NP Gardening speakers.

These projects don’t have a leader yet. Are you interested? Contact Chris (lewisc916@yahoo.com)

- **Encourage native plants in Homeowners Associations’ landscapes through guidelines and presentations**
- **Referral list** for landscape designers, garden coaches, and maintenance
- **Foster workshops** such as bringing author Douglas Tallamy (Bringing Nature Home, Timber Press) as a guest speaker (click book title for website)
- **Develop sample garden plans** for soil and exposure; list benefits, e.g., attracts birds/pollinators; Native American uses; drought tolerant; what else?
- **Local Invasive Plant list** (CNPS used to call these “escaped exotics”)
  - Develop mini-presentation to encourage nurseries not to sell invasives
  - Using the Oregon Smart Guide as a template, develop our own version; find funding to develop and publish.
- Your idea here __________________

Next meeting: Wed., June 2, 6:30 at the home of Mark Berry. RSVP to Chris lewisc916@yahoo.com for directions.

Tending the Wild site at Upper Sunrise on American River Parkway
Photo: © 2010 Chris Lewis
Notes from the Demo Garden
By Sabrina Okamura Johnson, Demo Garden Chair

Wow! What a fabulous spring at the Chapter’s native plant demonstration garden in the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery! The hot pinks from the redbuds, golden yellows from the flannel bush and irises, and the lovely shades of blues from the salvias/sages and mountain lilac (ceanothus).

More than 400 garden enthusiasts attended the April 17th “Open Garden” event at the cemetery and more than 45 of them made it back to our native plant garden. There they got free native plant information, adopted some of our “volunteer” babies, and enjoyed a short tour of the garden. The garden volunteers sold books, seeds, and t-shirts, and took in donations which all together raised $145 for the garden and our chapter.

Thanks to Mitchell, Andy, Paul, Bridgitte, Mary Lou, Dana, Alicia, Mary, Kim and her family for making this garden event a wonderful success.

Awesome May 1 Earth Day
Earth Day celebration at our native plant demo-garden on May 1st was blessed with a beautiful spring day and 15 fantastic volunteers from KPMG accounting firm in Sacramento. The volunteers worked in the garden from 9 a.m. to noon, weeding and sprucing up the garden aisles along the Veterans plots, to help us prepare for upcoming Memorial Day events at the Historic City Cemetery. Thanks to KPMG and KPMG staff Becky Correia for coordinating with CNPS for this event and for raising $250.00 in donations for the garden!
JUNE

Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery at Soil Born Farms - 2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova

Nursery Work Days
Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
6/9 - Workday tribute to Elmer Aldrich. RSVP. See page 7.
Contact Linda Maurer at n8trlady@surewest.net or (916) 202-9307

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

Wed., 6/2, 6:30 p.m.
Native Plant Gardening Committee Meeting
Location: Home of Mark Berry. Contact RSVP to Chris Lewis for info and directions. Lewisc916@yahoo.com

Sat., 6/5, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Field Trip to Walker Ridge
UC Davis Center for Plant Diversity
Leaders: Ellen Dean, Craig Thomsen, and Gordon Harrington.
For important information go to http://herbarium.ucdavis.edu/ (click on link at left of photo)
Walker Ridge is a botanical hotspot on the border of Colusa and Lake Counties that is threatened with windfarm development. The vegetation is a mixture of serpentine and non-serpentine meadows and chaparral, seeps, and oak woodland. It is home to rare plants such as crème sacs, Jepson's milkvetch, and adobe lily.
Travel here requires a high-clearance vehicle, and parking is limited along the ridge, so join us in rental vans or carpool.
Cost: Van riders: $30.00 for members, $40.00 for non-members. Non-Van riders: $15. Reservations are required by June 1. Call (530) 752-1091 for more information. Van space is limited to 14.

Sun. 6/13, 7:30 a.m.
Invasive Plants and Your Inner World Walk at William Pond Park
Leader: John Huls, 916-284-7021, johnhuls@sbcglobal.net
Instead of relaxing and unburdening your mind, do you cringe each time you visit the American River Parkway and see all the invasive plants thriving along the trails? Does each step seem to heighten your blood pressure to an unhealthy point and only serve to make your day even worse? Don’t let them get the better of you! Join us as we walk and talk about ways to deal with these non-natives. Wildlife viewing is good here so bring binoculars if you have them. This 2-hour walk will meet in the parking lot at the very end of the park road at William Pond Park, which is at the east end of Arden Way in the Carmichael area. Annual Park Pass or $5 iron ranger fee required.

Sat., 6/26 or Sun., 6/27
California Native Plant Propagation Workshop
8:30 - 11:30 a.m. (includes garden tour)
Help support the “Kids in Native Gardens” program of the Sacramento Valley Chapter of CNPS.
Learn to grow plants from cuttings and bring home cuttings, seeds and rooted native plant starts for your own garden. Your cuttings will be ready to plant next fall.
Location: Native garden of Patricia Carpenter, 36951 Russell Blvd., Davis, CA 95616 (Just west of Road 97, where there is extra parking).
Cost: $25 per person (Note: same workshop each day)
Instructors: Jennifer Hogan, past President of the SacValley chapter and a California native plant gardener for over 10 years; Patricia Carpenter, Gardening Coach - Design and Education
RSVP to Jennifer at (530) 661-3410 or jen.hogan@wavecable.com. Bring gloves and a hat. We'll have all the tools and materials you will need.

Attention School and Community Garden enthusiasts!
Do you know of a school or community gathering place that could use $100 towards buying California native plants to enhance their garden?
Jennifer Hogan will provide this opportunity through the “Kids in Native Gardens” grant program.
Go to the Sacramento Valley Chapter's website http://www.sacvalleycnps.org/gardening/kid.html for more information and to download the grant application. Advice and site visits are included in the program.

JULY

Sat., 7/24, 7:30-9:30 a.m.
Help with Latin Names Effie Yeaw Nature Center
Leader: John Huls, 916-284-7021, johnhuls@sbcglobal.net
Is learning Latin plant names an insurmountable task for you? Then let's learn some together. We will key in on the common riparian plants and their Latin and common names. This is a great outing for beginners but more experienced botanizers are encouraged to come and share your memory tricks. Bring your imagination, binoculars, pen and notebook. We will meet in the Effie Yeaw parking lot at 2850 San Lorenzo Drive in Carmichael, within Ancil Hoffman Park. The only access is via Tarshes Drive. Annual Park Pass or $5 fee at entry kiosk required, or ARNHA membership verification.

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Aspiring trip leaders:
John Huls will help you plan your trips, offer ideas for outings or make sure your field trip is publicized in the Hibiscus and our website. Contact him at 916-284-7021 or johnhuls@sbcglobal.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, CA 95817
(Jan-June; Sept.-Nov) For more information call Jennifer Stock (916) 443-3484 or e-mail jstock2409@sbcglobal.net

Ceanothus – Plant identification
E-mail for date, time and directions.
Michael Bower, Debra Sykes ceanothusfieldbot@gmail.com

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@yahooogroups.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

Field Trips
For more information please phone (209) 477-3966.

Native Plant Habitat Garden
Oak Grove Regional Park, Stockton
Thanks to the generosity of this year’s wet winter and spring, the riparian plants in the creekside habitat have created a jungle. Help! If you can come out and trim wild roses, mugwort, dogwood and native blackberries for a few hours, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Please phone Martha at (209) 477-3966.

In the field
As spring blossoms forsake the Great Central Valley and head for higher elevations, so will we. If you are interested in field trips following the flowers up into the mountains, please phone (209) 477-3966. Possible destinations include the usual: Calaveras Big Trees, Lake Alpine, Carson Pass and Echo Lake. We welcome suggestions for new, unexplored areas.

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.

CNPS 2010 Plant Science Training Workshops
Registration and full details for all workshops:
http://cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/
Contact Josie Crawford at jcrawford@cnps.org or call (916) 447-2677 ext 205.

June 15-17 – Treasures in an Ancient Landscape: Rare Plants of the Eastern Klamath Ranges
Instructors: Julie Kierstead Nelson and Jim Nelson
This field workshop will focus on regional endemics of the Eddys, Scott, and Trinity Mountains, within the triangle of Redding, Mt. Shasta, and Weaverville. This landscape is very old, geologically and topographically complex. We will see many rare plants both generalists and confined to ultramafic (“serpentine”) substrates. Habitats include Jeffrey pine/incense cedar woodlands, mixed conifer-oak forests, extensive rock outcrops, and Darlingtonia wetlands. The workshop will start with an evening presentation followed by two field days.
Meet many of the rare plants of the Eastern Klamath Ranges; understand the factors that make the Eastern Klamath Ranges a hotspot for rare plants; learn about rare plant conservation in the Eastern Klamath Ranges.
Cost: CNPS members $310 / Non members $335
Campsites for two nights provided. Dinners will be (optional) potlucks
For full details see http://cnps.org/cnps/education/pdf/workshop_20100615.pdf
OTHER EVENTS

Effie Yeaw Nature Center - June 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

Special Event: Get Wild at the Nature Center!
Mon., 6/7, 8:45-9:15 a.m. and 9:30-10 a.m.
Peter Gros, co-host of the original Mutual of Omaha’s Wild Kingdom, will stop by for two appearances along with some friends. Gros will talk about what you can do to protect share it with lemurs, fennec fox and a few creepy crawly creatures deliver his message. Live animals from Center and some fascinating natural history biofacts will also be on display. Tickets: $2.50 per person. For more information, call 489-4918.
For information about Mutual of Omaha’s Wild Kingdom, visit wildkingdom.com

Help support the Nature Center
Your generous donation to the Effie Yeaw Nature Center will ensure that we continue to fulfill Effie Yeaw’s vision of providing some of the most high quality and entertaining educational and cultural programs and events in the Sacramento region to children and adults alike. Donations can be made to the County care of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center or through the American River Natural History Association (ARNHA), a 501(c)(3) organization that supports the nature center. Join ARNHA at the Nature Center or at www.arnha.org. Check out the member benefits!

CONSERVATION NEWS

Sutter’s Landing Park at risk
by Laurie Litman

The city has been working on development plans for Sutter’s Landing Park. They recently finished a feasibility study on moving the Sacramento Zoo to this site. Other plans include roads to allow a million people a year to easily access the area. I urge you to look over the Master Plan and Zoo Feasibility Study at http://www.cityofsacramento.org/dsd/planning/new-growth/SuttersLanding.cfm. We need to be vigilant to protect the area. The Zoo Feasibility Study notes many problems with the Sutter’s Landing site and a consultant’s report found it would be too costly. The road access plans the city is discussing would profoundly affect the entire area around Sutter’s Landing, including residential neighborhoods. A survey of the Sacramento community showed that the public prefers passive recreational activities like hiking for the area. Public meetings were held in April and early May. Be on the lookout for additional developments.
Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery
by Chris Lewis

May was an awesome month. Robin Rietz’ expertise in propagating has us looking like an official nursery! Linda Maurer is keeping everyone updated with weekly e-mails. The best way to stay informed is to sign up for our listserv by sending a blank email to: Elderberry_Farms_Native_Plant_Nursery-subscribe@yahooogroups.com, or e-mail Linda at n8trtlady@surewest.net and she’ll add you to her Nursery group email.

Betsy Weiland has been installing and tending demonstration gardens all around the Nursery site. Thanks to the combined efforts of these ladies’ labors and that of all our wonderful volunteers, we’re looking great! Come on out for a Wednesday Workday or look in on us when you’re visiting Soil Born Farm’s Farm Stand on Saturday mornings.

Wednesday June 9 from 9:00-1:00 will be a special Workday for the Nursery. We will pay tribute to Elmer Aldrich, who was instrumental in establishing the American River Parkway. We plan to have stories about his work while we do nursery work, then we’ll have lunch for all attendees. RSVP by June 7 to Chris at lewisc916@yahoo.com.
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SUMMER 2010

June 9 Chapter Meeting: Fun is Key to Native Plants: Plant I.D.

Chapter seeks Co-chair and Programs Chair and Programs Book
Chapter seeks Book

SUMMER 2010—Sacramento Valley chapter 2-day Native Plant sale—Coming in September:

Sacramento Field Botanists Association with Ceanothus

Fun is Key to Native Gardens: Plant I.D.

Last issue until September. Have a great summer!

Coming in September:

Sacramento Valley Chapter 2-day Native Plant sale—In time for fall planting!

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 St., Ste. 1, Sacramento, CA 95816.

Deadline for Hibiscus contributions is midnight of the Friday after the monthly meeting for possible inclusion in the next month's newsletter. Please send your contributions to Jennifer Stock, 916/443-3484, jstock2409@sbcglobal.net.