Re-Discovering Traditional Ecological Knowledge at Pinnacles National Park

General Meeting Speaker: Brent Johnson

An extensive deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*) field and large beds of whiteroot sedge (*Carex barbarae*) are hidden within a canyon recently acquired by the Pinnacles. Deergrass, whiteroot sedge and many other species found in this canyon may have been managed for thousands of years, and have deep meanings and uses for past and present California Indian peoples. Here at Pinnacles, we are finding methods to incorporate ways that California Indians managed these lands into how we manage today, while also providing opportunities for California Indians to re-learn traditional practices. You will learn about various projects we are undertaking at Pinnacles, including burning deergrass and tending sedge beds alongside tribal members.

*Brent Johnson is an ecologist with Pinnacles National Park and strives to bring his background in anthropology and biology to his work and projects. He has spent much of his career working in National Park sites throughout California, including Yosemite, Sequoia and Kings Canyon, Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate NRA.*

**General Meeting • Thursday, May 9**

Visiting & Book Purchasing from 7:00pm
Meeting and Program Begin at 7:30pm
Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History

**CALENDAR of FIELD TRIPS & EVENTS**

| 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 Carmel Valley 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.

**Saturday, May 4 & June 1, 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.

**May/June 2013**

**Saturday, May 4th, 1pm to 3pm** Workshop Camel Valley Sudden Oak Death BLITZ
Help Save California’s Native Oaks by participating in the 2013 SOD Blitz. UC Berkeley is hosting a meeting at Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District’s, Garland Park Museum to help survey for Sudden Oak Death. SOD is an invasive pathogen that is threatening the survival of tanoaks and several oak species in California. The yearly SOD Blitz survey is one of the largest citizen-scientist efforts in the country. You will learn how to identify symptoms associated with SOD and leave equipped to take samples that are vital to understanding and tracking the progress of the disease. Contact Kerri Frangioso at kfrangioso@ucdavis.edu or 530-219-15750. For more information, visit the SOD website at www.sodblitz.org.

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Thursday May 9, 9:15am Field Trip
Garland Ranch Regional Park Spring Wildflowers
Join Michael Mitchell, co-author of Wildflowers of Garland Ranch—a field guide, on a wildflower walk along the Terrace Trail and Garzas Creek. Expect to see gorgeous displays of spring flowers including Coast and Red Larkspurs, Madia, Clarkias, Fairy Lanterns, Gilias and many more. About 3.5 miles with 600 ft. elevation gain. Bring water and a snack if desired; we will be back by lunchtime. Wear shoes or boots with good treads. Meet at 9:15 in the main parking lot (lower lot) of Garland Ranch. Call Lynn for a reservation at 375-7777.

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.

Sunday, May 19 & June 16, 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.

Sat-Sun, June 8-9, 10am to 4pm Wildflower Show
MPRPD's 14th Annual Wildflower Show at Garland Park
Wildflowers will be on display from 10am to 4pm both days at the Garland Ranch Regional Park, free! Guided Wildflower Walks on both days, A Wildflower Field Sketching class is offered by Erin Hunter at the Garland Museum on Saturday from 12pm to 4pm (Fee: $25/$28, pre-registration is required). A one hour WILDFLOWER SLIDESHOW on plants and plant names by Sharon & Michael Mitchell on Saturday from 10:30am to 11:30am at the Garland Museum. Pre-registration recommended for the walks and the slideshow. Register Online: www.mprpd.org, hit “Click here to Register” on the Let’s Go Outdoors Catalog icon—then register under the category of ‘Wildflower Show.’ Call 831-659-6065 for more information.

Thursday, June 13, 4pm Field Trip
Evening Soap Plant Quest
This 7 mile hike with 600 ft. elevation gain in Toro Park takes us through a forested valley along the Ollason trail then up to oak dotted grasslands. If we are lucky, we will see soap plants blooming—they bloom in the late afternoon and evening. If not, we’ll have a nice late day walk in the woods. Bring water & dinner. Arrive early; we depart at 4pm from the dirt parking area outside Toro Park. Call leader, Lynn Bomberger for a reservation at 375-7777.

Saturday, June 15, 9:00am Field Trip
Young Steelhead Rescue
Imagine being able to rescue young steelhead trout! Join Brian LeNeve and the Carmel River Steelhead Association on a field trip to do just that. The location will either be Cachagua Creek or the lower Carmel River, depending on river or creek conditions and rescue needs. Every one must wear hip boots and rubber gloves provided by the Steelhead Association. We will be walking on river rocks, so agility is required. We will meet at Baja Catania near the entrance to Quail Lodge at 9:00am. Call Brian for a reservation at 624-8497 or bjleneve@att.net (space is limited). Drinks will be provided, bring a snack.

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CNPS Santa Cruz Area Leaders
Field Trips
Check online at cruzcnps.org for details on the following:

At the time of publication, there were no Santa Cruz area field trips listed online. Check their website for possible updates.

ARTICLES, ETC.

WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE...

No, not a baby; it’s a website -
www.montereywildflowers.com
Michael Mitchell and Rod Yeager have compiled a photographic guide to almost 1,000 wildflowers, trees, shrubs and ferns to be found within about 15 mile of Monterey. Like their field guide to the Wildflowers of Garland Ranch, there are multiple photographs for the vast majority of the species together with information about the plants, how to identify them and where to find them. The website has been designed to be as user-friendly and easy to navigate as possible, starting either from color-coded pages with thumbnail photographs of all the plants or a complete index of common and scientific names. Try it out!

BOTANICAL ADVENTURES
WITH THE RARE PLANT TREASURE HUNT!

Join us for one or more of the following trips this spring or summer!

May 5 Junipero Serra Peak
May 11-13 Pine Ridge/Tassajara Hot Springs Backpack
May 16 Sierra Azul Open Space
May 20-22 Ventana Wilderness Car Camp (dates tentative)
May 25-27 Cone Peak Car Camp
June 5-7 Pine Ridge Trail/Sykes Hot Springs Backpack
June 8 Andrew Molera State Park
June 14-16 Alder Creek Bot. Area/South Coast Ridge Car Camp
June 28-30 Lion’s Den Bot. Area/Cruickshank Trail Backpack/Car Camp

More information is available at:
http://www.cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt/calendar.php or by contacting dslakey@cnps.org.

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.
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.