Fall Field Trips

Redbud Fieldtrips

Since it is hard to predict when and where wildflowers will be in bloom, and since it is hard to schedule field trip leaders months in advance, we will no longer advertise our walks in our newsletter. Instead, we will post them on-line, on our web page (http://www.redbud-cnps.org/) and on our yahoo listserv. (Go to our web page to sign up for our yahoo listserv. Once you have signed up, you will be notified via email of each field trip.)

If you wish to lead a wildflower walk, please send Roger your write-up at least two weeks prior to the date of the walk and he will see that it gets posted.

Heads up: A “Mushroom Walk” will be scheduled sometime in late November or early December, depending on when they emerge, and a “Rain Walk” to view early wildflowers will be scheduled sometime in March when they begin to bloom... Keep checking our web page or join our listserv!

All of our field trips are open to the public and are free of charge. Children are warmly welcomed, but please arm them with a whistle! Pets are not allowed on any of our field trips. If you car-pool with someone, please contribute some money to the driver for gas -- perhaps $5 for less than 40 miles round-trip, and $10 for

Evening Programs

Butterflies and Their Plant Interactions

October 26 (Wednesday), 7-9 PM
Madelyn Helling Library Community Meeting Room

Greg Kareofelas is a long time member of both the California Native Plant Society and the Lepidopterist Society. The talk will concentrate on the butterflies found in our local area and their interactions with plants. He will use both photos taken by him locally and scans made of butterfly specimens to illustrate the talk. Greg will also talk about butterfly gardening, attracting butterflies to your area, and conservation issues. After the talk he will answer questions and will be happy to identify butterflies from either specimens or photographs.

This evening program was arranged by Cyndi Brinkhurst. If you know of anyone that would be willing to present an evening program for us in 2012, please check with Roger at rogm@SBCglobal.net for available dates and make the arrangements.

... more evening programs on next page

Save the Date
Fall Plant Sale
Saturday October 15
See page 3 for details

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Field trips (continued)

more than 40 miles round-trip. Unless stated otherwise, our trips are easy. We travel slowly and stop frequently to view, identify, tell stories about, and thoroughly enjoy each plant species. Hand lenses are highly recommended on all our trips. Our book “Wildflowers of Nevada and Placer Counties, California” will be available for purchase at the meeting place before each wildflower trip. Retail price is $29.95 plus tax; Redbud Chapter members (including brand new ones) are entitled to a 15% discount. We can accept cash and checks. This book will be very helpful on all of our wildflower trips! For every trip please check the weather forecast and dress accordingly. For more information, call Roger at 530-264-8555 or email him at rogm@SBCglobal.net. After 7:00 AM in the morning of the trip, you can call his answering machine for updates -- if the weather looks “iffy”.

Evening Programs (continued)

Member Presentations and Election of Officers
November 30 (Wednesday), 7:00 PM
Madelyn Helling Library
Community Meeting Room

This is a chance for you to show images of wildflowers and wildflower gardens that you visited during the last year. It is not a contest to see who can take the best pictures, but is a chance to share your wildflower experiences with others. Plan for a maximum of 20 minutes for your presentation. Contact Roger (rogm@SBCglobal.net) to schedule your presentation. We will also be electing new officers (President, Secretary, and Treasurer). Please plan to attend!

Board News

We are happy to announce that we have a returning board member, Nancy Gilbert, who will again be Education Chair, and a new board member, Rebecca Baer, who will be our first Board Member at Large. We could use another two or three Board Members at Large. This would insure that we have enough board members at each meeting in order to conduct business. We also have many vacant board positions that it would be nice to fill. Please let Roger (rogm@SBCglobal.net) or Bill (wilsonb@mjc.edu) know if you are interested.

November Election

We have three officer positions to fill: President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Luci Wilson has volunteered to run for president, but if you are interested in running for any of the offices, please contact Roger (rogm@SBCglobal.net) or Bill (wilsonb@mjc.edu), or come to the November meeting (11/30) and declare yourself a candidate.
The CNPS 2012 Conservation Conference

The upcoming statewide CNPS 2012 Conservation Conference, in San Diego, Jan 10-14, 2012 is an opportunity for all of us to come together and celebrate everything we do as a leading plant conservation organization in California. Our membership includes top level scientists and decision-makers in agencies, universities, consulting firms, and non-profit environmental organizations as well as the grassroots activists working hard on the front lines. We will all join hands at the conference and share what we know and how we do it. Hundreds of CNPS volunteers from chapters throughout the state have contributed to the planning and execution of this event over the last two and a half years. There are sessions and activities for everyone from career botanists to garden enthusiasts. The committees have planned 5 days of non-stop workshops, talks, and social and art events. You could learn how to start a plant restoration nursery at a workshop, listen to talks on a particular rare plant or invasive species, or contribute to a conversation about CEQA or desert energy projects. There will be five sessions focusing on regional issues from north to south, including those of Baja California. To nourish your appreciation of our native landscape you may choose to take a drawing workshop with John Muir Laws, read a poem, submit a photograph, admire botanical art, or sing and play music. There will be opportunities to take action on your subject of interest and numerous social events where you will see and meet CNPS members and other experts from all over the state and beyond.

Registration is now open for both the conference events and the hotel. Early registration discounts are available until Oct 31, with additional discounts for CNPS members and students. Special CNPS conference discounts are available at the conference hotel, the Town and Country Resort, until Dec 16 or until all rooms are taken. You may register for the conference and/or the hotel through our website at www.CNPS.org/2012.

There are a million ways that you can participate in this conference from presenting or attending talks to taking tickets at the door. We need scores of volunteers during the days of the conference and we offer registration rebates to all volunteers who work eight hours or more. If you would like to volunteer, please contact our volunteer coordinator, Michelle Cox at volunteers2012@cnps.org.

If you are a student or know students that might want to attend the conference, check out the Student Opportunities and Activities (including registration and/or travel stipend funding) on our conference website, www.cnps.org/2012.

Please visit the conference website, www.cnps.org/2012, for up to date information on all the events. We hope to see you there!

Josie Crawford, Conference Coordinator

Fall Native Plant Sale—October 15

It’s time again for our annual Fall Native Plant Sale, hosted by the Redbud Chapter of the California Native Plant Society! Fall is always a great time to get new perennial plants established in the garden and landscape. This is also a prime to support the chapter by volunteering (see below), helping raise awareness around our mission and convincing friends and neighbors to become members.

Where: Parking lot of Sierra College, Grass Valley (directions below)

When: October 8, 9:30-1:30, with special members-only early shopping hour 8:30-9:30.


Early 8:30am admission for CNPS members only; join at the door for early admission and the best selection of plants.

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Consider the Lilies

by Rachel Teferet

BRIAN: The point is the birds. They do all right. Don’t they? Okay, and you’re much more important than they are, right? So, what are you worrying about? There you are. See?
EDDIE: I’m worrying about what you have got against birds.
BRIAN: I haven’t got anything against the birds. Consider the lilies.
ARTHUR: He’s having a go at the flowers now.
EDDIE: Oh, give the flowers a chance.
—From Monty Python’s Life of Brian

Many are familiar with the famous quote from the New Testament, “Consider the lilies and how they grow. They neither toil nor spin, but not even Solomon in all his glory clothes himself like one of these.” But when one really “considers the lily,” as it were, what one might find is a plethora of traditional uses that, historically, made lilies an integral support of human life, in addition to being a beloved and often showy flower.

One lily that has a myriad of traditional uses grows in our very own BriarPatch Native Plant Demonstration Garden. We are lucky to have a number of Wavyleaf Soap Plants, Chlorogalum pomeridianum var. pomeridianum, also known as Soap Root or Amole Lily. “This plant was a veritable supermarket for Native Americans.” The plant was historically used for food, for fibers, and to stupefy fish (which is currently illegal in the state of California, though a more humane practice than catching fish on a hook). The plant was also used as a wash for poison oak or to prevent lice, as an antiseptic, as a remedy for cramps and rheumatism, as a laxative, and as a shampoo. Cecilia Garcia, a renown Chumash healer, also mentions that the fibrous outer coating of the bulbs were used for making hairbrushes and other multipurpose brushes. Additionally, the bulb was processed into a glue that was used for various functions; apparently, the adhesive was so powerful that it was utilized for sealing boats and held fast even in seawater. It is truly amazing that one plant can have so many different uses and inspiring to learn how this lily supported human life.

During the last garden tour of the season in early July, we were privileged to witness the Soap Plant as it opened flowers in the early evening. As a myriad of small, white flowers opened on the large, chandelier-esque bloom stalks of the lily, we witnessed many crepuscular creatures swarming, eager to pollinate the sweet smelling blossoms. We were very lucky this year that the deer left us many bloom stalks to enjoy, as often Soap Lily buds are munched before us humans can enjoy the flowers.
We were also able to enjoy the beautiful Humboldt Lilies, *Lilium humboldtii* ssp. *humboldtii*, which had been rescued (by permission) last season by Cindy Rubin and the demo gardeners from a local construction site. This spring we were anxious to confirm that the bulbs had successfully acclimated to their new home in the Demo Garden. Thankfully, these bulbs seem to be doing just fine. Our hard work transplanting the lily bulbs was rewarded with three flowering lilies; their bright orange blooms were definitely the highlight of the July garden tour. This species of bulb needs to be at least seven years old to bloom, as does the Soap Lily.

As the growing season comes to a close and the energy of the plants returns into the earth, as a gardener I can’t help but be curious as to what next spring may bring. I know that I look forward to considering the lilies once more!

BriarPatch Native Plant Demonstration Garden Wish List

- Jack hammer service: To break up approximately 100’ of nonfunctional concrete ditch.
- Slate: Local slate for pavers (needs to be at least 1.5” thick), that needs a home (that is not wanted where it is).
- Granite curbing: We are hoping to find a source(s) for 25–70’ of reclaimed granite curbing.
- Large rocks: that need a home (that can’t stay where they are).
- Geologist or geology student: To help ID rocks.
- Excess native plants: in sizes that are transplantable, primarily shrubs and perennials.

For more information, to volunteer, or to donate: Cindy, crubin@nccn.net, 273-1816
Welcome New Members

We extend a warm winter welcome to the following new members:

Rebecca Baer
Peggy Beltramo
Kim Boyle
Merry Lynne Byles-Daly
Peggy Challender
Donna Furlow
Suzy Kohin
Lotus Levin
David Levin
Paula Mayer
Judith Mecum
Alac Morana
Elizabeth Majchrowicz
Peter Beesley
Lana Swift

And thank you to all of our loyal renewing members.

Renew your CNPS membership online. It’s quick and easy and reduces renewal mailing costs. Go to www.cnps.org and click on the JOIN button.

NATIVE LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROJECT

The Tsi Akim Maidu Tribe manages a 5-acre Active Cultural Center at one of their ancient village sites, at what is now the Burton Homestead (16200 Lake Vera-Purdon Road, Nevada City CA). A long-term project is underway to restore this landscape, scarred by mining and livestock, using native plants. Project director Grayson Coney, tribal member, is asking for help from the community in the form of donations of native seeds collected responsibly from private land, which can be scattered and raked before the winter rains. Native seedling transplants will be considered but must be approved by Grayson. The community is also invited to join in ongoing work parties at the Burton Homestead. As the rainy season begins we will be transplanting native seedlings. Grayson holds extensive knowledge of local plants and enjoys sharing with willing volunteers. Money to buy native seeds can be donated through the Tsi Akim Maidu tribal office, 1239 East Main Street, Grass Valley CA 95945, phone: (530) 274-7497. Donations of seed and labor can be coordinated with Tim Hitchcock, a resident of Burton Homestead, at (530) 478-0471. Desirable species include choke-cherry, elderberry, service berry, showy milkweed, buckeye and redbud.
Officers

President ......................... OPEN
Vice President .................. Julie Carville (mtngypsy1@SBCglobal.net) 530-265-4741
Treasurer ........................ OPEN
Secretary ........................ OPEN
Newsletter Editor ............... Brad Carter (bradcarter@aol.com) 530-271-5790

Committee Chairs

Membership Co-Chair ............ Joan Jernegan (jernegj@saccourt.com) 530-269-0203
Membership Co-Chair ............ Sandy Kewman (skewman@theunion.net) 530-272-3736
Program Chair .................... OPEN
Field Trips Chair ................. Roger McGehee (rogm@sbcglobal.net) 530-264-8555
Spring Plant Sale Chair ......... Chet Blackburn (chetblackburn@yahoo.com) 530-885-0201
Fall Plant Sale Chair .......... Luci Wilson (Luciw@earthlink.net) 530-574-2046
Publicity Chair ................... OPEN
Education Chair .................. Nancy Gilbert (nancyames@accessbee.com) 530-272-4775
Plant Science Co-Chairs
-Rare Plant Specialist .......... Karen Callahan (penstemon@nccn.net) 530-272-5532
-Invasive Plant Specialist ...... Dan Lubin (dlubin@parks.ca.gov) 530-272-0298
Horticulture Chair .............. OPEN
Conservation Chair .............. David Magney (david@magney.org) 530-273-1799 & 805-646-6046
Restoration Co-Chair .......... Don Harkin (harkindon@yahoo.com) 530-265-4048
Restoration Co-Chair .......... Karen Wiese (kwildoak@aol.com) 530-346-7131
Publications ...................... OPEN
Webmaster ........................ Bill Wilson (wilsonb@mjc.edu) 530-265-8040
Chapter Council Delegate ...... Joan Jernegan (jernegj@saccourt.com) 530-269-0203
Wildflower Book Project Co-Chairs,
-Editorial Committee ........... Chet Blackburn (chetblackburn@yahoo.com) 530-885-0201
-Marketing Committee .......... OPEN
Hospitality Chair ............... OPEN
Member at Large ................. Rebecca Baer (rbaer77@yahoo.com) 530-273-8897

Acting Officers (until replacements are found):

Acting Co-Presidents:
.................... Bill Wilson (wilsonb@mjc.edu) 530-265-8040
.................... Roger McGehee (rogm@sbcglobal.net) 530-264-8555

Acting Treasurer .................. Roger McGehee (rogm@sbcglobal.net) 530-264-8555
Fall Plant Sale
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**Directions:** From Hwy 49 northbound, take Brunswick Rd., exit. Turn left on Brunswick. At second signal turn left on East Main (Nevada City Hwy). At the next signal turn right on Sierra College Drive. Entrance to the college is the first right at the roundabout. Go up hill and follow signs to plant sale. 250 Sierra College Dr., Grass Valley 95945.

For more information on the Fall Native Plant Sale see www.redbud-CNPS.org.

Volunteer Opportunities at the Plant Sale

Want to further support your local chapter? Earn a free plant? Do both and volunteer at the fall plant sale. We have many opportunities to help at the plant sale, and many of them don’t require you to be a native plant “know-it-all”. We always need help loading and unloading plants, tents and materials, setting up and tearing down, cashiering, etc.

Questions? Comments? Want to volunteer?

Contact Luci Wilson