



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
*San Diego Chapter Newsletter*

## CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday, December 18; 7 p.m.  
Room 104, Casa del Prado  
Balboa Park

## HOLIDAY PARTY

**BRING YOUR PICTURES!**

Hey, Party People! This year we are returning to the Classic Party Format, which means that the main activity will be perusing your photos. So...it's time to start thinking about which photos you want to share from your 2012 perambulations. Let me know at [hospitality@cnpsd.org](mailto:hospitality@cnpsd.org) if you are bringing pictures. Then get those pics on a CD or flash drive and we'll provide the computer to show 'em on.

The party is potluck, so no need to RSVP. Just bring something delicious--preferably finger food. Your Hospitality Committee will provide the usual coffee/tea, mulled cider, utensils, cups, napkins and plates, all against a background of evergreen, twinkling, festive decor. And maybe even music. So in conclusion: *impressus* and fulfill our *Heart's Desire*; *Mount your Vision* and let your pictures rise onto the screen like a *Skylark*. Okay?

~**Betsy Corey**, Hospitality Chair

**7:00 p.m.** – refreshments, book browsing, socializing.

**7:30 p.m.** – presentation.

Chapter meetings are free and open to the public. They are held in the Casa del Prado, just west of the San Diego Natural History Museum in Balboa Park.

## BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, December 5, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., monthly CNPS San Diego Chapter board meeting to be held at 4010 Morena Blvd, Suite 100, San Diego (Thomas Guide 1248 C4). Exit I-5 to Balboa Dr. east and turn north on Morena Drive. Proceed 1/2 mile and make a u-turn at the Avati Street signal and turn into the driveway for 4010. Drive to the parking lot on the west side (away from Morena). Members are welcome to attend as observers. If you want to discuss an issue, please ask to get on the agenda by sending an email to [president@cnpsd.org](mailto:president@cnpsd.org).

# Happy Holidays to Everyone!!



## TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK

**December 2; 9 a.m. to noon.** A relaxed opportunity to learn plant lore of this coastal natural reserve from a CNPS member. Meet at the Tecolote Nature Center. Wear sun protection and comfortable walking shoes, bring water. Rain at 8 a.m. cancels the walk. Directions: exit I-5 at Seaworld/Tecolote exit. Go east (away from Mission Bay) on Tecolote, past the ball fields, along the driveway to the very end. Free and open to the public, and parking is also free. The walk is repeated the first Sunday of each month.



## CNPS Conservation Campaign

The year-long effort to raise money for the CNPS Conservation Program is almost over! **Please consider an end-of-the-year donation to help meet the \$100k goal!** The CNPS Conservation Program works to preserve the wild gardens that we all cherish – the native flora and the beautiful places it needs to survive.

Conservation is fundamental to CNPS. We all want the legacy of the California flora to endure. The flora is facing tremendous threats from development, invasive plants, and climate change. The Conservation Program brings science and law, as well as a love of nature, to address these threats.

You have probably heard about the CNPS Conservation Program's engagement with solar energy development in the Mohave and Colorado Deserts. A massive planning process is underway that will determine the fate of millions of acres of public lands. The Conservation Program has already had a role in developing policies for this process. The agencies overseeing the desert also rely on CNPS to provide the basic scientific information on plant distribution, vegetation types, and endangered species that is needed to design huge preserves. This work needs your support.

One of the most important initiatives undertaken by the Conservation Program in the past few years is the monthly conservation committee conference calls. The state office holds conference calls with each chapter Conservation Committee Chairperson to facilitate networking among chapters and pool resources to address specific needs. We all benefit when the state office facilitates communication and connects chapters with professional resources and other members with similar experience.

At time of this writing we still have ~\$30k to go to meet the Conservation Campaign goal of raising \$100,000 this year. For the San Diego chapter, the total raised so far is only \$850! Based on chapter size, we need to raise another \$3,000 to do our part to achieve the last \$30k. This is only \$5 per member!

Donations can be made via the CNPS website ([cnps.org/support](http://cnps.org/support)) or by mail to CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113 (please note "Conservation Campaign" on the check). **Together we can ensure that California's wild gardens have a future.** If you care about science-based conservation in California, please consider making a special gift.

## CONSERVATION

And Now for a Word from Our Sponsors...

Perhaps you thought you were free from pledge breaks and fund raising drives? Well, this one's a bit different. Really.

Here's the deal: if it works, we won't bug you again. If it doesn't work, we keep beating the drums. And we're willing to sweeten the pot, too. Read on.

State CNPS has run a fundraiser for the state conservation program for much of the last year. It's been quiet, but so far, it's two-thirds of the way to its goal of \$100,000. That's 70% progress without bugging you.

This being the season of giving before the end of the calendar year, we're all joining in a push to land that last 30% and make the conservation program financially solvent for the next year.

David Varner, elsewhere in this newsletter, is also making the pitch. I'm writing here to say it's a really good idea. The state conservation program, under the inestimable Greg Suba, deals with the statewide issues, while we deal with the local issues.

