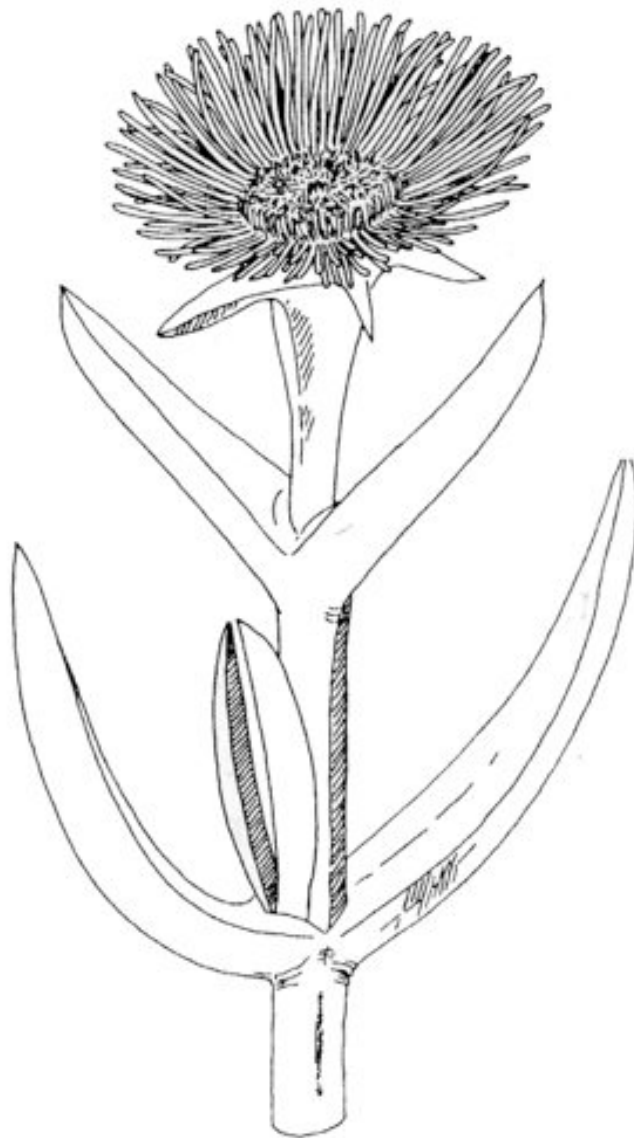


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# *Obispoensis*

Newsletter of the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

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April 2012

## *Carprobrotus* spp.

### “Ice plants”

Bonnie’s drawing is a generalized drawing representing two species commonly called ice plants. They both are fairly common along the coast and within freeway and railroad right-of-ways. The two species are *Carprobrotus chilensis* and *C. edulis*. They should be easy to distinguish. According to the new *Jepson Manual*, *C. chilensis* has smaller flowers (3-5 cm compared to 8-10 cm) and leaves (4-7 cm as compared to 6-10 cm in *C. edulis*). Flower colors are reported to be different as well. *C. edulis* produces yellow petals while petals in *C. chilensis* flowers are reddish to pinkish. However, color can be misleading as the yellow flowers of *C. edulis* dry pinkish. Newly dry flowers in both species are quite showy. Most identification manuals indicate that the two species can be separated on the shape of their succulent leaf cross-sections – rounded triangular in *C. chilensis* and sharp triangular in *C. edulis*. *C. edulis* is said to have the leaf angle pointing away from the stem axis bearing a few teeth toward their tip. I have to admit that I haven’t observed that character particularly in our area. After indicating how different these two species are, I need to report that the literature also reports that they hybridize. In other words, separation may not be quite as easy as the characters would indicate.

I find the common name, ice plant, to be misleading, but understandable. First, let’s look at the misleading part. There is nothing in their appearance that indicates ice. Their ranges, like most of us people in Southern California, avoid areas where any significant ice would be found. I suspect the water in their succulent leaves would quickly freeze if they were exposed to severe or even extended near freezing temperatures. Growing ice crystals in their water filled cells would destroy cell membranes causing cell death which leads to leaf and plant death. So where does the common name, ice plant, come from? I believe this is an example of a common name being more stable than the scientific name. Until the early to middle of the last century the species now found in *Carprobrotus*, along with a number of other cultivated succulent ground covers, were all included in a single large genus, *Mesembryanthemum*. Some even separated *Mesembryanthemum* into its own family Mesembryanthemaceae due to their showy petals. Today, there is essential unanimity that not only should old genus, the *Mesembryanthemum*, be split up but that it belongs in the family Aizoaceae. The non-ice plant genera in the Aizoaceae lack showy flowers because they lack showy petals. Think New Zealand spinach, *Tetragonia expansa*. There is a plant still in the genus, *Mesembryanthemum*, whose stems and leaves surfaces are covered with large silvery cells that resemble ice crystals at a distance. This species, *Mesembryanthemum crystallinum*, is occasionally found around Morro Bay. I believe the common name for this species with this distinctive surface feature became the default common name for all the species in the broadly defined genus, *Mesembryanthemum*.

In older flower books, *C. chilensis* is said to be native to coastal California. How could this be? I’m guessing that it was a very early introduction. I assume it went like this. An early merchant ship delivered its cargo to southern Africa. It didn’t have a full load to pick up there, so it filled out its cargo hold with ballast. In the early days, ballast consisted of soil dug up from a nearby beach. That beach soil contained seeds and probably also pieces of ice plant. (I observed a “dried” succulent growing off a several year old herbarium sheet at my undergraduate school.) The ship then sailed to Chile and/or California where it picked up a full load of paying cargo. To make room for this paying cargo, it just dumped the African soil on New World beaches. It makes sense to me that this happened before the first botanical surveys were done in California so that the species was recorded as “native.” It should also be noted that *C. chilensis* appears to me to be a little less invasive than is *C. edulis*. That is, native plant diversity seems to be diminished less. Oh, I haven’t given the individual species common names besides the generic name, ice plant. The only name I know for *C. edulis* is freeway ice plant. The *edulis* part of the scientific name refers to the fruit being eaten by southern African peoples. A source on the internet noted that young leaves were also cut up into salads. *The Jepson Manual* gives *C. chilensis* the common name of sea fig. This is a much better name than the older, and I assume politically incorrect, name Hottentot fig.

Both species were widely planted as a ground cover, especially on steep, bare slopes. I believe they are no longer recommended for this purpose. Their leaves and stems are heavy; their roots are shallow. Thus, when the soil becomes saturated, the shallow roots and heavy wet stems and leaves actually increase soil slumping. Of course, this was exactly what they were planted in the first place to prevent.

Dirk R. Walters, Illustration by Bonnie Walters

## PRESIDENT’S NOTES

Our annual North County meeting at the Atascadero AARP building was a success as Ryan O’Dell showed us serpentine-loving plants from all over California, and reinforced the unique nature of this difficult habitat. I expect we will have quite a few trips that will look at serpentine, especially in places like Reservoir Canyon. We also had a short but excellent presentation from the Atascadero Land Preservation Society, which has been very successful in protecting lands. Their most exciting current project is in the “Three Bridges” area of Highway 41 about a mile west of the last stoplight, and noted for the excellent sycamores. CNPS hopes to work with ALPS in identifying plants and other issues.

We should be planning for California Native Plant Week (April 15-21) and Heather Johnson will be coordinating garden tours. As I write this, the outlook for wildflowers is dimming by the day as there is no rain in sight, and so our field trips might be a little less rewarding than usual. However I was up at the

serpentine springs on Pennington Creek and they were awash in poppies, seep spring monkey flower, paintbrush and sneezeweed, so there are some bright spots. We will be updating on both our web page and the facebook page. Our annual field trip to Shell Creek is coming up (no Vets Hall meeting this month) and we shall keep our fingers crossed. Shell Creek has never let us down completely.  
– David Chipping

## CONSERVATION

The City of Grover Beach is moving ahead with a portion of the West Grand Avenue Master Plan with approval of a hotel-resort complex west of Highway 1 and north of Grand Avenue. This is an area currently used for parking and for equestrian staging for those using both the beach and the dunes seaward of the Oceano Campground. While the Hotel is on land that has been thoroughly trashed, we are concerned that traffic will be displaced onto dune vegetation on the State Park side of Grand Avenue.

CNPS is also reviewing the Draft Nipomo Community Park Master Plan. The preferred plan has way too much building, including a community center that should not be displacing open space. An alternative plan is preferable, but both the alternatives involve conversion of coastal dune scrub into sports fields. While it is true that dune scrub in the park is being inundated by veldt grass, no mention is made of its general rarity, nor is any attention given to veldt grass control in the park. The EIR preparers seem to want to avoid maritime chaparral, but want to mitigate losses within the park. There are also substantial losses of oaks within the park, which becomes quite an issue when you see the ongoing devastation of oaks at the new freeway interchange.

BLM is now requiring permits for field trips with more than five cars, or more than 25 people, and permit costs can be as much as \$100. I will be working on getting a blanket MOU with BLM to exempt CNPS field trips from fees, which also apply to educational institutions such as Cal Poly. I believe permits are not altogether a bad idea as they allow BLM to track use for management purposes, but find the steepness of the fees to be outrageous. I believe everything can be negotiated to the benefit of both BLM and CNPS. Don't blame CPNM staff for this . . . it is part of a broader policy implementation. – David Chipping

## MINI PLANT ID WORKSHOP SERIES

### New offering from SLO-CNPS

by

Dr. Matt Ritter and Kristie Haydu

Recently several members of SLO-CNPS were sharing ideas about how to incorporate more plant taxonomy, field botany, and actual plants into our monthly chapter meetings. We had the idea of having free mini plant ID workshops before the chapter meeting actually starts for our members and other participants who are interested in practicing their identification skills, learning the local flora, and looking at live material more closely in a casual and fun setting. We will be hosting the first mini plant ID workshop at our next monthly meeting on May 3, 2012 from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. The focus of this mini workshop will be manzanitas (*Arctostaphylos* spp.). Please bring a copy of the new *Jepson Manual*, if you have one, and a hand lens. Collections of several of our local manzanita species will be provided. Workshop participants may also bring in their own manzanita collections to identify. Please join us for this exciting new opportunity, which is sure to be fun and informative event!

## Chapter Meetings

### April 7, Saturday: Malcolm McLeod Annual Field Trip Meeting at Shell Creek. See Field Trips.

There is no meeting at the Vets Hall in San Luis Obispo this month.

### May 3, Thursday: Chapter Meeting

6 p.m. Plant ID workshop.

7 p.m. Business meeting.

Kristie Haydu will be speaking about her work mapping rare plants in SLO County. She is a graduate student in the Biology department at Cal Poly, chapter secretary, and recipient of the McLeod Scholarship.

## A Warm Welcome to Our New Chapter Members

Atascadero: Boon Hughey

Out of County: Dawn Aulenbrock

Thank you to our Chapter members that have renewed:

Arroyo Grande: Francesca Fairbrother, Mardi Niles

Atascadero: George Butterworth, Kate Montgomery, Jean Young

Cambria: John & Diane Hood, John Pierszalowski

Lompoc: Darcee Suttilla

Los Osos: Liz Curren, Al Normandin, Barb Renshaw

Nipomo: Eric & Christina Bird-Holenda, Jeff LeNay

Paso Robles: S. Ela

San Luis Obispo: Danielle Castle, John Doyle, Suzette

Giouard, Dan Levi

Santa Barbara: Nicole Molinari

Santa Ynez: Tim Matthews



**SLO-CNPS: Malcolm McLeod Scholarship Fund**  
by  
**Matt Ritter and Kristie Haydu**

Dr. Malcolm McLeod was a professor of botany in the Biology Department at Cal Poly from 1979 until his full retirement in 1993 and an active member of the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (SLO-CNPS) from 1973 until he died in 2006. Dr. McLeod was a charismatic and inspirational chapter leader that served tirelessly on numerous committees and held several offices including president, recording secretary, and rare plant botanist. He was an educator, rare plant advocate, pioneer of native horticulture, photographer, author, and scientist with an uncanny ability to recognize species long believed to have been extirpated. In 2004 his vast contributions were recognized when he became a CNPS Fellow, the highest honor awarded by the Society.

As part of Dr. McLeod's continued memorial, SLO-CNPS created the Malcolm McLeod Scholarship fund that is intended to encourage the study of botany by providing financial support to outstanding students in our region. Interested students are required to submit a brief letter that describes their research and how it relates to the overall mission of CNPS, a letter of recommendation, a timeline, and a budget that outlines how the funds will be spent. Awards typically range from 100 to 500 dollars. Award recipients give a presentation about their research at a local chapter meeting. Since its inception, the McLeod Scholarship has been awarded to several local botany students. Jenn Yost received the award in 2008 for her research on local adaptation and speciation in goldfields (*Lasthenia* spp.) and

members of the genus *Dudleya*. Ms. Yost has since gone on to pursue her Ph.D. at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Carlos Torres was awarded a McLeod Scholarship in 2010 to conduct an out-planting study in the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes ecosystem with two of our County's most imperiled species, Gambel's watercress (*Nasturtium gambelii*) and marsh sandwort (*Arenaria paludicola*). Carlos has gone on to become the restoration coordinator for the local land conservancy. Kristie Haydu, who was recently elected recording secretary for the chapter, received a McLeod award in 2011 to identify and map plant biodiversity hotspots in San Luis Obispo County with geographic information system (GIS) that can be used to establish long-term conservation strategies and influence planning decisions. Graduate and undergraduate botany students from Cal Poly, Cuesta College, and Allan Hancock College are eligible to apply.

SLO-CNPS would like to see the McLeod Scholarship fund continue to grow. Growth of this fund will provide more substantial awards to a larger number of students. Education is expensive and as costs continue to rise, scholarships of this nature are increasingly important for students pursuing higher education. In addition, student research can furnish CNPS with valuable data to inform plant conservation issues and policy. Students are ultimately the next generation of CNPS and they will continue our mission well into the future. Over the last few years we have received several donations to the Scholarship fund in memory of Dr. McLeod. Please consider making a year-end and tax deductible donation or bequest to the Malcolm McLeod Scholarship fund. For more information regarding donations please contact Linda Chipping.

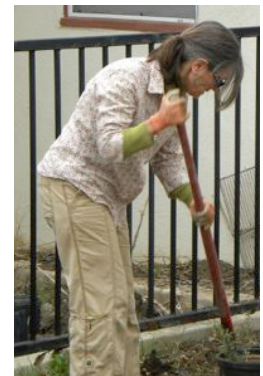
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## We Planted Good!

CNPS planted native plants around the ranch house of Chimineas Ecological Reserve on February 18. Thirteen of us had a beautiful weather day to garden. Thanks again to all who helped: Linda and Dave Chipping, John Doyle, Melinda and Bruce Elster, Craig Fiehler, Ken Hickman, Mardi Niles, Marti Rutherford, Nancy and Bill Shearer, Dirk Walters, and myself. We planted 25 plants, 15 species: Calif. and nude and long-stem buckwheat, interior goldenbush, scarlet bugler, nightshade, mountain mahogany, ceanothus, bladderpod, bush lupine, purple sage, toyon, elderberry, coyote brush, and golden yarrow. These plants will harbor and feed native birds, insects, and animals much better than the plants that were there. And they will need far less water and maintenance. Plant signs are on the way, so we can educate visitors too. As of this writing (March 7) nearly all the plants are doing very well. Bladderpod is real droopy; it better come through, because that one took a lot of work to transplant.

In the evening we enjoyed a splendid potluck dinner. Most of us stayed over for the night, in the ranch house or in campers.

Sunday morning brought a most excellent breakfast, and a visit to blue oak woodland, with a steep hike up a hill for a scenic view. — George Butterworth



## Field Trips

**April 7, Saturday: Malcolm McLeod Annual Field Trip Meeting at Shell Creek.** Meet at the SLO Vets Hall, 801 Grand Avenue (corner of Grand & Monterey Boulevard) at 8:30 a.m. or the Hwy 58 Park and Ride at Hwy 101 (Santa Margarita exit) at 9:00 a.m. Bring your "Wildflowers of Highway 58" plant guide by Dr. Malcolm McLeod or plan to purchase one for \$10 on the trip. For more information call Dirk Walters at 543-7051 or David Chipping at 805/528-0914 or [dchippin@calpoly.edu](mailto:dchippin@calpoly.edu)

**April 14 and 15, Saturday and Sunday: Chimineas Planting Days.** We'll plant native plants around the Chimineas ranch house. Bring gardening stuff—gloves, pruners. Meet at the Hwy 58 Park and Ride at Hwy 101 (Santa Margarita exit) at 9:00 am, to caravan. If you have a 4-wheel drive vehicle, please bring it. If you can stay the night, there will be an optional potluck dinner Saturday night. To stay overnight, there are 15 mattresses, by reservation (contact George), or camping (tents and/or campers). Sunday, we will visit an area of the reserve, from about 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This is also optional. Contact George for a reservation, (805) 438-3641, or [gbutterworth8@gmail.com](mailto:gbutterworth8@gmail.com).

### **April 14 to 22, California Native Plant Week:**

**Monday, April 16 - DAIRY CREEK OAKS AND SYCAMORES FIELD TRIP** An oak woodland and grassland field trip to Dairy Creek. We will meet at the end of the Rancho el Chorro Regional Park just beyond the dog park at 9:00 a.m. We will walk up to the Eagle Rock looking at grassland species, and then through dense coast live oak woodland on a north slope, and finally return along a sycamore/willow riparian woodland. Hike time will be approximately 2 hours on moderate slopes and on well maintained trails. Poison oak is present off-trail in places, but is avoidable.

**Tuesday, April 17 - FROOM CREEK SERPENTINITE FIELD TRIP** 9:00 a.m. Meet at the trailhead at the southern end of Madonna Road, City of SLO, for a hike on the serpentine ridge on the new Froom Creek Tail. Trails are well maintained. Expect to see Chorro Creek Bog Thistle and other serpentine endemic plants. We will search for Bird's Beak, unusual dudleyas and calochortus. The trail is steep in places so stout footwear is recommended, and we will climb several hundred feet. Expect a hike of 2-3 hours and several miles in length.

**Wednesday, April 18 - ESTERO BLUFFS STATE PARK GRASSLANDS** Meet 9:00 a.m. at the parking

area at the "windmill" just before the first bend after Highway 1 goes to 2 lanes just north of Cayucos. We will examine the coastal prairie plants on the coastal terrace, and the geology of the Franciscan Formation and fossils on an ancient seashore. This is an easy flat hike of about 2 hours and several miles, but wear good shoes for rock scrambling on the beaches.

**Thursday, April 19 - RATTLESNAKE TRAIL-COON CREEK TRAIL LOOP, MONTANA DE ORO STATE PARK.** Meet 9:00 a.m. at the Coon Creek parking lot at the extreme southern end of the park road. We will climb several hundred feet in coastal scrub and chaparral, and then drop into the Coon Creek Riparian corridor. There are usually a wide variety of flowering shrubs and annual plants on this trip. Expect a hike of 2-3 hours and about 4-5 miles in length.

**Friday, April 20 - SALT MARSH AND COASTAL DUNES AT SHARK INLET, MONTANA DE ORO S.P.** Meet 9:00 a.m. at the west end of Butte Drive, Los Osos (at the bay side of the golf course). We will walk the edge of bay shore to Shark Inlet, and then cut into the older coastal dunes to look for seasonal dune flowers. Parts of this hike may be a little muddy, but it has no hills and has fine scenery. Expect a hike of 2 hours and about 2 miles in length. Bring binoculars for viewing bay birdlife.

