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



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Volume 21, Issue 1

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Aug Sept 2010

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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 Parking is located Chestnut. behind the library, and there is a rear entrance to the Topping Room, on the West side of the library. 651 E. Main St.

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.

UPCOMING CHAPTER PROGRAMS/WALKS

NATURE WALK AT CARPINTERIA SALT MARSH!

Andrea Adams-Morden, Docent Saturday 14 August 2010, 9:00 - 11:30 AM Carpinteria Salt Marsh, Carpinteria, California

Andrea Adams-Morden, Docent, will lead a tour of the upland and wetland plants of the nature park and Basin 1 of the salt marsh. Andrea has worked for many years at the Carpinteria Salt Marsh restoring the native salt marsh and adjacent coastal habitats. She will tell us about the work she has been doing, and the plans being developed and implemented to establish additional populations on native plants onsite. Contact Andrea at aadamsmorden@yahoo.com for more information.

Location: Meet at the entrance of the Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park at the corner of Sandyland and Ash Avenues in Carpinteria. Directions: From Santa Barbara, get off US101 at Linden Avenue proceeding toward the ocean, turning right on Sandyland. From Ventura get off US101 at Cassitas Pass Road. Go toward the ocean to the first signal and turn right on Carpinteria Avenue. Go to the next signal and turn left onto Linden Avenue then follow the Santa Barbara directions.

VENTURA MARSH MILKVETCH AND NORTH SHORE DEVELOPMENT: WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

Speaker: Mary Carroll, Botanist with ARCADIS Wednesday, August 18 2010, 7:00 – 9:00 PM Topping Room, E.P. Foster Library, Ventura, California

Mary Carroll, botanist with ARCADIS, is in charge of keeping the Ventura Marsh Milkvetch (Astragalus pycnostachyus var. lanosissimus) alive and well at the North Shore develop site in Oxnard, and establish an offsite population to satisfy project permit conditions. Mary has been monitoring the onsite population for last couple of years and working hard to protect this endangered species. She will tell us about the work she has been doing, and the plans being developed and implemented to establish additional populations offsite. Mary has been working closely with the Milkvetch Advisory Plan, which includes CNPS representatives, on methods to protect, and approaches to take to protect and expand the population of this plant. The North Shore development was the focus of a lawsuit that CNPS and Sierra Club filed jointly, as well as a suit filed by the Wetlands Action Network, which was settled back in 2001, but still with incomplete actions remaining. The Ventura Marsh Milkvetch was thought to be extinct until it was rediscovered in 1997 at the North Shore development site.

Location: E.P. Foster Library, Topping Room - 651 East Main Street, between Fir and Chestnut Streets, in Downtown Ventura. The Topping Room is located on the west side of the library, with a separate entrance from the main library.

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Conferences

2010 California Invasive Plant Council Symposium October 14-16 2010. Ventura, California

Information from Cal-IPC website:

(http://www.cal-ipc.org/symposia/index.php):

Registration information can be found at:

http://www.cal-ipc.org/symposia/register1.php

"Join us on the Central Coast for the 19th annual Cal-IPC Symposium at the Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach in Ventura, October 14-16, 2010! A pre-Symposium Field Course will be held October 13. This year's Symposium will feature several sessions examining the challenge of balancing invasive plant management with the needs of wildlife species, organized in conjunction with the Western Section of The Wildlife Society as a follow-up to our 2007 Invasive Plants and Wildlife meeting. The Symposium brings together more than 300 natural resource managers and researchers to discuss the latest developments in the field of wildland weed control and restoration. Start planning now to join us in Ventura!" We need volunteers! Contact Andrea Adams-Morden.

2011 Channel Islands CNPS Chapter Landscaping With Native Plants Workshop February 2011

Following the great success of our 2010 Landscaping With Native Plants Workshop we will be having a 2011 Workshop. Watch the Channel Islands Chapter Website and your mailbox for program and registration details coming later this year.

Native Plant Garden Tour

We are working on developing a native plant garden tour. You can help by nominating some yards you know about that are mostly landscaped with native plants. Contact Andrea Adams-Morden for more information, or to make a nomination.

805/684-8077 or aadamsmorden@yahoo.com

Education

CNPS Channel Islands Member Nancy Eldblom Has Published a Flora!

Nancy Eldblom is a current member of our Channel Islands CNPS chapter, but for many years lived and botanized in the upper part of the state of New York. Along with her coauthor Anne M. Johnson, Nancy has written the recently flora Plants of St. Lawrence County, NY: An Annotated Checklist of Vascular Flora, published by Bloated Toe Publishing of Peru, New York. This work is an important contribution to the understanding of the New York flora. As a Channel Islands chapter member, Nancy has lead several hikes this past spring along Shelf Road, on Nordhoff Ridge just north of Ojai. Watch the chapter calendar on the website for her next botany walk along Shelf Road, probably next spring.

Congratulations, Nancy, on your important contribution to the knowledge base of plant biogeography and floristics.

Welcome New Members

The Channel Islands Chapter is very happy to welcome several new members to our chapter of CNPS as of June.

Kammy Algiers **Lorraine Jones** Joseph Algiers, Jr. Carol Kurtz Angela Bunfiglio Allen Claire Lacour Chuck Andrews Michelle LaPierre K. Reka Badger Marcia Lindberg Diane Beeler Nancy Lindsay Merrill Berge Oscar Luna Jean Bergenstal Carolyn MacInnis

Michael Berry **Brad McAllester** Jacky Bolbat Betty Jo McDonald Beverly Brune Duke McPherson Lisa Burton Inga Miller Ruth Campbell Frances Monroe Kevin Cooper Barbara Morse Dakota Corey Gerry Olsen **Sunny Cross Bob Ornstein** Christina Danko Paula Osterbrink Charles Devlin Jimone Patterson Ceylina Duran Jaime Pierce Benjamin Dunlap Patrick Squires Barbara Evans Suzanne Squires Martha Fahnoe Christina Sulzman

Catherine Ferro Sue Tuttle

Laurel Ford Cedrick Villasenor Deborah Halfpenny DeAna Vitela-Hayashi Shirley Harmon Katherine Warner Julie Hess Corey Welles Valerie Winter Vicky Howard

WELCOME to you all!

www.cnpsci.org

Be sure to visit the CNPS Channel Islands Chapter website regularly. It contains lots of interesting items of interest to CNPS members in the Ventura and Santa Barbara County areas. Just type in www.cnpsci.org on your web browser to see what is going on locally between issues of the newsletter. A lot of stuff comes up quickly, and it may be too late to include in the next newsletter of the Matilija Copv.

Also be sure to check out the main CNPS website, www.cnps.org for lots of resources on native plants, landscaping, conservation, education, etc.

Suggestions and comments about the chapter website are welcome. Send them to webmaster@cnpsci.org.

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Why do those plant names keep changing? Make up your minds taxonomists! - By David Magney

Many of you may have noticed that some of the plants that you finally learned the botanical name for now have different names than the ones that you spent so much time memorizing. Why? Because taxonomists want to keep you guessing? No. It is all about understanding the relationships between species.

DNA research has been incredibly helpful to taxonomists in understanding the relatedness of one species to another, and how groups of species are related to other groups. The basic concept that one species must be derived (descended) from another is know as cladistics. Cladistics requires that there can be only one line of parenthood, or lineage, for each and every species; that you cannot have two species of the same genus that are not genetically related. The lineage (genealogy)/family tree must be simple, monophyletic (monophyly). Conversely, cladistics forbids paraphyletic groups. Since cladistics is now the model used to determine relationships between species, and higher levels of grouping (genus, family, order, etc.), lots of taxonomic reorganization has resulted as more and more DNA evidence is gathered and analyzed.

Sometimes, long-held beliefs about relatedness of one species to another is thrown out because the DNA of the two are shown to be very different, not as closely related as previously thought, and species 1 gets assigned to a different genus, or even a different family, than species 2. Sometimes, more recent names are thrown out and older name resurrected based on the newest evidence.

There are rules that govern how a species is named, and which name is considered **valid**, based on the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, which is changed and adopted periodically by the International Botanical Congress. The most recent code rules were adopted by the Sixteenth International Botanical Congress held in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1999. ALL the rules about naming plants are addressed in this Code. Like most regulations, they can be very complex and confusing, but the goal is to have a clear method of naming plants so that everyone knows which plant taxon is being discussed by two or more individual persons, like you and me. The first two sentences of the Codes' Preamble state this more clearly than I can:

"Botany requires a precise and simple system of nomenclature used by botanists in all countries, dealing on the one hand with the terms which denote the ranks of taxonomic groups or units, and on the other hand with the scientific names which are applied to the individual taxonomic groups of plants. The purpose of giving a name to a taxonomic group is not to indicate its characters or history, but to supply a means of referring to it and to indicate its taxonomic rank."

