Dear all,

We need you! We need you now!!!

Because of new jobs, moving, or change of family circumstances, we've been left with varying loose ends as far as chapter responsibilities go. There is an opening for someone to take over the book and poster sales. As you may know, we take these things to different venues during the year. You would not have to go to all these venues, but you would need to order these things and keep inventory of them. Right now they are in the shed at Benicia State Recreational Area. It can't be good for them.

If you know people who can speak to our chapter, we need you. If you can take notes at a board meeting and type them up, we need you. If you can plan field trips, we need you. If you know how to put little plants in bigger pots, we need you. Please give me a call (707) 429-2494. If you can dig a hole in Benicia's adobe, throw mulch around, or would like to learn how, give Norma a call. (707) 745-3906.

The good news is that I have the permit needed to take seeds and cuttings in the Botanic Garden. Now, don’t start to salivate. I have to have the permit on me while doing just this. I also have a list of people already signed up to supervise doing this. At least now, maintenance cuttings won’t go to waste and can be used to propagate.

Becky Mannion, Chapter President
(707) 429-2494, rfivem@pacbell.net
EVENTS OF OTHERS

GRASS IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP
On April 20-21, the California Native Grassland Association (CNGA) and the East Bay Regional Park District will present a class and field course for the beginner. You will learn the basic skills of identifying grasses. Instruction will be provided by David Amme, Wildland Vegetation Program Manager for the Park District. The workshop takes place at the Park District’s Trudeau Center, 11500 Skyline Blvd, Oakland. Registration is $220 for CNGA members and $260 for others. Register by April 15. For more info call (530) 753-8458 or email admin@cnga.org.

JEPSON HERBARIUM WORKSHOPS
The Jepson Herbarium was founded by our chapter’s namesake, Willis Linn Jepson. The Herbarium is pleased to present the following weekend workshops. Learn about our flora first hand. Sessions are available for all levels from beginners to experts. The registration fees are listed for Herbarium members/others. They will be held at the Valley Life Sciences Building, UC Berkeley. For more info, consult www.ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/ or call Cynthia Perrine at the Herbarium (510) 643-7008.

- March 24-25: Basics of Botanical Illustration, $115/140
- April 14-15: Basic Collecting Techniques and Vouchering Specimens, $115/140
- April 28: Using Electronic Keys for Botanical Identification, $35/65
- April 28: Using the Jepson Online Resources, $35/65

NATURE WALKS IN MARIN
The Marin County Open Space District offers nature walks for the public. Most walks are moderately paced and cover less than five miles. Check their website for more info: www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/PK/Main/mcosd/

- March 25, 9am, Indian Valley Open Space
- March 28, 9am, Early Wildflowers, Marin Headlands
- March 31, 9am, Birds of Bolinas Lagoon
- April 3, 9am, San Pedro Ridge
- April 5, 9am, Wildflowers of Ring Mountain
- April 8 9am, Rush Creek Open Space
- April 11, 9am, Botanizing Mount Burdell
- April 16, 9am, Big Rock Ridge Open Space
- April 19, 9 am, Flowers of Nicasio Reservoir
- April 25, 9am, Olompali State Park
- May 1, 9am, Loma Alta, North Slope
- May 6, 10am, Kent Pump Road

WILLIS LINN JEPSON
CHAPTER ROSTER
Your Board encourages all members to become involved in what interests you. We are available to answer your questions and listen to your ideas of what membership in the Jepson Chapter can mean to you.

President                   Becky Mannion, 429-2494
Vice President             Gary Brogan, 746-7926
Recording Secretary       Sue Maddux, 745-4361
Correspondence            Norma Deaner, 745-3906
Treasurer/Membership      Mary Frances Kelly Poh
Education/Outreach        POSITION OPEN
Newsletter Editor        Steven Goetz, 745-4675
Webmaster                 Ken Poerner, 432-0150
Past President            Alison Fleck, 747-9463
Book/Poster Sales         POSITION OPEN
Programs/Lectures          POSITION OPEN
Plant Sales                Sue Wickham, 747-5815
Conservation              Ted Swiecki, 448-0230

Newsletter Contributions
Many thanks to those that contributed articles to this newsletter. Keep them coming! Send your announcements, events, stories, articles or ideas to Steven Goetz at sgoet@sbcglobal.net or mail to 347 Goldenslopes Court, Benicia. The deadline for the next newsletter is May 10, 2007.
**Board Releases Botanic Garden Mission Statement for Comment**

Fund raising efforts for the Forrest Deaner Native plant Botanic Garden require that we establish a mission statement for the Garden. The Jepson Chapter Board of Directors released the following mission state for review and comment by our membership.

“The mission of the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Garden is to demonstrate the diverse plant life of California natives from Solano County and to provide opportunities for education, recreation, and research to foster an understanding and appreciation of all California native flora.”

Send any comments on this mission statement to Chapter President Becky Mannion by May 7th.

**Irrigation Fix Needed**

Our propagation area at the Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District facility on Solano Avenue is in need of a few good persons to assist with irrigation repair. The frost this winter was hard on pipes and fittings causing more than a few leaks. If you have a free Thursday morning or Saturday to come to help, we’d love to show you around this unique growing area where treated wastewater is used for fledgling plants. Call Sue at 747-5815 to help out for a morning.

**Vallejo Earth Day Event**

Vallejo will celebrate Earth Day on April 21 during the Farmer’s Market on Georgia Street. Details on the event will appear on the Valcore website www.valcorecycling.org. The Jepson Chapter will be downtown selling plants and promoting CNPS. If you would like to help out at the booth please call Mary Frances Kelly Poh.

**Benicia Earth Day Event**

The California State Parks Foundation has awarded the Jepson Chapter a grant for Earth Day activities staged at our Botanic Garden in the Benicia State Recreation Area on April 21. These funds will help recruit and supply 65 to 75 volunteers at the Botanic Garden to install new plants at the Botanic Garden. The Benicia and Vallejo school districts are also participating. Activities start at 9:30.

**Jepson Chapter Spring Plant Sale on Saturday, May 5th**

The Jepson Chapter sponsors plant sales every spring and fall. The spring plant sale is the larger of the two and is set for Saturday, May 5th at the Benicia Community Garden located at the corner of E. 2nd Street and Military East. Gate opens at 9 AM.

Art's Benicia will also be hosting Open Studios on May 5th, so buy some natives for your garden and take in a few studios. Local experts will provide advice on plant selection and care. Books, posters and other resources will be available too. Remember, CNPS members will receive a 10% discount on plant purchases.

Check the website after April 1 for a list of plants for sale, www.cnpsjepsonchapter.org. Prior to the sale, the Chapter will be hosting tours of the Botanic Garden in the Benicia State Recreation Area at 9:30 AM on April 22 and 29 to show the public how these native plants can grow in a garden setting.

We need helpers for the sale, particularly moving plants to the site on Friday afternoon and back to the propagation area on Saturday afternoon. Call Becky at 429-2494 if you would like to help.

**Spring Plant Sales by Others**

April 14, 9:30AM to 2PM, Marin Chapter CNPS, Audubon Center, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd, Tiburon. Call Ken Howard at (415) 464-8719

April 14 and 15, Napa Chapter CNPS, Skyline Park in Napa, just off Imola Avenue. Call (707) 253-2665 for more information.

April 21, 10AM to 3PM, East Bay Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Anza View Road, Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley.

April 21, 9AM to 1PM, UC Davis Arboretum, Arboretum Nursery at Orchard Park, Orchard Rd, Davis, (530) 752-4880.

April 28, 8AM to 1PM, Solano Resource Conservation District, Spring Conservation Fair and Plant Sale, 6390 Lewis Rd, Vacaville. Call (707) 678-1655 x 109 for more information.
Garden Tour Season
Springtime brings garden tours in the Bay Area that feature native plants. See how you can use native plants in your own garden. Details on how to participate are below:

**Going Native Garden Tour**, Sunday, April 29, 10 to 4. The gardens are in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. This self-guided tour is free, but registration is required due to limited space. Register on-line at [www.goingnativegardentour.org](http://www.goingnativegardentour.org).

**Bring Back the Natives Garden Tour**, May 5 Select Tour, $30/person. May 6 self-guided tour, free, 10 to 5. The gardens are in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Registration is required because space is limited. Register online at [www.bringbackthenatives.org](http://www.bringbackthenatives.org).

Slide Projector Needed for April 23 Chapter Meeting
Call Becky Mannion at 429-2494 if you have one to loan.

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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### CNPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: ________________________________________________

Address:_______________________________________________

City/Zip: _______________________________________________

Telephone:_____________________________________________

Email (optional):________________________________________

I wish to affiliate with: ____ 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

[STAMP]