“I have this slope…”

General Meeting Speaker: Pat Regan

It usually starts as a statement, but we both know it is the beginning of a question…one I get very often when people approach me at the Annual Plant sale. It usually tails off into a quizzical look of resignation while the speaker searches for the right words to convey that they can’t figure out what to plant on “this slope” to: Keep it from eroding away, or make it look more natural, or make it beautiful, or attract hummingbirds, or all of the above. With photos and live plants to illustrate the ideas, let me preemptively answer that statement/question before the sale, by asking and answering the many follow-up questions that help define the situation and lead to the best plant selections, like where is your slope and what direction does it face and what is made of and many more.

Pat Regan has been growing and planting California native plants on slopes from San Diego to Santa Barbara to Carmel Valley since 1985. As a Biological and Horticultural consultant, he puts his many mistakes and learning experiences to good use in helping clients with everything from habitat restoration to landscape renovation.

General Meeting ● Thursday, September 14
Visiting and Book Purchasing from 7:00pm
Meeting and Program 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

Thursday, September 7
Field Trip
Behind the Scenes at Rana Creek Nursery
Rana Creek Nursery sits on 25 acres of Earth in the verdant Carmel Valley. We grow and supply western native and water-efficient plants for homes and gardens. Our plants are naturally grown without the use of pesticides, herbicides or chemical fertilizers. Rana Creek plants are ideal for intimate gardens, ornamental landscapes, grassy meadows, living roofs, and ecological restoration projects. Our plants also provide refuge for local fauna and flora. In addition, we are also a renowned ecological design firm specializing in landscape architecture, environmental planning, native plant propagation, landscape construction and habitat restoration with numerous projects in the U.S. and abroad. Arrive early, we depart at 10:00am from 7495 Williams Ranch Road, Carmel. Call Lynn Bomberger at 375-7777 for a reservation.

Annual CNPS Plant Sale!
Saturday, October 7
10:00am to 1:00pm
MEarth HILTON BIALEK HABITAT
CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL ● CARMEL VALLEY ROAD

Ever hear of a popup dinner or restaurant? It is where fine meals are served in an unusual location and it only lasts one day or even a few hours. Our annual native plant sale is something like that; kind of like a popup specialty nursery featuring only the best native plants available. For one day, we gather plants from nurseries around the Central Coast, as well as from our own horticultural efforts, lay them out in one small area, add signs and pictures to give you an idea what you are getting into if you buy one and then provide experienced gardeners and horticulturists to answer your tough questions….heck we even make them wear aprons. The only thing missing is the linen and crystal!

As usual we will have the tried and true, rock-solid utilitarian plants as well as many wonderfully obscure or hard to find species. And don’t forget to look for our “Local Heroes”; those species and horticultural selections collected or originating right here in the Monterey Bay area. See you at the popup!

Check our website for more information and the sale inventory list which will be posted by October 2.

CNPS Members Get 10% Discount on Plant & Book Purchases!
On Bob Hale’s Garland Park walk, we were pleased to see so many wildflowers still looking beautiful…the buckwheat was spectacular! Photo by Leslie Pinkerton

**Tuesday, September 19**  
**Field Trip**  
**Point Lobos**

Our 3 to 4 mile loop with minimal elevation gain takes us along tree-clad headland trails with magnificent views and through a quiet Monterey pine forest. We are certain to see a variety of wildlife and a few wildflowers. Bring water, lunch and $ for state park fee or a park pass. Arrive early; we depart at 9:30am from Rio Road Park & Ride in Carmel. Call for a reservation—limit of 8. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Michael Mitchell oversees the Garland Ranch wildflower show each year and he does a beautiful job. Shown above at the show, he proudly displays a fire follower, the Santa Lucia phacelia. Photo by Lynn

**Saturday, September 30**  
**Field Trip**  
**Oak Woodlands Walk at Hastings Reserve**

Join Vince Voegeli, the Resident Director of the Hastings Reserve, on a very educational field trip. Hastings is a 2,500 acre biological field station located in upper Carmel Valley, and is part of the California Natural Reserve System. It is operated under the University of California Berkeley—Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. The drive will be picturesque and at Hastings we will learn about the property’s history and some of the current research, including work on oak woodlands, acorn woodpeckers, California deer mice and geology. About 3/4 mile with minimal elevation gain. Bring water and lunch or snack. Meet at the lower parking lot of Garland Ranch before our 9:45am departure time. Car pooling is encouraged! Call Lynn at 375-7777 for a reservation.

**Saturday, October 14**  
**Field Trip**  
**S.F.B. Morse Reserve, Del Monte Forest**

Bruce Cowan has served on the Del Monte Forest Open Space Advisory Committee for over 35 years. Today he’ll lead us on a Del Monte Forest exploration sharing some of his knowledge and insight regarding the forest. It’s a special place with many rare plants including an unusual Monterey and Bishop pine forest combined, Gowen cypress trees, Hooker manzanitas and others. Approximately 2.5 miles with 200 feet elevation gain. Bring water, arrive early; we depart from the Haul Road parking area on Highway 68 at 1:30pm. Call Lynn for a reservation at 375-7777.

Participants on Lynn Bomberger’s Garzas Creek hike enjoyed not only showy flowers, but also the ambiance of a creek-side lunch—a setting far more beautiful than any fine restaurant. Photo by Lynn

**Tuesday, October 24**  
**Field trip**  
**Garzas Creek**

The Garzas Creek loop is always a lovely hike with its serene oak and redwood forests. Unwind with a few other hikers and some very quiet woodrats beside the peaceful creek in Garzas Canyon. 4 miles, 800 feet elevation gain with flora & fauna stops. Bring a snack or lunch & water. Arrive early; we depart at 10:00am from Garland Ranch’s lower parking lot. We should return around 2pm. Call leader Lynn Bomberger for a reservation at 375-7777—limit of 8.

We admired many beautiful leopard lilies on Jason Mills Williams Canyon walk. The canyon was changed by the fire, fire fighter caterpillars and storm damage but it is still one beautiful walk. Photo by Alex Judd

Calendar of Field Trips & Events Continued on Page 3
Ed Mercurio, Linda Edlund and Ed’s dog, Chicca, take a break from the strenuous but rewarding Toro Park Hike. They took it slowly and enjoyed many unusual wildflowers. Selfie by Linda Edlund

**HORTICULTURE by Patrick Regan**

It is that time of year again when conditions for planting new plants in a garden are just right: shorter days, cooler nights, soil still warm from the recent summer and opportunities abounding for acquiring good quality native plants from specialty sales (like ours on October 7) and savvy nurseries. It’s a great time to install a new garden or cover that slope with beautiful groundcovers. But with natives still being somewhat hard to find in quantity what do you do if you want a lot? How about support CNPS by preordering from our special pre-sale inventory list of plants that we can get from specialty nurseries for you? Watch our website for more info or come to the CNPS September meeting for more details. In a nutshell here is how it works: September 23 we will distribute/publish an availability list of native species and horticultural selections that we know we can get from our nursery suppliers. CNPS members (only) will have till October 2 to peruse that list and place a pre-sale order. It must be in our hands by 12:00 noon on the 2nd. We will order the plants and have them waiting for you at a special location by our sale area on Saturday, October 7. If you also pre-pay you will receive an additional 5% discount on top of the member 10% discount. Questions? Email me at native_gardening@reganbhc.com

**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 of things 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.

**POINT LOBOS NATIVE PLANT PATROL**

We invite you to join the Native Plant Patrol the 2nd and 4th Friday every month from 9am to 1pm to help restore Point Lobos State Natural Reserve’s unique native habitats. Activities include weeding, planting, seed collecting, and more depending on the season. All are welcome, no experience necessary. Please bring water and wear clothing to protect yourself from poison oak, ticks, and weather. Gloves and a snack will be provided. Contact Julia Fields at julia@pointlobos.org for more information and to RSVP.
Join CNPS Today!

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.