



# The Cypress Cone

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

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May - June 2007

## Arana Gulch Update

CNPS has a lawsuit against the City of Santa Cruz regarding significant threats posed to the Santa Cruz sunflower (tarplant) from the City's Arana Gulch EIR and Master Plan. The May 10 court date for this lawsuit has been changed because our attorney Bill Parkin has suffered a serious back injury. The new date is June 14, 2007 at 8:30 AM in Department 9 of the Superior Court on Ocean St. in Santa Cruz. We all send our best to Bill and a sincere wish that he has a quick recovery and return to health.

– Vince Cheap, Conservation Chair

## Smart Gardening Faire Sat. June 23 9am-5pm Skypark in Scotts Valley

Come join CNPS as we host a booth at the Monterey Bay Master Gardeners Smart Gardening Fair – A Day of Free Gardening Information.

At our booth, we'll have lots of native plant related literature to share and books, posters and native plants to sell. Arranging the booth, selling the plants, chatting with the attendees, and visiting the faire are a few of the opportunities available. Call Denise @ 685-3235 to get involved.

## Online Membership Options

A new feature on the CNPS website makes it easier to renew your membership or donate regularly.

Go on the web to [www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org) and you'll find a brand new poppy icon that links you to a page where you can donate to CNPS in installments: monthly, yearly, or whatever suits your schedule and budget! This was developed through the Membership committee, chaired by Arvind Kumar on the State Board of Directors, at the March meeting. Several members wished it could be "as easy as public radio" for renewing memberships and making regular contributions to CNPS; now it is! Tell your friends, and check it out before your membership expires. Your donations are tax-deductible and can make a real difference for our flora. Thank you!

## Newsletter via email delivery?

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, rather than receiving a printed copy by post, just send your email address to [cnps@koester.com](mailto:cnps@koester.com). Rest assured that we will not lend, share, sell, or otherwise disclose your email address without your permission.

## General Meeting & Presentation An Introduction to Local Lichens

Susanne Altermann

Monday May 14, 2007  
7:30 pm

Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History  
1305 E. Cliff Drive

Lichens are a form of vegetation, but they are not plants. What are they? Come find out about lichens' symbiotic biology and learn how and where to enjoy local lichens. We will focus on the macrolichens of UCSC. Bring a hand lens to view details of local collections.

Susanne Altermann is a graduate student in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UCSC. She studies geographic structure in the fungal-algal partnerships of widespread lichens of Western North America.

We hope to see you at this special show and tell. Remember to bring your hand lens!

## New Members Welcome!

The Santa Cruz chapter is happy to acknowledge new members

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Ezekiel Bean                 | Chris Berry |
| David Brush                  | James Cook  |
| Monica Holmes                | Cara Lamb   |
| Amy McCabe & Michael Splain. |             |

We are also grateful to all our renewing members. You keep CNPS in motion!

## Envirotokens Voting in May

The New Leaf Market in Felton will be voting for "envirotokens" charity selections in May. This program allows shoppers who use or reuse their own shopping bags to select a charity. For each reused full-sized bag a customer gets a 5 cent token for a donation to one of six selected charities. To ensure that our chapter continues to be an option, be sure to vote for CNPS

## Field Trips – Late Spring 2007

After one of the coldest and driest Januaries on record, we finally got a little rain, but it's been an overall dry year on the central coast, with rainfall totals getting progressively smaller as you head south (and bigger as you head north). Some of the sturdy wildflowers are still putting on good displays, and you're encouraged to get out and see how well they make do with what is given to them! For statewide information, check the Theodore Payne Wildflower Hotline, March-May at 818-768-3533, or <http://www.theodorepayne.org/hotline.html>. We are grateful for the talented field trip leaders who are offering to lead hikes. In their experienced hands, our precious wildlands will come to life for you, even if you are not immediately dazzled by sheets of flowers. Sometimes a small floral detail, or an ecological footnote will be the thing that shines out at the end of the day, providing a new window into the easily overlooked complexity of our home on planet Earth.

Please check the website periodically for additional trips!  
<http://www.cruzcnp.org>.

