



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

San Diego Chapter Newsletter

CHAPTER MEETING

March 19, 2024

In-person

Casa del Prado Rm 101, Balboa Park

7:00 Browsing & Socializing

7:30 Meeting and Presentation

Chapter meetings are free and open to the public.

Presentation

CNPS National Monuments Campaign by Álvaro Casanova

Álvaro Palacios Casanova is Conservation Advocate, where he works to protect and conserve native plants throughout California. Álvaro has over a decade of experience in organizing and policy advocacy as an environmental justice practitioner, where he worked to stop oil and chemicals companies from poisoning low-income and communities of color. Álvaro is Xiu Maya, a survivor of colonialism, and an avid birdwatcher who loves to share the beauty of the natural world with people through naturalist walks and photography. Álvaro got his bachelor's and master's from the University of California in biology and has a deep passion for indigenous people's rights, conservation, and racial justice.



He will be talking about the National Monuments campaign by CNPS especially in regards to [Chuckwalla National Monument in Riverside and Imperial County deserts](#) to expand protections to an additional 660K acres of wilderness and BLM lands. He has been instrumental in advocating for and

advancing the [Molok Loyok National Monument](#), formerly Walker Ridge in Lake County.

CNPS-SD NATIVE GARDEN TOUR

The CNPS San Diego Native Garden Tour is Just Around the Corner!
April 6 & 7



It's hard to believe there are only 5 weeks left to purchase your tickets for the *10th Anniversary CNPS San Diego 2024 Native Garden Tour*. Winter rains bring spring flowers in the native garden, and we expect all the tour gardens this year will be lush and brimming with color in April! We invite you to explore 31 beautiful native gardens over the course of two days at your leisure. Be sure not to miss the gardens of **Calscape** founders *Dennis & Pam Mudd* (Poway) and *Jim Smith* (Del Mar).

CNPS San Diego Native Garden Tour **Tickets**

Photo: Donna Mancuso



Featured Events Included with Your Ticket:

Take the family on a docent guided tour of the **Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretive Center** demonstration garden representing local plant life from 2,000 years ago. Explore the trails, native huts, grinding holes (metates) and the culture of Poway's First People. **RSVP at ARansom@poway.org** or call 858-668-4781. *Space is limited.*

Or enjoy coastal native garden views on a guided tour of **Native Del Mar Garden** by founder and creator *Tyden Chinowsky*. This garden began as his Bar mitzvah project and has expanded with help from fellow students and family. Truly beautiful! *April 7th, 11 am.*

Photo: Christine Hoey



Photo: @Saxon Holt/PhotoBotanic



Special Tour Highlights:

- Garden artists with nature inspired art at select gardens
- Native Plant sales from local native nurseries
- CNPS San Diego Book Store open for browsing
- Native Landscape Designers at select gardens
- CNPSSD Seed and Bulb team will have seeds on sale in person during the tour!



Desert Bat by Margaret Gallagher

Ticket Information:



Tickets will be available at the **CNPS March chapter meeting** and on our chapter website. Special student and group discount tickets are also available at this link: [Special Price Tickets](#).

While you are on the website, page down to read about our second **Plant-Animal ambassador pair**, *Yellow-faced Bumble bee* and *White Sage*.

cnpssd.org/native-garden-tour-2024

We Still Need Garden Tour Docents!

Be a part of this year's garden tour by volunteering! We need garden docents to assist with a variety of tasks to make this a wonderful experience for visitors. The perks include making new friends, garden previews, complimentary tour tickets and more.

Interested? Volunteer here:
[Garden Tour Docent Sign Up](#)

Questions? Feel free to contact MJ Brovold at gardentourvolunteer@cnpssd.org



Photo: Silke Gathmann

Planting Animals

Native plants and animals have evolved together in a dance of give and take. In some cases, survival of one species depends on the survival of the other. When we plant natives, we are also planting the animals that depend on them, and together they help maintain a healthy biodiversity in our neighborhoods.

Sometimes the dramas between species are hidden from view. To help tell their stories, we have selected six ambassador plant-animal pairs from six different San Diego County habitats to examine in detail. Chloe Van Loon will explore these special relationships, crafting short stories that will bring them to life. We will be releasing these stories in the upcoming weeks to inspire as many people as possible to consider these pairs when designing their own gardens. We will also provide lists of

companion plants for each pair. Planting these will help establish a more complete habitat in your home garden.

It's a fact that native plants attract more wildlife. We encourage you to plant as many as possible and to be on the lookout for your own plant-animal stories!

Explore our first three Plant-Animal Ambassador pair stories at the bottom of our garden tour web page at [2024 CNPS San Diego Native Garden Tour](https://cnps-sd.squarespace.com/native-garden-tour-2024) or <https://cnps-sd.squarespace.com/native-garden-tour-2024>

FUNDRAISING EVENT

Take a Walk on the Wild Side
Arnold Boulder Mountain Preserve, Poway
Saturday, April 20; 3:00-7:30 pm



Take a Walk on the Wildside Tickets

Join us for a truly unique experience at the Arnold Boulder Mountain Preserve, where you'll explore a nature preserve and private botanic garden under the guidance of expert naturalists — all while supporting a meaningful cause.

Event Highlights

- **Guided Nature Walks:** Explore coastal sage scrub and chaparral on guided tours, showcasing diverse plant life and breathtaking views.
- **Networking:** Connect with fellow nature enthusiasts over delicious food and drinks in the preserve's serene setting.
- **Silent Auction:** Bid on exciting items, with proceeds supporting our fundraising goal.
- **Trail Difficulty:** Trails suit all fitness levels, ranging from easy to challenging.

Arnold Boulder Mountain Preserve spans 19 acres, showcasing coastal sage scrub and chaparral. With 2 miles of diverse hiking trails, it hosts over 100 native plant species, including Oaks, Ferns, Mariposa Lilies, and Sages. In addition, the preserve features an impressive Mediterranean botanical collection from around the world.

Support Our Cause

All proceeds from the event will benefit CNPS San Diego's Vernal Pool Preserve in Miramar, specifically for Phase II of the "Take Down the Dirty Dozen" project. These funds will facilitate the removal of twelve eucalyptus trees, which currently pose a

threat to the growth of rare plants and animals in the vernal pools. The eucalyptus trees will be replaced by toyons and the vernal pools will be returned to their original glory!



Help Us Reach Our Goal

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to support crucial efforts to save CNPS San Diego's Vernal Pool Preserve in Miramar.

Tickets: \$100 per person

Can't Attend? You can still make a difference by donating in any amount.

For more information and tickets, go to: [Take a Walk on the Wildside Tickets](#)

Your support will contribute to the conservation of vital ecosystems in our community. Join us for an unforgettable day of exploration and philanthropy at the Arnold Boulder Mountain Preserve!

NATIVE GARDENING COMMITTEE

Potluck Meeting
Tuesday, March 12; 5:30 - 8:00 pm
Presentation: "Biodiverse Community Green Spaces"

With Biologist Dr. Reinhard Witt and Architect Katrin Kaltofen, Germany

Photo: Die Naturgartenplaner



Our March potluck meeting will be hosted by Lee and Debbie Gordon at their lovely home in Scripps Ranch. Special guests, biologist **Dr. Reinhard Witt**, founder of the German [Naturgarten e.V.](#), and Architect **Katrin Kaltofen**, known as "[Die Naturgartenplaner](#)" from Regensburg, Germany will be presenting their talk, "*Biodiverse Community Green Spaces*".



Photo: Die Naturgartenplaner

Join us for an engaging presentation showcasing a multi-award-winning garden project in the heart of Munich. Discover how natural garden design in a bustling city like Munich can create biodiverse outdoor spaces for all users, contributing significantly to the preservation of biodiversity. Planned, built, and maintained collaboratively with users, this concept fosters broad acceptance, support, and sustainability in this urban greenspace.

Bring a potluck dish to share and meet up with old and new friends. This meeting is open to everyone interested in gardening with native plants and carpooling is encouraged. Everyone is welcome as early as 3:30 pm for a native garden hillside tour.

Please RSVP at this Link: [March Meeting Sign Up](#)

February Bird Park Meadow Design Workshop



With the recent rains, the dry stream beds at Bird Park are no longer dry! They have worked beautifully collecting rainwater and preventing runoff. More importantly, the rainwater will recharge the soil that nearby native plants and trees can tap into during the dry summer months.

A neglected native meadow plot at Bird Park needed a make-over. In January, our Bird Park Workgroup weeded and set out California native wildflower seeds sprouting now.

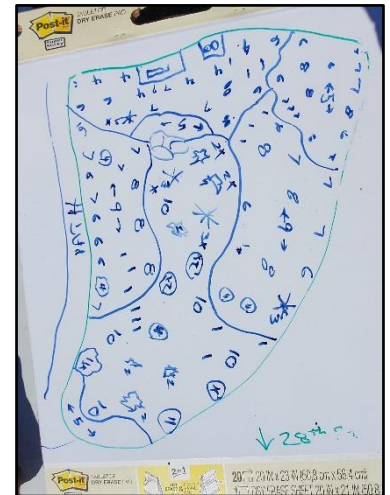
Our February [Meadow Design Workshop](#) to redesign this native meadow was led by **Greg Rubin**. Over 45 people attended to give input but also learn about the different characteristics that make up California native meadows.



Photo: Christine Hoey

Adding to the existing De La Mina Verbena (*Verbena lilacina* 'De La Mina'), Deer Grass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*), Canyon Prince Wild Rye (*Elymus condensatus* 'Canyon Prince') and Purple Haze Coast Aster (*Symphyotrichum chilense* 'Purple Haze'), Greg created a draft landscape drawing. Additional plants added to the list include:

- Blue-eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium bellum*)
- Purple Three Awn (*Aristida purpurea*)
- California Fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*)
- Common Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
- California Goldenrod (*Solidago velutina* ssp. *californica*)
- Purple needle grass (*Stipa pulchra*)
- California Buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*)



Once irrigation is installed by the city, let the planting begin! Please join us If you would like to be part of expanding our native plant garden! Sign up at this link: [Balboa Park Workgroup](#)

The garden committee welcomes all novice and experienced native gardeners. A separate monthly email is sent out to committee members with meeting announcements, volunteer activities, workshops and early bird sign-ups that don't always make it into the Chapter newsletter. If you love gardening with California native plants and would like to join the Garden Committee (GC), click on this link: <https://forms.gle/L356FhDbvrWCWzmd8> We would love to see you!

*Christine Hoey & Silke Gathmann
Garden Committee Co-chairs*

CNPS-SD BOARD NEWS

March Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 6:30 – 9:00ish pm via Zoom. To add an item to the agenda, or to get the link to the meeting, please email president@cnpssd.org.

February Board Meeting Summary

The Board approved the following:

- Book sales budget be increased by \$3,000.
- Scholarships for the cost of the spring field botany course (\$895 each) be awarded to four students.
- Habitat restoration truck repairs, as estimated, and that \$1,500 be added to the Restoration Committee budget to cover the cost.
- Holding the fundraiser, "Take a Walk on the Wild Side" at the Arnold Boulder Mountain Preserve.

The Board discussed: finding chairpersons for unchaired committees; equipment needed to host hybrid meetings; the upcoming garden tour; the fall plant sale; upcoming chapter meeting presenters; meetings of the SD Botanical Garden Foundation with whom we reserve meeting rooms and patios in Balboa Park; and results of meetings with the owners of the Arnold Boulder Mountain Preserve.

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 pm.

~ **Bobbie Stephenson**, Chapter Secretary

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 5: 6 – 7:30 pm

The committee generally meets the first Tuesday of every month online via Zoom and in person from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Send a request for the link to conservation@cnpssd.org.

PROPAGATION COMMITTEE

Friday, March 1: 10 am – 1 pm

Plant Identification workshop 01

Friday, March 15: 10 am – 1 pm

Plant identification workshop 02

Saturday, March 30: 10 am – 1 pm

Invasive removal techniques & demonstrations

Tecolote Nature Center
5180 Tecolote Rd
San Diego, CA 92110

Sign up for updates and Committee announcements by emailing propagation@cnpssd.org and requesting to be added to the contact list.

FIELD TRIP

Wildflowers – The Anza Extraganza Saturday, March 16; 8:30 – 11:30 am

DIFFICULTY: EASY (Sandy soils, lots of cholla cactus & little to no shade.

PLANT KNOWLEDGE: Beginner to Novice; Professionals always welcome.

ACCESS: Open to all; no charge for field trip; no fees.

AMENITIES: Restrooms available at Christmas Circle.

DOGS: Leashed dogs are allowed, but BE ADVISED, spiny plants like cholla cactus are armed and dangerous.

Join trip leader **John Caffrey** for a caravan around Borrego Springs. Bring sun protection, lots of water to drink, and lunch/snack. Meet at Christmas Circle in Borrego Springs, CA. John will have the rear hatch of his silver Subaru up so you can find him.

[Extreme temps above 90°F or forecasts for Heavy Rain/Flash Floods will cancel the field trip.]

OUTREACH NEWS

Our outreach booth at this year's Love Your Wetlands Festival on Saturday, Feb 3rd featured a repeat of last year's volunteers: **Dana Pearce, Bob Byrnes, and Arne Johnson**. Thanks to those guys for braving the mud again this year with me at the UCSD Kendall Frost Marsh.

We were joined by Chapter President **Justin Daniel** and **Erika Daniel** who also helped set up a table next door, sponsored by our Propagation Committee, where kids could take some native seeds to germinate at home. Thanks to them for joining us at the booth.

Right: **Erika Daniel** at outreach booth.



Below: **Justin Daniel** and **Dana Pearce** at outreach booth.



If you can help with any of the upcoming events listed below, send an email to sherry.ashbaugh@cnpsd.org and include the events and hours you are available.

