Sacramento Valley Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 2005  7pm
Shepard Garden and Arts Center, McKinley Park
3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento

Butterflies
By Greg Kareofelas

Response was so great to Greg Kareofelas’ presentation on dragonflies at our Chapter meeting last January that we’ve invited him back to talk about the butterflies of California. He’s been traveling all over California this year collecting and documenting occurrences of butterflies, then making incredibly gorgeous and detailed scans for this presentation. Greg will discuss the lore, natural history, taxonomy, and conservation of butterflies. You gotta love them – they pollinate plants!

Greg has been a member of the Sacramento Valley Chapter of CNPS for many years and has had a longstanding interest in butterflies and dragonflies. Our chapter meetings are free and the public is invited to attend. Each meeting includes a “Know Your Natives” Plant Identification Challenge. Our 40th Anniversary Logo canvas bags, books, wildflower seeds, Sac Valley Chapter t-shirts, posters, and bird boxes will be available for purchase at the meeting. Refreshments will be served.

Splash Wins Governor’s Award

The Splash curriculum Life in Our Watershed: Investigating Vernal Pools began in 1997 as a modest effort by CNPS volunteer, Eva Butler, to educate kids about vernal pools. From its humble beginnings, this watershed education program has become the celebrated Splash Program that has brought almost 9000 5th graders to explore the magic and the mystery of Sacramento’s vernal pools. On November 22, Splash will be honored with the Governor’s 2005 Environmental and Economic Achievement Award. How did CNPS help to make such a Splash?

Please check out our chapter web page to find out and read more about this amazing story!

B ecome a W eed W arrior!

Working to Preserve Biodiversity along the American River Parkway

Sacramento Weed Warriors is very busy removing invasive red sesbania seedlings from the American River Parkway. The work is easy, the site is lovely, and the weather has been beautiful! We provide gloves and tools - bring some water. Please join us (especially students needing community service hours!) for one of our upcoming community work groups:

Saturdays from 8:45 to 12:00 — November 5; December 3
Wm Pond Recreation area
Call Frank Wallace for more details and to sign up at 427-5694

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.
Missed Connections:

To the student in Davis who called me and left a message about holding Chapter meetings in Davis for people who can’t travel to Sacramento: I left a message at the number that you provided, but then lost your phone number. Let’s work together to have meetings in Davis, too. Please call me again!
- Diana Hickson, Programs Chair, (916) 362-8022.

Spring Plant Sale Volunteer Coordinator

Are you interested in Native Plant Gardens? Do you like working with people? We need your help. Part of the huge success of Wildflower Weekend in 2005 was the popularity of the Plant Sale we had there. So, Wildflower Weekend 2006 will have a Plant Sale both Saturday and Sunday! Some of the nurseries are already lined up. If you’d like to help out, please call Chris at 916 482-5282.

Wildflower Weekend - April 8th & 9th, `06

Reserve this weekend!  Saturday & Sunday April 8th & 9th 2006. We had a productive planning meeting in October. Most of the talented exhibitors will be back for our 2nd year. One change is that Ellen Dean, former curator of the UC Davis Herbarium will join us as the Freshwater Marsh Exhibitor. Welcome aboard Ellen! Are you a professional or serious amateur Botanist, Ecologist or Entomologist? We are seeking scientists by profession and avocation to participate in next year’s Wildflower Weekend. Educating the public about California’s native flora is one of the most important components of WW. Last year, interacting with guests was also one of the activities that volunteers most enjoyed. WW is a perfect opportunity to put your hard-earned knowledge of natural history to good use to benefit the environment and society! If you’d like to help, please contact Chris Lewis at 916 482-5282.

Botanical Sampling last June at Deer Creek Hills

We neglected to mention the outcome of our trip to Deer Creek Hills on June 25 and 26, 2005 (see photo at left). Our chapter hosted a workshop where participants learned to collect plant community data in riparian areas using the CNPS rapid assessment protocol. Carol Witham, Julie Evens and Josie Crawford gave the training to fourteen participants, completing two rapid assessments. This botanical and environmental data set will add to other information used in developing a management plan for this preserve in the easternmost part of Sacramento County.
The plants and bulbs, posters, books and t-shirts just flew out of the Shepard Garden and Arts Center at our fall plant sale. This is the ideal time to plant natives, so we hope all the plants and bulbs are all tucked into the warm soil and getting settled into their new homes.

It takes a big team to make a sale successful and many people helped to boost our profits.

The new plant information cards with pictures made a real difference in plant sales. Many thanks to Chris Lewis, Janie Booth, Jessica Hanks, Carol Crofoot and Janet Gerland for the new cards. Steve Woodward made all the pricing signs and got the pricing labels prepared.

The variety of plant materials was very large thanks to our plant vendors and chapter member growers: Cache Creek Nursery, Cornflower Farms, Far West Bulbs, Restoration Resources, Linnea Fronce, Emmy Gunterman, Jack Hiehle and Steve Woodward.

We also had great help in set up, sales (plants, bulbs, books, t-shirts, seeds, bird and bat houses), keeping the plants organized, plant information, landscape consultations, food (including a CNPS 40th anniversary cake as shown on the calendar!) and promoting membership, educational activities, the Weed Warriors and the vernal pool project and clean up. Our volunteers were: Bernadette Balics, Rich Blackmarr, Janie Booth, Dan Burmester, Eva Butler, Fran Clarke, Dean, Linnea Fronce, Janet Gerland, Ames Gilbert, Nancy Gilbert, Hazel Gordon, Emmy Gunterman, Jessica Hanks, Gordon Harrington, Jack Hiehle, Jen Hogan, Glen Holstein, Russ Huddleston, Bill Jenkins, Annie Kempees, Kristi, Chris Lewis, Martha Mallery, David Marraccini, Mary Maret, John Martin, Joyce Martin, Olga Myslivec, Andy Phillips, Melinda Rivaspinta, Mary Ann Robinson, Frances Sargent, Mary Schiedt, Sebastian, Gerald Swafford, Paul Townsend, Kent Valentine, Amanda Van Houtte, Lorraine Van Kekerix, Frank Wallace, Betsy Weiland, Rees Williams, Bill Wingfield and Steve Woodward.

We have about 10 CNPS Members & Board Members who are willing to lead one field trip next year. Could you lead a trip to your favorite place? We are putting together a Field Trip Calendar for the entire year! So no matter what time of year your trip would be, please let us know ASAP and we’ll add your trip to our list! Just phone or email Chris at 916 482-5282 or lewisc@surewest.net.

We are again delighted to welcome new members who recently joined our chapter: P. Barth, T. Linton, P. Slife, K. Thiruvengadan, K. Van Epen and G. Walden. Thank you for returning your chapter questionnaires (hopefully to be included with this Hibiscus) to us so that we can serve you better.


For others who may be close to your membership expiration date, please remember to renew to continue to receive the Hibiscus and other CNPS publications. Your timely financial support is crucial in enabling CNPS to continue its many roles in preserving and showcasing our natural botanical resources.

~Note from the Hibiscus editor~

I’ve changed my email address to: slow@cal.net
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How about a Tote?

Our 40th Anniversary canvas tote will be available at our meetings for $10 to non-members and $5 to members (just another member benefit brought to you by the Chapter Board).