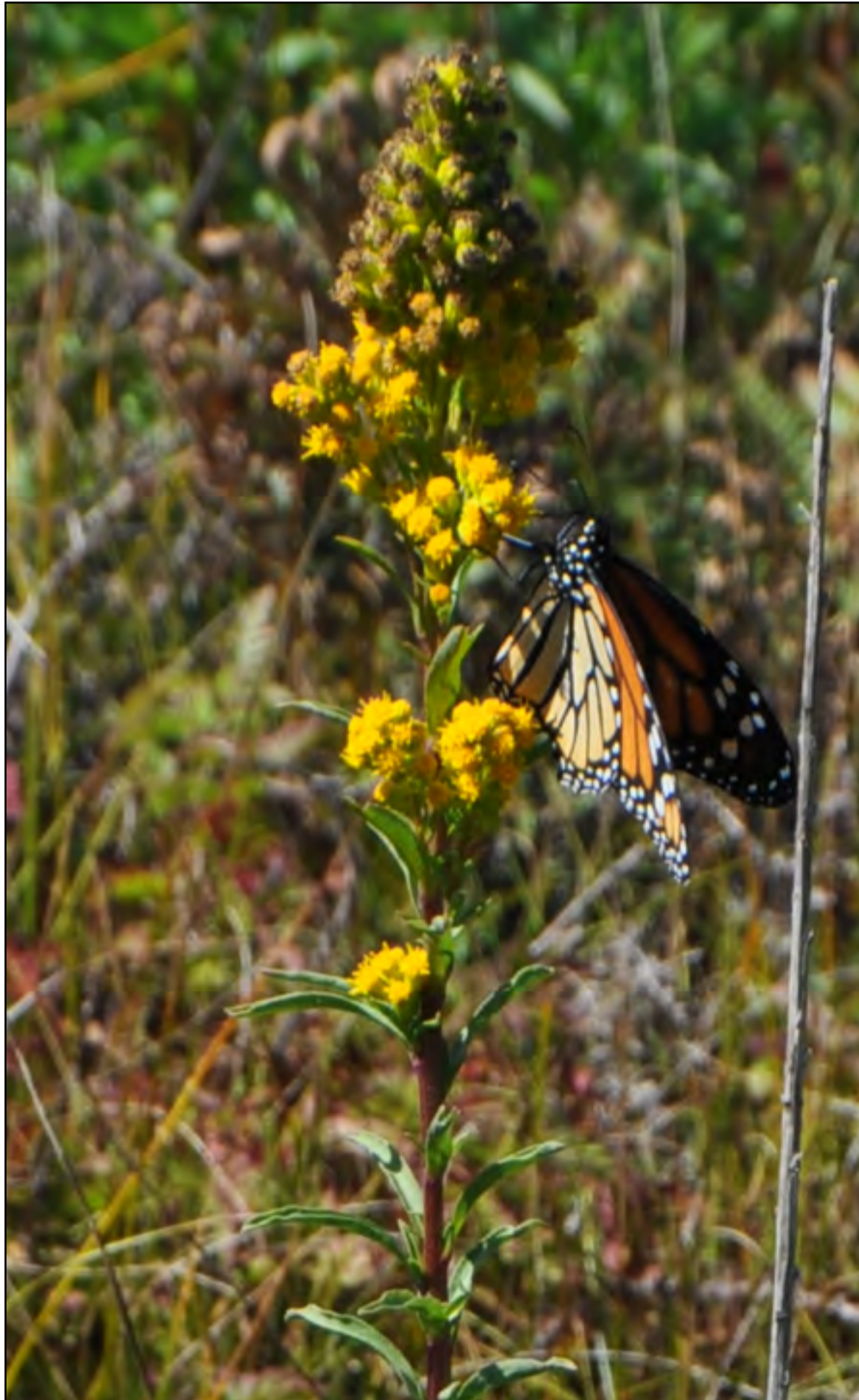

Obispoensis

Newsletter of the San Luis Obispo Chapter of the California Native Plant Society



November 2021

FALL COLOR IN THE DUNES AIDS MONARCH MIGRATION

In a dry year with generally poor wildflower shows, the older dune sands bordering the southern end of Morro Bay have once again provided both color and sustenance for the annual migration of monarch butterflies. The monarchs appeared to be favoring the Southern goldenrod (*Solidago confinis*) over the similarly colored Mock heather (*Ericameria ericoides*), but there also seemed to be some interest in California aster (*Corethrogyne filaginifolia*) which was still in flower. In mid-October dozens of butterflies could be seen moving southward in this area. PLEASE READ A CAUTIONARY NOTE ON PLANTING MILKWEED FOR MONARCHS

Why is this strip of floral fecundity here? The answer is that the coastal strip has very high level of fresh groundwater which is perched on clays and, presumably denser and saltier, water infiltrating from the bay. The goldenrod is confined to a strip no wider than 100 yards from the tidelands, but the other two plants are also found further upland in dune sand-derived subsoil. The Mock heather population in the coastal strip is, however, much denser than that of the Morro Dunes Ecological Reserve, the Elfin Forest, Los Osos Oaks Reserve, and the Powell #1 addition to Morro Bay State Park. All these locations did have a good showing of flowers this year, suggesting that they were able to take advantage of the single large rain event in January to build water reserves. The California aster had a much poorer showing, with plants having far fewer stems and flowers, except along the coastal strip.



(Top left) California aster and Mock heather in the coastal strip near Shark Inlet (photo by David Chipping) *Corethrogyne filaginifolia*, as defined by Dr. Keil, now includes *Corethrogyne leucophylla*, recognized by Hoover in the coastal dunes north of Piedras Blancas.

The Morro Bay plants (photo top right) tend to be more diffuse and upright than the northern plants, which have prostrate stems and have notably paler leaves. (photo bottom right). The northern plants on the coastal terraces appear to be largely confined to old dunes sands, a feature partly shared with the plants of Morro Bay.



Get Your Geek On! Vegetation Community Sampling 2021+

Are you interested in rare plants? How about rare plant communities? The Vegetation Group is starting up again with a new vigor after over a year off and we are looking for new participants. We follow the CDFW/CNPS Rapid Assessment/Releve Protocol to collect plant community data, with an emphasis on rare natural communities. Our data are helping to provide valuable information that CNPS uses to update the Manual of California Vegetation Online. We are looking for people who want to volunteer and have experience or education with our local flora and are knowledgeable or keen to learn about the CDFW/CNPS Protocol. While our main group will have regular monthly field trips (3rd Saturday), we will also be providing mentoring to people who want to learn and use the Protocol. Please contact Melissa Mooney (mjmoon@charter.net) or Mindy Trask (mindymmt@yahoo.com) for more information. Field trips will be all around SLO County, mostly short hikes sometimes on difficult terrain, and challenging botanizing!

November Plant Sale is COMING SOON!

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2021 10:00 – 2:00

Pacific Beach School Parking Lot

11950 Los Osos Valley Road, SLO

ONLINE ORDERING IS HAPPENING NOW!

PRE-PURCHASE YOUR PLANTS FROM A SELECTION OF 80 PLANT OFFERINGS

On Our [CNPS Website](#) (online ordering ends 11/3)



A Selection of Native Plants will be Available to Purchase at the Event



Books, Tee Shirts, Posters,

Seeds, and More will be at the Sales Table



Plant Sale Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help move and groove with the plants for our Saturday, November 6, 2021 plant sale. Though it has been awhile since our last “get-together” at Pacific Beach High School, many of you are needed to pull plants, assist in sales, distribute information, place banners and more. We will start at 7:30-8:00 and finish by 2:00. With the current Covid 19 guidelines, we ask that each volunteer be vaccinated and to wear a mask at all times when around the public. Please contact John Nowak by November 1st at: gritlys@gmail.com. Thanks!!

There will be native seeds at the plant sale on November 6th.

There will be native seeds at the plant sale on November 6th. These are seeds collected from gardens and, in a very few instances, from natural environments, always with permission. Over fifty species will be available, but it will be first come, first served. In some cases there are only one or two packets of seeds. For some species there will be many packets.

Growing from seeds allows for more diversity in the genome. Many nursery plants are from cuttings which are clones of the parent plant. The advantage of that is one knows what the mature plant will be like. With seeds there can be more variation in the mature plant, not necessarily a desirable thing when you are selling to a public that has specific expectations. But, for those who enjoy a bit of surprise now and then, growing from seed can be really rewarding.

Plants in garden environments often have ample opportunity to hybridize and some do so readily. For that reason, most of these seeds would not be suitable for restoration plantings. We do not want to introduce different genes into wild populations. Those of you who heard the talk about black walnuts know that it is now hard to find a true native, the genome has been “contaminated” by other walnut trees....and though all the seeds are native sometime ecotypes are important.

Our seeds are inexpensive (only \$1 per packet) because there are no guarantees. While none of these have been subjected to germination testing they are mostly seeds from this year. Any exceptions will be noted on the packet. In many cases seeds will germinate readily. Some are known to be difficult. For advice on what treatments to try we have a great reference: *Seed Propagation of Native California Plants* by Dara Emery. It's a book that has been out of print for a while, but Linda Chipping has managed to get some of the new edition that has just been published. They will be available at the book table at the plant sale.

Some of the seeds may have been damaged by insect activity. I have tried not to include those, but some may have escaped my attention. It has been interesting to find which species seem to have almost all seeds damaged (though perhaps it's just a problem with where I am collecting). For plants like *Salvia spathacea* (Hummingbird sage) and *Rhus integrifolia* (Lemonade berry), it is hard to find undamaged seed and possibly the insect has yet to emerge in seeds that seem fine. I do appreciate some insect activity because it means our natives are supporting the insects that are needed by other creatures that live with us. Most birds, even the nectar consuming ones, raise their babies on insects.

Some of the seed packets will not feel very full, but be assured there are many seeds in each packet. Seed size is quite variable from the very tiny *Carpenteria californica* and *Erythranthe cardinalis* to the very large *Lupinus*. *Aesculus* seeds are huge, but at this time they are not quite ripe and so I probably will not have any of those available.

