

# CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

## *San Diego Chapter Newsletter*

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January 2009

[www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org)

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### VEEP SPEAKS

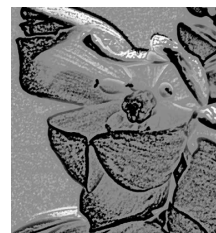
On a bright Saturday morning in December, ten energetic volunteers met in a noisy coffee house to plan a series of plant walks for next spring. Our level of experience ranged from knowing just a few common plants to a PhD in botany, but we all wanted to increase our familiarity with our local flora and to share this knowledge with others. As the newcomers expressed their reasons for wanting to get involved and the veterans share their experience of what worked and what didn't, I felt a particular pleasure in seeing the steady growth in this venture over the past couple of years. Personally, this has been a great opportunity for me to discover new places, experience native plants more directly, and build some solid friendships with my cohorts.

I think my experience is not uncommon in our chapter: I've heard from members whose experiences range from surveying vegetation around the county for years and from others caring for the native plant garden in Old Town. Many find satisfaction not only in doing something useful "for the planet", but joy in doing it with other, good-hearted people. I'd like to see us do more activities that mix hands-on activities with team-building and friend-making.

Maybe some members want to work together to protect or restore vulnerable native habitat. Others may wish to share their gardening

Maybe you have the kernel of a great idea, but aren't sure if anyone else would be interested. The sky is the limit. The real impediment for most, I believe, is the fear of taking on a new responsibility, of being the leader. "I'd be happy to participate, but I can't be the leader." Although responsibility can be shared to a wide degree, someone needs to be nominally in charge for any venture to be successful. Someone willing to shoulder the burden for a while, with the eye to building a real team, may just create something successful and lasting. For example, I won't be leading public field trips this year, but ten other volunteers will. Lexine Shroeder will not be surveying vegetation, but a committed group of trained volunteers will carry on an even larger effort.

This January, I hope the whole country starts to turn from an era of individualism to one of community. As opportunities to join more deeply in the life of the chapter arise during this coming year, I hope you will do a gut-check. See if there is room in your life to give and to gain. If you are willing to step up and try, your enthusiasm just might spread.



## **January Events**

### **Tecolote Canyon Walk**

Sunday, January 4, 9 - 11 AM: Learn about the plants in Tecolote Canyon. Meet at Tecolote Nature Center at 9 AM. Take I-5 to Sea World/ Décolleté Rd and proceed east on Tecolote past all the ball fields to the very end of Tecolote Rd. Comfortable walking shoes and sun protection. Rain will cancel

### **Work party at the Kumeyaay**

Saturday, January 10, 1 - 3 PM: CA Native Plant garden at Old Town State Historic Park. The garden is really coming along, and by January the wildflower seeds that were spread in October should have germinated, but unwanted weeds will need to be removed. The garden is at the far west end of the park, across Congress St from the Trolley/Bus transit center, next to Taylor Street. Free parking in the public lot just north of the garden off Taylor Street. Bring gloves, your favorite hand weeding tools, and sun protection. Drinking water is on site.

### **Point Loma Garden Club Monthly Meeting**

Wednesday January 14, 2008 10:00A.M: Noel Tribbey, AIFD, We are fortunate to have Noel for a return engagement. He is an Academy Award designer and is in demand for his stunning floral décor work at large resorts from Las Vegas to Maui . Cancel all your other plans because this floral design demonstration is not to be missed. Portuguese Hall 2818 Avenida de Portugal San Diego , Ca 92106 [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org)

## **Chapter Meetings**

Chapter meetings are open to the public. Our programs are the 3rd Tuesday of the month, excluding August and December.

7:00-7:30 PM is a time for discussion, camaraderie, and visiting our book sales table. The programs start at 7:30. Come early and browse our books. Stay after the program for conversation and refreshments.

Mystery plants identified! Bring your unknown plant and we will help you learn to identify it.

## **Desert Institute Programs**

Interested in learning more about the environment you live in? The Desert Institute offers classes and programs for all levels of plant enthusiasts.

Spend a day with a group of friends admiring Joshua Tree National Park's beautiful wildflowers and learn how to identify the different species you see. If your interests expand beyond wildflowers spend a day exploring the Park's fascinating landscape and learn something of its history.

To learn more about these special programs, or to enroll in one of the Desert Institutes classes call

(760) 367-5535 or visit their website at [www.desertinstitute.homestead.com](http://www.desertinstitute.homestead.com)

## **CNPS-SD Volunteer Opportunities**

CNPS-SD has a number of volunteer opportunities available to it's members. As a volunteer you will meet like-minded people, people who are interested in the natural world around them. In some cases you will be teaching others, but many times you will find you are learning as much, if not more than the people you are sharing information with. These opportunities often reinforce your own beliefs and renew your enthusiasm for preserving the habitats that so desperately need your help.

Some of the positions currently open include:

**HOSPITALITY**

**LIBRARIAN**

**PUBLICITY**

**PUBLIC OUTREACH**

For more information on these positions please visit the CNPS-SD website. If you are interested please send an e-mail to [info@cnpsd.org](mailto:info@cnpsd.org) or just introduce yourself to one of the board members at the next meeting.



## **CNPS Chapter Council**

You may have noticed a listing on the monthly newsletter leadership roster for “Chapter Council Delegate” and wondered “What and who is the Chapter Council?” I know I did, until early in 2008.

The CNPS Chapter Council is composed of delegates from each of the 33 local chapters that make up CNPS. Chapter councils meet quarterly to discuss issues and develop policies and procedures that cross regions and/or affect the entire CNPS organization. For example, in March 2008 the Chapter Council delegates voted to approve a Wildland Invasive Plants Integrated Weed Management Policy. The San Diego Chapter Council Delegate is me, Marty Foltyn. I took over the responsibilities from Dave Flietner in March 2008.

At the latest Chapter Council meeting, December 5-6 in Berkeley, CA, we met the new CNPS State Board. Brett Hall from Santa Cruz Chapter is the new President; Carol Witham from Sacramento Chapter is Vice President; Brad Jenkins from LA/Santa Monica Mountains Chapter is Treasurer, and Lynn Houser from Milo Baker (Santa Rosa) Chapter is Treasurer. Directors at large are Vince Scheidt (San Diego), Alison Shilling, Ellen Dean, Jane Hicks and Arvind Kumar.

The upcoming Conservation Conference – January 18-19, 2009 in Sacramento, CA, was a big topic of conversation. The Conference is chock full of great sessions and workshops. Some have special interest for Chapter Members, including Audubon at Home and sessions on vernal pool invertebrates and native grass seed collection. CNPS San Diego is proud to sponsor three San Diego area students to the conference—many thanks to our San Diego Board for their support! You can also check out the cool Silent Auction and the Poetry Reading contest, as well as our very own Carrie Schneider’s poster entered in the Poster Contest.

Hotel rooms are still available and it’s not too late to register – go to <http://cnps.org/cnps/conservation/conference/2009/> to see the agenda and make your plans.

Also at the December meeting, Chapter Council members worked on a new Fire Policy. Helping to shape this policy is of great importance to our chapter, and many thanks go to Kay Stewart and Rick Halsey of our chapter for their insights and input. Work is ongoing with a workshop headed by Rick Halsey set at the Conservation Conference, and a session at the next Chapter Council meeting March 14 at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. All members are encouraged to review the policy draft and make comments and suggestions. Contact me at [chaptercouncil@cnpsd.org](mailto:chaptercouncil@cnpsd.org) for more information.

If you’d like to learn more about the CNPS chapter Council, visit <http://cnps.org/cnps/admin/cc/index.php>, where you can find minutes from past meetings and the 2009 schedule.

Our chapter, along with the LA/Santa Monica Mountains and Orange County, are the hosts for the Fall 2009 Chapter Council meeting. This meeting has traditionally focused on conservation issues. I will be working with our San Diego Board to plan our participation, and welcome any volunteers who would like to assist. More information in upcoming newsletters.

Submitted by Marty Foltyn



## **CNPS 2009 State Board and Council Leadership Election Results**

**President** - Brett Hall (2009)  
**Vice-President** – Carol Witham (2009 - 2010)  
**Secretary** - Lynn Houser (2008 - 2009)  
**Treasurer** – Brad Jenkins (2009 - 2010)  
**Directors** (2008 - 2009) –Vince Scheidt, Alison Shilling, vacant  
**Directors** (2009 - 2010) – Ellen Dean, Jane Hicks, Arvind Kumar  
**Chapter Council Representatives** –Brian LeNeve (2008 - 2009); Lauren Brown (2009 - 2010)  
**Chapter Council Chair** – Kevin Bryant (2009)  
**Chapter Council Vice-Chair** – Larry Levine (2009)  
**Chapter Council Secretary** – Laura Camp (2009)

CNPS thanks those who volunteered to run. These are critical positions without which CNPS could not function.  
Submitted by: Sue Britting, Vice President

## **CNPS Student Funding Award**

Congratulations Sula Vanderplank—The San Diego Chapter of the California Native Plant Society has awarded Sula \$435 to cover the costs of travel, lodging and registration for the 2009 CNPS Conservation Conference. Sula will be presenting at the conference.

