

# Darlingtonia

WINTER 2018  
JAN-MAR

Newsletter of the North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society  
Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora

## Conservation Corner

December 2017

### This is Bigger than Climate Change

by Carol Ralph

Those were the words of Dave Imper, respected, "retired" rare plant advocate and our October evening program speaker. He was referring to the short-term impact on biodiversity in our region near the coast. Putting frequent, low-level disturbance back into our native habitats is something we personally can make happen now, at the local level, and see the results soon. It is enormously important. Most California plants, including lilies, brodiaeas, fritillarias, azaleas, and yampahs, evolved with frequent, low-level disturbance.

If a housing project threatens a special habitat, conservationists are sure to rise up, write letters, go to meetings, and sit in front of bulldozers, but we sit on our hands and watch as year by year good wildflower habitat disappears under rank grasses and sedges, native shrubs, and native trees. We think, "Nature knows best." We gasp if a three-foot diameter Sitka Spruce, possibly 100 years old, is felled, but we ignore the lilies, violets, and fritillarias gasping for light as tall grasses, Salal, and alders smother them in the place they have grown for centuries, if not millennia.

Dave told us that in most cases the "natural" condition is the disturbed condition-- by fire, by landslide, by grazing, by thundering hooves, by pocket gophers, by digging sticks, etc. Nature indeed knows best; she provides disturbance. The importance of human-mediated disturbance by Native Californians has been amply documented by Kat Anderson in her important book *Tending the Wild*. "Wilderness" is not "abandoned." Even in our coastal redwood forests, forest ecologists have found fire return intervals of seven years. Yet our redwood parks have "protected" their redwood groves from fire for 100 years. Our California landscapes were shaped by humans, and it's up to us to continue managing them.

From the perspective of his studies of the Western Lily (*Lilium occidentale*) Dave showed us case after case of coastal prairie,

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### Find out what's happening:

- Visit our website: [NorthCoastCNPS.org](http://NorthCoastCNPS.org)
- Visit our Facebook page: [facebook.com/NorthCoastCNPS](https://facebook.com/NorthCoastCNPS)
- Sign-Up for Activity Notifications by emailing: [NorthCoast\\_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:NorthCoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

## MAY WILDFLOWER SHOW & PLANT SALE

Learn • Buy • Plant

4, Friday, 1-5 (show only)

5, Saturday, 10-5

6, Sunday, 10-4

Jefferson Community Center  
1000 B St., Eureka

## FIELD TRIPS, LONG AND SHORT

Please watch for updates on our Web site ([www.northcoastcnps.org](http://www.northcoastcnps.org)) or sign up for e-mail announcements ([Northcoast\\_CNPS-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:Northcoast_CNPS-subscribe@yahoo.com)).

Outings are open to everyone, not just members. All levels of expertise, from beginners to experienced botanizers, are welcome. Address questions about physical requirements to the leader. Weather and fires can require destination changes. It is wise to contact the leader if you are coming, in case plans change.

**February 25, Sunday. Rohner Park and Humboldt Botanical Gardens**, short hikes. Slinkpod, Fetid Adder's Tongue, and *Scoliopus bigelovii* are all names for the same early-blooming plant. The intricate flower and interesting aroma deserve creative names. We will see it and other redwood forest plants on an easy walk (about 1 mile) in a mature, second grown redwood forest right in Fortuna. Then we will drive north to Humboldt Botanical Gardens. Its Lost Coast Brewery Native Plant Garden has 120 species. Something will be blooming! (Bring your membership card or CR student card or pay \$5 senior/\$8 adult admission.) We will walk some of the trails in the garden. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Kohls end of Bayshore Mall parking lot or 10:00 a.m. at the Fireman's Pavilion in Rohner Park (Park St. off Main St. by 16th St.) We will be outside! Dress accordingly. Bring lunch and water, hoping for a sunny picnic table at which to eat. Please tell Carol (822-2015) that you are coming.

**April 12, Thursday.** Field **Workshop with CalFora** staff, learning how to use the Calfora website and app, introduced in the previous evening's program. Destination to be announced. For information contact Carol (822-2015 / [theralphs@humboldt1.com](mailto:theralphs@humboldt1.com))

**April 15, Sunday.** 1:00-3:00 p.m. "**Conifers on Campus,**" a plant walk with **Dr. Dennis Walker**, the man who brought conifers from all corners of the world to create a remarkable collection on the Humboldt State University campus. Not all conifers look like Christmas trees! Learn what makes a conifer and broaden your understanding of these trees and shrubs. Meet at the green front doors of the dome greenhouse, east of B St. between Science D (where the botany labs are) and the Wildlife Building. Weekend parking is free. Contact Carol (22-2015 / [theralphs@humboldt1.com](mailto:theralphs@humboldt1.com)).

