Dedicated to the Preservation of the Native Flora

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide non-profit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The Society, working through its local chapters, seeks to increase understanding of California's native flora and to preserve this rich resource for future generations. Membership is open to all.

Membership includes informative publications, free field trips and monthly programs and discounts on books and posters. Also included are *Fremontia*, a quarterly journal with articles on all aspects of native plants, the *Bulletin*, a quarterly statewide report of activities and schedules, and the chapter newsletter. Please call the membership chairperson for more information.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

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c/o San Diego Natural History Museum P. O. Box 121390 San Diego, CA 92112-1390 Nonprofit Organization
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CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS -OCTOBER 2004

Chapter Message Phone 619-685-7321; www.cnpssd.org; info@cnpssd.org

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MEMBERSHIP: John Hacklander.....(858) 651-4203w

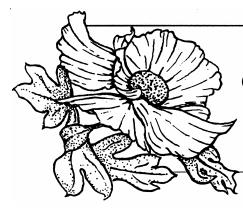
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NOTE: For mailing label and membership issues contact John Hacklander at jhacklan@qualcomm.com.

WEBSITE: Jim Wirt.....webmaster@cnps.org PUBLICITY, HOSPITALITY, VEGETATION and BOARD

antshrike@cox.net

positions are OPEN.



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY San Diego Chapter Newsletter

OCTOBER 2004

Published twelve times per year

CALENDAR

October 13. CHAPTER BOARD

MEETING. Wednesday, 6:30 P.M., Seminar Room B at the Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway, in the IKEA mall complex. Board Members, please call Carrie Schneider if you are unable to attend.

October 16. ANNUAL PLANT SALE. Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Courtyard, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

We look forward to everyone having a great time at the plant sale, whether you are buying or helping. We always have a good time and the plant sale is the biggest annual money-making event for our chapter. We need the money for all the various programs we are involved with, such as botany, legislation, rare plants, guests/speakers and the newsletter, just to name a few. Please keep posting flyers and spread the word about native plants.

On Saturday, October 16, Come shop or help sell!!! bring boxes, wagons and carts, calculators, and enthusiasm to the Plant Sale!

- Help transport plants or signs.
- Arrange signs in Patio before 7:00 AM.
 Unload trucks; arrange plants on the patio. (Coffee and doughnuts for helpers!)
- Provide "crowd control" and general security. Keep buyers cheerful while they wait outside the patio until we are officially open, watch over cashiers' tables and monitor exits.
- Help the Chapter Treasurer handle payments in cash and checks (no credit cards).

- Write up sales slips as buyers stand in line waiting to pay. Need hand calculators.
- Be the "Expert" for a section of plants. We arrange them alphabetically by Latin names, and we like to have a volunteer to answer questions and advise for each section.
- Call and volunteer for a specific job or just show up early on Plant Sale Day. This is "wherever needed" support that is vital!!

Thank you, and see you on October 16 in Balboa Park, early!! --- Joan Stewart

October 19. CHAPTER MEETING. Tuesday, Meeting 7:00 pm, Program 7:30 pm Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

Medicinal Uses of San Diego Native Plants. Carole A. Brown will discuss how to process and use some native plants as medicine, and will bring dried herbs and tinctures of native medicinal plants for the audience to taste, touch, and smell. Carole is a clinical herbalist, herb grower, teacher, and owner of a home-based nursery, Brown's Herbs, Etc., specializing in medicinal herbs and native plants. Carole has been studying herbs for over 30 years, taking classes with Amanda McQuade Crawford, MNIMH, John Finch, and a number of other herbalists, and working in a student clinic for two years. She has been teaching Herbology through Community Learning at Cuyamaca College since 1991.

November 16. CHAPTER MEETING.

