



# Redbud Review

Newsletter of the Redbud Chapter—Nevada and Placer Counties  
California Native Plant Society  
Fall 2012

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## Field Trips

### Leonardi Falls Botanical Area RPTH

September 21 (Friday) 10AM

Join several botanists from the El Dorado National Forest in a search for *Poa sierrae* (Sierra blue grass, Rank 1B.3) at the Leonardi Falls Botanical Area. This grass was added to the CNPS Inventory just 2 years ago, and botanists are now beginning to recognize it in the central and northern Sierra. The area we will explore is fairly steep and has woody debris, so strong hiking skills are suggested; hiking poles can be helpful too. Meet at the Forest Service Geogretown Ranger Station, 7600 Wentworth Springs Rd, Geogretown, CA at 10AM. RSVP to [dslakey@cnps.org](mailto:dslakey@cnps.org).

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### Cones and Fruits Sierra Discovery Trail

November 4 (Sunday)—1 PM at the Rood Center, 1:45 PM at the trailhead

Fall is the season for cones and fruits, and we will identify various species of plants by their cones and fruits. This is a beautiful time of the year to experience this trail, as the mosquitoes will be gone, the fall color should be appearing, and the forest will be quiet. A prediction of rain or snow will cancel this trip. Trailhead: From Hwy 20, turn onto Bowman Lake Rd. and drive 0.6 miles to the Sierra Discovery Trail parking lot.

*more field trips on next page*

## Evening Programs

### Landscaping with Native Plants with Landscape Architect Karin Kaufman

September 26 (Wednesday), 7:30 PM  
Madelyn Helling Library,  
Rood Center, Nevada City

From early in her career when Karin worked under a well-known leader of the sustainability movement in Southern California, she has embraced the principles of environmentally friendly design in all of her work. She approaches her projects with a focus on incorporating innovative stormwater management techniques, principles of sustainable community design, and use of renewable and recycled materials.

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## Fall Plant Sale

Saturday, September 29  
Northstar House, Grass Valley  
see page 5 for details or visit  
[www.redbud-cnps.org](http://www.redbud-cnps.org)

## Field trips (continued)

# Fungal Fruiting Bodies (Mushrooms!)

November 17 (Saturday)—1 PM at the Rood Center

After the fall rains begin, many species of fungi produce fruiting bodies. But it is difficult to predict just when and where they will appear. Bill and Roger will take you to the best location that they can find. This field trip is not for collecting, but for becoming more familiar with some of the many species of fungi that occur in the vicinity of Nevada City. A prediction of rain or snow will cancel this trip.

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### More field trip information . . .

All of our field trips are open to the public and are free of charge. Bring water, lunch/snack, hand lens, wildflower book, and sun protection and/or rain gear, as needed. Children are warmly welcomed, but please arm them with a whistle! Unless stated otherwise, no pets are allowed on our field trips. We suggest ride sharing, as parking space at most trailheads is limited. We also suggest that you contribute some money to the driver for gas -- perhaps \$5 for less than 40 miles round-trip, and \$10 for more than 40 miles round-trip... Unless stated otherwise, our trips are easy, as we usually travel very slowly and stop to view, identify, talk about, and enjoy each plant or fungus species. Most of our trips are led by more than one botanist. For most of our trips we will meet at the Rood Center on Highway 49 in Nevada City, in front of the main building -- NOT at the library. We will then form car pools and drive to the trailhead. In many cases you can meet us at the trailhead if this is more convenient for you. Our newly published book, *Wildflowers of Nevada and Placer Counties, California*, will be available for purchase at the meeting place before each field trip. Retail price is \$29.95 plus tax; Redbud Chapter members (including brand new ones) are entitled to a 15% discount. We can accept cash and checks. This book will be very helpful on all of our field trips! Field trips will be canceled if heavy rain is predicted. If in doubt, call 530-264-8555 after 7AM on the morning of the trip for a recorded message.

## Evening programs (continued)

Karin's work experience includes master planning, native restoration, stormwater management, fire-wise and drought-tolerant landscaping, project management, preparation of construction documents, contract administration, and teaching classes. Projects include retreat centers, schools, housing developments, revegetation of levee repair sites for habitat restoration, parking lots and plazas for commercial developments, public parks, and private residences. She is co-author of *Living Wild: Gardening, Cooking, and Healing with Native Plants of the Sierra Nevada*. Whether you are planning a major landscaping project or simply wanting to add some native plants to your present garden, Karin will guide you during this interesting and informative presentation.

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# Monarch Butterflies

with Greg Kareofelas, long-time member of the California Native Plant Society and the Lepidopterist Society

October 24 (Wednesday), 7:30 PM  
Madelyn Helling Library,



Every fall, all monarch butterflies migrate to a "wintering area." On the western side of the Rocky Mountains, it is to an area on the California coast

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## Evening programs (continued)

near Pacific Grove. While this feat is impressive, it does not match the scope of the migration accomplished by the monarch butterflies on the east side of the Rockies. These butterflies fly from as far north as Canada all the way to central Mexico. My talk will be about the “Mexican monarchs” and their journey to Michoacan, Mexico. In addition to taking this journey, we will discuss the importance of plants to this butterfly, the challenges they face completing this journey and the obstacles that are now being placed in front of them.

