PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Dear members and other interested parties:

Much as I would like to put forth some excuses for not writing before now, I won’t. There are better topics to take up in our newsletter and not much space.

Our speaker last month was Misa Ward who talked about her project at the Ione Flats and rare plants in California. While we do have a rare plants representative, we rarely see him so perhaps we’ll get him to talk to us later this year. We would do well to learn and conserve the rare plants in our county. If you are interested in conserving rare plants, or learn more about them, contact me and I’ll see if we can get a committee formed and moving.

Through the efforts of the Botanic Garden Committee and a list of Sue Wickam, Gene Doherty and I worked on, we now have a list of plants that we will be putting on the Internet. It will contain those plants that do well and are actually native to our county. Check the website in a few weeks, it should be up by then.

Our semi annual plant sale went well. Not fabulous, mind you, but well enough. We had an extra helping of weeds this year in our space. Our projects are doing just fine. The Botanic Garden Committee is working on the next stages of development, but everyone still has to go out and pull the weeds. There is no discouraging the weeds. They come back every year. But then again, so do we. There is no discouraging our efforts and it took a few hands to clear them out for the plant sale, but it all went well and the space looked fine.

Better yet, there were no hidden trip problems to foil our customers. I need to thank everyone who helped with the project. Particularly, those who turned up to help us take the sale apart at the end.

Here’s hoping your summer is warm and plentiful.

Becky Mannion – Chapter President
**SUMMER POTLUCK PICNIC**

Saturday, June 24 is the date for our first Chapter Summer Potluck Picnic. Come celebrate the beginning of summer with your fellow plant lovers at the Benicia State Recreation Area. The picnic begins at 1 PM. We will be at the picnic tables closest to the Native Plant Botanic Garden. Park admission is $4.

The Chapter will be providing plates, utensils, and the main course, both meat and vegetarian varieties. Bring your potluck dish to share and any ideas for the Chapter to consider.

**If your last name begins with...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name Begins With</th>
<th>Bring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-F</td>
<td>Side Dish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G-L</td>
<td>Bread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M-R</td>
<td>Drinks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-Z</td>
<td>Desert:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

We have 75 members in the Jepson Chapter. Special thanks to our members who have provided their email addresses to us for newsletter distribution. This helps us save money and trees. If you have not already done so, and would like to receive future newsletters electronically, please send your email address to Mary Frances Kelly Poh at mfpoh@pacbell.net

**JULY 17 BEGINS INVASIVE WEEDS AWARENESS WEEK**

This annual event brings attention to the problems caused by invasive plants in California, and to the efforts of local groups that work to protect our natural areas and rangelands. In 2004, the State Legislature signed a proclamation declaring California Invasive Weeds Awareness Week to begin the third Monday of July each year. The State has established Weed Management Areas throughout California, including Solano County, to help combat the spread of invasive weeds. Members of our Chapter are learning more about the activities of our County Weed Management Area and will make this information available to you.

**WILLIS LYNN JEPSON CHAPTER ROSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Becky Mannion</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rfvem@pacbell.net">rfvem@pacbell.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Gary Brogan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gbrogan@pacbell.net">gbrogan@pacbell.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Sue Maddux</td>
<td><a href="mailto:camnsam@att.net">camnsam@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>Norma Deaner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ndeaner@pacbell.net">ndeaner@pacbell.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer/Membership</td>
<td>Mary Frances Kelly Poh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mfpoh@pacbell.net">mfpoh@pacbell.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education/Outreach</td>
<td>POSITION OPEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter Editor</td>
<td>Steven Goetz</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sgoet@sbcglobal.net">sgoet@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webmaster</td>
<td>Ken Poerner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kenpoe@sbcglobal.net">kenpoe@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Alison Fleck</td>
<td><a href="mailto:awfleck@sbcglobal.net">awfleck@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book/Poster Sales</td>
<td>Susan Dean</td>
<td><a href="mailto:susanepdean@yahoo.com">susanepdean@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs/Lectures</td>
<td>POSITION OPEN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Sales</td>
<td>Sue Wickham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:swgeo@sbcglobal.net">swgeo@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>Ted Swiecki</td>
<td><a href="mailto:phytosphere@phytosphere.com">phytosphere@phytosphere.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Jepson Chapter encourages all members to become involved in what interests you. Your Board members and officers are available to answer your questions and listen to your ideas of what membership in the Jepson Chapter can mean to you.
BOTANIC GARDEN UPDATE