### **Saturday May 5, 11am-1:30pm**

#### **Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve with Val Haley**

The Santa Cruz Sandhills support some of the rarest natural communities in the world. And who better to show you their splendors than Val Haley, who has dedicated much of her life to their exploration and restoration! On this moderate 2-mile hike, Val will discuss the ecology and geology of the area, as well as pointing out such rarities such as *Chorizanthe pungens* var. *hartwegiana*, *Arctostaphylos andersonii*, and *A. silvicola*, and the lovely curly-leaved *monardellas* and Ben Lomond wallflowers. When was the last time you saw Western Burning Bush or Labrador Tea? (which tells you she may wander off the sandhills towards the creek). Hike is limited to 15 people. You must contact Val to reserve a spot: 831-425-0687 or [vegnet@cruzio.com](mailto:vegnet@cruzio.com). Bring sun protection, water, snack, etc. Meet at the fire station on Martin Rd in Bonny Doon.

### **Saturday May 5, 10am-late afternoon**

#### **Ventana Wilderness Alliance invites CNPS**

#### **Big Creek w/Dave Nelson and Julie Anne Hopkins**

Don't miss this rare opportunity to experience the UC Big Creek Preserve on the Big Sur coast (**overnight not available**). To learn more about the trip contact trip leaders: [dirtroad@redshift.net](mailto:dirtroad@redshift.net), or [julianne@cruzio.com](mailto:julianne@cruzio.com) (831) 566-6012. The trip is limited to 15 individuals so please call to sign up and for meeting information. The VWA does not coordinate car pooling; however, it is highly encouraged. Bring plenty of water, food, layered clothing and wear sturdy footwear. Don't forget sun block and a hat. Remember there are ticks and poison oak out there! Subject to cancel due to heavy rain.

### **Tentative: Sunday May 6**

#### **Mill Creek w/ Lynn Overtree**

Please see the Monterey Bay Chapter CNPS newsletters for updates: <http://www.montereybaycnp.org/>

### **Saturday May 12, 10am - late afternoon**

#### **Ventana Wilderness Alliance invites CNPS**

#### **Willow Creek – Return to Wilderness**

#### **With Tom and Julie Anne Hopkins**

This easy to moderate down and back hike to Willow Creek is not only beautiful, but also rewarding. Whether this is your first visit or a revisit, come along to observe the former mining claim sites 2 years after the VWA clean-up. We will also learn the plants and birds that inhabit this part of the Ventana Wilderness. The trip is limited to 15 individuals so please call to sign up and for meeting information. The VWA does not coordinate car pooling; however, it is highly encouraged. Bring plenty of water, food, layered clothing and wear sturdy footwear. Don't forget sun block and a hat. Remember there are ticks and poison oak out there! Subject to cancel due to heavy rain. Call for meeting location [julianne@cruzio.com](mailto:julianne@cruzio.com) (831) 566-6012.

### **Introduction to the Salicaceae of California**

#### **(Cottonwoods and Willows) Workshop with John Bair**

#### **Saturday May 12, 9-5 pm at UCSC Arboretum**

#### **Sunday May 13, 9-2(5) mostly in the field**

Sponsored by UCSC Arboretum Native Plant Workshops \$100 members of CNPS or Arboretum; \$120 nonmembers Contact information: Brett Hall [brett@ucsc.edu](mailto:brett@ucsc.edu). Registrations (831) 427-2998. Credit Cards are OK. There is no online registration at this time.

This workshop will cover all native members of the genus *Populus* that can be found in the state and introduce students to almost all of the species of *Salix* found in California. The morphological plasticity of the group makes it a challenge to learn and identify many members of this family- this workshop is your ticket to a greater personal understanding of this complex group. Almost 1/3 of all North American willow species can be found in California. (Be forewarned – John Bair's enthusiastic appreciation of Willows may be infectious!)

### **Saturday May 19, 11am-1:30pm**

#### **Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve with Val Haley**

See the trip description for May 5.

### **Tentative: Sunday May 20**

#### **Soberanes with Bob Hale**

Please see the Monterey Bay Chapter CNPS newsletters for update: <http://www.montereybaycnp.org/>

### **Saturday May 26, 9am (Santa Cruz) or 10am (Año Nuevo) to mid-afternoon**

#### **Año Nuevo Point with Suzanne Schettler**

Año Nuevo Point is an almost magical place, home to thousands of elephant seals during the winter and one of the world's three natural populations of Monterey pine. It's a place of change. We'll see native vegetation returning where Brussels sprouts grew until 1971, and then see sand dunes that are disappearing near the point. The walk out to the point is about a 3 mile round trip, more or less flat, on an improved trail. Parking at the reserve is \$6 per car – a good reason to meet in front of Office Max on River Street at 9 AM for no-

host carpooling. We'll gather at the Año Nuevo parking lot at 10. Bring lunch, water, layered clothing, good walking shoes, and prepare for sun and wind. Suzanne Schettler, 336-1745.

**Saturday May 26, 9am-1pm  
Fort Ord Vernal Pools with Bruce Delgado**

We'll focus during several short hikes on rare wetland flowers such as the endangered Contra Costa goldfields and the always beautiful Johnny Nip (*Castilleja ambigua* ssp. *insalutata*, a wetland relative to the Indian paintbrushes), brownie thistle, ladies tresses. We'll also enjoy flowers between the pools such as early rein orchids and other late spring wildflowers such as the beautiful virgate *Eriastrum* and what will likely be many surprises. Meet 9am at the Thrift Store parking lot inside the Fort Ord main entrance off Hwy. 1. When was the last time you cavorted around mima mounds? Bring water, weather protection, lunch, and wear good walking shoes. Call Bruce at 394-8314 or 277-7690 or email him at [bdelgado@blm.gov](mailto:bdelgado@blm.gov) or [bdelgado@mbay.net](mailto:bdelgado@mbay.net).

**Saturday-Sunday May 26-27  
Ventana Wilderness Alliance invites CNPS  
Hanging Valley Back Pack with Dave Nelson and  
Julie Anne Hopkins**

This 4.5 mile hike will start at 10AM from Escondido Camp, at the gated southern end of Arroyo Seco Indians Rd. We will mosey along, looking at plants on the way, arriving at the valley in time for more exploration. We look forward to seeing rare plants, sweeping vistas, a tiny cold spring and pool, and rock shelters. You can expect to see the rare Arroyo Seco Bush Mallow, *Malacothamnus palmeri* ssp. *lucianus*, and help locate undocumented populations of Hickman's *Sidalcea*, *Sidalcea hickmanii*. This will be an easy to moderate backpack trip unless you put too many extra goodies in your pack. We will retrace the same route back to the cars on Sunday. Meet at 10:00 a.m. The trip is limited to 15 individuals so please call to sign up and for meeting information. The VWA does not coordinate car pooling; however, it is highly encouraged. Contact: [dirtroad@redshift.net](mailto:dirtroad@redshift.net), or [julieanne@cruzio.com](mailto:julieanne@cruzio.com) (831) 566-6012

**Sunday May 27, 10am-12 noon  
Edible and Medicinal Native Plants  
Natural Bridges State Park  
with Helena Hope and L. Roxanne Evans**

Come learn how to spice up your life on this native plant walk! Helena Hope is a third generation herbalist and certified classical homeopath, who will identify plants as natives or exotics, and discuss their uses, including edible, medicinal, homeopathic, and Native American uses. She has just published the booklet *I Bet You Didn't Know This About The Plants of Natural Bridges*, which will be available for \$5. L. Roxanne Evans is an ecological landscape designer and consultant, and is the owner of EcoCentric Design Co. She is a wilderafter and wild edibles enthusiast. If you wish to tame some of the plants you learn about on the walk, she can help you learn how to bring them into your yard. Wild snacking may happen after the walk! Hiking will be less than 2 miles, and consist of easy strolling. Meet at the parking lot to the left of the main entrance of Natural Bridges State Park on West Cliff Drive. 423-7781

**Saturday June 9, 11am-1:30pm  
Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve with Val Haley**  
See the trip description for Saturday May 5.

**Thursday July 19- Sunday July 22, 2007  
Sponsored by UCSC Arboretum Native Plant  
Workshops**

**Willows on the Wing Workshop with John Bair**  
\$140 CNPS/Arboretum members or \$180 nonmembers  
The best way to learn Californian willows is in the field. This field trip will travel from the eastern Sierra across the crest to the western slope. Willow species will be associated both with elevation and east west distributions. Almost half of the state's willow species will be seen "on the wing" as we visit areas from sierra crest near Saddle Bag Lake (+10,000 ft) down the streams feeding Mono Lake (6,500 ft in elevation) and finally up the Sonora pass (+9,500 ft) and down the western slope (500 ft) into the San Joaquin Valley. The group will gather in the late afternoon Thursday at the campground in Lee Vining (approx 6,500 ft in elevation) and a brief trip overview and introduction to willows will be given Thursday evening. Thursday and Friday nights will be spent at the same campground. Friday will focus on willow species growing at higher elevations near the Sierra Crest with the group taking a couple of hikes near Saddle Bag Lake and Tioga Pass. On Saturday we will visit riparian areas along Rush and Lee Vining Creeks to learn a few more willows and discuss the reproductive relationship of willows and the snowmelt season. In the afternoon the group will begin to travel north to the Sonora Pass, stopping in Sardine Meadows just west of the pass. Saturday night will be spent at a campground near Kennedy Meadows. The group will wind down the western sierra slope on Sunday stopping a few times to get a sense of the effect of elevation on willow distribution. Our last stop will be along the Stanislaus River to look at common central valley willows. The trip will end in Oakdale at approximately 4pm on Sunday. Folks will need to bring their own camping equipment and food. A hand lens and Jepson manual would be helpful but not essential. We will attempt to carpool wherever it makes the most sense. Number of participants will be limited to 20. Registration (831) 427-2998. Credit Cards OK. No online registration at this time.

More information: Brett Hall [brett@ucsc.edu](mailto:brett@ucsc.edu). Ellen Holmes [ellen@centralcoastwilds.com](mailto:ellen@centralcoastwilds.com).

**Habitat Restoration Team Events**

This volunteer program explores the natural systems that surround participants while helping to restore special and wild places. No prior work experience is necessary, just show up at the park. We welcome individual volunteers from 8 to 80 years. Wear comfortable layered clothing, bring something to drink, and lots of enthusiasm! We work rain or shine, unless things get particularly unpleasant. Tools provided; bring gloves.  
**Contact:** Linda Brodman 831.462.4041, [redwdrn@pacbell.net](mailto:redwdrn@pacbell.net)

**May 12, 2007                      10 am to 1 pm  
Sunset Beach State Park**

**June 2, 2007                      10 am to 1 pm  
Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park**

**July 7, 2007                      10 am to 1 pm  
Sunset Beach State Park**

## Join the California Native Plant Society!

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.



## Board of Directors

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**Treasurer:** Suzanne Schettler 336-1745, greening@cruzio.com

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**Conservation:** Vince Cheap 477-1660, vince@sasquatch.com, Kathe Hart 427-0237, kathehart@hotmail.com, Stephen McCabe 336-2141, smccabe@ucsc.edu

**Rare Plant Coordinator:** Randall Morgan 465-6640

**Invasive Exotics:** Linda Brodman 462-4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net & Fred McPherson fredwood@cruzio.com

**Vegetation:** Casey Stewman

**Educational Outreach:** Fred McPherson fredwood@cruzio.com

**Legislation:** open

**Programs:** Linda Brodman 462-4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net

**Publicity/Outreach:** open

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

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

**Hospitality:** Angel Guerzon 429-4047, 1900 Smith Grade Road, Santa Cruz

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**Webmaster:** Bill Malone billmalone@pacbell.net

**Members at Large:** Mary Ellen Irons 426-8410, 207 Archer Dr, Santa Cruz; Kim Hayes hayes@elkhornslough.org

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*.



### California Native Plant Society Santa Cruz County Chapter

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