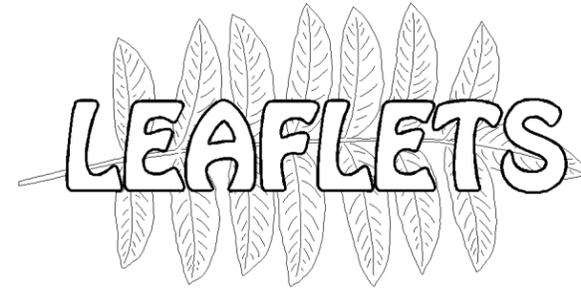




Southern California Botanists  
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*of the Southern California Botanists*

Volume 26 Number 1

January-February 2017

## SCB Symposium Report

I think it is safe to say that this year's symposium held on October 8<sup>th</sup> at Pomona College's Seaver Auditorium was a great success. The 172 people in attendance were greeted with wide-ranging talks on the issues that will be relevant to the flora of Southern California over the coming decades. The auction raised more than \$1000 and additional donations of more than \$800 will provide funding for SCB grant programs. The newly-designed mixer was fun and featured great food from Papas Artisanal, entertainment from SCB Board Member Evan Meyer and friends, and a well-attended poster session featuring exciting, current research. I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to Pomona College, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, and all of the SCB Board Members and volunteers that combined efforts to make this a memorable day.

Lastly, this newsletter marks the end of my two-year term as SCB President. It has been a pleasure to serve SCB—may it continue to thrive as a special organization devoted to the flora of Southern California!

-SCB President Nick Jensen

## SCB Board Elections

Presidential Candidate Short Biography:

**Justin Wood** is a Senior Biologist with Aspen Environmental Group in Upland, California. He has been a consulting biologist in southern California since 2001 and has served on the board of the Southern California Botanists since 2009. He has a particular interest in the flora of southern

California and has also done field work throughout California and the southwestern United States.

Vice Presidential Candidate Short Biography:

**J. Mark Porter** is a Senior Researcher at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and Associate Professor of Botany at Claremont Graduate University. Dr. Porter's research has focused on members of Polemoniaceae (*Aliciella*, *Gilia*, *Leptosiphon* and *Linanthus*) and *Cactaceae* (*Pediocactus* and *Sclerocactus*), contributing treatments to the Jepson Manual and Flora of North America. He has also been active in conservation and study of genetic variability in Southern California species, including *Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* and *Opuntia basilaris* var. *treleasei*.

Board Candidate Short Biographies:

**Hester Bell** is a graduate of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. At RSABG she is a member of the Board of Overseers and a Research Associate. Currently she is working on a floristic survey of the Eureka Valley which is the northern most portion of Death Valley N. P..

**Dylan Cohen** is currently a PhD student at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden/ Claremont Graduate University studying evolution and biogeography of the Loasaceae. He received his B.S. in Environmental Studies at California University of Pennsylvania where he focused on botany and restoration research at Presque Isle State Park. He is a flora and fungi enthusiast ready to explore the diversity of California.

**Joshua Der** is an Assistant Professor of Biological Science at California State University, Fullerton. His research spans many areas of plant evolution, including conservation genetics, phylogenetic systematics, and comparative genomics.

**Peter Dixon**, Plant Conservation Manager for the Catalina Island Conservancy has worked on projects including rare/endangered species monitoring, ex-situ conservation, nursery management, restoration, and is currently co-authoring the Flora of Catalina Island. Peter holds a Bachelors degree in Landscape Architecture

### *Leaflets of the Southern California Botanists*

**Editors: Thomas Huggins and Sarah Ratay**

c/o Thomas Huggins  
UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
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For membership information, please use the Claremont address to the left. Also, please visit our website at [www.socalbot.org](http://www.socalbot.org).

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#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

\_\_\_ Individual (family) \$25.00

\_\_\_ Organization \$35.00

(International Orders please add \$10.00)

Please circle one: New Member or Renewal

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**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

In addition, I want to give \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help support SCB.

Make checks payable to **Southern California Botanists** and mail to:

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from the University of Oregon with a focus on ecological design and environmental planning.

**Naomi Fraga** is Director of Conservation Programs at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. She has served on the board of Southern California Botanists since 2002 and has previously served as President (2006, 2013-2014), Vice President (2004, 2007-2009) and Secretary (2015-2016).

**Katie Gallagher** is a botanist with Psomas, a private firm in Pasadena, where she conducts rare plant surveys, maps vegetation types, and restores habitat. She enjoys her job the most when she can help clients (often developers) find ways to reduce their environmental impacts. Katie has worked many botany and ecology jobs all over the country and holds an MS degree from Oregon State University.

**Evan Meyer** is the Assistant Director of the Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden at the University of California, Los Angeles. Prior to this position, Evan was the Seed Conservation Program Manager at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden.

**Orlando Mistretta** is a field botanist and research associate at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens. His primary area of interest has been the flora of the San Gabriel Mountains.

**Julia Parish** is a Plant Conservation Manager with the Catalina Island Conservancy in Avalon, CA. She has been conducting natural resource management on Pacific Islands for over a decade, focusing on invasive plant eradication and control, and currently leads the invasive plant project on Catalina Island.

**Jennifer Pilapil** is currently a Research Associate with the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, with a specialty working in conservation and Geographic Information Sciences (GIS). Her prior experience includes working as a curatorial assistant, field botany assistant, and GIS specialist at RSABG as well as with the US Forest Service and Eaton Canyon.

**Allison Rudalevige** has worked as a biological consultant for over 12 years in Southern California. She conducts vegetation mapping, rare plant surveys, jurisdictional delineations, and fairy shrimp surveys. In her free time she enjoys knitting, reading, and hanging out with her family. She has a MS from

UCRiverside.

**Sula Vanderplank** is a Plant Ecologist from San Diego who works primarily in Baja California. She has previously served on the SCB board for many years, including one term as president.

Vote on the included ballot or online at:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MWXD38R>

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### A History Of Southern California Botanists Request For Input From Interested Parties

Our organization, Southern California Botanists has been around for about 80 years. I say about 80 years because until I began this history project I naturally supposed that the organization was founded when our logo stated it was founded, 1927. A combination of the loss of early records, lack of documentation, and variously reliable personal recollections has made recording the history of the organization somewhat difficult. I believe, however, that it is better to document what is available rather than let more of our history slip out of grasp or focus. I welcome any contributions of information and materials relevant to the history of SCB especially if accompanied by documentation.

Thanks, Gary Wallace  
[gwallace@rsabg.org](mailto:gwallace@rsabg.org)

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### Fieldtrips from Orange County CNPS

See [www.ocnps.org/explore](http://www.ocnps.org/explore) for information

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- Jan 28**-The "Other" Plants: Bryophytes of the San Juan Loop Trail  
**Feb 12**-Fossil Reef and Plants of Sheep Hills, Laguna Hills  
**Feb 19**-Anza-Borrego Desert State Park  
**Feb 26**-Harding Truck Trail  
**Mar 4**-Irvine Ranch Conservancy Seed Farm Open House and Fun Visit  
**Mar 12**-Silverado Canyon & Maple Springs Truck Trail, after the burn  
**Mar 17**-Baker Canyon, Irvine Ranch Natural Landmarks -RSVP through IRC website  
**Mar 19**-Elsinore Peak and S. Main Divide Road  
**Mar 26**- Coal Canyon, Northern Santa Ana Mts.

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### Funding Opportunity

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The San Gabriel Mountains Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS-SGM) will offer two grants of up to \$1000 each for research conducted by students or others who can demonstrate that their projects will advance efforts to conserve our native southern California flora. The duration of these awards will be one year.

The funds for these awards have been raised by CNPS-SGM which has the missions of increasing understanding of California's native flora and preserving this rich resource for future generations.

Applications for grants will be reviewed by the CNPS-SGM Grants Committee with the input of outside reviewers as deemed necessary. Approval of the awards will be made by the full CNPS-SGM board with recommendations from the Grants Committee. The deadline for applications is

February 10, 2017.

Application for these awards is open to all researchers with an interest in southern California flora. A one-year membership for CNPS is included with the award if the awardee is not already a member.

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### Northern California Botanists Symposium

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January 9-10, 2017

Northern California Botanists will present a two-day symposium titled "*Diverse Environments: How Plants Succeed in Northern California*" at California State University, Chico, plus a third day of workshops. Also included: a poster session, reception, banquet, and keynote speaker. Student stipends available. For details, see:

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

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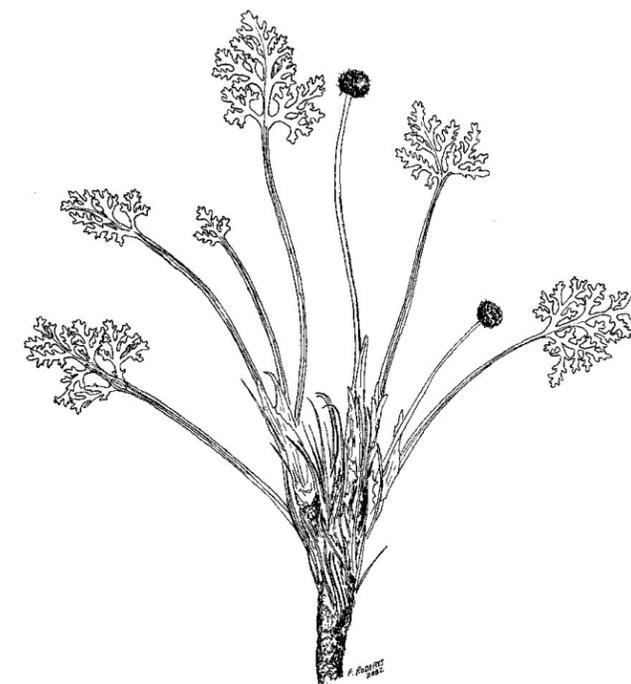
### Membership Renewals

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You can now renew your membership on-line via Pay-pal. Please check your address label to see if your membership is paid for 2017.

Information to be included in the next issue of *LEAFLETS* (Vol. 26, No. 2) should be sent to the editor by January 20th, 2017. Please email material to [sratay@ucla.edu](mailto:sratay@ucla.edu), or mail to:

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Los Angeles, CA 90095-1606



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*Cymopterus deserticola* Brandegee  
Family: Apiaceae

Illustration by Fred M. Roberts Jr.

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