



January 2003

The Bay Leaf

California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter • Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

Calendar of Events

Native Here Nursery, p. 4

Fridays, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 9 a.m. to noon
Saturdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Field Trips, p. 3

Sunday, January 5, 2 p.m. Huddert County Park, p.
Saturday, January 11, 10 a.m. Jepson Herbaria, p.
Sunday, January 26, 2 p.m. Redwood Regional Park,

Plant Sale Activities, p. 4

Tuesdays, January 7, 14, 21, 28, propagation/
potting sessions

Plant Sale Tuesdays and also on Saturday, February
8, 9-noon

Chapter Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 8, 7:30 p.m., home of Holly
Forbes

Membership Meeting, see below

Wednesday, January 22, 7:30 p.m., Orinda Public
Library

Membership Meeting

Conifers of California

Speaker: **Ronald Lanner**

Wednesday, January 22, 2003, 7:30 p.m.
Garden Room, Orinda Public Library (directions below)

We're used to bragging about our California conifer superlatives: coast redwood, the tallest tree in the world; giant sequoia, the most massive tree in the world; bristlecone pine, the oldest tree in the world. Even the aggregate of California's 52 different conifers is a superlative: the largest number of coniferous species in any state and also in any comparably sized region on the planet. But beyond the superlatives lies a fascinating array of cone-bearing plants adapted to a broad diversity of California habitats.

Dr. Ronald Lanner, Professor emeritus of forest biology at Utah State University, is the author of the first book devoted exclusively to all the coniferous plants of our state. In his award-winning book, *Conifers of California* (Cachuma Press, 1999), Dr. Lanner provides a comprehensive and engaging guide to the variety, botany, natural history, and human uses of California conifers. In his presentation to our chapter, Dr. Lanner will offer a beautifully illustrated tour of these remarkable plants.

Dr. Lanner has studied forest trees for more than forty years and is the author of four other books on the subject: *Trees of the Great Basin*; *The Piñon Pine: A Natural and Cultural History*; *Made for Each Other: A Symbiosis of Birds and Pines*; and *Autumn Leaves: A Guide to the Fall Colors of the Northwoods*. A selection of Dr. Lanner's books will be available for purchase after the presentation.

East Bay CNPS membership meetings are free of charge and open to everyone. This month's meeting will take place in the Garden Room of the Orinda Public Library at 24 Orinda Way (in Orinda Village). The Garden Room is on the second floor of the building, accessible by stairs or an elevator. The room will be open at 7:00 p.m., and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the presentation. Contact Sue Rosenthal, telephone (510) 496-6016, or send an email to rosacalifornica@earthlink.net if you have any questions.

Directions to Orinda Public Library at 24 Orinda Way:

From the west, take Highway 24 to the Orinda/Moraga exit. Turn left on Camino Pablo (toward Orinda Village), right on Santa Maria Way (the signal after the BART station and freeway entrance), and left on Orinda Way. From the east, take Highway 24 to the Orinda

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exit. Follow the ramp to Orinda Village. Turn right on Santa Maria Way (the first signal) and left on Orinda Way. Go one short block on Orinda Way to the parking lot on the southeast side of the new 2-story building on your right. There is additional free parking beneath the building as well as on the street. From BART (4 blocks): get off at the Orinda station, turn right and cross a pedestrian bridge, then cross a second pedestrian bridge on the left. Go one short block on the sidewalk to the third pedestrian bridge. Go 2 blocks on Orinda Way to the Orinda Library.

Upcoming Programs

February 26, 2003:

John Game—California's threatened plants and thoughts on how to protect them

March 26, 2003:

Alan Kaplan—The new kingdoms of life

Sue Rosenthal

Chapter Volunteer Opportunities

Much of the strength of the California Native Plant Society comes from grassroots activity that includes field work, education, and activism by both professional and non-professional botanists. Several opportunities exist for getting involved. Listed below are some examples of "hands on plants" field activities and other volunteer opportunities related to the three Plant Science committees: Rare Plants, Unusual (locally rare) Plants, and Plant Communities.

In our chapter area, development and land use changes are occurring at an alarmingly rapid rate. To date, 18 rare or endangered plant taxa have been extirpated (locally extinct) from the East Bay (although not necessarily extirpated statewide). Almost 70 other plant taxa are extirpated from the East Bay. Information regarding the distribution and status of plants and vegetation (plant communities) is essential for ensuring that laws protecting biodiversity can be enforced, and that proactive conservation measures can occur. Data collected by the Plant Science Committees are used by the Conservation Committee and within the Committees to better understand where to concentrate conservation efforts, and to inform agencies of important biodiversity in our area.

