

Carpenteria

CNPS SEQUOIA CHAPTER



January 2016
www.cnps-sequoia.org

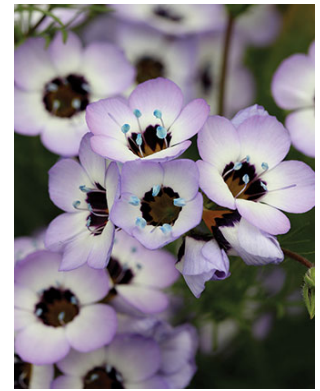
The rains have finally come. And as the observations below will testify plants are responding—natives, non-natives, and, of course weeds. Those of us who know otherwise get nervous when we hear, “Thank goodness the drought is over!” because of course, it isn’t. A check of the US Drought Monitor will show us how far we have yet to go to move out of our current category, D4 (Exceptional Drought) to get even to D1 (Moderate Drought). Nevertheless, we can appreciate the rain we get and do our best to continue to be drought-tolerant people tending our drought-tolerant plants.

OBSERVATIONS

--Warren Shaw

The Natives around our yard are mostly dormant. However, Birdseye Gilia and poppies are sprouting vigorously, obviously ready for spring. Apricot and Orange Mallow plants, though cut back severely some weeks ago, are growing like weeds.

The one surviving Ceanothus has buds; Blue-eyed Grass is freshening, and both Toyons and our newly planted California Bay are showing new growth, clearly enjoying recent rains and unintimidated by frost. A few hardy California Fuchsias, on the south side of the house, though brown and frosted, still show bright red-orange blossoms!



--Jeanne Larson



Well, the weeds are off and running. Some of the early germinated Annual bluegrass has headed out already, while we have noted a second germination of annual blue, chickweed and also, wind-carried seeds.

Many reported they lost their prostrate Ceanothus this summer. My Powder Blue bush Ceanothus survived very well with one deep irrigation. When the inner leaves are yellow, I have found it a sign of some stress. I allowed some leaf drop before the one irrigation. Blossoms were not so plentiful this year and the usual frenzy of bee activity never occurred.

My neighbor planted a Clematis on her side of the fence between our two houses. I was very surprised when it bloomed with small magenta blossoms. The vine leaves are small like our white-flowered, native foothill Clematis, that twines through bushes.



•February 17th (tentative) Chapter meeting and Native Plant Seminar at Clovis Botanical Garden

A year ago September our seminar on landscaping with native plants was very well received and attended by members and a good number of non-members so there is obvious interest. The time, format, and presenters are still in the discussion phase but we expect the meeting to include some updates from previous presenters, who will share their progress in their native plant gardens. If this meeting materializes, it will welcome all interested plant people.

•February 27 7:30AM-5PM--Master Gardeners' Conference

This conference is at a new, improved, venue, The Airport Picadilly Inn in Fresno. \$45 advance; \$55 at the door—includes lunch and continental breakfast. Our chapter will have an information table. Details-- <http://ucanr.edu/sites/mgfresno/>

•March 4, 5, 6 Home & Garden Show at Fresno Fairgrounds.

Our Chapter's table will be in the Garden Pavilion. For this three-day event we need plenty of help. In past years we made contact with many folks who stopped by to get a better look at Thelma's great photos of native plants, share gardening experiences, and get more information about native plants, CNPS, and Sequoia Chapter. This is a popular event and those of us who staff the information table for a couple of hours are rewarded with free admission, free parking, and shuttle service to/from the parking lot...such a deal!

Details and discount coupon:
<http://www.fresnoshows.com>

•March 19, Annual Spring into Your Garden 9AM-2PM Clovis Botanical Garden

Demonstrations, Seminars, Consults, Children's booths. Our chapter will be represented with an information table and one or more seminars.

•Garden of the Sun Annual Event April 24

Tour six private gardens plus the Master Gardener Demonstration Garden. Tickets-\$25 in advance; \$30 on the day (available at any of the gardens). Plant lists given for each garden.

Details--
<http://ucanr.edu/sites/mgfresno/files/211351.pdf>

CHINA CREEK WORK DAY

--Warren Shaw

Our last work party of 2015 was on November 21. We met at our usual winter starting time, 9:00, and went to work continuing the process of clearing around the gate and kiosk and at the south pond walkthrough. Laura also continued spraying invasive exotic fig trees. The weather was peasant, and with a good group of willing workers, we accomplished a surprising amount before break.

After break we held an informal meeting to review what we had done in 2015, and how we could do even better in 2016. Then we loaded up and went to the Blossom Trail Cafe for our annual "Thank You" lunch, where the Chapter expressed its gratitude for the time, hard work, and sweat the volunteers had given to the cause of restoring the park -- as nearly as possible -- to a natural state, and educating the public about Native Plants. Everybody seemed to enjoy this.

Our first work party of 2016 will be Saturday, January 16, from 9-12. If all goes as planned, we'll have a crew installing new trail signs (thanks mostly to Thelma), and another out hunting for new Bull Thistle rosettes to dig while they're easy.

We hope you can join us in starting another great year in China Creek Park. To get there, take Kings Canyon/CA 180 east across Academy to Centerville. Follow Smith or Oliver south to Rainbow 1/4 mi. Turn south on Smith about 1/4 mi. to the Park gate. For more information call (559-451-1256) or email <warshaw1955@gmail.com>.



A belated, but sincere thank you

to all who helped make the October plant sale among the best ever. This is a huge undertaking and succeeded because of countless hours of work—before, during, and after the sale. A special thank you to **Thelma Valdez** for her planning, coordinating and meticulous attention to detail that was evident to all. It was good to see long-time member Marge Patrick, who worked two+ days.

Of course, this work would go for naught if it weren't for all who attended-- for advice and to add to their garden natives. Our net profit was a bit over \$1900, which will defray costs of other efforts throughout the year—China Creek restoration project, information tables at various events, our website, and other education and outreach activities including the newsletter printing and mailing.

Membership

John & Michele 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: Feb. 2016

--Note earlier deadline --

Send newsletter corrections or suggestions to Helen Shaw helshaw@gmail.com. The deadline for the next newsletter is **Monday, Feb. 1**



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•Rare Plant	Jane Pritchard	(See Field Trips)
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•Conservation	Jeanne Larson	(see Treasurer)
•Director at Large	Belinda Gilbert	belinda@sti.net
•Webmaster	Thelma Valdez yucca37tv@yahoo.com	559/323-8962 (h)



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

January 2016



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

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

CONSERVATION REPORT

--Jeanne Larson

Friends of the River reports in a recent e-mail that they have stopped the building of any new dams for forty years. The report indicates several environmentally damaging plans for dams and reservoirs from Sacramento north, but at the top of the list of the proposed projects is the \$2.6 billion dollar, 665-foot high dam on the San Joaquin River Gorge at Temperance Flat. (Google San Joaquin River Gorge). The 17-mile San Joaquin River Trail would also be submerged.

So little of our river habitat remains undisturbed. A dam at Temperance Flat is not a viable project. The dam would be a near dry hole in many of the coming years because of climate changes that are hard to accept, so far, in this above rainfall year.

We must remind farmers that this area was one of winter wheat and barley, farmed with winter rains, and harvested in the spring when the grain matured. The soil was then fallowed until the following fall.

All the lower San Joaquin River Valley environmental groups need to put the proposed Temperance Flat Dam project on HIGH ALERT! The subsidence of West Fresno County land is a far more important issue.

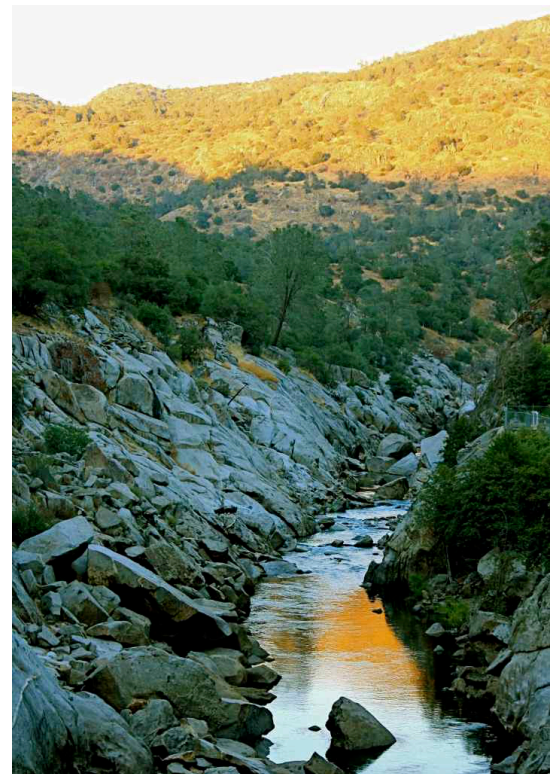


photo-- friendsoftheriver.org