CALENDAR
May 2..........Board Meeting
May 4..........Garden Tour
May 5........FT Gorman Hills
May 16.......Chapter Meeting
May 19..........SAMNHA trip
May 19... FT Upper Newport Bay
Jun 2 .... FT James Dilly Preserve
Jun 6 ............Board Meeting
Jun 20 ...... Chapter Celebration
Jun 22 ......FT Long Canyon Road

JUNE IS OUR MONTH TO CELEBRATE!
We’ve had a year of amazing field trip, interesting programs, a great symposium, and many out-reach activities. We are actively engaged in conservation issues. Our chapter membership is at an all time high. All of this is good news for our California native plants! Thanks go to all our hard-working board members and to the many chapter members who have given freely of their support.

For this occasion, Celia Kutchner needs your great photos/images of 2009-10 chapter activities— ooh-ahh plant shots from field trips, garden tour, people doing things at plant sales, field trips, outreach events, school gardens, etc.—to show at our end-of-year bash! The deadline for submission is May 21. Please ID event, date, people, plants, and send as plain jps, 72 dpi, 1MB or less, to celia552@cox.net.

Come and enjoy the special celebration of a year’s achievements.

THE CONSERVATION REPORT:
NEW LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT PROPOSED FOR THE FOUR SO CAL FORESTS, PART 2: MORE ON WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE TRABUCO DISTRICT
Our backyard Santa Ana Mountains are managed by the Trabuco District of the Cleveland National Forest. See the previous newsletter for links to the extensive online maps and background on this new Amendment of the current (2006) Land Management Plan.

The proposed Amendment is to determine what Land Use Zone classifications the Forests’ Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs) will have, which in turn determines how they will be managed and what activities will be allowed in them.

The three Land-Use Alternatives discussed last time have corresponding Monitoring Alternatives, which define what the Forest Service will look at, over 5-year report periods, to monitor progress toward fulfilling the Plan’s management goals. A comparison of the Monitoring Alternatives that cover native vegetation and habitats shows that Alternatives A and B continue the monitoring that’s been done since 2005 at least, except that B adds a couple of items. Alternative C covers the same basic monitoring items—fuel/vegetation management at the WUI, maintaining the natural fire regime and vegetation/habitat health, reducing invasives, balancing resource-conservation needs with public/recreation needs—but with an emphasis on working with natural processes that is much more in line with current ecological research and resource-management thinking than Alternatives A or B.

Land-Use Alternative 3 and Monitoring Alternative C are environmentally superior to the other Alternatives, not only in the specifics of what’s monitored for but also—and most importantly—in the underlying assumptions about what the National Forests’ purposes are and how their management should be done.

ACTION NOW: Write a comment letter on how the new Land Use Plan Amendment will affect your use of the Santa Ana Mountains.

Include your experiences with and observations on its plants/vegetation, trails/roads, and however you use the Mountains. Some of your comments should be specifically about the proposed Amendment, as that’s what the Forest Service has specifically stated that they want for this. But it won’t hurt to also comment on any related Trabuco District issues—they probably won’t be responded to, but they’ll help to keep those other issues in their consciousness. Send comments BY MAY 16 to:

William Metz, Forest Supervisor
Cleveland National Forest
10845 Rancho Bernardo Road, Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92127-2107
socal_nf_ampmendment@fs.fed.us

CHINO-PUENTE HILLS: Two development projects that abut Chino Hills State Park, on lands that burned to the ground in the 2008 Freeway Complex Fire, are being processed through the County of Orange. The projects would add nearly 500 more houses (~5,000 additional vehicle trips a day) to streets that were gridlocked in the 2008 fire. Yorba Linda residents will be impacted by these developments, and have started a petition on Change.org: change.org/petitions/yorba-linda-city-council-ob-board-of-supervisors-stop-500-homes-to-be-built-in-yorba-linda-for-public-safety.

ACTION NOW: Please sign the petition and help out fellow supporters of the Puente-Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor.

—Celia Kutchner, Conservation Chair

Native Gardener’s Corner—Members’ Tips, Tricks, and Techniques
This column is a regular newsletter feature offering chapter members and local experts a chance to briefly share information on many things related to gardening with natives. This Issue’s question was "Which native flowers do you most like to pick for an indoor bouquet?" Answers listed in order received.
03-29-13

rites of spring
not just stravinsky or
madness at the beach—
now called spring break
but tradition
passover
easter &
even the maypole
with brightly colored ribbons
dancingly woven around the pole
while walking up little sycamore canyon
dodder’s bright orange tendrils wrapped &
wove around & around erect
spring green branches of buckwheat
a rite of spring
a celebration of tradition
along the trail
Laguna Coast Wilderness Park
Little Sycamore Canyon
Dodder, Witch’s Hair, Loveline
California Witch’s Hair
Cuscuta californica

chuck wright

Chuck Wright: “Whatever is blooming and will last for more than a day or two. Scarlet Bugler and Coral Bells and of course dried flower stalks, which last forever and even come with decorative spiders as a bonus. In the fall, the bright red rose hips of Rosa californica are hard to beat.”

Rob Moore: “Even though I have a wildflower meadow in my backyard, I don’t typically pick the flowers for indoor arrangements, but seeing as this particular day happened to be my wedding anniversary, I decided to pick a bouquet for my wife. I can still smell the Salvia spathacea, and purple sage on my fingers as I type. Others I chose for the arrangement included: Encelia californica, Clarkia unguiculata, Lupinus succulentus, Gilia capitata, and just for kicks I threw in some Leymus condensatus and Lepichinia fragrans. I topped it off with a handful (ouch) of some of that annoying Asparagus setaceous (non-native) that I can’t seem to get rid of. The wife seemed to like it...think I’m good for another year!”

Ron Vanderhoff: “Probably Encelia, or California sunflowers are my favorite. Mostly because their appearance is so cheerful, but also because I can usually find a few in bloom just about any time of the year. A second choice would be one of the Everlastings or Pseudognaphaliums. These never get enough love, but are wonderful in a vase, often fragrant, and last forever.”

Bob Allen: “Salvias from my garden.”

Thea Gavin: “Right now (April) I like to make up a vase of aromatic wooly blue curls mixed with elegant clarkia in shades of pink, with one tall lupine in spire in the middle, and a few sprigs of silvery/spicy Artemisia californica for filler around the edges.”

Jeanne Carter: “I love to use yarrow in bouquets as it lasts so long and comes in several colors. A side note on yarrow—I saw a house in Fullerton where it is used as a replacement for grass, mowed very short.”

Orchid Black: “Clarkia unguiculata, because they last so long, blooming up the stem.”

Stephanie Pacheco – “I leave all my bouquets for the bees, birds, and butterflies outside.”

Laura Camp: “For cut greens, I rave about Ribes viburnifolium, Catalina Perfume. Shiny, fragrant, round, bright green leaves on reddish stems last for months, even rooting in vase water. For flowers, Tidy Tips, Irises, Pitcher Sage, and Coral Bells.”

Dan Songster: “Woolly Blue Curls are astoundingly lovely, smell great, and last as long as almost any flower I have tried. The native bulbs often do well too, if you can bring yourself to clip them—all of the Dichelostema (Blue Dicks, Firecracker Flower, etc) and well as most Triteleias (like T. laxa-Ithuriel’s spear) and the native Alliums (Onions).”

Our Question for the Next Newsletter is: “What is one of your favorite native plants requires the “least” maintenance & what care do you give them?” —Dan Songster

New Board Member—Rachel Lee Whitt
Our chapter board never has a shortage of jobs to be done, so it is gratifying when another chapter member steps forward to share the load. Rachel Whitt has done just that.
With a Bachelors degree from USC in business with a minor in Spanish, Rachel developed a passion for native plants while volunteering with the Nature Conservancy and as a staff member with the Crystal Cove State Park Resource Management and Donna O’Neill Land Conservancy.
After completing a certificate in Horticulture and an AS degree in Landscape Design from Saddleback College, she has started her own landscape design company emphasizing use of natives. An active member of Orange County CNPS, Rachel has volunteered at a number of chapter outreach events. She also assists Laura Camp with the monthly E-mailings. Rachel was a major force in the organization and running of our 2012 “At Home with Natives” symposium at Saddleback College and she eagerly volunteered to work on a fall 2013 symposium, which she sees as essential to our promotion of native plants and related issues.
When asked to join the board as a voting member she did not hesitate to say yes. Therefore, in accordance with our Chapter Bylaws, Article III; Section 3. (Vacancies) the Board has voted to appoint Rachel to complete a two-year term as Member at Large.

Please take a moment when you next see her at one of our Meetings or Chapter events, to welcome and thank our newest Board Member, Rachel Lee Whitt!

FIELD TRIP UPDATES:
Gorman Hill Wildflower Trip—Sunday May 5
Due to the dry winter, this trip may be cancelled. Please check the website (occnps.org) for last-minute details.

SAMNHA Driving Tour of the Santa Ana Mountains—confirmed date: Sunday, May 19
This trip requires advance registration. Please visit www.occnps.org for registration instructions, as they become available. Instructions, meet-up spot, time, etc. will be sent.

Upper Newport Bay Ecological Preserve—Sunday, May 19
James Dilley Preserve & Mariposa Trail—Sunday, June 2
Car Trip along Long Canyon Road, Santa Ana Mountains—Saturday, June 22
Go to occnps.org for complete details on these field trips.
Chapter Meetings
Chapter meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month, except in July and August. Unless otherwise stated, meetings take place at the Duck Club in Irvine. Doors open at 6:45 pm; the program begins at 7:30.

Thursday, May 16: The Fullerton Arboretum’s Meadow—more than just Grass
THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE ARBORETUM.
If possible, meet at 6 PM for a guided walk in the native gardens. Speaker inside at 7:30 PM.

Speaker: Chris Barnhill
The newest landscape feature at the Fullerton arboretum is the native meadow (or grassland) and what a beauty it is! Yes, the main feature in the garden is the grasses of various sizes, textures, and colors, but it also hosts an extensive collection of beautiful perennials and bulbs. This garden is interesting and colorful almost all year long. If you have been considering replacing a conventional lawn area with something native and “meadowish”, this talk is a must.

Chris can tell us which plants are good garden companions and which are bullies, and which are just stellar performers! He will also acquaint us with how to go about selecting desirable plants and some of the challenges to overcome.

Chris Barnhill has been with the Fullerton Arboretum for over 12 years as the Curator of the Living Collections, where he has spearheaded the effort to create both the Channel Islands and Mohave Gardens. He has worked at Botanic Gardens in both Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Denver, Colorado, and at nurseries in New Mexico and California. He was the photographer for two full-length books on two interesting genera of plants from South Africa: One of the species, Conophyton chrisocruxum, was named for him.

Chris spends much of his free time traipsing around southern California, photographing and frolicking in this fantastic botanically diverse region we call home. He also enjoys his family and a steady supply of classical music and George Harrison recordings.

Directions to Fullerton Arboretum: From the 57 exit on Yorba Linda. Head toward Cal State Fullerton. Turn left on Associated Way, then left into the Arboretum parking lot. The talk will be held in the Education Pavilion.

Thursday, June 20, 2013: Chapter Celebration
Speakers: Greg Rubin and Lucy Warren on their new book

The California Native Landscape—The Home-owner’s Design Guide to Restoring Its Health and Beauty.“

It’s time to replace the water dependant lawns and landscapes that we may have grown accustomed to with colorful, thriving, California native landscapes. But what plants and design fit your yard? There are many opinions and options!

Tonight’s speakers will stress the importance of smart garden design and combining the right plants to promote a natural symbiosis that occurs within plant communities. Don’t miss this unique combination of proven techniques, environmental wisdom, and inspiring design advice sure to help you create a beautiful, ecologically appropriate, and resource-conserving home landscape.

Whether you are starting a whole new landscape or simply converting section of an existing landscape you are sure to gain valuable ideas on properly using native plants during this presentation.

We will have their book on hand to purchase, and Greg and Lucy will sign them for you.

Greg Rubin is the owner of California’s Own Native Landscape Design, a recognized leader in the field of native plant design, which specializes in creating stable, sustainable, ornamental, low-input gardens with substantial habitat and wildlife value. Greg’s business has been the subject of articles in Kiplinger’s, the Wall Street Journal, and the Los Angeles Times. He regularly gives presentations on native plants to organizations throughout California.

Lucy Warren is a longtime regional garden writer in Southern California. She has written for many local and national publications, including a regular gardening column in the San Diego Union-Tribune. She has also been editor for California Garden magazine. She is a life member of the San Diego Horticultural Society and serves on the board of the Pacific Horticulture Society.
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<th>CNPS Membership Application</th>
<th>Contact Information and Teams</th>
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<tr>
<td>□ New member</td>
<td><strong>Officers (2011 – 2012)</strong></td>
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<td>□ Renewal</td>
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<td>□ Individual..........................$45</td>
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<td>□ Family.................................$75</td>
<td>Dan Songster</td>
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<td>□ Plant Lover..........................$100</td>
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<td>□ Patron..................................$300</td>
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<td>□ Benefactor............................$600</td>
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<td>[Organizations, please go to CNPS.ORG]</td>
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<td>□ Affiliate with the Orange County Chapter.</td>
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<td>The chapter newsletter, CNPS Bulletin, and Fremontia are included. Membership is tax deductible, minus $12 for Fremontia. Make check payable to CNPS and send to: <strong>CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Join or renew online:</strong> go to <a href="http://www.cnps.org">www.cnps.org</a> click on <strong>Join CNPS.</strong></td>
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<th>Membership Team:</th>
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<td>Team Lead: Laura Camp</td>
<td>Team Lead: Celia Kutcher</td>
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<td>Volunteer Coordinator: Diane Wollenberg</td>
<td>Invasive Plants: Henry DiRocco</td>
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<td>Outreach Coordinator: Jennifer Mabley</td>
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<td>Hospitality: Sarah Jayne</td>
<td><strong>Explore Team (Explore OC):</strong></td>
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<td>Greeting: Dori Ito, Jennifer Beatty</td>
<td><strong>Team Lead:</strong> Brad Jenkins</td>
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<td>Volunteer Recognition: Dan Songster</td>
<td><strong>Field Trips:</strong> Ron Vanderhoff</td>
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<td><strong>Field Trip Logistics:</strong> Rich Schilk</td>
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<td>Audio-Visual: Bob Allen, Dan Songster</td>
<td><strong>Communications Team:</strong></td>
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<td>Horticulture Team (Grow Native OC):</td>
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<td><strong>Newsletter:</strong> Sarah Jayne</td>
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<td>Garden Tour: Sarah Jayne, Cathie &amp; Mike</td>
<td><strong>eNews:</strong> Laura Camp</td>
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<td><strong>Website:</strong> Rich Schilk</td>
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<td>Rare Plants: Dave Bramlet, Fred Roberts</td>
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- **CNPS** – California Native Plant Society
- **OCCNPS.ORG**
- **P.O. Box 54891**
- **Irvine CA 92619-4891**

**May/June 2013**

**First Class Mail**