



The Cypress Cone

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

Volume 37, No 5

www.cruzcnp.org

September - October 2012

General Membership Meeting

Wanna' Be a Pine Nut?

Nikki Nedeff

September 10, 2012

Speaker 7:30 pm

UCSC Arboretum Horticulture Building

Please join us Monday, September 10 for a talk about our own very special celebrity plant community – the Monterey Pine forest. The story isn't about the trees, which seem to be everywhere in our local landscape and grow around the world in vast plantations ... the story is about the natural forests of the Central Coast and the biological, inspirational and economic values these natural communities embody.

Nikki is a Central Coast native who will share the story of pine forest ecology, and how a group of environmentally-inclined citizens came together twenty years ago to advocate for the conservation and management of Monterey Pine forests. Their volunteer work includes a recent book dedicated to the living legacy of our emblematic local pine forest habitats.

Besides being a “pine nut”, Nikki teaches plant ecology and introductory plant taxonomy at California State University at Monterey Bay, and maintains an ecological consulting business. She has worked for three land trusts and two public agencies dedicated to the conservation and stewardship of California's special places.

The book, *The Monterey Pine Forest – Coastal California's Living Legacy* will be available for purchase as a tax-deductible donation: \$22.00 in cash, or by check made out to “The Monterey Pine Forest Watch”.

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Fall Plant Sale!

Saturday, October 13th

**The Eucalyptus Grove
at the UCSC Arboretum**

Members 10 am – Noon

(memberships available at the gate)

Everyone welcome Noon to 4pm

Fall is in the air reminding us that the warm dry days of summer are waning and the rainy season will soon be here. ‘Fall is for planting’, is the slogan that the nursery industry has been using for quite a few years and it certainly holds true for natives. What better place to stock up for your fall planting needs than at our Chapter's sale?

This year our propagation team, under the direction of Denise Polk and Mike Luther has grown an outstanding selection of plants for every garden niche. In addition to the plants grown by our team, a selection of plants, such as ferns, which require specialized growing conditions, have been purchased from Sun Crest Nursery to widen the selection. Along with your shopping list be sure to bring your gardening questions, for there will be volunteers available from our chapter that have extensive experience gardening with natives to help you out. Before you leave check out our assortment of native plant books including many on gardening. Whether you are a beginning native plant gardener or have been growing natives for years the sale is a wonderful place to be. Come and spend the day surrounded with plants and people that share your interest in gardening with natives.

Food will be available for purchase; parking and restrooms are free. We accept cash and checks. Check www.cruzcnp.org in early October for updates and the plant list.

CNPS Conservation Symposium and Chapter Council Meeting September 7–9 at the Arboretum

Four times a year, delegates from each chapter of CNPS attend the Chapter Council, to discuss policy and other state-wide issues. The Santa Cruz County chapter is pleased to host the next Chapter Council, which takes place September 7 at the Arboretum.

The annual state-wide Conservation Symposium also takes place during this weekend. It is a day-long event beginning Saturday at 8 am. A light breakfast is provided and you can sign up for a catered box lunch (\$12). Several great speakers are on the schedule, including Katie Barrows, Woody Elliot, Kevin Bryant, Greg Suba, and Vern Goehring. This year, speakers will present a retrospective of case studies of the past 20 years, as well as lessons learned that we can apply to future Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs), and tips for plant advocates interested in engaging in NCCP processes in their chapters. An optional no-host social mixer follows the symposium, at a nearby venue (to be determined).

There is also a dinner on Saturday evening (\$25). The after dinner speaker is Chuck Striplen, a member of the Amah Mutsun, and an Associate Environmental Scientist with the San Francisco Estuary Institute. Chuck will talk on the topic, "The Re-emergence of a Tribal presence in the Monterey Bay Area: Opportunities for new approaches in research and stewardship."

It's Not Just the Weeds; Land Stewardship and Weed Management Nov 8

Join the Weed Management Areas of Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains for the 14th Annual Central California Invasive Weed Symposium

Thursday, November 8, 2012
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Felton Community Hall, Felton, CA

Speakers, topics, and registration information and details are available at <http://cciws2012.eventbrite.com>

This conference will provide ample information on weed control and management through exciting speakers and interactive field expeditions. It will also provide network opportunities, Continuing Education Units, and lots of delicious food.

For more information: Contact Hannah Wallis
Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, (831)724-5025, wallisha@co.monterey.ca.us
<http://ag.co.monterey.ca.us/pages/14th-annual-central-california-invasive-weeds-symp>

CNPS members and their guests are welcome to attend the symposium, and/or the Saturday evening dinner, space permitting. You can register on the day of the symposium, or on-line (though food must be pre-ordered.)

The symposium itself is free. Lunch and dinner are optional, and cost \$12 and \$25 respectively. NOTE: lunch and dinner must be ordered in advance, on the registration page! You'll pay when you arrive Saturday morning, cash or check only.

To register – and learn more about the schedule and events – visit this site: <https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncilsept2012>

Many volunteers in the Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Luis Obispo chapters are working overtime to make this event successful. Thanks everyone!



Endangered Species Status Change Ahead for the Santa Cruz cypress?

The Chapter's "mascot" plant, the Santa Cruz cypress, currently is protected as a federally endangered species. Kristina Barry, of the US Fish & Wildlife Service, reports that they have been petitioned to downlist it from endangered to threatened. They are seeking information from our membership regarding any updated information on the species.

Her call for information follows. To comment please contact her at US F&WS.

Kirstina Barry
Fish & Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ventura Field Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, CA. 93003
805-644-1766 ext. 357
Kirstina_Barry@fws.gov

Downlisting Santa Cruz cypress – Call for information!

Based on the information provided in the 2009 5-year status review for the Santa Cruz cypress (*Hesperocyparis* [formerly *Cupressus*] *abramsiana*), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considering downlisting from federally endangered to federally threatened.

If you are familiar with this species and/or a land management entity with property known to support the species, I would appreciate it if you could review the information in the links provided below and contribute any information you may have on this species.

You can send the information to the location specified in the notice, or you can contact me directly with the information provided below. We need the information by September 13, 2012, but if it could come along sooner that would be all the better. Many thanks for any assistance you can provide.

Federal Register notice:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-06-04/pdf/2012-13425.pdf>

2009 5-year review:

http://ecos.fws.gov/docs/five_year_review/doc2551.pdf

October 13 Plant Sale

Call for Volunteers

Get the most fun out of the plant sale and help the chapter in the process by volunteering!

Everyone is welcome to participate, experience growing natives not required. In fact come and learn from the experts. Sign up for a two hour shift and be part of the team!

Available activities include:

- Unloading the nursery truck
- Arranging plants
- Selling books and posters
- Cashiering
- Greeting people
- Promoting our CNPS Chapter

Sign up with Karen Hildebrand at karenhildebrand@cruzio.com or call Abbie Blair at 831-722-4065 for more information

Publicity Articles In The News

Jackie Pascoe has been busy since starting her position in Publicity. She's already written a couple of articles that recently appeared in the *Santa Cruz Sentinel*. Take a peek at them, pass them along, or perhaps get inspired to talk a walk or put in some native plants along your street.

Restoring native beauty and diversity along West Cliff :

http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/santacruz/ci_21017444

Soquel naturalist Randall Morgan a legend among natural history enthusiasts:

http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/localnews/ci_21170442

This article is even listed on the main state CNPS website! (under "CNPS Fellow a legend")

Natural History Field Trip Series with Randall Morgan

Come with legendary local naturalist Randall Morgan assisted by renowned weed warrior Ken Moore to selected hot spots in the Santa Cruz area and learn about some of nature's little known wonders. These walks will cover all aspects of natural history including botany, birds, bugs, biogeography, general ecology, conservation, habitat restoration, ethnobotany, wild foods, the native/non-native issue, natural succession, land management/restoration/enhancement (plus common mistakes and misconceptions), gardening ideas, how to “read” landscapes, and more!

To sign up for a trip, email to Ken Moore, ken@wildwork.org Put the date of that trip in the subject line, and provide your name. If you wish to add a reservation for another person, include their name. The number of attendees is limited, and spaces will be reserved in the order received. You will receive an email notification of your status. These trips can fill up quickly, so to give all who wish to attend an equal chance, we ask that you only sign up for one trip per month. You may request to be put on the reserve list for any other trips that month, and you will be notified the morning of the trip if a space becomes available.

These field trips are being provided to you at no cost. However, your donations are needed to continue offering this incomparable opportunity. This series will be extended if sufficient support is provided.

Contributing sponsors
Ken Moore
California Native Plant Society, Santa Cruz Chapter
Wildlands Restoration Team
Santa Cruz Bird Club
UCSC Arboretum
Ray Collett Jr. Trust
UCSC Natural History Museum
Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History

Contact Ken Moore for information on becoming a sponsor.

For more about Randall Morgan: <http://scicom.ucsc.edu/publications/essays-profiles-pages/profile-rozendal.html>

Saturday September 8 10:00 - 1:00

Cherryvale Ave., Soquel

Soquel's answer to Ocean Street Extension. A place with the feel of a quieter time not that long ago, and a part of your fearless leader's early home turf. Leisurely walk along the valley of Soquel Creek; roadside and riparian botany, orchards with ripening fruit, nurseries, and bucolic beauty. About a one mile walk to the end of the road. Meet near the intersection of Main St. and Cherryvale Avenue (Park along the side of Cherryvale Ave, not Main St.) Limit 20 people. (FULL – we are no longer taking additional reservations for this event)

Saturday September 22 10:00 - 1:00

Natural Bridges and Antonelli Pond, Santa Cruz

A varied mix of grasslands, coastal scrub, riparian thickets, marshy cove, creek mouth, beach and cliffs. All at the perfect time of year to catch the height of fall songbird migration and the first incoming monarch butterflies! Good chance for bird aficionados to see rare Eastern migrants, and of course a variety of water birds as well. Park and meet near the intersection of Delaware Avenue and Natural Bridges Drive, at Antonelli Pond. Limit 20 people. (FULL – we are no longer taking additional reservations for this event)

Saturday October 6 10:00 -12:00

Neary Lagoon, Santa Cruz

A remnant wetland, hidden away right in the middle of Santa Cruz. This was once a major hotspot for rarity-hunting local birders, and this is the best time of the year for so-called eastern “vagrants”, so bring binoculars in case we get very lucky. A good place to get immersed in riparian and marsh habitats. We'll meet at the end of Chestnut Street. Limit 15 people.

Saturday October 27 10:00 - 2:00

Rancho Del Oso, Hwy 1

With autumn in the air, this should be a good time to see newly arriving winter birds, including raptors in their southward migration along the coast, (this month is also known as “Hawktober” to some) so you may want to bring binoculars. Also, a lot of interesting plant life and many habitat types including beach, coastal marsh, Monterey pine forest, Coho salmon stream, riparian and oak/madrone woodland. We'll meet along the inland shoulder of Hwy 1, at the Waddell Creek bridge. This will be an easy level 1 mile loop. Limit 15 people.

Monterey Area Field Trip

Saturday, September 22, 10am to 1pm

Introduction to Shrubs of the Monterey Bay Area

In the spring the focus is on wildflowers and annual plants which are only here for a short time. But what about the longer-lived plants which are present in this area during the rest of year? This BLM led-walk is a chance to learn to identify common local shrubs which you might encounter whenever you are out hiking or biking no matter what the time of year.

Take the Lightfighter (Fort Ord) exit off Highway 1 and meet in the parking lot on the right-hand side of Lightfighter between 1st and 2nd Avenues (where the thrift store used to be). We will drive a short distance onto Fort Ord National Monument and then take an easy walk looking at shrubs as we go. For more information contact trip leader Susan Hubbard at shubbard@blm.gov or 831-394-8314.

Rare Plant Treasure Hunt

The Rare Plant Treasure Hunt (RPTH) is a citizen-science program started by CNPS in 2010 with the goal of getting up-to-date information on many of our state's rare plants, while engaging chapter members and other volunteers in rare plant conservation.

Many of California's rare plant populations have not been seen in decades and some parts of the state have seen little to no botanical exploration to date. This program helps conserve our rare flora by providing valuable data to the CNPS Rare Plant Program and the Department of Fish and Game. Treasure Hunters can join an organized rare plant search or learn how to plan their own trips by attending training events; those who already have some botanical experience can start leading their own trips!

You can also sign up for the mailing list to be notified of upcoming events by sending an email to treasurehunt@cnps.org.

<http://cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/treasurehunt/>

Grocery Bag Reuse Turned Into Donations

We recently received a donation of over \$400 from the Staff of Life Market as part of its Sharatoken program for shoppers who bring reusable shopping bags. We are glad for their support, and for all those in the community who have directed that our chapter receive a contribution.

Thank you!

Renew Online

You can renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card. As an option, set it up to renew automatically. It is quick, easy, convenient, and reduces renewal mailing costs.

Go to www.cnps.org and click on Join/Renew.

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 at the park. 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.

Linda Brodman 831.462.4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net

As always you can also check out ww.cruzcnps.org

September 1, 2012 10 am to 1 pm
Call for location — to be determined

September 22, 2012 10 am to 1 pm
Call for location — to be determined

Join the California Native Plant Society!

New members receive a free 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 or Library \$75
- Plant Lover \$100
- Patron \$300
- Benefactor \$600
- Mariposa Lily \$1500

Dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible, minus \$12 for journal *Fremontia*. 

Santa Cruz Chapter Board of Directors

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Stephen McCabe 336-2141, smccabe@ucsc.edu; Brett Hall

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Rare Plant Coordinator: R. Morgan 466-0680

Habitat Restoration: Linda Brodman 462-4041,

redwdrn@pacbell.net

Flora: Dylan Neubauer, dneubauer1111@gmail.com

Digital Video Outreach: Fred McPherson fredwood@cruzio.com

Legislation: *open*

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Pascoe <countrymoosie@gmail.com>

Field Trips: *open*

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

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Plant Propagation: Michael Luther 688-3897, 406 Semple Ave,

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Webmaster: Bill Malone billmalone@pacbell.net

Bryophytes: Ken Kellman kkellman@sbcglobal.net

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

Cruz; 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*.



California Native Plant Society Santa Cruz County Chapter

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