



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

San Diego Chapter Newsletter

October 2009

www.cnpssd.org

CNPS (916) 447-2677

info@cnpssd.org

PREZ SEZ

October 17th is the biggest day of the year. The most volunteers, the best member turnout, and the greatest public visibility all come together for a few hours in the patio of the Casa del Prado. Oh- and how well we do determines our funding for next year.

I'm talking about our Fall Plant Sale, of course. For a few hours, we combine the best selection of native plants in the region with the most knowledgeable and enthusiastic sales staff in a convenient, central location. (OK, it might be a little inconvenient getting your plants back to the car, but well worth the effort!) This unique fund- raising tool means that our chapter, with fewer members than many other non-profits, casts a relatively large shadow, helping groups we support (San Diego Canyonlands, the Plant Atlas, etc.) and fighting causes we oppose (though the Legal Fund).

So, the finances are important -- spend a lot of money, please! But I really want to talk about the other aspects of the Plant Sale that are just as vital to our health as a group. The intangibles: the teamwork as we pull those heavy one-gallon pots off the truck; the pleasure of seeing a face you haven't seen since last year; the satisfaction of answering a stranger's questions and anticipating the little gem of beauty that they'll create. This is the glue that holds us together as a group, the shared purpose that makes the drudge work of running this organization worthwhile. Let's nourish and cherish these human connections.

When you come to the sale, don't just go down your checklist and leave. Load up the car, then come back, wander around some more, chat with other members once things slow down. Better yet, invite a couple of friends to meet you, and get them started on a native patch in a corner of their yard. Stick around till the end and help us clean the patio in time for that anxious wedding party, then sign up for next year.

See you on the 17th... (and buy lots of plants!).

Dave Flietner

CNPS MEETING PROGRAM

SAN DIEGO CANYONLANDS

Presented by: Eric Bowlby

San Diego, Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 104
October 20 - 7pm

Eric will talk about San Diego's Canyonlands' goals and programs and opportunities to support a vision of restoration and sustainable stewardship of San Diego's unique habitats. He will discuss current threats to wetlands and creek channels for the sake of flood control, and solutions that could result in sustainable green infrastructure in the San Diego region.

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 - October Topic "Native Grasses in Your Landscape" by Morgan Vondrak. 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.

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday October 8, 6-8 pm at

Scripps Miramar Branch Library

10301 Scripps Lake Drive

NATIVE GARDEN COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Native Gardening committee meeting at California's Own Landscaping in early September was both fruitful and fun. Owner and committee member **Greg Rubin** gave us a tour of the grounds as the sun was setting, showing us some of his favorite cultivars. Then we loaded up our plates from the generous repast provided and got down to business, discussing new and ongoing projects developed to increase knowledge and enjoyment of native plant gardening. Many of the ideas that members offered at our very first meeting are just now starting to bud; whether they burst into full flower in the coming months depends on if additional volunteers join in the effort.

Susan Krzywicki showed the first of the series of gardening information sheets that she is producing for the chapter, this one on native plantings for parking strips. She and her subcommittee plan to steadily roll out many info sheets on the general themes of: design elements, technical elements, botanical elements (using a particular type of plant in different situation), and Plant of the Month. Look for these at the Book and Poster table at our meetings and on our website. Volunteers with copy-editing and graphic design skills should contact her at susankrzywicki@mac.com.

Morgan Vandrok has prepared a letter to be sent later this month to teachers about our new School Garden program. To make this a success we need native plant designers, landscape architects, and plain old native gardeners ("civilian" volunteers) to help with garden projects as they arise. At participating schools, a design volunteer will work with the lead teacher or administrator to develop a plan for their native garden. The designer or another volunteer will also be available to direct activities on the day of installation. To assure that the garden continues to be properly maintained in the years to come, the "civilian" volunteer will continue to work with the lead teacher or administrator. To learn more about the program or to sign up as a volunteer please e-mail argiadezigns@yahoo.com.

Sue Marchetti updated us on the "Natives for Novices" presentations before our monthly meetings. By popular demand, our first three presenters will give repeat performances in Room 104 from noon to 2 p.m. at the October 17 plant sale. Sue is looking for presenters for 2010: if you have practical gardening tips to share, let her know @ msuemarch@sbcglobal.net.

Greg Rubin reported that **Kay Stewart** is working to update the Chapter's slide show "A Celebration of San Diego Native Plant Gardens" to electronic format for group

presentations. **Mary Platter-Reiger** has converted the show on our laptop computer and is writing a script. With this presentation we could inform the myriad groups that would like to learn about native plant gardening, but we need volunteers to learn and give the presentation. Let Kay (kaytaff@sbcglobal.net) know you're interested and she will set up a training session.

In addition to these budding efforts, plans for two new original 35-mm slides to high-quality digital images. We will need volunteers to learn to present it to groups that want to learn about native plant gardening. Let Kay (kaytaff@sbcglobal.net) know you're interested and when it's done, we will set up a training session.

Plans for two new native gardening projects are afoot, in North County and North Park. **Wes Hudson** (weshudson@cox.net) has slashed through some of the bureaucratic thicket related to doing restoration on City habitat and is designing (along with **Jeremy Sison**) a community native garden on disturbed land above Juniper Canyon. **Don Miller** (858 755-5143), the chapter representative to the San Dieguito River Park Foundation, will lead a planting and maintenance project at historic Sikes Adobe, located near Lake Hodges and I-15. Look for details on our first projects at these sites in next month's newsletter, or contact them now to get in on the ground floor.

Our core committee members have started balls rolling in lots of exciting directions. We know that we can't do it alone, however: we will need lots of volunteers willing to help in relatively small ways to make each of these efforts a success. Get in touch with us today, or mark your calendar for our next committee meeting on November 3, at 7 p.m. at 4234 Tacoma St. in the Clairemont neighborhood of San Diego (msuemarch@sbcglobal.net).

MONTHLY CNPS-SD EVENTS

Tecolote Canyon Walk - First Sunday of each month

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

FALL PLANT SALE

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

Pre-order your plants! This is a member's only service, details for how to pre-order can be found on our website. Minimum amount for pre-ordering is 20 items or \$100.

We need many volunteers on sale day. Jobs include plant sale set-up, ticket writers (should be comfortable with numbers and calculators), refreshments, security, and general customer service. E-mail us for more information.

Specific tasks needed for our fall plant sale:

Refreshments: We need someone to buy the refreshments and set them up for the sale. CNPS reimburses all costs.

Pick-up Boxes: We need one or two people to pick up boxes from grocery stores, contact us for more details.

Plant Labeling: We send teams of volunteers to some of the nurseries, Tree of Life, Recon and Las Pilitas, to label the plants.

Submitted by the Plant Sale Committee

BOARD MEMBER OPENING

Our local CNPS chapter board consists of eleven members serving two years each. At the end of this year there will be a few openings on our board and we are looking for some members to serve a term. The board meets on the first Wednesday of the month, no meeting in August and December. We are looking for leaders with any of the following experience: accounting, business, financial, environmental advocacy, or non-profit development. More importantly, we want leaders who are interested in working as part of a team to carry out the mission and goals of CNPS. Our ability to affect local conservation projects depends on strong leadership from our chapter board. Please get in touch with any board member (contact information is on the last page of the newsletter) by

BOARD NOTES

Congratulations to Kay Stewart, the newest Board Member for the San Diego Chapter!

Congratulations to the following new Committee Chairs and liaisons-

Adrienne Heinzelman- our new Membership Chair
(membership@cnpsd.org)

Jason Sundberg- our new Seed Collection Chair
(seedcollection@cnpsd.org)

Anna Bennett – our new Vegetation Chair
(vegetation@cnpsd.org)

Dave Di Donato- our new liaison to the Children in Nature Network

Frances Dormer- our new representative to the San Diego Botanical Foundation

Carrie Schneider- our new liaison to the Canyon Coalition

If anyone would like to be involved with any of these committees, please contact them at the email address listed above. They would love to hear from you!

There are also a few Committee Chair positions still available- Publicity, Public Outreach, Education, and Librarian. If you are interested in any of these positions or would like to get more information on them, please contact Dave Flietner at president@cnpsd.org.

Check out the Hospitality Committees posters at an upcoming meeting!

The board approved \$500 to be given to Crestridge to plant natives around the structure that is currently at the site. The mini-grant application is for plants, mulch, and an irrigation system. They will include us on a recognition plaque and have our brochures available on site. Please see the article on this project in this newsletter for more information.

Hope to see you all at the plant sale October 17!

WELCOME ADRIENNE HEINZELMAN NEW CNPS-SD Membership Chair

Adrienne's enthusiasm for native plants grew out of her love of hiking San Diego's nature trails. She and her family are also avid sailors and travelers, and have been fortunate enough to combine the two passions, having sailed in the South Pacific (Tonga) for the change of the millennium, as well as in France, the Caribbean, and Mexico. Adrienne is currently re-doing her backyard in California natives, and has a nice little woodland understory garden going in a shady spot beside the house.

CHAPTER MINI-GRANT AWARD

CNPS San Diego Chapter Mini- Grant Awarded for Garden at Nature Center

The Chapter Board of Directors whole-heartedly granted \$500 to help install a native plant garden at the information kiosk at Crestridge Ecological Reserve. The garden is being designed by chapter members Jeremy Sison and Morgan Vondrak for the space surrounding a beautiful little visitor kiosk. The funds come from the chapter's Mini-Grant program.

The Reserve is located in the foothills between El Cajon and Alpine. The Earth Discovery Institute of the Reserve hosts nature study classes aimed at all levels of students, from K through 12, and has other activities to engage adult volunteers and life-long learners.

We look forward to getting updates from Cathy Chadwick of the Institute. CNPS joins about a dozen other groups that have provided funds, materials, and labor to the project, all of whom will be recognized for their contributions. The kiosk was designed by artist James Hubbell and was built of straw bales and plaster.

- Kay Stewart

Invasive Weed Group Meeting Primary Topic Palm Tree Control

October 9 from 9am til 12 noon

Silver Gum Way, San Diego CA 92127 (Thomas Guide 1169, D2)

These meeting is open to all members, from amateur to expert; the only requirement is that you are interested in becoming involved with our native open space in some way. Regular meetings are scheduled for the first Saturday of each month—other dates and times can be arranged. There will be some hands on training so wear boots, long pants, and long sleeves. Bring water, gloves and eye protection if you have it.

Contact Arne Johanson at arne_kj@yahoo.com or (858) 759-4769 for directions or with questions.



PROPAGATION WORKSHOP

Native Plant Propagation Workshop

Saturday November 14th

Recon's Native Plant Nursery (Imperial Beach)

9am - noon

CNPS members AND volunteers working on school garden projects

RSVP required, contact plantsale@cnpsd.org

CNPS with the support of Recon Native Plants will be sponsoring a native plant propagation workshop. Open to all CNPS members AND volunteers working on school garden projects. You will learn the basics of vegetative propagation, seed germination, and you will get to see the behind-the-scenes operations of one of the largest growers of California native plants. You must be registered to attend.

MONTHLY WORK PARTIES

Old Town State Historic Park Native Plant Garden

2nd Saturday of each month

October 10, 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

October 3 and 18, 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>



California Native Plant Sale

**Saturday, October 17, 2009
11 AM – 3 PM**

Balboa Park, San Diego
Casa del Prado Theater Courtyard, by the west
entrance of the Natural History Museum

Open to CNPS members at 10 AM
Join or Renew Membership at the Sale

- Native shrubs, trees, flowering plants
- Books, posters, seeds
- Freebies for kids
- Proceeds support local CNPS events

Cash or Checks Only



- Friendly, knowledgeable experts to assist you
- Convenient, curb-side parking for loading plants

Why Native Plants?
Conserve water
Preserve native San Diego

Plan ahead!
Pre-order plants: <http://www.cnpsdd.org/>

RARE PLANT SURVEY COMMITTEE FORMED

During the September 12th Chapter Council meeting at the San Diego Natural History Museum, State CNPS Rare Plant Botanist **Nick Jensen** met with San Diego chapter members **Jonathan Snapp-Cook**, **Mary Ann Hawke**, and **Vince Scheidt** to plan a pilot rare plant survey project for next spring. The group selected San Diego thornmint (*Acanthomintha ilicifolia*) as the focal species for the first series of surveys. This species was selected because it has several accessible populations on conserved lands, however, no range wide survey has been attempted since 1994.

The goal of the group is to develop a team of trained and motivated CNPS volunteers who will revisit each of the reported thornmint locations to determine whether the species is still present and, if so, its' current condition. For CNPS members, this will be a great opportunity to go out in the field with a purpose and to learn about this rare and beautiful species. For the thornmint, we hope that better information will lead to better preservation and habitat management.

At this time, we are calling for volunteers. You don't need to be an expert botanist to participate. You should be in decent physical condition, and have careful observation skills. You will work in teams of two or more, both for safety and to make it more fun. There will be two required training sessions in late winter to learn how to identify San Diego thornmint and collect data before your team will be given location(s) to survey.

If you would like to get involved in the planning and preparation stages of this project, please drop me a line. If you would like to participate in the surveys, stayed tuned for more details.

Dave Flietner



FALL 2009 NATIVE PLANT SALE

Earth Discovery Institute/Crestridge Ecological Reserve
Saturday, October 3, 2009: 8am-12noon
Native Plants/Expert Advisors/Kids Activities

The EDI/Crestridge native plant sale benefits education and restoration programs at Crestridge Ecological Reserve. Most plants will be local natives in 1-gallon containers. Native plant experts will be on hand to assist you with selection. Most plants are \$7.50 or 3 for \$20.

Fun activities for kids: Dissect an owl pellet/Build a birdfeeder/
Make an animal track.

1171 Horsemill Road, El Cajon (Crest), CA 92021

I-8 to Greenfield Drive

- East on Greenfield to La Cresta
- Up the hill on La Cresta for 3 miles
- A top of hill, turn left onto Mountain View
- Stay on Mountain View for 1.1 miles to Horsemill (on left)
- Turn left onto Horsemill, continue to end, park
- Walk in on dirt road behind gate

Please contact Cathy Chadwick at chadgroup@cox.net or



Ranunculus californicus

Drawing contributed by
Fred Edwards

LEGAL FUND PLEA

The Board of Directors would like to thank the people who have started our legal fund going. 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

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.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED SO FAR!!

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER OPTION

30 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.

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.cnpsd.org

WANTED

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CNPS-SD NEWSLETTER

Do you have an idea for our newsletter? An article, a poem, or story about native plants and their environment? We could also use line drawings or simple black and white photos of native plants. Copy submissions are due by the 10th of the month. We would love to hear your ideas!

Send copy submittals to: newsletter@cnpsd.org

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE

Renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card. As an option, set it up to **renew automatically** year after year. It is quick, easy, convenient, and reduces renewal mailing costs.

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

October 2009

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