



# THE BLAZING STAR

September-October 2024

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Dee Shea Himes

*Calochortus striatus* (alkali mariposa lily), found in an empty lot at a residential development area in Lancaster, CA, May 2023. Dee and Ken Himes will present their “Calochortus Treasure Hunt” at our **Annual Chapter potluck on Saturday, November 2.**

**See page 2 for more.**

## Fall Plant Sale: Pick Up from Hidden Villa Saturday October 19

Join us for our Annual Fall Native Plant Sale: Support our Chapter and nursery by **ordering your plants online in advance**, then schedule your pickup at Hidden Villa on Saturday, October 19. And **we invite everyone to join us at Hidden Villa October 19** for talks, demonstrations, a seed exchange, in-person shopping and more. Read on for all the details, including how to volunteer.



Vivian Neou

Volunteers at plant sale pickup table, at CNPS SCV Nursery, October 2022

Our fall plant sale this year will be mostly online. **The online sale will run from Friday to Monday, October 11 – 14, with scheduled pickups on Saturday October 19 from 10:00am - 3:00pm at Hidden Villa** in Los Altos Hills at our nursery location. For those of you who like to shop in-person, our manzanitas and ceanothus will not be included in the online sale – you’ll have the opportunity to shop for them on tables outside the nursery. The Grassroots Ecology Nursery will bring plants for in-person shopping at the event (no pre-orders). A list of available plants will be posted on their website at <https://www.grassrootsecology.org/nursery-sales> a few days before October 19.

For those planning to shop in person outside the nursery, we recommend that you bring boxes in which to take home your plant purchases.

It will be a full and fun day with a talk by Kevin Bryant, a planting demonstration by Krzysztof Kozminski, and free wildflower seeds at the Wildflower Ambassadors table. Books, posters and T-shirts will be available from our Chapter Bookstore, and Emily Chin will be there with her pressed flower pictures and cards. Shop for native flora and fauna stickers, prints, greeting cards, zipper pouches, temporary tattoos, and more at the [Coyote Brush Studios](#) booth. Visit tables from other local environmental organizations. There will be a seed exchange – please bring seeds to share if you have some, but even if you don't, be sure to stop by since there is always plenty to share.

Experienced native plant gardeners will be available to answer questions about your native plants and garden. Note that this resource is for reasonably short-response questions and not a request for a detailed design of your garden. We offer many native plant resources on our website, at [www.cnps-scv.org/gardening-resources](http://www.cnps-scv.org/gardening-resources), including a list of native plant professionals who specialize in native plant designs. Be sure to try Calscape ([www.calscape.org](http://www.calscape.org)), CNPS' searchable guide to California native plants and butterflies. It is the best online resource for native plant garden planning.

More information about the sale is available on our website at [www.cnps-scv.org/fall-plant-sale-2024](http://www.cnps-scv.org/fall-plant-sale-2024).

### New Member Special Offer

People who join CNPS during our plant sale will get a 40% discount – only \$30 to join CNPS for a year. They will also receive a CNPS SCV water bottle and pin while supplies last. Help us hit our goal of 1,450 Chapter members this year! You can sign up in advance at: [bit.ly/NPLOVER](http://bit.ly/NPLOVER). Just bring a copy of your receipt to our membership table at the sale to receive your water bottle and pin.

### Volunteer!

We're asking everyone who can to come and help with the sale. There are many things to do: help with setup before the sale opens, parking, answering customers' questions, writing sales slips, helping customers to carry out their purchase and cleaning up after the sale. Most of the tasks don't require expert knowledge of plants, and you can choose to work one or two hours or all day.

**To volunteer**, check our Chapter website's Plant Sale page ([www.cnps-scv.org/fall-plant-sale-2024](http://www.cnps-scv.org/fall-plant-sale-2024)) for a link to our Plant Sale Volunteer Signup on SignUpGenius. Volunteering at the plant sale is always lots of fun, and we provide lunch, snacks and drinks as well. If you have

questions please contact: Radhika Thekkath at [cnpsradhika@gmail.com](mailto:cnpsradhika@gmail.com).

There will be a virtual **volunteer orientation** before the sale, on **Thursday October 17 at 7:00pm**. You'll find the Zoom link on the volunteer sign-up page.

**Directions:** Hidden Villa is located at 26870 Moody Rd., west of Foothill College. From I-280 in Los Altos Hills, take the Moody Rd. exit and head west. Two mi. west of Foothill College, look for the Hidden Villa sign and driveway on the left. Follow the directions of the parking volunteers to find parking. A short distance from the Hidden Villa driveway entrance, you'll find the sale taking place in the CNPS SCV Nursery, Dana Center building and nearby canopies on the lawn. Parking is free while volunteering or attending a plant sale.

**SAVE THE DATE! Annual Chapter Potluck Saturday, November 2 at 6:00PM**  
*Guest Speaker: Dee Himes will talk about her travels and searching for Calochortus (Mariposa Lilies)*

This year's Fall Potluck is scheduled for Saturday, November 2. This is a favorite annual event where members and their partners are invited to join us and catch up with old friends and make new friends over dinner, dessert and a fascinating talk. Please plan to join us in the festivities and together let us celebrate everything that we have achieved all year for native plants.

As in the past, we'll be holding the event at the Shoup Park Garden House in Los Altos. See the November-December *Blazing Star* for details.



Vivian Neou

Chapter members and their guests enjoy great food and conversation at our 2023 Annual Chapter Potluck at Shoup Park Garden House in Los Altos

## Book Donations Welcome!

Is it time to clean out your library? Although we are ordering fewer new books for our Chapter sales, we welcome your used books to sell at our fall plant sale and potluck. We're looking for native plant field guides, floras, gardening books, hiking guides and books about California natural history. For the potluck silent auction, we'd also welcome art, textiles and other nice items. Please feel free to bring your used books and other items to any of our in-person Chapter events (such as the Seed & Cutting Exchange and Plant ID at the Peninsula Conservation Center). Contact Judy Fenerty at [judy@fenerty.com](mailto:judy@fenerty.com) if you have any questions or can't make our in-person events.

## Volunteer Spotlight Award:

### Bill Lundgren

The Santa Clara Valley Chapter of CNPS is pleased to present its Volunteer Spotlight Award to Bill Lundgren.

Ever since becoming a member of CNPS, Bill Lundgren has participated in many Chapter activities – native plant gardening, field trips, photography and habitat restoration. He is introducing more and more native plants to his home garden. An avid hiker of local trails as well as away trips, he is keen to observe and document local flora and fauna. He has been a regular volunteer at the Lake Cunningham Park Native Garden for several years.



Priya Pharate

Bill Lundgren receiving his Chapter Spotlight Award at the Native Plant Talk on July 25

A skilled photographer, he is a regular at the monthly virtual Photo Group meetings. When the Chapter was looking to fill the position of Photo Group Chair, Bill

stepped up and quickly learned the ropes. He has been conducting the virtual meetings ever since, and this January he organized the "Year in Pictures" program held in person at the Los Altos Library. Cheerful, positive, resourceful and helpful, Bill is a true asset to the Chapter and the community at large.

## CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

### Seed and Cutting Exchange + Plant Sale

**Online Plant Sale: September 17-18**  
(subject to pickup slot availability)

**Plant Sale Pickup: Sat., September 21**  
(CNPS SCV Nursery)  
**and Sunday, September 22**  
(Peninsula Conservation Center)

**Seed and Cutting Exchange: Sunday**  
**September 22 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM**  
**at the Peninsula Conservation Center (PCC),**  
**3921 E. Bayshore Road in Palo Alto.**

We're entering the fall planting season, so it's time to get your seeds ready to plant and finish your plans for fall planting. It's a great time to collect seeds from your perennial plants for yourself and to share at the Exchange. This free event provides an opportunity to share and receive both cuttings and seeds of native plants. Browse the diverse offerings, ranging from easy-to-grow to hard-to-find, and go home with cuttings and seeds of new native plants! We will provide coin envelopes for seeds but bring containers to carry cuttings home.

If you have native plant material from your own garden to share, please bring some. Label it to make it easy to browse – some gardeners attach helpful hints about growing; others display photos of plants in bloom. You may find it convenient to use [Calscape.org](http://Calscape.org) for this – there is a link on the plant's information page to make a printable sign for most native species and cultivars.

If you bring cuttings, keep them cool and moist in a bucket of water. **You don't have to bring anything if you don't have any native material to share** – there is usually plenty for all.

Several popular gardening books will be available for sale during the event, including the new *Wildflowers of California* from CNPS, *Seed Propagation of Native*

*California Plants* (2021 ed.), by Dara E. Emery; *California Native Plants for the Garden* by Carol Bornstein, David Fross and Bart O'Brien; and *California Native Gardening, A Month-by-Month Guide*, by Helen Popper.

Our Wildflower Ambassadors will be giving out free seed packets and information as well.



Vivian Neou

Attendees browse the seeds and cuttings on display at last July's Seed and Cutting Exchange at the Peninsula Conservation Center in Palo Alto

## Online Plant Sale

Our nursery is bursting with a great selection of plants, and we are having another online plant sale at [california-native-plant-society-santa-clara-valley-chapter.square.site](http://california-native-plant-society-santa-clara-valley-chapter.square.site), starting **September 17**. Get your plants before the October rush! Limited supplies of some plants may mean that they will not be available in October. The store will close when we reach our pickup capacity.

In addition to plants, the nursery's online store includes Chapter T-shirts, books, labels and plant signs. **There is a minimum order of \$40.**

Pick your plants up with a *scheduled* pickup at the CNPS SCV Nursery on **Saturday, September 21** or the Exchange at the Peninsula Conservation Center on **Sunday, September 22**. No drop-in pickups or sales.

## Call for Volunteers

We need help with setup, answering questions and cleanup.

The tasks don't require expert knowledge of plants, and the shifts are set up to spend time at the event in addition to volunteering. You can sign up here: [www.cnps-scv.org/seed-cutting-help](http://www.cnps-scv.org/seed-cutting-help).

**Directions to the PCC:** (3921 E. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto) 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 first right onto Corporation Way, and an immediate left into the PCC parking lot. The meeting rooms are on the first floor.

## 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 you in our offerings. From gardening to plant science to climate change to tours of botanical hot spots, there's something here for you.

Our virtual talks are livestreamed simultaneously to Zoom and YouTube. View talks on our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/@CNPSSantaClaraValley](http://www.youtube.com/@CNPSSantaClaraValley) (no registration needed) or join on Zoom by registering at the Zoom link provided in each lecture's description. Most of our upcoming talks are listed below. Recordings of our virtual talks and some of our library talks may be viewed on our YouTube channel.

We occasionally schedule additional talks; for the current list of upcoming talks please see our website ([cnps-scv.org](http://cnps-scv.org)) or join our Chapter News email group for a weekly update on upcoming activities.

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](mailto:priya4cnps@gmail.com) to receive notifications of upcoming meetings.

**The Diversity of Mariposa Lilies  
Explained Through a Genetics Lens  
a talk by Dr. Adriana Hernandez**

**Thursday, October 10 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Los Altos Library Orchard Room, 13 S. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos**

Under natural selection, plant traits often become homogeneous, but how exactly that happens is not well understood. What mechanisms shape and maintain gene flow? How does trait variation occur and how is it

maintained across generations and heterogeneous landscapes?



Adriana Hernandez

An array of floral forms in *Calochortus venustus* (butterfly mariposa lilies)

Jasper Ridge scientist Dr. Adriana Hernandez has developed Mariposa lilies (*Calochortus* sp.) as a model system to investigate the evolution of strikingly diverse floral traits. She uses the highly variable California native species *Calochortus venustus* to identify and interpret the evolutionary significance of geographical patterns of floral trait variation, genetic diversity, range evolution and the genetic mechanisms underlying climatic adaptation. Her work utilizes comparative methods from population genetics and genomics to identify candidate genes that may be responsible for the morphological diversity observed in this plant.

Come to this talk to deepen your knowledge of this beautiful plant from a scientific perspective.



**Dr. Adriana Hernandez** is a population biologist who studies the evolution and ecology of California native plants. Her work leverages natural history collections and comparative genomic techniques to help understand the patterns,

processes, and mechanisms that drive and maintain biodiversity across the California landscape. Through community science and outreach projects, she also aims to make the botanical sciences more accessible to diverse communities.

## Meadow Marvels: Sensitive Habitats and How to Protect Them a talk by Tyler Feld

**Tuesday, October 22 7:00 - 8:30 PM, Saratoga Library Program Room, 13650 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga**

Learn about the necessity and benefits of habitat restoration in our local open spaces! Seasonally wet meadows provide significant ecological benefit. However many of these ecosystems have disappeared over the last 150 years due to development, agriculture and the introductions of invasive species. At Bear Creek Redwoods, Grassroots Ecology has been working to restore one of these habitats.



Tyler Feld

A volunteer removing an invasive shrub, French broom, using a weed wrench. The area is a seasonally wet meadow at Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve, February 2023.

This talk will describe the successes, challenges and stories of groups protecting these lands. We hope those who attend will leave inspired and empowered to restore biodiversity near and far!

**Tyler Feld's** love of the outdoors began from early childhood experiences exploring the oak woodlands of Southern California and the pine forests of the Sierra Nevada. As



a teenager with a career goal to “protect the trees,” he pursued a B.A. in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Cruz. Following his degree, Tyler spent five years teaching and directing overnight outdoor education programs throughout the Santa Cruz Mountains and the Sierra Nevada to share his love of the outdoors with youth. His continued love of ecology and stewardship led him to his current role as project manager with Grassroots Ecology starting in 2021. Tyler guides hands-on habitat restoration experiences and inclusive environmental education programs across the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Editor’s note: for even **more native plant talks**, attend one or both of our upcoming online presentations by our research scholarship winners. Learn more by turning to page 8.

## 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. It is open to all. The group has monthly meetings and an active email list.



Charley Pow

A flame skimmer dragonfly (*Libellula saturata*) watches for flying insects above the bronzey new growth of a manzanita May 2024

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. Photo Group member Charley Pow sent us this dragonfly photo taken at his Los Altos home garden. Charley adds: Adapted to hunt flying insects, the dragonfly can see nearly 360 degrees with its compound eyes and acrobatically fly forward, backward and hover with its four delicate wings.

The photo group’s meetings take place over Zoom, for members to share photos and more – everything from photography tips to organizational ideas to plant hot spots.

The next meetings will be on **Fridays, September 27 and October 25 at 7:00pm**. You can learn more and join the email group at: [www.groups.io/g/cnps-scv-photography](http://www.groups.io/g/cnps-scv-photography).

## Native Plant ID

Keying with Natives has been revived as Native Plant ID. We meet once a month to work together to learn plant identification using botanical keys and other resources. Because the available flowers start thinning out this time of year, we will have some more specialized identification sessions in the coming months.

At our September meeting we will look at fruits and seeds from native plants to learn more about these reproductive structures. For October, Joe Cernac will give a presentation about oaks and we will look at samples of native oak leaves and acorns.

Our sessions are intended to be group participatory. We supply 10X hand lenses and identification sources for the group to use. Please bring samples of either native or weedy plants that you think may be from the groups that we are discussing. When collecting plant material do so from your own property or land where you have permission to collect. Try to bring enough sample materials for up to 20 people to share in small groups and look at. Also bring any plant identification books that you like to use.

Native Plant ID meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Peninsula Conservation Center, 3921 E Bayshore Road, Palo Alto. (See page 4 for directions to the PCC.) Our next meetings will be on **Tuesdays, September 24 and October 22, at 7:00pm**.

Subscribe to our [Plant ID email group](mailto:janet@cnps-scv.org) by emailing Janet Hoffmann at [janet@cnps-scv.org](mailto:janet@cnps-scv.org) or subscribe to the Chapter E-news (see the “Stay in Touch” article on page 16) for updates. Feel free to contact Janet if you have other questions.

## Growing Natives Garden Tour 2025

### Call for Gardens

#### Garden Submittal Deadline Tuesday, October 29

The 2025 Growing Natives Garden Tour (NGGT) is looking for new gardens as well as returning gardens for the 2025 Tour. The 2025 tour dates are **Saturday, April 12**, for southern gardens and **Sunday, April 13**, for gardens in

the northern part of our area. The tour area is Santa Clara County and southern San Mateo County.

The garden selection team will be starting our visits in November. We ask that California natives be the focal point of the garden, with at least 70% of the garden being native plants, no invasive plants. We use the list of invasive plants of the Bay Area developed by the California Invasive Plant Council (CAL-IPC), which you can reference here: [www.cal-ipc.org/solutions/prevention/landscaping/dpp/?region=bayarea](http://www.cal-ipc.org/solutions/prevention/landscaping/dpp/?region=bayarea).



GNGT

A garden on the Growing Natives Garden Tour, San Jose East Foothills, photographed April 2021

We encourage gardens that demonstrate sustainable gardening practices and show water conservation and habitat value for wildlife. Aesthetically pleasing design is another quality we look for, whether your garden is do-it-yourself or professionally designed. We are interested in having native plant gardens of all sizes, even container gardens.

Garden owners, designers or managers from Santa Clara County and southern San Mateo County **are encouraged to apply**. To do that, visit [GNGT.org](http://GNGT.org), scroll the page up a bit, then tap/click on “Submit Your Garden For The 2025 Tour.”

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### **2024-2025 Research Scholarship Applications Open Saturday, September 7**

Our Chapter offers scholarships to both graduates and undergraduates doing research on native plant or plant community conservation; plant ecology; plant systematics; or rare plants that grow in Central and Northern California.

Students researching topics related to native plant and native habitat conservation in the San Francisco Bay Area are encouraged to apply. **Applications are due Friday, October 25, at midnight.** Check [www.cnps-scv.org/research-scholarships](http://www.cnps-scv.org/research-scholarships) for more information.

### **Announcing a New CNPS SCV Native Plant Community College Scholarship**

Our Chapter is excited to announce a new **\$1,500** scholarship for community college students with a goal of studying or working with a focus on native plants, native ecology, native habitat and/or parks management. The application is open to students whose primary residence is in San Mateo or Santa Clara County, or are attending, or have applied to college in one of these counties. As the purpose of this scholarship is to support those who wish to deepen their knowledge of native plants, applicants must have taken a course in CA native plant horticulture or ecology or plan to take one before the completion of their degree.

To apply, you must be currently enrolled or be a high school senior who has applied and been accepted to a relevant college program. All applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5. You can find the application here [www.cnps-scv.org/education/scholarships](http://www.cnps-scv.org/education/scholarships). **Please submit the application and the requested materials by Sat., February 15, 2025.** Please email Janet Hoffmann at [janet@cnps-scv.org](mailto:janet@cnps-scv.org) with questions or for further information.



Matthew Yamamoto

*Castilleja peirsonii*, *C. lemmonii* and others on a subalpine lakeshore, in the McGee creek watershed (Crowley Lake)

## 2023-2024 Research Scholarship Projects and Talks

In 2023, our Chapter awarded eight (a new high for our Chapter) research scholarships. Over the course of the next several months, our research scholarship recipients will be giving talks about their projects on Zoom.

Our talks are livestreamed simultaneously to Zoom and YouTube. To view talks, watch our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/@CNPSSantaClaraValley](http://www.youtube.com/@CNPSSantaClaraValley) (no registration needed) or join on Zoom by registering at the Zoom link provided in each talk's description. Recordings of past talks can also be viewed on our YouTube channel.

### Three Scholarship Recipient Talks

**Bradley Speno, Cecilia Girvin  
and Joseph Cusenza**

**Wednesday, September 18  
7:00 - 8:30 PM**

**Zoom registration:**

[www.cnps-scv.org/talk-20240918](http://www.cnps-scv.org/talk-20240918)

**Bradley Speno, San Jose State University,  
Graduate Research Scholarship: “Alameda  
Song Sparrow Habitat Use as an Indicator of  
Salt Pond Restoration”**



*Bradley Speno*  
Two Alameda Song Sparrows

Bradley collected botanical data through transect surveys at seven different salt pond sites post tidal restoration to compare native composition and diversity between sites.

He then used this data along with bird banding and survey data targeted specifically at the Alameda song sparrow to assess the subspecies' potential to act as an indicator for restoration success. The Alameda song sparrow is a California Species of Special Concern and this project will describe its habitat preferences for conservation purposes.



**Bradley** earned an undergraduate degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Colorado and worked for various Department of Interior agencies and consulting companies prior to starting graduate school at San José State University. The need for continued local restoration projects guides his Master of Science thesis and he hopes to apply his degree broadly in habitat restoration efforts.

**Cecilia Girvin, UC Santa Cruz, Graduate  
Research Scholarship: “The Role of Sexual  
Conflict in Hermaphroditic Floral Evolution”**



*Cecilia Girvin*  
Studying the flowers of *Clarkia unguiculata*  
(Farewell to Spring)

**Celia** is interested in how abiotic factors, such as drought, and biotic factors, like pollinators, impact the evolution of flowers. She studies *Clarkia unguiculata* (Farewell to Spring), an annual plant with bisexual flowers that open at the onset of summer, when they are vulnerable to water limitation. Keeping flowers open for a long time is water-costly and can negatively impact seed production.



However, a long period of pollen release in this species has been shown to improve male fitness. Celia's talk will cover how she uses variations in pollinator availability and water limitation across this species' range to show how floral longevity may be under different selection pressures via male and female fitness.



**Cecilia** is a second-year PhD student at UCSC in Dr. Kathleen Kay's lab. She graduated from Cal Poly SLO in 2020, where she got a great foundation in plant sciences and was lucky to have many field work experiences.

**Joseph Cusenza, UC Santa Cruz, Undergraduate Research Scholarship: "The Role of Plasticity and Pollinators on the Expression and Evolution of Floral Longevity"**

**Joseph** is a recent graduate from the University of California, Santa Cruz, with a B.S. degree in Environmental Science. During his third year at UCSC, he began working in Dr. Kathleen Kay's lab with PhD student Cecilia Girvin on her project **Conflicting Selection Pressures on Floral Longevity in *Clarkia unguiculata***, where he continues to work today.



Joseph Cusenza in the field

**Two Scholarship Recipient Talks**

**Rebecca Wynd  
and Matthew Yamamoto**

**Thursday, October 3  
7:00 to 8:30 PM**

**Zoom registration:**

[www.cnps-scv.org/talk-20241003](http://www.cnps-scv.org/talk-20241003)

**Rebecca Wynd, UC Davis, Sally Casey Shooting Stars Graduate Research Scholarship: "Assessing the Impact of Grazing and Fire Disturbances on Native Forb Diversity and Abundance in a California Grassland"**

Research has shown that grasslands with higher wildflower (forb) density in the seedbank maintained plant cover during drought and recovered more quickly after fire. However, recent studies have indicated that the native forb seedbank is declining in density and diversity in some areas, threatening grassland resilience as continued climatic change occurs. Forb seedbanks rely on periodic disturbances to decrease grass cover, which allows forbs to germinate and seed. If disturbance plays a role in enhancing the forb seedbank, then to what extent do different disturbance types impact the composition, diversity and density of native forbs?



*Rebecca Wynd*  
*Calochortus vestae* (Coast range mariposa lily) growing amid annual grasses at Pepperwood Preserve, Sonoma County, June 2024



Rebecca's research looks at the impacts of grazing and fire on vegetative native forb abundance and diversity to help land managers understand how to manipulate disturbance regimes to support this critical component of grassland ecosystems. This talk will highlight her first year of data collection and initial research findings.

**Rebecca** is in her second year as a master's student in the ecology program at UC Davis. Before beginning graduate school, she spent five years working in habitat restoration in the Bay Area, primarily as the native plant nursery manager for the nonprofit Save The Bay. She also spent two exciting years traveling the state working as a field botanist for CNPS.



*Rebecca Wynd*

Quadrat used for monitoring native forb abundance and diversity



*Matthew Yamamoto*

The McGee Creek watershed's unusual geology and rugged terrain

### **Matthew Yamamoto, Claremont Graduate University, in partnership with the California Botanic Garden: "A Flora of the McGee Creek Watershed, Mono County, California"**

What do botanists mean when they say that much of California is still botanically underdocumented? While the McGee Creek watershed on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada (Mono County) is a popular place for hiking and wildflower viewing, the first of two summers of Matthew's fieldwork has revealed well over a hundred species of plants that were not previously known to occur there. After introducing the watershed and its plant communities, Matthew will discuss some of his surprising finds from this summer's surveys, including range extensions, countless new populations of rare plants, and plants not previously known to occur in Mono County. He will end by briefly discussing the relevance of floristic studies like these for plant research and conservation.

Originally from San Francisco, **Matthew** first became interested in botany while hiking and camping in the Bay Area. Matthew left California to obtain a bachelor's degree in botany from



*Travis Columbus*

Matthew Yamamoto, doing fieldwork in the McGee Creek watershed

Connecticut College, but spent his summers as an undergraduate on vegetation management crews in Rocky Mountain National Park and Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. Through these summers, Matthew became convinced of the need for more research in high elevation mountain ecosystems, which he is now carrying out as a master's student at California Botanic Garden in Claremont, CA.



Matthew Yamamoto  
*Pedicularis crenulata* (meadow lousewort) from a recently discovered population, known in California only from a few occurrences. California Rare Plant Rank: 2B. 2.

## Invasive Shothole Borer Recently Found in San Jose, Endangering Local Trees

By Donald Thomas, Rare Plants Chair

Be on the lookout for a new non-native insect attacking native trees, the invasive shothole borer (ISHB). This insect, native to southeast Asia, has been present in Southern California for a number of years but has recently been found in Northern California, in San Jose. These insects have a very wide range of hosts: 274 tree species. Among these, 78 tree species support shothole borer reproduction and 17 tree species are known to be killed by the borers.

The 17 species killed include ten California native tree species: *Acer macrophyllum* (big leaf maple), *Acer negundo* (box elder), *Platanus racemosa* (California sycamore), *Populus fremontii* (Fremont cottonwood), *P. nigra* (black poplar), *P. trichocarpa* (black cottonwood), *Quercus lobata* (valley oak), *Salix goodingii* (black willow), *S. laevigata* (red willow) and *S. lasiolepis* (arroyo willow). Most of these are riparian trees.



Female (right) and male (left) invasive shot hole borer adults on a US penny.

## CONSERVATION CORNER

### Conservation Committee

Our Chapter's next Conservation Committee meetings will be held via Zoom on **Tuesdays, September 10 and October 8, 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](mailto:cdorsch@cnps-scv.org) or (650) 804-6162, or Conservation Chair Judy Fenerty at [judy@fenerty.com](mailto:judy@fenerty.com). If you are interested in joining our committee meetings on Zoom, please email Carolyn for the link.

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These insects are very small, the size of a sesame seed. (See the above photo.) They bore into the tree trunk but do not feed on the tree directly. Instead, they introduce a fungal pathogen, a *Fusarium* species, into the tree and feed on the fungus. It is the fungus spreading through the wood that is most harmful to the tree.

For a comprehensive discussion of the life history, monitoring and management of the invasive shothole borers, see the excellent presentation by Randall Oliver. He is the University of California Agriculture and Natural

Resources ISHB Communications Coordinator. The presentation, entitled “Invasive Beetles Establish New Beachhead in San Jose,” may be viewed at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxoQiRvj3rs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxoQiRvj3rs).

For more information, see this UC Integrated Pest Management article at [ipm.ucanr.edu/legacy\\_assets/pdf/pestnotes/pninvaseshortholeborer.pdf](http://ipm.ucanr.edu/legacy_assets/pdf/pestnotes/pninvaseshortholeborer.pdf). Also see the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources web page on the Invasive Shothole Borer at [www.ishb.org](http://www.ishb.org).

## CHAPTER SERVICE OUTINGS

### Alum Rock Park Restoration

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.”

Our workdays take place one **Saturday morning** per month. No experience is necessary. All tools and instruction will be provided. Please bring a filled water bottle and snacks; wear closed-toe shoes and long pants.

Forms and **reservations** are required to volunteer. Start by visiting the City’s volunteer opportunities page at [www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/parks-recreation-neighborhood-services/get-involved/volunteer-with-us](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/parks-recreation-neighborhood-services/get-involved/volunteer-with-us). You will see Alum Rock Park Trail Crew as one of the options. The next workday will be on **Saturday, September 14, 8:45am to 12:00noon**. For more information, contact Stephen Rosenthal at [sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 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: thru summer our work is mainly removing invasives throughout the park. For **details, directions, a waiver for first-timers and to RSVP**, see our Chapter’s Meetup group at [www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter](http://www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter).

### Edgewood Restoration

Help restore habitat at Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve, known for fabulous wildflowers and amazing

diversity near Redwood City. Weeders see far more than weeds: we 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** and **Wednesdays during Daylight Savings Time at 5:30pm**. For an overview, please visit [www.cnps-scv.org/restoration/edgewood-park](http://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](mailto:weed-warriors-coord@friendsofedgewood.org).

Please check the email list for each weeding session’s meeting place. If you still have questions about Wednesday sessions, contact Alf Fengler at [afengler@pacbell.net](mailto:afengler@pacbell.net). Or for questions about Friday sessions, contact Paul Heiple at [pheiple@gmail.com](mailto:pheiple@gmail.com) or (650) 854-7125.

### Cataldi Park Native Garden

After a summer break, we resumed volunteer workdays at Cataldi Park in San Jose at the end of July.

Several plants that were planted last winter have made it through the hot summer, including goldenrods, milkweeds, phacelia, Western vervain, purple needlegrass, Pacific aster, ceanothus and white sage. We are grateful to everyone who volunteered last winter and spring to make this wildflower display happen!



*Tilak*

Seven volunteers removed weeds from the Cataldi Park garden area on the July 27 workday

We have received another grant from the BeautifySJ program this year, as well as a garden kit (36 plants) from the Xerces Society. In preparation for planting these plants starting in November, we will be working on weeding and sheet mulching over the next couple of months.

We look forward to volunteers signing up and joining us whenever you can. We mulch, plant, weed, water and otherwise care for the native plants we've planted in this newly created native garden. Wear a hat and garden shoes and bring water to stay hydrated. Work gloves will be provided.

Workdays are usually held at **9:00am on Saturdays**. If you're interested in volunteering, check the dates and sign up at our Chapter's Meetup group, at [www.meetup.com/california-native-plant-society-santa-clara-valley-chapter/](http://www.meetup.com/california-native-plant-society-santa-clara-valley-chapter/).

First-timers: Please bring a signed waiver form available at [lakecunninghamnativegarden.files.wordpress.com/2022/01/2021-volunteer-service-agreement-adoptapark-version.pdf](http://lakecunninghamnativegarden.files.wordpress.com/2022/01/2021-volunteer-service-agreement-adoptapark-version.pdf).

Workdays are sometimes rescheduled or canceled. Always RSVP to confirm and check the latest updates Friday night. If you can't make it, please change your RSVP so we know and wait-listers get a chance.

## Kirk Park Pollinator Garden

Community volunteers regularly care for this native plant garden at Kirk Park in San Jose. We are always happy to have help at the garden! **We meet regularly on Saturday mornings from 9:00 -11:00am**, weather permitting, for light maintenance such as weeding, watering; and occasionally we have plants or seeds to plant.

The park is open every day, so please come visit! The garden is along the cement walkway that parallels the north edge of the park. If you would like to help out, please let us know by sending email to [KirkParkGardens@gmail.com](mailto:KirkParkGardens@gmail.com). If we know you are coming, we can be sure to have tools available for you to use. We can also notify you if, for some reason, we will not be meeting. New volunteers will need to fill out a form for the City.

## August at the Kirk Park Pollinator Garden

We are happy that the July heatwave seems to have finally ended and most of the plants have survived! The garden is still filled with flowers and pollinators, so when you get a chance, come by and see what you can discover!

## Word of the Month - *Lepidoptera*

*Lepidoptera* is the scientific word for the class of insects that includes both butterflies and moths. In addition to the

monarch butterflies we see quite often at the garden, we are seeing many other kinds of *Lepidoptera*. Some of the butterflies we have seen this summer are the monarch, gray hairstreak, small white, common checkered-skipper, acorn blue and the fiery skipper. The only moth we have seen recently is the tiny California pyrausta moth. Moths tend to be more active at night, so maybe we need to spend more time at the garden in the evening.

If you see a new type of butterfly or moth, please let us know! And if you can get a photograph of it, consider putting it on [iNaturalist.org](http://iNaturalist.org) for all the naturalist community to see!

## Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths) seen at Kirk Park late July 2024



Common Checkered-Skipper on Red-Flowered Buckwheat



California Pyrausta Moth on Pearly Everlasting



Gray Hairstreak on White Clover in Lawn



Monarch Butterfly on Narrowleaf Milkweed

Kathy Kleinsteiber

## Bees in the Garden

We are seeing bees of many sizes and colors in the garden. The most frequently seen bee is the Western honey bee, which is native to Europe. It is the only bee in the garden that lives in a hive and makes honey. The large native bees we have seen in the garden in July are the huge Valley carpenter bee and the yellow-faced bumblebee. We have also seen digger bees, sweat bees, wool carder bees, Mason bees, and tiny furrow bees – about the size of an ant. Next time you are at the garden, be sure to look closely and see if

you can find some of the many bees in the garden. Please don't be afraid of the bees – most native bees do not sting!

## Bees seen at Kirk Park late July 2024



Yellow-Faced Bumble Bee  
on Coyote Mint



Furrow Bee  
on California Buckwheat



Digger Bee  
on California Phacelia



Western Honey Bee  
in Foothill Penstemon

*Kathy Kleinsteiber*

### Where are the Monarch Caterpillars?

As you may remember, we had many monarch butterfly caterpillars on our narrowleaf milkweed in April. Then they all disappeared. We are still seeing monarch butterflies, but we haven't seen caterpillars for a while. What we are seeing are several European paper wasps lurking around the milkweed patch. These wasps need caterpillars to feed their young, and unfortunately they have found a good source in our milkweed patch. The good news is that the wasps complete their nesting cycle before the monarchs finish laying eggs. We had this same problem last year, and we started seeing monarch caterpillars again in September. Last fall, we had several caterpillars become chrysalises and then butterflies. So please continue to watch the milkweed patch and hopefully we will see some caterpillars again soon!

### What's in Bloom at the Kirk Park Garden?

We have many flowers blooming in profusion now, including several species of native buckwheat, two species of native sunflowers, penstemon, coyote mint, bush poppies

and gumplant. We also are seeing California fuchsia with their tubular red flowers that make them a hummingbird magnet!

Many of the milkweed plants are still blooming and some have already started to set seed. The big patch of narrowleaf milkweed in the original central garden is loaded with the fluff that helps the milkweed seeds fly away in the wind. Feel free to take a pinch of fluff and seeds and maybe you can plant a new patch of milkweed!

## 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](http://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/](http://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.

### **Sat Sep 21 10:00am - 1:00pm California Nutmeg Tree Hike at Villa Montalvo (Saratoga)**

Join Don Thomas for a short hike at Villa Montalvo County Park, through the shade of the redwoods to Lookout Point. Along the way we will see a number of California nutmeg (*Torreya californica*) trees. This is one of the more accessible *Torreya* groves in the Bay Area.



Don Thomas

Small *Torreya californica* (California nutmeg) tree at Castle Rock State Park, July 2024

The distance is 2 miles with about 500 feet of elevation gain. Bring a hat, water and a snack for yourself. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

We'll meet at Villa Montalvo in Parking Lot 1. Parking is limited, carpooling is recommended. (Note that there are multiple parking lots and our group will meet at Lot 1.)

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

### **Sun Sep 22 9:00am – 12:00noon Bird and Plant ID Walk at Lake Cunningham Park (San Jose)**

With the onset of fall, 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 our 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.

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

Driving directions and parking tips are provided on [our Chapter's Meetup group](#). This event is cosponsored by CNPS, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society and Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*News and Activities from Other Organizations*

### **Native Plant Landscaper Certification**

The CNPS California Native Plant Landscaper Certificate Program [www.cnps.org/education/native-plant-landscaper-certificate-program](http://www.cnps.org/education/native-plant-landscaper-certificate-program) is a job-training program for landscape professionals. It's taught by highly respected native plant experts. Designed with professional and aspiring landscapers in mind, this nine-session course covers:

- How to identify native plants
- Irrigation and soil analysis
- Garden evaluation
- Maintenance – pruning and more
- Weed and pest management

Most classes are online with recordings that can be accessed anytime. At the end of the successful completion of the course which includes assignments, participants receive a certificate of completion and learn how to promote their business.

### **Our Chapter is sponsoring the session that starts on**

**October 17.** It will be taught in English. The class is free and open to professionals who live or work in our Chapter area (Santa Clara and south San Mateo counties).



We have taken to heart feedback from our members that they cannot always find professional landscapers who know how to design or maintain native plant gardens. This certification program helps to fill that gap. For more information and to apply, visit [www.cnps-scv.org/cnplc-application](http://www.cnps-scv.org/cnplc-application). Class size is limited and applications must be submitted by **Wednesday, October 9.**

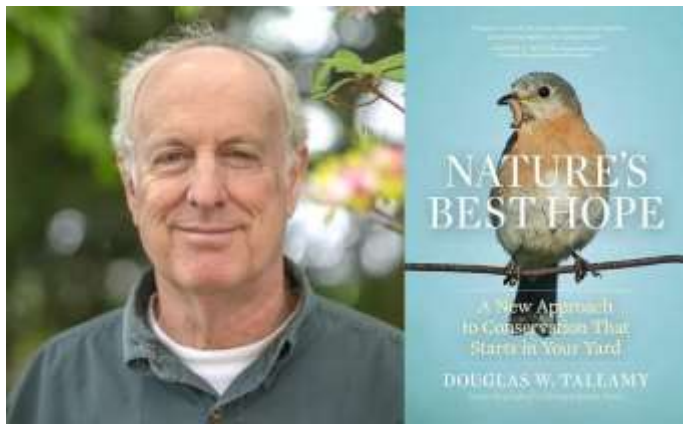
**SAVE THE DATES! Doug Tallamy Speaking in Bay Area November 16 and 17**

Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour is hosting a conference featuring Doug Tallamy in the Bay Area in mid-November. Our Chapter is cosponsoring the conference, along with the Golden Gate Bird Alliance.

**Doug Tallamy Speaking Live  
Saturday, November 16 in Oakland  
Sunday, November 17 in Santa Clara**

Conference updates will be posted on the GWN forum and you can subscribe to GWN here: [www.cnps-scv.org/GWN](http://www.cnps-scv.org/GWN).

Many Chapter members have already been inspired by Dr. Tallamy’s books and talks. He encourages us to plant native plants that our native wildlife can actually eat, especially to encourage production of insects that feed our native birds. For an example of Dr. Tallamy’s talks, see the presentation our Chapter hosted in November of 2020, “Nature’s Best Hope,” at [www.youtube.com/live/esNIhiWwR84?si=t\\_eMUKC7wkCHbFH3](http://www.youtube.com/live/esNIhiWwR84?si=t_eMUKC7wkCHbFH3).



Douglas Tallamy photo credit Rob Cardillo

**Dr. Douglas W. Tallamy** is a distinguished professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware and Founder of Homegrown National Park. He is a leading voice in the field of conservation, with an emphasis on sustainable use of private lands including home gardens. You can learn more about him at: [www.homegrownnationalpark.org/founders](http://www.homegrownnationalpark.org/founders).

**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](http://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 **mostly** online only, at: [www.cnps-scv.org/blazing-star-newsletter](http://www.cnps-scv.org/blazing-star-newsletter). Our next paper version will be the 2025 May-June issue.

**Did You Know?**

... That the CNPS SCV website has a list of nurseries that sell native plants? Here: [www.cnps-scv.org/Where-to-Buy-Native-Plants](http://www.cnps-scv.org/Where-to-Buy-Native-Plants). In the previous *Blazing Star* we gave you a link to native seed sources. Now we want to be sure you don't miss the link to nurseries. And, if you are travelling to other parts of California and want to shop at nurseries state-wide, then be sure to check out this map of nurseries on Calscape: [calscape.org/california-nurseries](http://calscape.org/california-nurseries).

**CHAPTER LEADERSHIP FOR 2024-2025**

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

To see the full list of Chapter officers and chairs, please visit [www.cnps-scv.org/leadership](http://www.cnps-scv.org/leadership).

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT *BLAZING STAR***  
**Saturday, October 19**  
**carol.mattsson@gmail.com or (408) 309-8314**



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](http://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](http://www.cnps.org).

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS (page # in parentheses)

- |                   |                                         |                           |                                           |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sep 10 Tue</b> | Conservation Committee meeting (11)     | <b>Oct 17 Thu</b>         | Fall plant sale volunteer orientation (2) |
| <b>Sep 14 Sat</b> | Alum Rock Park workday (12)             | <b>Oct 19 Sat</b>         | <b>Fall plant sale/pickup/event</b> (1)   |
| <b>Sep 17 Tue</b> | Sep. Plant Sale online store opens (3)  | <b>Oct 19 Sat</b>         | <b>Newsletter submittal deadline</b> (16) |
| <b>Sep 18 Wed</b> | Research Scholarship talk (8)           | <b>Oct 22 Tue</b>         | Habitat restoration talk – Feld (5)       |
| <b>Sep 21 Sat</b> | CA nutmeg tree hike Villa Montalvo (14) | <b>Oct 22 Tue</b>         | Native Plant ID meeting (6)               |
| <b>Sep 21 Sat</b> | Sep. Plant Sale pickup (3)              | <b>Oct 25 Fri</b>         | Photo Group photo sharing (6)             |
| <b>Sep 22 Sun</b> | Lake Cunningham bird & plant walk (15)  | <b>Oct 25 Fri</b>         | Res. Scholarship applications due (7)     |
| <b>Sep 22 Sun</b> | Cutting and Seed Exchange + pickup (3)  | <b>Oct 29 Tue</b>         | GNGT garden submittal deadline (6)        |
| <b>Sep 24 Tue</b> | Native Plant ID meeting (6)             | <b>Nov 2 Sat</b>          | Chapter Annual Potluck (2)                |
| <b>Sep 27 Fri</b> | Photo Group photo sharing (6)           | <b>Feb 15, 2025</b>       | CC scholarship applications due (7)       |
| <b>Oct 3 Thu</b>  | Research Scholarship talk (9)           | <b>Wed &amp; Fri</b>      | Edgewood restoration workdays (12)        |
| <b>Oct 8 Tue</b>  | Conservation Committee meeting (11)     | <b>One Saturday/Month</b> | Alum Rock workdays (12)                   |
| <b>Oct 9 Wed</b>  | Landscaper class applications due (15)  | <b>Saturdays</b>          | Lake Cunningham Garden workdays (12)      |
| <b>Oct 10 Thu</b> | Floral traits talk – Hernandez (4)      | <b>Saturdays</b>          | Cataldi Park Garden workdays (12)         |
| <b>Oct 11 Fri</b> | Fall Plant Sale online store opens (1)  | <b>Saturdays</b>          | Kirk Pollinator Garden workdays (13)      |

The next Chapter board meetings will be **Thursdays, September 19** and **October 24** 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](mailto:priya4cnps@gmail.com) or Vivian Neou at [techchair@cnps-scv.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@cnps-scv.org). Address changes may be submitted to [membership@cnps.org](mailto:membership@cnps.org). Please put "address change" in the subject line.

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