

# Carpenteria

CNPS SEQUOIA CHAPTER



September 2017

[www.cnps-sequoia.org](http://www.cnps-sequoia.org)

## APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS

How does the Clovis Botanical Garden's (CBG) native plant garden grow? With your help! We're looking for a few CNPS Sequoia Chapter members who can spend a few hours on a regular basis at CBG, helping to maintain the native plant garden. To learn more, leave a message for Thelma Valdez at 559.323.8962.

## DAY HIKES

Hike Alert! You can join Jane Pritchard when she heads out on a hike in the local foothills. Email or leave a message for her if you're interested at [xxiii\\_xx@yahoo.com](mailto:xxiii_xx@yahoo.com) or call 559.765.9954. She will contact you with the hike details for her next outing.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Letters to the Editor

Have you had some native plant experiences you would like to share, or do you have plant questions you'd like to ask? If so, please send a letter to the editor <[lacastror@outlook.com](mailto:lacastror@outlook.com)>.

### 2017 Annual Plant Sale

The plant sale is Saturday, October 21 from 8 am to 1 pm. Can you help us make it a success by volunteering a little of your time? Please send an email or leave a message for Thelma Valdez if you can help: [yucca37tv@yahoo.com](mailto:yucca37tv@yahoo.com) or 559.323.8962.

We need the following:

- Cashiers (during the VIP pre-sale event and the day of the sale). Must have an iPhone and be willing to add the square reader app
- Plant holding area (during the day of the sale)
- General help sprucing up the Botanical Garden before the events (Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday – daytime – sandwich lunch provided)
- Setup of native plant area (Friday morning and early afternoon)
- California native plant reference folks (during the sale, help customers and share your knowledge of gardening with natives)
- Breakdown (Saturday after the sale for a couple of hours)

Many thanks!



## Upcoming Events and Classes in 2017

### •October 3-5— Vegetation Rapid Assessment/Releve

Location: UC Davis Bodega  
Marine Lab & Reserve,  
Bodega Bay, CA

- Will combine lecture and field exercises in vegetation sampling.
- Will discuss applications of fine-scale vegetation sampling, classification and mapping, how to document rare natural communities, and how vegetation information fits into planning documents.



Cost: \$375 Members / \$395 Non-members  
Cost with meals and lodging: \$640 Members / \$660 Non-members

Details:

[http://www.cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/2017/1003\\_rapid\\_assessment\\_releve.php](http://www.cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/2017/1003_rapid_assessment_releve.php)  
or call Becky Reilly, CNPS Events Coordinator, at 916-447-2677 x207

## FIELD REPORT

### A More Unusual Year Than Usual

--Jane Pritchard

From July 14 to August 6, I was at Blayney Meadows on the south fork of the San Joaquin River 4 miles upstream from Florence Lake. Sanger Creek flows less than 50 feet south of the big house. The river is about 200 yards past that. This year no land was visible between the creek and the bridge over the river. I expected to see an alligator swimming among the trees. People living/camping across the river had to wade in knee high water at night. The water had come into the houses; all was discarded that couldn't be dried out. The first session of the Road Scholar program couldn't go south of the house to go to Warm Lake or the hot springs.

We went higher up on the hills to the north and

east. Beautiful cascades of melted ice ran down the mountains across the river. Wright's buckwheat (*Eriogonum wrightii*) and Sierra lotus (*Acmispon nevadensis* var. *nevadensis*), usually in full bloom even in late July, was mostly dried up. Other plants in areas that had flooded had not bloomed in late July. Some land washed away. Many areas were covered with flowers, some only rarely seen. California cone flower (*Rudbeckia californica*) cones were less than an inch high in late July. They can grow to 2 inches tall.

On August 1, we went out to Whitebark Vista OHV trail toward Mount Givens' breathtaking scenery at the cliff edge, but it drops off to China Even away from the edge, hearing the words "drop off" gave me the cringes. (Also, smoke was very strong from the fires and I still feel the effects.) Whitebark pines (*Pinus albicaulis*) grew along the edge. Their purple-brown cones are torn apart by mammals so never can be found. Bolander's milk vetch (*Astragalus bolanderi*) and small-leaf creambush (*Holodiscus discolor* var. *microphyllus*) blooms were starting to fade. A yellow buckwheat (*Eriogonum* sp.) and squirrel tail grass (*Elymus elymoides* var. *californicus*) were both fresh; most of the squirrel tail heads were still unopened. Entire heads of squirreltail fall off and are blown along like tumbleweeds to scatter the seeds.

On August 18, we hiked to the Twin Lakes via Potter's Pass. In 20 years there has never been such a fantastic profusion of flowers. I planned to take pictures on the return trip. When we left the lake, somehow my flash was turned on so all the flowers came out white. When I caught up with Eileen so she could figure out how to turn the flash off, it started raining and continued until we were past all the flowers.



-*E. elymoides* var. *californicus*-  
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## CHINA CREEK REPORT

### July & August 2017 Work Parties

--Warren Shaw

The day of our July work party dawned bright and hot—as predicted. In preparation for these conditions we had planned to do the shadiest jobs possible and to operate on our new "summer"

(continued on page 4)

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: October 2017**

Send newsletter suggestions to Laura Castro at [lacastror@outlook.com](mailto:lacastror@outlook.com). The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is **Monday, September 25, 2017.**



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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

September 2017

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

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

### CHINA CREEK REPORT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

schedule: starting promptly at 8:00, working straight through until 11:00; then taking our break under the big oaks by the gate before heading home.



Kiosk at entrance to China Creek

To that end, we elected to work on pruning back the overhanging willows along Smith Avenue where it approaches the Park gate, and at the berm at the north pond, which needs to be kept clear enough for Hank to cross with his tractor for mowing and spraying. Both jobs needed doing, especially the berm, and both involved working mostly in the shade (though dragging and stacking the trimmings is still a laborious and sweaty process).

We also sprayed some small patches of yellow starthistle (YST; *Centaurea solstitialis*) but managed to finish everything BEFORE eleven and retire to the oaks early.

August was also predicted to be hot, and we had heard from Hank that he had sprayed the remaining YST in the southeast and southwest areas of the Park, so we decided to concentrate on the north area. There we found that previous spraying by cattleman Steve McDonald's crew had been pretty effective, though we did find some bullthistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) and a few YST plants to dig and haul to the pavement.



Solarizing a pile of YST

In addition, we pushed over and cut some of the tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) we had previously killed, noting many root sprouts that we'll need to start treating as soon as the weather cools a bit.

Nonetheless, we were once again able to finish early and take refuge in the shade, but were disappointed to find that the homemade muffins, usually provided during breaks, had been inadvertently left home, resulting in a near-mutiny.

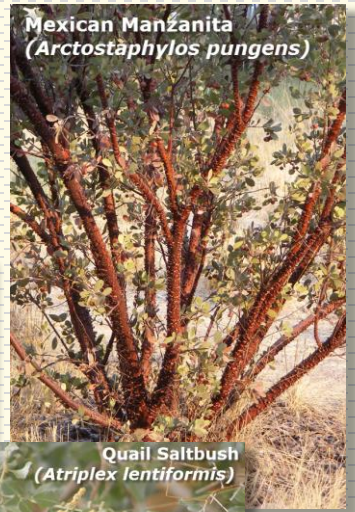
Low altitude



Holly Leaf Cherry  
(*Prunus ilicifolia*)



Annual Fireweed  
(*Epilobium-brachycarpum*)



Mexican Manzanita  
(*Arctostaphylos pungens*)



Narrow Leaf Milkweed  
(*Asclepias fascicularis*)



Quail Saltbush  
(*Atriplex lentiformis*)



Blue Curls  
(*Trichostema lanceolatum*)



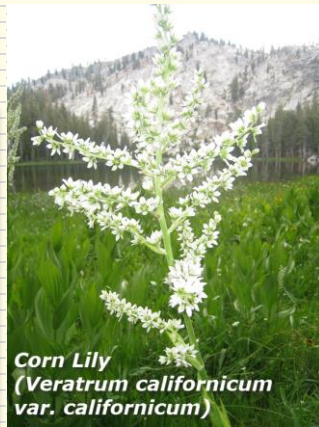
Red Cone Galls on Valley Oak  
(*Andricus kingi* on *Quercus lobata*)

High altitude  
7,000 to 10,000+ feet

September 2017 ❖ Sequoia Chapter CNPS



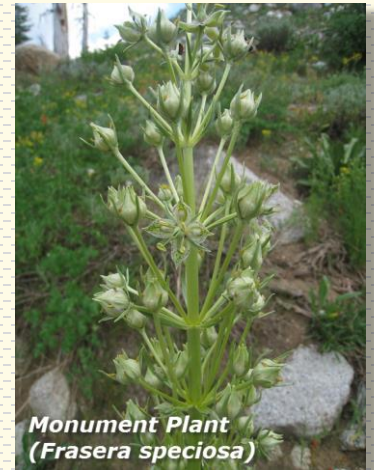
Sneezeweed  
(*Helenium bigelovii*)



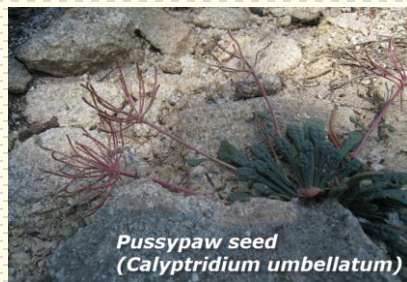
Corn Lily  
(*Veratrum californicum*  
var. *californicum*)



Wintergreen  
(*Pyrola picta*)



Monument Plant  
(*Frasera speciosa*)



Pussypaw seed  
(*Calyptidium umbellatum*)



White flowered Bog Orchid  
(*Plantanthera dilatata* var.  
*leucostachys*)



Idaho Blue-Eyed Grass  
(*Sisyrinchium idahoense* var.  
*occidentale*)



Pearly Everlasting  
(*Anaphalis margaritacea*)

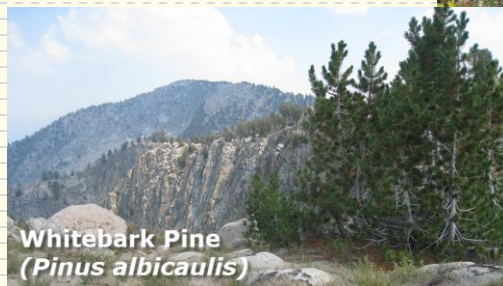
Great Red Paintbrush  
(*Castilleja miniata*  
subsp. *miniata*)



Little Elephant's Head  
(*Pedicularis attollens*)



Buckwheat  
(*Eriogonum species*)



Whitebark Pine  
(*Pinus albicaulis*)

**Thelma Valdez:** Blue Curls, Narrow Leaf Milkweed, Annual Fireweed, Red Cone Galls, Holly Leaf Cherry, Quail Saltbush, Mexican Manzanita

**Jane Pritchard, Aaron Turner:**

- White Bark Vista to Mt. Givens; 10,000+ feet: Buckwheat, Pine,
- Blayne Meadows, 7800': Blue-eyed Grass
- Upper Twin Lake, 9,000': Little Elephant's Head, Monument Plant, Corn Lily, Orchid, Wintergreen
- Rock Creek, 7,000': Pearly Everlasting, Paintbrush, Sneezeweed, Pussypaws