



The Cypress Cone

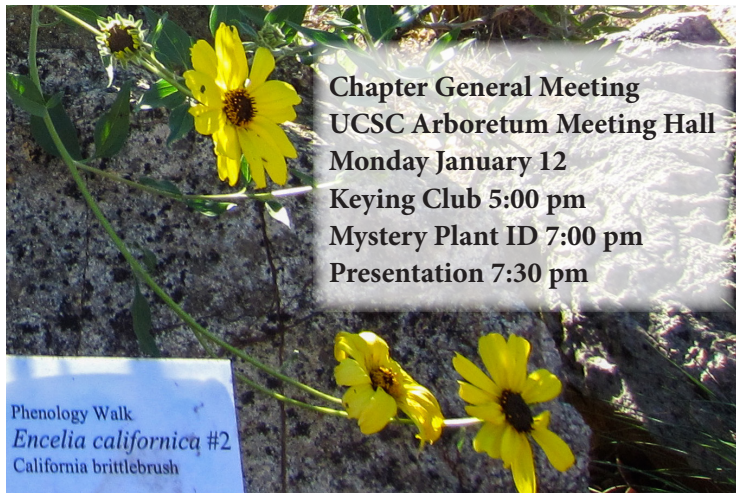
California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter



Phenology: Studying Nature's Calendar

A talk by **Juliet Oshiro**

Phenology is the study of life cycle events such as bud burst, flowering, and leaf coloring, so it is often referred to as nature's calendar. Life cycle events are often cued by environmental conditions such as temperature and precipitation, so naturally phenology has been a hot topic for research in an era of global change. Many species of plants and animals have



advanced their calendar over the past century in response to increased temperatures. We also know that higher latitudes have shorter growing seasons, with later green-up and earlier dormancy—though this pattern is changing, as higher latitudes are more sensitive to climate change.

In order to find meaningful patterns such as these, phenology research requires large datasets that span multiple years and locations. In recent years phenology researchers have developed a number of ways to involve citizen scientists in the data collection process.

Juliet Oshiro's talk will cover how to become part of a national effort to collect phenology data, both independently and by participating in her Phenology Walk program at UCSC Arboretum.

You are welcome on all the walks. Note that one walk, on

January 18 from noon to 1pm, is set aside as a CNPS event. Meet at the entrance to the Arboretum Native Plant Garden

Juliet Oshiro is a PhD candidate at UC Santa Cruz in the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department. Originally from Petaluma, California, Juliet received her undergraduate degree in Ecology and Evolution at UC Santa Barbara. At UC Santa Cruz she studies how plant blooming times respond to climate in the grassland and sandhills vegetation types in Santa Cruz County. She also developed the UC Santa Cruz Arboretum Phenology Walk to promote citizen science and plant science education. See: <http://arboretum.ucsc.edu/education/phenology-walk/>. ☽

CNPS "Native Plants Live Here" Signs

Do you want to celebrate and promote use of native plants in gardens where you live? CNPS has produced an attractive new metal sign you can display in your native plant garden. (No

specific quantity of native plants is required.) The cost is \$36, and you also receive a tip sheet and a Gardening with California Native Plants brochure.

To purchase a sign, go to <http://store.cnps.org>.

For more great tips on gardening with natives, check out this CNPS page



Chapter member Karen Laing in her new native plant garden, near West Cliff Drive

about the Three 'P's of Native Plant Gardening: http://www.cnps.org/cnps/grownative/three_ps.php ☽

San Lorenzo Riverbed Video

Fred McPherson

In early November 2014, my wife Roberta and I were headed for the Meadow and River Trails in Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park in Felton, California, when we serendipitously met our long-time friend, ardent birder, and Henry Cowell docent Jim Williams.



We decided to go down into the San Lorenzo Riverbed channel that is densely covered in black cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*) and white alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*) riparian vegetation. We wanted



to visit the river at very low-flow, drought-year levels. While exploring the backwaters, pools

and riffles of the running water, we discovered small water plants like azolla (*Azolla filiculoides*), which is a water fern, and duckweed (*Lemna sp.*) floating on the surface.

We enjoyed watching mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and wood ducks (*Aix sponsa*) feeding on the surface duckweed. You can see the video using this short URL: <http://bit.ly/16AUjjB>.

