

JANUARY 2008 - HAPPY NEW YEAR

Hibiscus

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY CHAPTER OF
THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Serving the Sacramento, Yolo, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, lower Placer and northern San Joaquin County areas

Join the Team!

Make a new year's resolution to become more involved in our chapter—and keep it!

Our board needs some fresh faces. We currently have vacancies for Hospitality, Programs, Books, and Field Trips chairpersons. Newsletter assembly help needed too. Why should you do it? See Hazel Gordon's essay on page 4 inside!

VICE PRESIDENT: Looking for leadership? We are looking for you! Current VP Russ Huddleston is moving to the Bay area soon, and will have to step down (and will be missed!). The Vice-presidents usually becomes the new president, which can lead to many opportunities. It looks great on a resume too.

HOSPITALITY CHAIR: This is an easy once-a-month effort for the general meetings. Responsibilities are to provide refreshments of your choice; set up at meetings; chat with and enjoy the company of those who appreciate the goodies; clean up and submit receipts to the Treasurer. You can always arrange a substitute if you can't make the meeting, and "one-timers" are always welcome.

BOOK CHAIR: If you're a bibliophile, you'll love being our Book Chair! You'll get to choose new and old titles that you judge will be of interest to our members from the catalogs of CNPS Press and other publishers. Recruit your own assistants or have the the
continued on p. 4

Sacramento Valley Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, January 9, 7 p.m.

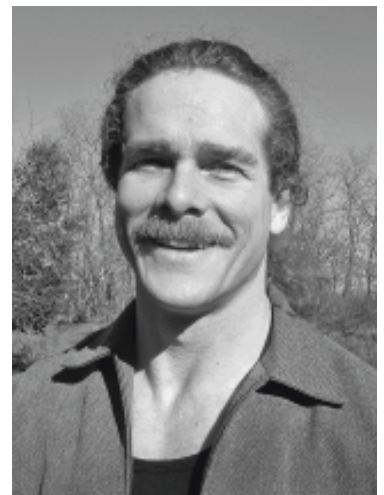
Shepard Garden & Arts Center
McKinley Park • 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento 95816
(the eastern extension of E St.)
Mary Maret, President (916) 961-4057

JANUARY PRESENTATION

Conservation Strategies for Local Citizens by Keith G. Wagner

Local land use attorney Keith G. Wagner will share, through his experiences, the importance of citizen participation in protecting California's native plants and habitats. In some cases, compromise can be reached through constructive collaboration with project applicants and local decisionmakers. In other instances, citizens may have to protect irreplaceable natural resources through direct action in the courts, and at the ballot box, through the voters' reserved rights of initiative and referendum.

Keith is an associate attorney with Kenyon Yeates, LLP, and has represented CNPS and other environmental organizations seeking to protect the state's natural resources and landscapes. He also chairs the CNPS Litigation Committee and is president of the Sacramento Audubon Society. Keith enjoys landscape and bird photography and playing guitar.



Our chapter meetings are free and the public is invited to attend. Each meeting includes a "Know Your Natives" Plant Identification Challenge. Books, wildflower seeds, and Sacramento Valley Chapter t-shirts always available for purchase at the meetings. Refreshments too!

The mission of the California Native Plant Society is to increase understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and to conserve them and their natural habitats through science, education, advocacy, horticulture and land stewardship.



JANUARY 2008 Calendar of Events

Check out the calendar online at www.sacvalleycnps.org for more, updated events and happenings!

JANUARY

Wed., 1/2, 8 a.m. to noon

Walk Through Goethe Park

Leader: Jack Hiehle (916) 967-0777

Join Jack at the end of Arden Way, then walk across the bridge into Goethe Park. Jack will be looking for mammals and birds along the river and in the park. This is a good trip for beginners; bring liquids and a snack.

Sat., 1/12, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

American River Ranch Native Plant Nursery Work Day

2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, on the American River Parkway. All hands needed—small muscle and big muscle, brains too! Read more about it on p.5. For info or directions, call Chris Lewis, (916) 812-2876. lewisc@surewest.net

Tues., 1/15, 7 a.m.

