PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE  
By Snowdy Dodson
Greetings for a prosperous 2012. I trust you have had fun holidays and are ready for another year. There is much news regarding open space and parks. The National Park Service has released its Draft San Gabriel Watershed and Mountains Special Resource Study
http://parkplanning.nps.gov/documentsList.cfm?projectID=12203 . Comments on this document are due on Jan. 9, 2012. I encourage you to look this over and fill out the online comment document associated with the above link. Our Chapter submitted comments recommending Alternative D which would designate a larger scale national recreation area incorporating resources associated with the San Gabriel Mountains and the Puente-Chino Hills. We believe that the San Gabriel Mountains deserve the same level of protection as the Santa Monica Mountains.

And on that front, the California Dept. of Parks and Recreation has sent notice of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Topanga State Park General Plan. The Draft EIR may be viewed at http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=25956 and comments are due by Jan. 23, 2012. The General Plan will establish management goals, guidelines, and objectives and will outline a number of zones including a wildlands zone setting aside over 70% of the Park’s acreage for minimal development with modest camping opportunities; a cultural preserve to heighten the interpretation and protection of cultural resources; a historic zone including the former Rancho Las Lomas Celestiales (Trippet Ranch); as well as areas for resource management and recreational and interpretive programs.
Comments should be directed to: Luke Serna, Park & Recreation Specialist, 8885 Rio San Diego Dr., Suite 270, San Diego, CA 92108 or by email to enviro@parks.ca.gov.

If you live in the City of Los Angeles, you may be interested in helping to determine the fate of the dead City Hall lawn left by the Occupy Los Angeles campers. Emily Green’s Dec. 16, 2011 Op/Ed piece in the LA Times suggested that the City Dept. of Recreation and Parks turn the space into a drought tolerant native plant garden to serve as a model for urban landscapers and gardeners. In response, our CNPS Chapter sent a letter to Jon Mukri who heads the Recreation and Parks Dept. asking him to adopt Emily’s suggestion. If you think this idea has merit, please contact your city council representative and voice your opinion. I know that members of the City Council are seriously pursuing alternatives to a lawn at City Hall.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS  
of the Los Angeles/Santa Monica Mountains Chapter

January 10, 2012 – 7:30 - 9:30PM
Sepulveda Garden Center
16633 Magnolia Blvd. Encino

Chatsworth Reservoir: Past, Present and Future
Presenter: Art Langton

Art will touch on the history of the Chatsworth property, why the reservoir no longer stores water, and its rich biological resources: birds, major mammalian predators, reptiles, amphibians, wildflowers (both pre- and post-wildfire). He will update us on what is happening to the Preserve currently—its transfer from DWP to City Recreation and Parks and its role as a “land bank.” Is this the best way to conserve Chatsworth Preserve natural resources?

Art Langton spent 38 years teaching 8th graders earth and physical science. He was Science Department Chairman at John A. Sutter Middle School and received a number of honors. Past president of the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society (three terms), he still compiles their Christmas bird count. His first Christmas bird count was at Chatsworth Reservoir when he was working on a merit badge for Eagle Scout around 1959.

February 14, 2012 – 7:30 - 9:00PM
First United Methodist Church
Santa Monica

Temescal Canyon Pacific Palisades Native Plant Garden: A Work in Progress
Presenters: Barbara Marinacci and Michael Terry

Almost a quarter century ago, enthusiastic volunteers installed the Temescal Canyon Pacific Palisades Native Plant Garden in a far corner of a Los Angeles City Park. Through a series of misfortunes, this ~16,000 square foot Native Plant Garden was abandoned to invasive weeds and trash. When this sad situation came to the attention of local CNPS Members Barbara Marinacci and Michael Terry in the Spring of 2010, they started organizing volunteer workdays on the last Saturday of each month to help restore the Native Plant Garden to a place worthy of its name.

continued on page 3

Programs are free to the public. Refreshments will be served. For directions, see CNPS Programs on page 3.
**Hikes and Restoration - January & February**

**SAT 1/7 8:45am**  
*Cold Creek Preserve*  
**Cold Creek Preserve Habitat Restoration Day** Help plant, weed, and water to restore the habitat many animals depend on for food and shelter. Reservations required: volunteer@treepeople.org or 818-591-1701 x203. 4hrs*

