The Wallflower
The Newsletter of the California Native Plant Society
Monterey Bay Chapter

The Flavors of Home: A Taster’s Guide to the Landscape

General Meeting Speaker: Margit Roos-Collins

This is a talk for everyone who wants to know more about the local wild edible plants, from the tender greens we classify as weeds to our native nuts and berries. Margit will review the basics of how to forage safely, legally, and ethically, along with sharing her favourites in California’s edible repertoire. We’ll learn what’s in season this month and good plants to forage for with children. She brings cuttings to her talks and there will be time to look at them up close afterwards to help you recognize a sampling of the wild edibles on your hikes and in your yards.

Margit Roos-Collins is the author of the 1990 foraging classic, The Flavors of Home: A Guide to Wild Edible Plants of the San Francisco Bay Area. Heyday Books recently issued an updated version for the new generation of foraging enthusiasts. She’s led foraging walks for the California Academy of Sciences, Greenbelt Alliance, and other non-profits. She is a life member of CNPS. Copies of her book will be available for sale after the program.

General Meeting ● Thursday, July 13
Visiting and Book Purchasing from 7:00pm
Meeting and Program Begin at 7:30pm
Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History

STEWARDSHIP

CNPS stewardship is an opportunity to help eradicate invasive non-native plants on the first Saturdays and third Sundays of each month. Please contact Bruce Delgado at bdelgado62@gmail.com or 277-7690 for details.

FIELD TRIPS & EVENTS

*Monterey County Wildflowers—a Field Guide by Rod Yeager and Michael Mitchell will be available to purchase at the trailheads of the following field trips that begin with an asterisk.

Friday, July 7
Field Trip
Williams Canyon Leopard Lily Walk
*Jason Mills, Santa Lucia Conservancy’s Stewardship Manager, will lead us on this walk of about 5 miles. The trail winds along Williams Creek through a serene redwood forest with little elevation gain. Part of the trail is quite awkward to hike due to the Soberanes fire and flooding caused by trees falling into the creek—agility will be required. We’ll see a nice variety of ferns and flowers and hopefully spectacular six-foot-tall leopard lilies. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the Santa Lucia Conservancy office parking area, 26700 Rancho San Carlos Road, Carmel by 9:30am. Call Lynn at 375-7777 for a reservation—limit of 12.

Saturday, July 8
Field Trip
Wild NW Corner of Toro Park
Join Ed Mercurio on this short but strenuous hike into a seldom-visited corner of Toro Park. Davy’s centuary, Filagos, tar weeds, Chorizanthes, and others will hopefully still be blooming. If nothing else, we’ll have spectacular views from steep rugged high cliffs (not for those with a fear of heights). 4 miles with about 700 feet gain. Bring water, lunch and good hiking boots. Call Ed for a reservation, the meeting time and meeting location at 206-0737. Limit of 8.

Brian LeNeve was the main man this year to pull the amazing wildflower show together. Here, he’s shown with two of his many tireless helpers. Photo by Lynn

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Saturday July 22

Garland Park Summer Wildflower Walk
*Our morning walk out the Terrace Trail with Bob Hale should highlight elegant madias and other late season flowers. Then we’ll admire a stunning buckwheat slope overlooking Garzas and Redwood Creeks and then back. Moderate climbs with about 3 miles and 600 feet elevation gain. Arrive early; we depart at 9am from second (main) East Garzas Road Trailhead. Bring water and snack. We should be back by noon. Call Lynn for reservation. Limit of 8.

Bob Sayre is admiring and photographing the field of harlequin lupine. It was enjoyed by all on Michael Mitchell’s trip to The Indians in the Los Padres National Forest (written-up as the Gloria Grade field trip, but changed). Photo by Mary Ann Hunter

What a fun day! We hiked, relaxed, botanized and visited. The potluck was fabulous and there was even a some BBQ salmon for all! Photo by Natalie Zayas Delgado

Tuesday, August 8

Del Mesa Carmel to Jacks Peak Park
*This hike begins at Del Mesa Carmel in Carmel Valley. From there, we’ll hike into a seldom visited area on top of a ridge, then into Jacks Peak Park and back. We’ll have a peaceful forest walk with great views along the way. About 5 miles with ± 900 feet elevation gain. Bring water & lunch. Arrive early; we depart at 10:00am from Del Mesa. Call for a reservation and directions to the meeting location—limit of 8. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

We all thoroughly enjoyed Jerry Loomis’ Point Lobos Bird Island and Geology Discovery walk. We also enjoyed admiring gorgeous paintings of China Cove by local artists. Photo by Mary Ann Hunter

We were awed when Jason Mills and Brandt Bates took us down the Canyon Rim Trail in Santa Lucia Preserve. There were sooo many beautiful and unusual flowers! Photo by Lynn

Andy Werner and two participants took a side trail to admire some of the formations created by erosion along the trail on Andy’s Fort Ord wildflower hike. Photo by Lynn

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We enjoyed Toro Park in the evening on Lynn Bomberger’s soap plant quest hike. There were lots of delicate spider-like soap plant flowers and other flowers to admire. Photo by Sam Johansen

**HORTICULTURE by Patrick Regan**

Gardening with native plants is a lot like baseball; you have to go through a lot of failure to get to the point where you can be called an expert … or a .300 hitter. Some folks, no matter how many times they go to bat, will never be great hitters, but they will have learned some valuable lessons. With propagating native plants, there are many lessons to learn as long as you have some idea of why you failed before. Occasionally there are the serendipitous successes that can’t be explained and leave the so-called experts baffled, but most of the time there are clear cause and effect results: do it right and you have success or do it wrong and you have compost starter. Learning what to propagate at certain times of the year is just as important as how to propagate it. As the days get to their warmest and longest of the year, certain plants reach peak condition for herbaceous (soft-wood) cuttings and others are setting seed that can be collected for sowing in 2-3 months. If you have an interest in learning more about becoming a plant propagation expert and want to hang out with a bunch of .300 hitters we would be happy to have you join us on Friday afternoons at MEarth from 3:30 to 5:30.

**ARTICLES, REQUESTS, ETC.**

**ARE YOU MOVING?**

If so, please let us know. Either email or call our membership chair, Brian LeNeve, at bjleneve@att.net or 831-624-8497.

**CAN YOU HELP?**

Our local chapter of the Native Plant Society needs help both large and small. Please look at this list where help is needed:

**Conservation Chair**

As Conservation Chair, you may share your civic knowledge of proposed property developments anywhere on the Peninsula for our newsletter every other month.

**Meetings Facilitator**

The Meetings Facilitator prepares the Pacific Grove Museum for our meetings every other month by setting up chairs and a few tables. After the meeting, the facilitator will help to put the items away.

Your help will be greatly appreciated. If you can help, please call Lynn Bomberger at 375-7777 or Carol LeNeve at 624-8497.

**Scientific Illustration by**

Pacific Crest Trail Survivor, Brooke Weiland
Join CNPS Today!

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Membership Categories:
☐ Limited Income — $25  ☐ Mariposa Lily — $1,500
☐ Individual — $45  ☐ Plant Lover — $100
☐ Family — $75  ☐ Patron — $300
☐ Benefactor — $600

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.