



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

San Diego Chapter Newsletter

July/August 2009

www.cnpssd.org

CNPS (916) 447-2677

info@cnpssd.org

PREZ SEZ

“Words mean something.” – Barack Obama

e-mer-gen-cy (noun), 1. a sudden, urgent, usually unexpected occurrence or occasion requiring immediate action; 2. a state, esp. of need for help or relief, created by some unexpected event.

The County Board of Supervisors tells us that we are in a state of emergency and have been since March 2003 -- a long time for something to remain “unexpected”. Can’t think of what our six-year old emergency could be? Hint: the emergency means the County does not want to bother with the legal niceties of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

You got it -- our emergency is the millennia-old threat of wildfire. Yes, the crisis is so severe that the County doesn’t have time to consider environmental alternatives or allow for public review and comment, which has been required by law for the past 45 years. Instead we’re told we must accept the review process improvised by the County as good enough, and accept their plan to cut what they have identified as “dead, dying and diseased” trees on 852,288 acres of backcountry.

CEQA isn’t actually much of a law. It doesn’t require that the most environmentally sound alternative actually *be chosen*, just that a valid, scientifically-sound comparison be made. Our supervisors feel the process will take too long - although let’s remember that this “state of emergency” had been identified back in March 2003. Regardless, where we stand now is that the County does not want to go through the CEQA process – they want to make the decision of how to best protect our communities from the danger of fire. In their minds, the removal of large quantities of native habitat makes more sense than educating the public and providing scientifically valid solutions. For example, retrofitting roofs and vents of houses might work better than cutting trees up to 500 feet from the house.

To see what CNPS is doing about this absurdity and how you can help, please see pages 2 and 4. -Dave Flietner

CNPS MEETING PROGRAM

San Diego, Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 104
July 21 - 7pm

Finding Connections in Nature

By Jack Muir Laws

Naturalist, educator and artist John (Jack) Muir Laws delights in exploring the natural world and sharing this love with others. For six years, John Muir Laws backpacked the Sierra Nevada to research and illustrate *The Laws Guide to the Sierra Nevada*, a richly illustrated (2,710 original watercolor paintings), pocket-size field guide to over 1,700 species found in the Sierra Nevada. This guide helps visitors or residents of the Sierra understand and appreciate the biodiversity of the region.

Laws will present an illustrated lecture about the natural history of the Sierra Nevada, and the process of creating a field guide. This engaging program will highlight some of the beautiful and amazing species in the Sierra and the relationships between them. Laws will also discuss some of the conservation challenges in the Sierra Nevada and what stewards of nature are doing to confront them.

See page 9 for a workshop taught by Mr. Laws on the morning of July 21.

For a Balboa Park map see www.balboapark.org/nav.html
www.cnpssd.org - info@cnpssd.org

CNPS-San Diego Monthly Programs

Chapter meetings are open to the public; there is no charge. Our programs are the 3rd Tuesday of the month, excluding August and December.

6:30-7 Natives for Novices - July Topic “Planting on Slopes” by Jeremy Sison. Come early and browse our books. Stay after the program for conversation and refreshments.

We meet in Balboa Park, in the Casa del Prado, Room 101 or Room 104, which can be reached by car from Village Place off of Park Boulevard (served by the #7 bus). The Casa del Prado is immediately west of the Natural History Museum. The meeting room is handicapped accessible.

7-7:30 pm: Mystery plants identified! Bring your unknown plant and we will help you learn to identify it.

GROUP FILES LAWSUIT TO PROTECT CHAPARRAL AND PEOPLE FROM WILDFIRE CLEARING PROJECT BY SAN DIEGO COUNTY IGNORES SCIENCE AND LAW

SAN DIEGO, *Calif.* – The California Chaparral Institute has just filed a lawsuit in California Superior Court challenging a failure by the County of San Diego to follow state law, include public participation, and provide proper scientific oversight in planning a 3-4 year, \$7 million project to remove trees and shrubs in natural areas.

