



# Mimulus Memo

California Native Plant Society — Kern County Chapter  
January-February 2008

## President's Message

The CNPS web site  
(cnps.org) describes  
our group as follows:

*The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and how to conserve them and their natural habitats through education, science, advocacy, horticulture and land stewardship.*

I believe that the best I can say at the beginning of the new year is to invite you, and hope you accept, to actively join us in carrying out this description. Join us at our membership meetings and our wild plant walks to better understand the natives growing here. Volunteer to judge the Plant Science section of the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Science Fair, where we give a cash award to the middle school and high school winners in the area of plant science. We also educate the public with outreach tables at events at the Kern River Preserve in Weldon, and elsewhere, where your smiling face would be a boon to native plants, through giving educational brochures to all the visitors, who are already concerned about the environment. You would be a major help if you would speak before planning commissions and Supervisors' meetings advocating on native plant issues. (You are only given three minutes, so how scary can that be?) The general public is unaware that one third of California's native plants are listed as rare, endangered, or threatened. You could write letters on behalf of conservation, not development, at the Tejon Ranch. ( See meeting announcement in this issue.)

We are looking for leadership in helping with our dreams for a Kern native nursery, so we can sell

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## KERN C.N.P.S. ANNUAL POTLUCK

(Membership meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month, and the public is welcome)

Twenty or so members and friends joined for delicious food, much visiting, a walk through the Nipp's native plants, and the fabulous photo show of the Schale's garden. Ruth and David have planted an acre and a half with gorgeous natives, and Ruth's exquisite photography showed them at their best! The Schales shared their learning curve, losses, and successes with us. Their comments about the lessening supply of water and the photos of all the critters that frequent the wonderful habitat they have created were also an inspiration. We thank Ruth and David Schale for their efforts to educate, inspire, and entertain us at our annual get-together. We also thank Eva and Gordon Nipp for once again being the wonderful hosts that they are! The afternoon ended with a sharing of members' persimmons, tangerines, limes, cilantro, and cilantro and purple needlegrass plants.

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**PLANT SALE A SUCCESS!**

see page 2

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**NEXT MEETING:**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 15**

**SAVE TEJON RANCH!**

see page 4

## President's Message (continued from page 1)

plants from our area to area residents, and to provide the Parkway and preserves in Kern with appropriate plants to re-vegetate their lands. Annually we appreciate any help you can provide at our only fund raiser, the Plant Sale. Last on the list, but coming right up is land stewardship: the rain will produce more of the alien Sahara Mustard at the Sand Ridge Preserve on HWY 58. It is a beautiful site, rare plants grow there and nowhere else in the valley, and it is fun to get together and weed the invasives somewhere other than our own yards! With friends! And picnic lunches! And a great feeling of having accomplished good work in concert with others who love our area's special plants!

There is a lot to enjoy, and to appreciate, and to work on together in Kern County this year! So, I am hoping to see you soon!

— Lucy Clark

## Native Plant Sale a Success

The Annual CNPS Kern Chapter plant sale wasn't hindered by the changes!! We had a new location and different plant species, but the buyers found us and the plants sold. This would be the place where I would name the volunteers that made all this possible so I could give them their due recognition and a big THANKS, but I can't find my list. :- ( I am indebted to and so grateful to the regulars that have given of their time for many years; in addition, there were several new comers. THANKS to all of you; each of your effort combined to make a successful event. Check the treasurer's report for the exact amount, but we cleared about \$200.00. That doesn't sound like much (but it is profit) and it will be more when the rest of the plants sell. Currently there are 90 plants that are still for sale at (some a bit more); that's another \$500.00 for our treasury.

So, come buy an additional plant or two. They are in my backyard. The *Sidalcea* and bush lupine are already budding, the other perennials and shrubs are showing new growth, the trees NEED to get out of their pots and into the ground. Check out the list and call me, 323-4259, leave a message and we'll get together.

Thanks, Debby Kroeger, plant sale co-chair

Plants available:

*Baccharis pilularis* (coyote bush)  
*Bidens laevis* (bur marigold)  
*Cercis occidentalis* (western redbud)  
*Clematis ligusticifolia* (clematis vine)  
*Diplacus longiflorus* (bush monkeyflower)  
*Elymus glaucus* (grass)  
*Encelia californica* (California sunflower)  
*Erigeron glaucus* (seaside daisy)  
*Eriodictyon californicum* (yerba santa) \$7.50  
*Eriodictyon tomentosum* (wooly yerba santa) \$6.00  
*Eriogonum arborescens* (island buckwheat)  
*Eriogonum fasciculatum* (California buckwheat)  
*Eriogonum giganteum* (St Catherine's lace)  
*Juniperus utahensis* 'ice blue' \$15.00  
*Lepechinia calycina* (pitcher sage)  
*Lessengia filaginifolia* (California aster)  
*Lupinus albifrons* (silver bush lupine)  
*Mahonia aquafolium compacta* (Oregon grape)  
*Monardella villosa* (coyote mint)

*Penstemon centranthifolius* (scarlet bugler)  
*Penstemon heterophyllus* 'Margarita BOP'  
*Penstemon spectabilis* (showy penstemon)  
*Pinus sabiniana* (gray pine) \$15.00  
*Purshia tridentata* (antelope bush)  
*Quercus douglasii* (blue oak)  
*Ribes sanguineum glutinioum* (pink flower currant)  
*Salvia clevelandii* 'Aromas'  
*Salvia clevelandii* 'Winifred Gilman'  
*Salvia leucophylla* 'Pt Sal'  
*Salvia pachyphylla* (mtn desert sage)  
*Salvia spathacea* 'power point' \$6.00  
*Trichostema lanatum* (wooly blue curls) \$6.00  
*Vitis californica* (wild grape)  
*Zauschneria* 'Ghostly Red'  
*Zauschneria latifolia Johnsonii*  
*Zauschneria cana* (narrow-leaf fuschia)  
*Psilostrophe cooperi* (paper daisy)

## CALIFORNIA OAK MORTALITY TASK FORCE

Established in August 2000, the California Oak Mortality Task Force (COMTF) is a nonprofit organization, under the California Forest Pest Council, that brings together public agencies, other nonprofit organizations, and private interests to address



*Lithocarpus densiflorus*

Phytophthora ramorum-related issues. The Task Force will implement a comprehensive and unified approach for research, management, education, and public policy.

The California Oak Mortality Task Force (COMTF) focuses on the plant pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*, which can have devastating effects in the wildlands it inhabits and has had substantial impacts on the nursery industry internationally. In 14 coastal California counties and Curry County, Oregon, P.

*ramorum* has caused outbreaks of Sudden Oak Death, killing over a million native oak and tanoak trees.

The pathogen also infects the leaves and twigs of common ornamental nursery plants, such as rhododendrons and camellias, which serve as vectors for pathogen dispersal.

For more information, please visit the website: <http://www.cnr.berkeley.edu/comtf/>



*Rhododendron sp.*



*Umbellularia californica*

## Saturday at the Garden The San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden

<http://www.slobg.org/>

### *The Butterflies of San Luis Obispo County*

Saturday, January 12 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Presented by Bill Bouton Time: 1 p.m. Fee: \$5 (members \$4)



*Papilio Eurymedon*

Spending his childhood on 80 acres of old fields and bottomland forest, with a river and several streams to explore, it was natural for Bill to major in biology and go on to a career as an instructor of biological sciences in a Michigan college. While a teacher, some of his greatest rewards came while introducing his students to nature in places as diverse as Michigan's Upper Peninsula, South Carolina, Costa Rica, and the Galapagos Islands. Interested in all aspects of ecology and natural history, his passions have long included birding, which has taken him abroad to many countries in search of new species. Recently, his lifelong interest in photography has led him to point his camera at butterflies. He has found creating a beautiful image is even more rewarding than putting a mark on a checklist. Bill presently lives in beautiful San Luis Obispo, California, where there is no lack of nature's beauty to explore and photograph.

During this digital presentation, viewers will be exposed to the lifestyles of many of the 100 butterfly species found in SLO County. An interest in butterflies causes one to realize the necessity of increasing one's knowledge of plants. Not only are most caterpillars very specific in choosing their food plant(s); many adult butterflies require certain flower types for nectaring. Bill will illustrate and explain where to find the best butterfly habitats, touch upon the topic of gardening to attract butterflies, and describe some amazing life histories.

# COMING EVENTS!

## WINTER PROGRAMS/CHAPTER MEETINGS

### **Tuesday, January 15 Save Tejon Ranch!**

Speaker: Ileene Anderson

Place: Lake Room, Beale Memorial Library, 701 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield

6pm Plant Identification Workshop

Bring a plant you have wondered about, and we will have plants to key also. Bring your Twisselmann-Moe or Jepson, and a loop, if you have one. We will bring extra books, if you need one. Relaxed to Early California music as you learn how to use a floral key to ID plants!

7pm Save Tejon Ranch!

Ileene Anderson, a native of Bakersfield, former Botanist for CNPS, and current employee of the Center for Biological Diversity, will present her photographs and tell us why we in Kern County should care about the future of The Tejon Ranch. The Tejon Ranch is the largest remaining privately owned property in California, and encompasses many of the state's botanical regions. It contains critical habitat for the endangered California Condor, and is home to over 60 rare and endangered species. It is important that we all educate ourselves to the conservation alternatives that would keep this biologically important area from yet another sad story of Los Angeles moving north. Come hear our own botanist's impassioned information!

Tejon related refreshments will be served. The public is invited.

### **Tuesday, February 19 An Earthwatch Adventure in a Puerto Rican Forest**

Speaker: Linda Cooley

Place: Lake Room, Beale memorial Library, 701 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield

6pm Plant Identification Workshop

Bring a plant you have wondered about, and we will have plants to key also. Bring your Twisselmann-Moe or Jepson, and a loop, if you have one. We will bring extra books, if you need one. Relaxed to Early California music as you learn how to use a floral key to ID plants! Puerto Rican music will be played!

7pm An Earthwatch Adventure in a Puerto Rican Forest

Linda Cooley, a long time member of our chapter and Middle School Biology Teacher will give a power point on her summer expedition to Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rican refreshments will be served. But do not count on Mojitos. The public is welcome.

**March 18<sup>th</sup>** – Stephen Cooley, Native Plant Propagation

**April 15<sup>th</sup>** – David Schwartz, Xeric Ferns of Kern County and the World

## FIELDTRIPS

How about going to the [San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden](#)? There are lots of things to look at on the way, in the garden and also in the area.

.If you have always wanted to visit a certain area in or out of Kern County please contact the Wild Flower Walk Chairmen, Don & Vonnie Turkal. Our phone 393-4778 is waiting for your call, or email: [tloveanimals@bak.rr.com](mailto:tloveanimals@bak.rr.com)

## THANK YOU!

**Richard Rowe-** for keeping our CNPS activities front and center on [www.KRVR.org](http://www.KRVR.org), website for the Kern River Valley

**Clyde Golden-** for the post card with the correct date for the potluck

**Ruth and David Schale-** for the program on their native garden

**Eva and Gordon Nipp-** for hosting our Annual Pot Luck

# Kern River Valley Revitalization

[www.KRVR.org](http://www.KRVR.org)

PURPOSE - Kern River Valley Revitalization, Inc. (KRVR) is an umbrella group organized for the purpose of revitalizing the economic base, and creating sustainable economic growth consistent with the rural character and healthy environment of the Kern River Valley. KRVR will achieve its purpose by operating as a resource for existing and future organizations/agencies/projects, providing a Valleywide perspective, fostering Valleywide cooperation on common issues, assisting with access to external resources including funding, facilitating the establishment of action teams, acting as a fiscal agent and through various similar means.

Resources on [www.KRVR.org](http://www.KRVR.org) that might be of interest to our members:

56 LINKS in Water-wise, Fire-wise &/or Native Planting Resources .

[http://krvr.org/index.php?option=com\\_weblinks&catid=35&Itemid=23](http://krvr.org/index.php?option=com_weblinks&catid=35&Itemid=23)

Marya Miller's 'Going Native' column from the weekly Kern Valley Courier:

[http://krvr.org/index.php?option=com\\_joomlaboard&Itemid=26&func=view&id=11561&catid=12](http://krvr.org/index.php?option=com_joomlaboard&Itemid=26&func=view&id=11561&catid=12)

Other things in the Water-wise, Fire-wise & Native Planting forum of interest:

[http://krvr.org/index.php?option=com\\_joomlaboard&Itemid=26&func=showcat&catid=12](http://krvr.org/index.php?option=com_joomlaboard&Itemid=26&func=showcat&catid=12)

## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

### **The January 2008 WIND WOLVES PRESERVE VOLUNTEER WORK PARTY**

WHERE: West side valley floor and Los Lobos Creek    WHEN: Saturday, January 12th, 2008

**We'll be modifying fences for pronghorn releases and removing last of the tamarisk from Los Lobos Creek if we have enough people. Rain will cancel**

**MEET AT 9:00am, at The Crossing in San Emigdio Canyon**

PLEASE BRING... a lunch, water bottle, leather work gloves, sturdy boots, a good hat, & layered clothing.

WE WILL PROVIDE... drinking water, a barbecue dinner, and a warm campfire.

YOU MUST RSVP BY THE MORNING OF January 10<sup>th</sup>, IF YOU WANT TO PARTAKE OF THE BARBECUE!!

**Call Dave at (661) 747-0374 to RSVP, or to check on cancellation due to bad weather.**

Those who wish, may camp at "The Crossing" in San Emigdio Canyon Saturday night.

Please... No Dogs, and smoking is NOT allowed on Wind Wolves Preserve!

**WINDWOLVES** — Future volunteer events are on the following dates:

Jan 19<sup>th</sup>(see above), Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mar 15<sup>th</sup>, Apr 19<sup>th</sup>, May 17<sup>th</sup>

We look forward to seeing you here! David Clendenen, Wind Wolves Preserve Manager  
(661) 858-1115 = Office    (661) 747-0374 = Cell    (661) 858-4505 = Fax

**SLO BOTANICAL GARDEN** — Saturday in the Garden:

Jan 12<sup>th</sup>(see page 3) - The Butterflies of SLO county. More Info: [www.slobg.org](http://www.slobg.org)

**2008 NORTH AMERICAN BUTTERFLY ASSOCIATION BIENNIAL MEETING, KERNVILLE**

The next North American Butterfly Association Biennial Meeting will be held in Kernville, Thursday-Sunday, June 26-29 2008. see <http://valleywild.org/NABA.htm>



**Check Out Our Website at:**  
[www.KernCNPS.org!](http://www.KernCNPS.org!)

We now have an official website. Please go and see what you think. I am sure there are some things that could be done better and I need you to help me. Take a look, if you see an error or an out-of-date item, let me know. If you have an idea for a page, let me know.

I also need **PHOTOGRAPHS** for a "Photos by our Members" webpage.

Please send your photos to:  
[MimulusMemo@bak.rr.com](mailto:MimulusMemo@bak.rr.com)

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*Carpenteria*

The mission of the California Native Plant Society is to increase understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and to conserve them and their natural habitats through science, education, advocacy, horticulture and land stewardship.