

# Carpenteria

CNPS SEQUOIA CHAPTER



October 2018

www.cnps-sequoia.org

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Water-Wise** **Don't Forget!** Free Admission!

# Plant Sale & Fair

Co-sponsored by:  
Sequoia Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and  
Clovis Botanical Garden

**Full Breakfast**  
starts at 9 am  
by the Clovis  
Kiwanis Club.  
\$6 per person.  
Age 5 and  
under free.

**Saturday, October 20, 2018**  
9 am to 2 pm

Clovis Botanical Garden  
945 N. Clovis Avenue in Clovis  
Just north of Alluvial at Dry Creek Park

Exhibitors  
and  
Vendors

California native plants  
Water-wise plants from other places

10% plant purchase discount for CBG and CNPS members




### Can you volunteer some time to help with this year's plant sale?

- **Thursday** (help prep the Clovis Botanical Garden to spiff it up before the plant sale)
- **Friday morning** (continue prepping CBG and help unload plants from Intermountain Nursery)
- **Friday afternoon** (help with arranging, pricing, organizing the plants for sale)
- **Saturday** (helping customers if you're knowledgeable about gardening with natives, encourage membership under our membership canopy, or provide general assistance where needed).

**NOTE:** Volunteers can purchase the full Kiwanis breakfast for \$3 starting at 8:30 am.

Please email **Thelma** at [yucca37tv@yahoo.com](mailto:yucca37tv@yahoo.com) with dates and times that you can help.

**Do you want to donate your Flora or Fremontia magazines so we can give them away at our membership table at the plant sale?** Bring them to the plant sale or contact Thelma in advance to arrange pickup. These magazines are great ambassadors for informing the public about CNPS.

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On October 1, 2018, Valley PBS aired a short 3 minute video filmed at Clovis Botanical Garden, and it featured two of our active chapter members! We invite you to check out this video:  
<https://video.valleypbs.org/video/clovis-botanical-garden-7ivbjz>

# THE SCIENCE OF PLANTS

## Neonicotinoids

--Jane Pritchard

Neonicotinoids, chemically similar to nicotine, became popular pesticides in the 1990s because they target the central nervous system of insects but not of humans. Studies have found that they can hurt pollinators as well as pests. Are they the cause of pollinator decline? Some farmers and pesticide manufacturers argue that habitat loss and parasite infection are the major impact on bee populations.

Seventy-five percent of 198 honey samples collected from around the world showed measurable levels of neonicotinoids—even in honey from remote islands with very little agriculture. North America had 86 percent and South America had 57 percent. Almost half of all samples globally contained more than one of the five types of neonicotinoids tested for. In all the samples, pesticide levels were below what has been established as safe for human consumption.



-*Apis mellifera*- Muhammad Mahdi Karim

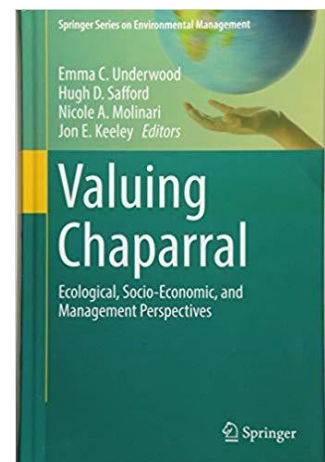
Most concerns have centered on the European honeybee (*Apis mellifera*), which people have spread around the world as a crop pollinator. But native pollinators are often more vulnerable to the pesticides' effects. Bumblebees (*Bombus* sp.) and sweat bees (Family Halictidae) tend to live in smaller hives than honeybees, so just a few foragers can more quickly spread contamination to the whole colony.

## NEW PUBLICATION

### *Valuing Chaparral: Ecological, Socio-Economic, and Management Perspectives*

--Edited by Underwood, E., Safford, H., Molinari, N., and Keeley, J.

Chaparral shrubland ecosystems are an iconic feature of the California landscape, and a highly biodiverse yet highly flammable backdrop to some of the fastest growing urban areas in the United States. Chaparral-type ecosystems are a common element of all of the world's Mediterranean-type climate regions – of which California is one – yet there is little public appreciation of the intrinsic value and the ecosystem services that these landscapes provide. *Valuing Chaparral* is a compendium of contributions from experts in chaparral ecology and management, with a focus on the human relationship with chaparral ecosystems. Chapters cover a wide variety of subjects, ranging from biodiversity to ecosystem services like water provision, erosion control, carbon sequestration and recreation; from the history of human interactions with chaparral to current education and conservation efforts; and from chaparral restoration and management to scenarios of the future under changing climate, land use, and human population. *Valuing Chaparral* will be of interest to resource managers, the research community, policy makers, and the public who live and work in the chaparral dominated landscapes of California and other Mediterranean-type climate regions.



# CHINA CREEK REPORT

## September Work Party

--Warren Shaw

The temperature was in the eighties; there was a light breeze; the coffee and muffins were laid out on the picnic table under the oak, the event announced several times—yet only a few of the faithful turned out. Was it because we failed to announce the event in the newsletter? Was it because volunteers had gotten out of the habit of China Creek work parties during the summer hiatus? Who knows? It was, in any case, a disappointing beginning for the fall season.

Nonetheless, we few soldiered on. We began by doing some actual work. We cleaned up the trail signs (noting some that needed replacing) and we cleared the berm at the North Pond so Hank can get his tractor across for spraying and mowing.

Then at the 10:00 break we met with Vernon Crowder, Executive Director of the Kings River Conservancy, to discuss the agenda of concerns for the future of the Park. Some conclusions from that meeting:



1. Warren agreed to contact Daniel Orr at California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to see if China Creek Park would qualify for a CDFW Habitat Improvement grant (It has since been decided that we will partner with the Kings River Conservancy in their grant application rather than applying separately),
2. Jane agreed to work on mapping invasives, beginning with wild fig,
3. all agreed that propagation of plants for the Park, by individuals, in pots, was a good idea,
4. it was agreed that laying out and building a trail section in the “Sanctuary” area was a good idea, and something we should get started on,
5. suggestions for Park events, other than work parties, were discussed, and
6. ideas for recruiting volunteers were discussed.



It was a good meeting, with some concrete conclusions, after which we packed up and adjourned to the taco truck in Centerville.

On October 13, we'll try again. Please mark your calendars and try to join us. We'll be replacing those damaged trail signs, treating some pesky tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) sprouts, perhaps caging some valley oak (*Quercus lobata*) seedlings, maybe getting started on the new trail section, and whatever else needs doing.

China Creek Park is located on the west side of Centerville, 16 miles east of Fresno on Highway 180. To get there, drive east on Kings Canyon/ Highway 180, 16.5 miles to Centerville. Turn right (south) on Smith Road and drive 0.2 miles to Rainbow Drive. Continue straight past the first gate 0.5 miles down the small road to the Park gate at the end of the road.

## Upcoming Classes and Events in 2018

### •October 13, Unlock the Secrets of Soil Saturday, 9:30am – 11:00am

Location: Garden of the Sun, 1750 N. Winery, Fresno, CA 93703

- Learn about the new USDA program “Unlock the Secrets in the Soil.”
- The goal of the program is to regenerate our nation’s soils.
- Your garden will use less water, less pesticide, and most importantly, will be more productive and beautiful.

Cost: Free

Information and registration:  
<https://ucanr.edu/sites/mgfresno/files/288796.pdf>

### •October 17, Urban Wilderness: Planting Wilderness Out Your Front Door Wednesday, 7:00pm

Location: Sierra Club Tehipite Chapter, UC Center, 550 E. Shaw, Fresno

- With Robert Boro, Fresno Landscape Architect

Cost: Free

Information: <https://www.sierraclub.org/tehipite>

### •October 24, Wednesday Walk – Elkhorn Slough/Stephen’s Ranch Wednesday, 8:00am

Location: Stephen’s Ranch, 1957 Hwy CA-1, Moss Landing, CA 95039



Pectoral Sandpiper by Gary Woods

- Expect to see numerous species of upland birds, as well as shorebirds in the multi-thousands
- This is an out of town trip starting at 8:00am, so you can stay the night before nearby or leave Fresno at 5:30am to arrive by 8:00am.
- Take binoculars, bird guide, water, sun protection, and lunch

Cost: Free

Information:  
[http://www.fresnoaudubon.org/event/wednesday-walk-river-center-2/?instance\\_id=155](http://www.fresnoaudubon.org/event/wednesday-walk-river-center-2/?instance_id=155)

Contact Robert Snow at (650) 483-2347 or [rsnow@fresnoaudubon.org](mailto:rsnow@fresnoaudubon.org) for more information.