**April 21, Saturday, 9:00 a.m., LPNF and CNPS Wildflower, Native Plant Week, and Earth Day Weekend,** Figueroa Mountain, at the Figueroa Fire Station: The Santa Lucia District, Los Padres National Forest holds one of its annual Wildflower Weekends on Figueroa Mountain in conjunction with the California Native Plant Society. This tour features a local celebration of California Native Plant Week (3<sup>rd</sup> week in April, 14 - 22 this year). Meet at 9 a.m. at the Fire Station on Figueroa Mtn. Road. Turn left at the SR 154-Figueroa Mtn. Road intersection near Los Olivos, and proceed to the Fire Station parking lot. This is a "drive and stroll" tour of this year's spectacular display. Sturdy shoes, lunch and liquids, and camera and binoculars recommended. Call Helen Tarbet at 925-9538 ext. 246 or Charles Blair 733-3189 for details.

**April 22, Sunday, 8:30 a.m., Reservoir Canyon and Bowden Ranch:** Join us for a moderate hike through wooded Reservoir Canyon located directly behind San Luis Obispo and then over the backbone ridge (Bowden Ranch), ending at San Luis Obispo High School. Despite the lack of winter rains, spring wildflowers will be well represented. Meet at the eastern corner of the SLO High

## Field Trips continued

School parking lot near the corner of Johnson Avenue and San Luis Drive. A few cars will caravan the hikers to the trailhead in Reservoir Canyon (first right turn off north Hwy 101 after leaving SLO). Total hike distance is five miles with an elevation gain of 1000 feet, and a total hike time of 3 hours. Once completed, owners of cars parked at the trailhead will be driven back to retrieve their cars. Bring adequate water, snacks, and dress in layers for the weather; a hat and sturdy shoes are advised. For info, call Bill at (805) 459-2103 (bill.waycott@gmail.com). This outing is jointly sponsored by the Sierra Club and the California Native Plant Society. Rain cancels.

**April 28 and 29, Saturday-Sunday: The Cambria Wildflower Show.** Held at the Cambria Vet's Hall, Saturday 12 noon to 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A display of fresh wildflowers collected from the Monterey County Line to the Morro Bay Estuary and from the coastal bluffs to the ridge of the Santa Lucia

Mountains. Donation of \$3, students are free. Sponsored by the Friends of the Fiscalini Ranch. Call (805) 927-2856 for more information.

**June 16 and 17, Saturday and Sunday: Overnight - "President's Field Trip" to Sierra Madre Range, Cerro Noroeste, & Mt. Pinos.** Sierra Madre Mountains in Santa Barbara County and the Mt. Abel-Pinos Area in Ventura-Kern Counties. Meet Saturday at 9 a.m. just off Hwy 101 near the beginning of Hwy 166 East, north of the Santa Maria River. We are planning to dry camp at a camp ground off the Cerro Noroeste Road, so you'll need plenty of water. Bring food for two lunches as well as supper and breakfast. Hopefully we can refuel in New Cuyama, but please begin the trip with a full tank of gas. We visit a diversity of altitudes as well as witness the effects from the Northern Santa Barbara County fires. There should be flowers, especially mariposa lilies, even in June. For more information call Dirk Walters (805) 543-7051 or email- drwalters@charter.net

## WILDFLOWER HOTLINES & WEBSITES

Antelope Valley California Poppy Preserve  
[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov) takes you to State Parks home page, click on "Find a Park" link.  
661-724-1180 (recorded wildflower report)

Anza-Borrego Wildflower Hotline  
760-767-4684—Recorded information  
[www.california-desert.org](http://www.california-desert.org). Great information on weather and timing for desert bloom.

California Vernal Pools [www.vernalpools.org](http://www.vernalpools.org)  
Links to guided tours of the Jepson Prairie, Mather Field, Rancho Seco Howard Ranch, Santa Rosa Plateau, Vina Plains Preserve, and North Table Mountain.

Carrizo Plain National Monument  
Goodwin Educational Center (some recorded info)  
805-475-2131  
Bakersfield BLM Field Office 661-391-6000 <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bakersfield/Programs/carrizo/plants0.html>

Death Valley National Park  
760-786-2331—Press 1, then 5 for recorded wildflower information. [www.nps.gov/deva/naturescience/wildflowers.htm](http://www.nps.gov/deva/naturescience/wildflowers.htm)

Desert USA's Wildflower Watch  
[www.desertusa.com/wildflo/wildupdates.html](http://www.desertusa.com/wildflo/wildupdates.html)  
Updates on desert wildflowers in AZ, CA, NV, UT, & TX.

Henry W. Coe State Park <http://coepark.net/pineridgeassociation/plants-animals-geology/wildflowers>

Joshua Tree National Park  
760-367-5500—Press 1, then 9, for recorded wildflower information. [www.nps.gov/Jotr/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/Jotr/index.htm)

Kern County Wildflower Hotline  
661-322-WILD—Reports beginning in March (maybe).  
[www.visitkern.com](http://www.visitkern.com)

Mojave Desert  
[www.digital-desert.com/wild-flowers/](http://www.digital-desert.com/wild-flowers/)

Natural History Wanderings  
A comprehensive site listing links for botany, ornithology, and natural history around the West.  
<http://naturalhistorywanderings.com/wildflower-reports>

Pinnacles National Monument  
Bear Gulch Visitor Center 831-389-4485 [www.nps.gov/pinn](http://www.nps.gov/pinn)

Point Reyes National Seashore  
415-464-5100—Press 2 to talk to park ranger at Bear Valley Visitor Center.  
[www.nps.gov/pore/naturescience/plants.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pore/naturescience/plants.htm)

Theodore Payne Foundation Wildflower Hotline  
818-768-3533—Taped wildflower reports for Southern California. Recording begins the first Friday in March, updated every Thursday through May. Includes links to dozens of wildflower sites. <http://www.theodorepayne.org/hotline.html>

US Forest Service  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/regions/pacificsouthwest/index.php>

## BOOK TALK

The next couple of months will have many of our members going east to camp and explore our California deserts. Here are some books we carry on our book table that you can use on your explorations. And, they are great reading even if you aren't venturing over to the deserts!

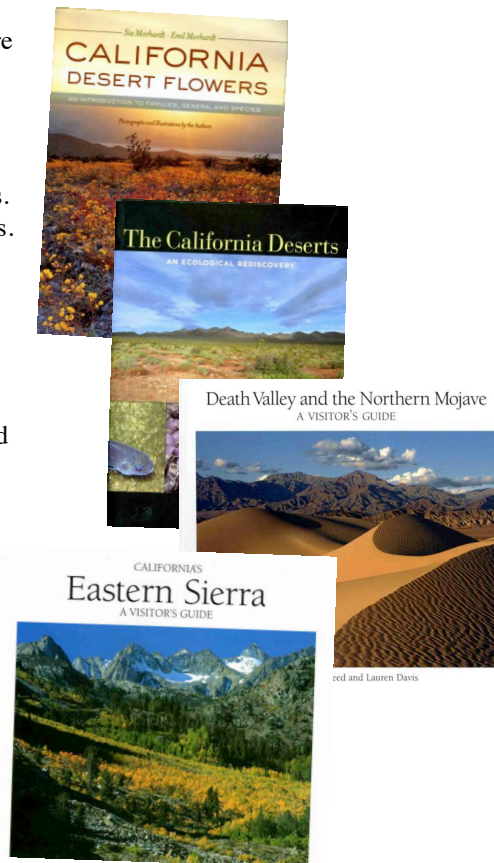
The best desert flower/plant book is certainly *California Desert Flowers* by the Morhardts. Very comprehensive, easy to use, excellent photographs. A great book. \$30, and 284 pages.

*The California Deserts, An Ecological Rediscovery* by Bruce Pavlik gives the reader a broad yet in-depth view of the desert areas including geography, animals, insects, plants and their adaptations, past historical events and impacts, and current threats. \$28, and 365 pages.

*Death Valley and the Northern Mojave* by Tweed and Davis is a lovely book to look at and to read. Exquisite photographs celebrate this stark and lonely landscape. Desert travel advice is offered, with geology, vegetation, plants and animals and past history. Each specific area is mentioned with pictures and travel directions. \$23, and 196 pages.

*California's Eastern Sierra* by Sue Irwin is the traveler's guide you need as you drive up Highway 395. The photography is outstanding. Every area is covered with advice for the traveler on what to see and how to get there all the way north to Bridgeport. After you see this book you will want to visit every area mentioned. \$20, and 144 pages.

Happy reading and happy travels. Heather Johnson



## Learning Among the Oaks

We are inviting local CNPS members to join members of The Land Conservancy and the Ag and Natural Resources Committee of San Luis Obispo County for a special hiking tour of the Learning Among the Oaks Trail at Santa Margarita Ranch on Saturday, May 5, 9:00-11:00 a.m.\* Our hike will be guided by Santa Margarita School Student Oak Ambassadors and volunteer LATO Trail docents. Our Oak Ambassadors look forward to sharing some of their favorite oak woodland discoveries!

The trail entrance is located at the end of the Santa Margarita School parking lot. School address: 22070 H Street, Santa Margarita, 93453.

Please note that the LATO Trail is located on private property and access is restricted to guided educational hikes.

LATO is now in its seventh year of providing memorable outdoor oak learning experiences for local school children and their families.

Thanks,  
Beverly Gingg and the LATO Team

\*Hike will begin at 9:30 a.m. Combined participation limited to 60 so pre-registration recommended to reserve a spot.



## *Dedicated to the Preservation of the California Native Flora*

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide non-profit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's plants. The mission of the Society is to increase understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and to preserve them in their natural habitat through scientific activities, education and conservation. Membership is open to all.

Membership includes the quarterly journal, *Fremontia*, the quarterly *Bulletin*, which gives statewide news and announcements of the Society activities and conservation issues, and the chapter newsletter, *Obispoensis*.



April 15 - 22, 2012

*San Luis Obispo Chapter of the  
California Native Plant Society*  
P.O. Box 784  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

Nonprofit Organization  
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Permit No. 114

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## *Officers & Committee Chairs*

### **President**

David Chipping (805) 528-0914  
dchippin@calpoly.edu

### **Vice President**

Matt Ritter  
mritter@calpoly.edu

### **Recording Secretary**

Kristie Haydu (916) 899-9227  
pickleberry26@hotmail.com

### **Treasurer**

David Krause (805) 927-5182  
dkincmbria@aol.com

### **Chapter Council Representative**

Kristie Haydu (916) 899-9227  
pickleberry26@hotmail.com

### **Chapter Publications**

James Johnson (805) 528-0446  
jw\_johnson@msn.com

### **Chapter Wholesale Contact**

Linda Chipping (805) 528-0914  
lindachipping@yahoo.com

### **Conservation**

David Chipping (805) 528-0914  
dchippin@calpoly.edu

### **Cuesta Ridge Monitor**

Neil Havlik  
nhavlik@slocity.org

### **Education**

Susi Bernstein (805) 349-7180  
fiddle58@att.net

### **Field Trips**

Bill Waycott (805) 459-2103  
bill.waycott@gmail.com

### **General Sales - Book & Poster Sales**

Heather Johnson (805) 528-0446  
SLO\_CNPS\_Booklady@yahoo.com

### **Historian**

Dirk R. Walters (805) 543-7051  
drwalters@charter.net

### **Horticulture & Plant Sales**

John Nowak (805) 464-0717  
gritlys@sbcglobal.net

### **Hospitality**

Mardi Niles (805) 489-9274  
mnilles@sbcglobal.net

### **Invasive Plants Control**

Lauren Brown (805) 460-6329  
lbrown805@charter.net

### **Legislation**

David Chipping (805) 528-0914  
dchippin@calpoly.edu

### **Membership**

Eleanor Williams (805) 528-7202  
ecwilliams108@gmail.com  
Linda Chipping (805) 528-0914

### **Photography**

James Johnson (805) 528-0446  
jw\_johnson@msn.com

### **Plant Sales**

Suzette Giouard

### **Publicity**

Jeff Prostovich  
prostovich@earthlink.net

### **Rare Plant Coordinator**

John Chesnut (805) 528-0833  
jchesnut@slonet.org

### **Webmaster**

Judi Young  
judith\_young@yahoo.com