

Carpenteria

CNPS SEQUOIA CHAPTER



October 2016
www.cnps-sequoia.org

HELP WANTED/VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

1) We need dedicated people to sit on a steering committee to create a management plan for the China Creek County Park. Please give joining this committee some thought. To volunteer, contact Warren Shaw at <warshaw1955@gmail.com> or (559) 451-1256.

2) We could use your help! Can you come for a few hours on Saturday during the plant sale on October 15th, or Thursday or Friday while we're setting up? A make-it-yourself sandwich lunch is provided on Thursday and Friday.

Saturday's work could involve helping direct customers, sharing your knowledge about natives with which you're familiar, helping to keep the plants for sale tidy and attractive, spending time in our membership booth, and more! Contact any of the board members if you can help. The date, time, location, and other details regarding the water-wise sale can be found on Page 3 of this newsletter.

CHINA CREEK REPORT

--Warren Shaw

September 2016 work party

The Park was a more comfortable place in September, with temperatures hardly out of the eighties by noon when we knocked off.

And...we were able to cross another area off our list as we finished thistle patrols in the northeast section—this in part due to thorough spraying of bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) by cattleman Steve McDonald's crew. As a matter of fact, we even got a start on the southwest area after the 10:00 muffin break.

We expect to devote most of our efforts to tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) abatement in October. Join us October 22, 2016 from 8:00am to 12:00pm. We've managed to kill all the big trees in years past, but we are still getting dozens of sprouts from the stubborn roots of those trees.

We're still hoping for some volunteers to serve on the China Creek Steering Committee, which will formulate a long-term plan for the future of the project.

And, it's time to start announcing the annual Thank You Lunch at the Blossom Trail Cafe in November. All who have contributed in any way to the China Creek Project in 2016 are invited to the November 19th lunch that is paid for by the Chapter. Please put the date on your calendar and plan to join us.

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 on Smith Road down the small road 0.5 miles to the Park gate at the end of the road.



-Cirsium vulgare- ©2008 Keir Morse



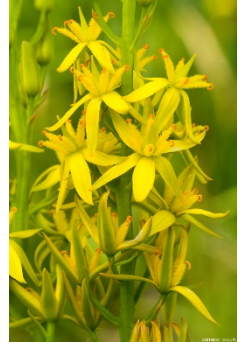
-Ailanthus altissima- ©2016 Zoya Akulova

FIELD REPORT

--Jane Pritchard & Eileen Bennet

Rare Plants of Patterson Mountain (Part 2) – (continuation from September newsletter)

After lunch we continued down the road, which changed to 11S10 somewhere, to see translucent green *Piperia colemanii* (Coleman's rein orchid) in a dry clearing of roadside brush. A wet meadow farther on contained *Orthilia secunda* (one-sided wintergreen; 'orthilia' is from a Greek word that means a straight spiral), and the carnivorous *Drosera rotundifolia* (round-leaved sundew). Bogs and fens lack nutrients, so glandular red hairs on the leaf of the sundew catch an insect or other organism, the leaf closes to secure it, and the organism is digested by bacteria and enzymes excreted by the leaf. Additional plants observed here were:



-*Narthecium californicum*-
©2011 Barry Rice

- yellow to green-yellow *Narthecium californicum* (California bog asphodel), usually more northern,
- greenish *Platanthera yosemitensis* (Yosemite bog orchid*), which has a strongly pungent odor,
- white, green, and yellow *Triantha occidentalis* ssp. *occidentalis* (western false asphodel),
- yellow *Senecio clarkianus* (Clark's ragwort) with long jagged leaves,
- white *Perideridia parishii* ssp. *latifolia* (Parish's yampah) with three narrow leaflets/leaf and rarely fragrant,
- *Lilium pardalinum* ssp. *pardalinum* (leopard lily) with whorled leaves,
- two mannagrasses (*Glyceria* spp.) eaten out by cows, and
- non-native *Agropyron cristatum* ssp. *pectinatum* (crested wheatgrass), which is used to rejuvenate burned or overgrazed areas.

After turning right on 10S24, we stopped just before the bridge over Deer Creek where a series of small waterfalls came down a towering steep bank and water ran along the ditch along the road. White *Epilobium howellii* (Howell's umbrellawort or subalpine fireweed*) grew here along with white *Pseudognaphalium canescens* (Wright's cudweed), *Lonicera involucrata* (coast twinberry) with dark red bracts and two dark berries, and red-stemmed *Cornus sericea* ssp. unknown (American dogwood).

Peltigera hydrothyria (veined water lichen) grew on the rocks in the waterfall. *Peltigera* is an aquatic water lichen with fan striped lobes that are 3-10 millimeters wide. It is translucent dark green or brownish under water, is dark blue-gray when dry, and the lower surface is deeply veined. The *Bryoria freemontii* (tree hair lichen) hanging from the red firs here provide nesting material for flying squirrels and is eaten in the winter by large ungulates.

Back at Hall's Meadow campground, we ate a snack and then went out in the meadow to the west. Besides the many little dark frogs that we were afraid to step on, we saw *Trifolium bolanderi* (Bolander's or parasol clover*)



-*Ivesia unguiculata*-
©2010 Barry Breckling

which has pale purple to rose reflexed flowers, *Ivesia unguiculata* (Yosemite mousetail*), and the carnivorous *Utricularia intermedia* (flat-leaved bladderwort*), which is common outside of California. Some stems of the flat-leaved bladderwort may be freely floating, green, and with leaves; however, other stems are rooted in mud, white, have no leaves, and instead have bladders. The bladders are modified leaves which suck in small organisms when hairs at the opening are triggered.

Chris Winchell, our leader, left that night because Black Mountain was burning and had been evacuated. His family and dogs were OK.

The next morning the group followed a trail to the meadow to the north, which then curved to the southeast surrounding the campground on three sides. *Lupinus lepidus* var. *sellulus* (dwarf tidy lupine) covered the trail just before the meadow. Other plants we hadn't already seen included:

- the common *Sceptridium multifidum* (leather grape fern—in the adder's-tongue family) whose spores resemble clusters of grapes,
- glossy yellow, prostrate *Ranunculus flammula* var. *ovalis* (greater creeping spearwort), and
- purple rayed, yellow centered *Erigeron breweri* (Brewer's fleabane).

Rare Plants of Patterson Mountain (continued)

[Again,] many thanks to Chris Winchell for setting up and leading this trip and for bringing together so many knowledgeable people from diverse areas of the state.

*Listed in CNPS Inventory of Rare & Endangered Plants of California, 8th edition.

WATER-WISE PLANT SALE & FAIR

--**Thelma Valdez**



We hope to see you at the plant sale!

We can't promise perfect weather but you know that mid-October is a particularly pleasant time of the year in our area. Plan to come out to the plant sale and support your Sequoia Chapter and the Clovis Botanical Garden.

Take a stroll through maturing region-specific plantings at the Garden, including the California native plant garden that was planted this past winter. You can enjoy some tamales from Casa de Tamales and pick up that California native plant you have always wanted in your garden. If you have some experience with native plants, feel free to share what you know with customers who are new to our world.

See you there!

When: Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 8 am to 1 pm

Where: Clovis Botanical Garden, 945 N. Clovis Avenue, Clovis, CA 93611

GARDEN NOTES

--**Jeanne Larson**

There was a surprise pollinator on a native, wild mint ground cover that sends up dainty spikes of pale blue flowers. It was buzzing along with little tiny insects that had iridescent chartreuse bodies. They were so fast I couldn't catch any to tell if they were flies for sure. These insects were on the flower spikes even as they were drying. If any reader has the answer as to what these were, my e-mail is in the newsletter.



-*Buddleja davidii*- Anthony Baniaga

Monarch butterflies have a minor migrating route through the San Joaquin Valley. Sequoia member Rose Rowe told me that the monarchs in her garden like the wild sunflowers, but prefer the butterfly bush (*Buddleja davidii*) a sub-tropical, drought tolerant native of America, but not of California.

My Mexican bush sage (*Salvia leucantha*) is finally starting to bloom. Perhaps this late heat is what has delayed the bloom. Out of character, it bloomed again this spring, which seems to be a new pattern attributed to our climate changing in the Central Valley.

The desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*) has finished blooming and the long seed pods are abundant. The desert willow's half cousin, the Chitalpa tree (*x Chitalpa tashkentensis*), has some blooms, but they are fading fast. It so far has produced no evident seed pods. The abrupt change in the weather reminds us that it is time to move natives to a better location, if need be, and find a spot to add something new.



Upcoming Events and Classes

•Saturday, October 29 9:30am— Propagation of California Native Plants

Cost: \$15.00

Location: Intermountain Nursery
30443 Auberry Road
Prather, CA 93651

- Learn about collecting, storing, stratifying and germinating seed.
- Cuttings and proper growing conditions will be discussed.
- A tour of the nursery is included.

Details:

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

• October 14-16 9:30am—Macrolichens Around San Francisco Bay

Cost: \$325/350

Location: UC Berkeley and Bay Area Field Sites

- Class well-suited for people who know what a lichen is.
- Class will provide an expanded foundation and tools for identifying lichens to genus.
- Highly recommended that you have experience using dichotomous keys.
- Essential that you bring a 10-14 power hand lens.

Details: Contact the Jepson Herbarium at

(510) 643-7008 or email at

jepsonworkshops@berkeley.edu

OBSERVATION

--Thelma Valdez

Where do you fall in the continuum of knowledge about California's oak galls? Are you a newbie, who wonders about those growths on oak trees? Have you heard of "oak apples" and you know they aren't really apples, but wonder what they are? Are you at the other end of the spectrum, having studied the cynipid wasp species extensively? Or are you some-

-where in between. Methinks many of us are somewhere in between. Why? Because as soon as you learn the slightest bit about the marvelous relationship between these tiny wasps and our native oaks, you can't help but want to know more. So you peruse articles, maybe buy a book, and, hopefully, you go out looking for oak galls on local native oaks.



- spined turban gall wasp-
(*Antron douglasii*)



-round honeydew gall wasp-
(*Disholcaspis canescens*)

I planted valley oaks (*Quercus lobata*) from acorns about 15 years ago and saw the first galls a few years ago. The trees were mature enough to host the nurseries of these tiny wasps. It felt like they crossed a milestone and I smile broadly when I stand next to the trees at the end of summer and see a variety of galls all the way to the upper leaves.

No native oaks near you? I have just the spot—China Creek Park. The valley oaks at China Creek are impressive and, oh boy, do they have galls! You can see some photos on the chapter website. Go to www.cnps-sequoia.org, click the China Creek link, and watch the slideshow. Better yet, take a drive out to the park and see them in person!

Want to learn more about galls? The internet is full of information. The left coast naturalist has a very informative blog post:



-red cone gall wasp- (*Andricus kingi*)

(<http://leftcoastnatty.blogspot.com/2010/09/oak-gall-wasps-cynipids.html>).

The September 2013 issue of *Fremontia* also had a good article about the wasps and the galls: <https://www.cnps.org/cnps/publications/fremontia/FremontiaV41.3.pdf>

**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.

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 and click on the JOIN button.

Next Newsletter: November/December 2016

Send newsletter corrections or suggestions to Laura Castro at lacastror@outlook.com. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is **Friday, October 28, 2016.**



- *President** open
- *Vice-Pres.** Warren Shaw 559/451-1256 (h)
warshaw1955@gmail.com
- *Secretary** Marian Orvis 559/226-0145 (h)
mforvet@comcast.net
- *Treasurer** Jeanne Larson 559/243-0815 (h)
jrjlars@aol.com
- Membership** John LuValle jluvalle@mcn.org
- Field Trips** Jane Pritchard 559/765-9954
xxiii_xx@yahoo.com
- Newsletter Editor** Laura Castro 559/643-6012
lacastror@outlook.com
- Hospitality** Madeleine Mitchell 559/638-2784 (h)
madeleine43@comcast.net
- Horticulture** open
- Education** Warren Shaw (See Vice-President)
- Rare Plant** Jane Pritchard (See Field Trips)
- Plant Sale** Thelma Valdez (see Webmaster)
- Conservation** Jeanne Larson (see Treasurer)
- Directors at Large** Michele LuValle luvalle@mcn.org
Belinda Gilbert belinda@sti.net
- Webmaster** Thelma Valdez 559/323-8962 (h)
yucca37tv@yahoo.com

	JOIN  THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  RENEW	
<p>Membership includes the quarterly CNPS journal, <i>Fremontia</i>; the quarterly <i>Bulletin</i> which gives statewide news and announcements of activities and conservation issues; and our chapter newsletter, <i>Carpenteria</i>.</p>		
<p>I wish to affiliate with the Sequoia Chapter.</p>		
Name:	_____	
Address:	_____	
City:	_____	
State:	_____	Zip: _____
<p>Make your check payable to "CNPS" and mail with this form to:</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing Member		
<p align="right">California Native Plant Society 2707 K Street, Suite I Sacramento, CA 95816-5113</p>		
<p>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.</p>		

<input type="checkbox"/> Student, Limited Income	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$45
<input type="checkbox"/> Family, Group, or Library	\$75
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Lover	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$300
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$600

CARPENTERIA

October 2016

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

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

JUST FOR FUN