We work together, especially when we take legal action. The state's got our back, and now they're asking for some support.

You've given so much it hurts, right? Well, not to CNPS. As of November 1, our chapter has contributed \$850 to this cause. Based on our status as one of the biggest chapters, we should have donated \$3,850 by now.

Yes, we're pikers, and we need to step up and do our share. To donate online, go to: <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/conservation/campaign/index.php>. Alternatively, mail your donations for the Conservation Campaign by check to CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816.

Thank you!!

Were those screams? **Here's an even better way to give: the Conservation Committee will match the first \$750 that people contribute, provided they give at the December or January chapter general meetings.**

Yes, come to the Christmas meeting (and/or the January meeting), donate, and we'll send your cash or check on with our matching check to the state office. You will get our thanks and the state's thanks as well. Unfortunately, the state website doesn't have a way of telling us you donated to the conservation campaign as a San Diego chapter member, so we can't match the donation you make there.

Again, thank you for helping out.

Finally, if you're looking for a new year's resolution, new project, or way to volunteer, consider joining the conservation group. We meet the first Tuesday of every month, 5:30-7:30, at the Audubon offices, 4010 Morena Blvd. Email [conservation@cnpsd.org](mailto:conservation@cnpsd.org) for more information, and to learn about the back way to get there that lets you avoid the I-5 at rush hour.

~ **Frank Landis**, Conservation Chair

## NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome the following New Members who joined in October:

<b>William Black</b>	<b>Mark Lesch</b>
<b>Amy Bouck-Knight</b>	<b>Sarah Mapel</b>
<b>Stephen Cantu</b>	<b>Anne Marston</b>
<b>Danielle Champoux</b>	<b>Sara McCullough</b>
<b>Kari Coler</b>	<b>Patrick McKenna</b>
<b>Karen P. Cook</b>	<b>Tim Moore</b>
<b>Claudia M. Copitas</b>	<b>Anne M. Murphy</b>
<b>Tom Duffy</b>	<b>Dee Osisek</b>
<b>Tanya Fuad (Family)</b>	<b>Stephen M. Peters (Family)</b>
<b>Jane Higginson</b>	<b>Andrea Plummer</b>
<b>Laura Hjorth</b>	<b>Sandy Reeve</b>
<b>Wayne Julien</b>	<b>Jason R. Sunberg</b>
<b>Allie Kamal and Tom Murphy</b>	<b>Clayton Tschudy</b>
<b>Mark Koopman (Family)</b>	<b>Jeremy Tuler</b>
<b>Michelle Kriz</b>	

We also welcome the following members who renewed their memberships in October:

<b>Rod Dossey</b>	<b>Lynn Parrish</b>
<b>Colleen Emmenegger</b>	<b>Philip Unitt</b>
<b>Cathy Mador</b>	<b>Dona Woodka</b>

**Thank you for joining and we look forward to seeing you at meetings and events!**



Christmas berry or toyon  
(*Heteromeles arbutifolia*)

# NATIVE GARDEN WORK PARTIES

**You Are Needed in Old Town - Seriously,  
You Are Needed**

**Old Town Native Plant Landscape Work Party,  
Saturday, December 8, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.**

The Old Town Native Plant Landscape needs a particularly strong effort to control exotic weeds this winter 2012-2013. If we can make a diligent effort in December and January when exotic species germinate, we will be able to plant native plants and seeds in February into soil that has been cleaned by the hands of many volunteers - including yours, we hope.

Please come to a work party - meet other plant nuts, get exercise, and know that your work will teach others about native plants. We may schedule some mid-month additional weeding parties, too, if you want to help even more. Our core committee welcomes more people to help in many ways, including planning, giving tours, helping with signage, and of course, planting and maintenance.

Every year tens of thousands of people, on route to the festive heart of Old Town, walk through the native plant Landscape at the Park's western gateway. The Landscape is among our chapter's most public and most visible ways to introduce native plants to people who might otherwise not know anything about them. A core group of volunteers (CNPS members and the Gothic Volunteer Alliance) have worked, with great determination, over the past six years, to plant and care for this site. New signs and plans for self-guided tours using cell-phone activated messages are also in the works to make learning about the plants very easy for visitors.

If CNPS - San Diego can sustain unwavering support, this landscape will mature into beauty and usefulness in the coming years: oaks will provide bountiful acorn harvests, deergrass and rushes can be plucked for making baskets and mats. Visitors will be able to learn about many other native plants that are used as food, housing, medicine, musical instruments, hunting equipment, clothing, and toys.

The Landscape is located at the corner of Taylor and Congress Streets behind the big V-shaped Old Town sign. Look for the many trees that will be dropping their leaves. If you come by trolley or bus, cross at the corner and you are there. If you drive, park for free in the lot at Calhoun and Taylor right next to the Landscape; or park in the CalTrans parking lot on Taylor Street, cross at Juan Street, and walk a half-block south along Taylor to the Landscape. Bring gloves, sun protection, your favorite weeding tool, and bottled beverage if you prefer that to a drinking fountain. There are also tools and gloves to share if you lack them. Restrooms are nearby.

