CALENDAR OF EVENTS
• MONDAY, SEPT. 26, 7PM, MEMBERSHIP MEETING, HERITAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, (SEE ARTICLE BELOW)
• SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 9AM, FALL PLANT SALE, BENICIA CITY PARK (SEE ENCLOSED FLYER)
• MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, MEMBERSHIP MEETING, BENICIA PUBLIC LIBRARY, (SEE ARTICLE BELOW)
• PLANT PROPAGATION WORKDAYS – VALLEJO, EVERY THURSDAY AND SUNDAY, 10AM– 12, VALLEJO SANITATION DISTRICT, CALL BECKY AT 429-2494
• FORREST DEANER BOTANIC GARDEN WORKDAYS, EVERY SATURDAY, 9:30-11:30, BENICIA STATE REC AREA

Photo Contest is a Winning Event
Congratulations, and THANK YOU, to Jepson Chapter’s Dan Jensen for sponsoring an excellent photo contest and garden party at the Forest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden! The theme of the party, Twilight in the Garden, and the featured photos of the garden made for a delightful summer evening. We had a nice size crowd and people seemed to enjoy each other’s company and the food and drink to nibble on. Dan acted as Master of Ceremonies providing highlights of the selection process and introducing the winning photos. The Chapter Board thanks Dan for suggesting the idea and executing a successful event.

Knowing Dan, he is going to say that he didn’t do it all by himself. So thanks are also extended to all the folks who helped – such as Norma Deaneer, Arts Benicia and the mystery jogger who broke the tie for the People’s Choice award.

Here are the prize winners, by category:
• Wild Life, Karlyn Lewis, $150, yellow swallowtail image;
• Plant Life, Dr. Raymond M. Klein, $150, Dendromecon rigida blossom;
• Landscape, Dean Lewis, $150, view of Southampton Bay;
• People Life, Ronald Ketter, $150, garden volunteers working under the supervision of a Salvia;
• Grand Prize winner, Dr. Raymond M. Klein, $250, Arctostaphylos blossoms; and
• People’s Choice, $50 + dinner for 2 at donated by Venticello’s Ristorante in Benicia, for the Asclepias speciosa.

Each winner also received a potted native plant grown by the Chapter’s Plant Propagation Committee and a copy of California Native Plant Society’s Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California. The photos will be posted on the Chapter website soon.

– Janet Mackey & Steven Goetz

Lectures Set for Fall Membership Meetings
Our September 26 membership meeting will feature a talk by Bert Johnson on Local Natives for our Home Gardens. Most of these plants come to us from our coast and chaparral communities predominantly and can provide nectar and pollen for our local pollinators. Bert is a Chapter member, works at the East Bay Regional Parks Botanic Garden and is an experienced field botanist. This meeting begins at 7pm at Heritage Presbyterian Church, 1400 East 2nd St, Benicia.

On October 24th, the Chapter will co-sponsor, with the Benicia Public Library, a lecture by Gene Thomas on Milkweeds, their Beauty, Chemistry and Friends. Gene has driven about 10,000 miles over three years to photograph California milkweeds in their native habitats. He will entertain us with photographs of all native species of Asclepias and their viney kin, explain their chemical properties, and describe how the plants interact with insects that pollinate and eat them. Gene has a B.S. in Plant Science, M.S. in Plant Pathology, and a Ph.D. in Horticulture. He teaches biology at Solano College. The meeting begins at 7pm at the Benicia Public Library, 150 East L St.

Both events are free and open to the public. For more info call 745-4675 or visit www.cnpsjepson.org.
Habitat Project Proposed
The Solano Resource Conservation District (RCD) is seeking funding to restore a native creek habitat in Vacaville’s 260-acre Centennial Park. There are two tributaries of Horse Creek that pass through the northern undeveloped section of the park as it flows from the Vaca Mountains to Cache Slough and the northern Delta. Prior to becoming a city park, the area was dry-land grain farmed which resulted in complete deforestation of both tributaries. Since being protected as a park, there has been some limited regeneration of native trees and shrubs along the creek, however bank erosion and sloughing exists along both creeks.

The city and the RCD propose to restore the riparian environment along Horse Creek by controlling invasive species and planting native trees, shrubs, and perennial forbs in a 140 foot wide corridor along the southern tributary and a 205 foot wide corridor along the northern tributary. Nearly 3,000 native plants, 370 pounds of native seed, and 40,000 rhizomatous sedge and rush plugs will be planted. Also, a 6,600 foot long biking and hiking loop trail will be installed along the restored creeks to connect with an existing bike trail.

To insure project success, surveys of nearby streams and creeks will be used to establish a plant list. A large proportion of plant stock grown at the RCD nursery will be propagated from nearby watersheds to preserve local genetic diversity. Drip irrigation will be installed to water for the first two summers.

According to Katherine Holmes, RCD’s Restoration Program Manager, “Volunteers will be actively recruited from neighborhood associations, schools, and community organizations to help with plant propagation and planting, and at least 15 public events will be held as part of this project. Through community-based restoration we will extend the reach and depth of the project – encouraging citizens to utilize native plants in their own landscaping efforts and instilling a strong sense of project ownership and a greater appreciation of Horse Creek as a valuable local resource.”

The Jepson Chapter Board of Directors has agreed to become actively involved in this proposal by helping the RCD recruit volunteers and educating the community in the benefits of this exciting project. Grant awards will be announced by the California Resources Agency next year. — Linda Cody

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CNPS Conference has something for everyone!

The CNPS 2012 Conservation Conference in San Diego from January 10-14 is an opportunity for all of us to come together and celebrate everything we do as a leading plant conservation organization in California. Our membership includes top level scientists and decision-makers in agencies, universities, consulting firms, and non-profit environmental organizations as well as the grassroots activists working hard on the front lines to share what we know and how we do it. There are sessions and activities for everyone from career botanists to garden enthusiasts.

You could learn how to start a plant restoration nursery at a workshop, listen to talks on a particular rare plant or invasive species, or contribute to a conversation about desert energy projects. There will be five sessions focusing on regional issues from north to south, including those of Baja California. To nourish your appreciation of our native landscape you may choose to take a drawing workshop with John Muir Laws, read a poem, submit a photograph, admire botanical art, or sing and play music. There will be opportunities to take action on your subject of interest and numerous social events where you will see and meet CNPS members and other experts from all over the state and beyond.

Registration is now open and early registration discounts are available until Oct 31, with additional discounts for CNPS members and students. Special CNPS conference discounts are available at the conference hotel, the Town and Country Resort, until Dec 16 or until all rooms are taken. You may register for the conference and/or the hotel through our website at www.CNPS.org/2012.

We need scores of volunteers during the days of the conference and we offer registration rebates to all volunteers who work eight hours or more. If you would like to volunteer, please contact our volunteer coordinator, Michelle Cox at volunteers2012@cnps.org.

Josie Crawford, Conference Coordinator
TALKS UNDERWAY ON PARK CLOSURE AND BOTANIC GARDEN FUTURE

The future of the Benicia State Recreation Area (BSRA), home of the Forest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden, is the subject of recent talks between the Benicia State Parks Association and the City of Benicia. Botanic Garden Committee Chair, Norma Deaner, is working with the Association to help city staff craft an agreement that will keep BSRA and the State Capitol complex open and maintained during the next two years. The Board has offered to continue to recruit and coordinate volunteers for maintaining the garden.

Chapter facilities at BSRA include the 3.5 acre botanic garden, a storage shed, shade structure and greenhouse. The State’s decision to close BSRA has blocked the Chapter’s plans to expand the Garden’s plantings and amenities. On September 6, the Benicia City Council directed staff to continue discussions with the Association and the State on a potential agreement.

CALL FOR BOARD NOMINEES

Your Board of Directors has initiated the process for electing Board members by nominating following individuals to serve the Jepson Chapter in 2012:

- President: Steven Goetz
- Vice President: Janet Mackey
- Treasurer: Sue Wickham
- Secretary: ?

Currently no member has offered to serve as Secretary, which requires attending monthly board meetings, preparing minutes of Board actions, and maintaining correspondence received by or sent to the Board. The Board encourages members to self-nominate if interested in any position on the Board. Members will be requested to consider these nominations as well any others from the floor, and to vote on these positions at the general membership meeting on November 28th.

PLAN AHEAD FOR THE NOVEMBER SUPPER & SLIDE SHOW

This is a reminder for Chapter members to save their favorite pictures taken during the year for sharing at the Holiday Potluck on November 28. Presentations could be less than a minute for one slide or up to about 10 minutes for numerous images. Pictures can be slides or digital. They can be any subject you think would interest the group. For example:

- unusual or particularly nice plants, or animals, or landscapes;
- pictures taken while doing restoration, or taking a hike, or on a trip;
- native garden pictures, yours or others;
- update on research you have been doing on a particular plant, habitat, etc.

Questions, contact Steven Goetz at sgoet@sbcglobal.net

CHAPTER PLANT SALE - OCTOBER 15TH

This year the fall plant sale will be co-located with the Benicia Arbor Day event in Downtown Benicia’s City Park at First St & Military. Check our website for a list of all plants for sale, www.cnpsjepson.org and help spread the word by posting the enclosed flyer for our plant sale on a bulletin board in your neighborhood or at work.

Call Sue at 747-5815 if you can volunteer to help with any of the tasks below.

- Day of Sale help: We can always use an extra helper to help bring sold plants to cars, and assist with setup and cleanup.
- Outreach: Place or put out a stack of flyers. Download the flyer from the chapter website or call Sue.
- Haulers: Oct 15th haul plants to or from our nurseries in Benicia and Vallejo. Truck or van works best.
- Post-sale nursery cleanup, organize leftover plants. Thursday and Sunday morning.

Other Native Plant Sales

- UC DAVIS ARBORETUM, Sept. 24, 11am-1pm, Arboretum Teaching Nursery, Garrod Dr., Davis
- UC BERKELEY BOTANICAL GARDEN—Sept. 25, 10:30am-2pm, 200 Centennial Dr., Berkeley
- NAPA CNPS, Oct.1-2, 10am-4pm, Skyline Park growing grounds, 2201 Imola Ave., Napa
- MILO BAKER CNPS, Oct. 8, 9am-1pm, Veterans Hall, 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, across from fairgrounds.
- EAST BAY CNPS, Oct. 1, 10am-3pm & Oct. 2, 12-3pm, Native Here Nursery, 101 Golf Course Rd., Tilden Park
- SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT, Oct. 22, 8am-12 noon, 6390 Lewis Rd., Vacaville

By Linda Cody
Paper or PDF?
In you would like to receive your newsletter via email please send your email address to Steve Goetz at sgoet@sbcglobal.net. If you prefer paper, do nothing. A newsletter will continue to arrive via USPS.

WILLIS LINN JEPSON CHAPTER
2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President, Gene Doherty, 415-609-5653 datagxd@comcast.net
- Vice President, Steven Goetz, 745-4675 sgoet@sbcglobal.net
- Recording Secretary, Janet Mackey, janetmackey@verizon.net
- Correspondence, Norma Deaner, 745-3906 ndeaner@pacbell.net
- Treasurer, Sue Wickham, 747-5815 sweo1@gmail.com
- Membership, Mary Frances Kelly Poh, 745-5461, mfpoh@pacbell.net
- Education, POSITION OPEN
- Newsletter Editor, POSITION OPEN
- Webmaster, POSITION OPEN
- Book/Poster Sales, POSITION OPEN
- Programs/Outreach, POSITION OPEN
- Plant Propagation/Past President, Becky Mannion 429-2494, rfivem@pacbell.net
- Plant Sales, Sue Wickham
- Conservation, Ted Swiecki, 448-0230 phytosphere@phytosphere.com
- Botanic Garden, Norma Deaner

CNPS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: ________________________________
Address:________________________________
City/Zip: ________________________________
Telephone:______________________________
Email (optional):__________________________
I wish to affiliate with:____ Jepson Chapter ______ Other__________

Individual Membership Categories:
____ Student/Limited Income, $25
____ Individual, $45
____ Family/Group/International, $75
____ Plant Lover, $100
____ Patron, $300
____ Benefactor, $600
____ Mariposa Lily, $1500

Mail with check to CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816, or you can join or renew automatically year after year via the website www.cnps.org and click on JOIN.