The mission of the California Native Plant Society is to increase understanding and appreciation of California’s native plants and to conserve them and their natural habitats through science, education, advocacy, horticulture and land stewardship.

**March Meeting of the California Native Plant Society’s Sacramento Valley Chapter**

Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2004  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Shepherd Garden and Arts Center, McKinley Park  
3330 McKinley Blvd (the eastern continuation of E Street) 95816

NOTE: PLEASE CALL (916) 362-8022 BEGINNING MARCH 9 TO CONFIRM THAT THE MEETING IS AT THIS LOCATION AND TIME (in case the Garden and Arts Center isn’t completed yet!)

**Botanical Vampires—Friend or Foe? The Double Life of Parasitic Plants Brenda Grewell**

Witchweed, strangleweed, hell-bind, witch’s shoelaces, corpse lily—with names like that it is no wonder parasitic plants get a bad rap! Brenda Grewell, plant ecologist and parasitic plant enthusiast, will introduce us to the biology, folklore, and cultural values of plant-eating plants. Parasitic plants are present in most ecosystems from the arctic to the tropics, with approximately 4,000 species worldwide. Some species are serious agricultural crop pests, while others are highly valued for food, wood, aesthetic or medicinal values. Parasites, by definition, invoke some level of damage to their hosts, but it is important to consider native parasitic plants in their ecological context.

Parasitism provides a mechanism for plants to overcome deficits in their ability to compete for soil resources. Plant parasites can be locally abundant in nutrient-poor habitats, but 56 species of parasitic plants from 6 plant families are threatened or endangered in the United States due to habitat degradation or human exploitation. Within California, 30% of the 165 native species and subspecies of parasitic plants are of conservation concern. The loss of an endangered parasitic plant has the potential to change the distribution and abundance of other species in the plant community, and recovery of endangered parasitic plant populations can contribute to conservation of biological diversity.

Brenda Grewell is a wetland plant ecologist with a special passion for parasitic plants, but her interests in plant ecology are broad. She has just returned from a Fulbright Fellowship year in the Czech Republic where she conducted research on the ecological variation of an invasive wetland plant across its native European range. Her dissertation research (Ecology Graduate Group, UC Davis) was on the functional role of parasitic plants in northern California salt marshes. Prior her return to graduate school, Brenda worked for 12 years as a plant ecologist for state resource agencies in the San Francisco Estuary and Central Valley wetlands. She contributed to the listing of two San Francisco Bay endemic tidal marsh species as endangered, soft bird’s beak (Cordylanthus mollis ssp. mollis) and Suisun thistle (Cirsium hydrophilum var. hydrophilum), has been actively involved in recovery planning for these species, and implemented an experimental reintroduction of endangered soft bird’s beak in Suisun Marsh for the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program.

see *Vampires*, p.2
Books, wildflower seeds, posters and cards will be available for purchase at the meeting. Refreshments will be served. The meeting is free and the public is welcome to attend.

For information call Diana Hickson, Programs Chair, at (916) 362-8022.

Get Involved with the Spring Plant Sale!

We will be celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (SLNWR) by hosting a spring native plant sale at “Walk on the Wildside” on Saturday, May 15th from 10am to 4pm. Please let us know if you can help out in any of the following areas:

**Member-grown native plants.** We currently have three growers that have indicated they will be selling native plants at the spring sale. With almost 600 members, we hope that some of you green thumbs can take the time to pot-up some natives for this sale in 6-packs, rose pots, or 1-gallon containers. Contact Bill Jenkins (961-7772) if you’d like native seed packs to grow for the sale, or Steve Woodward (489-1744) if you need containers and potting soil. Please contact Marin to let her know if you will be preparing plants for the sale. She will need to know what plants you’ll be growing so she can include them on the spring plant sale list.

**Horticulture knowledge needed!** We would like to have 3–4 volunteers who can answer general questions about growing natives and native plant species at the sale. Please contact Marin if you are interested in offering your horticulture and gardening knowledge!