I have had experience with most of the seeds we will be offering. I have found it a very fun activity though it does occupy me year round. If you start with annuals you don't have that time commitment. But when you get into the more permanent things, like *Fremontodendrons*, it becomes a longer commitment. But it is very fun to be able to wander the garden and say “I grew that from seed!”, and if it was one thought to be difficult, all the better.

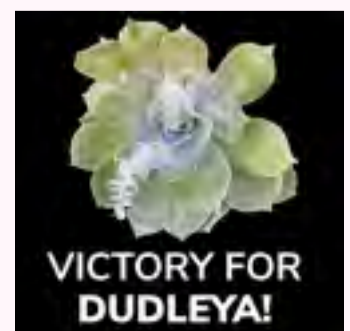


Photo by Marti Rutherford

**Come to the plant sale, support our chapter and grow natives!
(SEE LIST OF AVAILABLE SEEDS ON NEXT PAGE)**

CNPS wholeheartedly thanks Governor Newsom for signing AB 223 into law, outlawing the poaching of *Dudleya* from state and private lands. This bill is an important step in furthering California's commitments under Executive Order N-82-20 to protect biodiversity, including protecting 30 percent of California by 2030. We also commend Assemblymember Ward for his outstanding leadership in authoring the bill and championing it through the state legislature.

(photo by Kyle Nessen)



List of Seeds Available at the Plant Sale

Some species may be in short supply, sometimes just one packet

<i>Acer macrophyllum</i> Big Leaf Maple	<i>Grindelia</i> sp. Gum plant
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> Yarrow	<i>Hazardia squarrosa</i> Sawtooth Goldenbush
<i>Acmispon glaber</i> Deerweed	<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i> Telegraph weed
<i>Aquilegia formosa</i> Western Columbine	<i>Heuchera maxima</i> Island alum root
<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i> Narrow Leaf Milkweed	<i>Hordeum brachyantherum</i> Meadow barley
<i>Asclepias speciosa</i> Showy milkweed	<i>Iris</i> Pacific Coast Iris
<i>Bacharris pilularis</i> Coyote brush	<i>Isocoma menzesii</i> Menzie's goldenbush
<i>Camissonia campestris</i> Field primrose	<i>Keckiella cordifolia</i> Heart leaved Penstemon
<i>Carpenteria californica</i> Bush Anemone	<i>Layia platyglossa</i> Tidy tips
<i>Ceanothus cuneatus</i> Buckbrush	<i>Lepechinia calycina</i> Pitcher Sage
<i>Ceanothus foliosus</i> La Cuesta ceanothus	<i>Leptosyne gigantea</i> Giant coreopsis
<i>Ceanothus impessus nipomensis</i> Nipomo Mesa Ceanothus	<i>Linum lewisii</i> Blue flax
<i>Chlorogalum pomeridianum</i> Soap Plant	<i>Lupinus arboreus</i> Coastal bush lupine
<i>Clarkia purpurea</i> Four Spot Clarkia	<i>Lupinus chamissonis</i> Silver dune lupine
<i>Clarkia purpurea</i> Wine cup	<i>Lupinus succulentus</i> Arroyo lupine
<i>Clarkia unguiculata</i> Elegant Clarkia	<i>Malva assurgentifolia</i>
<i>Clematis lasiantha</i> Pipestem clematis	<i>Melica californica</i> California melic grass
<i>Danthonia californica</i> Oatgrass	<i>Monardella villosus</i> Coyote Mint
<i>Dichelostemma capitatum</i> Blue dicks	<i>Nemophila menziesii</i> Baby blue eyes
<i>Diplacus aurantiacus</i> mixed colors Sticky Monkey Flower	<i>Oenothera elata</i> 'hookeri' Hooker's evening primrose
<i>Dudleya pulverulenta</i> Chalk dudleya	<i>Penstemon heterophyllus</i> Foothill Penstemon
<i>Dudleya virens</i> ssp. <i>hassei</i>	<i>Peritoma (Isomeris) arboreus</i> Bladderpod
<i>Encelia californica</i> Coast sunflower	<i>Pholistoma auritum</i> Fiesa flower
<i>Epilobium canum</i> California fuschia	<i>Platanus racemosa</i> Sycamore
<i>Erigeron glaucus</i> Seaside daisy	<i>Prunus ilicifolia</i> (possible hybrid) Hollyleaf cherry
<i>Eriogonum arborescens</i> Santa Cruz Island buckwheat	<i>Ranunculus californica</i> Buttercup
<i>Eriogonum crocatum</i> Conejo buckwheat	<i>Rhamnus crocea</i> Redberry
<i>Eriogonum elongatum</i> Longstem buckwheat	<i>Rhus integrifolia</i> Lemonade Berry
<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i> California buckwheat	<i>Ribes sanguineum</i> Currant
<i>Eriogonum giganteum</i> St. Catherine's Lace	<i>Romneya coulteri</i> Matilija poppy
<i>Eriogonum grande</i> 'rubescens' San Miguel Island buckwheat	<i>Romneya trichocalyx</i> Matilija Poppy
<i>Eriogonum parvifolium</i> Sea cliff buckwheat	<i>Rosa californica</i> Wild rose
<i>Erythranthe cardinalis</i> Scarlet monkeyflower	<i>Salvia apiana</i> White sage
<i>Erythranthe guttatus</i> (<i>Mimulus guttatus</i>) Seep monkey flower	<i>Salvia brandegii</i> Brandegee's sage
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i> (possibly mixed with <i>maritimus</i>)	<i>Salvia leucophylla</i> Purple Sage
California poppy	<i>Salvia mellifera</i> Black Sage
<i>Frangula californica</i> Coffeeberry	<i>Salvia spathacea</i> Hummingbird sage
<i>Fremontodendron mexicanum</i> (?) Fremontia	<i>Schophularia californica</i> California figwort
<i>Gambelia speciosa</i> Island snapdragon	<i>Sidalcea</i> (probably <i>malvaeflora</i>) Checkermallow
<i>Gilia achilleifolia</i>	<i>Silene laciniata</i> Indian Pink
<i>Gilia capitata</i>	<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i> Blue eyed grass
Globe <i>gilia</i>	<i>Sisyrinchium californicum</i> Yellow eyed grass
<i>Gilia tricolor</i> Bird's eye <i>gilia</i>	<i>Solidago californica</i> California goldenrod
<i>Grindelia camporum</i> Gum plant	<i>Stipa pulchra</i> Purple Needle grass

