



GOLD FIELD NOTES

EL DORADO CHAPTER ☼ CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ☼ November-December 2014

CALENDAR

November 22 (Saturday)

Workshop.

Native plant gardening workshop at new garden site at Folsom Lake College off Missouri Flat Rd. Companion to November program (see inside for details). Contact Alice Cantelow (530-622-5306; greendow-ell@att.net).

November 25 (Tuesday)

Program.

Rising From The Starthistle: A Native Plant Demonstration Garden Takes Shape In Placerville. See inside for details.

December 6 (Saturday)

Workshop.

Landscaping with Trees & Shrubs: Selections for the Foothills. This workshop will be held from 9 am to noon at the Bethell-Delfino Agriculture Building, 311 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA **Contact:** Master Gardeners - El Dorado County to register (530-621-5512).

January 7 & 8 (Wed-Thurs)

Workshop.

Bryophyte Sampling and Inventory Techniques. Chico Herbarium. See website for details (<http://www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html>)

January 27 (Tuesday)

Program.

Climate change, forests and fire in the Sierra Nevada. See inside for details.

Evening programs generally are held on the fourth Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November, and begin at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville.

NOVEMBER 25TH PROGRAM:

RIISING FROM THE STARHISTLE: A NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN TAKES SHAPE IN PLACERVILLE

Master Gardeners of El Dorado County are creating a large demonstration garden next to El Dorado Center, Folsom Lake College, off Missouri Flat Rd. One section of the garden will be devoted entirely to native plants. Master Gardener and CNPS board member Alice Cantelow will discuss the design elements, plants selected, and challenges encountered in creating the native plant garden. Material presented will include how to make a scaled plot plan, where to obtain native plants, best irrigation practices, and excellent resources for plant selection. Attendees are invited to a free hands-on workshop Saturday November 22 at the garden itself from 1-3 PM, weather permitting.

This program will be held on November 25. The program begins at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville.

CITIZEN SCIENCE: BUMBLE BEE WATCH

Bumble Bee Watch (<http://www.bumblebeewatch.org/>) is a collaborative effort to track and conserve North America's bumble bees. This citizen science project allows for individuals to:

- Upload photos of bumble bees to start a virtual bumble bee collection;
- Identify the bumble bees in your photos and have your identifications verified by experts;
- Help researchers determine the status and conservation needs of bumble bees;
- Help locate rare or endangered populations of bumble bees;
- Learn about bumble bees, their ecology, and ongoing conservation efforts; and
- Connect with other citizen scientists.

Your help is needed! Because these animals are widely distributed the best way to keep track of them is with an army of volunteers across the country armed with cameras. With any luck, you might help us to find remnant populations of rare species before they go extinct. Participating in Bumble Bee Watch is simple and you can get started now by creating an account at the website. Once you have an account, go out and check your garden, in parks, or any other natural areas you frequent for bumble bees. Be sure to snap a photo and submit your data via our Bumble Bee Sightings form. To help you in your "watch," check out the handy (downloadable) bumble bee identification guide from Xerces Society:

http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/02/occidentalis_pocketid.pdf

How to Submit a Sighting

1



Take a photo of a bumble bee

2



Log in and upload your photo

3



Identify your species

4



Sighting will be verified by expert

HOLIDAY GIFT CORNER

Looking for a gift this winter for a nature loving friend, or maybe you are in need of a treat? Read on for some new books about the land around us and the creatures that live here.

Secrets of the Oak Woodlands: Plants and Animals among California's Oaks

By Kate Marianchild; Illustrations by Ann Meyer Maglinte

A Californian may vacation in Yosemite, Big Sur, or Death Valley, but many of us come home to an oak woodland. Yet, while common, oak woodlands are anything but ordinary. In a book rich in illus-

tration and suffused with wonder, author Kate Marianchild combines extensive research and years of personal experience to explore some of the marvelous plants and animals that the oak woodlands nurture. Acorn woodpeckers unite in marriages of up to ten mates and raise their young cooperatively. Ground squirrels roll in rattlesnake skins to hide their scent from hungry snakes. Manzanita's rust-colored, paper-thin bark peels away in time for the summer solstice, exposing sinuous contours that are cool to the touch even on the hottest day. Conveying up-to-the-minute scientific findings with a storyteller's skill, Marianchild introduces us to a host of remarkable creatures in a world close by, a world that "rustles, hums, and sings with the sounds of wild things."

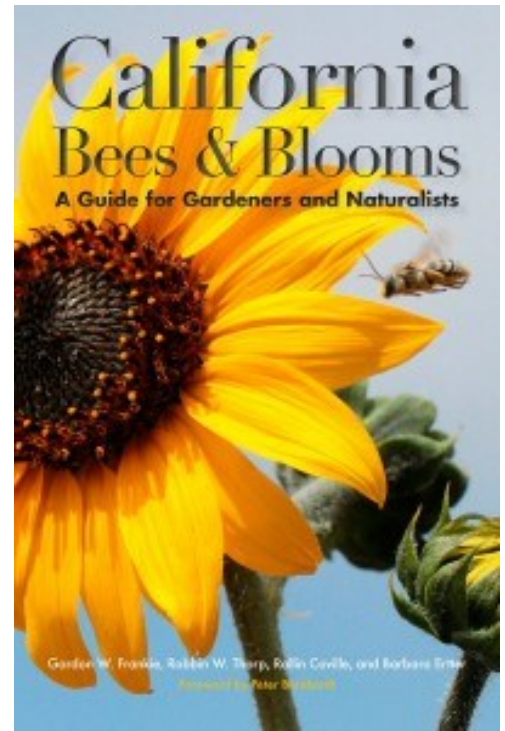
California Bees and Blooms: A Guide for Gardeners and Naturalists

By Gordon W. Frankie, Robbin W. Thorp, Rollin E. Coville, and Barbara Ertter

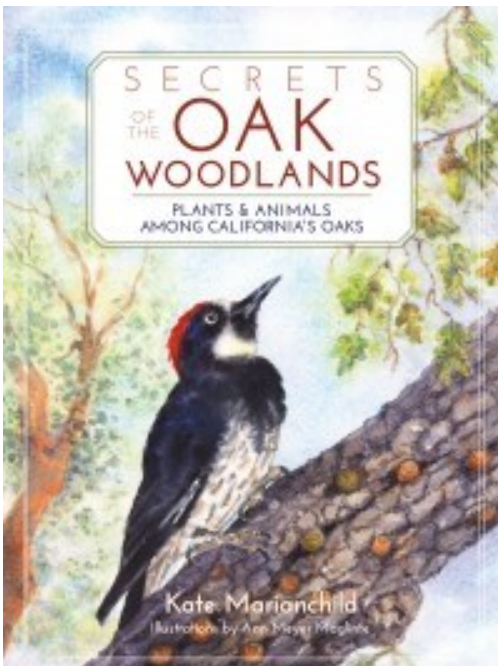
California is home to over sixteen hundred species of undomesticated bees—most of them native—that populate and pollinate our gardens, fields, and urban green spaces. In this absorbing guidebook, some of the state's preeminent bee and botany experts introduce us to this diverse population. *California Bees and Blooms* holds a magnifying glass up to the twenty-two most common genera (and six species of cuckoo bees), describing each one's distinctive behaviors, social structures, flight season, preferred flowers, and enemies. Enhancing these descriptions

are photographs of bees so finely detailed they capture pollen scattered across gauzy wings and iridescent exoskeletons.

Drawing from years of research at the UC Berkeley Urban Bee Lab, *California Bees and Blooms* presents an authoritative look at these creatures, emphasizing their vital relationship with flowers. In addition to opening our eyes to the beautiful array of wild bees in our midst, this book



provides information on fifty-three bee-friendly plants and how to grow them. Just a few square feet of poppies, sage, and phacelia are enough to sustain a healthy population of wild bees, transforming an urban or suburban garden into a world that hums and buzzes with



WORKSHOP, JANUARY 7 AND 8 BRYOPHYTE SAMPLING AND INVENTORY TECHNIQUES: HOW TO FIND THE RARE AND UNUSUAL SPECIES

Celebrate the New Year by attending this workshop on bryophyte identification. Here in California, over 650 mosses and 150 liverworts have been documented. New additions to the California bryoflora are being discovered as more landscapes across the state are being surveyed. This 2-day workshop hosted by the Chico Herbarium will offer classroom lecture, demonstration, and field exercises. The workshop will be led by Jim Shevock, a retired botanist with the US Forest Service and US National Park Service, who is now affiliated with the California Academy of Sciences. He has been a bryophyte researcher for the last 15 years and has collected bryophytes throughout the world. He coauthored the "Contributions toward a Bryoflora of California" with Dan Norris in 2004. Check the Chico Herbarium website for more information (<http://www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html>)



Helodium blandowii photo by Martin Lenz

ELECTIONS 2014: MEET THE CANDIDATES

Our chapter will be holding elections for chapter officers at the November program meeting. All CNPS members who attend the November meeting are eligible to vote for the officers. Candidate statements are noted below.

Candidate for President: Alice Cantelow

A retired environmental educator, Alice is an active U.C. Cooperative Extension master gardener and has been our chapter treasurer for about 5 years. An avid hiker and backpacker, she comes from a botany family, which she resisted as a child but now embraces! With a B.A. in geochemistry and an M.B.A. specializing in small business, Alice hopes to bring her combined science and business skills to the position of president. She would like to see our chapter increase our educational activities and support of the community.

