



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

of the Los Angeles/Santa Monica Mountains Chapter

MARCH 14, 2006 - 7:30-9:30PM
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER
ENCINO

APRIL 11, 2006 - 7:30-9:30PM
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SANTA MONICA

NATIVE PLANT IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP

Workshop Leader: Ileene Anderson,
professional botanist assisted by
LA/SMM Chapter members

Bring your questions! Bring your mysterious native plants (a sprig with flowers or fruit would be nice, or a clump of grass – don't bring one leaf). Photos can sometimes be identified but not as well as a specimen. Learn how to identify our local native plants and add a new dimension to your hikes in southern California!

NEW BEGINNINGS ALONG BALLONA CREEK

Speaker: Jim Lamm

Learn about the efforts of Ballona Creek Renaissance, a Culver City-based non-profit organization (www.ballonacreek.org), to work with many others toward renewing Ballona Creek and its watershed through art, education, native plantings, and multi-faceted improvements. BCR President Jim Lamm looks forward to sharing interesting information, illustrations, and ideas about "working together to change the channel!"

Programs are free to the public. Refreshments will be served. For directions, see Calendar of Events on page 3.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Snowdy Dodson*

Greetings! As we enter another sunny and warm Southern California spring, let's take a moment to reflect on what this season means ecologically and environmentally. All around us the native plants are greening up and beginning to bloom. This is truly the time to slap on those hiking boots, hit the trails and see this miracle up close. While savoring wild, native, natural southern California, take a moment to thank all the environmental volunteers who have helped to preserve open space in our very urban setting.

In April 2006 we will celebrate our 36th Earth Day. This grassroots environmental movement succeeds through the volunteerism of citizens like you. Now, I know you may be thinking "Who, me? I'm not a volunteer." However, by stepping forward and joining CNPS you volunteered your dues and good will toward the idea of preserving and promoting California's native plants. Earth Month presents an opportunity to make a further statement of your advocacy. Volunteer for an event, attend a program, and this year you can again help the cause by patronizing Aveda.

Each spring, Aveda holds an Earth Month Campaign highlighting environmental issues. Clients are informed about an issue and asked for donations. For the 2nd year, CNPS will be an Aveda Earth Month Partner, and endangered species will be the focus. Together, Aveda and CNPS will educate thousands of Californians about native plants, habitat and endangered species while Aveda raises donations for partners. Last year the partnership brought \$40,000 to CNPS. Your assistance in the next two months will help us reach that goal again, or surpass it! Last year Aveda presented 225,000 petition signatures to save the Endangered Species Act to the White House. This year they hope to collect 275,000 petition signatures to be presented to Congress. In addition, Aveda created their "Light the Way" candles with all proceeds from sales going to their Earth Month Partners.

For further information about Aveda see www.aveda.com. If you have time to donate to the Aveda/CNPS Earth Month Campaign as a speaker or presenter, please contact the Southern California Project Leader for CNPS, Halli Mason, at hmason@sbcglobal.net or 818-345-6749.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Native Plant Talk in Marina Del Rey on March 20
“Coastal species of California native plants suitable for the home garden” will be presented by John Wickham, president of the Theodore Payne Foundation, at the Monday, March 20, meeting of the Airport-Marina group. Wickham, legislative analyst with the City of Los Angeles, has been a Sierra Club member for more than 10 years. “Having landscapes that are environmentally appropriate to where you live and don't use pesticides or fertilizers, are ideal for creating habitat,” he explained. The Theodore Payne Foundation, incorporated in 1960, is named for the Los Angeles horticulturalist who planted 262 species in a five-acre wild garden in Exposition Park, planted 178 native species in the California Institute of Technology Botanic Garden in Pasadena, and helped create other noted gardens in Santa Barbara and Orange County. The free meeting, open to the public, will be held at 7:45pm on Monday, Mar. 20, in the Community Room of Burton Chace Park, at the west end of Mindanao Way in Marina del Rey. Refreshments will be served. For further information, call (310) 207-6902 or leave a message on the group's hotline (310) 485-8008.

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve
Trash Cleanup - Volunteers Needed
Saturday, April 1, 2006 – 8am to Noon
 Please help liberate lovely Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area (SBWA) and Haskell Creek from trash. Haskell Creek, which runs through the SBWA to the Los Angeles River, hosts many riparian trees and shrubs, such as cottonwoods, willows and cattails. Songbirds forage and nest in the trees and shrubs. Winter's rains washed in hideous amounts of trash, especially plastic bags and styrofoam. This is your chance to help restore the creek's beauty. Please wear rugged clothing, including water shoes or rubber boots, and sunscreen. If you have them please bring gardening gloves and tools to help reach items. Guided tours will be available at 11am primarily for participants who are not familiar with the Wildlife Area. Directions: Take Woodley Avenue (which is ½ mile west of the I-405 Freeway) north from Burbank Blvd. Go ½ mile north to the signs for the Wildlife Reserve and Japanese Gardens. Turn east (right). Where the road forks, bear right. Continue east ½ mile to the end of the road. Sign-in at the amphitheatre, just beyond the large rock monuments and rock-faced buildings. The event is appropriate for adults and older students. (not appropriate for young children). It is an excellent opportunity for students to earn community service hours. Rain cancels but light drizzle does not. If we are rained out on April 1, we will reschedule for Saturday April 8. Other questions: (310) 457-5796 or (818) 831-6061.

Native Plant Garden Tours April 1 & 2
Theodore Payne Native Plant Garden Tour
Los Angeles area
 Saturday and Sunday, April 1 and 2, 2006, 10am to 4pm.
<http://www.theodorepayne.org/Tour/tour.html>

California Native Grassland Association
Workshop: Identifying and Appreciating the Native and Naturalized Grasses of California Southern CA
Date & Time: April 24 & 25, 2006 8am to 4:30pm
 Instructors: David Amme and John DiGregoria
 Location: Santa Rosa Plateau, 39400 Clinton Keith Road, Murrieta, CA
 Fees: \$220 for CNGA members and \$260 for non-members
 Send email to admin@cnga.org for further information.

2nd Annual Green Gardens Tour - Santa Monica
Saturday, April 29, 2006, 10am to 4pm
 Sponsored by The Virginia Avenue Project, the tour will feature home gardens throughout Santa Monica. The tour offers demonstrations of sustainable techniques and practices along with the beauty and intrigue of green gardens. Tickets (\$30 in advance) or \$35 on tour day are available by calling (310) 264-4224 or on the web at www.VirginiaAvenueProject.org.

2006 California Trails & Greenways Conference
May 5-7th, 2006
 We invite you to register for the 21st California Trails & Greenways Conference at the Renaissance Hotel in Agoura Hills, CA. The conference will begin with workshops on May 5th, ending with the California Recreational Trails Committee Public Meeting and plenary session on May 7th; educational sessions will be highlighting Trail Management, Planning & Funding, and the Health Benefits of Trails. Early registration ends April 4, 2006. For more information and easy registration go to www.parks.ca.gov/trails or call (888) 541-7783.

The Native Plant & Wildlife Garden at Baldwin Hills
Grand Opening · May 6, 2006, 8am-1pm
 Baldwin Hills Conservancy, Friends of Baldwin Hills, Los Angeles Audubon Society, and our LA/SMM chapter of CNPS invite you to the grand opening of “The Native Plant & Wildlife Garden,” a three-acre native plant garden created through efforts of interns and volunteers from the community. The garden will attract insects, birds and other wildlife for park visitors to enjoy and study. Day's agenda includes an 8am bird walk led by LA Audubon, a 10am plant walk, 11am opening ceremonies followed by a complimentary BBQ at the picnic area. Kenneth Hahn Recreation Area, Baldwin Hills Park, 4100 S. La Cienega Boulevard, Los Angeles. RSVP: gardenparty@laaudubon.org or (866) 778-3755

Wildflower Weekend
May 19-21, 2006
Sponsored by Blue Sky Meadow Science Institute and CNPS Mojave Chapter
 The San Bernardino Mtns are renowned for their plant diversity and that they have the highest rare plant concentration in the mainland United States. The Blue Sky Meadow Science Camp is 10 miles from Big Bear City at an elevation of 8,000 ft. and is surrounded by National Forest. Field trips will be held on Friday evening, all day Saturday and half day on Sunday. Cost: The \$80 fee includes food and accommodations in dorm style cabins (similar to the Bristlecone sojourn). Make checks out to Blue Sky Meadow, Box 2860, Big Bear City, CA 92314. Trip Leaders: Tim Krantz, Andy Sanders, Pam MacKay, Tim Thomas, Tasha LaDoux, Oscar Clarke, Scott Eliason and RT Hawke. RSVP: Please e-mail your reservations to rth00@yahoo.com, (that's rth zero-zero). (909) 584-8495.

MANY THANKS TO NANCY COHEN!
 As *Toyon* editor, I would like to thank Nancy Cohen for her volunteer work as the *Toyon* layout designer for the past 3 years. She has produced the finished copy in a timely fashion and given the *Toyon* a professional, polished look in the process. Unfortunately, Nancy no longer has the time to devote to this task. I will especially miss Nancy and the help she provided with our newsletter production. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who would like to help with the design and production of the *Toyon* as a volunteer for our CNPS Chapter. Contact me at naturebase@aol.com. – Steve Hartman, *Toyon* Editor

PROGRAMS**TUES 3/14 7:30-9:30pm***Sepulveda Garden Center, Encino***NATIVE PLANT****IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP****Workshop Leader: Ilene Anderson, professional botanist aided by LA/SMM Chapter members**

Directions: the Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd. in Encino, is on the north side of Magnolia between Balboa & Hayvenhurst. Park in the lighted lot at the east end of the garden, walk west along the path to the garden center building. Native plant and gardening books will be for sale and refreshments are served. A no-host dinner precedes the meeting at 6:00pm at Chevy's Mexican Restaurant in Encino (16705 Ventura Blvd.)

TUES 4/11 7:30-9:30pm*First United Methodist Church, Santa Monica***NEW BEGINNINGS ALONG BALLONA CREEK****Speaker: Jim Lamm**

Directions: The First United Methodist Church, 1008 11th Street, Santa Monica CA 90403, is one and a half blocks north of Wilshire Boulevard on 11th Street in Santa Monica. From the 10 freeway, exit at Lincoln. Go right, or north to Wilshire. Turn right. In three blocks turn left on 11th Street. The church is on the left, just past California. Church parking is on the right under an apartment complex. The Fireside Room is at the north end of the church's large patio, next to the Sanctuary. A no-host dinner precedes the meeting at 6:00pm at El Cholo Mexican Restaurant in Santa Monica at 1025 Wilshire Blvd.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAMS, PLEASE SEE THE UPCOMING PROGRAMS ON FRONT PAGE.**BOARD MEETINGS****TUES 3/7 7pm**

LA/SMM CNPS Chapter Board Meeting at Jo Kitz' home, 6223 Lubao Ave., Woodland Hills. Chapter members are invited! (818) 348-5910

TUES 4/4 7pm

LA/SMM CNPS Chapter Board Meeting at Halli Mason's home, Chapter members are invited, call for directions. (818) 345-6749

HIKES AND RESTORATION**SUN 3/4 9:30am***Cheeseboro/Palo Comado*

After-the-Burn Wildflower Recovery Walks or the Amazing Fire Followers Fire in wildlands is not a disaster; it is a renewal. Easy walks along roads and trails will enjoy the recovery in this series of walks as plants bloom and animals return to this lush new habitat. Call for meeting place. (818) 348-5910. 3hrs

SUN 3/12 9am*Santa Monica Mountains*

Habitat Restoration Weed Wars Non-native invasive noxious weeds are removed to bring back the native wildflowers and to restore habitat to our parklands. Bring lunch, water, and gloves; community service credit; call for location. *Reservations required* (818) 348-5910. 4hrs

THUR 3/16 10am*Cold Creek Preserve*

Cold Creek Meanderings Mountain lilac, bush poppies and spring wildflowers adorn the trails along Cold Creek on this easy walk-about. Walk under oak canopies, through red shank tunnels, and across waving grasslands. Bring water and lunch. Meet at the Lower Stunt High Trailhead. 3hrs. Sponsored also by Mountains Restoration Trust. (818) 591-1701

SUN 3/19 9am*Malibu Creek State Park*

Oak Habitat Restoration The work continues to restore oak woodlands with native plants and grasses which helps young oaks grow into an oak woodland; community service credit. *Reservations required*. Phone (818)348-5910. 3hrs. Sponsored also by Mountains Restoration Trust.

SAT 3/25 9:30am*Santa Monica Mountains*

Bloomingest Place Spring wildflowers at their best. Enjoy the burst of bloom that follows rain or a wildfire. Call for meeting place. (818) 348-5910. 3hrs

SUN 3/26 10am*Malibu Bluffs Park*

Bluffs Ramble to the Sea Hike trails with great mountain and ocean views, walk on the beach, dip your toes into the bay, look for dolphins, whales and wildflowers. 2-mile return, 2hrs. Call (310) 472-0624

SUN 4/9 9am*State Parks*

Weed War Help halt the invasion of invasive non-native species that destroy the natural beauty of our unique parklands. Credit for community service. *Reservations required*. (818)348-5910. 5hrs. Sponsored also by California Dept. of Parks & Recreation.

THUR 4/13 10am*Cold Creek Preserve*

Cold Creek Meanderings Join us for 4-mile walks under oaks, through mountain lilac tunnels and across meadows. Along the way we'll see a myriad of spring wildflowers and stunning views. Wear hiking boots or sturdy shoes; bring water and snack. Meet at the Lower Stunt High Trailhead. 3hrs. Sponsored also by Mountains Restoration Trust. (818) 591-1701

SAT-SUN 4/15, 4/16 10am-4pm*Malibu Bluffs Park*

Wildflower Show and Wildflower Walk Native wildflowers from botanical and home gardens on display. Plants, books, posters and more for sale. Members of the California Native Plant Society will provide a 2-hour guided walk to look at the spring wildflowers on Bluffs Park at 1pm each day. Sponsored also by City of Malibu, Charmlee Wilderness Park and the California Dept. of Parks and Recreation. Location: Pacific Coast Hwy at Malibu Canyon Road. Call or email Snowy Dodson for further information or to volunteer some time at the Show: (818) 782-9346 or snowdy.dodson@csun.edu

FRI-SUN 4/28, 29, 30*Point Mugu State Park*

25th Annual Santa Monica Mountains Trail Days Spend Sat, Sun, or whole weekend camping at Danielson Ranch under oak trees in the heart of Pt Mugu SP. New trails will be built; old trails repaired, and habitats restored. There's a job for everyone, not just the burly. No experience needed, just spirit of fun and adventure. Sat night BBQ and campfire. Sat or Sun, meet 8:30 am at National Park Service "Authorized Vehicle" Entrance Road on Potrero Road east of Pinehill, Newbury Park. Bring trail tools, long pants, gloves, hat, water, lunch and libations for Saturday dinner. Tools provided. Take Ventura Fwy to Wendy exit, S to Potrero Road, W to service road, L to parking area or gate to meet for caravan into park. For camping info and reservations, send self-addressed stamped envelope to Trail Days, 24735 Mulholland Hwy, Calabasas 91302. No fee. Info: (818) 222-4531. Many sponsors.

SAT-SUN 4/29 & 4/30 8:30am*Point Mugu State Park*

Weed War at 25th Annual Trail Days. Restore wildflowers and young oaks in Upper Big Sycamore Canyon. Remove invasive weed plants. Info: (818) 348-5910. 6hrs. Sponsored also by California Dept. of Parks & Recreation.



LOS ANGELES • SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CHAPTER

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

15811 Leadwell Street, Van Nuys, CA 91406

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Wildflower Show

April 15-16

10am-4pm

Malibu Bluffs

Volunteers are needed!

Contact Snowdy at (818) 782-9346

or at snowdy.dodson@csun.edu

TIME VALUE

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Chapter Message Phone: (818) 881-3706

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See www.lacnps.org for chapter officers.

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CHAPTER RENEWALS & NEW MEMBERSHIPS

Send check to David Hollombe, 6223 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90048 or to CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816. Current CNPS memberships are: Student \$25, Individual \$45, Library, Group or Family \$75, Plant Lover \$100-\$300, Patron \$301-\$600, Benefactor \$601-\$1,500, Mariposa Lily over \$1500. *Make checks payable to CNPS.*

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS TO TOYON ONLY. For members of other CNPS chapters, send \$5 to David Hollombe.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Write or phone David Hollombe (323) 934-0332. Include your e-mail address. Be sure to notify State CNPS Office, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816.