**Education/activity table.** Due to the number of kids that come to this event, we would like to have a children activity/education table that specifically focuses on native plants. If you are interested in helping to make the native plant education table a reality, please let Marin know. We need 3–4 volunteers to assist with this.

**Sales tables.** We need 6–10 volunteers to help at the sales tables. Two of the tables will be for plant purchases only. The remaining tables will be dedicated to sales of books, t-shirts, posters, seeds, birdhouses, etc. In addition, we’ll be collecting grocery bags and boxes at the next few meetings for the customers purchasing plants and merchandise.

**Refreshments.** Due to the picnic-like location of the site (no kitchen), last year everyone brought a brown bag lunch. However, we still need a member to pick up refreshments (drinks), ice and snacks for our volunteers the day of the event.

Marin Lemieux, mlemieux@cnps.org or 916.447.2677
Clay Courtright, clay_courtright@fws.gov or 916.775.4428

Great Additions!

…to our board. We are blessed by enthusiastic supporters stepping up and taking on challenges. While Sabrina Okamura-Johnson takes a bit of a breather (we hope to see her when the dust settles!), Cassandra Nguyen Musto is off and running with the Demonstration Garden and other projects (see the Human Race). We added a Publicity position and Shelley Gardner came forward with expertise. Conservation has more support now with Mary Maret and John Hunter taking new approaches to increasingly difficult challenges. Heidi West and Russell Huddleston are revving up the Rare Plant program. Peggy Berry, our energetic “Hospitality Chair,” is forging new ground with her raffle at monthly meetings. (You should see the prizes now!) Diana Hickson works incredibly hard to bring in the best speakers while she juggles her duties as Chapter Council Delegate and one of the Directors of the State CNPS. Tim Nosal gathered an enthusiastic group, which has planned field trips for the whole year. See p. 5 for hikes and tours from Tim and Glen Holstein, Bonnie Ross and many more! Bill Jenkins, our long-time seed purveyor and bird house builder is adding a log cabin bird/squirrel feeder to his repertoire. Come see it at the next chapter meeting!

The energy that is being generated is awesome. I invite you to join the Board. Our current openings are Vice-President, Fall Plant Sale Coordinator, Poster Chair, future Programs Chair, and Webmaster. I’d be happy to discuss these or any positions with you.

Or do you have just a little time? Karen Converse has single-handedly been the newsletter production team since September! Are there a couple of people who wouldn’t mind affixing labels, sorting, and taking the Hibiscus to the Post Office each month? Please let me know if you’re interested.

Chris Lewis (916)482-5282 or Lupine95608@yahoo.com

**Jepson Herbarium Weekend Workshops**

The **Friends of the Jepson Herbarium** are pleased to present a broad range of topics for this year’s weekend workshop series. For more information on the workshops, or to register, please consult [http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/jepwkshp.html](http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/jepwkshp.html) or phone Cynthia Perrine, Public Programs Coordinator at the Jepson Herbarium, (510) 643 – 7008.

**Mar 6:** Describing New Species; **Mar 6-7:** Flowering Plant Morphology and Identification; **Mar 13-14:** Basics of Botanical Illustration; **Mar 20-21:** Digital Photography at Close Range; **Mar 27-28 and April 3-4:** Fifty Plant Families in the Field; **April 8-11:** Death Valley Flora; **April 23-25:** Mt. Diablo Flora; **April 24-25:** Poaceae.

**Wanted: Old Redwood Fencing**

Are you tearing down an old fence? How about letting Bill Jenkins recycle that wood into the bird houses, bat houses, and bird feeders that he makes and sells to benefit our Chapter? If you have used lumber to donate, please call Bill at (916) 961-7772 or email him at wjenk6314@cs.com.
**Botanical Photography Workshop**

March 20th 2004

photos by Ernesto Sandoval

Sponsored by:
The Davis Botanical Society & Sacramento CNPS

**Botanical Photography.** Instructor: Ernesto Sandoval. March 20th (Saturday), 9 am to 3 pm. 291 Robbins Hall, UC Davis campus. 2 hour follow up session to be arranged.

Instruction will focus on learning techniques for improving the quality of the pictures we take whether its with a digital or a film camera. The use of terminology will be limited and the emphasis will be on outdoor techniques such as working with available lighting and composition. A portion of the morning will be spent comparing and contrasting the good, the bad, and the ugly photos taken by the instructor and the reasons for the quality of those images. Participants will be taken on a photography tour of campus botanical collections to practice their techniques and learn useful hints for better picture taking. Participants should bring a sack lunch and drinks to be had “out in the field” during the photography excursion. Professional quality film will be provided at cost by the instructor as necessary.

**Workshop Details:** Ernesto Sandoval, Curator of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, has been photographing plants and people for over 10 years and is excited to help others learn to use their camera better. The workshop is open to Davis Botanical Society and California Native Plant Society members. The cost is $60.00 and is limited to 16 participants. If you are interested in attending this workshop, but are not yet a member, you can find membership information on-line at [http://herbarium.ucdavis.edu/society.html#membership](http://herbarium.ucdavis.edu/society.html#membership) (Davis Botanical Society) or [http://www.cnps.org/chapters/membership_form.html](http://www.cnps.org/chapters/membership_form.html) (CNPS). Spaces will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis. The deadline for registration is March 5th. Registrants will be sent confirmation of registration and a map. A separate 2-hour session will be scheduled with several participants at a time to review photographs. Please bring your camera with a new roll of film and instruction manual to the workshop; film will be provided at cost, if necessary, by the instructor. If you have questions, please call Ernesto Sandoval at 530-752-0569 or e-mail him at planthead667@mac.com for more information. To see some of his photography visit his website at homepage.mac.com/planthead667.

March 20th Botanical Photography Workshop Registration Form:

Name:_________________________________________________________
Address:_____________________________________________________________________________________
City:_________________________ State:________ Zip:________
Phone number________________ Fax:__________________ email:____________________________

Do you use a DIGITAL or FILM camera? Do you need film? YES NO If yes please circle SLIDE or PRINT

**Payment:** I am a member of (circle one) CNPS or the DAVIS BOTANICAL SOCIETY.
Please make out your check for $60.00 to UC Regents and mail to: Treasurer, Davis Botanical Society, UC Davis Herbarium, Plant Biology, One Shields Ave., UC Davis, Davis, CA 95616.
CNPS - SACRAMENTO VALLEY CHAPTER’S
1ST ENTRY IN THE HUMAN RACE
5K RUN, WALK OR WHEEL
Coordinated by the Foothill Volunteer Center of Auburn

A Benefit Race & Fundraising Contest to Support the Programs & Activities of the Sacramento Valley Chapter

DATE: SATURDAY, MAY 1ST, 2004
TIME:
7:00 AM – 10:00 am Non-Profit Organization Fair
8:15 am Aerobic Warm-Up
8:30 am HUMAN RACE Begins
9:30 am Awards / Prizes Begin
PLACE: Maidu Community Center, 1550 Maidu Drive, Roseville, California
SPORTS COURT AREA (by the Batting Cages)
COURSE: A flat and easy 5K (3.1 mile) course for walking, running or wheeling. Wheel Chair Entrants Welcome. It is a new racecourse this year; no bicycles are allowed.
ENTRY FEES: $15.00
REGISTER BY: FRIDAY, APRIL 23RD, 2004
TEE SHIRTS: A Tee shirt will go to registered fundraisers who raise (or donate) at least $60.00
FUNDRAISING & RACE COORDINATOR: Cassandra Nguyen-Musto (916) 374-8116 or cassandra@dangermond.com
PRIZES & AWARDS: Awards Ceremony at 9:30 am
For Racing: Adult Male & Adult Female Runner & Walker; Youth (under 18) Male & Female Runner; and one Wheeler Award.
For Fundraising: (Awarded by the Foothill Volunteer Center) Non-Profit Organization Winner, Business Winner and the Top Three Adult Collectors, Top Youth Collector and Top New Agency.
For Fundraising: (Awarded by the Sacramento Valley Chapter) 1st Prize - $100 Value, 2nd Prize - $75 Value, 3rd Prize - $25 Value

ALL RACE REGISTRANTS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR MERCHANDISE PRIZES RANDOMLY DRAWN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE RACE.
REFRESHMENTS: Complimentary Coffee, Juice, Bottled Water, Sodas, Assorted Baked Goods and Fresh Fruit Will Be Served to Race Participants.

Each person must be pre-registered as a fundraiser and/or race participant before the race. Please contact Cassandra to obtain registration forms and for more information about this fun event!
The Human Race
5K Fun Run/Walk/Wheel Race
Prizes—Fun—Friends—Costumes

Join us for the Sacramento Valley Chapter’s first year in the Human Race, a fun-filled, family-oriented 5K. Non-profits from Placer, El Dorado and Sacramento counties can use this event as a fundraiser. The Foothill Volunteer Center in Auburn provides the staff, marketing expertise and behind-the-scenes work. We keep 75% of the money we raise. The remainder goes to the Foothill Volunteer Center for their community work and overhead costs.

We’ve already started fundraising toward our goal of $2500. We are also brainstorming ideas to make this a fun, light-hearted event. Costumes are welcome, and we’ve been thinking of fun costumes to create such as native flowers, fairy shrimp, butterflies, maybe even a bulldozer! We’re also going to award prizes to our top 3 chapter member collectors.

The Many Ways You Can Participate
1. The most important way is to go out and obtain donations for our cause. By becoming a “collector” you help our chapter fund its many programs and activities and you become eligible for prizes and free registration in the race.
2. Make a donation to a chapter “collector.”
3. Participate in the race without collecting donations. The fee is $15.
4. Be a part of the planning/race day volunteer group. This involves race day planning, staffing a table and meeting/greeting race participants on race day.
5. Come out on race day to cheer your chapter!

Field Trip Schedule March–April 2004
CNPS Sacramento Chapter

The Sacramento Chapter is excited to present numerous field trips this year. Our panel of wildflower enthusiasts has rated all of these ventures two thumbs up. Most sites have unique geologic origins, and therefore have developed unusual assemblages of plants over the ages – especially Table Mountain and Pine Hill. Don’t miss the spring tours of Jepson Prairie or Mather Field Vernal Pools; no two years are ever the same in these beautiful landscapes!

March
Table Mountain (Butte)
March 27  Time: 9:00AM – 4:00PM
Field Trip Leaders: Glen Holstein and Tim Nosal
Contact: Tim Nosal (916) 961-0766 or holstein@cal.net

Jepson Prairie (Solano)
March 20  Time: TBA
Field Trip Leader: Bonnie Ross
Contact: Bonnie Ross 962-3619, bross@water.ca.gov

Deer Creek Hills (Sacramento)
March 27  Time: 9:00
Field Trip Leader: Sacramento Valley Conservancy
Meet at: Latrobe and Stonehouse Roads (North of Rancho Murieta)
Contact: SVC at (916) 731-8798

April
Mather Field Vernal Pools (Sacramento)
April 11, 17, 25  Time: 10:00 AM and 1:00PM each date
Field Trip Leaders: Mather Docents
Meet at: Mather Rotary Pavilion, on Eagles Nest Road south of Douglas Road
Contact: (916) 737-WILD. Provide your name, address, and phone number

Pine Hill (El Dorado)
April 24  Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Field Trip Leader: Tim Nosal
Meet at: Rescue Elementary School, Green Valley Road, Rescue
Contact: Barb Williams (916) 985-4474

East Park Reservoir (Colusa)
April 24  Time: TBA
Field Trip Leader: Ann Howald (Milo Baker Chapter, Sonoma County)
Meet at: Group Camp at East Park Reservoir
Contact: annhowald@vom.com or http://www.cnpsmb.org/

For additional field trips visit www.yolohiker.org, www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/phpreserve, and vernalpools.org

Demo Garden Work Days
Come out and see the first blooms of spring. We’ll be weeding, laying mulch and other garden tasks. Snacks and drinks are provided and some tools are available. Wear gardening clothes and bring small tools. Contact Cassandra @ 374.8116 or cassandra@dangermond.com.
Saturday, March 6, 9:00 AM–noon
Sunday, March 28, 9:00 AM–noon

Jepson Prairie Tours
If you can’t make the March 20 Jepson tour, fifty UC Davis-trained docents hold an annual open house and lead reserve tours from Mar. 6 until May 9. The public tour leaves at 11. Open house will be Sunday, April 18 from 10 to 3. Contact Solano Land Trust: 707-432-0150

Nature Walks with Jack Hiehle
March Nature Walks

Tue. Mar. 16, 8:00 AM–noon. Sailor Bar. Meet at eastern end of Emperor, via Winding Way to Kenneth to Emperor.

Habitat Improvement at Effie Yeaw
Sun. Mar 21, 8:00 AM. Call Jack for location if you plan to help: (916) 967-0777.
Hibiscus Newsletter  The Sacramento Valley chapter newsletter, Hibiscus, is published every month, except for December, July and August. Subscriptions are $10.00 for one year. If you wish to subscribe solely to the newsletter, send your check for $10, made out to: CNPS Chris Wilkinson, PO Box 160585, Sacramento, CA 95816-0585. Articles for Hibiscus must be to the newsletter editor by the 5th of the month for the next month’s issue.

BOARD MEMBERS
President  Christina Lewis, 875-8910, lupine95608@yahoo.com
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Chapter Botanist  Glen Holstein, holstein@cal.net, 530 758-6787
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Ethnobotany  Renee Shakroh, renees@cal.net, 916 484-8245
Fairs & Events  Mary Schiedt, MaryYo1@netcapes.net, (530) 661-6061
Field Trips  Tim Nosal, 961-0766, tnosal@aol.com
Habitat Enhancement  Frank Wallace, 427-5694, frankw2@pacbell.net
Historian  Betty Matyas, 363-2390
Horticulture  Steve Woodward, 489-1744, woodzos@comcast.net
Hospitality  Peggy Berry, 944-1184, pegberry@aol.com
Mather Vernal Pools  Eva Butler, 443-6282, riverside1@worldnet.att.net
Membership Chair  Chris Wilkinson, 457-4899 edw@water.ca.gov
Natural Communities  Hazel Gordon, (530)297-7204
Newsletter  Amy Boyer, (530) 753-6323 ajboyer@cal.net
Plant Seeds/Bird House  Bill Jenkins, 961-7772, wjenk6314@cs.com
Programs Chair  Diana Hickson, DianaHickson@aol.com
Publicity  Shelly Gardner, gardnershelly@comcast.net
Rare Plants  Heidi West, 457-4899, corydoras22@msn.com, and Russell Huddleston, 456-1988, rhudd1@CH2M.com
School Gardens  Jennifer Hogan, 530 661-3410 jhogan@water.ca.gov
Stockton Sub-Chapter  Martha Mallory, (209) 477-3966
Members at Large: Sabrina Okamura-Johnson, 916 929-7896, Melinda RivasPlata melrivas@aol.com 916 454-5937
OPEN: Vice-President, Fall Plant Sale Coordinator, Poster Chair, future Programs Chair, Web Site

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Name_________________________________________
Address_______________________________________
City____________________________State__________
Zipcode________________
I wish to affiliate with
____Sacramento Valley Chapter of CNPS
____Other chapter_____________________________
Membership category
____Student, Retired, or Limited Income: $20
____Individual, or Library: $35
____Household, Family, or Group: $45
____Supporting: $75
____Plant Lover: $100
____Benefactor: $500
____Bristlecone Pine: $1,000
____Redwood: $2500
____Valley Oak: $5000
____Giant Sequoia: $10,000

Please complete form and mail with a check payable to California Native Plant Society
2707 K Street, Suite 1 • Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.
Tel. (916) 447-2677 • Fax (916) 447-2727