



California Native Plant Society  
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

# ***THE BLAZING STAR***

January - February 2013

## **MEMBERS' NIGHT AND GENERAL MEETING**

**Friday, February 1st at 7:30 PM  
Los Altos Library Program Room  
13 So. San Antonio Road, Los Altos**

**Topic: Members' Night Slide Show -  
Favorite Native Plant Adventures of 2012**

Did you go on any excellent plant adventures in 2012? If so, perhaps you took a few pictures of scenery, plants, and maybe a few animals?

Share the interesting and beautiful pictures you took in 2012 with others at this always popular Members' Night meeting. Photos (or other media) of anything, any place, or anyone related to native plants in 2012 are welcome.

If you'd like to share photos or other materials, please **RSVP by Sunday, January 27** by emailing Kevin Bryant at [mtngreen17@verizon.net](mailto:mtngreen17@verizon.net) or calling (408) 348-9470, and let him know how many photos/what type of materials, and approximately how many minutes you'd like. Time allotted per person will depend on how many participants RSVP. Whether you have photos to share or not, join us for a fun mid-winter celebration of native plants.

**Directions:** From Foothill Expy., travel ½ mile on San Antonio Rd. towards the Bay, cross Hillview and turn right into the driveway; library is on the left. From El Camino, travel towards the hills on San Antonio Rd., cross Edith and turn left into the unmarked driveway just before Hillview. The sign on San Antonio Rd. reads "Civic Center, Library and History Museum." Enter through the lobby of the main entrance.

CNPS general meetings are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Kevin Bryant at [mtngreen17@verizon.net](mailto:mtngreen17@verizon.net) or (408) 348-9470.

## **CHAPTER ACTIVITIES**

### **Native Plant Nursery at Hidden Villa**

Come help propagate plants for our next plant sale by volunteering at one of our nursery work sessions, every **Wednesday and Thursday, from Noon to 3pm** (note winter hours, which started in September). Bring garden gloves, sunhat, clippers, and liquids and your lunch if you like. Other tools will be provided at the nursery. Knowledge of plants is not necessary; your willingness to help is all that's required.

For more information, contact Jean Struthers at (650) 941-2586 or [JeanStruthers@att.net](mailto:JeanStruthers@att.net); or Ray Deutsch at (650) 365-6136 or [ray.deutsch@yahoo.ca](mailto:ray.deutsch@yahoo.ca).

**Directions:** Hidden Villa is located on Moody Road west of Foothill College. From Hwy. 280 in Los Altos Hills, take the Moody Road exit and head west. Two miles west of Foothill College, look for the Hidden Villa sign and driveway on the left. Proceed over the bridge and park in the visitor center parking lot to your right. The Nursery is at the greenhouse just beyond the visitor center.

### **Gardening with Natives**

Gardening with Natives (GWN), a special interest group within the Chapter, includes a mix of landscape architects, designers, seasoned native plant gardeners and beginners. It offers many talks throughout the year which are free and open to all.

This year's theme is *Native Plant Vignettes*, where monthly presenters share how to design discrete areas of your garden, such as shady locations or meadows. In addition to these lectures, there will be over 30 other talks throughout the Chapter area – from Cupertino to Milpitas. **Five talks are scheduled during January and February**, so please spread the word. For more information, visit [www.GardeningWithNatives.com](http://www.GardeningWithNatives.com).

These programs are made possible by volunteers who help with program logistics and by co-sponsoring libraries. If you would like to help organize similar programming at a library near you, contact [arvind.kumar@cnps.org](mailto:arvind.kumar@cnps.org).

**Easy-to-Grow Native Plants for California Gardens, a talk by Arvind Kumar**

**Monday, January 7, 4-5:30PM, Evergreen Library**  
**2635 Aborn Road, San Jose (408) 808-3060**

New to native plants? Do you want to include native plants in the garden for beauty, habitat, and sustainability, but don't know where to start? Come to this talk and learn about easy-to-grow native plants (trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals) for the home garden.

**Arvind Kumar** has been gardening with native plants for over 12 years, and is the past president of our Chapter of CNPS. Handouts and plant lists will be available.

**Planning a Native Rain Garden, a talk by Alan Hackler**

**Tuesday, January 8, 7:00 PM, Saratoga Library**  
**13650 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga (408) 867-6126**

The season's first rains are pouring down, running off your roof, down your driveway and into the streets, storm drains, creeks and ultimately to the Bay and ocean. What if you could capture that runoff instead and use it for your garden, with the excess percolating downward to recharge our local aquifers and purifying the water as it passes through the soil?

Learn how rain gardens keep rain water on site. Find out what they are, how to construct them, and which California native plants are best suited for them.

**Alan Hackler** is the owner of Bay Maples, a design-build firm and native plant nursery in the South Bay. His own rain garden was on the Going Native Garden Tour and he has built many rain gardens for clients. Alan studied permaculture and environmental studies, and is a Build-It Green member with LEED, Greywater, and Master Gardener accreditations.

**Gardening, Cooking, and Healing with Native Plants, a talk by Alicia Funk**

**Tuesday, January 29, 6:00-7:30 PM, Vineland Library**  
**1450 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose (408) 978-9044**

Modern life depends entirely on plants from all over the world, but the native people of California lived sustainably for thousands of years by using California native plants. The author of the landmark new book *Living Wild: Gardening, Cooking and Healing with Native Plants of the Sierra Nevada* will show you how to grow, harvest, and incorporate California native plants in your day-to-day life.

**Alicia Funk** has an MBA and has twenty years of expertise in the field of natural living and wellness. She is the editor of six books, including *The Botanical Safety Handbook*, *Herbal Medicine-The Expanded Commission E Monographs* and *The ABC Clinical Guide to Herbs*.

**Native Plants in a California Garden a talk by Patrick Pizzo**

**Wednesday, February 13, 6:30-8:00 PM, Willow Glen Library, 1157 Minnesota Ave., San Jose (408) 808-3045**

What is unique about California native plants? Do they make good garden subjects? Where can I see native plants in a garden setting? What are some of the best-of-the-best drought resistant plants? What kind of care will they need? Where can I find or buy native plants?

Beginning and intermediate level gardeners will find answers to all these questions and more at this talk and slideshow by Patrick Pizzo, retired SJSU professor and the founder of the Capitancillos Drive native plant streetscape in San Jose. Handouts and plant lists will be available.

**California Native Gardens Through the Years, a talk by Stephanie Morris**

**Wednesday, February 20, 7:00 PM, Campbell Library**  
**77 Harrison Ave., Campbell (408) 866-1991**

Registered landscape architect Stephanie Morris will lead us on a journey, showing photos of California native plant gardens from the very beginning stages of planting through to fully established gardens. What happens through the years, both the expected and the unexpected? What can we

learn from mature gardens that may apply to the design of new gardens? Opportunities and surprises, as well as struggles, will be discussed for each garden based on interviews with the garden owners.

**Stephanie Morris** has been working in the field of Landscape Architecture for seventeen years and specializes in ecologically-oriented residential design. She enjoys creating landscapes that reduce water use, require less maintenance, and provide a connection to the natural world. In addition to tending her own California native garden in the Bay Area, she appreciates collaborating with other native plant gardeners and design professionals, in order to further everyone's knowledge.

### Keying with Natives

Join us as we learn and practice methods of identifying the native plants of our region (aka keying). From beginners to more advanced, there are challenges for all. Bring in plant samples if you have some or just come and work with the materials provided. We discuss the various plant books and practice keying with them. Microscopes are also available.

The next meeting dates are **Fridays, January 25 and February 22, from 6:30pm - 8:30pm**. We meet at the Peninsula Conservation Center (PCC), 3921 E. Bayshore Road in Palo Alto. For more information, please contact Dave "Tex" Houston at [350co2now@gmail.com](mailto:350co2now@gmail.com) or (650) 303-2777; or Sally Casey at (408) 377-0989.

**Directions to PCC:** From Hwy. 101 **southbound**, take the San Antonio Rd. North exit, follow the cloverleaf around and across 101, get immediately into the left-hand turn lane, and turn **LEFT** onto East Bayshore. From Hwy. 101 **northbound**, take the San Antonio exit and make a right at the light onto San Antonio Rd. Immediately get into the left-hand turn lane and turn **LEFT** onto East Bayshore.

East Bayshore will curve around to the left, then right. Turn right on Corporation Way. Your next left is the entrance to the PCC parking lot. The meeting rooms are on the first floor.

## LIVECoRPs, Our Conservation Committee: Looking Ahead to the New Year

At our last meeting we set goals for the New Year:

1. **Define the Purpose and Goals of the Santa Clara County *Invasive Plants* arm of our committee.** Do we want to continue the tradition of selecting a specific site to rid of invasive weeds or do we want to broaden the scope to

looking at the problem on a county wide basis? Do we want to work independently or partner with other agencies? **Please come to our Jan 15th meeting and help us consider our approach to this important issue.**

2. **Become More Effective Environmental Advocates.** We will be seeking out opportunities to educate our committee members on important aspects of environmental advocacy such as CEQA training

(California Environmental Quality Act), writing effective comment letters to government agencies, presenting compelling environmental arguments during public meetings, weed management, and habitat restoration.

3. **Expand Our Documentation of Our Rare and Endangered Plants in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties.** In the past year we had 4 training sessions teaching volunteers how to document populations of rare and endangered plants and send the information to the State Database. This is the database that developers must check before they begin a project. If the population is documented then they are required to work with government agencies on a plan for *protection and mitigation*.

4. **Institute a Mapping Program of All Populations of Rare and Endangered Plants in Santa Clara County.** We want to do a more sophisticated analysis of the "big picture" of where populations still exist and how best to use our resources to protect them.

**We are a vibrant group.** Please join us! Our next meetings will be on the **third Tuesday** of the month as



Carolyn Dorsch

Volunteers learn to set up a survey line at Stile Ranch in San Jose, during last October's Rare Plant Monitoring Training Workshop

usual: **January 15 and February 19, 7pm at the PCC.** For information or concerns please contact the committee chair: Linda Ruthruff at ldruff@hotmail.com. For **directions** to the PCC, please see the Keying with Natives article above.

## **CHAPTER SERVICE OUTINGS**

### **Habitat Restoration at Edgewood Park**

Join us as we restore sensitive habitats at Edgewood Park and enjoy golden winter sunshine. Weeding sessions take place at the following times:

- **Friday mornings** throughout the year, starting at **9am**
- **Wednesday evening** weeding will resume next March when Daylight Savings Time returns.

For schedules, meeting places, and other details visit our website at [edgewood.thinkersrus.net](http://edgewood.thinkersrus.net), contact Paul Heiple at (650) 854-7125 or [pheiple@gmail.com](mailto:pheiple@gmail.com), or email John Allen at [jcakwa@earthlink.net](mailto:jcakwa@earthlink.net).

## **CHAPTER FIELD TRIPS**

Chapter field trips are generally free and open to the public. They are oriented to conservation, protection and enjoyment of California native plants and wildlife, and we adhere to all rules and guidelines for the lands on which we are visiting.

**In our region it is very important to be prepared for hiking on rugged and steep terrain, wide temperature ranges and rapidly changing conditions at any time of year. All participants should wear sturdy footwear and carry sufficient water, sun protection, food, clothing layers, personal first aid and other supplies you may need. If you have any questions about your ability to participate in a particular field trip, please contact the trip leader in advance.**

### **Tue Jan 1 10am – 2pm Año Nuevo State Preserve (Hwy 1 coast-southern San Mateo County)**

Join us as we celebrate a Chapter tradition of welcoming the New Year with a walk and picnic at Año Nuevo State Preserve on the San Mateo County coast. **The preserve is located south of Pescadero** on Highway 1, just north of the Santa Cruz County line.

### **Meet in the parking lot (\$10 day use fee) at 10am.**

Latecomers will find us on the trail in the coastal prairie. We'll enjoy sea cliff vegetation, raptors, songbirds and maybe marine mammals. We will face a moderate high tide at noon, but should be able to picnic on the beach (in the area in which seal tour reservations are not required).

As this is a day to have fun at the beach with fellow Chapter members, the ending time and depth of botanical discussion may be extended depending on participants. We will finish at the visitor center. Bring binoculars and layers for variable conditions including wind, sun and fog.

Heavy rain cancels. For more information contact Carolyn Dorsch at [cdorsch1@aol.com](mailto:cdorsch1@aol.com) or (650) 804-6162 (eves).

## **Field Trip Planning Meeting**

### **Thu Jan 24 7:00-8:30pm PCC Palo Alto**

We will be scheduling out the rest of the spring field trips. With more knowledge of the winter weather patterns we can make plans for the Desert Trip and summer mountain trips. All are welcome to join in on the discussions. For further information contact Carolyn Dorsch, Field Trip Chair. Phone (650) 804-6162 (evenings) or email [cdorsch1@aol.com](mailto:cdorsch1@aol.com).

**Directions to the PCC** (Peninsula Conservation Center), see directions following the Keying with Natives article, earlier in this newsletter on page 3.

### **Sat Jan 26 10am – 3pm UCSC Upper Campus, Santa Cruz**

Explore an area full of botanical treasures situated right above the main campus of the University of Santa Cruz. Geologic forces and the local climate have interacted to allow this area to support a stunning diversity of flora and fauna, including a very unusual population of western azalea, *Rhododendron occidentale*.

These azaleas regularly bloom in Dec.-Jan., about 6 months out of phase from all other populations! The azaleas occur in seeps within the forest, and we will also see several *Manzanita* species in bloom as we transition out of the forest and into the maritime chaparral. This can also be a great place for fungus diversity as well. So bring your sharp eyes and lots of curiosity to Santa Cruz as we explore the wilds of UCSC.

The campus is about 35-45 minutes from San Jose. This will be a fairly slow paced hike, less than 5 miles in distance, with some ups and downs but less than 300' of elevation gain/loss. We expect to be done early enough to allow those wanting to go to the Arboretum afterwards to do so (it closes at 5pm).

**Space is limited** to 15 for this trip. Please contact Kevin Bryant at [mtngreen17@gmail.com](mailto:mtngreen17@gmail.com) or (408) 348-9470 to **reserve your space** and receive the trip details.

### **Sat Feb 2 10am – 3:30pm** **Water Dog Lake (Belmont)**

Join Don Thomas and Ken Himes on a visit to Hidden Valley Park and Water Dog Lake Park in Belmont. We will make a loop trip in Hidden Valley Park to see two populations of *Dirca occidentalis*, the Western leatherwood. We will also see *Ribes malvaceum*, chaparral currant, in flower.

For those willing to do a longer hike, we will continue by connecting trails to Water Dog Lake Park to see additional colonies of *Dirca*. Most of the trail system has been made by mountain bike groups. The trails are often rutted and may be rough and slippery. Boots or good traction shoes and good hiking skills are required. Expect the full trip to **last until 3-3:30pm** (bring lunch).

For more information call Ken Himes at (650) 591-8560 or contact Don Thomas at (408) 828-4044 or [don\\_e\\_thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:don_e_thomas@yahoo.com).

**Directions: Meet at 10am** in the parking lot of Hidden Valley Park at the south end of Carlmont Drive in Belmont. To get there, take I-280 to the Ralston Rd. exit and head east, toward the Bay. In about 1/2 mile, turn right on Ralston Rd., go about 2 mi. and make a sharp right onto Carlmont Rd., which is just before you reach Alameda de las Pulgas. Go about 1/2 mi. on Carlmont until you come to the Trailhead.

A map of the area may be found in the *Peninsula Trails* book by Jean Rusmore, or visit [www.belmont.gov/Upload/Document/D240001116/OpenSpaceTrailMap2005.pdf](http://www.belmont.gov/Upload/Document/D240001116/OpenSpaceTrailMap2005.pdf).

### **Sun Feb 10 10am – 2pm**

#### **Perennials and Woody Plants of Alum Rock Park**

Join Stephen Rosenthal and Arvind Kumar for a leisurely plant identification walk through Alum Rock Park. Winter is a time of renewal and growth for many plants, and dormancy for some. Expect to see local natives such as coast live oak, bay laurel, California buckeye, holly-leaved redberry, sticky monkeyflower, sagebrush, soap lily, coyote

mint, goldback & maidenhair ferns, California fuchsia, and California buckwheat.

Beginners are welcome! We will meet at the Maintenance Building in the Park Headquarters area at **10am**, and walk up to Inspiration Point, currently under restoration by neighborhood volunteers. We'll then continue on the South Rim Trail, and return via the Sycamore Switchback Trail. Bring a sack lunch and water, and dress suitably for the weather. Park admission is \$6 per car.

For more information contact Stephen at (408) 923-6562 or [sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net); or Arvind at (408) 715-7020 or [arvind.kumar@cnps.org](mailto:arvind.kumar@cnps.org).

**Directions:** Alum Rock Park is in East San Jose off Penitencia Creek Road. From I-680, take the Berryessa Road exit and drive east towards the hills. After about 2.5 mi., turn right on N. Capitol Ave. Drive south about 0.3 mi., then turn left on Penitencia Creek Rd. Follow Penitencia Creek Rd. about 2 miles east to the park main entrance. There is a \$6 entry fee. After entering the park, follow the main road to the T intersection, and turn Left under the bridge. Go about 1 mi., and park in the first lot you come to after going under the bridge. From the parking area, take the bridge across the Creek. You will see a log cabin and continue to the maintenance building, straight ahead.

For a map of the park, visit [www.boulter.com/geocaching/maps/maps/us/ca/AlumRock.jpg](http://www.boulter.com/geocaching/maps/maps/us/ca/AlumRock.jpg).

### **Sat Feb 23 10am – 3pm**

#### **San Pedro Valley County Park (Pacifica)**

We will explore both the Valley View Trail and the spectacular Hazelnut Trail during this early spring outing at San Pedro Valley County Park. Expect a number of early blooms: Montara manzanita (*Arctostaphylos montaraensis*), Pink flowering Currant (*Ribes sanguineum* var. *glutinosum*), Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja affinis*), up to three different Trilliums, plus quite a few other plants in early flower.

The trip will be an easy 5-mile loop hike through coastal scrub and chaparral plus some riparian woodland. It will include an elevation gain and loss of about 900 feet. For more information contact Alf Fengler at [afengler@acm.org](mailto:afengler@acm.org) or (650) 345-7045.

**Directions:** This 1,100-acre park is located at 600 Oddstad Blvd. in Pacifica. From the South Bay, take I-280 north then merge onto Skyline Blvd./CA-35 via exit 41 towards Pacifica. After 3.5 mi. turn left onto Sharp Park Rd. down

towards the coast. Follow the signs for Cabrillo Hwy/CA-1 South toward Santa Cruz. Go for 2.5 mi. then turn left at Linda Mar Blvd., go for 2 more mi. where the road ends at Oddstad. Turn right and then immediately left into the park.

Note: The County Park day use fee is \$6 per vehicle (bring exact amount). We'll **meet at 10am** in front of the Visitor Center. Bring water and a lunch. Heavy rain cancels.

### **Sat Mar 2 9:30am Edgewood County Park**

Edgewood Park is one of our Chapter's oldest projects. The battle to save Edgewood from becoming a golf course has long since been won and the land is secure from any development. The continuing project that our Chapter owns is the restoration weeding.

This coming year marks the 25th year since the invasive plants removal project began. The progress is amazing. Come see the project and the work remaining to be done. Friday lead weeder Paul Heiple will tour the restoration sites, show the work completed, and discuss plans for future restoration. The hike will begin from the Clarkia Trail on Cañada Road at **9:30am**. The hike will be limited to 30 people. To reserve your spot, contact Paul at [pheiple@gmail.com](mailto:pheiple@gmail.com) or (650) 854-7125.

**Directions:** The Clarkia Trailhead is located on Cañada Road at the southwest corner of the park. From I-280, turn off at the Edgewood Rd. exit and drive west on Edgewood Rd. until it ends at Cañada Rd., then turn left. Continue on Cañada road and look for the Clarkia Trailhead shortly after passing under I-280.

### **Sun Mar 3 10am – 3:30pm San Bruno Mountain (Brisbane)**

Join Ken Himes for a hike along the Summit Loop Trail to see early flowering plants in the coastal scrub and coastal grassland plant communities. The hike will be about 3.5-4 miles with 800 feet elevation gain/loss. Wear layers as windy conditions could occur. Bring lunch and liquids. For more information call Ken at (650) 591-8560.

**Directions:** From Hwy. 101 northbound, take Old Bayshore/Brisbane exit and proceed north on Old Bayshore, past the town of Brisbane, until making a left turn onto Guadalupe Canyon Pkwy. Follow Guadalupe Pkwy. uphill (west) about a mile and a half to the park entrance. We will meet at the parking lot just beyond the entrance kiosk. There is a \$6.00 day use/parking fee (bring exact change).



*San Bruno Mountain Watch*  
Mission blue butterfly on host lupine

**Editor's note:** San Bruno Mountain Watch welcomes volunteers to join them in restoring and maintaining habitat on San Bruno Mountain. They offer nursery workdays and habitat restoration workdays, including the SSF Weed Warriors program mentioned later in this newsletter. To learn more, visit their Stewardship web page, at [www.mountainwatch.org/stewardship-home](http://www.mountainwatch.org/stewardship-home).

### **Spring 2013 Desert Trip**

Discussions are underway for organizing a Chapter field trip to the California desert area the **first weekend of April (April 5-8)**. See details in next issue of this newsletter, or on the Chapter website once plans are firmed up.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*News and Activities from Other Organizations*

### **Edgewood Docent Training Begins Jan. 30**

Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve (FOE) will offer docent training in January for their spring Wildflower Walks. Edgewood is a wonderful resource containing several plant communities in addition to the serpentine grasslands that are the highlight of their Wildflower Walks. Docents are vital to FOE's ability to attract and educate the public about preservation and restoration projects as well as the bright serpentine flowers they see as they drive past on Interstate 280.

FOE's wildflower docent training provides seven Wednesday evening presentations (in Redwood City) by very knowledgeable speakers, Saturday hikes through

Edgewood led by these speakers, and a binder full of facts about the Natural Preserve. There is a \$30 fee for training materials.

To register or for more information, please email Mary Wilson at docent-trainer@FriendsOfEdgewood.org or visit [www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org](http://www.FriendsOfEdgewood.org).

### South San Francisco Weed Warriors

Do you live in northern San Mateo County or San Francisco or nearby, and want to help remove invasives and restore habitat? Join San Bruno Mountain Watch's Weed Warriors on the **Fourth Friday and Saturday of every month, 9am to noon.**

Join the group, also known as South San Francisco (SSF) Weed Warriors, for fresh air and exercise - and help them weed on the south slope of San Bruno Mountain. The south slope has large areas of grasslands that are critical to our resident butterflies. The Weed Warriors provide the gloves. You'll want to wear long pants, layers, and sturdy shoes. Be sure to bring water.

No reservations are required. Meet behind the Mills Montessori School at 1400 Hillside Blvd. in South San Francisco, rain or shine. For more information, contact the leaders Loretta and Chuck Brooks at [lorettaandchuck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lorettaandchuck@sbcglobal.net) or call San Bruno Mountain Watch (SBMW) office at (415) 467-6631.

Check out the SBMW website for all volunteer opportunities in their Stewardship Programs and Upcoming Events: [www.mountainwatch.org](http://www.mountainwatch.org).

### Northern California Botanists' Symposium

On **January 14 – 15**, the Northern California Botanists' association will present a two-day symposium entitled: "From the Redwoods to the Sagebrush: Botany Ranging Far and Wide," at California State University, Chico.

Topics will range from redwood/North Coast ecology to Northern California botanical discoveries, and there will be a third day of workshops / field trips to choose from. The symposium will also include an evening reception and banquet with keynote speaker Barbara Ertter of the University of California Berkeley, addressing "People, Plants, and Politics." The symposium is open to everyone: botanical enthusiasts, professionals, and students.

For a detailed program and registration information visit [www.norcalbotanists.org](http://www.norcalbotanists.org).

## CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2013

Chapter officers for the 2013 calendar year were elected at our Annual Meeting on November 10. Steve Rosenthal, who has been the Chapter Webmaster for the last several years, was elected as President. Madeline Morrow, most recently Going Native Garden Tour Liaison to the Board, was elected Vice President. Dee Wong was elected as Treasurer, and Radhika Thekkath was re-elected as Recording Secretary. Arvind Kumar will round out the Executive Committee as Past President.

Many, many thanks to our out-going officers: Arvind Kumar (President), Toni Gregorio-Bunch (Vice President), and Kevin Bryant (Past President). And special thanks to former Treasurer Julie Scherer, who continued her service through 2012 to provide continuity for the Chapter's finances.

We still have several open Board and Committee Chair positions, and we would like to get more help with our Program Committee, Going Native Garden Tour Committee, and Publicity Committee. For more information, or to volunteer for the Chapter in other ways, please contact any of the officers listed below.

Title	Name	Phone	Email
<b>President</b>	Steve Rosenthal	(408) 923-6562	sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net
<b>Vice President</b>	Madeline Morrow	(408) 741-1150	madelinemorrow@earthlink.net
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Radhika Thekkath	(650) 473-1537	rthekath@yahoo.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dee Wong	(650) 670-7797	dee@thevillagegardener.com
<b>Past President</b>	Arvind Kumar	(408) 715-7020	arvind.kumar@cnps.org

To join our Chapter email list please use the signup link at the bottom of our Chapter home page at [www.cnps-scw.org](http://www.cnps-scw.org).

The latest Blazing Star newsletter is always online at [cnps-scw.org/phocadownload/current-newsletter.pdf](http://cnps-scw.org/phocadownload/current-newsletter.pdf). To view past issues, visit the Chapter website's newsletter page.

### DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT *BLAZING STAR*

**Saturday, February 9, 2012**

**Email: [mattsson@surfpix.net](mailto:mattsson@surfpix.net)**

**Phone: (408) 255-3767**

Santa Clara Valley Chapter California Native Plant Society  
3921 East Bayshore Road  
Palo Alto, CA 94303



## Join CNPS Today!

Members receive the *Fremontia*, the *Bulletin*, and the Chapter newsletter, and other benefits listed at [www.cnps.org/membership](http://www.cnps.org/membership)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

*Membership level (check one):*

- \$45 Individual  
 \$75 Family  
 \$100 Plant Lover  
 \$300 Patron  
 \$600 Benefactor  
 \$1500 Mariposa Lily  
 \$25 Student/Limited Income

*Areas of interest:*

- Advocacy  
 Botany  
 Conservation  
 Education  
 Field Trips  
 Gardening  
 Plant ID

*Donations above the membership level are gratefully accepted.*

*Dues and donations are tax-deductible. Make your check payable to "CNPS" and mail it with this form to:*

CNPS Membership, 2707 K Street Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816 • 916-447-2677 • fax 916-447-2727

## FIRST-CLASS

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS (page # in parentheses)

**Jan 1 Tue** Año Nuevo field trip (4)  
**Jan 7 Mon** GWN – Easy-to-Grow Plants – Kumar (2)  
**Jan 8 Tue** GWN – Rain Gardens - Hackler (2)  
**Jan 14-15 Mon-Tue** Nor. Cal. Botanist Symposium (7)  
**Jan 15 Tue** LIVECoRPs (conservation) meeting (3)  
**Jan 24 Thu** Field Trip Planning Meeting (4)  
**Jan 25 Fri** Keying with Natives (3)  
**Jan 26 Sat** UCSC Santa Cruz field trip (4)  
**Jan 29 Tue** GWN – Cooking, Healing - Funk (2)  
**Jan 30 Wed** Edgewood Docent Training begins (6)  
**Feb 1 Fri** **General Meeting – Member's Night** (1)  
**Feb 2 Sat** Water Dog Lake field trip (5)  
**Feb 9 Sat** **Newsletter Deadline** (7)

**Feb 10 Sun** Alum Rock field trip – Woody Plants (5)  
**Feb 13 Wed** GWN – California Gardens - Pizzo (2)  
**Feb 14 Thu** **Chapter Board meeting**  
**Feb 19 Tue** LIVECoRPs (conservation) meeting (3)  
**Feb 20 Wed** GWN – Through the Years - Morris (2)  
**Feb 22 Fri** Keying with Natives (3)  
**Feb 23 Sat** San Pedro Valley Park field trip (5)  
**TBD** **Newsletter Mailing Party 10am PCC**  
**Mar 2 Sat** Edgewood Park field trip (6)  
**Mar 3 Sun** San Bruno Mountain field trip (6)  
**Wed & Thu afts.** Nursery work sessions (1)  
**Fri morns.** Edgewood Park weeding (4)

The next Chapter **Board meeting** will be **Thu., February 7 at 7:00pm** at the PCC, 3921 E. Bayshore Road in Palo Alto.

Chapter Board meetings are open to all Chapter members and their guests.

For more information contact Stephen Rosenthal at [salinsteve@sbcglobal.net](mailto:salinsteve@sbcglobal.net).

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 with its local chapters, seeks to increase understanding and to preserve the rich heritage of the native flora for future generations. Membership is open to all. Individual memberships are \$45.00 per year. If you have questions concerning a new membership, renewal of a current membership, or if you wish to report a **change of address**, please contact the Membership Chairperson, CNPS, 3921 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303 or email [membership@cnps-scv.org](mailto:membership@cnps-scv.org).

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