On May 13, 2009, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors approved the Vegetation Clearing Project and exempted the Project from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act. The Clearing Project would remove habitat in rural backcountry areas with a specific focus on trees up to 500 feet away from structures and roads.

The Clearing Project followed on the heels of a controversial overarching county report describing management of forest and shrublands that was strongly criticized by scientists and conservationists. At the time the report was adopted, the supervisors promised that an “appropriate environmental review” would be conducted “for any new proposed projects which would implement actions identified in the vegetation management report.” The Clearing Project was identified in that report but was exempted from environmental review when approved on May 13, 2009.

“Instead of focusing on developing a comprehensive fire management plan, the County of San Diego is engaged in a misguided campaign against nature”, said Richard Halsey, Director of the California Chaparral Institute. “We strongly support government assistance for reasonable vegetation management around homes. But the County’s focus on clearing trees deemed unhealthy nearly two football field lengths away from structures and roads is a waste of taxpayer money. It is not only harmful to nature but can also greatly increase the threat of wildfire to people when highly flammable weeds invade native habitat due to clearance operations. The project may also lead to the spread of the gold-spotted oak beetle that is killing thousands of oak trees in the region.”

“State law requires a thorough analysis of the potential benefits and harm from any government project to prevent unintended, negative consequences”, said attorney Rory Wicks. “Yet here the County Board of Supervisors has ignored repeated requests for a collaborative and comprehensive fire management plan and turned a blind eye to potential harm to communities and nature from the

Clearing Project. This lawsuit is a last resort to prevent the County’s short-sighted quest for federal dollars from compromising public safety and natural resources.”

The project deflects attention away from what needs to be done - assisting residents to retrofit their homes and reducing hazardous fuels directly next to communities. This issue was highlighted in a new study released June 6, 2009 that **federal programs intended to reduce wildfire risks in the West have been largely ineffective** because fuel-reduction efforts seldom hit areas near homes and businesses (Schoennagel et al. 2009).

Over the past five years, the California Chaparral Institute, the San Diego Regional Fire Safety Forum, and others have worked to help San Diego County develop a sufficient fire protection system to protect lives, property, and natural resources from wildfire. While the County has improved its fire-safe building and planning codes for new construction, it has consistently failed to provide adequate funding to create an organized fire protection system.

San Diego County spends less on fire protection than any other county in Southern California, yet it remains one of the most fire prone regions in the United States. To partially make up for this lack of funding the County has depended on federal grants to conduct habitat-clearing projects to attempt to reduce fire risk in the backcountry on a short-term basis.

The California Chaparral Institute seeks to compel the County to prepare a long-term, comprehensive fire management plan that will include a collaborative process that includes all stakeholders including fire agencies, scientists, conservation organizations, land managers, community groups, and private land owners.

For more details on the lawsuit please visit the California Chaparral Institute Website:

<http://www.californiachaparral.org>

The California Chaparral Institute is a non-profit science and education organization dedicated to promoting an understanding and respect for the chaparral ecosystem and helping communities reconnect with the natural environment.

CNPS CHAPTER COUNCIL REPORT

The latest CNPS Chapter Council meeting June 12 at Sierra Nevada College near Lake Tahoe featured temperatures in the 30s, snow flurries at higher elevations, and a bear in the parking lot of our venue!

RENEWED FOCUS AT STATE LEVEL ON CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, AND OUTREACH VIA FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

Attendees met the new CNPS Conservation Director, Greg Suba. Greg started in May, but is already focused on addressing plant protection issues related to the siting of renewable energy projects, the approval of timber harvest plans (THPs), updating the Conservation Program web page, and developing a communication infrastructure to increase the effectiveness of conservation advocacy efforts among our Chapters. CNPS has joined a coalition of conservation organizations working to generate a map that identifies alternative project sites on disturbed and degraded BLM lands in the California desert, and a coalition of groups working to generate an opportunities and constraints map in order to guide the alignment of future transmission lines to least-sensitive areas. Stay tuned for details on how you can join a letter writing campaign to communicate our positive support of renewable energy projects that take into account preservation of protected lands.

