

CALYPSO

NEWSLETTER OF THE DOROTHY KING YOUNG CHAPTER
 CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY



UPCOMING DKY NATIVE PLANT SALES!

Saturday Sept. 28, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Fort Bragg Town Hall, 724 N. Main St., Fort Bragg
 Saturday Oct. 5, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., deck behind Gualala Hotel, 39301 So. Highway 1, Gualala
PLANT SALE INVENTORY 2013

Botanical Name	Common Name
Herbaceous plants	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
<i>Angelica hendersonii</i>	Coast Angelica
<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	Western Red
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Sea Pink
<i>Artemisia pycnocephala</i>	Coastal Sagewort
<i>Asarum caudatum</i>	Wild Ginger
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Deer Fern
<i>Carex</i> spp.	Sedge
<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	Tufted Hairgrass
<i>Dudleya cymosa</i>	Live Forever
<i>Epilobium</i> spp.	California Fuchsia
<i>Erigeron glaucus</i>	Seaside Daisy
<i>Eriogonum</i> spp.	Buckwheat
<i>Erysimum menziesii</i>	Coast Wallflower
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i> –	Coast Poppy
<i>Festuca</i> spp.	Fescue
<i>Helenium bolanderi</i>	Bolander's
<i>Iris douglasiana</i>	Douglas Iris
<i>Juncus patens</i>	Rush
<i>Lilium pardalinum</i>	Leopard Lily
<i>Madia madioides</i>	Woodland Madia
<i>Maianthemum dilatatum</i>	False Lily-of-the-Valley
<i>Mimulus cardinalis</i>	Scarlet Monkey
<i>Mimulus auranticus</i> hybrids	Hybrid Monkey Flower
<i>Monardella villosa</i>	Coyote Mint
<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	Deer Grass
<i>Oxalis oregana</i>	Redwood Sorrel
<i>Penstemon heterophyllus</i>	Beardtongue
<i>Phacelia californica</i>	California Phacelia
<i>Plantago subnuda</i>	Plantain
<i>Polystichum munitum</i>	Sword Fern

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Salvia brandegei</i>	Brandegee's Sage
<i>Salvia sonomensis</i>	'Dara's Choice'
<i>Salvia spathacea</i>	Salvia
<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	Blue-eyed Grass
<i>Sisyrinchium californica</i>	Yellow-eyed Grass
<i>Tolmiea menziesii</i>	Piggyback plant
<i>Woodwardia fimbriata</i>	Chain Fern
Trees and shrubs	
<i>Alnus rubra</i>	Red Alder
<i>Arctostaphylos nummularia</i>	Manzanita 'Bear
<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	Western hazelnut
<i>Ceanothus foliosus x griseus</i>	'Centennial'
<i>Ceanothus foliosus x griseus</i>	'Joan Mirov'
<i>Ceanothus gloriosus</i>	'Anchor Bay'
<i>Ceanothus impressus</i>	'Dark Star'
<i>Ceanothus maritimus</i>	'Valley Violet'
<i>Garrya elliptica</i> 'James Roof'	Silk Tassel Bush
<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	Salal
<i>Grindelia stricta</i>	Gum plant
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	Toyon
<i>Lonicera hispidula</i>	Twinning
<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	Twinberry
<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	Sticky Monkey
<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i> hybrids	Monkey Flower
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Douglas Fir
<i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	Cascara
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i> var.	Pink-Flowering
<i>Ribes speciosum</i>	Fuchsia-Flowered
<i>Romneya coulteri</i>	Matelija Poppy
<i>Rosa gymnocarpa</i>	Woodland Rose
<i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	Salmonberry
<i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	Black Huckleberry

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Nancy Morin



Have you been away for the summer? The letter from CNPS Executive Director Dan Gluesenkamp requesting a donation to support the many great things CNPS is doing to understand, document, and preserve rare plants and rare plant communities may have gotten lost in the stack of summer mail, or maybe you tossed it (by mistake) into the circular file thinking it was "junk mail." If you have not already sent in a donation, please hunt for that letter. If you can't find it but want to make a donation, pop a check in the mail and send to CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5130, or go to the website, www.cnps.org, and hit the "donate" button. This is a great way to invest in the future for California's native plants.

