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The Cypress Cone

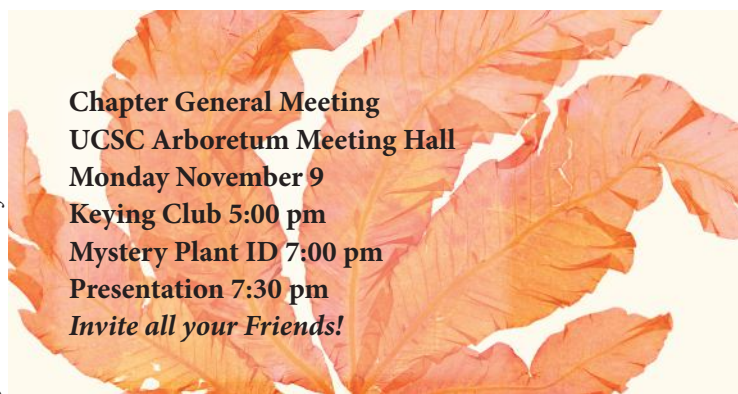
California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter



An Ocean Garden: The Secret Life of Seaweed

A Talk by Josie Iselin

Chapter General Meeting
UCSC Arboretum Meeting Hall
Monday November 9
Keying Club 5:00 pm
Mystery Plant ID 7:00 pm
Presentation 7:30 pm
Invite all your Friends!



Josie Iselin will use her most recent book as a guide into the inter-tidal zone to go over some of the most common seaweeds found in Northern California tide-pools. Her imagery will accompany throughout the talk. She will also share her evolution as a book maker and photographer whose books focus on forms in nature and in particular the beach as a place where science and art come together.

Josie Iselin is the photographer, author and designer of seven books, with new projects in development in her San Francisco studio, Loving Blind Productions. Her mission is to produce enticing, original and well-designed books that combine art and science, leaving the reader with new information about, and an appreciation for, the world around them.

Josie holds a BA in Visual and Environmental Studies from Harvard and an MFA from San Francisco State University. For over twenty years, Josie has used her flatbed scanner and computer exclusively for generating imagery. She is still captivated by the fluidity with which this technique allows her to render and design with three-dimensional objects. As a fine artist, Josie exhibits large-scale prints at select galleries and museums in California and Maine. She hopes that celebrating the ordinary wonders we find at the beach will bring thoughtfulness and stewardship to this extraordinary place of discovery. ☺

Fall Plant Sale Success!

Suzanne Schettler

The plant sale on October 10 was a great success. There were only about a dozen plants left at the end of the day. Mike Luther has his fingers on the pulse of the market. He works with the chapter's volunteer propagators and also purchases plants from Suncrest Nurseries - our gracious host for the propagation sessions. For this sale and the one in spring, the supply of plants almost perfectly matched the demand. The plants were well-grown and in good condition, even the very last ones.

Karen Hildebrand organized the multitude of details that go into preparing for the sale. Lots of cheerful volunteers set up for the sale, helped buyers with selecting their plants, and worked as cashiers.

The last hour of the sale tends to be slow, and a highlight was a question from a soft-spoken student. He has noticed that sometimes when a tree leans a lot, side branches can become vertical. Are they then trunks or branches? And how does that work? The ensuing thought-provoking discussion livened up the last part of the sale. Possibilities: apical dominance, phototropism, hormones.

The proceeds from the sale of plants and books seem to hold steady from year to year. Many thanks to the loyal buyers as well as to the many chapter volunteers who make the spring and fall sales possible. The income from these sales funds our conservation activities. ☺



If you enjoy seaweeds, why not come on our inter-tidal zone field trip, November 15. See Events on page 3 for details. ☺

Membership News

Ann Garside

The Santa Cruz County Chapter of CNPS warmly welcomes our new members—**Steven Glascock, Uwe Corbach, Edith Frick, Shelley Sianta, Suzanne Kent and Laura Alderman**—and thank you folks for supporting California native plants! (Suzanne and Laura you should be hearing from our State umbrella organization in a few weeks...they tend to take a bit of time to process memberships). We hope you're all able to make the Chapter's next, general meeting, the presentation by renowned botanical artist Josie Iselin. Her fusion of science and breathtaking images of "plants of the sea" is stunning.

Note: The Cypress Cone newsletter is available either in the print or digital version. The digital version will always be in color; the print version is usually in B&W (though not this time!). To switch from a mailed newsletter to the e-mailed digital, simply notify me at aegrwdws@calcentral.com. ☺

CNPS Helping Community

Jackie Pascoe



Cabrillo College students and Ann Garside (left) removing ivy and sheet mulching in the Live Oak School garden

Ann Garside and I spent another afternoon helping garden teacher Leigh Klein, author and nursery owner Alrie Middlebrook, and a group of vivacious volunteers of all ages in the grand project of transforming the Live Oak Elementary School garden into a sustainable, permaculture-oriented, native plants and food garden! It was energizing! I hope you'll want to join us for the next workday, in early December. Email me at countrymoosie@gmail.com for details.



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!

Community Helping Out

Linda Brodman

It's great to have such wonderful community support for our habitat restoration work!

On Friday, October 9, sixty-five middle schoolers from the San Lorenzo Valley Nature Academy worked hard to remove ice plant at Sunset Beach. **Ann Garside** and I led the effort, along with help from State Parks resource crew.

On October 17, 24 students from UCSC College Eight Sustainability Saturday joined us to help pull more than *a ton* of ice-plant and other weeds at Seabright beach. **Jeb Bishop** also coordinated his neighbors and community folks to join in the effort. **Bill Henry** from Oikonos assisted with tools, homeowner permission, and gave an ecological history and overview of the work that has been done and the transformation to date. State Parks provided the truck for ice plant hauling. ☺

Transplanted

Cara Wilcox

Two years ago I moved from Wisconsin, a state with just two main ecosystems, to the Santa Cruz Mountains, where I had two of the state's many ecosystems in my tiny backyard: we live where the redwood forest meets the sandhills habitat.



While a garden perched on the side of a redwood-covered mountain has its aesthetic advantages, dealing with its sandy, shifting soil was a new challenge.

So were the widely varying growing conditions in our small space. The garden has mostly bright shade for most of the day and then hot, direct sun for a few hours in the late afternoon. And, while the summers are very dry, the winters saturate the soil with fog and rain.

In Wisconsin the best time to plant perennials is in the spring, to take advantage of summer rains. In California, however, I found out that the best time is in the fall when the rains finally come to the parched earth.

It took me a while to adjust to the fact that I'm now living in a Mediterranean climate zone.

I figured that native plants would be best suited to the local conditions, and so I searched websites such as <http://www>.

Cara Wilcox

calflora.org, and <http://www.calscape.com>. I also perused local garden centers and bought some beard tongue and blue-eyed grass there.

I watched over them like a mother hen. I discovered that the Penstemon didn't like the rich compost I added to the soil and needed more hours of direct sunlight, and the Sisyrinchium needed more water. I also discovered that I had bought non-native versions of these plants! I have a lot to learn.

Plants that I would like to add this year are *Polystichum munitum* (western sword fern), *Prosartes smithii* (largeflower fairybells), and *Dicentra formosa* (western bleeding heart), which are already growing wild near my garden.

Besides learning about the local natives, I began to identify the invasive plants, especially French broom and English ivy. I was so happy when a week after I began pulling ivy, native ferns began to grow there all by themselves! *Polypodium scolopendri* (leathery polypody fern) had been there all along, waiting for a chance in the light.

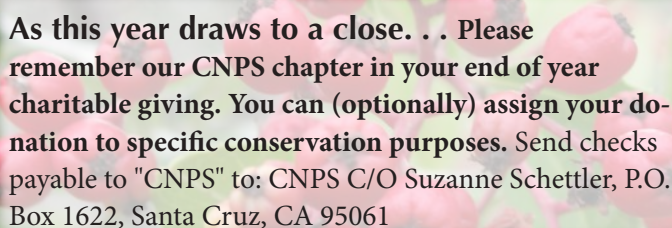
This year in I volunteered with California Native Plant Society's Habitat Restoration Team, to remove invasive South African Iceplant from the slope at Natural Bridges State Beach. Many people stopped to ask why we were doing that, and wanted to know what should be planted instead. Linda Brodman pointed to the plot adjacent to us, where ice plant had been removed in the past, and native plants were blooming and flourishing. Many of them had lain as dormant seeds under the ice plant and began to grow once the light was able to reach them.

So as I think about my garden this autumn, I know that it's not only about what I can add, but also what needs to be taken out. After all the researching and trial-and-error, if I just let nature have back what was there to begin with, everybody wins. ☺

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.



As this year draws to a close. . . Please remember our CNPS chapter in your end of year charitable giving. You can (optionally) assign your donation to specific conservation purposes. Send checks payable to "CNPS" to: CNPS C/O Suzanne Schettler, P.O. Box 1622, Santa Cruz, CA 95061

Keying Club November 9, 5 p.m. Topic: Oaks!

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!

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 trips and initiates wild whoops of joy. Contact Deanna Giuliano at drosegiuliano@yahoo.com or call 831.355.4902.

Saturday November 14, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Moore Creek Preserve with Deanna Giuliano. We will focus on oak ID and possibly see some nice galls associated with oaks. Three to five miles easy to moderate hiking. Meet at the end of Meder street.

Note: The November 9th keying club will focus on oak ID too!

Sunday November 15, 2 - 4 (or 5) p.m. The "flora" and fauna of the vibrant inter-tidal zones with Sarah Tepler Drobitch. Join Sarah, a UCSC PhD student and expert seaweed physiologist, at Davenport Landing Beach (off Davenport Landing Rd, just north of Santa Cruz on Hwy 1). Wear sturdy rain boots ("Wellingtons") if you have them; otherwise, grippy shoes that you don't mind getting drenched.

Note: The November 9th meeting is all about seaweeds!

Saturday December 5, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Hike to Chalk Mountain (1609 ft) with Deanna Giuliano. Enjoy spectacular panoramic views and amazing redwoods on the way up to a coastal scrub habitat. Chalk Mountain is located near Año Nuevo SP. Strenuous elevation gain of about 1500' feet. Four mile round trip. Meet at Westside New Leaf parking lot. Limited to 15 people.

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.

- Saturday, November 14, 10 am - 1 pm
Location TBD.
- Saturday, November 21, 10 am - 1 pm
Location TBD.

Monterey Chapter Events

Go to <http://montereybay.cnps.org> for details of field trips, restoration projects and more, in the county next door!

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

17th Annual Central California
Invasive Weed Symposium
Into the Weeds:
What you can't see and what we can do about it.
Save the Date: November 5, 2015
Peace United Church, Santa Cruz, CA
Morning talks, afternoon field trips. Continuing Education credits available. See www.cciws.org for details about speakers, trip locations, Laws and Regulations units.

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In the UCSC Arboretum Meeting Hall

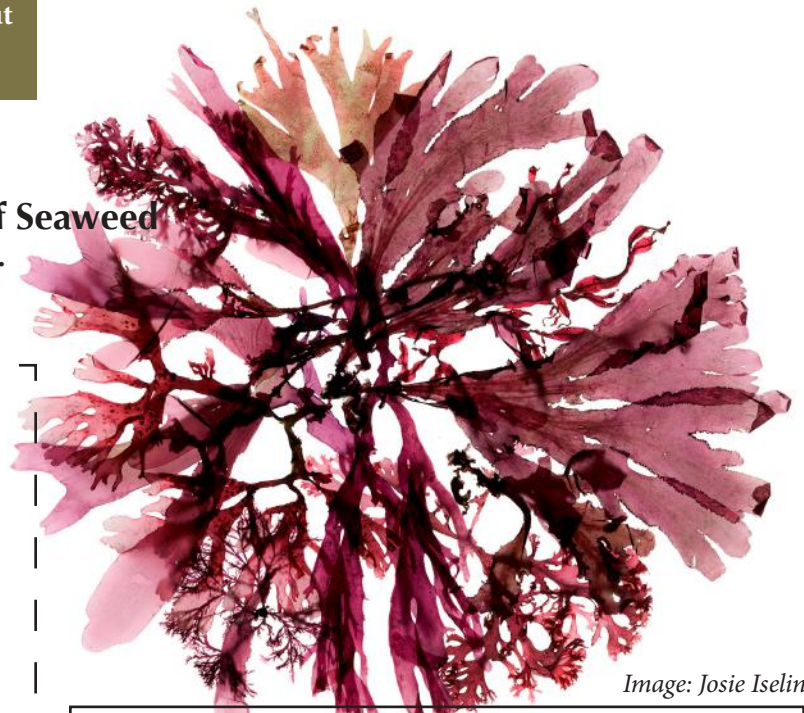


Image: Josie Iselin

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

- Student/Limited Income \$25
- Individual \$45
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- 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 Jackie at countrymoosie@gmail.com
Like us on Facebook, and contribute to our page!

<https://www.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.