

Darlingtonia

Fall 2009
Oct—Dec

Newsletter of the North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society
Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora

ETHICS AT THE NURSERY

OR

WHERE DID THAT POTTED NATIVE PLANT COME FROM?

by Carol Ralph

We, the native plant advocates, are thrilled that demand for native plants in private and public landscapes is growing, however we should be alert to a conflict we may face at the nursery. We must be sure that the native plants offered for sale have not been collected to the detriment of natural populations.

While encouraging nurseries to carry native plants, we should inquire about their origins. No matter how choice the species, we should not buy it if there is any suspicion it was collected from the wild. Populations of some lilies and other special species have been extirpated by poachers. Exceptions should be made for salvage operations in the face of destruction and for populations being managed appropriately on private property.

Obviously the original source of any native plant had to be in the wild. Seeds and cuttings can be taken from wild plants and populations by simply using good judgment and not taking too much. As more species are established in cultivation, there will be less need to go to the wild populations. To encourage appropriate propagation of native plants CNPS and its chapters share knowledge on this subject through growers groups, workshops, lectures, and publications.

These thoughts are some to be found in "Guidelines for Chapters to Reduce Impacts to Native Plants" on www.CNPS.org/cnps/conservation/policies.php



See the "GOING NATIVE: Where to Buy" on page 11 and "GOING NATIVE: Advice and resources for planting California natives" on our chapter's Plant List page (www.northcoastcnps.org, then click on Plant Lists on the left).

Inside this issue:

Feature Article: Ethics at the Nursery	1
Field Trips and Plant Walks	2
Wildflower Show Results	2
Chapter Programs	3
Book Review: A Rare Botanical Legacy	3
Volunteer Corner	4
Field Trip Reports:	4
•Grouse Mountain	
•Above Illinois Valley	
Chapter Contacts	7
Members' Corner	8
Bye Bye Weeds: English Ivy & Scotch Broom	9
Going Native: Where to Buy	11
Calendar of Events	12

Where to find what's happening:

- ◇ Visit our website:
www.northcoastcnps.org
- ◇ Sign up for our announcements
e-mail: [NorthCoast_CNPS-
subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:NorthCoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoo.com)
- ◇ Read the *Darlingtonia*
- ◇ Read or hear about upcoming
events in local media

FIELD TRIPS AND PLANT WALKS

Please watch for later additions on our Web site (www.northcoastcnps.org) and in the local papers, or join our e-mail notification group (linked from our Web site). We welcome all levels of botanical knowledge on our trips. We are all out there to learn and enjoy.

October 4, Sunday. 12-5 more or less. **Chapter Picnic at Patrick's Point.** Bishop Pine Picnic Area is central to good walks in this beautiful and rich state park. Members, prospective members, their friends and relations are invited to share good food and good company. We have proven this is an enjoyable event even in damp weather. Fire ready for BBQ at 1; eat 1-2:30. Then walk to Wedding Rock to see 4 species of plantains, to Ceremonial Rock to see the grape fern, or to a beach. Bring your own item to BBQ, your own beverage and eating gear, and a dish to share. Information or suggestions: Carol 822-2015.

November 7, Saturday. Ammon Ranch Day hike. We've enjoyed it in spring; let's see it in fall! Ammon Ranch is a prairie at 1,800 ft. elevation in Six Rivers National forest on the west side of South Fork Trinity River. We'll explore around the meadow, along the stream, beside the deep pond, in the ephemeral pond, and at the old home site. At this quiet time of year we'll be spotting fruits, berries, capsules, colored leaves, new silhouettes, and maybe green seedlings. If the weather is too wet or threatening for a mountain outing, we'll hike in Arcata Community Forest on some trail we've never been on, 2-4 miles, and look for false azalea or something new. In either case, meet at 9:00 a.m. sharp at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd., Arcata) or arrange another place. Bring lunch, water, and rain gear. Call Carol 822-2015 to learn the final plan

You can lead a field trip! Do you know a place you'd like to share with other plant aficionados? You don't have to know the names of all the plants. You just have to choose a day and tell us how to get there. We'll come explore with you. Contact Carol Ralph (822-2015) with your ideas.

2009 Spring Wildflower Show "Better than ever!" by Carol Ralph

That is a direct quote from a satisfied visitor, who also noted the clear organization and the good displays around the perimeter of the room. Other adjectives heard about our show were "Spectacular! Rich! Diverse! Great show! Great Sale!"

About 1,000 people visited the show, including 91 students from 3 elementary schools and a number of Humboldt State University plant taxonomy students preparing for a lab final. Seven visitors enjoyed a walk in the rain with Dr. John Sawyer, proving that weather is no obstacle. The Tsungwe Families drew at least 50 visitors eager to see how local Native Americans use native plants. At Rick Tolley's Art Night, twenty-three artists and music fans sketched and painted flowers, and tapped their feet. Visitors saw an amazing video of a native bee pushing its way into a cobra lily flower (California pitcher plant *Darlingtonia californica*), saw more native bees than they knew existed, looked for native bees in the dunes, learned some medicinal uses of some wild plants, got expert advice on designing their native plant gardens, saw a series of stunning flower photos on a large-screen monitor, sampled Douglas-fir tea, learned what some of the most common invasive plants look like, learned where they can borrow a weed wrench, and saw hundreds of species of fresh flowers.