**April 29, Saturday,** 10 a.m. to noon. **Ferns of the Dunes.** Ferns are distinctive and popular for the exotic texture that they add to vegetation. At the Lanphere Dunes Unit of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge Carol Ralph will introduce eight species of common ferns during an easy walk of about 1/4 mile along the riparian edge of the dunes, while discussing some of the amazing aspect of fern life. Bring a hand lens if you have one and be prepared for mosquitoes. Meet at Pacific Union School (3001 Janes Rd, Arcata) and carpool to the protected site. Co-sponsored by the California Native Plant Society and Friends of the Dunes. Reserve your space by contacting Friends of the Dunes at 707-444-1397 / [info@friendsofthedunes.org](mailto:info@friendsofthedunes.org).

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If you would like to help plan all-day field trips or 2-hour plant walks, Carol wants to talk with you! 707-822-2015.

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### MEMBERS' CORNER

#### THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS

ANNIE EICHER  
MICHELE KAMPRATH  
BARBARA KELLY  
JOYCE KING  
LAURIE LAWRENCE  
BOBBIE MCKAY  
JOHN PATTON / VICTORIA PATTON  
C.J. RALPH / CAROL RALPH  
BRADLEY THOMPSON / KAREN SHEPHERD  
WILLIAM WOOD  
SAMARA RESTORATION

#### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Support these local businesses and with proof of your North Coast membership, receive discounts on your purchases.

- **Greenlot Nursery**, 10% discount on plants, 443-9484
- **Lost Foods Native Plant Nursery**: 10% discount on plants, 268-8447, [LostFoods.org](http://LostFoods.org)
- **Mad River Gardens**: 10% discount on plant purchases, 822-7049
- **Miller Farms**: 5% discount on plant materials, 839-1571
- **Pierson's Garden Shop**, 10% discount on all garden shop items

(except sale or non-discountable items—please ask staff before going to register), 441-2713

- **Samara Restoration LLC**, 10% discount on plants, 834.4379 / [samararestoration.com](http://samararestoration.com)

#### JOIN CNPS!

To join or renew, you can either:

- ◆ Send your name and address, check (payable to CNPS) CNPS, 2707 K St., Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.
- ◆ Pay on-line [cnps.org/cnps/join](http://cnps.org/cnps/join)

## CHAPTER PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS

### EVENING PROGRAMS

Evening programs are free, public programs on the second **Wednesday** of each month, September through May, at the Six Rivers Masonic Lodge, 251 Bayside Rd., Arcata. Refreshments at 7:00 p.m. and program at 7:30 p.m. For information or to suggest a speaker or topic contact Michael Kauffmann at 707-407-7686 / [michaelekauffmann@gmail.com](mailto:michaelekauffmann@gmail.com).

- Feb 14** "Journey to New Caledonia." In late 2017, **Marie Antoine** and **Steve Sillet** travelled halfway around the globe to one of the world's hotspots of plant diversity. The island of New Caledonia is about the size California and has the highest number of plants per square kilometer in the world. Of the 44 indigenous species of gymnosperms (conifers plus podocarps), 43 are endemic (grow only there), including the only known parasitic gymnosperm. Marie and Steve will share tales and images from their visit.
- Mar 14** "Wildflowers of the Trinity Alps." **Ken DeCamp**, author of *Wildflowers of the Trinity Alps*, has been drawing and photographing wildflowers for over 40 years. It is from this collection of images that this book became a reality. Though he has traveled widely, he has always considered the mountains of northern California his home and has, for 60 years, explored its most hard-to-reach places. Ken will share tales from the trails and images of some of his favorite flowers. Books will be available for purchase.
- Apr 11** Presentation by **CalFlora**. CalFlora is a non-profit organization responsible for providing a website service where people can learn about plants that grow wild in California (native and weeds). Information comes from public agencies, non-profits, scientists, private donors, and the public.
- May 9** TBD



Image courtesy of UC Berkeley Herbarium

### Daniel Howard Norris (1933 –2017)

Norris joined the faculty at Humboldt State in 1967 and retired in 1991, during which time he taught many students who went on to jobs in academic botany and in plant conservation. Norris' specialty was moss taxonomy, and he developed identification keys to mosses that work with minimal reliance on seasonal reproductive characters. His keys—tried on many a student via photocopy for decades—were published in 1994 in the journal *Madroño*, co-authored by Jim Shevock. In 2009, Norris co-authored the beautiful book *California Mosses*. Dan Norris' other research program was a bryoflora centered on New Guinea, co-led with Timo Koponen of the University of Helsinki.

Norris ended up authoring over 50 original research reports. Remarkably most were published after age 50. After Norris retired from teaching college courses, he continued to do research almost every day at the UC Berkeley Herbarium. He was an avid collector and discovered many species new to science. He also taught many workshops on moss

identification, and he had a hand in moss conservation, for example when the Northwest Forest Plan came into being. He is remembered by many CNPS members for introducing them to mosses, and for his intelligence, and for his sweetness. Dan Norris died on 30 September after a long period of Parkinson's disease.

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### Highway 299 Fall Tour October 8, 2017 by Carol Ralph

Driving east on Highway 299 towards Redding we usually have a destination and a schedule that preclude stopping at interesting places along the way. This field trip was to satisfy our curiosity about some of these places. On a brisk, sunny day eight of us explored six of them. It being October, we thought we might see some fall color as well.

Heading east, we crossed Lord Ellis Summit (2,270 ft elevation) and on the descent turned left on Chezem Rd. Our first stop was where it crossed Redwood Creek. The Coast Fawn Lily (*Erythronium*) were there, sporting dry seed pods and withered leaves instead of big pink or white flowers. The Big-leaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) above them was still green. The Poison Oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*) here and along the road down was the most colorful species of the day, with yellows, pinks, and deep red. The White Alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*) and California Hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta*) were still green. Both were planning ahead to spring, already having unripe, green, male catkins.

Next, shortly before Berry Summit (the second ridge inland) we stopped at the Vista Point. There we stood in the tawny-yellow grassland and gazed across the valley at the dark green forest on private land over there. It was a patchwork of "working forest," patches of clear-cut, patches of young conifers, patches of tanoak and conifers. That was the east-facing slope. On our west-facing slope Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*) was scattered in the grassland, and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) was advancing out of the gullies. The oaks couldn't claim to be colorful, but they were definitely browner than greener.

We crossed Berry Summit (2,803 ft elevation) and descended the drainage of Willow Creek, well out of the coastal influence. We stopped at East Fork Campground of Six Rivers National Forest, the very cool, shady canyon of the East Fork Willow Creek. It is a cool retreat on a hot, summer day. The gate was locked, to keep out vehicles during the wet season, when spores of Port Orford Cedar root disease might ride in on tires. This canyon and Horse Mountain above it are an important, most southerly, disease-free stand of Port Orford Cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*). We walked in only as far as the stream, appreciating the acorns of Tan Oak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*)--cap very bristly; nut plump--and Canyon Live Oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*) ("Live" meaning evergreen.)--cap like a smooth beret, nut slender. The Black-fruited Dogwood (*Cornus sessilis*) lacked fruit and was still totally green, not colorful. We studied the Himalaya Blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) to practice the characters that distinguish it from *Rubus praecox*, a different weedy species recently found in California. This specimen had red thorns contrasting with

green stem and had fairly straight prickles in the inflorescence, both *armeniacus* characters.

A little further down Willow Creek we stopped at Boise Creek Campground. The campground was on a level area shaded by large Oregon White Oak and some handsomely large Madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*). Unfortunately, the background level of traffic noise was unsettling. We escaped this noise the instant we dropped off the plateau onto the steep slope down to Willow Creek. This path crossed a rock outcrop in a powerline right-of-way, a different habitat, and dropped into the riparian zone, where house-size boulders clothed in moss, Mertens Saxifrage (*Saxifraga mertensiana*), and Roadbank Fern (*Polypodium calirhiza*) created a green drama under the alders. The noise here was the rushing water; the fragrance was California Bay (*Umbellularia californica*). The saxifrage had a few new leaves appearing among the dried rosettes of the past spring. The fern was unfurling armies of bright green fronds. Instead of fall colors of the sort marking decay and dormancy, our California fall colors include the bright, fresh green of new growth! We climbed back up the path and then ate lunch in the campground looking at a row of young Port Orford Cedar standing beside a young Incense Cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*).

After passing the town of Willow Creek, which is near where the creek named Willow Creek joins the Trinity River, and crossing the bridge over the South Fork Trinity River (into Trinity County), we parked on the wide shoulder for the Hlel Din River Access, yet another site provided by Six Rivers National Forest. A gentle path took us down to the river bed through a mossy tunnel under Oregon White Oaks and Canyon Live Oaks and past an interesting line-up of shrubs, including Poison-oak, Coyote Brush (*Baccharis pilularis*), Ocean Spray (*Holodiscus discolor*), Deerbrush (*Ceanothus integerrimus*), Wood Rose (*Rosa gymnocarpa*), Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*), Serviceberry (*Amelanchier* sp.), Common Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos manzanita*), Birch-leaf Mountain Mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides*), and Holly-leaf Redberry (*Rhamnus ilicifolia*). This last was much like Canyon Live Oak in leaf size and color. A few red berries on it were an obvious clue it was something different. The most vibrant color of the day was the bright red flowers of Humboldt County Fuchsia (*Epilobium septentrionale*) on the rock faces under the bridge. Heart-leaved Keckiella (*Keckiella corymbosa*), which has similarly colored flowers and is similarly late blooming, was on the same rocks, but it was finished blooming.

Ready for one more stop, we continued east to the Francis B. Mathews Safety Rest Area, which has pleasant walks under Canyon Live Oaks. [It also is the place I very first saw Fire-cracker Flower, in the grassy area opposite the restrooms. That spot is now grown up in brush.] Our goal was to explore the abandoned section of road along the cliff just west of this

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rest area, a section of road Caltrans built two bridges to bypass. We saw two Mountain Dogwood (*Cornus nuttallii*) with mildly colorful foliage along the way to this abandoned road. The cliff turned out to be a huge, steep slide of gray rocks and gravel, now compacted to feel safe to walk across. It was well on its way to being totally covered by Himalaya Blackberry. I had hoped for a rock faced covered in saxifrages and ferns.

We enjoyed and recommend all of these sites along Hwy 299, the first 5 for botanical interest, the last mostly for its conveniences. All are worth knowing, as good examples of low elevation Klamath Mountains flora. As we drove home someone asked, "Where is *Quercus* growing naturally closest to the coast?" That gave us something to think about.



*Cedar friends. An Incense Cedar (left) and Port Orford Cedar (right) at Boise Creek Campground provide an easy foliage comparison. (Photos by the author)*



*At Hlel-din River Access a budding botanist examines Humboldt County Fuchsia, looking for hairs that distinguish it from the more widespread California Fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*).*

## Patrick's Point State Park

November 4, 2017

by Carol Ralph

On a cool but calm and sunny day 16 people gathered in Patrick's Point State Park to spend the day botanizing. True, we were distracted by a nice array of colorful and variously sculpted mushrooms and by three amazing River Otters synchronized swimming in the surf way below our trail, but we mostly looked at vascular plants.

First we looked at the pines around us in the Bishop Pine Picnic Area. They indeed had needles in bundles of two and were moderately long, making them Bishop Pine (*Pinus muricata*). We wondered why some had died. Later we saw Shore Pine (*Pinus contorta*), the other local species with bundles of two, but its needles were definitely short, giving its branches a more bottle-brush appearance.

We walked across the road, along the meadow, and up the path across the west side of Ceremonial Rock, up the stairs where sometimes we see Grape Fern (*Sceptridium multifidum*), one of our less familiar, though not truly rare, ferns. Unfortunately it apparently was beheaded by the trail-clearing crew. Trimming the trail side is important. Without it, the Grape Fern would be crowded out. Obviously timing, or perhaps education of the eye operating the trimmer, has to be different for this fern to survive here. We followed the path around the shady north side of the rock, blanketed with a massive bed of Roadbank Fern (*Polypodium calirhiza*) and Leather Fern (*Polypodium scolieri*) and dripping long stringers of English Ivy (*Hedera helix*). We climbed up the rock stairs past the wall of mosses, which are non-vascular green plants, and Oregon Spikemoss (*Selaginella oregana*), a mossy-looking vascular plant. *The Jepson Manual* says this species grows in "festoons." In this park, this species is quite restrained in its festooning, causing confusion for those of us trying to key it. A recent visitor from the Jepson and U.C. Berkeley Herbaria identified it as *S. oregana* using other characters (rootlike growths only near the base of the plant, short leaf tip bristle).

At the top of Ceremonial Rock, besides taking in the view across the meadow to the ocean, we noticed the difference between male and female Coyote Brush (*Baccharis pilularis*) flowers, found on separate plants. Male flowers are yellowish discs; female flowers have the shaving brush-like tuft of hairs that will be the sails for dispersing seeds. As a fall-blooming species Coyote Brush is an important insect food source. An impressive and depressing sight at the top of this central, much-visited feature of the park is an enormous, old, blooming English Ivy. It is slated for removal, but it has been for many years. The regular, second-Saturday volunteer workers can't do the rock climbing necessary to tackle this massive ivy. (If you are connected with rock climbers who would like to do a worthwhile project, have them tell Michelle Forsys that they'd

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where these spectacular native flowers grew, succumbing to succession, becoming shrubland or even forest--no place for lilies. Interestingly, these lost coastal prairies were in state parks or other reserves, which we citizens think are preserving our natural heritage. Unfortunately, our parks and other land stewards most often take a hands-off approach, preventing disturbance and "letting nature take its course." Monitoring, that is, periodically measuring and counting what is there, to know what they are losing, and habitat management are not in their mission and certainly not in their budgets. Dedicated staff who can see the problem struggle against a general lack of awareness (partly due to lack of data) and lack of funding. The result is the inexorable loss of the early successional habitats like coastal prairie.

Here is our call to action. We need to tell the stewards of our public lands that we know the importance of frequent, low-level disturbance to maintain biodiversity. If they are aware of it but frustrated by lack of funds, we need to educate and pressure the sources of those funds. If land managers are trying novel techniques to mimic natural disturbance, we should encourage them and learn with them from the results. We can't use fire as it has been used in the past, and we don't have massive herds of elk, but we have mowers and goat herds. We have to experiment. We need more tools, and every ecosystem will need a custom treatment.

