THE PREZ SEZ

As I write this in February for the March newsletter, I’m hoping it has rained. If it hasn’t rained, look on the bright side, the invasion of *Brassica tournefortii* (Saharan Mustard) may be slowed down a bit. January was a remarkable month and January 31st will go down in native plant history as it marks the first annual “Invasive Plant Workshop” which was co-hosted by our CNPS chapter and the San Diego Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (SD-ASLA). You can view the “San Diego County Invasive Plant Guide” at www.sandiego-asla.org, click on invasive plants and then ‘matrix.’ The matrix file is a pdf document and be sure to ‘click’ on each individual species name as it opens up to detailed data sheet about each plant, why it is invasive and where it can be found. This “Guide” is a remarkable resource for any landscape designer, nurseryman, gardener or environmentalist as it guides you to making plant selections that won’t harm our native plant habitats. Please visit and review the “San Diego County Invasive Plant Guide” at the website mentioned previously and provide feedback. It is a living document and we plan on updating it annually. I have to thank the board of the local SD-ASLA chapter for their efforts and support of this project. Also I want to mention the following Landscape Architect firms for their help in providing meeting space and printing for this effort: Integration Design Studios (Carlsbad), Schmidt Design Group (Banker’s Hill) and Nowell & Associates (Hillcrest). Thanks also to the many volunteers who have worked on this project over the past two and a half years.

Carolyn

MARCH MEETING/PROGRAM

CNPS San Diego Program
Tuesday March 21, 2006 – 7 PM
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 104

Native Grasses for Landscaping, Restoration, and Water Quality by John DiGregoria, Range Manager, Point Reyes National Seashore, National Park Service

John will begin by presenting the ecophysiology of grasses, followed by how to effectively use native grasses in landscaping, restoration, and water quality management. The presentation will discuss how grasses and other graminoids function in plant communities and how to use them to reduce water use at home and in the natural environment.

John is an Ecologist with the National Park Service; he has an extensive background as a restoration ecologist working with a variety of plant communities from the northwest to the southwest. As a board member of the California Native Grass Association, John has instructed CNGA workshops and conferences. John is currently the president-elect for CNGA and will be co-teaching the Grass Identification workshop at Santa Rosa Plateau in April, 2006. John has a B.S in Terrestrial Ecology from Huxley College of Environmental Studies in Bellingham, Washington and a Masters of Environmental Science from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington.

CHAPTER CALENDER

March 8 (2nd Wed), CHAPTER BOARD MEETING
6:30-8:30 p.m., Tecolote Nature Center. Take the Sea World Drive/Tecolote exit from I-5. Proceed east until road ends at the Nature Center. Board Members, please call Carolyn Martus if you are unable to attend.

Mar 21 (3rd Tue), CHAPTER MEETING/PROGRAM
Tuesday, Meeting at 7 p.m, Program at 7:30 p.m., Room 101, Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park

Apr 12 (2nd Wed), CHAPTER BOARD MEETING

Apr 18 (3rd Tue), CHAPTER MEETING/PROGRAM

APRIL PROGRAM

Edith B. Allen, Ph. D. Professor and Natural Resources Extension Specialist, University of Calif, Riverside

Habitat loss caused by non-native invasive species which thrive on elevated levels of soil nitrogen (due to vehicle emissions, and ammonium from dairies and farmed lands) is a major restoration problem in California. Professor Allen will discuss the impact of elevated nitrogen levels on the biodiversity of native plants and on soil microbes and will discuss ways to restore such lands.
At our February meeting, the chapter Board of Directors voted to allocate funds for several issues:

- $3750 toward a Border Fence lawsuit;
- $100 for Conservation Resources Net subscription
- $1000 for ongoing research on biological control of cape ivy (Delairea odorata);
- up to $500 per calendar year for members who wish to attend State Chapter Council meetings.

Carrie Schneider

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**CROSS COUNTY POWERLINE**

SDG&E is fine-tuning a proposal to build a major powerline across San Diego County. The conceptual plans show a 500-kilovolt powerline on 150-foot towers, starting in Imperial County and running north through Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, and across the mountains to inland North County. Two branches, each of which could carry 230 kilovolts on slightly smaller towers, would then angle toward central and northern coastal San Diego. The southerly branch is conceptually shown following the San Dieguito River Park route and on out Peñasquitos Preserve.

The visual blight, and increased fire risk, that such huge powerlines would cause to the Anza Borrego Desert State Park, the River Park, and Penasquitos Preserve is very disturbing. Environmental damage would also be caused by construction and maintenance of the lines; at the time this story was submitted (Jan. 28) the study corridors ranged from two to ten miles wide. Risk to sensitive species cannot be assessed until more precise proposals are developed.

SDG&E says the line, dubbed the Sunrise Powerlink, would supply power for 650,000 customers. The power would be generated by a combination of sources, including a future natural gas plant in Mexico and solar and wind arrays.

Alternative power sources are becoming available, however. Local site-specific energy sources such as roof-top photovoltaic could eliminate or greatly reduce the need for the Powerlink. For instance, the Million Solar Rooftops Initiative will begin funding photovoltaic dispersed energy development this year.

Efficiency and conservation also will continue to reduce waste, and by 2010, when the Powerlink is proposed to be built, it could be far larger than is required.

Please contact SDG&E to get the most current information. Also, I will make every effort to post information on the CNPS List Post service, so be sure to sign up for the List Serve. (see LIST SERVE item in this newsletter).

Kay Stewart

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**CHAPTER 06 BUDGET**

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<thead>
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<th>CNPS-SD Budget for 2006</th>
<th>Amount (in dollars)</th>
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<td><strong>Total Budget for 2006</strong></td>
<td><strong>$10,600</strong></td>
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**GRAPHICS DESIGNER NEEDED**

I’ve procured an A-frame sidewalk sign to put out for meetings and plant sales to let folks know where we are. Now all we need to do is design an inset for it. The space is 23 3/4” wide by 36” tall, and we need copies for both sides of the sign.

We’ need someone with design skills to develop a design with the CNPS logo and our chapter name. If you can help us, please contact me so I can shower you with appreciation!

Lisa Markovchick-Nicholls, Hospitality Chair 619 549-6592 or hospitality@cnppsd.org
PNP San Diego  Newsletter  March 2006

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form, make out a check payable to “CNPS”, and mail to:

California Native Plant Society
2707 K Street, Ste 1
Sacramento, CA 95816

___ Student/Retired/Limited Income $25
___ Individual or Library $45
___ Family or Group $75
___ International $75
___ Plant Lover $100
___ Patron $300
___ Benefactor $600
___ Mariposa Lily $1,500

Name(s):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone #:

e-mail address

San Diego Chapter: rev 2/06
AVEDA’S EARTH MONTH

For the 2nd year, CNPS and Aveda will educate thousands of Californians about native plants and endangered species during April. Last year the partnership brought $30,000 to CNPS statewide. Your assistance will help us reach that goal again, or surpass it!

Aveda is an international personal care company selling products in hair salons, beauty spas, and Aveda stores. Their mission includes caring for the world we live in, for example helping indigenous people in South Africa grow native plants for use in their products.

During Aveda’s Earth Month Campaign their clients are informed about an issue and asked for donations. Endangered species are again this year’s focus, and CNPS is the southern California partner, providing information, materials, and activities to help local salons educate their clients. Halli Mason (CNPS –LA) is leading the CNPS effort, and now we need team members.

1. Chapter Liaison: Promote the campaign in your chapter’s newsletter, website and meetings. Consider holding a chapter event for local donors and salons.
2. Speakers: Present materials to salon staff. Content will be supplied to you, and your first visit can be shared with an experienced team member. Inspiring salon staff is vital because they are the primary contact with client donors.
3. Special Events: Create special events to educate and enthuse salon staff and donors. Suggest activities to salon staff for them and their donors, such as a wildflower walk.

Last year every participating chapter received one to a few hundred dollars. Recognition for participation is planned for this year as well. Time is of the essence. We need your help!

Contact Halli Mason (hmason@sbcglobal.net) to volunteer.

VEGETATION SURVEYS FOR 2006

The CNPS Vegetation Committee will go out to various sites on the last Saturday of each month through June, and then on the last Saturday of every other month through October. In May; the survey will be on the 3rd Saturday.

Our efforts will assist the County of San Diego in accurately monitoring the effectiveness of conservation efforts on MSCP (Multiple Species Conservation Plan) preserves, as well as contribute scientific data for the Manual of California Vegetation currently being revised by CNPS.

Anyone who would like to help survey is welcome to attend; the only prerequisites are an interest in preserving native habitat, attention to detail, and a patient attitude. To learn the basics, anyone who has not attended a training session can work with someone who has.

For more info, contact survey coordinator at lexineks@yahoo.com, or 619-729-5715 after 5pm weekdays. Lexine

18 SCHOOL GARDENING GRANTS

From Village Garden Club of La Jolla!

The year 2005 proved to be a wonderful year for the Schoolyard Gardening Grant Program sponsored by the Village Garden Club of La Jolla. Over 30 San Diego County elementary schools applied for grants this past November. And due to the generous support of over 50% of their 380 members, eighteen elementary schools were awarded grants totaling $4900. The following elementary schools received grants:

- Alice Birney – University Heights
- Bay Park – Clairemont Hills
- The Child’s Primary – Clairemont
- Christa McAuliffe – Oceanside
- Grant – Mission Hills
- Grant Canyon Project – Mission Hills
- Hanson – Ramona
- The Language Academy – College Area
- Monterey Heights – Lemon Grove
- Mt. Woodson – Ramona
- Pacific Beach – Pacific Beach
- Paul Ecke – Encinitas
- Rolando – La Mesa
- Sycamore Ridge – Del Mar
- Torrey Hills - Carmel Valley
- Torrey Pines – La Jolla
- Vista Square – Chula Vista
- Valley Vista – Chula Vista

Thanks go out to the many San Diego organizations that helped spread the word about the grant program this year. Due to this partnership, the club received applications from elementary schools from all parts of the County.

Please help to continue to spread the word by telling anyone interested in promoting outdoor education to look up next year’s application at the club’s website at www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com or contact Ruth Barnett at the email address VGCLJSchoolyardgarden@yahoo.com.

DOCENTS NEEDED

The Earth Discovery Institute (EDI) is seeking volunteer docents to guide students in environmental education at Crestridge Ecological Reserve, a 3,000-acre ecological reserve in the foothills east of El Cajon. In the past two years 3,000 students from 4th-12th grade have visited the Reserve for outdoor, hands-on activities such as native plant restoration and sustainable building construction. An ongoing time commitment of four hours per week is required. Training will be provided. Contact Cathy Chadwick at 619-749-5767 or chadgroup@aol.com.
Early February saw three urban “Friends” groups continuing their efforts to bring native plants back into the canyons that make San Diego such a wonderful place. All the groups were provided with free plants through the generous donations of RECON Native Plants and nursery manager Ryan West. Here’s a recap from the tireless leaders of these groups:

Terry Weiner, Friends of University Heights Point: On February 4th, 14 volunteers arrived at the Point and spent two hours planting about 100 natives in an area that had been covered with six truck loads of sand a year ago -- a fake beach that was a set for a short-lived TV show. Park Rangers Sue Pelley and Jason Allen provided guidance (about fire-safe planting) and support (tools and drinking water). On Friday the RECON crew planted seedlings on the re-contoured, delivered the plants, watered the site, and dug most of the holes!

On Saturday, the Reeves’ generously let us run their hose to our holes. Kimberly Hale and four other hard-working volunteers from the San Diego Film Commission came out and planted with us. Kimberly is going to help us with a sign for the site. We planted a mixture of coastal sage and other natives appropriate to the mesa, including three native grasses. Now we need to keep it up, with weeding parties the first Saturday of each month. Working together in a group generates a lot of energy and fun and new connections. To get involved: terryweiner@sbcglobal.net

Tersia d’Elgin, Friends of Thirty-Second Street Canyon: An area that had looked like a big vacant lot last year, with almost no native plants is visibly, and audibly, changed. On the canyon floor, mulefat and willow planted last year are already seven feet high. The upland plants are smaller, but about 80% survived. And the bees are buzzing in the buckwheat!

On Saturday, February 11th, 36 people, including Ranger Sue Pelley, students from High Tech High, University of San Diego and UCSD, put another 75 plants in the ground. We worked carefully, compensating for the drought with careful pre- and post-planting watering and lots of mulch. We still have a few more natives waiting to get in the ground, and of course, we’ve got to keep these wet and happy through the summer. To get involved: Tershia@aol.com.

Alberto Gobbi, Friends of Buchanan Canyon: Eric Bowlby brought a group of 12 SDSU students to help our group of seven volunteers plant one hundred natives. Last year, we planted a few laurel sumac in three-feet deep Arundo mulch and had about half survive and thrive, so we tried it again this year, planted the sumac in the spots where the Arundo was the deepest and lemonade berry where it the mulch was only a foot deep. We planted the slow-growing holly-leaf cherry and spiny red berry in more open spots along the sides of the canyon. Running hoses down from one of our group member’s yard was a great help in our efforts.

Along the (dry) stream channel, we planted rushes, spikerush and taragon, hoping that these natives will replace the African nutsedge and Mexican fan palms that have invaded the streamside after we got rid of the Arundo. It was great to see the willows we planted last year now 15 feet tall, and the chaparral shrubs small but green. We still have a few more plants to get in the ground, and need to keep on watering, unlike last year when the rains did the work for us. We are also hoping to use more willow cutting to combat the severe down-cutting of the stream channel. We meeting the third Sunday of each month. To get involved: AGobbi@AnadysPharma.com.

From now on we will have a regular event at 9:00 on the third Sunday of every month so that it will be easier for everybody to plan ahead.

Copley Y/San Diego CNPS Vegetation Education Program: The San Diego Chapter has endorsed a Native Plants for Urban Spaces program at the Copley YMCA. It will be in their enormous parking lot at 3910 Landis St. (two blocks south of University Street and just west of the I-805 freeway).

This will involve an area of approximately 6,000 sq. ft. in total. Community organizations and businesses will sponsor areas and we will have a major Earth Day event to bring in supporting agencies and groups in "A Day of Fun with the Natives". There will be a lot of logistics, material procurement, and site work for this undertaking.

Your ideas and help are encouraged. For more information or to volunteer call: Alan Bennett, alanbennett@hotmail.com, (619) 955-3275 cell, (619) 358-9794 home.

Earth Fair 06 is scheduled for April 23. Mark your calendar and watch for more info to come later on.
Spring Native Plant Sale

Saturday March 11, 2006
9 A.M. – 4 P.M.

At the beautiful **Tree of Life Nursery**, just north of San Diego

33201 Ortega Highway,
7 miles east of San Juan Capistrano on Ortega Highway (Highway 74).
Enter at the green gate on the north side of the highway.
For more information, contact Tree of Life Nursery
www.treeoflifenursery.com, or 949-728-0685

Books, posters, seeds and free advice will also be available.

**CNPS members will be available to help you choose plants and give free native plant gardening advice.**

Some of the proceeds benefit the San Diego Chapter of the California Native Plant Society.
info@cnpssd.org, www.cnpssd.org
619-685-7321 (voice mail)
**ACTIVITIES & EVENTS**

**Friday, March 3/4 10:30am-12pm**  
**California-Friendly Plants for Your Landscape** at the  
Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. W,  
El Cajon, CA 92019  
**Speaker: Carolyn Kinnon.**  
Horticulturalist and Licensed Pest Control Advisor  
Did you know there is a native plant for every garden setting?  
Learn how to appropriately select natives and other water-wise  
plants for the garden. Also learn how reduce use of pesticides.  
Sponsored by Solana Center, for Environmental Innovation.  
To register, call 760-436-7986 x 211.

**Tuesday, March 7; 7–9 pm. Bioprospecting, Bioethics,  
and Biodiversity. Eric Mathur.** Diversa Corporation  
discusses how biotechnology companies use biodiversity and  
scientific discoveries to generate products. $8. San Diego  
Register: www.sdnhm.org/education/brochure/lectures

**Wednesday March 15; 8am - 3pm. Strategies for  
Greening our Urban Environment.** This symposium will  
assist communities, planners and developers understand  
how the natural environment affects the quality of life  
in our built environment. McMillin Event Center, Naval  
Training Center, Point Loma (www.ntcpromenade.org).  
Tickets: $45 in advance / $50 at the door.  
Email: sdinfo@livablesandiego.org  
Call: George Driver 619.231.9960

**Saturday, March 18. 9am-3pm. Water Conservation  
Garden Plant Sale.** Local growers specializing in drought-tolerant plants will be present. Also: landscape contest  
information, mini-lectures on water-wise plants, and a  
workshop on beneficial garden insects, garden tours, home  
water conservation advice, and gardening tips. Activities for  
kids, live entertainment and refreshments. Free.  
12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon.  
www.thegarden.org.

**Saturday April 8th from 9-11am, Dogs Go Native In  
Encinitas** The Village Park Trail And Off-Leash Area in  
Encinitas has been adopted by PADZ, an Encinitas-based  
group advocating for off-leash recreation areas for dogs and  
their owners.  

The trail, which has been designated a native habitat trail, is  
approximately one mile long, and is relatively undeveloped  
beyond a basic trail and access road.  

Our plan is to remove invasives and to add more natives  
along the trail as part of the Adopt-A-Tail program. We’d  
love to have someone from CNPSSD join us to help us better  
understand what we’ve got and what more we can do.  
For more info, contact PADZ at info@padz.org

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**JEPSN WEEKENDS**

The **Friends of the Jepson Herbarium** are pleased to offer  
this year’s weekend workshop series. For more information  
or to register see http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/jepwkshp.html  
or phone Cynthia Perrine, Public Programs Coordinator at  
the Jepson Herbarium, (510) 643-7008. Unless otherwise  
specified, workshops are held at UC Berkeley.

**March 4-5** Frontier Naturalists Afield  
**March 11** Tree of Life Series: Tree Thinking for Educators  
**March 18 - 19** Morphology and Identification  
**March 25** Tree of Life Series: Hominid Evolution  
**March 30 - April 2** Flora of San Luis Obispo County (San  
Luis Obispo)

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**CAPE IVY BIOCONTROL**

To: CNPS Coastal Chapters:  
I have been issuing an annual appeal to coastal chapters for  
contributions to further the USDA Agricultural Research  
Service research into controlling Cape ivy, *Delairea odorata*,  
through biological agents. The overwhelming  
portion of the research funds are provided by USDA ARS,  
but there are certain costs they do not fund, and these must  
be raised through private sources. These sources have been  
primarily CNPS and its members.

Two insects have now begun going through the lengthy  
permitting process prior to release into the wild; we hope  
that that permission will be granted in the not-too-distant  
future. They will be released in the Big Sur area. If you want  
more detailed information on the project and its current  
status, please request it.

Please make checks payable to California Invasive Plant  
Council or Cal-IPC, and specify that it is for the Cape ivy  
biocontrol fund. Mail to:  
Cal-IPC  
1442-A Walnut St #462  
Berkeley CA 94709  
Jake Sigg

Copy submissions are due by the first of the month prior to  
month of publication. (for example, copy for inclusion in the  
July issue must be received by June 1).

CNPS Newsletter is published monthly. Chapter dues  
include a subscription to the chapter newsletter.  
Second class postage paid at San Diego, CA.  
Postmaster: Send address changes to:  
CNPS, 2707 K Street Ste. 1; Sacramento, CA 95816
Dedicated to the Preservation of the Native Flora

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 through its local chapters, seeks to increase understanding of California's native flora and to preserve this rich resource for future generations. Membership is open to all.

Membership includes informative publications, free field trips and monthly programs and discounts on books and posters. Also included are *Fremontia*, a quarterly journal with articles on all aspects of native plants, the *Bulletin*, a quarterly statewide report of activities and schedules, and the chapter newsletter. Please call the membership chairperson for more information.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
c/o San Diego Natural History Museum
P. O. Box 121390
San Diego, CA  92112-1390

CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS MARCH 2006
Chapter Message Phone 619-685-7321;

BOARD OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: Carolyn Martus ................................(760) 434-5033h
VICE PRESIDENT: Dave Flietner...........................(619) 501-3789h
SECRETARY: Linda Pardy.................................(619) 583-7191h
TREASURER: Marty Foltyn..............................(858) 259-0283h
..................................................(858) 720-9780w

OTHER ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS
CONSERVATION and POSTER SALES:
Cindy Burrascano........................................(619) 421-5767h

BOOK SALES: Susan Marchetti..............................(858) 273-6486h
LIBRARIAN: Catherine MacGregor......................(619) 435-2165h

LEGISLATION: Peter St. Clair...........................(619) 260-1394w
PROGRAMS: Carrie Schneider.........................(858) 352-4413w

RESTORATION: Bruce Hanson...............................(619) 262-8905h

FIELD TRIPS: Daniel Simon............................(661) 428-4791

APPOINTED COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
MEMBERSHIP: Mary Kelly.............................................(619) 685-7321

NEWSLETTER:
Content; Dave Flietner.................................
Makup; Jim Harrison, newsletter@cnpssd.org  (858) 273-5242

HORTICULTURE: Connie Beck Crusha...................(619) 749-4059

HOSPITALITY: Lisa Markovchick...........................(619) 549-6592

EDUCATION:..........................................................OPEN

OUTREACH:.........................................................OPEN

PUBLICITY:..........................................................OPEN

PLANT SALE:

VEGETATION: Lexine Schroeder...........................(619) 729-5715

RARE PLANTS: Fred Roberts.............................(760) 439-6244h

WEBSITE: Jim Wirt

INVASIVEPLANTS:

NOTE: For mailing label issues contact Jim Harrison at newsletter@cnpssd.org or (858) 273-5242