Greg has been talking with CNPS San Diego board members, and hopes to visit in person this summer. We welcome Greg and he encourages you to get in touch at gsuba@cnps.org or 916-447-2677 Ext. 206.

CNPS education efforts are focused on “getting people engaged with nature” and Josie Crawford, CNPS Education Director, outlined new programs being developed, including youth and stewardship education, a kids website, and a rare plant treasure hunt debuting next spring, where botanists will partner with the general public to find and learn more about our diverse plant communities.

Jack Tracey, CNPS Development Director, encourages all San Diego CNPS members to join our Facebook site (search for California Native Plant Society). You’ll be connected with almost 900 members and learn more about regional and statewide activities. If you are a Twitter fan join the informal Twitter group at cnps.org.

Those caring for endangered plants can now get help with weed management by way of a grant from the California Department of Agriculture. Up to \$7.5 million in funding is available. Certain criteria must be met, and Bob Case of the Invasives Committee can provide more information at bob.case@astound.net.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO MAKE THE SEPTEMBER MEETING IN SAN DIEGO SUCCESSFUL!

The Chapter Council’s next meeting will be in San Diego on September 12-13, 2009 at the San Diego Natural History Museum. San Diego has never hosted a Chapter Council meeting, and it is our time to shine and let the Chapter Council delegates who come from the 33 local chapters that make up CNPS Chapter Councils know more about our great programs, fantastic members, and important issues. All San Diego members are welcome to attend the day’s meeting and the evening program.

However CNPS-SD needs YOUR HELP to make this a successful event! Email me at chaptercouncil@cnpsd.org. We need volunteers to:

- Help coordinate the evening program content
- Help set up and serve during meals and breaks
- Host field trips on Sunday September 13 for the Chapter Council and CNPS Board members. If you have an idea for a field trip that will show the unique flora of our area to CNPS members, many of which who have never been to San Diego, I’d like to hear it – and even better – get your help in planning and coordinating it!

Host homes are also needed – won’t you invite a Chapter Council delegate to stay with you when they travel to San Diego? It’s a great way to meet fellow enthusiasts and make new friends from other areas in our great state. Email Marty Foltyn at chaptercouncil@cnpsd.org if you have room available.

-by Marty Foltyn, San Diego Chapter Council Delegate

September 15 CNPS Pre-Meeting

15 Minutes with an Expert

6pm to 7:15pm

We will have native plant experts available to answer your questions and sit down with you and go over landscaping plans for 15 minutes. Experts can answer questions about your home garden, school garden, volunteer restoration project, erosion control, landscaping near wildlands, and any other native plant landscaping question. Reservations are not required but if you can RSVP to plantsale@cnpsd.org, we can try to make sure we have enough experts on hand. Advice will be given on a first come first served basis.

There will not be a CNPS meeting in August.

CNPS SAN DIEGO, STATE AND LOCAL WILDFIRE POLICY

Members of our Chapter, led by landscape architect Kay Stewart and chaparral scientist Rick Halsey, have been working for years to make San Diego County safer from wildfire. CNPS San Diego is allied in this effort with other CNPS Chapters, a variety of organizations and citizen's groups, members of Fire Safe Councils, legislators and local officials. To further support this effort CNPS-SD has donated \$3,500 from the Legal Fund recently established by the Chapter.

We were invited to assist State Senator Christine Kehoe who in 2006 and 2008 wrote legislation that was signed by the Governor and enacted into law and which will protect lives, property and habitat by mandating better management of things that burn: homes, decks, fences, accessory structures and vegetation.

In the past, most risk-management efforts concentrated on cutting down plants--including native plants. Science and experience showed us this was not the most effective way to save lives and property.

The Chapter is following up with local governments and CalFIRE to write rules and regulations implementing Sen. Kehoe's legislation. State law mandates building and property construction and maintenance, including the area 100 feet from a habitable structure be maintained in such a way as to minimize wildfire risk. This area is called the "defensible space". It can be more than 100 feet from structures in some circumstances (schools and other public buildings; homes on steep slopes, etc.).

Defensible space protects fire fighters as well as occupants. The size of the defensible space is based on scientific estimates of wind-driven wildfire flame-length and the distance at which common building materials will ignite from radiant heat of a nearby fire.

In contrast to shrill demands of some politicians, 100 feet of defensible space is typically all that is needed. It is critical that both buildings and yard landscaping within the defensible space be properly managed.

The wholesale removal of all shrubby vegetation from defensible space enables rapid growth of large populations of highly flammable weeds and leads to increased risk of structure fire from burning embers as well as direct flame impingement.

Following the 2007 Witch Fire, a published report funded by the insurance industry documented that homes surrounded by bare soil burned while homes surrounded by well designed hardscape and a well managed mix of shrubs and groundcover survived.

The most common two factors in structure loss are vulnerability to wind-driven burning embers entering through many pathways and small-dimension wood construction: especially shake roofs and wood eaves, but also wood siding, decks, balconies, exterior stairs and fences.

Wind-driven wildfire throws up burning embers--often originating miles distant from a fire's front. Embers lodge in roofs, under eaves, in gutters filled with leaves and pine needles, under decks and in cracks in wood siding. The embers ignite--sometimes hours after firefighters have left the area, thinking things were safe.

The solution is to screen and weatherstrip homes to prevent ember-entry and to replace small-dimension wood with materials that do not burn, or ignite far more slowly. In some cases this is very inexpensive, such as installation of fine wire mesh over attic, roof and eave vents.

The second common factor is a home's exposure to fire running uphill. Thus, homes on exposed hills and ridges burned more frequently than others.

The state, counties and cities are working on solutions. Often using out-of-date information, they have focused money and effort on removing massive amounts of vegetation--including native plants often far distant from structures.

This is wrong, wasteful, and does not put the money where the risk is: in older homes that have not been retrofitted to be fire-safe.

CNPS is working with public agencies to use a scientific approach to wildfire risk management. The County and most cities agree this is the way to go. Yet they continue to spend money cutting down shrubs and trees.

We want them to continue appropriate vegetation treatment--but to concentrate far more money and effort on making homes and yards safer.

It is thoroughly documented that wildfire risk is reduced by: (1) placing hardscape and mineral mulches (rocks and pulverized rocks) near homes; (2) building masonry walls between home and wildland vegetation; (3) growing irrigated groundcover close to the house--which includes native plant cultivars that remain succulent with far less water than non-natives and resist burning long after thirstier plants are dry and flammable; (4) removing dead-wood and pruning and thinning shrubs and trees throughout the yard.

CNPS San Diego is working with other Chapters to create a fire policy. We are working with CalFIRE as well as City of

WILDFIRE POLICY CONT.

County has no central fire department, but we are working with the Department of Land Use on a vegetation management program. State, county and cities already mandate wildfire risk reduction in new subdivisions and new homes.

Progress will be slow until scientific studies sift evidence from our recent wildfires. Until then, we will attempt to limit damage to native plants while helping people make their lives safer.

- Peter St. Clair

ATTENTION TEACHERS

School's out! By now you may have finally caught your breath and are getting ready to take on those summertime projects. Are you interested in meeting with other teachers to develop ways to increase classroom education involving native plants?

Educating the next generation is critically important to the success of CNPS's mission and we would like to expand this part of our program. There is no set agenda for this effort, other than the ideas that you may bring. Please contact me if you would like to meet and discuss how CNPS can help you incorporate San Diego's native plant communities into your educational programs. I will coordinate a meeting that works with everyone's schedule.

Dave Flietner

LEGAL FUND PLEA

The Board of Directors would like to thank the people who have started our legal fund. We see in the very near future a need for legal assistance specifically when dealing with the preservation of San Diego County's wild land. We hope to achieve a \$10,000.00 balance to cover such legal fees since CNPSSD's comment letters have not been effective in the past.

Our Goal: \$10,000.00

Donations to date: \$3,890.00 -- 38.9% of our goal

Your donation is tax deductible and will be matched by additional funds set aside by CNPSSD's Board of Directors. We need your help, please consider us when planning your annual tax-deductible donations.

DONORS

Dave Flietner

Debbie Evans

Kay Stewart

Susan Marchetti

Pat Fishtein

CNPS

FALL PLANT SALE

Fall Plant Sale: All inquiries regarding our fall plant sale on Saturday October 17th, 2009, should go to plantsale@cnpssd.org.

This year's plant sale will take place on Saturday October 17th, 2009 at the courtyard next to the Casa del Prado and across from the west entrance of the Natural History Museum in Balboa Park. This is our largest annual fundraiser and we need everyone's help promoting the sale. The funds we raise from our sale help pay for our newsletter, meeting rooms, and local conservation projects. Check our website to download the plant sale flyer and post it around your neighborhood. This year's sale will again feature convenient pre-ordering for CNPS members, free native plant advice, free seed packet for kids and of course the best selection of California native plants!

The plant sale committee is looking for volunteers to help organize this year's sale. No plant experience necessary. We need organized individuals with good communication skills. We will also be looking for volunteers to work on the day of the sale, check the website for a volunteer update.

Specific tasks needed now for our fall plant sale:

Home Growers wanted for Fall Plant Sale: If you are interested in growing plants for the October plant sale, please e-mail plantsale@cnpssd.org. We buy many plants from native plant nurseries but member grown plants increases our profits and enables us to protect more native plants and their habitats. Perhaps you have some plants on your property that you can re-pot up or propagate from cuttings. If you're a novice at plant propagation, we encourage you to pick up one of the many books on native plant propagation, see our website for a complete listing, or e-mail us with your questions. We have many experienced members who can help you get started with native plant propagation.

Seed and bulb Team: We also collect and package our own seed and we need your help!

Comments wanted: Do you have any ideas that would help us improve our fall plant sale? What plants do you really want to buy at the plant sale? How can we make things easier for customers at the sale? E-mail us at plantsale@cnpssd.org.

Submitted by the Plant Sale Committee



CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK

For a wonderful hike in the mountain just drive up State Route 79 just south of Cuyamaca Lake, park, and hike up Milk Ranch Road to the saddle between Middle Peak and Cuyamaca Peak. Then follow Azalea Glen Fire Road up toward Cuyamaca Peak and across the east face of the peak to the reservoir and descend on the Azalea Glen trail that ends up at Paso Picacho Campground. These are among the beautiful sights and sounds you might experience:

- Right above the reservoir, with big silvery silky leaves, tall cream to yellow blossoms starting to go to seed -

Thermopsis macrophylla var. *semota*

(velvet false-lupine) a rare California plant, mingling with *Rosa californica* in full bloom also;

- Tunnels of *Ceanothus leucodermis* en route down the mountain, covered with snow-white sweet-scented blossoms, where the centuries-old dormant seed bed has sprung up into a mass of vital, lush growth, with (surprise!) twining *Calystegia* below, some with leaves that look like some strange Cucurbit, they were so large;

- In Azalea Glen by the brook, where a one-acre stand of very large oaks and firs were spared in the 2003 fire, *Rhododendron occidentale* (western azalea, for which the Glen is named) budding and *Cornus sericea* (red-osier dogwood) is in FULL - spectacular! – bloom

- Meadows and small openings everywhere, each with a different mix of beautiful flowering plants, at least 40 species easy for a novice to identify; and native grass meadows away from roadways (instead of the nasty, sock piercing foxtails near the roads).

- Thousands of birds chasing, courting, and singing and catching insects;

-Lizards leaping (yes!) and catching insects;

- and millions of insects, thriving in this land of sudden plenty : all sizes and colors of flies humming, beetles leaving trails across dusty footpaths, crickets chirping in the shadows, yellow and black caterpillars gnawing tracks through the ocean of green *Ceanothus* leaves, all sorts of butterflies darting on the breezes, honeybees buzzing out of their hive in a standing burned snag, and tiny native bees with iridescent blue bodies and big black and gold bumblebees, all gathering pollen in the flower fields.

Kay Stewart



CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Thanks to our members, our conservation fund has grown by \$750 in the last two months! Thank you donors!! Consider: if each of the rest of our San Diego chapter members gave only \$10 to our legal fund, we would have more than \$7000 to use for protection of our irreplaceable natural resources. Send your contribution to: CNPS Legal Fund, PO Box 121390, San Diego CA 92112-1390.

Check out a new tool from Google Earth version 5 - you can look up older maps and compare to newer ones to examine land use changes over time. This could help us determine when "disturbed" land actually became disturbed. This is important for conservation because "disturbed" land requires a much lower mitigation ratio that land with higher value habitat, therefore there are incentives to degrade land.

Keep in touch with other members and find out about late-breaking events by joining our email list. Write to info@cnpsd.org and ask to be subscribed.

- Carrie Schneider

BOARD NOTES

- In July, the Native Gardening Workshop that occurs before the monthly chapter meetings will be held from 6:30 to 7:00.
- Several other chapters have created a New Member Newsletter to introduce our chapter and CNPS to new members. It holds information about the chapter, events, and each committee- what they do and how they could use new volunteers.
- The CNPS Board voted to support The California Chaparral Institute against the San Diego County Board of Supervisors vote to declare an emergency CEQA exemption for dead brush clearing through a monetary donation and, pending state CNPS approval, become a co-plaintiff.
- Congratulations Arne Johansen, our new Invasive Plants Chair! It will be very exciting to see what happens with this committee in the upcoming months. If anyone is interested in assisting Arne, please contact him at invasiveplants@cnpsd.org.
- Plant Sale is October 17, 2009! If anyone is interested in helping with the plant sale, please contact Carolyn Martus at plantsale@cnpsd.org.

COULD YOUR HOME SURVIVE A WILDFIRE?

Crews are cleaning up dead vegetation outside the fences behind yards. **But a well-maintained fire-break won't eliminate risk.** Why? Because reducing risk in the fire break is only one part of three essential steps to preventing homes from igniting. Flying embers can ignite a house or materials in the yard, that then ignite the house. **Politicians won't say this, but the fact is that property owners need to care for their homes and yards or wildfires can cause tragic losses.** Many of the following actions are not required by law, but will reduce your risk and your neighborhood's. Please do all you can to prevent homes from burning in a wildfire.

HOUSE: eliminate as many risks as possible. Start small, do what you can every year:

- * Remove debris from roof and gutters,
- * Screen vents on foundation, roof, or walls
- * Weather strip house, toolsheds and garage doors
- * Enclose or stucco exposed framing
- * Remove flimsy wood trellises on house
- * Replace deck or balcony with noncombustible
- * Replace combustible stairways
- * Replace roof with a Class A roofing assembly
- * Replace windows to be California Fire safe

Every home needs a 3' wide space on both sides to permit fire-fighters to get through. It doesn't have to be in a straight line, and can have a gate. If there is a gate, leave it unlocked. Do not grow thorny plants that could injure a fire-fighter in this space.

YARD: eliminate as many risks as possible. Measure from your home and your neighbors' home.

- * No fabric awnings attached to house
- * Flammable pet houses 15' from house
- * Wood play structures 15' from house
- * Cloth umbrella, hammock 15' away
- * Non-combustible fence first 5' by house
- * Non-combustible fence by fire break
- * Inside hedges clean out dead stuff
- * No wood mulch within 5' of a house
- * Flammable storage 25' from house in shed
- * Shed with sealed windows, doors and roof
- * Plants watered for healthy foliage (varies)
- * Trees within 10' branch 6' above ground
- * Under trees, no plants over 2' high
- * Trash barrels covered
- * All plants clean, no dead and dry stuff
- * Only metal or heavy timber shade structures

If you have to evacuate: Follow the directions provided by the officers, and close every window and turn off air conditioning or fans. Put outdoor flammable objects in the house.

WE ALL NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO BE SAFER

Every home and yard needs to be cared for. If one is not, then the community is at risk. If we start with the little things, and work up to the big ones, we will all be safer bit by bit. Some neighbors can't do this work: the elderly, disabled or low-income. When their homes are safer, we will be too. Write grant proposals for help, find groups like scouts to volunteer, form a small business and earn an income doing this important work. We can all make a difference.

RECYCLE AND RAISE MONEY FOR CNPS

Las Pilitas Nursery donates 10 cents for every usable pot brought to them by CNPS members. Pots can be brought directly to Las Pilitas at

8331 Nelson Way Escondido, CA 92026
or stored at the Tecolote Nature Center at
5180 Tecolote Road San Diego, CA 92110
Please visit the CNPS-SD website for details.
www.cnpssd.org

CNPS PLANT SCIENCE TRAINING PROGRAM WORKSHOPS 2009

August 12-14th, Vegetation Rapid Assessment:

Primary Instructors: Todd Keeler Wolf, Julie Evans, Jennifer Buck, and Josie Crawford

Location: Donner Summit

Course Description: The California Native Plant Society (CNPS), the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), present a Vegetation Rapid Assessment workshop near Donner Summit. The course will be a combination of lecture and field exercises in vegetation sampling. The course will focus on collecting data using the CNPS Rapid Assessment protocol. We will discuss applications of fine-scale vegetation sampling, classification and mapping, how to document rare natural communities, and how vegetation information fits into planning documents.

Cost: Members \$365

Non-members \$390

Sept 29- Oct 1, Legends of the Fall: exploring the clandestine flora of early fall in the eastern Mojave Desert

Primary Instructors: James M. Andre & Tasha La Doux

Location: UC Granite Mountains Desert Research Center

Course Description: Few botanists journey out in the late summer or early fall in search of colorful blooms of California's desert plants. Yet the early fall bloom in the eastern Mojave Desert can be more reliable than the more popular spring blooms. Approximately 10% of eastern Mojave annuals are considered "summer annuals", species that germinate following the monsoonal cloudbursts of summer, grow rapidly, and complete the life cycle before temperatures decline sharply in fall. In addition, many perennial species flower in early fall, particularly those of the Asteraceae, Poaceae, and Polygonaceae. This course will introduce botanists to the ecology and taxonomy of the diverse flora of early fall in the eastern Mojave Desert, with special emphasis on rare or unique species. Participants should have moderate to advanced taxonomic skills. Field trips will include moderate to short day hikes.

Cost: TBA

CNPS-SD CHAPTER BOARD MEETING

Wednesday July 8—6:00-8:00

Carmel Valley Branch Library

3919 Townsgate Drive, San Diego, CA

E-mail Dave Flietner for more information—
president@cnpsd.org

MONTHLY WORK PARTIES

Old Town State Historic Park Native Plant Garden

2nd Saturday of each month

July 11, Saturday, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

Bring work gloves, your favorite weeding tool, a sun hat and sun screen. There is shade, refreshments and bathrooms on site. The native plant garden is at the northwest end of Old Town State Park. It is on Taylor St. across Congress St. from the trolley station. There is often free parking available in the lot at the corner of Taylor St. and Calhoun St. Enter off Calhoun Street behind the former CalTrans building. We meet near the McCoy House, a large two story reconstructed Victorian home.

Point Loma Plant Garden -Work Party first Saturday and third Sunday of each month

July 4 and 19, 9-11 AM: Wear sunscreen and bring a hat and water. All tools and supplies are provided. No facilities on site. For more information contact - San Diego River Park Foundation

Contact Richard Dhu at Richard@sandiegoriver.org or

619-297-7380

<http://sandiegoriver.org/plnpg/php>

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER OPTION

19 VOLUNTEERS TO DATE!

Would you be interested in receiving your CNPS newsletter digitally? The cost of printing and paper continues to rise. Help CNPS-SD save money and reduce waste by signing up to receive your newsletter via e-mail. If you are interested please e-mail Julie at newsletter@cnpsd.org.

MONTHLY CNPS-SD EVENTS

Tecolote Canyon Walk - First Sunday of each month

June 7, 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 are recommended. Rain will cancel.

BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION WORKSHOP

Join us for an intensive and accessible botanical illustration workshop with illustrator and author John Muir Laws. Class will begin with a quick review of flower structure and then plunge into an approach to drawing flowers that helps you to quickly and accurately capture their form and feel. We will learn techniques for simplifying the complex structure of flowers and ways to foreshorten flowers, leaves and petals. We will investigate tricks to help draw complicated overlapping shapes such as an iris or curling leaves. After a potluck lunch we will explore applying color to our drawings using either watercolor and colored pencils and learn how to deal with the problem colors (pink, yellow, and white). Laws will also demonstrate a bag of tricks to help you deal with challenges such as pale veins on a dark leaf. This will be a full and delightful workshop, helpful for both beginners and experienced artists.

Things to Bring:

A small bouquet of flowers including at least one iris, drawing paper, pencils and your favorite drawing tools (Laws will demonstrate color techniques with both watercolor and colored pencil), and something to share in a lunchtime potluck.

Cost: \$75.00 per person, paid with cash or check at the door

Tuesday July 21, 2009

San Diego, Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 104

10:00 AM to 4:00PM

For a Balboa Park map see www.balboapark.org/nav.html

For more info go to our website, www.cnpsd.org - or contact Diane at- secretary@cnpsd.org

WELCOME NEW CNPS MEMBERS

Steve Munzinger, Ph.D.

Ms Vicki Lindblade

LaRee Brownell

C L Henson

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE

Visit the CNPS website at:

www.CNPS.org

Click on the **JOIN** button

MEMBERSHIP

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.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

c/o San Diego Natural History Museum

P. O. Box 121390

San Diego, CA 92112-1390

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SAN DIEGO

June 2009

Phone (916) 447-2677

www.cnpsd.org , info@cnpsd.org

BOARD OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Dave Flietner(858) 268-3789h
president@cnpsd.org

VICE PRESIDENT: Peter St. Clair.....(619) 260-1307
vicepresident@cnpsd.org

SECRETARY: Diane Green.....(858) 571-2862
Secretary@cnpsd.org

TREASURER: Sandra Feiock.....(760) 735-8845
treasurer@cnpsd.org

OTHER ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

BOOK and POSTER SALES: Cindy Burrascano(858) 578-8040h
postersales@cnpsd.org

CONSERVATION: Carrie Schneider..... (858) 352-4413w
info@cnpsd.org.

LEGISLATION: Peter St. Clair.....(619) 260-1307
legislation@cnpsd.org

PROGRAMS: Hank Kraus.....(760) 751-1929
programs@cnpsd.org .

PUBLICITY: Patrick McConnell..... (619) 294-3868h
publicity@cnpsd.org

CHAPTER COUNCIL DELEGATE: MartyFoltyn....(858) 259-0283h
chaptercouncil@cnpsd.org

BOARD MEMBER: Tom Beltran
cnpsd@nyms.net

APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

FIELD TRIPS: Kay Stewart.....(619) 238-2668
fieldtrips@cnpsd.org

HOSPITALITY: Betsy Cory(619) 656-8669
hospitality@cnpsd.org

INVASIVEPLANTS: Arne Johanson.....(858) 759-4769
invasiveplants@cnpsd.org

MEMBERSHIP: Mary Kelly.....(916) 447-2677
membership@cnpsd.org

NEWSLETTER: Julie Janssen.....(619) 445-8771
newsletter@cnpsd.org

PLANT SALE: .Carolyn Martus/Mary Kelly.....plantsale@cnpsd.org

PUBLIC OUTREACH: puboutreach@cnpsd.org

RARE PLANTS: Fred Roberts.....(760) 439-6244h
rareplants@cnpsd.org

VEGETATION: Christina Benich/Patrick McConnell.....(619) 459-4142
vegetation@cnpsd.org

WEBSITE: .Mary Alice Kessler..... webmaster@cnpsd.org

Open positions: EDUCATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH 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 or (858) 273-5242