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.

March 2010

The Sacramento Weed Warriors (SWW) is a volunteer stewardship project coordinated by the Sacramento Valley chapter of the California Native Plant Society in partnership with the American River Parkway Foundation (ARPF). SWW volunteers remove non-native plant species along rivers and creeks throughout Sacramento. They have had success combating such nasty invaders as red sesbania, arundo (giant reed), and Spanish broom. Ten years, hundreds of work groups and thousands of volunteer hours add up to a wealth of community stewardship for our natural areas.

Frank Wallace of the Sac Valley chapter and Ken Myatt of ARPF will showcase this collaborative effort. They will have some amazing slides illustrating how volunteers have helped preserve our fragile native landscapes. Come hear about their impressive success—and continuing battles, and learn how you too can become a Weed Warrior.

Frank Wallace has been the SWW director since 2001. He is a tireless advocate of community stewardship for wildland weed removal, introducing many a Sacramentan to the rewards of lopping down arundo. Frank serves on our CNPS chapter board and on the executive board of the Sacramento Area Creeks Council. Ken Myatt has been coordinator for the American River Invasive Plant Management Project for five years and also leads the ARPF oak restoration program. Ken is a visual artist and teaches art classes at Sierra Community College.
Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery grew thanks to a cadre of enthusiastic volunteers. Betsy Weiland brought her energy and enthusiasm to improving our infrastructure and aiding our outreach efforts. Robin Rietz created time in her busy schedule to generously share her horticulture expertise and lead workdays, while our volunteers who work at the nursery and attend collecting forays are also key to our success: Alan Kilgore, Brenda Carley, Carol Crofoot, Carol Yeates, Carolyn Kiesling, Coral Abbott, Corinna Fish, Dania Lukey, Darya Mishchuk, David Self, Dean Mortenson, Gin Wengslaff, Ginger Enrico, Glenn Hermanson, Jannette & Tom MacDonald, Jim Wadsworth, Joanne Vinton, John Huls, John Rittenhouse, Julie Serences, Krishna Spier, Lil Ordaz, Linda Maurer, Linda Sweetman, Linnea Fronce, Mark Berry, Mary Beth Metcalf, Mary Hahn, Mary Rogers, Michelle Stevens, Nancy Joyce, Pat Gilbert, Shelley Mathews, Susan Fregien, Susan Maxwell, Susan Wallace, Terry Linton, Tim Nosal, Tony Duke, Tony Loftin and more! (If you don’t find your name here, please contact Chris!)

More thanks are due to our partners and those who make it happen: UCD Arboretum’s Ellen Zagory and Lisa Chaffee; our chapter’s Lynda Ives; Sacramento Tree Foundation’s Zarah Wyly; AmeriCorps and leaders Joshua and Ashley; and CSUS’s Alpha Phi Omicron Fraternity and leader Michael Nguyen! Our sincere gratitude goes also to our generous benefactors, including Dave and Maxine Clark and Dennis Matsunaga.

Coming up at the Nursery

Take a walk on the Wildside—in Your Backyard!
If you live in the Sacramento area, you are not far from the American River Parkway. I’ve been amazed at how beautiful all of our local plants are as they have their winter rest. Haven’t been there? http://www.msa2.saccounty.net/parks/Documents/ParkwayMap.pdf When visiting the Parkway, please remember to phone Ranger Dispatch (916) 875-PARK (7275) if you see: dogs off leash; bicycles off the paved bike trail; potential wildlife issues; accidents; law enforcement issues; vandalism; other safety issues. Your area of the Parkway needs your help.

Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery had an amazing 2009!

by Christina Lewis, Nursery Chair

CSUS volunteers celebrate a good day’s work.

Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery

Nursery Listserv
Are you interested in learning about local native plants, propagating plants, landscape design, growing plants for habitat, or sharing your expertise? Contact Chris at lewisc916@yahoo.com or join the Elderberry Farms listserv by sending a blank email to: Elderberry_Farms_Native_Plant_Nursery-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Wednesday Workdays, 10:00-12:00
Join the Nursery Team—Robin Rietz, Betsy Weiland, and me each Wednesday morning (depending on weather). RSVP Chris lewisc916@yahoo.com

Saturday Workdays, Jan. 30 and Feb. 13 10:00-2:00
Two chances to join us (depending on weather). We provide the lunch. RSVP Chris lewisc916@yahoo.com

Save the Date!
Sunday, April 11
Wildflower Wonders & Native Plant Sale at Sacramento Earth Day!
**FEBRUARY**

Nursery Group Furlough Friday walk
Bobelaine Audubon Sanctuary
Fri. 2/19
Join Audubon Education Chair Julie Serences for a walk on this 430 acre wildlife sanctuary owned by the National Audubon Society. Julie visited recently and could hardly find an invasive plant! RSVP for details. Chris lewisc916@yahoo.com

**Wednesday Workdays**
10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Join the Nursery Team of Robin Rietz, Betsy Weiland and Chris Lewis each Wednesday morning (depending on weather). RSVP Chris lewisc916@yahoo.com for details.

**Saturday Workdays**
1/30 and 2/13, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Two chances to join us (depending on weather). We provide lunch. RSVP Chris lewisc916@yahoo.com

Check in with our friends at the Stockton Subchapter if you’d like to lead or join one of their trips. See page 5.

**MARCH**

McKinley Garden and Arts Center
Spring Clean Up Day
Sun. 3/7, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Give something back to the venue that has been hosting our chapter meetings for years! The clean up will focus on the outside grounds of the Garden and Art Center. Please come out and lend a hand. All help is greatly appreciated. Bring your own tools if possible.

**ONGOING**

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 you have them. 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 6:30 p.m.
Jan-June: Sept.-Nov
Arden-Dimick Public Library, 891 Watt Ave. at Northrup, Sacramento 95864
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. Melissa Hostler: ceanothusfieldbot@gmail.com

**Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery at Soil Born Farms - Nursery Work Days**
2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova
See page 2. Call Chris Lewis for work day schedule (916) 812-2876. To join the garden listserv, send a blank e-mail 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

**CNPS 2010**
Plant Science Training Workshops
Upcoming workshops are posted at http://cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/index.php. Register now for (most) 2010 workshops.

**Rare Plant Treasure Hunt**
Go eco-caching for conservation this spring! To learn more visit http://cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt/. Sign up to volunteer now by e-mailing us at treasurehunt@cnps.org.

**SAVE THE DATE:**
Sunday, April 11th
12:00-6:00
Wildflower Wonders
at Sacramento Earth Day!
Featuring:
Plant Communities Exhibit, Kids’ Zone and NATIVE PLANT SALE

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
**Other Events**

ECOS/Habitat 2020/Heartland Project and the Herald Area Civic Association present

**Herald in the Heartland**
Sat. 3/27, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Hendrickson Hall and Community Barn Complex
12746 Ivie Road, Herald, CA
Free and open to the public.

Panel sessions and exposition about rural living. Resources for preserving a rural lifestyle, developing agricultural tourism and hobby farming; restoring native plants and landscapes; and more. Confirmed participants: The Heartland Project, California Native Plant Society, The Nature Conservancy, CA Resource Conservation District, Sacramento Valley Conservancy, Westervelt Ecological Services, California Farm Link, Mahon Ranches, Buena Vista Butterfly Farm

**Friends of the Chico State Herbarium Workshops**

Registration is now open for the following workshops:

**Introduction to the Identification of Bryophytes**
February 6, 2010 with Shana Gross
This workshop is an introduction to keying this fascinating, beautiful, and challenging group of plants. It’s bound to fill quickly; register soon!

**Health and Safety for Workers in the Field Sciences**
February 27, 2010 with Josephine Guardino
This workshop is intended to increase awareness and preparedness for people who work in outdoor field settings. Register soon! $55.00 ($45.00 for members of the Chico State Herbarium)

**Introduction to Lichen Identification**
March 20, 2010 with Tom Carlberg
For more information about these workshops and a registration form please go to: <http://www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html> or contact the Chico State Herbarium office at NS@csuchico.edu or (530) 898-3511.

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**Effie Yeaw Nature Center - February 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.

**Hours:** Open 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily. Please call to confirm hours.

The Effie Yeaw Nature Center will be closed February 1 through February 5 due to budget cuts. We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.

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

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

**Wed. 2/10, 9 a.m. – 12 noon**
**Brisk Nature Hike**
Meet Jack at the end of Jacob Lane (off Fair Oaks Blvd.) for a brisk early morning hike downstream along the river.

**Wed. 2/10, Thurs. 2/18 and Sat., 2/27**
**12:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.**
**Art Studio Workshop**
This non-instructional art studio workshop will use the facilities and the animals of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. We will pose taxidermied animals, furs and skeletons such as ducks, owls, hawks, snakes and bobcats, offering beginner and experienced artists a chance to study and draw or paint them. Participants will supply their own tools and art materials (pencils, paper, watercolors, etc.) Professional artist Libby Harmor will facilitate this workshop, drawing on her extensive theater and exhibit experience. Suited for beginner and experienced artists ages 16 and over, pre-registration required, $7 per person per workshop. Call 489-4918 for information and registration.

**Sat. 2/20, 10:30 a.m.**
**Coyote Tales**
Join us for a Native American story about Coyote, then get a close-up look at a coyote pelts, skull and mounted specimen. Discover some facts about these wild dog relatives and take a walk in their habitat.

**Sun. 2/21, 8:00 a.m.**
**Habitat Improvement**
Join Jack and help improve the Nature Area. Call Jack at 967-0777 if you can help with this project.

**Wed. 2/24, 9 a.m. – 12 noon**
**American River Nature Hike**
Join Jack for a nature hike. Meet at the end of Estates Drive just off American River Drive and the American River Parkway.

**Sun. 2/28, 10:30 a.m.**
**Sing the Winter Blues Away**
Join musician Lisa Phenix for a nature-based music and movement program. Choose an instrument from Lisa’s basket and play along! Best suited for children age 8 and under.

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**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!

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.

Native Plant Garden
The Golden Currant at the Nature Center in Oak Grove Regional Park is starting to bloom, and we’re getting the garden ready for its springtime display. If you can help for a few hours please call Martha Mallery at (209) 477-3966.

Field Trips
When our small Stockton Area group followed the spring into the mountains in years past, some of our destinations included Chico Grunder’s Table Mountain, Knights Ferry, Hetch Hetchy, Red Hills, Bear Valley, Butterfly Valley and Calaveras Big Trees. If you have a favorite destination or know of a new location to explore, please phone Bob Stahmer at (209) 943-2277. (Did somebody mention a trip to Death Valley in April to photograph the magnificent Panamint Daisy?)

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.

Stay up to date on Stockton subchapter activities by visiting us on the web: http://www.sacvalleycnps.org/stockton/stockton.html
Save the Date!
Sunday, April 11
Wildflower Wonders & Native Plant Sale at Sacramento Earth Day!

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

February 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 solely to this newsletter, send your $10 check to: CNPS Sac Valley Membership, 2707 K St., 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. E-mail to bwolf@surewest.net

Warm Winter Greetings to New and Renewing Members
Hazel Gordon, Chapter Membership Coordinator

Our chapter has grown by 53 new members in the past year and it’s a pleasure to thank you all for your support. We welcome and greet:

A broad, happy welcome to our loyal returning members as well, you are the framework that keeps us energized and committed. We especially appreciate your support in these hard economic times. Remember, renewing your membership can be almost painless if you sign up for annual automatic renewal on the CNPS website. If you have not already renewed, please consider reinstating your membership today.

Do let us know if you want to become more involved in our chapter, or if you have suggestions for field trips, programs or other activities. Don’t forget to give us feedback if you think we could do better (especially if you’d like to help). Contributions to Hibiscus always welcome!

Join us in February for Sacramento Weed Warriors vs. the Invaders
by Frank Wallace & Ken Myatt

Our chapter meetings are free and open to the public!