To assemble the show required 17 collectors, and about 17 identifiers, including a employees on company time from Green Diamond Resource Co. and Caltrans. About 20 people created the various side displays. About 40 people prepared the room, staffed tables, provided refreshments for the volunteers, worked with school groups, or cleaned up the room. Friends of the Dunes, North Coast Redwoods Interpretive Association, and the Humboldt Weed Management Area were good partners. The Manila Community Services District and the Teenship Program at the Manila Community Center were a pleasure to work with.

What a terrific celebration of California's wild plants! Let's do it again! April 30, May 1 & 2, 2010.

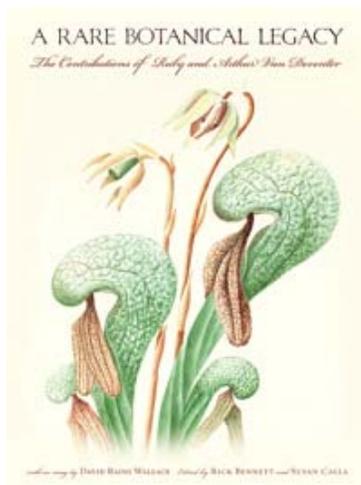
CHAPTER PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS

EVENING PROGRAMS

The North Coast Chapter of CNPS (www.northcoastcnps.org) holds free Public Programs on the second Wednesday of each month (September through May) at the Six Rivers Masonic Lodge, 251 Bayside Rd., Arcata. Refreshments at 7:00 and program at 7:30 p.m. You don't have to be a CNPS member to attend! Contact Audrey Miller, Programs Chairperson at taudreybirdbath@suddenlink.net or 786-9701, with speaker or botanical subject suggestions.

- Oct. 14 **"The Rare and Beautiful Flora of Death Valley National Park"**
Dana York will take the audience on a botanical exploration of the largest national park outside of Alaska. The park's botanical diversity is attributed to the numerous plant communities found at elevations ranging from 282 feet below sea level to 11,049 feet, the extraordinary geology, and the climate. There will be photographs of park endemics and other special botanical gems that are sure to please. In his 5 years as park botanist, Dana found many new populations of CNPS listed species and a previously unknown plant in the Last Chance Range. You don't need a hat or sunscreen, but be prepared for a desert journey.
- Nov. 11 **To be announced**
- Dec. 10 **Members Show and Tell Night**
- Jan. 13 **"CNPSers in Patagonia – the Southern Tip of South America" by Dr. John O. Sawyer** a renowned Humboldt State University botanist

