

THE CYPRESS CONE

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CHAPTER



Volume 46, Number 3

cruzcnps.org

Fall 2021

General Meeting In Person at Arboretum!

Tuesday, October 12,

Plant Keying Session 5:30 to 7:00

Post-Fire Rare Plant and Vegetation Surveys by Amy Patten 7:00 to 8:00

UCSC Arboretum and Botanic Garden

So exciting to be back with in-person meetings! We will have a brilliant lecture by Amy Patten, Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Manager at the State CNPS office, with a plant keying session with Deanna Giuliano before the talk.

Bring a plant, part of a plant, or flowers to the keying session before the general meeting. Deanna Giuliano and others will help you figure out what it is to the best of their abilities. Deanna will also bring in plants to focus on that are flowering at this time of year, Asteraceae family.



Amy holds a friendly gopher snake encountered on a survey.

In the Spring/Summer 2021 *Cypress*

Cone, Amy Patten wrote a feature article "CZU Complex Fire Followers." You can view this article on our cruzcnps.org website; it gives a good background on Tuesday, October 12, at the UCSC Arboretum and Botanic Garden. You will get an insiders up-close look at the burn area and how it is recovering.

In 2021, CNPS staff and collaborators visited the burn area of the CZU Complex Fire to conduct post-fire rare plant and vegetation surveys. CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Manager Amy Patten will share photos, stories, and discoveries from field work in Big Basin State Park and surrounding areas. Amy will discuss some of the rare plants and interesting fire followers found in the burn zone along with the progress of fire recovery in this year's drought conditions.

Amy works with the Rare Plant Treasure Hunt project, a citizen science effort which provides valuable data on to the CNPS Rare Plant Program and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. She has been a staff member in the CNPS Rare Plant Program for over three years, where she organizes community science events, rare plant surveys, and botanical skills trainings through the Rare Plant Treasure Hunt project. A longtime resident of Santa Cruz County who is passionate about our local natural history and conservation, Amy earned a B.S. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from U.C. Santa Cruz in 2009.

Arboretum COVID-19 guidelines include mask wearing indoors and keeping six feet distance where possible.

Prez Sez

Linda Brodman

I have a fondness for dragonflies. Recently, I read that a remarkable number of their species travel up and down the latitudes to reproduce, migrating great distances. In many cultures, the dragonfly can symbolize various things — to name a few — poise, respect, and power.

In October, we will be gathering for our first (in-person) public event since January 2020, followed by our Chapter's (in-person) fall native plant sale at the Arboretum. We hope to see you there! I want to pay special recognition and many thanks to Julia Davenport who has managed our sales for several years, and will be resigning from our Board at the end of the year. Julia manifests an unassuming leadership style with poise, effortlessly volunteers, and takes on other tasks to support our Chapter's goals. Our Chapter's plant sales have run smoothly for years under her guidance and team work. Thank you, Julia.

On a sad note, in July we lost a highly respected and inspirational restorationist, Ken Moore. He was an early mover and shaker with the beginning years of the California Invasive Plant Council, and was well known throughout most of California. Ken started his life's work many years ago convincing people that non-native, invasive plant species needed to be dealt with or our native plants and habitats would truly suffer great losses. Many volunteers (including myself) owe a deep gratitude from learning how to

(Cont. on page 5)

Fall Plant Sale LIVE!

Saturday October 16, 10:00am members only, 11:00am general public. Special Guest Speaker at 11:30. Sale ends at 3:00pm. UCSC Arboretum and Botanic Garden

Get ready to plant your garden for the fall. Whatever your garden conditions, you will find a plant at our sale. If needed, able native plant experts will assist you.

We are happy to report that we can again meet in person, outside and following social distancing guidelines. Masks optional but recommended. Held at our usual spot, the upper parking area of the UCSC Arboretum and Botanic Garden. This will be my last sale as Plant Sale Board Chair. I have learned much, but it is time to pass on the learning opportunity to the next chair. Which could be you! If you are interested in working with a wonderful group of people, enjoy the challenge of organizing a public event, and want to support our chapter, this is a dream job. We have two plant sales a year, spring and fall. Interested? Contact Linda Brodman, redwdrn@pacbell.net. We can all do better to help support a healthy planet. This is a good place to start.

What's For Sale?

Kari Olsen, Lead Propagator

We have a fabulous selection of California natives lined up for this sale, featuring plants from our local area and the central coast region, ready to brighten local gardens. Remember, fall is the ideal time planting time for California natives. The minute fall rains arrive, seeds begin to germinate, young plants put down healthy roots, and many mature plants don't even wait for spring to set about blooming!

