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CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
*San Diego Chapter Newsletter*

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**CHAPTER MEETING**

**Casa del Prado Room 101  
Balboa Park  
July 16, 2019**

**Schedule**

- 6:30 pm – Natives for Novices
- 7:00 pm – Refreshments, browsing, & socializing.
- 7:30 pm - Announcements
- 7:45 pm – Main Presentation.

Chapter meetings are free and open to the public.

**Natives for Novices:  
*Cylindropuntia wolfii* project  
by Lluvia Flores Renteria**



Wolf's cholla (*Cylindropuntia wolfii*).

**Main Presentation:  
Islands in the Southern Sea  
of Cortez  
by Tom Oberbauer**

Baja California is favored with a wide variety of islands. The ones on the west side in the Pacific are floristically related to the islands of Southern California including Guadalupe Island which is an oceanic volcano, Cedros Island which is near the deserts in mainland but which collects fog to support forests, and the Coronado Islands south of Point Loma. The islands in the Sea of Cortez are predominantly the product of the

opening of the Gulf of California by faulting with some islands fragments of tectonic plates and others volcanic activity stimulated by the sea floor movements. These islands form an archipelago that not only supports unique flora, with numerous species of succulents not found anywhere else, but also an extremely diverse array of reptiles and untouched natural habitats. Because each island has different combinations of granitic, metamorphic and volcanic rock, each island has a unique character. Some are small consisting of only a few acres while others are multiple miles long.

In November of 2018, a group of researchers traveled to a number of these islands and collected plants, observed vegetation, viewed scenic landscapes, monitored the birds, reptiles, mammals, insects and scorpions, and even camped out on several of them. Tom Oberbauer was able to participate in this trip and will provide an account of some of the phenomenal features of the islands with an emphasis on the plant flora.



Past president of the San Diego Chapter of CNPS and member since the mid-1970s. Third generation San Diegan who is fascinated by the islands of Southern and Baja California. Tom has published a number of articles and papers on the plants of San Diego and Baja

California. He has generated small documentaries on the west coast islands on Youtube under PInaturalresources and is working on more.



# BOARD MEETING

**Wednesday, July 3, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.** 4010 Morena Blvd, Suite 100, San Diego (Thomas Guide 1248 C4). CNPS-SD Executive Board meetings are always the first Wednesday of the month, except when the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday falls on a holiday. Members are welcome to attend as observers. To add an issue to the agenda, please email [president@cnpssd.org](mailto:president@cnpssd.org).

**The Chapter needs a Membership Chairperson and a Volunteer Coordinator. If you are interested, please contact the Chapter President, Justin Daniel, at [president@cnpssd.org](mailto:president@cnpssd.org).**

## FIELD TRIPS

### **Noble Canyon Trail - Pictures of Lily Sunday, July 7; 9:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**DIFFICULTY:** Moderate to hard 4 miles.

**PLANT KNOWLEDGE:** Novice+ to Professionals.

**ACCESS:** Open to all, no charge.

**DRIVING:** Cleveland Natl Forest ADVENTURE PASS required if driving.

[**SEVERE WEATHER CANCELS EVENT** - Temps over 95°F (35°C) or Storm Warnings].

This year has been incredible compared to the last couple of really dry years and the rains keep coming! The mountain trips will likely last into August this year and the first will be to Noble Canyon near Pine Valley. The CNPS San Diego Chapter Rare Plant Botanist **Fred Roberts** found two different species of lilies here in years past and we're following his lead to find them again. Expect quite a bit of technical botany, but once you get your fill of Latin names, the trail is wonderfully challenging and beautiful in early summer.



Our section of Noble Canyon Trail will be a 4-mile around portion of a trail that goes around a hill through Ceanothus and Redshanks Chaparral and down into Interior Oak Riparian woodlands and mid elevation scrub and meadows. The plant list is massive and we will likely be adding to it as we go. Of note will of course be Humboldt and tiger lilies (*Lilium humboldtii* ssp.

*ocellatum* [see photo by Keir Morse] and *L. pardalinum*), larkspurs, violets, monkeyflowers, peas, woolly blue curls, silene, wallflowers, mariposas, and possibly the giant stream orchid (*Epipactis gigantea*).