BOOK REVIEW by Carol Ralph

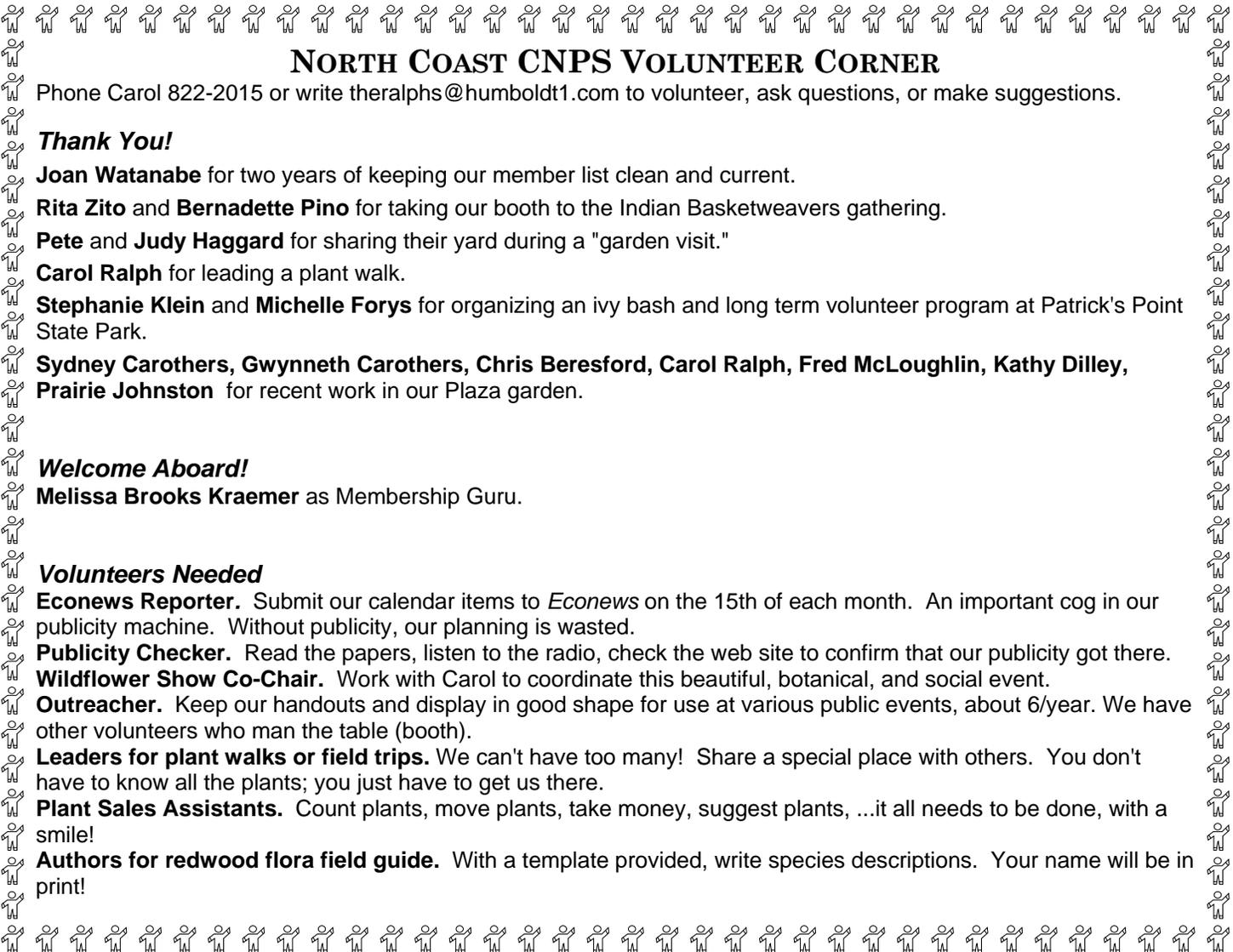


A Rare Botanical Legacy. The Contributions of Ruby and Arthur Van Deventer. Edited by Rick Bennett and Susan Calla. With an essay by David Rains Wallace, "Plant Explorers of Del Norte County: A Botanical Friendship.". 2009. Heyday Books.

To order this book send a check for \$40 payable to Del Norte County Historical Society, with your shipping address and telephone number, to Del Norte County Historical Society, 577 H St., Crescent City, CA 95531. For questions or credit card orders phone 707-464-3922

Willis Jepson in Del Norte County? You bet! The intrepid botanist went everywhere, including this "remote, isolated, and basically unknown region, collecting and identifying plants." When he had to be in Berkeley working on his flora, he relied on Ruby Van Deventer to continue the exploring and collecting. Ruby enlisted her husband to record many of the plants in watercolor, restoring wilted specimens to full glory and color in a way a photo could not. In his fascinating essay in this book David Rains Wallace recounts much of Del Norte County history through the lives of Ruby and Arthur Van Deventer, and details their interactions with Dr. Jepson. While working full time, managing a homestead, participating in the community, and raising a child this talented amateur botanist and amateur artist embarked on producing a flora of Del Norte County. *A Rare Botanical Legacy* is a magnificent exposition of their unfinished project.

The core of the book is the 120 or so plates of Arthur's paintings, fresh, vibrant, and accurate. The species portrayed are rare and common, native and non-native, humble and esoteric--western lily, red-flowering currant, bull thistle, pinesap, horned butterwort, and so on. The essay by David Rains Wallace and introductions by Sue Calla and Rick Bennett add good context and story, enriched with numerous old photos. The appendix about native uses of native plants seems irrelevant. The list of about 200 contributors to the project is impressive. The botanical information is adequate though not authoritative, and an errata will correct the few mis-labeled plates. Not a field guide, this book is a refreshing walk in our mountains, spotting old friends and introducing new ones.



NORTH COAST CNPS VOLUNTEER CORNER

Phone Carol 822-2015 or write theralphs@humboldt1.com to volunteer, ask questions, or make suggestions.

Thank You!

Joan Watanabe for two years of keeping our member list clean and current.

Rita Zito and **Bernadette Pino** for taking our booth to the Indian Basketweavers gathering.

Pete and **Judy Haggard** for sharing their yard during a "garden visit."

Carol Ralph for leading a plant walk.

Stephanie Klein and **Michelle Forys** for organizing an ivy bash and long term volunteer program at Patrick's Point State Park.

Sydney Carothers, Gwynneth Carothers, Chris Beresford, Carol Ralph, Fred McLoughlin, Kathy Dilley, Prairie Johnston for recent work in our Plaza garden.

Welcome Aboard!

Melissa Brooks Kraemer as Membership Guru.

Volunteers Needed

Econews Reporter. Submit our calendar items to *Econews* on the 15th of each month. An important cog in our publicity machine. Without publicity, our planning is wasted.

Publicity Checker. Read the papers, listen to the radio, check the web site to confirm that our publicity got there.

Wildflower Show Co-Chair. Work with Carol to coordinate this beautiful, botanical, and social event.

Outreacher. Keep our handouts and display in good shape for use at various public events, about 6/year. We have other volunteers who man the table (booth).

Leaders for plant walks or field trips. We can't have too many! Share a special place with others. You don't have to know all the plants; you just have to get us there.

Plant Sales Assistants. Count plants, move plants, take money, suggest plants, ...it all needs to be done, with a smile!

Authors for redwood flora field guide. With a template provided, write species descriptions. Your name will be in print!

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

The Back Side of Grouse Mountain 11 July 2009 by Carol Ralph

For the second year in a row the trip planned to Waterdog Lake for butterflies and flowers was "smoked out" by wildfires. After searching maps of the nearby, inland mountains for suitable day-hike trails (There aren't any, a serious deficiency.), I suggested the side of Grouse Mountain to which we couldn't go by car and hadn't been. All the maps--Six Rivers National Forest (two vintages), topographic, two GPS instruments--showed a dirt trail from the summit down the southeast side connecting in about 3/4 mile as-the-crow-flies with a road turning north and connecting with the known road that runs east along the north side of the mountain. Some of us were familiar with the diverse flowers and butterflies along ditches and slopes of this road.

With a good, early start a group of 20, some Auduboners, some CNPSers, headed out our old favorite, Titlow Hill Rd. (Forest Highway 1), after admiring the Washington lily and

elegant brodiaea blooming near the junction with Highway 299. The roadside show was colorful--white mock-orange, red Indian pink and firecracker flower, yellow mule's ears and woolly sunflower, blue chicory. As a quick diversion we stopped at The Intersection in the Horse Mountain Botanical Area and walked down the gated road to see the lilies blooming in the wet ditch. They were stunning. Against the gray-green rock backdrop the glowing, golden-orange blossoms hung face down, dotted with small, ember-like spots. Their red-orange-tipped petals curled back, and bold, rich brown-orange anthers dangled carefully outside the petals. As a cloning species in wet habitat this was leopard lily *Lilium pardalinum*, but I'm not prepared to say which subspecies.

We drove further to the rounded summit of Grouse Mt. at 5,410 ft. elevation. Only the last bit little bit was exciting driving for the sedans. Ready for hiking, presented with the maps, we considered the choice and unanimously decided to explore the unknown terrain rather than the tried-and-true roads. With an air of adventure we plunged down the dirt

(Continued on page 5)

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road that soon was merely an ATV route that generally was following the straight line method of navigation despite the steep slope.

From a brushy start we were soon among scattered white and black oaks and crowds of young white and Douglas-firs. Firecracker flower and blue-headed gilia, as well as the oaks, spoke of this as an oak woodland being converted to forest by uninterrupted succession. We noted three "patriarchs of the forest," noticeably large individuals, one each, of Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, and black oak, with histories to tell if we would listen. Our steady descent passed into older forests, through two small meadows, and past a rocky road-cut cheerfully decorated with paintbrush both red and yellow. In the mature forest we found a stand of phantom orchid and separately three species of coralroot, spotted, striped, and western. The meadows were lush, herbaceous islands in the forest expanse, emerald green studded with butterweed, yarrow, and blue dicks. The butterflies were there, and we spent a little time observing them after lunch on a log in the shade of Douglas-firs.



Two species of coralroot *Corallorhiza*, striped *C. striata* on the left; spotted *C. maculata*, on the right. Both are mycoheterotrophs, deriving their nutrients from mycorrhizae symbiotic with trees. Photos by Carol Ralph.

After descending steadily for hours, our confidence waned, we consulted maps and GPSes, and concluded we had missed the expected turn-off. We reversed course, found the road hidden in dense shrubs, and pushed through that until a large, thickly vegetated wash-out erased the way. About this time we ceased botanical observation and focused on the course of action and on the question of who makes maps how. Retreat up the steep way we had come didn't sound fun but was the sure thing to do. This would have been a straightforward operation, but one of the party, who had brought only one quart of water and no food, was in stress. Important features in the rest of the day were a leader with extra water and powdered Gatorade, four

radios, a cell phone, extra trips up and down the mountain by a few couriers, extra rations and clothing as the sun sank lower, and vast patience. The result was 5 emergency vehicles, about 15 personnel, a chainsaw, a hard plastic litter, intravenous liquids, and a night at the Mad River Hospital (which may not have been necessary, but it made the crews feel good).

We saw the far side of the mountain. We saw fun flowers and butterflies. We got the adventure. We learned that maps are fallible and that people need help being sensible. And we opened a new mystery. Before lunch two of our party set off "ahead" of us and did indeed find a road, much farther down than the one we wanted, that did indeed curve back up to the top of Grouse Mountain. Why is that road not on our maps?

Siskiyou Serpentine & Fens above the Illinois Valley: Eight Dollar Mountain, Days Gulch, Babyfoot Lake, Deer Creek Center, and Rough and Ready Botanical Wayside

5-7 June 2009

by Carol Ralph

"Serpentine" was the word of the weekend, the adjective referring to certain extremely poor soils low in important nutrients such as nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, and calcium and high in others such as magnesium and heavy metals. The resulting difficult growing conditions favor the well adapted, often specialized native species and exclude the non-native, an exciting inversion of the usual state of affairs. Eight Dollar Mountain is a modest, gentle, pleasingly conical peak just northwest of Selma, Oregon, displaying plenty of serpentine. Deer Creek Center of the Siskiyou Field Institute is on its north side, on Illinois River Rd, and proved to be a good base for our explorations. Our group of eleven tested all of their facilities-- accommodations in private room, dorm room, yurt, and meadow; cooking in outdoor shelter, campfire, and indoor group kitchen--and found them quite satisfactory and economical. The orioles, grosbeaks, and chats in the large white oaks and nearby riparian zone kept the mood cheerful.

