



the Poppy Print

Quarterly Newsletter of the Theodore Payne Foundation

Toyon Rocks!

by Lili Singer, Director of Special Projects and Adult Education

Winter



Along long back roads in Southern California, from chaparral slopes to canyon bottoms, it's always exciting to spot

a really old toyon – call it a large shrub or small tree – its tall, bony gray trunks festooned with dark evergreen foliage and, depending on the season, pompoms of tiny white blossoms or weighty bunches of bright red fruit. Such year-round beauty embodies the resilience and abundance of our State flora.

And so it's no wonder that in April 2012, *Heteromeles arbutifolia* – also known as toyon, California holly or Christmas berry – was chosen as the official native plant of the City of Los Angeles. Not only does this local denizen represent our region well, it's also an adaptable plant for Southern California gardens, where it shines as an easy-to-grow single specimen, privacy hedge or container plant. This deep-rooted Californian is also an excellent choice for erosion control and slope stabilization.

H. arbutifolia is native to much of the State and NW Baja California in chaparral, oak woodland and mixed-evergreen forest communities below 4000 feet. The common name toyon is a Native American moniker borrowed from the Ohlone, and parts of the plant have been used traditionally by numerous tribes for food, medicine, tools and ornaments.

Toyon grows at a moderate pace to approximately 15 by 15 high and wide, with some individuals topping 25 feet. Leaves are deep green and leathery with serrated margins. Their size and shape can vary from long and thin to short and wide. Early- to mid-summer flowers, resembling tiny plum blossoms, give way to winter-ripening berries that range in color from crimson to orange-red to orange. 'Davis Gold' is a striking yellow-berried cultivar, described by the authors of *California Native Plants for the Garden* as having "remarkably clean foliage and profuse yellow fruits that are burnished with a touch of orange."

Building a habitat garden for wild creatures? Toyon berries – actually tiny pomes – are the most important winter food source for native birds. Fruit are mildly toxic until fully ripe and starting to ferment; birds know when they're safe to eat.

Toyon thrives in full sun or light shade. Though fast-draining soil is preferred, plants will grow in heavier soil with special attention to watering (clay soil dries out slowly). Established plants are virtually maintenance-free and very drought tolerant but may look fitter and flower more generously with occasional summer irrigation. As with other natives, no soil amendments and no fertilizer are needed. A thick layer of mulch is a good thing and should be maintained for the life of the plant. Toyon is hardy to 15°F.

Though *H. arbutifolia* is durable and long-lived, a range of pests can be problematic but most are kept in check by beneficial insects, changes in the way you garden or, if truly needed, low-risk pesticides. The most serious dangers are root and stem rots encouraged by improper irrigation. To prevent disease, avoid extremes in soil moisture, water only when needed (when the top 3 to 4 inches of soil are dry), and always soak thoroughly (never a little bit).

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Toyon © Dee Farnsworth

Toyon Rocks continued from p. 1

Fireblight is a bacterial disease that strikes toyon and other members of the rose family, causing branch die-back. Affected parts appear scorched with dead leaves clinging to the plant. Control involves removing diseased branches well below the site of infection, taking care to sterilize clippers and saws between each cut. Thrips insects are most common on plants grown in too much shade or with limited air circulation. These minute pests can be discouraged by a strong stream of water, insecticidal soap or horticultural oil – or let naturally occurring “good bugs” do the job for you.

Toyon is naturally fire resistant, especially when given deep occasional soaks. As with many chaparral species, a mature toyon leveled by fire is able to re-sprout from its stump. What a trooper!

How can a gardener not admire and want to grow a native species described so lovingly as this by Ralph Cornell, pioneering Los Angeles landscape architect and one-time business partner and life-long friend of Theodore Payne:

“Any plant that encourages bird life, supplies the bees with an unexcelled source of honey, gives food to man, furnishes tannin from its bark, protects arid slopes from erosion, paints the landscape with vivid colors and carries joy into the home at Christmas time, when no other berries are available to most Californians, surely deserves the protection of man, whom it serves so well.”

– From *Conspicuous California Plants*, 1938

We can thank Theodore Payne himself for introducing *Heteromeles arbutifolia* into the horticultural trade. In 1941, he wrote of toyon:

“One of the most beautiful and useful of the native shrubs... Planted as single specimens or in groups it is a cheerful object the year round.”

May your native garden be filled with toyon and plenty of cheer! ■

Richard Krafzur

By Lynnette Kampe, Executive Director



One of my most delightful moments of the year was meeting Richard Krafzur, a longtime TPF supporter, life member and now member of the Theodore Payne Legacy Circle. Richard joined TPF in the late 1980s, volunteered nearly full-time for almost a year, and then served on the Board of Directors.

One project he particularly enjoyed was tallying up all the gardens that Mr. Payne had planted. He became a life member at this time and has remained a regular contributor ever since.

Richard has a sparkling sense of humor. After hearing about the education facilities grant we received, he “added a zero to [his] bequest” and then joked: “Of course, you don’t know how much I started with!” When asked why he has chosen to support TPF, Richard replied, “Well, I’ve always been an outdoors kind of guy.” Having come from the East Coast, where all the garden flowers were “flamboyant,” he says he immediately appreciated the muted colors of the chaparral, with *Ceanothus* as a favorite plant.

By naming the Payne Foundation in his estate plans, Richard bequeaths a legacy of colorful, environmentally friendly California native plants to future generations. He’s our kind of guy and we’re honored by his commitment.

For more information about the Theodore Payne Legacy Circle, please call or e-mail me at (818) 768-1802 or lynnette@theodorepayne.org.

The Poppy Print is the membership newsletter of the *Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers and Native Plants, Inc.*, a nonprofit organization. The Foundation’s mission is to promote and restore California landscapes and habitats, to propagate and make available California native plants and wildflowers and to educate and acquire knowledge about California flora and natural history. The Foundation operates a nonprofit nursery where native plants are grown and sold to the public year round. Wildflower and native plant seeds, horticultural and botanical books and information are available at our Sun Valley headquarters and by mail.

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BOARD

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New Board Members x 2



Debe Loxton

Debe is Chief Operating Officer for LA's BEST Afterschool Enrichment program and a longtime activist on various community and education committees. She has been a featured speaker and conference presenter for education and enrichment programs throughout the country. She holds a Master's degree in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College in Pasadena and serves as senior adjunct faculty for the Human Development Department at the college, teaching courses in communication, human development, and leadership.

Debe is also an avid gardener, nature lover and native plant enthusiast whose home garden has been repeatedly featured on the Theodore Payne Native Plant Garden Tour. Other pursuits include photography, hiking and home improvement projects.



Dawn Peterson-Amend

Dawn first visited Theodore Payne twenty years ago, when she chaperoned a pre-school field trip. That trip inspired her to "kill" her lawn and replace it with less-thirsty landscaping, a process she is now repeating at her current abode.

An attorney and M.B.A., Dawn has worked in corporate and non-profit law, commercial real estate finance and non-profit administration. She currently works for the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association, assisting the President and Board of Trustees with strategic planning. In her free time, she loves to travel and enjoys participating in two different book clubs. Dawn has served as a volunteer and board member of numerous local arts and community organizations, and looks forward to working with TPF to help inspire people to appreciate the beauty of our native flora.

A GATHERING OF *friends*

On November 3, Board President Cassy Aoyagi welcomed 44 guests into her home to celebrate the Foundation's success and build support for our future. From the sage-infused signature cocktail to the beautifully prepared and sustainably produced dinner, the event was true to the nature of TPF. Displays of the many TPF activities reflected our mission-based programs and thought-provoking remarks by Board Member Debe Loxton stimulated lively dinner conversation.

Peggy Brutsche was honored as the founding member of our President's Circle. When asked what draws her to the Foundation, she replied: "I am delighted to be able to support TPF at the President's Circle level because of the breadth of programs they create and maintain. Not only do they provide the native plants but also the education for adults to help us successfully grow them in our gardens, and the education for children to help them understand why native plants are beneficial. There is also outreach through community and special events, to persuade more of our neighbors of the beauty and benefits of growing native plants, as a basis for a healthier habitat in our cities and suburbs."

In addition to thanking Cassy for her hospitality, we wish to acknowledge the following donations: CalBlend for 10 cubic yards of mulch, Tru Organic Vodka for a portion of the alcohol and Orly Olivier for event photography.

As TPF grows as an organization, we realize the importance of thanking our supporters and reaching out to new friends. For a copy of our annual report or to learn more about how you can help, please contact lynnette@theodorepayne.org. ■



Photo © Orly Olivier



Photo © Orly Olivier

Celebrants at A Gathering of Friends, top, Board President Cassy Aoyagi with supporter Brian Leach; and bottom, left to right, supporters Susan Gottlieb and Wynne Wilson.

WINTER 2013 EVENTS AND CLASSES

Our winter roster includes fabulous guest instructors with new programs on native pollinators, plant I.D., backyard birds and Baja California, and other practical courses for native plant gardeners and lovers of California natural history. Happy New Year!

To register for classes, call (818) 768-1802. Visit our website, theodorepayne.org, for complete information on classes and instructors, and details on our three-part California Native Plant Garden Design course.

Cancellation policy: No refunds for cancellations made within seven days of the class date.

The TPF Speakers Bureau offers presentations for community groups, garden clubs and public agencies.

Field trips and in-classroom visits for K-12 students are also available. Contact: Lisa Novick, lisa@theodorepayne.org.

MORE ONLINE
THEODOREPAYNE.ORG @

JANUARY

First Thursday Bird Walk with Ken Gilliland

Thursday, January 3, 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Free—Reservations requested to (818) 768-1802.

Join a passionate local birder for an easy morning ramble on the Foundation's scenic canyon land, where more than 50 different species of birds have been seen. Bring your own binoculars, hat and water. Ken is an accomplished birdwatcher and avian artist (empken.com) and former TPF webmaster. This class repeats on the first Thursday of each month through June.

First Saturday: Volunteer Day at TPF

Saturday, January 5, 9:00 a.m.-noon

Reservations requested to volunteer@theodorepayne.org.

Join the TPF family of volunteers to improve and care for our grounds. We will clear, clean, plant, mulch, prune and do other tasks to show how beautiful native plant gardens can be. Bring hat, gloves, knee pads and other tools for personal use. TPF will provide shovels, trowels, rakes, loppers, hoes, pruners and refreshments.

NEW! Basics of Native Plant Identification with Lorrae Fuentes

Saturday, January 12, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

\$35 members, \$45 non-members

This introductory course in botany is designed for the non-scientist and specifically for amateur plant enthusiasts. The class includes a brief but comprehensive overview of general botany topics, including plant classification, plant structure and function, ecology and plant reproduction. Students will begin to master the terminology associated with botany and plant identification. The class is informal and hands-on, with dissection and examination of fresh and dried plant material, as well as a walk on TPF grounds to observe and identify plants. If possible, bring *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California* to class (copies available in the TPF store); hand lenses will be provided. Lorrae is a botanical educator and native plant advocate and the producer of the Theodore Payne Wild Flower Hotline. Limit: 12 participants.

Manzanitas for the Garden with Bart O'Brien

Saturday, January 12, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

\$30 members, \$40 non-members

Native manzanitas – members of the genus *Arctostaphylos* – are revered by gardeners for their beauty. They also provide essential food for local hummingbirds! Learn which manzanitas are best for your conditions, how to care for them and which

other plants make good companions. Bart is director of special projects at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, an internationally recognized expert on the plants of our state and Baja California, and co-author of three books: *California Native Plants for the Garden*, *Care & Maintenance of Southern California Native Plant Gardens* and *Re-imagining the California Lawn*.

California Native Plant Horticulture with Lili Singer

Saturday, January 19, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

\$40 members, \$50 non-members

The basics on gardening with California flora: why natives are valuable, about plant communities, plus planting techniques, establishment, irrigation, pruning and ongoing maintenance. Recommended for beginners; required prerequisite to our Three-part California Native Plant Garden Design course. Lili is TPF's director of special projects and adult education, a Los Angeles native, and an award-winning horticulturist and garden writer.

Native Plant Garden Maintenance with Antonio Sanchez

Saturday, January 26, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

\$35 members, \$45 non-members

Subjects covered include watering, fertilizing (or not), pruning, grooming, mulching and other aspects of garden maintenance. You'll also discover how native plants respond to pruning cuts (good and bad), what we trigger with our gardening activities, and how to develop good maintenance goals. Antonio is production manager at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden; co-founder of Proyecto Nativo, a movement to create green jobs and promote sustainable landscaping and farming in Coastal California. He is also a former TPF staff member.

NEW! Baja California: Flora Fantastica with Jon Rebman, PhD.

Saturday, January 26, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

\$25 members, \$35 non-members

Don't miss this exceptional guest speaker! The Baja California peninsula and its adjacent islands support a wealth of species diversity (more than 4000 taxa, including 300 succulents) in many different plant families. Many of the plants are distinctive and stretch the imagination in respect to form and structure—including the bizarre boojum tree/cirio (*Fouquieria columnaris*), the giant elephant cactus/cardón (*Pachycereus pringlei*) and elephant trees (*Pachycormus discolor* and *Bursera* spp.). The program includes a walk-and-talk on TPF grounds. Jon is an accomplished plant taxonomist and field botanist and the curator of botany at the San Diego

Natural History Museum. His primary research interests have centered on systematics of the cactus family in Baja CA, especially *Cylindropuntia* (chollas) and *Opuntia* (prickly pears). Among other publications, he is co-author of a new edition of the *Baja California Plant Field Guide*. A book-signing follows the presentation.

FEBRUARY

First Saturday: Volunteer Day at TPF

Saturday, February 2, 9:00 a.m.-noon
For details, see January 5.

Reimagining the California Lawn with Bart O'Brien

Saturday, February 2, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
\$30 members, \$40 non-members

It's time to replace that boring, ecologically unsound lawn! Join one of Southern California's most respected native plant experts for an illustrated talk and lively discussion of his unique and valuable book, *Reimagining the California Lawn: Water-conserving Plants, Practices and Designs* (co-authored by Carol Bornstein and David Fross). For instructor bio, see January 12. A book-signing follows the lecture.

First Thursday Bird Walk with Ken Gilliland

Thursday, February 7, 8:00-10:00 a.m.
For details, see January 3.

NEW! Backyard Birds in Los Angeles: Who They Are and How You Can Attract More of Them with Kimball Garrett

Saturday, February 9, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
\$25 members, \$35 non-members

A special program for bird lovers! Los Angeles County is home to the greatest diversity of birds of any county in the United States. Many of the species are endemic to the Pacific Coastal Mediterranean zone and some of those are increasingly threatened by urbanization, but with wildlife-friendly landscaping these species can be reliable backyard residents. This talk explores the various ways birds around L.A. respond to our gardens and to both native and non-native plantings. Kimball is ornithology collections manager at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, a most-respected authority on local birds and co-author (with Jon Dunn and Brian E. Small) of *Birds of Southern California*. A book-signing follows the presentation.

Propagating California Native Plants with Madena Asbell and Tim Becker

Saturday, February 16, 9:00 a.m.-noon
\$35 members, \$45 non-members

Learn basic skills of vegetative propagation with TPF nursery staff! Various species of native plants will be discussed and started from cuttings in this hands-on session, and you'll leave with a flat of cuttings for your own garden! Limit: 8.

California Native Plant Horticulture with Lili Singer

Saturday, February 16, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
For details, see January 19.

NEW! The Wacky World of Pollination: Native Plants & the Critters that Love Them with Bob Allen

Saturday, February 16, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
\$25 members, \$35 non-members

Pollinators play a critical role in the reproduction of 90% of all flowering plants, including much of our food supply – and native plant gardens attract more pollinators than landscapes filled with exotic flora. This fascinating program includes fabulous photos, fun facts and hands-on examples! Gardeners of all ages are welcome! Bob is an entomologist, botanist, photographer and author. In 2006, he was recognized as Orange County's Environmental Educator of the Year. His most recent book is the long-awaited *A Field Guide to Wildflowers of Orange County and the Santa Ana Mountains*.

Four Seasons of Color with California Natives with Lili Singer

Saturday, February 23, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
\$25 members, \$35 non-members

Your native plant garden can be a seasonal showcase of flowers, seed, fruit and foliage. This class illustrates a wealth of trees, shrubs, vines, perennials and grasses that can ensure color all year long. For instructor bio, see January 19.

MARCH

First Saturday: Volunteer Day at TPF

Saturday, March 2, 9:00 a.m.-noon
For details, see January 5.

California Native Plant Horticulture with Lili Singer

Saturday, March 2, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
For details, see January 19.

NEW! The Small Native Garden: Creating Cozy Outdoor Spaces with Steve Gerischer

Saturday, March 2, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
\$25 members, \$35

Southern California gardens – even those with limited space – are places for both plants and people! Learn how to create a pocket-sized personal oasis with attractive hardscape, comfortable seating, a fire pit or bird bath or water feature, and, of course, California native plants to add color, fragrance, texture and wildlife habitat. Steve is the owner of Larkspur Garden Design, a plant nut and a popular teacher on subjects related to gardening in this region. He also serves as president of the Southern California Horticultural Society.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Poppy Day

Plant Sale & Spring Festival

Our annual spring celebration and plant sale, featuring native plants for every corner of the garden with discounts to all - plus expert advice, vendors and more!

ONE DAY ONLY

Saturday March 23, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Members 15% off plants; non-members 10%
Memberships available at the door!

Photo © Ken Gilliland

poetry corner

As TPF's 2012 Artist-in-Residence, Laura Stickney created a body of work that included oil paintings, watercolors, etchings, poems and artist's books inspired by the TPF site. Her artist's book, *Matilija*, featured a poem that captures the quirky pod of this iconic California native plant.

Matilija

Seed heads:
Crowns, birdcages,
Hairy paws,
Neat on tall stalks,
Lookouts and stirrers
In zephyr winds,
Pods shake
Umber crumbs,
Exhale thru dark bars
Diadems morph,
Become white crepe
Mantelets
Topped with yellow pomp
Russet mitts crack,
Lose tapered digits,
Scatter perfumy
Lines of fate my way



Matilija Pod, 2012, oil paint on Polaroid metal film canister. © Laura Stickney

-- Laura Stickney 2012

Events and Classes continued from p. 5

First Thursday Bird Walk with Ken Gilliland

Thursday, March 7, 8:00-10:00 a.m.

For details, see January 3.

Propagating California Native Plants with Madena Asbell and Tim Becker

Saturday, March 9, 9:00 a.m.-noon

\$35 members, \$45 non-members

For details, see February 16.

NEW! Perfect Partners: Gardening with Natives and All Sorts of Edibles with Lili Singer

Saturday, March 9, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

\$25 members, \$35 non-members

Gardening with natives and growing our own food are two wonderful activities that help us connect with nature and use our land in positive ways. This class discusses how best to combine natives and edibles in the home garden, why this partnership is so rewarding for both the gardener/chef and wildlife, and which plants make the best companions. For instructor bio, see January 19.

Native Plant Garden Maintenance with Antonio Sanchez

Saturday, March 16, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

For details, see January 26.

NEW! Spring Foods from the Native Garden with Antonio Sanchez

Saturday, March 16, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

\$20 members, \$25 non-members

Discover a seasonal menu of delicious food prepared with California native plants. Spring dishes to be sampled include native saltbush "rice" with local native greens, native sage pesto, and toyon and native black walnut energy bars. Class includes a lecture and short walk on TPF grounds, as well as recipes, general tips on native plant gardening and Antonio's Top Ten Native Plant Foods for Beginners. For instructor bio, see January 26. ■



SAVE THE DATE !

10th ANNUAL Theodore Payne Native Plant Garden Tour

Showcasing more than 35 gardens in the Los Angeles region, each planted with at least 50% California natives. This special ten-year anniversary tour celebrates native landscapes of the past, present and future!

Saturday & Sunday
April 6 & 7 10 AM - 5 PM

TICKETS

Members \$10/person for both days, Non-members \$15.
Available online at theodorepayne.org or
call (818) 768-1802.

Made at Theodore Payne Foundation: Books and Monoprints Created by Adults and Children during Workshops Conducted by Laura Stickney, TPF 2012 Artist-in-Residence January 11-March 2, 2013



photo © Vilma Mendillo

Artists Reception:

Saturday, January 12, 2013, 2:00-4:30 p.m.

The Theodore Payne Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of mixed media art inspired by the colors, shapes and textures of the TPF environment. These inspiring works by adult and youth artists were completed in workshops conducted by Laura Stickney, our 2012 Artist-in-Residence. On display: monotypes printed beneath the shelter of western sycamore trees, miniature leaf presses and herbarium vouchers documenting native plant specimens, and fanciful folded books with engaging patterns and stampings of native blossoms and stems.

Please join us on Saturday, January 12, for a reception honoring these talented exhibiting artists!

FROM THE ARTS COUNCIL

2013 TPF Artist-in-Residence Mary-Austin Klein

By Pamela Burgess, Arts Council Member

This piece originally appeared in the Winter 2012 issue of *The Poppy Print*. Due to last winter's lack of rain, landscape painter Mary-Austin Klein's residency at TPF was deferred to 2013. We now announce Mary-Austin as the Foundation's 2013 Artist-in-Residence.