People of all backgrounds are encouraged to participate. There are opportunities and niches for people with and without experience, and to work alone or in a group. Volunteering can be a great way to learn and/or share your knowledge. If we all put in a little time, we can make a positive, lasting contribution to preserving our native flora. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or suggestions about the projects and opportunities.

Rare, Endangered, and Unusual Plants

The Rare and Endangered, and Unusual Plants Committees need volunteers to help monitor and look for endangered, rare and unusual plants in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. If you have a favorite place to hike, let us know, and we will send you a list of rare and unusual plants from that area that need to be monitored, or need location, or ID questions answered, or historical sites checked. If you are more interested in a particular species or a genus of plants or even a family, we can provide you with a list of its (their) occurrences that need to be monitored or checked.

Volunteers who focus on a particular species would not need prior botanical knowledge. If you are not very knowledgeable, we can give you a list of plants to choose from and help you learn to identify a particular rare or unusual plant. You can then look for it in the field, monitor it, try to find new populations, check sites where it was historically known, etc. and become the "local expert" for your plant. Contact Dianne Lake (unusual plants) or John Game (rare and endangered plants).

Plant communities

The Plant Community Committee needs volunteers to map and collect quantitative data on vegetation in our chapter area. This is a group activity using mostly easy-to-learn standard CNPS protocols. Hiking to field sites is usually involved. This is an excellent way to learn our local flora and its ecology. Some groups are focusing on wetlands or grasslands, others will work on areas where vegetation data is needed for conservation planning in areas that are very threatened (Livermore Valley), or are undergoing regional planning (e.g. eastern Contra Costa County). This data will also be used to update future additions of the *Manual of California Vegetation*, and towards determining priorities for protection and restoration in the East Bay. There are also indoor activities such as confirming plant identifications, mapping and research. Contact Susan Bainbridge.

Additional tasks

A volunteer is needed to help update our mailing list of agencies and organizations. This list is essential for disseminating information gathered by our chapter in order to insure its use. This may just involve calling a local or state agency to see if current lists exist, or it could involve contacting everyone on our list for their current data. The entire list also needs to be entered into a database format as the data didn't transfer when we switched to a different system in 2001. Contact Dianne Lake.

We are also looking for volunteers that have computer skills including GIS and data basing, and for volunteers that have knowledge of legal, and conservation issues in the East Bay or in general.

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Contact information:

Susan Bainbridge (Plant Communities):

(510) 548-2918 or suebain@sscl.berkeley.edu

John Game (Rare and Endangered Plants):

(510) 527-7855 or jcgame@lbl.gov

Dianne Lake (Unusual Plants):

diannelake@yahoo.com.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to learn more about what you can do to help save our wonderful native flora.

Sue Bainbridge, John Game, Dianne Lake

Field Trips

Sunday, January 5, Huddert County Park, San Mateo County. Field Trip led by David Margolies. Meet at the main parking lot (off Kings Mountain Road) at 2:00 p.m.

Fetid adder's tongue (*Scolioopus bigelovii*), one of the earliest flowering plants in the year, is usually out first thing in the new year on the Crystal Springs Trail in the Redwood forests in this pleasant county park. The walk is about 1.5 miles, with an elevation change of two hundred feet or so.

Directions: take I-280 south from San Francisco to the Woodside Road (State 84) exit. Take Woodside Road (84) west about 1.5 miles through the village of Woodside and take a right onto Kings Mountain Road. The park entrance is on the right a mile or two up the hill. The main parking lot is just after the pay station. You must pay for parking even if the station is not staffed.

Please contact David Margolies (510) 654-0283, divaricatum@aol.com, if you need further information.

Saturday, January 11, 10:00 a.m. Special behind-the-scenes "field trip" through the University and Jepson Herbaria, UC-Berkeley, led by Barbara Ertter. Find out the stories behind all those dead plants, how they are preserved, and the critical role they continue to play. See actual specimens collected by David Douglas, William H. Brewer, Albert Kellogg, and John Muir. A great way to spend a rainy half-day!

The University and Jepson Herbaria are in the Valley Life Science Building on the campus of the University of California at Berkeley. The entrance is on the ground floor of the atrium, in front of the *Tyrannosaurus rex*. The central Berkeley BART station is convenient, as are numerous bus lines. Parking can generally be found along the streets north of campus (2 hour time limit only on weekdays).

Sunday, January 26, Redwood Regional Park in Oakland. Field Trip led by David Margolies. Meet at the Redwood Gate Parking Area, off Redwood Road, at 2 p.m.

