

# CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

## BLAZING STAR

March 1974

### Bi-monthly Membership Meeting

Place: Saratoga High School at Herriman and Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road

This month the meeting will NOT be in the Cafetorium as has been usual; however, the meeting will be held in room 701-704 at 8 pm.

Date: March 28 WILD ORCHIDS OF CALIFORNIA

This evening will bring us the outstanding photographic survey of the California orchids by Bonnie and J. Ed. ("Jed") McClellan. The dazzling brilliance and intricacy of form will lead us through this visual feast. Come and see these tiny and mysteriously beautiful plant forms flash on the screen before you.

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The May meeting promises to be a surprise for both you and us. We all should be very pleased with the fantastic job Suzanne has done providing us with such interesting programs.

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COMING COMING COMING COMING!!!!!!!

The wild flower show is coming at the end of April. Volunteers will be needed to set up, collect flowers (the really fun part), and many other miscellaneous duties on the day of the show; and yes, even clean up (which may take the least amount of time of any of the chores). If you want to get involved see the item on Picnic and Planning elsewhere in this issue. The wild flower show will be at Saratoga High School on April 28. The show will have to be setup the day before, so we will want to use all our experience from last year and have a super-smoothly organized show. Your time will be greatly appreciated.

### Newsletter Printing

Through the tireless effort and devotion to California Native Plants Catherine Smith, aided the editors in printing this news letter. No one really knows for sure how or where the newsletter is printed, but the last report I heard stated that the little California Gnomes were busily printing this issue under the spreading leaves of a protected Calochortus. The plants of California salute Catherine.

Publicity

Lois Daily has agreed to use her talents as a publicity director for our chapter. She will spread word of our activities through all available channels. If you have any ideas that may possibly enhance the appreciation of our native plants please contact Lois care of our PO box number on the front of this issue. . . . .

Picnic and Planning Meeting

The picnic is an inducement to gather all of the hard working industrious members into one place for a common cause. Gerda Isenberg is coordinating the efforts to make this years wild flower show the best yet! People are asked to come to Gerda's Ranch to help plan for the show. There are lots of jobs available for anybody with any interest. Here is one of the most pleasant ways to get involved with the local chapter.

Time 11.00 am Sunday March 10

Place Yerba Buena Nursery on the Isenberg Ranch  
19500 Skyline Blvd.  
Woodside Ca 94062  
Phone 415-851-1668

Directions: The ranch entrance is located approximately 8 miles north of highway 9 or 4 miles south of Skylonda which is the junction of 84 and 35. The road is on the ocean side of skyline and you will have to travel 2 1/2 miles on a country road.



Money Problems

What communication these days would be complete if it didn't say something about money? Be that as it may the local chapters as well as the state CNPS are beset with monetary problems. Various plans have been suggested to alleviate the stress of increasing budgets. The state organization has reduced the chapter subvention of dues by approximately 30% and the local chapters may have to include a chapter solicitation of dues. Because of this decision our chapter MUST know ALL of you who may have wanted to affiliate with the local chapter but may have forgotten to check the box on your renewal membership form. If you are not sure that you checked the box, write to Virginia Rumble via the tear off to let her know your desires. If you do not write to Virginia our chapter does not receive any subvention of dues.

Return Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Stamp

Mrs. Virginia Rumble  
P.O.Box 639  
Arcata, Ca 95521

----- Fold Along Dotted Lines to Form a Z Then Staple and Send -----

Dear Mrs. Rumble

Would you please notify the appropriate people that I wish to affiliate my membership in the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

Thank-you

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Recipe Of The Month

This month I'm taking a slightly different slant on the recipes as strictly a food source and instead will give remedies for various ailments. The uses have all been authenticated and are as true as I know.

Lactuca candensis and L. virosa or wild lettuce and prickly lettuce respectively Varieties of these plants produce a milky juice similar in appearance and odor to opium. They have been used since antiquity as <sup>tranquilizers</sup> and as sedatives. Whether this effect is real or imagined is still undergoing debate; however, it is known that the American Indians used lettuce plants in a number of remedies.

Meskwaki women imbibed a tea of prickly lettuce leaves after childbirth



CALENDAR

March 1974

- Fri. 8 Weekday Walk with Virginia Bothwell: Byrne Park  
Fri. 22 Weekday Walk with Virginia Bothwell: Byrne Park  
Sat. 23 Exploring a Redwood Community: Scotts Valley  
Thurs. 28 Bi-monthly membership meeting: "Wild orchids of California"  
at 8 pm in room 701-704 Saratoga High School  
Sat. 30 The Moore Ranch and Mission Peak. Leaders Mr. and Mrs. Erskine

April

- Sat. 6 A Hike Through Coe Park with Stuart Olson  
Wed. 10 Weekday Walk with Herman Baum  
Sat. 20 Inland Marine Terraces, Ben Lomond Sand Hills with Cliff Schmidt  
Sun. 21 Wildflower Photography in the field. with Jack Kelly  
Sun. 28 \*\*\*\*Spring Wildflower Show \*\*\*\* Saratoga High School

May

- Sat. 4 Uvas Park Wildflowers with Wayne Savage  
Fri. 10 Weekday Walk with Virginia Bothwell: Foothills Park  
Fri. 24 Weekday Walk with Virginia Bothwell: Foothills Park

Tobe Announced:

Overnight: Arroyo Mocho and Tarravell Creek, Inner Coastal Mountains with Lee Main.

June

- Sat. 1 Elkhorn Slough, Moss Landing with Diane Conradson

General Information: Bring lunch, liquid, comfortable hiking shoes or boots, hand lens and the following books: "Flora of the Santa Cruz Mountains" by John Hunter Thomas or "Spring Wildflowers of the San Francisco Bay Region" by Helen Sharsmith. Check additional recommendations per hike. Plan to car pool as much as possible and reimburse drivers. Phone numbers for further information:

Nattie Hopkins 264 5076  
Lee Main 471 3263  
Carol Leach 264 9425  
Sally Casey 961 3256

March 23: For our Redwood Community Walk, we will car pool at Breuner's parking lot off Route 17 at Hamilton in San Jose, at 9.15 am. Others who wish to drive over, can meet us at shell station, first off ramp in Scotts Valley, for further pooling. (9.45 am) Limited number of cars can park at destination. Lunch, Liquid ets per above information.

Coordinator: Sally Casey

March 30: Number is restricted to fifteen for our visit with Mrs. Moore and Mission Peak, so call early. Car pooling in Mission San Jose at 10.30 am in parking lot across from and between the Old and New Churches. Follow general information for lunch etc. To reserve place on trip call leaders Mr. and Mrs. Erskine 851 1483 or Sally Casey 961 3256

Weekday Walks: Virginia Bothwell's March walks will go to Byrne Park at 10.00 am. Take Page Mill Road to Altamont; turn left on Altamont to Taaffee. Easy parking. Virginia's number is 854 6458. Lunch etc. Virginia's May Walks will be in PaloAlto's Foothill Park. Meet at main entrance at 10.00 am.

Herman Baum 258 2885 will meet his group at the Montgomery Ward parking lot on Capitol Avenue, San Jose, between Berryessa Road and McKee Road at

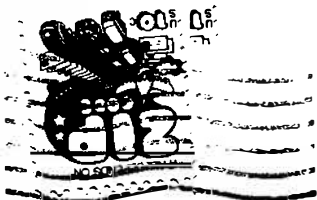
9.00 am. Plan to car pool and reimburse drivers. Will visit Herman's lovely yard the basic planting of which is natives. Energy situation permitting, he will explore a few back roads with special native plants on west slope of the inner coastal mountains.

April 6 : Stuart Olson's hike is a rugged one with 1200<sup>+</sup> elevation change and eight miles in length. Among the many flowers in bloom last year, were the lovely columbine, false lupine and a velvety, minuscule Mimulus sp. For car pooling, meet at the Westgate Shopping Center, San Jose at the corner of Prospect Road and Saratoga Avenue at 9.00 am. in front of Penney's store. Refer to general information for equipment. The number to phone Stu is 257 7325

April 20: The inland Marine Terraces of the Ben Lomond Sand Hills are of particular interest due to the endemics and distributional patterns. The most distinctive feature is the stand of Ponderosa Pine. Others to be seen are Knobcone Pine, Coast live Oak, and species of Manzanita and Ceanothus. It will be a modest climb on a sandy trail of 2½ to 4 miles in length. For car pooling meet at Breuner's parking lot in San Jose at Route 17 and Hamilton at 9.00 am; second pooling stop at 9.45 am at bridge at east edge of Felton. Lunch, Liquid as in general info.

April 21 Jack Kelley has a free wheeling approach to close-up photography for the beginner. The easy way, he calls it. Equipment needed are: single lens 35 mm camera with close-up lens or extension tubes. If you do not have these, don't purchase anything until you see how it is done. Film recommended: Daylight High Speed Ektachrome, Asa 160. You will probably kneel or lie on the ground so dress accordingly. Car pool at the Safeway Store in the shopping center at Canada College, Rt. 280 and Farm Hill Blvd. Redwood City in the highest, most easterly parking lot of the College. Phone Jack Kelley: 266 6320

May 4: Plan to see typical vegetation of the coast ranges, where the riparian comes in confluence with the chaparral, accented by a myriad of blossoms. Car pool in San Jose on 4th Street, just south of San Fernando opposite San Jose State University Library at 9.00 am. Further info from general numbers.



California Native Plant Society  
c/o Saratoga Horticultural Foundation  
P. O. Box 308  
Saratoga, CA 95070