



THE PAINTBRUSH

JANUARY—FEBRUARY 2004 NEWSLETTER

SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS CHAPTER
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

IN THIS ISSUE:

Finding Ferns	1
Rejuvenation	2
Chapter Events	2
Plant Profile: Sugar Bush	3
Under the Oaks Recap	3
The Big Picture	4
Oak Woodland Crises	6
The Glory of Green Stars	7
New Members	7
Chapter Information & Map	8



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sun., Jan. 11, 9:00 am:** *Eaton Canyon Plant Walk* with Hartmut Wisch
- Thurs., Jan. 22, 7:30 pm:** *Teeny Tiny Desert Beauties* by Ileene Anderson
- Sat., Jan. 24, 10:00 am - noon:** *Ferns of Eaton Canyon* field trip with Jane Strong
- Thurs., Feb. 5, 7:00 pm:** *Chapter Board Meeting* at Eaton Canyon
- Sun., Feb. 8, 9:00 am:** *Eaton Canyon Plant Walk* with Rick Fisher
- Thurs., Feb. 26, 7:30 pm:** *Recent Plant Conservation Efforts on Guadalupe Island, Baja California* by Steve Junak

The Canyon in Winter: Finding Ferns

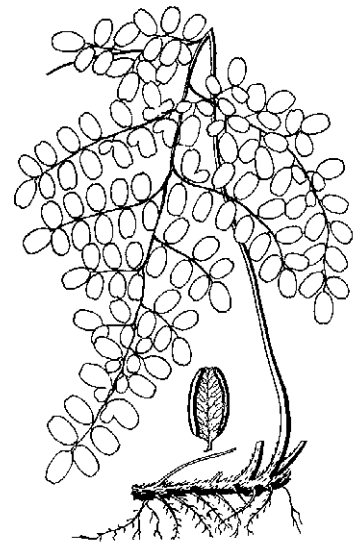
by Jane Strong and Tom Chester

with illustrations from Munz' A Flora of Southern California

It may come as a surprise to many that luxuriant ferns grow in the canyons of the San Gabriel foothills. At times, whole walls are covered in plush green velvet textured by billowing fronds. So how do you find them?

First of all, to find ferns, go at the right season. Go when the other plants are resting and their flowers and leaves have fallen down preparing to return to the soil. Go when the ferns begin to receive water after fall and winter rains. Go when the air is moist and cool, uncurling and greening the fronds.

Next go to the right habitat. Wet? Not at all! Here in the San Gabriel Mountain and Valley areas, the ferns grow mostly out of rocks! But almost always in the shade, almost always on north-facing slopes. Cutbanks, rocky outcroppings and waterfalls are the home of ferns in summer-dry southern California.



COFFEE FERN
Pellaea andromedifolia

LOCAL FERN HABITATS

Waterfalls / seeps / streambanks

The conditions: **permanently wet** from flowing water or seepage, often with constant mist; on rocky cliff faces, ledges or streambanks in canyons
The ferns: southern maiden-hair, Chinese ladder brake, giant chain fern
The associates: California muhly, an uncommon grass that grows locally under the spray of waterfalls; mosses, but not spike-moss; other grasses; white alder

Rocky outcroppings / cliffs

The conditions: can get very dry or very hot, has many microhabitats like crevices and overhangs, north- or northeast-facing
The ferns: spike-moss, coffee fern, bird's-foot fern, goldback fern in crevices
Same conditions, except moist and shaded: California polypody
The associates: dudleya, scarlet larkspur, crustose lichens, branching phacelia

(Continued on page 4)

Rejuvenation

by Kathy LaShure

With all the Southern California areas that experienced the rejuvenating power of fire this past fall, I was inspired to re-read Lester Rowntree's chapter on chaparral in *Flowering Shrubs of California*. Let me share some of her observations with you.

Many of the component species of chaparral spring up again after they have been burned off. The first year the charred bases of Toyon, Rhus, Rhamnus, and some Manzanitas and Ceanothus bushes become green tufts of new growth and the bare ground between their groups of dreary blackened stems begins to be downy with young annuals, seedling perennials and seedling shrubs—for fire is a tremendous incentive to germination. By the second year the new growth has risen almost level with the tops of some of the black branches. By the third year, if the tallest of the charred remains were not still sticking up you would never know there had been a catastrophe. Instead there are the dark and light green of Scrub Oak, the duller green of Mountain Mahogany, the greens and grays of Manzanita, the shiny greens of Rhamnus, and the varied greens of Ceanothi—all blending in a beautiful and redeeming cloak come back to guard the hillsides.

Lester also reminds us that a day spent exploring chaparral country will be filled with fragrance, bird-song (particularly the “conversation of wren tits”), and some thorniness.

A few scratches will be worth the fun of exploration, so I urge you to plan some Spring outings to explore, not scorched earth, but the return of the green.



CHAPTER EVENTS

Meetings are held at Eaton Canyon Nature Center (map on back cover) on the fourth Thursday of the month. Informal plant identification and social time from 7:00 to 7:30 pm; programs start promptly at 7:30 pm.

Board Meeting

Thurs., Feb. 5, 7:00 pm: *Chapter Board Meeting* at Eaton Canyon Nature Center. Any member interested in helping with Chapter activities is welcome to attend.

PROGRAMS

Thurs., Jan. 22, 7:30 pm: *Teeny Tiny Desert Beauties* by Ileene Anderson, CNPS Southern California Regional Botanist.

The West Mojave Desert is a great place to look for “belly” flowers (you need to be on your belly to see them) of the creosote bush scrub. Ileene's presentation will show the diversity of species in the most ubiquitous plant community of our local deserts. She promises lots of colorful slides that will have us all praying for winter rain and making plans for desert excursions in the spring.

Thurs., Feb. 25, 7:30 pm: *Recent Plant Conservation Efforts on Guadalupe Island, Baja California* by Steve Junak, Herbarium Curator, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden.

An exciting cooperative project on the most isolated island in the California Floristic Province has begun to yield results. Located about 160 miles off the west coast of Baja California, the volcanic island of Guadalupe has an area of 98 square miles and supports a unique flora. Guadalupe has the highest level of endemism (nearly 25%!) on the California Islands. Unfortunately, feral goats that were introduced to Guadalupe in the 1800s have drastically altered the island's ecosystems. Once-extensive stands of endemic cypress, palm, and pine trees, as well as groves of junipers and island oaks, have been dramatically reduced and non-native plants have invaded large areas. In an effort to protect some of the remaining native plants and to assess the potential for ecosystem recovery, twelve fenced enclosures were built in 2001. Steve's slide-illustrated presentation will focus on the current status of Guadalupe's flora and recent discoveries on this remote island.

Thurs., March 25, 7:30 p.m.: *Threats and Opportunities in Conserving the Puente-Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor* with Claire Schlotterbeck, Executive Director of Hills For Everyone

OUTINGS

Sun., Jan. 11, 9:00 am: *Eaton Canyon Plant Walk* with Hartmut Wisch

Sat., Jan. 24, 10:00 am - noon: *Ferns of Eaton Canyon* with Jane Strong

We will look at and learn to identify ferns and their friends from the gate to the bridge to about half-way to the larger waterfall. Much more information about these ferns can be found at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~zelicaon/sgm/blooms/ferns/index.html>. Meet at the gate to the Mt. Wilson Toll Road on Pinecrest in Altadena. There are severe and enforced parking restrictions on weekends. You will need to allow extra time to get to the gate. Rain or high water cancels. You will need appropriate footwear for wet slippery stream crossings. Bring this newsletter to use as a field guide. Check the Chapter website for updates: <http://cnps-sgm.org/#outing>.

Sun., Feb. 8, 9:00 am: *Eaton Canyon Plant Walk* with Rick Fisher

PLANT PROFILE:

Rhus ovata; Sugar Bush Anacardiaceae; Sumac Family

Text by Kathy LaShure, Illustration by Nora Ryerson from Medicinal Plants of the Desert and Canyon by Michael Moore

One of my all-time favorite SoCal plants for winter is the sturdy shrub known as Sugar Bush. When we lived in Sierra Madre I planted one in our front yard and it prospered, being just out of the reach of the sprinkler system. Within a few years it had grown from a one gallon can size to a size that allowed me to prune it in winter to make my Christmas wreath. Its deep green, leathery, glossy, spicy-smelling leaves held up through weeks of warm weather and the panicles of tiny dark pink to red buds added just a bit of color. As the years went by it grew too dense for its place at the end of the driveway, so I thinned it out, revealing its multiple-trunk structure for several feet above ground. And each December it provided plenty of cuttings for holiday decorations.

Sugar Bush is quite common in the front range of the San Gabriel Mountains. When the high country is snow-covered and the Angeles Crest Highway is closed beyond the ski areas, you'll find sugar bush keeping you company on winter hikes at lower elevations. It thrives on hot, rocky south-facing slopes in both the coastal sage and chaparral communities. In the wild it grows as a densely branched shrub or small tree, up to 20 feet tall. You can find it from Santa Barbara County south into Baja California and east into central Arizona.

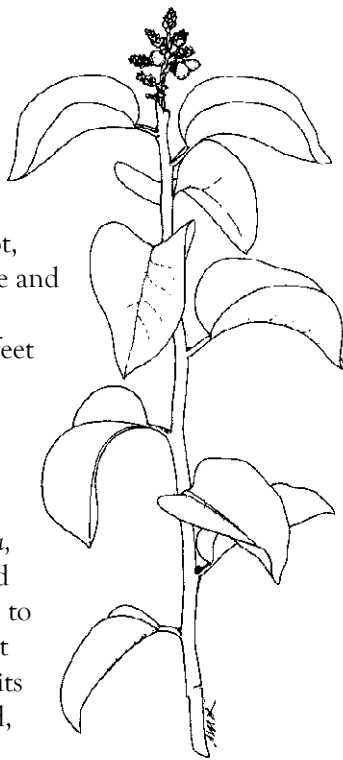
Of the three local shrubby Sumacs (*Rhus integrifolia*, Lemonade Berry and *Malosma laurina*, Laurel Sumac), this is the most cold tolerant and therefore found at higher elevations, ranging up to 4000 feet. And it is the most drought tolerant. It can be distinguished from the other Sumacs by its leaves: larger (1½-3" x ¾-1½), smooth-margined, folded, and more leathery.

But what really sets Sugar Bush apart from its relatives are its flower buds. These form in the fall at the tips of the branches and are various shades of pink to red, varying from plant to plant. The small white to pinkish flowers do not open until spring, so the buds are very noticeable all through winter. Bright red berries frosted white follow the flowers. This is a shrub that provides many months (Nov.-May) of visual interest both on the trail or in the garden.

Sugar Bush can be grown as a single specimen, as I did in my Sierra Madre garden. Or it can be used as a screen or hedge, either with multiple plants or with other similarly drought tolerant evergreens such as Lemonade Berry, Toyon, Silk Tassel or white-flowered Ceanothus.

The common name comes from the Native American use of the berries to produce a sweetish refreshing drink.

Sugar Bush may not be the flashiest shrub on the SoCal scene but for me it's emblematic of the San Gabriel Mountains.



Under the Oaks Recap

by Kathy LaShure, Event Chair

Once again our fall fund raiser was blessed by good weather, a bit cool and cloudy but rainless. Although we got off to a frazzled start, *Under the Oaks III* customers cheerfully waited in line for an available salesperson to write up their orders. By 10:00 there were noticeably fewer plants on the patio at Eaton Canyon Nature Center and by noon there were hardly any plants at all. When we closed up every plant and seed packet had been sold. Amazing! Thank you to all who helped make this our best event ever!

Special thanks go to master plantsman Rick Fisher who ordered the plants, wrote the catalog and helped gardeners make their selections.

Virginia Iser and Lyn McAfee helped at the sales desk, writing up orders, making change and answering questions.

The McLeans set up a demonstration of their new CD-ROM, *Common Plants of Eaton Canyon & the San Gabriel Foothills*, in the auditorium. Many folks came just to buy this wonderful new field guide. Gabi & Cliff graciously answered questions about their project. And the Chapter benefited financially from the brisk sales.

I hope each of you who purchased plants and wildflower seeds will be enjoying them in your gardens this year and that you'll be back for *Under the Oaks IV* next November.



It's Not Too Late

If you haven't gotten your copy of the McLeans' CD-ROM yet, it's available at Eaton Canyon Nature Center and Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. For other locations check out the McLeans' website:

The Big Picture

Chapter Council Meeting Report,
December 6, 2003

by Cliff McLean, Chapter Vice President

I had the opportunity to represent our chapter at the CNPS Chapter Council meeting, Dec. 6, 2003, in Berkeley. The Council, with representatives from each of the 32 chapters, is the mechanism by which chapters provide input and direction to the CNPS Board of Directors.

One of the items discussed and approved was an interim CNPS position statement, "Opposing Transplantation as Mitigation for Impacts to Rare Plants." Transplanting rare plants is often proposed as a way to preserve those plants and permit development of the land where they are found. CNPS's position is that transplanting is not an effective or reliable way to preserve rare plants. It further endangers the plants that we are trying to protect. A formal policy statement will be drafted, with more detailed information and citations from published scientific literature, and presented for a vote at a later meeting.

The California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) is a CNPS partner in working to preserve native wildlands. They have recently changed their name from California Exotic Pest Plant Council (Cal-EPPC) to better reflect their concerns about the invasive nature of certain plants, rather than their exotic origins. They are in the process of updating their important document, *Exotic Pest Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California*, which will be out in 2004. This organization, known as "Cal-ippy", is on the web at www.cal-ipc.org.

I participated in a panel on chapter-sponsored native gardens, hosted by Education Chair, Betsey Landis. I described the plantings around the rebuilt Eaton Canyon Nature Center, including the Becky Rothenberg Memorial Wildflower Garden. This garden honors one of our chapter's founding

(Continued from page 1)

Cutbanks

The conditions: a remnant stream terrace partially eroded away by running water at the base, but with soil deposits on the top; not rocky, but sandy soil; the trail usually is on top and you have to climb down and walk along the wash and look up at the side banks; or the trail runs alongside the cut and you see these ferns about knee height

The ferns: best place for California lace fern in the canyon; also has goldback fern and coffee fern
The associates: moss, liverwort, California buckwheat, California fuchsia

Open Woods

The conditions: rocky hillsides; part to full sun; damp, but not permanently wet; under the forest or woodland trees
The ferns: coastal wood fern, cliff sword fern, bracken
The associates: oak, pine

LOCAL FERN SPECIES

Twelve species are found locally. The first group gives those that I have seen in Eaton Canyon. The second group gives additional species of ferns with observations in nearby areas. The third group gives further additional species of ferns recorded in Eaton Canyon or nearby areas from vouchers stored in herbaria. Not all ferns in the San Gabriels are listed.

Group 1: found in Eaton Canyon

Adiantum capillus-veneris, southern maiden-hair, *Pteridaceae*
Aspidotis californica, California lace fern, *Pteridaceae*
Pellaea andromedifolia, coffee fern, *Pteridaceae*
Pellaea mucronata var. *mucronata*, bird's-foot fern, *Pteridaceae*
Pentagramma triangularis ssp. *triangularis*, goldback fern, *Pteridaceae*
Polypodium californicum, California polypody, *Polypodiaceae*
Pteris vittata, Chinese ladder brake, *Pteridaceae*
Selaginella bigelovii, Bigelow's spike-moss, *Selaginellaceae*

Group 2: additional species found nearby

Dryopteris arguta, coastal or California wood fern, *Dryopteridaceae*
Polystichum imbricans, cliff sword fern, *Dryopteridaceae*
Pteridium aquilinum var. *pubescens*, bracken, *Dennstaedtiaceae*
Woodwardia fimbriata, giant chain fern, *Blechnaceae*

Group 3: additional species in area from historical observations, with location of voucher in brackets

Asplenium vespertinum, western spleenwort, *Aspleniaceae*; Millard's Canyon 1894 [University and Jepson Herbaria]
Cheilanthes covillei, bead fern or Coville's lip fern, *Pteridaceae*; Pasadena 1882, Mt. Wilson 1904 [University and Jepson Herbaria]
Pentagramma triangularis ssp. *viscosa*, sticky goldback fern, *Pteridaceae*; Pasadena near Arroyo Seco 1884 [University and Jepson Herbaria]
Thelypteris puberula var. *sonorensis*, Sonoran maiden fern, *Thelypteridaceae*; Eaton Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, 1907; Fish Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, 1100 ft, 1925, 1933, 1971 [RSA]



BIGELOW'S SPIKE-MOSS
Selaginella bigelovii

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

LOCAL FERN FIELD MARKS

Most floras use the spores to distinguish fern species. For this you need a microscope and a measuring stick. You also need spores, which are found only on mature fronds, not on the freshly-unfurled ones of the winter season.

Local ferns can be identified by field marks, characteristics that are unique to each species. All conditions need to be matched, except height in the case of very young ferns, particularly ladder brake. After a tentative identification is made from these marks in the field, then go to the books at home at leisure.

These field marks are based loosely on those in Helen Witham's fine book, *Ferns of San Diego County*, published by the San Diego Natural History Museum, Munz' *A Flora of Southern California*, and on my own field observations.

This guide first separates ferns on size, from tallest to smallest; then uses the number of divisions, from one to many; and finally uses the unique features of the segments.

If the fern is **higher than your waist and the fronds are growing in a circle with new ones in the center**, then it is *Woodwardia fimbriata*, giant chain fern.

If the fern is **between the lowest part of your knee and your waist**, and

If the leaf is **once divided and the segment at the end of the frond is much longer than the side segments**, then the fern is *Pteris vittata*, Chinese ladder brake

If the leaf is **once divided and the segments have a small ear projecting from the upper side near the stem**, then the fern is *Polystichum imbricans*, cliff sword fern. The projection has been called the hilt of the sword.

If the leaf is **twice divided and the segments end in tiny spiny teeth**, then the fern is *Dryopteris arguta*, coastal wood fern.

If the leaf is **divided three times, parallel to the ground, and brown in winter**, the fern is *Pteridium aquilinum* var. *pubescens*, bracken

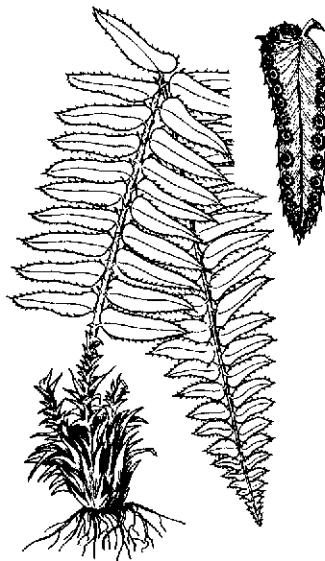
If the fern is **much lower than your knee**, and

If the leaf is **not divided all the way to the stem, with the lobes sometimes appearing alternate**, then the fern is *Polypodium californicum*, California polypody.

If the segment of the leaflet is **fan-shaped with veins radiating from one point** then you have *Adiantum capillus-veneris*, southern maiden-hair.

If the segment **edge is slightly rolled under and there is no tiny sharp point at the tip**, then the fern is *Pellaea andromedifolia*, coffee fern. This segment looks somewhat like a coffee bean.

If the segment **edge is strongly rolled under and there is a tiny sharp point resembling a bird-like claw**, then the fern is *Pellaea mucronata* var. *mucronata*, bird's-foot fern. [Caution: very dry coffee fern can look like this, too.]



COASTAL WOOD FERN
Dryopteris arguta

(Continued from page 4)

members and is located just across the driveway to the staff parking area, north of the building. Among the difficulties faced is the amount of manpower required to maintain the garden, combating the very vigorous growth of sweet alyssum and mustard. [Ed. Note: regular weeding this fall has made a big dent in those invasives.]

Ours was the most modest of the gardens described. For many years, the Napa Valley Chapter has managed the Martha Walker Native Habitat Garden, in the Skyline Wilderness Park in Napa County. The Sacramento Valley Chapter has created a demonstration garden in an old section of the Old City Cemetery, in Sacramento. And the Willis L. Jepson Chapter, which is only five years old, is now completing the one-acre Phase 1 of the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden in the Benicia State Recreation Area, in Solano County. This garden will be expanded in two more phases to 3.5 acres. The commitment of those chapters and their garden committees is truly impressive.

A very interesting, and I think important, presentation was made by Susan Strong, founder of The Metaphor Project. The Metaphor Project "teaches and promotes more effective ways for everyone to communicate with mainstream Americans about becoming a sustainable society." The anti-environmentalists have been very effective in using American clichés and American dream images to capture the attention of the public. We in the environmental movement need to become just as effective. We tend to use lots of facts and figures to describe complex issues with complex solutions, while the others make their points in simple, direct statements (often without the need for accuracy). The Metaphor Project has many ideas for improved public communication on its website: www.metaphorproject.org.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

They also conduct seminars and workshops for non-profit organizations.

Attending the Chapter Council meeting was a great learning experience on how CNPS operates at the state level. When the Council meets again, at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, in March, I would recommend it to any of our chapter members.



Oak Woodland Crises

by Caroline Brown

Recently the County of Los Angeles posted the removal of 10 oaks with impacts to 14 others on a 2-1/2 acre parcel in the unincorporated area west of Rosemead Blvd. The plan is for 11 houses to be built on this site. I wanted to attend the hearing and gather a group of informed people but I got word of the project late and had no way to notify others who were committed to oak woodland preservation.

As the California Native Plant Society membership knows, the effort to preserve California native plant communities faces threats on many fronts. California's oak woodlands are one plant community that is constantly under attack throughout the state from new housing developments, wine production and cattle ranching.

The California Oak Foundation has not developed local chapters, as has the CNPS. I contacted their president and learned that their board policy now leaves such activism up to other conservation groups. While I press for the formation of local chapters of COF, I would like to work through local CNPS chapters to develop a network for oak preservation.

The California Oak Society November newsletter calls for action in support of Senate Bill 711 (Kohl), which would preserve California's Oak

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 5)

If the leaf has **gold coloring on the back and the outline is triangular or five-sided**, then the fern is *Pentagramma triangularis* ssp. *triangularis*, goldback fern.

If the leaf is **divided four or more times and the segments appear sculpted and are pointed**, then the fern is *Aspidotis californica*, California lace fern.

If the fern is **less than the height of your foot and looks like little juniper trees with overlapping leaves**, then it is *Selaginella bigelovii*, Bigelow's spike-moss.

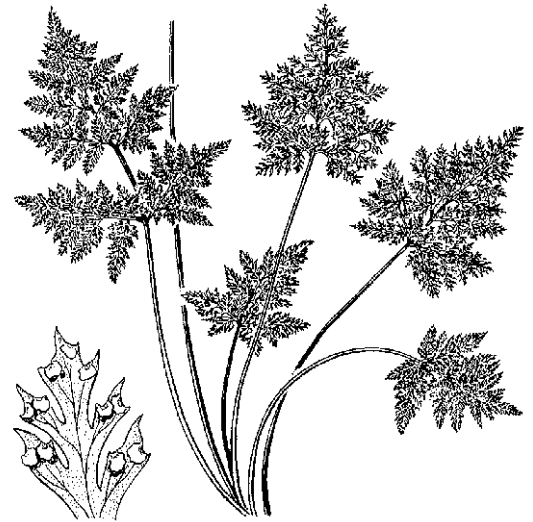
LOCAL FERN LOCATIONS

The most commonly encountered ferns are coffee fern, Bigelow's spike-moss, goldback fern, and California polypody. Often they are seen all together in one place. These are ferns of rocky, mostly dry, places which we have in abundance locally.

The rarest ones are giant chain fern, southern maiden-hair and Chinese ladder brake. These are ferns of permanently wet places which are few and far between in the foothills. If you want to see giant chain fern easily, take the trail to Sturdevant Falls from Chantry Flats. If you want to see southern maiden-hair and Chinese ladder brake, take the trail to Eaton Falls from the bridge.

The trails with the largest variety of ferns are Eaton Canyon from the Pinecrest gate to the waterfall, Millard Canyon to the waterfall, Sunset Ridge Trail from the gate on the fire road to the site of Camp Sierra, and Santa Anita Canyon (Upper and Lower Winter Creek and Sturtevant Falls Trails).

Much more information on local ferns can be found on Jane Strong's website: *Ferns of Lower Eaton Canyon* at <http://home.earthlink.net/~zelicaon/sgm/blooms/ferns/index.html>.



CALIFORNIA LACE FERN
Aspidotis californica

The Newsletter of the San Gabriel Mountains Chapter of the California Native Plant Society is published 4 times a year and is free to Chapter members. Non-member subscription is \$5.00.

To join the California Native Plant Society, write to CNPS, 2707 K St., Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113. Please specify San Gabriel Mountains Chapter. Enclose check payable to CNPS.

Membership categories: Individual/Library - \$35;
Student/Retired/Limited Income - \$20; Family/Group - \$45;
Supporting - \$75; Plant Lover - \$100; Patron - \$250; Bristlecone - \$1000.

The Glory of Green Stars

Marah macrocarpus; Wild Cucumber

by Mark F. Acuña; illustration from The Wild Flowers of California by Mary E. Parsons

The cold winds of *Aurórevay* (winter) have turned to icy blasts rushing down from *Hidakupa* (the San Gabriel Mountains). It is the bitter month of *Peret* (February); the Tongva have retreated deep within their homes, relying on their stored foods and acorn filled granaries to get them through the wintry time. In a month it will be *Hayahamo paahko oróreve* (Spring). But the days are cold and the nights are still long. Yet already a wonderful plant is climbing out of the soil and finding its way over shrubs and low trees: the Green Star vine, *Takape So'ot*.

Known to botanists as *Marah macrocarpus*, its common name in English is Wild Cucumber. The Tongva called it Green Star for its green starburst seed pods. In Spring, small white flowers will burst out all over the vine, signaling that the Spring festivals for the Vernal Equinox are approaching. Flowers blossom from January to April.

The Tongva women will be gathering long branches and tendrils of Green Star for the Equinox festival. They will make head-wreaths to wear in the processions and the dances. Neck-wreaths will be worn by young girls in their puberty rituals. They won't take all the vines, for Green Stars will be gathered again when the flowers become the great green star-burst seed pods.

But Shamans and medicine people watch and wait. The black slick seeds would be roasted and eaten to relieve kidney pains and for rheumatism. Roasted seeds could also be placed in the ear for earaches. Some medicine people would patiently grind the seeds into a fine paste for skin sores, rashes, and ringworm. The leaves and flowers were steeped as a wash for sores. The oils from the seeds were used to heal swellings.

Tongva women would gather the leaves and boil them to accompany acorn mush or roasted fowl. They would also gather the seeds and extract the oil as a shampoo for falling hair. Men and women would crush the roots and throw them into streams to stupefy fish for an easy catch. These roots when crushed also provided a soap lather.

Artisans used the oils as a fixative for rock painting. The crushed seeds also produced a black paint which when mixed with iron oxides turned red.

Finally children would take the black seeds which were left over from the artisans, the doctors, and the nearly bald and use them as marbles in a game of "Green Stars".

Takape So'ot can be found in dry places, mostly below 3000 ft. in Coastal Sage Scrub, Chaparral, and Oak Woodlands. This wonderful vine with its many uses was also used in a most unusual way. The great root, the *macrocarpus*, is huge. Some Native Californians would dig up the monster, clean it, and polish it. Then they would roll down a hill, racing away from it, hoping not to be crushed by giant *Takape So'ot*.



(Continued from page 6)

Woodlands. The bill has made its way through the Natural Resources Committee and the State Senate in spite of concerted opposition from the Building Industry Associates, Cattlemen's Association, Winegrowers, Farm Bureau, Realtors, State Chamber of Commerce and others. We are asked to write our local representatives asking them to support SB 711. See the COF website for additional information: www.californiaoaks.org. You can find more information about this bill on another web site, www.forestsforever.org, which includes a link to the site for your state legislator by zip code.

An additional area of concern for oak woodland preservation is that of proper care of oak trees in the garden landscape. In my own community of Sierra Madre, I have found that once information is provided to a homeowner who improperly cares for oak trees (such as watering in hot months for the benefit of grass and understory plantings which is a disaster for oak tree health), the homeowner's response has been to stop irrigating. I give out a leaflet obtained from the L.A. County Arboretum.

There may be members of CNPS who would like to work with me on these oak issues. If so, you may call me at 626-355-9350 or e-mail me at madresierra@earthlink.net and we can

WELCOME! New members

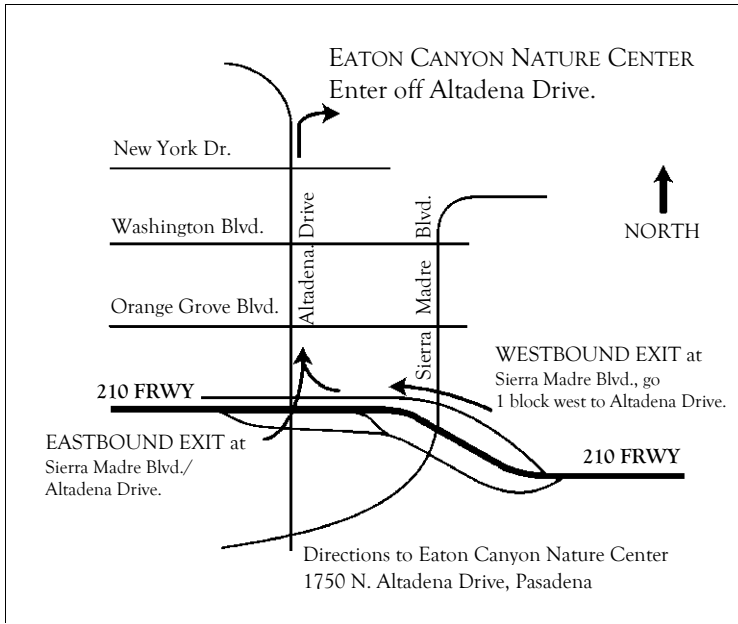
Valerie Borel
Laura Kopase
Sandra Miller
David G. Moore
Denise Morse
Kimberly Toal
Marla Wood

Thank you to renewing members!

When you renew this year, please consider doing so at a higher membership level. Our native flora can always use some extra help.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS CHAPTER
CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

PRESIDENT: Lyn McAfee
626-359-5278 or LynMcAfee@aol.com
VICE-PRESIDENT: Cliff McLean
626-966-0580 or cliff.mclean@worldnet.att.net
SECRETARY: Steve Fischer
323-254-0690 or habitathome@msn.com
TREASURER: Virginia Iser, 626-573-0390
PROGRAMS: Gary Wallace & Mickey Long, 626-398-5420
gdwallace@earthlink.net or longm@co.la.ca.us
NEWSLETTER: Kathy LaShure
562-693-5717 or encelia@gte.net
MEMBERSHIP: Kathy LaShure
562-693-5717 or encelia@gte.net
PUBLIC INFORMATION: Lyn McAfee
626-359-5278 or LynMcAfee@aol.com
PLANT WALKS: Eva Morgan, 626-284-0029
FIELD TRIPS: Harry Spilman
626-799-9486 or nochalkbets@juno.com
CONSERVATION: Rick Fisher
626-335-2534 or toyond@earthlink.net
RARE PLANTS: Mickey Long
626-398-5420 or longm@co.la.ca.us
MEMBER SERVICES: Gabi & Cliff McLean
626-966-0580 or gabi.mclean@worldnet.att.net



Website: <http://cnps-sgm.org>

Dedicated to the Preservation of the California Native Flora

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide nonprofit organization of amateurs & professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The mission of the Society is to increase understanding & appreciation of California's native plants & to conserve them and their natural habitats, through education, science, horticulture & advocacy. Membership is open to all.

Membership includes the quarterly journal Fremontia, the quarterly Bulletin which gives statewide news & announcements of Society activities & conservation issues, & the chapter newsletter.



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

San Gabriel Mountains Chapter
1750 North Altadena Drive
Pasadena, California 91107

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED