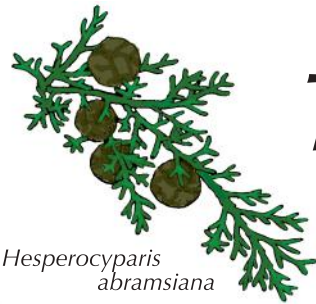




The Cypress Cone

California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter



Introducing Bryophytes—the other land plants

A talk by Ken Kellman

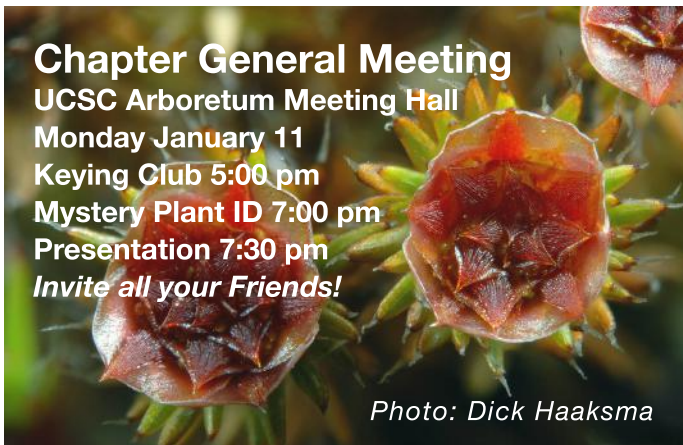


Photo: Dick Haaksma

The male heads of the moss Polytrichum piliferum, a plant of dry sandy soils

Bryophytes (mosses, liverworts, and hornworts) represent a completely different solution to the evolutionary problem of living on land. They lack the complex vascular system that have made the so-called “taller plants” so successful, but they have evolved complex solutions that will surprise you. Ken Kellman will show us how to recognize this important group of plants with a short presentation, and then we spend the rest of the evening looking closely at many common bryophytes from the central coast. Please contact Ken at kkellman@sbcglobal.net if you can bring a dissecting microscope with a light so it is easier for everyone to get a good look at these beautiful and tiny plants.

For the first time, our keying session at 5:00 PM will be working on bryophytes!

Ken has made two simple keys to some common bay area moss, liverwort and hornwort genera for us to work with. He will guide us through each couplet, and we will key out as many of the samples as we have time for (till about 7 PM).

Ken Kellman met his first bryophyte in 1995 during a vascular plant survey of Quail Hollow Ranch in Santa Cruz County. It did not take him long to abandon normal botanizing in pursuit of these tiny plants. Ken



has published A Catalog of the Mosses of Santa Cruz County, and is now collecting for a similar project in Monterey and San Mateo counties. His explorations have revealed several species

new to science, and many more new to the central coast and the state. Ken is an instructor at the Jepson Herbarium weekend workshops in Bryology. ☺

SoBeFree Bryophyte Foray

Ken Kellman

The brand new bryophyte chapter invites all to attend our annual SoBeFree foray. This year we will be meeting near Occidental California March 18-21, 2016. This is your opportunity to immerse yourself in the tiny world of mosses, liverworts and hornworts. There will be a special beginners training session of Friday afternoon, and the next 2 1/2 days will be spent collecting, identifying, teaching and talking about bryophytes. The enthusiasm and atmosphere of this annual gathering is infectious! The early registration deadline has passed, but registration is still open. See the chapter's website bryophyte.cnps.org for more information and a registration form. ☺

Meet Our New Hospitality Chairperson

Karen Laing

Greetings to Chapter members. I am delighted to be joining the board as Hospitality chairperson. I've lived in Santa Cruz since 1976 and I've been a member of CNPS since the late '80's. My interest in native plants started by buying a Mimulus at one of the club's plant sales way back then. I'm not much of a botanist; my focus has been on what can be called 'backyard habitat restoration' -native plant gardening. I am currently



creating my fourth native-plants-only garden and my first small garden. Since I retired 10 years ago from my long career as a Certified Nurse-Midwife (I delivered about 2,000 Santa Cruz babies) I've done quite a bit of volunteer work with native plants and habitat restoration as well.

I first gardened as a child in my Mom's and Grandmother's huge vegetable garden. Now my grandchildren work with me in my garden. My daughter-in-law who lives in Los Angeles has an all-native plant garden as well—I introduced her to natives 20-some years ago. When I visit them we work together in her garden and get new plants at the Theodore Payne Nursery.

Currently I volunteer weekly with Rick Flores and the Native Plant Garden weeding crew, and weekly with Helen in the Arboretum Nursery, plus with our chapter's propagation group.

I'll be at the door greeting folks as they arrive for our meetings, so say hello! ☺



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!

Meet Our New Newsletter Chairperson

Cara Wilcox

Hello fellow plant lovers! I am pleased and grateful to be joining the team as the newsletter chairperson this year. Let me tell you a bit about myself.

I have been interested in plants ever since I was a little girl camping in the Sierra Nevada mountains with my family. My dad took us on hikes and I remember absolutely loving all of the wildflowers, and wishing I could take them all home with me. My dad taught me to respect native flora by leaving it where it was



growing, and taking a picture of it instead. There is even a home video of little me solemnly explaining that "I wanted to take these flowers to my mommy, but Daddy said I would have to leave them alone, and settle for a video of them for her instead." Thanks Dad!

As I grew up, my love for art intertwined with my love for wildflowers and now I have found a happy marriage of the two worlds in botanical illustration. I have never had trouble taking the time to stop and "smell the roses." My drawings and paintings of plants are my attempt at helping other people do the same. One of my favorite drawings is from a day when I sat in the spring sunshine at the arboretum, capturing California poppies in all of their golden finery. I am very glad I live in a place where there is always something beautiful growing.

As for working with plants, I studied horticulture while living in Wisconsin, and simultaneously worked at a charming old greenhouse and nursery center called Pansies. That is where I learned for the first time how to cultivate growing things. Right now I am primarily a stay-at-home mom and freelance artist, but I enjoy looking for volunteer opportunities that still allow me to learn about and immerse myself in plants.

My first experience with CNPS was at a habitat restoration workday at Natural Bridges State Park, where we removed ice plant. Next I learned about identifying oaks at the Keying club in November. And now, I am pleased to be able to work on the newsletter. It really feels like a dream-come-true to me to be

able to be involved in this way. It is a front-row seat to learning about something I am passionate about. I look forward to many more chances to learn about our county's flora through service, society meetings, and newsletter articles. 🌿



Dendroalsia abietina (dark green), a moss common on the trunks of trees. (Lichen, light green)

Membership News

Ann Garside

The Santa Cruz Chapter of CNPS would like to cordially extend a great New Year's welcome to our recently joined members - **Cara Wilcox, Barbara Childs, Alejandro Carbajal, and Melinda Dayharsh**. We hope you are all able to make the Chapter's first 2016 general meeting on January 11; the world of Bryophytes will be front and center. Ken Kellman will be present at/leading the 5:00 p.m. keying session and then continue on topic with his scheduled 7:30 p.m. talk. Great Bryophyte! Suitably rainy weather these days. (ah-h-h) 🌿

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

Monterey Chapter Events For details of field trips, restoration projects and more, in the county next door, go to montereybay.cnps.org!

Keying Club January 11, 5-7 p.m. Topic: Bryophytes!

Keying club is great for people interested in learning how to ID plants using the Jepson Manual, plus a bit of plant anatomy and some botanical terms. Give it a try! This time Ken will provide bryophytes for you to look at through stereo microscopes and hand lenses.

Field Trips

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

Saturday January 16, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bryophytes Field Trip with Ken Kellman.

As a follow up to Ken's presentation on January 11, we will visit Butano State Park and walk approximately four gentle miles in the redwoods along Little Butano Creek. We will see mosses, leafy, simple thallose, and complex thallose liverworts. If we are lucky, we will see some young hornworts too. There is a state park fee, so carpooling is advised. Bring lunch, liquids AND A HAND LENS! Take Highway 1 North through Davenport, and past Año Nuevo State Park. Take a right hand turn on Gazos Creek Road. Go 2.1 miles and take a left fork on Cloverdale Road. Go 1.2 miles and turn right into the main park entrance. We will meet in the parking area inside the park. Heavy rain cancels.

Saturday February 6, 10am-2pm. Ferns of Fall

Creek. Join Deanna Giuliano on a fern foray. Hike will be leisurely about 2.5 miles. The first 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.

Saturday February 20, 10am-2pm. Treasures of

Henry Cowell SP. Join Deanna Giuliano to see our local endemic *Arctostaphylos silvicola* and *Ribes divaricatum* in their special habitat of the sandhills. From the observation deck, we'll return via Eagle Creek. Moderately strenuous (deep sand!) 4.5 to 5 miles round trip. Meet at Juvenile Hall parking lot, on Graham Hill Rd.



California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter
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Hiking • Propagation • Keying Club • Conservation • Habitat Restoration • Field Trips • Herbarium Work • Talks

Restoration Dates

Learn about the natural systems that surround us while helping to restore special and wild places in Santa Cruz County. Dress in layers and bring work gloves, a drink, and enthusiasm! Tools provided. Contact leader Linda Brodman for details: 831.462.4041, or redwdrn@pacbell.net. All locations currently to be determined:

Saturday, January 9, 10 am - 1 pm
Monday, January 18, 10 am - 1 pm
Saturday, January 23, 10 am - 1 pm

SoBeFree Bryophyte Foray

March 18-21 Immerse yourself in the tiny world of mosses, liverworts and hornworts. See the Bryophyte chapter's website, bryophyte.cnps.org for more information and a registration form.

Join the California Native Plant Society

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Chapter Affiliation: _____

To join or renew online, go to cnps.org and click JOIN.

- ☐ 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 journal with articles on all aspects of native plants; the *Bulletin*, a statewide report of activities and schedules; and the *Cypress Cone*.



Newsletter contributions welcomed! Next deadline:

January 15, 2016. Contact Cara at carawilcox@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook, and contribute to our page!
facebook.com/crucnps

Opt for email Contact Ann at aegrwdws@calcentral.com.

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 such as: natural history, botany, ecology, conservation, photography, drawing, hiking, and gardening.

Donations 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*, three issues per year.) Make checks payable to CNPS and send to: CNPS, P.O. Box 1622, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.

