



California Native Plant Society  
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

# ***THE BLAZING STAR***

January-February 2014

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

**Friday, January 31th at 7:30 PM  
Los Altos Library Program Room  
13 So. San Antonio Road, Los Altos**

**Topic: Members' Night Slide Show -  
Native Plants and Places in 2013**

Even though 2013 was a very dry year, plenty of our native plant species are well adapted to thrive in these tough conditions. Did you find and photograph any examples of native plants doing well in 2013? Or perhaps you took a few nice pictures of scenery, places, or interesting animals?

Share the interesting and beautiful pictures you took in 2013 with others at the always popular Members' Night meeting. Photos (or other media) of anything, any place, or anyone related to native plants in 2013 are welcome.

If you'd like to share photos or other materials, please **RSVP by Sunday, January 19** 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 Chapter President Stephen Rosenthal at [sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net) or the Chapter phone at (650) 260-3450.

## **GENERAL MEETING & PROGRAM**

**Friday, February 28, 7:30 PM  
Los Altos Library Program Room  
13 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos**

### **Dam the Luck!**

**How the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Has Led to New Insights into the Ecology, Evolution and Conservation of the Coyote Ceanothus (*Ceanothus ferrisiae*)**

**Janell Hillman, Santa Clara Valley Water District**

Anderson Reservoir, the largest reservoir in Santa Clara County, lies within 2 km of the Calaveras Fault in Morgan Hill. Recent seismic stability studies determined that Anderson Dam is seismically unstable. A project to retrofit the dam is currently underway by the Santa Clara Valley

Water District, and is covered under the newly adopted Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan.

Anderson Dam bisects the largest population of the federally endangered coyote ceanothus (*Ceanothus ferrisiae*), a serpentine endemic chaparral shrub known from only three populations. In order to mitigate for impacts to coyote ceanothus from the dam retrofit, a new population must be created. A



Janell Hillman

Federally endangered Coyote ceanothus,  
*Ceanothus ferrisiae*

potential mitigation site has been selected on the well-known Coyote Ridge, a ridgeline just north of the reservoir, which is host to serpentine soils and associated rare and endangered plants. A series of collaborative research studies on the genetics, soil relationships, and water availability needs of known populations of coyote ceanothus are currently underway to determine methods to create a successful, functioning population.

Janell Hillman is a botanist at the Santa Clara Valley Water District, where she has worked for 15 years. She graduated from UC Santa Cruz with a degree in Environmental Studies and from San Francisco State University with a master's degree in Biology. She is a past co-president of the Santa Cruz Chapter of CNPS, and was on the state CNPS Executive Board for several years. Janell also won a scholarship from our Chapter in 2005.

Please join us for Janell's informative talk. **Directions** to the Los Altos Library are posted above.

**A follow-up field trip** to see the coyote ceanothus in bloom will be held on **Saturday, March 1 at 10am in Morgan Hill**. For further information and **to sign up**, please contact Judy Fenerty at [judy@fenerty.com](mailto:judy@fenerty.com) or (408) 655-3493.

## 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). 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.

The nursery requests **black one-gallon pots**, sturdy ones for propagating plants for the spring sale. Bring them to the nursery any day (no snails please!) For more information, contact Melanie Cross at (650) 947-1325 or [melanie@pcross.com](mailto:melanie@pcross.com); 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 themes are *Maintaining Your Native Garden* and *Native All-Stars*. The monthly presenters will share tips on specific garden tasks or on native plant families that are easy to grow. For more information, visit [www.cnps-scv.org/index.php/gardening/gardening-with-natives](http://www.cnps-scv.org/index.php/gardening/gardening-with-natives).

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

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

**Wed Jan 22, 7:00-8:30 PM, Morgan Hill Library,  
660 West Main Avenue, Morgan Hill (408) 779-3196**

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.

#### **Manzanitas -- Quintessentially California -- in the Wild and in the Garden, a talk by Pete Veilleux**

**Tue Jan 28, 7:00-8:30 PM, Saratoga Library,  
13650 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga (408) 867-6126**

Native manzanitas are one of California's most varied and beautiful groups of plants. They range in size from low ground covers, to medium-sized shrubs, and on to small trees. They usually flower in the dead of winter or early spring when little else is blooming, and have gorgeous smooth red bark. Some grow along the coast, while others are found inland. Learn how to select, prune, water, and propagate these beauties and give them a place of honor to enhance your garden and nurture wildlife.

**Pete Veilleux** is a master designer, nurseryman and photographer. Pete builds gardens using native plants for long-lasting, self-sustaining landscapes which help people get the maximum use and pleasure from their patch of earth. He is the owner and propagator of East Bay Wilds Native Plant Nursery in Oakland.

**Weeding and Sheet Mulching Your Native Plant Garden, a talk by Deva Luna**

**Wed Feb 26, 7:00-8:30 PM, Campbell Library, 77 Harrison Ave., Campbell (408) 866-1991**

The rains bring much needed water to our gardens, but also sprout pesky weed seeds that hide in the soil. Ridding your garden of these weeds is typically a back-breaking, time-consuming endeavor, but there are techniques that can save you lots of time and effort. Join us to learn about sheet mulching and other simple tricks that you can do now, so you can enjoy your garden later. Bring along a sample of one or more of your weeds for Deva to identify.

**Deva Luna** is a sustainable and Bay Friendly-certified landscape designer who has been teaching and speaking about horticulture for 15 years. She has a degree in "Plants and Art" and works for EarthCare Landscaping in Cupertino. Her passions include California native plants, greywater, edible landscaping, herbs, and "quirky yard art."

### 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 upcoming dates are **Fridays, January 24 and February 21 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 or (650) 303-2777; or Sally Casey at (408) 377-0989.

**Directions to PCC:** From Highway 101, take the "San Antonio North" exit, get immediately into the left-hand turn lane, and turn LEFT onto East Bayshore. This will curve around to the left, then right. Turn right on Corporation Way. Then turn into the first driveway on your left, which leads to the PCC parking lot. The meeting rooms are on the first floor.

## LIVECoRPs (CONSERVATION) NEWS

### LIVECoRPs Moves to Thursday Night

LIVECoRPs (our Conservation Committee) is moving its monthly meeting from the third Tuesday of the month to the third Thursday of the month. The time and place will remain the same: 7:00pm at the PCC. Most local government agencies hold their public meetings on Tuesdays. As some of our members are attending these meetings and speaking on behalf of CNPS, the conflicts in meeting times have become unworkable.

Our next meetings will be on **Thursdays, January 16 and February 20 at 7:00pm at the PCC**. Please join us!

For questions, comments or concerns, please contact LIVECoRPs Chair Linda Ruthruff at ldruff@hotmail.com. For **directions** to the PCC, please see the Keying with Natives article above.

### Action Alerts

Our Conservation Committee (LIVECoRPs) has many strategies for our mission of protecting Rare and Endangered Plants and their habitats. Some seek and **document** local occurrences and work on their protection. Others work on containment and removal of **invasive plants**. Still others are working on **restoration** projects. Soon we will have members forming relationships with our local nurseries trying to encourage them **not to sell** more of the plants that have already invaded the natural environment. (See PlantRight article at the end of this newsletter.)

Our other strategy is to **advocate** with the many levels of our local governments. We attend many meetings with City Councils, Boards of Supervisors, Water Districts, Planning Commissions and developers, advocating for the protection of our precious native plants and the ecosystems that support them. We also have formed partnerships with other local environmental organizations, knowing that there is power in numbers.

**This is where our membership can help** from the comfort of their own homes in their bathrobes and slippers. Sometimes our elected officials need to **hear from our members personally**. They need to know that we represent hundreds of taxpayers and voters who care deeply about environmental issues. When an issue reaches this critical juncture, we will send out a **Chapter Action Alert**. We try to make it easy to help. We summarize the issue, explain our concerns, spell out the most important messages to convey, provide a sample email/letter and provide the representatives' email addresses. Of course if you can, it is best to personalize the letter. It is also helpful if you add "ldruff@hotmail.com" in the BCC: address so we are able to track the efficacy of the alert.

**Please help by responding to these alerts** as many of you already have. We had 63 letters in response to the Alert about Ulistac and 45 respond regarding the Water Pollution Control Plant. This is a great beginning – let's push up our goal for the next Alert to 200. If we each are willing to invest less than one hour per year responding to Alerts we can really increase our impact on the decision making that will shape our environment for the present and the future. Thank you so much for your concern for our future.

## 2013 California IPC Symposium

*By Don Thomas, Chapter Member*

Last year's Symposium of the California Invasive Plant Council was held at Lake Arrowhead in the San Bernardino Mountains. In spite of the Federal Government shut-down, we were still able to go on a field trip into the National Forest surrounding Big Bear Lake by visiting private inholdings.

There were many interesting presentations at the conference, but the following three might be of particular interest to Chapter members:

Ellen Gartside of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District described their program to control slender false brome (*Brachypodium sylvaticum*), an invasive plant that threatens to take over the understory of redwood forest in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Stuart Weiss of Creekside Center for Earth Observation spoke about the threat that atmospheric nitrogen deposition poses to California native ecosystems, such as serpentine grassland, and how mitigation funds can be employed to implement habitat conservation plans.

Lech Naumovich, also of Creekside, described how they succeeded in restoring a non-native annual grassland in

Woodside to native perennial grassland by scraping off the thatch and non-native seedbank and re-seeding with native grasses and wildflowers.

The abstracts for all of the presentations at the Symposium can be found at [www.cal-ipc.org/symposia/pdf/Cal-IPC2013SymposiumAbstracts.pdf](http://www.cal-ipc.org/symposia/pdf/Cal-IPC2013SymposiumAbstracts.pdf).

## RARE PLANT NEWS

### Chapter Recognized in Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Awards Announcement

The CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Team notes that our Chapter won first place in the state for documenting 32 occurrences of rare plants. After four rare plant trainings in 2012 (led by Toni Corelli), volunteers documented many rare plant populations on regular Chapter field trips and in special Rare Plant Treasure Hunt field trips. Find details, including photo contest winners, at [cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt/award\\_winners.php](http://cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt/award_winners.php).

### Colin Kortman New Vegetation Chair

At the November 13 Rare Plant Committee meeting Chapter president Steve Rosenthal appointed Colin Kortman as Chapter Vegetation Chair. Colin is a Master's candidate at San Jose State University. His current fields of interest include GIS mapping and fire ecology. He has taken state CNPS classes and is very interested in our Chapter and its programs and activities. Welcome Colin!

Colin may be reached at [colinkortman@hotmail.com](mailto:colinkortman@hotmail.com) or (831) 359-8708.

### Welcome Karen Tanner, Invasives Chair

We welcome our new Interim Invasive Plants Chair for Santa Clara County, Karen Tanner. Karen has already helped out with our fall plant sale, and she's already taking action in her new position, by soliciting "PlantRight" Ambassadors (see article at the end of this newsletter) and planning a "Weeding in the Wild" event for March 15, 2014. Next fall Karen will be starting graduate school, hence the term "Interim." Karen may be contacted at [karen.e.tanner@gmail.com](mailto:karen.e.tanner@gmail.com) or (408) 355-0764.

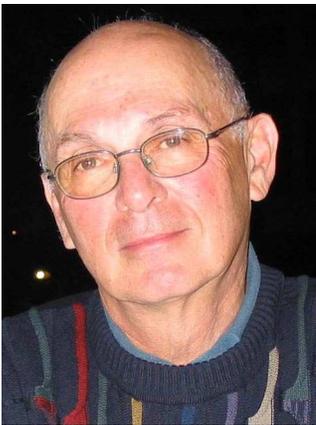
We send a hearty "thank you" to outgoing Invasives Chair for Santa Clara County, Debra Welch. Debra raised our Chapter membership's awareness of weeding events in Santa Clara County in cooperation with several public agencies.

## IN MEMORIAM

### **Alfred Butner August 8, 1937 – November 27, 2013**

Al was born in New York City, where his father was in the garment trade and his mother was a homemaker. He attended Jamaica High School in New York City and Alfred University in upstate New York. He met his late wife Brenda at Alfred University. He received a Master's degree in Zoology, specializing in herpetology. He married Brenda and set out to study medicine.

Al started his medical training at the University of Basel, Switzerland, studying exclusively in German. He completed his medical degree at New York Medical College, then served in the military as an Army surgeon. He came to California to accept a job at a Kaiser hospital in



Al Butner, 1937-2013

Redwood City, and over the years became a pioneer in laparoscopic surgery and an expert in the treatment of breast cancer.

Al's late wife Brenda was a leader in our Chapter of CNPS. Al supported Brenda in all of her work for CNPS, including gardening, lobbying, activities, and field trips. After Brenda passed away in 1995, Al set up an endowed fund with the Chapter in her

memory to support a lecture series on botanical topics. He donated to this fund himself and solicited donations from their many friends. To date the Chapter has awarded stipends for fifteen lectures from this fund, the most recent being an Edgewood Weed Warriors presentation at our November 2013 General Meeting.

Al served as Publicity Chair until 2003. He remained a supporter of the nursery and other Chapter activities. For example, the large surgical stainless steel table at the nursery was a gift from Al and his second wife Julie.

Al grew manzanitas and many other native plants at his home in Los Altos Hills, along with wine grapes. He became an accomplished winemaker and donated many bottles to Chapter events, including our annual potluck. In addition to his love of plants, he was interested in hiking, birding, running, rock climbing, white water rafting, and playing the guitar. He maintained a full and active life until he was diagnosed with ALS in 2012. He passed away on Wednesday, November 27th.

Several hundred of Al's friends attended services at Congregation Kol Emeth in Los Altos Hills on Sunday, December 1. Attending were members of the Chapter who had gone on many trips with Al. We shall miss him greatly and offer our condolences to his widow Julie, his children, and his grandchildren.

## CHAPTER SERVICE OUTINGS

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

Come help remove non-native weeds from Edgewood Park and provide critical habitat for endangered species. Weeding sessions take place **Friday mornings** throughout the year, starting at **9am**.

For Edgewood Weed Warrior schedules, meeting places, and other details, visit [edgewood.thinkersrus.net](http://edgewood.thinkersrus.net); contact Paul Heiple at (650) 854-7125 or [pheiple@gmail.com](mailto:pheiple@gmail.com); and email John Allen at [jcakwa@comcast.net](mailto:jcakwa@comcast.net) for Friday info.

### **Save the Date: March 15**

#### **Weeding in the Wild**

Join us for weeding on March 15. We'll work in cooperation with public agencies to weed and learn about nature and watersheds. For more information see our next Blazing Star newsletter, or contact Interim Invasive Plants Chair for Santa Clara County Karen Tanner, at [karen.e.tanner@gmail.com](mailto:karen.e.tanner@gmail.com) or (408) 355-0764.

## CHAPTER FIELD TRIPS

Chapter field trips are free and generally 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.**

### **Sat Jan 25 10am - 1pm Rancho Cañada del Oro (South San Jose)**

In mid-July there was a 26-acre fire at Santa Clara County Open Space Authority's Rancho Cañada del Oro preserve. Although fire can do a lot of damage, much of the

California landscape is “fire adapted,” meaning that it tolerates some fires. In cooperation with the Open Space Authority, our Chapter is documenting the recovery of this area (and looking for rare “fire follower” plants) with a series of off-trail hikes.

The first hike was in November, before the rains began. This will be the second hike, hopefully in the middle of the rainy season. The third hike will be during the blooming season. Photos from all of the hikes will eventually be posted to the Chapter web site. The hikes will be about two miles long with 400 feet of climbing.

Because this will be an off-trail hike, attendance is limited to 20 people and **reservations are required**. Contact David Chapman at [dchapman@acm.org](mailto:dchapman@acm.org) or (408) 828-6467 **to sign up** and obtain directions. Note: There will be a rain make-up day on February 1st, if necessary.

### **Sat Feb 8 10am - 1pm Eaton Park (San Carlos)**

Join Don Thomas on a visit to Eaton Park in San Carlos, where we will see a population of *Dirca occidentalis*, the Western leatherwood. This Bay Area endemic plant is the only member of the family *Thymelaeaceae* in California.

After seeing leatherwood, we will walk up the trail for some great views. (There are some steep sections.) We should be finished by about lunch time, but it is suggested that you bring lunch and water. There is an optional additional hike afterwards in the adjacent Big Canyon Park. For more information contact Don Thomas at (408) 828-4044 or [don\\_e\\_thomas@yahoo.com](mailto:don_e_thomas@yahoo.com).

**Directions:** Meet at 10am at the Eaton Ave. entrance to Eaton Park at very end of Eaton Ave. in San Carlos. Eaton Ave. can be reached by way of El Camino Real or Alameda de las Pulgas, between Edgewood Rd. and Brittan Ave.

A description of the park can be found in the *Peninsula Trails* book by Jean Rusmore. A description of the trail and a plant list can be found at [www.cityofsancarlos.org/gov/depts/parks\\_rec/park\\_information/hiking\\_trails/eaton\\_big\\_canyon\\_trail.asp](http://www.cityofsancarlos.org/gov/depts/parks_rec/park_information/hiking_trails/eaton_big_canyon_trail.asp).

### **Sun Feb 9 9am - Noon Pulgas Ridge (San Carlos)**

Start spring early with a pleasant walk through this easily accessible Open Space Preserve. Join Carolyn Dorsch and Michael Yantos for a viewing of late winter flowers, and see the awakening of spring.

We will see some early flowering plants such as shooting stars, milkmaids, manzanitas, perhaps hound’s tongue, fetid adder’s tongue and coast man-root.

This trip will be a moderate 3-mile loop hike through oak woodland, mixed evergreen woodland, chamise chaparral, and coastal scrub, combined with a little bit of riparian woodland. The trip will include an elevation gain and loss of about 600 feet.

Reservations are required for this preserve. For more information or to **reserve your spot** contact Carolyn Dorsch at [cdorsch1@aol.com](mailto:cdorsch1@aol.com) or call 650 804-6162 (eves).

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*News and Activities from Other Organizations*

### **Edgewood Docent Training Begins Jan. 18**

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 the walks. Docents lead free, 3-hour walks on spring weekend mornings.

FOE’s wildflower docent training provides seven Wednesday evening presentations (in Redwood City) by knowledgeable speakers, Saturday morning hikes through Edgewood led by these speakers, and a binder full of facts about the Preserve. There is a \$30 fee for training materials.

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

### **Western Bryophyte Foray – Boulder Creek March 28-31**

SoBeFree is a series of West Coast forays started by the Bryolab at UC Berkeley, and open to all botanists. The main focus is on bryophytes, but the team also encourages experts on other groups to come along and smell the liverworts.

The 2014 SoBeFree will be based at YMCA Camp Campbell, a 5 minute drive north of Boulder Creek. To date, 202 species of moss, 51 liverworts, and 4 species of hornworts have been found in Santa Cruz County, with several more just outside the county lines. The county is rich in limestone and marble, as well as marine sandstone deposits, supporting a number of rare endemic bryophytes. Participants may see coastal prairie, coast redwood forest, live oak forest, and chaparral scrub, depending on the field trips chosen. More information on the bryophytes of Santa Cruz County can be found at [www.bryolog.com](http://www.bryolog.com).

During SoBeFree, there will be field trips and presentations from students and others. We always have walks for beginners, and in the evenings we do microscope work. Participants may stay in the bunkhouse style cabins at Camp Campbell, or they may stay at nearby motels. For more info, visit the SoBeFree website at: [www.ucjeps.berkeley.edu/bryolab/trips/sobefree.php](http://www.ucjeps.berkeley.edu/bryolab/trips/sobefree.php).

**Register early**, as spots fill up fast. To register and for more information, contact Ken Kellman at [kkellman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kkellman@sbcglobal.net) or (831) 336-8548 (before 9pm please!)



## CNPS 2015 Conservation Conference

This conference will take place at the DoubleTree by Hilton in San Jose, **January 13-17, 2015**. State CNPS needs hundreds of volunteers to make the event a success, and offers full and partial **registration rebates to volunteers**. Committees open include: Outreach, Volunteer Coordinators, Arts, and Silent Auction Committees. Contact Josie Crawford for more information at [jrcrawford@cnps.org](mailto:jrcrawford@cnps.org) or (916) 447-2677x205.

## Call for PlantRight Ambassadors



Invasive plants can degrade ecosystems, alter fire regimes, and threaten native flora and fauna. California spends approximately \$82 million annually on invasive plant control, but one of the most cost-effective ways to fight invasions is to avoid the use of invasive ornamental plants in landscaping. PlantRight's new Retail Nursery Partnership seeks to educate California nursery retailers about ornamental invasive plants and offers recommendations for noninvasive alternatives. Nurseries that join this free program agree not to sell plants listed as invasive by PlantRight, and to educate customers and staff about the problems they cause. To learn more, visit [www.plantright.org/retail-nursery-partnership](http://www.plantright.org/retail-nursery-partnership).

With spring right around the corner, our Chapter is looking for volunteer PlantRight ambassadors to cultivate local

nurseries as PlantRight partners. Training and materials are available through PlantRight's Continuing Education program ([plantright.org/continuing-education](http://plantright.org/continuing-education)), to educate volunteers and empower your favorite nursery to become part of the solution.

To get started, please contact Karen Tanner at [karen.e.tanner@gmail.com](mailto:karen.e.tanner@gmail.com) or (408) 355-0764.

## CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2014

Chapter officers for the 2014 calendar year were elected at our Annual Meeting on November 9. Many thanks go out to our Chapter officers from 2013, who agreed to serve again for 2014.

We welcome **David Chapman** as our new **Publicity Chair**, to be assisted by **Toni Gregorio-Bunch**. We thank outgoing Publicity Chair **Rose Rockwood** for her many years of service, including getting our events listed in many venues and creating lovely event posters for us. David may be reached at [dcchapman@acm.org](mailto:dcchapman@acm.org) or (408) 828-6467.

We have several open Board and Committee Chair positions. 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	<a href="mailto:sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net">sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Madeline Morrow	(408) 741-1150	<a href="mailto:madelinemorrow@earthlink.net">madelinemorrow@earthlink.net</a>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Radhika Thekkath	(650) 473-1537	<a href="mailto:rthekath@yahoo.com">rthekath@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dee Wong	(650) 670-7797	<a href="mailto:dee@thevillagegardener.com">dee@thevillagegardener.com</a>
<b>Past President</b>	Arvind Kumar	(408) 715-7020	<a href="mailto:arvind.kumar@cnps.org">arvind.kumar@cnps.org</a>

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

## DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT *BLAZING STAR*

**Saturday, February 8, 2014**

**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 Wed** Año Nuevo field trip (see prev. issue)  
**Jan 16 Thu** LIVECoRPs (conservation) meeting (3)  
**Jan 18 Sat** Edgewood docent training begins (6)  
**Jan 22 Wed** GWN - Rain Garden - Hackler (2)  
**Jan 24 Fri** Keying with Natives (3)  
**Jan 25 Sat** Rancho Cañada del Oro field trip (5)  
**Jan 28 Tue** GWN - Manzanitas - Veilleux (2)  
**Jan 31 Fri** **General Meeting: Member's Night** (1)  
**Feb 8 Sat** Eaton Park field trip (6)  
**Feb 8 Sat** **Newsletter submittal deadline** (7)

**Feb 9 Sun** Pulgas Ridge field trip (6)  
**Feb 13 Thu** **Chapter Board meeting**  
**Feb 20 Thu** LIVECoRPs (conservation) meeting (3)  
**Feb 21 Fri** Keying with Natives (3)  
**Feb 26 Wed** GWN - Weeding - Luna (3)  
**Feb 27 Thu** **Newsletter Mailing Party - 10am PCC**  
**Feb 28 Fri** **General Meeting - Hillman** (1)  
**Mar 1 Sat** Coyote ceanothus field trip (2)  
**Wed & Thu noon - 3pm** Nursery work sessions (2)  
**Fri 9am** Edgewood Park weeding (5)

The next Chapter Board meeting will be **Thursday, February 13 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 [sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sailinsteve@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 about your newsletter subscription, please contact [membership@cnps-scv.org](mailto:membership@cnps-scv.org). Address changes may be submitted to [cnps@cnps.org](mailto:cnps@cnps.org) and please put "member address change" in the subject line.