

Channel Islands Chapter of the California Native Plant Society,
serving Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties

Matilija Copy

Volume 16, Issue 2

Editor: David L. Magney

June-August 2003



President's Message

What a wonderful spring showcase this year has been for our native plants! Hope all of you were able to get out and see them.

Two people responded to our last call by volunteering to help with needed projects. Rita DePuydt has offered to be our Chapter membership chair, since Brett McDougal can no longer continue handling membership duties from Ohio. Also please welcome Chris Bysshe, who will be filling our vacant Member-at-Large position and monitoring projects that could impact coastal habitats and species, and continuing with our creek habitat restoration project [Reinke Castor Bean Project] in Thousand Oaks. Our thanks to Rita & Chris.

We will participate in the Santa Barbara Home and Garden Show on 16-17 August, but we need you to help represent the Chapter, answer questions, talk about native plants, etc., for a couple hours each day. Please let any of your Chapter Officers know if you would like to represent us at this event. Later this fall we will be participating, as an environmentally friendly group, in the Patagonia Salmon Run, which will provide another opportunity for members to be involved in outreach to the community. Again, let any of us know if you would like to participate and represent our efforts to inform others about CNPS.

Planning for our Annual Meeting is underway, to be held in October. Look for further announcements regarding this event, which will be another catered dinner event.

As mentioned in before, our Chapter and Statewide focus includes presentations, rare plant conservation, ecological restoration, gardening with natives, outreach, in-school activities, plant hikes, outings, and forays. We have a great record of outreach, teamwork, and camaraderie; something we can all be proud of. SO – just as CNPS has something for everyone, it is also true that everyone, every member, has something for CNPS, and our Chapter success depends on our members! Your Chapter Officers therefore continue to invite all of you, ... every member, to actively participate in Chapter events, plant science, conservation, horticulture, education, and outreach activities.

This newsletter carries information about many opportunities for volunteering in many different ways.

Be sure to check out both the Channel Islands [cnpsci.org] and State CNPS [cnps.org] websites for information about local and Statewide events, as well as all the links from these sites. Hope to see you at our upcoming events. - Lynne Kada

UPCOMING CHAPTER PROGRAMS

“We Took Out the Lawn & You Can Too!”

**Gabi and Cliff McLean, Authors/Business
Administrator/Naturalist/Physicist/Gardeners**

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 18, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Presentation by Gabi and Cliff McLean on their suburban re-landscaping project. They will tell you how they did it, how much work it took, what has been the result, how the neighbors have taken to it, and what it takes to maintain it. We can all benefit from the McLean's experience of planning, preparing, installing, and maintaining their California native garden. Reports are that this is a well-liked program, so you will not want to miss it.

** Dinner at local restaurant before each meeting. Call local facilitator for time and place. **

“Channel Islands - National Park Recovery/Restoration Efforts – Status of program to date”

Dirk Rodriguez, National Park Service

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 16, E.P. Foster Library, Ventura

Join Dirk and fellow members to learn about how the National Park Service is restoring natural habitats on the California Channel Islands, which includes Santa Barbara Island, Anacapa Islands, a portion of Santa Cruz Island, and Santa Rosa and San Miguel Islands. These islands are home to numerous endemic and rare plant species, many of which are/have been threatened by invasive exotic plants and animals, and past human activities. The NPS and a number of volunteers have been working hard to restore the islands to their pre-European condition.

“CNPS State Conservation Program”

Dr. David Chipping, CNPS Conservation Program Chairman

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 17, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Come hear Dr. Chipping talk about all the things CNPS is doing at the state level to conserve the California flora. David is an exciting and interesting speaker, with a great English accent. He is a professor of Geology at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and has been in charge of the CNPS State Conservation Program for several years.

Directions to the E.P. Foster Library: from the North on US101 take Ventura Ave exit, go straight 2 blocks and turn Right onto Main St.; go 6 blocks East and turn Left onto Chestnut St. From South on US101 take the California St. exit; go 2 blocks and turn Right onto Main St. and turn Left onto Chestnut. Parking is located behind the library, and there is a rear entrance to the **Topping Room**, on the West side of the library.

The **Santa Barbara Botanic Garden** is located at 1212 Mission Canyon Dr. (many routes lead through Santa Barbara to Foothill Road/SR192). Mission Canyon Dr. is North of SR192.

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Conservation Front – David Magney

CNPS et al. vs. Coastal Commission

Ventura County Superior Court Judge Kent M. Kellegrew made his decision on our complaint regarding the Coastal Commission's decision to ignore Coastal Act policies regarding prohibition of permanent onsite destruction of Environmentally Sensitive Habitats (ESHAs), such as wetlands, at the North Shore development site in Oxnard. The judge decided in favor of the Coastal Commission, explaining that conflicting California laws allowed the Commission to "balance" competing/conflicting policies. While we agree that under certain circumstances balancing between conflicting policies is allowed, we disagree with how it was used in this case. One of the biggest problems with the judge's decision is that he bought hook and sinker the City of Oxnard's/North Shore's claim that Oxnard's drinking water supply was at risk of contamination from the oil wastes that had been dumped at the North Shore site. This is simply false! There is no risk to drinking water at all, period! Nothing has migrated offsite, and the top two groundwater aquifers are never used for domestic, or agricultural purposes anywhere near the site. CNPS is now considering appealing this bad judgment.

Ahmanson Ranch Development

CNPS and several other environmental organizations' lawsuit against the County of Ventura and Ahmanson Land Company/Washington Mutual Bank is in the record gathering stage, which will take months. No new actions or activities have occurred, but stay tuned. Be sure to visit the chapter website (www.cnpsci.org) for more information, and how you can help on this project. *Ken Niessen*

Newhall Ranch Development

As you likely read in the newspapers, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to approve Newhall Land & Farming Company's "Additional Analysis" (L.A. County Project Number 94-087) prepared by their consultants, Impact Sciences. CNPS reviewed the information and found it to be lacking/inadequate, although at least this time they owned up to actually having lost of San Fernando Valley Spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *fernandina*). The project will consist of over 21,000 dwelling units, commercial and business uses, and lots of infrastructure (roads, pipelines, bridges, etc.) at the southeast "corner" of I-5 and SR126 (W of Magic Mountain) on the eastern end of the Santa Susana Mountains and along the Santa Clara River. The Kern County courts will now review the new document and Supervisors' decision and determine if they are adequate, this because the "Additional Analysis" was required by the judge for a previous CEQA lawsuit. Visit the chapter website (www.cnpsci.org) "Issues" web page for the history and downloadable copies of CNPS comment letters of previous CEQA documents for this project.

Horticulture – Patt McDaniel

Gardening With Natives Articles. An excellent set of articles on landscaping with natives appeared in the Special Garden Issue: Going Native insert of the Los Angeles Times on 18 May 2003. Be sure to read *Going Native* and *The Quiet Californian* both by Susan Heeger.

Native Plant Seed Collecting. Come along for a series of native seed collection trips within the Ojai Meadows Preserve and Ojai Valley areas. We will collect seed from native herbs, shrubs, and trees from within the Preserve and other Ojai Valley locations. We will also be taking note of other plant population's local phenology for use in timing future seed collections. The seed lots you collect will be stored, propagated, and

planted for the upcoming Ojai Meadows Preserve Restoration Project, as well as on other *Ojai Valley Land Conservancy* restoration projects, and to help supply plants for the Channel Islands Chapter plant sales. Learn about plant phenology, as well as techniques in seed storage, pretreatment and propagation. Christopher Bysshe, a biologist for a local environmental company with a background in native plant revegetation will lead these trips. Bring water, snacks, a big wide hat, sunscreen, and thin light gloves. Seed collection bags will be provided. Call 805/646-8090 (ask for Chris) if you have any questions. You may email questions to cbysshe@yahoo.com. Dates set aside for seed collecting are:

22 June, 10am to 2pm	29 June, 10am to 2pm
26 July, 10am to 2pm	17 August, 10am to 2pm
7 September, 10am to 2pm	21 September, 10am to 2pm

Plant Propagation: Please contact Patt McDaniel or Chris Bysshe if you wish to become involved with Chapter's efforts to propagate locally native plant species. Thanks to Chris Bysshe and Scott Brown for seeds they have collected already.

Education – Sue Mills

School Gardens: Contact Sue Mills for more information on this Chapter's education outreach program. Also, visit the CNPS website (www.cnps.org) to see what is available from the state CNPS regarding education. There is a lot of great stuff. - *Sue Mills, Education*

Vegetation – Ken Niessen

Successful French Broom Bash – 4 May 2003

Ken Niessen and his family, and Kate Symonds and Forest Service biologist Terrie Austin spent the morning bashing, cutting, and pulling a small colony of French Broom (*Genista monspeleana*) from along Upper North Fork Matilija Creek in the Matilija Wilderness. French Broom is a shrub in the pea family from western Europe that can spread and out-complete many native plants. They also pulled a few Spanish Broom plants as well, another aggressive weedy shrub. It looked like they got them all, the French Broom plants that is, as David Magney couldn't find any living when he hiked through later on May 18th.

Invasives: The Chapter is still looking for one or more volunteers interested in representing CNPS in both Santa Barbara [S.B. County Weed Management Area (WMA) program] and Ventura [Arundo Task Force as well as efforts to form a State-recognized WMA in Ventura County. Ventura County is one of only 4 counties statewide without a WMA. Please check with either Ken Niessen or Kirk Waln for more information. *Kirk Waln – Invasive Exotics Committee Chairman*

GOOD BOTANIZING PLACES

As the seasons progress and get warmer and dryer, the best wildflower and botanizing places will be found at higher, cooler localities. The lowland areas have started to brown, while areas above 2,000 feet are in full bloom. June will find the mid-elevation areas to have lots in bloom, such as along the Sespe Creek, Matilija Canyon (especially upper portions), Figueroa Mountain, Santa Monica Mountains, and the upper Santa Ynez River valley. Get out and see this year's bloom, it is one of the best in decades. *David Magney*

FIELD TRIPS, HIKES, FORAYS, AND OTHER EVENTS

This will be a GREAT year for wildflowers with all the rain we have already received this winter and forecasted for this spring. Please join us on one or more of our events. You will enjoy yourself for sure!

18 June 2003, Wednesday, 7:30 pm, Channel Island Chapter Program “We Took Out the Lawn & You Can Too!” by Gabi and Cliff McLean. Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, 1212 Mission Canyon Drive, Santa Barbara. See Page 1 for details or call Barbara Farnsworth at 805/684-1516 for more information.

22 June 2003, Sunday, 10 am – 2 pm, Native Seed Collecting. Join Chris Byssche on a seed-collecting foray to gather seeds of native plants indigenous to the Ojai Valley. The seeds will be used to help restore native plant communities in the Ojai Valley on Ojai Valley Land Conservancy properties such as the Ojai Meadows Preserve. Call at 805/646-8090 or email Chris (cbysshe@yahoo.com) for meeting location and for more information. See article on this on page 2.

29 June 2003, Sunday, 10 am – 2 pm, Native Seed Collecting. Join Chris Byssche on a seed-collecting foray to gather seeds of native plants indigenous to the Ojai Valley. See write-up for 22 June event above.

5 July 2003, Saturday, 9 am, Escalante River and Natural Bridge, Escalante-Grand Staircase National Monument, Utah. Join botanist David Magney on a hike up the Escalante River in southern Utah (between Boulder and Escalante, Utah) to the Escalante Natural Bridge. This is an easy hike along the canyon bottom. Tennis shoes are fine, and be prepared to get you feet wet, and the trail crosses the river (very shallow) several times. Bring plenty of water, sunscreen, and a hat. You won't want to miss seeing the sublime views of this area. The Town of Boulder will have its Second Annual Fourth of July Day Celebration (on the 4th), with lots of local talent and possibly fireworks (depending on environmental conditions). Contact David Magney at dmagney@aol.com for details, directions, or anything else.

12 July 2003, Saturday, 9 am – 1 pm, Castor Bean/Creek Restoration Work Party. Join Channel Islands Chapter members with keeping a small creek in Thousand Oaks free of invasive exotics such as Castor Bean and Summer Mustard. See write-up on this project on page 2. Tools, snacks, sandwiches, drinks, and gloves will be provided. Your help is vital to the Channel Islands Chapter, and the work is rewarding. Call Chris Byssche at 805/646-8090 or email him at cbysshe@yahoo.com for more information. Directions: US101 South or North, take Rancho Road exit, turn South at bottom of exit (towards the Santa Monica Mountains), Right on Rolling Oaks Drive (top of hill), and go to the bottom of the hill to the wide space along the road and creek.

16 July, Wednesday, 7:30 pm, Channel Islands Chapter Program “Channel Islands - National Park Recovery/Restoration Efforts – Status of program to date” by Dirk Rodriguez, National Park Service, E.P. Foster Library, Ventura. See Page 1 for details. Contact Richard Bradley at 805/646-6633 for more information.

26 July 2003, Saturday, 8 am – 5 pm, Botany Hike on Mount Piños. Join botanist Ken Niessen on a botany hike on the top of Mount Pinos and the northernmost edge of Ventura County. Meet at the Wheeler Gorge Visitor's Center at 8am for carpooling, or at the Chula Vista Parking Area near the top of the mountain at 9:30am. The vistas and wildflowers of this subalpine area that the U.S. Forest Service has designated the summit as a Botanical Area. Bring water, lunch, a hat, sunscreen, and a light parka. Call or email Ken for more information at 805/646-8650 or kgniessen@ojai.net.

26 July 2003, Saturday, 10 am – 2 pm, Native Seed Collecting. Join Chris Byssche on a seed-collecting foray to gather seeds of native plants indigenous to the Ojai Valley. See write-up for 22 June event above.

10 August 2003, Saturday, 9 am – 1 pm, Castor Bean/Creek Restoration Work Party. Join Channel Islands Chapter members with keeping a small creek in Thousand Oaks free of invasive exotics such as Castor Bean and Summer Mustard. See description and directions in listing for 12 July event. Call Chris Byssche at 805/646-8090 or email him at cbysshe@yahoo.com for more information.

15-17 August 2003, Santa Barbara Island Camping Trip. Join Ken Niessen for some botanizing and diving. You will need to make reservations with Island Packers. Contact Ken at 805/646-8650 or kgniessen@ojai.net soon to reserve your space for this fun trip. You can go for all three days or just for one day. The boat trip costs about \$90/person.

16-17 August 2003, 10 am – 5 pm, 14th Annual Santa Barbara Home and Garden Show. CNPS will have a booth at this popular show at the Earl Warren Showgrounds in Santa Barbara at US101 and Las Positas Road. Admission is \$5/person for adults, children & parking free.

17 August 2003, Sunday, 10 am – 2 pm, Native Seed Collecting. Join Chris Byssche on a seed-collecting foray to gather seeds of native plants indigenous to the Ojai Valley. See write-up for 22 June event above.

7 September 2003, Sunday, 10 am – 2 pm, Native Seed Collecting. Join Chris Byssche on a seed-collecting foray to gather seeds of native plants indigenous to the Ojai Valley. See write-up for 22 June event above.

18 June 2003, Wednesday, 7:30 pm, Channel Island Chapter Program “CNPS State Conservation Program!” by Dr. David Chipping, CNPS Conservation Director. Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, 1212 Mission Canyon Drive, Santa Barbara. See Page 1 for details or call Barbara Farnsworth at 805/684-1516 for more information.

21 September 2003, Sunday, 10 am – 2 pm, Native Seed Collecting. Join Chris Byssche on a seed-collecting foray to gather seeds of native plants indigenous to the Ojai Valley. See write-up for 22 June event above.

12 October 2003, Sunday, 9 am – 1 pm, Castor Bean/Creek Restoration Work Party. Join Channel Islands Chapter members with keeping a small creek in Thousand Oaks free of invasive exotics such as Castor Bean and Summer Mustard. See description and directions in listing for 12 July event.

¿Obscure Botany Trivia Question?

Summer 2003 Botanical Trivia Question

During the Pleistocene, how far south along the California coast did the Coast Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) reach? (Hint: it was somewhere in the area covered by the Channel Islands Chapter.)

Send your answers to David Magney via email or to PO Box 1346, Ojai, CA 93024-1346. Winners and answers will be announced in the next issue of *Matilija Copy*.

For the last Botany Trivia Question we had one question: What family has *Mimulus* recently been assigned to rather than the Crowfoot (Scrophulariaceae) family? Cher Batchelor of Ventura answered with the correct answer – **Phrymaceae**.

Congratulations Cher!

www.cnpsci.org

Don't forget to visit the Channel Islands Chapter website regularly (at least bi-weekly). We try to update it regularly, so keep checking it. The website includes chapter contacts, membership information, and various articles on: conservation, horticulture, and education issues. It has a page dedicated to rare plants, including definitions, lists of rare plants from Ventura County, Santa Barbara County, and the Liebre Mountains (northwestern Los Angeles County). There is a page on horticulture, and soon a page on invasive exotics. The website also includes a current listing of programs (both CNPS and by related organizations), hikes, botany forays, workshops, symposia, conferences, and CNPS meetings.

Photographs and drawings of locally native plants are spread throughout the website. The site also includes many excellent links to other interesting and informative websites. Be sure to visit it at least once a month at a minimum. Note: the "last updated" date on the various web pages does not necessarily reflect recent updates.

Herbology – David Magney

This column will appear periodically, and focus on the medial aspect of native plants. Dermatitis caused by *Phacelia* is the focus of this issue. Some people like me are susceptible to dermatitis from the oils present in the hairs of some species of *Phacelia*. The oil (geranyhydroquinone) stains the skin brown and causes welts to develop that itch and burn. A yellowish fluid will ooze from the scratched blisters. Scratching will relieve the itch temporarily but result in spreading and scabs. Not a please situation. The rash will last for weeks, longer than that produced by Poison Oak. Don't take a hot shower or bath when infected, it will spread and get worse. Not all species of *Phacelia* produces dermatitis; those eliciting dermatitis belonged to three different sections of the genus, their most obvious common feature being their viscid glandular hairs (Munz 1932). *Phacelia* species known to cause dermatitis include: ***brachyloba***, ***campanularia***, ***crenulata***, ***grandiflora***, ***infundibuliformia***, ***minor***, ***parryi***, ***pedicellata***, and ***viscida*** (those in **bold** occur in Ventura County). I also believe that *P. cicutaria* should be added to this list as I have had significant contact with it, and have handled very few *P. brachyloba*, both of which are abundant in the burn area along Sespe Creek. References: Munz, P.A. 1965. Dermatitis Produced by *Phacelia* (Hydrophyllaceae). *Science* (Wash. DC), 76:194; Mitchell, J.C., & Rook, A. 1979. *Botanical Dermatology*. Greenglass Ltd, Vancouver, B.C., Canada; Reynolds et al. 1980. A potent contact allergen of *Phacelia* (Hydrophyllaceae) (last reference found in PubMed provided by Dr. Bruce Howard and Dr. Charlie Blaire). Thanks Bruce and Charlie.

Past Trips Review

Piedra Blanca Trail – 29 March 2003

Botanist David Magney led a what turned out to be a long hike (11 miles) up Piedra Blanca Trail from Lions Camp north of the Sespe Creek to Twin Forks Camp. Almost the entire area had been burned in the Wolf Fire of late spring 2002. As promised, the fire-following wildflowers were spectacular! Chia, Bigelow Coreopsis, phacelias, forget-me-nots, lupines, clovers, larkspurs, monkeyflowers, poppies, Blue Dicks, sages, sun-cups/evening primroses, and many more almost completely covered all the areas burned in the fire. About 30 people started out on the botany foray, and at sunset, 15 were still out botanizing the area.

Derrydale Creek – 26 April 2003

About 20 people joined David Magney on a botany foray into another part of the Wolf Fire burn area; however, there is no trail in Derrydale. But with all the chaparral burned off, we were free to wander about the landscape easily, and we hiked for a total of only 3 miles. Like Piedra Blanca, the fire-followers were out in force, this time with lots of phacelias dominating, and California Wild Cucumber (the test plot markers we saw are for a Forest Service study on the growth and spread of the wild cucumber). We took our time looking at all the glorious plants, and wandered up the East Fork of Derrydale Creek. Hispid Caterpillar Phacelia was probably the most common wildflower. If you missed our forays, hike in yourself; the hiking is easy and the flowers are great eye candy. Maybe you will also see a Southwestern Pond Turtle in the creek.



Caterpillar Phacelia (*Phacelia cicutaria*) and Mariposa Lily (*Calochortus venustus*)

Munson Canyon – 31 May 2003

Botanist David Magney was joined by a few members on a foray up trailless Munson Canyon into an unexplored part of the Wolf Fire burn area, and little seen (by botanists at least) part of the Upper Sespe Creek watershed. Like the other forays, the fire-following wildflowers were thick and provided a rainbow of colors. *Phacelia brachyloba* (with pink flowers) covered the slopes. Two species of Mariposa Lily (*Calochortus venustus* and *C. palmeri* [a rare species]) were thicker than ever seen, at least by David Magney. The colors of the Mariposa Lilies varied considerably, some appearing in "negative". Arroyo Toads (a federally listed animal) were seen swimming and basking in the sun along the creek.



Huge resprouting California Flannel Bush (*Fremontodendron californicum*) (left), Munson Canyon, view North to Reyes Peak (right).

Santa Cruz Island Volunteer Restoration Trips

See last issue of Matilija Copy for more information. We can start recruiting from the trip! The sooner we can put together a trip roster, the sooner we can "confirm" the spots on the Park Service boat. It would be best to send in the roster to The Nature Conservancy/National Park Service several weeks (or a month) ahead of time. Please keep in mind, that the Park Service has been known to bump people at the last moment. They can end up telling us that they will be using a smaller boat, and that only 15 people can go. This happens on occasion, but getting them a roster with plenty of time to spare should help avoid this.

I will need the name, phone, email and emergency contact name and number for each participant. During "orange alerts" we have to provide them with additional information. Should that be necessary, I will contact the participants for that info. It should be a great trip, and we are looking forward to it. Ken Owen, islands@rain.org (805) 568-1507

Volunteer Requirements/Benefits: You must be in good physical condition and able to leave on a Friday and return on a Monday by boat from Ventura. Bunkhouse-style housing (or space for your own tent) is provided at the University of California Field Station in the Central Valley. Depending on availability, you may need to share a room. You need to supply your breakfasts and lunches for the duration of your visit, but three evening meals are provided for the total cost of \$15.00. Cooking facilities and limited refrigerator space is provided. You need to put in several hours of work a day, but time is set aside for some sightseeing and relaxation. Be prepared to work, learn new things, and have a great time!

Background Info on Organizers: Duke McPherson and Clark Cowen are respected arborists who have extensive experience with non-native plant eradication, particularly on Santa Cruz Island. Ken Owen works in the field of restoration ecology for the Santa Barbara Audubon Society and has a long-held passion for the Channel Islands. All three are committed to protecting and restoring habitat on Santa Cruz Island.

RARE PLANTS

Periodically we provide in this space detailed information about a rare plant that occurs within the Channel Islands Chapter region. This issue features a perennial shrub-like native closely related to Yucca. Rick Burgess provided this.

COMMON NAME: **Chaparral Nolina or Beargrass**

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Nolina cismontana* Dice

FAMILY: **Beargrass Family (Convallariaceae)**, formerly placed in the Lily Family (Liliaceae)

STATUS: **CNPS List 1B**

State: **None**

Federal: **Species of Concern**

RECOGNITION CHARACTERISTICS: Chaparral Nolina is a perennial member of the lily family that generally **forms rosettes of 30-90 grasslike leaves**. The leaves are **flexible** and may be **up to 4 feet long**, although, they are generally shorter. The plant usually **grows in colonies of 2 to 50 rosettes**. (A rosette is a radiating cluster of leaves generally at or near ground level.) The numerous flowers are borne on a **stalk, which is 6 to 9 feet tall**, and are followed by **papery seed capsules**. Flowers April - June.

SIMILAR PLANTS: In Ventura County, Chaparral Nolina is most likely to be confused with Our Lord's Candle [or Chaparral Yucca] (*Yucca whipplei*), which it superficially resembles when not in flower. When not in bloom, the best way of distinguishing between the two is that Our Lord's Candle has a rigid spine-tipped leaf, while Chaparral Nolina leaves are flexible. If in doubt, placing a finger on the end of a leaf and applying pressure will quickly clear up any confusion! When in flower, it is easy to distinguish between the two. The waxy flowers of Our Lord's Candle are less numerous and larger (1-1½" long) than those of Chaparral Nolina (less than 1/5" long). In addition, the seedpods of *Yucca* are tough capsules 1-1½" long, while those of *Nolina* are papery and less than ½" long.

HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION: The range of Chaparral Nolina extends from the eastern foothills of the Santa Ynez Mountains, the Simi Hills in Ventura County south to San Diego County and inland to the Santa Ana Mountains in Orange County. The range is highly disjunct with large distances between individual populations. In Ventura County, the species is restricted to an anomalous population in the vicinity of Lake Casitas (upper portion of Santa Ana Creek watershed) with a second and larger population in the Simi Hills where it is often associated with Braunton's Milkvetch. Within the City of Thousand Oaks, it has been found in sedimentary soils in the North Ranch Open Space, Lang Ranch Open Space, and Oakbrook Regional Park.

NOTES: This plant was formerly lumped with a more widespread desert species, Parry's Nolina (*Nolina parryi*) and it was not until 1988 that a graduate student at San Diego State University realized that the more coastal population represented a new species.

Chaparral Nolina is threatened due to its fragmented distribution and the fact that many populations, particularly further south, are located in areas slated for development. In addition, because of its similarity to the more common Our Lord's Candle, *Nolina* plants are sometimes inadvertently destroyed by trail construction. Aside from this impact, most of the populations in Thousand Oaks already exist in designated Open Space areas where the plants are protected.

Ventura County Rare Plants – David Magney

Remember that a checklist of vascular plants rare or uncommon in Ventura County has been developed, and revised regularly. Currently there are 1,274 plants listed as at least locally rare (10 or fewer populations in Ventura County). You can download the most recent version of the checklist from the chapter website at www.cnpsci.org/html/PlantInfo/RarePlants2.htm and click on the title of the checklist to get it. David Magney updates the checklist at least once a month. Review the list and see if you can find new populations, and maybe remove some of them from the list of locally rare. We suspect more populations of a number of these plants are out there, we just don't know where. Report any finds of the 1,274 taxa to David at dmagney@aol.com or by phone at 805/646-6045.

Channel Islands Chapter
P.O. Box 5628
Ventura, CA 93005



Non-Profit Organization
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- 14 June, 9 am, Pine Mountain/Chorro Grande Trail Hike
- 18 June, 7:30 pm, Wednesday, CNPSCI Program, Santa Barbara
- 22 June, Sunday, 10 am–2 pm, Native Seed Collecting
- 29 June, Sunday, 10 am–2 pm, Native Seed Collecting
- 5 July, 9 am, Escalante River and Natural Bridge, Escalante-Grand Staircase National Monument, Utah
- 12 July, Wednesday, 7:30 pm, CNPSCI Program, Ventura
- 26 July, Saturday, 9 am–1 pm, Castor Bean/Creek Restoration Work Party
- 10 August, Saturday, 9 am–1 pm, Castor Bean/Creek Restoration Work Party
- 17 August, Sunday, 10 am–2 pm, Native Seed Collecting
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- 21 September, Sunday, 10am–2pm, Native Seed Collecting
- 12 October, Sunday, 9 am–1 pm, Castor Bean/Creek Restoration Work Party

TIME VALUE MATERIAL

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Field Trips:	<i>Your Name Could Be Here</i>		
Plant Sales:	Jim Dale	565-3220	jimdale@west.net
Poster Sales:	Scott Brown	644-6637	sbrown5534@aol.com
No.SB Co.Subchapter Liason:	Charlie Blair	733-3189	blairce@sbceo.org
Member-At-Large*:	Kirk Waln	650-9845	kkwaln@earthlink.net
Member-At-Large*:	Chris Bysshe	646-8090	cbysshe@yahoo.co
Member-At-Large*:	Scott Brown	644-6637	SBrown5534@aol.com

(All telephone numbers are in Area Code 805)

* = officer (voting)

CNPS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Category	Annual Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Student/Retired/Limited Income	\$ 20
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual or Library	\$ 35
<input type="checkbox"/> Family or Group	\$ 45
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	\$ 75
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Lover	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$250
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$500

I wish to affiliate with the Channel Islands Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

Please do not share my address with any other organization

Send Membership application and check to:
 California Native Plant Society or CNPS
 1722 J Street, Suite 17
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Note: We send two free *Matilija Copy* issues to non-members who wish to become acquainted with CNPS. You may subscribe to *Matilija Copy* for one year with a \$5-donation to the chapter. Call Dirk Rodriguez, Treasurer, to subscribe. CNPS/Channel Islands Chapter members automatically receive this newsletter.