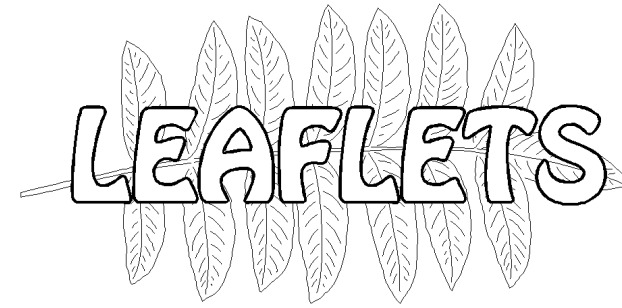




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1500 North College Avenue  
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*of the Southern California Botanists*

Volume 26 Number 2

March-April 2017

## SCB 2017 Board Election Results

**President:** Justin M. Wood

**Vice President:** J. Mark Porter

**Treasurer:** Carrie Kiel

**Secretary:** Naomi Fraga

**New Board Members for the 2017-2018 term:**

Hester Bell	Orlando Mistretta
Dylan Cohen	Julie Parish
Josh Der	Jennifer Pilapil
Peter Dixon	Allison Rudalevige
Katie Gallagher	Sula Vanderplank
Sandy Leatherman	Loraine Washburn
Evan Meyer	

## President's Message

After a series of storms that brought heavier than average precipitation to the region, we should all be looking forward to what will likely be a great year for plants throughout southern California. After several years of drought we are finally on track to have a decent rainfall year with most areas having received 100 percent of their average rainfall to-date and other areas, such as Bakersfield and Barstow, receiving more than 200 percent of their average rainfall so far. Our neighbors to the north have had a truly exceptional rainfall year and we can only hope that some of their storms will continue to shift south into our region over the next few months.

If you haven't ventured out yet this year I encourage you to do so now! Bryophytes and ferns are out in full force and many wildflowers have germinated and are beginning to grow. Early

season shrubs such as bigberry manzanita (below) and various species of California lilac are beginning to flower within the chaparral-covered hillsides. Vernal pools throughout the region have filled with water and should result in summer blooms of some of our most rare and endangered species. The high mountain peaks and meadows are still covered in several feet of snow, but as that snow melts the mountains too will come alive! Get out to the field now and visit some of your favorite spots or try new spots early this year to see what is out there and possibly see something new.

As we all gear up for the 2017 field season, whether recreationally or professionally, we can all look forward to a great field season. I am excited to be serving as the SCB president this year and I look forward to working with the board of directors to develop an exceptional symposium. I also look forward to seeing old friends, making some new ones, and continuing to help SCB with our goals to study, preserve, and conserve the native plants and plant communities of southern California.

Justin M. Wood  
SCB President 2017



Bigberry manzanita (*Arctostaphylos glauca*) in bloom on January 26, 2017

## SCB Grants 2017

This year SCB had many excellent applications for the SCB Annual Grant, the Susan Hobbs Grant for Field Studies, the Alan Romspert Grant for Desert Botany, and the new SCB Conservation

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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

\_\_\_ Organization \$35.00

(International Orders please add \$10.00)

Please circle one: New Member or Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Make checks payable to **Southern California Botanists** and mail to:  
Southern California Botanists  
Membership  
1500 North College Ave  
Claremont CA 91711-3157

### *Leaflets of the Southern California Botanists*

**Editors: Thomas Huggins and Sarah Ratay**

c/o Thomas Huggins  
UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
621 Charles E. Young Drive South  
Box 951606  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1606

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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Please circulate or recycle *Leaflets*.

Grant.

The SCB Annual Grant was awarded to Amberlee Mahaffey at California State Polytechnic, Pomona, whose project is titled “*Factors Affecting Survival of Juniperus californica in its lower elevational range in the northwestern Sonoran Desert.*”

The Romspert Grant for Desert Botany was awarded to Kristal M. Waltrous from UC Riverside for her proposed study “*Ecological and functional examinations of Krameria, a hemiparasitic shrub in California deserts.*”

The recipient of the Hobbs Grant for field research was Sophia Winitsky from Claremont Graduate University for her project “*A Vascular Flora of the Adobe Hills and Valley, Mono County, CA*”

The new SCB Conservation Grant, which supports projects and research that contribute to the conservation of rare plants in southern California, was awarded to Karen E. Tanner from UC Santa Cruz for her project titled “*Effects of renewable energy development on rare and common annual plant demography, seed banks, and aboveground community composition.*”

Applications for SCB grants are due each year in November, so consider applying next year! Applicants do not need to be students; they just need to present a good idea and a well-formulated plan of research, usually one that focuses on Southern California plants. See the SCB website for more information (<http://www.socalbot.org/grants.php>)

### **Wanted!!!** **Research Articles for Publication**

**CROSSOSOMA**, the journal of Southern California Botanists, is currently soliciting research articles for publication. *Crossosoma* is published twice per year and serves as a vehicle for information of interest to professional and amateur botanists in Southern California. Of primary interest are articles relevant to the flora of Southern California and adjacent, floristically related regions. Subject matter characteristically includes ecological, taxonomic, floristic, or horticultural studies of both vascular and non-vascular plants, as well as informal notes, observations, and opinion pieces. If you are uncertain about the suitability of a given paper, please inquire with the editor. For more information regarding

submission of manuscripts send inquiries to Fred Roberts ([FMRPublications@cox.net](mailto:FMRPublications@cox.net)), Michelle cloud-Hughes ([Mmcloudhughes@gmail.com](mailto:Mmcloudhughes@gmail.com)), or visit: <http://www.socalbot.org/crossosoma.php>

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## Upcoming Fieldtrips!

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### **Southern California Botanists:**

**Corn Spring, Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017.** Leader: Michelle Cloud-Hughes. Corn Spring is in the heart of the Chuckwalla Mountains of Riverside County and is the center of distribution for the newly-described cholla *Cylindropuntia chuckwallensis*. Michelle will explain how this cactus was able to hide in plain sight for so long and what distinguishes it as a unique species. Corn Spring also features a number of other cactus species, including the mysterious *Lophocereus*, the eponymous palm spring, Hall’s tetracoccus (*Tetracoccus hallii*), and, if the rainfall goddesses continue to smile upon us, a high diversity of annual wildflowers. Bring food, ample water, hat, sunscreen, camera, and your other usual field gear. Meet at the Corn Spring campground (8 miles south of the I-10 Corn Spring exit) at 10:00 am. The road from the interstate to the campground is fine for 2WD vehicles, but high clearance and/or 4WD is necessary for travel much beyond the campground. The southern entrance to Joshua Tree National Park is only 30 miles west of Corn Spring – make a weekend of it! Contact Michelle Cloud-Hughes at [mcloudhughes@gmail.com](mailto:mcloudhughes@gmail.com) for details.

**Short Canyon, Saturday April 1, 2017.** Leader Naomi Fraga. Short Canyon is a small desert canyon on the east side of the Sierra Nevada well known for its wildflower displays. We will explore the canyon and the sand dunes east of the parking area, where we will see a variety of desert annuals including and abundance of poppy and coreopsis and perhaps the rare Charlotte’s phacelia (*Phacelia nashiana*). Other noteworthy plants along the way include Foothill Pines (*Pinus sabiniana*), Parry’s nolina (*Nolina parryi*), and Palmer’s oak (*Quercus palmeri*). Bring lunch, ample water, sunscreen and camera. Meet at the Short Canyon trailhead and parking area at 9:00 am. Four-wheel drive is advisable, high clearance strongly recommended. Contact Naomi Fraga at [naomee@gmail.com](mailto:naomee@gmail.com) for details.

**Pioneertown Mountains Preserve, Friday April 14, 2017.** Leader Duncan Bell. The Sawtooth Mountains are a small desert range that lie on the east side of the San Bernardino Mountains and are an area that has seen almost no botanical exploration until very recently. Recent explorations have shown the area to be home not to just a diversity of desert species but of coastal ones as well, making up a unique flora that includes a number of regional endemics such as Robison’s monardella (*Monardella robisonii*), the Joshua Tree poppy (*Eschscholzia androuxii*), and the Pioneertown Linanthus (*Linanthus bernardinus*) which is known only from the Sawtooth Mountains. We will meet at the Pipes Canyon Ranger Station 10:00 am and hike out from there. Be sure to bring lunch, ample water, sunscreen and a camera. Contact Duncan Bell at [dbell@rsabg.org](mailto:dbell@rsabg.org) for details.

**Mexican Flannelbush Hike on Otay Mountain, Saturday, April 15, 2017, 8:00 AM to 3:30** Leader: Jonathan Snapp-Cook. Join us for a hike up the northwest flank of Otay Mountain in BLM’s Otay Mountain Wilderness. We will retrace the path that Frank Gander and Carl Wolf took in 1936 to the botanically diverse Woodwardia Canyon. Otay Mountain provides habitat for many rare and beautiful plants. We expect to see *Lepechinia ganderi* (Gander’s pitcher sage), *Delphinium cardinale* (scarlet larkspur), *Romneya trichocalyx* (hairy Matilija poppy), *Brodiaea orcuttii* (Orcutt’s brodiaea), *Chamaebatia australis* (southern mountain misery), *Hesperocyparis forbesii* (Tecate cypress) and *Fremontodendron mexicanum* (Mexican flannelbush). The hike is strenuous and on uneven terrain. It includes off-trail hiking. The first half of the hike will be fast-paced to allow more time at the upper elevations where the Mexican flannelbush grows. The hike is a 7-mile round trip. Space is limited to 15 participants. Please RSVP to Jonathan Snapp-Cook at [snappcook@gmail.com](mailto:snappcook@gmail.com) by April 7th to reserve a space and for directions to the meeting location. Please email your cell-phone number and how many are in your group.

Information to be included in the next issue of LEAFLETS (Vol. 26, No. 3) should be sent to the editor by March 22th, 2017. Please email material to [huggins@ucla.edu](mailto:huggins@ucla.edu), or mail to:

Thomas Huggins  
UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
621 Charles E. Young Drive South  
Box 951606  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1606



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***Lupinus concinnus* J. Agardh.**  
Bajada lupine **Fabaceae**

Illustration by Fred Roberts Jr.