Mary-Austin Klein—a Southern California native and our fourth Artist-in-Residence—is known for her exquisite small-scale paintings of the California desert that capture the light conditions unique to California. She has exhibited her work in galleries in Los Angeles, Pasadena, Laguna Beach and Joshua Tree. Her artwork and her advocacy efforts have been featured in "*The Guide to the Wild Mojave*," a publication sponsored by the California Wilderness Coalition, as well as in *The Desert Trail* and *LA Architect* magazines.

Next spring, as part of her Artist-in-Residency at Theodore Payne, Klein will make numerous field trips to select Central and Southern California locations to gather material for a series of oil paintings interpreting the vast landscape blooms of California wildflowers. TPF staff and Wild Flower Hotline reports will help direct her to peak displays as they occur. If seasonal rains are scarce, Mary-Austin will redefine her project.

Klein's new paintings of the California landscape in bloom will be exhibited this fall in the Theodore Payne Art Gallery. Other events during her residency, including classes taught by the artist, will be announced in *The Poppy Print* and on TPF's website and Facebook page.



© Mary-Austin Klein

Last Chance Mts., Death Valley, oil on panel by Mary-Austin Klein

In Klein's own words: "The ability to contain vast and deep landscapes into small, flat paintings makes me feel like a wrangler of space. The power to capture the magic of the California desert and contain it within a frame is entralling. It lets me transport the desert to others, sharing the beauty and promoting preservation of these vistas for future generations." Her work can be viewed at maryaustinklein.com.

It should be noted that Klein and her husband first came to TPF 20 years ago to purchase California native plants for a house they rented near Elysian Park, and are growing natives in their present garden, too!

Please join us in welcoming Mary-Austin Klein as the Theodore Payne Foundation's 2013 Artist-in-Residence!

What to Do in the Garden Now



PLANT Winter is a great season for planting! Transplants experience less shock when it's cool and you'll need to water less often. Space new plants according to mature dimensions (found on TPF labels, signage and website) – they will grow! Cover bare spaces with mulch or a sprinkling of annual wildflower seed (a pretty stop-gap measure possible only during fall and early winter).



Do not dig in or walk on rain-drenched soil – it will compact. It may take a week of clear weather for the soil to be dry enough to be worked.

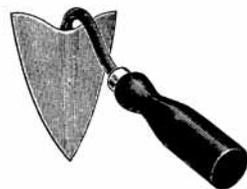
SOW For ample bud and bloom, start seed for annual spring wildflowers by the end of January. Sowing tips: Clear the area of weeds and unwanted grasses; rough up the soil surface and sprinkle lightly with water; sow seed and water gently with a “shower” nozzle or sprinkler. Keep the bed moist (but not soggy) as seed germinates and seedlings become established.

Most native trees, shrubs and grasses can be started now from seed. You'll find a varied selection at TPF headquarters or via our e-store at theodorepayne.org. (Note: Hybrids and most cultivars can only be grown from cuttings or divisions, not seed; look for those plants in containers in our nursery.)

WATER If winter storms are generous, let nature water the garden. If rain is light or scarce, soak established plants deeply every couple of weeks. New transplants require more frequent attention and regular deep watering for one or more years, until they're established. Always check the original root ball and surrounding soil; soak thoroughly when the top 3 to 4 inches are dry.

Set automatic controllers to manual and operate only as needed. Check drip emitters; replace clogged parts as needed.

WEED Remove shallow-rooted cool-season annuals as they germinate and before they flower and set and distribute seed. Dig deeply to excise deep-rooted dandelion, crane's bill and other tough perennials.



MULCH Mulch is essential to new and established gardens. A 3 to 4 inch layer of organic matter (leaves, bark, wood fibers – including matter from your garden; freshly chipped materials are okay) or decorative rock or gravel. Mulch helps retain soil moisture, deter weeds, moderate soil temperatures, prevent soil compaction and beautify the garden. Keep all mulches at least a few inches away from stems, crowns and trunks.

PROPAGATE Good candidates for dividing include cool-season grasses and grass-like plants (e.g. *Calamagrostis*, *Carex*, *Juncus*, *Muhlenbergia*, *Nassella*), clumping perennials (e.g. *Heuchera*, *Sisyrinchium*); yarrow (*Achillea*); and strawberry (*Fragaria*). Each division should have a good root ball. Replant as quickly as possible – and share your extras!

PRUNE AND CUT BACK If needed, prune, trim and train winter-dormant trees, such as *Acer* (maple), *Amelanchier* (serviceberry), *Betula* (birch), *Juglans* (walnut), *Quercus* (oak) and *Sambucus* (elderberry). For optimum tree health, remove no more than 15-20% of the canopy.

Remove old canes on *Berberis* (Mahonia or Oregon grape), *Rosa* spp. (rose) and *Rubus* spp. (blackberry, thimbleberry, salmonberry). Wear thick gloves, long sleeves and eye protection, as these plants are very prickly!

Cut back *Epilobium* (*Zauschneria* or California fuchsia) to 2 or 3 inch stubs, taking care to avoid new sprouting growth. Plants will resprout quickly and compactly.

Prune these spring bloomers only after they flower: *Cercis occidentalis* (western redbud), *Fremontodendron* (flannel bush), *Philadelphus* (mock orange), and mature *Arctostaphylos* (manzanita) and *Ceanothus* (California lilac). (Note: Young manzanita and California lilac plants can be pruned for shape and structure; dead wood can be removed at any time.)



AFTER A FROST If plants are hit by winter cold, do not remove damaged parts now. Wait until new growth appears, telling you the best places to cut.

Large Common Millipede

One of the most remarkable and certainly the most primitive creatures found on Foundation grounds is the large common millipede (*Hiltonius pulchrus*) – one of many millipede species native to the Golden State. Most Californian “thousand-leggers” are brown, dark gray or black and vary in length, depending on the species, from one-half to more than six inches. Adults of *H. pulchrus*, our shiny, dark brown TPF resident, are approximately three inches long.



Nursery Manager Madena Asbell and friend

Millipedes are invertebrates with numerous body segments and two legs per segment, with the last legs extending backward. They belong to the phylum *Arthropoda* (which also includes insects, spiders and crabs) and are members of

the class *Diplopoda* – meaning “double-footed” and referring to the paired legs on each segment. The word “millipede” derives from Latin and implies 1000 feet, yet most adults average less than 400 legs. Despite their generous leg count, millipedes move slowly, advancing with an undulating wave-like action.

Because millipedes lack a waxy coating on their shell-like exoskeleton, they spend most of their time in cool moist places, becoming active at night or after a rain. They are detritivores that feed on rotting organic matter, such as decaying leaves and wood, and their services are important and beneficial to the landscape. Millipedes molt as they develop, increasing in body length and number of segments and legs with each molt.

When disturbed, most millipedes curl up into a coil. They don’t bite (unlike their centipede cousins) but can secrete unpleasant odors or noxious fluids that can stain the skin. Though considered harmless to humans – some species are even kept as pets – hand-washing is recommended after handling to avoid irritation from any exudations.

Appreciating that the first known land creature was a tiny millipede that walked the Earth more than 400 million years ago, it’s especially exciting that two new millipedes have recently been found in California: a rare, tiny thread-like species with a record number of legs (750!) rediscovered in San Benito Co. in 2006 (after first being seen there in the 1920s); and a chubbier bioluminescent subspecies discovered on Alcatraz Island in March 2012. In fact, California is the only place on the planet with bioluminescent millipedes – creatures that glow bright white in the dark (think firefly) to discourage predators.

We appreciate the breadth of wild fauna at TPF and enjoy observing them all, including these odd, ancient and very interesting arthropods! - Lili Singer

By Genevieve Arnold, Seed Program Manager

Many thanks to the following TPF supporters who donated seeds gathered from their home gardens this Fall.

Tim Becker: *Deinandra mohavensis* **Steve Bryant:** *Delphinium cardinale*, *Dichelostemma capitatum*, *Encelia farinosa*, *Salvia apiana* **Maggie Carrillo:** *Salvia clevelandii*, *Verbena lilacina* **Andrew Chaves:** *Ambrosia chamissonis*, *Camissonia cheiranthifolia*, *Eriogonum parvifolium* **Ramilo De los Reyes:** *Parkinsonia florida*, *Cercis occidentalis* **Ken and Rhonda Gilliland:** *Abutilon palmeri*, *Burroughsia fastigiata*, *Calamagrostis foliosa*, *Calliandra californica*, *Deinandra minthornii*, *Helenium puberulum*, *Keckiella brevifolia*, *Keckiella cordifolia*, *Lupinus polyphyllus*, *Malacothrix glabrata*, *Monardella viminea*, *Peritoma arborea*, *Ribes aureum*, *Salvia spathacea*, *Scrophularia californica*, *Thermopsis macrophylla*, *Trichostema lanatum* **Roger Haring:** *Quercus lobata* **Lynnette Kampe:** *Calystegia macrostegia*, *Juglans californica* **Roger Klemm:** *Asclepias fascicularis*, *Chaenactis artemisiifolia*, *Dudleya cymosa*, *Dudleya pulverulenta*, *Eriogonum arborescens*, *Eriogonum umbellatum*, *Lupinus excubitus*, *Lupinus succulentus*, *Salvia spathacea*, *Trichostema lanatum* **Carol Lachata:** *Romneya coulteri* **Marie Massa:** *Senna purpurea* **Louise Olson:** *Aquilegia formosa* (light yellow form), *Baileya multiradiata*, *Cassia purpusii*, *Coreopsis gigantea*, *Dendromecon harfordii*, *Eriogonum grande* var. *rubescens*, *Erysimum menziesii* var. *concinuum*, *Justicia californica*, *Linum lewisii*, *Lupinus sericatus*, *Salvia clevelandii*, *Trichostema lanatum* **Douglas Pollock:** *Penstemon spectabilis*, *Trichostema lanatum* **Rick Rogers:** *Dendromecon rigida*, *Trichostema lanatum* **Aaron and Stacey Webbsmith:** *Garrya veatchii*, *Eriodictyon trichocalyx* var. *trichocalyx* **John Wickham:** *Geum macrophyllum*, *Helianthus annuus*, *Xylorhiza tortifolia*

We also appreciate donations of clean jars for seed storage from: Alvin Crown, Mike Gunson, Rod and Leslie Jones, Marsha Marolda

Call for rags: You know that old holiday kitchen towel you got in 1985 that’s now falling apart at the seams and continues to sit at the bottom of the drawer unused? How about donating it to the TPF Seed Program? We’re in need of towels and rags we can use for hand-drying, seed-cleaning and general upkeep of the seed room. We’re not picky and would appreciate any donation!

New Names for Natives

By Madena Asbell, Nursery Manager

Dear Customers: Looking for *Rhamnus californica*? Try *Frangula californica* instead. *Lotus scoparius*? I think you mean *Acmispon glaber*.

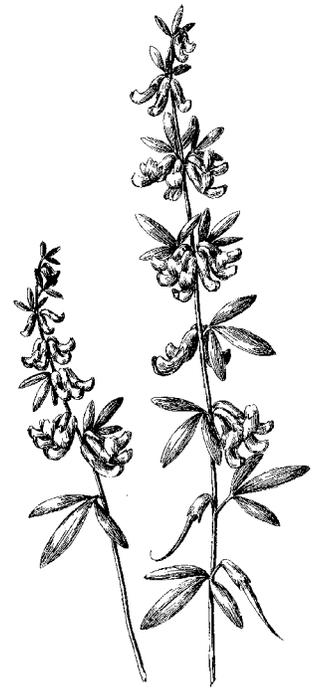
Yes, that's right. *Acmispon*. Not a pretty word, but it's the one to use now. According to whom, you may ask?

The list of recent changes to scientific names of native plants is long – hundreds of changes – and the authority is the new Second Edition of the *Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California*, published earlier this year and the accepted botanical and taxonomic reference for plants of our State. Why have so many names been changed? Though updates in nomenclature are to be expected, more changes than ever are resulting from modern DNA study and data.

If you have visited our Sun Valley nursery or checked our inventory (theodorepayne.org/nursery_inventory.htm), you have probably noticed that we have begun the process of implementing these changes to our placards and inventory.

To help you find the plant you are looking for, we've kept the old familiar names alongside the new ones. We've also added a searchable Excel version to the on-line inventory; simply click on the link at the top of the page, use Control + F and type the name you are seeking.

The next phase is to apply these changes to the TPF Native Plant Wiki, e-store, seed program materials and educational handouts. We hope to complete the transition early next year. Please bear with us – these changes can be challenging for pros and novices alike. Trust me, we feel your pain!



Acmispon glaber, a native perennial formerly known as *Lotus scoparius*

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Mark Uhlmann

By Andrew Chaves, Volunteer Coordinator

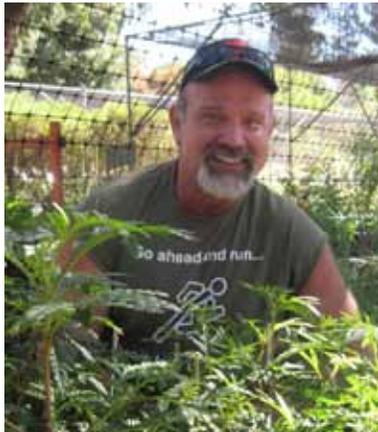


Photo © Andrew Chaves

Born and raised in Arizona, Mark Uhlmann attended college in Minnesota and moved to the Golden State in 1980. During his first year in California, Mark saw *Calochortus kennedyi* (desert mariposa lily), *Fremontodendron* (flannel bush), *Penstemon centranthifolius* (scarlet bugler) and *Argemone munitum* (prickly poppy) come into bloom and he became thirsty for more! He made his way to TPF to see what the nursery had to offer. There he met Mira Lighthart, a Foundation pioneer who he says, "taught me horticultural Latin." By 1987, he had become a TPF life member!

Mark then moved north to Amador and Calaveras counties, then back to L.A., then up to Silicon Valley and eventually to San Francisco, where he rented a house in a part of town where flowers were once commercially grown. "There must have been residual fertilizer in the ground because when I planted the natives, they all got huge after a year," he says. A *Dendromecon harfordii* (bush poppy) got so big so fast that he had to remove it. One neighbor told him that people would hop Mark's fence to see "the giant hemp tree" – actually a Santa Cruz Island ironwood! (Mark is pictured here in the TPF tree yard behind foliage of that tree, *Lyonothamnus floribundus* ssp. *aspleniifolius*.)

He returned to Southern California in 2009. In an apartment with no yard, he kept potted dudleya (live-forever, chalk lettuce) on the porch, came to the TPF for some "hands-on" time with our plants and started "seriously" volunteering. His present home in Pasadena has a small garden, mostly in containers, and he still buys dudleya whenever he sees one that is particularly beautiful.

These days, Mark spends a lot of time viewing natives flowering in their natural habitats. "In Spring," he says, "if you get off the road in Gorman and drive down the hill, you'll see gazillions of *Bloomeria crocea* (golden stars). In June, I take pictures of flowers along the road from Ventura to Mt. Pinos: woolly blue curls, penstemon, calochortus and lupine. If you stop the car, get out and look at what's out there...it's a wonderland, a treasure trove of blooming bulbs, shrubs and wildflowers."

You'll find Mark working First Saturdays and outreach events. His favorite TPF activities are Poppy Day and Fall Festival, when dedicated gardeners arrive early to snap up the most unusual plants. The TPF staff is very grateful to have such a knowledgeable, friendly and enthusiastic person as Mark as a supporter and regular volunteer.

CELEBRATING OUR *volunteers*

Autumn + Volunteers = Things getting done!

By Andrew Chaves, Volunteer Coordinator

Fall transformed the Foundation from a hot, quiet, solitary place of reflection into a cooler hive of native plant activities. Volunteers came out of the woodwork and became a more common sight around TPF. On First Saturday, they worked tirelessly to spruce up the grounds. During Fall Festival, they assisted customers and hauled plant carts, helping make this our most successful sale ever! We also welcomed 15 new volunteers who jumped in right away to help. I would like to acknowledge our volunteers for all of their contributions and dedication to the Foundation!

Become a TPF volunteer – many hands make light work! Contact Andrew at volunteer@theodorepayne.org.

BULBS Joe Grant, Ken Matley, John Wickham

FACEBOOK Peggy Dunn

FALL FESTIVAL 2012 Cassy Aoyagi, Laura Bauer, Laurice Becker, Sima Bernstein, Orchid Black, Mary Brooks, Gail Butensky, Richard Carlos, Julie Deamer, Mary Decker, Paula Delfosse, Snowdy Dodson, Peggy Dunn, Vivien Fortunaso, Joe Grant, Robert Grzesiak, Joan Harrison, Marilyn Hildebrandt, Curt Hill, Christina Hsu, Jeff Jamison, Kathleen Johnson, Liz Johnson, Janica Jones, Jon Joyce, Parichehr Khosravi, Sharon Levine, Kathleen Linowsky, Debe Loxton, Sandy Masuo, Ken Matley, Michael Miller, Margaret Oakley, Tricia O'Connell, Dawn Peterson-Amend, Pam Rank, Phyllis Roberts, Jerry Schneider, Anita Sheridan, Mike Summe, Geoff Sykes, Margo Thornhill, Theresa Treuenfels, Steven Ulm, Mark Uhlmann, Ree Whitford, Deborah Wittwer

FIRST SATURDAY Jorge Ambriz, Kim Badger, Eric Bull, Martha Camacho, Lucy Chen, Aracely Curiel, Paula Delfosse, Dee Farnsworth, Hannah Goldman, Joe Grant, Kathleen Grantham, Robert Grzesiak, Christina Hsu, Jeff Jamison, Janica Jones, Parichehr Khosravi, Brenda Maloo, Marina Maloo, Kerry O'Brien, Louise Olson, Chuck Petithomme, Pyre, Pam Rank, Anita Sheridan, Mike Summe, Margo Thornhill, Ree Whitford

A GATHERING OF FRIENDS GALA Laurice Becker, Terri Mando

GROUNDS Mike Summe

HOLLYWOOD FARMERS' MARKET Richard Carlos, Mardi Caruso, Carlos Flores, Jenny Garcia, Joya Salas, Mitzi Zack Walters

L.A. ARBORETUM FALL PLANT SALE Laurice Becker, Sima Bernstein, Richard Carlos, Wynesta Dale, Paula Delfosse, Kathleen Orth

OFFICE Laurice Becker, Sima Bernstein, Brenda Maloo, Marina Maloo, Nariman Maloo, Terri Mando, Mike Summe

PROPAGATION Mary Brooks, Roxanne Correa

SALES YARD Joe Grant

SEED ROOM Peggy Dunn, Ken Matley, Sima Bernstein

TECH SUPPORT Steve Hunt

THEODORE PAYNE ARTS COUNCIL Pamela Burgess, Joan M. Harrison, Kristina Newhouse, Michael Lewis Miller, Ellen Steel, John Wickham

recent donations

Many thanks to the following for their donations to the Foundation.

J Shields: Seedling Penstemon plants

Athens Services: 20 cubic yards of mulch, made possible by Jessica Aldridge, Sustainability Manager for Athens

Crown Disposal: Roll-off containers and recycling services

Dan Fink: Four very sturdy folding tables

Many supporters: Used garden and natural history books. All income from used book sales benefits the Foundation!



**Theodore Payne Foundation
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plants OF THE MONTH

Each month we feature a different species or cultivar and offer it at a 20% discount to members.

Photo © Madena Asbell



JANUARY *Scrophularia californica*—California Figwort (Scrophulariaceae)

This upright herbaceous perennial grows quickly to 4' by 4' with small maroon bee-attracting flowers in spring and summer. Toothed triangular foliage is a forage source for common checkerspot and buckeye butterflies. Common throughout California and north to British Columbia in moist places, roadsides and chaparral below 5000'. Full sun to part shade; fast-draining soil preferred; occasional to regular water; semi-deciduous; cold hardy.

Photo © Madena Asbell



FEBRUARY *Euphorbia misera*—Cliff Spurge (Euphorbiaceae)

This semi-succulent shrubby jewel from the coastal bluffs of San Diego, the southern Channel Islands, western Sonoran Desert and Baja California is threatened by development and rare in California. The plant is an excellent choice for containers, where its tree-like form (to 3' by 3') can be appreciated, and is drought-deciduous, losing its small rounded leaves whenever water is scarce. Tiny scalloped inflorescences are yellow and white with a red accent and produced intermittently throughout the year. Full sun and fast drainage preferred; drought tolerant; marginally frost tender.

Photo © Creative Commons



MARCH *Pluchea sericea*—Arrow Weed (Asteraceae)

Tiny pink to deep-rose flowers adorn this evergreen shrub in spring and early summer. Narrow foliage is gray and finely silky. Native to sometimes-saline stream bottoms, washes, canyons and springs of southwestern California and east to Texas and northern Mexico, it spreads quickly by rhizomes to form a dense thicket to 5'-10' high. Long pliable stems were traditionally used for thatching, arrow-making and spinning spindles. Excellent for soil stabilization; can be invasive. Full sun; good drainage; regular water; hardy to 15°F.

Printed on recycled paper with soy-based inks