Linda Willis adds that the Azolla is native here—and also in Eurasia and Africa. The low water level contributed to a proliferation of Azolla this year. Regarding the Lemna, she notes that there are several species of Lemna most of which are of worldwide distribution and hard to tell apart. A native species that is rare in our county is *L. valdiviana*. ☺



Thank You Staff of Life

Staff of Life Natural Food Market gathers contributions for us from people who bring their own bags. Thank you, Staff of Life - we do appreciate your support!



Propagation Group—Potting Up Liners

Jackie Pascoe

During our December session, we potted up a lot of rooted cuttings that were thriving in two inch pots, known as "liners." It was time to move them to gallon pots so they can grow into the beautiful plants we offer during our plant sales.

I was happily lifting little plants out of liners and knocking off most of the mix surrounding their roots, when I noticed the volunteer opposite me was doing it differently. He was leaving most of the media on the roots.

Somewhere I had learned that it was better to give the plants fresh media to grow in. Someone else seconded that opinion. But two others said, no, no! You mustn't disturb the roots too much, just loosen them out a little bit — otherwise the plants might get transplant shock! These people worked in other nurseries where it was done that way, so I felt convinced.

When I got home I looked it up in a hefty plant propagation volume given to me by Denise Polk, the professional propagator who used to lead the propagation group. Yup. It says to disturb the roots as little as possible. Live and learn!

It's important that our group uses good practices, and that we all use the same good practices so we have consistency.

I'm (slowly) compiling our propagation techniques in a document for new volunteers, and anybody else interested in propagation. The chapter on making cuttings is done. You can find it at cruzcnps.org. Click the Horticulture button at the top then look for the link in the section "Growing Natives." After the holidays, I'll add the chapter on potting up liners—with the correct guidelines, thank goodness!



Roots growing out the bottom— a good sign it's time to pot up!

Board Positions and Availability 2015

January is when the year's board is elected. We thought it would be interesting for everyone to know how our chapter is organized, and the types of work you support with your membership, as well as acknowledge the people who work—and have fun—making that work happen.

Some positions are available, and we encourage you to step up your commitment to the future of native plants in our county and in our state, while enjoying the company of like-minded people. Some jobs take less time than others. Different roles suit people with different interests and skills. Take a look -- you may find something just right for you.

President – Deanna Giuliano

Presides at all regular and special meetings of the chapter. Sets the agenda for board meetings. Prepares the annual Chapter Activities Report for the Chapter Council.

Vice-President / Past President – Brett Hall

Supports the president. May prepare the annual Chapter Activities Report for the Chapter Council.

Treasurer – Suzanne Schettler

Keeps the chapter on a sound financial footing. Keeps the board informed of financial status. Pays bills, deposits money received, and keeps track of categories of income and expense. Files reports to the state CNPS office, including tax reports. Familiarity with MS Excel is helpful.

Secretary – AVAILABLE

Maintains the correspondence files and keeps the minutes of all meetings of the chapter. Does not involve a lot of time. Requires familiarity with word processing and good organizational skills.

Chapter Council Delegate – Brett Hall

Attends quarterly meetings of the Chapter Council. Shares ideas and information relating to chapters and brings local concerns to the attention of the statewide organization.

Membership – AVAILABLE

Maintains the chapter's membership database. Provides addresses for print mailings. Emails newsletters to members who choose that option. Provides support for people interested in becoming a member. Familiarity with MS Excel is helpful.

Habitat Restoration Team – Linda Brodman

Liaises with wildland stewards and other organizations. Recruits and organizes volunteers. Leads and manages habitat restoration teams in the field. Coordinates at least two projects

per month. Sets up special projects upon request. Provides resources to interested community members.

Public Programs – Linda Brodman

Scouts out candidate speakers, makes contact, organizes the visit, provides appropriate information to Newsletter and Publicity chair(s), and honorarium information to the Treasurer.

Hospitality – AVAILABLE

Attends public meetings and makes people feel welcome, especially first-timers. Can bring refreshments (paid for by the chapter). Minimal time commitment.

Field Trips – Deanna Giuliano

Organizes and leads (or finds leaders for) field trips of local botanical interest. Provides write-up to newsletter editor and/or publicity chair.



Plant Sale – Karen Hildebrand, Linda Willis

Karen Hildebrand, Co-chair. Coordinates with UCSC Arboretum, Propagation group, Publicity, and Treasurer. Organizes volunteers for site set-up and tear-down, and plant selling.

Linda Willis, Co-chair: Provides horticultural information and materials for plant sales.

Plant Propagation – Mike Luther

Plans the monthly propagation sessions and directs the team of volunteers. Coordinates these sessions with the host nursery (currently Suncrest Nurseries). Keeps records and works along with others to define and meet plant sale inventory goals.

Publicity – AVAILABLE

Submits brief listings (on-line) to several local publications to publicize our six annual public programs. (A table of local publications with links and requirements is provided). Optionally may undertake additional outreach activities such as setting up booths at events, writing articles, talking to college classes, organizing gardening with natives classes etc. Note that this position can be split between two volunteers, and current incumbent (Jackie) is willing to continue as one of them!

Newsletter - Jackie Pascoe

Gathers articles and photographs and contributes to the newsletter. Lays out the newsletter. Sends the newsletter to the print-and-mailing service. There are six issues per year. This position requires competency in a program such as MS Word, Adobe InDesign and familiarity with basic photo editing.

Designs, creates and maintains the club's website. Updates the website with club activities and other information provided by members, using a format that can be displayed on a webpage.

Monitors proposed development projects in Santa Cruz County and, in consultation with Chapter botanists and activists, writes detailed comment letters to government bodies on projects which might have a negative impact on sensitive species. Additionally, the Chair or other representatives from CNPS testify in person at public hearings when necessary. Other duties include tracking implementation and status of previous agreements or legal settlements between the Chapter and property owners or government bodies to protect or restore habitat for sensitive species in the County.

Represents the general membership at board meetings. May be called on for special projects but otherwise holds no board position.

The group is ably led by botanist (and chapter president) Deanna Giuliani, who keeps things moving in the right direction and helps with all the technical details.

Santa Cruz County Chapter Events

Volunteer at the UCSC Herbarium

Thursdays 9:30 am till noon. Carpool from PetSmart parking lot at 9:15 am. Prepare plant collections. Contact **Al Keuter**, akeuter@gmail.com.

Keying Club

Keying club meets at 5 pm on Monday January 12, and on most other general meeting days (see article on Page 4).

Habitat Restoration

We work to restore native habitat in the parks and protected lands in Santa Cruz County. Learn about the natural systems that surround us while helping to restore special and wild places. No prior experience necessary. We welcome individual volunteers from 8 to 80 years, as well as special group projects.

Our upcoming projects are all at **Quail Hollow Ranch County Park**. Contact program leader Linda Brodman for details: 831.462.4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net

- ☐ **Saturday, January 10, 10 am - 1 pm**
- ☐ **Monday, January 19, 10 am - 1 pm (Martin Luther King Day!)**
- ☐ **Saturday, January 31, 10 am - 1 pm**

Field Trips

Carpooling is encouraged, but not CNPS sponsored. Bring water, layers, sunscreen, hat and a lunch. Heavy rain cancels. Contact Deanna Giuliano for any questions at drosegiuliano@yahoo.com or call 831.278.2699.

Sunday Jan 25, 10am-2pm. Treasures of Henry Cowell SP

Join Deanna Giuliano to visit one of our local treasures: Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. We will see our local endemic *Arctostaphylos silvicola* and *Ribes divaricatum* in their special habitat of the sandhills, and then meander through some of the controlled burn area to discover what is sprouting, on our way to the observation deck for a stunning view of Santa Cruz and the Monterey Bay. Our loop back will take us up Eagle Creek where we will see some special plants. Hike is moderately strenuous (deep sand!) and about 4.5 to 5 miles round trip.

Meet at Juvenile Hall parking lot, on Graham Hill Rd.

Saturday February 21, 10am-2pm. Ferns of Fall Creek

Come frolic in the forest of Fall Creek on a fern foray. Join Deanna Giuliano on a fern hunt: we will try and locate most

of the 15 species of ferns that grow in the park. Hike will be leisurely about 2.5 miles.

The 1st 10 people to show up get a key to the native ferns of Santa Cruz County!

Meet at the State Park parking lot on Felton Empire Rd in Felton.

Monterey Chapter Events

Go to <http://montereybay.cnps.org> for details.

Habitat Restoration

Contact Bruce Delgado at 277-7690 or bdelgdo62@gmail.com for details.

- ☐ First Saturday in the month, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Broom Bash, East Side of Point Lobos State Reserve.
- ☐ Third Sunday in the month, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Soberanes Creek Cape Ivy Bash.

Field Trips

Call Lynn Bomberger at 375-7777 for a reservation (unless otherwise noted).

- ☐ Thursday, January 15, 9 am Fetid Adder's Tongue Hike, Land of Medicine Buddha. Note - this one's in *SOQUEL*. Meet at Center Street's diagonal parking next to the Congregational Church of Soquel before 8:50 a.m. Limit of 8.
- ☐ Thursday, January 22, 9:30 am. Point Lobos Fungi Field Trip with Phil Carpenter, fungus expert - president of Fungus Federation of Santa Cruz.
- ☐ Sunday, January 25, 10 am to 3 pm. Early Spring Wildflower Tour, Fort Ord Nat Monument.
- ☐ Thursday, February 12, 9:45 am. Toro Park Early Wildflowers.
- ☐ Saturday, February 21, 10 am. Veteran's Memorial park Wildflower Walk. Call Mary Conway at 209-406-0906 for a reservation.

CNPS5 Conservation Conference

CNPS is celebrating 50 years of promise and progress! Join 1,000 scientists, students, land managers, gardeners, and more at California's largest conservation conference.

- ☐ Monday-Saturday, January 13-17, San Jose. Go to: www.cnps.org/2015 for more information



California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter
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CNPS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of California native flora. CNPS has 34 chapters throughout the state and membership is open to all persons – professional and amateur — with an interest in California's native plants. Members have diverse interests including natural history, botany, ecology, conservation, photography, drawing, hiking, and gardening.

Donations to your chapter are tax-deductible and support special projects such as publication of the county Checklist, and conservation activities that preserve important habitats and species in our area. You may earmark gifts for specific areas. (Your membership is also tax deductible, minus \$12 for the journal *Fremontia*.) Make checks payable to CNPS and send to: CNPS, P.O. Box 1622, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.

Newsletter contributions welcomed! Next deadline: February 16. Contact Jackie at countrymoosie@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook, and contribute to our page!
<https://www.facebook.com/cruzcnp>

Opt for email See every newsletter in color! Save trees!
Contact Julia Fields at jufields5@gmail.com.

Join the California Native Plant Society

Mail this form or go to cnps.org and click JOIN.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Chapter Affiliation:

- ☐ Student/Limited Income \$25
- ☐ Individual \$45
- ☐ Family or Library \$75
- ☐ Plant Lover \$100
- ☐ Patron \$300
- ☐ Benefactor \$600
- ☐ Mariposa Lily \$1500

Make your check payable to CNPS and send to: Membership Chair, CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816

Your membership includes *Fremontia*, a quarterly journal with articles on all aspects of native plants; the *Bulletin*, a statewide report of activities and schedules; and the Cypress Cone.

Regular Chapter Events See newsletter or cruzcnp.org for details; cruzcnp.org for late entries. No experience needed.

Keying Club Before the general meeting, 5-7 pm. Learn plant keying skills.

Mystery Plant ID Before the general meeting, 7-7:30 pm. Bring your "Mystery Plants" for the keying group to ID.

Native Plant Propagation Meet at a nursery on the third Sunday of the month, 9 am till noon. **Mike Luther**, 688.3897.

Habitat Restoration Help to keep invasives out! **Linda Brodman**, 462.4041, or redwdrn@pacbell.net.

Field Trips Learn more as you hike! **Deanna Giuliano**, drosegiuliano@yahoo.com or 278.2699.

Volunteer at the Herbarium Thursdays 9:30 am till noon (carpool from PetSmart parking lot at 9:15 am). Prepare plant collections. **Al Keuter**, akeuter@gmail.com

Renew Membership Online You can renew your CNPS membership online—and why not opt to renew automatically? It is quick, easy, convenient, and reduces renewal mailing costs. Go to www.cnps.org and click the JOIN button.

