



California Native Plant Society
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

THE BLAZING STAR

November-December 2012

ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK

Saturday, November 10th at 6:00 PM
Shoup Garden House,
400 University Avenue, Los Altos

**Travels Through California:
a Visual Montage presented by
Ted Kipping**

Join us for our favorite get-together of the year: the annual potluck dinner and election meeting, followed by a visual montage presented by Ted Kipping. The evening is devoted to native plant appreciation, Chapter business, and delectable victuals. It's the party of the year—don't miss it!

Set to music, Ted Kipping's visual montage will cover his extensive forays into the exploration and cultivation of our unique and often visually captivating flora.

Ted studied Natural History at Columbia University and then returned to work with the Native Garden at Strybing Arboretum—now S.F. Botanic Garden—in Golden Gate Park. Woody plants soon came to command his heart and he left to devote his life to their care and cultivation. He has been doing so now for over 40 years and is partner in Tree Shapers, LLC a Bay Area Certified Arborist. Ted still travels the state and beyond, studying and passing along what he learns and encounters.



Ted Kipping

The evening begins at 6pm with our **annual potluck**. Bring your favorite dish, whether it be a salad, main dish, dessert, or beverage; it always works out that we have just the right amount of everything! A label identifying your dish will be helpful. Also, be sure to bring a plate, drinking glass, and eating utensils for yourself, as well as a bag in which to take home unwashed dishes.

We will also have a **silent auction** of books and other items which help raise funds for the Chapter. If you have extra books in fair to good condition, or other items to donate, please put your items in a bag labeled "CNPS Auction" and drop them off at our office at the PCC at 3921 E. Bayshore Rd. in Palo Alto **on or before November 6** or contact judy@fenerty.com. Volunteers will properly label and price the items to be auctioned in time for the meeting.

If you can help with setup, please **arrive at 5pm** to set up chairs and tables. The potluck feast will begin at **6pm**, followed by the **program at 7pm**. We appreciate your help with clean-up at the end of the program.

CNPS general meetings are free and open to the public. For more information, email cnps_scv@yahoo.com or leave a message on our Chapter phone at

(408) 260-3450 and your call will be returned.

Directions: From I-280: take the El Monte exit east. Turn left (north) on University Ave. (just before Foothill Expy.). The Garden House is 0.6 mile ahead on the left (west) side of the street. **From Hwy. 101:** take the San Antonio exit

west/south. Go 3.5 miles. At the 3rd stoplight after crossing El Camino Real (Edith/Main), bear right on to Main St. (not sharp right into Edith). Continue on Main until it crosses Foothill Expy. and turn left immediately on to University Ave. Bear right; the Garden House is 300' ahead on the right.

Chapter Annual Election

The annual potluck is also the time to elect our Chapter officers for the coming year. All Chapter members may run for office—nominations may also be made from the floor at the potluck. Following is the slate put forth by the Nominating & Leadership Committee:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| President | PENDING |
| Vice President | PENDING |
| Treasurer | Dee Wong |
| Recording Secretary | Radhika Thekkath |
| Past President | Arvind Kumar |

Many thanks go to outgoing President Arvind Kumar, who kept our Chapter publicized, populated, and connected. Arvind is also completing six years of service on the state CNPS Board of Directors. We also thank outgoing Vice President Toni Gregorio-Bunch, who stepped up to help in so many ways, including finding volunteers to table at outreach events and at the Wildflower Show; and volunteering at newsletter mailing parties.

The Chapter Leadership Committee also thanks **all** the officers and chairs who served this year. We still have several open Board and Committee Chair positions. For more information, contact Arvind Kumar at president@cnps-scv.org.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Native Plant Nursery at Hidden Villa

Come help propagate plants for our next plant sale by volunteering at one of our nursery work sessions, every **Wednesday and Thursday, from Noon to 3pm** (note winter hours, which started in September). Bring garden gloves, sunhat, clippers, and 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.

For more information, contact Jean Struthers at (650) 941-2586 or JeanStruthers@att.net; or Ray Deutsch at (650) 365-6136 or ray.deutsch@yahoo.ca.

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 visitor center parking lot to your right. The Nursery is at the greenhouse just beyond the visitor center.

Gardening with Natives

Gardening with Natives (GWN), a special interest group within the Chapter, includes a mix of landscape architects, designers, seasoned native plant gardeners and beginners. It offers over many talks throughout the year which are free and open to all.

This year's theme is *Designing Your Native Plant Garden*. We have divided the design work into twelve tasks, each covered by one lecture per month. The lectures start with planning and end with maintenance. We also present talks which cover other aspects of native plant gardening. **Five talks are scheduled during November and December**, so please spread the word. For more information, visit www.GardeningWithNatives.com.

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

**Pruning Your Native Plants,
a demonstration by Jocelyn Cohen**

Wednesday, November 7, 7:00 PM, Los Altos Library
13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos, (650) 948-7683

A native garden looks most pleasing when it has a human touch. Shrubs and trees are at their best with some pruning and shaping, and now is the time to do it, while many of our California natives are semi-dormant. During this presentation, you'll learn about the different forms of many native plants and how to bring out their best characteristics—and health—through proper pruning.

Join us for the eleventh presentation in our 12-part *Designing Your Native Plant Garden* series. **Jocelyn Cohen** has extensive experience with land restoration, tree care, aesthetic pruning, organic gardening, and soil rebuilding. She teaches workshops at the East Bay Regional Parks Botanic Garden.

**California Native Succulents and Cacti,
a lecture by Paul Heiple**

**Tuesday, Nov. 13, 7:00 PM, Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd., Fremont, (510) 745-1401**

Love succulents and cacti? Have a rock garden that you want to fill with drought-tolerant plants? Or maybe a pot you want to fill with cool sculptural plants? **Paul Heiple** can tell you how.

Paul is a naturalist, interested in all aspects of science in the natural world. He currently has a collection of succulents and carnivorous plants plus a hillside restored to California natives. He provides all the Dudleyas for the annual Wildflower Show and is chair of our chapter's Invasive Plants committee, San Mateo County.

**Maintaining Your Native Garden,
a lecture and reading by Helen Popper**

**Wednesday, December 12, 7:00 PM, Milpitas Library
160 N Main Street, Milpitas, (408) 262-1171 x3616**

This lecture is our twelfth and final in our 12-part *Designing Your Native Plant Garden* series and we are delighted to have it focus on a book about maintaining your native garden. The book *California Native Gardening: A Month by Month Guide* begins in October, when much of California leaves the dry season behind and prepares for its own green "spring." In it, **Helen Popper** provides detailed, calendar-based information for both beginning and experienced native gardeners.

Hear about each month's gardening tasks, including repeated tasks and those specific to each season. See different planting and design ideas, and learn about core gardening techniques, such as pruning, mulching, and propagating. Helen Popper is a long-time member of our Chapter and one of the first members of the Gardening with Natives group.

**Seed Exchange and Propagation Lecture
with Jean Struthers and Patricia Evans**

**Thu., Dec. 13, 7:00 PM, Cupertino Community Hall
10350 Torre Avenue, Cupertino, (408) 446-1677**

One of our most popular events, the Exchange arrives just in time to sow seeds, take advantage of the upcoming rain,

and ensure plenty of blooms for spring. This year we have two presenters who will give you plenty of tips on the how, when, why, what, and where of seed starting.

Jean Struthers leads the crew of volunteers who propagate plants for our semi-annual plant sales, while **Patricia Evans** has taught "Garden Design for Homeowners" in the Palo Alto Adult Education program and also propagates many plants for the CNPS sales.

Bring native plant seeds and cuttings from your garden to show, tell and share. Also bring empty envelopes for seeds and plastic bags for cuttings and be prepared to take some new starts home to your own garden. The offerings range from easy-to-grow to hard-to-find. Feel free to come even if you don't have any to share—there is always plenty for all.

**Native Plants in a California Garden
a talk by Patrick Pizzo**

**Tuesday, Dec. 18, 6:00 PM, Vineland Branch Library
1450 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose, (408) 808-3000**

What is unique about California native plants? Do they make good garden subjects? Where can I see native plants in a garden setting? What are some of the best-of-the-best drought resistant plants? What kind of care will they need? Where can I find or buy native plants?

Beginning and intermediate level gardeners will find answers to all these questions and more at this talk and slideshow by Patrick Pizzo, retired SJSU professor and the founder of the Capitancillos Drive native plant streetscape in San Jose. Handouts and plant lists will be available.

Editor's note: Patrick describes the Capitancillos Drive project later in this newsletter – see page 5.

Keying with Natives

Join us as we learn and practice methods of identifying the native plants of our region (aka keying). From beginners to more advanced, there are challenges for all. Bring in plant samples if you have some or just come and work with the materials provided. We discuss the various plant books and practice keying with them. Microscopes are also available.

The upcoming dates are **Fridays, October 26, November 9, and December 14, from 6:30pm - 8:30pm.** (Note Holiday schedule for November and December.) We meet at the Peninsula Conservation Center (PCC), 3921 E. Bayshore Road in Palo Alto. For more information, please

contact Dave "Tex" Houston at 350co2now@gmail.com or (650) 303-2777; or Sally Casey at (408) 377-0989.

Directions to PCC: From Hwy. 101 **southbound**, take the San Antonio Rd. North exit, follow the cloverleaf around and across 101, get immediately into the left-hand turn lane, and turn LEFT onto East Bayshore. From Hwy. 101 **northbound**, take the San Antonio exit and make a right at the light onto San Antonio Rd.. Immediately get into the left-hand turn lane and turn LEFT onto East Bayshore.

East Bayshore will curve around to the left, then right. Turn right on Corporation Way. Your next left is the entrance to the PCC parking lot. The meeting rooms are on the first floor.

LIVeCoRPs Needs You!

LIVeCoRPs, our Chapter conservation committee, needs people who are interested in helping to monitor rare and endangered plants and in monitoring the government agencies whose decisions impact every aspect of these plants' habitat and survival. We need people willing to write emails and/or speak at public meetings. We also need people to join us as we put on our work gloves and restore habitat by pulling weeds and planting natives. We are a passionate group and we bring cookies.

We meet on the **third Tuesday of the month** at **7pm** at the PCC. Our next meetings will be **November 20 and December 18**. Please join our energetic and involved group of volunteers!

About the **LIVeCoRPs** acronym: it stands for **L**egislation, **I**nvasives, **V**egetation, **C**onservation, and **R**are **P**lants.

To join the LIVeCoRPs mailing list, or if you have questions, ideas or concerns, please contact the chair: Linda Ruthruff at ldruff@hotmail.com. For **directions** to the PCC, please see the Keying with Natives article above.

Chapter Horticulture Symposium a Success

On September 29 our Chapter hosted a horticulture symposium at Foothill College. Congratulations to all who volunteered and made our event turn out to be FABULOUS!

Every volunteer played a key role in the Symposium's smooth functioning and success. Some of us could not attend but contributed in our own way in advance. From publicity to planning to parking to food to registration to name tags to sales to signage to timekeeping to

videography to laptop operation ... everything worked as it was meant to.

Book sales, nursery sales, and new member signups contributed to the success. Special thanks go to Dan Svenson, Foothill College Horticulture department, for providing tables, chairs, canopies etc. and fixing technical issues on the spot.

There is always room for improvement, but overall, the attendee experience was positive, and we all deserve a big pat on the back. Chapter President Arvind Kumar says it is a privilege to be part of such a talented and committed group.

CONSERVATION NEWS

Save Coyote Ridge! Help Us Pass the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan (aka HCP)

Over a decade in development, the HCP will change how we mitigate for development in this valley. Rather than being done on a project by project piecemeal basis, rare and endangered species and their habitats will be protected by a regional and comprehensive plan.

The Santa Clara Valley Water District and the County Board of Supervisors of Santa Clara County have already approved the plan. But the San Jose City Council needs to hear from San Jose residents that they want the plan approved.

Please visit www.habitatconservationnow.org for information on the plan and a sample letter. Email the SJ City Council by replacing "#" with a district number (they are 1-10) into this address: District#@sanjoseca.gov.

Please take a moment and send an email now. So much depends on approval of this plan. Thank you.

Volunteer Opportunity at Windy Hill

The California Phenology Project is coming to our Chapter's backyard! Phenology—the study of seasonal biological activities, such as the flowering and fruiting of plants and the spring arrival of migratory bird species—is one of the simplest ways to detect the effects of climate change on the living world.

The California Phenology Project (CPP) began in 2010 and has observation sites in many of our state's National Parks and Recreation Areas. The CPP is a consortium of

scientists, educators, students, policy makers, and the public, involved in observing and recording the phenology of California's natural resources, and reporting this important data to an online database managed by the USA National Phenology Network. Analysis of the data will help predict wildfires and pollen production, detect and control invasive species, monitor drought conditions, assist in agricultural decision-making and evaluate impacts of climate change.

Chapter member Claudia Newbold got interested in establishing a monitoring site in our area after attending a CPP workshop in San Francisco. Windy Hill was selected for its proximity to monitors and its species diversity. Of the 31 species identified by CPP for monitoring in California, 13 of those species are present in Windy Hill.

Claudia is looking for volunteers to help establish the Windy Hill site, attend an introductory workshop about CPP, and monitor and record observations. For more info., contact her at cknewbold@earthlink.net or visit www.usanpn.org/cpp/.

DIY Habitat Creation – Capitancillos Drive

By Chapter Member & Capitancillos Garden Project Coordinator Patrick P. Pizzo

A History of the Capitancillos California Native Plant, Demonstration Garden,
a 0.6 Mile Long Park-strip Project Along
Capitancillos Drive in San Jose

I retired in 2000 as I am taking the millennium off! I have always been interested and active in gardening, so this became one focus of my retirement. I joined the California Native Plant Society (Santa Clara Valley Chapter) and began to purchase reference books on native plants, trees and shrubs. At the suggestion of my daughter, my first project involved replacing an oak tree along the line of 128 coast live oaks planted in 1994 by Oak Canyon residents in cooperation with Our City Forest. About 20% of the trees did not make it and my grandson and I replaced one of the trees.

Next, in spring 2002, I collected acorns and planted three each in every vacated site along the line of

oaks. Additionally, I began to prune and care for the trees. A major problem was sun/heat degradation of tree bark and cambium damage induced by weed-whacking at the base of the young trees. I continue to prune, fertilize and care for the line of oaks. Today, they are "lookin' good"!

In 2002, I began to plant compatible native shrubs along and between the oaks. Most are native, although there is a smidgen of Mediterranean plants interspersed. Some plants pre-existed and these were included in the project.



Patrick Pizzo
Volunteer-supplied label identifies this blooming shrub along Capitancillos Drive as a ceanothus 'Concha'

The park-strip along Capitancillos is best described as chaparral; over 320 native plants and shrubs are represented in the garden. The soil drains really well, except in a few heavy clay areas. About 2 1/2 cubic feet of soil AND ROCK were removed for each plant; and about 1 1/2 cubic feet of amendment was added and worked into each hole with the pre-existing soil. The plants are hand-watered although sometimes we run several hoses together as an alternative. Nevertheless, it takes about 8 person-hours to water the project. Time between watering varies from 10 days to two weeks. Thanks to Jim Hughes, Henry Perez and John Spangler for helping with the watering!



Patrick Pizzo
Parking strip along Capitancillos Drive in San Jose has been planted by, and is maintained by, local volunteers. Among the coast live oaks planted by the city, we see Ceanothus 'Yankee Point', two *Baccharis pilularis* 'Twin Peaks' and a silver bush lupine.

Oak Canyon homes are fortunate to be located in the Guadalupe watershed. The Santa Clara Valley Water District owns Capitancillos Meadow and is the steward to the creek and riparian zone. We feel the Capitancillos garden project greatly complements this valuable natural resource and the wildlife therein.

Editor's note: A few years back two of Patrick's neighbors shot this video of a soap plant blossom opening up: www.youtube.com/watch?v=6JfrbDLApfc. Patrick may be reached at patrick.pizzo@sjsu.edu.

CHAPTER SERVICE OUTINGS

Habitat Restoration at Edgewood Park

Come to Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve and participate in the final push. In twenty-five years, the weeders have cleared significant acreage. We need you now to finish the job, making Edgewood a place full of native plants in the wild. Weeding sessions take place at the following times:

- **Friday mornings** throughout the year, starting at **9am**
- **Wednesday evening** weeding will resume next March when Daylight Savings Time returns.

For schedules, meeting places, and other details visit our Weed Warriors website at edgewood.thinkersrus.net, contact Paul Heiple at (650) 854-7125 or pheiple@gmail.com, or email John Allen at jcakwa@earthlink.net.

CHAPTER FIELD TRIPS

Chapter field trips are generally free and 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.

Field Trip Planning Meeting

Mon Nov 12 7:00-8:30pm PCC Palo Alto

We will be planning outings for early 2013. With our mild winters, there are many interesting places to visit before spring officially begins. We will also discuss potential overnight and camping trips. All are welcome to join in on the discussions.

For further information contact Carolyn Dorsch, Field Trip Chair. Phone (650) 804-6162 (evenings) or email cdorsch1@aol.com.

Directions to the PCC (Peninsula Conservation Center), see directions following the Keying with Natives article, earlier in this newsletter on page 4.

Sat Nov 24 10am Santa Clara County Open Space Authority Hike—Rancho Cañada del Oro

Several Chapter members are docents for the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority. Join docent and Chapter member David Chapman for a six-mile hike through Rancho Cañada del Oro Preserve.

With 1,000 feet of climbing, this hike is more for exercise, but there will also be some discussion of the various habitats in the preserve. **The hike begins at 10 am** and is expected to last three to four hours. For more information, contact David at dchapman@acm.org or visit www.openspaceauthority.org/trails/rancho.html.

Directions: Take U.S. Highway 101 south of San Jose to the Bailey Ave. exit. Drive west on Bailey until it ends at McKean Rd.; turn left. Drive about two miles to Casa Loma Rd. and turn right. The preserve parking lot is about a mile up Casa Loma Rd., on the left.

Tue Jan 1 10am – 2pm Año Nuevo State Preserve (Hwy 1 coast-southern 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 on the San Mateo County coast. **The preserve is located south of Pescadero** on Highway 1, just north of the Santa Cruz County line.

Meet in the parking lot (\$10 day use fee) **at 10am.**

Latecomers will find us on the trail in the coastal prairie. We'll enjoy sea cliff vegetation, raptors, songbirds and maybe marine mammals. We will face a moderate high

tide at noon, but should be able to picnic on the beach (in the area in which seal tour reservations are not required).

As this is a day to have fun at the beach with fellow Chapter members, the ending time and depth of botanical discussion may be extended depending on participants. We will finish at the visitor center. Bring binoculars and layers for variable conditions including wind, sun and fog.

Heavy rain cancels. For more information contact Carolyn Dorsch at cdorsch1@aol.com or (650) 804-6162 (eves).

Bean Hollow State Beach Field Trip Report

Arroyo de los Frijoles Trail

Sat., September 10, 2011; 10am – 12pm
By trip leader and Chapter Treasurer Dee Wong, with help from trip sweep Andy Butcher

Thunder clapped and bolts of lightning struck overhead with a short intense rain shower event in Mountain View the night before. The field trip was threatened to be cancelled as the coast was forecasted for 20% chance of inclement weather on the day of the field trip. Luckily, after checking the weather at 6am that morning, the weather was predicted to clear up with patches of fog burning off as the day progressed. The field trip was on!

The day was very windy and noisy with the ocean waves pounding against the rocky bluff with the incoming high tide. There were high winds at certain points along the trail where some of us had to hunch over so that we wouldn't get blown away, and we unanimously voted to stay away from the edges of the cliffs. Fighting against the loud ocean waves, we had to shout out to each other in order for everyone to be heard. "Where's the bullhorn?" someone shouted.



Carol Mattsson
Sea thrift above tidepools at Bean Hollow State Beach, taken on a 2005 Chapter field trip led by Toni Corelli

We saw a variety of plants still flowering, and this may be from the June rain. Plants that were flowering: *Oenothera elata* ssp. *hookeri* in abundance, *Grindelia camporum* and

the *G. stricta* var. *platyphylla*, *Madia sativa*, *Solidago* and *Artemisia*. There were off-season bloomers such as *Checkerbloom*, *Sisyrinchium bellum*, *Lasthenia californica* ssp. *californica.*, *Achillea millefolium*, *Castilleja wightii*, *Lupinus variicolor*, and others.

The trail is about one mile each way, and we completed the walk by noon. We had a total of 12 people attending this event including Andy and me. All in all, it was a nice morning walk along the coast with eager plant enthusiasts.

Thanks to Avis Boutell and Toni Corelli, the authors of the booklet *Bean Hollow Trail: Pebble Beach to Bean Hollow*, for giving permission to print their booklet to be used on the hike. It was a tremendous help and I encourage members to purchase their own copy to support the cause.

CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2012

To learn more about volunteering with the Chapter, to ask questions or to give suggestions, please contact any of the officers listed below.

| Title | Name | Phone | Email |
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| President | Arvind Kumar | (408) 715-7020 | arvind.kumar@cnps.org |
| Vice President | Toni Gregorio-Bunch | (408) 373-4497 | tonig@flash.net |
| Recording Secretary | Radhika Thekkath | (650) 473-1537 | rthekath@yahoo.com |
| Treasurer | Dee Wong | (650) 670-7797 | dee@thevillagegardener.com |
| Past President | Kevin Bryant | (408) 348-9470 | mtngreen17@verizon.net |

To join our Chapter email list please use the signup link at the bottom of our Chapter home page at www.cnps-scw.org.

The latest Blazing Star newsletter is always online at cnps-scw.org/phocadownload/current-newsletter.pdf. To view past issues, visit the Chapter website's newsletter page.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT *BLAZING STAR*

Saturday, December 1, 2012

Email: mattsson@surfpix.net
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)

Oct 26 Fri Keying with Natives (3)
Nov 6 Tue Books due at PCC for silent auction (1)
Nov 7 Wed GWN – Pruning - Cohen (2)
Nov 9 Fri Keying with Natives (3)
Nov 10 Sat Annual Meeting & Potluck - Kipping (1)
Nov 12 Mon Field Trip Planning Meeting (6)
Nov 13 Tue GWN – Succulents and Cacti - Heiple (3)
Nov 20 Tue LIVECoRPs (conservation) meeting (4)
Nov 24 Sat OSA Hike - Rancho Cañada del Oro (6)
Dec 1 Sat Newsletter Deadline (7)

Dec 6 Thu Chapter Board meeting
Dec 12 Wed GWN – Maintenance - Popper (3)
Dec 13 Thu GWN – Seed Exch. – Struthers & Evans (3)
Dec 14 Fri Keying with Natives (3)
Dec 18 Tue GWN – California Gardens – Pizzo (3)
Dec 18 Tue LIVECoRPs (conservation) meeting (4)
Dec 20 Thu Newsletter Mailing Party 10am PCC
Jan 1 Tue Año Nuevo field trip (6)
Wed & Thu afts. Nursery work sessions (2)
Fri morns. Edgewood Park weeding (6)

The next Chapter **Board meeting** will be **Thursday, December 6 at 7:00pm** at the Struthers' residence. It will be our annual budget meeting. Please bring food to share.

Chapter Board meetings are open to all Chapter members and their guests. For more information contact Arvind Kumar at arvind.kumar@cnps.org.

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 concerning a new membership, renewal of a current membership, or if you wish to report a **change of address**, please contact the Membership Chairperson, CNPS, 3921 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303 or email membership@cnps-scv.org.

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