

PROGRAMS

Everyone is welcome to attend membership meetings in the Recreation Room of the San Francisco County Fair Building (SFCFB) at 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park. The building is served by the #71 and #44 lines, is one block from the N-Judah car, and is two blocks from the #6, #43, and #66 bus lines.

DECEMBER 1, THURSDAY

Annual Members' Slides and Potluck Supper

6:30 pm, Potluck: Coordinated by Richard Craib

7:30 pm, Slide Show: Coordinated by Margo Bors

Join our annual year-end informal members' potluck dinner and slide show. Please bring your favorite slides or digital images and your favorite dish or beverage to share. Whether you are a photographer or an appreciator, come for an enjoyable evening of delicious food and great pictures.

SLIDE SHOW GUIDELINES:

- Images – Bring about 10 minutes worth of images that you feel would appeal to CNPS members - interesting plants, gardens, landscapes, hikes, work parties, etc. Be prepared to say a few words about your images.
- Bring your digital .jpg images on a thumb drive or a CD and Margo will upload them to her laptop computer to project.
- Please let Margo know (contact information at end of this item) if you have slides and need a regular slide projector.
- Prints are also welcome. We will put them on display and ask you to tell us about them.
- If you're using your own laptop, please bring any adapters you might need to connect to our digital projector. We have some of the newer common adapters for Mac and PC.
- Contact: Margo at mcbors@comcast.net or 415-824-0471

POTLUCK GUIDELINES:

- Bring your favorite food or drink – main dishes, salads, desserts, wine, juice, etc., whatever most inspires you. We especially encourage main dishes.
- Please bring whatever utensils are needed to serve your dish.
- Contact: Richard at 415-648-0862 or richcraib@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 2, THURSDAY

Renewable Energy: Meeting the Threats to California's Desert Rare Plant Habitats

7:30 pm, Speaker: Greg Suba

Our speaker will summarize the history and current state of large-scale renewable energy projects (solar and wind), proposed for location in California's deserts. He will also update us on alternative proposals for implementing distributed generation ("rooftop solar"), conservation, and efficiency programs throughout California.

The fast-tracked permitting and construction of large-scale wind and solar projects are being driven by federal and state targets to reduce our climate-altering greenhouse gas emissions. Superimposed on renewable energy goals are efforts to stimulate a global economy in recession, and reduce record levels of joblessness. Several multi-thousand acre projects have been permitted without a comprehensive project-siting and habitat conservation plan in place. Both the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) process and the BLM's Solar Energy Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Solar PEIS) will provide a more conservation-minded siting process, but both initiatives lag behind the permitting and building of projects.

Greg Suba has been the CNPS Conservation Program Director since 2009.

Prior to joining CNPS, Greg worked as a watershed coordinator, science educator, and biological consultant in northern California, and spent several years monitoring streams and surveying forests throughout the state. He has a B.S. in Biology and an M.S. in Marine Science, and began his career as a research scientist in marine botany.

FUTURE PROGRAM

March 1—*The Great Sunflower Project: Pollinator Conservation by the Public*—Gretchen LeBuhn



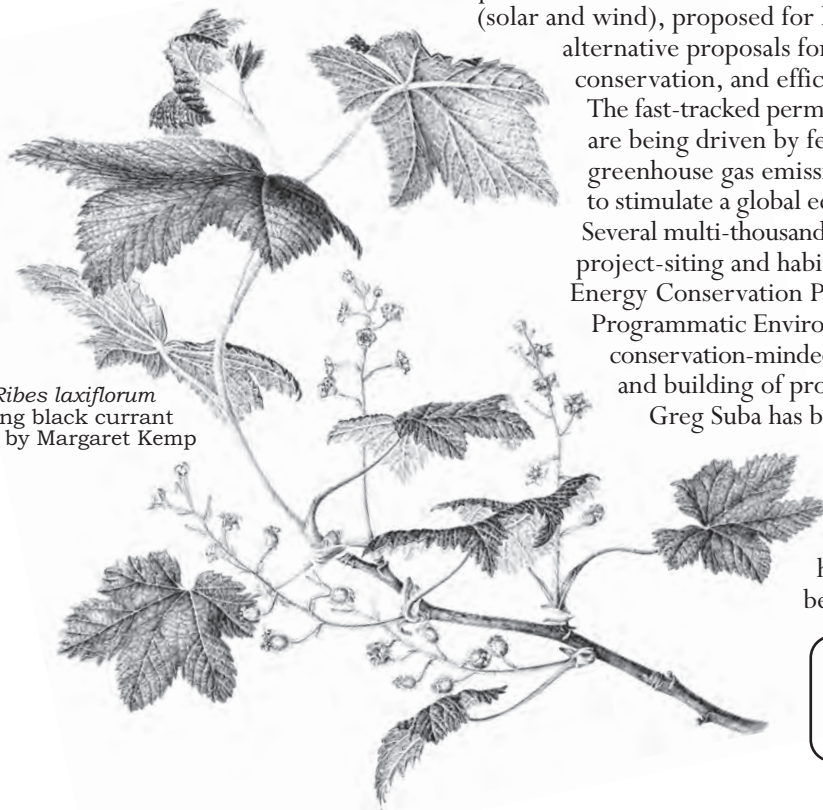
THE YERBA BUENA
CHAPTER OF THE
CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT
SOCIETY FOR
SAN FRANCISCO
AND NORTHERN
SAN MATEO COUNTY

