



# GOLD FIELD NOTES

EL DORADO CHAPTER ☼ CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ☼ September-October 2018

## SEPTEMBER 25TH PROGRAM CREATING BIRD FRIENDLY LANDSCAPES

September's meeting will feature Nancy Gilbert speaking about attracting birds to your garden. Nancy is a horticulturist and naturalist of the Redbud Chapter (Placer and Nevada counties) of the California Native Plant Society.

Nancy will describe bird behaviors and explain how to attract and support native birds in our local landscapes. This program will include the essential elements needed to create beneficial habitats with photos illustrating bird species living in and around our area.



The meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., 2850 Fairlane Court, Building C, in the Planning Commission meeting room, Placerville. The meeting is free and open to the public.

*Grosbeak in Coffeeberry (image to left by Nancy Gilbert)*

### CALENDAR

#### September 25 (Tuesday)

Chapter program.  
Creating Bird Friendly Landscapes with Nancy Gilbert. See details to right.

#### September 29 (Saturday)

Native garden tour/class  
9 am to 11 am-ish. Tour the Sherwood Demonstration Garden at Folsom Lake College. Details inside.

#### September 29 (Saturday)

Celebration.  
Join us in celebrating 25 years as a chapter from 4:30 to 9:30 pm, Shingle Springs Community Center. RSVP required. Details inside.

#### October 6 (Saturday)

Twice yearly plant sale.  
9 am to 12 pm, County Building C, Placerville. See details to the right on this page.

#### November 27 (Tuesday)

Chapter program.  
Treasure in the Foothills: Lava Caps presented by Jennifer Buck. The election of chapter officers will also take place at this meeting. See inside and back page for details.

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

## FALL IN LOVE WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Native plants love fall weather. These plants are specifically adapted to cool nights and warm autumn days. Our climate typically provides fall and winter rains to help your plant selections establish their root systems and get a head start without the stress of summer's heat (on you and the plants). Our chapter will hold its Fall native plants sale Saturday, **October 6, 9:00 a.m. to noon**, on the grounds of the El Dorado County Government Center, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville.

The sale features many locally grown California native plant varieties; including grasses, shrubs, trees, and flowers, that will attract native pollinators and animals to your landscapes and gardens. A wide selection of plant communities including; sun-loving, shade tolerant, and deer resistant species will be available. Books, posters, and seeds may also be purchased.

Volunteers experienced in growing native plants will be on site to answer questions and provide advice to help you select and find what you need to add natural beauty and interest to your property.

Stop by information tables to pick up free handouts covering topics on the care and maintenance of native plants, or how to attract their favorite pollinators and animals; or learn more about controlling invasive plants that threaten the survival of native pollinators and wildlife.





# CELEBRATING OUR 25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY RECOGNIZING MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

The El Dorado chapter of the California Native Plant Society cordially invites all current members, and one guest each, to our 25 year anniversary celebration.

Our chapter members and community partners and volunteers have made a significant impact in preserving California's native plants. We are honored to provide this opportunity to recognize every person who has provided support to reach this milestone.

Displays highlighting our many projects and accomplishments will be on exhibit. Our celebration will feature - food with an Italian flavor; tasty desserts; a chance to win one of several donated items; and live music throughout the event, including

tunes to kick up your heels to end the evening.

### Celebration Details

**When** Saturday, September 29, 2018 • 4:30 - 9:30 pm

**Where** Shingle Springs Community Center,  
4440 South Shingle Road, Shingle Springs

**Dress** Casual

**Program** 4:30 pm - Doors Open  
5:30 pm - Dinner  
6:30 pm - Awards Presentation

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 \* **RSVP REQUIRED** \*  
 \* RSVP to Bonnie East by **Friday, September 21** at \*  
 \* redshldr.1002@yahoo.com or call 530-417-1086 \*  
 \* **Please include the name of your guest** \*  
 \* **in your reply to Bonnie.** \*  
 \* **HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!** \*  
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## FREE NATIVE GARDEN CLASS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29



Photo: Alice Cantelow

Have you visited the native garden behind Folsom Lake College in Placerville?

UCCE master gardeners of El Dorado County have created an entire native garden within their Sherwood Demonstration Garden (which has 14 other gardens as well).

Alice Cantelow, chapter member and chair of the Sherwood native garden portion, will be leading a master gardener morning workshop in the garden on Saturday, September 29.

The workshop is free and open to all, (\$2 parking, even on Saturdays).

How to choose, find, and plant native plants for your own garden that are easy care and garden worthy will be the focus. Plant successes and challenges in the demo garden will be looked at, as will important design factors such as planting by community.

Be inspired and ready for the Chapter plant sale the very next weekend, Oct 6!

**9 am to 11 or 12-ish/free class/\$2 parking Sherwood Demonstration Garden, behind Folsom Lake College, 6699 Campus Drive, Placerville**

## FORNI MEADOW CONSERVED

The Eldorado National Forest has recently completed the purchase of Forni Meadows, adding 835-acres of ecologically valuable and historically significant land to an area adjacent to Desolation Wilderness. The Forni Meadows property includes the historic Forni Ranch which was homesteaded by the Forni family in the 1880s and was used as a summer cow camp. The ranch contains the original cabin built in 1862, as well as other cabins and two barns. The cow camp is expected to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Adding Forni Meadows to Eldorado National Forest will allow long term conservation of this unique property for the benefit of the public and continues the stewardship provided by the Forni family. For more information check out: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/eldorado/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD586498>



Photo: Annie Walker

## HELLO TO ALL MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Our Chapter has been going strong for 25 years and we've decided to celebrate and showcase our many achievements, activities and wonderful people who we have been part of this Chapter's success.

Please join us in this celebration at the Shingle Springs Community Center for

dinner, a no host bar, great music, a free raffle and more!

It will be fun to reminisce and see friends old and new on September 29, 2018. The doors open at 4:30, dinner is at 5:30 and we'd love to see you and a guest there. Additional details and RSVP information are in the article on the opposite page.

*Bonnie West  
Interim Chapter President*

## LET'S CONNECT KIDS AND NATIVE PLANTS: CLARK YOUTH FUND GEARING UP

Helping bring the joy and importance of native plants to kids has been a commitment of our chapter for many years. In earlier years it was even one of our primary expenses. Let's rejuvenate the effort!

We have a fund of money, called the Clark Youth Fund, which we can spend on native plant activities for kids. In past years, this has been in the form of yearly grants to teachers for activities they proposed such as planting a native plant garden at their school. There are many other activities teachers can apply for funds for as well- such as creating a native plant trail (labeling plants, drawing maps, etc.), adopting and restoring an area with native plants, taking a field trip to a nature center, vernal pool, etc., journaling about wildflowers, and so on. Unfortunately, grant applications declined more recently- teachers are more swamped, regulated, and focused on food gardens perhaps, or just too darn busy with all the other "must cover" material they have!

It's time to revisit our whole approach, and consider "upping our game". Perhaps in addition to teacher grants, we ourselves could offer to lead a wildflower walk for a class, or come and present a native plant activity (such as those above), or ? Perhaps bring something to the Boys and Girls Club, or present a Girl Scout all day native plant activity, or? If this sounds like something you are interested in, let's get together and brainstorm!

I know there are others out there who, like me, enjoy native plants and kids, and would like to bring them together. Let's use plant sale and other chapter funds to make that happen!

Interested? Just want to find out more? Ready to dive in? Whatever your level of interest, contact me at: [alicecanelow@gmail.com](mailto:alicecanelow@gmail.com) I'd love to hear from you!

*Alice Canelow  
Chair, Clark Youth Fund*

## BLAST FROM 1863: INDIGENOUS FLAX IN THE YUBA

The Marysville Appeal says: John Peacock, of Foster's Bar, Yuba county, has sent to the editor of the Alta "specimens of fibers like flax and silk, both obtained from one plant—the former from the stalk, the latter from a pod. The flax-like fiber would be valuable if it could be obtained in abundance. The silky fiber is about an inch long, very soft and fine but not strong. It resembles tile fiber of the common milk weed of the Northwestern

States. Peacock does not give the name of the plant from which these fibers are obtained." It is doubtless the same plant which grows abundantly in the Sacramento Valley area from which the Indians of the valley formerly made the fine strong thread which they manufactured for the nets used by them in fishing and catching wild birds on the prairie. These nets were created by hand, of course, the women and men working together on them, and the completion of one being considered an event worthy of special observance by gambling, dancing, and singing. We have seen the Shoonoose tribe (now extinct), in the upper Sacramento Valley, making very handsome nets of this kind, large

## NOVEMBER 27 PROGRAM TREASURE IN THE FOOTHILLS: LAVA CAPS

Lava caps provide a special botanical heaven in the Sierra Nevada foothills, where rare shrubs and patches of brilliant wildflowers bloom in the spring and linger into the summer. Come learn more about these ancient volcanic mudflows and the unique plant communities they support.

Jennifer Buck-Diaz is an ecologist in the Vegetation Program of the California Native Plant Society where she surveys, classifies, and maps vegetation across the state.

This program will be held on Tuesday, November 27, at 7 PM at the Planning Commission Room, Building C, 2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville. The program is free to both members and the public.



*Applegate's paintbrush on a lava cap  
Photo: Annie Walker*

enough to spring over and hold thirty or forty wild geese at a time. The plan was to set several decoys of stuffed geese in the best feeding spots, lay the net alongside, watch close by and pull the net over suddenly when the live geese had gathered thickly about the decoys. We have often wondered that the whites, taking a hint from these simple Indians, did not cultivate the true flax in this valley, both for its seed and fiber.

*Taken from: Sacramento Daily Union,  
Vol. 25, No. 3867, 13 August 1863*

*Editor's Note: Thanks to Doug Walker for sending along this historical note.*



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

September-October 2018

## CHAPTER ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER

Every two years the chapter membership elects new officers to help oversee and guide the chapter. The Nominating Committee identified the following as the slate of officers:

President	Bonnie East
Vice President	Debra Ayres
Treasurer	Cindy Podsiadlo
Secretary	Kathleen Barco

Voting will take place during the chapter meeting on November 27.

For Updates Visit Us on the Web  
[www.eldoradoCNPS.org](http://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, *Flora*, 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](http://www.cnps.org) to join online.

### CHAPTER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PRESIDENT (ACTING)	Bonnie East	(530) 417-1086	redshldr.1002@yahoo.com
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