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.
Welcome new book chair!

Jenny Alexander has stepped up to become our much-needed book chair. Jenny got involved by volunteering at the nursery and then, inspired by Douglas Tallamy’s book *Bringing Nature Home*, joined the chapter’s Native Plant Gardening committee.

Jenny studied fine arts and then advertising and graphic design at the prestigious Art Center in Pasadena. More recently, she studied horticulture at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa where she became interested in native gardens. Jenny volunteered at the Sherman Library and Gardens in Corona del Mar and helped with gardening, fundraising, administration, retail, and garden shows. She has a love for books, organic horticulture, permaculture, and a great interest in creating beautiful and successful native gardens. Jenny’s can be reached at (916) 802-0502 or jennifer.alexander08@comcast.net

Native Gardening Committee Update

Chris Lewis

Public Gardens – We’re developing a list of public places you can see native plants. If you know of any or would like to help, please contact Dennis Dahlin dennis@dahlinlanddesign.com

Sacramento Valley Nature Coloring Book – Modeled on Yosemite’s Sierra Wildlife Coloring Book, we want to develop a coloring book illustrating 16 native plants and their associated critters of the Sacramento Region. We have begun to identify which species are most important to include. Host plants? Endangered species? Symbiotic relationships? Easily recognizable plants? The text will stress connections in nature in very simple terms. We’d like to publish by early 2011. If you can help as artist, writer, graphic designer or publisher, contact Chris at lewisc916@yahoo.com or Alison Shilling at abshilling@mindspring.com.

continued on page 7

Big Changes at the 2010 Fall Plant Sale

*Bring Nature Home*

Change is good! This year the sale is expanded to **two days**—Saturday September 25 and Sunday, September 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. both days.

Bring Nature Home! Choose from an unprecedented variety of American River Parkway natives, lovingly propagated and tended to sale size by volunteers at the chapter’s own Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery.

Stock from Windmill Nursery, Cornflower Farms, High Ranch Nursery, Steve Dowty and member growers will round out the selection.

Plant advisors will be on hand to help you choose the best plants for your soil, light, water and happiness.

Don’t just garden, create habitat!

As invasive species and development push many of our native plants to the brink, consider that your own garden can be a mini-preserve. By planting natives that grow, or formerly grew, on the land you now share, you can provide an oasis of biodiversity. Enjoy the show of butterflies, birds and other wildlife natives will bring to your garden.

Connecting Plants and their Places

New this year is an exhibit, *Connecting Plants and their Places*. Representatives and information from Cosumnes River Preserve, Howard Ranch, Save the American River Association (SARA), Mather Field Vernal Pools, and the new Grassroots Working Group for Sacramento’s Regional Open Space and Parks (GWG), among others, will be on hand inside the Garden and Arts Center. They will illustrate how native plants, wildlife, clean air and water depend on those places, and how you can help save and protect them.

The California Heartland PowerPoint presentation will be on view both days. At 12 noon on Saturday and Sunday, Glen Holstein, Ph.D., chapter botanist and mastermind of the California Heartland movement, will narrate the show, share stories of these precious habitats and answer questions.

Our book sales table will expand to a full-fledged nature store, with gardening books, field guides and nature-related children’s books, plus selected crafts and gardening tools.

There will be activities for kids to enjoy and a cash snack bar to help you keep your strength up.

We need you there!

We’re going to need lots of help for this plant sale. Please e-mail Chris at lewisc916@yahoo.com if you can work for an hour or more. **Our shifts are:**

- **Friday** set up 2:00 - 6:00
- **Saturday** set up 8:00-10:00; and sale time 10:00-2:00
- **Sunday** sale time 10:00-2:00; and clean up 2:00-3:00

Jobs include: Plant Transport (Elderberry Farms in Rancho Cordova to and from McKinley Park), cashiers, nature store and book sales, and plant advisors to help customers with their choices.
Bring Nature Home

Fall Native Plant Sale & Celebration

Don’t just garden, create habitat!

- Plant advisors to help you design your native garden
- Nature Store
- Books: Gardening, field guides, kids
- Kid Zone
- Snack bar

Connecting Plants and their Places

Visit an on-site exhibit of Sacramento preserves and open spaces. Learn what wildlife depends on these special places and how you can help.

At 12:00 noon Sat. & Sun., take an armchair tour with Dr. Glen Holstein of the California Heartland Project!

For more information:
www.SacValleyCNPS.org
Chris Lewis, 916 812-2876, lewisc916@yahoo.com
Betsy Weiland, 916 488-3894, fiweiland@yahoo.com

Sat., Sept. 25
Sun., Sept. 26
10 a.m - 2 p.m.
Shepard Garden & Arts Center
McKinley Park
3330 McKinley Blvd.
Sacramento 95816

California Native Plant Society
Sacramento Valley Chapter

© 2010. Poster design: Barbara F. Wolf / Photo: Christina Lewis
**SEPTEMBER**

**Wednesdays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**
**Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery Work Days**
Located at Soil Born Farms
2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova
Contact Chris at lewisc916@yahoo.com

**Fridays, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.**
**Nursery Early Friday Walks**
We walk several locations along the American River Parkway, depending on what is in bloom or in seed and who knows where they are. Rain or shine. To sign up for the Nursery’s listserv send an e-mail to: Elderberry_Farms_Native_Plant_Nursery-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or contact Chris at lewisc916@yahoo.com.

**Wed., 9/1, 7:00 p.m.**
**Native Plant Gardening Committee Meeting**
Contact Chris for location at lewisc916@yahoo.com.

**Sat., 9/11, 9 a.m.-12 noon**
**Lazy Landscaping with Native Plants**
*Location: Soil Born Farms’ American River Ranch, 2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova*
**Instructor:** Chris Lewis
Join Chris and learn how gardening with native plants creates a beautiful landscape, attracts wildlife, saves money and time and preserves our environment. It’s the drought tolerant way to welcome nature into your yard! Then take a walk to the Parkway to see some of its treasures. Bring your hat, water, and walking shoes. Fee: $20, $15 Co-op owners

**Sun., 9/12, 9 a.m.-11 a.m.**
**Aromatic Plants**
William Pond Park, Carmichael
**Leader:** John Huls, 916-284-7021, johnhuls@sbcglobal.net
We’ll wander the American River Parkway sniffing for the aromatic plants and John will talk about the chemicals that produce the odors that make these plants so interesting and useful. Bring binoculars if you have them as this area is good for birding as well as botanizing. William Pond Park is at the east end of Arden Way in Carmichael. Meet John in the last parking lot at the end of the park road. A Sac County Parks pass or $5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.

**Tues.-Thurs., 9/28-30**
**CNPS Workshop**
**Legends of the Fall: Exploring the clandestine flora of early fall in the eastern Mojave Desert**
*Location: UC Granite Mountains Desert Research Center*
**Instructors:** James M. Andre and Tasha La Doux
This course will introduce botanists to the ecology and taxonomy of the diverse flora of early fall in the eastern Mojave Desert, with special emphasis on rare or unique species. Cost includes meals and dorm lodging for 2 days & 2 nights. CNPS members: $435 / Non-members: $460 FMI and registration: http://cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/index.php

**OCTOBER**

**Sun., 10/10, 9 a.m. – 12 noon**
**The Quotable Naturalist**
**Leader:** John Huls 284-7021
johnhuls@sbcglobal.net
Bring some of your favorite quotes to share as we check out the flora and fauna of Bobelaine in the early fall. Meet at 8:35 for carpooling at the Bel Air shopping center on Arena Blvd. Or meet the group in the Bobelaine parking lot at 9 a.m. This is a joint trip with the Sacramento Audubon so bring binoculars. More details in October Hibiscus or call John.

**ONGOING**

**Native Plant Demo-Garden**
Old City Cemetery
1000 Broadway, Sacramento
**Sundays, 9 a.m.-11 a.m.**
Wear hat, long-sleeved shirt, boots and bring water, gardening tools, gloves, and knee pads. To volunteer 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**
E-mail for date, time and directions.
Michael Bower, Debra Sykes
ceanothusfieldbot@gmail.com

**Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery Work Days**
Located at Soil Born Farms
2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova
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

**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

See our calendar online at <www.sacvalleycnps.org> for more, updated events and happenings!
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**

**Mono Lake Fall Foliage Trip**
Early October, dates TBD
call Martha at (209) 477-3966
On this two-day outing, enjoy the spectacular golden aspens that cascade down Lundy Canyon and see June Lake Loop all ablaze. Photographers’ paradise!

**Native Plant Habitat Garden**
Oak Grove Regional Park, Stockton
We always need help with garden maintenance. Please phone Martha at (209) 477-3966.

**Meetings:** Our sub-chapter 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.

**OTHER EVENTS**

**Effie Yeaw Nature Center - Sept. 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.

Please call to confirm hours.

For more information contact: www.effieyeaw.org or (916) 489-4918

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

**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 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 (ARBNA), a 501(c)(3) organization that supports the nature center. Join ARBNA at the Nature Center or at www.arbna.org.