Vol. 25 No. 4 ■ December 2011

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Ribes laxiflorum
trailing black currant
by Margaret Kemp



FIELD TRIPS

Members and non-members are encouraged to attend these FREE walks. Contacts for additional information are listed at the end of each trip description. If rain is forecast, we recommend checking with the contact about an hour before the trip. In general, bring lunch and liquids; sunscreen and layered clothing; and a hand lens, notebook, sketchbook, or any other tools/toys that will enhance your exploratory experience.

JANUARY 21, SATURDAY, 10 am to 1 pm

San Bruno Mountain, Saddle-Bog Area

Leader: Doug Allshouse

The saddle is state-owned land that comprises the northernmost several hundred acres of the park. It features grasslands; the headwaters of Colma Creek, now part of a disturbed wetland; a eucalyptus forest; and monocultures of gorse (*Ulex europaeus*). It is rich in plant species, both native and non-native, and its grasslands share plant species common to the southeast portion of the mountain. Of interest in the bog is creek dogwood (*Cornus sericea* ssp. *sericea*), which is the subject of this issue's *Focus on Rarities* by Mike Wood. Several past and present restoration projects are worth visiting and along the way we'll look for larval host plants used by the mission blue and callippe silverspot butterflies (*Lupinus albifrons* var *collina* and *Viola pedunculata*, respectively). We'll walk trails that are easy on the legs – however, excessive winter rainfall can turn a short portion of the Bog Trail soggy so wear shoes suitable for possible moisture and mud. There is a \$6 fee for park admission, payable at the ranger kiosk. Meet in the main lot just past the kiosk.

If wet weather cancels, the trip will be rescheduled to February 4. Contact Doug at dougsr228@comcast.net or 415-584-5114 about trail conditions or with other questions.



Delphinium californicum ■ California larkspur ■ by Margo Bors

ACTIVITIES

WAYNE RODERICK LECTURE SERIES



Regional Parks Botanic Garden in Tilden Park
Saturdays, starting at 10:30 am (seating is limited)
http://www.ebparks.org/parks/vc/botanic_garden
510-544-3169 bgarden@ebparks.org

- November 5—The Cedars of Cazadero, Yosemite of serpentines—Steve Edwards
- November 12—Island hopping in the Sea of Cortez—Buff & Gerald Corsi and Ted Kipping
- November 19—Along the Wonderland Trail: Plants of Mt. Rainier—Vernon Smith
- December 3—Sierra Valley and Lakes Basin in the northern Sierra —Steve Edwards
- December 10—Tales from Old Greyback: A foray to the top of Southern California's highest peak, San Geronio Mountain—Heath Bartosh
- December 17—Plants of Arizona's deserts and mountains—Dick O'Donnell

FEBRUARY 11, SATURDAY, 10 am to noon

Mori Point

Leaders: Christina Crooker and Susie Bennett

The GGNRA, with the help of volunteers, has been restoring native plant communities at Mori Point since 2007. Beneficiaries of this effort include California red-legged frogs and San Francisco garter snakes, both listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. Join GGNRA natural resource specialists Christina Crooker and Susie Bennett for dramatic views and likely encounters with several frogs. The trail is easy to moderate and will take us through wetlands and coastal scrub. Sturdy shoes and layered clothing are recommended, as are binoculars for viewing frog egg masses. Meet across from the Moose Lodge on Bradford Way in Pacifica. **Heavy rain will postpone the trip to February 18.** Contact: Susie Bennett susie_bennett@nps.gov.

FEBRUARY 25, SATURDAY, 1 pm to 4 pm

San Pedro Valley County Park, Hazelnut Trail

Leader: Jake Sigg

With its great abundance and variety of native plants, the Hazelnut Trail is sure to please. Thanks to mild coastal winters, in this area just out of view of the ocean it is eternal spring. Montara Mountain's shrub community will present us with coffeeberry, huckleberry, snowberry, manzanitas, ceanothus, pink currant (in bloom), osoberry, ocean spray, poison oak with new red and pink leaves, and lots more – and a dazzling diversity of lichens. Not to mention hazelnut! Plus massive coast live oak trees ... madrones ... golden chinquapin (*Chrysolepis chrysophylla*) and burning bush (*Euonymus occidentalis*), uncommon to rare in our area. Soft, understated colors – pinks, grays, sage greens – are everywhere, woven into a botanical wonderland that changes with every step. And the blotched-leaved slinkpod (*Scoliopus bigelovii*), with its odd maroon flowers and seed capsules that "slink" along the ground as they mature, is seen in large numbers along the edges of the trail. Light rain won't stop us, but **sustained, heavy rain will postpone the trip to February 26, same time.** Meet at the visitor's center at San Pedro Valley County Park. Contact Jake at jakesigg@earthlink.net or 415-731-3028 for more information.

