President’s Report

With the election over I can now rest after a hard fought campaign to be President of the Jepson Chapter Board of Directors. Thanks to all who voted.

Enough cannot be said about the hard work of this Board on behalf of the membership. We recently made some decisions on difficult choices of what we hope to accomplish in 2012. We have posted these goals on the website so you can watch our progress. In addition, the Board approved a budget of just over $5,000 for the year.

I would like to thank in particular the efforts of fellow board members Sue Wickham, Mary Frances Kelly Poh, Janet Mackey, Norma Deaner, Becky Mannion, and Ted Swiecki. They are responsible for the local services and programs we provide our membership through our plant sales, speaker events and advocacy on behalf of native plants in various forums around our County.

I will close by alerting membership to an event sponsored by our Benicia State Parks Association and the City of Benicia. On May 23, Dr. Catherine Millard, an award-winning author will talk on her new book, The Dismantling of America's History about America's valuable historic landmarks. The Benicia State Capitol is included in the book.

Following this presentation will be the screening of the new documentary on park closures, The First 70. This 28-minute film chronicles the filmmakers’ journey through California as they document the July 1 closure of 70 state parks, including the Benicia State Recreation Area, home of our Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden. The event will be held at the Benicia Community Center multi-purpose room, 370 East L Street. Your Board of Directors appreciates the efforts of the Association and the City in keeping the home of our botanic garden accessible to the public.

Sincerely, Steven Goetz, Chapter President

745-4675 / sgoet@sbcglobal.net
Events of Others

**SPRING BRINGS HIKES**

Spring hiking season is upon us. There are too many hikes in and around Solano County to list individually, so this article will only provide websites.

- Solano Land Trust,  
  http://www.solanolandtrust.org/CalendarList.aspx
- Napa CNPS,  
  http://www.napavalleycnps.org/index.php/activities-events
- East Bay CNPS,  
  http://ebcnps.org/index.php/field-trips/
- Marin CNPS,  
  http://www.marin.edu/cnps/FieldTrips.html
- Sonoma CNPS,  
  http://www.sonoma.edu/cnps
- Santa Clara County CNPS,  
  https://docs.google.com/View?docid=dd9d82jv_872zfm93

For farther flung floriferous adventures, check out the newsletters of CNPS chapters elsewhere in the state at http://cnps.org/cnps/chapters/list.php Most have extensive lists of hikes and contact information. To maximize your chances of being in the right place at the right time for spring wildflowers, you might want to periodically check the wildflower hotline (818) 768-3533 or online http://www.theodorepayne.org/hotline.html

**SPRING BRINGS GARDEN TOURS**

Here are three self-guided home garden tours that feature California native plants, are water-wise, and wildlife friendly. All require registration in advance.

- **Going Native Garden Tour, April 21** - Peninsula, April 22  
  – Santa Clara, , 10am to 4pm, Free, www.gntf.org
- **Napa County Bay Friendly Garden Tour, May 6, Fee:**  
  $10/household to obtain map for the self guided tour.  
  http://bayfriendlycoalition.org/Calendar.shtml#Napa
- **Bringing Back The Natives Garden Tour** in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, May 6, 10am to 5 pm  
  www.bringingbackthenatives.net

**NATIVE GRASSLANDS WORKSHOP**

For a 5th consecutive year, the California Native Grasslands Association will team up with Hedgerow Farms to provide hands-on learning about native grasses and grassland restoration in Winters on April 20, 8 to 4:30. Learn from expert instructors, be immersed in a wide variety of grassland projects, and enjoy networking with a diverse group of people who share a common interest in California grasslands. Fees: $60 CNGA members / $75 non-members / $35 students w ID. Information online at www.cnga.org or call 530-661-2280

**CNPS PRESENTATIONS ON YOUTUBE**

Not surprisingly, the Santa Clara Valley Chapter has one of CNPS’ best websites. They recently added a page that provides links to videos and powerpoint presentations of many of the events. The native plant topics include botany, gardening, and conservation. I often receive announcements of their presentations but am reluctant to drive an hour to see them. Now we can view many of them on our computers.  

**GROWING CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS – BOOK REVIEW**

First published thirty years ago, the long-awaited second edition of *Growing California Native Plants* is the ideal hands-on native plant guide for both experienced and novice gardeners. In addition to the voluminous knowledge contributed by Marjorie G. Schmidt, now deceased, Katherine L. Greenberg has taken note of the vibrant state of today’s horticultural scene, adding plants and ideas that were little known when the book first appeared.

Lavishly illustrated with 200 new color photographs, drawings, maps, and charts, this concise and easy-to-use reference covers trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, bulbs, grasses, and vines, and includes a plant selection guide for quick reference. The authors, whose combined experience spans six decades, take California’s summer-dry climate and restricted water supplies into account and provide helpful notes on companion plants and gardening with wildlife. Practical and informative, *Growing California Native Plants* is a valuable reference for gardeners everywhere in California and an enjoyable book simply to explore.

Marjorie G. Schmidt was a gardener and a writer for *Fremontia*, the journal of the California Native Plant Society. Katherine L. Greenberg, a gardener and designer with a special interest in California native plants, has served as president of the Friends of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden, the Mediterranean Garden Society, and Pacific Horticulture Society. *Growing California Native Plants, Second Edition, will be available from U.C. Press on February 16. Order Now*
EARTH DAY AT THE BOTANIC GARDEN
The Botanic Garden Committee will provide an opportunity for you to give back to your favorite planet by participating in the Earth Day Restoration and Cleanup program at the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden on April 21. The schedule of events include:

- 9am to Noon, plant and tend the Botanic Garden. All ages and skills are welcome. We will have a range of activities you can choose from. Come dressed to get dirty. Bring a hat, sun screen and gloves.
- Noon, free lunch will be provided by Mike & Gayles Safeway.

Meet at the Botanic Garden in the Benicia State Recreation Area off Interstate 780 between Benicia and Vallejo. Free parking for volunteers (fees waived by California State Parks). Please carpool as parking is somewhat limited. The Benicia Tree Foundation and Benicia State Parks Association will be helping with the day’s activities.

EARTH DAY IN VALLEJO
Vallejo will celebrate Earth Day on April 21 during the Farmer’s Market on Georgia Street. Details of the event will appear on the website www.valcorerecycling.org. The Jepson Chapter will be there selling plants and promoting CNPS. If you would like to help out at the booth please call Mary Frances Kelly Poh at 745-5461.

Activities are from 9am to 1pm and include:
- Jugglers & performances;
- Raffles & door prizes;
- Kids craft projects, games, and petting zoo;
- Exchange your mercury thermometer for a free digital thermometer at Val San booth; and
- Electric car display: the Chevy Volt and Nissan Leaf.

WALKER RIDGE/BEAR VALLEY TRIP
Our March 31 date got rained out, so the drive/hike has been rescheduled for a date to be announced via email. Gene Thomas 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 20 minutes to Bear Valley. We will drive up to Walker Ridge and drive/stop along the way depending on the plants/interest. We can leave by 3 pm and be back in Fairfield by about 5 pm. Heavy rain cancels. Email me if you want to be sure you are notified. sgoet@sbcglobal.net

CHAPTER NATIVE PLANT SALE IN MAY
California native plants will be offered at our Chapter’s Spring Plant Sale on Saturday, May 5th at the Benicia Community Garden located at the corner of E. 2nd St. and Military East. Sales begin at 9am.

Local experts will provide advice on plant selection and care, and answer your garden questions. Books, posters and other resources will be available too.

Check the Chapter website after April 25 for a list of plants for sale. Many of these plants can be seen by visiting the Botanic Garden in the Benicia State Recreation Area. Plants have markers so you can identify plants on your own ($6 state parking fee)

We need helpers for the sale, particularly to move plants to the site on Friday and back to the propagation area on Saturday afternoon. Call Sue at 747-4815 if you can help.

BOARD VACANCY PERSISTS
The Jepson Chapter has four elected officers, but currently only three are filled. We need a Board secretary. Responsibilities include preparing summary minutes of Board meetings. Training is available. Contact Steve Goetz if you want more details.

SPRING PLANT SALES BY OTHERS

- April 14-15, 10am-4pm, Napa CNPS, Skyline Park, 2201 Imola Ave, Napa
- April 14, 9am-1pm UC Davis Arboretum, Featuring some natives, Arboretum Teaching Nursery on Garrod Dr, Davis, (530) 752-4880.
- April 21th, 10am-3pm, East Bay Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Anza View Road, Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. www.nativeplants.org
- April 21th, 8am-Noon, Solano Resource Conservation District, Spring Plant Sale (some natives), 6390 Lewis Rd, Vacaville, www.solanorcd.org
- April 28th, 10 am - 2 pm, UC Berkeley Botanic Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley. Some natives, for plant list – www.botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu
- May 10th, 8am-8pm, May 11th, 8am-5pm, and May 12th, 9am-2pm, Horticulture Club of Solano Community College, (some natives), 4000 Suisun Valley Rd. Horticulture Bldg. 1000, easy parking in Lot 6.
California Native Plant Society
Willis Linn Jepson Chapter
P.O. Box 2212
Benicia CA 94510
www.cnpsjepson.org

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

WILLIS LINN JEPSON CHAPTER
2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President, Steven Goetz, 745-4675 sgoet@sbcglobal.net
- Vice President, Janet Mackey, janetmackey@verizon.net
- Recording Secretary, POSITION OPEN
- 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, 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.

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 Lynn Jepson C 4