The Cypress Cone
California Native Plant Society
Santa Cruz County Chapter

Arana Gulch Meeting - Members Welcome
Debbie Bulger

The next meeting of the Adaptive Management Working Group for Arana Gulch will be July 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the City Planning Department in the City Hall Annex on Church Street in downtown Santa Cruz. It is expected there will be a field trip to Arana Gulch, likely in the morning.

AMWG meetings are open to the public. CNPS members who are concerned about the restoration of the habitats there are encouraged to attend for even a part of the meeting.

Grey Hayes is the CNPS representative on the Working Group. Suzanne Schettler is our alternate representative. Tim Hyland is also a member of the Working Group, representing State Parks.

CNPS Restoration Team at Arana Gulch

Richard Stover

Linda Brodman’s Habitat Restoration Team assisted the city of Santa Cruz on June 14 with raking and thatch removal at Arana Gulch Greenbelt. A total of 13 people showed up (11 volunteers, and 2 city staff).

The team removed **920 pounds of biomass**, in 86 bags (41 of which will be reused)!

Native Plant Gardening for a Water-Challenged Future: Susan Krzywicki

Linda Brodman

The California Native Plant Society Horticulture Program envisions a California where native plants are widely available and routinely incorporated into public and private landscapes to conserve resources, extend habitat, and create a sense of place. This presentation will introduce you to the messages and approaches we are using to help people to learn native plant gardening.

Lower your water bill, reduce yard maintenance, and attract songbirds and butterflies to your home with native plants. Topics include:

- Why now
- Benefits and issues
- Designing your native plant garden
- The best plants for your native garden

And much, much more! Susan Krzywicki (pronounced “Kurzwicki”) is the Horticulture Program Director for the California Native Plant Society. She has been a native plant landscape designer in San Diego, as well as chair of the San Diego Surfrider Foundation Ocean Friendly Gardens Committee. She also serves on the Bayfront Cultural and Design Commission for the Port of San Diego.
Linda Brodman said, “Four distinct areas were designated for raking and thatch removal by the Arana Gulch Adaptive Management Working Group. Each site was raked for approximately 20-25 minutes in a starburst pattern, and then we spent about 10 minutes helping to bag the thatch.”

How does dethatching work? According to Suzanne Schettler, “De-thatching removes standing dead vegetation. It increases the amount of sun that reaches the developing basal rosettes of the endangered Santa Cruz Tarplant (see left) and allows them to build up strength for flowering. The hope is that it will simulate grazing until grazing is re-introduced on this coastal prairie site.”

Linda added, “Hopefully, in the long run, we will see the fruits of our labor with fewer invasive weeds and less thatch, and more Santa Cruz tarplant as well as other coastal prairie species.”

**Summer in the Native Plant Garden**

*Jackie Pascoe*

It’s summer. Hikers are off on trips. Botanists are busy botanizing. But native plant gardeners are dreaming in their summer gardens.

The summer native garden has so many pleasures to offer (and demands so few tasks). In my garden, the long arched stems of heartleaf penstemon (*Keckia cordifolia*) end in a burst of red-orange tubular blooms that hummingbirds love. Three ‘Winifred Gilman’ salvia plants create a mass of vivid blue flowers, and their foliage scents my morning walk, while the brick-red flowers of spice bush (*Calycanthus occidentalis*) have a tangy wine-barrel odor. In the late afternoon, I lazily listen to the drone of bees feasting and watch the local native soap lily blooms open—what a treat! And another local native, *Clarkia rubicunda*, is blooming just everywhere—except where the deer are!

**Calflora—An Emerging Information Resource about Native Plants**

*Suzanne Schettler*

Maybe you’ve already visited Calflora to check a plant ID, but do you know about its other great features? You can explore them all at http://www.calflora.org/cnps/index.html and easily find ways to conduct independent exploration of an area that interests you. Go online to find great features like the following:

- A searchable database of plants growing in California (or in Santa Cruz if you filter it that way), with photos and links to external resources like Jepson Online.
- Different ways to choose a location (by zip code, place name, park, watershed, etc.) and view a map with an illustrated table of plants observed in the map area.
- Ways to contribute to the Calflora database, using your own sightings of plants in the wild, whether native or introduced—even while you are in the field, using a smartphone (http://www.calflora.org/entry/occentry.html)

**Great Places to See Natives Project.** A new Calflora project is under development. The goal of the project is to make it easy for travelers and people new to native plants to know where to find them. It’s called Great Places to See Natives (http://www.calflora.org/greatplaces/). It has just received funding and our chapter is interested in contributing information. We hope to share more about this activity in upcoming months.

Calflora is becoming a respected resource that complements the abilities and programs of CNPS. Calflora was founded in 1994 by Ann Dennis while at the US Forest Service to help assess how management practices might affect wildlife, plant diversity, and forest health. Calflora has a staff of two professionals plus a handful of volunteers. They welcome contributions of tax-deductible funds, ideas, and plant sightings.

**Membership News**

*Julia Fields*

Please welcome our new members! — Kelly Sky, Robert Moler, Matthew Mosher, Lisa Hickman, Debbie Spots, Mike Chrabaszcz, and Alisa Petrov. We are so glad you joined!

**Holocarpha macradenia**

**Soap lily, Chlorogalum pomeridianum**

**Heartleaf penstemon, Keckia cordifolia**

**Delphinium parryi subsp. parryi with Pale Swallowtail (Papilio eurymedon)**
State-wide Conservation Conference in San Jose, January 13-17, 2015—Update

Josie Crawford

We are planning the biggest and best of CNPS Conferences to kick off our 50th Anniversary Celebration in 2015. Go to www.cnps.org/2015 for up to date conference information.

Early Bird Registration Opens July 15, with fantastic discounts! Help us celebrate with over 250 speakers, Lightning Talks, a poster session, more than 25 workshops and field trips, banquet, mixers, auctions, artwork, photography, and poetry.

The 2015 Call for Abstracts closes on July 10! We encourage you to submit an abstract for an oral or poster presentation. We have 24 themed sessions and Lightning Talks! Go to www.cnps.org/2015/abstracts for further details.

Michael Soule will be our featured Opening Plenary Speaker. Often referred to as “the grandfather of conservation biology,” he is Professor Emeritus of Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Cruz and a founder of the Society of Conservation Biology and the Wildlands Network. Banquet speaker will be Jared Farmer, author of Trees in Paradise: A California History (Norton, 2013).

Dave Bockman, Environmentalist

We are saddened to hear of the death of David Bockman (April 20, 1930-May 6, 2014). A friend of Randy Morgan’s, Dave was the conservation director for our fledgling chapter. He moved to Santa Cruz in 1970 and joined the Santa Cruz Bird Club, CNPS, and Sierra Club. He was instrumental in creating or preserving the following: Marina Dunes State Park, Sand Parklands, Save the Gray Whale Parklands, Neary Lagoon, Pogonip, South Ridge in Felton and Glenwood Estates in Scotts Valley. See more at: http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/santacruzsentinel/obituary.aspx?n=david-bockman&pid=171430352

Stan Iverson, President of Suncrest

Yet another sad loss: Stan Iverson (October 2, 1933-June 14, 2014) was a nurseryman, and long-time grower of California native plants. He revived the historic Leonard Coates Nursery in 1989. It became Suncrest Nurseries, and which generously hosts our propagation group. Leonard Coates founded his nursery in 1878 and specialized in California native plants. Stan was a great listener and supported innovations at the nursery, which is known for high quality plants. See http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/watsonville/ci_25982779/stan-iverson-founder-pajaro-valleys-suncrest-nurseries-dies

Santa Cruz County Chapter Events

Habitat Restoration

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 for details: 831.462.4041, redwdrn@pacbell.net

□ Saturday, July 12, 9 a.m.-12 noon, Coast Dairies Property

Field Trips

NOTE: No field trips are planned for July-August. See cruzcnps.org for any late additions. Contact Deanna Giuliano for any questions: drosegiuliano@yahoo.com or 831.278.2699.

Monterey Chapter Events

For details on events go to http://montereybay.cnps.org.

Habitat Restoration

□ First Saturday in the month, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Broom Bash, East Side of Point Lobos State Reserve.
□ Third Sunday in the month, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Soberanes Creek Cape Ivy Bash.

Field Trips

□ Friday, July 11, 10 a.m. Williams Canyon Leopard Lily Walk.
□ August 15-17, Channel Islands Naturalist Excursion

Thank You Staff of Life

Staff of Life Natural Food Market gathers contributions for us from people who bring their own bags. Thank you, Staff of Life - we do appreciate your support!
Join the California Native Plant Society

Mail this form or go to cnps.org and click JOIN.

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

Your contribution is tax deductible, minus $12 for the quarterly journal, Fremontia. Make your check payable to CNPS and send to:
Membership Chair, CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816

Native Garden Planning and Maintenance

Deanna Giuliano

☐ Choose native plants that will thrive in your garden’s micro-climates. Santa Cruz has 7 or more micro-climates, depending on slope, aspect, water, sun, and soil.

☐ Learn about your soil’s texture, water drainage, acidity and alkalinity—soils play a big role in what types of plants will thrive.

☐ Plant in the fall when possible. Plants take advantage of winter rains to establish their roots. If you can give a little supplemental water, spring is also a good time to plant.

☐ Natives that are (or could be) local to your site are the best, as they have adapted to our local fauna, soils, and climate. They are more resistant to pests and diseases, too.

☐ Mulch the soil to keep it from drying out.

☐ Water deeply once a month in summer for the first two, even three years, depending on the plant. After roots are established, give little to no summer water (riparian plants excepted).

Renew Membership Online  Renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card. As an option, set it up to renew automatically year after year. It is quick, easy, convenient, and reduces renewal mailing costs. Go to www.cnps.org and click the JOIN button.