

BY - LAWS
of the
SAN LUIS OBISPO CHAPTER,
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Article I: NAME

This organization shall be known as the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

Article II: PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE

The purpose and objective of this chapter is to help protect California Native Plants through the following efforts:

- 1) Group study classes and guided field trips;
- 2) Work toward establishment of native plant reserves and protected areas;
- 3) Identification of and monitoring of rare and/or endangered plant species and plant communities;
- 4) Identification of and monitoring of plant species and communities threatened with destruction;
- 5) Reduction and control of the spread of invasive non-native plants,
- 6) Cooperation with established native plant gardens and encouraging formation of new ones;
- 7) Cooperation with other conservation groups in the county; and
- 8) Encourage the use of native plants in horticulture.

Article III: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

- Sec. 1 Any person interested in native plants is eligible for membership in the State organization and can choose to be affiliated with this chapter.
- Sec. 2 Level of membership for the Chapter shall be the same as those of the state California Native Plant Society.
- Sec. 3 All levels of members shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of membership in both the local chapter and the state California Native Plant Society.

Article IV: GENERAL MEETINGS

- Sec. 1 The chapter shall hold a minimum of six (6) general meetings each year at times and places established by the Executive Board.
- Sec. 2 Field trips and gatherings where business is to be conducted shall be so designated in the notice of the meeting.
- Sec. 3 Fifteen (15) members shall constitute a quorum for conducting business at a general meeting.
- Sec. 4 The Nomination Committee shall be announced at the next-to-last meeting of the year (usually November).
- Sec. 5 Election of chapter officers shall be at the last general meeting of the year (usually December).

Article V: OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

- Sec.1 The elected officers of the chapter shall be; President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. The President may appoint a Parliamentarian.
- Sec. 2 President shall: (A) Preside at all regular and special meetings of the chapter and the Executive Board; (B) appoint, with Board approval, Committee Chairs as needed to conduct the work of the chapter; (C) keep a list of committees and their members and file committee reports; (D) prepare an Annual Report of the year's activities and submit a copy to the State Recording Secretary, (E) be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, and (F) represent the Chapter at the Chapter Council or select an Alternate who is also a member of the Board to be Chapter Representative.

- Sec. 3 Vice President shall: (A) Perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President or at the President's request; (B) Arrange programs for all general meetings; (C) Assist the President in carrying out the duties of the office, and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.
- Sec. 4 Recording Secretary shall: (A) Keep minutes of all proceedings of the chapter and the Executive Board, and (B) write such correspondence as requested by the Board
- Sec. 5 Treasurer shall: (A) Sign all checks co-signed by the President or other Board designate; (B) pay bills approved by the Board; (C) Submit a report at each Board meeting with a copy to the Recording Secretary; (D) provide the State Treasurer annually a financial report for the calendar year and quarterly with a report on taxable sales; and (E) advise the Board on investments.
- Sec. 6 Term of office shall be for one year or until successor is elected and qualifies.

Article VI: EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Sec. 1 The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers and the Chair of each standing committee.
- Sec. 2 The Executive Board shall consider and set general policy, fill vacancies in any office or chair for the unexpired term, and transact the business of the chapter.
- Sec. 3 Meetings of the Board shall be called by the President with members being notified of the time and place at least five (5) days in advance.
- Sec. 4 Five (5) members shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Board.

Article VII: STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Sec. 1 Committee Chairs shall be filled by the President subject to approval by the elected officers. The Term of office shall be for one year or less, depending on the duration of need.
- Sec. 2 The Chair of each committee is a voting member of the Executive Board.
- Sec. 3 Committees shall keep a written record of their activities and make them available on request from the Executive Board.
- Sec. 4 The chapter shall have the following standing committees:
- A) Field Trips: Organize and direct outings for chapter members and guests
 - B) Conservation: Make recommendations to the Board on issues affecting conservation and preservation of California native plants and their habitats; (2) Keep the President informed of all public correspondence; and (3) submit minutes of meetings to the President and Recording Secretary.
 - C) Horticulture: (1) Conduct annual plant sale; (2) train members in propagating California native plants; and, (3) encourage members to grow them.
 - D) Newsletter: Publish and distribute the chapter newsletter known as *The Obispoensis*.
 - E) Rare Plants: Maintain a list of all rare plants in the county. Assemble information about those rare plants. Do plant searches as necessary. Communicate with State CNPS Botanist and do surveys as requested.
 - F) Plant Communities: Identify and locate all plant communities in SLO county and create a map. Evaluate coverage, status and need for protection.
 - G) Education: Communicate to public at large, especially grades K-12, the value of native plants in ecosystems and home gardens. Promote through talks, displays.
 - H) Invasive Plants: Track plant pest issues affecting the chapter area of interest and retain relationship with County Weed Management Area and similar organizations
 - I) Membership: Maintain chapter membership list, update as needed with State CNPS.
 - J) Publicity: Distribute meeting announcements and field trips to media.
 - K) Photography: Maintain a library of images for use by the Chapter
 - L) Historian: Maintain an orderly history of chapter activities and preserve such records and properties as designated by the Board.
 - M) Web Site:
 - N) Retail & Wholesale Sales Coordinators:

- Sec. 5 The chapter shall have the following Ad Hoc committees:
- A) Nominations: Select a slate of officers for election.
 - B) Hoover Award: The committee shall consist of previous Hoover Award recipients who will meet to select a person to receive this annual award.
 - C) Publications:

Article VIII: NOMINATION, ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

- Sec. 1 The President shall appoint a member to select a group of at least three (3) members.
- Sec. 2 Suggestions for nominations of officers may be submitted to the Nominating Committee by any chapter member.
- Sec. 3 The Nominating Committee shall report its slate of office nominees at the last general meeting of the calendar year, at which time the election will be held.
- Sec. 4 The election of any officer shall be by ballot if more than one candidate has been nominated for the office. When there is only one candidate for an office, the election may be by voice vote. A majority vote of members present and voting shall elect.
- Sec. 5 Elected officers shall be installed at the regular meeting in January. The retiring President shall be the installing officer or shall have the authority to select an installing officer.

Article IX: CHAPTER STATUS

The State Board of Directors may terminate or suspend the chapter status if the membership drops below fifteen (15) members or if the chapter takes any action inconsistent with the articles of the State Society.

Article X: COMMITMENTS

The San Luis Obispo Chapter shall not enter into any commitments that are binding on the California Native Plant Society without authorization from the latter. In like manner, the California Native Plant Society shall make no commitments that are binding on the chapter without its consent.

Article XI: AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a regular meeting provided a copy of the proposed amendment is included in the notice of such meeting.

Article XII: AUTHORITY

"Robert's Rules of Order, Revised" shall be used as a guide to govern parliamentary procedures of the chapter.