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### **Mycorrhizal Connection: the Relationships between Plants and Fungi**

**with J.R. Blair, Director of the  
Sierra Nevada Field Campus,  
San Francisco State University,  
Past President of the San  
Francisco Mycological Society**

**January 23 (Wednesday), 7:30 PM  
Madelyn Helling Library,  
Rood Center, Nevada City**

One of the areas of science where knowledge has been improving in the last decade is that of relationships of plants and the organism in the soil that surrounds the plant’s roots. Fungi play a variety of roles in the soil. Some fungi have been proven to be very effective at providing moisture and nutrients to the plants with which they are associated. J.R. Blair is a card carrying mycologist.

**Two events sponsored by  
Yuba Watershed Institute**

### **Fungus Foray**

**Saturday, December 8th, Rain or  
Shine, 9a.m. to 4p.m. at the North  
Columbia Schoolhouse Cultural  
Center. Admission \$20 general;  
\$18 for YWI members; half day \$12;  
under 18 free**

Our traditional Saturday morning wild mushroom hunt and identification will wrap up with an afternoon of displayed discoveries and educational workshops. Wild-crafted food concessions and mushroom merchandise available for sale. Bring a lunch and be prepared to walk in the woods. Also useful: collection basket, waxed paper bags, knife, and hand lens.

### **Nevada City Wild Mushroom Exposition**

**Sunday, December 9th, 11a.m.  
to 5p.m. at The Stonehouse, 107  
Sacramento St. in Nevada City.  
Admission \$10 general; \$8 for YWI  
members; \$5 for students; under 13  
free.**

The second annual Wild Mushroom Expo. YWI is bringing the Foray to downtown Nevada City! The Sunday Exposition is packed with presentations, interactive displays, and workshops based on our seasonal Sierra mushrooms. Wild-crafted food concessions and mushroom merchandise available for sale. On site parking.



# Giant Checkerbloom and Sierra Foothills Brodiaea: *Two unusual plant species are now listed by CNPS*

by Karen Callahan

CNPS' Rare Plant Program recently recognized Giant Checkerbloom, *Sidalcea gigantea* G.L.Clifton et. al., and Sierra Foothills Brodiaea, *Brodiaea sierrae* R.E Preston, as uncommon, endemic species in California and gave both a designation of Rank 4. Both are found only in the northern Sierra Nevada region.

**Giant Checkerbloom** lives up to its name and grows to over six feet tall in meadows, streams, and drainages. The plants have large rhizomes and form colonies of many stems. A perennial member of the Mallow Family, its delicate pink flowers have five petals with white veins. Look for flowers from July through October.

Colonies of Giant Checkerbloom flourish along the seeps at Scotts Flat Lake's Snow Mountain Ditch trail with Western Azalea and Twinberry. The Peardale area of Nevada County also has small groups along residential roads where surface water flows all year. These plants are vulnerable to roadside spraying, fire clearing, and trail maintenance. Deer munch the upper stems and flowers. Range of the species is from Nevada County north to Shasta County at 2,100 to 6,400 feet elevation. Look for these plants next year during your explorations.



Giant checkerbloom. Photo by Karen Callahan.

**Sierra Foothills Brodiaea's** purplish pink funnel-shaped flowers are very noticeable against dry grasses when it blooms in late June and July. The striking flowers are about two inches long with a white center. This Brodiaea grows along the Loma Rica Trail, Dorsey Drive, McCourtney Road, and Newtown Road near Grass Valley, typically on serpentine, gabbro, and other rocky soils. Its range is Butte, Yuba and Nevada County from 1,000 to 3,000 foot elevations. Roadside clearing and loss of habitat from land development appear to be the main threats to this plant.



Sierra Foothills Brodiaea. Photo by Karen Callahan.

The *Brodiaea* Family, Themidaceae, is a new family described in the 2012 edition of *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California*. The *Brodiaea* genus was formerly included in the Lily Family (Liliaceae). The entire new *Jepson Manual* is available in digital form at <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/jepsonflora/>

For more information about rare plants: "cnps.org," Rare Plant Science. "calflora.org" and search for photos and locations.

# New Location for Fall Plant Sale

## Fall Native Plant Sale

It's time again for our annual Fall Native Plant Sale, hosted by the Redbud Chapter of the California Native Plant Society! Fall is always a great time to get new perennial plants established in the garden and landscape. This is also our prime opportunity to support the chapter by volunteering (see below), raise awareness around our mission and convince friends and neighbors to become members.

Where: North Star House, Old Auburn Rd, Grass Valley (directions below)

When: **Saturday September 29, 8:00-12:30, with special members' only early shopping hour 8:00-9:00.**

Highlights: Free admission. Expert advice on gardening with natives. Huge selection of native plants for sale. Books, posters, note cards, t-shirts and totebags.

**Early 8:00am admission for CNPS members only; join at the door for early admission and the best selection of plants. Volunteers also receive a free plant (see below).**

## New Location at North Star House

Find us at our new location, adjacent to the Saturday morning Nevada County Certified Grower's Market. In Grass Valley, take the McKnight Way exit. If coming from Nevada City, turn away from the freeway, if coming from Auburn, turn left over the freeway. Go past the shopping center on the left. Turn right on Freeman Lane, past another shopping center on the left. Freeman Lane will turn into McCourtney Road at the second 4-way stop sign. Continue straight on McCourtney Rd. Just before Gate 4 of the Nevada County Fairgrounds turn left onto Auburn Road. The entrance to the North Star House is 6/10 of a mile on the left.

For more information on the Fall Native Plant Sale see [www.redbud-CNPS.org](http://www.redbud-CNPS.org).

## Karin Kaufman

Not sure what to plant? Need inspiration? Don't miss **Landscaping With Native Plants** at 7:30pm on Wednesday, September 26 in the Madelyn Helling Library.

## Stay in Touch

Join our free Yahoo group to receive email notification about wildflower hikes, workshops, plant sales, meetings and more. Everyone is welcome to join this free service, including non-members. (If you can't click on the link provided below, copy and paste it into your browser.)

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/RedbudChapter/>

## Volunteer Opportunities at the Plant Sale

Want to further support your local chapter? Earn a free plant? Do both and volunteer at the fall plant sale. We have many opportunities to help at the plant sale, and many of them don't require you to be a native plant "know-it-all". We always need help loading and unloading plants, tents and materials, setting up and tearing down, cashiering, etc. Contact Luci for volunteer details.

We also need help getting the word out about our event. Please forward this email and the attached poster to friends, neighbors, neighborhood associations, etc., that would have an interest in purchasing native plants that aren't available most of the year. There is also a small 1/4 page flyer attached that can be printed and distributed.

Questions? Comments? Want to volunteer?

Contact Luci Wilson  
Secretary, Redbud Chapter  
530-574-2046

[luciw@earthlink.net](mailto:luciw@earthlink.net)

## *Save The Date*

# CNPS Chapter Council Meeting Dec. 7-9, 2012

Please SAVE THE DATE of Fri - Sun, Dec. 7-9, 2012 for the CNPS Chapter Council Meeting. VOLUNTEERS are needed to assist in hosting the event. The Redbud Chapter will be co-hosting the December CNPS Chapter Council Meeting with the Sacramento Valley and Mt. Lassen Chapters. In co-hosting, the three chapters share the burden and encourage chapter interaction.

The Chapter Council is the body responsible for setting the goals and policies of CNPS. The CNPS Chapter Council meets quarterly (March, June, Sept. and Dec.) in different parts of the state. It is important that all of the chapters participate, and it is valuable to have members get to know each other and to enjoy the various areas of the state.

Friday night, there is usually an informal get together for dinner, Sat night a banquet with a dinner speaker, and Sun. afternoon field trips, in addition to the regular business of the Chapter Council meeting. It is a great opportunity to meet and share with other CNPS volunteers from around the State.

Sacramento Valley Chapter is taking responsibility for the site (probably Davis) and will handle local arrangements (with caterers, etc.) while the other chapters (Redbud and Mt. Lassen) will handle items that can be easily brought in (such as the breakfasts, food and drink for "social hour", the speakers.)

The Chapter Council meetings are open to all members, although each Chapter has one vote. Please contact me to volunteer to assist with the Dec. 2012 Chapter Council meeting. Joan Jernegan, Redbud Delegate (530) 613-4479, jernegan95602@wildblue.net

## Welcome New Members

We extend a warm winter welcome to the following new members:

*Mary Cahill*

*Allison Clark*

*Craig Creasey*

*Eric Engles*

*Sue Garcia*

*Anna Jetter*

*Anna Nelson*

*Grace Oe*

*Heather Palmer*

*Peggy Just Peterson*

*Judi Sutter*

*And thank you to all of our loyal  
renewing members.*

**Renew your CNPS membership  
online. It's quick and easy and  
reduces renewal mailing costs.  
Go to [www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org) and click  
on the JOIN button.**

# Redbud Chapter Board of Directors

September, 2012

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Chapter Council Delegate . . . . . Joan Jernegan (jernegan95602@wildblue.net) 530-613-4479  
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Hospitality Co-Chair. . . . . Karen Wiese (kwildoak@aol.com) 530-346-7131  
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Member at Large. . . . . Rebecca Baer (rbaer77@yahoo.com) 530-273-8897  
Member at Large. . . . . Carl Wishner (cbwishner@gmail.com) 530-346-7131

CNPS-Redbud Chapter  
P.O. Box 2662  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
[www.redbud-cnps.org](http://www.redbud-cnps.org)