



# PICKLEWEED POST

(VOLUME 3, FEBRUARY 2007)



## Remembering Bruce Bajema

This issue of the Pickleweed Post is dedicated to Bruce Bajema (October 31, 1932 – December 2, 2006). Bruce was a Board Member of the Friends of San Pablo Bay NWR and was involved in helping the Refuge. Bruce's dedication to nature included providing guided birdwatching/nature walks at Tolay Creek and assisting with the removal of invasive species at the Marin Islands. Bruce was also very active with the Audubon Society, and was a Board member of Marin Audubon Society and Audubon Canyon Ranch. He shared his love of nature with his family. He enjoyed many camping trips with them and took great pleasure in sharing his joy of birding with his grandchildren. Bruce's friendship and enthusiasm for life and nature should inspire and invigorate all to do more. THANK YOU, Bruce!

## San Pablo Bay Refuge Now Managing Antioch Dunes Refuge Too!

In addition to managing the San Pablo Bay and Marin Islands National Wildlife Refuges, the San Pablo Bay NWR manager is now responsible for Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge. The Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge provides protection and critical habitat for three endangered species: Lange's Metalmark Butterfly, Contra Costa Wallflower, and Antioch Dunes Evening Primrose.

## Planting Propagated Plants

Construction of the Refuge greenhouse was completed in early 2006 and was a huge success during its first year. The greenhouse was used to raise over 3000 native plants. With the assistance of partners from the Bay Institute and Save the Bay, the plants were planted at Sonoma Baylands, Tolay Creek and Marin Islands in the fall of 2006. The Friends and the Refuge look forward to using the greenhouse to raise many more plants which will be planted on lands managed by the Refuge.



Photo of Endangered Lange's Metalmark Butterfly

## Join Us For...

**DOCENT LED WALK AT ANTIOCH DUNES REFUGE:** Antioch Dunes NWR offers tours of the Refuge the second Saturday of each month. The next tour will be February 10th at 10 a.m.. The 1-1.5 mile docent-guided tour begins at the entrance, 501 Fulton Shipyard Road, Antioch. Some lupines and possibly even a few endangered primroses may be in bloom at this time of year. Wear sturdy shoes for the sandy hike along the dunes. All ages welcome. No reservations required. No facilities. For more information about this tour please contact Michael Krieg at 925-778-8459 or email [apodemia@gmail.com](mailto:apodemia@gmail.com).

**BBQs:** The Refuge and the Friends routinely have bbqs. Join us and talk with Refuge staff and Friends members about what's going on at the Refuge. The next Refuge/Friends bbq will be 5pm on March 30th at Refuge Headquarters. Please email the Friends if you will be joining us. This is a potluck event, so please feel free to bring along your favorite food item.

Hope to see you at one of our events!

## Funding "A Home For Salty"

The Friends are securing donations from local companies in support of publishing "A Home for Salty". The Friends are very grateful to Valero Refinery Co. and Weston Solutions, Inc. for their donations toward publishing "Salty". The Friends hope to secure adequate funding to get the book published during 2007. The book will serve as an educational tool to teach children (and adults!) about our neighbor, the endangered salt marsh harvest mouse. This wonderful mouse is found in marsh habitat along the Bay.