Can you assist the Field Trips Chair in arranging field trips? Contact Mila Stroganoff, 650-359-1642 or milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net

January 7—Wildflower hunting in Voyageurs National Park, Minnesota, and Isle Royale National Park in Lake Superior—Bob Case

January 14—East of the Range of Light—Steve Edwards and Mike Uhler

January 21—Natural history of Switzerland—Ron Felzer

January 28—Crown Jewel of our parks: Botany and geology of Sunol-Ohlone Regional Wilderness—Steve Edwards

February 4—Indian uses of California native plants – John Kipping

February 11—Peripatetic botany from Modoc to San Benito—Dick O'Donnell

February 18—Island of Fogs: Exploring Cedros Island in Baja California—Mike Uhler

February 25—The western Mohave—Steve Edwards

SEVENTH ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR

The chapter's 2012 tour of gardens featuring native plants will be held Sunday, April 15, 2012 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This tour advances our mission of educating people about native plants by featuring gardens focused on natives and illustrating how attractive they can be in a garden as well as how they can entice and support local fauna. At this time we need two things:

1. New gardens to supplement those from previous tours (gardens must have a significant number of natives, but may have other plants as well; configurations of age, content, design and location will vary)
2. Interested folks to join the committee to organize the tour (involves once monthly evening meetings that include dinner and doing various voluntary jobs)

If you have information about a garden or gardens that you think are appropriate for our tour, wish to join the planning committee, or have questions about either, please contact Susan Floore sfloore@att.net or (415) 285-4692.

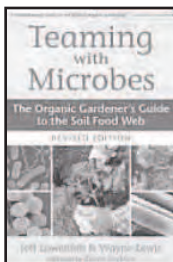


“Worms have played a more important part in the history of the world than most persons would at first suppose.”
—Charles Darwin, *The Formation of Vegetable Mould Through the Action of Worms*



BOOK REVIEW: *Teaming with Microbes: The Organic Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web* by Jeff Lowenfels & Wayne Lewis

Review by George Suter



This book makes available to the novice the latest information about the kind of soil that can sustain natural gardening. While the whole topic cannot be covered in one slim volume, all critical aspects of the subject seem to be addressed.

The first half of the book describes the life expected to be found in healthy soil. “Life” is the key word here. - Healthy soil is alive with worms, arthropods, nematodes, protozoa, fungi, algae, archaea, and bacteria. All of these are described and their interrelationship with healthy plants made clear. If the soil in your garden seems inert, and your plants look anemic or just die, you have some work to do, and this is the book to get you started.

What needs to be done is addressed in the second half of the book, which describes how a healthy soil can be achieved. This involves the triumvirate of compost (teas), mulch, and mycorrhizal fungi; all of which can be added to the soil with various techniques described in the book.

What attracted me to this book was the lifeless appearance of the soil in my own garden. I knew my soil needed improving, but what I lacked was information on how to change it for the better; on what direction to take. I expect that with this book's guidance, I will have more successful plantings in the season to come.

On sale at the Yerba Buena Chapter's book table for \$27 (tax included).

VOLUNTEER TO HELP NATIVES AT ALEMANY FARM

A little flash of green along Interstate 280, Alemany Farm was once a wetland, riparian area, and native grassland. It became an informal dump until adopted by the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG) in 1994. The farm today is entirely cared for by volunteers and is an educational resource, modeling and teaching sustainable methods of organic agriculture.

In 2006, volunteer John Pendleton was inspired to increase the educational value of the farm by securing funding to bring California native plants to the farm. In the fall of 2009, *Alemany Natives* emerged to care for the native plant areas at the farm, including CNPS members Casey Allen, Iris Clearwater, Craig Heckman, and Jeanne Koelling. There are currently over 70 varieties of San Francisco natives at the farm, and many California natives as well, including plantings of oaks and native trees as part of the Living Library Think Park nature walk, created by Bonnie Sherk.

Much of the slopes and hillsides remain undeveloped, and would be great candidates for grassland restoration. There is regularly a pair of American kestrels at the farm, who may be nesting onsite or nearby, and the farm's current grassland is an important resource for them. A pair of song sparrows have been observed nesting in the cattails, and every spring a flock of red-winged blackbirds moves into the manmade pond to nest among the tule and cattails – one of the few locations in the city where they nest.

We are currently seeking one or more volunteers to lead the care of these native plant areas - someone who recognizes native flora, can lead volunteers in the care of the site, and has an interest in developing its educational possibilities. Please contact alemanyntives@gmail.com, if you can help to keep this valuable educational and ecological habitat resource thriving. Current workdays are 3rd Sundays, 1:00-4:00. Info and directions at www.alemanyfarm.org/get-involved.



Iris douglasiana
Douglas iris
by Margaret Kemp

HABITAT RESTORATION



Bookmark the daily event calendar at <http://cnps-yerbabuena.org/calendar>

Alemanys Natives at Alemanys Farm.

3rd Sundays, 1 to 4 pm. Contact: alemanynatives@gmail.com

Bayview Hill. 2nd Saturdays of September and November. Contact Terese Lawler tereselawler@gmail.com.

Bernal Hilltop. 3rd Saturdays, 10 am to 12 pm. Work party contact Rachel Kesel rachel.kesel@sfgov.org; Groups contact Joe Grey 415-831-6328.

Buena Vista Park. 1st Saturdays, 9 am to noon. Contact Joe.Grey@sfgov.org or 415-831-6328.

Brooks Park. Contact Joe Grey Joe.Grey@sfgov.org

Candlestick State Park Nursery. 1150 Carroll Street. 1st Saturdays, 10 am to 2 pm. Bay Youth for the Environment. Contact Patrick Rump bye@lejyouth.org.

Castro-Duncan Open Space. Contact Dave Thompson or Gloria Koch-Gonzalez 415-821-7601.

CNPS Native Plant Restoration Team. Every Wednesday, noon to 3 pm. Contact Jake Sigg 415-731-3028 or jakesigg@earthlink.net.

Corona Heights. Last Saturdays, 10 am to noon. Contact Jim Houillion 415-552-3542 or coronavolunteers@sonic.net.

Edgehill Mt. Park. 2nd Saturdays, 1 to 3 pm. Contact Stan Kaufman 415-681-4954 or sekfmn@pacbell.net.

Fort Funston Green Team (Nursery and Stewardship Program). Every Saturday, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Contact 415-239-4247 or skato@parksconservancy.org.

GGNRA Habitat Restoration Team. Every Sunday, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm with lunch break. Contact volunteer@parksconservancy.org or 415-331-0732. Locations hotline: 415-561-4747.

GGNRA Site Stewardship Program. Every Saturday, 10 am to 1 pm. Sites vary in Pacifica or Marin Headlands. Contact 415-561-3073 or volunteer@parksconservancy.org

Glen Canyon. Wednesdays & 3rd Saturdays, 9 am to noon. Friends of Glen Canyon. Contact Jean Conner 415-584-8576, Richard Craib 415-648-0862.

Golden Gate Heights Sandy Dunes Native Plant Community Garden. Contact Barbara Kobayashi okim1946@yahoo.com.

Golden Gate Park Oak Woodlands. 2nd Saturdays, 10 am to 12:30 pm.

Contact Rob Bakewell 415-710-9617 or rcbakewell@gmail.com

Green Hairstreak Butterfly Corridor. 2nd Sundays, 10 am to noon, 14th Ave. at Pacheco. Contact Nature in the City at 415-564-4107 or steward@natureinthecity.org

Haight Ashbury Stewards. Contact Nature in the City 415-564-4107.

Half Moon Bay State Beach. 650-726-8801 or hmbrestore@gmail.com

Heron's Head Park. 2nd Saturdays, 9 am to noon. Contact Raynelle Rino 415-282-6840 or raynelle.rino@lejyouth.org.

Lake Merced. 1st Saturdays, 1 to 3:30 pm. Contact Friends of Lake Merced: Craig or Martha Spriggs 415-661-1668.

Lands End Stewardship. Every Thursday & Saturday, 1 to 4 pm. Contact 415-561-4864 or lands_end@parksconservancy.org.

Linda Mar State Beach 4th Sundays, 10 am to noon. Contact 650-451-1130 or 94116bc@gmail.com.

Marin Headlands Native Plant Nursery. Wednesday, 1 to 4 pm & Saturday, 9 am to noon. Contact 415-332-5193 or AShor@parksconservancy.org.

McLaren Park. 2nd Saturdays, 10 am to noon. Contact Joe.Grey@sfgov.org or 415-831-6328.

Mission Creek Bank Restoration. Generally Saturday mornings. Contact Ginny Stearns for times 415-552-4577 or GinnyStearns@gmail.com.

Mt. Davidson. 1st Saturdays, 9 am to noon. Friends of Mt. Davidson: Contact

Joe.Grey@sfgov.org or 415-831-6328

Mt. Sutro. 1st Saturdays, 9 am - 1 pm Contact Craig Dawson: craig@natureinthecity.org

Pacifica's Environmental Family. 4th Sundays, 10 am. Contact Shirley Suhrer 650-359-0892.

Pigeon Point Lighthouse. Contact Restoration Coordinator 650-726-8801.

Presidio Native Plant Nursery. Wednesday & Saturday, 1 to 4 pm. Contact 415-561-4826 or ehuerta@parksconservancy.org.

Presidio Park Stewards. Every Wednesday & Saturday, 9 am to noon.

Contact 415-561-3034 x3445 or PresidioParkStewards@parksconservancy.org.

Presidio Plant Patrol. Every Friday 1 to 4 pm. Contact 415-561-3034 x3445 or

PresidioParkStewards@parksconservancy.org.

Redwood Creek Nursery and Stewards. Wednesday & Saturday, 10 am to 1 pm.

Contact 415-383-4390 or RedwoodCreek@parksconservancy.org.

San Bruno Mountain. Tuesdays, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm: Earthcare Wetlands Project

Wednesdays, 10 am to 12:30 pm: Greenhouse volunteers-Mission Blue Nursery,

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10 am to 12:30 pm: Weed Rangers Stewardship Outing,

2nd & 4th Saturdays, 10 am to noon: Bog Restoration

www.mountainwatch.org, 415-467-6631.

SF Recreation & Parks Department. Natural Areas Program. Joe.Grey@sfgov.org or 415-831-6328.

San Pedro Valley County Park, Pacifica. 3rd Saturdays, 9 am. Contact Carolyn Pankow 650-355-7466.

Save the Bay. Tidal marsh habitats. Saturdays, 9 am to noon. Native Plant Nursery work on the first two Wednesday's of the month. Contact Natalie LaVan 510-452-9261 x109, or www.saveSFbay.org/volunteer.

Shields/Orizaba Rocky Outcrop. Contact Paul Koski at pkoski7@netscape.net.

Tennessee Valley Nursery and Stewards. Every Tuesday, 10 am to noon & 1 to 4 pm.

Contact 415-331-0732 or lponzini@parksconservancy.org.

White-Crowned Sparrow

3rd Saturdays, 9am - noon Contact sfrpd.volunteerprogram@sfgov.org

“The origin of life appears... to be almost a miracle, so many are the conditions which would have had to be satisfied to get it going.”—Francis Crick, *Life Itself: Its Nature and Origin*

GREEN HAIRSTREAK PROJECT PROGRESS

By Alane Bowling, Green Hairstreak Site Steward

The Green Hairstreak butterfly is what an emerald would look like if it could fly. Unfortunately, this little butterfly is more rare than that beautiful gemstone.

Way back in the 1950s, the Audubon Society reported that the Green Hairstreak was disappearing as its habitat was being turned into housing for us. Co-existence is possible, however, and a group of Golden Gate Heights neighborhood volunteers are creating a native habitat corridor between two of the three remaining Green Hairstreak populations to encourage the butterflies to “mingle,” thereby strengthening their genetics and increasing their numbers. Volunteers, inspired by visionary lepidopterist Liam O’Brien and with support from Nature in the City and San Francisco Parks Trust, act as stewards for small plots of San Francisco Department

of Public Works land. We tend our native street parks the third Saturday of every month from 10 am until about 1 pm, and invite you to join us at our original Green Hairstreak garden at 14th Avenue and Pacheco. We’ll supply bagels, beverages, and compost bags. Please bring your gardening gloves and tools. We welcome your participation.

Resources:

Green Hairstreak corridor map:

<http://natureinthecity.org/GHsites.pdf>

Channel 7 news clip on the Green Hairstreak project:

<http://vimeo.com/channels/94530>

More information and photos: <http://natureinthecity.org/gh.php>

FOCUS ON RARITIES

CREEK DOGWOOD

(*Cornus sericea* ssp. *sericea*)

by Michael Wood

If you're a gardener or a transplant from east of the Mississippi, when you reminisce about spring, you probably think "dogwoods". Cultivars of eastern dogwood (*Cornus florida*), with their showy flower bracts, are widely planted in parks and along avenues throughout the East and Midwest. Naturally occurring stands of eastern dogwood occur from southern Maine to northern Florida and west to southern Ontario, Illinois and Kansas. But it should come as no surprise that California is also host to several taxa of dogwood, albeit not quite as ornamental as the more showy cultivars.

The dogwoods belong to the dogwood family (Cornaceae). The family includes about 110 species of mostly trees and shrubs in around 12 genera. It is widely represented throughout the northern temperate zone but also reaching into the tropics south of the equator, showing up on the continents of North and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa. The family has even spread through Southeast Asia as far as Wallace's Line (an ecological boundary between Southeast Asia and Australia created by the deep straights separating Borneo and New Guinea). This barrier to dispersal apparently prevented the family's spread into Australia.

The genus *Cornus* includes about 50 species found in temperate and boreal Eurasia, China, Japan and North America. The name is derived from the Latin word for horn (*cornu*), referring to the plant's hard wood. It is the only member of the family occurring in California. California supports five species and two subspecies of deciduous dogwoods. Although reaching as far south as the Transverse Ranges and Peninsular Ranges of southern California, our native dogwoods are most commonly encountered in the Central and North Coast Ranges, the Sierra, and the Klamath and Cascade Ranges.

In their *Flora of San Francisco* (Howell, *et al.* 1958), three species of dogwood had been reported from the City, including creek dogwood (*C. californica* [now *C. sericea*]), brown dogwood (*C. glabrata*), and mountain dogwood (*C. nuttallii*). Of these, it appears that we're down to just one, creek dogwood.

Cornus sericea is divided into two subspecies (*C.s. sericea* and *C.s. occidentalis*) with overlapping ranges. The former, commonly

known as creek dogwood, American dogwood and red osier dogwood, has leaves that are glabrous above and strigose beneath. The latter, known as western dogwood, has leaf undersides that are densely rough-hairy. Although records for both subspecies exist, it is presently thought that only *C.s. ssp. sericea* occurs in San Francisco. Creek dogwood is a shrub reaching up to 12 feet in height and generally associated with moist habitats below about 8200 feet in elevation. It is distinguished from our other dogwoods by the lack of petal-like bracts, and by having leaves 2 to 4 inches long with leaf veins in 4 to 7 pairs. Flowers develop in strigose cymes (a flat-topped or round, determinate inflorescence with stiff, straight appressed hairs). The blossoms themselves consist of white petals $\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. Flowering occurs from April through June. Fruits are

Cornus sericea ssp. *sericea*
creek dogwood



small whitish drupes (think cherry) about a quarter of an inch long.

Historically, creek dogwood was locally common in marshy spots and along streams at Lobos Creek, in Golden Gate Park, and in the gully east of Lake Merced (Howell, *et al.* 1958). The Presidio is the type locality for the subspecies, meaning it is the location of the material collected from which the taxon was first described. It is also present on San Bruno Mountain where its extent has been greatly reduced by development and quarry operations, but is extant along Colma Creek.

According to Randy Zebell of the Natural Areas Program (NAP), the natural stand of

creek dogwood in that gully east of Lake Merced, along what is now Brotherhood Way, is doing just fine. Michael Chassé, Natural Resource Management Specialist with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), reports that remnant patches of creek dogwood at Lobos Creek are expanding with the removal of Cape-ivy (*Delairea odorata*) and their ongoing revegetation efforts. Outside of the city limits (but under the City's control), creek dogwood forms extensive stands at Sharp Park. These stands are the source of much of seed collected by the NAP and used for restoration projects at Glen Canyon, McLaren Park, Pine Lake, and Lake Merced, where it has successfully established itself. Creek dogwood is hardly rare (it has been recorded in 53 of California's 58 counties), and it is quite common to the south in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Monterey counties, and to the north in Marin and Sonoma counties. However, because it is typically restricted to moist habitats such as streams and marshy areas, a rare commodity in San Francisco, it has earned a place on our list of locally significant species. Fortunately, the ongoing restoration efforts of the NAP and GGNRA are enhancing natural stands and expanding the range of creek dogwood, helping to preserve our chapter area's remarkable botanical diversity for future generations. If you'd like to do your part, try planting this handsome native shrub at a moist location in your garden. With its medium green foliage and reddish to purplish branches and small but showy clusters of white flowers, it would surely be a welcome addition.

Howell, J.T., P.H. Raven, and P. Rubtzoff. 1958. *A Flora of San Francisco, California*. Univ. of San Francisco. 157 pp.



"Why, who makes much of a miracle? As to me I know of nothing else but miracles,...

Every cubic inch of space is a miracle, Every square yard of the surface of the earth is spread with the same, Every foot of the interior swarms with the same."

—Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*



CHAPTER NEWS

YB NEWS SEEKS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

As most of you are aware, the chapter publishes the Yerba Buena News quarterly. The current hard-working editor could use some help. We are searching for a volunteer to oversee the whole publication process -- to act as Editor-in-Chief, one of the many jobs Barbara Pitschel used to take on.

The chapter is looking for someone who could:

- Establish and publicize clear timelines for each edition; remind people about upcoming and / or missed deadlines for articles.
- Solicit and select good current interest pieces when appropriate; decide, in consultation with the production manager (Kipp McMichael), what material goes where in each edition.
- Edit the newsletter content.
- Ensure that both proofreading and mailing go as planned; make certain that there are backups in place for all jobs.
- Oversee the whole publication process and deal with whatever might come up.
- Be able to attend board meetings on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 pm., except for August and December.

As is clear, the newsletter Editor-in-Chief must be computer literate, a good team player, a highly motivated individual, and a good manager. If you can fill this role, or if you can recommend someone who might be interested, please contact Mila Stroganoff: 650-359-1642 or milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net. Ideally, we would like someone to begin assisting with the next newsletter, scheduled for mailing in mid-Feb. 2012. We thank you in advance.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!

February 17, 2011 through November 6, 2011

Sharon Beals, Judy Berthiaume, Jason Bielski, Beverly Blackmar, Marge Casey, Sheryl Creer, Betsy Dodd, Jessica Dowell, Bart Draper, Geri Ehle, Robert Hall, David Hanrahan, Lee Heath, Tom Hilton, Michelle Krieg, Denise Kupperman, Harry Lum, Bernadette Lupinetti, Gordon Matassa, Kenneth McGary, Xavier Melanson-Fernandez, Barna Mink, San Francisco Bay Joint Venture (Beth Huning), Michael Salvato, Ron Saunders, Niki Shapiro, Margot Sheffner, Ruth Sheldon, Haley Smith, Jennifer Rae Sotelo, Stacey Tyralla, Susan Wheeler, Joanne Whitney, Richard Woodul, Natalie Zayas

NEED HELP WITH COMMUNITY THRIFT DONATIONS

It turns out an important part of the Yerba Buena Chapter's income derives from donations of items brought to Community Thrift! To help boost income, we are looking for a volunteer to pick up donations and deliver them to the Community Thrift at 623 Valencia Street in San Francisco. If you are able and interested in helping out the chapter in this way, please contact Mila Stroganoff at 650-359-1642 or milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net.

Community Thrift

We sincerely thank all of you who have donated furniture, clothing, books, CDs, and housewares to CT and designated CNPS as the beneficiary. Donating is easy. Simply drop off clean and saleable items at the CT donation door, open from 10 am to 5 pm every day, and **ask them to list CNPS (charity #152) as the beneficiary**. The donation door is located on the south side of the building on Sycamore Alley, parallel to 18th Street and perpendicular to Mission and Valencia Streets. Sycamore runs one way from Mission toward Valencia. Please note that, because of the February 2009 Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, CT can no longer accept any children's items. CT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax-deductible. Shopping at CT supports not only CNPS, but 200 other worthy nonprofits. Thank you so much for continuing to benefit our chapter in this way!

Cole Hardware

As a participant in Cole Hardware's Community Assistance Partnership Program with San Francisco schools and nonprofit organizations, our chapter received a credit for \$92.98, representing 10% of our readers' purchases in any one of the four Cole Hardware stores that were credited to CNPS in 2009. All you need to do is **tell the cashier to credit your purchases to *1424**.

Make the switch to the NEW Electronic Newsletter!

If you would prefer to receive your *Yerba Buena News* electronically instead of by postal mail, we are now able to offer this alternative. You may want to elect for the electronic newsletter to help save trees or to reduce chapter printing and mailing costs. Or perhaps it is your preference because the computer is your communication mode of choice.

If you prefer mail delivery, do nothing.

Members and subscribers will continue to receive mailed paper newsletters unless they request a change.

If you prefer electronic delivery:

Send an email indicating your wish to:

yerbabuenacnps@gmail.com

We'll email you when the change will be implemented. We hope this added alternative will prove to be mutually beneficial.



Erigeron glaucus ■ seaside daisy ■ by Margo Bors

CHAPTER NEWS *(continued)*

YERBA BUENA CHAPTER YEAR IN REVIEW 2011

by Casey Allen, President

I want to thank all CNPS members for your interest in native plants. I'll take a moment to fill you in on some of what your board of directors and chapter volunteers have been up to this year:

- An ad hoc committee continues to work on restructuring the Board. We have good ideas to bring to the membership, so stay tuned to future newsletters to learn more.
- An ad hoc committee, headed by Treasurer Adrian Stroganoff, is working on creating a budget for the chapter.
- The board appointed a new Membership Chair, George Suter, who has volunteered to take on the responsibilities of membership and he has been appointed to the board.
- Rachel Kesel has taken over Publicity which was previously handled by Sharon Kato. To find out about upcoming native plant events contact Rachel at greenogwalks@gmail.com.
- Thanks to Mila Stroganoff for leading the initiative to find replacement board members!
- Elections took place in October at the members' meeting. The incumbent President, Vice-president and Treasurer all agreed to stay on for another year and were voted in. We have a potential replacement Secretary for 2012.
- We also have a Gardening with Natives Yahoo email forum set up and managed by chapter member Bob Hall. Please go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GardeningWithNatives-YB/> to join this forum of local native plant experts and enthusiasts.

ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT SALE REPORT

by Ellen Edleson, Plant Sale Coordinator

Mother Nature treated us to warm sunshine for our 17th Annual Native Plant Sale at the Miraloma Park Improvement Club. The sale offered shoppers over 120 local species to choose from and we took in over 20 percent more than last year even with the same prices!

I would like to thank the *many* volunteers who transported plants, help set up and break down, cashiered, directed parking, handled signage, publicity and more. We appreciate, too, everyone who brought snacks to share! Every effort helped make the sale successful.

Thanks goes to all the following growers who supported us this year: Go Native Nursery (www.gonative.com), HANC Native Plant Nursery (www.hanc-sf.org), Literacy for Environmental Justice (www.lej.org), Nature's Acres Nursery (www.naturesacresnursery.com), and Mission Blue Nursery (www.mountainwatch.org/stewardship-nursery-container).

Please thank –and support-- these nurseries.

Several members also provided plants for our sale: Susan Floore, Ingrid Cabada, Margo Bors, and I. We thank them, too!

Finally, a great big "Thank You!" goes out to everyone who bought plants! Without that, our efforts would be meaningless! Happy Gardening!!

Plants are still available, by arrangement. Please contact Ellen Edelson at e.edelson@sbcglobal.net or (415) 531-2140.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are open to all Chapter members and scheduled for 7:00 pm on the second Monday of every month except August and December. Contact Casey Allen for information (415-572-1144, Casey@SFLandscapes.com).

OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

President

Casey Allen 415-572-1144
Casey@SFLandscapes.com

Vice President

Linda Shaffer 415-206-1428
ljshaffer1@comcast.net

Treasurer

Adrian Stroganoff 650-359-1642
adrianstroganoff@sbcglobal.net

Secretary

Nancy Rosenthal 415-928-2690
415miznan@comcast.net

Chapter Council Delegate

Ellen Edelson 415-531-2140
e.edelson@sbcglobal.net

Conservation Chair

Jake Sigg 415-731-3028
jakesigg@earthlink.net

San Mateo County

Conservation Chair

Mike Vasey 650-359-7034
mvassey@sfsu.edu

Education Chair

Position vacant

Field Trips Chair

Gail Wechsler
gail.wechsler@gmail.com

Garden Tour Coordinator

Susan Floore 415-285-4692
sfloore@att.net

Hospitality Chair

Richard Craib 415-648-0862
richcraib@gmail.com

Invasive Exotics Chair

Mark Heath 415-235-0987
mark@shelterbeltbuilders.com

Legislation Chair

Linda Shaffer 415-206-1428
ljshaffer1@comcast.net

Lepidopterist

Liam O'Brien 415-863-1212
liammail56@yahoo.com

Membership Chair

George Suter 415-665-1185
geosuter@prodigy.net

Newsletter Editor

Kipp McMichael 510-759-3178
kimcmich@hotmail.com

Outreach Chair

Position vacant

Photo Documentation Co-Chair

Margo Bors 415-824-0471
mcbors@comcast.net

Photo Documentation Co-Chair

Greg Gaar 415-584-8985
dunetansy@yahoo.com

Plant Sale Coordinator

Ellen Edelson 415-531-2140
e.edelson@sbcglobal.net

Posters and Book Sales Chair

Ludmila Stroganoff 650-359-1642
milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net

Presidio Chair

Peter Brastow 415-564-4107
pcb123@natureinthecity.org

Programs Co-Chair

Jake Sigg 415-731-3028
jakesigg@earthlink.net

Programs Co-Chair

Ludmila Stroganoff 650-359-1642
milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net

Publicity

Rachel Kesel
greenogwalks@gmail.com

Rare Plants Co-Chair

Peter Brastow 415-564-4107
pcb123@natureinthecity.org

Rare Plants Co-Chair

Michael Wood 925-899-1282
mike@wood-biological.com

San Bruno Mountain Chair

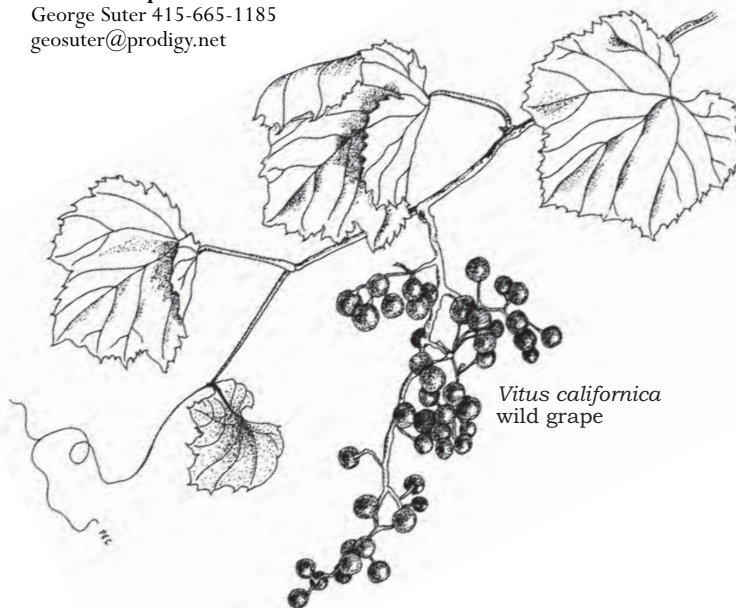
Doug Allshouse 415-584-5114
dougr228@comcast.net

Seed Bank Chair

Don Mahoney 510-233-4624
dmahoney@sfbotanicalgarden.org

Webmaster

Kipp McMichael 510-759-3178
kimcmich@hotmail.com



Vitis californica
wild grape

JOIN THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Learn to understand California's unique flora and help to preserve this rich heritage for future generations.

____ Yes, I'd like to join.

Affiliation: **Yerba Buena Chapter**

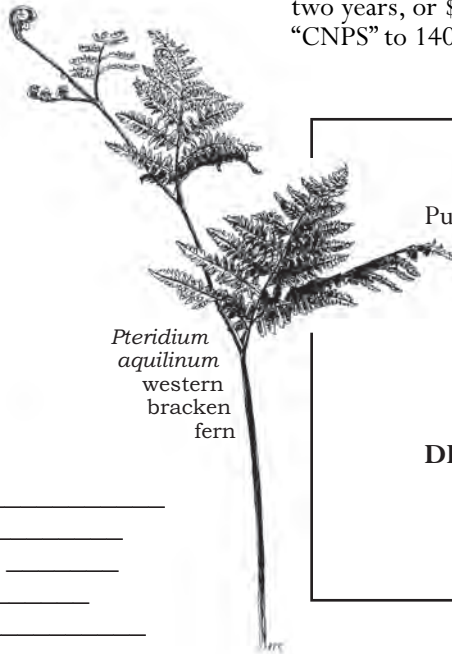
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*Pteridium
aquilinum*
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bracken
fern

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DEADLINES FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER

Articles & general copy – January 15
Time-dependent material – February 1
Late-breaking news – By arrangement

Visit: www.cnps-yerbabuena.org

California Native Plant Society
Yerba Buena Chapter
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