



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

Vol. 26 No. 2 ■ June 2012

CONTENTS

Programs – page 1
Field Trips – page 2
Activities – page 3
Focus on Rarities – page 4
Habitat Restoration – page 5
Book Review – page 6
Conservation/Legislation – page 6
Meet Your Board – pages 6-7

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 #71 and #44 buses stop at the building. The N-Judah, #6, #43, and #66 lines stop within 2 blocks.

JUNE 7, THURSDAY

Native Orchids of California

7:30 pm, Speaker: Ron Parsons

The layman's image of orchids is, perhaps justifiably, tropical, where the greatest proliferation and elaboration of this amazing and infinitely interesting family centers. But the family's creativity extends into temperate areas, including the summer-dry mediterranean climates. California has many species and genera that are both beautiful and engaging. We have three that are indigenous to our chapter area: rein orchis, *Piperia elegans* (fairly common in grasslands); Michael's rein orchis, *Piperia michaelii*; and ladies tresses, *Spiranthes romanzoffiana*. We also have the naturalized European helleborine, *Epipactis helleborine*, that may pop up uninvited in your garden. Ron may talk about these, but he will also talk about others that help make California a fascinating state. Ron Parsons is considered by many to be one of the finest flower photographers in the United States. His photography and encyclopedic knowledge of orchids is known both nationally and internationally. He has been photographing orchids, wildflowers, and almost every other kind of plant for over 25 years, and has a slide collection that numbers well over 80,000 slides! He went "digital" just over a year ago, and in this short time has taken thousands of photos of orchids, wildflowers and other rare plants. See the orchid photogallery for some of his new digital photographs. Ron's photos have been featured in journal articles, book covers, and in several books. Visit his stunning pictures at <http://www.flowershots.net/>

July 5, THURSDAY

Resources for Wildlife in the Urban Landscape

7:30 pm, Speaker: Josiah Clark

Josiah returns to give another of his very popular talks on how to provide for wildlife in our urban areas. The first step is identifying the resources that local wildlife need and use. Josiah will discuss wildlife resources in general, exploring the importance of plant composition, origin, structure, habitat, and placement. Josiah will compare and contrast native and nonnative plants and their uses by wildlife, and also address the importance of water, dead wood, and dense cover in the urban landscape. He will talk about trees, homing in on when they contribute and when and how they detract from wildlife habitat. He aims to inform people not only about how to improve local urban surroundings for wildlife but also to help the habitat stewardship community communicate more effectively about local needs--making us better advocates for better habitat comprised of native and wildlife-friendly plants. Josiah Clark

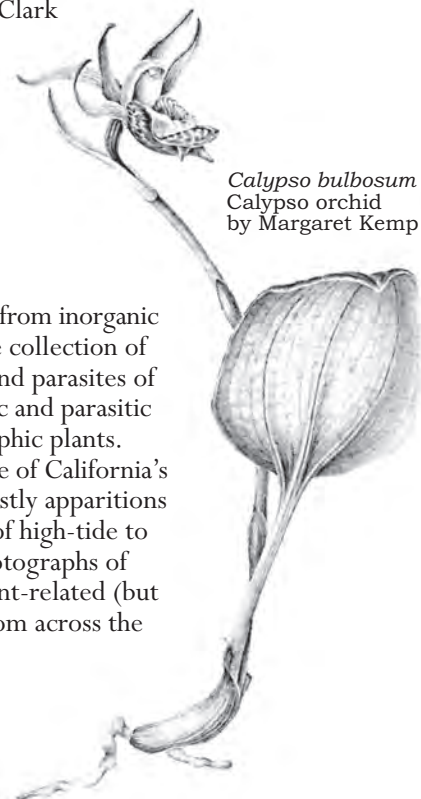
started his venture, Habitat Potential, in 2002 and has worked as a consulting ecologist for a wide range of clients, including the GGNRA, the San Francisco Natural Areas Program, Golden Gate Audubon Society, and dozens of private property owners. He also leads international birding tours and environmental stewardship with urban youth, and writes on environmental issues.

