



California Native Plant Society
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

THE BLAZING STAR

March-April 2020

Spring Native Plant Events!

Edgewood Wildflower Hikes

March 14 - June 7 flyer enclosed & visit
friendsofedgewood.org/springtime-wildflower-hikes

CNPS Wildflower Show – Saturday April 25

West Valley College 9:30am - 4pm
flyer enclosed & visit

www.cnps-scv.org/events/wildflower-shows

Coastal Wildflower Day – Saturday April 25

Visit www.coastalwildflowerday.org

CNPS Going Native Garden Tour – May 2 - 3

flyer enclosed & see details page 3

GENERAL MEETING & PROGRAM

Friday, March 20 at 7:30 PM

Los Altos Library Program Room

13 So. San Antonio Road, Los Altos

Juggling Jewelflowers

A talk by Justen Whittall, Ph.D.

Santa Clara University

Join us for the latest Chapter announcements and student presentations, meet fellow members and guests and enjoy a program together! Dr. Justen Whittall will discuss the role of flower color in determining taxonomic boundaries, conservation status and restoration priorities for jewel flowers (*Streptanthus* sp.) on Coyote Ridge in south San Jose. He will provide updates on the “good news” of the reintroduced populations of the white-flowered Metcalf Canyon jewel flower (*S. albidus* ssp. *albidus*) atop Tulare Hill nearby.

More recently, his team has turned their attention to the closely related, and comparably rare, pink-flowered most beautiful jewel flower (*Streptanthus albidus* ssp.

peramoenus). They have been investigating the evolutionary and ecological distinctiveness of this controversial taxon. The consistent differences in sepal color and geography between the Metcalf Canyon and most beautiful jewel flowers support continued recognition of these rarities as distinct taxa. Developing a field-ready tool for reliable taxon identification based on sepal color is his team’s next challenge.

Justen B. Whittall was born in Santa Clara; he grew up running trails in the south County and surfing Santa Cruz beaches. He received a BS from Santa Clara University, an MS from Oregon State and a Ph.D. from UC Santa Barbara in Plant Evolution (focusing on North American columbines). Justen has been an Associate Professor at Santa Clara University in Biology since 2007. He has expanded his research to include flower color evolution in arctic mustards (*Parrya*) and Mediterranean champions (*Silene*), plus conservation genetics and restoration ecology of *Streptanthus* and wallflowers (*Erysimum*). Justen is also the Editor-in-chief of *Madroño*, a peer-reviewed quarterly journal from the California Botanical Society.

CNPS General Meetings are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Chapter President Vivian Neou at president@cnps-scv.org or the Chapter phone at (650) 260-3450.



Stuart Weiss
Metcalf Canyon jewel flower,
Streptanthus albidus ssp.
albidus at Coyote Ridge,
May 2019

Directions: From Foothill Expy., travel ½ mile on San Antonio Rd. towards the Bay, cross Hillview and turn right into the driveway; the 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.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

CNPS SCV Nursery at Hidden Villa

Come help propagate plants for our future plant sales by volunteering at one of our nursery work sessions, **every Wednesday from 11am to 2pm**. Bring garden gloves, sunhat, 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.

Our next **Monthly Member Sales** will be held on **Wednesdays, March 4th and April 1st, from 11am to 2pm.**

An inventory of available plants will be updated before each sale. Visit www.cnps-scv.org/plant-sale.

Directions: Hidden Villa is located at 26870 Moody Road west of Foothill College. From I-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 Dana Center parking lot to your right. Continue walking a short distance on that road and you will see the CNPS SCV Nursery ahead of you, just past the Dana Center building. Parking is free while volunteering or attending a CNPS sale.

