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.

October Meeting:
Wed., 10/12, 7:00 p.m.
Shepard Garden & Arts Center
McKinley Park
3330 McKinley Blvd.,
Sacramento 95816
Sabrina Okamura Johnson, President (916) 929-7896

Our chapter meetings are free and open to the public.
Wildflower seeds, books and Sacramento Valley Chapter t-shirts are available for purchase at meetings.
Refreshments provided!

Help Needed: Landscape Design & Maintenance
We have an opportunity to display our local native plants to the hundreds of people who visit Soil Born Farms each week. If you would like to design or maintain one or more bed, please contact Chris at lewisc916@yahoo.com.

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OCTOBER PRESENTATION:
Cautious Management of a Unique Botanical Resource
Tim Nosal

Tim Nosal, an Environmental Scientist with the California Department of Fish and Game, will discuss management planning for the rare plants of Pine Hill. The unique flora of Pine Hill is in the spotlight as state agencies begin a fuel reduction project in order to protect critical communication infrastructure. Will the altered habitat be a boon or a bust for the famous Rare, Threatened and Endangered species of Pine Hill?

Tim Nosal will discuss the somewhat unconventional management planning for the rare plants of Pine Hill. Tim Nosal is a botanist serving as an Environmental Scientist for the California Department of Fish and Game. Tim earned his Master’s degree studying rare plants in the Pine Hill Preserve and has cataloged rare plants for the California Natural Diversity Database.

Susan Little — CNPS Legislative Staff Person of the Year

At our October Chapter meeting, Executive Director Tara Hansen and CNPS Legislative Advocate Vern Goehring will present the statewide Legislative Staff Person of the Year award to California Assembly Floor Analyst, Susan Little.

This award honors agency staff who have provided extraordinary service in conservation of California’s flora. CNPS recognizes that agencies can be difficult

continued on page 2
environments in which to achieve conservation due to budgetary, political and bureaucratic obstacles. This award celebrates both the recipients’ conservation achievements and their determination and ability to do what is needed to conserve California’s flora. This award is a belated recognition of Susan’s outstanding work — especially her efforts in 2009 when she noted a significant oversight in a critical bill pertaining to California’s wildlife that could have resulted in exempting all public airports from provisions on the Fish & Game Code relating to wildlife.

As a staff analyst in the Assembly Floor Analysis office, Susan Little, along with her colleagues, reviews and prepares a final analysis on bills before they are voted on by the full Assembly. In this role she is independent of the various policy committees and the analysts working for the policy committees. In other words, she is responsible for independently reviewing committee bill analyses for accuracy and consistency with a bill’s final provisions.

Susan was recommended for this distinguished statewide award by Vern Goehring, CNPS’s Legislative Consultant. In recommending Susan for this award, Vern describes how her sharp attention to detail and superb analytical skills have identified serious potential impacts to plants and wildlife in proposed legislation. When these details and impacts are brought out in the final analysis, it alerts CNPS and other conservation groups to advocate for amendments to improve legislative outcomes for the environment. Without individuals like Susan that have the strength of character to raise these important flags even at the 11th hour, some of these impacts could be missed and a bill could pass without an opportunity to amend – all to the detriment of CNPS and the California public.

The state office will be providing dessert and coffee after the meeting to help celebrate Susan’s award. We hope you will attend and help us recognize Susan.

\[\text{Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Report:} \]

\[\text{Exciting Moonwort Discoveries} \]

\[\text{by Daniel Slakey, CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Coordinator} \]

Setting out to do a Botrychium (moonwort) Rare Plant Treasure Hunt in the El Dorado National Forest this August, I was a little nervous about the success of the trip. After all, no rare moonworts had ever been seen in this part of the forest, though some were recently discovered on nearby private land. When we arrived at the meadows near Loon Lake, the potential habitat proved far from ideal — the meadows were either dry or inundated by beaver ponds. Eventually, we found a solitary rare moonwort along an ephemeral creek. It didn’t match any species described in The Jepson Manual so we recorded it as Botrychium sp., then set out on an extensive search of the area for more individuals. Our next site was beautiful, full of alpine wildflowers like Dodecatheon alpinum, Lilium parvum, and the common leathery grapefern, Botrychium multifidum, but it had no rare moonworts. Regardless, it was a great trip — we learned some new alpine plants, found an unknown moonwort, and even fit in some kayaking, swimming, and campfires!

