



Erysimum menziesii

The Wallflower

The Newsletter of the California Native Plant Society
Monterey Bay Chapter

<http://montereybay.cnps.org>

September 2011

Thursday, September 8 at 7:00 PM

Meeting and Program

Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History

Gardening with Natives on the Central Coast

-Part of Conservation is Growing-

Speaker: Brett Hall—UCSC Arboretum Director

The Monterey Chapter of the California Native Plant Society hosts its annual plant sale on Saturday, October 1st. Brett Hall, Director of the UCSC Arboretum will present a primer to the plant sale with an illustrated presentation extolling the virtues and delights of using natives in your garden. He will present a broad range of beautiful plants well adapted and available to you to plant in the Monterey and central coast region. There are many compelling reasons you might choose natives for your garden. Attracting pollinators, requirements for less energy, less water, habitat gardening, and connecting to local ecosystems, are among the many reasons to use natives.

Brett Hall was born and raised along the Central California coast, mostly in the Monterey Bay region. In the early 70's, he worked at his family's landscaping and garden design business. As an undergrad at UCSC, Brett worked at the Arboretum, graduating with a BA in Natural History and Biology. He started on the staff in October 1975 and became garden manager in 1976.

"I have been very fortunate to spend 30 years working in the Arboretum developing collections, planting gardens, and working with our wonderful group of staff, students and volunteers. My special interests include many of our collections but I plan on focusing considerable effort in the development of our native plant program and the California Province Gardens. I enjoy working with dedicated volunteers who have a genuine interest in botany and horticulture."

CALENDAR of FIELD TRIPS & EVENTS

Saturday, September 3, 1pm to 4pm Restoration
BROOM BASH, EAST SIDE OF PT. LOBOS STATE RESERVE

Join us on these First Saturdays of the month visits to the beautiful Monterey pine forest on the east side of Point Lobos. We'll use several techniques to remove French broom and help restore this area that wants to thrive with native plants. Meet at 1pm in Carmel at the Rio Road Park n' Ride to carpool (across from the Chevron Gas Station). All supplies provided. Bring a friend, water, and a snack. Contact Bruce Delgado at bdelgado62@gmail.com or 831-277-7690 or for more information.

Friday, September 16, 6:00pm

Field Trip

SLOW PACED COMMUNITY WALK at FORT ORD

With all of the recent interest in the awesomeness of our beautiful Fort Ord public open spaces Mayor Bruce Delgado and Supervisor Jane Parker are inviting the public to come enjoy some outdoor recreation. Bruce will provide information about the fauna and flora of the area and Jane will talk about her role on the Fort Ord Reuse Authority. We will meet at the East end of Inter-Garrison Road (at the barricades just east of Schoonover Road). The walk will be an easy 1 to 2 miles. Wear comfortable

Calendar of Field Trips & Events Continued on Page 2

ANNUAL CNPS PLANT SALE!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 10:00AM TO 1:00PM

MEARTH HILTON BIALEK HABITAT
CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL • CARMEL VALLEY ROAD

While spring may be the best time to see California natives in bloom, fall is the best time to plant them. Get a head start on having a more floriferous spring by shopping the annual native plant sale and planting this fall. Have no place to put new plants in your garden? Bring a friend and help them get started. Have a black thumb and no idea what to plant? Check out our large selection of books on gardening with California natives or ask one of our plant experts for help. Come see this amazing selection of native species and cultivars and take a few home to brighten up your next spring.

CNPS members get 10% discount
on Plant and Book purchases!

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS HAS BEEN CHANGED

We now have a new website that conforms to the state template. The current one will be abandoned in 2012. The change will be from the old URL, www.montereybaycnps.org

to: <http://montereybay.cnps.org>

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE ADJUSTMENT

Please notice that the October Wallflower deadline has been changed. It is now Wednesday, September 14 instead of Thursday, September 15.

SEPTEMBER RANCH EXTENSION DENIED: On Aug. 10 the Monterey County Planning Commission denied on a 5-5 vote a request by lawyer Tony Lombardo for a four-year extension because of adverse economic conditions. CNPS opposed the 95-unit project on steep slopes between Del Mesa Carmel and the Eastwood project in Carmel Valley because of the extensive impacts on the Monterey Pine Forest. Other groups opposed it through lawsuits that achieved some minor improvements on water and traffic issues. Nevertheless, the project has an automatic extension to 2014.