Point Reyes Birds and Mammals

Leader: Jack Hiehle (916) 967-0777

This is Jack's annual trip to Point Reyes to see elephant seals, other mammals, birds and fauna. Be prepared for a full day; bring lunch, liquids, warm clothes and FRS radios. Jack will meet on Fulton Ave just before Fair Oaks Blvd. Call Jack for more details.

Wed., 1/16, 7 p.m.

"Introduction to the Soil Food Web"

A talk by Dr. Elaine Ingham

Presented by EcoLandscape California and Sac Valley Chapter CNPS

Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento

Join us at 6:30 for "mix and meet" and refreshments. Talk starts at 7:00 p.m. \$20. See p. 7 for more details.

Sun. 1/20, 8:00 a.m.

Habitat Improvement

Leader: Jack Hiehle (916) 967-0777

Join Jack and help improve the Effie Yeaw Nature Area. Call Jack if you are coming.

Fri.- Sun., 1/25-27

Home and Garden Expo

EcoLandscape California

ECL's exhibit will include native plants

in a waterwise landscape setting. CNPS brochures and information will be available at the ELC booth. **Volunteers needed** earlier in the week for set up and to staff the exhibit during the show. For information www.ecolandscapes.org

ONGOING

Native Plant Demo-Garden

Saturdays and Sundays

10 a.m. until noon (Rain cancels).

Wear a hat, long shirt and boots (or sturdy tennis shoes). Also bring gloves, gardening tools and knee pads if you have them. RSVP by Sunday at 5 p.m. to confirm 929-7896. For more info, [Sabrina soj@surewest.net](mailto:Sabrina_soj@surewest.net)

Chapter Meeting & Guest Speaker

2nd Wed. of month, 7:00 p.m.

(Jan-June; Sept.-Nov)

Shepard Garden & Arts Center, McKinley Park, Sacramento.

Meetings are free and open to the public. Books, Wildflower Seeds, and our SacValley t-shirt always available for purchase. Refreshments.

Habitat 2020 Conservation

Mon. 1/14 7:00 p.m. - 9 p.m.

****Location to be determined****

For meeting location and other information, contact Betsy at (916) 488-3894 or flweiland@yahoo.com

American River Native Plant

Nursery/Demo Garden Workdays

2nd Saturday of every month

2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova

Rain or shine, there is lots of work to be done. Consider riding your bike out!

For information, contact Chris Lewis, lewisc@surewest.net / (916) 812-2876, or www.SacValleyCNPS.org

Chapter Board Meetings

4th Wed. of month 7:00 p.m.

(Jan-June; Sept.-Nov) Arden-Dimick

Public Library, 891 Watt Ave. at

Northrup, Sacramento 95864.

Call Mary Maret for more information (916) 961-4057.

Other Events

Northern California Botanists Symposium:

January 14-15, Chico, CA

"Northern California plant life: Celebrating what we have with an eye to the future"

The second annual symposium of the Northern California Botanists will be held at CSU Chico on January 14 and 15, 2008. Keynote speaker is **Dr. Constance Millar** (US Forest Service, PSW), *"What to do about Climate Change? Conservation, Blink!, and the art of beginner's mind."*

Learn from two days of speaker presentations and panel discussions! Network and meet other botanists at the Monday evening reception and the banquet with Keynote Talk. New this year are a poster session and a day of instructional workshops following the symposium.

More information and registration for the symposium, the Monday evening banquet, and the January 16 workshops may be found on-line at <http://rce.csuchico.edu/norcalbotany/>

We look forward to seeing you in Chico!

Herbarium Specimen Preparation Workshop

Sat., Jan. 19, 2008, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

University of California, Davis

1026 Sciences Laboratory Building

Instructor: Ellen Dean, Curator,

Center for Plant Diversity

Cost: \$35 members of CNPS or Davis Botanical Society, \$40 non-members.

To register, call 530-752-1091 or register online at

http://herbarium.ucdavis.edu/society%20Files/mounting_workshop_jan_2008.pdf

"Other Events" continues on Page 7

Notes from the Demo-Garden: Red & Gold Toyon

Sabrina Okamura and Mitchell Alford • Photographs © 2007 Angela Pratt <prattstockphotography.com>

The toyons at the garden had massive blooms this year, so the red and gold berries are just covering the trees and are well worth stopping by the garden to enjoy this month and next. Once you see them, you'll understand why every native or drought tolerant garden in the SacValley area must have at least one on their property.

Mitchell and I would also like to thank all the volunteers who have made it out to the garden this year to help with weeding, mulching, dead-heading, pruning, photo taking, and just dropping by to give us moral support. Without the Sheriff's crews and the following awesome worker bees our garden would not be the gem that it is, thank you Andy Phillips, Paul Townsend, Rees Williams, Lisa Steizner, Daniel Barnett, Kristie Scarazzo, Joy Nishida, Jillian Keplinger, Eva Butler, Bernadette Balics, Pat Carpenter and many others who swing by when they can. A special thank you also goes out Joy and Jillian for the best mother-daughter volunteer team we've ever had at the demo-garden! You girls rock! As big thank you to the Old City Cemetery Committee for their support

and the following master gardeners and awesome ladies who are always there to lend a hand, give us support and share their gardening knowledge: Sharon Patrician, Barbara Boliva, Anita Clevenger, and Judy Eitzen.



Sabrina Okamura,
Demonstration Garden Chair

Please join us this winter and help us get ready for a fabulous spring. Your help with our ongoing garden activities, pruning, mulching, weeding, deadheading, plantings and seeding would be much appreciated. We also need volunteer garden managers that

can come out on a Saturday and/or Sunday to assist with working with the Sheriff's Work Project crew assigned to our area on the weekends, or the Americorps crews that would like to work at the garden during the week. We would love the company and the extra help.

See you in the garden!



Mitchell Alford teaches proper ceanothus pruning technique



Yellow berry toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia* "Davis Gold")



Toyon, Christmas Berry (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*)



continued from p. 1

executive committee find helpers for storage, transport, sales, and bookkeeping. We have been strategizing about making this job lighter, so if you are “on the fence”, it might be easier than you think.

PROGRAMS: Help find exciting presenters for our monthly chapter meetings. Our chapter members have great ideas about good speakers. The Program Chair solicits ideas, contacts potential speakers, and introduces them at meetings. (The President can introduce if you can't make the meeting.) We have speakers lined up for the next few months, so this is a great time to ease into this important position. Please consider it.

FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR: Like to get outside and help find good places to find plants? The Field Trip Chair may be just right for you. It will give you a good excuse to see all those places you have been intending to go. You'll be the point person for information about outings, and e-mail the list to the newsletter editor and webmaster for the Calendar. Field trip participation is not required, but could be a fun part of the job!

NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY: Live in Davis or West Sacramento? The newsletter assembly group meets once a month in Davis to get our Hibiscus ready to mail. It goes fast with only four people, so bring a friend. Newcomers and “one-time-only” helpers are welcome. Check it out - it is a light, chatty couple of hours.

Contact Mary M. at (916) 961-4057 for more information on how you can help your chapter fill these important positions. She will help you get going and put you in touch with the right folks to get you off to a great start.



VOLUNTEER ROLES IN THE CHAPTER PROVIDE REFRESHMENT FOR ME!

by Hazel Gordon

Chapter Secretary, Membership Chair, Plant Communities Chair

Several years ago while on a CNPS field trip, I was recruited by a long-time chapter member for coordination of the vegetation communities program, since I am employed in that area of plant science. When I was invited to come to the chapter's Board meetings, the dedication of these active volunteers amazed me! As chairs became vacant and I thought I could handle them, I've taken on the chapter's membership and secretary coordination roles as well.

After several years of working with these thoughtful, creative and hard-working core members, the interaction still rejuvenates and refreshes me, like a walk or run in the mountains. I try to learn from them and take notes of what they do for the chapter, although it's often hard to keep up with their myriad activities to preserve our natural landscapes.

The membership role also is emotionally rewarding because I strongly feel the need to maintain and expand our networking capabilities in this world of often misplaced political priorities. I'm quite concerned, however, that the majority of our chapter members don't recognize the real need to put a little time into keeping the chapter running well for the rest of us and the emotional fulfillment that comes with these roles. I invite you to come to our Board meetings to see for yourself or request one-page summaries of our monthly Board meetings.

Wildflower Weekend

At a recent chapter Board meeting, we had to face the fact that the cost of producing Wildflower Weekend is going up and up. No surprise there. But your Board is not about to abandon Wildflower Weekend! Celebrating all the plant communities in our area is just too important. **W**here else can you see such a full array of plants from eight plant communities in one place? And have experts handy to answer your questions, or just appreciate our region with you? Nowhere else! **B**ut to pull it off this year, we need special help: Help finding sponsors and media to help defray our costs and publicize the event. And then we need you, your friends and families to visit Wildflower Weekend!

Remember these dates:

Saturday, April 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sunday, April 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

If you can help, please contact Chris now at lewisc@surewest.net; or (916) 482-5282.



**SAVE THE
DATE:
April
12 & 13, 2008**

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SACRAMENTO VALLEY CHAPTER

**2008
WILDFLOWER
WEEKEND**
APRIL 12-13

Help put on an amazing two-day event that will educate and activate people to want to save habitat and plant communities around Sacramento and the world!

If you've visited or volunteered at Wildflower Weekend previously, you can help now!

Contact Chris Lewis via email:

lewisc@surewest.net

or phone: (916) 482-5282.

American River Ranch Native Plant Nursery Update

by Chris Lewis

It's nice to have flowers or fruit in December, but the new American River Ranch Native Plant Nursery is not just a pretty face! We hope that you'll fall in love with our local natives (and want to preserve them), so if a plant is not locally native, our nursery will not be growing it. For instance, this dramatic hummingbird sage (*right*; native to Coastal California) would not be propagated at our nursery because it is not locally native. On



Look for local native Common Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus* var. *laevigatus*) at our Nursery!
Photo: Christina Lewis

the other hand, the beautiful snowberry (*left*), which is a "local," will be. Join our Nursery group as we explore our local world!

The MISSION of our nursery is to propagate, promote and support preservation of the unique native plant resources of the American River Parkway ecosystem, as well as promote awareness of the benefits

of native plants, encourage community involvement, and provide a convenient source of local native plants for restoration projects as well as home gardeners.

DONATIONS! Joe and Mary Maret donated a huge stack of lumber that we were able to turn into 2 potting tables and 6 growing boxes. Thank you for your generosity! Another of our Nursery Leaders, Rosie Yacoub, persuaded Redi-gro to donate a huge list of planting media. Thank you Rosie and Redi-gro! We've now applied for two grants to help get us started. Cross your fingers for us!

WORK COMPLETED! The November workday turned out Rosie Yacoub, Lynda Ives and sister Linda Sweetman, Katie Lockhart, Patsy and Nicolai Laguaglia, Jennifer Stock, Dave Vaughan, Betsy Weiland, Mary Maret, Dave Roberts, and Brian and 2½-year-old Mira Bennett. We finished potting benches, screened grow box bottoms, cleared the canopy growing area, erected canopy frame, prepared seeds and planting mixes, planted seeds in outside boxes and seed flats. Thank you all!

January 12th and each 2nd Saturday are workdays out at the Nursery from 9:00 – 1:00. (Some of us are there during the week to water. If you can help during the week, please let me know.) Join us for exceptionally beautiful days down on the river! Rain or shine we'll have potting, labeling, or other work to be done. Nursery workdays always need both small muscle and big muscle help! The Nursery always loves volunteers, be it every week, once a month, or just occasionally! If you can help out, RSVP to Chris via email lewisc@surewest.net or (916) 812-2876. Snacks will be provided. Come for the bike ride, stay for the fun!