Mon., 8/30, 6:30 p.m.
**Evening Beaver and Wildlife Walk**
Join Jack Hiehle, biologist and wildlife ecologist, for an wildlife-viewing, evening walk along the American River. Call 489-4918 to reserve your space. $10 per person.

Save the Date!
January 10-11, 2011
Northern California Botanists Annual Symposium – Chico, CA

Support Sacramento County Parks by purchasing a Parks Pass at www.sacparks.net
It is only 7:00 a.m. and I can already feel the coming heat of the day. My home place is still fresh from its cool night’s rest and ready to face, in fact welcome, the sun’s rays. My home place is the demonstration garden at Elderberry Farms Nursery, filled with the native plants found on the American River and Parkway. I am the caretaker and steward of this land. The plants and I work as partners to heal the soil and bring back the wildlife. Our plant community includes the many kind and generous volunteers who form the backbone of the Nursery’s success. We always welcome more.

Summer in my home place is a time of rest. Native plants use the lower temperatures of the fall and the winter rains to set down their roots and prepare for exuberant growth and flowering in the spring. Ah, the spring! I am looking at the bones of baby blue eyes, clarkia, lupines, red maids and fiddleneck. These are the wildflowers that made my garden sing as winter gave way to spring. Their bones will stay put until the land reclaims their seeds and nutrients in preparation for next year’s display. Their bare stalks bring fond memories of past glory and the next year. Spring flowering perennials such as the silver bush lupine may be without its purple spires, but the silvery leaves shimmer in the heat, perfectly at home. The phacelia, with its gray leaves and other worldly flower stalks, is setting seed, finishing up its springtime job of providing nectar for a vast array of bees and beneficial insects. It’s abuzz all through May, and I shall miss the lively activity, but it too must rest.

And how, I have to ask, do the foothill penstemon, the woolly sunflower, the madia, the sticky monkeyflower, the deerweed, and the California fuschia continue to clothe themselves in flowers of brilliant yellow, orange, purple, and red? They delight in the valley’s heat, and demand little more of me than a thank you for their hardy beauty. Others wait in the wings: the buckwheat, the California aster, the bricklebush and the coyote bush promise a show of their own as the summer passes. The Mexican elderberry, the Dutchman’s pipevine, the clematis, the honeysuckle, the narrowleaf milkweed, the California rose,
the purple needlegrass, the California melic, and so many others are newly planted, and their companion plants, the animals, birds, bees and insects, as well as myself, will just have to wait for them to catch up and join our party.

It’s 9:00 a.m. The heat is already oppressive. As I have tended my home place, perhaps weeded and watered a little, but mostly communed with the lizards, bees, butterflies and birds, and relaxed in the fragrance of mugwort and madia, I am thankful for these plants that belong to the land and water where I live, and the privilege of tending the wild. It’s good to be home.

Betsy Weiland tends to garden.

Photo: © 2010 Chris Lewis

Tending the Wild – Small work parties do small restorations to inspire the general public in a big way! Areas can be as small as 5’x5’; usually highly visible and/or botanically significant. 1) Upper Sunrise river overlook. A party of five worked for two hours and removed all the weeds! 2) William Pond, Indian Hemp stand: Jim Wadsworth and I cleared all the star thistle around it. Fortunately, the star thistle hadn’t yet dispersed its seed! We will go back to both sites to do some planting. If you have a favorite spot that needs tending, let me know. Lewisc916@yahoo.com

Loads of Thanks for Joining and Renewing

Hazel Gordon, Membership Coordinator

We really appreciate your support to your local CNPS chapter, although we don’t thank you often enough. To all our old and renewing members, your help is very gratifying to us and we hope we earn your trust in this and future years.


We welcome you warmly and ask that you don’t hesitate to contact us to answer any questions you have about our chapter, its activities and the materials you should be receiving. Your full-color newsletter is available on the website soon after it’s printed; find it at: www.sacvalleycnps.org. To receive Hibiscus by e-mail each month and stop receiving paper copies, contact bwolf@surewest.net and hazelgordon@hotmail.com.
Get ready for fall planting at Bring Nature Home Fall Native Plant Sale Sept. 25 & 26, 2010 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

September 2010

Northern California Native Plant Society September 2010

www.SacValleyCNPS.org

September is Native Plant Gardening Month at Hibiscus! Join CNPS or sign up for automatic membership renewal online!

New Member Welcome

Member News, SpecialEvents, FundRaisers, Conferences, and Workshops.

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