



THE BLAZING STAR

May-June 2026

What's Inside this Issue? Highlights:

Chapter Election – Page 1

Seed/Cutting Exchange/Sale – Page 1

Native Plant Talks – Page 2

Chapter Service Outings – Page 5

Field Trips – Page 7

A listing of all events, including date and page number, appears in the Calendar on the last page

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Seed/Cutting Exchange + Online Plant Sale

Online Sale: May 25-26 california-native-plant-society-santa-clara-valley-chapter.square.site

Seed and Cutting Exchange

Saturday, May 30 1:00 - 3:00pm

Peninsula Conservation Center,
3921 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto

This free event provides an opportunity to share and receive cuttings and seeds of native plants. Discover the diverse offerings, ranging from easy-to-grow varieties to rare finds, and leave with new native plant cuttings and seeds! We will supply coin envelopes for seeds but please bring your own containers for transporting cuttings home.

Chapter Election – Vote by May 19

Our annual election for Chapter Officers is set to take place online from Monday, May 18 to Tuesday, May 19. Current Chapter members will receive a link to the online ballot through email. To guarantee that you receive your ballot, please verify your email address at the CNPS membership portal at secure2.convio.net/cnps/site/UserLogin by May 7.

We need your help! We are still looking for a candidate to fill the Vice President position. The Vice President takes on the President's responsibilities when necessary and may occasionally lead a monthly meeting of the Chapter board. This position requires a minimum commitment of two to five hours each month, but it also offers flexibility in choosing additional responsibilities if desired. There are numerous Chapter activities available, allowing the Vice President to concentrate on areas of personal interest while making a significant contribution to the Chapter and CNPS mission. If you have any questions about this opportunity or other available positions, please contact Priya Pharate and Vivian Neou at president@cnps-scv.org.

Anyone interested in running for Vice President or any of the other available positions can **self-nominate** by filling out the form at www.cnps-scv.org/self-nomination by **Monday, May 11**. The new term will begin on June 1, 2026.



Vivian Neou

Plant cuttings on display during September 2024
Seed & Cutting Exchange

If you have native plant material from your garden that you would like to share, please bring it along. Be sure to label your contributions for easy browsing – helpful growing tips and photos of the plants in bloom are appreciated. You

may find it useful to use Calscape.org for this purpose; there is a link on the plant's information page that allows you to create a printable sign for most native species and cultivars. If you bring cuttings, please ensure they remain cool and moist in a bucket of water. **It is not necessary to bring anything if you do not have native material to share**, as there is typically an abundance for everyone.

Several well-known native plant books will be available for purchase at the event, including *Wildflowers of California* from CNPS, *Seed Propagation of Native California Plants* (2021 edition) by Dara E. Emery and *California Native Plants for the Garden* by Carol Bornstein, David Fross and Bart O'Brien. Our Wildflower Ambassadors will also distribute free seed packets and information.

Online Plant Sale

The CNPS SCV Nursery will conduct an online plant sale (california-native-plant-society-santa-clara-valley-chapter.square.site) starting **Monday, May 25**. A recent addition to our nursery is *Solanum umbelliferum* var. *xanti*, chaparral nightshade. This plant has lovely purple flowers through July and is somewhat deer resistant. The store will close when either the pickup capacity is reached or at the **end of the day on Tuesday, May 26**, whichever occurs first.

The mud planting technique (www.cnps-scv.org/mud-planting) outlined by Krzysztof Kozminski is a method that is effective throughout the year, but it is particularly beneficial for ensuring successful planting during the summer season.

Scheduled pickup from the plant sale will be available at the nursery on **Friday, May 29** and during the **Seed and Cutting Exchange** at the Peninsula Conservation Center on **Saturday, May 30**.

Native Plant Talks

Join us for our native plant talks, in-person at local libraries and online via Zoom and YouTube. Whether you're curious about native plants, an experienced or aspiring native plant gardener, a professional botanist or beginning naturalist, you will find something to interest and educate yourself in our offerings. From gardening to plant science to climate change to tours of botanical hot spots, there's something here for you.

Recordings of our virtual talks and some of our library talks may be viewed on our YouTube channel, at www.youtube.com/@CNPSSantaClaraValley.

We occasionally schedule additional talks. You can learn about these talks by subscribing to our Chapter News email list. To subscribe, see "Stay in Touch" on page 10.

The organizing committee has periodic meetings on Zoom and welcomes new volunteers. If you have ideas for future talks or are interested in helping set up upcoming talks, please send a message to Priya Pharate at priya4cnps@gmail.com to receive notifications of upcoming meetings. The next quarterly program meeting will be **Monday, July 13, 7:00 to 8:30pm** on Zoom.

Aging with Grace: The Life of the Great Basin Bristlecone Pine A talk by Tim Aston

Thursday, April 30 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Los Altos Library Orchard Room, 13 S. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos

See the Mar-Apr *Blazing Star*, page 4, for a description of this talk.

Gardening for Biodiversity A talk by John Kehoe

Thursday, May 28 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Los Altos Library Orchard Room, 13 S. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos

Native plants provide an abundance of resources for insects, bird and animal life. The beneficial relationship between native plants and the wildlife that relies on them has been well established. Come to this talk to learn how selecting even a few California native plants for a garden or restoration plot can make a significant difference in the overall populations of beneficial insects and animals. Gardeners with little experience can add to a local pollinator pathway to support these critters as they browse our neighborhoods. You



may even find success in potted plants on patios or balconies. These scattered oases can become pollinator hubs of sorts, further boosting populations of insects, lizards, birds and other animals.

The talk will be accompanied by a slideshow that includes numerous photos revealing the many relationships between California native plants and the insects and animals that rely on them.



John Kehoe

A native garden in bloom on the Growing Natives Garden Tour, that features ceanothus, Siskiyou woolly sunflower, California poppies, blue-eyed grass and more. April 2022.

John Kehoe is a longtime member of CNPS and sees himself as a California Naturalist, a citizen scientist, an occasional docent and an environmental advocate. He frequently volunteers at Grassroots Ecology habitat restoration events and various CNPS functions. You might see him at BioBlitz events as well. His research interests include studying insects, plants and ecosystems with a passion for our native bees. He shares these interests by way of his photography on Flickr and iNaturalist.

**From Noticing Nature to Conservation:
How iNaturalist and Community Science
Can Make a Difference
A talk by Dr. Merav Vonshak**

Thursday, June 25 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Cupertino Library Program Room (Second Floor), 10800 Torre Ave., Cupertino

Have you ever come across a native plant and wondered about its role in the ecosystem? Community science offers a way to turn those observations into meaningful data that support research and conservation. In this talk, Dr. Merav Vonshak will share examples from BioBlitz events and other local projects, and show how iNaturalist can help

document plant diversity and track changes over time. She will discuss why this work matters, how easy it is to participate and a few practical tips for using iNaturalist effectively.



Merav Vonshak

Documenting a California Newt on Alma Bridge Road in Los Gatos, January 2026

Dr. Merav Vonshak is an ecologist, naturalist, and citizen science organizer based in the San Francisco Bay Area. She studied ant ecology during her PhD and postdoctoral research and today her work emphasizes connecting communities with local biodiversity. She is the founder of BioBlitz Club, a grassroots initiative that brings volunteers together to document plants and wildlife in parks and preserves. She also leads the Newt Patrol, a community group dedicated to monitoring the decline of newt populations near Lexington Reservoir in Los Gatos and efforts to save them.

Photography Group

Our Photography Group is a great place to meet other native plant enthusiasts, improve photographic skills and learn more about our native plants and best places to view them. Discussions range from photography tips to organizational ideas to plant hotspots. The group is open to all and has an active email list.



Merav Vonshak

Participants making new observations during a BioBlitz event at Kelley Park, San Jose. February 2026

The photo group's meetings usually take place over Zoom on the last Friday of the month. Our next meetings will be on **Fridays, April 24, May 22 and June 26 at 7:00pm**. You can learn more and join the email group at: www.groups.io/g/cnps-scv-photography.

The group has an ongoing **#MyPhotoOfTheWeek** activity on the email list for group members to share their favorite shots with the group on a weekly basis. Photography Chair Bill Lundgren sent us the following photo of a California poppy blossom.



Bill Lundgren

Golden swirls of a poppy from above, taken in Santa Teresa County Park on a January morning in 2026

Native Plant ID

Native Plant ID (formerly Keying with Natives), meets once a month to work together to learn plant identification using botanical keys and other resources.

With our strange weather this year, it is hard to say, what might still be in bloom by the end of May or June. **For the May meeting, we are open to suggestions. In June, Tom Lee will lead a discussion about the *Salicaceae* family.**

In the meantime, if you see some flowers on hikes on public lands, take photos. For identification purposes we need a close-up photo or photos showing all the flower parts as well as photos of the leaves and a whole plant photo to show the growth form. Send your photos to the email below no later than the Sunday before the meeting.

As always, samples from properties where you have permission to collect are welcome.

We use a variety of plant books and online resources as we endeavor to improve our understanding of botanical terms used in plant identification. The Chapter has 10x hand lenses and dissecting microscopes that we can use to look at small plant parts or bring your own lens.



Janet Hoffmann

Native plant ID meeting at the PCC, February 2026

Our next meetings will be **Tuesdays, April 28, May 26 and June 23 at 7:00pm** at the Peninsula Conservation Center. The PCC is located at [3921 E. Bayshore Road in Palo Alto](http://3921.E.Bayshore.Road.in.Palo.Alto). The meeting rooms are on the first floor. For details, contact Janet Hoffmann at janet@cnps-scv.org.

CONSERVATION CORNER

Conservation Committee

Our Chapter's next Conservation Committee meetings will be held over Zoom on third **Mondays, May 18 and June 15, from 7:00 to 8:30pm**.

This committee covers many issues affecting native plants: conservation, advocacy, legislation, habitat restoration and rare plants. The committee meets once a month to provide information and support for these conservation issues and efforts. Members of our committee work on projects throughout the Chapter area, coordinating with our state CNPS program staff and other conservation organizations.

Please join us in our important work! For questions, comments or concerns, contact Committee Chair Carolyn Dorsch at cdorsch@cnps-scv.org or (650) 804-6162, or Conservation Chair Judy Fenerty at judy@fenerty.com. If

you are interested in joining our committee meetings on Zoom, please email Carolyn for the link.

Fountain Thistle Work Party May 30

Join Don Thomas and members of the Santa Clara Valley and Yerba Buena CNPS Chapters for our spring fountain thistle habitat restoration work party **near the intersection of I-280 and Hwy. 92**. We'll meet on **Saturday, May 30 and work from 10:00am to noon**.

Fountain thistle (*Cirsium fontinale* var. *fontinale*) is a federally endangered plant species that grows in an unusual and specialized habitat – serpentine seeps – and is only found at our work location and in a few other nearby locations on the Peninsula.

Fountain thistle's recovery here is a restoration success story. Once almost completely displaced by jubatagrass (Andean pampas grass), it has largely recovered here, as a result of the work done by CNPS volunteers. The CNPS project is a cooperative effort of the Santa Clara Valley and Yerba Buena Chapters. However, fountain thistle is still under threat from invasion by non-native plants and by woody plants threatening to convert the area to shrubland or woodland. In addition, the bordering dry serpentine zone is habitat to another rare plant, Crystal Springs lessingia (*Lessingia arachnoidea*), which is threatened by invasion of yellow star-thistle, fennel, tufted wallaby grass (*Rytidosperma caespitosum*) and other non-native plants.

Sturdy gloves are recommended; you might also want to wear long sleeves/pants and bring sunscreen, water, a hat and layered clothing. If you have them, bring tools, such as trowels, spades and shovels. Some tools will also be provided.

Sign up on the Chapter's **Meetup page**, here: www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter/.

We'll meet at the end of Lessingia Court in San Mateo. For more information, contact Don at donethomasd@gmail.com.

CHAPTER SERVICE OUTINGS

Alum Rock Park Restoration

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

Our workdays take place every **Monday and Wednesday at 8:30am**, and on the **second Saturday morning at 8:45am** of each month. No experience is necessary. All tools and instruction will be provided. Please bring a filled water bottle, snacks, sunscreen, sunhat and insect repellent if you need it; wear trail/off-trail footwear, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt.



Todd Hayes

Alum Rock Park Trail Crew weekday "regulars"

Forms and reservations are required to volunteer. Start by filling out the "Volunteer Service Agreement Form" linked from the following web page:

www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/parks-recreation-neighborhood-services/get-involved/volunteer-with-us. Bring your completed form with you at the meeting spot at the beginning of each workday. The workdays **end at noon**.

To reserve your spot to volunteer, **for the Saturday workdays sign up** with the City of San Jose at the Eventbrite link for the 2nd Saturday on which you are interested in attending. **To find the link**, visit www.sanjoseca.gov/news-stories/city-calendar. Look for "Alum Rock Trail Crew Monthly Community Day" on the 2nd Saturdays. The link for your chosen workday will provide event details including where to park.

For the Monday and Wednesday workdays, the crew is typically made up of long-term volunteers for this project. The meeting spot varies, so to join the crew on one of their workdays, please **contact Todd Hayes at ultratoddh@gmail.com for more information, to register and instructions on where to park**. Note on rare occasions we may cancel due to weather or dangerous

conditions. Don't forget to bring your filled out Volunteer Service Agreement Form for the City of San Jose.

City of San Jose Volunteers of the Year

The Alum Rock Trail Crew will be honored as **volunteers of the year** by the City of San Jose at the annual volunteer picnic dinner on Wednesday, April 29. Congratulations to our CNPS Chapter's Alum Rock Park Trail Crew!

Lake Cunningham Native Garden

The California Native Garden project in Lake Cunningham Regional Park controls invasive plants in a 2-acre area and beautifies it with California native wildflowers, perennials, shrubs and trees.

Workdays take place on **Saturdays from 8:00 to 10:00am**. New volunteers are welcome; City-issued guidelines are followed. The work depends on the season, mainly weeding and mulching year-round, but some planting in winter. For **details, directions, a waiver for first-timers and to RSVP**, see our Chapter's Meetup page at www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter.

Edgewood Restoration

Help restore habitat at Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve, near Redwood City, known for fabulous wildflowers and amazing diversity. Weeders see far more than weeds: they get to be up close to the native plants, some of which are seen **only** by weeders.

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 9:00am**. Now that Daylight Savings Time has resumed, **we also weed at 5:30pm every Wednesday**. For an overview, please visit www.cnps-scv.org/restoration/edgewood-park.

To participate, join the email list and sign the electronic volunteer agreement, by sending an email to weed-warriors-coord@friendsofedgewood.org. Please check the email list for each weeding session's meeting place. For questions about **Friday** sessions, contact Paul Heiple at pheiple@gmail.com or (650) 854-7125. For questions about **Wednesday** sessions, contact Alf Fengler at afengler@pacbell.net.

Cataldi Park Native Garden

Join us to restore habitat in San Jose's Cataldi Park. This project aims to remove invasive plants and restore California native plants in a 1/2-acre area on the western end of Cataldi Park in San Jose.



Tilak

Cataldi Park Native Garden, April 2026

Volunteer workdays take place on **Saturdays from 9:00 to 11:00am**. New volunteers are welcome; City-issued guidelines are followed. Wear a hat and garden shoes and bring water to stay hydrated. Work gloves will be provided.

Activities depend on the season. We start planting in late fall after the first rain and continue into the winter months as needed. Spring is the time for controlling weeds and taking care of the young saplings. During the summer and early fall, we irrigate/water the plants, prune established plants and sheet mulch adjacent areas in preparation for planting.

In March, volunteers planted, sheet mulched, weeded, watered and installed a fence. Through early April they also focused on getting the garden ready to show on the Growing Native Garden Tour.

For details, directions, a waiver for first-timers and to RSVP, visit our Chapter's Meetup page at www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter.

Kirk Park Native Plant Pollinator Garden

Community volunteers regularly care for this native plant garden. We are always happy to have help at the garden! **We meet regularly on Saturday mornings from 9:00 to 11:00am**, weather permitting, for light maintenance such as weeding, watering; and occasionally we have plants or seeds to plant or mulch to spread. If you would like to help out, please sign up for our **Saturday** workdays on the [CNPS-SCV Meetup page](#). The garden is located along the north edge of Kirk Park in San Jose. Park along Briarwood Drive near Wawona Drive.

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, please do not rely solely on your phone.

Check our field trips page www.cnps-scv.org/activities/field-trips for changes and cancellations, as well as information about newly added field trips.

For field trips listed here that require **reservations**, please visit our Chapter's **Meetup group**, here: www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter/. **We open the RSVPs one week before the event.** Find your event within the group and tap/click the "Attend" button to reserve your spot.

Sun May 3 10:00am - 3:00pm Calero County Park - Peña and Figueroa Trail Hike (San Jose)

Enjoy the trails and the spectacular views of Calero County Park on May 3rd with Tom Lee. We will hike through mixed serpentine terrain and enjoy different plant communities. The trail starts with some climbing in grasslands and loops around chaparral before returning

Butterflies and Bees in the Annual Wildflower Patch

March 27 and 28, 2026



The photos shown above were taken at the pollinator garden in late March when the wildflower blossoms were spectacular and covered with an impressive variety of bees. While the annual wildflowers are mostly a memory as of mid-April, many of the bees are still in the garden taking advantage of the flowers of the many perennial plants that are now in bloom. Come see what you can discover in the garden!

To learn more about the Kirk Park Native Plant Pollinator Garden, or to volunteer at **new pollinator gardens** getting started in San Jose and beyond, contact KirkParkGardens@gmail.com.

along a creek. This hike will be about 3.6 miles long with an elevation gain of 580 feet.

Some flowers seen in past years during this season include buttercups, lupines, fiddlenecks and iris, along with red-winged blackbirds. Please bring sturdy shoes, appropriate layering, hat and lunch. Heavy rain cancels.



Tom Lee

Blow-wives (*Achyrachaena mollis*) seen at Calero County Park, May 2024

RSVP is required to join the hike. No drop-ins please and space is limited due to narrow trails. See the instructions at the beginning of this Field Trips section to **RSVP on Meetup**.

We'll meet at the main gate of Calero County Park at 3205 McKean Road. **Driving directions** are provided on Meetup.

Sun Jun 14 9:00am - Noon Bird and Plant ID Walk at Lake Cunningham Park (San Jose)

With the onset of summer, join us for a beginner's bird and plant identification walk through Lake Cunningham Park. This lake 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 this area, while Arvind Kumar will identify the native plants that they depend on for food and shelter.

The distance is 2 miles round-trip on a level path. Bring a hat, water, your bird and plant lists and binoculars. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Parking fee is \$6; credit card is preferred by the machine.

RSVP is required to join us for the walk. No drop-ins please and space is limited. We'll meet at Parking Lot A on the east side of the park. The park's main entrance is located at 2305 S. White Road, San Jose. See instructions at the beginning of this Field Trips section to **RSVP on Meetup**.

Driving directions are provided on Meetup. This event is co-sponsored by CNPS, Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance and Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority.



Arvind Kumar

Lake Cunningham Bird and Plant ID Walk March 2026

ANNOUNCEMENTS

News and Activities from Other Organizations

Twenty-Second Annual Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour – May 2 and 3

See Your East Bay Neighbors' Native Plant Gardens

In case you didn't see enough native plant gardens on our Chapter's own GNGT in April, consider attending this free in-person tour. It takes place from **10:00am to 5:00pm on May 2 & 3**, when seventy homeowners in Alameda and Contra Costa

Counties open their native plant gardens to the public. Learn how to design a native plant garden for color and interest throughout the year, garden for wildlife, lower your water bills and garden without using pesticides. Read



more and [share the flyer](#) (PDF) at www.BringingBackTheNatives.net. The tour is free, but advanced registration is required.

All of the tour homes will have native plant gardens; thirty of them will also be sharing their **green home features**, including solar panels and batteries, induction ranges, heat pumps and more. Learn more and register at www.BringingBackTheNatives.net.

Roberto Adobe & Sunol House Presents Two Native Plant Workshops in May

The Roberto Adobe & Sunol House (RASH) in San Jose presents two hands-on workshops in May to celebrate native plants, traditional knowledge and community learning. RASH's listings on Eventbrite include workdays to help care for the ethnobotanic garden on the site.

The Plant Press Workshop, scheduled for Saturday, May 2 from 9:30am to 12:30pm, will guide attendees through the process of collecting, preparing and pressing botanical specimens using both traditional and contemporary methods. Participants will work with native plant samples from the RASH museum garden and will learn how plant morphology and anatomy support identification and documentation practices.

Learn more and sign up at www.eventbrite.com/e/plant-press-workshop-locally-native-plants-at-roberto-adobe-sunol-house-tickets-1986685479750.

The following weekend, on **Saturday, May 9 from 9:30am to 12:30pm**, the **Natural Native Plant Tie Dye Workshop** will introduce community members to natural dyeing techniques with locally native plants such as California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), bigberry manzanita (*Arctostaphylos glauca*) and toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*). This creative and family-friendly program highlights the cultural and ecological significance of native species while offering an engaging artistic experience.

Learn more and sign up at www.eventbrite.com/e/natural-native-plant-tiedye-workshop-at-roberto-adobe-sunol-house-museum-tickets-1986686104619.

RASH also offers two **Community Garden Propagation Events, on Sunday, April 26 and Sunday, May 10**. The events start at **10:00am**. As part of the day's work, volunteers will help plant native plant cuttings from the garden into individual pots and transplant plants from walking pathways into containers.

Learn more and sign up at www.eventbrite.com/e/volunteer-to-propagate-locally-native-plants-tickets-1987618992913.

In addition to these workshops, the museum garden will host community gardening **volunteer workdays throughout May and June**. These workdays provide opportunities for community members to participate in habitat care, seasonal maintenance, ongoing restoration efforts and identifying biodiversity at the ethnobotanical garden. All levels of experience are welcome.

Look at the bottom of the aforementioned Eventbrite links for RASH events to find links to the community gardening workdays once they are scheduled.



Julisa Soto

Bee plant (*Scrophularia californica*) in nursery area of the RASH ethnobotanic garden. Note the pot elevators for phytophthora safety.

All events are co-hosted by Julisa Soto and Carol Gonsalves. All events are free and parking is free. The museum is located at 770 Lincoln Ave. in San Jose.

To learn more about the Roberto Adobe & Sunol House Museum, visit www.californiapioneers.com/visit/roberto-adobe-sunol-house-museum. To learn more about the Roberto Adobe & Sunol House ethnobotanic garden, read the article on page 5 of the March-April *Blazing Star*

newsletter or contact Julisa Soto at julisasotogutierrez@gmail.com.

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP FOR 2025-2026



Vicki Silvas-Young

Julisa Soto (center) co-leading CNPS field trip to ethnobotanic garden at Roberto Adobe & Sunol House, San Jose, March 2026

Title	Name	Email
Co-President	Priya Pharate	priya4cnps@gmail.com
Co-President	Vivian Neou	techchair@cnps-scv.org
Vice President	Toni Gregorio-Bunch	tidytip.lp@gmail.com
Recording Secretary	Janet Hoffmann	janet@cnps-scv.org
Interim Treasurer	Brett Tucker	treasurer@cnps-scv.org
Chapter Council Delegate	Vivian Neou	techchair@cnps-scv.org
Past President	Radhika Thekkath	cnpsradhika@gmail.com

To see the full list of Chapter officers and chairs, please visit www.cnps-scv.org/leadership.

NEWSLETTER, ETC.

Stay in Touch!

Some late-breaking events don't make it into the newsletter and are announced electronically. Stay informed by making sure that your contact information is correct. Please visit www.cnps-scv.org/stay-in-touch for information on how you can continue to receive email to stay informed.

This *Blazing Star* newsletter is published online only, at www.cnps-scv.org/blazing-star-newsletter.

<p>DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT <i>BLAZING STAR</i></p> <p>Saturday, June 13</p> <p>carol.mattsson@gmail.com or (408) 309-8314</p>
--

Santa Clara Valley Chapter California Native Plant Society
3921 East Bayshore Road, Suite #205
Palo Alto, CA 94303-4326



Join CNPS Today!

Members receive the *Artemisia* and *Flora* magazines, the Chapter newsletter and other benefits listed at www.cnps.org/membership.

I wish to affiliate with the Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____ New Renew

Suggested Membership Amounts

\$50 \$75 \$120 \$500 \$1,000 Other (\$25 min.)

Send Membership Application to:

California Native Plant Society

Attn: Membership

2702 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5130

For memberships for organizations or to become a Perennial monthly sustainer, contact www.cnps.org.

First-Class Mail

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (page # in parentheses)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Apr 24 Fri | Photo Group photo sharing (3) | May 26 Tue | Native Plant ID meeting (4) |
| Apr 25 Sat | Wildflower Show at West Valley College | May 28 Thu | Gardening Biodiversity talk – J. Kehoe (2) |
| Apr 26 Sun | Ethnobotanical garden propagation (9) | May 29 Fri | Plant Sale pickup at nursery (2) |
| Apr 28 Tue | Native Plant ID meeting (4) | May 30 Sat | Fountain Thistle Work Party (5) |
| Apr 29 Wed | Alum Rock Crew honored by San Jose (6) | May 30 Sat | Cutting and Seed Exchange + pickup (1) |
| Apr 30 Thu | Bristlecone Pine talk – Aston (2) | Jun 13 Sat | Newsletter submittal deadline (10) |
| May 2 Sat | RASH Garden Plant Press Workshop (9) | Jun 14 Sun | Lake Cunningham bird & plant walk (8) |
| May 2-3 Sat-Sun | East Bay Native Garden Tour (9) | Jun 15 Mon | Conservation Committee meeting (4) |
| May 3 Sun | Calero County Park field trip (8) | Jun 23 Tue | Native Plant ID meeting (4) |
| May 9 Sat | RASH Garden Tie Dye Workshop (9) | Jun 25 Thu | Community Science talk – Vonshak (3) |
| May 10 Sun | Ethnobotanical garden propagation (9) | Jun 26 Fri | Photo Group photo sharing (3) |
| May 11 Mon | Chap. election self-nominations due (1) | Mon & Wed, 2nd Sat | Alum Rock Park workdays (5) |
| May 18 Mon | Conservation Committee meeting (4) | Saturdays | Lake Cunningham Garden workdays (6) |
| May 18-19 Mon-Tue | Chapter election vote online (1) | Wed & Fri | Edgewood restoration workdays (6) |
| May 22 Fri | Photo Group photo sharing (3) | Saturdays | Cataldi Park Garden workdays (6) |
| May 25 Mon | Plant Sale online store opens (1, 2) | Saturdays | Kirk Pollinator Garden workdays (7) |

The next Chapter board meetings will be held on **Thursdays, May 21 and June 18 at 7:00pm** over Zoom.

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

For more information contact Priya Pharate at priya4cnps@gmail.com or Vivian Neou at techchair@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 start at \$50.00 per year. If you have questions about your newsletter subscription, please contact info@cnps-scv.org. Address changes may be submitted to membership@cnps.org. Please put "address change" in the subject line.

The *Blazing Star* web address: www.cnps-scv.org. Please print on recycled paper.
