



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2014

Susan Krzywicki, Horticulture Program Director
California Native Plant Society
(619) 318-4590
skrzywicki@cnps.org

Native plant horticulture experts enhance high-level statewide CNPS committee

by Susan Krzywicki, Horticulture Program Director

Sacramento, CA - As drought and climate change issues continue to affect our daily lives, the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) has enhanced its statewide Horticulture Committee to help Californians focus on conservation and landscaping issues.

Our gardening practices are changing as we learn the impact of over-watering and chemical-dependent techniques. Native plants are the most ecologically beneficial solutions any gardener can embody. They are naturally low water use solutions; do not require chemical fertilizers and pesticides; provide a unique caterpillar host relationship to allow for abundant butterfly populations; provide the best nectar, pollen, and habitat for butterflies, bees and birds; and give a sense of place that no other plant palette can provide.

Dan Gluesenkamp, Executive Director of CNPS says, "We have an incredibly rich resource pool of experts who know these plants, their cultural requirements and how they can help Californians to create beautiful and inspiring gardens. I am proud to see our organization nurture this committee and offer their expertise to the wider community - they will be setting strategic direction, providing networking opportunities and many will be available for public comment in articles, and in online media."

Starting March 1, the group has formulated a virtual community that will promote horticultural practices and scientific discovery within the State of California and Baja California, Mexico.

The members of the CNPS Horticulture Program Committee are:

Carol Bornstein is one of Southern California's most highly respected native plant specialists and co-



author with David Fross and Bart O'Brien of *California Native Plants for the Garden* (Cachuma Press, 2006) and the 2011 *Reimagining the California Lawn*. Carol was horticulturist for the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden for nearly thirty years. She is now the Director, Nature Gardens at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Sally Casey has been a CNPS Fellow since 1997 and she was one of three women who started the local chapter. Born in Illinois, she grew up on a small farm and after seeing the world, she moved to Los Altos. She obtained a Master's Degree from San Jose State and taught Botany at Mission College in Santa Clara for ten years. She tends three gardens in the summer and also volunteers with Elderhostel in the Sierras as a Botanist.

Charli Danielsen is the founder and recently-retired manager of the Natives Here Nursery, a resource for plants that grow naturally in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The nursery is in Tilden Regional Park and Charli and her husband John live nearby in the Berkeley hills. They are also amongst the select group of CNPS Fellows, in honor of their work at both the chapter and the organizational levels. Active in the East Bay chapter, Charli has served as the chapter's past president and in other roles through the years. She has always been a strong voice for local propagation.

Jessica Dowell graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Landscape Architecture program in 1998. Since then she has been working at Caltrans designing and managing construction of a variety of landscape projects ranging from large freeway landscapes to small parklets, habitat restoration, erosion control and revegetation, and water pollution control. Currently she is working on coastal scrub revegetation of the Devil's Slide bridge and tunnel site in Pacifica on Highway 1. Jessica has been involved in the San Francisco and East Bay CNPS chapters and promotes the use of native plants personally and professionally.

Peigi Duvall grew up in Monterey, California, and has been playing in California's natural beauty ever since. She designs landscapes and consults throughout the state, with a primary focus in the San Francisco and Monterey Bay Areas. Her company, Indig Design, provides landscape design services for residential sites to ensure all parts come together successfully. Peigi was the volunteer horticulture Program Director several years ago.

Barbara Eisenstein is a native plant gardener, horticulturist, speaker, writer, and blogger. She founded and runs Friends of the Nature Park, a citizen stewardship program in South Pasadena, and received the 2007 Arroyo Verde Award for Best Citizen Activism. She ran the Native Plant Garden Hotline at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, and is now an RSABG Research Associate and horticulture chair for the San Gabriel Mountains Chapter of CNPS.

Dan Gluesenkamp, CNPS Executive Director, works with staff and chapters to protect, understand, and celebrate California's native flora. Dan first fell in love with California plants (and CNPS) as a student at UC Santa Cruz, and he earned his Ph.D. at UC Berkeley. He previously worked as Executive Director of The Calflora Database, and as Director of Habitat Protection and Restoration for Audubon Canyon Ranch's 30 preserves in Marin and Sonoma. Dan is a founder and past president of the California



Invasive Plant Council, and in 2009 discovered a presumed-extinct Franciscan manzanita plant growing on a traffic island at the Golden Gate Bridge.

Brett Hall started in his family's landscaping and garden design business, graduated from UCSC, while also working at the Arboretum, graduating with a BA in Natural History and Biology. He started on the staff in October 1975 and his duties have evolved over the past 30 years into his current position, Arboretum Director. He has traveled extensively throughout the West and the world to collect and study. Brett has served in a variety of positions within CNPS, including President of the Board.

Lori Hubbart started out in the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of CNPS, where she was wildflower show/plant sale co-chair, vice president/programs and then chapter president. She headed a state membership committee before being catapulted into the job of state president in 1996. Now living in Mendocino County, she serves as conservation chair for the Dorothy King Young Chapter of CNPS. Lori worked for seven years at the Yerba Buena Nursery in San Mateo County, and does native plant garden consulting, as well as writing a monthly garden column for a local publication, working natives into the articles whenever possible.

Susan Krzywicki is the newly appointed Horticulture Program Chair for CNPS. She has been a native plant landscape designer in San Diego, as well as chair of the San Diego Surfrider's Ocean Friendly Gardens Committee.

Christina Lewis has been a tree-hugger and reluctant gardener most of her life. She 'found' CNPS in the 1980's, first volunteering with the El Dorado Chapter then with the Sacramento Valley Chapter. Over the years Chris volunteered as Conservation chair, Habitat 2020 chair, Chapter Programs Chair, Plant Sale Co-Chair, Chapter President, Wildflower Weekend/Wonders Coordinator, Native Plant Gardening Chair, Gardens Gone Native tour co-chair, and founder & director of Elderberry Farms Native Plant Nursery. She is also the editor of Sacramento Valley CNPS's eNewsletter.

Greg Rubin, owner of California's Own Native Landscape Design, started working with native plants back in 1985, while renovating his parent's home in Chatsworth, CA. Greg has pioneered & developed numerous approaches that diverge greatly from the methodology (but not the goals) of ornamental horticulture while capturing native ecology in the landscape. His company has installed over 700 native landscapes in Southern California. Author of "The California Native Landscape" (Timber Press), Greg has served on the boards of the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation, California Native Plant Society, the Lux Art Institute, and the Garden Native foundation.

Bart O'Brien is the new manager of the Tilden Regional Parks Botanic Garden. Previously, Bart was the Director of Special Projects for the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont, California. Bart is co-author, with Carol, of *California Native Plants for the Garden* (Cachuma Press, 2006) and the 2011 *Reimagining the California Lawn*. Bart has been recognized with numerous awards including President's Award from CNPS in 2006 and 2010.



Betty Young is Director of Nurseries at the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. Betty has been involved in growing native plants for habitat restoration for 25 of her 30 years in nursery management. She holds a BS: Plant Science from University of California at Davis. With the support of community volunteers and an amazing staff, she has directs operations for 6 nurseries in the GGNRA which grow 175,000 plants each year of 411 species native to the park. She has given many lectures and taught classes in nursery management throughout California.

All members of the committee are available to speak or be interviewed - please make contact with Susan Krzywicki, Horticulture Program Director
California Native Plant Society
(619) 318-4590
skrzywicki@cnps.org

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a statewide nonprofit conservation organization, founded in 1965, with 10,000 members and volunteers in 34 chapters in the United States and Baja California. The mission of CNPS is to conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants.

www.cnps.org

###