The fall plant sale will feature over one hundred species of native plants, many of which are new offerings for our chapter including several *Ceanothus*, *Fremontodendron*, and *Arctostaphylos* cultivars. We will also be offering SIX species of *Eriogonum*—pollinator superstars—as well as lots of plants in our most popular genera: *Salvia*, *Diplacus*, *Epilobium*, *Achillea*, *Grindelia*, and *Frangula*!

Here are just a few of our volunteer propagators' favorites.

Diplacus (syn. *Mimulus*) 'Fiesta Marigold' This monkeyflower hybrid was developed and brought to the horticulture trade by the late plant breeder Richard Persoff who worked with this genus for decades. His mission was to develop garden-tolerant monkeyflowers

which are less sticky and brittle and which tolerate garden watering regimes without sacrificing any of drought-tolerant qualities. He also selected for larger flowers, brighter colors and more sturdy plants. He left an extraordinary legacy of plants and 'Fiesta Marigold' is the cream of his crop!

Eriogonum grande var. *rubescens* What buckwheat don't we love? All *Eriogonum* species are amazing pollinator plants as well as garden stars during the later summer months when other natives may be sleeping through their summer dormancy. This showy *Eriogonum* bears clusters of tiny red flowers in "pom poms" over clumps of silvery basal leaves.

Salvia 'Aromas' Do you love California's salvias but lack the garden square footage to dedicate to their large space needs? *Salvia* 'Aromas' is the perfect solution! This hybrid of *S. clevelandii* and *S. leucophylla* retains the aromatic

grey green foliage and attractive purple/blue flower whorls of its parents but grows only to about 4' x 4' making it an excellent small garden choice. The bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds will thank you for adding *Salvia* 'Aromas' to your garden.

Erigeron glaucus 'Ron's Pink' and 'Cape Sebastian' Two horticultural selections of our familiar coastal

Seaside Daisy both of which are very tolerant of the clay soils many of us have in our gardens. 'Ron's Pink' blooms profusely from spring through summer bearing larger, decidedly pinker flowers than we see growing wild along our coastal bluffs. 'Cape Sebastian' is the most compact and lowest growing form of the Seaside Daisy cultivars but a powerhouse of lavender blooms spring through summer.

Heterotheca sessiliflora ssp. *bolanderi* 'San Bruno Mountain' – Looking for low maintenance long lasting bloomers? This Golden Aster doesn't rest from flowering nonstop spring through fall. Like all Asters, a pollinator attractor as well as a splash of sunshine in the garden.

Check our website (cruzcnp.org) and Facebook group page (facebook.com/groups/439243822865465/)

Photos clockwise from upper left: *Diplacus* (syn. *Mimulus*) 'Fiesta Marigold', *Salvia* 'Aromas', another *diplacus*, Jackie Pascoe sporting CNPS t-shirt for sale, limited sizes.



More Field Trips!

Quail Hollow Ranch Park

Sunday October 17 June 23. 9:30—12:30 (bring lunch)

Leader: Andy Werner

CNPS field trip at Quail Hollow Ranch Park (QHR) on Sunday, Oct 17 2021. Meet at QHR parking lot at 9:30am. Trip lasts until 12:30pm. Mileage around 3-3 1/2 miles with elevation gain of around 500 feet. There are hills and some



CNPS hike leader Andy Werner investigating native flora.
Photo: Linda Brodman.

sun exposure. The pace is slow to moderate with many stops. We will take some of the trails to see, talk about, and ID plants. We will also discuss the 20 years of restoration that is still ongoing.

At the end of the hike is an option to eat lunch together at the picnic tables under the big, beautiful oak next to the ranch house.

Participants limited to twelve. You must RSVP to Andy Werner, trip leader at apwerner44@gmail.com to reserve a spot. QHR is the crown jewel of SC County parks and if you have never been there you are in for a treat!

Hike to Maple Falls in Nisene Marks State Park

Sunday November 14, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm

Leader: Deanna Giuliano

Hike to Maple Falls and enjoy some fall colors and Creekside flora, and if we get some rain, mushrooms. The hike is about 8 miles round trip and about 700 feet of elevation gain. Some agility required, as the trail to the falls goes in and out of the creek.

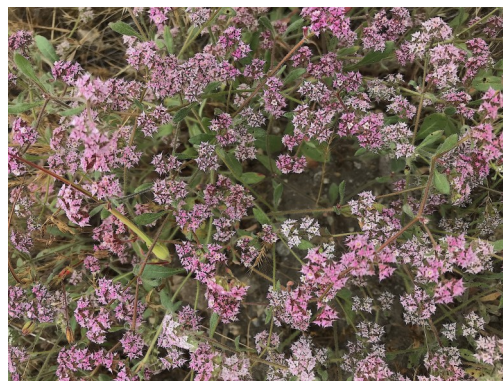
Bring water, layers, sunscreen, hat and a lunch. Meet at Georges Picnic area parking inside the park, there is a fee. Limit to 12 people. Heavy rain cancels.