Tuesday, Meeting 7:00 pm, Program 7:30 pm Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

Rare Plants of Western San Diego County by Fred Roberts. San Diego County supports one of the largest diversities of rare plants in the United States. Climate, topography, diversity of habitat over small areas, and proximity to Mexico are all contributing factors. Among the most important habitats are vernal pools and maritime chaparral. Many of our rare plants are familiar, such as San Diego thornmint (*Acanthomintha illicifolia*) and Otay tarplant (*Deinandra conjugens*), species listed by the Federal or State government as endangered, while others are best described as obscure. Fred Roberts, the San Diego Chapter Rare Plant coordinator, will introduce us to some of the over 110 rare species and their habitats.

RECURRING HABITAT RESTORATION EVENTS

Cottonwood Creek (Encinitas). Contact Brad Roth, Project Manager, 760-436-2632.

Florida Canyon (Balboa Park). Third Saturday of every month, 8 A.M. – Noon. Contact Carole Rukstelis (619 235-1123) or crukstelis@sandiego.gov Lake Murray Shoreline. Contact Eric Bowlby at 619-284-9399.

Ruffin Canyon (Serra Mesa). Every Tuesday between 9:30AM and Noon and the first Saturday of every month 9 A.M. to Noon. Contact Glenn Torbett at 858-565-7347.

Shepherd Canyon (Tierra Santa). First Saturday of every month, 9A.M. to Noon. Contact Roberta Froome at 858-627-0682 or -0681.

Switzer Canyon (North Park). Third Sunday of every month, 9 AM to Noon. Contact Carrie Schneider 619-282-3645.

Bayside Native Plant Area (Mission Bay Park, Hospitality Point). First Sunday of every month, 9 A.M to 11 A M. Contact Gary Suttle 858-679-5340 or nature@utm.net

Florida canyon (Balboa Park): Volunteers remove weeds every third Saturday. Meet at 8:00 AM at the southeast corner of Park Blvd. and Morley Field Drive. Ranger Carole Rukstelis

(<u>CRukstelis@sandiego.gov</u>)

Santa Cruz Island. Help us control invasive trees and plants on Santa Cruz Island. We have spots available on 4- and 5-day trips throughout the year. Lodging at the University of California's Island Reserve Field Station & boat transportation to and from the island is provided. A small fee (\$20) to pay

for dinners. We work a long day, but time is set aside for some sightseeing and relaxation. The summer trips are a perfect for swimming at Prisoners' Harbor or at a freshwater swimming hole. For more information, contact Ken Owen, (805) 448-5726, islands@rain.org or David Chang, (805) 681-5600, dchang@co.santa-barbara.ca.us. Visit the project's website, www.channelislandsrestoration.com/sci, for trip schedules, and more information.

To have your event listed here, contact Carrie Schneider.

CHAPTER NEWS

Welcome to our New Members

Anthony Cocco James Lightner Carol Walsh

Thanks for joining us!

Board Positions to Fill, Seeking Volunteers

We always need volunteers! From pulling weeds to setting up chairs for the meeting, if you have time, we need you. Please send an e-mail to info@cnpssd.org or just introduce yourself to one of the board members. The position of **Field Trip Coordinator** will be open next year. This opportunity involves contacting potential field-trip leaders to set up trips and posting information about the trip in the newsletter. Please note that one does not need to lead field trips to be the Coordinator. Our chapter has been given a number of opportunities to visit places that are not generally open to the public and we have a substantial contact list of potential trip leaders, but we need an organized person to set up the trips. We need a Vegetation Chairperson. No botanical experience necessary; organizational skills required. This volunteer would work closely with our Conservation Chair Cindy Burrascano. The Vegetation Chair position may represent the Chapter in a number of ways. For example, the chair position can help coordinate local botanical surveys to sample vegetation; coordinate sampling for locally or statewide rare vegetation types; or coordinate sampling in a regional location that is biologically interesting and needs more information. The chair can arrange to have a local vegetation sampling workshop with help from the state CNPS Vegetation Program, so that they and the Chapter are trained on the standard sampling methods. With more information collected on local vegetation types, you can assist in better defining, representing, and conserving vegetation. Also, a chair could assist the Chapter in providing background information on vegetation so the Conservation Chairperson can make decisions and respond when regional or local plans

are being reviewed to make sure that the landscapelevel of biodiversity (or vegetation) is adquately represented and conserved. This could also be useful when the Chapter wants to highlight a certain plant community in the monthly newsletters. Please see the Vegetation link on the CNPS homepage, which provides more information about the overall Vegetation Program of CNPS

