

# CACTUS COURIER

*Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society*

Volume 54, Number 9

September 2008

The Meeting is the **4th** Saturday

**September 27, 2008**

Joslyn Senior Center  
724 N. Broadway, Escondido

**NOON !**



## *“Secrets of the Chaparral: Struggling to Survive Drought & Fire”*

•• Richard W. Halsey ••



Of all the distinct, natural communities in California, only one is found throughout and only one can be said to represent the state's most characteristic wilderness: *the chaparral*, an association of remarkable plants shaped by summer drought, winter rain and an

extremely fragile relationship with wildfire. Join us as we explore the chaparral's unique natural history, reveal the truth concerning its many myths and surprising mysteries, and why it represents such a vital link to nature for all Californians.

**Richard W. Halsey** is the director of the California Chaparral Institute, a research and educational organization focusing on the ecology of California's chaparral ecosystems, the dynamics of wildland fire in both natural and human communities, and the importance of nature education to allow local communities connecting with their surrounding, natural landscapes. His current research projects include investigating the impact of increased fire frequency on chaparral and other shrubland ecosystems, wildland fire behavior, and the best strategies to help communities improve fire safety.



Red shanks and chamise chaparral above Noble Canyon, Pine Valley

Mr. Halsey also works with the San Diego Museum of Natural History, publishes *The Chaparralian*, a quarterly newsletter focusing on

chaparral and wildfire issues in California, and continues to teach natural history to school and community groups throughout the state. He has given more than 200 presentations about the chaparral ecosystem and wildfire over the past four years. The second edition of his book, *Fire, Chaparral, and Survival in Southern California*, was published in 2008. Mr. Halsey has also been trained as a Type II wildland firefighter with the U.S. Forest Service.

Mr. Halsey has taught biology and natural science for over twenty years in both public and private schools and was honored as the Teacher of the Year for San Diego City Schools in 1991.



Maritime mixed chaparral at Torrey Pines



**BOARD MEETING • PLANT SALES • BRAG PLANTS • EXCHANGE TABLE**



**REFRESHMENTS**

**Lorie Johansen      Jean O'Daniel      Betty Pearce      Carol Wilson**  
**Stan Yalof              Vicki Martin              Sue De Rosa**

***2008 Meeting Schedule***

27 September      Joslyn Center  
 25 October          Joslyn Center  
 22 November      Joslyn Center  
 20 December      Joslyn Center

**NOTE!!! 3rd Saturday !!**



Vernal Pool

***Southland Cactus Calendar***

**Oct. 11-12 (Saturday & Sunday)**  
**Fall Plant Sale – Huntington Botanical Gardens**  
 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Whether planning ahead for spring or looking for autumn color to enjoy right now, you'll find plenty of inspiration—and thousands of beautiful plants – at The Huntington's annual Fall Plant Sale. While you're here, talk to the experts and take home tips on mulching, pruning, lawn care, pest control, and other fall gardening activities. Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA.





## ***Garden Days***

***Dick Henderson***

The August 2nd Garden Day found Dick Henderson and Carol Wilson out at Palomar Garden.

The next meeting will be October 4<sup>th</sup>. There's plenty of shade to work in.

## **Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society**

P.O. Box 840, Escondido, CA 92033  
*Membership Application*

I/We wish to join/renew membership in the  
**Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society**

**\$20.00 Single Membership**  
**\$25.00 Dual Membership** (same address)  
(1/2 price after June)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
"Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society"  
P.O. Box 840, Escondido, CA 92033



San Diego mesa mint (*Pogogyne abramsii*)

Long-time member, Betty Pearce, has donated a large 25-year-old **Boojum Tree** (*Idria columnaris*) to the Garden. Thank you, Betty!!



Painting by Ron Chisum

## **Officers • Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society**

**Vick Broughton – President**

**Peter Walkowiak – Vice-President**

**Lorie Johansen – Secretary**

**Charlie Ambruster – Treasurer**

**Bruce Barry – Board Member**

**Dick Kubiak – Board Member**

**Dick Henderson – Board Member & Garden Chair**

**Doug Frederick – Board Member**

**Mary Kaho – Board Member**

**Brita Miller – Librarian**

**Ron Chisum – Refreshments & Speakers**

**Eleanore Hewitt – Newsletter Editor**