



**Sacramento Valley Chapter Meeting**

Wednesday, January 11, 2006 7pm  
 Shepard Garden and Arts Center, McKinley Park  
 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento

**Wildflowers of the Mono Lake Region**

with Ann Howald

Mono Lake is an ancient salt lake best known for its tufa towers, brine shrimp, and for the several million migratory birds that use it as a filling station as they travel along the Pacific Flyway. The Mono Lake region is also home to a dazzling array of wildflowers – tiny pink mimulus that cover the pumice flats around Mono Lake; deep blue larkspurs, golden yellow buckwheats, and crinkly-petaled prickly poppy that inhabit the sagebrush scrub; red columbine and purple monkshood along the streambanks; miniature white violets, rosy elephant’s heads and purple asters in the montane meadows near the summit of Tioga Pass.

Ann Howald

Ann will lead us on a wildflower tour of places she has visited in her many years of botanizing in the Mono Lake region. Ann is CNPS’s Rare Plant Program Director, Senior Botanist for Garcia and Associates in San Anselmo, and a member of the Milo Baker and Bristlecone Chapters.

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, Sacramento Valley Chapter t-shirts, posters, and bird boxes will be available for purchase at the meeting. Refreshments will be served.

--by Diana Hickson



photo by Gary Hundt

**Native Plant Propagation Workshop**

Join the California Native Plant Society for a native plant propagation workshop on Saturday, January 14 to learn how to propagate native plants using cuttings and seeds from the CNPS’s demonstration garden in the Old Sacramento City Cemetery. You can take home natives to grow and plant! Wear closed shoes that you don’t mind getting dirty, garden gloves, and a hat if the weather is sunny. If you have pruners/clippers, pots, or soil, please bring those as well. If you don’t, we will have some supplies on hand.

Where: Demonstration Garden, Old City Cemetery, 1000 Broadway

The main entrance is at 10th and Riverside, along Riverside. The native garden is located along the Riverside border of the cemetery.

When: 10:00 a.m.-12 p.m., January 14

Please contact Jessica Hankins at (916) 731-4910 to RSVP, or if you have any questions.



Mono Lake Gerald and Buff Corsi © California Academy of Sciences

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.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 New Year's	2	3 Nature Walk with Jack Hiehle Goethe Park 916 967-0777	4	5	6	7 Sacramento Weed Warriors Invasive Plant Removal 916 213-4682 City of Davis Wetlands Tour www.yolobasin.org/events.cfm
8		10	11 Sac Valley Chapter Mtg 7pm Shepard Garden & Arts Center	12	13 Mammal Walk with Jack Hiehle Pt Reyes 916 967-0777	14 Native Plant Propagation Workshop (see news story) Yolo Wildlife Area Tour www.yolobasin.org/events.cfm
15 Habitat Improvement with Jack Hiehle 916 967-0777	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (US)	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Chapter Board Mtg Chris' House 7pm	26	27	28 Sacramento Weed Warriors Invasive Plant Removal 916 213-4682
29	<div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Check out our "Events Calendar" at <a href="http://www.sacvalleycnps.org">www.sacvalleycnps.org</a> for more events and trips with other agencies and folks!</p> </div>					

## Our Society's New Vision Statement



California's varied and unique natural environments.

They understand that native plants, plant communities and healthy ecosystems are essential to the well being of all living things. This understanding influences personal ethics and actions, as well as public policy.

Californians look to CNPS as the leader for reliable native plant information and conservation needs. They actively support the Society's numerous opportunities in conserving, learning about, researching and enjoying native plants, plant communities and ecosystems."

The Chapter Council has now completed its responsibilities in approving the mission, vision and goals of the strategic plan. The new Executive Director will work with program staff and volunteers to develop strategies and projects that further the goals of the strategic plan.

- Diana Hickson  
Chapter Council Delegate

After much discussion, the Chapter Council at its December meeting approved the following as the new vision statement for the Society:

"CNPS envisions a future where:

Californians value native plants and plant communities. They feel personal connection to

## Back To School

From Sac City College: - **Field Botany Course** 3 Units

This course is designed for both science and non-science students to learn about plant taxonomy. Students will learn about the classification of flowering plants, how to identify plant species, and will become familiar with native plants of California as well as their ecological relationships and historical uses. A plant collection and a minimum of 10 field trips are required.

Schedule: Full Term, Jan 17-May 24 Fridays 9:00-11:50.

For more information contact Lisa Serafini at 916 558-2388 or Virginia Meyer at 916 558-2115.

## The Native Gardener Horticulture Tips for Growing Native Plants

Planting or transplanting can still take place in January. If you are planting in January, the rains should provide enough water for your natives until spring, and by spring, roots will have become more established and require less water through summer than spring-planted plants.

If you have California fuschia, January is a good time to cut them back to the major stems. Doing this will prevent them from remaining unsightly through the rest of winter., and new growth occurs in spring for another delightful summer/fall bloom. January is a great time to begin weeding as they start to sprout.

Thanks to Melinda Rivasplata, Jennifer Hogan, and Las Pilitas Nursery for the above tips.

**Horticulture Tips** will be a regular feature in the Hibiscus. Please send your tips to [jhankins@csus.edu](mailto:jhankins@csus.edu). Be sure to include the month(s) the tip is appropriate for (two months in advance is helpful). Thank you!

## Hot Spot: California On The Edge

Every day, the California Academy of Sciences has a FREE (with admission) exhibit called "Hot Spots" that features Jepson Prairie Preserve, Mather Field and other Central Valley locations as hotspots of ecological diversity.

Meet live frogs, salamanders, and insects. Find endangered species. Explore six unique habitats. And discover how cool California really is in *HOTSPOT: California on the Edge*. Curated by Academy scientists, this hot new exhibit will open your eyes to the stunning biodiversity that exists within California and explain why the state has been designated as one of the world's 34 "biodiversity hotspots."

## Habitat 2020

Habitat 2020 is a committee of environmental organizations collaborating on common issues in and affecting Sacramento County. The mission of Habitat 2020 is to protect the lands and waters where our wildlife and native plants live in Sacramento County. Member Organizations are Sacramento Audubon, Save the American River Association, Urban Creeks Council, California Native Plant Society- Sacramento Valley Chapter, ECOS, Sierra Club- Mother Lode Chapter, and Friends of Swainson's Hawk.



Curious? Check us out on the web at [www.Habitat2020.org](http://www.Habitat2020.org). Note: Slow designed our beautiful logo and Janie Booth (our Publicity Chair) is H2020's webmaster. Thank you Slow & Janie ~ Chris Lewis

## Who's New on the SacValley CNPS Board?

Betsy Weiland volunteered to be the Spring Plant Sale Coordinator! If you'd like to be part of the Plant Sale effort, please contact Betsy at [fweiland@yahoo.com](mailto:fweiland@yahoo.com) or (916) 488-3894. Thank you Betsy!

We have a new Field Trip Chair ~ Richard Rivas! Richard had a meeting in November where Tony Loftin, Mary Maret, Mary Schiedt, and Chris Lewis roughed out places it'd be cool to go. If you like to lead a wildflower /mushroom/ butterfly/ ?? walk, contact Richard at [Richard.Rivas@ca.usda.gov](mailto:Richard.Rivas@ca.usda.gov) or (916) 423-2838. Thank you Richard!

We have a new webmaster, our very own Hibiscus editor, Slow, stepped up and saved the day! Check it out at [www.SacValleyCNPS.org](http://www.SacValleyCNPS.org). To submit an article for the web or Hibiscus, contact Slow at [slow@cal.net](mailto:slow@cal.net). Thank you Slow!

## Sac Valley Conservation Mission & Action Alerts

The SacValley CNPS Conservation Committee is always looking for new volunteers to help save the common and rare plant species and communities in our large chapter area that includes: Sacramento, Yolo, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, lower Placer and northern San Joaquin County areas. There are various ways you can help. You can alert the committee about planning

documents that affect the local flora, or, by adopting a site. You can attend your local city council meetings as a CNPS representative (fully supported by CNPS staff or on your own). You can help review environmental documents that pertain to areas you are familiar with. Or you can participate solely by e-mail, weighing in with your expertise when questions arise (and they arise on a daily basis). Help turn the SacValley CNPS conservation program from re-active to pro-active, by getting involved in any of the issues or on-going conservation programs

Each of these activities contributes to the conservation of rare plants and vegetation; and the participation and leadership of volunteers is needed for each of these on-going efforts. There is so much work for us to do, and this work will make a difference in the future of native plants in the Sacramento region. If you are interested in any of these general activities, or any of the specific activities noted below please contact either of our conservation chairs: [Mary Maret](#) or [John Hunter](#); Rare Plant Chair: [Russell Huddleston](#); or Chapter Botanist: [Glen Holstein](#).

## Help Wanted "Teachers for Seed-to-Seedling Project"

Volunteers Wanted!!!

Seed to Seedling is an award-winning curriculum, that offers K-6th grade students a hands-on educational experience in growing native oak trees in the classroom. The program and curriculum, designed by the Sacramento Tree Foundation, integrates art, science and math with nature. The seedlings that are grown in the classroom are later transplanted to areas in the community to help replace native oaks that have been lost to urban sprawl. Volunteers would assist STF staff with one or more 30-minute classroom presentations. The presentations are given in each classroom in January, March and May. STF goes to schools all over Sacramento, including Elk Grove, Orangevale, Citrus Heights, and more.

To sign up to volunteer, call or e-mail me! I look forward to hearing from you.

Susan Maxwell Seed to Seedling Education Coordinator  
Sacramento Tree Foundation 201 Lathrop Way Ste. F  
Sacramento CA 95815 Phone: (916) 924-8733 x 110  
email: [seedtoseedling@sactree.com](mailto:seedtoseedling@sactree.com)  
Web Site: [www.sactree.com](http://www.sactree.com)

## Recent, New, and, Renewing Members: Many Thanks!

### Years' End Membership High Notes

The year ends on a good note with the Hibiscus currently being mailed to about 730 members, an increase of about 80 since January, 2005. We want to send a warm welcome to our newest members and hope we can serve your botanical needs well: N. Baumrind, N. Clark, H. Dadmehr, R. Hart, The Herricks, K. Lombard, J. Miller, The Mowchans, E. Ross, E. Wagner, and E. Walrath. We also send buckets of gratitude to our renewing members for their support and loyalty: B. Anderson, The Chandlers, K. Foster, R. Huddleston, M. McAneny, M. McCarthy-Hintz, J. Moore, C. Nguyen-Musto, A. Parker, L. Richter, M. Saffen, H. Safford, S. Shanks, A. Terrell, The Waegells, F. Wallace, B. Wittmer and T. Zavortink.

Please contact me if you have questions or concerns about your membership. Have a bountiful and healthful new year!

Hazel Gordon, chapter membership chair

# WILDFLOWER WEEKEND

April 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>  
2006



*Watercolor © Lucy Adams*

## AN EXHIBITION OF WILDFLOWERS OF OUR REGION

Presented by the Sacramento Valley Chapter of The California Native Plant Society  
Information & directions - [www.SacValleyCNPS.org](http://www.SacValleyCNPS.org)

**CRAWFORD'S BARN**  
2715 Tiber Drive  
Sacramento, CA

Admission is Free  
Questions? Phone (916) 737-WILD

**Saturday & Sunday**  
Wildflower Exhibit 10 am ~ 4 pm  
Plant Sale 9 am ~ 2 pm

# Stepping Up The Pace

## From Sac Valley CNPS Board Member Peggy Berry

In May 2006, after meeting almost monthly for more than two years, the American River Parkway Plan Update Committee is scheduled to finalize recommended revisions to the '85 Parkway Plan.

The meetings in the next five months are crucial to the Parkway's future. Do you want to see the Parkway preserved as the Sacramento Audubon Society recommends (see below) or do you want to see many new uses introduced that will slowly erode the values that make Sacramento's "Crown Jewel" unrecognizable by its founders?

The Sacramento Audubon Society, although not an appointed committee member, has a public member who attends Update meetings regularly and issued a very specific position paper on behalf of the Society regarding proposed new uses in the Parkway. Included in this position paper were the Society's recommended goals for the Parkway — goals I heartily endorse.

*"It is the Primary Goal of the American River Parkway (Plan) to protect, preserve and manage in as near-natural condition as possible, the American River Parkway as a perpetual greenbelt example of the States 10% remaining riparian eco-systems in the Great Valley of California."*

*"A Secondary Goal is to permit and encourage human uses of the Parkway which do not conflict with the Primary Goal that protects these natural values. Whenever there is a conflict in determining appropriate uses of the Parkway, the*

*Primary Goal shall prevail over the subordinate Secondary Goal."*

The January 3, 2006 Parkway Update meeting will ask for final direction on the proposal to approve a designated minimum area of 25 acres adjacent to the American River for use by off-leash dogs. In June I registered my opposition to this proposal based on, among other reasons, the County's own exhaustive studies that found that off-leash dogs are not compatible with the Parkway environmental values and permitted recreational uses, for reasons including the threat to other users, hazards to wildlife, and waste problems. Also, there are currently numerous off-leash dog parks throughout the region and plans for adding more.

Public input in the next five months is critical to the Parkway's future. I hope that CNPS members who care about preserving its natural attributes now — and for generations to come — will speak up at one or more of these important meetings. Parkway support letters to your supervisor (with a cc to Sunny Williams, Project Planning Manager [WilliamsSu@saccounty.net](mailto:WilliamsSu@saccounty.net)) are an equally important part of the tabulation when the Update Committee considers public opinion.

Parkway Plan Update Meetings:  
January 3 and January 24, 2006  
6-9:00 P.M.

Sacramento Public Library  
828 I Street

Peggy Berry, 944-1184  
Supervisor IIIa Collin Appointee



Arden East islands within the American River Parkway



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January 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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## Sac Valley Vernal Pool T -Shirts



California Native Plant Society - Sacramento Valley Chapter

Get yours before they're all gone  
 (only 30 left)...  
 Check out the ad on our website:  
[www.sacvalleycnps.org](http://www.sacvalleycnps.org),  
 or, pick one up at our Chapter meeting:  
 Wednesday, January 11 at the Shepard Garden & Arts Center