August 2, THURSDAY

Getting By With a Little Help: Native Parasitic and Mycotrophic Plants of California

7:30 pm, Speaker: Kipp McMichael

Plants are the primary producers in nearly all ecosystems and their ability to derive sustenance from inorganic matter and solar radiation makes them paragons of self-sufficiency. Yet species from a diverse collection of California plant families have adapted to bend the autotrophic rules: Enter the mycotrophs and parasites of California. In this wide-ranging presentation, Kipp will introduce the concept of mycotrophic and parasitic plant life-strategies and will also briefly cover the natural history and biology of non-autotrophic plants. Familiar plants like the mistletoe of yuletide doorways are only the beginning: We'll view some of California's most beautiful wildflowers in sunny meadows and chaparral slopes and then move-on to ghostly apparitions lurking in the shadows of the forest. Our subjects will also range from just above the waves of high-tide to the arid arroyos and sand dunes of California's deserts. The talk will include the author's photographs of native plants. Kipp McMichael is an amateur naturalist with many degrees, none of them plant-related (but don't tell that to his overly-large plant collection). For 5 years from Potrero Hill and now from across the waters in Berkeley, Kipp has managed the chapter's website and produced the *YB News*.



Calypso bulbosum
Calypso orchid
by Margaret Kemp

FUTURE PROGRAM

Sept 6—*Plant Chemistry: Perfumes, Pigments, Poisons*—Greti Sequin

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. 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.

JUNE 3, SUNDAY, 8:00 to 10:30 am

Mount Davidson Nesting Birds

Leaders: Dominik Mosur and Gail Wechsler

Mount Davidson is City-owned land (except for a small area at the top) managed as part of Recreation and Parks' Natural Areas Program. It contains some of the best remaining native grassland and coastal scrub habitat in town ... and an overgrowth of blue gum eucalyptus (*E. globulus*) entwined with invasive ivies (*Delairea odorata*, *Hedera helix*). It's also one of the best local birding spots. On this late spring walk, we'll look for signs of nesting activity and discuss how birds preferentially use native plant communities over introduced plants. Bring binoculars and be prepared for chilly, wet conditions under the eucalyptus canopy; we recommend waterproof shoes and a warm jacket that will shed fog drip. Rsvp to Gail Wechsler at gail.wechsler@gmail.com.

JUNE 16, SATURDAY, 11 am to 1 pm

Daly City Dunes on San Bruno Mountain

Leader: Doug Allshouse

On the western edge of the Guadalupe Hills (the southeastern ridge of what is properly called the San Bruno Mountains) in lower Colma Canyon are the Daly City Dunes, a 300-foot-deep sand dune system that dates back to between 125,000 and 180,000 years ago. Part of this site is relatively intact and constitutes an ecosystem not usually found at such a distance from the coast. Of great interest and dire concern is the presence of San Francisco lessingia (*Lessingia germanorum*), a federally listed endangered species; this population is the only one known in San Mateo County and may be wiped out by a proposed housing development. (The Endangered Species Act does not protect plants unless the project involves federal land, funding, or permits.) Also present are San Francisco spineflower (*Chorizanthe cuspidata*), dune suncup (*Camissonia strigulosa*) and blue beach lupine (*Lupinus chamissonis*). California pipevine grows nearby (*Aristolochia californica*), which means the sighting of beautiful pipevine swallowtails (*Batus philenor*) is a distinct possibility. A shell mound is also to be found high up the dunes. Wear sturdy shoes suitable for sand and bring a snack or lunch if you wish. From "Top of the Hill Daly City" (intersection of Mission Street with John Daly and Hillside Blvds) take Hillside and turn left on Thiers Street. Meet at Hilldale School at the junction of Thiers and Florence. Contact Doug at dougrs228@comcast.net or 415-584-5114 if you have questions.

JULY 8, SUNDAY, 8:00 to 10:30 am

Lobos Creek Valley Nesting Birds

Leaders: Dominik Mosur and Gail Wechsler

The Presidio's Lobos Dunes are a spectacularly beautiful example of successful restoration where, 20 years ago, grass and weeds had all but completely replaced native plants including endangered endemic San Francisco lessingia (*Lessingia germanorum*) and many locally rare species. Lobos Creek's riparian corridor has also been restored and oak woodland once again thrives there. The restored dune scrub and streamside plant communities – and the insect life they support – are very likely why western bluebirds returned after a roughly 70-year absence to nest in the adjacent, Monterey

cypress forest (planted by the Army more than 100 years ago). Places where a variety of vegetation types are found in close proximity are generally good wildlife habitat, especially when there is a water source nearby. We hope to see fledgling birds as well as adults hunting for insects to feed them. Be sure to bring binoculars! Rsvp to Gail Wechsler at gail.wechsler@gmail.com.

AUGUST 26, SUNDAY, 1 to 3 pm

Pedro Point Headlands (San Mateo County)

Leaders: Jake Sigg and Mike Vasey

Co-sponsored by Pacifica Land Trust

Pedro Point Headlands boasts a unique aggregation of plants in a breathtakingly beautiful setting where Montara Mountain meets the ocean. As in previous years, we will partner with Pacifica Land Trust to keep tabs on the progress of restoration as former motorcycle trails gradually fade and the native vegetation slowly heals. Nootka reedgrass (*Calamagrostis nutkaensis*) flourishes here at its southern limit along with other native grasses and numerous berry-bearing shrubs: huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*), oso berry (*Oemleria cerasiformis*), barberry (*Berberis pinnata* ssp. *pinnata*), wax myrtle (*Myrica californica*), etc. Meet at the Pedro Point Firehouse, 1227 Danmann Avenue, Pacifica. At Highway 1 and Linda Mar Blvd, turn west onto San Pedro Avenue then right onto Danmann. **A restoration work party** organized by Pacifica Land Trust will precede the field trip – meet at the Firehouse at 9:45 am; refreshments provided afterward. We enthusiastically recommended hands-on restoration as a great way to absorb and retain knowledge of native plants and their ecology. Contacts: Mike Vasey, mcvasey@gmail.com, or Jake Sigg, jakesigg@earthlink.net, 415-731-3028.

TWO SPECIAL FIELDTRIPS in preparation for Recreation and Park Commission hearings on the Significant Natural Resource Areas Management Plan this autumn

JULY 14, SATURDAY, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

Mount Davidson

Leader: Jake Sigg

Meet at the Muni 36 bus stop at Myra & Dalewood Streets

AUGUST 11, SATURDAY, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

Glen Canyon

Leader: Jake Sigg

Meet behind the Glen Park Recreation Center, at beginning of the wild part of the canyon

These two field trips are focused on issues which the SNRAMP addresses, such as trails, erosion, tree removal and replanting, herbicide use, etc. Please note that we will not talk about the specifics of the management plan or DEIR, but rather the background issues and problems. Prior to 1997, when the newly approved Natural Areas Program began hiring staff, there was no management at all of the City's 32 undeveloped open spaces. People did more or less whatever they wanted to, and even trash wasn't picked up. Obviously that situation couldn't continue, so the Natural Areas Program was created, with the primary purpose of preserving these last fragments of our natural heritage. However, the Program became contentious, partly because of misunderstanding and confusion, but also partly due to hidden agendas. Never mind that spring bloom is over; there is *lots* to see in our grasslands even in summer, and as always, we will celebrate nature and nature's endlessly fascinating ways. Contact: Jake Sigg, jakesigg@earthlink.net, 415-731-3028.

ACTIVITIES

SAN FRANCISCO NATURAL HISTORY SERIES

Thursday June 21, 7:30 pm—

Above and Below San Francisco Streets: In Search of Eradicated Landscapes

Speaker: Glenn Lym

Randall Museum Theater

Architect Glenn Lym will speak and show off parts of the 3D CAD model he's been working on of early SF topography, roughly 1850 through 1890. Talk includes short video of the history of GG Park. Talks on San Francisco's natural history are held at 199 Museum Way, off Roosevelt Way. **FREE.** Donations are encouraged.

Information: Philip Gerrie 415 641-7457, glassgerrie@earthlink.net or www.randallmuseum.org

CNPS PLANT SCIENCE TRAINING PROGRAM

June 19-21 —Mountain Riparian Plants—Stew Winchester

July 10-12 —Vegetation Rapid Assessment and Relevé protocols—Todd Keeler-Wolf and Jennifer Buck-Diaz

Check: <http://cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/> for workshop and course descriptions, locations, and registration costs. If you do not have web access, contact Josie Crawford, Education Program Director at 916-447-2677 x205 or jrcrawford@cnps.org.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

“It may be helpful to remember that
Things have not always been as they are;
This may be, obvious as it sounds, easy to forget while
Walking concrete paths and perceiving (sic) streams of
Traffic and rectangular shelters.

“It may be helpful to keep in mind that at one time
These constructions were non-existent (sic).

“It may be of some use to look over
All that you can see right now, the expanse (sic) and boundaries (sic)
Of your environment, and think how all of this will be gone
One day
Eaten
And reapplied.”