**SUN 1/8 8:45am**  
*Malibu Creek State Park*  
**Weed War is Habitat Restoration** Warring against (removing) the non-native plants (weeds) and replacing them with native plants is necessary to restore biodiversity, habitat and ecological balance to the parks and preserves in the mountains. Bring water; wear sturdy shoes; tools and gloves provided; credit for community service hours. Please call for site location. **Reservations required**: 818-348-5910 or online at volunteer@treepeople.org. 3.5hrs *

**SAT 1/21 8:45am**  
*Malibu Creek State Park*  
**Lost Oak Woodland Restoration** In 1992, a volunteer oak planting program was started to restore wildlife habitat and to add to the beauty of the park. Commemorative Oaks Program is still going strong. Volunteers have added over 3,000 oak and native trees to the park. Volunteers are needed to plant and care for even more trees and to attend the volunteer supervisor's training program offered by TreePeople. Bring water, snack, sturdy shoes; gloves and tools provided; receive community service credit. **Reservations required**: 818-591-1701 x203 or online at volunteer@treepeople.org. 4hrs *

**SAT 1/21 8:30am**  
*Caballero Canyon*  
**Chaparral Chatter Nature Walk** Enjoy "springtime" in the Santa Monicas, as the first blooming shrubs will be flowering to start the season. The seasonal changes in the chaparral and oak woodland are astonishing, and the views from Mulholland Drive of the San Fernando Valley to the north and the Pacific Ocean to the south – on a clear day! – more than compensate for the 800' elevation gain. Bring water, hat and a curious open mind to take in the splendor of this gem in our city, a small section of the Santa Monica Mountains. Leisurely pace, but steep hiking on narrow trail in one section. Meet at lower trailhead on Reseda Blvd. 1.9 miles south of Ventura Blvd. Info: 818-782-9346. 3hrs

**SUN 1/22 8:45am**  
*Topanga State Park*  
**Lower Topanga Creek Restoration** Help plant, water and weed. Bring water, snack, and sturdy footwear. Receive credit for community service. **Reservations required**: 818-591-1701 x203 or volunteer@treepeople.org. 3hrs*

**SAT 2/4 8:45am**  
*Cold Creek Preserve*  
**Cold Creek Preserve Habitat Restoration Day** See January 7 write-up Reservations required: volunteer@treepeople.org or 818-591-1701 x203. 3hrs*

**SAT 2/11 9:30am**  
*Tapia Park on Las Virgenes Road*  
**Fungal Discovery** Walk and learn about our native wild mushrooms and how to recognize our common species including the dangerous ones. Bring a snack, water. Info: 818-348-5910. 3hrs

**SUN 2/12 8:45am**  
*Malibu Creek State Park*  
**Weed War is Habitat Restoration** Warring against (removing) the non-native plants (weeds) and replacing them with native plants is necessary to restore biodiversity, habitat and ecological balance to the parks and preserves in the mountains. Bring water; wear sturdy shoes; tools and gloves provided; credit for community service hours. Please call for site location. **Reservations required**: 818-348-5910 or online at volunteer@treepeople.org. 3.5hrs *

**SAT 2/18 8:45am**  
*Malibu Creek State Park*  
**Lost Oak Woodland Restoration** See January 21 write-up. **Reservations required**: 818-591-1701 x203 or online at volunteer@treepeople.org. 4hrs *

**SAT 2/25 8:45am**  
*Temescal Canyon Park*  
**Weeding in the City Park at Temescal Canyon** Barbara Marinacci leads weeding at the Native Plant Garden in Temescal Canyon Park (the City of L.A. park between PCH and Sunset, NOT MRCA’s Temescal Canyon Park). Show up anytime. For more information contact Barbara at barbara.marinacci@verizon.net.

**SUN 2/26 10am**  
*Topanga State Park, Trippet Ranch*  
**Ambling through the Park** you’ll see early blooming shrubs, wildflowers, mushrooms; mountain and ocean views on easy-paced walk on Musch Trail. Meet at the northeastern corner of the Trippet Ranch parking lot near the pond. Info: 310-579-7667 2hrs

* Co-sponsored by L.A./SMM CNPS, Mountains Restoration Trust, and TreePeople.

**All Field Trips - Rain Cancels**

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**La Sierra Canyon Native Plant Restoration** Meet in Peter Strauss Ranch parking lot to go to work site. Bring lunch and water. Receive credit for community service. **Reservations required**: 818-591-1701 x203 or volunteer@treepeople.org. 3hrs*

**SAT 1/28 8:45am**  
*Santa Monica Mountains*  
**La Sierra Canyon Native Plant Restoration** Meet in Peter Strauss Ranch parking lot to go to work site. Bring lunch and water. Receive credit for community service. **Reservations required**: 818-591-1701 x203 or volunteer@treepeople.org. 3hrs**

**SAT 2/18 8:30am**  
*Caballero Canyon, Tarzana*  
**Chaparral Chatter Nature Walk** See January 21 write-up. Info: 818-881-3706 3hrs

**SUN 2/19 8:45am**  
*Topanga State Park*  
**Lower Topanga Creek Restoration** See January 22 write-up. **Reservations required**: 818-591-1701 x203 or volunteer@treepeople.org. 3hrs*

**SAT 2/25 9am–4pm**  
*Temescal Canyon Park*  
**Weeding in the City Park at Temescal Canyon** Barbara Marinacci leads weeding at the Native Plant Garden in Temescal Canyon Park (the City of L.A. park between PCH and Sunset, NOT MRCA’s Temescal Canyon Park). Show up anytime. For more information contact Barbara at barbara.marinacci@verizon.net.
PLANNING has begun for the Expo Light Rail Line Phase 2 which will run from Culver City to Santa Monica. The line is described as a “transit parkway” with a 100 ft right of way that includes a bike path and landscaping along with the light rail line. A group of Expo Line supporters from Palms, Cheviot Hills, and Rancho Park are advocating for the use of native plants for the landscaping along Expo Line Phase 2. To date, Charles Miller of the Palms Neighborhood Council has gotten motions of support for this idea from several local Neighborhood Councils, and the Urban Design Committee for Expo Phase 2 will be considering the issue of landscaping with California natives. The idea of an urban greenway on the right of way between Overland and Westwood Blvds. has been promoted for many years by Jonathan Weiss (http://www.expogreenway.org/) and is beginning to see support from the Dept. of Sanitation. Our CNPS Chapter will be involved with promotion of native plants along Expo Phase 2. If you are interested in being a part of this effort, please contact Sarah Hays, Co-Chair of Light Rail for Cheviot and member of the Urban Design Committee for Expo Phase 2, sirrahhs@sbcglobal.net or Charles Miller of the Palms Neighborhood Council, charlesmiller@palmsla.org.

### CHAPTER BOARD MEETINGS

**January 3, 6pm**  
At the home of Halli Mason.  
Call for directions 818-345-6749.

**January 31, 7pm. (in lieu of February meeting)**  
6117 Reseda Blvd. Suite H, Tarzana  
(north of Oxnard/Topham, on west side of Reseda), one block from the Orange Line Busway on Reseda Blvd. Steve Hartman’s office. Join board members for dinner at 5:45pm at Garden Wok Restaurant at same address. Members welcome!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**CNPS CHAPTER COUNCIL MEETING**  
March 3-4  
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden  
Early March is a perfect time of the year to visit Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and on March 3 and 4th, the local CNPS chapters will be hosting the quarterly Chapter Council meeting at the Garden. If you would like to carpool there please leave your name and phone number (or email) at the chapter phone 818-881-3706 or to lacnps@lacnps.org.

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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

continued from page 1

**TUES 1/10 7:30-9:30PM**  
_Sepulveda Garden Center, Encino_

**CHATSWORTH RESERVOIR: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**  
**Presenter: Art Langton**

**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 6:00 pm at Tony Roma’s Restaurant, 16575 Ventura Blvd., Encino (818-461-8400)

**TUES 2/14 7:30-9:00PM**  
_First United Methodist Church, Santa Monica_

**TEMESCAL CANYON NATIVE PLANT GARDEN**  
**Presenters: Barbara Marinacci and Michael Terry**  

*Program description continued from page 1*

Barbara Marinacci, is the author of 10 books and numerous articles. She is editor of _Eden_, the quarterly journal of the California Garden & Landscape History Society. A lifelong gardener, she now lives in a condo in Pacific Palisades. She connects with plants and earth as a volunteer weeder/plant in Topanga State Park and gardener at the Lake Shrine. This year, she received the Community Council’s Golden Sparkplug award for her work in resuscitating the Native Plant Garden.

Michael Terry is a local Garden Designer who works with many styles and planting palettes while always emphasizing sustainability and the effective use of native plants in the various microclimates of Southern California. He is a member of the Los Angeles/Santa Monica Mountains Chapter of CNPS, Theodore Payne Foundation, and Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden (occasionally volunteering at the new Grow Native Nursery Westwood).

**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. Native plant and gardening books will be for sale and refreshments are served. A no-host dinner precedes the meeting at 6:00 pm at El Cholo Mexican Restaurant in Santa Monica at 1025 Wilshire Blvd.

**For information about the above program, please see “Upcoming Programs” on front page.**

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**CNPS CONSERVATION CONFERENCE**

Jan. 10 -14, 2012  
See www.cnps.org

**Chapter Election Results**

Thanks to all of you who voted in our recent election and also to those who agreed to run for office. Our 2011 officers are:  
**Snowdy Dodson**, President; **Jo Kitz**, and **Halli Mason**, Co-Vice Presidents; **Henrietta Yuan**, Secretary; **Steve Hartman**, Treasurer; **Betsey Landis**, Chapter Council Delegate.
NATIVE PLANT WEEK SYMPOSIUM,
CHAPTER WILDFLOWER SHOW,
AND PLANT SALE
April 21, 2012 (Saturday); 9am-4pm
Save the Date and Call for Cuttings

Our CNPS Chapter’s annual Wildflower Show is scheduled for April 21 at the Sepulveda Garden Center in conjunction with a simultaneous Native Plant Week Symposium, plant and book sale. The Symposium will feature speakers throughout the day. Plants for sale will be available courtesy of our co-sponsor the Theodore Payne Foundation. We welcome California native wildflower cuttings from your home gardens.

Contact Snowdy Dodson via email: snowdy.dodson@csun.edu or phone: 818-782-9346 for details. The cuttings need to be available for set up on Friday, April 20.

THANKS TO 2011 PLANT SALE VOLUNTEERS

It takes a small village to plan, organize, and carry through with our Chapter Plant Sale. Our Plant Sale Committee, Steve Hartman, Halli Mason, and Snowdy Dodson, would like you to join us in thanking the following dedicated volunteers for their hard work this year: Doug Allan, Karin Benson, Sharece Danhauser, David Ecklund, Olga Hammer, Tanessa Hartwig, David Hollombe, Cynthia Jackson, Jo Kitz, Betsey Landis, Sid Mendel, Mary Montes, Gwen Neill, Anh Nguyen, Katie Okun, Christine Walker, and Dorothy Walker.

Also, many thanks to the Santa Monica City College students from the Sustainable Works Program managed by Holli Fajack and the biology class of Professor Alexandra Tower. Christine Oroszco, William Malng, Byounghee Yoo, Jennifer Hur, Farboa Yountobian, Louis Gouzman, Enoch Park, Jae Hyan Lee, K. Bum Park, Jessica Raminfard, Ryan LaRochelle, Bee Jangrafamadec, Alexandra Lazar, Mohammad Rahman, Tyler Rein, Olekandra Vasylykhina, Drew York, Chris Ernst, Mary Brown, Nina Cremer, Aracely and Armando Gonzalez, Natanel and Sharona Safaradi, and Negai Azadbodi.

We extend special recognition to Vel Lauterio and Carlos Cardona of the Sepulveda Garden Center for logistical support; and to Bob Sussman of the Matilija Nursery for the high quality cutting plants. Also thanks to Mountains Restoration Trust for providing supplemental plants for sale. Special thanks to our speakers: Genevieve Arnold of Theodore Payne Foundation, Bart O’Brien of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, and Steve Hartman, CNPS Fellow.

Our Plant Sale was an unqualified success through the educational and outreach it provided to those seeking to make a change in their home gardens; and the icing on the cake is the added funds that will provide resources to do all of our wonderful 2012 programming. We could not have done it without all this support!

MRT EXPANDS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM TO SENIORS

The Senior Naturalist Program is an opportunity to discover special places within the mountains, learn about local nature and meet others with whom to enjoy the great outdoors with. Space is limited and reservations are required. Fee is $10.00 per person per event. The MRT Senior Naturalist Program is being offered through the Calabasas Community Services Department.

Complete class description descriptions and registration information can be found in the City of Calabasas Recreation Brochure with registration information. For more information about a program, contact Susan Haugland at 818-591-1701 ext. 212 or email shaugland@mountainstrust.org.

WEED WAR EXTREME

For years, CNPS conducted weed wars throughout the mountains focused on areas where an adjacent native plant would colonize the area freed of invasive species. Results were slow but spectacular. The Malibu Lagoon with all its shortcomings is now a place of beauty and vegetative harmony. The removal of invasive trees, particularly myoporum and eucalyptus, by CNPS made a dramatic difference. Weed Wars now harks to another chant! “Pull and Plant.”

The focus of the October and November weed wars and an restoration day on December 17 is a riparian reach at White Oak Farm a unit of Malibu Creek State Park. Piles of mustard, bull thistle, Italian thistle, curly dock, horehound, silver-leaf nightshade, and poison hemlock opened the land for planting the following natives: 29 valley oaks, 13 coast live oaks, 10 everlasting, 10 coffeeberry, 10 California brome, 20 mulefat poles, 20 arroyo willow poles. Native species that have volunteered and are protected are 4 coast live oaks, a dozen milk weeds, several daturas, and a field of California brome.

Restoration of this portion of White Oak Farm is a return for CNPS weed warriors. Back in the 80s, we were probably the first weed team to tackle the seemingly eternal tree of heaven. Very little was known of the tree’s physiology so with trial and error patience, we learned the best methods for removing this pest and were successful in removing 99.99% of the trees.

by Jo Kitz
Major Hedrick Ranch Nature Area Restoration Completed

Friends of Santa Clara River (FSCR) and its volunteer restoration team, led by restoration coordinator Jackie Worden, have now completed a major restoration effort at the Hedrick Ranch Nature Area (HRNA) funded by a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). The funds became available to FWS from settlement claims for damages from an ARCO oil spill into the river in 1994. Work under this grant began in December 2004 and was completed in May 2011.

The goal of the restoration project was to restore natural function to riparian and wetland habitats historically found along the Santa Clara River. The project included removal of invasive, non-native plants and re-vegetation with native plants. The project focused on 48 acres of the approximately 220 total in HRNA, which was placed under FSCR stewardship after being acquired by the State Coastal Conservancy in 1999 as part of the Conservancy’s River Parkway Project.

Historic uses at HRNA included cattle and horse grazing as well as production of orchard and row crops. Once livestock was removed, however, the pastures became choked with a number of weed species, necessitating hand-removal. This work was initially carried out by Sandy Hedrick and a small group of volunteers. After this, grant funding became available from several sources, allowing the expansion of the volunteer effort, hiring of professional restoration consultants and the establishment of an onsite nursery.

Thirty-one species of native plants were installed to improve habitat diversity. These plants included yerba mansa, mugwort, field sedge, saltgrass, western goldenrod, and California blackberry. Shrub species planted included quailbush, Mexican elderberry, giant ryegrass, and sandbar willow. Tree species comprised southern California black walnut, black cottonwood, western sycamore, coast live oak, and arroyo willow.

Prior to restoration, wildlife on the property was restricted to common species tolerant of existing land uses. All of this has now changed as a result of restoration activities (see attached photographs comparing the west pasture restored area in 2009, 2010, and 2011). Professional wildlife and botanical surveys have documented qualitatively the many species now utilizing the habitat at HRNA for foraging, roosting and nesting. Over 190 species of birds have now been identified, including a very exciting record of the federally-endangered yellow-billed cuckoo in June 2011. An amazing 74 occupied least Bells vireo nest sites were recorded in 2010 with six pairs that were tracked by biologists producing 23 fledglings! There are now 69 species breeding at HRNA, compared with only 35 species breeding in 2002.

At least 14 mammal species are known to utilize the property, including mountain lion, deer and bobcat. FSCR volunteers are still looking for the first black bear, but no doubt one will show up some day. Other species observed include 19 species of amphibians and reptiles, including rattlesnake, gopher snake and king snake.

Overall restoration at HRNA has been carried out under several grants, including one grant which is ongoing. The success of these projects is due, in large measure, to FSCR volunteer effort led by Jackie Worden, which has included notably several members of the Ventura Audubon Society. FSCR board members, Sandy Hedrick and Richard Sweet, deserve great credit for their countless hours of work on the project, as do our Coastal Restoration Consultants team of Dave Hubbard and Matt James.

The Temescal Canyon Pacific Palisades Native Plant Garden Sign (which needs to be relocated to open space) is embraced by one of the larger specimens of *Quercus agrifolia* (coast live oak), flanked on the left by a prime *Quercus lobata* (valley oak) specimen, and flanked on the right by a large *Alnus rhombifolia* (white alder). Below, note the fine boulders, some weed-free mulched ground, the still-weedy decomposed-granite path, and a pile of recently-cleared debris. Photo by Barbara Marinacci.

**RESTORING A PUBLIC NATIVE PLANT GARDEN — A WORK IN PROGRESS**

A Native Plant Garden was established in a far corner of Temescal Canyon Park in Pacific Palisades during the latter part of the 1980’s but, through an unfortunate series of circumstances, it was soon abandoned to the ravages of exotic invasive weeds and vandals. When fellow CNPS Member Barbara Marinacci brought this situation to my attention, we formed an informal “restoration group” with another local resident, Wayne Dollase, who had alerted her some days before that there was an incongruous sign at that site proclaiming the “Temescal Canyon Pacific Palisades Native Plant Garden” (TCPPNPG, for short). When the three of us met at that sign, it took some detective work to discover the indigenous California plants. Only the largest native trees and shrubs had survived and these were decorated with trash, surrounded by invasive herbaceous weeds, and strangled to their tops by exotic vines. Inspired by those tough survivors and motivated to restore what had been lost to our community, we quickly made the necessary arrangements with the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to start putting things right with whatever volunteer labor force we could muster.

Our first TCPPNPG Restoration Event was on Saturday, May 29th, 2010 and we made a party of it, from 9:00am to 4:00 pm, to attract volunteers throughout the day. On the serious side, our most urgent priority was to remove the herbaceous exotic invasives which were going to seed throughout most of the ~16,000 square-foot area. Some of our volunteers stayed for a couple of hours and others worked through most of the day removing virtually all of the weed seed heads and flowers, pulling up many weeds by the roots, starting to pull the invasive vines out of the native trees and shrubs, and hauling out piles of trash (and deadwood) that had previously been hidden in the weeds. As a result, RAP had some large piles of different types of debris to haul away to where they better belonged. After we decided that it would be worthwhile to try this again on the last Saturday of the next month, we were fortunate to have a similar volunteer turnout throughout the day including many faces familiar from the month before, and we made comparable progress. With those two successes as precedent, we made the commitment to repeat the effort throughout the day on the last Saturday of every month, posting notices in a number of places to recruit potential volunteers, including the pages of TOYON. After several months, we had cleared weeds entirely from substantial areas and had covered that bare ground with shredded bark mulch (delivered to the site by RAP) in order to suppress future invasions. Although it was obviously still a work in progress, the TCPPNPG was not only starting to look like a nice place to visit but also becoming readily identifiable as a Native Plant Garden.
Once schools were back in session, we recruited volunteers for these TCPPNPG Restoration Events from Palisades Charter High School on the other side of the street and from New Roads High School on the other side of Santa Monica. We were also happy to host student volunteers from Paul Revere Charter Middle School in Pacific Palisades and from the two New Roads Middle School campuses located in Santa Monica and Malibu. While teaching the students how to do the tasks at hand, we took the opportunity to explain and discuss various reasons why it was important to eradicate exotic invasive plants and to nurture native plants. Many of the student volunteers returned month after month inspired by the mission, the camaraderie, and the sense of accomplishment (including earning Community Service Credits); some students had never done anything like this before but they quickly acquired the necessary skills and discovered that they could make a positive difference on the ground through their own efforts.

While Barbara applied her networking skills to our outreach efforts, as the weed wars progressed, I applied my garden design techniques to mapping the TCPPNPG and creating suitable Planting Plans for the reintroduction of smaller native shrubs and perennials in various areas. Once Barbara was able to secure substantial grants and I was able to shepherd the first two Planting Plans through the RAP approval process, we started purchasing native plants and installing them where they belonged. We began the planting ceremoniously on October 29th, 2011 with a 15-gallon Dr. Hurd Manzanita tree dedicated to one of the original founders of the TCPPNPG, the late Dorothy Bissell. Thus, we honored the original spirit of the place while embarking on its renewal. Those volunteers who were younger than the garden itself particularly enjoyed planting the young natives and they talked about coming back to visit “their” plants as they grew. We are inspired to continue....

[On the last Saturday of each month, 9:00am-4pm, you can find us working near the Temescal Canyon Pacific Palisades Native Plant Garden sign (for directions, please map search “700 Temescal Canyon Road, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272”). Bring drinking water, weather-protection, a snack, and your favorite gardening hand tools to help us bring back the natives!]

LANDSCAPE INDUSTRY SHOW TO FEATURE CALIF. NATIVE PLANTS

The California Landscape Contractors Assn. (CLCA) will highlight California native plants during the industry show on Feb. 1 & 2, 2012 at the LA Convention Center. On Feb. 1, attendees can play native plant bingo for a chance to win cash and prizes. The bingo game will be organized by the CNPS LA/SMM Chapter, Theodore Payne Foundation, and Norman’s Nursery. Exhibit hall registration for the show is free if you pre-register: http://www.badgeguys.com/reg/2012/lis/register.aspx or $5 at the door; there are added fees for attendance at workshops and classes. This show is a must see for those in the trade and of interest to the dedicated home landscaper. See the show website for further details: http://www.cleca.us/lis/.

CAL-IPC PREVENTION BMPs FOR LAND MANAGERS

The California Invasive Plant Council has released a new online publication entitled: Preventing the Spread of Invasive Plants: Best Management Practices for Land Managers. The manual outlines steps to be taken to prevent the spread of invasive plants from one worksite to another via equipment, vehicles, pack animals, clothing, boots, etc. It is available for free download at: http://www.cal-ipc.org/ip/prevention/landmanagers.php

WILD WALNUT PARK, SEPTEMBER 2011

This city-owned previous weed patch has been planted by students participating in Mountains Restoration Trust’s SHRUB (Students Helping Restore Unique Biomes) Program. Annual cost is $10,000 per classroom. Students come to Headwaters Corner once a month for 5-6 months for environmental and cultural education plus a turn at hands-on restoration. Two students share a circular site which they plant, water and weed for the duration of the program. For the rest of the year, MRT staff and volunteers weed whack, water and weed the sites. Plants have been grown by MRT from seeds collected from the Dry Canyon Creek Watershed, a tributary of the Los Angeles River. School Year 2011-2012 will be the third year of the program.

GEORGE STEVENSON MEMORIAL DONATIONS RECOGNIZED

Our Chapter is most appreciative for the donations in George Stevenson’s memory made by Marilyn Allardyce, Neil and Rowena Haas, and Helen Stevenson and family. These funds will do much to continue and honor the restoration work done by George when he was president of our CNPS Chapter and a Weed Warrior.
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Chapter Message Phone: (818) 881-3706
Chapter Website: www.lacnps.org
Chapter email: lacnps@lacnps.org

TOYON Edited by Steven L. Hartman
naturebase@aol.com

Chapter Officers:
President
Snowdy Dodson
(818) 782-9346
snowdy.dodson@csun.edu

Vice Presidents
Jo Kitz
(818)348-5910
jkitz@mountainstrust.org

Halli Mason
(818) 345-6749
hmason@sbcglobal.net

Secretary
Henrietta Yuan
(323) 463-1385
henriettay@hotmail.com

Treasurer
Steven Hartman
(818) 881-3706
naturebase@aol.com

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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, Limited Income $25, Individual $45, Family, Group or Library $75.
Make checks payable to CNPS.

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