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THE CYPRESS CONE

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CHAPTER



Volume 45, Number 2 cruzcnps.org March—April 2020

Adventures in UCSC Arboretum's Native Plant Program and California Conservation Gardens

Chapter General Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2020, 7:30 pm

Speaker: Brett Hall, California Native Plant Program
Director, UCSC Arboretum

Location: UCSC Arboretum Horticulture Building

5:30 - 7:00 pm Field trip in Conservation Gardens

Brett Hall is the California Native Plant Program Director at the UCSC Arboretum. He will describe the Arboretum's Native Plant Program current efforts in seed banking, garden development, collection acquisition, related off-site field work, the program's history and collective visions for its future.

As a student, Brett started working in the Arboretum in 1975 and quickly became the Botanical Garden Manager. Brett continued under many working titles for 45 years. He retired from the position in July 2019, then was rehired as a part-time Academic Specialist in the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department. Brett continues to build the Native Plant Program and Conservation Gardens for the Arboretum, UCSC, and the surrounding community.

As part of the Native Plant Program, Brett serves on a state-wide vegetation committee and participates in collaborations and projects with CNPS, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and a handful of other agencies and non-profits working on biodiversity conservation. Throughout his career when asked about future strategies, especially related to minimal available resources or major obstacles, Brett often remarked, "We will survive and thrive, come what may..."

Dudleya cymosa pumila

Photo courtesy of Steve McCabe



Brett Hall (r.) and Tori Bauman with *Arctostaphylos montereyensis* in California Conservation Gardens. Photo courtesy of Lucy Ferneyhough.

Come and Get Your Free *Dudleya* Plants at The Spring Plant Sale!

April 11, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm, UCSC Arboretum

To emphasize reasons for *not* stealing succulent plants from the wild, the Santa Cruz Chapter of CNPS will give out one free *Dudleya* per customer (until supplies run out) at the Spring Plant Sale on April 11 at the UCSC Arboretum.

There has been a rash of *Dudleya* poaching that started on a remote island in Baja California, but moved to much more easily accessible plants along the California coast. For some reason, it became a fad in Asia to have wild-collected, slightly beat up *Dudleya* plants. One southern California couple saw stories about the poaching and decided they would do it too. They got caught and are among the smugglers who were fined and will do jail time. One of the busts was in a nursery in southern California where growers tried to convince inspectors that their \$600,000 worth of plants were nursery-grown for export, not poached from the wild.

I have sent seeds via CNPS Executive Director, Dan Gluesenkamp, to be planted up for plant give-aways. Dan asked a friend to grow over

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Hosackia gracilis, harlequin lotus, at Franklin Point. It is ranked as a California rare plant. Photo by Linda Brodman.

Habitat Restoration Team

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Quail Hollow Ranch County Park

10:00 am to 1:00 pm

The Habitat Restoration Team is a volunteer group working to restore native habitat in the parks and protected lands in Santa Cruz County. Our program provides an opportunity for people to learn about the natural systems that surround them while helping to restore special and wild places. No prior work experience is necessary, just show up. We welcome individual volunteers from 8 to 80 years, as well as special group projects. Wear comfortable layered clothing, bring something to drink, and lots of enthusiasm! We work rain or shine, but if things get unpleasant, we call it a day. Tools provided; bring gloves.

Contact: Program Leader, Linda Brodman 831.462.4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net. Check our web site for updates and additions: www.cruzenps.org.



Field Trips March/April

Tuesday, March 17, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

DeLaveaga Park Early Season Walk

Join Andy Werner for an early season field trip to DeLaveaga Park. Distance is 4-5 miles with some elevation gain, up to 500 feet. We hope to see many Trilliums, Creek Violets and other woodland plants. Bring water, snacks or light lunch.

Meet at restrooms near ballfields in the lower park area off of Branciforte Drive. RSVP Andy Werner at apwerner@gmail.com.

Sunday, March 29, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Franklin Point

Join Deanna for a hike along the unique coastal terrace and scenic bluffs of Franklin Point. This is some of the most intact coastal prairie we have in our area. A few rare species that we will hopefully see are *Fritillaria agrestis*, *Hosackia gracilis*, and *Plagiobothrys diffusus* among native bunchgrasses and forbs. The hike is easy and will be about 5 miles. Bring layers (it can get windy), snacks, and water.

Meet at 9:00 am on the west side of Highway 1 at the large dirt parking lot across the street from the Costanoan sign, about 2 miles south of the Pigeon Point Lighthouse.

Contact: Deanna Giuliano at drosegiuliano@yahoo.com.

Sunday, April 5, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Calypso Orchids of Butano State Park

Deanna Giuliano will lead this hike to locate beautiful purple calypso orchids (*Calypso bulbosa*), along with western wakerobin (*Trillium ovatum*), yellow skunk cabbage (*Lysichiton americanus*), along with an array of flowering native berry species. Hike is about 6.5 miles with some elevation gain.

If you are interested in carpooling (always recommended), meet in front of Westside New Leaf on Fair Avenue at 9:15. Contact: Deanna Giuliano at drosegiuliano@yahoo.com.

Tuesday, April 7, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Serpentine Areas of Mt. Madonna

Join Andy Werner on a trip to the serpentine areas of Mt. Madonna in the Southern Santa Cruz Mountains. The flower displays can be amazing. The hike is around 6 miles with 1200 ft. elevation gain. A moderate hike at a moderate pace! Bring lunch and water.

Meet at 9:30 am in the Sprig parking area on Hwy 152. We will return before 3:30. RSVP Andy Werner at apwerner44@gmail.com.

Lead Propagator Mike Luther says the Spring Plant Sale irises "look especially healthy" this year. Showed here is *Iris fernaldii*. Photo courtesy of Linda Brodman.

Annual Spring Plant Sale April 11, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm UCSC Arboretum

EXTRA! The first shoppers to buy a plant at the plant sale receive one free *Dudleya*! Help us kick-off the beginning of California Native Plant week by coming to our always popular Spring Plant Sale on Saturday, April 11, 2020 at the UCSC Arboretum and Botanic Garden. Gate opens at 10:00 am; come early for best selection. Plant list available on our website, cruzcnps.org, the week before sale (early April).

Dudleya (continued from page 1)

11,000 plants from these seeds collected from cultivated plants. Dan has said, "Dudleyas are iconic, characteristic plants coastal bluff plants, and seeing our bluffs scraped clean is just stunning. We have protection for animal poaching, but we need to do more for plants so that we protect all kinds of creatures from being driven extinct by the next fad."



Just as poaching of abalone and mountain lions is wrong, so is poaching and selling native succulents. People have been poaching *tons* of the native *Dudleya* from the California coast over the past few years. By giving away plants, we are letting people know it is easy to make new plants responsibly, that only responsibly produced plants should be purchased, and maybe by flooding the market with over 11,000 free plants we can bring down the price, at least in California.

I have given away hundreds of plants I grew at home and at the UCSC Arboretum from seed from cultivated plants.

Enjoy your plant by watering it when the soil dries out and by growing it in a little shade in sunnier, hotter environments. They can be fertilized with weak fertilizer any time from October through April. Some will slow down their growth in summer. Have a hole in the bottom of the pot and don't have them sit in a dish of water.

- Stephen McCabe, Santa Cruz County Chapter Board Member and Emeritus Director of Research at the UC Santa Cruz Arboretum



Silk Tassel Tree, *Garrya elliptica*.
Photo courtesy of Linda Brodman

California Native Plant Week April 11 to 19, 2020

Did you know that 90 percent of insects can only eat the native plant species with which they've co-evolved? From monarch caterpillars to desert birds, life depends on native plants. Even we humans need our native plants to support the web of life upon which we depend. From our oxygen rich redwood forests to the wet meadows of the Sierra, native plants provide important ecosystem services that sustain life. And every plant matters, especially here in California.

In 2010 the California State Legislature designated the third week of April to be California Native Plant Week. Join us in celebrating the California Native Plant Week. Come to our Spring Plant Sale at the UCSC Arboretum and purchase a lovely native plant for your garden, or for a friend's garden. There are activities state-wide you can do to celebrate California Native Plant Week. Look on the state CNPS website, www.cnps.org.

CNPS Santa Clara Valley Chapter 2020 Going Native Garden Tour Saturday/Sunday, May 2 - 3, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Going Native Garden Tour is a great opportunity to visit Santa Clara Valley gardens featuring California native plants. The tour includes mostly private home gardens and some public parks, corporate spaces, places of worship, libraries, and nurseries. The fifty-plus gardens are located throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo counties, with northern gardens open on Saturday (Mountain View, Palo Alto, Redwood City, Sunnyvale) and southern gardens open on Sunday (Campbell, Los Gatos, Morgan Hill, San Jose, Saratoga). Register online at gngt.org.

California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter
P.O. Box 1622
Santa Cruz, CA 95061
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Hiking • Propagation • Keying Club • Conservation • Habitat Restoration • Field Trips • Herbarium Work • Talks

For a special treat, Brett Hall will lead a sunset field trip to the Arboretum's Conservation Gardens. Come early to the March 9 general meeting; meet at 5:30 pm at the Horticulture Building.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

The Santa Cruz Chapter wishes a beautiful spring season to all. Welcome to our newest CNPS members:

Caitlin Zooks
Nancy Ogle
Steve McGuirk
Ian Licata
Sharon Hull
Rachel Felts
Lisa Caras

Join the California Native Plant Society!

Your membership includes *Fremontia* journal (twice yearly) filled with articles on all aspects of native plants; *Flora* (quarterly) CNPS's newest magazine presenting a statewide activities and schedules; and our Chapter newsletter *The Cypress Cone* (six times per year).

Fill out the form below, or go to www.cnps.org and join, or renew your membership online. Be sure to 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)

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 anng@calcentral.com and let her know your preference.

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. Your membership is also 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.