“It may be helpful to see beauty in decomposition; because like
The leaves of trees turn bright (sic) and fall to the ground to
replenish
Their mother, it is also our inescapable privilege (sic) to rot.

“So it now becomes necessary to view all items
In the world as reflections,
All objects as mirrors,
And then move upon this basis.”

—Anonymous

Poem, painted in fading blue, on the concrete walls of a ruined structure near the original entrance to Sutro Baths

A LIBRARIAN'S COLLECTION

Botanical Art from the Estate of Barbara and Roland Pitschel Through August 2012

**Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture
San Francisco Botanical Garden**

Barbara Pitschel was Head Librarian of the Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture from 1981 to 2010. During that 30 year period, Barbara spent the largest part of her time overseeing the operation and growth of the Library, with the result that it became the most comprehensive horticultural library in northern California.

In addition, she also nurtured and guided changing displays of botanical art. Over the years, she and Roland bought nearly 100 pieces for themselves.

Barbara and Roland's art collection reflects the focus and dedication that was evident in their lives. The works, nearly all of which are depictions of our native flora, were purchased mostly from artists they knew, or who exhibited at the library. Though some pieces may be quite rare and valuable now, at the time they were purchased solely for the Pitschel's own enjoyment, and/or as encouragement for the art.

The collection includes works by well known botanical artists and represents many different styles. Kristin Jakob, Margo Bors, Henry Evans, Lee Boerger, Linda Vorobik, Sally Robertson, Sharon Beals and Claus Sievert are among those represented in the exhibit.

It was Barbara's wish that after she passed away her art collection would be donated to the Library for a special exhibition and sale with proceeds to benefit the library. The sole beneficiary, their daughter Justine, has generously honored that request.

The display and sale of botanical art from the estate of Barbara and Roland Pitschel is on now, and continues through August - open Wednesday to Monday, 10 am to 4 pm.



Eriodictyon californicum
yerba santa
by Margo Bors

FOCUS ON RARITIES

LEAFY FLEABANE (*Erigeron foliosus*)

by Michael Wood

A lot has changed since I sat down to write for the previous newsletter. I'm referring, of course, to the release of the second edition of The Jepson Manual (TJM2; Baldwin, *et al.*, 2012). I picked up mine in January at the CNPS rare plant conference in San Diego. There have been some dramatic changes in the names of many plant genera as well as family assignments, some of which are sure to elicit a collective groan from fans of our native flora. In the interest of not overwhelming you (or me) with too much new information, I've chosen as the topic of this quarter's newsletter a plant that has not undergone any reclassification, in a genus that has experienced only a modicum of change. The species is leafy fleabane and the genus *Erigeron*.

First, the genus. The so-called fleabane daisies are annuals, biennials and perennials belonging to the sunflower family (Asteraceae) and, if you follow such things, has been assigned to the tribe Astereae. This genus consists of some 375 species (390 according to The Flora of North America) with a nearly worldwide distribution in mostly temperate regions. Of these, 173 occur in North America. TJM2 lists 50 native species (plus 35 varieties) and five non-native but naturalized species. The first edition of The Jepson Manual (TJM1; Hickman, *et al.* 1993) lists 44 native species (plus 36 varieties) and three non-native but naturalized species. The most notable difference between the two treatments is the addition of two taxa formerly assigned to the genus *Conyza*. The group to which the fleabane daisies belong is distinguished from the other sunflower groups by having radiate heads (inflorescences with both strap-shaped ray flowers and tubular disk flowers) and ray flowers that are white, pink to lavender, or blue-purple. The name fleabane refers to the reputed properties of the genus to repel fleas. The name of the genus is derived from the Greek words *eri* (early) and *geron* (old man), referring to plants that flower and have hoary pubescence. The ancient Greeks had some sense of humor!

In California, the native members of the genus range from the widespread horseweed (*E. canadensis*; formerly *Conyza c.*), found in 56 of the state's 58 counties, to seaside daisy (*E. glaucus*), restricted to the immediate coast but occurring from Oregon to Ventura County, to highly restricted endemics on isolated Sierran and desert mountain slopes. Members of the genus can be found from the coast to the Great Basin, from sea level to over 14,000 feet, and from Oregon to the Mexican border. Of the 85 native taxa known from the state, 29 are listed in the CNPS's

Inventory of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plants (List 1A = 1; List 1B = 12, List 2 = 7; List 3 = 1; List 4 = 8); that's a whopping 34 percent of the California taxa in this genus which are considered rare one way or another!