Redwood Regional Park contains a portion of the redwood groves in the East Bay. It was thoroughly logged in the 19th and early 20th centuries. It provides a good example of second growth redwood forest, along with oak/bay woodland and chaparral. We will walk along the Stream Trail and the Bridal Trail, in about a 2-3 mile loop, discussing redwood ecology and looking at the other native trees and shrubs found in the park.

We will also look at the rainbow trout exhibit.

Directions: The main entrance, Redwood Gate, is on Redwood Road in Oakland about a quarter mile northwest of Pinehurst Road. From San Francisco, take the Bay Bridge, staying to the right (**but do not go to San Jose**). Take 580 East, and then 24 East (towards Walnut Creek).

Take the 13 South exit from 24. From the northern East Bay, get on 13 South (go east on Ashby Avenue in Berkeley, for example). From Oakland, go east on 35th Avenue (which turns into Redwood Road). From the southern East Bay, take 580 west to 13 north, and exit at Redwood Road (immediately after the junction).

Take the Redwood Road exit and go east (uphill). At the top of the hill you will cross Skyline Boulevard and pass various equestrian facilities. Go down into the valley. About two miles from Skyline Boulevard, turn left into Redwood Regional Park. Go to the parking lot at the end of the access road.

Please contact David Margolies (510) 654-0283, divaricatum@aol.com) if you need further information.

David Margolies and Barbara Ertter



A New Species!

From: *Joys and Sorrows of Botanists*, by A. Carex, 1870

Plant Sale Activities

We are selling plants on Tuesday mornings through January and into early February. For buyers who cannot come to the nursery on a weekday we will be there **Saturday, February 8th, 9-12.**

Plants available include 11 different manzanita cultivars and 5 ceanothus cultivars.

Among the shrubs, perennials, and grasses there are some 20 selections.

The plants are all one gallon size and ready for planting soon, best while the weather is cool.

Propagation/Potting Sessions:



Tuesdays
January 7, 14, 21, 28
9 a.m. to noon
Merritt College
Landscape Horticulture

Rain or shine

Cuttings that went into the greenhouse before the holidays will not have rooted yet, so we are on a break from potting; propagation of shrub cuttings is on the agenda this month.

Shirley McPheeters
(925) 376-4095

Native Here Nursery

Native Here Nursery open for business
Fridays, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 9 to noon
Saturdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25, 10 to one p.m.

The nursery remains open, weather permitting, throughout the winter. Heavy rain or strong winds will close the nursery.

Winter is a good time to plant in places without heavy frost. Rain makes the watering job a lot easier. New volunteers are always welcome to join in on either Friday or Saturday. Please just come in ready to go to work, no reason to call first. Volunteers are sowing seeds and potting up seedlings. If there is something you need in a particular container size for next fall, this is the time to get your orders in.

A few people have asked to be included on the seed collecting permits for the coming spring-fall collecting season. There is still time. Contact Charli, email charlid@pacbell.net, with your name, address, and number.

Charli Danielsen

Activities of Others

Volunteer Opportunities at the University and Jepson Herbaria

Group Volunteer Saturdays at the University and Jepson Herbaria for Spring 2003 are January 18, February 9, March 9, April 19, and May 10, beginning at 10 a.m. and finishing up by 5 p.m. (participants need not stay the full time). Our focus will be chipping away at the unmounted backlog of pressed plant collections, from California and around the world, some brand new, some decades old. Volunteers are needed to mount, sort, and file these collections, and to assist with related projects. No previous herbarium experience is necessary, but a level of dexterity and attention to detail is valued. The University and Jepson Herbaria are in the Valley Life Science Building on the campus of the University of California at Berkeley. For more information, or to be added to the Group Volunteer reminder list, please call Ana Penny (510) 642-2465.

We also welcome individual volunteers who can come in during our regular hours (M-F 8-5). We will try to match your interests, abilities and schedule to one of the numerous curatorial projects that have been gathering dust. For more information about individual volunteer opportunities, call Barbara Ertter (510) 642-2465.

San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival

January 24-26, 2003
San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge
Mare Island, California

Discover Refuge trails on San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge at Building 505 on Mare Island. Join a naturalist-led walk on the Refuge at Tolay Creek and Cullinan Ranch, and meet the Refuge System's famous Blue Goose mascot. Explore Festival Headquarters at Building 897 for more activities including more than 50 exhibits, live animal visitors, slide and video presentations, games and activities for children, and much, much more. For a detailed Flyway Festival brochure or for more information, call us at (707) 644-WING (9464) or visit the official Flyway Festival website at www.SFBayFlywayFestival.com.

The Tramp and the Roughrider

March 14 - 15, 2003
Smith Center, Ohlone College

Join us as we reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and look to the future of natural resource conservation in the United States. View the contents of the Refuges' time capsule, one of hundreds that will commemorate

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Board of Directors

Elected Officers

President:

Tony Morosco, c/o Calflora, 937 San Pablo Ave., Albany 94706
w/528-5426, tony-morosco@calflora.org

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Holly Forbes, 7128 Blake St., El Cerrito 94530, 234-2913, w/643-8040

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Conservation:

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Donations:

Sandy McCoy, 1311 Bay View Place, Berkeley 94708,
wbmccoy@earthlink.net

East Bay Public Lands:

Peter Rauch, 526-8155, peterr@socrates.berkeley.edu

Education:

Vacant

Committee Coordinators

Field Trips:

Janet Gawthrop, 360 Monte Vista Ave. #214, Oakland 94610, 654
3066, _janetg24@excite.com

Hospitality:

Irene Wilkinson, 440 Camino Sobrante, Orinda 94563, 925-254-3675

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Elizabeth Bade, 2151 Carrol Rd., Walnut Creek 94596, 925-531-7896

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deliataylor@mac.com

Native Here Nursery:

Charli Danielsen, 101 Golf Course Dr., Berkeley 94708, 549-0211,
charlid@pacbell.net

Native Plant Restoration Team:

Sarah Ginskey, 1096 Miller Avenue, Berkeley 94708, 510-558-8139,
sawginskey@sbcglobal.net

Plant Communities:

Susan Bainbridge, 2408 Parker St., Berkeley 94704, 548-2918

Plant Sale:

Shirley McPheeters, 104 Ivy Dr., Orinda 94563, 925-376-4095

Phoebe Watts, 1419 Grant St., Berkeley 94703, 525-6614,

phoebewatts@cs.com

Plant Sale Publicity:

Elaine Jackson, 3311 Estudillo St., Martinez 94553, 925-372-0687

Posters:

Heather Koshinsky, 2033 Carquinez Ave., El Cerrito 94530, w/522-
8180, hak@dnai.com

Programs:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornica@earthlink.net

Rare Plants:

John Game, 1155 Spruce St., Berkeley 94707, 527-7855

Regional Parks Botanic Garden Liaison:

Sue Rosenthal, P.O. Box 20489, Oakland 94620, 496-6016,
rosacalifornica@earthlink.net

Unusual Plants:

Dianne Lake, 1050 Bayview Farm Rd. #121, Pinole 94564, 741-8066,
diannelake@yahoo.com

Recorded Chapter Information: 464-4977

CNPS Home Page: <http://www.cnps.org>

East Bay Chapter CNPS Home Page:

<http://www.ebcnps.org>

Bay Leaf &**Board meeting minutes online****Chapter CNPS-EB-Alerts E-mail List:**

Find out more; email to listserv@usobi.org with:

INFO CNPS-EB Alerts

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____
(optional)

I wish to affiliate with:

___ East Bay Chapter (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties)

___ Other _____

Membership category:

___ Student, Retired, Limited income, \$20

___ Individual, Library, \$35

___ Household, Family, or Group, \$45

___ Supporting, \$75

___ Plant lover, \$100

___ Benefactor, \$500

___ Life, \$1000

Mail application and check to: California Native Plant Society, 1722 J Street, Suite 17, Sacramento CA 95814

the 100th anniversary of the Refuge System. Discover the events leading up to the creation of the System through ***The Tramp and the Roughrider***, a two-man play re-enacting the historic discussion between President Teddy Roosevelt and California naturalist John Muir. Whether you're a naturalist, a sportsman, or a historian, you will be captivated by this passionate per-

formance by Lee Stetson as John Muir and Alan Sutterfield as Teddy Roosevelt. Tickets on sale by the SF Bay Wildlife Society. Friday Evening: \$12 adults, \$8 seniors/students. Saturday Matinee: \$10 adults, \$6 seniors/students. Tickets on sale 10 am Tuesday, January 7, 2003. To order, call (510) 792-0222 and ask for the Visitor Center Desk.



Foetid adders tongue, *Scoliopus bigelovii*, is a plant in the Lily family that usually occurs under redwood trees. It flowers from early January to early March, and can be seen for example in Marin County or the Santa Cruz Mountains. In our two counties, it has been seen in the Oakland Hills, but has not been reported there for many years. If you see it this year in Alameda or Contra Costa Counties, please inform Dianne Lake or me.

John Game

California Native Plant Society
East Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station
Berkeley CA 94705

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