Contact Deanna Giuliano for more information and to reserve a spot: drosegiuliano@yahoo.com, or call her at (831) 278-2699.



Polypodium at Nisene Marks State Park.
Photo: Deanna Giuliana

Ben Lomond
spineflower
(scientific name) in
bloom at Quail
Hollow Ranch.
Photo: Linda
Brodman.



Prez Sez (continued from page 1)

protect our wildlands from invasive species, and carry on his legacy in our own efforts.

In honor of Ken Moore, our Chapter is a sponsor for Cal-IPC's - 30 year Anniversary Symposium, online October 26 – 29. This year's program is *Expanding Community to Protect Biodiversity*. Learn more about the Symposium and sign up at www.cal-ipc.org/resources/symposium/

In conclusion, our Chapter continues to face challenges and change at the leadership level, and we hope to sustain services to our membership and community. However, we need your support and involvement to keep it going, and to be a powerful voice for California's flora. Contact me if you are interested at 831-462-4041.

Robust Spineflower Update

Suzanne Schettler

CNPS has worked for a number of years to protect one of the last remaining populations of robust spineflower (*Chorizanthe robusta*). The site was set eventually aside for preservation as a condition for residential development. The site is along Branciforte Creek just inland from Highway One.

Management of the site appears to have benefitted the spineflower by removing trees and shrubs that were shading the open sunny habitat preferred by this and other spineflowers. Interpretive signs were installed with text and photos informing passersby about the preserve. Unfortunately, four of the five photos were of invasive non-native plants and not robust spineflower.

CNPS volunteers recently produced new photos to provide accurate information informing the public about the plant and the preserve. The signs should be in place by the end of this year.

California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter
P.O. Box 1622
Santa Cruz, CA 95061
Address Service Requested



First Class
U.S. Postage
PAID
Santa Cruz CA
Permit # 200

Hiking • Propagation • Keying Club • Conservation • Habitat Restoration • Field Trips • Herbarium Work • Talks

Welcome New Members!

A warm autumn welcome to the new members of the Santa Cruz County Chapter of the California Native Plant Society!

Susan Booras	Denise Pinard
Dana Gleason	Joanna Primeau
Michelle Glowa	Samantha Roger
Naomi Hegenbart	Julie Stiller
Catherine Hudson	Dorothy Thurman
Keenan Hunt	Margaret Tousseau
Ariel Hunter	Colene Turner
Inger Marie Laursen	Krista Vanuska
Matt Marshall	Amy Wagner
Judith Ann Nilsen	Christopher Wilmers
Rafael Nunez	Fiona Wilmot

Join the California Native Plant Society!

Your membership includes: *Fremontia* journal (twice yearly) filled with articles on all aspects of native plants; *Flora* magazine (quarterly) presenting statewide activities and schedules; and Chapter newsletter *The Cypress Cone* (quarterly).

Fill out the form below or visit the state CNPS website (www.cnps.org) to join or renew your membership online. State your chapter affiliation as the Santa Cruz County Chapter.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Chapter affiliation: _____

Choose One:

Student/Fixed Income \$25
Individual \$50
Plant Lover \$120 (two members)
Supporter \$500 (two members)
Patron \$1,000 (two members, plus Special Updates)
Benefactor \$2,500 (two members, plus Special Updates)
Steward \$5,000 (two members, plus Special Updates)
Guardian \$10,000 (two members, plus Special Updates)

Please make your check payable to CNPS and send to:
California Native Plant Society, Attn: Membership,
2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5130

Like us on Facebook

Contribute to our group! Search for "Santa Cruz County Chapter - California Native Plant Society". Ask a question about native plants or post your own photos of native plants in your yard or on your hikes.

Opt for Email

If you would like to receive your newsletter via email only, please contact Ann at annng@calcentral.com or log onto your CNPS account (cnps.org) to make the switch.

CNPS is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit Organization dedicated to the preservation of California native flora

CNPS has thirty-four chapters throughout the state and membership is open to all persons, professional and amateur, with an interest in California's native plants and other activities 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. Membership is tax deductible, minus \$8 for the journal *Fremontia*, published two times per year. Make checks payable to CNPS and send to: Santa Cruz County Chapter CNPS, P.O. Box 1622, Santa Cruz, CA 95061. <https://www.cruzcnps.org>