**SEPTEMBER 25TH PROGRAM:**

**STEPS FOR CREATING A MEADOW ON A SOUTH-FACING SLOPE**

Placerville landscape contractor Verne Pershing ([www.cowboygardener.com](http://www.cowboygardener.com); 530.644.2000) has created many California native plant gardens in recent years. Tonight he will present a case history of a meadow he made by planting one thousand plugs and liners, using primarily plants he and local grower Steve Dowty had grown. (Additional stock came from Cornflower Farms and Hedgerow Farms.)

Learn what is required to create a sustainable meadow on a challenging south-facing slope with porous granitic soils.

This program is one of a series on growing native plants in the home landscape that is being featured by the chapter this year. See note inside for the programs scheduled for November and the final program of this series in January.

This program will be held in the conference room of the Bethell-Delfino Agriculture Building, 311 Fair Lane, Placerville. The meeting begins at 6:30 pm for plant identification, business, and socializing. The program starts at about 7:10 p.m. and generally includes a slide presentation.

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**FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6**

**9 am to 1 pm**

**EL DORADO GOVERNMENT CENTER, PLACERVILLE**

This Fall’s sale will be held in the El Dorado Government Center, 330 Fair Lane, Placerville, under the breezeway between Buildings A and B. 360 Fair Lane, Placerville, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. Buildings A and B are across the street from the El Dorado County Main Library.

We offer grasses, perennials, shrubs and trees suitable for the foothills of El Dorado County. There will also be an extremely diverse offering of books on native plant horticulture, the basics of botany, and field guides for all aspects of natural history. Cash and checks only: all sales final!
The sun is setting earlier each day and
summer is slowly shifting to autumn.
Chapter Chairs and their assistants are
now preparing for our signature public
outreach event, our Fall Native Plant
Sale, now less than a month away. The
Chapter’s Fall plant sales have typically
been held on the first Saturday in Octo-
ber, and this year will again conform to
that easy to remember day. So save the
date: October 6th, and please consider
coming out to join the Sale team.

The Sale Team is headed by our long-
time Plant Sale Chair Shellie Perry, a
great person who always “gets ‘er done”
despite obstacles that would have left
others running screaming toward the
exits. (She’s also one of our Chapter’s
most knowledgeable botanists who leads
plant hikes in and around El Dorado
County, definitely someone worth
knowing.) For the next month, she will
need members willing to pitch in on
some of the upfront tasks, such as:
• collecting boxes from grocery stores
• posting flyers around the County at
  public places and businesses
If you can help, please contact her at
530.644.6335 or at SEPer-
ny55@comcast.net

Sale day does require a lot of people:
the more the merrier. Volunteer for as
little as 2 hours, or the whole day: there
are always tasty refreshments on hand to
bolster the team and give a break for
socializing. Most of the jobs require only
a cheerful attitude:

7 – 9 am
• Setting up sandwich board signs at
  street intersections:
  • Setting up tables
  • carrying plants from the trucks
  • putting price labels in plant contain-
    ers
  • putting plant labels and horticultural
    placards on plants

9 – 1 pm
• boxing and carrying plants to cus-
  tomers’ cars
• distributing membership applications
to customers
• helping customers to select the right
  plant for their site

12:45 – 1:30 pm
• carrying tables to vehicles
• sweeping up
• collecting sandwich board signs at
  street intersections

Once we’re all set up and the early rush
is over, Sale day becomes a lot of fun, a
chance to meet fellow Chapter mem-
bers, all of whom are great folks. Many
are also very experienced native plant
gardeners so you can also painlessly
learn about plants appropriate for your
home landscape by asking around to see
who is dealing with whatever afflicts
you: deer, gophers, clay soil, southern
exposure, soil erosion, etc. Peer to peer
learning – the kind that results from
years of grappling with a problem – can
really help out gardeners dealing with
tough sites. Since Fall is definitely the
right time to plant natives, you can buy
your plants for planting at the optimum
time – the beginning of the rainy season
- to get them established.

Our Sale team now wears colorful vests
to make us more visible to customers, so
introduce yourself and we’ll put you to
(easy) work. We’d love to meet some
new or even not-so-new members who
haven’t been able to make it in the past,
so do come on down and get ac-
quainted with other Chapter members.

Rosemary Carey

Workshop
Tending the Wild
October 27 or 28, 10 am to 4 pm
Pepperwood Preserve, Santa Rose, CA

California Indian Master Basket Weavers
will lead an interactive program interpreting
the book Tending the Wild by ethno-
botanist M. Kat Anderson. At the work-
shop you will: learn to identify, tend,
gather, and process native basketery
plants; learn about Indigenous Steward-
ship Methods (ISM); meet some of Cali-
fornia’s finest Master Basket Weavers;
meet Kat Anderson at the book signing,
be invited to join the “Walkabout” for an
interactive experience with weavers. This
workshop is sponsored by the California
Indian Basket Weavers Association. Ad-
mission is $50 general public; $40 CIBA
member; $30 student. To register visit
CIBA
(http://www.ciba.org/tending_wild_10-
deregform.pdf) or call 530-668-1332.
Advanced registration is required to at-
tend the workshop.

Rosemary Carey
BENEFICIAL INSECTS

Many different kinds of insects are found in and around our homes, gardens, and yards. Most of these insects are completely harmless and may even provide valuable services for us. Usually, when we hear beneficial insects, we think of things like honey bees that produce honey and beeswax. More importantly honey bees pollinate a wide range of fruit, vegetable, and field crops plus many flowers and other ornamental plants we enjoy in our yards. People rarely see the many other insects that help keep pest insects that feed on our gardens and ornamental plants under control. Nearly everyone recognizes lady beetles and preying mantids. We need to recognize the many others that attack pest insects. Beneficial insects fall into two general categories: parasites and predators. The article located at the web link below discusses their differences and show examples:


Editor’s Note: This article was prepared by Clyde S. Gorsuch, Extension Entomologist/ Professor, Department of Entomology, Soils, and Plant Sciences, Clemson University. This short article and the brochure on beneficial insects are featured as a resource on Verne Pershing’s website. Verne is our speaker for September. Check out his website for other useful information on gardening (www.cowboygardener.com).

MASTER GARDENERS

4TH ANNUAL FALL PLANT SALES

Saturday, September 15th, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Veterans Memorial Building Parking Lot

You’ll find all kinds of plants grown by the Master Gardeners and generous local growers: Rare and Unusual Perennials; Fall and Cool Season Veggie Starts; Wide Variety of Herbs; Special Deals on Giant Sequoias; Hand tool sharpening will be available for a small fee. They will have special displays on weeds, native plants, bee keeping, and worm composting. Got gardening questions? Check out their Master Gardener Information Booth. The sale is a benefit for the new demonstration garden and community outreach efforts. For more information: 530-621-5512 or http://ucanr.org/sites/EDC_Master_Gardeners/
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 increase understanding and appreciation of California’s native plants and to preserve them in their natural habitat through scientific activities, education, and conservation. 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.

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**Fall Plant Sale**

Saturday, October 6
9 am to 1 pm
El Dorado
Government Center,
339 Fair Lane, Placerville

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**Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs**

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Learn more about State CNPS at: www.cnps.org