Candidate for Vice President: Deb Ayres

Debra Ayres has been a CNPS member since 1990 and is running for vice president. In the last year she served on the Board as Program Chair, spoke at a Chapter general meeting, conducted plant hunts, worked with Alice Cantelow-Lubetkin on a public native plant garden,

pulled weeds, and most recently analyzed the flora of lava caps in the county. Before retirement, Debra worked as a scientist at UC Davis on the population dynamics of rare and weedy plant species. She has a BA in botany, a MS in ecology, and a PhD in plant ecology.

Candidate for Treasurer: Cindy Podsiadlo

My interests as well as my career are varied and wide ranging (gardening, art, opera, exploring). Retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 2007, my positions on the Sierra and Eldorado National Forests included: wilderness ranger, silviculture technician, ecologist, hydrology technician, and range manager. I have B.A. degrees in French (love languages) and Biology (Botany), and a teaching credential in biology. I've held chapter positions as treasurer, president, and currently membership co-chairperson. Although I previously wanted to step down from the board, I feel that there is a new vitality within our chapter and I would like to help out and be part of that energy as Treasurer.

Candidate for Secretary: Stephanie Johnson

New member Stephanie Johnson helped with the last two plants sales and has joined field trips this past year. This fall she volunteered to run for the position of Secretary.

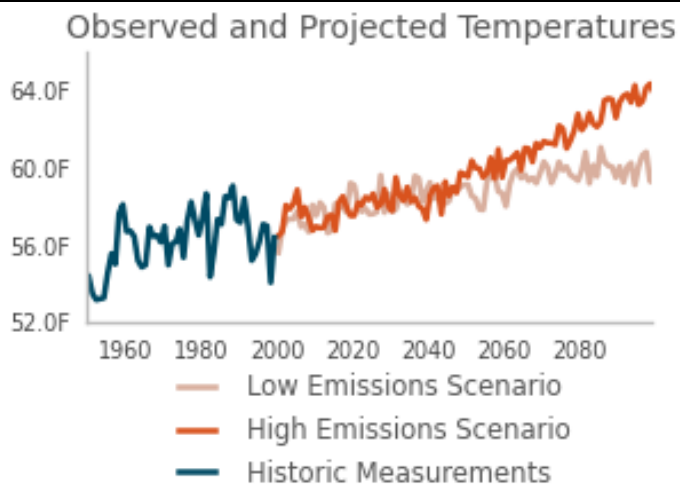
JANUARY 27TH PROGRAM: CLIMATE CHANGE, FORESTS AND FIRE IN THE SIERRA NEVADA: IMPLICATIONS FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

What is the future of Sierra Nevada forests after years of fire suppression and in the face of global climate change? Will fires on the scale of the King and Rim fires become the new normal? These questions, and more, will be answered by Dr. Hugh Safford during this talk. Dr. Safford, the senior vegetation ecologist for the USDA-Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Region is uniquely qualified to address these questions. He will discuss how past, present, and future climate changes interact with recent fire-suppression and wildfire in our forests. While he will focus on vegetation, plant diversity and a few key animal species, effects of climate change and wildfire on carbon, water, and soil will be summarized as well. How does this knowledge affect forest management practices? Dr. Safford will address this question at the end of his talk.

This program will be held on January 27. The program begins at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville.

CLIMATE CHANGE: NOW PLAYING IN A HABITAT NEAR YOU

Almost daily, we hear about climate change, yet how this phenomenon might affect the specific place where one lives is often unclear. Cal-Adapt (<http://cal-adapt.org/>) is a website with interactive tools to explore how climate change might affect California at the local level. Developed by the University of California, the maps and visualization tools synthesize the most recent climate offer estimates of future conditions. Ever wondered what the range of temperatures might be in 2080 for Placerville? The tools at Cal-Adapt can help you understand that. The graph to the right is an



annual average temperature for Placerville is 56.8 ° F. The data here projects an increase in temperature by 2090 ranging from 3.2° F to 6.0°F. To check out projections for other areas in California, go to Local Climate Snapshots (<http://cal-adapt.org/tools/factsheet/>) and select a location. You will be able to see projections for changes in temperature, snowpack, wildfire, and sea rise level.

example of information available at the site. It shows the projected changes in annual average temperatures for two emission scenarios – low CO₂ emissions and high CO₂ emissions. The historical

How the changes ahead might affect the species and habitats around us are some of the biggest questions that face conservationists today.



El Dorado Chapter
 California Native Plant Society
 P.O. Box 1948
 Placerville, CA 95667

November-December 2014

For Updates Visit Us on the Web
www.eldoradoCNPS.org and



CALIFORNIA
 NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

**DEDICATED TO THE
 PRESERVATION OF
 CALIFORNIA'S NATIVE FLORA**

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide nonprofit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The mission of the Society is to conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants. Membership is open to all.

Membership includes the quarterly journal, *Fremontia*, the quarterly *Bulletin*, which gives statewide news and announcements of Society activities and conservation issues, and the chapter newsletter *Gold Field Notes*. To join, call our main office in Sacramento, (916) 447-2677, or visit www.cnps.org to join online.

CHAPTER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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