Our first evening we walked on the Center's property up Stage Creek Trail to their small reservoir. The soil was dry and rocky, but not strong serpentine and supported a familiar mix of Douglas- fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, ponderosa *Pinus ponderosa*, Oregon white oak *Quercus garryana*, California black oak *Q. kelloggii*, canyon live oak *Q. chrysolepis*, California bay *Umbellularia californica*, incense-cedar *Calocercus decurrens*, poison-oak *Toxicodendron diversilobum*, and manzanita *Arctostaphylos* sp. A few Port Orford-cedar *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* and brook wakerobin *Trillium rivale* (in fruit) revealed a serpentine influence. We were struck by the purple elegance of purple milkweed *Asclepias cordifolia* in a rocky clearing, and I was intrigued by a

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

distinctive lomatium with broad, almost prickly leaflets, *Lomatium howellii*. As we descended from the reservoir on a dirt road down a broad, gravelly, sloped skirt of the mountain, darkness also descended, obscuring a variety of flowers--brodiaea, a scroph, an onion, etc.--which we didn't succeed in revisiting.

Saturday, our full day of botanizing, we packed with sights along Eight Dollar Mountain Road, along the south side of that mountain and beyond, all the way to Babyfoot Lake. This road passes through "the largest serpentine outcrop in the nation" (TJHowell Botanical Drive pamphlet on www.highway199.org). We passed up the new botanical trail, a boardwalk through a fen (a non-acidic wetland with flowing water. A boggy place, but technically bogs are acidic and lack an outflow.), in favor of less easily accessed, feet-on-the-ground sites. First we stopped briefly at the pull-out and kiosk just before the bridge over the Illinois River. The slope above the road was Jeffrey pine *Pinus jeffreyi* woodland and home to the rare and elegant Howell's mariposa lily *Calochortus howellii*, a few of which we found in bloom. We felt some triumph in identifying a small, white, annual composite as rough eyelashweed *Blepharipappus scaber* and rehearsed its cumbersome name throughout the day. The purple anthers in the few disk flowers surrounded by a broad collar of white, lobed, ray flowers were distinctive. The rocks here were red, but revealed a green interior when broken open, a touch of geological magic.

Proceeding up the road beyond the bridge about a mile we parked at a hairpin turn and walked down and across the slope, eventually descending to the road paralleling the river at the bottom. This area is called Days Gulch Fen. Swaths of green filled with California pitcher plant *Darlingtonia californica* poured down the sloped Jeffrey pine woodland. Adopting various strategies for the so-many-flowers-so-little-time dilemma, we shared our finds: sparkling, lush clumps of California lady's slipper *Cypripedium californica*; eye-level tall stalks of sparse-flowered bog orchid *Platanthera sparsiflora* (green, largish flowers); the first open flower on bog asphodel *Narthecium californicum*, a brilliant yellow star on iris-like leaves; frilly, clean, fragrant western azaleas *Rhododendron occidentale*; cheerful yellow heads of sneezeweed *Helenium bigelovii*; a robust lily *Lilium* sp., its flower color still secret inside its buds. With concentrated observation we distinguished two species of rushlily, *Hastingsia serpentinicola* with petals curled thoroughly back from a shallow cup from which the loose stamens protruded, and *H. bracteosa* with urn-shaped flowers. The common rushlily in Humboldt Co. is *H. alba*, with petals only



View down a *Darlingtonia* fen in the Jeffrey pine woodland at Days Gulch.

somewhat curled back from a shallow cup. We finished our descent of this astonishing hillside by lounging on native bunchgrasses in the shade of Jeffrey pines to eat lunch. Some of our party had retrieved the cars and driven in the lower road, so we did not have to climb the hill to continue out the road.

Among the many treats along the road were blooming snow plant *Sarcodes sanguinea*, bear grass *Xerophyllum tenax*, white bleeding heart *Dicentra formosa* subsp. *oregana*, Hooker's fairy bells *Disporum hookeri*, and the variegated leaves of marbled ginger *Asarum marmoratum* (few hairs on leaf margin, not curved).

The trailhead for Babyfoot Lake is on top of a ridge, 4,300 ft elevation, with suitably vast views made more visible by some misplaced salvage logging that slipped into the botanical area. The 2002 Biscuit Fire burned through here fierce and hot. The forest now is of blackened trunks, which sounds depressing, but they cast significant shade and made shelter for the slow, steady growth of the green understory and scattered

saplings of pine and Douglas-fir. The diverse, evergreen shrubs have sprouted from their roots and are now 2-3 ft. tall. The similar leaves of huckleberry oak *Quercus vaccinifolia* (small, occasionally toothed), shrubby tanoak *Lithocarpus densiflorus* var. *echinoides* (mid-sized, inconspicuous teeth and veins), and Sadler oak *Q. sadleriana* (largest, strongly straight-veined, toothed) provided an observational challenge along the trail, which is said to be 1 mile long, but I suspect is longer. Spring was still happening at this elevation. Redwood violet *Viola sempervirens*, turkey pea *Sanicula tuberosa*, Siskiyou lewisia *Lewisia cotyledon*, and bear grass were blooming. A beautiful, dense clump of creamy iris strongly marked with maroon lines we suspected was golden iris *Iris innominata* (tube long; style crests short). At the lake itself the near shore had escaped the flames and provided some green conifers and a candystick *Allotropia virgata*. This mycoheterotroph (no chlorophyll; connects to a tree's mycorrhizal fungus for nutrients) indicated that the forest floor there still supported a fungal flora. It will be a source for recolonizing the surrounding, healing forest.