Breaking News! Native Plants for a Bright Tomorrow

More and more Californians are choosing native plants for their gardens. Why? Native plants have a beauty unique to California, are climate conscious, and provide invaluable habitat for the butterflies, birds, and other wildlife that share our home.

The California Native Plant Society is launching **Bloom! California** in partnership with over 100 nurseries. This statewide campaign aims to increase native plant sales throughout our state's built environment — from backyard gardens to city parks to business fronts and more. Get ready to Bloom! California. Starting October 1, visit over 100 participating nurseries near you to purchase our select native plants for your garden or outdoor space. <https://bloomcalifornia.org/>



November Speaker: "The Wild We Make"

We are excited to host David Newsom, founder of the Wild Yards Project, for the November installment of our speaker series. Please join us for this conversation about the staggering impact native plants can have on protecting and revitalizing the great diversity of life on earth, while simultaneously helping to reverse the many crises facing it. Beginning with his own journey into creating native habitat at his Los Angeles home, David will look at the way native habitat can be adapted and scaled to retrofit biodiversity into urban areas, and, in doing so, make urban and suburban spaces more efficient, resource-wise, and regenerative. Regardless of who we are, or where we live, native plants can play a vital role in making life more equitable, more vital, and more just.

David Newsom is a father of two wild ones, a husband, and a 30 year veteran of film and TV. He founded the Wild Yards Project in 2018, after watching his own sterile urban yard spring to life with the influence of native plants, a lot of love, and the guidance of great teachers. David draws on his past as a storyteller and photographer to spread awareness of the native habitat movement far and wide. The Wild Yards Project combines social media, education, community gardens and consultation to help retrofit biodiverse habitat into urban and suburban spaces. David created the Wild Yards Project because his plants insisted.



Photo by Sian Heder

Register in advance for this meeting: 7:00 pm Thursday November 4th

https://cnps-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwocOCvpzMtHdC7_BfsjToB0RhM180zlaz2

Dudleya blochmaniae ssp. *blochmaniae*

"The now-you-see-me-now-you don't Dudleya"

Blochman's dudleya is one you certainly won't see at the plant sale, and, possibly, you won't even see if standing close to it in the field. It is only a few inches high, and produces small leaves in the early spring that wither by the time flowers are produced on the tiny stems. Hoover, in his flora, described the plant as *Hasseanthus blochmaniae*, and it is certainly significantly different from other dudleyas by losing its leaves. It can be found on serpentine-derived soils, with a substantial population in Rancho El Chorro Park's eastern edge along the Whale Rock pipeline route. The photo shows the white petals of the small flowers, and the brown of the withered leaves. Photo taken on June 1st, 2021.



Renewal of Plants and People in Nipomo

Whether they are in wildlands or in gardens, native plants need renewal and so do their gardeners and plant guardians. Nipomo Native Garden is a 12-acre garden in south SLO County that features endemic plants of the Nipomo Mesa and is managed by volunteers. Starting in 1993, a group of neighbors adopted this orphaned parcel of the Nipomo Regional Park from the SLO County Parks Department and with an initial design from David Fross of Native Sons Nursery, turned a weedy sandlot into maritime chaparral, manzanita, coastal sage scrub, and riparian/wetland plant communities including two 1B.2 rare plants, Nipomo Mesa ceanothus (*Ceanothus impressus* var. *nipomensis*) and sand mesa manzanita (*Arctostaphylos rudis*), as well as the 4.3 ranked sand almond (*Prunus fasciculata* var. *punctata*). After decades of hard work, the Nipomo Plant Garden volunteers have asked CNPS members to help them in maintaining this unique local native plant garden. Our first opportunity will be to join them on their regular December workday to prune native shrubs. Bill Waycott has generously offered to bring some of his Nipomo Native Seeds employees to operate pruning equipment. CNPS members will help with lighter pruning and move the clippings to a centralized pile. The workday will provide a fun opportunity to see the rare plants and meet our South County colleagues. You can also visit the larger-than-life Bill Denneen memorial coast live oak in the mature oak woodland or play in the sandbox shaded by another oak tree in the colorful children's play area. The workday will be Saturday, December 4, 2021 from 9 am to noon; meet at the garden parking lot by following the signs from the intersection of Camino Caballo and Osage Street in Nipomo. Wear sun protection, gloves, and clothes that cover your toes, arms and legs since we will be moving clippings. You can bring your favorite clippers but not necessary since they have their own tools. Any questions can be directed to Cindy Roessler at skaaantics@yahoo.com. You might also be interested in some of the excellent native plant cultivation tips in Nipomo Native Garden newsletters and website at nipomonativegarden.org

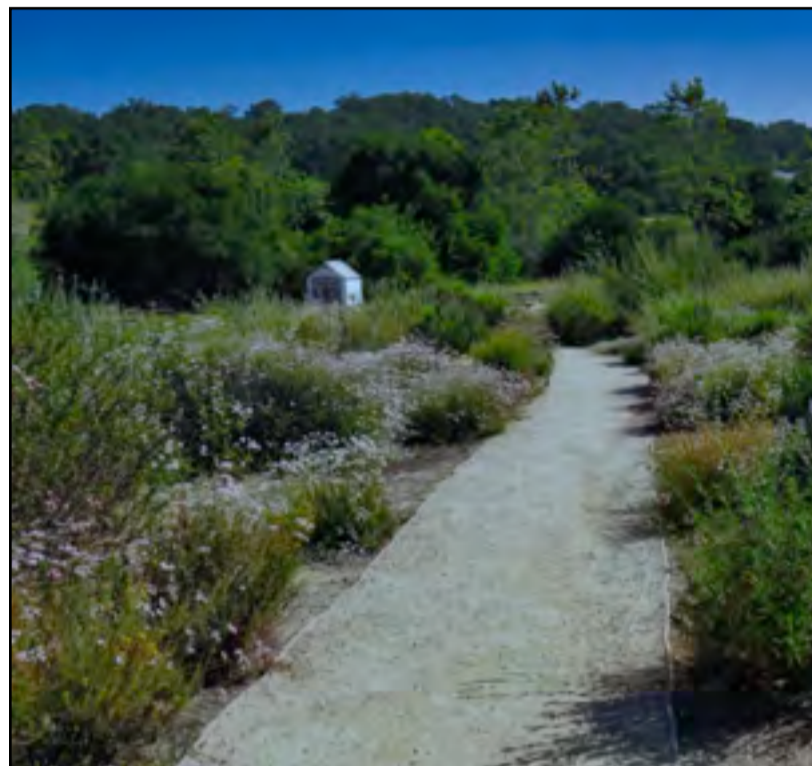


photo from Nipomo Native Garden Fall 2019 Newsletter

A Cautionary Note About Planting Milkweed For Monarchs

The native narrow-leaf milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*) will be available again for purchase at our upcoming November 6 plant sale, but please read the following to determine if this plant belongs in your garden.

The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation has a long history of working to conserve monarch butterflies and their habitat. As part of this conservation effort, Xerces currently advises people not to plant milkweed in areas where it has not historically grown or in areas near to known overwintering sites where monarchs congregate during the cold season. On the Central Coast, this means that we should not be installing milkweed within FIVE miles of the coastline or within the City of San Luis Obispo - both regions support overwintering sites. Milkweed does not naturally grow close to the coast north of Santa Barbara, and installing milkweed near to overwintering sites can apparently interrupt natural monarch overwintering behavior.

Instead of planting milkweed in these areas, we should be planting pesticide-free nectar plants as a food source to support adult monarchs. In particular, the best native species to plant for the adult butterfly would be those that bloom in early spring (Feb-April) and those that bloom in the fall (Sept-Oct); along the coast, winter blooming species (Nov-Jan) can also be planted to support monarchs that are overwintering nearby. Nectar plants with this blooming schedule will be available at the plant sale too.

More information about how we can help the monarch butterfly's habitat and life cycle is available at the Xerces Society website. <https://xerces.org/western-monarch-call-to-action>

Submitted by Susi Bernstein using information from Xerces website and reviewed by Dan Meade (monarch overwintering site biologist) and Jessica Griffiths (SLO County Coordinator for Western Monarch Thanksgiving Count).

Spearscale Orache or Fat-hen Orache (*Atriplex prostrata*)

As I write this article, it's October in yet another year of California's severe droughts. There's not much out there in bloom. So I've retreated to one of the few places where plants are doing anything. Yes, I'm returning to the coastal salt marsh. That is where we found the plant Bonnie drew for the *OBISPOENSIS* back in 2013. The plant that generally doesn't get into wildflower books, but does make it into many weed books. The flowers are green or brown and tiny and (in our area) fruiting is relatively rare. However, here the plant is pretty much restricted to coastal salt marshes. Dr. Keil notes that the plant is very common around Morro Bay, but also is found from the San Simeon coast to the mouth of the Santa Maria River.

The plant's name has changed since Robert Hoover wrote his flora, in which he recognized two varieties, *Atriplex patula* var. *hastata* and *Atriplex patula* var. *patula*, differing primarily in their leaf shape. Dr. Keil notes that *A. prostrata* includes both the earlier named var. *hastata* and *A. triangularis*, which is the more descriptively named of the two. The other subspecies, ssp. *patula*, is rare in our area according to Dr. Hoover. Hoover cites only a single location 9 miles north of Morro Bay

You probably won't get your feet wet if you search for *A. prostrata* as it grows where it will get inundated only by the highest of tides, if at all. A look at Bonnie's drawing will show the distinctly arrow-head shaped leaf blades with their conspicuous backward projecting lobes on the outer leaf blade base, making the leaf resemble a spear point or arrowhead. This shape is technically termed 'hastate' by botanists. The shape of the leaf gave var. *hastata* its name, but as the plant is not particularly prostrate, the newer name does not appear to be as descriptive. Just to confuse things, *Atriplex watsonii* is also found with *A. prostrata*, and IS prostrate. Watson's salt bush grows in flat mats that can become mounded in the center. Therefore its branches are horizontal and parallel to the ground, and rarely reach a height of 4-6 inches.

If you look again at Bonnie's drawing, you will see some leaves that are NOT hastate but would have been at home on *A. patula* var. *patula*. I suspect that this is the reason why the Jepson Manual doesn't recognize Hoover's varieties. It is interesting that the common name still contains 'spear'. A word about its leaf arrangement: leaves are mostly opposite but alternate distally.

The plant was probably introduced to North America in the 18th century, and is now a 'circumboreal' species, although there are claims of its seeds being recovered in marshes dating from pre-European contact.

Some may have noticed that I have not identified the family to which salt bushes belong. This is because taxonomy texts and the ITIS (Integrated Taxonomic Information System) place it in the family Amaranthaceae, subfamily Chenopodiaceae. However, other studies raise the Chenopodiaceae to full family status that is split from a common ancestor with the Amaranthaceae. **DIRK WALTERS**

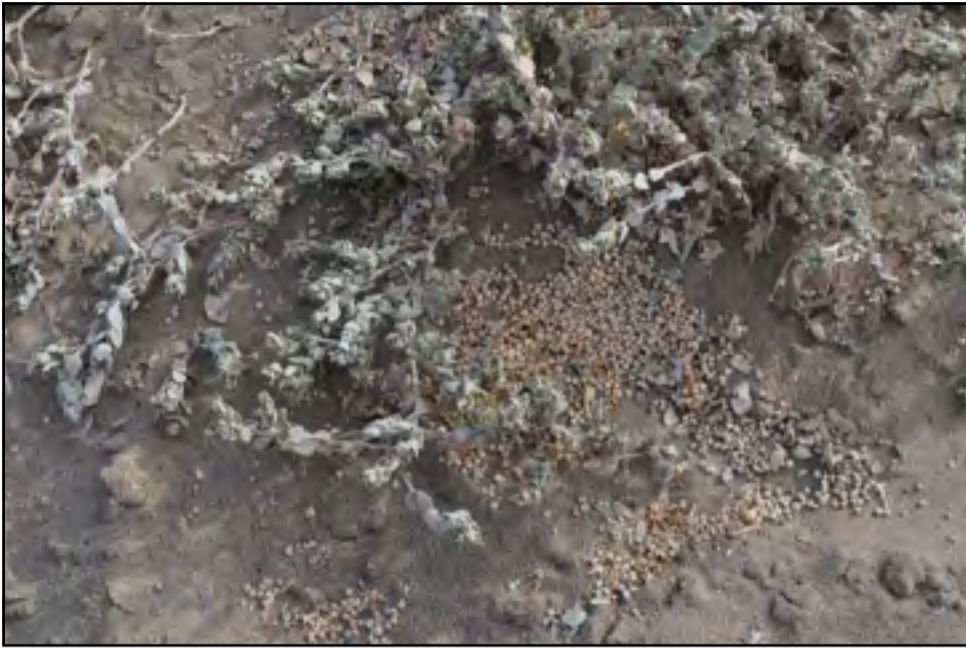


Atriplex prostrata (left)
Atriplex watsonii (right)
from the shore of Shark
Inlet in Montana de Oro
State Park.

(photos David Chipping)



THE *ATRIPLEX* THAT GOES WHERE OTHER *ATRIPLEX* FEAR TO GO



Atriplex leucophylla can be found at the back of the beach and on the edges of the coastal bluffs throughout the county. On the ocean side of the Morro Bay sandspit it can be found close enough to the ocean that it can be uprooted during very high tides and storm events. I can't find any other plants, including *Abronia maritima*, that grow that close to the ocean. The photograph shows why the plant uses this potentially suicidal strategy, as it shows the seeds sitting on the beach ready to be dispersed along the shore by the ocean currents. (photo by D. Chipping)

BUCKWHEATS STRIKE UP THE BAND



Seaside Buckwheat *Eriogonum latifolium*

This buckwheat posts the largest pom-pom inflorescences of any in the county, but its cheerleader qualities can only be observed on the coastal terraces from Piedras Blancas north to the county line. (photo by D. Chipping),

Hoover's Desert Trumpet Buckwheat *Eriogonum clavatum*

The pom-poms must have a band with a brass section, represented from the tiny yellow flowers and inflated 'trumpet' stems of this buckwheat, here photographed on the salty, clay-rich soils at the south end of Soda Lake. Previously the name *Eriogonum inflatum* has been mis-applied to this plant, and the name persists for Carrizo Plain plants in the Calflora search engine. (photo by D. Chipping),



Naked Buckwheat *Eriogonum nudum*

And lastly, in fond memory of the Stanford University Marching Band, who, in the 1970 game against Arkansas, dropped their pants in perfect formation, we give you.....*Eriogonum nudum*, represented in our area by four varieties, of which var. *pubifolium* (shown) is the most widespread, and extends eastward from the Salinas River to the Carrizo Plain. (photos by George Butterworth)



Poison Oak's Air Roots



While hiking the Coon Creek trail in Montana de Oro State Park, we observed some strange-looking fibers growing out of a low-growing stem of poison oak. Dirk Walters and I had not seen this before, and while air roots were a possibility, these things were nowhere near a possible rooting surface. Returning to a search of *Toxicodendron diversilobum* photos with air-roots came up empty, but showed its close cousin, *Toxicodendron radicans*, having masses of air roots similar to those found in the climbing horticultural ivys of the *Hedera* persuasion. However, a walk in Los Osos Oaks Reserve showed that, for those specimens of poison oak that were climbing into the forest canopy, the thick stems launched air roots every few feet which had fastened to the bark of the tree. Many of these connections were broken, suggesting that they were temporary holds until the stem had attained enough grip from simple twining,

Photos: Top, the Coon Creek air roots. and Bottom, two examples from Los Osos Oaks. (all by. D. Chipping)

THE GARDEN CORNER

First of all, I'm so glad that after not having an in-person plant sale since November 2019, we will be holding an old fashion (in-person) plant sale, the first Saturday of November, on **November 6th, 2021 starting at 10am**. All COVID19 protocols will be observed, even though this is an outdoor event. Please come prepared to wear your mask. Suzette and I thank you for your cooperation to protect yourself and others.

This year the plant sale will feature many *Salvia* and *Dudleya* species. These California natives are known for being drought resistant and can offer a niche feature to any garden.

Salvias grow large and are great on a slope, requiring minimal water usage. They are also known to attract butterflies and hummingbirds with their abundant source of nectar.

Dudleyas vary from a cute solitary rosette to a large complex of many rosettes. They favor a rock garden situation. Their delicate flowers also attract hummingbirds and their leaves can be a food source for ground birds who rely on their leaves for moisture.

In the last several years, poachers were caught stealing thousands of plants, shipping them internationally, and selling them as trendy houseplants for top dollar. Investigators now estimate that poachers have stolen several hundreds of thousands of *Dudleya* from California worth tens of millions of dollars." (<https://www.cnps.org/conservation/dudleya-protection>).

Rest assured, the *Dudleya* plants being offered at the plant sale are ethically grown and sustainably sourced, all of which have been grown from seed.

It will be my 30th year at the CNPS SLO plant sale and I would really love to see you all again. As always, volunteer support will be needed the day of the event, so please spread the word to your networks and come if you can. Please reach out to me directly if you or someone you know is interested in volunteering: 805-674-2034 or Gritlys@gmail.com.

Rain will not cancel this event. Suzette and I look forward to seeing you there!

Happy Gardening, John Nowak.

President's Message from Melissa Mooney

Good news, activities, inspiration, and a thank you.

Dear Members:

Starting out with good news - as things continue to improve somewhat regarding the pandemic, the Board is currently planning a January 2022 get-together of our chapter members. It won't be a banquet, but we intend to safely gather to share stories and inspiration. Please send me or Lauren Brown any location and activity ideas you have for an outdoor winter picnic in our beautiful and mild Central California Coast.

The Board's activities over the last month include communications with the California Coastal Commission regarding a Forest Health and Fire Resilience Public Works Plan proposed in Cambria by the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD, CAL FIRE SLO, and FireSafe SLO. This mouthful of a plan and sponsoring organizations suggests big changes may be coming to the Cambria forests, one of the five remaining native populations of Monterey pines in the world. In the interest of "forest health," the plan proposes to reduce forest density by masticating a good portion of the forest understory. We disagree that mastication is the way to go, and Neil Havlik has suggested CAL FIRE install test plots before proceeding. (Update: we are hearing the Plan was approved by the Commission; we will let you know the details as we learn them.) Board Members recently met with fellow plant enthusiasts at the Nipomo Native Garden - see article in this Newsletter about opportunities for chapter members to visit and help in our south county area. On a lighter note, Vice-President Kristen Nelson is coordinating with the Central Coast State Parks Association and others to raise funds for the "Western Monarch Trail" which will shine a light on the Western Monarch Butterfly and hopefully rebuild its population.

In terms of inspiration, as I sit here on this beautiful warm October morning zooming the Southern CA Botanists 47th Annual Symposium, I am fascinated by a presentation by Travis Longcore, PhD., of UCLA. His presentation on "Rarities and Relicts in Southern California" shows how old herbarium specimens and historic photographs help reveal the former coastal prairies, alkaline sinks and rivers that used to occupy the LA Basin which is now covered by human development. I am reminded how important our conservation work is right now on our own Central California Coast: fighting to protect maritime chaparral and dune habitats on the Dana Reserve property, the Oceano Dunes, and the Monterey pine forest. I certainly don't want to lose these habitats or see them degraded beyond recognition. Let's continue this critical work.

Lastly, as I near the end of my second year as your President, I want to thank the Officers, Board members, and others who have offered support and guidance through these two challenging years. We've had to adapt to shifting sand dunes, put out new runners, and sprout new rosettes. With your help, the President's job is easier. So, thank you. Our Chapter is an active one, and we are in good shape as we move forward in our conservation work again.

Lichen of the Month: *Tuckermannopsis chlorophylla*

This beautiful green lichen occurs sparingly in Los Osos Oaks Reserve. The Consortium of North American Lichen Herbaria also records SLO County collections from Morro Bay State Park's Powell #1 Addition and from shady canyon bottoms in the Irish Hills. It is seen here with a small *Hypogymnia*. The brilliant green color appears to be transitory, the lichen turning light brown when drying out. It has been found on the branches of manzanita, chamise and *Ceanothus*. My identification is preliminary, so comments and corrections are welcome.

(photo by D. Chipping),



THE GOOD PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE CHAPTER 'HAPPEN' AND HOW TO FIND THEM

President

Melissa Mooney
mjmoon@charter.net

Vice President

Kristen Nelson
kristenkmn@gmail.com

Secretary

Cindy Roessler
skantics@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Cindy Roessler
skantics@gmail.com

Treasurer

David Krause (805)
927-5182
dkincmbria@aol.com

Chapter Council Rep.

Melissa Mooney
mjmoon@charter.net

Chapter Wholesale Contact

Linda Chipping (805)
528-0914
lindachipping@yahoo.com

Conservation

David Chipping
(805) 528-0914
dchippin@calpoly.edu

Education

OPEN
YOUR NAME HERE?

Field Trips

Bill Waycott (805) 459-2103
bill.waycott@gmail.com

Retail Sales Manager

OPEN
YOUR NAME HERE?

Historian

Dirk R. Walters (805) 543-7051
drwalters@charter.net

Invasive Plants Control

Mark Skinner
mskinner@coastalrcd.org

Membership

LynneDee Althouse
LynneDee@althouseandmeade.com

Rare Plant Coordinator

John Chesnut (805)
528-0833
jchesnut@slonet.org

Legislation

David Chipping (805)
528-0914
dchippin@calpoly.edu

Newsletter Editor

David Chipping (805)
528-0914
dchippin@calpoly.edu

Photography

Photo Curator
David Chipping (805)
528-0914
dchippin@calpoly.edu

Horticulture & Plant Sales

John Doyle (805) 748-7190
doyle5515@sbcglobal.net

Publicity & Web Master

Judi Young
judi@judiyoung.com

Hospitality

OPEN:
YOUR NAME HERE?

Chapter Publications

Matt Ritter
mritter@calpoly.edu

WE ALWAYS NEED PEOPLE TO HELP OUT. OUR MISSION IS VITAL AND OUR FLORA IS AT RISK. CNPS SLO Chapter gratefully acknowledges French Hospital and the Copelands Health Education Pavilion for the use of their facilities for our Board meetings.

Protecting California's Native Flora since 1965

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide non-profit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's plants. The mission of the Society is to increase understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and to preserve them in their natural habitat through scientific activities, education and conservation. Membership is open to all. Membership includes the journal, *Fremontia*; the quarterly *Flora*, which gives statewide news and announcements of the activities and conservation issues, and the chapter newsletter, *Obispoensis*.



San Luis Obispo Chapter of the
California Native Plant Society
P.O. Box 784
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406



Print, Clip & Mail

Join Today!

- Student / Limited Income \$25
- Individual \$50
- Plant Lover \$120
- Supporter \$500
- Patron \$1,000
- Benefactor \$2,500

I wish to affiliate with the San Luis Obispo Chapter

Inquiries:

Phone: (916) 447-2677 Fax: (916) 447-2727 (State)
e-mail: cnps@cnps.org (State)

Websites:

Websites: www.cnps.org (State) & www.cnpslo.org (Local)

New Renewal Gift

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____ * NEEDED FOR NEWSLETTER

Please make your check payable to CNPS and mail to:
attn Membership, California Native Plant Society, 2707 K Street, Suite 1,
Sacramento, CA 95816-5130

GIFT MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENT

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Do you want CNPS to send gift recipient a postcard identifying you
as giftor Yes No