Gardening with Natives: Profound Loss

Gardening with Natives (GWN), a special interest group within the Chapter, includes beginning and seasoned native plant gardeners, along with landscape architects and designers. GWN offers free talks throughout the year at public libraries in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

It is with profound sadness that we inform our membership that our beloved friend, colleague and extraordinary volunteer, **Sherri Osaka**, passed away on February 10 from cancer. She fought this disease for more than six years, all the while scheduling, finding speakers, advertising and coordinating with many volunteers and library staff to make the magic of 30-40 talks a year for Gardening with Natives

happen. She did this while maintaining a busy practice as a Landscape Architect designing native plant gardens for homeowners and municipalities. Sherri will be greatly missed!

We are left with broken hearts and a need to replace the irreplaceable. We are forming a committee to decide how we can continue with these very informative and valuable talks at our local libraries. **If you would like to help with the effort**, or if you would like to volunteer as a host for talks at a local library, please email president@cnps-scv.org.

Any GWN talks that we can schedule will be announced on our Chapter website, at www.cnps-scv.org. You may sign up to receive GWN forum emails using the form on the GWN page, www.cnps-scv.org/gwn.

Keying with Natives

Join us as we learn and practice methods of identifying the native plants of our region (aka keying). We use the current edition of *The Jepson Manual* as well as other plant guides, and we have copies to share. Bring your own favorite guide, a hand lens and samples of plants that you want to ID. Microscopes will also be available.

The upcoming meeting dates are **Fridays, February 28, March 27 and April 24, from 6:30 - 8:30pm**. In **February** we will look at “Conifers of the Bay Area.” Participants can bring their own conifer samples or examine ones the leaders will provide.

We meet at the Peninsula Conservation Center (PCC), 3921 E. Bayshore Road in Palo Alto. For more information please contact Joe Cernac at joecernac@sbcglobal.net or (408) 292-5465.

Directions to the PCC: From Hwy. 101 take the San Antonio Rd. exit and head north. Take the next left onto East Bayshore, which will curve left then right. Take the next right onto Corporation Way. The entrance to the PCC parking lot is the first driveway on the left. The conference rooms are on the first floor.

Photography Group

Our Photography Group is a great place to meet other native plant enthusiasts while improving your photographic skills and learning more about our native plants. We announce activities to our online discussion group (groups.io/g/CNPS-SCV-Photography), so if you’d like to receive updates, please join via the web interface or by email. Learn more by visiting the Photo Group page at our website: www.cnps-scv.org/photography.

**Going Native Garden Tour
Saturday & Sunday, May 2 & 3
from 10am - 4pm**



GNGT

Stephen Rosenthal showing his San Jose foothills garden on the Tour in May 2019

There's a growing understanding of the importance of native plants in our environment, so visiting gardens and bringing others along to witness their beauty and habitat value may be one of the most powerful individual efforts we can make to inspire ourselves and others to add native plants to our yards. "Most native insects cannot, or will not, eat alien plants. When native plant species disappear or are replaced by alien exotics, the insects disappear, thus impoverishing the food source of birds and other animals."

– Doug Tallamy in *Bringing Nature Home*

For more about the Tour please see the **enclosed flyer**. We welcome more volunteers!

Habitat Gardening: A Personal Journey

By Madeline Morrow: Programs co-chair, GNGT Steering Committee and Chapter Past President

I read a book in 1993 called *Noah's Garden: Restoring the Ecology of Our Own Back Yards* that hit me like a bolt of lightning. It made the case that insects, amphibians and birds literally depended on native plants for survival. I planted my first native that fall in my Upstate New York garden – swamp milkweed. The

following year I moved to California, and I had to learn a whole new set of native plants. As I gradually transformed my sterile yard of lawn and sorry-looking azaleas and escallonia, I observed that with every native shrub I planted, noticeably more birds appeared in the yard.

I joined CNPS, attended the Going Native Garden Tour and then started working on the Tour to help spread the word. My whole yard is now 90% native and it's full of lizards as well as birds. When I weed quietly the birds start scuffling the mulch almost close enough to touch. I have learned more: I leave the fallen leaves for mulch, only removing the ones on my paths. Some of my clippings go into a woodpile for wildlife. I see birds working around it, looking for insects. I have a quiet fountain that birds and insects use for water. The yard is no longer perfectly manicured, but the birds and insects are its ornament. Striving to live in harmony with other creatures that share this patch of California brings me joy.

