



CALENDAR

Mar 1.....	Bell View Trail Field Trip
Mar 5.....	Board Meeting
Mar 15	Vail Lake Field Trip
Mar 19	Chapter Meeting
Mar 22	Caspers Park Field Trip
Apr 2	Board Meeting
Apr 4 - 5	Green Scene
Apr 5	IRC Wildflower Showcase
Apr 19	Chapter Meeting
Apr 18.....	GARDEN TOUR
Apr 25	IRC tour
Apr 26	Upper Santiago Canyon Field Trip
May 3	Coal Canyon Field Trip

Native Gardeners Corner—

Member's Tips, Tricks, and Techniques

This column is a regular feature offering chapter members and local experts a chance to briefly share information on many things related to gardening with natives.

The request for this edition is: **"Which of our native silver or gray leaved plants is your favorite?"**

TJ LePage: "I love them all!! For sheer adorability, give me any species of Dudleya. For maximum elegance, Catalina Silverlace (I prefer the wild type, not the Canyon Silver cultivar). The scent of *Artemisia californica* is heaven on earth; I love how it revives from drought almost instantly with new growth. And the *A. californica* cultivars, and *A. nesiotica*, the island variant, and *Artemisia* 'David's Choice.' And then there are the sages...."

Pam Vallot: "Most likely my favorite is Cleveland Sage! It seems to have the best and strongest aroma. The size is very useful, 6 to 8 feet tall & wide. The ease of propagation from cuttings is a bonus!"

Tina Cremer: "My #1 favorite is *Eriogonum crocatum*, Saffron or Conejo Buckwheat. It grows in a small perfect silvery-white mound until a cat sleeps in it. Its flowers are a dull yellow and turn buckwheat rust color after the bloom. It will reseed if we have a wet winter-spring in fast draining soil. I also like *Festuca idahoensis* 'Siskiyou Blue' (because it doesn't turn into a brown puff like *Festuca ovina* often does in the summer), and *Epilobium* 'Catalina' which is tall, 3-4 feet, so it can be dormant in the back of the garden or behind a shorter plant and raise its beautiful orangey-red head in August or September."

Linda Southwell: "I love *Salvia leucophylla* 'Pt Sal'. It's hardy, low-growing, and has lovely flowers. For smaller areas, I like Saffron Buckwheat. It is also hardy and will take the blasting heat of summer. Light gray Dudleyas are wonderful tucked in below and around larger, dark green-leaved plants. And Desert Lavender—works well in narrow spaces, loves heat, welcomes pruning, and the small flowers have a delicate lavender smell."

John Gossett: "*Artemisia pycnocephala* 'David's Choice' is beautiful year-round, but when raindrops glitter in thousands on every arching spire it is breath-taking. When the sun sets behind it and lights up each drop it is unforgettable!"

Rama Nayer: "My favorite is the *Eriophyllum nevinii* (*Constancea nevinii*). I just love the shape of the leaf. I had one client who was a huge Star Trek fan. They told me the leaf shape of that plant resembled what is called a crystalline entity, which is some sort of Star Trek creature."

Brad Jenkins: "*Artemisia californica* 'Canyon Gray': During a wet winter the stems are full of soft, fine textured, light green foliage. For much of the rest of the year the foliage on this groundcover is gray-green providing a beautiful setting underneath higher shrubs having darker leaves. 'Canyon Gray' is a useful tool for landscapers with a fragrant relaxing CA sagebrush aroma for everyone. Bonus—easy to grow in a variety of situations." (continued on Page 2)

B.E.I.G.!

The **Buckwheat in Every Garden** giveaway continues through May 2020. Join us as we give away another 1,000 California 'Dana Point' buckwheat plants to Orange County homeowners.

March 12: **Arbor Day Celebration, Laguna Beach Beautification Committee**, 3 - 5 p.m., at Lang Park, Laguna Beach, 32 plants will be available.

April 4-5, 2020 **Fullerton Arboretum Green Scene**, Fullerton, from 9 to 4 each day.

April 11, 2020: **Irvine Ranch Conservancy Wildflower Showcase**, Irvine Ranch Conservancy, Irvine, from 9 a.m. to noon.

April 25, 2020: **Dana Point Headlands Earth Day Celebration** from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Dana Point, California.

Go to www.BuckwheatBringsButterflies.com

California In My Garden 2020

Saturday, April 18, 10 AM to 4 PM

Ten gardens featuring California native plants, from Costa Mesa to Seal Beach.

Three ways to go:

- **Tour guides will be available at the March 19 chapter meeting.**
- **Register online at occnps.org/gardentour to receive PDF directions to the gardens. Guides will be available at each garden.**
- **Pick up a tour guide at the Golden West College Native Garden, 15744 Goldenwest St., H.B. Park in the Gothard Street lot; walk across campus to the garden.**

WAIT, WHAT, WHERE DID *Dichelostemma* GO?

Dichelostemma capitatum, is a name applied to one of Orange County's most widely recognized geophytes, blue dicks or school bells. If you have seen the newest update to the Jepson e-flora (<https://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/eflora/>) or ventured to use the Jepson Interchange (<https://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/interchange>), you will see that *Dichelostemma capitatum* is no longer listed by these



sources as the correct name for this plant. Its official, the name is now *Dipterostemon capitatus*.

While the new name will take some getting used to—it does not roll off the tongue like *Dichelostemma* did—be assured there appears good reasons to adopt the new name. If you want to read the full story, you can find it in Robert Preston's paper, New

Nomenclatural Combinations for Blue Dicks (*Dipterostemon capitatus*; Asparagaceae: Brodiaeoideae), Phytoneuron 2017-15: 1-11. It gets a little crazy with the nomenclatural history of the plant. The paper leaves a reader with a good feeling for just how confused the application of various names for this plant have been. Probably only the craziest botany geeks who eat up nomenclatural drama will truly appreciate it.

Without getting into real detail, as most of you probably live confused enough lives trying just to keep the kid and pet names straight, I won't repeat that history here. Suffice it to say, a LOT of names have been applied to this plant since it was first given a name in 1808 (*Hookeria pulchellum*, if you must know). It is a messy history. It wasn't always clear how many species were involved (apparently for the longest time, authors recognized two species where there was only one; splitters, you know how they are). And finally, the botanist who got most of the details right when he published the name *Dipterostemon capitatus* in 1912, had his concept largely forgotten. At least until Preston resurrected it bringing it to the attention of the California botanical community.

Fred Roberts, Plant Science Committee

Other Spring Native Plant Garden Tours In Southern California:

March 28 - 29: **Theodore Payne Garden Tour** with 42 landscapes from South Bay up through Los Angeles. nativeplantgardentour.org

April 4: **CNPS San Diego Chapter** tour of east San Diego county gardens. cnpssd.org/events/gardentour2020

April 25: **CNPS South Coast Chapter** garden tour

2020 Charlie O'Neill Grant Awarded

This grant was established to honor Charlie O'Neill, chapter president from 1990 to 1992. It is offered to graduate students and upper level undergraduates conducting field research related to southern California native plants.

This year's winning project, entitled *In-vitro Cultivation: Fighting Poaching and Extinction of Vulnerable Dudleya Taxa*, seeks to provide an added tool for conservation by developing a method of producing select *Dudleya* species in large enough quantities to deflate the price and discourage poaching.

The Grants Review Committee and Board of Directors of OC-CNPS congratulate **Kevin Alison**, a Masters of Conservation and Restoration Science (MCRS) candidate at U.C. Irvine and native plant production specialist (R&D) at Tree of Life Nursery.

Tips and Tricks—continued

Orchid Black: "Conejo buckwheat, *Eriogonum crocatum*, is my favorite of the grey-leaved plants, because of the contrast between the leaves and the bright yellow flowers. A second favorite is *Artemisia ludoviciana*, because of the fragrance."

Jennifer Beatty: "I enjoy the pink-red flowers of red-flowered buckwheat (*Eriogonum grande* var. *rubescens*). It has a pale or silvery underside to its leaves. It does well and has spread in the clay soil of my habitat garden."

Leon Baginski: "White sage for sure."

Dan Songster: "Three of my favorites: *Artemisia tridentata* (Great Basin Sage) seems to glow at dusk, *Corethrogyne filaginifolia* 'Silver Carpet' is nice and low and blooms in the summer, and *Salvia apiana* (White Sage) with its fragrant leavest and all flower spikes for the bees."

Our Question for the Next Newsletter: **"How specifically, have you made your yard more butterfly friendly?"** Email your responses to Dan Songster at songster@cox.net. Please remember to keep replies brief so we can include most of the responses!



What's going on here?? To find out, visit occnps.org/PDF/FieldTrips/theedisonplateau.pdf

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Thursday, March 19: Western Monarchs—Creating Habitat with Native Plants

Speaker: Lili Singer



We all want to do our part to help the monarch butterfly populations rebound, but what is the best way to go about it in our home gardens? Renowned plantswoman Lili Singer will help us discover the unique connection between the western population of

monarchs and California native plants, and how to attract and nurture these iconic butterflies. Which native milkweeds are best for the caterpillars? Which flowering plants provide nectar for adults? Learn these and other tips for supporting monarchs in your garden.

Lili Singer wears many garden hats, including horticultural consultant, educator, editor, and garden writer (including many years for *The Los Angeles Times*). She is Director of Special Projects at the Theodore Payne Foundation in Sun Valley. In past lives, Lili worked in retail nurseries, published and edited two award-winning periodicals, *The Southern California Gardener* and *The Gardener's Companion*; and for more than a decade, hosted "The Garden Show," a live call-in radio program on KCRW-FM. Well-respected for her encyclopedic knowledge of plants, Lili is a longtime champion of "smart" gardening practices and appropriate plants for

Chapter meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month **except in July and August**. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are at the Duck Club in Irvine. Doors open at 6:45 pm; program begins at 7:30.

Directions: The Duck Club is next to the IRWD water treatment facility.

From the Jamboree exit of the 405: Heading west, turn south (left) on Michelson. Turn right on Harvard. At University Drive, turn right and stay in the far right lane. At Campus, turn right and stay to the right. Take the next right into the wildlife sanctuary. At closed gates, turn left into the parking lot. The Duck Club in center, restrooms on left, Audubon House on the right.

From the Culver exit: Heading toward UCI, right onto Michelson, left onto Harvard. Turn right on University. Turn right onto Campus and turn right into the wildlife sanctuary.

our Mediterranean climate. In 1994, Lili received the Mildred E. Mathias Life Achievement Award from the Friends of the Virginia Robinson Gardens in Beverly Hills. In 1996, the Southern California Horticultural Society named her Horticulturist of the Year. Though California native plants are a special interest, Lili loves all kinds of flora, as well as birds, insects, and other fauna. A Los Angeles native, she lives and gardens in Tujunga.

Various native milkweeds will be available for purchase.

Calflora's Executive Director, Cynthia Powell, is joining us from 7:00 to 7:30 at a special interest table. She will answer your questions about **Calflora.org** and show some of the new functions in this highly useful website.

Thursday, April 16: Untold Stories and Unseen Images of Some Long-gone Plant Collectors of Southern California

Speaker: Dr. Gary D. Wallace

Individuals as diverse as the plants species they studied have had an impact on our knowledge and appreciation of the flora of Southern California. The activities, experiences, training, (and original occupations of some) were often quite different from our perception of them as solely plant collectors and explorers. Along with images found in a "lost" personal archive, Dr. Gary Wallace will fill in the back-stories of some of the better-known plant collectors and their works. In addition, he will introduce us to the lives and works of some of the lesser known—why they collected plants, what they collected, what happened to their collections, and in some cases the impact of those

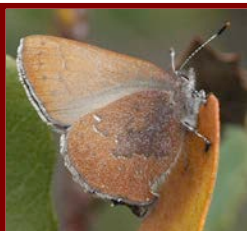
collections. Join us for a fascinating and informative evening.



Dr. Gary D. Wallace, a botanist with nearly five decades of experience, currently serves as a Research Associate with Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. He retired five years ago after 18

years at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where he worked on federal listings of plants and taxonomic issues for plants and animals. He contributed to both editions of the Jepson Manual and the Flora of North America project. Currently he is a regional reviewer for the F. of N. A.

Twice a president of the Southern California Botanists, he recently completed an article on the history of the group, and has an article on the Irish botanist Thomas Coulter (of Coulter pine fame) in press with *Aliso*, the journal of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. He has a special interest in the ERICACEAE especially the mycoparasitic Monotropoideae (Snow plant relatives).



2020 feb 23

It's mid-winter january & a butterfly count citizen science confesses that zero is a number but no wait

that was a brown leaf landing on a scrub oak perfectly camouflaged brown leaf like brown elfin makes a butterfly count of ONE mid-winter early flyer the one and only butterfly counted counted

Laguna Coast Wilderness Park
James Dilley Preserve
Mariposa Trail
California Scrub Oak
Quercus berberidifolia
Brown Elfin
Callophrys augustinus
chuck wright

P.O. Box 54891
Irvine CA 92619-4891

March/April 2020

FIRST CLASS MAIL

CNPS Membership Application

New member Renewal

- Student/Fixed Income \$25
- Individual \$50
- Plant Lover \$120
- Supporter \$500
- Patron \$1000
- Benefactor \$2500

Go Perennial! Become a monthly sustaining member for as little as \$5 per month!

Organizations, please go to **cnps.org**

Affiliate with the **Orange County Chapter**.

The chapter newsletter, **Flora**, and the journal *Fremontia* are included. Membership is tax deductible, minus \$12 for the journal. Make check payable to CNPS and send to **CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816** or go to **www.cnps.org** to join or renew online.

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- Ron Vanderhoff** ronv@rogersgardens.com
- Sarah Jayne** sbjayne@cox.net
- Laura Camp** laura@treeoflifenuresery.com
- David Pryor** davidpryor@gmail.com

- Rebecca Crowe** rcrowe@uci.edu
- Kris Ethington** kris@garden4nature.com
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- Dan Songster** songster@cox.net
- Elizabeth Wallace** eltwallace@gmail.com

Membership Team

- Team Leader:* Laura Camp (interim)
- Outreach Coordinator:* Jennifer Mabley
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- Greeters:* Dori Ito, Jennifer Beatty
- Volunteer Recognition:* Dan Songster
- Volunteer Activities:* Elizabeth Wallace
- Programs:* Dan Songster
- Audio-Visual:* Bob Allen

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- Team Lead:* open
- Members:* open

Horticulture Team (Grow Native OC)

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