If you watched the lilies, sneezeweed, and gentians on Elk Head disappear under salal and huckleberry, if you remember the azalea reserves when fragrant, billowing Western Azaleas were dominant, if you walk under the Douglas-fir on Titlow Hill wishing for the oak woodland and Hounds' Tongue that used to be there, if you remember a mountain meadow being bigger

than it now is, then you understand the need to bring back the disturbance.

If you would like to join a "Disturbance Task Force" to brainstorm and enumerate ways to educate, encourage, pressure, and modify attitudes, procedures, and policies, contact Dave ([dimper@suddenlink.net](mailto:dimper@suddenlink.net)) or Carol ([theralphs@humboldt1.com](mailto:theralphs@humboldt1.com)). Meanwhile, find old photos to compare with the present, photos to remind yourself and to show others what was there when disturbance happened. We have lost much of the natural world to human activity; let us not

lose the remaining to inactivity.

This coastal prairie had been passively grazed by cattle for a century or more. It supported a vigorous (albeit largely non-flowering) population of western lily and a variety of



other early successional wildflower species.

Although some natural succession was occurring, evidenced by encroachment of shrubs and Sitka spruce, the shrubbery was generally held in check by the grazing.

Cattle grazing was terminated in about 1992. The prairie rapidly developed into coastal scrub and forest, leading to a steep decline in the western lily and botanical diversity in general.



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like to remove the English Ivy on Ceremonial Rock. She will be glad to hear from them: Michelle.Forys@parks.ca.gov)

After descending the stone stairs we were attracted by a mossy rock and inspired to review the fern life cycle. Choosing to explore more park rather than take the time to search for fern gametophytes, we continued out the path to Agate Beach Campground. (If you were hoping to learn more about the fern life cycle in this paragraph, put on your calendar the fern walk April 28.) We paused at a tangle of blackberries to distinguish non-native Himalaya Blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) (angled stems, large thorns, usually 5 leaflets) from native California Blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*) (round stems, modest prickles, usually 3 leaflets). Those of us from Arcata and elsewhere thought this California Blackberry had fewer prickles than usual. The Trinidad residents assured us that's the way it is in Trinidad. We filed that information under "Rubus Dilemma" and then spotted a picnic table in the sun, the obvious place for lunch.

After lunch we crossed the road and joined the Rim Trail headed south. Coast Angelica (*Angelica lucida*), a listed rare plant grew here among great bunches of Pacific Reedgrass (*Calamagrostis nutkaensis*), which also loves coastal bluffs. Farther south another rank 4.3 species, Trailing Black Currant (*Ribes laxiflorum*), created in a great tangle of sprawling stems under a grove of Red Alder. I knew it was there from seeing it on previous visits. This time it was hard to spot. The California Blackberry was sprawling all over it.

We walked over to the spectacular ocean view from Wedding Rock, focusing on the ground to spot the 5 species of plantain (3 non-native, 2 native) that can be found here. We found only 4, *Plantago lanceolata*, *coronopus*, *maritima*, and *subnuda*. The angelica around this trail is generally Henderson's Angelica (*Angelica hendersonii*), with fine fuzz on the backs of the leaves; clean, white, flowers; and smaller bracts under the flower clusters than Coast Angelica, which has shiny, hairless leaves; greenish flowers; and larger bracts.

We all wanted to study the unusual manzanita on Lookout Rock, so our last stop was there. Armed with "The Manzanita Book", *A Field Guide to Manzanitas: California, North America, and Mexico* by Michael Kauffmann, Tom Parker, and Michael Vasey, we climbed the staircase and trail up the rock, noticing a small 3-needle pine on the way. (Who would that be?) At the top some of our group simply soaked up the sun, while others examined manzanita leaf surfaces and inflorescences. The field guide said that a non-hairy Hairy Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos columbiana*) grows at Patrick's Point, so we expected the lone upright manzanita on this rock to be that. But no! Using a team consensus approach we decided this individual had leaves with similar color and texture top and bottom, very short, fine hairs on twigs and inflorescence, and inflorescence bracts short and deltate. These characters led to Common Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos manzanita*), but we were out of range. We met the same problem for the prostrate manzanita also on that rock. We thought its top and bottom leaf surfaces were similar, making it Pinemat Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos nevadensis*), but we were out of range.

Kinnick-kinnick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*) is the common, local, prostrate manzanita. The undersides of its leaves should be paler than the upper sides. I think of Kinnick-kinnick leaves being rounded and Pinemat pointed. These were rounded lower on the stem and pointed near the tips of the stems. Having proven that even with a specialized book with local keys and detailed range maps we could still fail to identify a manzanita, we filed all that under "Manzanita Confusion" and headed for home, having thoroughly enjoyed yet another visit to this wonderful state park.



*Oregon Spikemoss festooned on Ceremonial Rock. Farther north and on trees, its usual substrate this species makes much longer festoons. (Photos by the author)*



*Close-up of Oregon Spikemoss. The branch tips that look square rather than spikey are the "clubs" that have sporangia tucked in between the leaves.*



## Fall Plant Sale & Nursery Thank You's & News

From Chris Beresford

(If I missed naming anyone, please accept my sincere apologies for my oversight.)

**FALL PLANT SALE** On behalf of the plant sale team; thank you to all of the volunteers that made the fall plant sale on September 23<sup>rd</sup> such a success (planning, advertising, label printing, setting-up, taking-down, parking assistance,



answering plant questions, cashiering, and more) – it was our best and largest fall plant sale to date! Each and everyone of you played an important role in this fall's plant sale success: Mary Alward (lead parking activities), Richard Beresford, Randi Swedenburg, Karen Isa (updated the our plant sale banner, coordinated and fed volunteers and got boxes for folks to use), Pete Haggard, Carol Ralph, CJ Ralph, Connie Gregerson, Chris Brant, Ann Burroughs (printed all of the plant labels for the CNPS nursery plants as well as for the other nurseries plants, literally 1,000's of labels), Frank Milezchik, Elaine Allison, Melanie & Ron Johnson (Melanie coordinated the volunteers), Anita Gilbride-Read (cashiering lead), Ron Melin, Samatha O'Connell (made new informational signs), Evan Mahoney-Moyer, Miranda Hernandez, Patt Piethe, Neil Piethe, Gisela Rhode, Carol Boshears, Andrea Culbertson, Becky Deja, Kate Lancaster, Ila Osburn, Veronica Yates, Bonnie Mac Raith, Bill Rodstrom, Donna Wildearth, Joyce Houston, Elaine Weinreb, Barbara Kelly, Greg O'Connell, David Price, Susan Halpin, Gura Lashee (photographer), Jeff Hart (loaned his pop-up awning for the day so the cashiers didn't have to deal with being in the sun), Ron Dean (unexpectedly provide us with great deer ferns for our sale), and Anna Bernard (organized the plants from the other participating nurseries).

Four local nurseries participated by providing plants that we do not grow ourselves (shrubs, trees, perennials, and bulbs): Samara Restoration, Beresford's Bulbs, Mattole Restoration Council, and Brant Landscaping.

**NURSERY** After three years at the Jacoby Creek Land Trust Kokte Ranch the CNPS native plant nursery moved to the site of the old Freshwater Farms Nursery, located by 3

Corners on Old Arcata Road. We are very grateful for the opportunities afforded us at the Jacoby Creek site by the Jacoby Creek Land Trust, but we had outgrown the space.

At the new site, owned and operated by the North Coast Regional Land Trust (NCRLT), we have use of an 1,800 square foot hoop house space to work in and to grow our starts, a larger outdoor space for our plants, space to plant and showcase native plants in a garden setting for folks to see and to learn about the use of native plants, workshop opportunities, and the ability to sell our plants year-round through the Kneeland Glen Farm Stand located on site (often in the summer, when some of our plants look their best, we had no way to sell them at their peak). We will also be able to have our fall plant sale on site.

There is much excitement about the move and we had many volunteers helping us out with getting the site ready. There was much groundwork to be done since the site hasn't been used in years. Thanks for helping out with growing of all of our plants and who helping get ready for the plant sale: Barbara Reisman (who takes the lead while I am away), Carol Ralph, Carol Woods, Sam O'Connell, Mary Alward, Karen Isa, Ron Melin, Miranda Hernandez, Evan Mahoney-Moyer, Barbara Wilkinson, Robin Hamlin, and Ila Osburn. A special thank you to our faithful watering team who always



show up on their scheduled days to water all of the nursery plants, no small task! Zeal Stefanoff, Connie Gregerson, Sam O'Connell, Barbara Reisman, Carol Woods, and Mary Alward. Karen Isa and Barbara Reisman weeded around the outside of our deer fence at the nursery, Chris Brant weed-eating and mowing for us as needed and to Barbara Wilkinson for power washing the concrete area by the nursery for the plant sale.

A special thanks to Richard Beresford for continuing to pick up pallets of potting soil for us from Mad River Gardens Nursery and to Sam & Greg O'Connell for helping him to offload a pallet of potting soil one evening. Mad River Gardens continues to be our partners in growing native plants by giving us wholesale prices for our pallets of potting soil as well as for the containers that we need. Support them because they support us!

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**More Thank Yous-New Nursery Site-** We had our first nursery workday (20 volunteers and a couple of productive hours with more to come before moving in) at the new nursery site on Sunday, November 5. We also had the ceremonial signing of our lease for the new nursery site. Many thanks to: Brian Merrill who cut down the trees that needed to be removed; to Richard Beresford and Gordon Skaggs for figuring out how we will be getting power to the hoop house and who will be installing fans to help move the air around and vented out; Carol Ralph for providing yummy treats; and all of the volunteers who weed wacked, grubbed out, cleaned out, pulled out berries and weeds, and happily got dirty in the mud – Karen Isa, Evan Mahony-Moyer, Barbara Reisman, Alan & Barbara Wilkinson, Jon Hill, Brian Dorman, Gary Falxa, Sam O'Connell, Jay Seeger, Richard Beresford, Gordon Skaggs, Carol Ralph, David Callow, Dan Ehresman (Executive Director of the Northcoast Regional Land Trust (NCRLT who orchestrated our work day); and two members of the NCRLT Board of Directors, Rees Hughes and Mile Miles.

The second nursery site workday took place in conjunction with a NCRLT workday. Karen Isa, Anna Bernard, Greg O'Connell, Ron Melin, Claire Brown, Laurel Goldsmith, and Carol Ralph laid the row of pilings to demarcate the riparian zone (where we can plant native plants, but not have our nursery operation), cleaned up the ground adjacent to the hoop house, and cleaned out the "rock garden."

In addition to scheduled workdays, volunteers have been working on their own getting a wide variety of much needed tasks accomplished. After the hoop house was all cleaned up, the fabric cloth was put down inside the hoop house, no

See all of this in color! You can download a copy of this and previous issues by going to our website [NorthCoastCNPS.org](http://NorthCoastCNPS.org), then go to the About us menu item and select Newsletter. Would you like to receive your *Darlingtonia* as a download link in an e-mail? Update your CNPS profile on CNPS.org (click on the Member Login).

small task with trying to figure out how to attach it to itself when fabric staples didn't work (Liquid Nails)! Special thanks to Karen Isa for taking the lead on this much-needed task, it looks great! She was assisted by Evan Mahony-Moyer, Frank Milelzcik, and Anna Bernard.

Thanks to the folks at Snap-Fans in Arcata for giving us a discount on the fans and thermostat. They were also very helpful in figuring the size requirements for the fans for our hoop house as well in helping us to figure out how best to vent and circulate the air in the hoop house. Again, support them as they support us!

A very special thanks to Richard Beresford who has been working on getting the two Snap Fans in the hoop house for ventilation, putting in electrical outlets for fans as well as for heating cables and general use, wiring the electricity to the hoop house, and connecting the hoop house to its electrical source. He also helped the NCRLT with the needed water meters. Richard will be plumbing the water into the hoop house and pipes to the outside area as well, soon!



Signing the nursery site contract.

Evan Mahony-Moyer also worked on uncovering water lines along the hoop house for NCRLT as we are trying to figure out which water lines go where!

A special thanks to Jon Hill for reinforcing and fixing the old tables left from the Freshwater Farms Nursery. We will be using them in the hoop house for our plant starts. Jon (and others) provides the pallets that we are currently using to keep our 1-gallon up off the ground.

Karen Isa, Barbara Reisman, and Fred and Mary Alward worked on putting back the blocks that were removed at the last clean-up and built a

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<b>Econews CNPS Page Editor</b>	Evan Mahoney-Moyer		

### COMMUNICATIONS

North Coast CNPS members have four ways to share information with each other:

Issue	Print Date	Submission Date	Announce Events In
Winter	January 1	December 1	Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr
Spring	April 1	March 1	Apr, May, June, Jul
Summer	July 1	June 1	Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct
Fall	October 1	September 1	Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan

E-mail newsletter articles, factoids, tidbits, etc. to the Newsletter Editor by the submission date.

Articles should generally be no more than 1,000 words and images can be any size and in these formats: JPG, JPEG, BMP, GIF, or PNG (note preferred location in the article and send image as a separate attachment).

- The **Darlingtonia Newsletter** (quarterly),
- Our **chapter's website**: [www.northcoastcnps.org](http://www.northcoastcnps.org)
- **E-mail lists/forums** To subscribe, send an e-mail to: Announcements: NorthCoast\_CNPS-subscribe@yahoogroups.com / Gardening: NorthCoast\_CNPS\_Gardening-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- **Like us on Facebook** [www.facebook.com/NorthCoastCNPS](http://www.facebook.com/NorthCoastCNPS)

### EcoNews AND You

We, the North Coast Chapter of CNPS, are a member organization of the Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC), a valuable voice for conservation in our area. We have a seat on their board of directors. The NEC is the only organization with which we share our mailing list. We think it is important that our members receive *EcoNews*, an informative publication about conservation issues in our area. Our chapter pays NEC to mail *EcoNews* to our members who are not also NEC members. You can reduce this cost to our chapter by joining NEC at [www.yournec.org](http://www.yournec.org) or requesting your *EcoNews* be electronic (contact Gary Falxa at [gfalxa@suddenlink.net](mailto:gfalxa@suddenlink.net)).

### NATIVE PLANT CONSULTATION SERVICE



Are you wondering which plants in your yard are native? Are you unsure if that vine in the corner is an invasive exotic? Would you like to know some native species that would grow well in your yard?

The North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society offers the Native Plant Consultation Service to answer these questions and to share our experiences gardening with natives. This service is free. We hope it will inspire you to join CNPS or make a donation.

Contact our coordinator, Samantha O'Connell at 707-601-0650 or [maineflower@gmail.com](mailto:maineflower@gmail.com), who will put you in touch with a team of volunteer consultants who will arrange a visit to your property to look at what you have and help choose suitable plants for your garden.



## VOLUNTEER CORNER

Everything we do is with volunteer labor. Every job, small or large, is important for getting things done. We appreciate our many, talented, generous volunteers. You can be one too! Contact Carol at 707-822-2015 or [theralphs@humboldt1.com](mailto:theralphs@humboldt1.com)

### *Thank you!*

**Nursery volunteers**, enumerated elsewhere in this issue by Chris, for extraordinary effort in transforming a neglected site and establishing a beautiful, functional nursery. It will amplify our educational impact and our sales.

**Chris Beresford** for extra-extraordinary effort in masterminding the nursery move, especially while carrying on her busy life. We are lucky and grateful to be beneficiaries of Chris' business sense, contract experience, gardening expertise, and direct/aggressive/forthright/jump right in...

Similarly, **Richard Beresford** for super-generously contributing his plumbing, electrical, and carpentry expertise and time to get the nursery functional.

**Karen Isa** for phenomenal physical and mental labor applied to the new nursery clean-up and set-up.

**Plant Sale volunteers**, also enumerated elsewhere, for making our plant sale a beautiful, fun, educational, and profitable event. They might even have arranged for the perfect weather.

**Barbara Reisman** for mastering the credit card reader and researching what device we need to buy to run it. Now we should, theoretically, be able to make credit card sales where ever we are selling our posters, t-shirts, plants, and books. We want no obstacles to people's spending urges!

**Karen Isa** for seeing through a new order of t-shirts, so we will have all your sizes for Christmas shopping!

**Greg O'Connell** and **Adam Canter** for organizing a participant list and a venue for a meeting of northwest California botanists to talk about Species of Special Concern in the National Forests and about Important Plant Areas.

**Wiyot Tribe** for hosting that meeting at their Table Bluff Headquarters.

### *Help Needed*

**Newsletter Editor.** Four times per year assemble this great newsletter. Marisa will help you learn.

**Wildflower Show Coordinator.** Gets lots of credit and thanks while coordinating a group who knows what needs to be done. Needs a good "sense of calendar." We need you right now!

**Publicity Coordinator.** Especially for our two big events, May Wildflower Show and Plant Sale and Sept. Plant Sale. Be sure our publicity is fed into all the channels available these days.

**Plant Sale Coordinator.** Watches the "big picture" while the many wonderful volunteers carry on getting plants ready. Fall and/or spring sale.

**Conservation Issue Specialists.** Inform themselves about conservation issues of their choice and keep us informed in the newsletter and at Steering Committee meetings.

**Nursery Liaison.** Communicates with the three partner nurseries before each plant sale; checks their plants in and out; calculates their share of the revenue.

*(Continued from page 9)*



raised bed that we will be using to display succulents and dudleyas in the future.

As you can see, many folks have been working hard to get the site ready for us to move in. Stay tuned for our open house announcement!

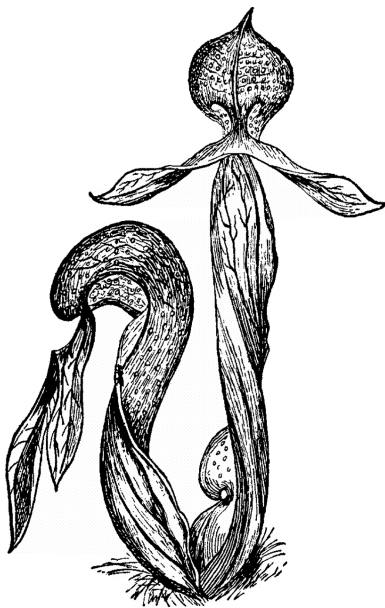
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## *Darlingtonia*



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## **CALENDAR of EVENTS** (Field Trips—pg 2 / Programs—pg 3)

### **February**

- ◆ 14 Program
- ◆ 25 Hike

### **March**

- ◆ 14 Program

### **April**

- ◆ 11 Program
- ◆ 12 Workshop
- ◆ 15 Walk
- ◆ 29 Walk

### **May**

- ◆ 4 Wildflower Show
- ◆ 5 Wildflower Show
- ◆ 5 Plant Sale
- ◆ 6 Wildflower Show
- ◆ 6 Plant Sale
- ◆ 9 Program