



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

Vol. 28 No. 2 ■ June 2014

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## PROGRAMS

Everyone is welcome to attend membership meetings in the Recreation Room of the San Francisco County Fair Building (SFCFB) at 9<sup>th</sup> 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 take our speakers to dinner at Golden Rice Bowl, 1030 Irving Street, between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Join us for good Chinese food and interesting conversation. Meet at the restaurant at 5:30 pm. RSVP appreciated but not required: Call Jake Sigg at 415-731-3028.

### June 4, Wednesday, 7:30 pm (please note change of day)

*Manroot and More: The Curious Cucurbits of California*

**Speaker: Kipp McMichael**

*Cucurbitaceae* is the plant family that contains some of our most common and diverse garden vegetables such as squash, zucchini, and cucumber. Though cucurbits are comparatively few in number, the native cucurbits of California display enormous diversity in habitat, life strategies and morphology. We'll begin with manroot (*Marah* species), a largely endemic genus whose vigorous vines and prickly fruit can be found throughout California. We'll discuss the extraordinary germination behavior of manroot, the astounding tubers for which the plants derive their common name, and discuss the subtle (and not so subtle!) differences between the state's 5 species. Next we'll turn to the desert-dwelling cucurbits of California, which challenge the manroot for tuber size, and then on to the strangest curcubit of all: a stemless, leafless, vineless oddity that parasitizes desert shrubs. We'll conclude with a few fascinating international highlights from this cosmopolitan family that includes a cucurbit tree! 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). Kipp has managed the chapter's website and produced the *Yerba Buena News* from both Potrero Hill and now from Berkeley.

### July 3, Thursday, 7:30 pm

*San Bruno Mountain's Biodiversity: The Challenges and Opportunities*

**Speaker: Joe Cannon**

San Bruno Mountain is completely surrounded by a metropolitan area of a million people, yet is unknown to more than 99% of them. San Bruno Mountain Watch has been its principal protector, and in recent years there has been a more vigorous and focused effort to preserve its scientific and conservation values. Joe Cannon has been central to this energized effort.

In this talk, Joe will explore the high regional value of San Bruno Mountain by highlighting its diversity of micro-climates, plant communities, populations, and species -- emphasizing its rare and endangered species as well as its locally rare plant populations. He will also talk about how

the Yerba Buena Chapter of CNPS can engage in conservation of this, the largest and most diverse biological reserve in its area. Joe Cannon has had 18 years of experience in habitat restoration project management with the National Park Service, as well as with three non-profit organizations: the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, the Watershed Project, and San Bruno Mountain Watch. He has planned, managed, and implemented restoration projects in marsh, dune, coastal scrub, grassland, and creek habitats. All of these projects were primarily implemented through community-based stewardship. He currently manages the stewardship program on San Bruno Mountain for San Bruno Mountain Watch. He has also taught ecology/biology for ten years at City College of San Francisco.

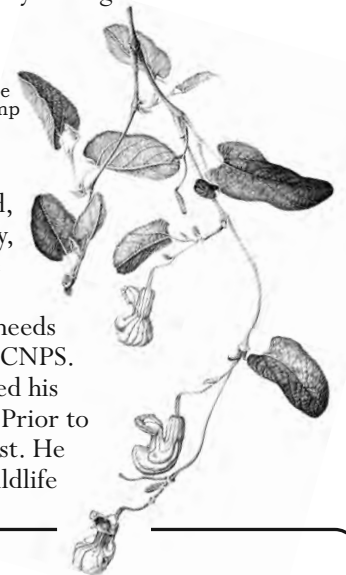
### August 7, Thursday, 7:30 pm

*New Discoveries and a Forgotten Past: Reviewing the Rarity Status of Plants from Northern California*

**Speaker: Aaron Sims**

California contains some of the highest plant diversity in the world and leads the nation in numbers of native plants. Of the roughly 6,500 native plants of California, over 2,300 are considered rare, threatened, or endangered. Our speaker will introduce some of the reasons California has such a rich flora diversity, explore some new additions to the Northern California flora, and report on some rare plants that have gone unnoticed in recent decades. There will be an overview included of the rare plants known within the boundaries of the Yerba Buena Chapter of CNPS, along with current data and information that still needs to be acquired. Aaron Sims is the statewide Rare Plant Botanist and manages the Rare Plant Program of CNPS. He updates and maintains the CNPS Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California. He received his degree in Ecology and Systematic Biology with an emphasis in Botany from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Prior to his employment with CNPS, Aaron worked as a biologist for California State Parks on the Central Coast. He also spent a summer monitoring nesting sea birds on a remote island in Alaska for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, spent a year as an environmental consultant, and authored the *Atlas of Sensitive Species of the Morro Bay Area*. In addition to working for CNPS, Aaron continues to produce maps for California State Parks and also recently completed the *Green Infrastructure Network of the Baywood Fine Sands Community* through a grant from the Morro Bay National Estuary Program.

*Aristolochia californica*  
dutchman's pipe  
by Margaret Kemp



#### FUTURE PROGRAM

*September 4—Botanical Research on the Oceanic Islands of São Tomé & Príncipe and Repatriating the Results to the Islanders—Tom Daniel Ph.D.*

## FIELD TRIP

**JUNE 14, SATURDAY, 11 am to 1 pm**

*Daly City Dunes, Guadalupe Hills*

**Leader: Doug Allshouse**

The Guadalupe Hills are part of San Bruno Mountain, and on the western edge of the Hills in lower Colma Canyon are the Daly City Dunes, a 300-foot-deep sand dune system that dates back almost 125,000 years. Despite encroaching development, a piece of this site is still relatively intact and supports a distinct ecosystem not usually found at such a distance from the coast. Of great interest and dire concern is the presence of an endangered dune plant, San Francisco lessingia (*Lessingia germanorum*); this is the only known population in San Mateo County. Also present are San Francisco spineflower (*Chorizanthe cuspidata*), dune suncup (*Camissonia strigulosa*) and blue beach lupine (*Lupinus chamissonis*). There is a population of California pipevine nearby (*Aristolochia californica*), which means we might see the beautiful pipevine swallowtail butterfly (*Batus philenor*). And there is more: a shell mound is to be found high up the dune. A privately-owned parcel at the top of the dunes has been sold to Hilldale School, and this might be our last opportunity to view the dunes as they were. Wear sturdy shoes suitable for sand and bring a snack or light lunch if you wish. Meet at Hilldale School at the junction of Thiers and Florence Streets. Thiers Street is off Hillside Blvd between the Mission Street/John Daly Blvd intersection and the East Market Street intersection. Contact: Doug Allshouse at dougsr228@comcast.net or 415-584-5114.

## ACTIVITIES

**PLANT IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS**

**Second Thursday of the month 6 – 7:30 pm.**

**Next workshop is June 12, 2014.**

**San Francisco State University**

**1600 Holloway Avenue**

**Hensill Hall, Botany Lab, Room 440**


**No Workshop in  
July & August**

The botany graduate students at San Francisco State University will lead the plant ID workshops on the second Thursday of the month. The next date is June 12 and the theme is grasses. Remember to mark your calendars and please attend. There are no workshops in July and August, as the graduate students will be on summer break. Workshops will resume in September. Do join us for some fun time keying plants and learning plant terminology in a relaxed atmosphere. If you have the old or 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.

There is public transportation (MUNI) that stops directly in front of SFSU. There is a SFSU shuttle that runs continually from and to the Daly City Bart Station and there is street parking as well as campus parking (you must pay for parking) and then make your way to Hensill Hall.

## HABITAT RESTORATION

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

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

**Alemanys Natives at Alemany Farm.**

3rd Sundays, 1 to 4pm. Contact:

alemanynatives@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 rachel.kesel@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@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 3pm. 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, 10am to noon.

Contact Stan Kaufman 415-681-4954 or

sekfmn@pacbell.net

**Golden Gate National Recreation Area.**

Weekdays and weekends around the Bay Area.

Contact volunteer@parksconservancy.org or

415-561-3044.

