CHAPTE R MEETING
September 18, 2018
Casa del Prado Room 101
Balboa Park

Meeting Schedule
6:30 pm – Natives for Novices. Elizabeth Hazard. Creating a Native Plant Display Garden at the San Diego County Fair. Learn how a high school club, CNPC (California Native Plant Club), created a Southern California native plant display garden for the San Diego County Fair. President and founder of the club, Elizabeth Hazard, will be talking about the process, from growing the plants and designing the garden to making sure the plants survived during the four-week fair.
7:00 pm – Refreshments, browsing, & socializing.
7:30 pm - Announcements
7:45 pm – Presentation

Chapter meetings are free and open to the public.

Presentation at 7:45 pm: Landscape Quality Native Plants by Patrick Montgomery

Patrick is the sales manager of RECON Native Plants, Inc., and will discuss:
• Why plant natives?
• Profiles of highlighted plants.
• Project examples.
RECON will provide many of the plants available at the Fall Plant Sale on October 13. Patrick holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Landscape Architecture.

Fall Plant Sale
Saturday, October 13, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Our 2018 Plant Sale is being coordinated by a committee of 5 CNPS volunteers, led by our Treasurer, Connie di Girolamo. For years and years Carolyn Martus has led this effort – our sales have been well organized and have been a huge success for the Chapter. The sale is one of the most important fundraisers of the year and we will carry this tradition forward.

This year we will be offering members a discount of 10% on both preorders and day of sale offerings. Doors will open at 9:00 to everyone (members and non-members alike). If you are not currently an active member, you can join – taking advantage of this special pricing. Come early to the sale and get checked in!

We will offer approximately 300 species. You can preorder and pick up plants on Friday before the sale (by appointment). Sale day offerings will be plentiful – selected plants will entice the collector and will serve as foundation plants for new native plant gardeners. There will be an “ASK ME” table where you can get advice from experienced gardeners and experts.

Lee Gordon has volunteered to lead two 45-minute workshops, from 1:00 to 3:00 in Room 104 (next door to the sale). He will provide guidance about “What do I do now – now that I have purchased all of these plants?”

The Seed and Bulb committee has also been hard at work sorting, cleaning and packaging nearly 100 species of seed, making them available to you on plant sale day. Cindy’s table will be filled with a great selection of books to purchase.

Pre-ordering Plants: Preorder now! The minimum order is $125 and the pre-sale ends on Wednesday, September 19, at 6:00 pm.
Used Book Sale at the Chapter Meeting
Two members have donated used books to the chapter and I will have them available at the September Chapter meeting. If you have always wanted your own copy of A Flora of San Diego County, Marine Algae and Seagrasses of San Diego County, Key to Coastal and Chaparral Flowering Plants of Southern CA, Atlas Cultural de Mexico, Wildflowers of the United States (either the Southwestern or the Southeastern sets), Illustrated Flora of the Pacific States, Ferns of the Sierra, Answers for CA Gardeners, Agave Yuccas & Related Plants or Guidebook to the Colorado River Part 3 stop on by the sales table and see if it is still available.

Elizabeth Hazard is 14 years old and is in 10th grade at San Dieguito High School Academy, where she is president and founder of a club, CNPC (California Native Plant Club). CNPC teaches the public about southern California native plants. The club is restoring an area at the school and created a student garden featuring California native plants in the Paul Ecke Jr. Garden Show at the San Diego County Fair. Follow them on Instagram: canativeplanting.

Welcome to our newest members!
Jason Allen  
Hannah Berggren  
Steven Bleeeke  
Sonia Burns  
Emma Engel  
Michael Hearst  
Nicole Park  
Saniya Parray  
Elizabeth Perlin  
Charmain Sanchez  
Nicholas Swetlin

Learn More about CNPSSD
Visit our website: cnpssd.org
Visit our Facebook page: facebook.com/cnpssd
Visit Instagram: instagram.com/cnpssd
Visit Twitter: twitter.com/cnpssd

Fall Workshop
California Native Plant Society-San Diego Chapter presents:
Creating a California Native Garden: Ready-Set-Go!
September 8, 2018; 9:00 am – 3:30 pm
UCSD-Scripps Sumner Auditorium, La Jolla,
This will be a full-day comprehensive workshop on designing and installing a California Native Plant Garden with the industry experts. Tickets, speaker schedule and more details at: https://www.cnpssd.org/events/2018/9/8/fall-native-gardening-workshop.

Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 5, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.  4010 Morena Blvd, Suite 100, San Diego (Thomas Guide 1248 C4). CNPS-SD Executive Board meetings are always the first Wednesday of the month, except when the 1st Wednesday falls on a holiday. Members are welcome to attend as observers. To add an issue to the agenda, please email president@cnpssd.org.

Welcome New Members

Welcome to our newest members!

Field Trips
Otay River Valley from Finney Overlook
Saturday, September 22, 2018, 8:00 to 11:00 am
TRAIL Difficulty: EASY +/- 2 miles
PLANT KNOWLEDGE: Beginner to Intermediate
For late summer this year we’ll be headed back to school on a Saturday. Finney Overlook is a very discrete, often overlooked trailhead into the Otay River Valley in South Chula Vista / North Otay Mesa where we’ll check out riparian species and coastal sage scrub, with a small peek into some maritime succulent scrub. When I was last here, there was an interesting array of natives from rare species like Palmer’s grapplinghook (Harpogonella palmeri), San Diego sagewort (Artemisia palmeri), California boxthorn (Lycium californicum), and some very out of place sea dahlia (Leptosyne maritima), to the not so rare willows (Salix spp.), Goldenbush (Isocoma menziesii), buckweats (Eriogonum spp.), beavertail cactus (Opuntia spp.), and others.
Come prepared for heat and sun. The walk will be as long as we can stand the heat - we'll try to be out well before lunch. No facilities at the trailhead, but we're walking in an urban canyon so amenities are close by.

**CARPOOLING** will be available to anyone who wants to come into Fashion Valley Transit Station by 7:30 am. There will be at least one truck available with three seats but be prepared to drive if more vehicles are needed. Parking on the west side of Fashion Valley mall (nearest Fashion Valley Rd) is free for 24 hours and patrolled occasionally by security. Generally, you take the same risks parking there as on the public street.

**DIRECTIONS:** Finney Overlook - Mrtyle S Finney School, 3950 Byrd St. · San Diego, CA. Take I-805 South towards Otay Mesa, exiting at Palm Ave. Turn West at the off ramp and head through 2 traffic lights, then turn north on Twining Ave. Turn left onto Byrd St. and park around the elementary school. A small monument indicates the trailhead.

~ Justin Daniel, Field Trip Chair

**GARDENING WITH NATIVES**

**Committee Meeting**

September 12. The Native Gardening Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at various locations. Contact gardening@cnpssd.org for location and time.

**Native Plant Landscape**

*Old Town State Historic Park*

No work party in September.

Kay or Peter at: OldTownLandscape@cnpssd.org

**CONSERVATION**

Conservation Committee

Contact Frank Landis at conservation@cnpssd.org for details about September’s meeting.

**Looking for More Volunteers**

Yes, it’s Fall, the busiest time of year for volunteering for CNPSSD. In addition to volunteering to help with the Garden workshop and the plant sale, I’m going to ask for your help with conservation.

But first, the news. To no one’s surprise, on July 25 the Board of Supervisors passed the first General Plan Amendment (GPA), approving in a single item of three projects: Valiano, Harmony Grove Village South, and Otay 250. Almost no one protested against Otay 250, but quite a few people protested against the Harmony Grove developments, as you might expect. The supervisors even spoke of a threat to litigate. Since CEQA lawsuits have to be filed within 30 days of when an EIR is certified, by the time you read this, we will know if anyone actually sued over it or not.

That GPA was an interesting legal situation. What the Board of Supervisors voted on wasn’t each development, it was a single project comprised of the three disparate developments. By law, every project (like a general plan amendment) is supposed to have a CEQA document analyzing its impacts. With the GPA the Supervisors approved, there was no CEQA document that covered the cumulative effects that the developments had on the County. Since two of the three are in Elfin Forest, and I do not recall that they analyzed the cumulative impacts they had on the area, that may be a problem, although the County asserts that everything’s fine and proper.

In other news, the Save Our San Diego initiative drive delivered their signatures to the County for verification. They’re assuming that, between the County taking its mandated 30 days to verify the signatures and the Board of Supervisors taking a 10 day study window, that the initiative will miss the deadline to qualify for the November ballot, and will be placed on the March 2020 ballot instead. That’s the year that Kristen Gaspar will be up for reelection, and we will be voting on the successors to Dianne Jacob and Greg Cox (Bill Horn and Ron Roberts leave office this year).

Since the SOS initiative was putatively what was pushing the rush to bundle developments into GPAs, I’m not sure whether they will continue to bundle or not. Prudence would dictate that they do not, but prudence would also dictate that the Supervisors would abide by the existing general plan and by deals (like the MSCP, the Baldwin Agreement, and with Elfin Forest) that they made in the past. And they are not.

The hearings for the rest of the projects have not yet been set. I am assuming that they will continue on the original course, which means that Newland Sierra may well go to the Supervisors on September 25, while the rest of the projects (Lilac Hills Ranch and Otay Ranch Village 14) go to the Supervisors on Halloween.

That brings me to my request for volunteers. What I’m asking for are volunteers to show up at these meetings.
Yes, it’s a big ask, but we need bodies in the seats and people talking. Partially it’s for the cameras, partially it’s because developers (like Newland) are busing people in to fill the seats, and we need to do the same. After all, if the pro side has experts, people with placards and t-shirts, and an organized message, they tend to overwhelm the environmental community, who not only show up in lower numbers, but tend to each have their own message, messages that conflict with each other. In that environment, the politicians have all the cover they need to favor developments.

That’s why we need to get out in force for these things. We’re promoting the idea that plans are worth following, deals are worth keeping, and it’s bad to put houses in wildlife corridors, especially where they’re predictably vulnerable to fires.

There are multiple ways of participating:
- You can show up and register your point without speaking.
- You can show up and speak as an individual, in which case you have 2-3 minutes (about one sheet of typed paper). The more people there are, the less time you have to speak.
- You can be part of an organized presentation, in which case you have five minutes per person and everyone has to speak. Normally, one person does most of the talking, and the others say “what he said,” or add a brief point at the end.
- Since speaker slips may need to be submitted before 9 am, but you may be speaking at 5 pm, if I know you want to speak, I can submit a slip on your behalf and you can show up at the appropriate time—if we have coordinated in advance. That will save you waiting around all day to speak.

For most meetings, I’m there by myself, so I am limited to 2 minutes and talk really fast. Having people who are willing to back me up and allow me to organize a presentation would enormously extend what I could say, and that would be very, very useful, especially on Otay Ranch Village 14.

The goal of showing up isn’t just to persuade the Supervisors to vote these projects down, although we can certainly hope that they decide to do so. These presentations are also part of the official record that groups (possibly including CNPS) will use to litigate to stop these projects if they are approved. If we bring up serious problems in the EIRs and they are not corrected, we can sue to decertify the EIRs. Typically, it’s very hard to bring all that up in two minutes, which is why being able to organize a presentation is so important.

That’s my ask, and I do ask that you volunteer in advance. Showing up at the meeting is great, but organizing in advance is powerful. If you want to get involved even for just one meeting, contact me at conservation@cnpssd.org.

Finally, thanks to everyone who has contacted their supervisors on the Lilac Hills Ranch development. Supposedly it is going to be heard on Halloween, so there’s still time to contact your supervisor. If you haven’t called your supervisor yet to ask them to vote against it, here’s what you need to do:
1. Go to https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/general/bos.html
2. Click on the link to your supervisor, and when you get to their homepage, click on the "Contact" link.
3. Either call or email and tell them politely that you are one of their constituents, that you are troubled by the new proposed Lilac Hills Ranch Project, that this is effectively the same project that was rejected 64%-36% by a bipartisan majority of the County voters in 2016, and that you expect them to respect the will of the voters and to not approve this project when it comes before them. Ask for updates on this project, and thank them for their attention to this issue and the time they’ve spent on it.
4. Contact me (conservation@cnpssd.org) and tell me how it went.

Thank you for helping!

~ Frank Landis, Conservation Chair

Genetic Analysis of Five Rare Plant Species
San Diego Management and Monitoring Program (SDMMP) funded and organized a study to look at the genetics of 6 rare plant species that occur in San Diego: Acanthomintha ilicifolia (San Diego thornmint), Baccharis vanessae (Encinitas baccharis), Chloropyron maritimum ssp. maritimum (salt marsh bird’s-beak), Dicnanostegia ocrtuinta (Orcutt’s bird’s-beak), Deinandra conjugens (Otay tarplant) and Monardella linoides (willowy monardella). The project was headed by Amy Vandergast of the U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) and Jon Rebman of the San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM). Margie Mulligan (SDNHM) collected specimens, visiting numerous populations for the species, documenting the population sizes in either 2016 or 2017 and the general conditions at the sites.
and collecting material for genetic analysis by USGS staff. Salt marsh bird’s-beak was sampled throughout its range (Punta Azufre and Bahia Falsa near San Quintin in Baja California, Mexico; and in California at Newport Bay in Orange County; Naval Base Ventura/Point Mugu in Ventura County; Ormond Beach, Carpinteria, in Santa Barbara County; and Morro Bay in San Luis Obispo County) and work was partially funded by the U.S. Navy. They were also fortunate to have Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and Marine Corps Air Station Miramar participate in the studies by allowing visits to the bases and collection of materials, which was particularly critical for understanding willowy monardella. Margie’s report A Report of Genetic Sample Collections and Curation for Six Rare Plants within the San Diego MSPA San Diego County, California, can be viewed and downloaded from the SDMMP website (https://sdmmp.com). The report from the genetic analysis portion of the study will be posted at the website, hopefully, in the near future. If you have never looked through the reports posted at the website you are in for a treat. A variety of studies have been conducted on various animal and plant species. I unfortunately have misplaced my notes on the meeting that was held and only really remember those aspects pertinent to populations I work with. I guess we will all have to go to the SDMMP webpage periodically to see if the report is posted yet to get the information.

Depending on the population size, Margie sampled up to 20 individuals for each occurrence. Five of the individuals were collected for ploidy analysis. One voucher specimen was collected for each occurrence and is housed at the SDNHM.

San Diego thornmint is an annual that grows on clay soils in many parts of the county from Carlsbad to the Otay Lakes area to Alpine. Weeds are an issue for most occurrences of the species. Population size varies in any given year largely depending on rainfall levels. 47 occurrences were identified; 7 of these are believed extirpated and site visits for this study found no plants in 8 additional occurrences. Margie found population sizes from 0 to 750,000 plants. She found 2 large populations (35,000 and 750,000 plants), 5 with 1,000 to 5,000 plants and 18 that had less than 300 plants.

Ploidy difference have been documented in the past for San Diego thornmint (DeWoody et al. in Conservation Genetics 2018) although the current study did not confirm that finding. In the prior study, 4 of 21 occurrences examined were tetraploid, 11 were a mix of diploid and tetraploid, 4 were a mix of tetraploid and hexaploid, 1 was mostly tetraploid but had a few diploid and hexaploidy, and 1 population was hexaploid. The paper can be downloaded from the SDMMP website as it contains far more information than discussed here, including common garden experiments.

Encinitas baccharis also has a wide distribution, from Camp Pendleton to Otay Mountain to Escondido, and can be found on sandy soils in Encinitas to metavolcanic soils on Otay Mountain, although it was reported all populations were found on sandy soil. It is likely this species has more populations, as it does not stand out and is easily overlooked. It is a dioecious shrub, meaning there are male plants and female plants. Sixteen sites were reported for the species. Population sizes ranged from 9 to 700 plants with 12 of the populations having less than 50 plants.

There were 29 occurrences of salt marsh bird’s-beak with only 7 being in the Master Occurrence Matrix database. Twenty-two occurrences were added to the database with 3 at Tijuana Estuary, one at Camp Surf on Naval Base Coronado, 3 from Baja California, Mexico, 5 at Naval Base Ventura, 2 at Carpinteria Marsh, 4 at Morro Bay, 2 at Ormond Beach and 2 at Newport Bay. The reports of plants at Border Field State Park and the Naval Radar Receiving Facility, Naval Base Coronado, could not be confirmed as currently present and may have been extirpated from the sites. Populations ranged from 3 to 3,000 individuals with distributions restricted by slight elevational changes meaning global warming will impact the species distribution. Populations thought to be established by human hand tended to have lower diversity (Sweetwater Marsh, Dog Beach).

Ottar tarplant occurs in the southern part of the county, in Dennery Canyon and Chula Vista east to Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve. This annual is also very responsive to rainfall. Weed competition is an issue for the species with 15 of 17 of the sites visited having prominent levels of weeds, mostly Brachypodium distachyon (purple false brome) or Centaurea melitensis (tocalote). Five of the occurrences had vegetation defined by a non-native species (Bromus rubens, Avena barbata, etc.). The species grows on clay soils with the exception being a population in Paradise Valley growing on sandy loam or loam soils.

Nine occurrences of Orcutt’s bird’s-beak are known with the species growing in the south coastal part of the county. Permission was granted to visit 8 of the sites but only 7 supported the species and a landowner prohibited collection from one site. Population sizes ranged from 50 to 10,000 plants with no plants being
found at Dennery Ranch. All sites that supported the species had sandy soils and non-natives were observed in 50% of the sites. *Asphodelus fistulosus* (onionweed) was called out as dominating the Rice Canyon site in Chula Vista that supports the species, although other weedy species were also present at other sites. Staff recommended looking to Baja California for long term preservation of the species as only one site has a sizable population of 10,000 plants (California Terraces project). Border Field State Park had 1,634 plants, Otay River Valley 800 plants, Rice Canyon 50 plants, Tijuana River Valley/Spooner Mesa 150 plants and Valle Tranquilo, Fusiques Arroyo in Baja, 300 plants.

Willowy monardella is a small shrub largely occurring on Marine Corp Air Station Miramar. It grows in ephemeral drainages where, when urbanization occurs around the canyons like in Mira Mesa and San Clemente Canyon, water gets dumped into the canyons and habitat converts to a wetter environment than the plant tolerates or erosion becomes a problem washing away plants. Freeway construction has also physically eliminated parts of populations (I-15 and SR-52). If this species persists, we will have the military to thank, first the Navy and now the Marines.

**Genetics Analysis**

DNA was extracted from leaves using standard CTAB protocol or plant extraction kits to generate a large quantity of high quality DNA. An adaptedRAD-Seq or genotyping by sequencing (GBS) protocol was used to identify SNPs for each species. These methods use restriction enzymes to sample the same set of loci across individuals. DNA samples for each individual were digested using restriction enzymes such as ApeKI, a common-cutting enzyme that works well in plants, and PstI, a rare-cutting enzyme. Following digestion, PCR adapters and unique individual barcodes were ligated to samples, and these gene regions were PCR amplified. Sequencing was performed on an Illumina or equivalent platform, capable of producing 150-250 bp reads. To keep sequencing costs minimal, all samples were processed and sequenced together in large batches. Resulting reads were then processed and assembled for further genetic analysis.

~ Cindy Burrascano, Chapter Book Sales

**Update of the International Code of Nomenclature**

Formerly called the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN), the International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants (ICN) is the set of rules and recommendations dealing with the formal botanical names that are given to plants, fungi and a few other groups of organisms, all those "traditionally treated as algae, fungi, or plants". The ICBN was changed to the ICN at the International Botanical Congress (IBC) in Melbourne, Australia in July 2011 as part of the Melbourne Code. Other major changes resulting from the Melbourne congress were:

- The Code now permits electronic-only publication of names of new taxa; not paper copies in libraries.
- The requirement for a Latin validating diagnosis or description was changed to allow either English or Latin for these essential components of the publication of a new name.
- "One fungus, one name" and "one fossil, one name"; the concepts of anamorph and teleomorph (life stages of fungi) and morphotaxa (for fossils) have been eliminated.
- As an experiment with "registration of names", new fungal descriptions require the use of an identifier from "a recognized repository"; Index Fungorum and MycoBank.

The newest and current version of the code is the Shenzen Code adopted in July 2017. As with previous codes, it took effect as soon as it was ratified by the IBC on 29 July 2017, and the documentation of the code in its final form was published 26 June 2018. View it at: https://www.iapt-taxon.org/nomen/main.php

A major result of the Shenzen congress was “The Shenzhen Declaration on Plant Sciences – Unitng plant sciences and society to build a green, sustainable Earth.” The Shenzhen call for action has seven priorities:

1. To become responsible scientists and research communities who pursue plant sciences in the context of a changing world
2. To enhance support for the plant sciences to achieve global sustainability
3. To cooperate and integrate across nations and regions and to work together across disciplines and cultures to address common goals
4. To build and use new technologies and big data platforms to increase exploration and understanding of nature
5. To accelerate the inventory of life on Earth for the wise use of nature and the benefit of humankind
6. To value, document, and protect indigenous, traditional, and local knowledge about plants and nature.
7. To engage the power of the public with the power of plants through greater participation and outreach, innovative education, and citizen science.

The name of the Code is partly capitalized and partly not. The lower-case for "algae, fungi, and plants" indicates that these terms are not formal names of clades but indicate groups of organisms that were historically known by these names and traditionally studied by phycologists, mycologists, and botanists. This includes blue-green algae (Cyanobacteria); fungi, including chytrids, oomycetes, and slime molds; photosynthetic protists and taxonomically related non-photosynthetic groups. There are special provisions in the ICN for some of these groups, as there are for fossils.

The ICN can only be changed by an International Botanical Congress (IBC), with the International Association for Plant Taxonomy providing the supporting infrastructure. Each new edition supersedes the earlier editions and is retroactive back to 1753, except where different starting dates are specified.

A separate code, the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants, gives rules and recommendations that supplement the ICN.

~ Bobbie Stephenson, Newsletter Editor

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**RESTORATION**

**Removing Sea-Lavender**

In late June, the restoration crew searched out non-native *Limonium* species (sea-lavender or statice) to photograph it, collect specimens, and remove what they found. They weren’t sure if the species is the invasive *L. dubiusculum* or the actually somewhat less invasive Algerian sea-lavender, *L. ramosissimum*. *Limonium* is in Plumbaginaceae, the plumbago or leadwort family.

They dug up and bagged about 80 individuals, and submitted some plants to the County agriculture department for expert identification. Both species are more commonly found a few miles away at the coast, according to CalFlora, so an inland location is anomalous. Several web pages discuss possible spread of *Limonium* seed through hydroseeding. Some support for this occurring at our location is provided by the presence of ongoing new home construction on the slopes above the creek.

This is what the County said via email: "*Limonium* sp (Q). The sample is similar to *Limonium ramosissimum*, but the genus is highly variable with many polyploid complexes and hybrids. Molecular analysis will be tried but may take some time." If we find out more, we will present it in this section of the newsletter.

Committee members Eric and Alexander digging up plants. One of the possible *Limonium ramosissimum* plants.

Contact us at habitatrestoration@cnpssd.org.

~ Bob Byrnes, Board Member & Restoration Committee

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**Related Activities**

**Anza Borrego Desert Botany Society**

The Botany Society is a volunteer organization that assists Park staff to preserve, document and interpret the Park’s flora. New Botany Society members must complete the Botany Certification Course – a 12-week series of classroom sessions and outdoor hands-on field trips on Mondays (usually 9 am to 3 pm) January through March. The next course begins January 7, 2019.

http://www.anzaborregobotany.org/join-us

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**CNPS-SD Activities Calendar**

**September 2018**

9/5: Board Meeting, p.2
9/8: Native Gardening Workshop, p.1
9/12: Garden Committee Mtg, p. 3
9/18: Chapter Meeting, p.1
9/22: Field Trip to Otay River Valley p. 2
September 2018 Newsletter

Dedicated to the preservation of the California native flora

www.cnpssd.org  info@cnpssd.org

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
___Student or Limited Income $25; ___ Individual $45; ___ Family $75
___Plant Lover $100; ___ Patron $300; ___ Benefactor $600; ___ Mariposa Lily $1,500
Name(s): _______________________________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________________________________________
e-mail: _____________________________________________________________________
Mail check payable to “CNPS” and send to: CNPS, 2707 K Street, Ste 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113.