

# The Hibiscus April '06



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.

## Sacramento Valley Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, April 12, 2006 7pm  
Shepard Garden & Arts Center, McKinley Park  
3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento

April 21st - 29th is the  
Sacramento Urban Creeks Council's  
"Creek Week"  
See our Sac Valley CNPS Chapter Events Calendar Inside!

## "Tuleyome Tales" -- Andrew Fulks & Other Authors

Several of the authors of the first volume of "Tuleyome Tales" will be speaking and signing the new book at the April 12 meeting of the CNPS. Tuleyome, a local non-profit and advocacy group, works to protect the wild and agricultural heritages of the Putah Creek and Cache Creek watersheds and associated regions for future generations. Tuleyome was the primary citizen's group behind the successful push for legislation designating 31 miles of upper Cache Creek as a state Wild and Scenic River.

Realizing that much of the Putah and Cache Creek watershed was unknown to local residents, Tuleyome started a monthly newspaper column, highlighting the rich botanical, biological, geological, historical, and recreational assets of the region. Volume One of "Tuleyome Tales" compiles these articles into a single resource, perfect for those who want to learn more about our local watersheds. Articles by world-renowned scientists, such as Eldridge Moores and Peter Moyle, local conservationists such as CNPS member Glen Holstein and Audubon Conservation Chair Chad Roberts, and founder of Yolohiker.org, Andrew Fulks, fill the pages of Volume One. Come out to learn more about this 'undiscovered country'.

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

--from Diana Hickson, Sac Valley  
Chapter Program Chair

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.



Members of Cache Creek Wild celebrate AB1328 with  
Assemblywoman Lois Wolk

## Kindred Spirits

Well over 120 folks showed up at our March Chapter meeting to hear a wonderful presentation about the American River Parkway from Marilee and Steve Flannery. Kudos to Chris Lewis, Diana Hickson, Janie Booth, Peggy Berry, and many other volunteers for bringing this great event to us and the public, and for making it such a success!

Don't miss the April meeting!

March Sac Valley CNPS Chapter Meeting



# The Hibiscus Calendar of Events for April

**1: Vernal Pool Monitoring Day at Hansen Ranch** 9 to 11 am. Learn about vernal pools and why they are special. Learn about & help with basic plant identification. Assist with transect monitoring and estimating plant cover by species. Call Charlotte at 530 795 0851 or email at [cak@ncal.net](mailto:cak@ncal.net)

**1: 10:00am Rossmoor Bar on the American River Parkway!** For more information, call Mary Maret at 916 961-4057.

**1: Sacramento Weed Warriors invasive plant removal.** Call Frank Wallace at 427-5694 to sign up and get directions.

**1: Earth Fest An Earth Day Party! 9am - 4pm** Promote the importance of worldwide conservation with the Sacramento Zoo.

**1: City of Davis Wetlands Tour:** [yolobasin.org/events.cfm](http://yolobasin.org/events.cfm)

**4: American River Parkway Plan Update UCAC Meeting** Library Galleria, 828 I Street, 5:30 - 9 p.m.

**5: Nature Walk with Jack Hiehle** - From Bannister Park 8am-12 Call Jack at 916 967-0777 for more information

**8 & 9: Wildflower Weekend** *See the flyer!*

**8: Yolo Wildlife Area Tour** [yolobasin.org/events.cfm](http://yolobasin.org/events.cfm)

**12: CNPS Sac Valley Chapter Meeting**  
7pm Shepard Garden & Arts Center  
McKinley Park 3330 McKinley Boulevard, Sacramento.

**15:** Workshop on Phylogenetics, Classification, and Changes in California Plant Taxonomy at UC Davis with Dan Potter, UCD Associate Professor and Interim Director of the Herbarium. The fee is \$60 (Davis Botanical Society or CNPS receive a \$20 discount). (530) 752-1091

**15: Mather Field Vernal Pool Flower Walk** *See the flyer*

**16: Habitat Improvement with Jack Hiehle**  
Call Jack at 916 967-0777 for more information

**17: American River Parkway Plan Update UCAC Meeting** Library Galleria, 828 I Street, 5:30 - 9 p.m.

**18: Nature Walk with Jack Hiehle** - William Pond Park 8am-12 Call Jack at 916 967-0777 for more information

**22: Stebbins Cold Canyon Field Trip** at Stebbins Cold Canyon Reserve. Join us for a hike in Cold Canyon, located near Winters and Lake Berryessa. We will meet at 9 AM and the walk will end around lunchtime. For more information, check out our chapter's calendar at [www.sacvalleycnps.org](http://www.sacvalleycnps.org), or, contact Harry Spanglet, 530-756-9892, [spanglet@water.ca.gov](mailto:spanglet@water.ca.gov).

**22 - 29: Sacramento Urban Creek Week Activities** (Listed below) [sacto-ucc.org/index.html](http://sacto-ucc.org/index.html)

**22: Sacramento Weed Warriors Invasive Weed Removal Work Group, American River Parkway Saturday, 9:00 am - Noon** Call Frank Wallace at 427-5694 to sign up and get directions.

**22: Tour the Ueda Parkway on Horseback Saturday 10am -**

**Noon** Register early with Barb Eggleston (916) 834-6118 or email [rocknbarb@hotmail.com](mailto:rocknbarb@hotmail.com). Rental Horses are available at JB Ranch (916)991-9500.

**22: Bufferlands Birds and Blooms Tour Saturday, 1:30 - 3:30pm** Contact Roger Jones at (916) 875-9174 or email [jonesro@saccounty.net](mailto:jonesro@saccounty.net) the week preceding the event for exact meeting location and directions.

**22: Creek Watcher Saturday, 1:30pm** Please contact the Effie Yeaw Nature Center for further information or directions at 489-4918.

**22: Creek Walk Saturday, 2:00 - 3:30 pm** Debra Bishop, Senior Restoration Ecologist with EDAW, Inc will lead a short walk along Arcade and Verde Cruz Creeks. For additional information call 414-5800, ask for Debra.

**23: Mather Vernal Pools Sunday - 10:00 and 1:00pm** Join the Mather vernal pool docents of the Sacramento Chapter of the California Native Plant Society for a tour in Mather Regional Park. For more information and to sign up, call Bonnie at (916)574-0372. To reserve space for the Saturday April 15 tours (10:00 or 1:00), call (916)737-WILD.

**23: McClellan Nature Area Visit Sunday, 12:00 - 3:00pm** Come visit a 250-acre wetlands nature area tucked away in the back of the former McClellan Air Force Base. Turn right at Dudley Blvd. Turn left onto Forcrum Ave. Turn left onto Dean St. Turn right onto Lang. Continue to the nature area. Park on the left in the commercial parking lot.

**23: Creek Walk Sunday, 1:30 - 3:30pm** A walk along the trail in the Arcade Creek Park. Take Hackberry Lane south from Madison Avenue. Turn right on Omni Drive. Meet at Arcade Creek Park parking lot at the end of Omni Drive. Call 482-8377 for more information.

**24: Clean Water and You Monday, 9am - Noon** Get an introduction on water quality testing and evaluating stream health conditions along Arcade Creek. Call (916)874-4711 or (916)874-3910 to sign up and receive more information.

**26: Restoring Native Plant Habitat on the American River Parkway Wednesday, 9am - 11am** Join Mary Maret, natural resource specialist, and Frank Wallace, Sacramento Weed Warriors project director, for an educational tour along the American River. Call Frank at 427-5694 for directions.

**26: Local Fish & Fauna Wednesday, Noon - 2:00pm** What lurks in the murky depths of Sacramento's urban creeks? Contact Steve Scott at (916) 875-9307 or email [scotts@saccounty.net](mailto:scotts@saccounty.net) the week preceding the event for exact meeting location and directions.

**26: Steelhead Creek Beaver Pond Walk Wednesday, 6:30 pm** Take a stroll with Mary Tappel along Steelhead Creek. Call 925-1933 or email [mtappel@waterboard.ca.gov](mailto:mtappel@waterboard.ca.gov) for further information or directions.

**27: Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) Wetland Tour 9 - 11am** Please call (916)874-6099 or email [rosssa@saccounty.net](mailto:rosssa@saccounty.net) to sign up or for further information.

**29: Go with the Flow Saturday, 1:30pm** Join a naturalist to learn how to get involved in caring for waterways. Please contact the Effie Yeaw Nature Center for further information or directions at 489-4918.

**26: Sac Valley Chapter Board Meeting** at Chris Lewis' house 7pm

**30: Mather Field Vernal Pool Flower Walk** *See the flyer*



2005 Stebbins Cold Canyon Field Trip

# Mather Field Vernal Pools Beckon Docents and Guests

By early April the vernal pools at Mather Field will start to slip into something more alluring. While many have been dressing up in their multi-colored, seasonal fashions for well over 100,000 years, the CNPS Mather Field docents will welcome them as if it were their first time in costume. For many of the visitors that CNPS will introduce to the pools this year, this will be their first encounter with these rare beauties, which otherwise masquerade in the drab gold and browns of summer. The pleasure of making those new introductions is what keeps the Mather Field docents coming back each spring - to lead tours, to share this place and to witness its impact on both new and returning visitors. Guiding others gives us a recurring chance to renew our own personal connection to this landscape, ticking off the hours it takes to protect its future, against the millions of years that led to its creation.

If you'd like to become a docent this year, please email Eva Butler, chair of the Mather Field Vernal Pools Preservation Campaign at [mathervernalpools@att.net](mailto:mathervernalpools@att.net) or call her at 916-443-6282. If you'd like to take a tour, reservations can be made by calling the Wildflower Hotline at 916-737-WILD. The two-hour tours start at 10:00 and 1:00 on April 15, 23 and 30. Sturdy shoes and long pants are recommended. All tours will meet at the new Splash Center. Directions are provided on the hotline and at [www.sacvalleycnps.org](http://www.sacvalleycnps.org).

## Mather Field Vernal Pools



**Spring 2006  
Vernal Pool Flower Walks**

April 15, 10 am & 1 pm  
April 23, 10 am & 1 pm  
April 30, 10 am & 1 pm

Trained docents will escort you on a 2 hour tour to explore this magic carpet of flowers.

Reservations are requested. Tours are free.

Call the Wildflower Hotline  
916-737-WILD  
for reservations and directions.

 California Native Plant Society

a place to discover, a place to explore, a place to preserve



**Plants Of Mather Field  
Interactive Photographic Species List  
Available Free Online @  
[www.vernalpools.org/Mather/mather.htm](http://www.vernalpools.org/Mather/mather.htm)**



April 8th & 9th  
2006

## Wildflower Weekend

AN EXHIBITION OF THE WILDFLOWERS OF OUR REGION  
Presented by - The Sacramento Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

Wildflower Exhibit 10 am - 4 pm  
Plant Sale 9 am - 2 pm  
Admission is Free

Information and Directions  
[www.SacValleyCNPS.org](http://www.SacValleyCNPS.org)  
Questions call 916-737-WILD

Crawford's Barn  
2715 Tiber Drive  
Sacramento, CA

Well here it is, Sac Valley's most intensive outreach effort of the year. In 2005, the Sacramento Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society hosted the first annual Wildflower Weekend. This showcase of native plants of our region coupled with a native plant sale was a huge success that drew many gardening and botany enthusiasts as well as families and children with an interest in nature.

The event is held at Crawford's Barn\*, a wonderful space that has been converted into a community center by the homeowners' association in Sacramento's College Greens East area. We presented over 100 local wildflowers of our region in the context of their natural habitat, or "plant community." Each plant community was represented by an informative and attractive exhibit hosted by an expert naturalist. The exhibits featured wildflowers as well as samples of grasses, shrubs and trees supplemented with inspiring photographs depicting examples of the plant communities at the landscape level.

This year's exhibit is being expanded to include a photographic display of rare and endangered plants in addition to a photographic display of birds associated with each plant community. There is *no admission charge* because we want to attract the widest possible audience. This policy was also in place last year and we drew over 1,000 visitors. Exhibit hours on both Saturday and Sunday are 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

This year's native plant sale is also being expanded to both Saturday & Sunday. We will have an extensive inventory of plants. More gardening experts will be available to help you find the plants you want to plant! Plant sale hours on both Saturday and Sunday are 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

We are still looking for volunteers in all areas. If you'd like to help, please contact Chris Lewis at [lewisc@surewest.net](mailto:lewisc@surewest.net) or (916) 482-5282 or for helping at the Plant Sale, Betsy Weiland at (916) 488- 3894.

\*Crawford's Barn, 2715 Tiber Drive, Sacramento, is off Folsom Blvd, East of Watt Ave. For more information on the barn, please visit their website [www.Crawfordsbarn.org](http://www.Crawfordsbarn.org)



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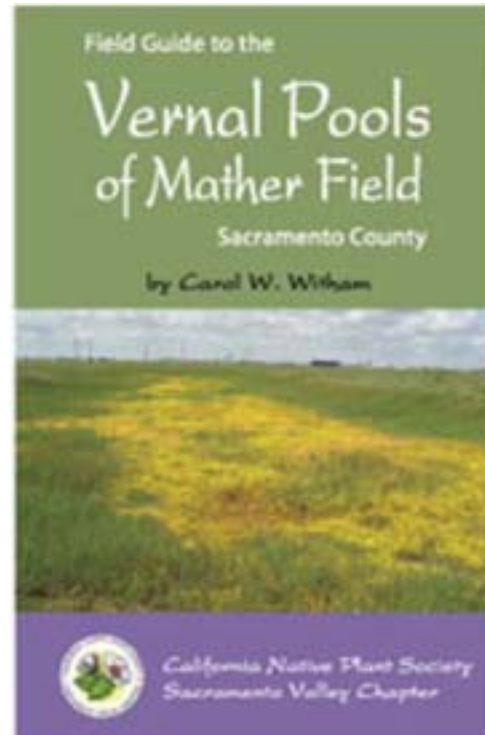
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## April 2006 Hibiscus

[www.SacValleyCNPS.org](http://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 issue.

- |                                 |   |
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Carol W. Witham's excellent new  
**Field Guide To The Vernal Pools Of Mather Field**  
 is Hot Off The Presses  
 Get Yours Now!!! 916 508-8288, or,  
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 \$10 + S & H