The state staff are doing wonderful work for California's plants, and for all of us who love them. Dan Gluesenkamp just completed his first year as Executive Director, and he has brought all the passion, smarts, and energy that we had hoped for. Dan is doing a fabulous job. Lori Hubbard, Greg Jirak, and I were just at the Chapter Council (and Board) meeting in Trinidad, north of Arcata. The focus was on different kinds of disturbance and their impacts on native plants, including changes in natural resource management (many native plants require some level of grazing, and have been disappearing after grazing is stopped), sea level rise, natural and unnatural fire regimes and how they impact different vegetation types, for instance.

These are very complex issues, and we are lucky to have staff members like Greg Suba, conservation director, helping us to understand and address them. Greg and Vern Goehring, legislative consultant, have been tracking a number of issues that are of particular concern for us. They have been working to improve AB 904, which would increase acreage cap on non-industrial timber management plants from 2,500 to 15,000 acres, which would have no expiration date. They have been advocating that the state Resource Agency develop Forest Ecological Standards, and they are participating in the revision of a draft Vegetation Treatment Program for the Board of Forestry.

The North Coast Chapter was our host for the Chapter Council Meeting. They have created a lovely native plant garden next to the local history/natural history museum and library. Theirs is not quite as close to the sea as our Point Arena Lighthouse garden, and theirs is much larger. It includes a pond and areas for forest plants as well as coastal bluff plants, including a healthy

population of the endangered *Oenothera wolfii*, Wolf's evening primrose.



Native plant garden at Trinidad Museum, CA by Nancy Morin

CNPS has now hired Susan Krzywicki to be the new staff Director of the CNPS Horticulture Program. Native Plant Sales and workshops and symposia on growing native plants are important activities for many CNPS chapters, including ours. Susan will help us figure out how to do all of this better, and she will make it possible for us to have new publications, new information on the website, and new events that will help people be successful in using native plants in their gardens.

Finally, I wanted to mention that nomination time is coming up. If you would consider serving on the state Board, or would like to be more involved in our chapter activities (publicity! programs! field trips! hospitality! president!—we could use help with so many things) please let me or any other chapter officer know.

CONSERVATION NEWS

by Lori Hubbart

State Parks Dune Restoration Challenged

The Ten Mile Dunes are part of MacKerricher State Park, and include the biologically rich wetland known as Inglenook Fen. This big, dramatic dune system has worldwide significance as a dynamic, shifting coastal dune ecosystem.

The dunes have been altered by ill-advised human intervention in the form of road building and planting of European beachgrass. These elements alter the natural sand movement, to the detriment of native plants and animals.

State Parks received a coastal development permit from Mendocino County to remove European beach grass and sections of the old haul road north of Ward Avenue. The restoration process would also include removal of two culverts, thus restoring flow into the fen.

Back in the late 1990s there were people who wanted the old haul road rebuilt, creating an all-purpose road right through the dunes. Parks seriously considered the idea. Scientists who specialize in dune systems demonstrated that this would be harmful to the dune ecosystem in many ways. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, responsible for federally listed endangered species, made it clear that such a road would not be allowed.

The new dunes restoration plan has brought out all the old road proponents, who are again demanding a road through the dunes. The Westport Municipal Advisory Council appealed the Parks project, and the county held a two-part hearing to determine whether to uphold or deny the appeal.

The first meeting on 8/13/13 lasted most of a day and was full of testimony by local residents who either don't care about conserving species and ecosystems, or who have no clue what conservation really entails. Some claimed they supported the dunes restoration but wanted a road anyway – a contradiction in terms, since with a road there could be no restoration.

Others wanted the road and also wanted the European beach grass left in place, fearing that removal of this noxious weed would allow drifting sand to inundate their properties.

Neither these people nor Dan Gjerde, county supervisor for the Fort Bragg area, were persuaded by science-based testimony by rational people. The meeting was scheduled to be continued at a later date.

Hopeful News for Ten Mile Dunes

The meeting was continued Ukiah on 8/26/13, and this time no public comment was taken. The supervisors asked questions of county planning staff and State Parks resources staff, namely local resources ecologist, Renee Pasquinelli, and Jay Chamberlain, the chief of the Natural Resources for the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Supervisor Gjerde made a motion to uphold the appeal and included provisions like requiring State Parks to retain the old haul road north of Ward Avenue, an easement to be given to the county to provide for a future, new road through the dunes and removal of European beach grass in a gradual, phased manner.

There were many questions and answers and discussion, and the supervisors wanted to know what would happen to the project if Mr. Gjerde's motion passed. Mr. Chamberlain stated simply that his division in Sacramento would withdraw the funding and there would be no project. The board voted three to two against the motion. After more discussion, Supervisor McCowen made another motion that would allow the restoration to move forward with some additional conditions including:

- Retention of non-native trees at the eastern edge of the project;
- a plan for testing and removing any toxics from old lumber;
- retention and maintenance of the short haul road portion at the north end to provide beach access;
- restoration of native plants where European beachgrass is removed;
- working with Caltrans to provide a Class 1 bike trail in the project area, next to Highway One.

Parks staff said they could work with those conditions, and this motion passed, three to two. However, the Westport group is expected to appeal this decision to the California Coastal Commission. CCC staff will study the issue and write a report with recommendations. If two commissioners decide that there is "substantial

issue” with the appeal, then it will be scheduled for a “De Novo” hearing – in which the commissioners evaluate the project as if it was brand new.

Of course, if Gjerde’s motion had passed, State Parks would have filed an appeal with the Commission, so either way, the project faces bureaucratic delay. Meanwhile, heartfelt thanks go to Mr. Chamberlin and the people of the Mendocino Coast Audubon Society and California Audubon, who worked incredibly hard to save and improve habitat for the endangered Western Snowy Plover on the dunes.

Fort Bragg Transfer Station

At the 8/13/2013 county meeting, the supervisors and the Fort Bragg City Council discussed the location of a new waste transfer station to service Fort Bragg. The two sites chosen via a study were the old Caspar landfill and a site in pygmy forest on Highway 20. Of course they chose the pygmy forest site – is anyone surprised by that? Interestingly, the current waste facility at Pudding Creek was eliminated during the study, though some people think it would have been the better choice. CNPS hopes to work with state agencies to get the best mitigations possible for this project.

The site appears to be a mosaic of pygmy forest and bishop pine forest – both listed by the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife as rare plant communities. The difficult thing will be to prove to the county that the project’s impacts will go far beyond the projected four acres of vegetation removal. In addition to grading, the project includes installation of wells and septic system. The pygmy vegetation across the entire site will be damaged and perhaps destroyed by altered hydrology and nutrient input.

RARE PLANT TREASURE HUNT

by Lori Hubbard

On a happier note, chapter members, Julie Verran, Lori Hubbard and Greg Jirak participated in a rare plant treasure hunt sponsored by the CNPS Rare Plant Program. The weekend event, at Salt Point State Park, drew participants from

as far away as the East Bay, Santa Cruz County and Marin County. On Saturday there were 15 people, including our leader, Daniel Slakey, of the Rare Plant Program.

We first took a winding woodland trail from the Woodside Campground out to the sea bluffs, emerging at the south end of Gerstle Cove. We did not see the giant goldfields, *Lasthenia macrantha*, but did find the rare bluff morning glory, *Calystegia purpurata* ssp. *saxicola*. Julie Verran, who has extensively studied this plant, was a great help.

Returning inland, we hiked up past the impressive water tanks and on to the “pygmy forest” area. This enchanting plant community differs from the pygmy forest of Mendocino County. Mendocino cypress, *Hesperocyparis pygmaea*, is present, but missing are both the flat terrain and the pygmy pine, *Pinus contorta* ssp. *bolanderi*, that characterize the northern pygmy forest.

Still, the soil in that portion of the park is sufficiently acidic to dwarf many of the Mendocino cypress trees. With the cypress remaining fairly stunted, chaparral elements like Fort Bragg manzanita, *Arctostaphylos nummularia*, are able to co-exist with the trees.

The manzanitas were tall, and we did not see the short, mounding forms typical of the northern pygmy forest. All the pines present appeared to be bishop pine, *Pinus muricata*, smaller than usual, though not so stunted as the cypress.

Heading back along a different trail, we found California sedge, *Carex californica*, and the swamp hairbell, *Campanula californica*, in various damp trailside ditches. The campanula is a pretty, delicate little plant with small lavender-blue bells on thread-like stems.

Non-plant treasures sighted during the day included a stunning black and yellow dragonfly, a beautiful red-striped garter snake with an olive green head, a rubber boa snake, and a clump of the largest shaggy mane mushrooms that anyone had ever seen. Altogether, it was a delightful day in splendid company. We hope for future rare plant treasure hunts in our area.

STORNETTA PUBLIC LANDS NEW ADDITION IS OPEN!

by Lori Hubbart

The second parcel owned by the Cypress Abbey company has now been acquired as part of the Stornetta Public Lands and is open for hiking. To experience both the Cypress Abbey additions, park at the south end of the Point Arena City Hall and look for the gate back under the large pine trees. Go through the gate and you can hike northward toward the original Stornetta Lands.

Staying within sight of the ocean, the first parcel includes some spectacular ocean rock formations, plus picturesque views of Arena Cove. Things only get better as you travel northward through coastal prairie that includes lots of tufted hairgrass, *Deschampsia caespitosa*.

The cliff edges were dotted with the remains of medium-sized purple sea urchins, obviously the victims of gulls and other birds. After the birds peck open the shell and eat the creatures, ants come along to finish the job. Clearly the marine life here is very rich, and we can hope this new addition will not be opened to abalone diving.



California broomrape, *Orobanche californica* ssp. *grayana*, growing on seaside daisy, *Erigeron glaucus*, in the coastal prairie headlands at the Stornetta Public lands addition. Photo by Lori Hubbart, 2013.

The coastal prairie perennials here are stunted from the strong winds, but there were lots of depauperate plants of sea thrift, *Armeria maritima*, and seaside daisy, *Erigeron glaucus*.

The latter often hosted a parasitic broom rape species, *Orobanche californica* ssp. *grayana*. This root parasite is a beautiful little plant in its own right – not showy from a distance, but exquisite up close.

The southern end of the original Stornetta Lands has abundant water, making for some wonderful natural areas with lush vegetation. The wet habitat continues onto the northern portion of the newly acquired parcel. Many people won't even notice the vegetation, as the rock formations there are spectacular. Below the formidable sea cliffs are vast, flat shelves of rock, dotted with large tide pools. There are sea caves, blowholes and sequences of massive rock arches.

The rock formations include bird islands frequented by gulls, cormorants, willets and black oyster catchers. The rocks and islands host dense colonies of the marine alga known as sea palm, *Postelsia palmaeformis*, and also provide basking sites for numerous harbor seals, reclining in their plump and silvery magnificence.

If you can tear yourself away from the stunning geology and scenic views to focus on things up close, you will find, in August, an exuberance of king's gentian, *Gentiana sceptrum*. This is an upright, stately gentian, and in the seep areas it grows especially tall and lush.

Even the drier portions of the north end were wet until recently, as evidenced by the deeply imprinted bovine hoofprints. These areas were also full of gentians, lining the sides of the cow trails.



King's gentian, *Gentiana sceptrum*, thrives in coast prairie habitat at the Stornetta Public Lands. Photo by L. Hubbart, 2013.

Gentiana got its name, according to the Jepson Manual, from "King Gentius of Illyria, who used the roots to treat malaria." Its family, *Gentianaceae*, includes the diminutive, yellow-flowered *Cicendia quadrangularis* and the very tall species of *Frasera* found in the mountains, as well as 400 species of gentian from both the northern and southern hemispheres. Gentians have been used in traditional medicine to treat digestive ailments, wounds and parasites, as well as malaria.

Gentian flowers are bell-shaped, sometimes white, but most often blue or purple. King's gentian flowers are tubular, opening from elegant spiral buds and are an intense, royal purple, with subtle freckles.

An easier way to reach the northern bluffs on the new parcel: Park on the west side of Hwy. 1 just south of Lighthouse Road and follow the paved road into the Stornetta Lands. When you reach the bluffs, look for the narrow footpath or social trail and head south.

More will be written about the inland portions of the Cypress Abbey parcels in the future.

RARE PLANT COMMUNITY SYMPOSIUM

September 17-18, 8:30am to 5pm
Jug Handle Creek Farm,
15501 North Highway 1, Caspar
Attendance is free, but RSVP is recommended to ensure space

The goal of this Symposium is to develop a predictable and consistent manner of identifying coastal Rare Plant Communities. We will be addressing rare plant communities commonly found on the Mendocino Coast, including: Northern Bishop Pine Forest, Shore Pine Forest, Grand Fir Forest, Sitka Spruce Forest, Pygmy Forest and Coastal Terrace Prairie.

In attendance will be staff from the CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, Mendocino County Planning, CA Coastal Commission staff, natural resources referral agencies, as well as local biologists and private planners. This event is facilitated by Spade Natural Resources Consulting and Wynn Coastal Planning.

Amy Wynn, Wynn Coastal Planning
703 North Main St, Fort Bragg, California 95437
p. 707-964-2537 Amy@WCPlan.com
www.WCPlan.com & FaceBook

Workshop: *The Amazing World of Lichens*



Date: October 19th 2013

Location: Rod Shippey Education Facility, Hopland Research & Extension Center

Time: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Course fee: \$60

To register contact: Shelly Benson
(707)-479-6777, shelly.benson@yahoo.com

Lichens are found all around us, growing in nearly every habitat and on almost any surface. However, these ubiquitous organisms are commonly overlooked.

At this workshop, lichenologist Shelly Benson will explain this fascinating fungal-algal relationship known as the lichen. You will learn the basics of lichen biology and ecology.

You will gain competence at recognizing the various lichen growth forms and structures that are used for identification. The workshop includes a classroom lecture, hands-on demonstrations, and a field excursion to observe lichens in their natural habitats. Sign up for this class and get the chance to ask your burning lichen questions! Also, this is a great opportunity to check out the new Rod Shippey Education Facility.

Instructor Biography

Shelly Benson is the president of the California Lichen Society (CALs). She received a Master of Science degree in 2001 from the University of Northern British Columbia, Canada, where she studied lichen ecology.

Shelly has conducted several lichen inventories in the San Francisco Bay Area with CALs and is interested in the use of lichens as indicators for air quality and climate change.

A ROSE IS A ROSE IS A... WIND-POLLINATED ROSE!

by Julia Larke

"Ever wonder what a wind-pollinated rose might look like? This is one." Bob Sikora, a Marin Chapter member of CNPS thus describes his close-up photo of *Acaena pinnatifida* var. *californica*, California sheepburr, at right. This endemic species of *Acaena* inhabits coastal grasslands and open rocky slopes from Santa Barbara County north to Mendocino County at elevations ranging from ~50 to 400 meters. The sharp-spined fruit is the source of the genus name *Acaena*, from the Greek, meaning thorn and the common name sheepburr is a clue that the seeds are dispersed by animals.