Later I sent photos of the plant to Botrychium expert, Dr. Don Farrar. He suspected it was Botrychium paradoxum, paradox moonwort, which was previously known in California only from a single population in Yosemite National Park. Our discovery would be significant! After spore dispersal, the specimen was collected and sent to Dr. Farrar for genetic testing. While we’re not yet sure of the results, it will be an important find for the El Dorado National Forest. Next year, we plan to explore other wet meadows and creeks around Loon Lake to find more of these elusive rare ferns!

\[\text{Needed} \]

an occasional musical partner for presentations about Lady Bugs. Guitar is best. Helping me teach kids a GREAT song about these marvelous creatures. Here’s a link to the song: http://www.lostladyladybug.org/song.php. It’s a hoot! Please contact Julie Serences @ jpserences@gmail.com, or phone 916-548-0618
Photography Contest
submitted by Jim Wadsworth
The CNPS 2012 Conservation Conference will be holding a Photography Contest, the prizes will be:
1st Prize: $500 + photo published in Fremontia
2nd Prize: $300 + photo published in Fremontia
3rd Prize: $200 + photo published in Fremontia
Honorable mention and People’s Choice Award winners will be published in a future edition of Fremontia.

Subject & Criteria: “California Native Plants.” Photos must be taken in California (or California Floristic Province) and feature plants native to the state. Images may be species specific macro shots, wide angle landscape photos, or pictures of people or animals interacting with the natural environment of California. Photos may be of- but are not limited to- rare or common plants, flowers, trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, bryophytes - surprise us!

Digital or Film: Photographer’s Choice, however entry forms must be accompanied by high resolution digital copies of photos on CD.

Deadline for Entries: October 10, 2011. Please send entry form, payment, and CD with a high resolution copy of your entries in .jpeg format to CNPS. Please do not send a physical copy of your entry at this time.

Check out http://cnps.org/cnps/conference/2012/photo_contest.php for more information.

Social Networking in the Garden
The Historic City Cemetery Demonstration Garden is now on Facebook! “Like” our page, California Native Plant Demonstration Garden :: Sacramento.

Yelp! Give us a review and help put us on the map as a cool Sacramento garden. Look for special Yelp promotions.

California Native Plant Society
Sacramento Valley Chapter
Stockton Subchapter

WANTED: A volunteer to serve as the Stockton Subchapter Representative to Sacramento Valley CNPS in 2012. Major activities include: attending some of the monthly native plant programs in Sacramento; organizing field trips and local meetings; creating blurbs for the Hibiscus; and writing a two-page annual report. You’ll also have the opportunity to get creative coordinating informative displays at local events. Please phone Martha at 477-3966 if you can volunteer for an exciting year as our subchapter representative. You’ll have lots of help!

For information on upcoming field trips to Calaveras Big Trees and Mono Lake, phone Martha at 477-3966.

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.

http://www.sacvalleycnps.org/stockton/stockton.htm

Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Prizes!
Amber Swanson and Daniel Slakey,
CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Coordinators

Hello Treasure Hunters —
As a way to recognize our individual volunteers and CNPS chapters we will be giving away prizes to those that have excelled in one of the following categories: most, second most, and third occurrences updated by an individual or team; best photo; and best essay. We will also be awarding Chapter prizes.

To be considered for a prize you must turn in all your survey forms, photos, and/or volunteer hours to us by October 17th. Please mail them to either aswanson@cnps.org or dslakey@cnps.org. Winners will be notified by October 23rd and announced November 1st. Also to help us calculate volunteer hours and overall prizes please submit a volunteer hour log for trips that you have done trips on your own without CNPS staff members.

Check out http://www.cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt/prizes.php for more information.

CNPS State Office Silent Auction
The 2012 Conference Silent Auction Committee is looking for donations and committee members! The 2009 Conference Auction raised almost $10,000 for CNPS’ Conservation Program; let’s beat our own record in the name of California’s native plants! Ideas for donations include: plant themed and handmade artwork, books, gardening accessories, jewelry, and other items of beauty, value, or interest. If you would like to donate, please fill out the Auction Donor Form available at the www.cnps.org website. If you do not have something special to donate please consider donating your time by joining the Silent Auction Committee and soliciting donations or volunteer opportunities at the conference. For questions about donations or volunteer opportunities please contact silentauction2012@cnps.org.
CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

Tues.-Sat., 1/10–1/14/2012
CNPS 2012 Conservation Conference, San Diego

Something for everyone: 200 presentations in 22 sessions, field trips, 30 exhibitors and vendors, social events, photo and botanical art contests, and more. See http://www.cnps.org/cnps/conservation/conference/2012/ for more information.

ONGOING

Native Plant Demo-Garden
Sacramento Historic City Cemetery
1000 Broadway, Sacramento
Sundays, 10 a.m.–noon

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@surewes.net.

Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery Workdays,
Wednesdays, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Located at Soil Born Farms
2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova

Help us propagate our wonderful native plants and enjoy the atmosphere! Please bring your hat, gloves, and snack. If you’d like a PBJ, just email Chris beforehand at lewisc916@yahoo.com.

Nursery Walks, Fridays, 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.
We walk different paths along the American River Parkway and collect seeds, take photos, make notes about what plants and critters. Join us! To find our out where we meet, sign up for our weekly emails by contacting Chris at lewisc916@yahoo.com.

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: Sabrina Okamura-Johnson (916) 929-7896 or e-mail soj@surewes.net.

Chapter Board Meetings
4th Wed. of month, 7 p.m. SMUD Art Gallery & Community Center, 6301 S Street, Sacramento, CA95817
(Jan.-June; Sept.-Nov.)

OTHER EVENTS

Sat. 10/1, 9:00 a.m. – noon
Native Plants for Food and Health Friends of the Chico State Herbarium California State University, Chico Registration Fee: $45

Learn how native plants provided a sustainable source of food and medicine for local inhabitants for thousands of years, how to prepare and enjoy backyard fall and winter edibles, and identify the uses of plants in the field. Register in advance; class is limited to 20 participants (minimum: 8). Please contact Alicia Funk (alicia@livingwild.org) for information on content and the Biology office ((530) 898-5356) or jbraden@csuchico.edu for information about registration.

Wed. – Fri., 10/5 – 10/7
20th Annual Cal-IPC Symposium — Invasive Plants & Ecological Change
Granlibakken Resort, Tahoe City, CA
Cal-IPC’s 20th annual Symposium will celebrate Cal-IPC’s success over the past twenty years while looking ahead to the future of invasive plant management, research, and policy. We have invited speakers to address the myriad types of human-influenced changes to the natural environment that impact invasive plant management, including changes in soils, fire, nitrogen deposition, and climate change.

For more information please go to www.cal-ipc.org/symposia/index.php

Contact: Sabrina Okamura-Johnson (916) 929-7896 or soj@surewes.net.

Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery
by Christina Lewis, Nursery Leader

Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery

Now that it’s October, we’ll all be catching our breath after a very active month preparing and holding the Fall Plant Sale. The month of October will mean lots of seed work in the Nursery and lots of collecting to be done in the field.

Remember that the nursery depends on volunteers to make the nursery work. This is the Chapter’s Nursery and it only thrives by our collective efforts. We are fortunate to have people who donate their time weekly, as well as folks who help out as their schedules allow.

Because our nursery has grown so much, and we need to expand it! So mark your calendars for Saturday, November 19th and Saturday, December 10th to join us for fence building and more. We’ll have more details as the dates approach.

Contact: Sabrina Okamura-Johnson (916) 929-7896 or soj@surewes.net.
Effie Yeaw Nature Center - October 2011
Ancil Hoffman County Park, 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael, CA
Park entrance fee: $5.00 per car or FREE to ARNHA members.
Hours: Wed. - Sun. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
The Nature Center may be closed in stormy weather. Please call to confirm hours.
(916) 489-4918 www.sacnaturecenter.net

Sat. 9/24, 10:30 a.m.
Sacramento Storytellers
Come to the Nature Center to hear some exciting tales told by the Sacramento Storytellers Guild.
Suitable for all ages.

Sat. 10/1, 10:30 a.m.
Six Legged Sensations
At over a million species, insects may be the most successful creatures on the planet. Join a naturalist for a close look at insects commonly found in and around the Nature Area. Then take a creature safari and observe insects in their natural habitat.

Sat. 10/8, 10:30 a.m.
Autumn Nature Walk
Explore the changes that Fall brings to the oak woodland when you join a naturalist for this guided walk through the Nature Area’s riparian habitat. Observe how the animals prepare for Winter.

Sat. 10/15, 10:30 a.m.
Art in Nature
Enjoy expressing your artistic side as you observe the plants and animals of the Nature Area and learn to depict them with guidance from a naturalist. Supplies provided.

Sat. 10/22, 10:30 a.m.
Owls of October
When are owls most active? Can they turn their heads all the way around? What is an owl pellet? Meet a resident owl of the Nature Center and learn the answer to these questions.

Sun. 10/23, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Nature Fest
Please join us for a free day of exciting activities at the Nature Center. Crafts, Demos, Education, Entertainment, Live Animals and More! (There is a $5.00 per car parking fee)

Sat. 10/29, 10:30 a.m.
Spooky Story Time
Gear up for Halloween with some spooky stories told by the Sacramento Storytellers Guild. Stories guaranteed not to cause nightmares! Suitable for all ages.

NEW Interactive Exhibit:
Wild About Wetlands

Friday walks…

August 26, 2011
by Jim Wadsworth
All photos © 2011 Jim Wadsworth

John S, Chris, Bobbie, Will, Mike, Linnea, Tad and Robin joined me for our weekly Friday walk. We went in search of Madia and Elderberry seeds. We struggled through the rocks and star thistle, but there was lots to be harvested for Elderberry Native Plant Nursery. This IS a very good year for star thistle!!! We had a nice walk to the river and exited at Rossmoor Drive.

Mentzelia laevicaulis, Blazing star. Beautiful flower... found near the top of a rock pile, makes you wonder how it would ever survive the heat with no water.

Jimsonweed - sacred thornapple. Compare the seeds... the non-native has large spikes.

Madia elegans. It's nice to walk or ride a bike in the morning along the parkway when the madia are in bloom.

John S Chris Bobbie Will Mike Linnea Jim Tad Robin
Family Photo

The time is 9:37 am and the madia is starting to close.
Notes from the Demo-Garden:

A Summer with Bees and Bricks!

Summer time at the demo-garden was reinvigorated by the return of Cassandra Nguyen Musto as a Co-Chair. On June 24, during National Pollinator Week, we welcomed new Sacramento Valley chapter members and other native garden lovers to “Wine & Cheese with the Bees.” This was our first social held in the Garden, and it was a big hit with our raffle prizes, wine and appetizers, great people, and wonderful weather. We look forward to doing this again next year.

As some know, the most coveted service in the historic cemetery is the mason crew. As Cassandra says, “it’s been several years since our garden received any brick-love.” So when the City ran out of supplies for regularly scheduled mason work this July, we bought our own supplies and were able to start getting brick work done in the south garden area. The first plot to receive the “brick-love” is planted with a California Buckeye (Aesculus californica). As indicated in the photo below, the new mason work provides long overdue structure and bones in this area, where we have quite a bit of work left to do. The brick work continued through August and will continue this fall until the rains stop us.

Volunteers Needed. Please contact Cassandra (cassandra_musto@yahoo.com) if you have mason skills and are willing to work on a plot or two, or if you ‘happen’ to have bags of cement or mortar you could donate. In order to lighten the weekend management work, we really need some additional members willing and able to come out one Saturday or Sunday a month at 7:45am to muster with the Sheriff work crews and manage a team of 2 to 4 men in our garden area. Please contact Sabrina (soj@surewes.net) for more info about weekend garden management. As always help with our ongoing garden activities: pruning, mulching, weeding, deadheading, plantings and seed collection is always appreciated.

Needs/Wish list. We are currently in need of: new or lightly used garden tools and equipment (rakes, shovels, hula-hoes, loppers, hand tools, pruning equipment, gloves and knee pads), masonry equipment and supplies (stakes, trowels, string, and bags of mortar/cement).

Thanks to all our dedicated summer volunteers: Bridgette Dinaberg, Renate Sperlich, Dana Nolan, Jessica Yoder, Margaux McClure, Andy Phillips, Jennifer Hogan, Bernadette Balics, Bonnie Ross, Paul Barth, Mitchell Alford, Chris Johnson, Michael Okamura, John Alatorre, Michael Musto, Paul Townsend, and our week day weeder.

As always, we hope to see you in the garden soon.

— Sabrina, Donna, & Cassandra

July brick repair on the left side of aisle and plots still in need of “brick-love” on the right.
Photos (taken by Cassandra N. Musto)

1. “Our Boy” plot finally gets his turn for some buffing up.
2. Armando and Jesus laying out the strings.
3. The trench is ready for its concrete footing.
4. Look at all our dudes! We lucked out with a full brick crew.
5. Et, voila!!! “Our Boy” plot is done!

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Wildflower Weekend
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Member at Large
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Photos (taken by Cassandra N. Musto)

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Join us for the October meeting and help us celebrate Susan Little’s selection as CNPS Legislative Staff Person of the Year

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www.cnps.org

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Join CNPS or sign up for automatic membership renewal online!
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