



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

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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 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 take our speakers to dinner at Chang's Kitchen, 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.

DECEMBER 3, THURSDAY

Annual Members' Slideshow and Potluck Supper

6:30 pm, Potluck: Coordinated by Susan Floore

7:30 pm, Slide Show: Coordinated by Margo Bors and Kipp McMichael

Slide Show Guidelines:

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

Potluck Guidelines:

- Bring your favorite dish to share with people; entrees, salads, appetizers appreciated, and something to drink.
- Please bring whatever utensils are needed to serve your dish.
- Contact: Susan Floore at sfloore@att.net or call 415-285-4692.

FEBRUARY 4, THURSDAY

Morgan Post-Fire Study: A Framework for Fire Followers and Fleeting Abundance

Speaker: Heath Bartosh

In August of 2013 the Morgan Fire burned approximately 3,000 acres of the slopes of Mount Diablo. For botanists the post-fire environment is an opportunity to explore places normally blanketed with impenetrable chaparral and see plant species that have not been seen in decades. We know that fire is a major driver of diversity dynamics and ecosystem structure in many California plant communities. In particular, there is a suite of annual or shortlived perennial species that benefit from, or rely on, fire as a part of their life history cycle. This post-fire flora represents a fleeting diversity and abundance, typically spanning 3 to 5 years after a fire and disappearing back into the soil seed bank until the next fire event. Nomad Ecology botanists Heath Bartosh and Brian Peterson used this opportunity to design and implement a study aimed at capturing diversity and short-term successional dynamics of the fleeting abundance of fire following plants. This talk will present an overview of the Morgan fire, their research, and preliminary results following two years of sampling...and they still have one more to go! (visit <http://baynature.org/diablo> for or an overview of the Morgan Fire).

Heath Bartosh is co-founder and Senior Botanist of Nomad Ecology that is based in Martinez. He is currently Rare Plant Committee Chair for the East Bay Chapter of CNPS. 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. Mr. Bartosh is also a Research Associate at the University and Jepson Herbaria at UC Berkeley.

NO PROGRAM IN JANUARY



Papaver californica
fire poppy
by Christopher L. Christie

FUTURE PROGRAM

March 3—An Ocean Garden: The Secret Life of Seaweed —Josie Iselin

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 a couple of hours before the trip.

JANUARY 17, SUNDAY, 11 am to 2 pm **Montara Mountain Manzanitas in Winter** **Leader: Mike Vasey**

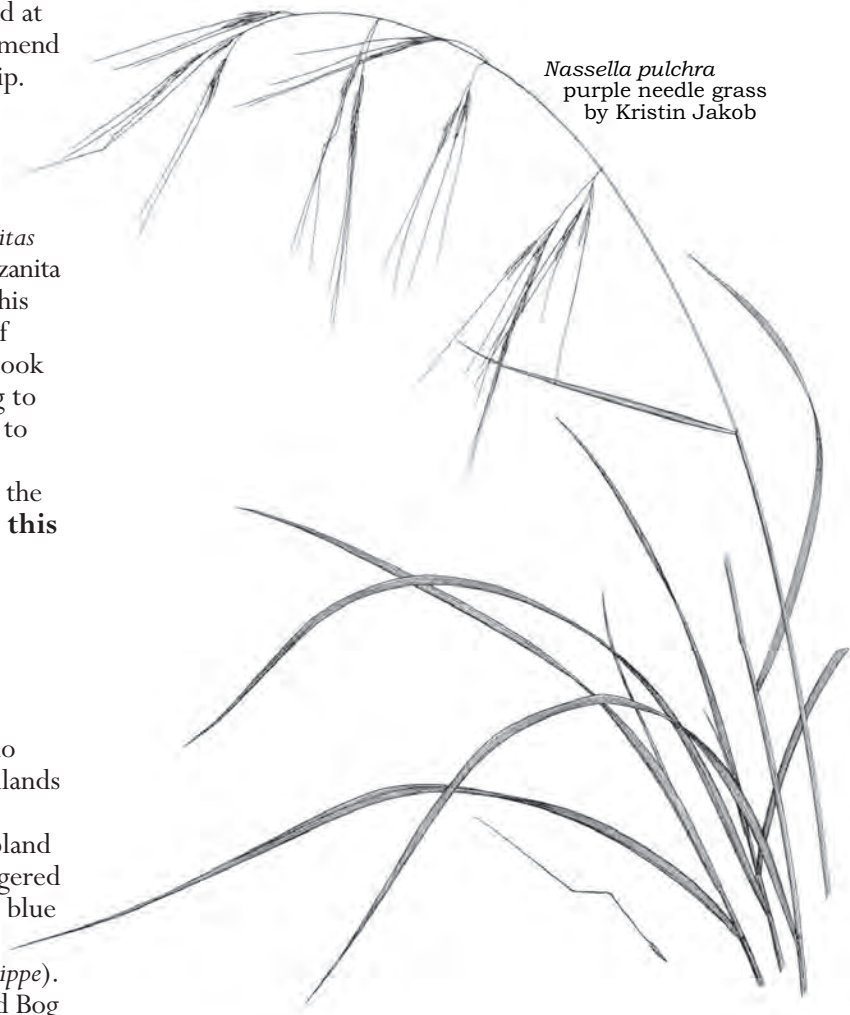
Mike is coauthor of the terrific new *Field Guide to Manzanitas* (available at store.cnps.org), along with his colleague in manzanita research Tom Parker and ecologist Michael Kauffmann. This walk is the first of several trips planned for the purpose of following manzanitas through the seasons, taking a close look at their ecology and reproductive cycle as well as learning to identify them to species. Our focus will be broad enough to include other members of Montara Mountain's plant communities. Meet at San Pedro Valley County Park near the visitor center. **Seriously wet weather will postpone this trip to January 24.** Contact: Gail Wechsler, wechslerifolia@gmail.com.

JANUARY 23, SATURDAY, 10 am to 1 pm **San Bruno Mountain: Saddle and Bog Area** **Leader: Doug Allshouse**

The Saddle comprises the northernmost part of San Bruno Mountain Park, and has great views from the Marin Headlands to San Francisco to the South Bay. It features species-rich grasslands, the headwaters of Colma Creek, and a rare upland wetland. We'll look for larval host plants needed by endangered butterflies: silver lupine (*Lupinus albifrons*) for the mission blue (*Icaricia icarioides missionensis*), and Johnny jump-up (*Viola pedunculata*) for the callippe silverspot (*Speyeria callippe callippe*). The trails that form a 2.6-mile loop through the Saddle and Bog area offer an easy walk that's rewarding at any time of year. Since one stretch of the Bog Trail can be soggy, we recommend footwear that can handle mud. Bring a lunch if you wish. Pay the \$6-per-vehicle entry fee at the ranger kiosk and meet in the main parking lot. **Heavy rain postpones to January 30.** Contact Doug at dougsr228@comcast.net or 415-584-5114 for more information, including trail conditions.

FEBRUARY 13, SATURDAY, 10 am to 1 pm **Lichens of the Presidio** **Leader: Shelly Benson**

If you look for them, you will see lichens pretty much everywhere. Places to find them in the Presidio include mature trees, historic buildings, cemetery headstones, stone walls, and even sidewalks. Shelly Benson of the California Lichen Society has been studying these symbiotic organisms for many years, and has a particular interest in their sensitivity to pollution and climate change. Bring a handheld magnifying lens if you have one. Meet in Pershing Square, on Arguello Blvd at the south end of the Main Post. The PresidiGo shuttle lines stop at the Transit Center (215 Lincoln Blvd) at the Main Post, and the Muni 43 bus stops nearby on Presidio Blvd. **If it's too rainy, we'll try again on February 20.** Contact: Gail Wechsler, wechslerifolia@gmail.com.



Nassella pulchra
purple needle grass
by Kristin Jakob

“All the ants on the planet, taken together, have a biomass greater than that of humans. Ants have been incredibly industrious for millions of years. Yet their productiveness nourishes plants, animals, and soil. Human industry has been in full swing for little over a century, yet it has brought about a decline in almost every ecosystem on the planet. Nature doesn't have a design problem. People do.”
—William McDonough, architect and designer

ACTIVITIES

PLANT IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS - NEW FORMAT

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

Next workshop is December 10, 2015.

San Francisco State University

1600 Holloway Avenue

Hensill Hall, Botany Lab, Room 440

We will discuss a plant family for approximately 30 minutes and then delve into keying plant(s) of the same family. Understanding the characteristics of plant families is important not only when keying plants but also when seeing them in the field. So, let's be adventurous on this, the first leg of our journey, and see how much we can learn about plants and the families they belong to. All aboard!

Talented and knowledgeable graduate botany students at San Francisco State University lead the workshops on the second Thursday of the month. The fall workshop dates are December 10th, February 11th, and March 10th. The atmosphere is relaxed and there are no tests to take. 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*, and a hand lens. If you have any further questions, please email Mila Stroganoff at milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net.

Getting to SFSU by public transit: MUNI's M-Ocean line and #28 bus both stop at 19th Ave & Holloway Street. At the Daly City BART station, board a SFSU shuttle which runs every 10-15 minutes. If you drive, there is street parking on 19th Avenue as well as paid campus parking. Hensill Hall is located just off 19th Avenue, between Winston and Holloway.

CHAPTER COUNCIL MEETING, BANQUET, AND OTHER EVENTS

Dec 4-6, 2015 in San Carlos

The Chapter Council (CC) is CNPS's statewide governing body, comprised of a representative from each of our now 35 Chapters. The CC meets quarterly to discuss business, policy, governance, etc, and to share information and ideas. Communication at CC meetings is between the Chapters and: the State Board of Directors, the Executive Director and CNPS staff, and other Chapters.

The location of these quarterly meetings continuously changes; they are held all over the state-- hosted by local chapters. The next Chapter Council meeting will be held Saturday and Sunday, December 5-6—very close by: in San Carlos! Specifically, at the **Civic Garden Club of San Carlos (Casa de Flores), 737 Walnut St, San Carlos, CA 94070—and nearby locations.**

The meeting is hosted by the Santa Clara Valley Chapter. As a neighboring chapter, Yerba Buena likely will assist in some way(s)—perhaps by providing Sat/Sun breakfast items, and/or offering distant attendees home lodging options. Be on the lookout for requests via our Google group!

This is a great opportunity for Yerba Buena Chapter members to learn --more directly-- about how CNPS works, to meet CNPS State Directors, our ED, some state staff, neighboring chapter members, to enjoy a banquet dinner, and hear a keynote talk. Also, a special workshop on the dreaded phytophthora plant disease is planned.

All CNPS members are welcome to sit in on any or part of:

the CC meetings (Saturday all day, Sunday morning), the phytophthora workshop, attend the Friday evening “meet and eat” casual get-together, the Saturday evening banquet/speaker, and/or the Sunday afternoon field trip(s).

RSVP required for banquet (and Friday afternoon Board of Directors meeting), appreciated otherwise. For more information, and to register for the dinner or other events, go to the CC meeting website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncildec2015/>.

Questions? Contact Ellen Edelson, e.edelson@sbcglobal.net, or 415-531-2140.

Except for when YB hosted in Dec 2010 (remember?!), this is about as nearby as a CC meeting gets for us! *It would be wonderful to have a very large turnout of Yerba Buena members!*

WAYNE RODERICK LECTURE SERIES

Regional Parks Botanic Garden in Tilden Park Saturdays, starting at 10:30 am

http://www.ebparks.org/parks/vc/botanic_garden

510-544-3169 bgarden@ebparks.org

December 5 – San Bruno Mountain: The Island of Rarity within San Francisco – David Nelson, M.D.

December 12 – The Blue Mountains Project: The Flora of the Ultramafic Outcrops of the Blue Mountains of Northeastern Oregon – Dick O'Donnell

December 19 – Botany and Geology of the Donner Pass Area – Steve Edwards

December 26 – NO lecture – enjoy the holidays!
2016

January 2 – Flora of the Pacific Islands of Baja California's California Floristic Province – Bart O'Brien

January 9 – Rocky Mountain High, including the Alpine Flora of Rocky Mountain National Park – Bob Case

January 16 – Natural History of Taiwan, Republic of China – Ron Felzer

January 23 – Flowering California Shrubs for the Garden – Ted Kipping

January 30 – From San Ignacio to Loreto: Botanizing Baja California's Central Gulf Coast Region – Debra Valov

February 6 – Best Practices for Creating a Native Plant Garden – Barbara Eisenstein

February 13 – Botany, Geology, and History of Black Diamond Mines – Steve Edwards with Kevin Dixon

February 20 – Field Work with Iris of Turkey and the Middle East – Carol Wilson

February 27 – Southwest Deserts: Joshua Tree, Anza Borrego, and Tumacácori Highlands of southwestern Arizona – Dick O'Donnell



“That land is a community is the basic concept of ecology, but that land is to be loved and respected is an extension of ethics.”—Aldo Leopold, 1948



DOUG'S MOUNTAIN JOURNAL

A Chronicle of Natural History on San Bruno Mountain

by Doug Allshouse

As we head into the magical short season of Indian summer along with a shot of true autumn, I'm enjoying new discoveries of plants and their locations on San Bruno Mountain. In early October, after months of searching ambiguous locations, David (my book partner), Mark (our trusty sidekick) and I found ninebark on an old obscure trail at the base of Devil's Arroyo. These gorgeous little shrubs were occupying the trailside well past the overgrown section that discouraged further exploration. After ascending an adjacent trail to the north we looked back from our elevated perch to an astonishing 1-acre patch of ninebark mixed in with poison oak. The colorful yellow-rusty patch stood out from the surrounding scrub and oaks. Not more than 10 minutes after that we came upon two greywacke boulders with a couple of coffee ferns at their base. We had found our first coffee fern earlier this year in Firth Canyon on the southern edge of Brisbane. These two guys were a mile away with 4 canyons of scrub and oak-bay forest and 2 major quarries in between! This fern was not observed in the 1990 Flora and has become the mountain's 10th fern species.

Blue-gum eucalyptus seems bullet-proof, tall and statuesque even with English ivy draped all over them. Alas, the emperor has no clothes, at least to some extent. The trails are littered with leaves and the ground at the headwaters of Colma Creek is covered six inches deep with leaves. Some of these leaves have been chewed by insects or their larvae, even green ones that have recently fallen. This never happened before and I wonder if the drought is responsible. Looking up, I notice that the canopies of tall trees are thinner with entire branches devoid of

leaves. Two outlier trees, whose fate is tied to the fact that they are beyond the fog drip of taller trees, dropped all their leaves last year. They sent out leaf-bearing epicormic shoots last spring and have now dropped 90% of those leaves. Has the mighty eucalyptus met its match? Even a leather fern in the bough of a eucalyptus tree on the Day Camp road is dying. As an epiphyte it grows on the tree but is not parasitic and derives its water and nutrients from the rain, air and dust. Other epiphytes are mosses, lichens, orchids, cacti and bromeliads.

The goldenrods are pretty much in seed now but a month ago I discovered a hidden population of west coast Canada goldenrod, *Solidago elongata*; formerly *canadensis*. This species has eluded me until this year and there is some serendipity involved here. There is a clump of pampas grass visible from the lower Bog Trail and I was on my way to introduce myself to it. I tramped over the prostrate variety of coyote brush, past the coffee berry and around the English holly and just before reaching the grass there was this lovely patch of goldenrod. But wait, the erect leaves running up the stem were green and smooth rather than gray-green and leathery like California goldenrod. So I found our third goldenrod species, and I had to thank a clump of pampas grass for it.

In 2014 some volunteers did major trail work on the Bog Trail. To cover a rather persistent seep by the upper bridge over Colma Creek some enterprising mind decided to build two "sand boxes" with 2 X 6 boards and fill them with gravel. It did succeed in fording the muddy seep but it didn't bother the resident horsetails. Imagine my delightful surprise to see these "time of the dinosaurs" plants pushing up through six inches of gravel to kiss the sunlight. If the Chicxulub asteroid couldn't kill it in the Cretaceous period 66 million years ago, what's a little gravel?

In late August, just before the arrival of the winter sparrows, thrushes, warblers and kinglets, a juvenile Sharp-shinned Hawk made his debut by attempting to kill the local Stellar's and Scrub Jays. The noise they all made was a horrible symphony of sounds with the hawk diving and screaming and the jays bellowing sounds of protest, but in the end no one got hurt. It appears that our juvenile bird-killing machine has one thing to learn; pick on something smaller to eat. Those jays were having nothing to do with that inexperienced little sharpie—who, by the way, I have not seen lately.

Within one week I had three encounters with Great-horned Owls. Near the junction of the upper Day Camp road and the Saddle there is a small eucalyptus forest. I heard a juvenile

Solidago elongata
Canada goldenrod
by Steve Matson

GHO squawking in a tree followed by the hooting of a female. It was apparent that the younger one was distressed or hungry, probably the latter, and mom was trying to calm him/her. Then six days later I heard the resident mating pair in the eucalyptus forest near the Crocker gate, which is where I expect to find those two. A half-mile further near Colma Creek I heard a second pair of owls hooting back and forth. I knew they were a different pair because somewhere in between I could hear both pairs.

Five days later on a beautiful sunny morning I decided to photograph the last blooming California goldenrod in the saddle. I was interrupted by the incessant chirping of a Say's Phoebe who was perched on top a coyote brush looking for insects. This was special since Say's Phoebes are not common here except in the winter and even then it is rare to encounter one. I had just seen a couple of Fox Sparrows feeding by the gorse bushes, my first of this autumn, so I was in the mode of looking for more winter birds. I got a couple of Golden-crowned Sparrows, too. Just as I was coming down the western side of the saddle I saw a Flicker high in a cypress tree facing the sun and what made it a moment to remember was the blinding reflection of the salmon-colored underside of his tail feathers. Just when I think I've seen it all I encountered a Swainson's thrush in some willows on the Bog Trail on September 28. These thrushes breed here in late spring and summer and this guy should have been gone long ago. I think he might have been migrating through, but he was doing the water-drop call, a single note that resembles a drip, that they do when they first arrive in spring before breaking into their haunting mating song.

It's rare to see a female coyote with her kit nearby. This particular female forages for food in a development just outside the park. I often see her loping along the fence at Village-in-the-Park before crossing the intersection at South Hill and Crocker. She was on the Saddle Trail just inside the western boundary and took off into grass when she saw me at the top of the hill. I caught a glimpse of the pup that was farther down the trail. Mom was sitting by a pine as I passed by her and I stopped to see if I could find the pup with my binoculars. I looked for a few minutes with no luck and she was laying down in the grass when I decided to give up my search. I'll bet the pup was hiding somewhere waiting for his mother to find him.

Regardless of the amount of rain we receive in the next few months the season of rebirth is nearly here. It's actually my favorite season; the true Mediterranean spring is winter, when brown turns to green.

See you on the mountain...



Cynoglossum grande
hound's tongue

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 percieving (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 boundries
(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 brig (sic) and fall to the ground to
replenish
Their mother, it is also our inescapable priviledge (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

Graffito from an on old retaining wall above Sutro Baths

HABITAT RESTORATION

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

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

Alemanys Natives at Alemanys 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 sekfmm@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 sekfmm@pacbell.net

Mt. Sutro.

Wednesdays 9:30am-12:30pm at the nursery; 1st and 3rd Saturdays 9am to 1pm Visit <http://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.

Starr-King Open Space.

Serpentine grassland on Potrero Hill. 2nd Saturdays, 9:30 am to noon.

Contact Tom tphilip@yahoo.com.

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

CHAPTER NEWS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Ellen Edelson

The warmth of the Bay Area's autumn is at our backs. Abundant winter rains are forecast. Thanksgiving and the New Year are in our sights: What a perfect time to reflect on the gifts and lessons of the past year and look ahead to the next

January brought us CNPS' (tri-annual) 2015 Conservation Conference. Over 10,000 people attended!—a record! That included at least a dozen Yerba Buena Chapter members, plus 5YB sponsored students. Several YB members gave presentations and/or staffed information tables. The bummer: We learned that a newly discovered strain of a much dreaded plant disease (*Phytophthora tentaculata*) is in our midst—spread in part by native plant nurseries. (This bad news is prompting good changes, however.) The best part: The Conference kicked off a year of inspiration for many!

In February, we welcomed David Nelson to co-chair Yerba Buena's Rare Plant Committee for San Mateo County (with

Doug Allshouse). They have been hard at work (before and) since—with great discoveries, information--and field trips on San Bruno Mtn!

The 5-day Garden Show in March *just* managed to happen this year—thanks to Gerry Knezevich (and Susan Floore) who stepped in while I was returning from the Chapter Council meeting near Joshua Tree. This is a *fantastic outreach event* for CNPS. I am very grateful to everyone who volunteered! We'll be tabling again next year.

Our annual Spring Garden Tour took a hiatus in 2015, due to lack of volunteers to help organize it. It is likely for 2016, but we still need more help! Please contact Susan Floore to volunteer!

In May, our past-president, Casey dos Santos Allen, and wife Karla, welcomed a baby boy into the world. We wish them all well as they catch up on their sleep!

Our Annual Fall Plant Sale (Oct 24) was one of the smoothest ever! The skies did not threaten, the volunteers were terrific, the publicity was great, the customers showed up—and we had very little leftover! (We also grossed more than last year! Full

details still pending.) We offer *tons* of gratitude to YB member Joanne Whitney and the Miraloma Park Improvement Club for sponsoring us again! Also, major thanks go to Go Native Nursery and Literacy for Environmental Justice for their support!

We were honored by two special people at our sale: Tom Parker was there to sell and sign the fabulous new book he co-authored: "A Field Guide to Manzanitas". (You WILL want this book!) Dan Gluesenkamp, CNPS' Executive Director (and a YB member) showed up to peruse and purchase some plants! What a treat to have them both there!

I'd like to acknowledge the many volunteers who did a *tremendous* job making this year's plant sale not only possible, but a success: Gerry Knezevich, Denise Louie, Margaret Goodale, Susan Floore, Linda Shaffer, Margo Bors, Jake Sigg, Greg Gaar, Liza Kalhko, Leslie Fisher-Sanders, Ingrid Cabada, Howard Mutz, LiciadeMeo, Gloria Koch, David Thompson, Bob Hall, Jeanne Koehling, Jeanne Halpern, Mila and Adrian Stroganoff, Eddie Bartley, Norine Weeden, Kipp McMichael, Jean Claude Breach, Kathy Kellerman, Dave Sands, Norine Yee, Patrick Rump. Oh, and I was there, too... Please forgive me if I missed anyone!!

Roz Kutler, our fabulous secretary, has stepped down after 4 years of terrific service! We have been fortunate and delighted to have Roz on the Board. She will be greatly missed, but promised we will still find her and husband Kley volunteering at our plant sale and other events.

Linda Shaffer, the "strong and wise leader" who graciously offered to fill the VP position in March 2009, when the late Roland Pitschel was forced to resign due to illness, has herself, decided to step down-- after 7 long years! She will continue in her position as Legislative Chair, and will remain on the Board.

A hearty "Welcome to the Board" goes to: Gerry "Joe (Biden)" Knezevich taking the Vice President position, and Olga Beguin as Secretary! Thank you both! We look forward to working with you.

Kudos, again, to the stellar nominating committee (Bob, Gail, Gerry, Margaret, and Tish) for finding these two new officers, and for bringing in Eddie Bartley and Noreen Weedan who are not only experienced birders and dedicated naturalists, they also have social media experience!

Also, newcomers Leslie Fisher-Sanders, Liza Kalhko, and Ioana Anghel are volunteering their varied skills in several ways, too. We are very grateful.

2016 is Yerba Buena Chapter's 30th Anniversary! (1986-2016) Throughout the year, we will be reflecting on the history of our chapter and celebrating its development, successes, lessons, and instrumental members! We will be urging all members (long or short term) to share their stories, photos, documents, and so on. Here's to another 30 years!!!

Take a walk in the rain!...and THANK YOU for supporting CNPS and the Yerba Buena Chapter!

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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