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THE CYPRESS CONE

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CHAPTER



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Lichens: What Are They and Why Do They Matter?

Speaker: **Ken Kellman**

Chapter General Meeting:

Monday, March 12, 2018, 7:30 pm

UCSC Arboretum Horticulture Building

Keying Session: 5:00 pm

Our own Ken Kellman has entertained us in the past by explaining the natural history of bryophytes but has recently expanded his interests into lichens. What are lichens and why do they matter? They are amazing natural art, and wonderful models for understanding symbiosis and communities.

Ken will introduce basic lichen biology, their role in our environment, and discuss new discoveries in the lichen world. And like his bryophyte talks, he'll bring a sampling of common lichens for examination under dissection microscopes. If you have a dissection microscope with a light, please bring it. The more microscopes the better.



Lichens. Photo by Ken Kellman

Plant Keying Session: Bring in your unidentified plants

Have you been to one of our Plant Keying Sessions that happen just before (5:00-7:00pm) each Chapter General Meeting? Bring in a plant, part of a plant, or flowers and Deanna, and others, can help you figure out what they are, and let you know if they are native, non-native, and/or invasive. This keying session is a great way to learn how to use a plant key, learn the local flora, and/or keep up with the changes in the 2nd Edition of *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California*. We have microscopes on hand to view hard-to-see plant parts.



Fern. Photo by Deanna Giuliano

Spring Native Plant Sale set for April 14, UCSC Arboretum and Botanic Garden

Last year we all got wet during the spring sale—this year we would love to have more rain, but perhaps on the day before or after the sale!

The spring plant sale will be at the UCSC Arboretum and Botanic Garden on April 14. It opens at 10:00am for members, 12:00pm for general public, and closes at 4:00pm. Watch for the postcard coming your way in the next few weeks, with all the details. Be sure to post it or leave it where many people can see—the more the merrier!



Annuals at spring plant sale. Photo by Jackie Pascoe

Propagation Group needs a few more volunteers!

by Jackie Pascoe and Mike Luther

Our busy propagation team has been readying all kinds of amazing plants for our much-loved native plant sales. On February 18, we met as usual at Suncrest Nurseries, whom we are glad to thank for their support at every opportunity.

Paul Chesler sowed seeds of annuals such as *Cirsium occidentale*, *Phacelia viscida*, *Clarkia amoena*, *C. williamsonii*, *C. rubicunda*, *Papaver heterophyllum*—and others. Will they germinate? Ah, well—that is the grand mystery that makes gardening so exciting, now isn't it? If last year's annuals are anything to go by, we'll have plenty of variety for your spring garden this year—and hopefully for years to come. I'm already noticing reseeded annuals popping up in my garden. Paul also potted up *Eschscholzia lobbii* seedlings into liners.

Kari Olsen and Jackie Pascoe stuck cuttings of various *Salvia*, *Mimulus* and other species into prepared soil. Those won't be ready until our fall sale. But fear not—all the wonderful plants we grew from cuttings last year are already on the benches in gallon cans, and looking great! The full list of sale plants will be available about a week before the sale on our web site (cruzcnp.org).

Meanwhile Karen Hildebrand, Lise Peterson, Don Peattie, Karen Laing, and Mary Ellen Irons, were dividing some plants and potting up others into two gallons—they are all just bursting to grow bigger—the plants that is!



Prepping a cutting. Photo by Jackie Pascoe



Propagation volunteers at work. Photo by Mike Luther

Dividing his time between us all, of course was Mike Luther, checking that we all had what we needed, answering questions, and documenting the growth in our stock. Closer to the date of the sale, he will also be purchasing additional plants to fill out our inventory.

As a volunteer, you have the opportunity to learn much about propagation and enjoy the company of friendly like-minded people. No experience is required. We usually meet on the third Sunday of each month at 9:00am at Suncrest Nursery, east of Watsonville. At this time, we only have a few openings for volunteers. If these openings fill up quickly, we will put you on a waiting list. **Contact Mike Luther at 831-688-3897.**

Plant Sale Volunteers needed April 14th

The plant sale is our major fundraiser. Its success depends not only on the propagation team and plant sale organizers, but also on the wonderful CNPS volunteers who show up and make it happen on the day of the sale. You can work a two-hour shift, or longer. You can help unload the truck, set up tables, arrange plants, write up sales tickets, or even be a wheelbarrow valet.

More details about volunteering will be on our website (cruzcnp.org) closer to the date of the sale. Please contact **Julia Davenport (831 425-5643, juliad@cruzio.com)** if you would like to help.



Plant sale choices, choices, choices! Photo by Jackie Pascoe

Save the Dates!

Santa Cruz County Chapter Field Trip

Ferns of Fall Creek Saturday, March 10; 10:30am to 2:00pm

Come frolic in the forest of Fall Creek on a fern foray. Join Deanna Giuliano on a fern hunt: we will try to locate most of the 15 species of ferns that grow in the park. We'll hike approximately 2.5 miles at a leisurely pace.

Bring water, layers, and a lunch. Meet at the State Park parking lot on Felton Empire Road in Felton. The 1st 10 people to show up get a key to the native ferns of Santa Cruz County!

Carpooling is encouraged but not CNPS sponsored. If you have questions about the trip, contact **Deanna Giuliano at drosegiuliano@yahoo.com or 831 335-4902**. Heavy rain cancels.



Ferns of Fall Creek. Photo by Deanna Giuliano

Treasures of Henry Cowell State Park Saturday, April 7, 10:00am to 2:00pm

Join Deanna Giuliano to visit one of our local treasures: Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park. On our way to the observation deck for a stunning view of Santa Cruz and Monterey Bay, we'll see our local endemic *Arctostaphylos andersonii* in its special habitat of the sandhills, then meander through some of the controlled burn area to discover what's sprouting. Our loop back will take us up Eagle creek where we'll see some special plants. Hike is moderately strenuous (deep sand!) and about 4.5 to 5 miles round trip.

Bring water, layers, sunscreen, hat, and lunch. Meet at the Juvenile Hall parking lot off Graham Hill Road. Carpooling is encouraged, but not CNPS sponsored. **Contact Deanna Giuliano for any questions at drosegiuliano@yahoo.com or call 831 335-4902**. Heavy rain cancels.

Habitat Restoration Team

Saturday, March 3; Sunday, March 11; and Sunday, March 18; 10:00am to 1:00pm

Quail Hollow Ranch Santa Cruz County Park

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.

Contact: **Program Leader, Linda Brodman**
831.462.4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net

Monterey Bay Chapter Event

Annual Native Wildflower Show at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History April 20, 21, 22; 10:00am to 5:00pm daily

Don't miss this outrageous display at the Natural History Museum on the corner of Forest and Central in Pacific Grove. Countless volunteer hours will provide you with a sensual and intellectual overload, as you realize there are approximately 600 species of flowers, labeled and organized by family. Go Friday for freshest scents!

During the show, members of CNPS will be available to identify plants or (hopefully) photos of plants for the public and there will be a range of talks and other activities during the course of the show.

For more information about talks and location, go to **www.montereybay.cnps.org**.



Arctostaphylos andersonii. Photo by Deanna Giuliano

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

Membership News

The Santa Cruz County CNPS Chapter sends a warm welcome to our newest members:

Alyssa Gelinas, Tyler Hannum, Max Landon, Amanda Mills, Katie Chilton, Diana Tataru, Deborah Benham, Lucy Ferneyhough, Jennifer Robinson, Shannon Vaccarezza, and Victoria Chaides.

We'd love to see you at the **Ken Kellman's Lichen talk on Monday March 12th.**

All members who do not have a current email address on file but would like to receive last minute field trip/event blasts, and other late-breaking announcements, please send updated information to Ann Garside at **ae-grdwds@calcentral.com.**



Lichens. Photo by Linda Brodman

Join the California Native Plant Society

Your membership includes *Fremontia*, a journal with articles on all aspects of native plants; *Flora*, CNPS's new magazine presenting a statewide report of activities and schedules; and *The Cypress Cone*.

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Chapter Affiliation: _____

- Student/Limited Income \$25
- Individual \$45
- Family or Library \$75
- 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**

Newsletter contributions welcomed!

The next deadline is April 16, 2018. Please send any pictures or stories you would like to be considered for the newsletter to Ruthe at ruthejsmith55@gmail.com

Like us on Facebook

Contribute to our group! Search for "Santa Cruz County Chapter - California Native Plant Society"

Opt for email

If you would like to receive your newsletter via email only, please contact Ann at ae-grdwds@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 34 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 \$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.