But, I want my whole block to have as many birds and insects as my yard. Sometimes it feels like slow going, as so many people still don't get it. I was cheered to see our symposium in September 2019 featuring Doug Tallamy, Chair of the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, sell out. He has written books about the many ways that insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities. His findings show that generally, introduced exotic plants support almost no native insects, thus cutting off the base of the food web. He says to home gardeners, "Every time that you add a productive native plant to your landscape you improve your local food web. Generally speaking, woody plants support more

animal species than annuals or perennials, but flowering plants are vital to our pollinators. The important thing is to get more plants of both types into our gardens."

In the time since I began native plant gardening, insects, amphibians and bird populations have continued to decline. The world is heating up, major droughts have occurred and fires are more frequent. I



Stephen Rosenthal

Anna's hummingbird feeding on fuchsia-flowering gooseberry, *Ribes speciosum*

am hoping that more people are now paying attention to Doug Tallamy's message: "Though vital as short-term refuges, nature preserves are not large enough to meet all our ecological needs so we must restore the natural world where we live, work, and play." Check out the Gardening menu on our Chapter website www.cnps-scv.org for ideas to make your yard more hospitable for insects, birds and other pollinators.

CONSERVATION CORNER

Conservation Committee

Our Chapter's conservation committee will be meeting on **Tuesdays, March 10** and **April 7** at **7:30pm** at the PCC in Palo Alto. Please join us in our important work! For questions, comments or concerns, contact Conservation Committee Chair Carolyn Dorsch at cdorsch@cnps-scv.org or (650) 804-6162. For **directions** to the PCC, see the previous Keying with Natives article.

2020 Northern California Botanist's Symposium – Now on YouTube!

Stephen Rosenthal videoed 25 of the sessions from the recent conference held at Chico State, on January 13-14. To find the video list, visit www.youtube.com and search for "Northern California Botanists 2020 CNPS-SCV."

For all of our Chapter's videotaped talks, see our YouTube channel at [youtube.com/user/sailinsteve1/featured](https://www.youtube.com/user/sailinsteve1/featured).

IN MEMORIAM

Patrick Peter Pizzo 1944 – 2020

Long time Chapter member, GWN speaker, nursery volunteer and San Jose Parks advocate Patrick Pizzo has passed. An extraordinary community volunteer and resource, Pat was a native plant expert, oak tree lover, co-founder of Friends of Guadalupe Oak Grove Park, designer of **Fontana Park's native plant islands**, gifted speaker and a regular vocal and articulate advocate for the City to follow through on promises made.

Patrick often helped staff our CNPS information tables, sharing his knowledge with the public. He led by example and never shied away from hard work and jumping in and getting his hands dirty.



Pat's energy and enthusiasm was a force of nature that cannot be replaced. Rest in peace, Pat Pizzo; we'll continue to take inspiration from you, keep advocating for more pollinator gardens and continue to protect the native plants you loved.

Editor's note: I was introduced to Pat when he wrote an article describing his Capitancillos Drive project for our newsletter in 2012, on page 5, here: www.cnps-scv.org/images/BlazingStar/bs1112.pdf. The project is a garden of shrubs native to California chaparral that he began planting in 2002 after retiring from San Jose State.

CHAPTER SERVICE OUTINGS

Edgewood Restoration

Help restore habitat at Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve, known for fabulous wildflowers and amazing diversity near Redwood City. Sturdy gloves are recommended; you might also want to bring sunscreen, water, a hat, layered clothing and wear long sleeves/pants.

We weed year-round **every Friday at 9am**. With the return of Daylight Savings Time, our **5:30pm Wednesday sessions will resume on March 11**. For more information including meeting places, visit www.cnps-scv.org/restoration/edgewood-park, contact Wednesday leader Ken Himes at (650) 591-8560 or Friday leader Paul Heiple at pheiple@gmail.com or (650) 854-7125.

Alum Rock Park Volunteers

Come help us weed out invasive plants at this natural gem of San Jose. Our habitat restoration efforts allow the native plants to "come to light."

We have weeding sessions **every Monday morning** and an **Inspiration Point Walk-and-Weed Day the third Saturday morning** of each month. Please visit groups.io/g/AlumRockParkVolunteers to check the schedules or join the email list. You may also visit www.cnps-scv.org/restoration/alum-rock-park to learn what to bring and get directions to the usual meeting places.

In addition to the weekly Monday volunteers, Stephen Rosenthal recently worked with the San Jose Parks Department and 20 volunteers to build a shade structure at the Todd Quick restoration area. He also continues to work with corporate volunteer groups, including a recent high-tech company that came out in February. For more information contact Stephen at sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net or (650) 260-3450.

Lake Cunningham Native Garden

The California Native Garden project in Lake Cunningham Regional Park controls invasive plants in a 1.5-acre area and beautifies it with California native wildflowers, perennials, shrubs and trees.

Lake Cunningham Native Garden workdays take place **every Saturday, 9am - noon**. Volunteers are invited to sign up at lakecunninghamnativegarden.org/volunteer. The park is located at 2305 S. White Road in San Jose. For more information, contact Arvind Kumar at chhaphrahiya@yahoo.com.

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.

Cell service is mainly restricted to cities and major highways. To find your way to an outing do not rely solely on your phone.

Check our field trips page www.cnps-scv.org/activities/field-trips for changes and additional field trips.

Sun Mar 8 9am - 1pm Stile Ranch Trail Hike in Santa Teresa County Park (San Jose)

Join Dee and Ken Himes for a 3- to 4-mile early spring wildflower hike along Stile Ranch Trail, through serpentine grasslands and chaparral. This will be a great trip for those who are new to field trips and native plants, as well as those who are interested in plants and flowers endemic to serpentine soils and seeps.

The hike will be moderate in intensity with steep slippery slopes. We are starting earlier in the day to beat limited parking space and the heat as it gets pretty HOT, and there's no overhead shade until we get to the Fortini Trail to make our way back to the trailhead. Bring extra water,

snacks, a bag lunch, a wide brim hat and walking stick(s). We'll meet at the parking lot off San Vicente Ave. at **9am**. Parking there is free.

Directions: Coming from Hwy 85, exit onto Almaden Expy. south and continue until it ends at Harry Rd. Turn right onto Harry Rd., then left onto McKean Rd. At the stop sign, turn left (north) onto Fortini Rd. then left again onto San Vicente Road. Our parking area is on the right along San Vicente Ave. We'll meet at the Stile Ranch Trail Entrance (labeled Fortini Trailhead on Google Maps).

There are no restroom facilities at our trailhead parking. There are facilities and additional parking back on McKean Rd. across from Fortini Rd. in the new Calero Park Rancho San Vicente Parking Area. **DO NOT GO TO THE MAIN AREA OF SANTA TERESA COUNTY PARK - WE WILL NOT BE THERE.** For more information call Ken at (650) 591-8560 or email Dee at dee4cnps@gmail.com.



Nick Ward of our Chapter Photo Group took the above photo of false Solomon's seal, *Maianthemum stellatum*, in Windy Hill Open Space Preserve, April 2018

Sun Mar 15 10am - 4pm San Bruno Mountain State & County Park (Brisbane)

Join Ken and Dee Himes for a hike along the Summit Loop Trail to see early flowering plants in the coastal scrub and coastal grassland plant communities. We expect to see footsteps of spring (*Sanicula arctopoides*), Franciscan wallflower (*Erysimum franciscanum*) and the endemic San Bruno Mountain manzanita (*Arctostaphylos imbricata*). The hike will be 3.5 to 4 miles in length with 800 feet in elevation changes.

Dress warmly in layers as it can be very windy, and wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots. Hiking poles are recommended as some areas are very steep. Bring snacks, a sack lunch and liquids for the day. Heavy rain cancels.

For more information call Ken at (650) 591-8560 or email Dee at dee4cnps@gmail.com.

Directions: From Hwy. 101 northbound, take the Old Bayshore/Brisbane exit and proceed north on Old Bayshore, past the town of Brisbane. Make a left turn onto Guadalupe Cyn. Pkwy., and follow it 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/day parking fee at the pay station; bring exact change or credit card.

Sun Mar 22 9am - 12pm Bird and Plant ID Walk at Lake Cunningham Park (San Jose)

As spring begins, join us for a **beginner's** bird and plant identification walk through Lake Cunningham Park. This park is a major destination for waterfowl and migratory birds and its native garden draws many birds due to its habitat value. On this walk, Vicki Silvas-Young will show you how to identify the common birds of our area, as well as the native plants they depend on for food, shelter and nesting places.

The distance is 4 miles round-trip on a level path. Bring a hat, water, your bird and plant list, and binoculars. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

Directions: Meet at the Marina building at **9am**. The Marina is on the western shore of the lake, next to Raging Waters, at the opposite end of the park from the main entrance on White Road. Parking fee is \$6. In Google Maps, search for "Lake Cunningham Marina" to be directed to the Marina.

Space is limited. Please RSVP via our Chapter Meetup page:

[meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter/](https://www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter/) to **reserve your spot**.

Cosponsored by CNPS, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society and Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority.

Thu-Sun Apr 2-5 Carrizo Plain National Monument Car Camp (San Luis Obispo County)

Ken and Dee Himes will lead a botanical visit to the Carrizo Plain. Whether there are carpets of bloom or not, we will enjoy the flora and fauna of Carrizo, in canyons and along ridges. Reserved campgrounds are not available in Carrizo. We will car camp or dry camp as needed.

This trip is limited to 15 people given the situation. For trip details and to **reserve your spot**, contact leaders Ken and Dee Himes at dee4cnps@gmail.com.

Sun Apr 12 10am-4pm Mount Tamalpais North Side Loop Hike (Marin County)

Join Ken and Dee Himes for a fairly long and rough loop hike through Douglas-fir woodland and serpentine chaparral, where the area is quite diverse with various species of *Ceanothus* and *Arctostaphylos*. We expect to see *Ceanothus jepsonii* and the endemic *Arctostaphylos montana* ssp. *montana*, not found in the Santa Cruz Mountains. We will also walk through a picturesque sergeant cypress (*Hesperocyparis sargentii*) woodland.

Wear sturdy hiking boots with ankle support for rough trails, about 4 miles in length, with gradual elevation gain/loss of 500 feet. Bring snacks, lunch and water.

Directions: Take Hwy. 101 north, across the Golden Gate, to the Hwy. 1/Stinson Beach turn-off and follow the signs to Mt Tamalpais, turning right onto Panoramic Hwy. At Pantoll Campground, take the right branching road, which is Pantoll Rd., until you intersect Ridgecrest Dr. Cross Ridgecrest into the Rock Spring Parking Area.

We'll meet at **10am** sharp at the Rock Spring trailhead. Travel time/distance to the parking area is about 30 min./10 mi. from the Hwy. 1/Stinson Beach turn-off onto Hwy. 1. Allow for additional travel time through San Francisco. For more information, email dee4cnps@gmail.com.

Thu Apr 16 10am-4pm Rancho San Vicente/Calero County Park (San Jose)

Join Judy Fenerty for a 4- to 6-mile moderately strenuous hike through the Rancho San Vicente addition to Calero County Park. Rancho San Vicente has significant serpentine grasslands as well as oak savanna, chaparral and riparian areas and striking views of the Almaden Valley and Calero Reservoir.

As part of this trip, we will search for and record a few targeted rare plant species, including woodland monolopia, *Monolopia gracilens*. No previous recording experience is necessary: you can also just join us for the hike!



Joerg Lohse
Blue dicks, *Dipterostemon capitatus* ssp. *capitatus* (**Revision 7, Dec 2019, Jepson Eflora**) can be found on Mount Tamalpais. Feb. 2020

We will be following ranch roads, some of which are rough, rocky and slippery. We may go off-road to see some species and could have an elevation gain of around 1,000 feet. Wear sturdy hiking footwear. Much of the area has little or no shade. Dress in layers and bring plenty of water! Be aware that cattle may be present.

Directions: Meet in the new parking lot with restrooms and potable water on McKean Rd. across from Fortini Rd. in San Jose. For more information contact Judy Fenerty at judy@fenerty.com (preferred), or (408) 655-3493.

Mon-Thu Apr 27–30 Mojave National Preserve (San Bernardino County)

Join leaders Patricia Evans and Joe Cernac on an away trip to the high eastern Mojave Desert. In general, our explorations will be above 3,000 feet. With a bit of last year’s summer rainfall and an early start to this winter’s wetness, perennials should be doing well. We cross our fingers for an abundance of annuals.

Reservations have been made at Hole in the Wall group camp. We plan on three full days of hiking (Tuesday – Thursday) to places such as Mitchell Caverns, Kelso Dunes, Granite Pass and Granite Mountain. As for the travel days (Monday and Friday), we plan to meet at other possible highlights along the way. (Details will be provided upon registration).

Space is limited to 20 **CNPS members**. For more information or to **reserve your spot**, contact Patricia Evans at paevans@stanfordalumni.org or (650) 949-2801.

ID CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS

PlantID.net: Online Ceanothus Guide

By Chapter member Bruce Homer-Smith
Our Chapter’s Bruce Homer-Smith, with help from Ken Hickman, has developed an online interactive guide to San Francisco Peninsula Ceanothus, covering the seven *Ceanothus* species that you’ll likely encounter between Santa Cruz and San Francisco. You enter information you observe such as leaf arrangement, whether it’s in bloom today, flower color and what county you’re in. Then the guide shows you an illustrated list of possible *Ceanothus*. When you click on a plant you’re interested in, you get a photo essay with lots of pictures and captions describing the key characteristics of the plant you’ve selected.

You can visit the ceanothus guide directly at PlantID.net/PlantList.aspx?sf+peninsula+ceanothus. To see the video demo, visit PlantID.net/?Help=demo.

The screenshot shows the PlantID.net search interface. At the top, it says 'PlantID.net Home PLANT ID LIST'. Below that are dropdown menus for 'View' (set to 'Illustrated List') and 'Go To' (set to 'Buck Brush (Cea)'). There is a link '<< Edit Plant List'. A section titled 'Enter what you know:' includes filters for 'Peninsula Counties' (set to 'Whole Peninsula'), 'Flowers' (with 'In Bloom Today' selected and color swatches for yellow, white, pink, purple, blue, red, orange, and brown), and 'Leaves' (with three leaf icons). There is a 'Plant Name' input field, a 'More Searches' button, and a 'Clear Filters' button.

SF Peninsula Ceanothus

(7 plants)



Coast Whitethorn

[How to find your plant](#)
(Click plant name to see more)

Buck Brush

Ceanothus cuneatus

- Height 2 - 5 ft.
- CA Bloom Feb - Apr
- 5-petaled flowers are white (inland) or lavender (near the coast)
- Opposite leaves are evergreen.
- Found in sandy soil and serpentine, on chaparral.
- CA native



Opposite leaves are short, thick and rounded. Twigs point away from the stem.

Flowers are green the sugar

Blue Blossom

Ceanothus thyrsiflorus var. *thyrsiflorus*



The ceanothus guide is one of dozens of ID guides you can find in **PlantID.net**. This website is a non-commercial educational tool designed to help curious people learn about plants. It covers all California plants found in the wild, based on the Calflora.org taxonomy and over 100,000 ID photos and illustrations.

Bruce has been developing PlantID.net as a retirement project for the past eight years and has focused on Peninsula topics since he moved to Los Altos several years ago. Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve has recently adopted PlantID.net as its photo database for docent training. You can contact Bruce at bruce@PlantID.net.

Save a Tree!

Blazing Star newsletters are always online at the Chapter website’s newsletter page: www.cnps-scvc.org/blazing-star-newsletter. Please contact membership@cnps-scvc.org if you would like to receive this newsletter by email only.

Our Chapter emails announcements about upcoming events (talks, hikes, sales, wildflower show, garden tour), alerts, last-minute notices and late-breaking news. To subscribe to the list, please visit www.cnps-scvc.org/about-us/contact-us and follow the instructions there.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT *BLAZING STAR*

Saturday, April 4

carol.mattsson@gmail.com or (408) 255-3767

Santa Clara Valley Chapter California Native Plant Society
3921 East Bayshore Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303-4326



Join CNPS Today!

Members receive the *Fremontia*, the *Bulletin*, and the Chapter newsletter, and other benefits listed at www.cnps.org/membership

Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Email _____

Chapter _____

Membership level (check one):

- \$50 Individual
 \$120 Plant Lover
 \$500 Supporter
 \$1,000 Patron
 \$2,500 Benefactor
 \$25 Student or Fixed Income
 \$75 International or Library

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 95816-5130 • membership@cnps.org • (916) 447-2677 ext. 200

FIRST-CLASS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (page # in parentheses)

Feb 28 Fri Keying with Natives - Conifers (2)
Mar 4 Wed Monthly Member Plant Sale (2)
Mar 8 Sun Stile Ranch Santa Teresa CP field trip (5)
Mar 10 Tue Conservation Committee meeting (4)
Mar 15 Sun San Bruno Mountain field trip (5)
Mar 20 Fri **General Meeting – Whittall** (1)
Mar 22 Sun Lake Cunningham Bird & Plant Walk (6)
Mar 27 Fri Keying with Natives (2)
Apr 1 Wed Monthly Member Plant Sale (2)
Apr 2-5 Thu-Sun Carrizo Plain Car Camp (6)
Apr 4 Sat **Newsletter submittal deadline**
Apr 7 Tue Conservation Committee meeting (4)

Apr 12 Sun Mount Tamalpais hike (6)
Apr 16 Thu Rancho San Vicente Calero CP hike (6)
Apr 23 Thu **Newsletter mailing party - 10am PCC**
Apr 24 Fri Keying with Natives (2)
Apr 25 Sat Wildflower Show (1, flyer)
Apr 27-30 Mon-Thu Mojave National Preserve trip (7)
May 2 Sat GNGT North (3, flyer)
May 3 Sun GNGT South (3, flyer)
Mon & 3rd Sat Alum Rock weeding (4)
Wed Nursery work sessions (2)
Wed, Fri Edgewood weeding (4)
Sat Lake Cunningham workdays (5)

The next Chapter board meeting will be **Thursday, April 9 at 7:00pm** at the PCC, 3921 E. Bayshore Road in Palo Alto. (There will be no March board meeting.) Board meetings are open to all Chapter members and their guests. For more information contact Vivian Neou at president@cnps-scv.org.

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 \$50.00 per year. If you have questions about your newsletter subscription, please contact membership@cnps-scv.org. Address changes may be submitted to cnps@cnps.org; please put "member address change" in the subject line.

The *Blazing Star* web address: www.cnps-scv.org. Acknowledgement: Anne Warren for the *Blazing Star* logo. Printed on recycled paper.

