President’s Report

We held elections at our annual business meeting in November, yet I remain as your Acting President because not enough members participated in the voting. My role and the other Board officers can be legitimated with your vote. Please use the enclosed postcard or go on-line and cast your vote today.

Your Board officers will begin their terms with a full plate. On February 4th we have a work party scheduled at 9 AM to replace our storage shed at the Vallejo Sanitation District propagation facility. The existing shed has already been demolished. Vallejo Sanitation and the Chapter are splitting the cost of a new 10x12 metal garden shed, estimated at $500 total. If you would like to help, call me.

On February 11 and 12, the Chapter will be manning a booth at the San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival. Activities begin at 9 AM each day. We will be offering information on CNPS, selling plants, and networking with other organizations with an interest in native plants. Please join us if you can. If you would like to help, again, call me.

I hope you had a chance to read the article on the California Phenology Project featured in the CNPS Bulletin you received this month. This is an easy way for anyone interested in resource conservation to contribute information that can be used in natural resource management. The project includes the nearby John Muir National Historic Site in Martinez. This National Park Service facility is eager to include CNPS volunteers in their monitoring efforts. Locally available training sessions for volunteers are anticipated in the near future.

One change to expect from your Board in 2012 is a transition from a bi-monthly newsletter to a quarterly newsletter. Producing a quality newsletter takes some time. A quarterly schedule better matches available volunteer hours.

Sincerely, Steven Goetz, Acting Chapter President
745-4675 / sgoet@sbcglobal.net

Bringing Back Natives to Vallejo’s Creeks

The Jepson Chapter started off 2012 with a program on creek restoration with native plants in Vallejo’s Chabot Creek watershed, held at the Benicia Public Library on January 31. The program featured Amy King, Watershed Project Manager for the Solano Resource Conservation District, who described District-led riparian planting projects on Rindler and Blue Rock Springs creeks, which drain into Lake Chabot and ultimately into the Napa River.

Challenges typically faced by the District in this watershed include heavy clay soils, uncontrolled grazing, noxious weeds and illegal dumping. The District has learned that plantings in heavy soils are more successful when using plant materials sourced in the watershed. More trees and fewer shrubs are used in creeks with trails to improve public safety. Amy explained that plantings are limited to the upland areas in order to avoid the lengthy permit process administered by Fish & Game and the Army Corps.

Partners assisting the District in these projects include the Vallejo Watershed Alliance, Audubon Society, Boy Scouts, Vallejo Inner City Fishing Program, Jesse Bethel High School, Students & Teachers Restoring Watersheds, Solano Community College and the Greater Vallejo Recreation District. Jepson Chapter has donated plants for these projects and hopes to work more closely with the District in the future.

**Calendar of Events**

- **SF Bay Flyway Festival**, February 11-12, 500 Connoly St, Maire Island (see this page)
- **March 31, Walker Ridge/Bear Valley Trip**, (see page 3)
- **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
EVENTS OF OTHERS

NATIVE SHRUBS FOR THE GARDEN
On Feb 22 at 7:30 PM, the East Bay Chapter of CNPS will feature speaker Ted Kipping who will present a survey of native shrubs for the garden. Through his beautiful photographs, Ted will provide lots of inspiration and examples of different ways to enhance our gardens with native shrubs. The presentation is at the Orinda Library, 24 Orinda Way.

WORKSHOP ON SOLANO’S OAKS
The Solano Land Trust is sponsoring a workshop on oak woodland stewardship on March 21, 2012, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. This workshop is for ranchers, livestock operators, landowners, land managers, arborists and others interested in oak woodland stewardship. This is the first workshop of this type to be provided in this area. The workshop will highlight oak woodlands of the inner coast range and will focus on livestock operation and sustainability and regeneration in oak woodlands. Participants will receive an information packet with more detailed materials on the following agenda.

- Oak Woodland Ecology – an Introduction: Rick Standiford, UC Cooperative Extension
- Oak Woodland Management for Ranchers and Landowners: Morgan Doran, UC Cooperative Extension
- Conservation Easements: Janet Mackey, Solano Land Trust
- Sudden Oak Death and other pests: Steven Swain, UC Cooperative Extension
- Solano County Information: Jim Allen, Solano County Agriculture Commissioner
- Afternoon field trip to Lynch Canyon and Rockville Trails

Participants will carpool to sites. Discussion topics on field trips include fire management, Sudden Oak Death, regeneration, and water quality. Registration costs $20 and is due by March 1, 2012. Contact Sue Wickham at sue@solanolandtrust.org

HIKING AROUND OUR COUNTY
The following links to CNPS chapter websites list hiking opportunities in Solano County or within an easy drive.

www.marin.edu/cnps/MarinCnps201201JanFeb.pdf
www.napavalleycnps.org/index.php/activities-events
http://ebcnps.org/index.php/newsletter/

WAYNE RODERICK LECTURES
The East Bay Regional Park District’s Botanic Garden lecture series continues into February. Presentations start at 10:30 am at the Garden’s Visitor Center. A schedule is provided below. Most lectures emphasize ecology and biogeography of native plants in the field. The lectures are free but seating is limited so come early if you want a seat. Info at (510) 841-8732, bgarden@ebparks.org

- Feb. 4, Indian uses of California native plants – John Kipping
- Feb. 11, Peripatetic botany from Modoc to San Benito – Dick O’Donnell
- Feb. 18, Island of Fogs: exploring Cedros Island in Baja California – Mike Uhler
- Feb. 25, The western Mohave – Steve Edwards

PLANTS ILLUSTRATED
The UC Berkeley Botanic Garden has announced its third annual botanical art exhibition, Plants Illustrated. The exhibition, held every day until Feb. 3 rd in conjunction with the Northern California Society of Botanical Artists, invites viewers to explore the relationship between scientific study and fine art. The exhibit presents original artworks in watercolor, graphite, colored pencil and pen & ink and explores the many styles, forms and approaches unique to botanical art and illustration. Free with Garden admission, 10AM to 4 PM, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

HELP RESTORE ANTIOCH DUNES
The US Fish & Wildlife service will hold a restoration workday at the Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge on Feb. 25, 10 to 2. The Refuge provides protection for three endangered species: Lange’s Metalmark butterfly, Antioch Dunes evening primrose and Contra Costa wallflower. Due to the sensitivity of the habitats and the endangered species, the refuge is not open to unsupervised use by the public. Participants will be hand pulling vetch and yellow star thistle, practicing basal bark and "glove of death" treatments, as well as discussing the site’s history and how the partnership with PG&E works to restore this habitat. Lunch will be on the beach, so bring a packed lunch bag. This workday is free to the public but pre-registration is required. Register with Jen Stern, California Invasive Plant Council Training Program Manager: 510-843-3902; or email at jrstern@cal-ipc.org.
Low Turnout for Election

Election of officers was held at the Chapter’s annual business meeting in November, but voter turnout was below the level required for a valid election. We need 25% of Chapter membership to vote. Those who didn’t vote are requested to do so on-line or via the US Postal Service. Please indicate your preference for the candidates below on the enclosed self-addressed postcard, attach a stamp and mail it, or email your choices to mfpho@pacbell.net. Please vote soon.

☐ President: Steven Goetz
☐ Vice President: Janet Mackey
☐ Treasurer: Sue Wickham
☐ Secretary: OPEN

Support Grows for the Garden

The Jepson Board appreciates the support of our sponsors and donors for 2011: California State Parks Foundation and Pacific Gas & Electric with a $2,100 Earth Day Grant; Dan Jensen generously donated the prizes for our Garden Photo competition and for the cost of the stump removals of the Chinese Pistachio and the pitch canker afflicted Monterey Pine; Charlie White for donating the cost of wheel replacements for our old wheelbarrows; and to the responders to our 2011 Botanic Garden Campaign whose donations totaled $1,465. We will use the proceeds of the Campaign for next year’s garden maintenance.

CNPS and the Jepson Chapter are partnering with the City of Benicia, and the Benicia State Parks Assoc. to keep open the Benicia State Recreation Area and Benicia State Capitol Historic Park in the next two years. Operating agreements with the California State Parks are currently in negotiation. Your continued support for the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden, BSRA, and the Benicia State Capitol are needed and appreciated.

For more information:
http://www.protectbeniciastateparks.com/
http://www.facebook.com/BeniciaStateParks

Walker Ridge/Bear Valley Trip

The Chapter is sponsoring a field trip to Walker Ridge and Bear Valley on March 31. Gene Thomas will lead us to Walker Ridge and Bear Valley on Saturday, March 31. Gene will have a plant list for the area. We will meet at the park & ride on Green Valley Road north of I-80 in Fairfield at 8 AM and carpool from there, pit stop at 9:30, then another hour to Bear Valley. We will drive up to the north side of Walker Ridge and drive/stop along the way for about 2 to 3 hours depending on the plants/interest. We can leave by 3 pm and be back in Fairfield by about 5 pm. Call or email Steve Goetz if you want to go, 745-4675 or sgoetz@sbcglobal.net

What is the Jepson Manual?

The Jepson Manual had its beginnings with eminent early California botanist, Berkeley professor and Vacaville native, Willis Linn Jepson, who authored Manual of the Flowering Plants of California in 1922. At the time it represented the most comprehensive and authoritative reference on California botany. This early work was superseded with release of The Jepson Manual in 1993.

Thanks to new molecular-genetic tools and intensive field research, scientists’ understanding of the native flora in California has grown exponentially in the 18 years since publication of The Jepson Manual. With so much new knowledge to be incorporated and so much at stake on the conservation front, The Jepson Manual has undergone a makeover with release of its second edition.

The new Manual includes the means to identify plants (using key traits and illustrations) is accompanied by special information such as horticultural requirements, endangerment, toxicity, weed status, and notes on the management of sensitive species. Identification keys are designed for ease of use, and terms are simplified and illustrated, making The Jepson Manual the most authoritative field guide for the expert and amateur alike.

The 1,600 page, six pound volume can be ordered online at www.ucpress.edu/9780520253124. A twenty percent prepublication discount is available from U. C. Press. Amazon.com is also accepting prepublication orders.

A first-ever electronic version, the Jepson eFlora, is available on line at http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/JJM.html. The eFlora includes all of the taxonomic treatments of the print Manual and has in addition treatments for taxa that were excluded from the print Manual because of doubts about naturalization status. Interactive distribution maps linked to specimen data from the Consortium of California Herbaria are included. Words that were abbreviated to save space in the print Manual have been expanded. Accepted names and synonyms can be searched for. The eFlora is linked to the Jepson Online Interchange, and from there to numerous electronic tools.
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

• Acting President and 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
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• 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, rfvem@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.