



Hibiscus

October 2004

Sacramento Valley Chapter Newsletter • California Native Plant Society
www.sacvalleycnps.org

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.

October Meeting of the California Native Plant Society's Sacramento Valley Chapter

Date: Wednesday, October 6th, 2004

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Shepherd Garden & Arts Center, McKinley Park
3330 McKinley Blvd (E Street's eastern continuation)

The Bush Administration and 108th Congress: Agenda for Your Environment Dr. Emily Roberson

It is 2004. Do you know what your President is doing to your environment and your future? Most of us are aware that the Bush administration is far from green. But few know the extent of their ambitions for this country's natural resources and natural heritage. President Bush, his allies in Congress, and his supporters in industry are making history. They are rolling out the most aggressive, anti-environmental policy program that this country has seen in 150 years. Their agenda reaches into every corner of our network of environmental laws and regulations. No imperiled species, wetland, wildland, or patch of blue sky is being left unturned. The clean air, clean water, national parks, and native plants and wildlife that we have conserved with our tax dollars and enjoyed as part of our American way of life are all at risk.

This unprecedented attack on our environment has received little notice against the background of war and economic instability that have characterized this administration. But this must change. Our elected officials, the media, and the public must learn what is being done to the environment and to the popular laws that protect it.



Weber Creek, Placerville: Some of our precious habitat.
© Marc Hoshovsky

Come learn how the scientific and environmental communities are responding. Come learn how native ecosystems and biological diversity are essential to our public health and the strength and stability of our economy and society. And find out how you can make a difference.

Emily Brin Roberson is Senior Policy Analyst for CNPS and Project Director for the Society's Native Plant Conservation Campaign. She holds a bachelor's degree in plant ecology and a Ph.D. in soil microbial ecology. She worked as a researcher in the plant and soil sciences for 10 years before joining CNPS in 1993. Her current work focuses on native plant conservation advocacy with the federal and state land management agencies. She specializes in issues related to livestock management, weed management, riparian ecosystem conservation, and endangered species law and policy.

Contact: Diana Hickson, Programs Chair, (916) 362-8022

UPDATE: Central Valley Botanist... Becomes Regional Conservationist

The original Central Valley Botanist concept has “morphed” into a “Regional Conservationist” concept.

At a recent committee meeting of SacValley members and Mike Tomlinson, Development Director for State CNPS, it was decided that the most practical approach in this initial stage of establishing a Regional Conservationist position is to secure a half-time conservation position focusing on Sacramento Valley Chapter issues. Once this position is established, it is hoped to expand and involve other CNPS chapters and their related issues.

Potential tasks for the Regional Conservationist in addressing Sacramento Valley issues are: (1) Represent CNPS in on-going regional conservation planning in an effective and consistent manner. (2) Advocate CNPS positions in the Central Valley. Currently counties and local municipalities are often at odds with basic CNPS policies and positions, i.e. regarding survey protocols. (3) Develop and promote a strategic plan for conservation of rare plants and vegetation in the Central Valley.

We desperately want to get this concept into action and off the ground.... while there is still ground to save!

Please contact Chris Lewis (482-5282), Diana Hickson (327-5956) or Mike Tomlinson (447-2677) if you would like to participate in this valuable effort, have suggestions or know of possible funding sources.

Nature Walks with Jack Hiehle

October Walks

Fri. Oct. 1 8:00 AM–Noon
Effie Yeaw

Thurs. Oct. 14 8:00 AM–Noon
Banister Park

October Habitat Improvement

Sun. Oct. 17 8:00 AM
Effie Yeaw

Call Jack if you plan to come: 967-0777.

November Walks

Mon. Nov. 1 8:00 AM–Noon
William Pond Park
Meet at end of Arden Way

Tue Nov. 16 8:00 AM–Noon
Meet at old Fair Oaks Bridge

November Habitat Improvement

Sun Nov 21 8:00 AM
Effie Yeaw

Call Jack if you plan to come: 967-0777.

The Sacramento Valley Chapter Email List: Botany by Email

The Sacramento Valley chapter operates an email list that delivers exciting botanical messages right to your e-mailbox, and all members are invited to join!

The CNPS-Sacramento Valley email list is a great way for CNPS people to share news and views. The way it works is that any subscribed member can send a message, which is then turned around and re-distributed to everyone on the list. Joining is easy: just send an email!

What can you expect? All kinds of interesting and timely information, such as:

- legislative/action alerts related to conservation, public gardens, open space issues
- wildflower alerts: local, statewide and beyond
- announcements of trips, hikes, walks, shows
- job announcements related to botany, gardening and horticulture
- announcements of events, such as plant sales, nursery open-houses, garden tours, nature events, lectures, classes, public meetings, conferences, etc.
- references to useful gardening and botanical web sites
- requests for volunteers for revegetation, botanical surveys, weed control, events

For a taste of the messages previously posted, check out the archive at:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CNPS_SacramentoValley

We hope to see you on the list; the more people on it, the more info there is to exchange. Please contact Harry Spanglet (spanglet@water.ca.gov) if you have any questions, or have any problems subscribing.

Details

To subscribe to the list: send a blank email to:
CNPS_SacramentoValley-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
(or send one to me at: spanglet@water.ca.gov).

You will receive instructions on how to post messages, unsubscribe, contact the moderator, etc.

- The number of emails is not very large (generally from 2 to 10 emails per month)
- Subscription is voluntary, and is only open to CNPS Sac. Valley Chapter members (all subscriptions must be “approved” by the moderator)
- members are never required to post messages, and can leave the list at any time
- Only messages originating from registered email addresses can be posted, so there should be no “spam” (and there has not been any yet)

Harry Spanglet

Volunteer Opportunities—CNPS depends on volunteers for the success of its programs and activities. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Chris at 482-5282.

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|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| ❖ Plant surveys | ❖ Horticulture | ❖ Website | ❖ Hospitality |
| ❖ Letter writing | ❖ School gardens | ❖ Reporter | ❖ Membership |
| ❖ Conservation | ❖ Grant writing | ❖ Photographer | ❖ Fundraising |
| ❖ Nature guides | ❖ Newsletter | ❖ Book sales | ❖ Exotic pest plants |
| ❖ Education | ❖ Outreach | ❖ Plant sale | ❖ Legislation |

Plant Survey Anyone?

Gordon Harrington writes: The last 4–5 years, I have been making a photographic herbarium collection of all the plants (or as many as possible) in the entire Cache Creek Watershed. The watershed includes all of Cache Creek from the Yolo Bypass to Clearlake, all around Clear Lake itself, Bear Creek and Bear Valley, Indian Valley Reservoir area, north Fork of Cache Creek and north up to Goat Mountain, and Boggs Lake vernal pond. The entire area may be 5,000 square miles with elevations up to 6,100 ft, serpentine to basalt to sedimentary bedrock soils, and a large variety of habitats.

Of particular interest to me now is the Payne Ranch, which runs along Hwy 16 in Colusa County from the point where Cache Creek and Bear Creek merge north to the junction of Hwy 16 and Hwy 20. The ranch extends a mile or two west of the entire Hwy 16 segment, thus it is a large area, currently under the auspices of BLM. In exchange for allowing me access to photograph plants, BLM asked me to try to assemble some type of a plant survey for the ranch. This last spring and summer I tracked a different *Streptanthus* species on some of the serpentine rocky outcrops, but did essentially nothing on the much larger total area of the ranch. If there are people interested in being involved in doing a plant survey of the area, I would appreciate any and all help. I am sure a reasonably good qualitative listing of species and their relative abundances would be sufficient. The ranch no longer allows cattle grazing, so hopefully a lot of native species will be making a comeback in the next four years. When I concentrate on an area to photograph, I visit it every 1–2 weeks while water is plentiful, and 4–6 weeks in the dry season through fall.

If you have the interest and the time, please contact Gordon Harrington, P.O. Box 683, Esparto, CA 95627; 530-787-3714.

Submit to the Hibiscus! (evil laughter here)

No, really. What makes the Hibiscus is the articles you send in. Events, book reviews, great plants to grow, big issues to consider, all these are welcome. Articles are due the 8th of the month before the newsletter comes out (i.e. Oct. 8 for the November newsletter). Send 'em along to ajboyer@cal.net or call (530) 753-6323. Photos and illustrations are also welcomed!



They're Finally Here!

Sacramento Valley Chapter is proud to announce our new *Hibiscus lasiocarpus* t-shirts are in! Designed by our own Vice President and Conservation Co-Chair **Mary Maret**, the Hibiscus t-shirts will be printed in khaki and black on spruce colored fabric.

We're also proud to announce that **Eva Butler's** new **Mather Vernal Pool** t-shirts are ready.

These exclusive SacValley tees will be available at the PLANT SALE and at Chapter Meetings starting in October.



Habitat for Humanity is coming to Sacramento.

They will be looking for a few people to help with garden installations. We'll have more about this soon...



CNPS Newsletter
 P.O. Box 160585
 Sacramento, CA 95816-0585

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October 2004 Hibiscus

Hibiscus Newsletter The Sacramento Valley chapter newsletter, Hibiscus, is published every month, except for December, July and August. Subscriptions are \$10.00 for one year. If you wish to subscribe solely to the newsletter, send your check for \$10, made out to: CNPS Membership, PO Box 160585, Sacramento, CA 95816-0585. Articles for Hibiscus must be to the newsletter editor by the 5th of the month for the next month's issue.

BOARD MEMBERS	
President	Christina Lewis, 482-5282, lupine@cwnet.com
Vice President	Mary Maret, 961-4057, Mmaret@mindsync.com
Treasurer	Bill Patterson, 452-9491, bilwpat@aol.com
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Book Sales	Olga Myslivec, 483-6727, olgamyslivec@hotmail.com
Chapter Botanist	Glen Holstein, 530 758-6787, holstein@cal.net
Chapter Council Delegate	Diana Hickson, 327-5956, dianahickson@cwnet.com
Conservation:	Mary Maret, 961-4057, Mmaret@mindsync.com; John Hunter, 737-3000, Jhunter@jsanet.com
Demo Garden:	Cassandra Nguyen-Musto, 374-8116, cassandra@dangermond.com
ECOS Representative	Rick Bettis, rickb@ardennet.com
Education	Bonnie Ross, 962-3619, bross@water.ca.gov
Ethnobotany	Renee Shakroh, 484-8245, renees@cal.net
Fairs & Events	Mary Schiedt, 530 661-6061, maryolo1@netscape.net
Fall Plant Sale	Kate Brennan, 444-8423, katebrennan@sbcglobal.net
Field Trips	Tim Nosal, 961-0766, trnosal@aol.com
Habitat Enhancement	Frank Wallace, 213-4682, frankw2@pacbell.net
Historian	Betty Matyas, 363-2390
Horticulture	Steve Woodward, 489-1744, woodzos@comcast.net
Hospitality	Peggy Berry, 944-1184, pegberry@aol.com
Listserv Moderator	Harry Spanglet, 445-6531, spanglet@water.ca.gov
Mather Vernal Pools	Eva Butler, 443-6282, riverside1@worldnet.att.net
Membership	OPEN
Natural Communities	Hazel Gordon, 530 297-7204 , hgordon@fs.fed.us
Newsletter	Amy Boyer, 530 753-6323 ajboyer@cal.net
Plant Seeds/Bird House	Bill Jenkins, 961-7772, wjenk6314@cs.com
Poster Sales	OPEN
Programs	Diana Hickson, dianahickson@cwnet.com
Publicity	Shelly Gardner, 736-9026, gardnershelley@comcast.net
Rare Plants	Heidi West, 457-4899, corydoras22@msn.com, Russell Huddleston, 456-1988, rhuddle1@CH2M.com
School Gardens	Jennifer Hogan , 530 661-3410, jhogan@water.ca.gov
Spring Plant Sale	Marin Lemieux, 447-2677, mlemieux@cnps.org
Stockton Sub-Chapter	Martha Mallery, 209 477-3966
Web Site	Sabrina Okamura-Johnson, 929-7896, soj@surewest.net
Member at Large:	Melinda Rivasplata, 454-5937, melrivas@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zipcode _____

I wish to affiliate with
 ___ Sacramento Valley Chapter of CNPS
 ___ Other chapter _____

Membership category
 ___ Student, Retired, or Limited Income: \$20
 ___ Individual, or Library: \$35
 ___ Household, Family, or Group: \$45
 ___ Supporting: \$75
 ___ Plant Lover: \$100
 ___ Benefactor: \$500
 ___ Bristlecone: \$1,000

Please complete form and mail with a check payable to
 California Native Plant Society
 2707 K Street, Suite 1
 Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.
 Tel. (916) 447-2677 • Fax (916) 447-2727