
Obispoensis

Newsletter of the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society
End of Summer Edition

President's Notes

Welcome to our 2014-2015 Season. Our October meeting is in the usual place, the SLO Vets Hall, and features your pictures from the last year and, potluck desserts. Please bring your favorite dessert to share with the group. Plates, bowls, knives, forks, spoons and napkins will be provided. There will also be sparkling water and fruit juice served.

Linda and I are still on the road as I write this, having spent seven weeks going through Alaska, B.C., Yukon and Alberta so we have some interesting pictures to share. Bring your pictures on a CD or thumb drive, format as JPG and we will load them at the show. I suggest about 10/12 per person. We can show iPhoto shows. Number your pictures a,b,c,d,e, etc. so that they show in order. Come early as the show starts at 7:30 and I will have to preload and test run your show. You could bring a "second string" of pictures to show if there is time. ❀ David Chipping

Special thanks to Heather Johnson for her many years as the CNPS Book Lady. Recently a new member was heard saying that Heather was: "The nicest person at our meetings!" No question about it and she will be missed by us all. Thank you Heather!!!



Photos by Mardi Niles



At the June CNPS general meeting Jenn Yost, Cal Poly faculty member and Director of the Hoover Herbarium, gave a demonstration on how to preserve plants for scientific collections. Thanks Jenn!

Native Plants Pest Control

With the drought extending into three summers now, many plant pests have taken advantage of the warm dry conditions. Even though California native plants are strong, hardy, and usually resilient, the lack of moisture has stressed them beyond their normal expectations. With this extra stress the plant's ability to fend off insect infestations has diminished immensely, leaving many plants to decline to the point of no return. Keeping this in mind, I am going to give some suggestions about pest control.

First, pests hate water, so if you can, use water to wash down the leaves of infested plants. Second, soaps such as Dawn dishwashing liquid non-bacterial formula can smother insects such as aphids, red spider mites, and scale. (I use 1 tsp. per quart of water.) Lastly, for severe infestations, I use neem oil which can work as an insecticide and/or a fungicide. It comes from a plant (*Azadirachta indica*) so it is a non-petroleum based oil. Follow the instructions on the label. Hope to see you at the next meeting. ☼ John

Field Trips

Saturday, October 4, 10:00 a.m., Montaña de Oro, joint outing of the California Native Plant Society and Morro Coast Audubon Society. Join members on a beach and dune walk to look for shorebirds and coastal dune plants. Meet in the parking lot at the end of the Sand Spit Road in Montaña de Oro State Park. We plan to walk to the beach, then proceed north along the ocean-side of the dunes for a couple of miles, cross the dunes to the estuary side, and walk back along the beach to the parking lot. Restrooms are available at the Sand Spit parking lot. Bring water, snacks and/or lunch, and binoculars. Sturdy shoes, sunscreen, hats, and jackets recommended. For more info, contact Bill (bill.waycott@gmail.com), (805) 459-2103.

Saturday, October 18, 9:00 a.m. Fall Plant Walk, La Purisima Mission: Charlie Blair will lead a tour of fall-blooming plants of the Burton Mesa Chaparral. Come and see what is out at this sometimes forgotten time of the year. Meet at 9:00 a.m., east end of Burton Mesa Blvd. (1550 E. Burton Mesa Blvd.) in Mission Hills at the Community Service District Office. From the north, take the Constellation Rd. off-ramp from SR 1, heading left, then turn right on Burton Mesa Blvd. From the South, Burton Mesa Blvd. can be accessed from either Harris Grade Rd. or Rucker Rd.; again turn right on Burton Mesa Blvd. Call Charlie Blair 733-3189 for details.



ATTENTION CITIZEN SCIENTISTS

Workshop on Identifying and Reporting Oak Pests and Diseases

October 23, 2014 - 12 (noon) to 5 pm

**San Luis Obispo UC Cooperative Extension Auditorium
2156 Sierra Way, San Luis Obispo**

We are looking for boots on the ground volunteers and tree professionals to monitor for pests and diseases that are affecting native oaks and other tree species in our community. We are offering a free workshop to learn about the signs and symptoms of potentially damaging organisms and how to report findings.

The subjects and speakers include:

- **Goldspotted Oak Borer: Life Cycle and Identification**
Speaker: Kim Corella, Cal Fire
- **Identification and Impact of *Fusarium* Dieback and Polyphagus Shot Hole Borer**
Speaker: Akif Eskalen, University of California, Riverside
- **Foaming Bark Canker Disease: Identification and Management**
Speaker: Shannon Lynch, University of California, Riverside
- **Early Warning System: The Volunteer Oak Health Monitoring and Reporting System**
Speaker: Kevin Turner, University of California, Riverside
- **Utilization and Management of Oak Firewood**
Speaker: Kevin Turner, University of California, Riverside
- **Beetle Movement in Firewood and other Wood Articles and Role of Regulatory Agencies**
Speaker: Brian Cabrera, Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

The agenda for the meeting will be posted on our CNPS website www.cnps-slo.org. Refreshments will be available during the breaks.

The workshop is free although the classroom is limited to 50 people – If you are interested, please submit your name and contact info to:

Lauren Brown lbrown805@charter.net, (805)460-6329, or
Kim Corella Kim.Corella@fire.ca.gov, (805) 550-8583

Sponsored by the CNPS San Luis Obispo Chapter, Cal Fire, SLO County Weed Management Area, and the Coastal San Luis Resources Conservation District.

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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Plant Sale Time is Here

Suzette and I would like to say welcome back to all of our members. We hope your gardens are surviving the drought and you have had a fun summer. This year more than ever our plant sale will highlight low water usage plants. It is very important that we get the word out to our fellow plant lovers who are trying to conserve water that we are here to help them. Along with encouraging you to come to our first meeting, we would also like to take this opportunity to ask you once again to volunteer at this year's plant sale. The annual plant sale is our chapter's primary fundraiser and the proceeds really do pay the bills. So if you can't help, please just stop on by to say hi and visit. There are always many tasks to do, so if you would like to help just fill out the volunteer form below and bring it to our next meeting. If you prefer you can email me at gritlys@gmail.com or call 805/674-2034 with any questions. We are looking forward to seeing you at our first meeting, your Plant Sale co-chairpersons, John and Suzette.



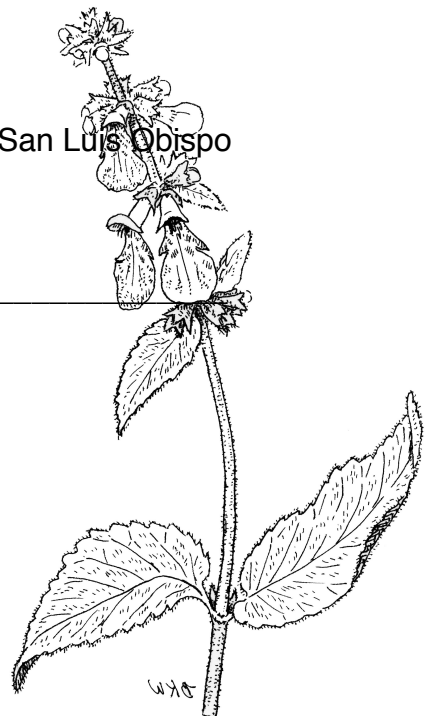
CNPS Native Plant Sale Volunteer Sign Up

Pacific Beach High School, 11950 Los Osos Valley Road, San Luis Obispo
Saturday, November 1, 2014

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Please mark the hours you can help

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 - 8 a.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Help as needed | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 - 9 a.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Set up tables | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9 - 10 a.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Hang Signs | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 - 11 a.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Sell seeds | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 - 12 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> Cashier | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 - 1 p.m. | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 2 p.m. | | |



Please complete this form and bring it to the October meeting for John Nowak or mail it to him at 8605 San Gabriel Road, Atascadero, CA 93422.