### •October 27 Propagation of California Native Plants, Saturday, 9:30am

Location: Intermountain Nursery  
30443 N. Auberry Road, Prather, CA 93651



Wikihow

- Learn about propagation of California Native plants.
- Collecting, storing, stratifying and germinating seed, taking and rooting cuttings and proper growing conditions will be discussed.
- Handouts and a tour of the Nursery’s growing facilities are included.

Cost: \$15

Information:  
<http://intermountainnursery.com/classes.htm>

### •October 27, Backyard Composting Saturday, 9:30am – 11:00pm

Location: Garden of the Sun, 1750 N. Winery, Fresno, CA 93703

- You will learn how to quickly turn your garden clippings and kitchen scraps into valuable compost.
- You will learn why and how to start your own compost pile, what you can and should not add to your pile, and ways you can use the finished product to improve your soil.

Cost: Free

Information and registration:  
<https://ucanr.edu/sites/mgfresno/files/288796.pdf>

### •October 20-21, Forest Diseases Saturday, 9:00am – Sunday 5:00pm

Location: UC Berkeley and Bay Area Field Site

- A must for anyone with an interest in the preservation of natural ecosystems.
- Will learn about the most serious infectious diseases that have either been introduced or have emerged in California because of intensive forest management.
- The theory behind biological invasions by destructive pathogens will be reviewed and discussed.
- Personal vehicle required for field trip (carpooling possible).

Cost: \$275/\$305

Information:  
<http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/>

**SEQUOIA CHAPTER OFFICERS\*  
AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Membership**

*John LuValle*

Thanks to new and renewing members.

If you require corrections or additions to your membership information, contact John LuValle at [jluvalle@mcn.org](mailto:jluvalle@mcn.org).

The Sequoia Chapter serves Fresno, Madera, and Kings counties.

The IRS considers dues in excess of \$12 per year and all gifts to CNPS as tax deductible. Renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card. As an option, renew automatically year after year. It is quick, easy, and convenient, and reduces renewal-mailing costs. Visit [www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org) and click on the JOIN button.

**Next Newsletter: November/December 2018**

Send newsletter suggestions to Laura Castro at [lacastror@outlook.com](mailto:lacastror@outlook.com). The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is **Friday, November 23, 2018.**



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**JOIN**



**THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**



**RENEW**

Membership includes the quarterly CNPS journal, *Fremontia*; the quarterly *Bulletin* which gives statewide news and announcements of activities and conservation issues; and our chapter newsletter, *Carpenteria*.

I wish to affiliate with the Sequoia Chapter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

- Student, Limited Income \_\_\_\_\_ \$25
- Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$45
- Family, Group, or Library \_\_\_\_\_ \$75
- Plant Lover \$100
- Patron \_\_\_\_\_ \$300
- Benefactor \$600

Make your check payable to "CNPS" and mail with this form to:

- New Member
- Renewing Member

**California Native Plant Society  
2707 K Street, Suite 1  
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113**

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

# CARPENTERIA

October 2018

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

c/o Jeanne Larson ♦ 3457 Redlands ♦ Fresno, CA 93726

### OBSERVATIONS

#### --Thelma Valdez

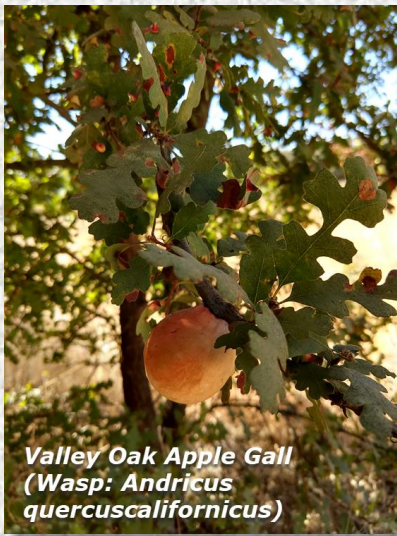
The annual blue curls (*Trichostema lanceolatum*) finally reached their peak bloom the last week of September. That's late according to photos taken in previous years. All varieties of bees continue to visit the blossoms. I love that gentle buzz that you hear when sitting near the plants. The recent bit of rain refreshed the plants and they may continue to bloom until well into October.

Deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*) have started blooming. I almost forgot that they put out some blossom plumes this time of year until I walked through a patch and was dusted by them. Hollyleaf cherries (*Prunus ilicifolia*) were consumed a few weeks ago (yummy but beware of the large pit!). And, I've nibbled wild grapes since they ripened recently, although most of the fruit is left for the mockingbirds.



-*M. rigens*- ©2015 Zoya Akulova

Plants generally seem to look better after the recent rain and longer, cooler nights. Remember to continue watering your natives, albeit less frequently, especially those less than a couple of years old, until we get a real rainfall.



Valley Oak Apple Gall  
(Wasp: *Andricus quercuscalifornicus*)

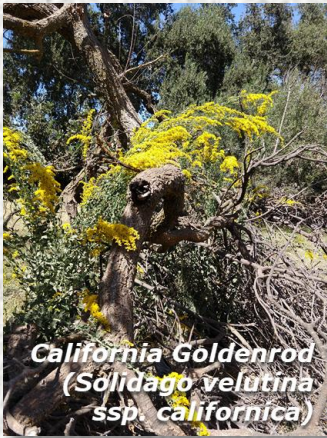


Jimsonweed  
(*Datura wrightii*)



Valley Oak Acorns,  
Spined Turban Gall,  
Red Cone Gall,  
(*Quercus lobata*,  
Wasp: *Antron douglasii*,  
Wasp: *Andricus kingi*)

October 2018 \* Sequoia Chapter CNPS



California Goldenrod  
(*Solidago velutina*  
ssp. *californica*)



China Creek



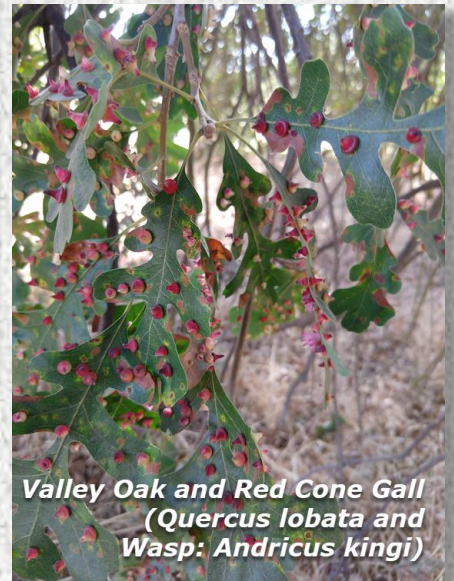
Spider web on dead willow



Telegraph Weed  
(*Heterotheca grandiflora*)



Coyote Brush  
(*Baccharis pilularis*)



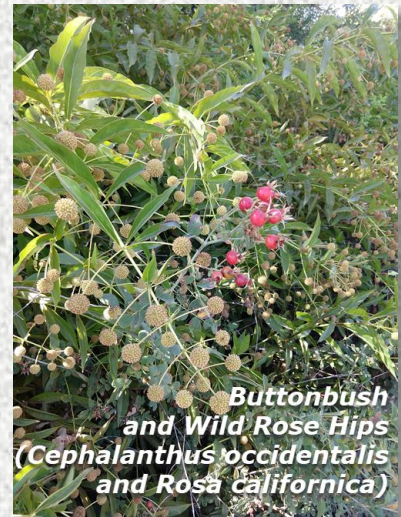
Valley Oak and Red Cone Gall  
(*Quercus lobata* and  
Wasp: *Andricus kingi*)



Lizard Tail (Yerba Mansa)  
(*Anemopsis californica*)



Common Sunflower  
(*Helianthus annuus*)



Buttonbush  
and Wild Rose Hips  
(*Cephalanthus occidentalis*  
and *Rosa californica*)

Photo credits:  
Jane Pritchard,  
all photos from  
China Creek