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. Before our programs, we will take our speakers to dinner at Golden Rice Bowl, 1030 Irving Street, between 11th and 12th Avenues. Join us for good Chinese food and interesting conversation. Meet at the restaurant at 5:30 pm. RSVP appreciated but not required. If you wish to notify, please call Jake Sigg at 415-731-3028.

SEPTEMBER 5, THURSDAY
Highlights of White Mountains, Onion Valley, Bodie State Park, Sonora Pass and Alpine Lake
7:30 pm, Speaker: Ted Kipping
The Eastern side of our Sierra Nevada and the eastern ranges of the Great Basin and Range area are full of interesting biota. Come take an arm-chair journey through a lovely cross-section of it. Ted Kipping is a Life Member of CNPS as well as many other environmental, botanical and horticultural organizations. He was educated in Natural History at Columbia University and worked with Jake Sigg in Strybing Arboretum. Eventually he started a tree care concern called Tree Shapers. He is a Certified and Consulting Arborist with over 40 years’ experience. He enjoys experiencing native flora in habitat and sharing his experiences photographically.

OCTOBER 3, THURSDAY
Fabulous Plants and Stories from the East Bay Flora
7:30 pm, Speaker: Heath Bartosh
Alameda and Contra Costa counties are at a point of botanical convergence. This convergence is a result of the meeting of nearby geographic regions such as the San Francisco Bay, the North and South Coast Ranges, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and the San Joaquin Valley. This unique congregation of ecological conditions provides the foundation for an extremely diverse area of native plants. This presentation provides a tour through some of the East Bay’s richest botanical hot spots. We will reflect on colorful botanical personalities of past and present, identify public lands and trails, and learn about current conservation issues that put our botanical treasures of the East Bay at risk. Heath Bartosh is co-founder and Senior Botanist of Nomad Ecology, based in Martinez. He is currently Rare Plant Committee Chair for the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. In 2009, he became a member of the Rare Plant Program Committee at the state level of CNPS. His role on these committees is to ensure these programs continue to develop current, accurate information on the distribution, ecology, and conservation status of California’s rare and endangered plants. He also helps to promote the use of this information to influence on-site plant conservation in California.

Bartosh is also a Research Associate at the University and Jepson Herbaria at UC Berkeley and a Save Mount Diablo Board Member.

NOVEMBER 7, THURSDAY
Manzanitas: Fire, Rodents, and Evolution
7:30 pm, Speaker: Tom Parker Ph.D
Tom will discuss the diversity of this wonderful group of plants in the context of how fire and rodents together may have stimulated their evolution. Scatter-hoarding rodents collect and bury seed of manzanitas and these rodent caches turn out to be critical for seed survival of high-intensity wildfire. V. Thomas Parker, Professor of Biology at San Francisco State University since 1980, earned his graduate degrees from the University of California at Santa Barbara. He is a trained ecologist and evolutionist focusing on plant community dynamics and conservation and is an expert in the systematics and ecology of Arctostaphylos species (manzanitas). His research focuses on dispersal, seed banks, seedling establishment, mycorrhizae, and other aspects of ecology and evolution in a variety of California vegetation types, especially chaparral and tidal wetlands. V. Thomas Parker has published approximately 100 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, and has co-edited three books. He is also one of the authors of the treatments for Arctostaphylos in the Flora of North America (2009) and the Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California (2012). During his Presidency of the Pacifica Land Trust (an independent non-profit), he oversaw its acquisition of Pedrero Point on the San Mateo Coast, a critical habitat for rare plants and animals. He is currently President of the California Botanical Society.

FUTURE PROGRAM
Dec 5—Annual Members’ Slide Show
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 before the trip. In general, bring sturdy shoes, lunch and liquids, sunscreen and layered clothing, a hand lens, camera, sketchbook, or any other tools/toys that will enhance your exploratory experience.