With that said, keeping track of a plant's name and understanding its relationship to other plants is challenging and can be fun, and frustrating at the same time. Below are two examples of name changes based on the Code and taxonomic research.

Isomeris arborea (Bladderpod) and Heteromeles arbutifolia (Toyon) are the two examples I wish to use for this illustration.

Isomeris arborea has a new name, Peritoma arborea. It has long been considered a member of the Brassicaceae (Mustard family); however, recent research has shown that Peritoma belongs in another family, Cleomaceae (Spiderflower family). The species in the Cleomaceae and Capparaceae have been shown to be different enough, and using cladistic models, evolved separately, from other species typically associated with the Brassicaceae.





Toyon has had a number of names too, but in this case research into the archives of botanical publication has discovered that Abrams correctly published the name *Heteromeles salicifolia* Abrams for what we have been calling *Heteromeles arbutifolia* (Lindley) Roemer for several decades now. The rules state that the first name published in a valid manner has precedent and is the name that should be recognized. Lindley published the name *Photinia arbutifolia* in 1820. Max Joseph Roemer published the name *Heteromeles arbutifolia* in 1847. Carl Presl validly published the name *Photinia salicifolia* for the same plant in 1851 (apparently actually in 1849, which Abrams reclassified to *Heteromeles* in 1910, and apparently, since Presl's name had precedent over Lindley's name for it, Abrams' name is the one we should all be using.

Figuring this out is a detective's job; all we need to do is "accept" the correct name. Then we have to still remember all the other names used for the same plant because all those floras we have in our library still have the old names. Whew!!!!

Meet a Local Rare Plant Celebrity

Fritillaria ojaiensis A. Davidson, Ojai Fritillary, is a bulbiferous perennial graminoid in the Liliaceae (Lily family). It has bulblet-bearing stems (1 stem/plant) 40 to 70 cm long, with solitary broadly ovate basal leaves (usually separate from flowering stems). The cauline leaves occur in 1 to 3 whorls of 3 to 5 linear to narrowly lanceolate leaves, becoming opposite to alternate near the inflorescence. The leaves are 4 to 13 cm long. The inflorescence consists of 3 to 20 (rarely that many) nodding, bowl-shaped, dull-greenish-yellow flowers that are spotted with dark purple. The tepals (petals & sepals look the same) are 1.5 to 3 cm across with each tepal widely lanceolate. The nectary is ½ the length of the perianth (tepals) and diamond- to ovate-shaped, and paler than the rest of the perianth part. The fruit capsule is winged, and greenish, so it can be



hard to spot when not in flower. *F. ojaiensis* blooms between (February) April and early May. We are starting a monitoring program for the Ojai Fritillary to make certain that the known populations of this plant are in good ecological health. We are also actively searching for undiscovered populations in order to get a comprehensive understanding of this plants range. If you are interested in joining our monitoring efforts for this and other rare plants in our area please contact Conservation Chair David Brown at conservation@cnpsci.org.

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Remembering

The CNPS Channel Islands Chapter has been very fortunate to have a deep pool of dedicated and talented members over the decades of its existence. We have recently lost some of our colleagues who have been active in helping CNPSCI meet its conservation and education missions. In this edition of the newsletter we remember Sue Mills and honor her contribution to CNPS Channel Islands Chapter. A new permanent feature of the CNPSCI website is a section (page) to honor and remember individuals that have helped build and sustain our group over the years. The link to this new web page can be found on the chapter's website at the URL: www.cnpsci.org/Membership/01Membership.htm. Four members are remembered below: Sue Mills, Jack Farrell, Bettine Wallin, and Walter Thomson.

Sue Mills (1939-2009)

Sue Mills was on the Channel Islands Chapter board of directors for many years, serving primarily as Education Committee Chair until 2003. Sue served on the chapter board from 1988, serving as Membership Chair (1988-1991), Secretary (1994-1995), Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Liaison (1995), Education Chair (1994-1995, 1999-2003), and on the Horticulture Committee in charge of school gardens (2003). She was very active in education, focusing on the use of native plants in the garden and the interactions between native plants and insects (another of her passions). She worked for the University of California Agriculture Extension, out of Ventura.

Jack Farrell (1934-2009)

Jack Farrell was a professor of botany at Ventura College from 1966 until after his retirement in 2008. Jack taught a number of CNPS members a love of native plants, including how they worked and how to determine their names. He was a great natural historian who loved teaching and the natural environment. Jack was born 16 February 1934 and died on 7 October 2009. Three of Professor Farrell's classes, Native Plants, Plant Biology, and Field Biology, provided students of the California flora a basis for which to understand and appreciate native plants. David Magney's Flora of Ventura County is dedicated to Jack Farrell. It was Jack also who told many students about the California Native Plant Society, many of which soon joined. The following paragraphs are based Jack's obituary as published in the Ventura County Star.

Jack Farrell, retired Ventura College biology professor, passed away peacefully in his home on Wednesday, Oct. 7, after a long battle with A.L.S. Jack was born in Monterey Park, California, to Lily Ann and Edwin Farrell. He had a large extended family that he loved dearly. Jack grew up enjoying the outdoors, riding his horse and exploring nature. He graduated with honors from Cal Poly Pomona, attended Claremont Graduate School and earned a masters degree in biology from Emporia State University while on a National Science Foundation Grant. Jack had two loves, teaching and surfing, and he excelled at both. He taught middle school and high school before coming to Ventura College in 1966. Jack pursued his passion for surfing for nearly fifty years and even carried photos of an undeveloped C Street (presumably in Oxnard, since there is no such street in Ventura where he lived) in his car.

Jack cherished the days he spent at Surfer's Point (at the mouth of the Ventura River). He would tell tales of surfing with dolphins and feeling whales brush by his dangling legs. One morning after losing track of time while surfing, he arrived at his biology lecture in his wet suit, but this endeared to him to his students. Though Jack had been retired for years, he still received letters and phone calls from former students thanking him for the way he could make difficult concepts come to life through his stories about the natural world. He had a talent for nurturing students, and many of them went on to careers in science, ecology, education and medicine. In the last five years his failing health caused Jack to give up both surfing and teaching. In August, as the new semester was starting, he said it was teaching that he missed most of all.

Jack leaves his wife, Terry, and four children: Curt Farrell, Mike Farrell, Colleen Farrell, and Sean Farrell. He also leaves five grandchildren and one great grandson, and many, many students. This student is striving to extend his legacy of teaching about the environment through these pages on the Ventura County flora, and future hardcopy publication of the Flora of Ventura County, California, so that all who are interested may learn to love and appreciate the native plants of Ventura County.

Bettine Wallin (1936-2010)

Bettine and her husband, Lawrence, were strong supporters of CNPS and the Channel Islands Chapter, and generously gave financial assistance through donations, auctions, and a Charitable Gift Annuity. Her garden in Toro Canyon (Santa Barbara County) is full of native plants. Bettine believed strongly in having a well-rounded education, and supported conservation, horticulture, and environmental education, as well as music (instrumental and voice) and dance (she was an avid contra dancers and served on the board of the Santa Barbara Country Dance Society for many years). She was a Docent at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden for 25 years, specializing in education of children. Bettine was born in Peking, China, to American missionaries sent there to teach children English. Bettine's full obituary can be seen at the following website (http://www.wallinstudios.com/bettine2010c.html).

Walter Thomson (1908-2010)

Walter was a Montecito resident and Life Member of Channel Islands Chapter for many years (for life). He passed away this past winter (February 1st), leaving an endowment to CNPS in his memory, to be used for promoting conservation of native plants. Walter as the founder of the Rancho Felicia horse breeding program in Santa Ynez, and worked to conserve the natural environment, which included the placement of a conservation easement on his ranch.

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California Native Plant Society, Channel Islands Chapter Ballot for Board of Directors

Elections for 2010-2011 for all voting members of the Board of Directors. Each member in good standing of the Channel Islands Chapter may cast one vote for each position. Your vote counts, and really is important to those running for office. Note: there are three (3) member-at-large positions, two of which have no nominees.

Position	Candidate/Nominee	Yes	No		
President	David Magney				
Vice President	Lynne Kada				
Treasurer	Stuart Bloom				
Secretary	Cher Batchelor				
Conservation Committee Chair	David Brown				
Legislation Committee Chair	VACANT				
Education Committee Chair	Andrea Adams-Morden				
Horticulture Committee Chair	Patt McDaniel				
Plant Sciences Committee Chair	David Magney				
Member-at-Large	Maryanne deGoede				
Member-at-Large	David Torfeh				
Member-at-Large	VACANT				
I hereby declare that I am a member od standing (initial).	er of the Channel Islands Chapte	er of the Ca	alifornia l	Native Pla	nt Society i
il ballot to: Secretary, California Nati	ve Plant Society, Channel Islan	ds Chapter	, P.O. Bo	ox 6, Ojai,	CA 93024.
ank you from the current board of dire	ectors.				

President's Message

It has been way too long since our last full newsletter, but maybe now with member David M. Brown stepping up to the editor's desk, we will be able to issue it again on a regular basis.

Plenty has been happening statewide and chapter-wide. Last February we held our first native plant landscaping symposium, and it was a great success. Most of the new members were a direct result of that workshop. Patt McDaniel, Horticulture Committee Chair (for many years now) coordinated the symposium, with lots of great help from too many people to list here, and it was attended by over 200 native plant gardening enthusiasts. If fact, it was so well received, we will do it again next February, so keep an eye out for the registration announcement. Same price, new set of great speakers. The 2nd symposium will focus more on care and maintenance, and I will specifically talk about your choices of native trees that can be grown in your yard.

The Ventura County Planning Division is trying to update their internal guidelines for implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), but the Board of Supervisors got bogged down on the biological resources section due to load complaints from property rights advocates and farmers (mostly ranchers owning lots of land). The vote on it was postponed for 6 months. The unfortunate thing about this is that it was sad to how poorly informed the opponents where about just what the CEQA Initial Study Guidelines does/would do.

This means that the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, in particular Kathy Long, John Zaragosa, and Peter Foy, need to hear from his constituents about how improved staff's recommended changes are, and that ALL Ventura County residents will benefit from updating the guidelines.

The City of Oxnard is holding more workshops on its draft General Plan 2030, but the City still doesn't seem to understand that every city, especially Oxnard, needs to have natural open space "parks" throughout the city to have a more livable community. Numerous studies have shown that residents are healthier physically and emotionally if they have green space in their neighborhoods, something mostly lacking in the City of Oxnard.

It is way past time to vote for your chapter officers, so please cast your votes and mail in your ballot as soon as you review it.

And, remember, there are lots of volunteer opportunities, so just call one of the officers to take on a task, big or small, it all helps.

- David Magney

California Native Plant Society P.O. Box 6

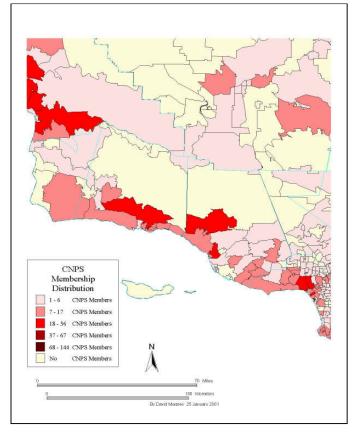
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Channel Islands Chapter Officers/Program Contacts

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Conservation:	David Brown	987-2534	conservation@cnpsci.org
Education:	Andrea Adams-Mord	len 684-8077	aadamsmorden@yahoo.com
Horticulture:	Patt McDaniel	646-9948	mcins@west.net
Legislation:	Your Name Could B	e Here	
Rare Plants:	David Magney	646-6045	president@cnpsci.org
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Publicity:	Nancy Eldblom	646-4497	nancyandlars@gmail.com
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Plant Sales:	Your Name Could B	e Here	
Poster Sales:	Your Name Could B	e Here	
Member-At-Large	Andrea Adams-Mord	len 684-8077	aadamsmorden@yahoo.com
Member-At-Large	Maryanne deGoede		mfd123@hotmail.com
Member-At-Large	Patt McDaniel	646-9948	mcins@west.net
	(All telephone nu	mbers are in Area	a Code 805)

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* = officer (voting)			

Category	Annual Amount
□ Individual	\$ 45
□ Family	\$ 75
☐ Nonprofit Group/Organizati	
□ Library	\$ 75
☐ Business Group/Firm	\$500
□ Plant Lover	\$100
□ Patron	\$300
☐ Benefactor	\$600
☐ Mariposa Lily	\$1500
□ Student	\$ 25
☐ Limited Income	\$ 25
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