A Flora of San Francisco, California (Howell, *et al.* 1958) lists five species of *Erigeron*. These include the native taxa horseweed, leafy fleabane, seaside daisy (*E. glaucus*), and Philadelphia fleabane (*E. philadelphicus* var. *philadelphicus*), and the non-native naturalized species Santa Barbara daisy (*E. karvinskianus*).



With the exception of Philadelphia fleabane, there are vouchered specimens of each of these collected in San Francisco in herbaria. Another taxon for which vouchered San Francisco-collected specimens exist includes the non-native flax-leaved horseweed (*E. bonariensis*; formerly *Conyza b.*). Our chapter's records show the following native taxa as still occurring in our natural areas: horseweed, leafy fleabane, seaside daisy, and the non-native flax-leaved horseweed. We have no recent records for Philadelphia fleabane or the non-native Santa Barbara daisy. Now, the subject of this article, leafy fleabane. The species is quite distinct from our other extant native members of the genus. Seaside daisy is a perennial subshrub, with a ground-hugging habit less than 12 inches high, with relatively large inflorescences (0.5-1.5 inches across). Leafy fleabane, on the other hand, is much taller (8-40 inches), with an open branching habit and much smaller inflorescences (0.4-0.6 inches across). The blue ray flowers of leafy fleabane are also fewer in number (15-60, versus 80-165 for seaside daisy). Leafy fleabane might remind you of California aster (*Symphotrichum chilense*, formerly *Aster chilensis*).

There are two varieties of *E. foliosus* (*E.f.* var. *foliosus* and *E.f.* var. *franciscensis*). Unfortunately, our chapter records do not differentiate between the two, so I'm uncertain as to whether we have one or the other or both. Although there are vouchered specimens from San Francisco of both on file, there is only one for *E.f.* var. *foliosus*, and that collection was made in 1883. This wide-ranging variety

is known from most of the southern half of the state, the Central Coast, Sierra foothills and northwestern California; in the Bay Area, this variety has been recorded from Contra Costa, Alameda, and Santa Clara counties. The other variety, *E.f.* var. *franciscensis*, is more likely the one found here. It has a much more tight distribution pattern, centered on the Bay Area. Locally collected vouchered specimens include four from San Francisco, two from San Mateo, 11 from Contra Costa, and three each from Marin and Alameda. According to our chapter's records and reports from chapter members, leafy fleabane can still be found at the following natural areas: Bayview Hill, Bernal Hill, Corona Heights, Glen Canyon, and above Fox Meadow off O'Shaughnessy Blvd. Jake Sigg reported that he once found it behind the churches on Brotherhood Way, but its persistence there is unlikely. It is also fairly abundant on San Bruno Mountain. There is no record of leafy fleabane from the Presidio.

Leafy fleabane is under consideration for inclusion on our chapter's list of locally significant plants. According to Randy Zebell of the Natural Areas Program, it seems to be hanging on. Despite the number of natural areas at which it has been recorded, it may warrant inclusion because the remaining populations are small and widely scattered. But the first thing to do is to determine which of the two varieties we have here. If any readers of this column should be so inclined to take a stab at solving this mystery, look for minute but prominent glands on the phyllaries; if present, we've got *E.f.* var. *franciscensis*, if lacking, it's *E.f.* var. *foliosus*. We'd love to hear about any determinations you make.


Baldwin, B.G., D.H. Goldman, D.J. Keil, R. Patterson, T.J. Rosatti, and D.H. Wilken, editors. 2012. The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California. Second edition. Univ. Calif. Press, Berkeley. 1568 pp. Jepson eFlora available online at <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/IJM.html>.

Hickman, J.C. (ed.). 1993. The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California. University of California Press, Berkeley, California. 1400 pp.

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

“Men love to wonder, and that is the seed of science.”
—Ralph Waldo Emerson

HABITAT RESTORATION

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

Alemanys Natives at Alemany Farm.

3rd Sundays, 1 to 4 pm. Contact:
alemanyntatives@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.

Edgehill Mt. Park. 2nd Saturdays, 1 to 3 pm. Contact Stan Kaufman 415-681-4954 or
sekfmm@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
rachel.kesel@sfgov.org

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.

McKinley Square Hillside Last Saturdays, 10 am to noon. www.McKinleySquare.com or
info@McKinleySquare.com.

Mission Creek Bank. 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@sutrostewards.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,

Saturdays, 10 am to 12:30 pm: Weed Rangers Stewardship Outing, Saturdays, 10 am to noon: Bog

Restoration, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays: South San Francisco Weed Rangers

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 Pankov
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



Cypripedium fasciculatum
Clustered lady's slipper
by Margaret Kemp

BOOK REVIEW: *Bringing Nature Home*
by Douglas W. Tallamy
Review by George Suter



The author decided to write this book when he found himself unable to articulate the rationale for planting natives to a genuinely curious and sympathetic neighbor.

Dr. Tallamy, Professor & Chair of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, was surprised to find himself tongue-tied; and yet, what would the reader have said first to a traditional gardener if the message is that we all need to attract more bugs to our gardens?

While traditional gardeners don't want aphids and deer to eat their expensive plantings, they often do want to attract birds and butterflies. How are these things incompatible? Butterflies need plants that support their caterpillars, not merely the plants that nurseries sell as "butterfly plants", which often only provide nectar. Those songbirds frequently can't raise their young without bushes to hide from predators, leafy trees to nest in, and plenty of palatable bugs to eat. All these are provided most efficiently (and sometimes only) by natives for all the reasons listed in this book.

Once upon a time, there were still wild ecosystems that provided these necessities fairly close by. But wilderness scarcely exists in the United States now, and these distant and scattered islands are themselves under threat of continuing development and assault by invasive exotics.

While this book has an Eastern focus, there is still much to ponder in its pages. There is a "list of native plants with wildlife value" specific to the Pacific Northwest (which includes Northern California) that will be helpful to us. Mainly however, we learn how and why incompatible leaf chemistries make exotic plants inaccessible to the needs of our local fauna, and why that matters.

On sale for \$19.50 at our Book Sales Table at the monthly meetings.

CONSERVATION/LEGISLATION CORNER

by Linda Shaffer and Jake Sigg

Continuing our efforts to keep chapter members informed about major legislative and/or conservation issues, here are two late-breaking pieces of information:

1) PROSAC (the city-wide Parks Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee) will have the Natural Areas Program on its June 5 agenda. Denny Kern, head of Operations for RPD, will give a presentation about the Program, after which committee members will be able to ask questions. Following that, public comment will be invited.

Members of the public who are concerned about the NAP will surely attend and make statements. Please consider attending to make sure committee members hear from supporters as well as opponents! The meeting will be held **Tuesday, June 5, 6:30 - 9 pm, City Hall Room 278.**

2) As many readers probably already know, vandals recently destroyed the native plant nursery operated by Literacy for Environmental Justice (LEJ) at the Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. Both the estimated \$18000 of property damage and the destruction of many, many hours of work by dedicated Bayview teens and LEJ staff are devastating to this small, vital, non-profit organization.

Please consider sending them a contribution to help rebuild the nursery. Checks can be sent to Literacy for Environmental Justice, 1329 Evans Ave., San Francisco, CA 94124. Check out their website at www.lejyouth.org.

MEET YOUR BOARD

George Suter, Membership Chair

I am George Suter, your Membership chair and new to the Yerba Buena Chapter Board as of September 2011.

As Membership chairman, my principal duty is to maintain the membership roster in order to print the address labels that send the quarterly newsletter as well as the welcoming letters for new members and the reminders to renew memberships that have lapsed.

I came to the job because I had extensive experience with databases as an accountant for the City.

My interest in CNPS came from hiking; where I was curious to learn the names and characteristics of the trees, shrubs and flowering plants I encountered. What little I know of these, CNPS and the Yerba Buena Chapter has taught me through walks with experienced members, sponsored classes, and the monthly meetings. Now I am attempting to learn more by planting natives in my garden.

Roz Kutler, New Chapter YB CNPS Secretary

Roz is an avid amateur gardener, and a longtime wildflower lover. She learned about both from her mother, an excellent gardener, and a country person who taught her children the flora of Western Maryland.

Her first good job after college was mapping and data entry for the Maryland Natural Heritage Program, an endangered species and habitat protection division of the Department of Natural Resources, where she learned a little about biology and a lot about politics: To protect the sites, one must protect the data.

She came to California in 1987, and began working in libraries not long after that. As an employee of a special library, it was natural that Roz became familiar with the arboretum library, and met

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.

MEET YOUR BOARD *(continued)*

Barbara Pitschel, who was her first personal connection to CNPS. As a public librarian, she was able to make donations to the horticulture library's collection. Roz has now worked at Redwood City Library for more than ten years, and facilitates informational programs for jobseekers, literary events and health programming. She has been a nursery volunteer at the Strybing Arboretum since 1995, mainly in the Salvia department, learning more about propagation from Jean Coria. Other noteworthy horticultural experiences include four ribbons at the San Mateo County Fair in the miniature container gardening category, and opening the household garden for public view, on the inaugural Portola Garden Tour in 2007 to benefit the local library branch of San Francisco Public Library. "The Portola, historically the site of over 15 commercial nurseries, is a great place to grow natives," Roz said. Her gardening partner in the Portola is her husband, Kleyton, who is a city gardener at Golden Gate Park. "Whenever I hike or travel, I have a plant book and a bird book," said Roz. "There's always so much to try to ID as you go."

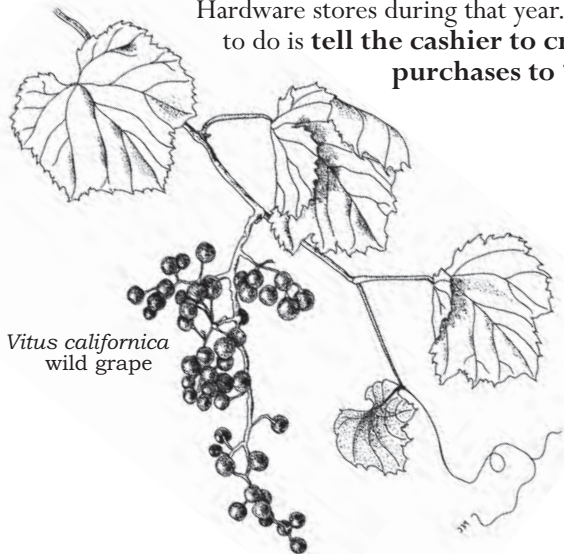
CHAPTER NEWS

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 due to state law, CT can no longer accept any children's items. CT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donation is tax-deductible. Thank you for continuing to benefit our chapter in this way. Last quarter, the chapter received a check for \$455!

Cole Hardware

As a participant in Cole Hardware's Community Assistance Partnership Program with San Francisco schools and nonprofit organizations, our chapter receives a credit each year worth 10% of our readers' purchases at any one of the four Cole Hardware stores during that year. All you need to do is **tell the cashier to credit your purchases to *1424**.



Vitis californica
wild grape

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

Roz Kutler 650-201-6285
kutler101@yahoo.com

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
mvasey@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
greendogwalks@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
dougsr228@comcast.net

Seed Bank Chair

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

Webmaster

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!

Jan 1, 2012 through May 20, 2012

Madeleine Nash, Christine Letarte, Mark Leach,
James Kingdon, Carlin Ellison, Kate Danforth,
Elneda Connors, George Carlson, Letty Brown, and
Kai Arden

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**

Membership Category

- ____ \$1,500 Mariposa Lily
- ____ \$ 600 Benefactor
- ____ \$ 300 Patron
- ____ \$ 100 Plant Lover
- ____ \$ 75 Family
- ____ \$ 45 Individual
- ____ \$ 25 Limited Income/Student

Mitella caulescens
mitrewort
by Margaret Kemp



Dues above the \$12 for publications are tax deductible. You will receive this newsletter, the informative triannual journal *Fremontia*, and a statewide news bulletin. If you would like to receive only this newsletter, the price of a subscription is \$5 per year, \$9 for two years, or \$12 for three years. Send a check made out to "CNPS" to 140 Turquoise Way, San Francisco, CA 94131-1640.

Make your check out to "CNPS" and mail with this form to:

California Native Plant Society
2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Telephone _____
email _____

YERBA BUENA NEWS
Volume 26, number 2 (June 2012)
Published quarterly by the Yerba Buena Chapter
California Native Plant Society
Design & Production – Kipp McMichael
Proofreading – Jake Sigg, Linda Shaffer and
Gail Wechsler
Masthead design – Barry Deutsch
Chapter logo – Nancy Baron

DEADLINES FOR SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER
Articles & general copy – July 15
Time-dependent material – August 1
Late-breaking news – By arrangement

Visit: www.cnps-yerbabuena.org

California Native Plant Society
Yerba Buena Chapter
140 Turquoise Way
San Francisco CA 94131