Norma Deaner – Co Chair
Botanic Garden Committee

Activities for April and May were centered on weeding briskly ox-tongues, and other obnoxious unwelcomed weeds. Sue Maddux and Tim Sullivan, ever so watchful of these weeds, once again teamed together and sprayed those that crept into our trails.

Tim tried out his brand new Bearcat trimmer/mower (acquired with our Earth Day grant) around our propagation and storage shed areas and on the lower south end of the Riparian Section.

Gary Brogan and Tim staked out the proposed auxiliary trails for the Wildflower Meadow and Riparian Section.

Total Volunteer Hours April and May, 2006 (including Earth Day) – 498 hours

Volunteers’ Accomplishments

- Planted 163 new plants
- Cut down acacias
- Dug out overgrown fennels
- Hauled out dried brush
- Moved 6 cubic yards of redwood mulch and soil
- Repositioned our construction sign to accommodate a Ceanothus thyrsiflorus
- Placed weedblock around our young handsome oak trees
- Filled two 20 cubic yard dumpsters

Garden Phase 2/3 Planning Team

Gary Brogan, Norma Deaner, Alison Fleck and Steven Goetz have been meeting monthly. We are on track with our schedule for California Environmental Quality Act Review to complete documentation requirements by August 1. Last month, we evaluated our Orientation shade structure and the amphitheater design. Allison and Steve will be drawing the plans for the Phase 2/3 garden expansion and the Propagation Facility expansion.

Possible Eagle Scouts Project

The widening of turning points in Phase 2 and 3 trails is under consideration by Bobby McKiney, possibly in July. The staking of a selection of oak trees in the Phase 2 and 3 areas by David Faucher, on September 9th and 10th is almost finalized

PROPAGATION UPDATE

Becky Mannion – Chapter President

The Propagation Committee was fresh out of potting mix and couldn’t find an available truck to do the hauling for us. It was getting frustrating. Until Mark Cederborg of Hanford ARC came to our rescue.

Mark sent over three cubic yards of compost as well as two gentlemen to move it off the truck and into our spaces at Vallejo Sanitation, Benicia State Recreation Area, and the Benicia Community Garden.

Everything needed to be wheelbarrowed to the spot and dumped. Scott’s assistant (Carlos?) did all of the grunt work and loved Meg’s Community Garden. He recognized all the plants in the first garden over the fence.

We can’t thank Hanford ARC enough. This general engineering and landscape construction company is based in Sonoma and has an impressive resume of habitat restoration work. Check out their website www.hanfordarc.com

Now we are ready to go onto more restoration projects and plant sale stocking. No experience is necessary. Workdays are as follows:

Every Thursday 10 AM to noon at the Jepson Greenhouse – Benicia State Recreation Area.

The last Saturday of the month, 10 AM to noon at the Vallejo Sanitation District growing area.

Call Becky at 707-429-2492 for directions and information.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name_____________________________________
Address___________________________________
City/Zip___________________________________
Telephone_________________________________
eMail (optional)_____________________________

I wish to affiliate with

___ Willis Lynn Jepson Chapter – Solano County
___ Other____________________________________

Membership Category

___ Student, Retired, Limited Income, $25
___ Individual, $45
___ Family, Group, Library, $75
___ Plant Lover, $100
___ Patron, $300
___ Benefactor, $600
___ Mariposa Lily, $1500

Mail application and check to:
California Native Plant Society
2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816

CNPS Jepson Chapter
P.O. Box 2212
Benicia, CA 94510
www.cnpsjepsonchapter.org
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED