



# The Cypress Cone

The newsletter of the California Native Plant Society  
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CHAPTER

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[www.cruzcnp.org](http://www.cruzcnp.org)

July - August 2011

## General Membership Meeting

### **What is going on at Younger Lagoon? An Overview and Update on Activities at Younger Lagoon Natural Reserve**

**Gage Dayton and Elizabeth Howard**

**July 11, 2011**

**7:30 pm**

**UCSC Arboretum Horticulture Building**

Younger Lagoon Natural Reserve, located adjacent to UCSC's Long Marine Lab is one of the few relatively undisturbed wetlands remaining on the California Central Coast. The reserve encompasses a remnant Y-shaped lagoon on the open coast just north of Monterey Bay. Reserve habitats include salt and freshwater marsh, coastal strand, back dune pickleweed flat, steep bluffs with dense coastal scrub, pocket beach, grassland, and dense willow thickets.

The lagoon system provides protected habitat for over 100 resident and migratory bird species. Recent track survey and camera trap work have documented bobcat, coyote, deer, and numerous other mammals on the reserve beach. Although Younger Lagoon is a relatively small area (72 acres), amidst agriculture and development, this relic habitat functions at a level beyond most developed beaches and lagoons in the region.

Gage Dayton and Elizabeth Howard will present a brief background of the UC Natural Reserve System, UCSC Reserves, and then focus in on Younger Lagoon and discuss ongoing activities including native habitat restoration, teaching, research, and public education.

Director Gage Dayton joined the UCSC Natural Reserves staff in January 2008. Prior to his appointment, Dr. Dayton was a postdoc at Moss Landing Marine Labs and managed the Moro Coho Slough restoration project. Dr. Dayton holds a B.S. degree in wildlife management from Humboldt State and a Ph.D. in ecology and evolutionary biology (wildlife and fisheries sciences) from Texas A&M. Elizabeth Howard was selected as the

first full-time Field Manager of Younger Lagoon Reserve in the summer of 2008. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Howard worked as the Steward of Younger Lagoon Reserve and UCSC's Campus Natural Reserve (not an NRS reserve), and as a researcher on UCSC's Forest Ecology Research Plot, where she conducted long term monitoring of a coastal forest. Ms. Howard holds a B.A. in Biology and Environmental Studies from UC Santa Cruz.

### **Shopping Bag Donation Program Changes**

It's a mixed bag (uhm, sorry) when it comes to local stores' reusable shopping bag donation programs. CNPS did not get enough votes to keep getting Envirotoken money from New Leaf for the coming year. On the bright side, CNPS is now one of the choices for token money at Staff of Life. They do not have an election, so when you go there thank them for adding us.

### **Growing Natives Symposium: Inspiring & Enduring Gardens**

This two-day event takes place Saturday & Sunday, September 17 & 18, 2011 in Lafayette and Berkeley. Designing, installing, and maintaining native plant gardens of lasting value is the theme, which is aimed at professionals, home gardeners, and native plant enthusiasts. CNPS members receive a discount when registering before June 30. Space is limited. For more information and to register, visit

<http://gns.cnps-scv.org>.

Any questions? Call Margot Sheffner 510-849-1627.

## Summer Field Trips

Many thanks to the fantastic leaders, who donate their time and skills, and share their "secret spots" and native plant knowledge with us! And many thanks to Lynn Bomberger, field trip organizer extraordinaire! In fact, the Monterey Bay chapter CNPS (i.e., Lynn) is offering all of these trips. The Santa Cruz chapter field trip organizer needs help, or replacement. If you know of anyone, training is provided, and one gets to meet really fun people! Call or email Ellen 831-750-2365 ellen@centralcoastwilds.com Ditto if you want to lead a Fall trip!

You can find more field trips offered by the Santa Clara Valley chapter here [http://www.cnps-scv.org/index.php?option=com\\_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=119](http://www.cnps-scv.org/index.php?option=com_wrapper&view=wrapper&Itemid=119)

**Sunday, July 10, 9:00 to 12:30pm**

### Fort Ord Orchid Walk

Today we will be hunting orchids. We will explore the sandy dunes on the former Fort Ord and some properties which are usually closed to the public. Orchids that we hope to see are Yaden's Rein-Orchid, Hooded Ladies' Tresses, Michael's Rein-Orchid and possibly Elegant and Elongate Rein-Orchids. There will also be many other beautiful flowers to enjoy. Less than 3 miles with very little elevation gain. Bring water, snack and a hat. Meet at the old Fort Ord Thrift Shop at Lightfighter Drive and 2nd. Avenue. For more information, call Leader David Styer, 633-2590.

**Sunday, July 24, 4:00pm**

### Early Evening Soap Plant Hike at Jacks Peak

Jacks Peak offers quiet forested trails with spectacular views of Monterey, the bay and Carmel Valley. 5 ½ miles with 700 ft. elevation gain. If we are lucky, we will see soap plants blooming. If not, we'll have a nice evening walk in the woods. Bring water, dinner & a flashlight. Arrive early; we depart at 4:00pm from the NW corner of Whole Foods parking lot in Monterey. Call for a reservation. Leader: Lynn Bomberger, 375-7777.

Sunday, July 31, 9:30am

### Late Season Flowers of Soberanes Point & Creek

Explore the varied Soberanes Point & Creek area with wildflower enthusiast, Bob Hale. Besides a beautiful display of buckwheat, there will be numerous other late season flowers to admire and discuss along the way. Much of the beauty that we will see in the area is the result of years of work by CNPS members to remove non-natives, allowing native plants to fill-in. The walk will be about 3 miles with very little elevation gain. Arrive early, we depart at 9:30am from the Rio Road Park & Ride in Carmel. Bring lunch & water. Call Lynn, 375-7777, for a reservation.

**Every Tuesday of July**

### Conserving Native Plants

#### Seed Collection at Ford Ord

Seeds of Success (SOS) is a program created in a nationwide effort to ensure the conservation of native plants. Join SOS intern Rose Ashbach in a day of collections. We will travel throughout the scenic hills and valleys of Fort Ord BLM collecting seeds of diverse and important native plant species. Contact Rose Ashbach (831)236-8530 for more information.

**Sunday, August 14, 9:30am to 2:30pm**

### Oak Woodlands Walk at Hastings Reserve

Join Mark Stromberg, Biologist, Naturalist and Resident Director of Hastings Reserve on an extremely interesting field trip. Hastings is a 2300 acre Biological Field Station of the University of California, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology & Natural Reserve Systems. We will learn about various oaks, our oak woodlands, oak galls, acorn woodpeckers and even how to make acorn cookies. About 1 mile with minimal elevation gain. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the Rio Road Park & Ride before 9:30am. Call Lynn at 375-7777 for a reservation and how to locate Mark's informative article: Oak Woodland in Monterey County.

**Sunday, August 21, 10am to noon**

### Mission Trail Nature Preserve Saunter

Walk with us in the footsteps of Father Serra. The good father wore out many sandals walking from the Carmel Mission to the Royal Presidio Chapel in Monterey. It's all uphill on the first half, but downhill on the way back. Approximately 2 miles through native Monterey pine woods, redwoods and coastal oaks. We will visit the Flanders Mansion in the center of the Preserve. Meet at 10 a.m. on Rio Road across from the Carmel Mission. For more information, phone leader, Joyce Stevens, 624-3149.

**Sunday, August 28, 9:30am to 1:30pm**

### Del Monte Forest Berries Nibble

Join Bob Hale & Lynn Bomberger as we zig & zag through serene Del Monte Forest, nibbling on a variety of ripe berries along the way. Huckleberries (yum), Salal, Blackberries & Solomon Seal berries should be ripe and ready to sample. Also, Rough-leaved Asters will be looking beautiful and hopefully we will be delighted by Hooded Ladies Tresses and Elegant Rein-Orchids. Bring water and lunch. Approximately 3 miles with 650 ft. elevation gain. Arrive early; we depart at 9:30 from the Del Monte Forest "Haul Road" Gate on Highway 68. Call Lynn at 375-7777 for a reservation.

## Botanical Thrill

by Debbie Bulger

A peak climb in the Inyo Mountains turned into a botanical thrill for me and Richard Stover in April. Many California mountains have summit register notebooks where climbers sign in after reaching the top. Some registers go way back and contain the names of well known climbers and conservationists such as David Brower or Ansel Adams.

As I was leafing through a water-stained notebook on the top of a less-frequently climbed peak in the Inyo mountains, I let out a shout. Here is what I saw:

The *Caulostramina Jaegeri* seekers  
success on both peaks!  
6/2/86  
Mary DeDecker  
Susan Cochrane  
Anne Marshall-Ross  
Botanists have style  
but there's a stigma attached

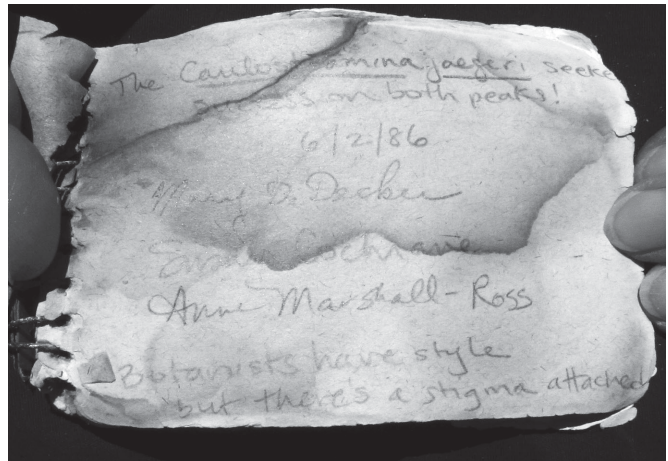
Mary DeDecker lived in Independence and founded the Bristlecone Chapter of CNPS. She was born in 1909 and passed away in 2000. She would have been 76 or 77 when she climbed the peak and signed that register.

She was a self-taught botanist who first described the shrub, *Dedeckea eurekaensis* (July gold), in what is now known as DeDeckera Canyon, which has become part of Death Valley National Park. One of her companions on the climb in the Inyo Mountains, Susan Cochrane, worked for the California Department of Fish and Game and successfully achieved the naming of DeDeckera Canyon in Mary's honor in 1984. I don't know who Anne Marshall-Ross is. Do you?

DeDecker worked to protect the Eureka Dunes from off-road vehicles and was one of the founders of the Owens Valley Committee. In 1984 CNPS published her *Flora of the Northern Mojave Desert*.

To learn more about Mary DeDecker visit [www.ovcweb.org/AboutOVC/Mary.html](http://www.ovcweb.org/AboutOVC/Mary.html).

Whether the rare *Caulostramina Jaegeri* was on the peak where I found the register entry I can't say, since I didn't know what it looked like. When I got home, I looked it up in my Jepson. Next time I'm in the Inyos, I'll have a better idea.



A spiral-bound scrap of history

## New Members' Welcome

We are pleased to introduce our newest members:

Myrna Cozen                      Diane Ritch  
Leighton Reid                  David Casterson  
Thomas Stutzman

## Santa Cruz County Moss List

Board member Ken Kellman has led bryophyte walks for CNPS. They are eye-openers for observers of human size who need magnification to appreciate the wonders of a world at a smaller scale. He holds up a 20X hand lens and says, "This is the cheapest plane ticket you can buy." He has a web-site that some may find of interest: [www.bryolog.com](http://www.bryolog.com). He has also posted his catalog of the mosses of Santa Cruz County at: [www.bryolog.com/sczmossescatalog.pdf](http://www.bryolog.com/sczmossescatalog.pdf)

## Habitat Restoration Team

We are 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 particularly unpleasant, we call it a day. Tools provided; bring gloves. Contact: Program Leader, Linda Brodman 831.462.4041, [redwdrm@pacbell.net](mailto:redwdrm@pacbell.net)

**July 16, 2011                  10 am to 1 pm**  
**Please call for location.**

**Future Projects: Stay tuned!**

## Join the California Native Plant Society!

New members receive a free bag or backpack.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter (County) Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

All dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible.

## Santa Cruz Chapter Board of Directors

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**Vice-President:** Brett Hall brett@ucsc.edu

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Peggy Waters 336-9283; Brett Hall

**Rare Plant Coordinator:** R. Morgan 466-0680

**Habitat Restoration:** Linda Brodman 462-4041,

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**Flora:** Dylan Neubauer, dneubauer1111@gmail.com

**Digital Video Outreach:** Fred McPherson fredwood@cruzio.com

**Legislation:** open

**Programs:** Linda Brodman

**Publicity/Outreach:** Joel Rider edgerider2002@yahoo.com

**Field Trips:** Ellen Holmes 684-2363, ellen@centralcoastwilds.com

**Newsletter:** Charles Koester 335-9466, cnps@koester.com

**Hospitality:** Angel Guerzon 212-8359, angelguerzon@hotmail.com

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**Members at Large:** Mary Ellen Irons 426-8410, 207 Archer Dr,

Santa Cruz; Kim Hayes monkeyflowerkim@aol.com;

Ernie Wasson sluggo@cruzio.com

CNPS is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of California native flora. CNPS has 31 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. 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*.



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