(http://www.cnps.org/vegetation/vegindex.htm). You may read about the importance of vegetation by clicking on "The Sampler" newsletter, and how you may be able to assist the Chapter in representing vegetation for conservation. Also needed for 2005:

Newsletter Editor, Pubic Outreach, Publicity, Hospitality and a Board Member (who may or may not be a chairperson). Please contact Carrie Schneider (<u>info@cnpssd.org</u>) or another board member.

Botanists Helping Botanists

CNPS-San Diego Chapter would like to express heartfelt thanks for the generosity of those who donated books and other items to the "Botanists Helping Botanists" effort, which began as a way to help those who lost their homes and natural science libraries in the wildfires of October 2003. Those who incurred the loss of their books in the fires have told me how much this book drive has meant to them. Their spirits have received a lift not only from seeing their libraries "resprouting", but from knowing that our donors cared enough to make this effort for them. Many thanks to all of you!

Here is an accounting of our efforts thus far. We have received approximately 260 books, sets of Fremontias, slides, and pamphlets, and we've distributed 188 of these. These numbers do not reflect the 40 books recently received from the Monterey Bay chapter, and another 25 from a donor up in the Sacramento area who is in contact with a fire survivor who has moved up north. We are still in the process of distributing the remaining books, according to various recipients' interests and needs. Any books remaining unclaimed will be turned over to the chapter for sale. I'll update this message when we've made a final distribution.

-- Callie Mack

Plant Grants 2004

CNPS-San Diego awarded funds to six groups who applied. Congratulations to:

Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center, Carlsbad; \$500 for labels to identify native plants at the new nature center - submitted by Ken Alfrey.

Vista Unified School District, \$500 to purchase plants to landscape the school grounds at the Vista Focus Academy - submitted by Charles Taylor Wildlife Research Institute, \$500 to contract with RECON to propagate cuttings of local willows and cottonwoods, to restore a section of the Santa Maria Creek in Ramona - submitted by Regina Wilson.

The following groups received 200 local native plants, suitable for habitat restoration in San Diego:

Chula Vista Nature Center, for restoration of the "Hummingbird and Butterfly Garden" - submitted by David DiDonato.

Thirty-Second Street Canyon Task Force, for canyon restoration in Golden Hill neighborhood in San Diego - submitted by Tershia D'Elgin.

Friends of Ruffin Canyon, for restoration of the canyon in the Serra Mesa neighborhood of San Diego - submitted by Bonnie Hough.

Thanks to the Glad Earth Foundation and Martha Sullivan for financial donations and to RECON for plant donations that made this program possible.

IN MEMORIAM

Craig H. Reiser

It is with great regret that I announce the death of one of our county's most knowledgeable botanists. Craig H. Reiser lost his nearly year and a half long battle with esophageal cancer on August 28, 2004. Craig was 52. As a local biologist and conservationist, he had an unrelenting passion for inventorying the county's rare plants, which he documented in his self published book The Rare Plants of San Diego County. This book, which he constantly updated since its original publishing in 1994, provided comprehensive detailed information including sensitivity listing, distribution, habitat and known locales for each of the County's several hundred threatened species. Never accepting a profit, Craig donated this book to the Sierra Club and to his many friends and colleagues who shared his passion for understanding and protecting sensitive species. Always field equipped with binoculars and a camera, Craig managed to photograph nearly every sensitive plant in his book; each photo depicting the often minute details that separated the common from the sensitive taxa.

In 1997, having placed more than 600 plant specimens in the museum's collection, Craig was appointed a field research associate by the San Diego

Natural History Museum. One of his many other botanical accomplishments included the re-discovery of Orcutt's Spineflower (*Chorizanthe orcuttiana*), a diminutive species thought to be extinct for nearly 20 years until 1991 when Craig found 15 specimens growing at Oak Crest Park in Encinitas. I am proud to say that I was by his side that day and shared in his excitement. In 1984, Craig discovered a new species of Dudleya, *Dudleya alainae*, which he published and named for his daughter, Alaina.