We topped off the long day, packed with flowers and new sights, with a delicious and varied shared dinner around the campfire.

The next morning we spent several hours in the Jeffrey pine woodland and *Darlingtonia* fen on the Center's property across Deer Creek. A plank bridge was dropped into its summer place for us to cross. The riparian corridor was white alder *Alnus rhombifolia* with a thick shrub layer

(Continued on page 8)

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS/CONTACTS

President	Carol Ralph	822-2015	theralphs@humboldt1.com
Vice President	Felicity Wasser	826-7712	wasserfw@yahoo.com
Secretary	Frances Ferguson	822-5079	fferguson@humboldt1.com
Treasurer	Cara Witte	845-3883	witte.cara@yahoo.com
Membership	Melissa Kraemer	822-4189	sarcodes@gmail.com
Invasive Plants	Stephanie Klein	822-5785	sklein@streamlineplanning.net
Native Plant Gardening	Pete Haggard	839-0307	phaggard@suddenlink.net
Native Plant Consultation	Bev Zeman	677-9391	donjzeman@yahoo.com
Plant Sales	Jennifer Kalt	839-1980	jkalt@asis.com
	Sunny Loya	441-9545	sunny@mcbaintrush.com
Education	Judie Snyder	826-7735	snyderj1@suddenlink.net
Conservation	Jennifer Kalt	839-1980	jkalt@asis.com
Programs	Audrey Miller	786-9701	taudreybirdbath@suddenlink.net
Hospitality	Melinda Groom Frank Milelczik (Asst.)	668-4275 822-5360	mgroom@skein.org frankm638@yahoo.com
Field Trips and Plant Walks	Carol Ralph	822-2015	theralphs@humboldt1.com
Rare Plants	Kim Imper	444-2756	dimper@softcom.net
Plant Communities	Tony LaBanca	826-7208	tlabanca@dfg.ca.gov
Newsletter Editor	Marisa D'Arpino	601-0898	marisa_nativecalifornian@yahoo.com
Website & Publicity	Larry Levine	822-7190	levinel@northcoast.com
Poster Sales	Felicity Wasser	826-7712	wasserfw@yahoo.com
T-Shirt Sales	Gail Popham	444-3316	popham@humboldt1.com
Workshops	Gordon Leppig	839-0458	gleppig@dfg.ca.gov
Wildflower Show	Position Open		Contact Carol Ralph for Details
NEC NC CNPS Representative	Jennifer Kalt	839-1980	jkalt@asis.com

COMMUNICATIONS

North Coast CNPS members have three ways to share information with each other:

1. The **Darlingtonia Newsletter** (quarterly),
2. Our chapter's website (www.northcoastcnps.org - updated regularly), and
3. E-mail lists/forums (Announcements, Business, and Gardening – subscribe from the **E-mail lists and Forums** page on www.northcoastcnps.org).

The *Darlingtonia* is the quarterly newsletter of the North Coast Chapter of CNPS. Items for submittal to *Darlingtonia* should be sent to marisa_nativecalifornian@yahoo.com by each quarterly deadline: December 1, March 1, June 1, and September 1. Botanical articles, poetry, stories, photographs, illustrations, sightings, news items, action alerts, events, factoids, tidbits, etc. are welcome and appreciated.

EcoNEWS AND YOU

We, the North Coast Chapter of CNPS, are a member organization of the **Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC)**, a valuable voice for conservation in our area. This means we have a seat on the board of directors. It also means that as our member you are automatically entitled to receive the NEC's monthly publication, *EcoNews*. Due to the vagaries of membership lists, you might not be receiving this informative newsletter. If you are a member of our chapter, do not receive *EcoNews*, and want to receive it, phone 707-822-6918 or e-mail nec@yournec.org and leave the pertinent information.

NATIVE PLANT CONSULTATION SERVICE



Are you wondering which plants in your yard are native? Are you unsure if that vine in the corner is an invasive exotic? Would you like to know some native species that would grow well in your yard?

The North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society offers the Native Plant Consultation Service to answer these questions and to give advice on gardening with natives. If you are a member of CNPS, this service is free, if not, you can join or make a donation to our chapter.

A phone call to our coordinator, Bev Zeman at 677-9391 or donjzeman@yahoo.com, will put you in touch with a team of volunteer consultants who will arrange a visit to your property to look at what you have and help choose suitable plants for your garden.

(Continued from page 6)

including ninebark *Physocarpus capitatus*, Oregon ash *Fraxinus latifolia*, and greenbriar *Smilax californica*. The large, green leaves of umbrella plant *Darmera peltata* crowded the rocks along the clear stream. The hillside was similar to Days Gulch but had more California coneflower *Rudbeckia glaucescens*, mostly still vegetative, great clumps of *Platanthera sparsiflora*, and a few delicate, white western bog violet *Viola primulifolia*, a rare, endemic Siskiyou species.