Come prepared with a flexible schedule as trail conditions and length of the trip may extend a bit past time if there's a lot to find. Bring any gear, lunch, snacks, and water suited to your plans for the day.

We will find a place on the trail to have lunch, so please bring food/snacks. iNaturalist app is highly recommended as are any guides, lenses, and cameras. Always prepare for the weather beforehand. Rattlesnakes and slippery conditions are probable.

**CARPPOOL:** Carpool will be available for anyone who might find it convenient, especially anyone using public transit. Arrive between 7:45 and 8:00 am at the Fashion Valley Transit Center Parking Lot (west side parking area of the Fashion Valley Mall near Fashion Valley Rd). Look for a black Toyota Tundra OR Dark Gray Rav4. Spaces may fill up, so please be prepared to drive. Carpool participants should expect to return around 3 to 3:30 pm. Parking is free for 24 hrs and has roving security at Fashion Valley Transit Center; however, risks are the same as parking anywhere on the street. Message the group for possible alternatives.

**DIRECTIONS:** Lower Noble Trailhead, Pine Valley, CA. If taking i-8, exit Pine Valley Rd and make a left (North) into town. At the intersection, make another left (North) on Old Hwy 80. Cross Pine Valley Creek and turn right on Pine Creek Rd. Follow to the posted sign for Noble Creek Trailhead.

~ Justin Daniel, President & Field Trip Chair

## CONSERVATION

### **Conservation Committee**

**July 2.** The first Tuesday evening of each month. Contact **Frank Landis** at [conservation@cnpssd.org](mailto:conservation@cnpssd.org) for details.

### **A Few Thoughts on Preparing for Fire Season**

I'm supposed to be working on a fire recovery and preparedness guide for San Diego, but my CNPS energy is going into conservation work for fairly obvious reasons.

That said, the weather has predictably turned hot and dry, and all that lovely vegetation that grew this spring is drying out and becoming flammable. Since Cal Fire is telling everyone to prepare and create an evacuation guide, but not really telling how to do it or what should be in it, I figured I'd put some ideas out.

Note that I *\*am not\** a fire expert, and this is merely an opinion that I offer in the hopes that it might help you figure out how to make your own fire plan. The only reason I suggest it is that the putative experts aren't being very helpful either.

For example, the expert guidance available from the County right now tells you to create an emergency kit that includes among other things, a "Watch or clock – non-electric", and a

“Plug-in analog telephone,” as if you have these ready to go (<http://www.readysandiego.org/content/oesready/en-us/BuildaKit.html> ). What’s going on here, is that the writers assumed people won’t prepare at all, so they want people to create a single “disaster kit” for all disasters. What they’ve created looks like an earthquake kit, but that earthquake kit, which is designed to help you stay in your house for a few days, is not what you want to lug to your car if you need to evacuate rapidly during a wildfire.

The key to my thinking is a simple method called “inverse sequence planning.” It’s widely used by the military and many others. You start by defining your goals, then you work step by step backwards until you get to where you are now. Then you turn it around and you’ve got a plan.

For a fire, your goals are likely (in decreasing order of importance): keeping yourself, your loved ones, housemates, and neighbors safe, keeping your pets safe, keeping your digital life and treasured items safe, keeping your home safe, and keeping your yard safe. Obviously your priorities may vary, but the idea is that you’ll sacrifice your yard to save your home and everything in it, sacrifice your home if you can get out with your important stuff safely, or sacrifice your stuff if necessary to you get out with your family and pets safely.

The first step is trying to get a handle on how much danger you are in. You can see if you’re in a very high fire hazard zone by working through the interactive map in this Los Angeles Times article (<https://www.latimes.com/projects/la-me-california-buildings-in-fire-zones/>). I did, and I found out that the very high fire hazard zone ends three doors down from my house. Since I can’t tell the difference among the properties between the edge and me, I assume I’m in the zone, just to be safe. If you’re way outside any fire threat zone, probably you can worry less.

The next step is to go back to that ranking of what’s most important to you and to use it to create a checklist for how to evacuate, thereby giving yourself a plan for getting yourself and your most important stuff out. I’d suggest something like the following:

Things to include in your evacuation checklist (in roughly descending order of importance):

- Relatives, housemates, and guests who live with you
- Car keys (and the vehicles they belong to)—you need something to evacuate in.
- Wallet (driver’s license or picture ID and credit card)—you will need ID with your current address to get back in after the fire.
- Phone and phone charger—so that you can stay in contact
- Pets in carriers, on harnesses, and/or leashes.
- Eyeglasses (list them higher if you need them to drive).
- Medicines and medical devices
- Laptop (especially if you work at home) and charger

- Important papers, password manager, computer backups, cash, etc. (prepping these now will make your life easier later)
- Clothes and toiletries. This is equivalent to packing for being away for a week, plus your business clothes for a week (if you plan to work through the disaster), plus a set of outdoor clothes, gloves, boots, goggles, hat, and N-95 dust mask or respirator. You may be sorting through the ashes when you return, and it’s easier to have the gear already.
- Pet supplies (food, meds, security blankets, etc.)
- Keepsakes. These are the small things that you’d really regret losing: prized photos, your favorite jewelry, the cookbook with all the holiday recipes, family heirlooms, that memento from the trip that changed your life, your favorite guitar, whatever. Hopefully this won’t be more than a dufflebag’s worth of stuff. No, you can’t pack your library, your workshop, or your native plant collection. Many first responders are trained to pack this well before any emergency.
- Neighbors who have mobility issues and can’t evacuate on their own. If you have space in your vehicle, give them a call with 10 minutes’ warning when you’re preparing to evacuate, tell them to grab their meds and phone and get ready, and then give them a ride out if they need it.

One way to speed up the evacuation is to pack the night before. That’s actually possible if you watch the weather regularly or have your phone set to give you red flag warnings. The weather forecasts are good enough to give us up to a week’s warning in advance of a red flag event. If you’re worried, pack clothes and keepsakes up the night before, so they’re ready to go. Obviously packing for every red flag event will get tedious, but remember, it’s not a failure if you pack but don’t evacuate, it’s practice for that one time you do have to evacuate.

This is to help you evacuate from a fire. The next step in the inverse sequence planning is to protect your home and yard.

Here, I’m not going to talk about installing a big cistern and under-eave sprinklers, although those are great if you can set them up (<https://californiachaparralblog.wordpress.com/2018/12/07/exterior-fire-sprinklers-saved-188-properties-wet-homes-dont-burn/>). What I’m going to focus on instead is something that doesn’t get discussed much: maintenance.

The basic idea is to make sure there’s no place for embers to enter your home, no place where embers can ignite a fire on your home, that there’s a space between your garden and your home, and that your garden, if it catches fire, will smolder and go out, rather than catching your home on fire.

One of the keep steps here is to remove tinder and kindling, meaning fine, dry material like dead grass, old brooms, and so forth. Get the grass not just cut, but raked up and in the green waste bin. Ditto for fine plant materials. Now’s the time to weed and prune. Clear tree canopy up off the ground and make sure shrubs underneath are pruned down so they

won't catch any trees on fire. Clear the dead leaves off your roof and especially out of your gutters. Move the firewood well away from your home, and in general, establish a 5' fire break around your home. And water your garden early in red flag weather so that the plants are well-hydrated. That will make them more fire resistant. Don't bother turning on the sprinklers when you evacuate, because if they're already fighting a fire in your neighborhood, there won't be any water pressure to make your sprinklers work.

There's a lot of good advice in the County's Ready Set Go booklet

(<https://www.sandiego.gov/fire/safety/tips/readyssetgo> ). The problem is that it's not well organized, so things that require a lot of work (like a new roof or remodeling your home) are listed side by side with simple house maintenance (cleaning pine needles out of gutters) and simple fixes (putting metal mesh screens on all your roof vents). I'd suggest getting the guide, but make your own list of what you can do now (the maintenance) and what must be put off until later (the remodel for fire safety), and don't be afraid to apply your own priorities to what they suggest in that guide.

There's a lot more I could say, and I will say it once I get a chance to finish the guide. In closing, I do sincerely hope none of us needs this advice this year.

~ Frank Landis, Conservation Chair

## GARDENING WITH NATIVES

### Native Gardening Committee Meeting

**July 10.** The Native Gardening Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at various locations. Contact [gardening@cnpsd.org](mailto:gardening@cnpsd.org) for location and time.

### California Native Seeds in Stock

Our seed supplies have been fortified thanks to a great group of volunteers at the Seed Sorting Party last weekend. We have 13 species back in stock once again: *Abronia maritima*, *Acmispon glaber*, *Camissoniopsis bistorta*, *Eriogonum fasciculatum* var. *fasciculatum*, *Lupinus longifolius*, *Mimulus aurantiacus* var. *puniceus*, *Muhlenbergia microsperma*, *Nemophila maculata*, *Oenothera elata*, *Penstemon spectabilis*, *Stipa pulchra*, *Trichostema lanatum* and Xerces Pollinator Mix. As always, see our amazing selection of over 100 species from the San Diego and Imperial Valley areas at:

<https://www.cnpsd.org/orderseedsandbulbs>. We do mail order for \$3.50 shipping fee per order.

~ Cindy Hazuka, CNPS-SD Seed and Bulb Coordinator  
[cnpsd.seeds@gmail.com](mailto:cnpsd.seeds@gmail.com)  
<https://www.cnpsd.org/seeds-and-bulbs/>

Order seeds here:

<https://www.cnpsd.org/orderseedsandbulbs>

Seeds are also for sale on the Calscape website at:

<https://bit.ly/2W3kpgn>

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### CNPS Bryophyte Chapter

- Stephen Rae will give a talk entitled, "Bryophytes: What Are They and Why Should I Care?" on Monday 12 August 2019 at 6:15 p.m., at the Solano College Biology Laboratory, sponsored by the Willis Lynn Jepson Chapter and the Solano College Horticulture Club.
- Crystal Lake Jamboree 12-14 July hosted with the San Gabriel Chapter will include a bryophyte walk. For more information [gabi.mclean@verizon.net](mailto:gabi.mclean@verizon.net) or <https://www.cnps-sgm.org/activities.php#r251>
- David Wagner will be offering a 3½ day intensive bryophyte identification workshop at the Andrews Experimental Forest in Blue River, Oregon, September 23-27, 2019. Please contact David at [davidwagner@mac.com](mailto:davidwagner@mac.com) for registration instructions.
- **Save the date!** SO BE FREE 25 will be held at the Saratoga Springs Resort in Lake County, Friday, March 20, through Monday, March 23, 2020. There will be wonderful bryophyte diversity in this environmentally heterogeneous region, and we'll be celebrating the silver anniversary of SO BE FREE, so please put this on your calendar. Details about registration are coming soon.

### Mission Trails Regional Park "California Tapestry" by Lesley Goren

June 22-August 3: 9 am - 5 pm daily

Lesley Goren illustrates a love note to the native plants of California for the MTRP Visitor Center.

On view at the Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP) Visitor Center June 22 through August 3, 2019 is an exhibition by Los Angeles-based artist and illustrator Lesley Goren, whose lively and colorful images of plants and flowers are a self-described "love note" to the native vegetation of Southern California. The works in "California Tapestry" include cheerful drawings of scarlet monkey flowers (*Mimulus cardinalis*), shooting stars (*Primula clevelandii*), and yellow mariposa lilies (*Calochortus luteus*) that serve as beautiful reminders of the importance of nature and place.

Goren sees her subject matter as a way to bring attention to preservation and conservation. She studies and sketches important, unique aspects of native plants like the colors of chaparral through the seasons, or how plants appear as they recover from wildfires.

Lesley Goren's work has been on view at the Western National Parks Association, the educational partner of the National Park Service, the California Native Plant Society, and The Theodore Payne Foundation and Nursery among others. She recently took part in the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden's "Art of the Wildflower" exhibition and sold one of her paintings of the Santa Monica Mountains to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti.

To commemorate her show at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor Center, Lesley Goren has created two new custom greeting card designs for Mission Trails Regional Park to sell in the Visitor Center's Gift Shop. The designs highlight the leaves and flowers of Mission Trails. The opening reception for Lesley Goren's solo exhibition and first showing in San Diego County will take place at the MTRP Visitor Center on June 23 from 2-4 pm. Artwork featured in the exhibition will be available for sale, and a portion of the funds will support the park through the Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation.

The Art Program at the MTRP Visitor Center is organized by the MTRP Foundation and a portion of artwork sales benefits the park through the Foundation. For more information and a list of past and upcoming exhibitions, visit [www.mtrp.org](http://www.mtrp.org). The Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center is located at One Junipero Serra Trail, San Diego, CA 92119. The Visitor Center is open daily from 9 am -5 pm and admission is free.

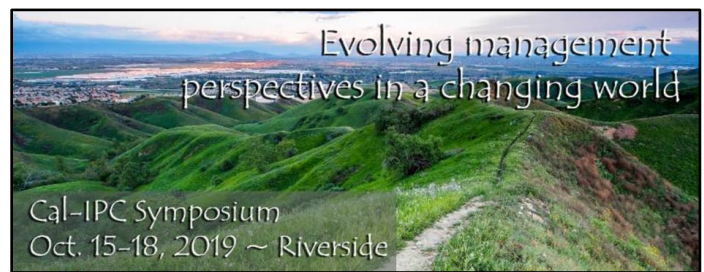
## San Diego Floral Association

The SD Floral Association is holding a Book Signing and Lecture with **Nan Sterman** at the La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla, on Aug 3. Info is available at <http://www.sdfloal.org/special-event.htm>.



The CNPS-SD Newsletter is generally 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, June 10 for the July newsletter, etc. Please submit items to [newsletter@cnpsd.org](mailto:newsletter@cnpsd.org)

## Cal-IPC Symposium October 15-18, Riverside



**Registration now open!  
Early bird rates end August 1!**

The symposium will be at the Riverside Convention Center and rooms are available at the historic Mission Inn in downtown Riverside, steps away from restaurants and entertainment. The program includes talks, posters, trainings, discussion groups and field trips on a range of topics addressing invasive plants and their management. Connect with colleagues from across the state, and get the latest updates on effective tools, relevant research, and strategic management approaches.

### Join Cal-IPC for the member discount

Cal-IPC members get discounted registration to the Symposium, including discounts on training sessions and field trips. Members also receive a subscription to Cal-IPC's newsletter, Dispatch, featuring the latest on plants, projects, and policy.

### Take pictures for the photo contest

Your pictures help us tell the story of restoration work. Get ready to submit your best images to our 2019 Photo Contest by taking pictures while you're in the field this spring/summer! The 2019 Photo Contest will open July 15.

The historic Mission Inn was built in 1876 and upgraded to a luxurious AAA Four Diamond award-winning hotel, featuring Spanish-Mission style architecture with modern luxury, from flying buttresses and garden oases to a modern fitness center, spa, and upscale dining. **Reserve by Sept. 14 to get our room rate with code CALIPC 2019.** Check our website for details, including area maps and more. <https://www.cal-ipc.org/resources/symposium/>

## CNPS-SD Activities Calendar July 2019

- 7/2: Conservation Committee Mtg, p.4
- 7/3: Board Meeting, p.2
- 7/7: Noble Canyon Trail, p. 3
- 7/10: Garden Committee Mtg, p. 6
- 7/16: Chapter Meeting, p.1

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

\_\_\_ Student or Limited Income \$25; \_\_\_ Individual \$45; \_\_\_ Family \$75  
\_\_\_ Plant Lover \$100; \_\_\_ Patron \$300; \_\_\_ Benefactor \$600; \_\_\_ Mariposa Lily \$1,500  
Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check payable to "CNPS" and send to: CNPS, 2707 K Street, Ste 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.

## 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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July 2019 Newsletter

Dedicated to the preservation of the California native flora  
*CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY – SAN DIEGO*

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### **BOARD MEMBERS**

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OPEN POSITION

### **CHAPTER COUNCIL DELEGATE**

Frank Landis.....chaptercouncil@cnpssd.org

### **RARE PLANT BOTANIST**

Fred Roberts.....rarebotanist@cnpssd.org  
(760) 712-7604

### **APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

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