We will participate in **Family Nature Day** again this year, scheduled for **Saturday, March 2nd** at **Mount Helix Park** in La Mesa, with kid-friendly activities as well as lectures for adults. Help set up or break down our booth, and staff the booth between event hours of 9 am - 3 pm.

On **Saturday, March 16th**, we have accepted an invitation from the **Imperial Valley Desert Museum** to join a free community event in our local desert environment. The event is called **Ocotillo Blooms** and features guided botany hikes, informational talks, arts & crafts activities, vendor booths, and a live butterfly release. The event runs from 10 am – 4 pm, so if you are interested in this one, send your email and stand by for more details on travel arrangements.

We are also on the schedule to have a table at the **Sustainable Scripps Ranch** event on **Sunday, March 24th** from 1:30 – 4 pm. We will discuss the many virtues of native plants with attendees. Here's the link for more info: www.scrippsrancho.org/rainwaterharvest24. If you live near this area, this is a great opportunity to see what neighbors are doing with rainwater capture and watersmart landscaping.

~ Sherry Ashbaugh, Public Outreach Committee Chair

City Nature Challenge **April 26-29**

CNPSSD will participate in the 2024 CNC, an annual event that encourages people to get outdoors and enjoy nature by photographing all types of organisms and posting them on sites such as iNaturalist. It's a friendly competition between cities in terms of total number of posts, number of participants and number of species. CNPSSD can make a significant contribution, and all members are urged to get involved. Here is a link to an iNaturalist page that has been set up specifically for San Diego County: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2024-san-diego-county>. More detailed information will be provided in the April newsletter. In the meantime, questions can be directed to Don Rideout (don@rideouts.net).



CNPS INTRODUCES THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE SEED STRATEGY

Native seed supports the web of life

To maintain the diversity of life as we know it, we need a healthy supply of seeds that capture the extraordinary genetic variation of California native plants. That's why CNPS is excited to announce the launch of the first California Native Seed Strategy! It addresses the policy, funding, capacity, collaboration, science, and technology needed to get the right seed in the right place at the right time.

California belongs to one of the world's 36 biodiversity hotspots, which means it has an extraordinary concentration of species found nowhere else on Earth, combined with high risks of extinction. In fact, California has the highest concentration of imperiled plants in the nation. In the face of increasing climate-related disasters such as drought, wildfire, and erosion, we urgently need more seeds for restoration, land management, and nursery supply.

The California Native Seed Strategy has four main goals to increase the production and availability of native seed:

1. Identify Native Seed Needs and Ensure the Reliability of Genetically Appropriate Seed
2. Improve Guidelines and Identify Research Needs for Native Seed Production and Use
3. Develop Tools that Enable Native Seed Producers and Users to Make Timely, Informed Decisions
4. Develop Strategies and Tools for Communication

You can learn more about the California Native Seed Strategy here: <https://bit.ly/3O696u4>. CNPS led the development of the California Native Seed Strategy, which was modeled after the National Native Seed Strategy and informed by the Nevada Seed Strategy. The Strategy is a collaborative product developed with guidance from an expert group of government and nonprofit advisors who form the California Seed Strategy Steering Committee. We are also working closely with industry partners to support implementation of the strategy.



TAXONOMIC UPDATE

The Jepson Herbarium recently released Revision 12 of the Jepson eFlora. It contains many changes that affect plant names from our region. The following is a list of those that occur in San Diego County, Imperial County, and adjacent areas.

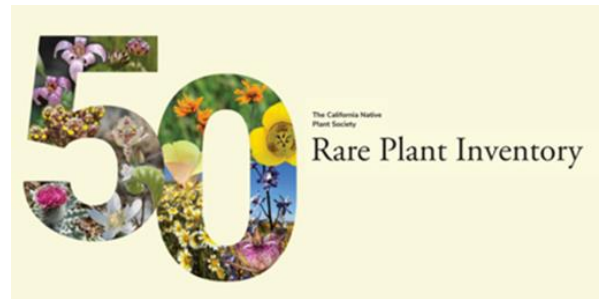
- *Encelia californica* var. *phenicodonta* added as native.
- *Xanthium strumarium* changed to *Xanthium orientale*.
- *Coryphantha vivipara* changed to *Escobaria vivipara*.
- *Polycarpon depressum* changed to *Polycarpon tetraphyllum* subsp. *depressum*.

- *Polycarpon tetraphyllum* var. *tetraphyllum* changed to *Polycarpon tetraphyllum* subsp. *tetraphyllum*.
- *Peritoma arborea* including vars. *angustata*, *arborea* and *globosa* changed to *Cleomella arborea* with vars. unchanged.
- *Peritoma jonesii* changed to *Cleomella jonesii*.
- *Wislizenia refracta* changed to *Cleomella refracta*.
- *Wislizenia refracta* ssp. *california* changed to *Cleomella California*.
- *Wislizenia refracta* ssp. *palmeri* changed to *Cleomella palmeri*.
- *Wislizenia refracta* ssp. *refracta* changed to *Wislizenia refracta*, leaving no *Peritoma* or *Wislizenia* in California.
- *Arctostaphylos patula* subsp. *patula* recognized as native.
- *Prosopis glandulosa* var. *torreyana* changed to *Neltuma odorata*.
- *Prosopis pubescens* changed to *Strombocarpa pubescens*.
- *Prosopis velutina* changed to *Neltuma velutina*, leaving no *Prosopis* in California.
- *Trifolium variegatum* var. *geminiflorum* not recognized, subsumed into *Trifolium variegatum*.
- *Trifolium variegatum* var. *major* changed to *Trifolium appendiculatum*.
- *Trifolium variegatum* var. *variegatum* not recognized, subsumed into *Trifolium variegatum*.
- *Luzula cascadiensis* added as native.
- *Luzula macrantha* added as native.
- *Malacothamnus densiflorus* var. *densiflorus* recognized as native.
- *Malacothamnus densiflorus* var. *viscidus* added as native.
- *Malacothamnus enigmaticus* added as native.
- *Malacothamnus fasciculatus* var. *laxiflorus* added as native.
- *Eschscholzia minutiflora* subsp. *minutiflora* recognized as native.
- *Muhlenbergia emersleyi* added as native.
- *Eriastrum diffusum* ssp. *coachellae* added as native.
- *Eriastrum diffusum* ssp. *diffusum* recognized as native.
- *Eriastrum saphirinum* ssp. *ambiguum* added as native.
- *Gilia mexicana* added as native.
- *Oenothera californica*, an illegitimate name (later homonym of *Oenothera californica* D. Dietr.), changed to *Oenothera avita*.
- *Oenothera californica* subsp. *avita*, an illegitimate name, changed to *Oenothera avita* subsp. *avita*.
- *Oenothera californica* subsp. *californica*, an illegitimate name, changed to *Oenothera avita* subsp. *californica*.
- *Schinus terebinthifolius*, with incorrect Latin termination, changed to *Schinus terebinthifolia*.

The full list for California is available at:

[Jepson eFlora, Revision 12 \(mailchi.mp\)](https://mailchi.mp/berkeley/jepson-eflora-revision-6154421?e=c7b8df479a) or <https://mailchi.mp/berkeley/jepson-eflora-revision-6154421?e=c7b8df479a>

~ Don Rideout, Chapter On-line Inquiries Responder



The Rare Plant Inventory Turns 50!

For half a century, the Rare Plant Inventory has served as an essential science-backed resource for today's conservation efforts. The Inventory stands as a beacon for protecting the rare and endangered flora shaping California's landscape. Many thanks to the CNPS Rare Plant Program Committee and the countless volunteers and individuals who have contributed their time and expertise over the years. From government agencies to college classrooms, California relies on the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory for the science-backed information we need today, to protect rare and endangered plants for tomorrow.

[Visit the RPI](https://www.cnps.org/rare-plants/50th-anniversary-inventory?utm_source=jan24_enews&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=rare_plant_inventory&utm_id=rpi+50th)

https://www.cnps.org/rare-plants/50th-anniversary-inventory?utm_source=jan24_enews&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=rare_plant_inventory&utm_id=rpi+50th

IN THE FIELD

Three Sisters Waterfalls

By Tom Oberbauer

(Photos by the author)

For years, I had heard about the Three Sisters Waterfalls. Over that time, it was my understanding that the trail was difficult and had steep stretches that partially relied on a rope and some cross-country hiking. In addition, they seemed to me as more of a cascade over rocks than a set



of waterfalls. However, I saw some better photographs and read accounts in Alltrails about a trail that goes way down, which means it is necessary to climb back up as well and it gets warmer or even hot. I decided to try it since I had never been there. I left very early in the morning of February 3, 2023, arriving at the trail head by around 7:15 am. It was very dark when I left home but as I drove on Boulder Creek Road from

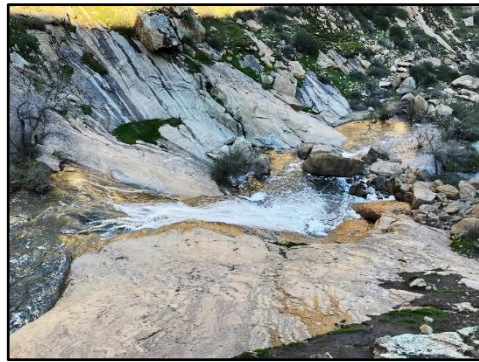
Descanso, the sun was rising and the sky was varying shades of pink and purple-blue.

I was the second or third person there when I arrived at the trailhead, and a man working with a tractor was at another spot of the parking area. A sign posted a warning about how many people had already been rescued that season. I began walking and it was not long before I could see the entire falls, silvery off in the distance, and could even hear them from a ridge that extended from the parking area past a huge old oak tree.

Then, the trail began to drop down. It is an exposed slope from which there are good views of the falls. Eventually, the trail drops below the trees and large chaparral. *Quercus agrifolia* (Coast live oak) and *Platanus racemosa* (California sycamore) with a few leaves just beginning to come out and white bark, were on a narrow creek. The trail became rockier. The day was cool and partially cloudy with cirrus clouds. Steep climbing areas brought the trail out of the low areas. As I was nearing the falls, I encountered a couple of people leaving.

I had the entire area to myself. The falls were much, much larger than I envisioned. It is called Three Sisters because there are three drops; an upper vertical one, a middle sloping one over a steep rocky slab, and a similar lower one. However, the scale and volume of water was very impressive. The creek actually flows over Boulder Creek Road and the drive to the falls parking area passes over the water so that the car has to ford the creek.

Lower level of falls



The slabs of granite between the falls themselves are huge and you can walk up close to them. Many people swim in the water, but not when I was there. It was difficult to

take in the whole scene in one photo.



I worked my way back as more people arrived on that Friday morning. I saw quite a few interesting plants. The basic vegetation on the slopes was Chamise chaparral with *Adenostoma fasciculata* (Chamise), with *Ceanothus perplexans* (Cup leaf ceanothus), and *Encelia californica* (California encelia; left) was here as well.

Top level of falls

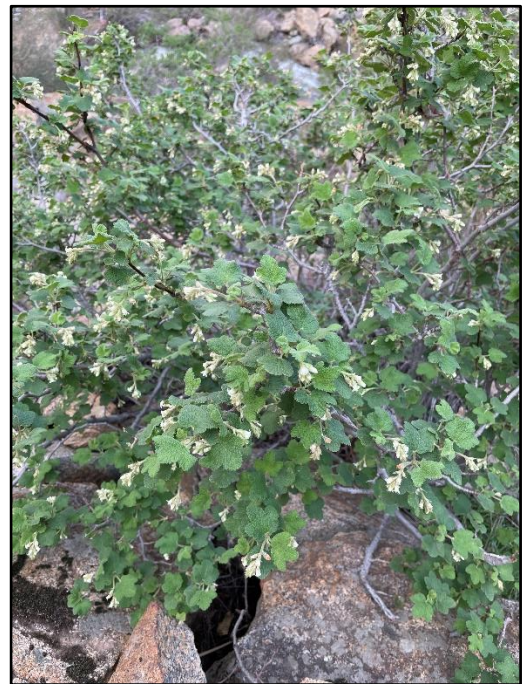


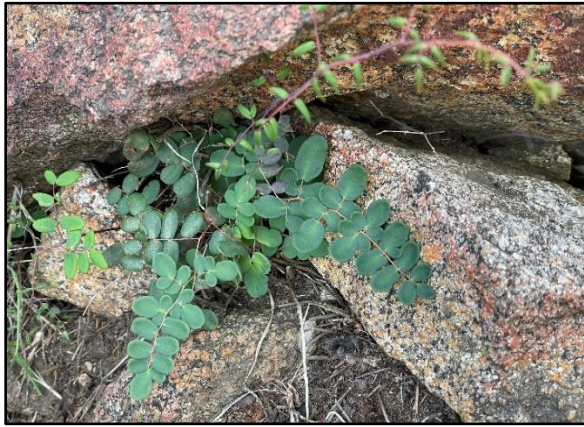
Middle level of falls



A few other people came while I was there. One thing I did not do at that time, which I regretted later, was climb up higher on the slopes to get photos of the upper falls that look like a smaller version of Vernal Falls in Yosemite with a drop straight down, but much lower of course. The roar of the falls was deafening.

Ribes indecorum (White-flower currant; below) was in flower with small white corollas and rounded, fuzzy maple-shaped leaves.





Myriopteris covillei (Covell's lip fern)

Pelea andromedifolia (Coffee fern; above), the one with the coffee bean shaped leaves, and *Jepsonia parryi* (Coast jepsonia) with *Selaginella bigelovii* (Bigelow's spikemoss; below) were growing in shaded spots.

Paeonia californica (California peony) was all green and the *Diplacus*, which is apparently *D. x australis* (San Diego monkeyflower), were present along the side of the trail. *Clarkia* seedlings and *Bowlesia incana* (Hoary bowlesia) with the pretty round edged, maple shaped leaves grew along with the other slope inhabiting plants.



Left: *Clarkia* seedling.

Below: *Bowlesia incana* (Hoary bowlesia)



A series of tiny fresh *Lepidium* plants were growing as well, with small creamy white flowers looking different than the ones typically seen later in the season with so many side fruits. It took me a while to realize that is what they were. Liverworts including *Astellia californica* (California perianth liverwort; right) with the little four lobed umbrella shaped structures were also in great shape and high numbers on the sloping soil.



Dryopteris arguta (Woodfern; below) and *Apiastrum angustifolia* (Mock parsley) grew together.



Pentagramma triangularis (California goldenback fern; right) and *Myriopteris covillei* (Covell's lip fern) were also growing.



The oaks (right) in general still had a stressed look about them even though it had been raining. They were still needing to recover from the previous dry years.





Euphorbia polycarpa (Small-seeded sand mat; left) was actually showy with its tiny white flowers and *Eschscholzia californica* (California poppies; below) were flowering in low



numbers as well as *Mirabilis laevis* (Desert wishbone-bush; left), which seems to flower for an extended period with its pink/lavender flowers. Seedlings and small plants of Lupine spp., Delphinium ssp. (Larkspur), *Sanicula crassicaulis* (Pacific sanicle), *Pellea mucronata* (Bird's foot cliff-brake) and *Plagiobothrys* species were also present.

The climb out was not difficult, just a steady climb. The sun was warm by then but it was not hot. I drove back out heading north on Boulder Creek Road and driving through Pine Hills. I had not driven on that particular road for many years.

A week later, I decided to repeat the visit. I had regretted not climbing up higher on the sides in order to see the upper falls more clearly. Again, I drove out early in the morning. No one was there as I walked in. The water was probably flowing even more powerfully than the previous week. When I arrived, I



climbed around on the east side to get a higher view of the upper falls. There are little worn footpaths all over the slopes, some with stable soil, some on slippery and muddy soil. A false move would be problematic.

The volume of water just completely astounded me and the scale of the place is so much larger than one expects. I sat on one of the huge slabs between the middle and lower falls and watched the water roar by. Again, the hike out was easy. I came across many people hiking down, people with large, heavy dogs that could have trouble getting out. Unfortunately, people died

in the area in June of 2023 from falling off of steep areas and being pulled down into the pools. It is a spectacular place but one must always be careful.

NATIVE PLANT CLASS

Native Plants & a Healthy Environment
Saturday, March 9; 11 am - noon
The Golden Door Country Store

CNPS-SD will share how adapting to seasonal and climatic changes can be done through ReWilding open spaces, starting with our own lands. Learn about the benefits of nature and biodiversity, and how to create it in and around our homes and living spaces. This class will emphasize our local native plants and their wildlife partners, including how to attract birds and beneficial insects.

REGISTRATION is limited to 35 people. To sign up, please RSVP at:

<https://goldendoorcountrystore.eventcalendarapp.com/u/50750/287780>

COST: \$30 per person

The class will be conducted outdoors on the patio, so please dress according to the weather. Handouts for taking notes and other educational brochures will be provided to all participants. A 10% discount at the Golden Door Country Store will also be offered to class participants on the day of the event.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association

Borrego Desert Garden Tour
March 16; 9 am – 3 pm

Tickets: \$30 general admission, \$22 for ABDNHA members, \$20 for ABDNHA volunteers

Info: abdnha.org/gardentour or visit the ABDNHA Desert Nature Center, 652 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs.

The five properties spotlighted in the 22nd annual Borrego Desert Garden Tour include a serene artist's sanctuary with pool and small citrus orchard, a 3-acre Southwestern-inspired estate featuring the owners' artistic talents, and a 9-acre family-run date ranch with scores of mature date palms and cactus garden. All five gardens are outside, with no homes or walk-throughs as in previous years, and all are spacious properties so people can spread out. Proceeds benefit the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association (ABDNHA), a desert education nonprofit that marked its 50th anniversary in 2021.

Wildflower Hotlines

Anza-Borrego Desert

[Bloom Reports from the Anza-Borrego Desert: 2023-2024 \(tchester.org\)](https://tchester.org) or <https://tchester.org/bd/blooms/2024.html>

and

<https://borregowildflowers.org/pages/blooming.html>

Theodore Payne

Hear weekly recorded wildflower reports, narrated by Emmy Award-winning actor Joe Spano — the Voice of the Wild Flower Hotline, at **(818) 768-1802 ext 7**. New reports are released every Friday, March through June! The Theodore Payne Wild Flower Hotline, founded in 1983, offers free weekly online and recorded updates on the best locations for viewing spring wildflowers in Southern and Central California. All locations are on easily accessible public lands and range from urban to wild, distant to nearby. The flowers are delicate and easily damaged by human activity, so it is important to enjoy them responsibly and minimize the impact on fragile ecosystems.

The San Diego Natural History Museum 7th Annual State of Biodiversity Symposium Thursday, April 18; 5-9 pm

The 7th Annual State of Biodiversity Symposium, convenes conservationists, land managers, scientists, students, the interested public, and a diverse panel of conservation leaders to understand current opportunities and threats and share knowledge about biodiversity in our region. One of the first steps in finding solutions to complex topics is to convene subject matter experts and engage the broader community in conversation. **At this year's symposium, we will share the results from the San Diego Biodiversity Conservation Summit**—a day-long workshop held with diverse stakeholders to facilitate a dialog and generate **a report about the most urgent needs to conserve biodiversity in San Diego County**.

- 5-6:30 pm: Registration and networking reception with heavy appetizers and pay bar.
- 7-9 pm: Presentation of results from the San Diego Biodiversity Conservation Summit followed by Q&A panel.

<https://www.sdnhm.org/calendar/state-of-biodiversity/>

Oceanside Native Plant Garden Tour Sunday, April 21; 2 pm

See over 18 native plant gardens in the Historic Seaside Neighborhood of Downtown Oceanside! Plant experts and neighborhood locals will lead a 1.5-mile walking tour to see these wonderful front yard gardens. Meet at 2 pm in the St. Mary School parking lot at 515 Wisconsin Ave. in Oceanside. The guided walk is **free**. Kids will be selling lemonade and cookies along the route. St. Mary Star School is one block east of the 101 Cafe near Coast Highway and Wisconsin St. The Oceanside Coastal Neighborhood Association and Buena Vista Audubon Society are the sponsors of this 2024, 20th Annual Tour. Maps will be given out on the day of the tour. Maps can be printed (legal size) from this link if anyone wants to go on their own: <https://bvaudubon.org/plant-club/>

Center for Plant Conservation (CPC) National Meeting in San Diego Thursday & Friday, May 2-3

The CPC is thrilled to host the 2024 National Meeting with sessions taking place at both the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park

in collaboration with the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance—a CPC Participating Institution and host institution for CPC's National Office headquarters.

For more information, visit:

[2024 CPC National Meeting - Center for Plant Conservation \(saveplants.org\)](https://2024.cpcnationalmeeting.org/) or https://saveplants.org/national-meeting/?mc_cid=f7f104c8dc&mc_eid=bb2fe8e999

Julian Wildflower Show May 3 & 4; 10 am - 4 pm

The Julian Woman's Club will be hosting the 98th annual Wildflower Show. The show will run from each day, and will be held in the Woman's Clubhouse (2607 C Street, Julian, CA). **Attendance is free.** Donations and sales are greatly appreciated, with proceeds going to the scholarship fund, and to support our community. For additional information visit <http://www.julianwomansclub.org/>.

Native Plant Week April 13 – 20

Did you know that California has more native plant species than any other state in the nation? To honor California's incredible plant life, the California State Legislature designated the third week of April to be California Native Plant Week.

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 10th of the month preceding the newsletter; that is March 10 for the April newsletter, etc. Please submit items to newsletter@cnpsd.org

CNPS-SD Activities Calendar March 2024

- 3/2: Propagation Committee p.5**
- 3/2: CNPS-SD at Family Nature Day, Mount Helix Park, p.6**
- 3/5: Conservation Committee, p.5**
- 3/9: Native Plant Class, p.10**
- 3/12: Native Gardening Committee Meeting, p.3**
- 3/13: Board Meeting, via Zoom, p.5**
- 3/15: Propagation Committee, p.5**
- 3/16: Field Trip to the Desert, p.5**
- 3/16: CNPS-SD at Ocotillo Blooms, p.6**
- 3/19: Chapter Meeting, p.1**
- 3/24: CNPS-SD at Sustainable Scripps Ranch, p.6**
- 3/30: Propagation Committee, p.5**
(<https://www.meetup.com/San-Diego-County-Native-Plant-Discoverers-Meetup/>)

Please check www.cnpsd.org for activities that may have been scheduled after this newsletter was prepared.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

<https://www.cnps.org/membership>

___ Student/Limited Income \$25; ___ Individual \$50; ___ Plant Lover \$120; ___ Supporter \$500; ___ Patron \$1,000; ___ Benefactor \$2,500; ___ Perennial Monthly Sustainer Memberships starting at \$5/mo. provide much needed predictable income for our programs. Your indicated gift will be automatically repeated each month. Pls see <https://www.cnps.org/membership> to sign up for this membership level.

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

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March 2024 Newsletter

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

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To join, email: CNPSSanDiegoDiscuss+subscribe@groups.io

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