



# SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS

CHAPTER OF THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 1998

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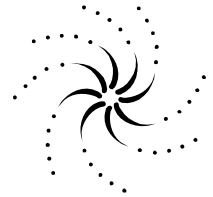


## DATES TO REMEMBER

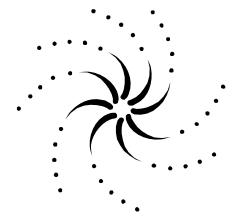
- Sept. 13, Sun., 9:00 am:** *Eaton Canyon Plant Walk* with Rick Fisher
- Sept. 17, Thurs., 7:30 pm:** *Chapter Board Meeting* open to all members
- Oct. 11, Sun., 9:00 am:** *Eaton Canyon Plant Walk* with Rick Fisher
- Oct. 15, Thurs., 7:30 pm:** *Flora of Liebre Mountain* by Steve Boyd
- Oct. 25, Sun., 9:00 am:** *Winter Creek Trail Hike* with Rick Fisher
- Nov. 19, Thurs, 7:30 pm:** *Rare and Beautiful Desert Plants: How Can We Conserve Them* by Steve Hartman

## *Supposition*

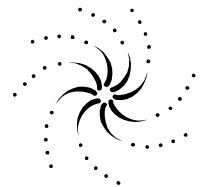
Suppose the molecular changes taking place  
 In the mind during the act of praise  
 Resulted in an emanation rising into space.  
 Suppose that emanation went forth  
 In the configuration of its occasion:  
 For instance, the design of rain pocks  
 On the lake's surface or the blue depths  
 Of the canyon with its horizontal cedars stunted.



Suppose praise had physical properties  
 And actually endured? What if the pattern  
 Of its disturbances rose beyond the atmosphere,  
 Becoming a permanent outline implanted in the cosmos—  
 The sound of the celebratory banjo or horn  
 Lodging near the third star of Orion's belt;  
 Or to the east of the Pleiades, an atomic  
 Disarrangement of the words,  
 "How particular, the pod-eyed hermit crab  
 And his prickly orange legs"?



Suppose benevolent praise,  
 Coming into being by our will,  
 Had a separate existence, its purple or azure light  
 Gathering in the upper reaches, affecting  
 The aura of morning haze over autumn fields,  
 Or causing a perturbation in the mode of an asteroid.  
 What if praise and its emanation  
 Were necessary catalysts to the harmonious  
 Expansion of the void? Suppose, for the prosperous  
 Welfare of the universe, there were an element  
 Of need involved.



—Pattiann Rogers (from *Firekeeper: New & Selected Poems*)

**Ed. - How are you praising the universe? What are you doing for the prosperous welfare of the universe?**

## ALWAYS LEARNING

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden is sponsoring a 3-day symposium, “**Sustainable Landscapes: Bridging the Chasm Between Aesthetics and Ecology,**” Nov. 6-8. Topics will include: defining sustainability with respect to the landscape; showcasing new, exemplary projects in Calif. and elsewhere; describing technologies and products available today.

Dr. Ian McHarg, whose landmark book, *Designing with Nature*, changed the face of landscape architecture and urban planning, will be the keynote speaker on Fri. Nov. 6. Other speakers include Owen Dell, Darrel Morrison, Mark Francis, Joni Janecki, Louise Mazingo, and Bill Wilson.

For a symposium brochure, please contact Stanley Bernstein at 805-682-4726, x 139 or [sbernstein@sbbg.org](mailto:sbernstein@sbbg.org).



Share your love of our local flora and fauna with others by becoming a **Docent-Naturalist at Eaton Canyon**. Training will increase your nature knowledge and ability to work with small groups of students. For more information call 626-398-5420.

## WELCOME!

### New Members:

Tony and Mary Freeman  
Sherwood Morf  
Cristi Tomlin

### Former Members:

Gordon Fuglie  
Lyn McAfee  
Clifford Manning  
Janet Nickerman  
Thomas White  
Carley Worth

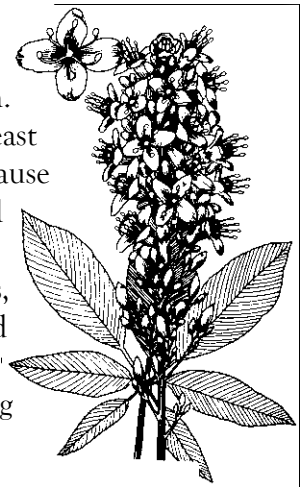
## CHAPTER EVENTS

Meetings are held at Eaton Canyon Nature Center (map on back cover) on the third Thursday of the month.

## PROGRAMS

**Sept. 17, Thurs., 7:30 pm: Chapter Board Meeting** open to all members. We'll be looking ahead to 1999 and making plans. Please bring ideas for programs and outings and an hors d'oeuvre to share. Drinks will be provided.

**Oct. 15, Thurs., 7:30 pm: Flora of Liebre Mountain** by Steve Boyd, Curator of the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Herbarium. Liebre Mountain is part of the most isolated, least visited area of the San Gabriel Mountains. Because it lies just north of the main range, its flora will remind you of the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada—oak-grass savanna at the lower elevations, grading into grey pine forest. Here you will find the southern-most populations of grey pine and California buckeye. Steve will be sharing his recent work compiling a flora for this interesting area.



**Nov. 19, Thurs, 7:30 pm: Rare and Beautiful Desert Plants: How Can We Conserve Them** by Steve Hartman, CNPS Desert Conservation Chair. This will be a slide talk featuring rare plants found last spring during and after the El Nino rains on the Algodones Dunes, along the Bradshaw Trail, and elsewhere in the southern deserts. A full spectrum of issues will be discussed in the context of native plant conservation. Special maps and topical EIR documentation will be made available for review before and after the presentation. Steve served on the Bureau of Land Management's California Desert District Advisory Council from 1992-1997.

## OUTINGS

**Sept. 13, Sun., 9:00 am: Eaton Canyon Plant Walk** with Rick Fisher. How have the plants of Eaton Canyon fared with all this HOT weather? Is anything still blooming? Meet at the trailer.

**Oct. 11, Sun., 9:00 am: Eaton Canyon Plant Walk** with Rick Fisher. Are there signs of fall in the Canyon? Meet at the trailer.

**Oct. 25, Sun., 9:00 am: Winter Creek Trail** with Rick Fisher. A moderate hike through Front Range shrubs and trees with the promise of wet toes at the creek. Meet at the Chantry Flat parking lot. Bring the usual gear, including *Adventure Pass*. For additional information call Rick at 626-798-7270.



## THE NATIVE BOOKSHELF

*Terra Incognita: Travels in Antarctica*

Sara Wheeler

Random House, 1996, \$25.00

*River: One Man's Journey Down the Colorado, Source to Sea*

Colin Fletcher

Knopf, 1997, \$30.00 hc, \$16.00 pb

OK, so neither of these books is about plants. But what a sense of place and the vastness and mystery of nature they both convey. And both are supremely entertaining, perfect for those warm days and nights still to come.

In Sara Wheeler's portrait of the highest, driest, windiest place on earth, she chronicles her own outer and inner journeys. She meets interesting and odd characters as a writer-in-residence with the US National Science Foundation. Her fine accounts of the early explorers reveal the sometimes fatal attraction of Antarctica. And the beautiful descriptions of the other-worldly landscape of the end of the earth make one realize just how marvelous and mysterious our home planet can be. The writing is by turns witty and lyrical and insightful.

At the age of 68 (in 1989) Colin Fletcher sets out to revisit the country he had so engagingly written about in *The Man Who Walked Through Time*. This latest journey was to be mostly on the water although he had little experience with rafting. This daunting 1700-mile journey followed the entire course of the Colorado River from its source in the Wind River Mtns. of Wyoming to the Gulf of California. As readers of his other books will know, Colin Fletcher is a sometime crotchety, often entertaining writer who is a keen observer of the natural world and human nature. During this trip he ponders his own life's passage, musing on lost loves, the experience of war, the onset of old age, and impending mortality. He also observes how the Colorado has changed, not just since his previous expedition, but since the travels of John Wesley Powell. With him, we perceive that this mighty river has been enslaved by dams and yet there are places where its wildness still exists, where bird song is louder than power boats, where one can hear the rustle of the shoreline reeds in the wind, where the rocks and rapids can call forth adrenaline, where the stars are brighter than casino lights.

Most of us are unlikely to venture to Antarctica or travel the entire length of the Colorado River. Let these writers take you there.

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*The Newsletter of the San Gabriel Mountains Chapter of the California Native Plant Society is published bi-monthly and is free to Chapter members. Non-member subscription is \$5.00.*

*To join the California Native Plant Society, write to CNPS, 909 Twelfth St., Suite 116, Sacramento, CA 95814.*

*Please specify San Gabriel Mountains Chapter. Enclose check payable to CNPS. Membership categories: Individual/Library - \$35; Student/Retired/Limited Income - \$20; Family/Group - \$45; Supporting - \$75; Plant Lover - \$100; Patron - \$250.00; Life - \$1000.*

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For \$5.00 per issue you may advertise in our newsletter. For information call Kathy at 626-355-7064.

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for future  
generations.**



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OF CALIFORNIA

The California Native Plant Society is a member of Earth Share of California, a Payroll Deduction Plan for the Environment. If Earth Share is not part of your payroll deduction plan in your work-place, please let us know. We would like to change that! Contact Halli Mason, 818-345-6749, for information.

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## SPECIAL EVENT

**Sept. 12 - Oct. 30: Treasures of the Sierra Nevada.** An exhibition of turn-of-the-century and contemporary *plein air* paintings of "the range of light".

Muckenthaler Cultural Center  
1201 W. Malvern Ave., Fullerton  
714-738-6595

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**Dedicated to the Preservation of the California Native Flora**

*The California Native Plant Society is a statewide nonprofit organization of amateurs & professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The mission of the Society is to increase understanding & appreciation of California's native plants & to preserve them in their natural habitat through scientific activities, education, & conservation. Membership is open to all.*

*Membership includes the quarterly journal Fremontia, the quarterly Bulletin which gives statewide news & announcements of Society activities & conservation issues, & the chapter newsletter.*



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San Gabriel Mountains Chapter  
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