"WHIMPERING OAKS" HEADED FOR VOTERS: A referendum drive to overturn the Supervisors' 4-1 vote approving this massive industrial park at Fort Ord appears to have tallied enough signatures to go on the ballot next year. Officially called "Whispering Oaks," the project that would destroy between 3400 and 4400 oaks and an unknown number of rare or endangered plants. The proposed industrial park was strenuously opposed by many groups and individuals because it had been relocated to a pristine oak forest instead of the degraded site originally proposed, or the more logical site at the Marina airport. Opponents were outraged at the chutzpah of the county in using redevelopment funds intended for rehabilitating blighted areas to convert important wildlife habitat to industrial use.

VILLAS DE CARMELO IS BACK: On Aug. 10 the County Planning Commission narrowly reversed (6-4) its earlier vote not to consider the 46-condo development until the increase in density is heard by the Coastal Commission as part of a package of amendments to Local Coastal Program required by the project. All four commissioners from the Peninsula opposed the reversal. Current zoning, supported by neighborhood and environmental groups, would allow only seven units. CNPS opposed the project, located at the old Carmel Convalescent Hospital site north of Ocean Ave., because of excessive removal of Monterey pines and live oaks along Hwy 1, a designated scenic highway. The proposal is now scheduled to come before the Planning Commission on Aug. 31.

FIRE RETARDANTS RESTRICTED: Because of documented toxic impacts of fire retardants on some 65 threatened and endangered species, the US Forest Service has been required by a federal court to cease retardant drops in critical habitat areas or within 300 feet of creeks except to protect human lives. The Los Padres National Forest has incurred more such drops than any other national forest in the country—twice the volume of chemicals used by the second-place forest, according to Keep the Sespe Wild, a forest conservation group in Ojai.

TREE-CLEARING FROM LEVEES OPPOSED: Conservationists are opposing a recent proposal by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) to clear trees off levees to make them "safer." When trees were cleared along the Pajaro River some years ago, flood waters from a severe storm broke through and flooded farmlands and homes. CNPS pointed out at the time that the roots of vegetation help sustain the levees and provide valuable habitat for wildlife, urging that levees be kept well vegetated with native plants. A coalition of environmental groups has filed suit against the ACE to stop this short-sighted program.

DOUGLAS RESIGNS FROM COASTAL STAFF: The long-time executive director of the CA Coastal Commission, Peter Douglas, announced his retirement at the regular CCC meeting this month after a long battle with lung cancer. Widely praised for his skill and eloquence in defending the CA Coastal Act, considered to be the most protective U.S. coastal legislation in existence, Douglas not only co-authored the original legislation but also served on the staff for some 40 years. Although decisions are made by a 12-member appointed Coastal Commission, Douglas is credited with key input into staff recommendations, supported by CNPS and other conservation groups, that protected vast stretches of sensitive coastal habitat from being converted to mega-mansions and luxury resorts. Douglas, who attended the R.L. Stevenson School in Pebble Beach, is being honored by local friends at a meeting in Carmel in late August.

ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTION ACHIEVED: The largest-ever landmark agreement was recently struck by the Center for Biodiversity and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to protect 757 endangered plant and animal species on a fixed and enforceable timeline. One of the longest lists was for California and included the following CA plants: Brand's phacelia, Orcutt's hazardia, Goose Creek milk-vetch, San Fernando Valley spineflower, Ramshaw Meadow sand-verbena, Red Mountain buckwheat, Red Mountain stonecrop, Shasta chaparral, Siskiyou mariposa lily, Soldier Mountain cinquefoil, Tahoe yellow cress, Tehamana chaparral, Webber's ivesia. None is known from Monterey Co. The agreement represents the end of a listing logjam that has gone on for years while many plants and animals have slipped toward extinction.

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walking shoes and bring water. Feel free to bring a friend, camera and binoculars. If you'd like to bring a sack dinner, there will be many beautiful spots to take a rest and enjoy your meal. For more information call Lynn at 375-7777.

**Sunday, September 18, 11am to 2pm Restoration
SOBERANES CREEK CAPE IVY BASH**

Here Soberanes Creek falls into the ocean and needs our help continuing to remove various invasive weeds, primarily Cape ivy. On these Third Sundays, meet at 11am in Carmel at the Rio Rd. Park n' Ride to carpool (across from the Chevron gas station). All supplies provided. Bring a friend, water, and a snack. Contact

Bruce Delgado at bdelgado62@gmail.com or 831-277-7690 for more information.

**Friday, September 23, 9am to 12:30pm Field Trip
BEHIND THE SECNES AT RANA CREEK NURSERY**

Rana Creek is a renowned ecological design firm specializing in environmental planning, landscape architecture, green roofs (including the California Academy of Sciences roof), habitat restoration, and native plant propagation. Today, we will be given a special "behind the scenes" tour and learn about what is happening at Rana Creek and about some of their amazing projects. Bring a hat, water, and a snack. Arrive early; we leave at 9am from the Rio Road Park & Ride. Call Lynn for a reservation 375-7777.

Calendar of Field Trips & Events Continued on Page 3

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Friday, September 23, 9am to 2:30pm Restoration **CAPE IVY WEED BASH AT SOBERANES CREEK**

Join other volunteers and State Parks staff and help to reverse the spread of sticky eupatorium and Cape ivy in the wonderful Soberanes Creek watershed. One “Migrating” Friday each month we’ll continue to spend a wondrous day in paradise. Contact Bruce Delgado to RSVP and for details: bdelgado62@gmail.com or 831-227-7690. All supplies provided. Bring a friend, water, and a snack.

Sunday, September 25, 1pm to 4pm Restoration **CARMEL RIVER STATE BEACH**

Come join other volunteers and State Parks staff on these Fourth Sundays to restore world-class beautiful meadows and beach bluffs to native wild flowers and healthy ecosystems. All supplies provided. You just bring water and a smile. Wear gardening type clothes and sturdy shoes. Meet at the Ribera Road trail head south of the Carmel River and east of Hwy 1. Contact Bruce Delgado at 831-277-7690 or bdelgado62@gmail.com for more information.

ARTICLES of INTEREST

WONDERFUL FIELD TRIP, UNWELCOME NEWS

Last month’s field trip to Hastings Natural History Reserve was amazing! The Reserve provides a unique location for academics who wish to pursue field study of the rich biodiversity of Monterey County. The Reserve is also a setting of historical importance to Carmel Valley. Mark Stromberg, Biologist, Naturalist and Resident Director of Hastings fascinated us with information from details about huge ancient oak trees to the lives of tiny water bears that live in the oaks. Mark even took us through several historic buildings on the Reserve including the old Comstock designed school house, the original 1860 housing structure and other buildings (all with their own story). The experience was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone present.

But the one thing that we were not happy to learn was that October 24th of this year, Mark will be retiring. He and his wife will be moving to an oak woodland area near Sonoita, Arizona which is southeast of Tucson. We all knew it would be coming soon, but still, it’s not easy to accept. He has done an enormous amount for the Reserve over the 24 years that he has been there. Mark has been extremely helpful to the many individuals, groups and organizations that have enjoyed the Reserve. Even though we will still occasionally see him, his ongoing presence and his comfortable manner will be missed.

NEW MONTEREY PINE BOOK DRAWS RAVES

Monterey Pine Forest Watch has produced an amazingly thorough yet inviting and readable book titled *Coastal California’s Living Legacy: The Monterey Pine Forest*. The book has it all: the biology and history of this iconic pine, its unique genetics, the impacts of human settlement on its habitat, proposals for conservation, maps and trails suitable for explorations in all of the native stands, lists of the flora and fauna that thrive in the pine forest, and a wealth of spectacular photos showing the pines in many different lights.

Pine Watch, as the group is familiarly known, was formed over 20 years ago as a committee of the Monterey Bay Chapter of CNPS, becoming an independent 501(c)3 non-profit as its ambitions grew. Almost from the beginning, the group realized the need for a book

that would alert readers to the unique qualities and situation of the pine, which forms the distinctive backdrop for the Monterey Peninsula and parts of coastal Santa Cruz and San Luis Obispo counties, yet is taken for granted by many local residents.

The principal authors, David Bates, Rita Dalessio, Nikki Nedeff, and Joyce Stevens, aided in part by professional editors and designers, deserve high praise for this eminently useful and beautiful book. It is available at local bookstores for \$22 and at CNPS meetings where members receive a discount—a great bargain and a thoughtful Christmas gift.

A WALK IN THE WILD: CONTINUING JOHN MUIR’S JOURNEY

August 6, 2011 to January 22, 2012

OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA

Explore the legacy of John Muir’s life and how he continues to influence our relationship with the natural world. This special exhibition presents both an historical and contemporary lens on the natural environment of California. Spotting the life of the radical environmentalist as well as eight Modern Day Muirs, *A Walk in the Wild: Continuing John Muir’s Journey* highlights Californians currently involved in environmental research and activism. It includes a Yosemite National Park geologist, a bighorn-sheep biologist, and an Oakland tree-planter/activist. Through interactive, multisensory displays and digital mash-ups, visitors will experience a simulation of Muir’s exploration behind Yosemite Falls, his trek from Yosemite to Mount Whitney, and even his night spent in a hollow giant sequoia observing the forest burning around him. Told through OMCA’s collections of art, history, and natural science, interactive digital technology, and select loans of journals, manuscripts, and original drawings, the exhibition is a tribute to Muir’s legacy and to the importance of continued environmental stewardship. To learn more, go to: <http://museumca.org/muir>

A WARNING ABOUT DEATHCAP MUSHROOMS

Of course we know that deathcap mushrooms can easily kill people, but they can also kill dogs, cats, horses... To read an article about one dog owner’s sad experience, go to the following website: <http://www.akcchf.org/canine-health/your-dogs-health/death-cap-mushrooms.html>

BEACH GARDEN PROJECT (BGP) TURNS 20!

•Volunteers are Needed (kids too!)•

Led by long-time volunteer-coordinator Joey Dorrell-Canepa, BGP has announced the fall and winter schedule for its 20th year of seed collecting, propagation and outplanting of native dune plants into coastal park and open space areas. BGP was founded by the Monterey Bay Dunes Coalition, made up of representatives from the Monterey Bay Chapter of CNPS, the Ventana Chapter of the Sierra Club, and the Monterey Bay Area Audubon Society. Key support has been provided for 2011-12 by CA State Parks, the Chuck Haugen Conservation Fund, and the Barnet Segal Trust. A major component of the effort is the involvement of elementary school students in every phase of the project. Seed collection may have been completed by the time this is published, as well as a propagation demonstration set for Sat., Aug. 27 at Marina State Beach. Volunteers are needed now for propagation, and will be needed for outplanting of seedlings on Saturdays starting Jan. 7, 2012. For further information or to volunteer for propagation, contact Joey at 831-623-9048 or scanepa@ix.netcom.com or P.O. Box 215, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045.



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 Monterey Bay Chapter: <http://montereybay.cnps.org>
 State Organization: www.cnps.org

LOOKING AHEAD

October Speaker: Dale Hillard from *Hillard's Hives, Bees & Wasps*

2011 CNPS Newsletter Publication Schedule

| Newsletter | Deadline | Mailing Date |
|------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| October | <u>Wed Sept 14 (changed)</u> | Wed Sept 21 |
| Nov/Dec | Thurs Oct 13 | Wed Oct 19 |
| January | Thurs Dec 15 | Wed Dec 21 |

Articles received after deadline may not be published

When you take a flower in your hand and really look at it, it's your world for the moment. I want to give that world to someone else. Most people in the city rush around so, they have no time to look at a flower. I want them to see it whether they want to or not. ~ Georgia O'Keeffe

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CNPS RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

- BEACH GARDEN PROJECT:** Joey Dorrell-Canepa, 623-9048, stephen.canepa@att.net
CHUCK HAUGEN CONSERVATION FUND: Bruce Delgado, (See Restoration)
ROWNTREE GARDEN: Gary Girard, 375 Gibson Ave., Pacific Grove 93950, 372-5870
MONTEREY PINE FOREST WATCH: Joyce Stevens, P.O. Box 2116, Carmel 93921, 624-3149, jstevens@redshift.com

Dedicated to the Preservation of
 California Native Flora in its Habitat



Membership Form
Join the California Native Plant Society!

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Chapter (County) Affiliation _____

Membership categories:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ___ Limited income...\$25 | ___ Plant Lover.....\$100 |
| ___ Individual.....\$45 | ___ Patron.....\$300 |
| ___ Family.....\$75 | ___ Benefactor.....\$600 |
| ___ Mariposa Lily....\$1,500 | |

Please mail this membership form with payment to:
 California Native Plant Society, Attention: Membership
 2707 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816

To pay by credit card or more info call 916-447-2677

All dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible