



California Native Plant Society
 Orange County Chapter
 P.O. Box 54891
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 September/October 2010

FIRST CLASS MAIL



California Native Plant Society
Orange County Chapter

September/October 2010

Chapter Meetings

September 16: *Wild and Green--a garden that fits California.* Speaker: Ron Vanderhoff

October 21: *Indulging our senses in the native garden.* Speaker: Carol Bornstein

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's message	1
Conservation.....	1
ocBotanyBaby.com.....	2
Native Gardeners' corner	2
Planting & Pruning Workshop	3
Chapter Meetings.....	4
Directions to the Duck Club.....	4
Calendar	4
Events	4
More Events	5
Membership Corner.....	5
Membership Form.....	5
Contacts.....	5

Save the dates!

October 2
Maintenance In
Native Gardens

Pruning, etc., workshop
 at Golden West College
 Native Garden

October 23
Fall Plant Sale

9 - 4 at Tree of Life
 Nursery

Visit our website at **occnps.org**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you had a wonderful summer while our chapter took a July/August hiatus. The extended cool weather was good for native plant gardens but not so good for my tomato garden!

We have some big plans for the upcoming year, including our chapter plant sale on October 23rd, a great slate of speakers at our general meetings, and another native Garden Tour in the spring.

Our new "Interest Centers" will be introduced at the September general meeting. Plant identification is just the beginning as we debut two informational tables: Research OC (Plant Science, Education and Rare Plants) and Grow OC (Native Gardening & Horticulture) in September and expand to include Protect OC (Conservation) and Explore OC (Field Trips, Outdoor Activities & Fun) in October. We welcome your interaction with our expert volunteers as we explore together the different aspects of California Native Plants. Join us at 7 pm before the main program at 7:30 pm. If you haven't been to our meetings lately we hope to see you this upcoming year.

Whether you are able to attend our meetings or not, we thank you for being a member of our society and our chapter. Together we are strong, and as we grow we have a more powerful voice.

We speak for . . . protecting native plants, their ecosystems and the creatures whose lives depend on them.

We speak for . . . native plant gardening in homes and businesses and public areas.

We speak for . . . enjoying and cherishing the rich variety of native plants throughout the state.

We speak for . . . research, science, and education about our state's natural beauty and diversity.

—Laura Camp

CONSERVATION REPORT

WATER QUALITY PROJECTS OFFER GREAT POSSIBILITIES FOR HABITAT RESTORATION

OC Watersheds Program is coordinating the application process for water quality projects' grant funding under Propositions 84 and 1-E, see

ocwatersheds.com/wma_IRWM.aspx. A map of OC Water Management Areas is at

ocwatersheds.com/Documents/WMA_LGmap.pdf.

OCCNPS-ers have a great opportunity to help improve local native habitats by becoming stakeholders in these projects! This opportunity comes because projects must include strong elements for ecosystem restoration and environmental and habitat protection and improvement, all as part of integrated methods to sustainably achieve a range of goals. To date, about 125 projects have been proposed for the Santa Ana River watershed in OC (see sawpa.net/apps/webprop84stat/ProjectCostSummary.aspx) and about 60 for the South OC watersheds. A relative few of these will be selected for funding each year. Most applications are from water districts or cities.

ACTION NOW: 1) See the sawpa.net and/or ocwatersheds.com websites to find a project proposed in your city and/or watershed. Does the project include bank/levee stabilization? Constructed wetland? Residential landscape retrofit? Invasives removal? Stream/aquatic habitat restoration? Any project that includes anything like these will benefit from OCCNPS-ers' knowledge of native plants and habitats. 2) Contact the pertinent agency or jurisdiction and ask to be put on the project notification list, and where to see the project documents. 3) Monitor the

project process and advocate for proper native plant use at all public comment opportunities. Even "shovel-ready" projects are likely to have a public-process period before implementation.

These projects can be the start of removing the concrete from OC's watersheds and restoring them to be the living habitats they once were!

BOTANY IS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Chicago Botanic Garden and Botanic Gardens Conservation International have recently published an assessment of current and future botanical capacity in the US. It reveals that the number of active professional botanists, and the academic programs to train future botanists, are both declining while the number of situations and issues that really need botanical expertise is rising. See the report at: bgci.org/usa/bcap.

ALISO CREEK WATERSHED

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the OC Watersheds Program have recently issued The Aliso Creek Feasibility Scoping Documentation, Volumes 1 and 2. It is available at ocwatersheds.com/AlisoCreek_ReportsStudies.aspx. The two volumes are the first and second bulleted items under "Watershed Studies."

The "study area" covers the creekbed, and about 1,000 ft. on either side, between Pacific Park Drive and the ocean. Most of this area is within Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park. The two volumes exhaustively gather and analyze the findings, results, and data that have been collected on the watershed over the past decade-plus. From these, it forecasts that the study area's most likely future is to (cont. p.2) (Conservation,

cont.) continue to change toward even less native ecosystem function if adequate remedial measures are not taken. Methods to accomplish restoration to a self-regulating functioning ecosystem, and to deal with the myriad accompanying issues, will be explored in a subsequent study. Then come the steps of project design, approval, and finding funding.

—Celia Kutcher, Conservation Chair

New website: www.ocBotanyBaby.com

OCCNPS Member Joan Hampton is launching a new website, now in its earliest stages. A primary focus is the flora of Orange County and contiguous areas—places that can be visited during a day trip. Also included will be articles that Joan wrote for our chapter newsletter. Other features are: Reviews of books on botany and other science topics; Joan's nature photography; the wacky world of plant reproduction, systems of classification, and evolution. While there is not much content yet, Joan hopes that you will visit the site and send her your comments and suggestions.

Native Gardener's Corner-Member's Tips, Tricks, and Techniques

This column offers chapter members a chance to briefly share information on many things related to gardening with natives. The question for this issue was: **“Which native gardening blogs or websites do you always make a point to visit and why?”**

Laura Camp—Check out the Growing Natives Blog linked on the CNPS main page (cnps.org) under the "Growing Natives" tab. I'm contributing articles, so let me know if you have something to share, and also leave your comments, please!

Bob Allen—Barbara Eisenstein's pages <http://www.weedingwildsuburbia.com/> are always informative, fun, and lavishly punctuated with her photographs. Oh, and her blog at: <http://www.wildsuburbia.blogspot.com/>

Brad Jenkins—laspilitas.com has a number of useful sections for figuring out what to grow where. For general research, they have a wonderfully extensive list of plants with notes that are easily accessed by scientific or common name.

Gabi McLean (from up in the San Gabriel Chapter) —I just started my own garden blog; you get to it from our website www.natureathand.com. Also, our chapter newsletter has a native gardening corner column. You can read it and all the archives on the web at www.cnps-sgm.org

Alan Lindsay—Whether it's gardening or botany, first I get into Calflora. After that I use two of their links for additional information, "Photos" particularly CalPhotos, and the link to "1993 Jepsen . . ." Sometimes I use the "Related names:" link to the genus I'm searching for. And, very often I click on a county in the "Distribution" map to see where it was found and by whom. And the link to "Nursery availability" if I plan to add the plant to my garden.

Dori Ito—So many blogs, so little time! A few of my natives favorites are: Emily Green's blog <http://chanceofrain.com/> not strictly native, but great informed writings on water issues, a major argument for native gardening, with helpful links. Deborah Small's <http://deborahsmall.wordpress.com/> A visually scrumptious blog which also has substantive info on the ethnobotanical aspects of native plants. Chuck B's <http://back40feet.blogspot.com/> has a fascinating photo record going back 5 years in archival entries showing the evolution of his (mostly) native yard plus other gardening goings on in the Bay area, with an associated Flickr Photostream. Closer to home, Barbara Eisenstein's blog

(see above) is an all-around entertaining and informative read that's easy to relate to.

And another Flickr Photo acct with many, excellent native plant photos is **Pete@eastbaywilds**, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/eastbaywilds/sets>. The container gardening set is especially nice.

Ron Vanderhoff—You shouldn't have to ask. I always enjoy the Facebook posts from the "Friends of Golden West College Native Garden". I learn about new plants, tips about care and maintenance, etc. Not sure who the author is but he must be really smart.... I especially liked the native plant identification quizzes a while ago. (Thanks, Ron—D)

Barbara Eisenstein—There are many excellent native plant gardening blogs out there. CNPS's Grow Natives Blog is relatively new but has some really interesting posts (<http://grownatives.cnps.org/>). A new blog is Hey Natives <http://heynatives.blogspot.com/>. And finally Deborah Small's truly beautiful blog on Ethnobotany always inspires me

<http://deborahsmall.wordpress.com/>. There are many more out there and I have listed other favorites on my own native garden blog <http://www.wildsuburbia.blogspot.com/>

Dan Songster—The first website I got deep into was Las Pilitas Nursery's. Still excellent! Can't get by without Calflora, oh, and Tree of Life nursery has good balanced content. For some pleasant reading (with great content as well) Barbara Eisenstein's pages can't be beat and <http://heynatives.blogspot.com/> is fun. Yes I check out the Golden West College Native Garden Website when I add content, <http://www.goldenwestcollege.edu/garden/index.html> and the Facebook Page of the **Friends of Golden West College Native Garden**.

Note: I received several replies stating they did *not* visit or use any websites or blogs. Books and questioning friends who grow natives is their way of discovering more about natives!

Next Newsletter's Question: **“What is your favorite deciduous native plant, shrub, or tree?”**

Email your responses to Dan Songster.

Songster@cox.net and Please remember to keep replies brief so we can include most of the responses!

Planting and Pruning California Natives

Saturday, October 2, 2010, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Golden West College Native Garden, Huntington Beach

Sponsored by: California Native Plant Society, Orange County



Whether you are getting ready to begin planting your native garden or already have one a few years old, this workshop will help you learn about:

- ✓ Basic planting techniques, including hillside planting
- ✓ Pruning techniques for a variety of plants and situations:
 - Pruning to clean up, hedge, tip back, thin, espalier.
 - Appropriate times of year to prune different species.

The workshop will consist of demonstrations and hands-on practice outside in the Golden West College Native Garden in Huntington Beach. **The class will be limited to a total of 24 registrants**, divided into two rotating groups of twelve each. Handouts will be provided.

Cost: \$20 for CNPS Members or Friends of GWC Native Garden; \$35 for non-members. (You may join either group during the registration process in order to receive the discount - See www.occnps.org or <http://www.gwc.info/garden/help.html>)

Bring: Notepad and pen, camera, comfortable working shoes, sunscreen, water, questions, favorite shovel or pruning tool (optional).

Contact for registration questions: Jennifer Mabley at jenpod@gmail.com or 949.855.2112

INSTRUCTORS:

Gene Ratcliffe has a masters in botany from Cornell, teaches in the horticulture program at Saddleback College and landscape classes for local water districts. She also works in the wholesale department at Tree of Life Nursery and has done both maintenance and installation work.

Dan Songster has over thirty-five years experience landscaping in Orange County as Director of the Golden West College Native Garden in Huntington Beach.

✂ -----
Registration - Send to: OCCNPS c/o Jennifer Mabley, 21581 Montbury, Lake Forest, CA 92630

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Return this bottom section, along with check or money order made out to OCCNPS, **OR** pay by credit card:

CREDIT CARD: Visa / Mastercard / AmEx # _____ EXP DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

You will receive a detailed map and confirmation upon receipt of your registration.

Chapter Meetings

September 16, 2010—*Wild and Green: A garden that fits California*. Ron Vanderhoff, speaker

This is the story of a plant hobbyist (or plant-nut) named Ron who took his existing mish-mash of 1980's plants and went about landscaping a garden truly his own. One that emphasizes water thrift, wildlife, sustainability, and especially celebrates our native flora. Learn how his landscape somehow came about with "simplistic irrigation, no time, no outside help, and no budget."

This virtual tour will begin with the original insipid plantings, highlight his lofty goals (and the eventual realities), his overall design, and then leaps into the nuts and bolts of soil, irrigation, walkways, and planting.

Ron will finish his quick moving talk with what he has learned from his efforts, examples of successes and failures, and some of his favorite natives from the garden.

If you are thinking of installing a native garden and want to be inspired, entertained, and given lots of useful information-come hear this presentation!

Ron Vanderhoff is a lifelong southern California gardener and professional horticulturist. Ron literally grew up in the outdoors; by age five he was planting, weeding and tending to a garden of strawberries, roses, flowers and a very messy willow tree.

Ron has worked his whole life in horticulture, originally maintaining or designing impressive gardens in Newport Beach, including John Wayne's. For the past many years he has been a leader in the local gardening community as an educator, writer, lecturer and innovator, and as the nursery manager at Roger's Gardens where he leads a push for sustainable gardens in Orange County with the California Friendly Garden Contest (which OC-CNPS helps sponsor). Ron writes a popular weekly newspaper column, *The Coastal Gardener*, and has contributed to many newspaper and magazine articles as well as radio and television programs. He is a special contributor to *The Sunset Western Garden Book*.

Ron's personal interests include climate appropriate gardens, gardening training and environmental stewardship. He is an expert plantsman and an avid plant collector, who is especially fascinated with our native flora and its potential for use in urban landscapes.

October 21, 2010—*Indulging Our Senses in the Native Garden*.

Carol Bornstein, speaker

Join us as one of California's leading experts on gardening with native plants, Carol Bornstein shares her thoughts on some of the less obvious merits of her favorite natives. "A garden filled with California native plants can be so much more than eye candy," she says. "There are many compelling reasons to landscape with natives in addition to their colorful flowers."

In Carol's illustrated talk, she will highlight natives which stimulate our tactile, audio, olfactory and even gustatory pleasure points.

Carol Bornstein is one of Southern California's most highly respected native plant specialists. She co-authored the award-winning book, *California Native Plants for the Garden*, with Dave Fross and Bart O'Brien and has collaborated with them and Cachuma Press on their new book, *Reimagining the California Lawn: Water-conserving Plants, Practices, and Designs*, to be released in early 2011. Carol earned her B.S. in Botany from the University of Michigan and her M.S. in Horticulture from Michigan State University and was horticulturist at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden for 28 years. She currently divides her time between designing gardens, providing horticultural consultation, and writing about native plants and gardening in California's mediterranean climate.

Note: We have her book, *California Native Plants for the Garden* for sale. She will be available after her talk to sign your copy.

CALENDAR

Board Meeting.....	9/02
Chapter Meeting.....	9/16
SmartScape Info Expo	9/25
Native Garden Wkshp	10/02
Board Meeting.....	10/07
SCB Symposium	10/09
A Date With Nature.....	10/09
Chapter Meeting.....	10/21
PLANT SALE	10/23

EVENTS

SmartScape Info Expo

Laguna Beach County Water District
306 Third St., Laguna Beach

Saturday, September 25, 8 AM to 4 PM

Activities include landscape and irrigation seminars, a children's project area, landscape design consultations, demo gardens, irrigation system consultations, and a representative from the city available to answer questions on their new NPDES Regulations. Orange County CNPS will be selling native plants and sharing information with visitors.

At 10 AM, Connie Beck from San Diego CNPS will speak on "Hummingbird/Butterfly Habitat." At 10:45, it's Gene Ratcliffe, OCCNPS, on the "20 Best Plants for Your Authentic Laguna Garden."

Calling All Laguna Beach Residents:

Can you help man our table for an hour or two? We could use your help with outreach to your neighbors. Please contact Laura Camp at campsjc@mac.com or 949-370-3303 if you can be there.

Southern California Botanists Symposium:
Southern California Mountains Botany,
October 9, 8:30 AM – 4 PM

List of speakers and Topics:

Allan Schoener - An Overview of the Natural History of Southern California Mountains

Jim Shevock - The State of Bryology in Southern California: Can Vascular Trained Botanists Become Good at Collecting Specimens?

Fred Roberts - Flora of the Sierra San Pedro Martir Mountains, Baja California Mexico

Naomi Fraga - Flora of the Upper Santa Ana River Watershed

Scott White - Flora of the San Jacinto Mountains

Matthew Kirby Muddy Secrets from the Rare Mountain Lakes of Southern California: 70,000 Years of Climate Change

Tom Oberbauer - San Diego County Mountains

Scott Eliason - Assembling the San Bernardino Mountains (floristically speaking)

Rusty Russell - Mapping a Century of Change in the San Jacinto Mountains

Go to socialbot.org for complete information and to register. Great speakers, great topics!

more **EVENTS**

A Date With Nature, a family-oriented celebration of the wonders of Orange County's wildlands, will be held **Sat. Oct. 9, 2-7 PM**, at Campo Amantes, a lovely private picnic ground at Rancho Mission Viejo. The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy and The Reserve at Rancho Mission Viejo are hosting the event jointly. Many nature-themed activities are planned, including a twilight presentation on mountain lions. OCCNPS will be among the exhibitors. The event is **FREE**, but registration is required. For more information, visit www.theconservancy.org

Free workshops at Tree of Life Nursery

September—Fridays, 9-10 AM

Replace Your Lawn Series:

- I: Kill the Grass - 9/3
- II: Creating, Caring for Your Native Garden - 9/10
- III: Plant Selection - Foundation Plants - 9/17
- IV: Plant Selection - Flowering Perennials - 9/24

Distinguished Speaker Series:

October—Saturdays, 10 - 11 AM

Alrie Middlebrook: Design Principles and Native Plant Good in the Fall - 10/9

Bob Perry: author of *Landscape Plants for California Gardens*

Barbara Eisenstein: Picking Plants for a Carefree Native Garden (Orange County CNPS Benefit Plant Sale Day) - 10/23

Bob Allen: Butterfly Gardening with Native Plants - 1030

CNPS Membership Application

Category	Annual Fee
<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Retired/Limited Income	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual or Library	\$45
<input type="checkbox"/> Organization.....	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Lover.....	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$300
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor.....	\$500
<input type="checkbox"/> Mariposa Lily	\$1500

Check here to affiliate with the Orange County Chapter, which will receive a portion of the dues.
Dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible. The journal *Fremontia*, the CNPS Bulletin, and the chapter newsletter are included in the cost of membership.

Make check payable to CNPS and mail to:
California Native Plant Society
2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816

Or go to www.cnps.org and click on **Join CNPS**

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

We welcome our new members in 2010!

June - Rebecca Bartenstein, Tina Cremer, Daniel Gallegos, Marty Dieckmeyer, Harold and Romelia Baran; **May** – Susan Anon, Melissa McDonald; **April** – Noel Moore, Fred Galluccio, Peggy Spaulding, Gary & Eileen Miller, Patricia Dapkus, Jeffery Upton, Nina Allmendinger; **March** – Richard Friesen, Nicole Bentivegna, David Hiskey, Tina Prais, Patty Roes, Zachary Metz, Mike Clayton; **February** – Deborah Brin

We have established an expanded membership committee—its members are Dori Ito, Jennifer Beatty, Laura Camp, Sarah Jayne, and Jennifer Mabley. If you have questions there will be a table at our general meeting, or contact Laura or Sarah at the contact numbers and emails listed in this newsletter. We will certainly help you to the best of our ability.

Do you have a friend who would be interested in our society? Why not bring them to a general meeting, or give them the gift of membership for a year? We will work hard to justify your trust and confidence.

The chapter Benefit Fall Plant Sale on October 23rd is a great place to join or to renew your membership. This year we will be offering a "California Native Plant Society" tote bag for new members at the \$45 level, and a CNPS window sticker for members at the \$25 level. Renewing members and new members at the plant sale will enjoy \$5 off their plant purchases for the day. Look for other surprise gifts and special offers, too! We hope you will join us at the plant sale and definitely stop and say hi to us at the Membership Table.

Later this fall, college and university students who join CNPS will receive a handsome and sturdy backpack, suitable for toting the Jepson Manual about as well as those weighty college textbooks. Alert your student friends and relatives!

Chapter Officers, Board Members, and Committees

<i>President</i>	Laura Camp	949 370-3033	laurac@treeoflifenyrsery.com
<i>Vice-President</i>	Brad Jenkins	714 730-6023	bradjenkins@yahoo.com
<i>Secretary</i>	Nancy Heuler	949 559-1757	nheuler@cox.net
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jennifer Mabley	949 855-2112	jenpod@gmail.com
<i>Board Members:</i>	Celia Kutcher	949 496-9689	celia552@cox.net
	Sarah Jayne	949 552-0691	sbjayne@cox.net
	Richard Schilk	714 351-7688	birdguy@naturalista.net
	Dan Songster	949 768-0431	songster@cox.net
<i>Conservation</i>	Celia Kutcher	949 496-9689	celia552@cox.net
<i>Field Trips</i>	Richard Schilk	714 351-7688	birdguy@naturalista.net
<i>Great Park Liaison</i>	Nancy Heuler	949 559-1757	nheuler@cox.net
<i>Horticulture/Plant Sale</i>	Dan Songster	949 768-0431	songster@cox.net
<i>Hospitality</i>	Deanna Epley	949 759-1382	depley@cox.net
<i>Invasive Exotics</i>	Bill Neill	818 769-0678	bgneill@earthlink.net
<i>Membership</i>	Sarah Jayne	949 552-0691	sbjayne@cox.net
<i>Newsletter</i>	Sarah Jayne	949 552-0691	sbjayne@cox.net
<i>Outreach</i>	Jennifer Mabley	949 855-2112	jenpod@gmail.com
<i>Programs</i>	Dan Songster	949 768-0431	songster@cox.net
	Bob Allen		bugbob@mac.com
<i>Publications</i>	Richard Schilk	714 351-7688	birdguy@naturalista.net
<i>Publicity</i>	Nancy Heuler	949 559-1757	nheuler@cox.net
<i>Rare Plants</i>	David Bramlet	714 549-0647	debramlet@earthlink.net
	Fred Roberts	760 439-6244	antshrike@cox.net
<i>State Office</i>	Stacey Flowerdew	916 447-2677	sflowerdew@cnps.org
<i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>	Diane Wollenberg		yosemitegirl@cox.net
<i>Website</i>	Rich Schilk	714 351-7688	birdguy@naturalista.net

visit our website at ocnps.org