March Chapter Meeting:
Mistletoe – Friend or Foe? Well, it depends....
Presented by David Wyatt

Mistletoe! To some people it inspires fear and loathing. To some others it is a sign of good wildlife habitat. The “depends” part of the title is related to whether it is one of our native mistletoes and whether it occurs in small to moderate amounts in a woodland or forested habitat. It turns out that in a healthy forest, native mistletoes typically do not occur in explosive numbers and instead occur in small clusters in scattered trees. Furthermore, native mistletoes contain high levels of carbohydrates and proteins and low levels of toxicity, thus providing good food resources for many species of wildlife. David Wyatt is a wildlife biologist who studies ringtails, a member of the raccoon family, and became interested in native mistletoes when he discovered during a food habits study how important oak mistletoe was to ringtails. Come learn more about mistletoe and wildlife interactions in this informative talk about these much maligned plant species.

David Wyatt is a Biology Professor in the Field Ecology program at Sacramento City College and has been studying ringtails for three decades. He also works with bats and with insects in California and Central America. The Sutter Buttes have been a major focus of his ringtail and bat research. David remains active not only as a teacher but also as a researcher with multiple wildlife studies and also is an environmental consultant specializing in bats and ringtails.

Chapter meetings are free and open to the public.

Books and Sacramento Valley Chapter T-shirts are available for purchase at meetings. Refreshments provided!

Join or renew today!

CNPS’ success depends on members’ support. To join or renew, go to www.cnps.org and select the Join/Support or Join CNPS options. Or mail membership dues (individual $45; student or limited income $25) to CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113. Other membership levels are also available.

Send questions or address changes to cnps@cnps.org.

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.
It is our 10th year so let’s celebrate! Our volunteers come when they have time. We’ve had folks who only volunteered 1 day or 1 month before life caught up with them and we have other volunteers who can’t seem to get us out of their system.

Have you volunteered at the Nursery? We’ll collect stories from everyone who has volunteered about what drew them to the Nursery and their favorite memory. The celebration will be part of the Spring Plant Sale on Saturday, March 25th.

3rd Saturday Workdays at the Nursery-
Our 1st Saturday Workday will be March 18th from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. RSVP so that Pat knows how many sandwiches to prepare. Pat’s email is patricia.gilbert@parks.ca.gov. Also on March 18th from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Chris Lewis will be giving a presentation for Soil Born Farms: Learn about native plants that grow along the American River Parkway and around Folsom Lake. Create a healthy habitat for yourself and critters using plants that benefit wildlife, use less water, and little to no pesticides or herbicides. Cost is $25. Register at: https://soilborn.org/events/gardening-with-native-plants/

Have you seen these jewels before? We see them in the Nursery’s Greenhouse!

These are *Sisyrinchium bellum* babies.

Regional Nursery Update
We continue to have workdays at the CALFIRE Nursery in Davis. We’d love to have your help on Saturday March 11th from 9:00 a.m. to noon. To sign up, please email Chris at cnpschris@gmail.com.

Friday Walks
With such a rainy winter (yeah!), John has led some soggy walks. To see where we’re planning to go, check the website on Wednesday and then if the weather is questionable check again after 7 p.m. Thursday night. For more information visit SacValleyCNPS/ Friday Walks or email John Schmidt at john_waif@msn.com or phone 916-500-8456.
Native Plant Oasis

by Carrie Black

Imagine a drought tolerant, native plant landscape beautiful enough to be described as an oasis. That’s exactly what Glenda Marsh created when in 2011 she began converting her lawn covered corner lot. “I wanted the house to appear as though it were situated within a garden rather than simply standing behind a narrow skirt of shrubs concealing the foundation.” And that’s what she got.

In addition to providing a beautiful native habitat, Glenda designed the garden with two goals in mind: increase privacy and keep maintenance simple. Furthermore, she had a challenge common to this area – poorly draining clay soil. She talked with landscape designers, read books, and scouted native landscapes she admired.

Glenda started on the narrower side of her yard and each year gradually moved to the two larger sections. To accommodate differing drainage needs, she built well-draining mounds (she later amended the mounds to better retain water by adding compost and a drip system) and left the area around the mounds for plants better suited to the native clay soil. She widened the shrub bed in front of the house to add depth and planted a valley oak in the middle of a meadow. She filled in spaces between the plants with a rocked dry stream, gravel or mulch. She now does pruning and shaping quarterly to keep the garden looking great.

Among the native plants Glenda incorporated into her garden are: Bush Monkey Flower (Mimulus aurantiacus); California Fushia (Epilobium spp.); California Lilacs (Ceanothus spp.); Deer Grass (Muhlenbergia rigens); Idaho Fescue (Festuca idahoensis); Germander (Teucrium spp.); Penstemon – native and hybrid; Oregon Grape (Berberis aquifolium); Sage (Salvia spp.); Silver Bush Lupine (Lupinus albinfrons); St. Catherine’s Lace (Eriogonum giganteum).

Glenda derives great pleasure from her garden and the neighbors do too. “When I look out my front window I often see neighbors stopping to look, admire and point to things that catch their eye, and drivers slowing down to get a better look.” Now that this garden is complete, she is selling her house and moving on to another native garden transformation. Inquiries are welcome for this unique chance to have a garden readymade for you or someone you know to enjoy!
Save the Date! 7th Annual Gardens Gone Native Tour
April 8, 2017, 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Registration for the 7th annual Gardens Gone Native Garden Tour opens on March 10, 2017 at gardensgonenative.eventbrite.com. This year’s tour is shaping up to be one of the best ever with 28 gardens in Sacramento and Yolo Counties, including eleven new gardens and 17 returning. There will be a wide range of gardens with large and small landscaping options, owner as well as professionally installed and two rain gardens. In Yolo county there will be a total of 7 gardens in Davis and Woodland. On tour will also be garden hosts who were inspired by attending a previous tour and have remade their landscapes to include primarily California natives. Come and talk with these garden hosts and learn about their goals, their challenges and their experience gardening with native plants. Once registered, attendees will receive the tour brochure with maps, garden descriptions and other links and resources. So mark your calendars and let’s think SUN on April 8, 2017! Also check the CNPS website for additional garden tour information including past virtual tours at: SacValleyCNPS.org/Gardening/Native Garden Tour.

We still need volunteers as greeters to assist garden hosts or as photographers to catalogue this year’s gardens in pictures for our virtual tour on the Sacvalley webpage. Volunteers can volunteer for two or three hours and spend the rest of their day visiting gardens. If you are interested in volunteering, please send an email to: clrauh1@gmail.com.

Northern California Botanists

Botany Research Scholarship Program for 2017-2018

REMINDER: Applications due March 31, 2017

Northern California Botanists are accepting applications for our Botany Research Scholarship Program for the 2017 - 2018 academic year. All materials should be submitted to ncbotanists@gmail.com or by mail to Northern California Botanists, P.O. Box 8042, Chico, CA 95927-8042 by midnight March 31, 2017.

See the application packet for more details on application guidelines and requirements: www.norcalbotanists.org/scholarships.htm
Upcoming

Native Plant Sale
Mar. 26, 10:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
See page 6 for details

Ongoing

2nd Wed. of the month, 7 p.m.
(Jan.–June; Sept.–Nov.)
Chapter Meeting & Guest Speaker
Shepard Garden & Arts Center,
McKinley Park, Sacramento
See page 1. Contact John Hunter,
botantyjohnhunter@gmail.com for more
information.

4th Wed. of the month, 7 p.m.
(Jan.–June; Sept.–Nov.)
Chapter Board Meetings
CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento CA 95816
Contact: John Hunter,
botantyjohnhunter@gmail.com

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

3rd Saturday Workday
Mar. 18, 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
We pot up seedlings and learn plant
propagation techniques. Peanut butter
and jelly sandwiches provided. RSVP
to Chris, cnpschris@gmail.com.

Friday Walks 9 a.m.–noon.
Plant identification, photography, art
and fun! Go to sacvalley.cnps.org, find
Friday Walks under Events and Field
Trips.

Habitat 2020
Day and Time TBD
For information contact Glen Holstein,
holstein@cal.net; (530) 758-6787.

Ceanothus—Collaborative Plant
Identification Workshops
3rd Sat. of the month, 9 a.m.
UC Davis Herbarium (Center for
Plant Diversity)
Michael Bower, (530) 902-8721
Bring any plants you're curious about

ceanothus.org for more information.
Email questions to ceanothusfieldbot@
gmail.com.

Garden Work Days at the
Native Plant Demonstration Garden
Sacramento Historic City Cemetery
1000 Broadway, Sacramento
Bring a hat and water and wear
garden-appropriate clothes.
Gardening tools available for use and
refreshments provided. A plant will
be available to take home. For more
information, contact Cassandra at
cnpsgarden@gmail.com

Native Plant Garden Club
Mar. 28, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Come and meet fellow native plant
gardeners! For more information on
the Native Plant Garden Club visit
SacValleyCNPS.org/Gardening/Garden
Club

March for Science
Sacramento

Saturday, April 22
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
California State Capitol
1315 10th St, Sacramento

The March for Science is a
celebration of our passion for
science and a call to support
and safeguard the scientific
community. It is time for people
who support scientific research
and evidence-based policies
to take a public stand and be
counted.

https://www.facebook.com/
marchforsciencesacramento/

Other Items of
Interest

Friends of the Chico State Herbarium
For details, contact info, and a
registration form, please go to:
www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html
Upcoming workshops are:

Saturday, Mar 11
Introduction to Fern Biology and
Evolution
This workshop will be a crash-course
introduction to the ferns of the world,
with a focus on species that can be
observed in the wild in California. The
course will end with a trip to Bidwell
Park to observe ferns growing there.

Saturday, March 18
Identifying Lichens to Genus
This workshop will focus on lichens
of the lower Sierra Nevada foothills
to genus. The morning will be spent
covering lichen basics. Lunch will be
spent in the field, and the afternoon
will be back in the lab. A key will be
provided by the instructor.
Do you want to have a garden that is in sync with nature? Native Plants are not only beautiful and climate adaptable but they feed and shelter birds, bees, butterflies and other pollinators. Come find a wide selection of native perennials, shrubs, trees, grasses, vines and native annuals! There will be plants from Cornflower Farms, Hedgerow Farms and Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery. Plant Advisers will be available to help you find the plants you desire and that will fit your garden. Landscape Designers will also be available to give 15-minute consultations for a donation to CNPS.

Elderberry Farms is 10 years old! Celebrate all the volunteers who have made this possible! Come see what we have accomplished and what we learn about growing native plants.

All new or renewing CNPS members may choose a free 1-gallon Elderberry Farms plant.

The Plant Sale is a volunteer-run event and we would love to have you volunteer! Please contact Lauren at laurenbertelson@gmail.com for more information.

The Sacramento Valley Chapter CNPS emails announcements about upcoming events (talks, hikes, sales, and events). The eNewsletters is another way to get information about what’s happening in our Chapter. Don’t worry, signing up for the eNewsletter does not interrupt your Hibiscus newsletter service. Sign up at: sacvalleycnps.org or contact Chris at cnpschris@gmail.com.
### CONTACT INFORMATION

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<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
<td>Elected Officers</td>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>John Hunter</td>
<td><a href="mailto:botanyjohnhunter@gmail.com">botanyjohnhunter@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Chapter Council Delegates</td>
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<td>Committee Chairs</td>
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<td>Carrie Black</td>
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<td>Fairs &amp; Events</td>
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<td>Field Trips</td>
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<td>Friday Walks</td>
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<td>Habitat Ed. &amp; Outreach</td>
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<td>Native Garden Tour</td>
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<td>Native Plant Gardening</td>
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<td>Historic City Cemetery</td>
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- Jamie LeFevre: editorhibiscus@gmail.com

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  - Paul Barth: pathfinder@cal.net
  - Mike Bower: mjbower@ucdavis.edu

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- Mike Bower: mjbower@ucdavis.edu

### Newsletter Ed., Fall Plant Sale Chair, Fall & Wildflower Wonders
- Betsy Weiland: flweiland@yahoo.com

### Programs (Chap mtgs)
- Mary Maret: maretm@saccounty.net
- Paul Barth: pathfinder@cal.net

### Rare Plants
- Mike Bower: mjbower@ucdavis.edu
- Mary Maret: maretm@saccounty.net
- Paul Barth: pathfinder@cal.net

### Wildflower Wonders
- Chris Lewis: lewisc916@yahoo.com
- Mike Bower: mjbower@ucdavis.edu
- Mary Maret: maretm@saccounty.net
- Paul Barth: pathfinder@cal.net

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Sunset on the American River at the Nimbus Fish Hatchery
Submit content for the April Hibiscus by March 11!
Be sure your membership is current! See your address label for your renewal date.

March 2017

The Sacramento Valley chapter newsletter, Hibiscus, is published monthly, except for July, August, and December. Deadline for Hibiscus contributions is midnight of the Friday before the monthly meeting for possible inclusion in the next month's newsletter. Please send your submittals to editorhibiscus@gmail.com.

March 2017
sacvalleycnps.org

In this issue:
2 Elderberry Farms
3 Native Plant Oasis
4 Gardens Gone Native
5 Calendar of Events
6 Native Plant Sale

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To volunteer email Lauren at laurenbertelson@gmail.com

SPRING PLANT SALE:
SATURDAY MARCH 25
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
2140 Chase Drive, Ranch Cordova

MARCH PRESENTATION:
Mistletoe – Friend or Foe?
Well, it depends...
Presented by David Wyatt

MARCH 2017

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Sacramento Valley Chapter Newsletter
sacvalleycnps.org