After taking leave of the Deer Creek Center we stopped south of Cave Junction at the Rough and Ready Botanical Wayside, an amazing, desert-like (but not for lack of rain), serpentine landscape easily viewed from a nicely graveled path. We spent only about an hour, walking the path to its terminus at a picnic table in the shade of a Jeffrey pine and then back along the cobbly river bed. The scattered shrub habitat holds a surprising diversity of both woody and herbaceous plants. A succession of bulbs, annuals, and perennials blooms from March through July. We found blooming fork-toothed ookow *Dichelostemma multiflorum*, blue-headed gilia *Gilia capitata*, an onion *Allium*, three species of buckwheat *Eriogonum*, a clarkia *Clarkia*, a penstemon *Penstemon*, a tarweed, yerba santa *Eriodictyon californicum*, a poppy *Eschscholzia*, a *Collinsia*, etc. Saturated by our days in the fens and facing the drive home, we were not prepared to tackle this thrilling, new botanical challenge. It awaits another day.

When botanizing in southern Oregon we found the most useful book to be Turner and Gustafson's *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest*. This is the author's back yard, so that flora is well represented in the book. We also used *The Jepson Manual*, since California is close by, with similar habitats. We had various plant lists for these botanical spots. Especially complete and careful was the list of plants on the Deer Creek Center property prepared by Kier Morse and available from the center. To clarify the rushlilies we needed to go to the internet because *H. bracteosum* was not in these books.

We could be truly spoiled by our journeys into serpentine habitats. The diversity of beautiful plants and the lack of weeds raises hopes that the world could be like that. Its open profile creates the feel of higher elevations, even if you are at quite ordinary elevations, and provides grand vistas. We are quite lucky that this habitat is close to us.

MEMBERS' CORNER

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Deborah Boni
Sarah Caldwell
Ann Condon
Kathryn Corbett
Stephanie Erskine
Katherine Granfield
Dawn Graydon
Dennis Hogan
Peggy Irvine
Tom Lisle
Elaine Mahaffey
Theodore Utecht
Jon Yakinkaya
Jessie Uehling

THANK YOU TO OUR RENEWING MEMBERS

Carol Allison
Paul Anderson
Helen G. Anderson
Barney Bartelle
Heather Brent
Tamara Camper
Diana Chapman
Tanya Chapple
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Katherine J. Clague
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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Support these local businesses and receive discounts on your purchases. Please show proof of your North Coast membership to receive the discount.

- **Freshwater Farms:** 10% off plant purchases 444-8261
- **Miller Farms:** 5% discount on plant materials 839-1571
- **Mad River Gardens:** 10% discount on plant purchases, 822-7049
- **Let it Grow Horticultural Supplies:** 10% discount on all merchandise, 822-8733
- **Greenlot Nursery,** 10% discount on plants, 443-9484
- **Sherwood Forest Nursery,** 10% discount on plants, 442-3339
- **Bamboo & Maples,** 10% discount on plants, 445-1281
- **Pierson's Garden Shop,** 10% discount on all garden shop items (except sale or non-discountable items—please ask staff before going to register), 441-2713

BYE BYE INVASIVE WEEDS

IVY BASH

By Stephanie Klein

On Sunday August 9 California State Parks and the North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (NC CNPS) sponsored an English ivy removal and volunteer day. Michelle Forsys, environmental scientist for the State Parks and Stephanie Klein, ecologist and invasive species coordinator for the NC CNPS, coordinated the event. The event was located at Patrick's Point State Park's Look Out Rock where there were plenty of the invasive weeds threatening native flora.



The event focused on volunteer orientation and sign up, training and practice on English ivy removal, protocols for working in California State Parks and of course, a picnic lunch for all participants. The event was two hours long, where the first hour focused on volunteer training and protocols in the State parks, the second hour was devoted to removing the weedy species.

The event was a success! Thanks to our dedicated NC CNPS members and local environmental stewards we had 22 volunteers sign in, and 15 long-term volunteers sign up. The focus of the event was to extend hands-on opportunities to individuals who want to be long-term State Park volunteers in the fight against invasive weeds. In return, volunteers receive a free park pass, a hat, and empowerment!

As natural resource managers, it is our obligation to provide the public with education, awareness, and hands-on opportunities to assist in maintaining our regional natural resources. The helping hands of our community members are one vital step in retaining our County's natural resources, native flora and fauna, and aesthetic beauty. I want to extend a hand of gratitude for the volunteer who came out on the foggy Sunday morning.

If you are interested in becoming a long-term State Park volunteer to fight against invasive weeds, please contact Michelle Forsys 707-677-3109 or Stephanie Klein 707-822-5785.

DEFEAT SCOTCH BROOM

With its brilliant yellow flowers and dense, bushy stands along highways, Scotch broom is one of the most recognizable plants in northern California. It is also one of the most threatening to native plants and landscapes.

To combat the invasive plant, member agencies of the Humboldt -Del Norte Weed Management Area are loaning tools to help property owners remove the plants.

"The plants are blooming early this year, and now is a good time for property owners to begin pulling them out of the ground," said Jennifer Wheeler, a botanist with the Bureau of Land Management's Arcata Field Office.

Weed Wrenches™ are available at the BLM office, 1695 Heindon Rd., Arcata, and at the Del Norte County Department of Agriculture, 2650 Washington Blvd., Crescent City.

There is no fee in the "Lend a Wrench Program" which encourages property owners to attack Scotch Broom while the soil is still moist. The Weed Wrenches grip the stalk of the broom plants, providing leverage to help pull the plants, including the root.

"People should pull Scotch broom completely out of the ground, making sure to get the entire root," said Wheeler. "They should then pull all seedlings every spring for five to ten years and every two years thereafter. The bottom line is not to allow the young plants to attain a height capable of blooming and producing seeds."



Scotch broom was introduced into the United States as an ornamental plant. The plants proved to be a problem. They spread rapidly, forming dense, six-foot-tall brush fields that

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

crowded out native plants that reduced forage and habitat for diverse wildlife and livestock.

Each broom plant can produce 8,000 to 12,000 seeds, and can explosively release them up to 13 feet away. Seeds can be easily spread by vehicles, shoes, animals and water runoff. Seeds remain viable for up to 30 years.

Seeds and foliage are toxic to livestock, horses, and native hoofed wildlife. Broom grows faster than most trees used in forestry, shading out tree seedlings planted after harvest.

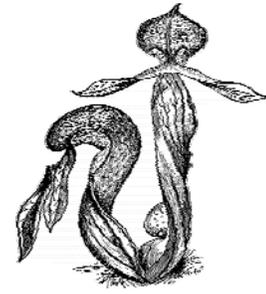
Wheeler said individuals can contribute to controlling the plant by taking action on their own property.

For more information, contact Wheeler at (707) 825-2300 or visit www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/ipc/weedmgareas/Humboldt/humboldt_hp.htm.



A NATIVE BUNCHGRASS DISPLAYED AT THE OAKLAND MUSEUM , SHOWING ITS ENTIRE ROOT SYSTEM. DO YOU THINK THIS WOULD MAKE GOOD EROSION CONTROL?!"

JOIN THE CNPS NORTH COAST CHAPTER!



By joining CNPS you:

- Add your voice to that of other native plant enthusiasts wishing to increase awareness, understanding, appreciation, and conservation of California's native flora.
- Receive the quarterly journal *Fremontia* (the statewide newsletter), our chapter's quarterly newsletter, *Darlingtonia*, and the Northcoast Environmental Center's (NEC) newsletter, *EcoNews*.

- Receive discounts at local businesses

Membership fees: Individual \$45; Family \$75; Student or Limited Income \$25 (Membership fee minus \$12 is tax deductible).

To join or renew, you can either:

- Send your name and address, check (payable to CNPS) or credit card information to CNPS, 2707K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.
- Pay on-line <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/join/>

Please notify the state office and/or our Membership Chairperson if your address changes. **MEMBERS**—see your membership expiration date on the first line of your newsletter's address label.





Pacific Bleeding Heart
Dicentra formosa
Brother Alfred Brous-



Blue-eyed Grass
Sisyrinchium bellum
Gary A. Monroe @ USDA-NRCS



Bush Monkey Flower
Mimulus aurantiacus
Brother Alfred Brousseau.

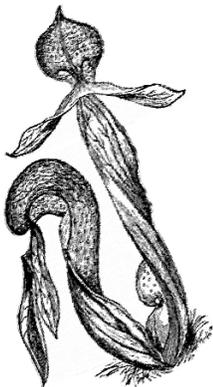
Looking for a California native plant source? Here is a list of local and mail-order businesses. If you are a business and would like to be added to the list, please contact Sylvia White at (707) 825-7615 or restorationgardener@yahoo.com

1. North Coast CNPS plant sales (fall-spring)
2. Coastal Fern Nursery, 677-3749, by appt only. Strictly ferns, native & exotic.
3. Freshwater Farms, 5851 Myrtle Ave., Eureka. 444-8261. Mon-Sat. Strictly natives (California), great variety. E-mail: info@freshwaterfarms.com, website: www.freshwaterfarms.com
4. Humboldt Fish Action Council nursery, 1280 Hatchery Rd, Blue Lake. Call for hours or to set up an appt.
5. Jameson Creek Nursery, Fortuna. Local Farmer's Markets or call 725-5084.
6. Larner Seeds, Bolinas, CA. Mail order. www.larnerseeds.com
7. Miller Farms Nursery, 1828 Central Ave., McKinleyville.
8. Pierson's Garden Shop & Nursery, 4100 Broadway, Eureka. 441-2713.
9. Potato Rock Nursery, Arcata Farmer's Market or mail order. 839-9175, www.potato-rock.com
10. Telos Rare Bulbs, Ferndale. Native and exotic bulbs. Mail order only. www.telosrarebulbs.com
11. Living Earth Landscapes 822-7663. Nursery/water garden center. 5307 Boyd Rd., Arcata M-Sat 7:30-5:30, Sun 10-4. www.nothcoastlandscapes.com

CNPS, North Coast Chapter
P.O. Box 1067
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Darlingtonia

CALENDAR of EVENTS

October

- ◆ Saturday, 4 — Chapter Picnic (Page 2)
- ◆ Wednesday, 14—Program (Page 3)

November

- ◆ Sunday, 7—Day Hike (Page 2)
- ◆ Wednesday, 11—Program (Page 3)

December

- ◆ Wednesday, 10 —Program (Page 3)

January

- ◆ Wednesday, 13 —Program (Page 3)

February

- ◆ Wednesday, 10 —Program (Page 3)

How to know what's happening:

1. Visit our web site www.northcoastcnps.org
2. Subscribe to our announcements group by sending an e-mail to NorthCoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoo.com

Newsletter of the North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society
Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora