Featured Speaker at April Meeting
Chapter Meeting, April 24
7:00 PM
Community Presbyterian Church
1400 E. Second St., Benicia

The guest speaker for the CNPS Willis Lynn Jepson Chapter meeting is Craig Lyon. His subject will be Geology and Plant Community Relationships on Mount Diablo.

Mr. Lyon worked 37 years for Chevron Corporation as a petroleum geologist in oil and gas exploration and production projects throughout Western U. S. and Alaska. He is now retired and living in Concord. The current focus of his geological expertise is as a volunteer at Mount Diablo State Park and the Lindsay Wildlife Museum in Walnut Creek.

Please join us to welcome Mr. Lyon and learn about how what is in this familiar mountain helps shape what grows on it. Bring a friend; the general public is invited to attend our Chapter meetings.

Plant Sale Help Needed
The CNPS Jepson Chapter Spring Plant Sale takes place on Saturday, May 6 at the Benicia Community Garden, Military East and E. 2nd Street, Benicia, from 9 to 3.

Help get the word out by posting the enclosed flyer on a bulletin board or public place.

The plant sale will feature over 800 plants, many of which were propagated by the Jepson crew. The Jepson Chapter Plant Sales are our biggest fundraisers for the Chapter’s activities. Please visit us on Saturday for your spring planting needs.

Volunteers are needed to prepare the plants and work the sale. Call Sue Wickham, 747-5815 or Becky Mannion, 429-2494, if you want to help or to learn more about our propagation activities.

Native Plant Garden Tours
Springtime brings several garden tours in the Bay Area that feature native plants. These tours provide a great opportunity to see how you can use native plants in your own garden. The gardens contain at least 30% natives. Some have been certified as wildlife habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.

The tours are free and self-guided. You select the gardens you wish to visit then show up anytime during the scheduled tour hours. Details on how to participate are below:

Going Native Garden Tour, Sunday, April 30, 10 to 4. The gardens are in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. Registration is required due to limited space. Register on-line at www.goingnativegardentour.org

Bring Back the Natives Garden Tour, Sunday, May 7, 10 to 5. The gardens are located in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Registration is required because space is limited. Register on-line at www.bringbackthenatives.org

Mother’s Day Native Plant Garden Tour, Sunday, May 14, 10 to 2. Registration is not required. Garden locations are found on-line. www.cnps-yerbabuena.org

Earth Day at the Botanic Garden
Earth Day at the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden will be on April 22, 9 to 2. This is the third year in a row that the Garden has been designated as one of the favored restoration and cleanup sites, by the California State Parks Foundation, sponsor of the event.

With our participation is a $1,500 Grant award to purchase much needed garden supplies, plants and a Crary-Bearcat Grass trimmer.

We are expecting around 65 to 75 volunteers, including 50 employee volunteers from Starbucks stores in Benicia, Vallejo and Fairfield. Starbucks will also donate coffee and snacks.
Jepson Prairie Tours Begin

Our guest speaker at the March Chapter meeting presented photos of her favorite plants found at the Jepson Prairie Preserve.

If you would like to see these plants live, in person, you can accompany Jepson Prairie Preserve docents on walks over mima mounds, through winding swales, and around flower fringed vernal pools this spring. The window of opportunity when these plants are at there peak is relatively short, so don’t miss your chance this year.

Tours occur every Saturday and Sunday until May 14, beginning at 10 AM. A $1 donation is requested. The preserve is located on Cook Lane, 11 miles south of Dixon off of Hwy 113.

For more info contact Solano Land Trust, 432-0150 x202 or Kristi@solanolandtrust.org. Groups of 5 or more should call ahead.

Volunteer Call

A goal of the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden is to showcase plants that are native to Solano County. To feature these plants, future phases of the garden will be organized by the plant communities found here.

Botanic Garden Committee members have a plant database in EXCEL software. We need to lookup these plants on the Calflora website to verify that they have been found in Solano County and, if so, to classify these plants by their plant community.

Volunteers can help with this task if they can use EXCEL software and the internet. Botanical expertise would help, but it is not required. However, any Jepson Chapter members who are botanist would be welcome additions to the Botanic Garden Committee since we are lacking in that expertise.

If you can help, please contact Allison Fleck at awfleck@simplyperfectgardens.com

Chapter Roster

President: Rebecca Mannion
Vice President: Gary Brogan
Treasurer:
Secretary
Committee Chairs
Plant Sale:
Botanic Garden:
Education:
Membership: