Riverside-San Bernardino Chapter Has Blossomed!

From ocotillos to oaks, the flora of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties is diverse and fascinating. The Riverside-San Bernardino chapter of the California Native Plant Society works to conserve native plants and habitats utilizing science, advocacy, education programs, and land stewardship. The chapter conducts field trips, botanical workshops and an annual plant sale. If you love plants or simply want to learn more, please join us at our upcoming free programs.

Our members range from students to professionals, gardeners to native habitat experts. Our chapter volunteers work to raise awareness at outreach events, such as the Lemon Lily Festival, and especially during Earth Day and California Native Plant Week in April. Some of our members participate in efforts to promote natural community conservation or provide review and comments on projects that might impact rare species. If any of these opportunities seem interesting to you, we welcome your involvement.

Our chapter is expansive and includes all of Riverside and southwestern San Bernardino Counties, except the Mojave Desert which has its own chapter. Our activities vary in location, but we often host slideshows and hands-on workshops at the Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District, Building F (4500 Glenwood Dr., Riverside, CA 92501).

We welcome you to join us at an upcoming hike, program or plant sale. To find local events: subscribe to our listserv, check our chapter website (www.enceliaCNPS.org), or contact one of our steering committee members (see back page for details). If you are interested in joining, learn about membership levels, benefits and discounts online or at a local event.
Intrigued About Natives?

Learn about native plants by joining us at a free educational program. In the past, the Riverside-San Bernardino Chapter has hosted a variety of fascinating presentations and garden tours:

- **Oaks of California, Plants and Wildfire Ecology**
  - Fred Roberts

- **Care and Maintenance of Your California Native Plant Garden**
  - Ellen Mackay

- **Native Plant Horticulture**
  - Susan Jett

- **Invasive Species Research and Effects on Native Plants**
  - Robin Marushia, Robert Steers, Mike Bell

- **Death Valley 1998: Wildflower Year of the Century**
  - Rosemary Foster

- **Traditional Medicine from the Desert: Yerba Mansa**
  - Benjamin Rangel

- **Gardening with the Senses**
  - Bart O’Brien

- **Eradicating and Controlling Wildland Weeds**
  - Bill Neill

- **Rare Plant Treasure Hunt: Go Eco-caching**
  - Amber Swanson

- **Wildflowers of the Santa Ana Mountains and Beyond**
  - Bob Allen

- **Native Plants & Sustainable Practices for Residential Gardens**
  - Bob Perry

- **Climate Change Sensitivity of Joshua Trees**
  - Dr. Cameron Barrows

- **From Coastal Scrub to Desert Islands: A Botanical Tour of Baja California**
  - Sula Vanderplank, Ben Wilder

- **The “Wild California” Experience: Harvesting Seed**
  - Jackie Lasater, Ben White

- **Growing Native Plants from Seed: Collection, Conservation, and Cultivation**
  - Michael Wall

- **Plant Identification Workshop**
  - Lorrae Fuentes, Katie Barrows, Arlee Montalvo

- **Native Bees & Other Pollinators in Urban Gardens**
  - Dr. Gordon Frankie

Many thanks to our past speakers for providing outstanding educational programing.

Thank You Speakers!

Conservation Information

Your local chapter works on regional conservation efforts to promote rare plant and natural community conservation. Chapter conservation activities include:

- working with agencies and groups on efforts to ensure protection of native plants, including the endangered Santa Ana River Woolly Star
- commenting on proposed projects that threaten rare plants, sensitive plant communities, and habitat linkages
- supporting the Riverside and Low Desert Weed Management Areas and sharing information about invasive species issues (Invasive plant info at www.cal-ipc.org)
- collaborating with CNPS vegetation scientists and Resource Conservation Districts in sampling and categorizing rare alluvial scrub habitat
- training volunteers in sampling techniques to collect data and identify plants. (Over 200 hours were donated by volunteers, primarily by Erika Presley, Cody Pynn, and Dr. Arlee Montalvo.)
- supporting a two-day training workshop about farm production of native seeds for use in southern California ecoregions
- commenting on County/City General Plan revisions, and more.

If you are interested in getting involved with these types of activities, please contact Conservation Chair Arlee Montalvo at montalvo@ucr.edu or (951) 781-7346. We are currently in need of people who can provide environmental review of proposed development projects.
Hikes & Explorations

Join us in the wild for some cool hikes and rare plant treasure hunts. Past hikes include:

Western Riverside County
Multispecies Reserve
Chris Moen, Arlee Montalvo
Lake Skinner Reserve

Big Bear Wildflower Foray:
Pebble Plains and Vernal Wetlands
Tommy Stoughton

Fire Restoration at Pioneertown Mountains Preserve
Caroline Conway, Hugh Vance

Santa Rosa Plateau
Harford Springs Wildland Park
Tin Mine Canyon
Diamond Valley Reservoir

Whitewater Canyon Preserve
Jamie Hall, Arlee Montalvo, Katie Barrows

Santa Ana River
Oscar Clarke, Arlee Montalvo

Thank you to our fearless (field trip) leaders for sharing your expertise! Plants were never so interesting as they are with you.

You Found It!
The elusive Chocolate lily, *Fritillaria biflora*.

Chapter "Road Show"

We are so fortunate to have highly dedicated volunteers, and they take our display, fun activities and books to a variety of events. Would you like to help at an upcoming event? If so, please contact Katie Barrows at kate.cnb@verizon.net.

Some outreach events and locations:
- Wildflower Festival at the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument
- Lemon Lily Festival and Earth Fair at Idyllwild
- Forest Festival at Barton Flats by the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association
- Eco Fair at Riverside Community College

An enormous thank you goes out to our “road-running” volunteers! Sheila McMahon, Nancy Rutherford, Michael Duval, Lorrae Fuentes, Arlee Montalvo, Ben White, Jackie Lasater.

Oscar Clark taught about plant families at the Plant ID Workshop. Photo by Diana Ruiz.

Michael Duval hosted the booth at Earth Night for California Native Plant Week. Photo by Diana Ruiz.
How *The Encelia* got its name!

By Nancy Rutherford

When we began our Chapter newsletter several years ago, we wanted to name it for a plant that reminded us of our unique and spectacular "territory". We settled on *Encelia farinosa* because - well it’s just us. It lives out with the wind, the heat, the rain, the rocks, the slopes, the flats, the washes. It sleeps in the summer and springs into action at first chance. It wears a distinctive suit of bark and leaves, in a silvered patina to rouse the envy of any well-fitted explorer. And when the hard times are over and it’s time to shine, it holds every one of its golden yellow flowers high and clear, for all to enjoy.

**Chapter Steering Committee**

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Join Us!

To learn more about the Riverside-San Bernardino Chapter, please join us at a meeting or hike.

Sign up for our e-list to receive announcements about upcoming programs by contacting Nancy Rutherford at neverthe@me.com

Membership in a local chapter is free with membership in CNPS.

If you would like to become a member of CNPS, you can join online, at a local event, or via mail. (See additional levels at www.CNPS.org) All membership gifts are tax deductible minus $12 for the botanical journal *Fremontia*.

Complete and send the form below with a $45 check (basic Individual membership) to: California Native Plant Society, Attn: Membership, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816-5113 (Riverside-San Bernardino Chapter)

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Telephone number/s: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________

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