



California Native Plant Society
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

THE BLAZING STAR

January-February 2018

MEMBERS' NIGHT AND GENERAL MEETING

**Friday, January 26th at 7:30 PM
Los Altos Library Program Room
13 So. San Antonio Road, Los Altos**

**Topic: Members' Night Slide Show -
Native Plants and Places in 2017**

In this annual tradition, Chapter members share photos of notable plants and places they have visited in 2017. Native plant species are well-adapted to thrive in wet and dry years, and in 2017 we saw the results of an extraordinarily wet rainy season. This abundance of rain and snow led to "superblooms" in some parts of California – did you find and photograph any of these areas? Or maybe you found something more subtle and maybe a bit sublime? If so, please consider showing your images and/or stories with others at this fun event. And if you don't have any photos to share, come to enjoy an abundance of beautiful photos and maybe hear a few stories highlighting our remarkable flora and scenery.



Aaron Schusteff

Western leatherwood, *Dirca occidentalis*
at Sweeney Ridge, February 2016.
Turn to the Field Trips section for a trip
to see dirca for yourself.

If you'd like to share your photos or other materials, please **RSVP by Sunday, January 21st** by emailing Kevin Bryant at mtngreen17@gmail.com or calling (408) 348-9470; and let him know about the materials you'd like to share from 2017. Time allotted per person will depend on how many participants RSVP. Whether you have photos to

share or not, join us for a fun midwinter celebration of the beauty and tenacity of native plants and their habitats.

CNPS General Meetings are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Chapter President Madeline Morrow at madelinemorrow@earthlink.net or the Chapter phone at (650) 260-3450.

Directions: From Foothill Expy., travel ½ mile on San Antonio Rd. towards the Bay, cross Hillview and turn right into the driveway; library is on the left. From El Camino, travel towards the hills on San Antonio Rd., cross Edith and turn left into the unmarked driveway just before Hillview. The sign on San Antonio Rd. reads "Civic Center, Library and History Museum." Enter through the lobby of the main entrance.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

CNPS SCV Nursery at Hidden Villa

Come help propagate plants for our plant sales by volunteering at one of our nursery work sessions, every **Tuesday and Wednesday, from 11am to 2pm**. We'll also hold work sessions during **monthly member sales**.

Bring garden gloves, sunhat, clippers, liquids and your lunch if you like. Other tools will be provided at the nursery. Knowledge of plants is not necessary; your willingness to help is all that's required.

The next **Monthly Member Sales** will be
11 am to 2pm on the following days:
Saturday, January 6 and Saturday, February 17

An inventory of available plants will be updated the week before each sale. Visit www.cnps-scv.org and go to Events, then Plant Sale.

Directions: Hidden Villa is located on Moody Road west of Foothill College. From Hwy. 280 in Los Altos Hills, take the Moody Road exit and head west. Two miles west

of Foothill College, look for the Hidden Villa sign and driveway on the left. Proceed over the bridge and park in the Dana Center parking lot to your right. Continue walking a short distance on that road and you will see the CNPS SCV Nursery ahead of you, just past the Dana Center building. Parking is free while volunteering or attending a Member Sale.

Gardening with Natives

Gardening with Natives (GWN), a special interest group within the Chapter, includes beginning and seasoned native plant gardeners, along with landscape architects and designers. GWN offers over 35 free talks throughout the year at public libraries in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. For more info., visit www.cnps-scv.org/gwn.

These programs are made possible by co-sponsoring libraries and volunteers who help with program logistics. If you would like to help organize similar programs at a library near you, contact gwn@cnps-scv.org.

Pruning for Procrastinators a talk by Patricia Evans

**Tuesday, January 23, 7-8:30 PM, Saratoga Library,
13650 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga (408) 867-6126**

The fall is a great time to prune many native plants but if you missed that opportunity, you can still get your flora ready for spring and summer. Pruning is the garden task that requires the most skill, timing and your time in the garden. Proper pruning affects the health and vigor of plants and can take a garden from “good” to “great.” Learn when and how to prune your perennials and see examples of good and bad pruning done right before your eyes.

Patricia Evans, owner of Natural Landscape Design, is a graduate of the Foothill College Ornamental Horticulture program. Previously, she served on the boards of Gamble Garden and the Association of Professional Landscape Designers. She has also taught “Garden Design for Homeowners” for Palo Alto Adult Education. She specializes in native plants and sustainable landscaping.

Creating a Native Rain Garden a talk by Madeline Morrow

**Wednesday, February 28, 7-8:30 PM, Campbell
Library, 77 Harrison Ave., Campbell (408) 866-1991**

We’ve had some rainfall this season and shouldn’t let it go to waste running off roofs, and into the streets, storm drains, and creeks where it could cause flooding. Instead we should direct that rain water into our gardens, allowing it to percolate downward, recharging our local aquifers and purifying the water as it passes through the soil. Learn how rain gardens keep water on site and solve drainage problems, and which California native plants are best suited for them.

Madeline Morrow is the President of our CNPS Chapter. A former computer programmer, she now volunteers in her community and works extensively on her native garden. Her garden was featured in *Bay Nature* magazine in March 2013; and she solved her drainage problem by installing a rain garden.

Winning the War on Weeds a talk by Rebecca Schoenenberger

**Thursday, March 8, 7-8:30 PM, Cupertino Community
Hall, 10350 Torre Ave., Cupertino (408) 446-1677**

The rains are bringing much needed water to our gardens, but they also sprout pesky weed seeds that hide in the soil. Ridding your garden of these weeds is typically a back-breaking, time-consuming endeavor, but there are techniques that can save you lots of time and effort. Join us to learn about sheet mulching and other simple tricks that you can do now, so you can enjoy your garden later. Bring along a sample of one or more of your weeds for the speaker to identify.

Rebecca Schoenenberger, the owner of the landscape company California Nativescapes, has a diverse background in sustainability and natural systems. With an Associate of Science in Park Management and a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies, she has an extensive knowledge of native plants, including selecting which plants will thrive in specific locations. Since 2011 Rebecca has also been a volunteer Santa Clara County Master Gardener.

Keying with Natives: Taxonomy Basics and Morphology Basics Classes

Instead of our usual sessions where we learn plant keying by practicing on plant samples, the next two Keying with Natives meetings will be classes. We’ll teach **Taxonomy Basics on Friday January 19** and **Morphology Basics on Friday February 23**, at the PCC from 6:30 – 8:30pm.

These classes will cover the basic principles of morphology, which is the study of the form, external structure and development of plants; and the basic principles of taxonomy, which is the study of the general principles of scientific classifications.

These two classes will form a great crash course for beginners who are enthusiastic about learning how and why some plants are named. By knowing the basic morphological characteristics of plants, a plant's name will become obvious. Once the plant has been identified, it can be placed within categories, a classification system that is part of plant Taxonomy.

A copy of *Plant Identification Terminology, An Illustrated Glossary*, by James G. Harris and Melinda Woolf Harris, 2nd Edition, and/or a notepad is recommended but not required.

KWN meets at the Peninsula Conservation Center (PCC), 3921 E. Bayshore Road in Palo Alto. For more information, please contact Joe Cernac at joecernac@sbcglobal.net or (408) 292-5465.

Directions to the PCC: From Hwy. 101 take the San Antonio Rd. exit and head north. Take your next left onto East Bayshore, which will curve left then right. Take your next right onto Corporation Way. Your next left is the entrance to the PCC parking lot. The meeting rooms are on the first floor.

Named Chapter Scholarships

In honor of the late Donald Mayall and our very much alive Sally Casey, our Chapter has lent their names to two of our academic scholarships: The Donald Mayall Conservation Scholarship and the Sally Casey Shooting Stars Scholarship. We offer annual scholarships to students doing research on botanical studies of California native plants.

If you would like to **support our Chapter's scholarship program** in future years and contribute to the scholarship fund, a check written to "CNPS," with a notation to "SCV Ed. Scholarship" may be mailed to:

CNPS Santa Clara Valley Chapter
3921 E. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303.

Two generous Chapter members have already funded Don's scholarship for one year and Sally's scholarship for five years. Application details are announced annually in the November/December Blazing Star newsletter.

Serena Desai New Outreach Coordinator

Our CNPS Chapter welcomes Serena Desai as our new Outreach Coordinator, taking over the position from Huey-Shin Yuan. As Coordinator, Serena will organize volunteers to staff information tables at environmental events such as Earth Day celebrations.

Serena graduated from California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo in June 2016. She received her B.S. in Biological Science and has an STS minor in Science & Risk Communication. Currently she is serving as a CivicSpark fellow and is working with the City of San Jose to help address water conservation issues.

Serena may be contacted at sdesai@civicspark.lgc.org or (408) 826-1067.

Open Positions: Bookkeeper & Treasurer

After several years as Chapter Treasurer, Carolyn Dorsch is stepping down in March 2018. In our efforts to replace her, we are looking for both a bookkeeper and a treasurer.

Bookkeeper

This volunteer(s) works closely with the Chapter Treasurer to track, process and record Chapter income and expenses. He or she will be responsible for entering data using QuickBooks or similar software, reconciling the bank statement, maintaining logs of donations and memberships received, and responding to financial inquiries. The bookkeeper will also help the Treasurer to prepare several different financial reports every year.

Treasurer

This volunteer is the chief financial officer of the Chapter. He or she is responsible for creating and maintaining current, accurate records of the Chapter's financial situation, including overseeing any other individuals who may assist with those responsibilities.

This individual prepares the annual Chapter budget and bimonthly financial statements which are reviewed at Chapter Board meetings. Attendance at all "regular" Board meetings (bimonthly) is required. The Treasurer is responsible for all filings required by the State CNPS office: quarterly sales tax reports and annual inventory and income and expense reports.

Other responsibilities, some of which may be carried out by one or more bookkeepers, are making deposits and paying bills, reconciling bank statements, maintaining logs of donations to the Chapter and memberships received, and responding to financial inquiries.

The Chapter currently uses QuickBooks software and it is desired that all candidates for this position will be familiar with or trainable on that or similar accounting software and its use in a cloud environment.

For more information about either position, contact Stephen Buckhout, Chair of the Leadership Development Committee, at (408) 255-6233 or yscottie@pacbell.net.

Volunteer Recognition: Stephen Rosenthal

A very special volunteer was honored this past summer at our July 20th General Meeting: our past president Stephen Rosenthal. Steve has done so much for the Chapter, which you can read about in our **January-February 2017 newsletter**, page 4. Steve continues to educate the public about native plants and encourages everyone to get involved in conservation. You can join in too as an Alum Rock Park volunteer for habitat restoration. For more information, contact Steve at sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net

CONSERVATION CORNER

Conservation Committee

Our Chapter's conservation committee meets on the **Tuesday** following the first Thursday of the month. The next meetings will be on **Tuesdays, January 9th and February 6th at 7:30pm** at the PCC in Palo Alto.

Please join us in our important work! For questions, comments or concerns, please contact Conservation Chair Linda Ruthruff at ldruff@hotmail.com. For **directions** to the PCC, see the previous Keying with Natives article.

CHAPTER SERVICE OUTINGS

Edgewood Park & Natural Preserve

Help restore habitat at Edgewood Park, known for fabulous wildflowers and amazing diversity near Redwood City.

This year the weeders at Edgewood completed a task that has taken more than 20 years, the control of yellow star-thistle (YST) in all the locations it inhabited in the park. The years ahead will see the reduction of the seed bank everywhere and, one day, total extirpation. This is the first year that finding dead plants from last year will be a very rare sight.

(Constant vigilance will still be needed to pull individual YST plants from seed brought in by people and birds.)

Many of our Chapter members worked on the Edgewood YST project. Friday leader Paul Heiple would like to add your stories to the report on the campaign that he has been asked to write for the county. If you worked on YST at Edgewood, please send Paul something to fill in the story of this effort. Contact him at pheiple@gmail.com or (650) 854-7125.

Friday morning weeding continues year-round at **9am**.

No experience is required. Sturdy gloves are recommended; you might also want to bring sunscreen, water, a hat, layered clothing and wear long sleeves/pants. For meeting places and more information please visit **www.friendsofedgewood.org/habitat-restoration** or contact Paul as listed above.

Wednesday evening weeding sessions will return March 14, after Daylight Savings Time resumes.

Alum Rock Park Volunteers

Come help us weed out invasive plants at this natural gem of San Jose. Our habitat restoration efforts allow the native plants to "come to light."

We have weeding sessions **every Monday morning** and an **Inspiration Point Walk-and-Weed Day the third Saturday morning** of each month. Please visit the Yahoo Group "Alum Rock Park Volunteers" to check the schedules. The group introduction lists what to bring and gives directions to the meeting places.

For more information, contact Stephen Rosenthal at sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net or the Chapter phone at (650) 260-3450.

Lake Cunningham Native Garden

The California Native Garden project in Lake Cunningham Regional Park controls invasive plants in a 1.5-acre area and beautifies it with California native wildflowers, perennials, shrubs and trees. The project aims to create a sustainable, low-maintenance landscape, encourage community participation and ownership, and create habitat for birds and wildlife.

Workdays take place every **Saturday**. See the end of this article for how you can participate.

The native garden volunteers have just completed a project to plant 29 native summer shade-giving trees. The trees will bring much-needed summer shade to this beautiful park and create better habitat for wildlife. On December 2, the third of three special workdays, 19 volunteers (Arvind,

Ashok and Tilak plus 16 from Silicon Valley Volunteers) planted the trees, plus added a dedicated bubbler to an existing valley oak.

Tree holes had been augered already and materials (sand, compost, wheelbarrows, shovels, bubblers, water tanker) were on hand. Each tree was labeled and placed next to each hole.



Ashok Jethanandani

Lake Cunningham volunteers plant shade trees in the park, December 2017

Tilak started the session by demonstrating proper planting technique on the first tree, a big leaf maple. Norm demonstrated how to install a bubbler next to each tree.

After the training and demo, seven teams of two each fanned out for planting. The work was completed in four phases or time slots, with a break in between. Norm oversaw the bubbler installation and Tilak reviewed each tree before it was backfilled. The clay soil was hard to break up (augering made a huge difference) and backfilling was done with a mix of native soil, compost, sand, and mycorrhizae. Each tree received 10 gallons of water.

In the coming days/weeks, the trees will be staked and mulched.

The previous two special workdays were to install 1500 feet of irrigation line. It was a big job: lots of digging and trenching and filling. The irrigation system will be key to helping these young trees establish. Once a week, we will turn it on for an hour or two, then turn it off. We'll water the trees this way until they are established, which we

expect to take three to four years, until the trees' roots have found the water table.

Thanks are due to everyone who contributed to this project, including:

1. Tilak for carrying the ball at every stage: visioning, planning, and guiding
2. Magesh and Melisa of Silicon Valley Volunteers for enthusiastic and early support, and to their members for their passion and focus to give back to the community
3. CNPS for consulting expertise and volunteers
4. Steve Ryan, Park Supervisor, for constructive, practical input and critical support, and for always making time
5. Daniel Kelley and Norman Serrano for the irrigation, planting, supplies, infrastructure and elbow grease, and Danny Nguyen for all round support
6. Mollie Tobias, Alex Pearson and Steve Ryan for the funding and vote of confidence.

Workdays take place every **Saturday, 9am - noon**.

Volunteers are welcome by appointment. To sign up, visit lakecunninghamnativegarden.org/volunteer. The park is located at 2305 S. White Road in San Jose. For **directions**, visit lakecunninghamnativegarden.org/directions.

CHAPTER FIELD TRIPS

Chapter field trips are free and generally open to the public. They are oriented to conservation, protection and enjoyment of California native plants and wildlife, and we adhere to all rules and guidelines for the lands on which we are visiting.

In our region it is very important to be prepared for hiking on rugged and steep terrain, wide temperature ranges and rapidly changing conditions at any time of year. All participants should wear sturdy footwear and carry sufficient water, sun protection, food, clothing layers, personal first aid and other supplies you may need. If you have any questions about your ability to participate in a particular field trip, please contact the trip leader in advance.

Mon Jan 1 10am - 1pm Año Nuevo State Preserve New Year Hike (San Mateo County)

Join us as we celebrate a Chapter tradition of welcoming the New Year with a walk and picnic at Año Nuevo State Preserve. The preserve is located south of Pescadero on Highway 1, just north of the Santa Cruz County line.

No reservations are required. Extreme weather cancels. For details, see writeup in the November-December 2017 Blazing Star or contact Dee Himes at dee4cnps@gmail.com or call 650-951-8560.

Mon Jan 8 7:00-8:30pm

Field Trip Planning Meeting - PCC Palo Alto

We will be scheduling the remainder of the spring and summer field trips, plus any field trips we may want to have for the rest of the year. With more knowledge of the winter weather patterns, we may make plans for away trips. All are welcome to join in the discussion.

For further information contact Dee Himes, Field Trip Chair, at dee4cnps@gmail.com. For **directions** to the PCC (Peninsula Conservation Center), see directions following the Keying with Natives article, earlier in this newsletter.

Sun Jan 14 9am – 3pm Plant Communities of the South Bay – Almaden Quicksilver County Park (San Jose)

Why do plants grow where they grow? Why do some plants grow with the same set of other plants? In nature, plants grow in readily identifiable communities or associations united by location (soil, topography, and microclimate).

Join us as we explore the common plant communities of the South Bay. We offer two plant ID walks for beginners: The first on **January 14 in Almaden Quicksilver County Park**; the second on **February 18 in Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve**. More about the Coyote Valley walk appears later in this section.

Beginners interested in plant identification are welcome; prior knowledge of native plants or botany is not required. Bring a hat, water, a bag lunch, and your favorite trail accessories (camera/smartphone/hand lens/binoculars/field guide/none). Dress in layers, and appropriately for winter weather. Heavy rain cancels.

Space is limited. **RSVP through meetup.com to reserve your spot:** visit www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Santa-Clara-Valley-Chapter. These two walks are organized by our Chapter of CNPS and the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority.

On **January 14**, join Steve Rosenthal on a walk up the English Camp Trail to Church Hill, and back down via the Deep Gulch Trail. We expect to see scrub, chaparral, mixed evergreen forest, and riparian plant communities. The distance covered is 4 miles with 1,000' of elevation gain/loss. Strenuous due to elevation gain.

Contact Steve at sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net.

Directions: Almaden Quicksilver County Park is located at 21785 Almaden Road in San Jose. See the Meetup listing for details. We'll meet at the Hacienda Entrance to the park. Parking is free.



Dee Shea Himes

Pausing along the Hazelnut Trail on the 2016 San Pedro Valley field trip, (L-R) Eric Diesel, Cindy Roessler and Ken Himes confirm a plant find against the plant list while other hikers wait patiently under a golden chinquapin (*Chrysolepis chrysophylla*)

Sun Feb 18 10am – 3pm Plant Communities of the South Bay – Coyote Valley OSP (Morgan Hill)

Join us for our second plant ID walk for beginners this winter. Please refer to our January 14 field trip above for an overview.

On **February 18**, Tilak will take us on the Arrowhead Loop Trail in Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve, which goes through grassland, chaparral, and oak woodland. We expect to see serpentine outcrops and unique native plants that grow in this inhospitable medium. The distance covered will be 4 miles with 600' of elevation gain/loss. Effort level: moderate.

RSVP thorough meetup.com to reserve your spot. See signup instructions to the left. Contact Tilak at tilaknama108@gmail.com.

Directions: Coyote Valley OSP is located at 550 Palm Ave. in Morgan Hill. See the Meetup listing for details. We'll meet in the parking lot.

Sat Feb 17 10am – 3:30pm Dirca Walk - San Francisco Peninsula Watershed (San Mateo County)

Join Don Thomas to see the rare List 1B Western leatherwood (*Dirca occidentalis*) in the Crystal Springs Watershed, along the Sawyer Camp Trail. This will be an easy slow-paced walk of about 5 miles round-trip, starting at the trailhead on Hillcrest and Highway 280, with a stop for lunch.

Dirca is one of the first plants to bloom each year, revealing its bright yellow hanging flowers from its bare winter branches. We will also walk to the Jepson Laurel which, at one time, was the largest bay tree in California. This tree has been declining for many years and many large branches have died and broken off. Now that the Jepson Laurel has been dethroned as the largest bay, **a bay tree in Mendocino County** holds that honor.

An additional small bonus trip for those interested will be to a section of the Watershed south of the Edgewood Triangle on Canada Road called Swiss Park. This tiny valley has *Dirca* on its north-facing slope and may connect with the *Dirca* population in Edgewood Park.

The trip is limited to 20 participants. **To reserve a spot**, get directions or more information, contact Don Thomas at don_e_thomas@yahoo.com.

Sun Feb 25 10am – 4pm Hazelnut Trail, Montara Mountain, San Pedro Valley County Park (Pacifica)

Join co-leaders Ken and Dee Himes on an early spring outing at San Pedro Valley County Park. We expect to see some early blooms: Montara manzanita (*Arctostaphylos montaraensis*), pink-flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum glutinosum*), fetid adder's tongue (*Scoliopus bigelovii*), Oregon windflower (*Anemone oregana*) and others.

The trip will be a moderate 4-5 mile loop hike through coastal scrub and chaparral plus some riparian woodland. It will include an elevation gain and loss of about 600 feet and is expected to last until **4pm**. For more information contact at Dee at dee4CNPS@gmail.com or Ken at (650) 591-8560.

Directions: The Park is located at 600 Oddstad Blvd. in Pacifica. From the South Bay, take I-280 North then merge onto Skyline Blvd./CA-35 via exit 41 toward Pacifica. After 3.5 mi. turn left onto Sharp Park Rd. down towards the coast. Follow the signs for Cabrillo Hwy./CA-1 South toward Santa Cruz. Go for 2.5 mi. then turn left at Linda Mar Blvd., go for 2 more miles to where the road ends at Oddstad. Turn right and then immediately left into the park. The County Park day use fee is \$6 per vehicle, bring exact change.

We'll meet at **10am** in front of the Visitor Center. Bring water and a lunch, snacks. Very heavy rain cancels.

CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2018

Title	Name	Email	Phone
President	Madeline Morrow	madeline.morrow@earthlink.net	(408) 741-1150
Vice President	Vivian Neou	techchair@cnps-sev.org	(650) 260-3450
Recording Secretary	Priya Pharate	priyaph@yahoo.com	
Treasurer	Carolyn Dorsch	cdorschl@aol.com	(650) 804-6162
Past President	Stephen Rosenthal	sailinsteve@sbcglobal.net	(408) 923-6562

Save a Tree!

CNPS members can log in to support.cnps.org and edit their profile to receive this newsletter by email only. Look for "Chapter Newsletter" near the bottom of "My Profile."

Current and past Blazing Star newsletters are always online at the Chapter website's newsletter page: www.cnps-sev.org/index.php/blazing-star-newsletter.

To join our Chapter news email list please visit www.cnps-sev.org/index.php/contact-us/sign-up.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT *BLAZING STAR*

Saturday, February 3, 2018

**Email: carol.mattsson@gmail.com
Phone: (408) 255-3767**

Santa Clara Valley Chapter California Native Plant Society
3921 East Bayshore Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303



Join CNPS Today!

Members receive the *Fremontia*, the *Bulletin*, and the Chapter newsletter, and other benefits listed at www.cnps.org/membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Chapter _____

Membership level (check one):

- \$45 Individual
 \$75 Family
 \$100 Plant Lover
 \$300 Patron
 \$600 Benefactor
 \$1500 Mariposa Lily
 \$25 Student/Limited Income

Areas of interest:

- Advocacy
 Botany
 Conservation
 Education
 Field Trips
 Gardening
 Plant ID

*Donations above the membership level are gratefully accepted. Dues and donations are tax-deductible. Make your check payable to "CNPS" and mail it with this form to:
 CNPS Membership, 2707 K Street Suite 1, Sacramento, CA
 95816 • 916-447-2677 • fax 916-447-2727*

FIRST-CLASS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (page # in parentheses)

Jan 1 Mon Año Nuevo field trip (5)

Jan 6 Sat Nursery Workday & Member Sale (2)

Jan 8 Mon Field trip planning meeting (6)

Jan 9 Tue Conservation Committee meeting (4)

Jan 14 Sun Almaden Quicksilver field trip (6)

Jan 19 Fri KWN: Taxonomy Basics class (2)

Jan 23 Tue GWN – Pruning – Evans (2)

Jan 26 Fri Members' Night (1)

Feb 3 Sat Newsletter submittal deadline (7)

Feb 6 Tue Conservation Committee meeting (4)

Feb 17 Sat Dirca field trip (7)

Feb 17 Sat Nursery Workday & Member Sale (2)

Feb 18 Sun Coyote Valley OSP field trip (6)

Feb 22 Thu Newsletter Mailing Party – 10am PCC

Feb 23 Fri KWN: Morphology Basics class (2)

Feb 25 Sun San Pedro Valley field trip (7)

Feb 28 Wed GWN – Rain Gardens – Morrow (2)

Mar 8 Thu GWN – Weeding – Schoenenberger (2)

Mon & 3rd Sat Alum Rock Weeding (4)

Tue & Wed Nursery work sessions (1)

Fri 9am Edgewood Weeding (4)

Sat 9am Lake Cunningham workdays (5)

The next Chapter Board meetings will be **Thursdays, January 11** (special) and **February 8** (general / newsletter) at **7:00pm** at the PCC, 3921 E. Bayshore Road in Palo Alto.

Chapter Board meetings are open to all Chapter members and their guests.

For more information contact Madeline Morrow at madelinemorrow@earthlink.net.

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide non-profit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The Society, working with its local chapters, seeks to increase understanding and to preserve the rich heritage of the native flora for future generations. Membership is open to all. Individual memberships are \$45.00 per year. If you have questions about your newsletter subscription, please contact membership@cnps-scw.org. Address changes may be submitted to cnps@cnps.org; please put "member address change" in the subject line.

The *Blazing Star* web address: www.cnps-scw.org. Acknowledgement: Anne Warren for the *Blazing Star* logo. Printed on recycled paper.