~ **Kay Stewart**, [fieldtrips@cnpsd.org](mailto:fieldtrips@cnpsd.org)

**Point Loma Native Plant Garden:**  
**December 1 and 16, 9:00 – noon.** Rain cancels; bring water; no facilities; tools/supplies provided. Usually the first Saturday & third Sunday of each month. Contact [Richard@sandiegoriver.org](mailto:Richard@sandiegoriver.org) for more info.

These photos from setting up the plant sale in October 2012 were submitted by **Pat Fishtein**, Publicity Chair. Thank you, Pat!



Oak mistletoe (*Phoradendron villosum*)

## Stout Research Center Opens!

Desert plant researchers have a new facility to visit in their quest to unlock the secrets of survival in a harsh and forbidding environment. They can come to the Stout Research Center in Borrego Springs, where Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Botany Society volunteers have opened their new herbarium and laboratory. The herbarium houses more than 1,500 plant specimens collected during nearly 60 years in Anza-Borrego and four other state parks that form the Colorado Desert District.

The specimens are dried plants that are mounted on large sheets of paper with accompanying information describing the collection site, habitat, and date of collection. They are frozen to kill any insects, and stored in hermetically sealed cabinets, and they can last for hundreds of years.

The lack of a laboratory made it impossible to mount the specimens. So the volunteers raised money to furnish the lab, and the State Park donated the space and a freezer to process the specimens. In addition, local resident and volunteer Chuck Bennett built a large table for preparing plant specimens, and the San Diego State University Botany Department donated two used herbarium specimen cabinets.

The collection, an important resource of comparative specimens for plant identification, provides accurate botanical information that is available at no charge to researchers and others. Colorado Desert District botanist **Larry Hendrickson** said there are many other uses for such a facility, and cited climate change as an example. The specimens can be examined to see if there have been changes in the flowering times of local species that might have affected plant interaction with insect pollinators or migrating birds, Hendrickson observed.



Volunteers at the new Stout Research Center (Photo by Michael Bigelow)

**Anza-Borrego Desert State Park's Botany Society Presentation**

**December 10, 10:00 a.m.** The public is invited to this free presentation at the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park's Visitor Center. Wayne Armstrong, who is well known for his award-winning website *Wayne's Word®*, will talk about desert plants at the December meeting of the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park's Botany Society in Borrego Springs. His topic is "Curiouser and Curiouser: A Walk Through Fascinating Desert Plants on *Wayne's Word®*." Armstrong, professor emeritus at San Marcos' Palomar College in the Life Sciences Department, has taught courses in biology and botany for nearly 40 years. His

online textbook contains much of his lecture material from his long career at the college. He is the author of more than 200 publications in natural history magazines, and he also contributed the duckweed section for the California plant identification book, the Jepson Manual. Readers can find his website at: <http://waynesword.palomar.edu/mrwolfia.htm>.

The CNPS-SD Newsletter is published 12 times a year. The newsletter is not peer reviewed and any opinions expressed are those of the author identified at the end of each notice or article. The newsletter editor may edit the submittal to improve accuracy, improve readability, shorten articles to fit the space, and reduce the potential for legal challenges against CNPS. If an article, as edited, is not satisfactory to the author, the author can appeal to the board. The author has the final say on whether the article, as edited, is printed in the newsletter. Submissions are due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the newsletter; that is, March 10 for the April newsletter, etc. Please send submittals to [newsletter@cnpsd.org](mailto:newsletter@cnpsd.org).

**CNPS-SD Calendar for December 2012**

- 12/1: Point Loma Native Garden Work Party (p.4)
- 12/5: Board Meeting (p. 1)**
- 12/2: Tecolote Canyon Plant Walk (p. 1)
- 11/10: Old Town Work Party (p.4)
- 12/16: Point Loma Native Garden Work Party (p.4)
- 12/18: Chapter Meeting (p. 1)**

**YES! I WILL HELP PRESERVE CALIFORNIA'S WILD GARDENS!**

\$25    
  \$50    
  \$100    
  \$250    
  Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Please allocate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ of my gift to the Conservation Campaign.*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing a check payable to CNPS.

Please charge my  Visa  Master Card

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

3 digit code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I want a \$45 portion of my donation applied to membership. Please note that membership is tax deductible minus \$12 for Fremontia.



*Protecting California's Native Flora Since 1965*

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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

\_\_\_ Student or Limited Income \$25; \_\_\_ Individual \$45; \_\_\_ Family or Library \$75  
\_\_\_ Plant Lover \$100; \_\_\_ Patron \$300; \_\_\_ Benefactor \$600; \_\_\_ Mariposa Lily \$1,500

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check payable to "CNPS" to: CNPS, 2707 K Street, Ste 1, Sacramento, CA 95816.

**CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**

San Diego Chapter  
C/o San Diego Natural History Museum  
P. O. Box 121390  
San Diego, CA 92112-1390

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December 2012 Newsletter

Dedicated to the preservation of the California native flora

**CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY – SAN DIEGO**

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