What many people didn't know was that Craig was also an excellent birder, having seen and noted over 400 species of birds in the county. This is an impressive accomplishment since the county has 492 species recorded--the most of any geographic area this size in the U.S. Not more than 20 local birders have amassed such a list. He was also well versed in the county's butterflies, dragonflies and fairy shrimp.

Having bachelor's degrees in both English and Art and a masters degree in English from San Diego State University, Craig was both a talented artist and a writer. He had written two detective novels and a recently published collection of poetry titled *Chalkwood Heights*. Prior to becoming a biological consultant, Craig taught college, high school, and general degree classes to Navy personnel aboard ship in San Diego. Craig was constantly learning and sharing his knowledge with his friends and colleagues. He will be missed by the many of us who were fortunate enough to share our lives with him.

-- Kyle Ince

Contributions may be made to the Evan Reiser College Fund, North Island Credit Union Serra Mesa Branch, P.O. Box 85833, San Diego, CA 92186.

LEGISLATION

Proposition A Financing Our Regional Transportation System, Habitat Acquisition and Management

When you vote on November 2, you will be asked to extend San Diego County's current ½% sales tax for local and regional transportation projects for another 40 years. In 2004, this tax extension will appear as "Proposition A" on your ballot. CNPS takes no position on Prop A. The purpose of this article is to inform you and encourage you to gather more information on the issues before you vote. Call or e mail Peter St.Clair at 619-683-9352 or peter.stclair@sbcglobal.net.

The current ½% sales tax for transportation expires in 2008. A "Yes" vote on Prop A will extend the current ½% sales tax from 2009 to 2048. Out of the estimated \$14 billion that will be collected for transportation projects, 6.2%, or roughly \$850 million will be earmarked for habitat acquisition and management in San Diego County. This is a great deal of money for conservation. It represents more than 50% of the cost of completing San Diego's Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSCP). On the other hand, the billions of dollars to be spent on future transportation projects may have an extremely negative impact on our environment if more roads lead to more urban sprawl.

Proposition A only passes if 2/3 of you vote, "Yes." This is a very high threshold for success. Transportation plans voted on in other parts of the state have failed. Alameda County's plan passed. It was supported by a broad coalition including the environmental community. San Diego's Proposition A currently lacks such a coalition. Many environmental groups oppose Prop A. The Board of Supervisors was not even unified in their support. Typically, construction and development interests will fund most of the "Yes on A" campaign. But, many important environmental groups do support Prop A, because it will provide an extremely significant down payment on our region's conservation requirements. These groups have worked tirelessly with elected officials and staff to craft a conservation funding plan with strong assurances and the ability to fund important conservation-land acquisitions "up front"—long before actual tax dollars flow toward transportation construction projects.

The consequences of a "No" vote are unknown. A lower tax or a more acceptable transportation plan could be brought back to the voters before 2008. The Governor and/or the State Legislature could lower the 2/3 "Yes" vote required to pass new taxes like Proposition A to 50%, 55% or some other figure that would probably assure passage.

A future TransNet extension might not have the habitat funding being made available via Prop A. Nothing requires road builders to do any more mitigation than required under state and federal law. Prop A's requirements go beyond the law, requiring "enhancement" as opposed to mere mitigation.

The current ½% TransNet sales tax was approved by voters in 1987 and expires in 2008. In 1987, sales taxes could be increased with a 50% "Yes" vote. TransNet passed with a bare majority—nothing like

the 2/3 vote needed this November. But, in a recent survey of San Diegans, 68% identified congestion as the most important issue facing our region. By 2008, about \$3.3 billion will have been collected and spent on transportation projects, including sums legally mandated to mitigate the adverse impact of projects on habitat.

Some supporters of Prop A believe the transportation expenditures since 1987 have benefited our region. Opponents say the resulting growth in the freeway network and the consequential short-changing of mass-transit has created congestion of nightmare proportions, while pushing sprawling low-density residential development deep into North County, East County, Riverside County, and now, Imperial County.

Prop A would raise an estimated \$14 billion over its life. Of that, 6.2%, or about \$850 million, is earmarked for habitat conservation and management. Prop A is the first San Diego infrastructure spending plan to earmark money for habitat monitoring and management. It is the first to set up a regional conservation coordinating committee to approve projects. It is the first to link its goals with those of the MSCP. It is the first to require additional mitigations for projects like Rt. 76 (Oceanside/San Luis Rey River), Rt. 67 (Ramona), and Rt. 94 (Jacumba) that go over and above those required by law and enhance the probability that endangered species and their habitat will be improved. Yet Prop A offers absolutely no assurance that we will not experience more congestion and worse sprawl. Opponents of Prop A point out that commercial development will be exempt from transportation impact fees, while residential development will bear the entire burden. Many experts agree that commercial development, including industrial and office development, is a major impetus for San Diego's regional population surge.

Prop A offers very good things, \$850 million for habitat acquisition, monitoring and management. But these gems are wrapped in a deeply flawed transportation plan. Unfortunately, there is absolutely no assurance that a "No" vote will lead to less congestion, a better transportation plan, or more money for conservation.

-- Peter St.Clair CNPS-SD Legislative Chair

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Mission Resource Conservation District: FREE Talk on Native Plant Landscaping Saturday, Oct 2, 10:30 – 11:30. Fallbrook Public Utilities District Bldg, 990 E. Mission Road, Fallbrook. Greg Rubin, native landscape designer, will show you how easy native landscaping can be. For more information contact: Mission Resource Conservation District at 728-1332. Sponsored by Mission Resource Conservation District's Weed Management Area Program. http://smslrwma.org

California Invasive Plant Council: The 2004 Cal-IPC Symposium, "Invasive Plants and the Wildland/Urban Interface", October 7-9, 2004 at the Holiday Inn Ventura Beach Resort in Ventura, California. Info and registration form at www.cal-ipc.org. Cost: Regular registration \$205 (includes banquet dinner and additional meals). Oral and poster presenters receive reduced registration of \$185. Questions? Contact Doug at dwjohnson@cal-ipc.org or Brianna at brichardson@cal-ipc.org

San Diego Horticultural Society: October 11,

2004. 6:30 – 9:30, Surfside Race Place at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Ten Steps to a Great Garden, by **Pat Welsh**, author of *Pat Welsh's Southern California Gardening: A Month-by-Month Guide* and other books. She's a very popular and well-known speaker throughout Southern California. FREE and everyone is welcome.

Water Conservation Garden Fall Festival: October 16, 2004. Saturday. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00

p.m.; 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, 92019 FREE. Fall is really the beginning of the garden year; what's planted now can grow in the winter rains. And, in our sixth consecutive year of dry conditions, it's increasingly more important to think of plants and techniques that use little water. The event introduces the award winning 4.2 acre garden and its message of low water use landscaping. Plants, including cacti and herbs, plant books and water conservation displays will be featured. Children can make bookmarks, do conservation puzzles and take a Great Pumpkin Walk. Docent-led tours of the Garden will be held at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. James Lightner, author of Native Plants of San Diego County, will be on hand to sign books. The adjacent Cuyamaca College Nursery will have a full line of plants available for purchase. For more information, go to The Garden's Web site at http://www.thegarden.org or call 619-660-0614.

Out of the Ashes... Gardens Reborn!
October 9, 2004, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the
Environmental Services Green Building
9601 Ridgehaven Court, Kearny Mesa. (Kearny
Mesa, 1 block east of Ruffin Rd., right off Hwy 15 –
exit at Balboa Ave.) Almost a year later after the

"Fires", homeowners are eager to learn about creating appropriate landscapes working within our fire-prone, dry, Mediterranean climate. Focusing on the various aspects of environmentally friendly landscaping, a **FREE** educational landscape fair is being cosponsored by the San Diego Horticultural Society and the City of San Diego Environmental Services Department. This important event will reveal the many products, design philosophies, plants and creative yet practical possibilities when creating a new landscape or neighborhood green space. Expert speakers and panel discussions will cover a wide range of topics. Educational literature, vendor booths and demonstrations and garden tours will round out the educational components of the event.

Well-known horticulturist Pat Welsh will talk about "Right Plant/Right Place," and show slides from her brand-new book. The American Horticultural Society Southwest SMART GARDENTM Regional Guide. Steve Brigham, author of Ornamental Trees of San Diego, will discuss dozens of beautiful trees for gardens. Greg Rubin, of California's Own Landscape Design, will speak on "Designing a Garden of California Natives." Mike Evans, native plant restoration specialist and owner of Tree of Life Nursery, is another featured speaker. Mike Buckner, The Plant Man, will also uncover the world of succulents, nature's most fire resistant plants. Other talks and discussion topics include irrigation, landscaping for fire safety, creative hardscape, garden design, low-water use landscaping, and hiring landscape professionals. San Diego landscape designer Pamela Homfelt of pH Exterior Design will lead on-site garden tours. The 'Green Building' demonstration garden comprises seven different gardens, all appropriate to San Diego. For more

details see www.sdhortsoc.org, or call Randy Blum at (858) 492-5036. NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Fire victims get preferred seating (send e-mail to landscapefair@yahoo.com). For more information call Randy Blum at (858) 492-5036. Sponsored by: City of San Diego Environmental Services Dept.; KRC Rock, Inc.; San Diego Horticultural Society; San Diego Home/ Garden Lifestyles magazine; Tree of Life Nursery.

Go Native! November 2; 6-9 pm; Tuesday, at SDSU's College of Extended Studies will teach you how to Go Native by planting your garden with plants indigenous to San Diego County and Southern Calif. This class will cover the different types of native plants you can use to create an attractive garden that will attract insects and birds to creat a balanced habitat. Reduce your water use, eliminate pesticides and herbicides, reduce use of soil amendments, and best of all, you won't have to spend time mowing your lawn! At SDSU Extented Studies/Gateway Centers, corner of Campanile Dr. and Hardy Ave. \$58.00. Register at www.neverstoplearning.net or call: 619-594-5152.

Newsletter submissions are due by the 10th of the month

Please send newsletter submissions to <u>bstephenson@kingfisherenv.com</u>

CNPS Newsletter is published monthly. Chapter dues include a subscription to the chapter newsletter. Second class postage paid at San Diego, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to CNPS, 1722 J Street, Suite 17, Sacramento, CA 95814.

California Native Plant Society Membership Application

Please complete this form, make check payable to "CNPS" and mail to:

California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816

- © Student/Retired/Limited Income \$20
- © Individual or Library \$35
- 6 Family or Group \$45
- 6 Supporting \$75

e-

- 6 Plant Lover \$100
- @ Patron \$250
- Benefactor \$500
- 6 Mariposa Lily \$1,000

Name(s):	
Address:	
Phone #:	
mail address	

Annual Native Plant Sale

California Native Plant Society San Diego Chapter







Saturday October 16, 2004 Open to CNPS Members, 9:15 AM – 2 PM Open to Public, 10 AM –2 PM

Balboa Park

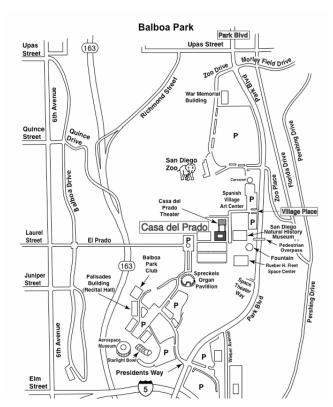
Casa del Prado Courtyard (next to the Casa del Prado Theater)

San Diego, CA

Cash or Checks Only; Books, posters, seeds and free advice will also be available.

You can join at the sale or download a membership form from the website.

info@cnpssd.org www.cnpssd.org 619-685-7321 (voice mail)



All proceeds benefit the San Diego Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.