**Glen Canyon.** Wednesdays & 3rd Saturdays, 9am 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, 10am to 12:30pm.

Contact Rob Bakewell 415-710-9617 or

rcbakewell@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

**Heron's Head Park.** 2nd Saturdays, 9am to noon.

Contact Raynelle Rino 415-282-6840 or

raynelle.rino@lejyouth.org

**Lake Merced.** 3rd Saturdays, 10am to noon.

Contact Joe Grey joegrey@sfgov.org

**Linda Mar State Beach** 4th Sundays, 10am to

noon. Contact 650-451-1130 or

94116bc@gmail.com.

**Marin Headlands Native Plant Nursery.**

Wednesday, 1 to 4 pm & Saturday, 9am to noon.

Contact 415-332-5193 or

AShor@parksconservancy.org.

**McLaren Park.** 2nd Saturdays of even months,

10am to noon. Contact Joe.Grey@sfgov.org or

415-831-6328.

**McKinley Square Hillside.** 2nd Sundays, 10am

to noon. www.McKinleySquare.com or

chris@McKinleySquare.org.

**Mission Creek Bank.** Generally Saturday

mornings. Contact Ginny Stearns for times 415-

552-4577 or GinnyStearns@gmail.com.

**Mt. Davidson.** 1st Saturdays, 10am to noon.

Friends of Mt. Davidson. Stan Kaufman 415-681-

4954 or sekfmn@pacbell.net

**Mt. Sutro.** 1st Saturdays, 9 am - 1 pm

Contact Craig Dawson: craig@sutrostewards.org

**Pacifica's Environmental Family.** 4th Sundays, 10 am. Contact Lynn Adams 650-355-1668.

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

**San Bruno Mountain.** Tuesdays, 10:30 am 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

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, 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

lponzini@parksconservancy.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

—●—  
“A hen is only an egg’s way of  
making another egg.”

—Samuel Butler

## FOCUS ON RARITIES

### The Extirpated Plants of San Francisco by Michael Wood

Extinction is the loss of a species from throughout its range. Extirpation, also referred to as local extinction, is the loss of a species from a portion of its range. If extinction is forever, extirpation can be thought of as a nail in a species' coffin. It can be the first nail, the last nail, or somewhere in between. While the loss of a plant or animal species from within some arbitrarily defined geopolitical boundary may not mean much in biological terms, it must certainly serve as an alarm to those tracking such things. But if a given locality represents a geographic extreme or discontinuity in a species' distribution, its extirpation there may indeed represent a significant biological loss. These so-called peripheral populations may actually increase a species' chances of surviving gross- or fine-scale climatic changes by possessing greater genetic variability (Leppig and White, 2006). In case you've been living in a cave, climate change is kind of a hot topic these days.

Some 99 percent of all species that ever evolved on Earth have gone extinct, primarily due to natural causes. Shifting continents, geologic uplifting and subsidence, volcanism, glaciation, rising and falling ocean levels, inundation, desiccation, and the occasional meteor slamming into the planet were the primary forces driving extinction before we appeared on the scene. At the same time, gradual shifts in local climatic conditions certainly contributed to extirpation of some populations and its corollary, the expansion of others. California is the perfect example of such forces, with its resultant flora exhibiting characteristics of three separate geo-floras, the Madro-Tertiary, the Arcto-Tertiary and the Neotropical-Tertiary, leaving behind remnants from the east, north, and south, respectively. The alternating invasion and retreat of the components of these geofloras, combined with California's terrifically varied geology and topography are exactly why our state supports such an incredible diversity of plant life. By last count, California is host to some 7,600 species, subspecies and varieties of plants (Baldwin, et al. 2012).

While the natural forces affecting plant and animal populations are profound, it's the unnatural forces that should concern us, especially those over which we have some influence. As we've shaped the planet in our own image, we've had a tremendous effect on the global and local occurrence of species. It is with these thoughts in mind that I started to investigate just what has been lost in San Francisco, floristically speaking. Having completed the *Annotated Checklist of the Vascular Plants of San Francisco's Natural Areas* (Wood,

2014a), which lists the extant plants in the County, I wanted to make a stab at summarizing the native plants that have not been reported here in the last 20 years or so. I'm certainly not the first to undertake such an endeavor. Biologists working with the National Park Service, The Presidio Trust, and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy have long been documenting the biological resources of The Presidio (Frey and Stevenson, 2010; Stevenson and Frey, 2010). And with an eye toward reintroducing long-lost native plants, they produced an excellent guide to the extirpated plants of The Presidio (Pimentel, 2011).



*Lilium maritimum*  
coast lily  
by Elwes & Fitch

I started this project by reviewing and annotating our most recent flora of San Francisco prepared by Howell, et al. in 1958. My focus was on the species that are presumably indigenous to the northern San Francisco Peninsula based on a review of historic collections in the Consortium of California Herbaria (CCH). But I first needed to cross-reference each name listed with the revised nomenclature in the Jepson Online Interchange. Then I compared the list to the checklist of extant plants. Each presumed indigenous taxon that has not been reported in the County in recent years became a

candidate for inclusion on *The Extirpated Plants of San Francisco* (Wood, 2014b).

My motivation for starting this effort was two-fold. For the reasons described above, I feel it is important to quantify what we've lost in the hopes of inspiring decision-makers to take seriously the continued degradation of our natural areas. The other reason is quite simple and practical. Just because a species hasn't been seen recently doesn't necessarily mean that it has been lost. Some of the more obscure species or those that are difficult to identify may just have been overlooked. So a list of extirpated species can serve as a target list for future searches. And to help focus future searches, I included some of the actual language from Howell, et al. (1958) describing where these species were last recorded.

All told, I was able to document 204 native plant species recorded historically from San Francisco County but which have not been seen in many years. In some cases, taxa have not been seen since the mid-1800s; other taxa have vanished more recently. Seven extirpated taxa are on the federal or state endangered species lists. Fifteen are on the CNPS List 1B and another ten are on Lists 2, 3, or 4. A total of 18 species that had been extirpated have been reintroduced to suitable natural habitats in the City.

As tallied in the checklist, a total of 469 extant plant taxa are presumed to be indigenous to San Francisco. If the original native flora consisted of 673 taxa, the loss of 204 taxa represents a 30 percent reduction in native plant species diversity since the first attempts at documenting the local flora began. That's a pretty substantial loss.

After releasing a draft version of the list, Randy Zebell of the Natural Areas Program informed me that two of the species listed as extirpated had been recently relocated and, although the populations are highly threatened by invasive species, they were hanging on. This is exactly the type of attention I was hoping to draw to our dwindling native plant resources. Used in concert, the lists of extirpated and extant species should increase awareness of the rarity of many of our plant species and inspire a new focus on them, both for finding them and, once found, preserving the ecological systems in which they evolved. I look forward to hearing of many new discoveries.

You can download both lists at <http://www.wood-biological.com/san-francisco-plant-checklist/>.

#### Literature Cited

Consortium of California Herbaria (CCH). Lists and maps of collections and potential distribution for San Francisco taxa. Available online at [ucjeps.berkeley.edu/consortium/](http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/consortium/).

Frey, M. and B. Stevenson. 2010. *Status of the*

# THE REAL HEART OF THE MOUNTAIN 1945-2014

a special edition of Doug's Mountain Journal

by Doug Allshouse



**1945** Take a moment and visually inhale this ‘snapshot in time’ taken by Ansel Adams from the north summit of San Bruno Mountain. A heart-shaped outline composed of Monterey cypress points toward the heart of downtown San Francisco. What divine stroke of genius or madness would possess one to engage in this endeavor? What purpose did it serve, and better yet, how long would it last? Is there a plaque commemorating this valiant deed? None of these questions can, frankly, be answered and, come to think of it, why should they be? Only a late-19<sup>th</sup> century soul knows the true reason for planting this iconic expression.

The photograph shows the central portion of the saddle and also the bog area where the entrance to the county park exists today. Hidden within the thin line of eucalyptus trees is Guadalupe Road that connected the Outer Mission to the summit via Radio Road, which is visible in the lower left corner. It pre-dates the construction of Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, the four-lane rural highway connecting Daly City and Brisbane. It was constructed to serve as the east-west artery for homes, commercial and office space and at least one school. They were never built, thanks to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors who voted 3-2 to keep it open space

in 1975. In 1979 the State of California acquired 256 acres of the saddle from Visitacion Associates through the sale and donations of land and turned them over to the county to manage as part of San Bruno Mountain State & County Park.

Below center-left is a slightly dark depression which is Colma Creek, just below its headwaters, which is at the tip of the heart. It flowed west down Colma Canyon to Mission Street in Daly City turned south onto El Camino then followed Old Mission Road east through South San Francisco and entered the bay just north of the airport; quite a journey around the mountain. Boats used to travel up Colma Creek to what is now Molloy's Tavern on Old Mission Road and steelhead trout swam almost to the headwaters to spawn. The creek is visible as a massive concrete culvert running through South City from the Costco on El Camino to South Linden before it resumes as a natural creek bed to the bay.

The open area to the right of Colma Creek is a rare high-elevation fresh water bog. In the early to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century the bog and a portion of the saddle to the right of the heart was grazed by cattle and there is a fence line that marks the northern boundary. Just outside the lower right border of the picture is the aptly-named Dairy Ravine. The bog had survived grazing and even go-kart races

*Writer's Note: In 2001, thanks to an anonymous donation, the Yerba Buena chapter funded a 3-year volunteer restoration project for the Colma Creek headwaters. Project supervisor Mary Petrilli named it "Heart of the Mountain."*



by the local kids back in the 50s still managing to be rich in native grasses, sedges and rushes, as witnessed by a local botanist. In just the last 25 years coastal scrub, blackberry and velvet grass have muscled its way into the bog and it is now considered a disturbed wetland. Much of grassy areas is now a monoculture of non-native gorse. Most of the eastern and western portions of the saddle have managed to remain largely native except for large expanses of European annual grasses mixed with patches of native blackberry, needle grass and fescue. This teaches us that without any intervention there is no guarantee to the long-term survival of our natives.

The very faint lines in the grassy area to the right of the heart were made by pickup trucks, most likely by the ranchers tending their herds although it would be foolish to rule out amped-up yahoos riding roughshod over the landscape. There are still remnants of wide paths running straight up the mountain that were made by motorcycle riders over the decades before the creation of the park. The mountain was recreation of a much different nature back in those days and actually burned quite frequently from accidents caused by fireworks. (Kids played more dangerously and creatively outside back then as opposed to today.)

Remember that this was before there were endangered species,

at least in the lexicon of the time. That would change dramatically in exactly twenty-eight years, and three years after that a little blue butterfly would save the mountain.

**2014** Fast-forward to 2014, seventy years after Adams captured his image of San Bruno Mountain and we see a completely different picture of the bog and saddle. In the absence of grazing, the bog has become a mostly scrub community of willows, coyote brush, coffee berry, poison oak and blackberry. Miraculously there is still a bastion of tough little marsh natives holding on such as creek dogwood, dense sedge, slough sedge, rushes, water parsley, canary grass, false lily-of-the-valley, and tinker's penny.

There are still remnants of old ponds that were teeming with life and may have supported the Red-legged Frog and its main predator the San Francisco Garter Snake. Even though the ponds are heavily silted from the construction of Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, they still are quite wet and might be able to support those two endangered species if they can be dredged and restored; which is exactly what was proposed by park volunteers who were to be the recipients of a \$100,000 mitigation settlement to reconstruct the ponds until the county parks bureaucrats said no. I hold out hope that it still

## MOUNTAIN JOURNAL *(continued)*

might happen.

As the picture shows, the beautiful heart has turned into a shapeless form of cypress and eucalyptus trees over the past 60 years and the saddle has been infested with gorse. The infestation started in Southern Hills just below the ridge of the saddle - perhaps by some Scot pining for his old friend, the gorse. Whatever the actual source, it's now the 800-pound gorilla, as it consumed nearly 100 acres before a grant in 2004 removed about 40 acres. There is still active habitat for the Mission Blue and Callippe Silverspot butterflies out on the eastern end.

Thankfully, there is a gritty vigilance present among many people who love and value this mountain, and will do practically anything to insure that it remains as wild as possible. This is a place where we cheer the removal of aggressive, invasive weeds, and are proud to show others how nature rebounds after they are gone. These mountain-lovers volunteer their time to make a difference and, thanks to determined efforts in adaptive management, the result shows that time spent really does make a difference. It takes dedication and determination to ensure that yesterday's effort becomes tomorrow's hope. That's why I love to walk the mountain and invite fellow members and non-members to come with me as I share the stories of the plants and wildlife that make this place so special. I even have a saying, other than the one I always end my journal with, which says, "I hope the mountain bites you because once the mountain bites you...you stay bitten!"



## FOCUS ON RARITIES *(continued)*

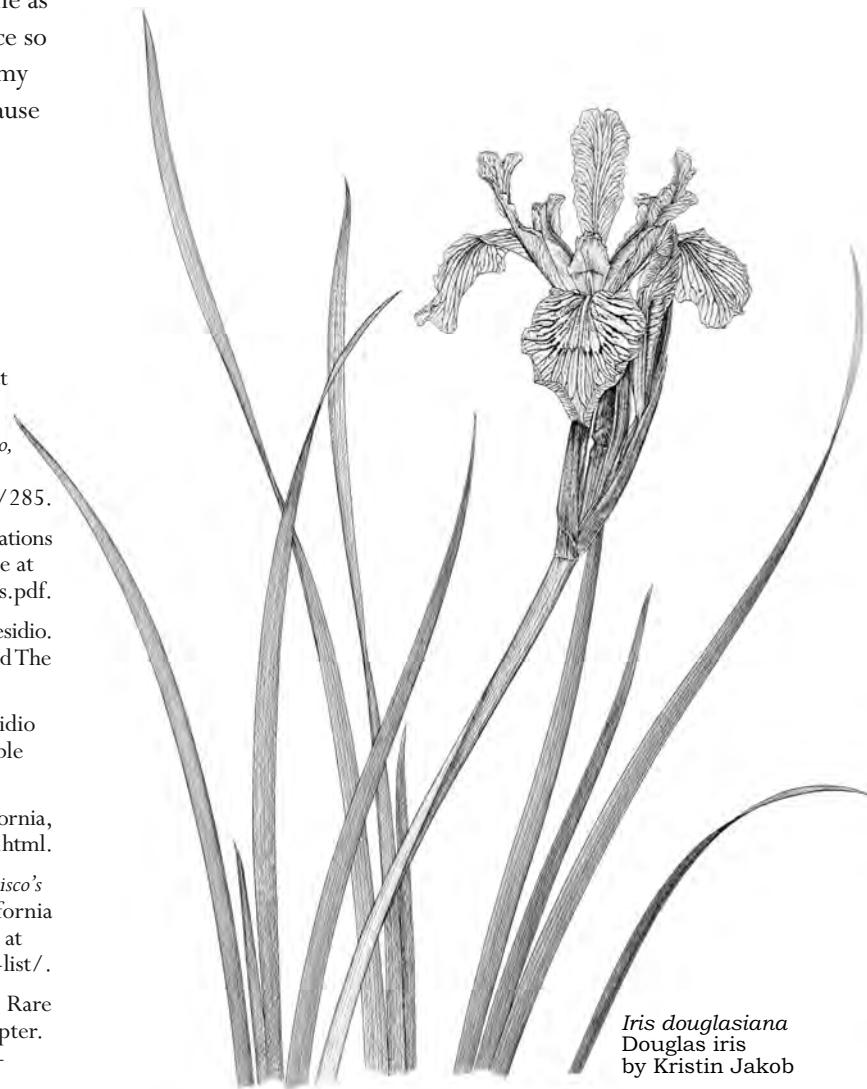
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Pictures like these are precious reminders of our past, where we realize that what once was may never be again. How we respect and treat this heritage for future generations determines our worth to our ancestors. Most disturbing to me is to see so many people staring at their smartphones, tapping the screen with their fingers and thumbs, connected to their world by snow-white buds in their ears, completely disconnected from their immediate environment. They never take the time to notice the sweet smell of California lilac in the spring or late-summer coyote brush in the air. They miss the melodic sound of the Swainson's thrush or Black-headed Grosbeak singing, or they fail to revel in the sight of wind-whipped fog cascading over the summit.

Perhaps it is best said this way:

"Each succeeding generation accepts less and less of the real thing because it has no way of knowing what has been lost...each generation doesn't know what it's missing—it's as though eagle and osprey were never present." - Michael Frome, *Regreening the National Parks*, 1992

See you on the mountain.



*Iris douglasiana*  
Douglas iris  
by Kristin Jakob



## CHAPTER NEWS

### 2014 NATIVE PLANT GARDEN TOUR SUCCESSES

by Susan Floore

Our 21 private gardens hosted numerous eager visitors on Sunday, April 27, 2014 as gardeners displayed the many possibilities of native plants. At our two plant sale sites, enthusiastic tour participants purchased plants aplenty. The day started with light rain and overcast skies. The premise that casual gardeners will opt out when the weather is not good was once again validated. The pace picked up as the day became progressively more gorgeous with many gardens finally seeing visitor numbers similar to those in 2013 (considering the slow start). Hosts from Dr. John Blair's "Plants of the World" course as well as volunteers from Yerba Buena Chapter assisted garden owners; they were essential! Our gratitude goes to each host!

2014 featured a new plant palette. This year's anomalous weather spurred a different bloom time so there was a "new" tour for all. Visitors enthused about gardens with a large range of plants and blooms on the tour. This was the introduction to native plants for a large number of our visitors. Many are aware of the drought and its implications for gardens; they trying to adjust thinking and plans accordingly. Others were knowledgeable about natives and wanted to see how natives responded in different situations.

Thanks to those gardeners who posted plant lists on the website. Newbies mostly did not have plant lists and were grateful to get printed lists; these are a basis for the education that is our goal. Statistics are not yet complete (as of printing deadline), but it seems that attendance and garden visits were a little less than last year, possibly because of early morning inclement weather. Our publicity folks did a gargantuan job; a 2015 volunteer to add to these efforts would be GREATLY appreciated!

All in all the tour was a success for our visitors and an enjoyable day for gardeners and hosts! Hosts and gardeners are invited to a post-tour on May 24, 2014 to visit some of the premier gardens that they couldn't see on the public tour day.

### 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. The electronic newsletter helps save trees and reduces chapter printing and mailing costs.

#### 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.

## 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 (SF Police Academy) and start at 7 pm. Contact Ellen Edelson (e.edelson@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

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## Community Thrift

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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# JOIN THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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

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Affiliation: **Yerba Buena Chapter**

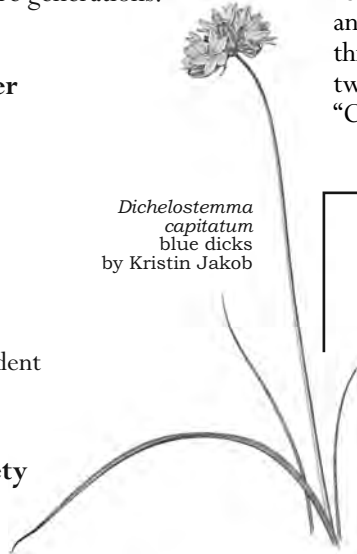
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Make your check out to "CNPS"  
and mail with this form to:

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2707 K Street, Suite 1  
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

*Dichelostemma capitatum*  
blue dicks  
by Kristin Jakob



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## YERBA BUENA NEWS

Volume 28, number 2 (June 2014)

Published quarterly by the Yerba Buena Chapter

California Native Plant Society

Design & Production – Kipp McMichael

Proofreading – Jake Sigg, Linda Shaffer and

Sara Greenwald

Masthead design – Barry Deutsch

Chapter logo – Nancy Baron

## DEADLINES FOR SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Articles & general copy – July 25

Time-dependent material – August 5

Late-breaking news – By arrangement

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