## **CNPS-SD Newsletter**

Do you have an idea for our newsletter? An article, poem, or story about native plants and their environment? Copy submissions are due by the first of the month prior to the month of publication. (for example, copy for inclusion in the March issue must be received by February 1). There is no guarantee that items sent to us will be printed.

Send copy submittals to: [newsletter@cnpsd.org](mailto:newsletter@cnpsd.org)

## **Gardening Symposium**

A major 2-day native plant gardening symposium is being planned for March 28-29, 2009 on the theme of "Growing Natives: Celebrating California's Beauty in Dry Times". CNPS is one of 3 major cosponsors, along with Friends of Regional Parks Botanic Garden and Pacific Horticulture Foundation.

## **2009 San Diego Bird Festival**

The San Diego Audubon Society is hosting it's 2009 San Diego Bird Festival March 5-8, 2009 at the Marina Village Conference Center in Mission Bay. Attend workshops on owls, woodpeckers, condors and more.

The Keynote Speaker will be the author of *The Sibley Guide to Birds*, David Allen Sibley. In addition to his talk Mr. Sibley will lead a border bird walk and teach a workshop on bird drawing.

For more information on the San Diego Bird Festival visit the San Diego Audubon's website at [www.sandiegoaudubon.org/birdfest.htm](http://www.sandiegoaudubon.org/birdfest.htm).

## **San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy**

### **Upcoming Guided Hike:**

**Patton Lobe, Pamo Valley - Sunday, January 18**  
Hike through pristine native vegetation, including riparian woodlands and chaparral-covered slopes, on your way to the Patton Lobe. This 30 foot high wall of white quartz streaked with black tourmaline is a seldom visited site in the River Park. This 6.4 mile hike is moderately strenuous to strenuous. For reservations contact Leslie at [hike@sdrvc.org](mailto:hike@sdrvc.org) or call (858) 674-2275 x 12.

Visit the SDRVC website for information on other scheduled hikes and activities:

[www.sdrvc.org/newsevents.html](http://www.sdrvc.org/newsevents.html)

## San Diego Natural History Museum Classes

Below are just a sample of the classes offered by the San Diego Natural History Museum. For a complete listing, dates and costs please visit their website at: [www.sdnhm.org](http://www.sdnhm.org).

**Point and Shoot Photography** - A class designed for beginning photographers with point and shoot digital cameras.

**Plant Forum** - These classes include an in-depth look at plant families and the characters and keys that taxonomists use to identify them. In 2009 look for classes on Amaranthaceae, Rhamnaceae and other plant families.

**Introduction to Sustainable Gardening** - As water becomes more and more scarce many of us are looking for new ideas to create yards that use little water and provide habitat. This class explores Earth-friendly gardening methods from around the globe.

## January 2009 Monthly Program

### **The Right Plant in the Right Place - California Natives for Particular Landscapes**

Presented by Dan Songster - Many of our natives have wide landscape potential, others a more narrow application and some can be used in unexpected ways! Some of the plants discussed will fit into one of the situations you have in your home garden, or you may see ways to use natives you have not considered before.

For instance, do you have a slope that you wish covered in durable, drought tolerant plants? Is there a section of your yard that is always dry and you really need a plant that can live with rainwater alone and still be gorgeous? Are you contemplating using a native tree and wonder if you have the room or the right situation? Need a hedge or a screen plant between you and your neighbor? Simply looking for fragrance and color for use in a Mediterranean style bed? No problem! Many examples of our versatile natives will be touched on during Dan's presentation.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

Student or Limited Income \$25  
 Individual \$45  
 Family, Group or Library \$75

Plant Lover \$100  
 Patron \$300  
 Benefactor \$600  
 Mariposa Lily \$1,500

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

## 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

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Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
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## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SAN DIEGO

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September 2008

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Open positions: EDUCATION, HORTICULTURE, Public Outreach & LIBRARIAN Contact any board member if you are interested in any of these positions

NOTE: For newsletter mailing label issues contact Jim Harrison at [newsletter@cnpsd.org](mailto:newsletter@cnpsd.org) or (858) 273-5242