OCTOBER 5, SATURDAY, 10 am to noon
Glen Canyon Spiders
Leader: Darrell Ubick
Spiders are ubiquitous, but are usually hidden and hard to see. Fall is an especially good time to look, as the large orb weavers (family Araneidae) are almost certainly visible. At this time of year they are fully grown and females are ready to lay their eggs. Join Darrell Ubick, arachnologist at the California Academy of Sciences, to search for member of the genus Araneus, known as pumpkin or shamrock spiders; Argiope, the garden spiders, whose webs have a striking zigzag pattern running top to bottom; and other species large and small. Meet behind the Glen Park Recreation Center where the lawn stops and the wild part of the canyon starts. This easy walk is recommended for all ages. Contact: Gail Wechsler, wechslerfolia@gmail.com.

OCTOBER 19, SATURDAY, 10 am to 3 pm
San Bruno Mountain: Summit Trail
Leader: Doug Allshouse
The Summit Trail is a 3-mile loop that stretches over the northern portion of the mountain. It is the most species-rich trail with 258 species, 173 of them native. Although most of the wildflower show happens in the spring, it is well worth our while to see this wonderful piece of real estate in its transition to winter. This is the season of goldenrods, angelica seeds, everlasting—and there are always a few surprises. Even though the past two winters have been dry by most standards, a few seeps on the trail descending toward April Brook are still active and wet, making the horsetails happy. The curled and dry skeletons of gold-backed ferns are reminders that, come spring, a show is in order. After crossing over the brook it’s an easy ascent to Bitter Cherry Ridge and views of the Pacific and an ancient dune system at the bottom of Colma Canyon. Self-register ($6) at the entry kiosk. Meet at the parking lot on the other side of Guadalupe Canyon Parkway; turn right at the stop sign just past the kiosk and follow the road under the parkway. Bring a light lunch and layers of clothing because due to the marine influence you never know what to expect. Heavy rain postpones until November 2. Contact: Doug Allshouse, dougs228@comcast.net or 415-584-5114.

NOVEMBER 2, SATURDAY, 8:30 am to 4 pm
Crystal Springs Watershed
Leaders: Jake Sigg and Ken Himes
This is a joint Yerba Buena/Santa Clara Valley Chapter trip, designed to combine sightseeing with working—lots of sightseeing, only a couple of hours working.
The grasslands/wildflower areas in the coast ranges are disappearing. In the absence of the frequent burning practiced by the native peoples, most grassy areas proximate to the coast are converting to shrubs or forests. We owe so many of our coastal wildflower areas to the frequent burning by the natives and we are gradually losing them because there is no substitute technology for preserving them, now that prescribed fire is no longer possible. The loss of these coastal prairies would be tragic, as they harbor a great variety of wildflowers in a matrix of perennial bunchgrasses. Many animals such as hawks, owls and coyotes need these open foraging grounds. We will spend one or two hours cutting down small bushes encircling these postage-stamp-sized areas, pushing their perimeters back a few feet. Then we strike out on a six-mile roundtrip hike along Pilarcitos Creek to see the historic Stone Dam. Even late in a dry year there is much to see in this fog-influenced area.
Heavy rain postpones to Saturday the 9th. Tools and gloves will be supplied; bring lunch and lots of liquids. Maximum of 20; rsvp to Jake at 415-731-3028.

ACTIVITIES

PLANT IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS RESUME
Second Thursdays, starting September 12, 6-7:30 pm
San Francisco State University
1600 Holloway Avenue
Hensill Hall, Botany Lab, Room 440
The botany graduate students at San Francisco State University have kindly agreed to lead the plant ID workshops on the second Thursday of the month. The dates are: September 12th, October 10th, November 14th, and December 12th. Please do mark your calendars. Join us for some fun time keying plants and learning plant terminology, all in a relaxed atmosphere. If you have the new edition of the Jepson Manual, bring that along or Plants of the San Francisco Bay Region: Mendocino to Monterey (revised edition), and a hand lens. If you have any further questions, please email Mila Stroganoff at milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net.

PLAN AHEAD FOR DECEMBER 6 MEMBERS’ SLIDES
Chapter members: Start saving your favorite pictures taken during the year to share at the annual Potluck. There are no requirements for length or topic. Images can be slides or digital.
Example topics:
• Plants, or animals, or landscapes;
• Pictures from habitat restoration, hikes or trips;
• Native garden images - yours or others’;
• Updates on work with a particular plant, habitat, etc.

Questions: Contact Kipp McMichael at kicmpmich@hotmail.com

“Nothing which we can imagine about Nature is incredible.”—Pliny the Elder
FOCUS ON RARITIES
Annotated Checklist of the Vascular Plants of San Francisco’s Natural Areas Part II
by Michael Wood

In my previous column, I presented a project on which I’ve been working for several years; a compilation of plant species lists prepared over the years for the various sites in San Francisco County that still support remnants of our natural plant assemblages. It is with great pleasure (and a great deal of relief) that I announce the completion of this project. It is my hope that the checklist will be a useful reference document for plant-fanciers, both trained and untrained, to become more familiar with the vegetation at our natural areas as well as to conduct target searches for species that are rare and unusual here.

The checklist includes 1047 extant taxa and 90 extirpated taxa belonging to 488 genera and 121 families. It lists the species that have been seen since the early 1990s from 67 natural areas on lands owned by the City and County of San Francisco, The National Park Service (The Presidio, Golden Gate National Recreation Area), the San Francisco Real Estate Development Department, the San Francisco Unified School District, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and the University of California San Francisco, as well as numerous privately owned parcels.

Thanks to some great feedback over the last few months, I’ve made some substantial changes to the checklist, both in form and content. I’ve added to the checklist indigenous species that have been extirpated in our county, as well as all species that appear in the California Native Plant Society’s Online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants. Since the checklist is compiled from a spreadsheet that includes site-specific records, I’m able to tally the number of sites in the county from which each species has been reported; that number is noted for each species.

Plants are organized by major groups (ferns and fern allies, gymnosperms, and the flowering plants), then by family and genus and species, arranged alphabetically. Table headings include common names, former names and family assignments (synonymy), notes, rarity status, invasive status, life form (e.g. perennial aquatic herb), duration (e.g., annual), the number of San Francisco occurrences, flowering period and whether or not each species is presumed indigenous to the county and to California. And for those indigenous and rare species that are only known from three or fewer locations, I’ve listed the sites in the “notes” column. I’ve also included

notes on the current status of the species here (e.g., extirpated, reintroduced), historical records, and if vouchers are not currently listed in the California Consortium of Herbaria.

One of the nice things about arranging all this data into a database is that it allows me to sort it by various parameters and to tally the number of taxa that fit a set of conditions. Some of these totals are presented at the end of the checklist:

Total families: 121
Total genera: 488
Total extant taxa: 1047
Total extirpated taxa: 90
Total reintroduced taxa: 17
Total taxa indigenous to SF: 543/51.9%
Total native to California: 620/59.2%
Total fed/state/CNPS listed: 48
Total non-native taxa: 424/40.5%
Total invasive species: 104

As a gauge of diversity, it’s interesting to look at the number of San Francisco native species still to be found at a site. For example, Glen Canyon (188 spp.) and three Presidio sites—Tennessee Hollow (175 spp.), World War II Memorial (172 spp.) and Coastal Bluffs (166 spp.) rank the highest. Other familiar sites with a high number of San Francisco natives include Bayview Hill (144 spp.), Twin Peaks (125 spp.), Yerba Buena Island (117 spp.), Mt. Davidson (110 spp.), and Fort Funston (109 spp.). At the same time, some of the sites with the highest number of native species are also the weediest. These include Yerba Buena Island (210 non-native species, 63% of the total), Glen Canyon (151 non-native species, 42% of the total) and World War II Memorial (111 non-native species, 38% of the total).

In terms of the rarity of some of our remaining native species, it’s interesting to look at the frequency with which the members of our flora occur. Of the 543 taxa presumed to be indigenous to the County, 86 (15.8%) are reported from a single location; 178 taxa (32.8%) are reported from three or fewer sites. Of the 48 rare species listed in the CNPS Inventory, 24 (50%) have been extirpated; two of these have since been reintroduced.

Considering the threats to the health and vitality of our remaining natural areas, it’s also useful to look at the frequency with which invasive species occur. Species rated as highly invasive by the California Invasive Plant Council and found at twenty or more natural sites include Himalayan blackberry (35 sites), sweet fennel (34 sites), Cape ivy (33 sites), French broom (30 sites), iceplant (27 sites), pampas grass (24 sites) and English ivy (22 sites). Widespread but moderately invasive species include Bermuda buttercup (41 sites), ehrharta (37 sites), Tasmanian blue gum (31 sites), poison hemlock (25 sites), and cotonaster (22 sites).

I hope the checklist is useful to land managers, weed-workers, habitat restorationists, trail walkers and anyone who appreciates a natural or semi-natural landscape and can fantasize about how the San Francisco Peninsula appeared before colonization by Europeans. I look forward to many new discoveries and increasing our knowledge of what grows here. I will be continuously updating the checklist so please do send me your observations and discoveries.

To download a copy of the checklist, visit http://www.wood-biological.com/san-francisco-plant-checklist/. I will also be posting site-specific checklists, most of which are just a few pages long, making them easy to print out and take along with you on your next urban wilderness adventure.

The Yerba Buena Chapter would like to congratulate and thank Mike Wood for this accomplishment. - Ed.

Checklist headings look like this:
The 19th Annual

Native Plant Sale

Saturday,
October 26th, 2013

@ Miraloma Park Improvement Club
350 O'Shaughnessy Boulevard

1-5 pm  Cash or check only  No credit cards accepted

The Yerba Buena Native Plant Sale is an opportunity to find a great many native plant species that aren’t readily available at garden centers. Our focus and offerings, as always, will be native plants local to our chapter area: San Francisco and northern San Mateo County, including Montara and San Bruno Mountains. These are the species already adapted to our area’s climate, soils, and habitats—and are also important to our local fauna.

Many of the plants for sale will have been grown by chapter volunteers from seeds, cuttings, or divisions—-from garden plants or other sources from our chapter area. Great efforts are made to learn the provenance of the plants at our sale, as we understand the importance of maintaining a local gene pool.

Growing locally native plants is an important way to:
- Attract pollinators, including native bees, butterflies, moths, and birds—for your pleasure and their benefit
- Provide for endangered species (such as by growing host and nectar plants for the Green Hairstreak butterfly)
- Enhance corridors for native wildlife
- Use less water (and less energy pumping that water)
- Save money on utility bills
- Reduce the use of fertilizers and pesticides
- Have a beautiful, colorful, lively garden
- Inspire your neighbors to do the same!

To assist with your plant selections, you will find:
- A plant list of our 2013 offerings on our website prior to the sale
- Articles and links on “Gardening with Natives”—always on our website
- Plants grouped roughly according to their general plant community of origin
- Signs indicating the plant type, habit, size, soil preferences, and wildlife interest for each species
- Photos of the flower and/or form of each plant
- Volunteers with native gardening expertise offering advice
- Books and other materials available for reference
- Books and posters will also be available for purchase.

Fall is the ideal time for planting. The Annual Plant Sale is Yerba Buena Chapter’s primary source of funding; it enables us to put on our programs—and strive to fulfill our mission. Get great plants for your garden and help support CNPS!

Cash and checks (sorry, no credit cards) will be accepted for plant and book sales. (Membership applications accept credit info. Please join us!) For additional information, or to volunteer to help with the plant sale, contact Ellen Edelson (415-531-2140 or e.edelson@sbcglobal.net).

For up-to-date information visit:
http://cnps-herbacena.org/plantsale
DOUG'S MOUNTAIN JOURNAL

A Chronicle of Natural History on San Bruno Mountain
by Doug Allshouse

Newton had it right. “For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.” If he had been a meteorologist he might have said, “For every run of wet years there are an equal number of dry years ahead.” The winter of 2012-13 was, alas, a dry one and the production of annuals in our grasslands this past spring was extremely disappointing. And to add insult to injury, the wildflower season began early with outrageous blooms in March and by mid-May the curtain was drawing closed. Don’t think the endangered butterflies didn’t notice either.

The pupating San Bruno Elfin butterflies broke out of their chrysalises early and began mating and laying eggs. Good thing too, because early June the stonecrop flowers were dying, turning from rich yellow to dark red, with hardly an elfin larva in sight. The two rare paintbrushes were practically endangered this year. Coast Indian paintbrush was very scarce and I managed to see only one Franciscan paintbrush on the saddle, but it was carefully guarded by poison oak on all sides, not allowing a closer observation. There were none on the Ridge Trail either. Wight’s paintbrush didn’t seem to mind being parched as it was quite profuse this year. San Francisco campion was found in a few new spots, which bodes well for its continued existence here.

Owl and Buckeye Canyons have rebounded nicely from the 2008 fire. There are monocultures of California lilac under oaks in Buckeye, and in draws and ridge lines in Owl. These blue-blossom communities are a welcome sight since they have a useful life of about 40 years and the hard seedpods rely on fire for regeneration. Devil’s Arroyo on the eastern slope of the summit hasn’t burned since 1964 and that community has been overrun by coyote brush, coast red elderberry and coffee berry for many years. Yerba santa was also abundant in Owl Canyon.

May was the month for Cedar Waxwings. Large flocks hung around for a couple of weeks feeding on flowering eucalyptus and red elderberries. One sunny morning I was watching a half-dozen waxwings sitting on an elderberry branch side by side. A waxwing will pluck a berry and turn to pass it to the next bird, which will pass it again. This behavior is quite common for waxwings and it’s believed that berry-passing is a social behavior—avian Facebooking. Don’t ask me which one finally gets to eat it, if at all, or what happens if the wrong bird eats it. What’s the punishment?

On another morning in the willows at the Day Camp they were bathing on dew-laden willow leaves. This is making the most of a situation. If there’s no creek or birdbath, just cozy up to some really dripping-wet leaves and shake-shake-shake—shake your booty. I first observed this activity a few years ago involving an Anna’s Hummingbird at the top of a young Monterey cypress so evidently it’s a bird thing.

Sometimes dumb luck trumps everything. David Nelson and I were down a PG&E road on the main ridge photographing plants. David turned his attention to a dudelya when something caught his eye. Stuck on a small rock not far away was a grasshopper shedding its old skin. It was about a third of the way out when we first saw it. Over the course of at least 10 minutes it finally freed itself. Little did I know that it was still quite helpless. Its wings, like a butterfly’s, needed to be pumped up and its hind legs were useless because the feet were stuck to the thighs. So this little guy couldn’t jump or fly. As we were watching all of this it struck us that we were lucky to see this and most likely would never see it again.

It’s always a revelation to discover a plant for the first time, and I saw two in just the last couple of weeks, within a quarter mile of each other. The first discovery was a non-native, which sadly has been the case more often than not. In the picnic area there were several plants of smooth hawksbeard (Crepis capillaris). In the past week I found more in the Day Camp. Hawksbeard looks like the offspring of an affair between a hairy cat’s ear and a common dandelion. How’s that for a poetic description? They’re all in the Lactuceae tribe, which means they have milky sap.

The other surprise was serendipitous. On the way back home from my daily walk I was approaching the intersection of the short road to the Day Camp and the Old Guadalupe Trail. From a distance I spotted what I thought was white clover poking out of some low-lying coyote brush, just below an arroyo willow. As I got closer I recognized it as buckwheat. But wait! It was much too tall and the flowers too small to be coast buckwheat. I had discovered naked buckwheat (Eriogonum nudum) for the first time, and in a spot I pass almost every day! Why hadn’t I seen this plant before? Well, it’s not exactly a plant that screams “LOOK AT ME!!!” I can see why it’s called naked; there are hardly any visible leaves.

Pink everlasting has just begun to bloom with its fragrant flowers and foliage. Gumplant is in every stage of development from nice gummy buds to full flower. California and dune goldenrod blooms are fleshing out to give us a nice late summer and autumn show. It’s a good time to get out and enjoy these plants and revel in the realization that they haven’t had a good drink of water since last winter. Yet here they are, doing their thing...as they always do.

See you on the mountain.
HABITAT RESTORATION

Please help us update these listings. If you have corrections or additions, please send them to kimchic@hotmail.com.

Bookmark the daily event calendar at http://cnps-yerba Buena.org/calendar

Alemany Natives at Alemany Farm.
3rd Saturdays, 1 to 4pm. Contact: alemany natives@gmail.com
Bayview Hill. 2nd Saturdays
Contact Joe Grey joe.grey@sfgov.org
Bernal Hilltop. 3rd Saturdays,
10 am to 12 pm. Work party contact Rachel Kesel rachelskesel@sfgov.org. Groups contact Joe Grey 415-831-6328.
Brooks Park. Contact Joe Grey Joe Grey@sfgov.org
Buena Vista Park. 1st Saturdays, 9am to noon. Contact Joe Grey@sfgov.org or 415-831-6328.
Candlestick State Park Nursery. 1150 Carroll Street. 1st Saturdays, 10am to 2pm. Bay Youth for the Environment. Contact Patrick Rump bye@leyouth.org
Castro-Duncan Open Space. Contact Dave Thompson or Gloria Koch-Gonzalez 415-821-7601.
CNPS Native Plant Restoration Team. Every Wednesday noon to 3pm. Contact Jake Sigg 415-731-5028 or jakesigg@earthlink.net.
Corona Heights. Last Saturdays, 10 am to noon. Contact Jim Houillon 415-532-3542.
Edgehill Mt. Park. 2nd Saturdays, 10am to noon. Contact Stan Kaufman 415-681-4954 or sekfman@pacbell.net
Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Weekdays and weekends around the Bay Area. Contact volunteer@parkconservancy.org or 415-561-3044.

Glen Canyon. Wednesdays & 3rd Saturdays, 9am to noon. Friends of Glen Canyon. Contact rachel.kesel@sf.gov.org
Golden Gate Heights Sandy Dunes Native Plant Community Garden. Contact Barbara Kobayashi okim1946@yahoo.com
Golden Gate Park Oak Woodlands.
2nd Saturdays, 10am to 12:30pm. Contact Rob Bakewell 415-710-9617 or rchakewell@gmail.com
Green Hairstreak Butterfly Corridor.
3rd Saturday, 10 am to noon. Contact Nature in the City stewards@natureinthecity.org
Half Moon Bay State Beach.
650-726-8801 or hmbrestore@gmail.com
Herons Head Park.
2nd Saturdays, 9am to noon. Contact Raynelle Rino 415-282-6840 or raynelle.rino@leyouth.org
Lake Merced. 3rd Saturdays, 10am to noon. Contact Joe Grey joegrey@sf.gov.org
Linda Mar State Beach. 4th Sundays, 10am to noon. Contact 650-451-1130 or 94116bc@gmail.com.
Marin Headlands Native Plant Nursery. 1st, 4 to 6 pm, 9am & 9pm, 415-313-5193 or Ashor@parkconservancy.org.
McLaren Park. 2nd Saturdays of each months, 10am to noon. Contact Joe. Grey@sf.gov.org or 415-531-6328.
McKinley Square Hillsides.
2nd Sundays, 10am to noon. www.mckinleysquare.com or chrismckinleySquare.org.
Mission Creek Bank. Generally Saturday mornings. Contact Ginny Starnes for times 415-552-4577 or GinnyStarnes@gmail.com.
Mt. Davidson.
1st Saturdays, 10am to noon. Friends of Mt. Davidson, Stan Kaufman 415-681-4954 or sekfman@pacbell.net
Mt. Sutro. 1st Saturdays, 9am - 1 pm Contact Craig Dawson; craig@sutrostewards.org

Pacific's Environmental Family. 4th Sundays, 10 am. Contact Shirley Suher 650-359-0892.
Pigeon Point Lighthouse. Contact Restoration Coordinator 650-726-8801.
San Bruno Mountain. Tuesdays, 10:30 to 12:30 pm: Earthcare Wetlands Project; Wednesdays, 10am to 12:30pm: Greenhouse volunteers-Mission Blue Nursery; Saturdays, 10am to 12:30pm: Weed Rangers Stewardship Outing; Saturdays, 10am to noon: Bog Restoration; 4th Fridays & Saturdays, 9am to noon: South San Francisco Weed Rangers
SF Recreation & Parks Department. Natural Areas Program. Joe. Grey@sf.gov.org or 415-831-6328.
San Pedro Valley County Park, Pacifica. 3rd Saturdays, 9am. 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 Wednesdays of the month. Contact Casey Ogden 510-452-6850 cogden@saveSFbay.org, or www.saveSFbay.org/volunteer.
Shields/Orizaba Rocky Outcrop. Contact Paul Koski at pkoski7@netscape.net.
Tennessee Valley Nursery and Stewards. Every Tuesday, 10am to noon & 1 to 4pm. Contact 415-289-1860 or Iponzini@parkconservancy.org
UCSF Mount Sutro Open Space Reserve. 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 9am to 12:30pm. Contact Craig@sutrostewards.org or 415-665-1077.
White-Crowned Sparrow 3rd Saturdays, 9am - noon Contact sfrpd.volunteerprogram@sfgov.org

CHAPTER NEWS

GARDEN OUR SEEKS NEW LEADER
By Susan Floore

She wore a green straw hat, arrived early, walked carefully through my garden and asked, “Is this how a native plant garden looks – so colorful, in the sun and the shade?”

“Mmm,” I began to answer, but before I could, she explained how tired she felt of the pesticide-fertilizer-heavy-watering routine she’d been following for years in her conventional garden. So she decided to explore nearby native plant gardens on our annual tour. For ideas. To talk to fellow gardeners.

The beauty of our annual Yerba Buena Native Plant Garden Tour is that it helps so many people in the community develop a personal connection to native plants – seeing them, smelling them, learning about them. And my delight in coordinating the tour for seven of its nine years has come from feeling I’ve made a distinctive contribution to the chapter and to various San Francisco communities, human as well as flora and fauna. We’ve grown the tour from five private gardens in 2005, our first year, to twenty-three in 2013. Over 300 garden visitors made more than 750 garden visits this year alone.

Since I’m stepping down next month as coordinator of the tour to assume other responsibilities, we’re asking members to volunteer to take over as coordinator. What kinds of people would thrive in this position? People who take pride in seeing a job through, beginning to end. People who find satisfaction in seeing a good environmental idea blossom and bear fruit. For me, the job honed managerial skills I had not used since retiring. It introduced me to talented, imaginative people I’d never have known without it. And, though in no way a job requirement, it eventually inspired me to create my own native plant garden!

I’ll be happy to help the new coordinator build on our foundation: a committed core of gardens, a good sense of future possibilities, and my promise to support the new leader to get the tour rolling into 2014. Please call or email me with your questions about volunteering for this distinctive role in our chapter: 415-285-4692 or sfloore@att.net. Working on the tour will truly benefit not only the chapter and the city but anyone who takes it on.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!
February-July 2013

(CHAPTER NEWS continued on page 7)
CHAPTER NEWS  (continued)

Proposed Amendments to CNPS Bylaws
The Yerba Buena Chapter’s Board of Directors wants to restructure the Board so that it will function better. At the July 8, 2013 Board meeting, 8 amendments to the chapter bylaws were approved. These amendments, listed below, must now be voted upon by the chapter membership. The vote will take place at either the Oct. 3 or Nov. 7 member meeting. Additional explanatory material giving the rationale for these proposed changes can be found on the chapter website: http://cnps-yerbabuena.org/bylaws2013 Members with questions who do not have web access are encouraged to contact Casey Allen 415-572-1144

Article V. Amend title to read “Nomination and Election of Officers and Directors”

Section 502. Nominations. Amend to read:
“The Nominating Committee shall nominate consenting Chapter members for each elective office. Suggestions for nomination of officers and directors may be submitted to the Nominating Committee by any Chapter member.”

Section 503. Reporting. Amend to read:
“The Nominating Committee shall report its slate of officer and director nominees in the newsletter preceding the Annual Meeting.”

Article VII. Board of Directors.

Section 702. Members. Amend as follows:
“The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of the Chapter, including the immediate past president for one year, the Chapter Council Delegate, standing committee chairs, and up to 7 Directors-at-large, for a maximum total of 13 members.”

Section 705. Quorum. Amend to read:
“Five members constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any Board meeting.”

Amend by adding a new section.

Section 706. Attendance. It is expected that directors commit to attending all board meetings. It is further expected that any director who cannot attend a particular board meeting will notify all remaining directors of his or her planned absence prior to that board meeting.”

Article VIII. Committees.

Section 801. Standing. Amend to read:
“There shall be two permanent standing committees: Conservation and Membership/Records. The chairs of these two committees shall always be members of the Board of Directors. The membership or Board of Directors shall create by resolution such additional standing committees from time to time as may be deemed suitable, necessary, and convenient to accomplish the ongoing functions of the chapter.” (Rest of section remains as is.)

Article VIII. Committees.

Section 802. Amend as follows:
Temporary Working. The President, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, shall create such temporary working committees from time to time as may be deemed suitable, necessary, and convenient to accomplish the short-term functions of the chapter. (Next 3 sentences are unchanged.) Add at end “Each Director-at-Large shall be responsible for participating in at least one working committee.”

BOARD MEETINGS
Board meetings are open to all Chapter members. They are held on the second Monday of every month (except August and December) at 350 Amber Drive (The SF Police Academy) and start at 7 pm. Contact Casey Allen (casey@sflandscapes.com) for more information.

OFFICERS & CONTACTS

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@sfbglobal.net

Secretary
Ron Kutler 650-201-6285
rokutler@gmail.com

Chapter Council Delegate
Ellen Edelson 415-531-2140
e.edelson@sfbglobal.net

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

San Mateo County Conservation Chair
Mike Vasey 650-359-7034
mvasey@sfstate.edu

Education Coordinator
Position vacant

Field Trips Chair
Gail Wechsler
Gail.wychler@gmail.com

Garden Tour Coordinator
Susan Floore 415-285-4692
sfloore@att.net

Hospitality Coordinator
Position vacant

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
gosuter@prodigy.net

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

Outreach Coordinator
Position vacant

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

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

Plant Sale Coordinator
Ellen Edelson 415-531-2140
e.edelson@sfbglobal.net

Posters and Book Sales Chair
Ludmila Stroganoff 650-359-1642
milastroganoff@sfbglobal.net

Presidio Chair
Peter Brastow
pbr123@natureintheCity.org

Programs Co-Chair
Jake Sigg 415-731-3028
jakesigg@earthlink.net

Programs Co-Chair
Ludmila Stroganoff 650-359-1642
milastroganoff@sfbglobal.net

Publicity
Rachel Kessler

Rare Plants Co-Chair
Peter Brastow
pbr123@natureintheCity.org

Rare Plants Co-Chair
Michael Wood 923-899-1282
mike@wood-biological.com

San Bruno Mountain Chair
Doug Alldhouse 415-584-1214
douger228@comcast.net

Seed Bank Chair
Don Mahoney 510-331-4624
dmahoney@sfbotanicalgarden.org

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

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We sincerely thank all of you who have donated furniture, clothing, books, CDs, and housewares to Community Thrift 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. Your donations are tax-deductible, and produce more income for the chapter than you might think.
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CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
YERBA BUENA CHAPTER
140 Turquoise Way
San Francisco CA 94131

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