Acaena flowers have no corolla, no scent and the stamens dangle like ornaments. Most members of the rose family are pollinated by insects but flowers adapted for wind pollination are found in genera of the Sanguisorbeae where many species are native to windswept mountain areas. Wind-pollination is not only an adaptation to windy habitat but also to low temperatures, which reduce insect numbers. *Acaena* species can also reproduce asexually by "creeping and rooting" although *A. pinnatifida* var. *californica* is not as prostrate as other species.

According to Bryony Macmillan's treatment of *Acaena* in the soon to be published volume nine of the Flora of North America there is "the possibility that *A. pinnatifida* was introduced into California from South America during the Spanish colonial period...the earliest collection of *A. pinnatifida* was made by David Douglas, without precise locality, between 1831 and 1832, and was recorded by Hooker and Arnott (1839) as *A. pinnatifida*."

Macmillan retains the variety in her treatment as a native because of certain stem characters, because it is hexaploid and because it occurs in non-weedy locations. However she suggests that "the distinction of var. *californica* from the variable *A. pinnatifida* of Chile and Argentina needs further investigation."

Mendocino County collections of California sheepburr have been made at MacKerricher State Park's Ten Mile Dunes in the Inglebrook Fen Watershed and Teresa Sholars collected it at Van Damme State Park in Little River.



Acaena pinnatifida var. *californica*, California sheepburr. Marshall Beach Road, Point Reyes National Sea Shore, Marin Co., CA. Bob Sikora © April 2013.



Detail of *Acaena* a month later. Bob Sikora notes: "Anthers spent. Seed coat developing spines with retrorse barbs." "G" Ranch, Point Reyes National Seashore, Marin Co., CA. Bob Sikora © May 2013.



Acaena pinnatifida var. *californica* photographed at Rodeo Lagoon, Golden Gate N.R.A., Marin Co., CA on a Rare Plant Hike with Michael Chasse, Doreen Smith, and others. Robert Steers © August 2010.

DOROTHY KING YOUNG CHAPTER OFFICERS 2013

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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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FIELD TRIPS	Mario Abreu & Nancy Morin (temp)	
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HOSPITALITY	OPEN	
INVASIVE PLANTS	Mario Abreu	937-3135
JUBATA ERADICATION	OPEN	
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All phone numbers are area code 707



Swamp harebell, *Campanula californica*, is a California endemic that occurs in wetland areas on the Stornetta Public addition. Photo by Nancy Morin, August 2013.



CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION DOROTHY KING YOUNG CHAPTER

Membership in the California Native Plant Society is open to all. The task and mission of the Society is to increase awareness, understanding, and appreciation of California native plants. The challenge is to preserve their natural habitat through scientific, educational, and conservation activities. Membership includes subscription to *Fremontia*, as well as our local chapter newsletter, the *Calypso*.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Tel. _____ E-mail _____

Please check, or name a chapter; CNPS will make assignment if none is specified by applicant.

I wish to affiliate with the DKY Chapter _____
 or, other chapter _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

Student/Limited Income \$25
 Individual \$45
 Family/International/Library \$75
 Plant Lover \$100
 Patron \$300
 Benefactor \$600

Make check out to:

California Native Plant Society

Mail check and application to:

Bob Rutemoeller, Membership Committee
 DKY Chapter, CNPS PO Box 577
 Gualala, CA 95445

MEMBERSHIP: Renewal - renewal date is listed on the address label of your CNPS Bulletin. If you have questions, contact Bob Rutemoeller at 884-4426, brutem@mcn.org.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Contact Nancy Morin at 882-2528 for board meeting dates.

CALYPSO items: Send to Julia Larke, larkej@mcn.org. You can switch to a digital version of the newsletter. Send e-mail request to Bob Rutemoeller brutem@mcn.org.

SOD BLITZ PROJECT UPDATE

Contact Lori Hubbart, lorih@mcn.org, 882-1655, for information about viewing the results of the spring SOD collections on **Thursday, Oct. 3, at 7 pm**. An online link to the meeting in Berkeley will allow north coast SOD blitzers to view the presentation live.