What's New? In January we will be collaborating with Soil Born Farms in a Design Charratte to vision the Farm & Native Plant Nursery. How will it turn out? Stay tuned!



Nice, but non-local Hummingbird Sage (*Salvia spathacea*)
Photo: Christina Lewis



GIVE A GIFT OF CONSERVATION

Carol Witham, our expert advocate for vernal pools, shared this message with members of our Sac Valley Chapter at Thanksgiving: "Money gifted to the environment helps today, tomorrow and into the future. It is more lasting and meaningful than any other gift you could give to a loved one or to yourself. Consider a special occasion gift to help protect the native plants and vegetation that form the basis of California's incredible diversity of ecosystems.

To contribute to (California) state-wide issues that affect native plants and vegetation, visit <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/support/donations.php> and click on "Donate to CNPS."

To contribute to **local issues** (Sacramento Valley), or issues specifically related to vernal pool preservation (including UC Merced), **send a check made out to "CNPS Vernal Pool Preservation Fund" to Carol Crofoot, 2280 Stillwind Lane, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.**

Upon receipt of your check, Treasurer Carol Crofoot will send a thank-you acknowledgment to you and a uniquely designed vernal pool note to your gift recipient stating, "A Donation to Preserve California's Vernal Pools Has Been Made in Your Name."



Photo: Carol Witham



American River Ranch from the sky
Photo: MSN.com/birdseye

STATE CNPS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The California Native Plant Society relies upon the strong volunteer efforts of its members, who contribute their time and talent to preserve California's unique landscapes and diverse native flora. Now, the State Office in Sacramento needs your help!

We are seeking local volunteers who could devote from 5 to 10 hours per week to help us process memberships, file, and perform other office duties. Volunteers are needed for data entry, mailings, fulfilling new and renewed memberships, filing, and photocopying.

Qualifications include: attention to detail, reliability, knowledge of office equipment or the willingness to learn, commitment to the mission of CNPS, and a sense of humor.

If you are interested in volunteering and want to work in a fun and friendly environment, please call **Stacey Flowerdew**, Membership & Sales Coordinator at **(916) 447-2677** or email sflowerdew@cnps.org.



Effie Yeaw Nature Center - Selected Events December 2007- January 2008

The Nature Center is located in Ancil Hoffman County Park, 2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael, CA

All programs are FREE unless stated otherwise.

Park entrance fee: \$5.00 per car or FREE to ARNHA members.

Open 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. daily.

Interactive Exhibit: Endangered Species of California's Central Valley

Oh Opossum!

Sat., 12/22, 1:30 p.m.

Secrets of a Wildlife Watcher

Sun., 12/23, 1:30 p.m.

Who Are the Maidu People?

Sat., 12/29, 1:30 p.m.

By the River's Edge

Sunday 12/30, 1:30 p.m.

Hawk Talk

Sat., 1/5, 1:30 p.m.

Secrets of a Wildlife Watcher

Sun., 1/6, 1:30 p.m.

Reptiles, Mammals, and Birds

Sat., 1/12, 1:30 p.m.

Walk on the Wild Side

Sun., 1/13, 1:30 p.m.

Turkey Vultures

Sat., 1/19, 1:30 p.m.

Black-tailed Deer

Sun., 1/20, 1:30 p.m.

Reptiles and Amphibians

Sat., 1/26, 1:30 p.m.

Nature's Symphony

Sun., 1/27, 1:30 p.m.

Winter Fun Days Classes at Effie Yeaw

\$18 per child per class, 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon

Pre-registration recommended!

- Jan. 2** **Big Oak Hotel** (kindergarten)
Birding Basics (1st-2nd grade)
- Jan. 3** **Earth and Me** (kindergarten)
Beneath your feet (1st-2nd grade)
- Jan. 4** **Eco Art** (1st-2nd grade)
Compass Orienteering (3rd-5th grade)

For more information about the Center or events, contact:
www.effieyeaw.org
or (916) 489-4918

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

916 961-4057

Vice President

916 456-1988

Secretary

530 297-7204

Treasurer

916 635-4943

Chapter Council Delegate

Stockton Sub-Chapter

209 477-3966

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Advisory Committee Rep.

488-3894

Book Sales

483-6727

Chapter Botanist

530 758-6787

Chapter Nursery Contact

916 482-5282

Conservation Chair

899-9227

Demonstration Garden

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454-5937

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916 729-8180

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Habitat 2020

482-5282

530 758-6787

Habitat Enhancement

213-4682

Historian

363-2390

Horticulture

Hospitality

Kid/Community Gardens

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Spring Plant Sale Chair

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Webmaster

530 759-9273

Wildflower Seed Sales

454-9677

Wildflower Weekend Chair

482-5282 h

Member at Large

454-5937

Member at Large

489-1744 h

Member at Large & Welcome

944-1184 h

Member at Large

916 961-0766

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Other Events

The Wayne Roderick Lectures at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden

Saturday mornings 10:30
Free to the Public

Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley
Wildcat Canyon Road and South Park Drive **Notice: Seating is limited. South Park Drive is closed Nov.-March**
(510) 841-8732 bgarden@ebparks.org
www.nativeplants.org

- 1/5 California geology from the ground up (or from the basement to the roof)—Steve Edwards
- 1/12 Botany of the inner Grand Canyon gorge, including diversions into geology, herpetology, entomology, et alia—Larry Abers
- 1/19 Floral remnants of the Livermore Valley and vicinity—Steve Edwards
- 1/26 Contra Costa County wildlife and its relationships with native plant communities—Jim Hale

CNPS Plant Science Training Program Upcoming Workshops

For more information CNPS website
<<http://cnps.org/cnps/education/>>
or contact Josie Crawford at
(916) 447-2677 or jcrawford@cnps.org

Mar. 4-5, 2008

Rare Plant Surveys, San Diego County

Primary Instructors: Fred Roberts, Michele Balk

Mar. 25-27, 2008

Vegetation Rapid Assessment, Jasper Ridge

Primary Instructors: Todd Keeler-Wolf, Julie Evens, Nick Jensen

Birds of the American River Parkway

Thu., 1/24, 7:00 p.m.

Effie Yeaw Nature Center

2850 San Lorenzo Way, Carmichael
Featuring Ed Harper, bird and wildlife photographer, ornithologist and past president of Sacramento Audubon Society. Refreshments.

Call for Abstracts

California Native Grassland Association Annual Conference
May 1-3, 2008
Santa Rosa, CA

The California Native Grasslands Association (CNGA) is seeking oral presentations (20–40 min.) and posters that reflect and support the conference theme of “Policies and Practices.”

Qualitative and/or quantitative results are acceptable, and discussions of failures as well as successes are encouraged.

For more information on CNGA, please visit: <<http://www.cnga.org>>

ECOLANDSCAPE UPDATE Sacramento Valley Chapter CNPS Co-sponsors Speaker

By Melinda Rivasplata

EcoLandscape California (ELC), formerly known as the EcoLandscape Working Group, generously provided our CNPS chapter with exhibit space at their EcoLandscape Conference in Sacramento last spring.

In 2008 ELC will offer educational workshops and speakers to the landscape industry and homeowners. Continuing our cooperative relationship with ELC, Sacramento Valley Chapter CNPS will help present **Dr. Elaine Ingham, “Introduction to the Soil Food Web” on January 16, 2008** at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center. See the Calendar and check the ELC website for more details.
<www.ecolandscape.org>

EcoLandscape California is a non-profit group working to promote sustainable landscapes in the Sacramento region. Members consist of landscape industry professionals, public agencies and like-minded groups such as CNPS, which have an interest in promoting landscapes that enhance and preserve the natural environment and make wise use of natural resources.

Another ELC/CNPS date to remember: **January 25-27, 2008: Home and Landscape Expo.** See the Calendar for more information, or visit www.sacgardens.org

Sierra Nevada Lecture Series

Presented by the Sierra College Natural History Museum, the Sierra College Center for Sierra Nevada Studies – Free & Open to the Public

January 17 to May 8, 2008
Thursday nights, 6 – 9 p.m.
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Sierra College- Rocklin Campus
Room LRC 107
Learning Resources/
Library Building

Presented as part of the Spring 2008 course “Interdisciplinary 6: The Sierra Nevada.” Course Code: 75561 (Rocklin campus) or 05075 (TV/Distance Learning). For course information and registration visit

www.sierracollege.edu

1/17 “Sierra Superlatives”
Joe Medeiros, professor of biological sciences, Sierra College; Gary Noy, Director of the Sierra College Center for Sierra Nevada Studies; Dr. David Beesley, emeritus professor of history, Sierra College

1/24 “Deeper Than Gold:” California Native Americans
Brian Bibby, author, and Dugan Aguilar, photographer of *Deeper Than Gold: A Guide to Indian Life in the Sierra Foothills*

1/31 Geology of the Sierra Nevada
Laird Thompson, expert geologist and adjunct professor of geology at Utah State University, and Frank DeCourten, professor of earth sciences, Sierra College

2/7 Sierra Skiing and Weather
History Mark McLaughlin, Sierra Nevada weather and cultural historian

2/14 Birds of the Sierra Nevada
Brian Williams, Environmental Consultant, Williams Wildlands Consulting and Ed Pandolfino, Sierra Foothills Audubon Society

Lectures weekly through May 8. For a complete listing, visit www.sierracollege.edu. Or contact Joe Medeiros, 916-789-2725 / jmedeiros@sierracollege.edu Gary Noy, 916-781-7184 / gnoy@sierracollege.edu



CNPS Newsletter
Sacramento Valley Chapter
2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

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Permit No. 135

SAVE THE DATE!

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SACRAMENTO VALLEY CHAPTER

2008
WILDFLOWER
WEEKEND
APRIL 12-13

*Be sure your membership is current! See
your address label for your renewal date.*

Thanks!

JANUARY 2008 HIBISCUS

www.SacValleyCNPS.org

The Sacramento Valley chapter newsletter, Hibiscus, is published monthly, except for July, August, and December. Subscriptions are \$10 per year. To subscribe solely to this newsletter, send your \$10 check to: CNPS Sac Valley Membership, 2707 K St., Ste. 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113. Articles for the Hibiscus must be submitted to the newsletter editor by the 8th of the month for possible inclusion in the next month's newsletter.

Calling All Wetland Specialists - Seeking Information on Growing Season - Fall Observations

Wetland ecologist Ralph Tiner (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) is compiling observations on start and finish of the "growing season" from across the country and **your participation is invited.**

Growing season is used in wetland delineation to indicate the time of year when inundation and soil saturation have a critical effect on plants. Visible signs of the growing season are requested: 1) presence of flowers (e.g., witch hazel, asters, and goldenrods), 2) presence of green leaves on non-evergreen species, and 3) production of spores in clubmosses and other spore-bearing plants. Also of interest would be leaf drop (total leaf drop from deciduous woody plants), leaf browning (e.g., oaks and beeches) where such leaves persist through much of the winter, and herbaceous plant die-back due to killing frost. Observations for both wetland and upland plants are wanted.

To participate please send your observations to: Ralph_Tiner@fws.gov. Please put "Growing Season Observations for _____ (specify area)" in the email subject block and for each observation, list the species, the observed feature, the observation date, general habitat (wetland or upland type), and site location (town, county, state). Your name and affiliation would also be appreciated for acknowledgment of contributors. This is planned as a multi-year investigation, so for regions where the growing season is year-round or has already commenced, fall observations would be welcome now and observations of both spring and fall reported for future years. Thanks to all who are willing to help.

New Organization Formed! CEANOTHUS - "See I Know This!"

California Field Botanists Association
"educating each other." We focus on creating a supportive environment to learn botany identification skills from one another. Weekly meetings in the Sacramento/Sierra foothills area to **key out plants** using the Jepson Manual and other plant identification resources.
www.ceanothusfieldbotanist.blogspot.com
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