



of the Southern California Botanists

Volume 19 Number 1

January-February 2010

Season's Greetings

*Thank you for a successful 2009
and best wishes for 2010*

2009 SCB Symposium “Desert Botany: Boom or Bust”

We had another successful turnout this year with 139 attendees, plus our board members, invited speakers and several vendors. Ninety-three people pre-registered while 55 registered at the door.

Two poster presentations were also a part of the symposium this year. The inclusion of poster presentations began three years ago, and is a great addition that we hope to continue in future years. The weather was clear and sunny once again this year and we enjoyed lunch on the grass in the Fullerton Arboretum.

Proceeds from the annual symposium pay for costs of the symposium, and profits are applied to student grants, publications, and other SCB expenses throughout the year. This year, pre-registration amounted to \$1,710 and on-site registration brought in \$1,590, yielding gross proceeds of \$3,300. Additionally, we sold some of SCB publications during the symposium, totaling \$303.

SCB Hat, T-Shirt, & Bag Sales

SCB logo hats, T-shirts, and canvas bags were sold at the symposium which brought in approximately \$1,435. There are still a number of logo hats, T-shirts (Sm, Med., Lg., XL), and bags from the symposium for sale. We also have T-shirts from the 2004 symposium on Island Ecology and Processes available. These T-shirts are currently on clearance for \$5.00 each. Sizes are limited. In addition, we have *Calochortus* spp. and *Fremontodendron* T-shirts, illustrating Fred Robert's artwork for \$18.00 each. Due to a limited supply of Fred Robert's T-shirts, we advise you to please place your orders as soon as possible since these go like hot cakes! Please send a check made out to SCB with desired size, design and color to: Southern California Botanists 1500 North College Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711. Order right away, as delivery will be on a first come first serve basis. Please include phone number and e-mail in case we are sold out of your preference.

Silent Auction at the SCB Symposium 2009 for the Susan Hobbs Grant for Field Research and Alan Romsperg Grant for Research in Desert Botany

Those closest to our late treasurer Alan Romsperg, all felt that he would have wanted his library dispersed to those who would appreciate the wealth of information he had amassed over a wide range of topics. The vast majority of the books at the silent auction belonged to Alan. Several other people donated books as well. The donations are all greatly appreciated. The books went to dozens of different successful bidders. These items garnered us a total of approximately \$1,647. We are looking for more donations to further this worthwhile fund, which supports student grants for field research.

Crossosoma News

The next issue of *Crossosoma* (Fall-Winter 2009) is nearing completion and should be in the mail by February 2010.

Volume 35 will be dedicated to long-time SCB Treasurer Alan Romsperg who passed away last summer. Over the years, Alan's contributions to SCB have been immeasurable and we regret that this dedication comes too late for him to see it. The upcoming Fall-Winter issue will include Allan Schoenher's memoir of "Roms" and one or two photos of him.

This issue will also include a lichen checklist for the northwestern Santa Ana Mountains, by Jana Kocourkova and Kerry Knudsen; an evaluation of several methods of controlling *Foeniculum vulgare*, by Abigail Gwynn; and reports of several noteworthy occurrences of vascular plants and lichens.

The editors encourage academic, professional, and amateur botanists to contribute research articles, notes, reports of noteworthy collections or book reviews to *Crossosoma*. We sincerely believe that everyone interested in botany has some meaningful botanical observation or insight that warrants publication in the journal. For further information, please see instructions for submission at the SCB website (www.socalbot.org) and contact coeditor Scott D. White (scottbioservices@verizon.net).

*Information to be included in the next issue of LEAFLETS (Vol. 19, No. 2) should be sent to the editor by January. 26, 2009. Please email material to kerrymyers@fs.fed.us, or mail to:
Kerry Myers, Botanist
USDA Forest Service, Mountaintop Ranger District
42300 North Shore Dr.
Fawnskin, CA, 92333-0400*

Upcoming Events

Election for 2010

Southern California Botanists' Board of Directors

Enclosed in this issue of *Leaflets* is a ballot for SCB Board of Directors for 2010. All SCB members are encouraged to vote. Ballots must be received by January 26, 2010. Election results will be posted in *Leaflets* Vol. 19 (2), the March-April issue. Brief biographies of the candidates are provided below:

Director at Large:

David Bramlet is an independent botanical consultant with over 27 years of experience conducting field surveys for sensitive plant species and mapping plant communities in southern California. His principal focus is on the unusual plants of western Riverside County. He was a co-author on the vascular plant checklist for this region, and he has developed several plant community classification systems for projects in Orange and Riverside Counties. Dave has also conducted monitoring programs for sensitive plants in the Angeles National Forest. In the early 1990s he served on the SCB Board as the field trip coordinator and has once again taken on this task during 2008 and 2009. Dave has a BS degree in Zoology from Cal Poly Pomona.

Darren Sandquist is an associate professor of biology at California State University, Fullerton. His primary research interests focus on plant physiological ecology in arid-land ecosystems and the impacts of global changes on plant function. Darren was on sabbatical last year in Chile examining thermal acclimation in the single south American species of *Encelia* (*E. canescens* Lam.)

Gary Wallace is a Botanist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and a Research Associate at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. Gary has contributed treatments of various genera of Ericaceae for several floristic projects including Flora Neotropica, the Flora of China, and currently FNA and the Jepson Manual revision. He has degrees from CSULA and Claremont Graduate University. His current interests include historical aspects of early southern California collectors and their collections. He recently served as SCB President for two terms.

Chris Barnhill (Cal State Fullerton Arboretum)

David Bramlet is an independent botanical consultant with over 26 years of experience conducting field surveys for sensitive plant species and mapping plant communities in southern California. His principal focus is on the unusual plants of western Riverside County. He was a co-author on the vascular plant checklist for this region, and he has developed several plant community classification systems for projects in Orange and Riverside Counties. Dave has also conducted monitoring programs for sensitive plants in the Angeles National Forest. In the early 1990s he served on the SCB Board as the field trip coordinator and has once again taken on

this task during 2008. Dave has a BS degree in Zoology from Cal Poly Pomona.

Jennifer Cogswell is a past SCB Director. She is an environmental consultant with a background in native plant restoration and biological studies for public and private entities. Ms. Cogswell is a college graduate and is currently perusing a Masters degree in the Environmental field.

Naomi Fraga is Conservation Botanist at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. She is currently a PhD student at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and received her M.S. in Botany from Claremont Graduate University and her B.S. in Biology and Botany from Cal Poly Pomona. Her research interests are floristics of California, especially southern California, and conservation of the native flora. Naomi has served on the SCB board of Directors as a Director at large for two years, Vice President for three years, and President for one year. Naomi also currently serves as the SCB webmaster.

Michael Honer, co-editor of *Crossosoma*, is a native southern Californian and independent consulting botanist based in Isla Vista, CA. He is an avid and reclusive camper and explorer, documenting the flora of remote locations throughout the deserts and mountains of California.

Carrie Kiel is currently a MS student at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden / Claremont Graduate University studying evolution and pollination systems of Acanthaceae. She received her B.S. in Environmental Science at the University of Pittsburgh and previously worked as curatorial / research assistant at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. Carrie has served on the SCB board of Directors as a Director at large for two years and currently serves as the SCB secretary.

Sarah Ratay (Plant Ecologist Catalina Island Conservancy)

Fred Roberts is an independent botanical consultant with over 27 years of experience conducting rare plant surveys, book publisher, author or co-author of the books: *Illustrated Guide to the Oaks of the Southern Californian Floristic Province*, *Vascular Plants of western Riverside County, California*, and *Vascular Plants of Orange County, California*, artist, and occasional botanical instructor at Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens and the San Diego Natural History Museum. His botanical specialties are rare plants of southern California, oaks, and lilies and their relatives. He also worked at an assistant museum curator at the Museum of Systematic Biology, University of California, Irvine, for nine years, specializing in the flora of Orange County, and as a botanist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for seven years. Fred has served four years on the SCB board of Directors as a Director at large and created the art work for two of SCB's symposium T-shirts. Fred has a BA in Geography from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Duncan Bell is a Field Botany Technician and Curatorial Assistant to the Herbarium at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. He spends much of his time working as a field botanist monitoring rare, threatened, and endangered species

for the various national forests of southern California, as well as some of the large desert sections of the Bureau of Land Management within the southern California deserts. His research interests are in floristics of the arid regions of the South Western United States, especially the many under collected and understudied sections of southern California that make up the greater Mojave and Sonoran Deserts.

Justin M. Wood is a biological consultant with over 8 years of experience conducting both wildlife and plant surveys, including surveys for rare, threatened, and endangered plant species. His interests include the flora of southern California with a focus on the floras of Bernardino and Riverside Counties. He recently joined the staff at Aspen Environmental Group in their new Inland Empire office in Upland. He is currently completing his M.S. in Biology at Cal Poly Pomona where he also earned his B.S. in Biology. He also recently became a research associate at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and now looks forward to the chance to be on the SCB board of directors.

Benjamin Wilder is a desert ecologist and botanist whose work focuses on the Sonoran Desert, especially islands of the Gulf of California. He is currently a PhD student in the Botany and Plant Sciences Department at UC Riverside. As a newcomer to California and its flora, he is excited to become a member of the active botanical community here and aid its continued development.

Vice President:

Erika Gardner served as director at large for the 2008-2009 term. She recently completed her B.S. in Biology at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and is now the Herbarium Workroom Manager at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. During the field season she has been actively involved in conducting rare plant surveys and floristic research with the field studies program at RSABG.

President:

Orlando Mistretta is currently a research associate at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. He served as the Endangered Species Program coordinator at the Garden from 1987-1995, and is currently working a flora of the San Gabriel Mountains. He owned a landscape maintenance company for 20 years. He has served on the SCB board of directors for four years.

Classes, Conferences, and more...

January 23 (Saturday) Native Plant Garden Design, with Amy Nettleton. 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Three Saturdays: January 9, 23 & February 6 This comprehensive three-session course for home gardeners offers a sound foundation in design styles and process, the importance of sustainability and how to model a garden after patterns in nature. Students will devise a base/plot plan, implementing knowledge of hardscape materials, irrigation, soils and more. Amy is a licensed landscape architect with extensive experience in planning, designing and supervising successful landscape projects, and

is Principal of Elemental Landscapes, a landscape architecture firm that specializes in site planning and design with an ecological focus. Fee: \$150 members, \$195 nonmembers; \$210 member couples, \$270 nonmember couples. Call (818) 768-1802. Visit the website for more details: <http://www.theodorepayne.org/calendar.html> .

January 10-12 (Sunday-Tuesday) First Annual "Choose Clean Water" Conference. Sponsored by National Parks Conservation Association. Located at the Renaissance M Street Hotel, 1143 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. To register for the conference and learn more about the Choose Clean Water Coalition, go to www.choosecleanwater.org and visit the following website to learn more about the conference: http://www.npca.org/take_action/upcoming_events/first-annual-choose-clean.html.

Spring 2010 Botany Blitz. Please join the Southern California Botanists, the San Bernardino National Forest, and The Wildlands Conservancy for a Botany Blitz in the Whitewater Canyon watershed on the southeastern flank of the San Bernardino Mountains. Survey teams will assemble for two days to document and map the flora of this diverse region, where montane, inland, and desert species come together. Dates are not yet finalized, but we expect to hold this event in late April of 2010. Stay tuned to the next Leaflets issue for additional information; details will be posted on our website as they become available <http://socalbot.org> <http://socalbot.org/>. Contact either: Gina Richmond (gkrichmond@fs.fed.us) or Kerry Myers (kerrymyers@fs.fed.us).

Membership Dues Reminder

Please check the expiration date on your Leaflets mailing label. If it still says "DEC09", please renew your membership today! Remember that membership dues have been changed to \$25 starting January 1, 2010.

Happy Holidays!



Phoradendron villosum (Nutt.) Nutt.
Hairy mistletoe

Reproduced with permission from Leroy Abrams' Illustrated Flora of the Pacific States, Stanford Univ. Press

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*Leaflets of the
Southern California Botanists*

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For membership information, please use the Fullerton
address to the left. Also, please visit our website at
www.socalbot.org.

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