2013 Wildflower Show
April 19, 20 & 21 - 10am to 5pm Each Day

For almost a decade I have been driving to Southern California the first week in March to attend the state wide CNPS meetings at Rancho Santa Anna Botanic Gardens. I have used this trip down and back as the first assessment of what that year’s Wildflower Show could be. Having just arrived back on March 10, 2013, my feelings are that this year is both good and bad.

The good is there are more flowers on Highway 25 behind King City than there are on the Carrizo Plain, the bad side of that is there are 0, no, not one flower on the Carrizo. The good is we did get some rain the first week of March, the bad side of that is it may have been too little too late. The good is I did see one basal leaf of a thistle sage, the bad side of that is I saw just one thistle sage plant. The good is a lot of years I am worried about what we can find and especially last year and then we found over 650 taxa for the show, the bad side to that is I am really worried this year.

The good is there will be a Wildflower Show on April 19, 20 and 21, there is no bad side to that. The good is the CNPS collectors have the desire, knowledge and ability to find that one thistle sage or jewel flower or other plant—there is no bad side to that. The good is despite my worries the exhibit room will be full of enough wildflowers to satisfy everyone’s desire for color, texture and smell, there is no bad side to that.

So come to the 53rd Annual Wildflower Show at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History and indulge your senses. This year’s show is Friday, April 19 to Sunday, April 21. Every day you can look over the 600+ plants, look over and purchase some of the many books the chapter has for sale, view the native plant microhabitat pots created by Chris Hauser and every day you can celebrate the third week of April which is California Native Plant Week as designated by our state legislature. Saturday April 20, other environmental organizations that work with native plants will have display tables in the bird room describing their involvement with native plants. Saturday there will be a $20.00 fee for a workshop “Creating Native Microhabitat pots.” Sunday there will be a free class on “Identifying Plant Families,” an informal talk on “Sudden Oak Death,” and a $10.00 fee for the workshop “Botanical Basics: An introduction to Sketching Wildflowers.

The Museum and CNPS put this event on out of love for the event and wanting to show the diversity of wildflowers especially in Monterey County—so please come and enjoy. Admission is free to both CNPS and Museum Association members, but the Museum does ask for a small donation to offset the cost of staff and the facility. ~ Brian Le-Neve, President & Wildflower Show Chair

Reminder

We won’t have a CNPS General Meeting in April. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 9, 2013.

Thomas Quattlebaum & Nikki Nedeff’s recent Del Monte Forest field trip. Photo by Margret Cordts.

CALENDAR of FIELD TRIPS & EVENTS

Saturday, April 6, 10am Field Trip
Asilomar State Beach and Conference Ground Walk
Cyndi Dawson, Environmental Scientist, will accompany CNPS Leader Corky Matthews on a leisure walk in the Asilomar Dunes Natural Preserve. The approximately 2

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mile walk will take us through some of the most spectacular restored dunes on the west coast. We’ll be on the look out for several of the five species of threatened or endangered plants that grow there. Bring water, a snack and be prepared for windy conditions. Meet on the deck of the Hearst Social Hall (or inside if real cold) located in the southern part of the Asilomar Conference Grounds. Call Lynn for a reservation at 375-7777.

Saturday, April 6, 1pm to 4pm  Restoration Broom Bash, East Side of Point Lobos State Reserve
Join us on these First Saturdays of the month in the beautiful Monterey pine forest of East Point Lobos. We’ll use several techniques to remove French broom and help restore this area that wants to thrive with native plants. Meet in Carmel at the Rio Road Park and Ride. All supplies provided. Bring a friend, water and a snack. Contact Bruce Delgado at 277-7690 or bdelgado62@gmail.com for more information.

Sunday, April 7, 10am to 1pm  Field Trip Introduction to Wildflower Identification - A Walk at Fort Ord
Larkspur, baby blue-eyes, cream cups, fiesta flower, Indian warrior—during our easy walk we will have the chance to see many species of native California wildflowers. We will mostly use common names and talk about how to identify wildflowers including common plant families. Meet at the Creekside parking lot on Fort Ord National Monument. Directions: From Highway 68 between Monterey and Salinas take the River Road/Reservation Road exit and turn towards Marina on Reservation Road. After a very short distance turn left onto Portola Drive and follow the BLM signs to the parking lot. For more information contact Sue Hubbard at shubbard@redshift.com or 444-8645.

Tuesday, April 16, 10am  Field Trip Mount Madonna - The Most Beautiful Jewel Flower
Join Andy Werner and Lynn Bomberger as they venture into a remote serpentine area of Mount Madonna to seek the ‘most beautiful jewel flower.’ We also hope to see the candy flower and many other beautiful early wildflowers. 5 miles with 1000 ft. elevation gain. Bring lunch and water. Arrive early, we depart from the Sprig Recreation area at 10am. Call Lynn for a reservation at 375-7777.

Saturday, April 20, 10am  Field Trip The Power of Plants at Garland Ranch
Join Sharon Mitchell on an easy 1 ½ to 2 mile walk to learn how humans have made practical uses of plants since ancient times. We will learn about the edible, medicinal and utilitarian properties of plants that may grow in your own backyard. We will also observe plant strategies that allow them to flourish and survive. Bring water and a snack. Meet at the Garland Ranch Visitor Center at 10am. Call Lynn for a reservation at 375-7777.

Saturday, April 20, 10am to 3pm  Plant Sale Living Museum of California Native Plants
Come to the living museum of California native plants at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden on Wildcat Canyon Road and South Park Drive in Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. Volunteers will direct you to parking spots. No entrance admission or parking fee! "What plants would do well in clay soil?" "Any suggestions for a garden that doesn't get much sun?" "You got any 'deer proof' plants?" "Where's your seeds table?" All proceeds will directly benefit the Garden. Please bring empty boxes to carry your treasures home. Experts stationed at every post. For more information: bgarden@ebparks.org.

Sunday, April 21, 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 in Carmel at the Rio Road Park and Ride to carpool. All supplies provided. Bring a friend, water, and a snack. Contact Bruce Delgado at 277-7690 or bdelgado62@gmail.com for details.

Thursday, April 25, 9:30am  Field Trip Point Lobos Wildflower Hike
Point Lobos at peak wildflower season….wow!! Besides numerous wildflowers, we will enjoy magnificent views, a variety of wildlife and a walk through a quiet Monterey pine forest. 4 miles with minimal elevation gain. Bring water & lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 9:30am from Rio Road Park & Ride in Carmel. Call leader, Lynn Bomberger, at 375-7777 for a reservation.

Saturday, April 27, 10am to 4pm  Plant Sale 'MEarth Day' at Hilton Bialek Habitat
‘MEarth Day will be a celebration of sustainable living at the Hilton Bialek Habitat. Attendees, of all ages, will enjoy our annual native and ornamental plant sale (typically held on Mother’s Day weekend), eco-friendly exhibitors, live music, a kiddie fun zone, property/program tours, food in our outdoor...
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kitchen, a silent auction and an instant wine cellar raffle. All proceeds from MEarth Day will support MEarth’s environmental educational programs for our community. $5 entrance fee (kids under 12 are FREE). The event will be at 4380 Carmel Valley Road (adjacent to Carmel Middle School). For more information go to www.MEarthCarmel.org. If you would like to help set-up or assist at the plant sale, contact Amanda at 624-1032 or (650)804-9612.

Sunday, April 28, 9am to 3:30pm Field Trip & Pot Luck
Upper Garzas Creek Hike/BBQ Potluck
Join trip leader Al Washburn and his sidekick botanist Bruce Delgado at Al’s 2000 ft. cabin in the woods along Garzas Creek. Your choice of gentle walks along the creek or a more strenuous hike up the steep surrounding hills. There will be beautiful waterfalls and riparian habitat, lush ferns, wildflowers, and probably a few mosquitoes. Meet at 9am sharp at the gated entrance to Santa Lucia Preserve on Rancho San Carlos Road off Carmel Valley Road, just past the CVAC tennis club. 4WD useful, but not required, carpooling a must. Bring potluck lunch items to share around a cooking fire. Dogs OK. Call Al for a reservation at 373-4873 or email at awashburn8@comcast.net

Sunday, April 28th, 9am to 3pm Field Trip
Point Lobos SNR Rare Plant Treasure Hunt
Join Deanna Giuliano (Santa Cruz Chapter) and Danny Slakey for a hike and rare plant search at Point Lobos. We'll try to relocate populations of rare local endemics, including Trifolium polyodon and Clarkia jolomensis. Participants will learn about techniques for conducting rare plant surveys, including mapping with gps units, using CNDDB data and maps, and documenting populations. Meet in Carmel at the Rio Road Park and Ride. Bring a lunch, water, sun protection, and botany supplies (including GPS if you have one). Send RSVPs or questions to dslakey@cnps.org.

Saturday May 4, 9am-Noon Field Trip
Garland Ranch Wildflower Hike
Join Garland Ranch docent, Gordon Williams, as he identifies and names about 60 different species in Valley Carmel along the Terrace and Garzas Canyon trails! Meet at the Garzas Canyon trailhead on East Garzas Rd: drive 1.5 miles beyond the main entrance of Garland Ranch, turn right on Boronda Rd and go to the end. Turn left on East Garzas Rd, continue for about 1/4 mile to the trailhead on the right. Bring water and a snack. About 3.5 miles with 800 ft. elevation gain. For questions, please call Gordon at 372-6374.

Sunday, May 19, 9am to Noon Field Trip
Soberanes Canyon Flower Walk
Join Leader Bob Hale for an easy walk in Soberanes Canyon of Garrapata State Park. A great diversity of riparian plants, coastal scrub and redwood forest should be in flower. The gentle cascading water of the creek and happy birds will enhance our journey. A 2 to 3 mile walk with up to 400 feet elevation gain depending on how far we walk. We depart from Rio Road Park and Ride by 9am. Bring water and a light snack. Call Lynn at 375-7777 for a reservation.

CNPS Santa Cruz Area Leaders Field Trips
Check online at cruzcnps.org for details on the following field trips and for possible additions:

April 7, Lucilles Court Meadow with Randall Morgan
April 20, Slippery Rock, Big Basin with Randall Morgan

ARTICLES, ETC.

HUNTING FOR RARE PLANTS OF MONTEREY COUNTY
The Rare Plant Treasure Hunt is a statewide initiative of CNPS in which volunteers survey for rare plant populations. The RPTH recently received a grant to document rare plants in Central Coast State Parks and the Ventana Wilderness of the Los Padres National Forest. The northern Los Padres is one of the most biologically diverse, yet unsurveyed forests in our state. This is a great opportunity to explore and botanize these parks, while conserving their rare plants. Project coordinator Danny Slakey will give a short presentation on the project at the March Chapter meeting. Email dslakey@cnps.org or check out the website at http://www.cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt/ for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO NURTURE GARRAPATA STATE PARK NATIVE PLANTS
I have worked diligently, for a decade in Garrapata State Park, protecting and enhancing its native plant habitat. I've done the hard work of removing many, many non-native plants that were overwhelming the canyon. Now, I need fellow plant lovers to help me maintain the beauty of this canyon. I'm looking for helpers to keep the weeds at bay in the canyon and lower Rocky Ridge trails. If you can "adopt" a small area along the trails to steward, you will enjoy the satisfaction of spending time protecting a beautiful patch of native habitat while watching it during the year. Contact Bob Hale at 656-3108 if you are interested in helping.

BOTANICAL SOCIETY TO CELEBRATE 100th ANNIVERSARY
All botanical enthusiasts are invited to set aside the weekend of April 12 to 14 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the California Botanical Society. Details can be found at: www.calbotsoc.org.

Our CNPS Wildflower Show will be April 19, 20 & 21 at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, 10-5 ea day.

Beginning in May, CNPS Monterey Chapter will change to having General Meetings every other month.

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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 for more info call 916-447-2677.

Dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible.

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