



CARPENTERIA

Newsletter of the Sequoia Chapter
California Native Plant Society

September 2006

CHAPTER EVENTS

Chapter Meeting: Tuesday, September 19, 7:00 p.m.

“Central Valley Native Plant Gardening – From Foothills to Flatlands”

Speakers: Madeleine Mitchell, Joseph Oldham, Thelma Valdez

Three Central Valley gardeners share their diverse experiences with native plant gardening. Madeleine is a Master Gardener who has incorporated California native plants in her Reedley home for many years. Joseph re-landscaped a home with natives in a Fresno development and is now experiencing the differences a little altitude can make in his home in the foothills. Thelma lives on a bit of acreage east of Clovis and tends to lean to the hardiest, low water plants, incorporating what grows naturally (sometimes thought of as weeds) with other hardy California natives.

Meetings are open to the public. Bring your note pad and join us!

Unitarian Universalist Church, 4144 N. Millbrook Avenue.
(South of Ashlan Avenue), Fresno.

Board meeting starts at 5:30 p.m. All members are welcome to listen in on board meetings.

Future Meeting Programs

October 17 *“Projects and Goals of the State Vegetation Program”* and *“The Manual of California Vegetation”*. Presented by Julie Evans, CNPS Lead Vegetation Ecologist for the state Vegetation Program.

November 21 *“Finding Keck’s Checkerbloom on Tivy Mountain”*. Presented by John Stebbins, Herbarium Curator, CSU Fresno

December No meeting.

China Creek Update

By Warren Shaw

In early August Carlos from Vulcan Materials mowed yellow star thistle in the park for the second time and the following week Paul and Madeleine Mitchell and I spent a hot morning doing what we could to whack and pull the plants the tractor couldn't reach.

At the same time we noted, again, that though we seem to be gaining on YST, the bull thistle, aianthus, and other pests seem to be gaining on us. Time, I believe, for us to broaden our weed abatement horizons.

On the positive side we observed that the Blue Elderberries and all but one of the seedling Valley Oaks damaged by cattle during spring grazing are recovering nicely.

Hank Urbach also reports positive responses to early contacts in regard to our campaign to work with Fresno County on long term plans for the park.

Since school is starting, it is important to have the trail in good shape for field trips, so a workday (actually a work morning) is planned for Saturday, September 23 from 9-12. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us to repair and replace signs, whack weeds around stations, pick up litter, and generally prepare the trail for the kids.



Twinberry
(*Lonicera involucrata*)

15th Annual Native Plant Sale Saturday, September 30, 2006.

We will be at the Clovis Botanical Gardens again this year (address and directions on the last page of this newsletter).

We appreciate any help you can give us.

- Unloading plants Friday evening at 4 p.m.
- The day of the plant sale we need volunteers who are willing to help. You don't need to be a native plant expert to help. We have a variety of tasks you can do.
- At 2 pm re-loading unsold plants and generally helping to close up shop.

Email Marian Orvis (mforvet@earthlink.net) or Thelma Valdez (nmtv@att.net) if you can help and during which hours. Or sign up at the September 19 meeting.

Pre-ordering: If you wish to pre-order plants, email Thelma Valdez with your list. We will set aside “your” plants and have them for you to purchase the day of the sale. Pricing is \$6.50 for gallon pants and \$7.50 for deep gallon plants. (A plant list is in this newsletter.)

Tell your friends!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear members,

At the March Chapter Council meeting an idea was presented for a campaign to increase our overall (statewide) membership. CNPS's overall membership has been stagnant for the last five years. An increase in membership was generally regarded as being beneficial not only financially, but also to our vitality as an organization on many levels. The CC voted to adopt a goal of 20% net increase in STATEWIDE membership by June 2007.

Since we have been asked to join the campaign and raise our chapter's membership by 20% I turn to you, our membership.

1. I ask each of you to find someone...neighbor, co-worker, or friend and bring them to a meeting. We have some wonderful programs planned for this fall.
2. Help spread the word of meetings and events. Post flyers at work, church and other common areas.
3. Become an ACTIVE member! We need you at the plant sale, meetings, China Creek, Harvest Festival, garden show, our hikes etc. Bring someone with you!

Start our 2006-2007 year with a bang! See you and guests Tuesday September 19 at our first meeting of the year. I promise it will be a busy year and very rewarding if we all pitch in!

~ Peggy Jones

Help Prevent Power Blackouts Next Summer – Plant Natives this Fall!

By Joseph Oldham

As many read the title of this article they may ask how can planting native plants this Fall can help prevent electrical power blackouts next summer? I am glad you asked. Here is how:

First, let's think back to this July when record high temperatures strained the state's power grid. A major portion of that power strain was attributed to providing water, and about 50-70% of that water was used for landscape watering purposes. High heat stressed landscape plants not native to this area; the result was that more water had to be applied for them to survive the period of extreme heat. This increased water use meant that huge deep-well pumps in city water systems worked longer to maintain water pressure and that meant more electrical power was needed. Blackouts were avoided not because the electrical grid had added capacity, but because the temperatures dropped and dedicated power managers took extraordinary measures keeping the equipment functioning.

Since that time, thousands of new homes and businesses have been built around the state with each one having added electrical power demand. Unfortunately, there has not been a corresponding increase in the electrical power supply to match this increase in demand and that situation has power managers extremely concerned about what will happen next summer! Unless action is taken to reduce demand, the chance for rolling blackouts next summer is extremely high. This is where native plants come into the picture.

Because many natives are adapted to survive periods of drought and high heat, they require very little supplemental water during the summer months to thrive. Instead of having to water the landscape three days per week, most natives thrive on once-a-week watering or less. This translates to a 66% reduction in water use and that means reduced power demand! This is not just a theoretical calculation. I was able to achieve this reduction at our home in Fresno using native plants in our landscape. For two years I monitored our water use by reading our water meter. We averaged 125 gallons of water per person per day while the City of Fresno average was over 350 gallons per person per day! Since moving to Yosemite Lakes Park, we have planted natives and used the same watering schedule with good success. Our yard is lush and green, but we don't use much water and that is what good conservation practice is all about. Water conservation does not mean that you have a desert-looking landscape, or brown, dry-looking yard full of weeds.

It is time for every Californian to take personal responsibility and action to solve our pending power crisis. If you are planting a new landscape or just making an addition to an existing one, remember that water use and the power it takes to supply that water is a critical factor in our area and take a step toward conserving those resources by planting natives! If homeowners and businesses plant landscapes filled with drought tolerant native plants adapted to our region, we can all enjoy beautiful settings and still have the lights on!

Next month, I will continue this subject with plant recommendations and care advice. Until then, Happy Planting!

From the CNPS Conservation Committee

Our friends at the Endangered Species Coalition forwarded this easy action on the Endangered Species Act, which as you know, currently helps to protect our rare plants species in California. Please take a minute go to the below website, read the materials about the "listening sessions" and email a letter to Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne.

The Endangered Species Act is a safety net for wildlife, plants and fish that are on the brink of extinction. We owe it to our children and grandchildren to be good stewards of the environment and leave behind a legacy of protecting endangered species and the special places they call home.

The Bush Administration is holding a series of "listening sessions" across the country to gather input on cooperative conservation projects. Because the Administration may use input from these sessions to promote changes to environmental laws, it is vital for a strong conservation message to be part of this effort.

The Administration is accepting written comments to a Department of Interior email address. The following gives you an easy way to email your comments to the Department of the Interior: <http://action.earthjustice.org/campaign/esa_08_06>

Please take 60 seconds today to make a difference!!! And share this with others. All comments should be emailed by September 28, 2006. Thank you for standing up for fragile wildlife, wild places, and our own environment!

The majority of the plants listed below will be available at the plant sale, depending upon availability.
 Make notes and bring this list with you to the plant sale!

<i>Botanical name</i>	<i>Common name</i>	<i>Notes</i>
TREES		
<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	Big Leaf maple	
<i>Aesculus californica</i>	California Buckeye	
<i>Alnus rhom. & ten.</i>	Mountain Alder	
<i>Calodendrus</i>	Incense Cedar	
<i>Chilopsis</i>	Desert Willow	
<i>Cornus nuttallii</i>	Western Dogwood	
<i>Juniperus osteosperma</i>	Utah Juniper	
<i>Pinus</i>	Variety of Pines	
<i>Plantanus racemosa</i>	California Sycamore	
<i>Quercus</i>	Variety of Oaks	
<i>Sequoiadendron gigantea</i>	Giant Sequoia	
<i>Umbellularia californica</i>	California Bay	
SHRUBS		
<i>Arctostaphylos</i>	Manzanita	
<i>Asclepias eriocarpa</i>	Woolly Milkweed	
<i>Atriplex</i>	Saltbush	
<i>Baccharis</i>	Coyote Bush	
<i>Calycanthus occidentalis</i>	Spice Bush	
<i>Carpenteria californica</i>	Bush Anemone	
<i>Ceanothus</i>	Ceanothus	
<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Buttonwillow	
<i>Cercis occidentalis</i>	Redbud	
<i>Cercocarpus betuloides</i>	Mountain Mahogany	
<i>Chrysothamnus nauseosus</i>	Rubber Rabbit Brush	
<i>Cistus</i>	Variety of Rockrose	
<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Red Twig Dogwood	
<i>Eriodictyon californicum</i>	Yerba Santa	
<i>Eriogonum</i>	Variety of Buckwheat	
<i>Fremontodendron</i>	Flannel Bush	
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	Toyon	
<i>Lonicera interrupta</i>	Chaparral Honeysuckle	
<i>Lonicera involucrata</i>	Twinberry	
<i>Mahonia</i>	Oregon Grape	
<i>Mimulus</i>	Monkeyflower	
<i>Prunus</i>	Chokecherry	
<i>Rhamnus</i>	Coffeeberry	
<i>Ribes nevadense, sanguineum</i>	Currant	
<i>Rosa</i>	Rose	
<i>Rubus leucodermis</i>	Western Raspberry	
<i>Rubus ursinus</i>	California Blackberry	

<i>Botanical name</i>	<i>Common name</i>	<i>Notes</i>
SHRUBS		
<i>Salix</i>	Willow	
<i>Salvia</i>	Variety of Sages	
<i>Sambucus mexicana</i>	Blue Elderberry	
<i>Trichostema lanatum</i>	Woolly Blue Curly	
<i>Vitis californica</i>	Calif. Wild Grape	
PERENNIALS		
<i>Achillea</i>	Yarrow	
<i>Anemopsis</i>	Yerba Mansa	
<i>Aquilegia formosa</i>	Western Columbine	
<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	Mugwort	
<i>Aster occidentalis</i>	Western Mountain Aster	
<i>Chlorogalum pomeridianum</i>	Soaproot	
<i>Dudleya cymosa</i>	Canyon Liveforever	
<i>Dugaldia hoopesii</i>	Sneezeweed	
<i>Eriogonum</i>	Buckwheat	
<i>Grindelia camporum</i>	Gumweed	
<i>Heuchera</i>	Coral Bells	
<i>Linum lewisii</i>	Western Blue Flax	
<i>Mimulus</i>	Monkeyflower	
<i>Monardella odoratissima</i>	Mountain Pennyroyal	
<i>Penstemon</i>	Penstemon	
<i>Potentilla</i>	Cinquefoil	
<i>Rudbeckia</i>	Coneflower	
<i>Sisyrinchium bellum</i>	Blue-eyed Grass	
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Goldenrod	
<i>Stachys albens</i>	White Hedge Nettle	
<i>Zauschneria</i>	California Fuschia	
GRASSES		
<i>Aristida ternipes</i>	Three-awn	
<i>Carex</i>	Sedge	
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted Hairgrass	
<i>Elymus glaucus</i>	Blue Wild Rye	
<i>Festuca californica</i>	California Fescue	
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Rush	
<i>Leymus triticoides</i>	Creeping Wild Rye	
<i>Melica californica</i>	California Melic	
<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	Deer Grass	
<i>Nassella cernua</i>	Foothill Needlegrass	
<i>Nassella pulchra</i>	Purple Needlegrass	
<i>Poa secunda</i>	One-sided Blue Grass	

RELATED ACTIVITIES

14th Annual Harvest Festival at Intermountain Nursery

Saturday and Sunday, October 14 and 15th. Two days of live music, hand crafted gifts, children's activities and great food. Wander the Nursery to see a wide range of California Native plants in various demonstration gardens.

Propagation of California Native Plants

Saturday, October 21, 9:30 am
with Ray Laclergue

Intermountain Nursery's class will teach you about the various propagation techniques for California Native Plants. Ray will demonstrate and discuss collecting, storing, stratifying, and germinating seed. Taking and rooting cuttings successfully and proper growing conditions for California Natives will be covered. A tour of the Nursery's growing facilities will be given.

National Public Lands Day

Saturday, September 30th. 8 am - 2 pm with BBQ lunch provided. Call Terry for more info.
Terry Hershey, Park Ranger, Pine Flat Lake
559-787-2589

Tree Fresno's Walk Along the Trees

Tree Fresno is offering a series of three "Walk Along the Trees" events this fall. These are guided walks with an expert along tree-lined trails, parks or ponding basins at 10 am on specific Saturdays.

Come get a fun education while you enjoy nature's magnificence amid the trees - right here in Fresno! For further details and to make a reservation, call Tree Fresno at 221-5556 x100. Fee: Free to members of Tree Fresno; \$3 for non-members.

Saturday, September 30. 10 a.m. An expert from Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District will speak on their water system and water conservation at the wonderful Trolley Park/ponding basin.

Saturday, October 11th. 10 a.m. A tree expert will discuss the CSUF Arboretum as we follow the Arboretum trail through the campus.

Saturday, November 11th. 10 a.m. An expert from PG&E will stroll through Woodward Park speaking about energy conservation.

Rahall: Report Confirms the Endangered Species Act Is Working

September 8, 2006

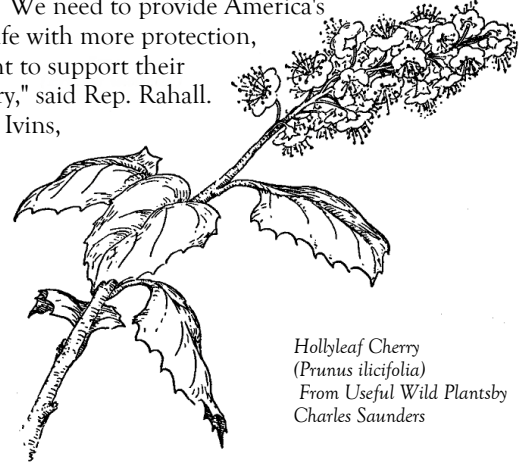
WASHINGTON, D.C. - A new independent federal report confirms the success of the landmark Endangered Species Act (ESA), which has an almost 100 percent effectiveness rate of preventing the demise of plants and animals that are so vital to human society.

According to the General Accountability Office (GAO) report, requested by U.S. Rep. Nick J. Rahall (D-WV), Ranking Democrat on the House Resources Committee, along with several Members of the House and Senate, the conservation tools provided by the ESA have been successful. "This report reiterates what we have already known for some time - the Endangered Species Act works. Only nine of the approximately 1,300 domestic species listed have gone extinct. Clearly, species have been, and continue to be, recovering under the Act," said Rep. Rahall.

The report also reaffirms the long-held belief that a secure habitat is critical to the continued viability of species. Of the 31 species reviewed by the GAO, more than half have recovered or are scheduled to be taken off the endangered and threatened species list as a result of recovery plans that have been in place.

Additional tools provided by ESA - such as implementation of habitat conservation plans, safe harbor agreements, habitat acquisition, and habitat restoration - have assisted in speeding up the recovery process and conserving critical habitats.

"These findings are further evidence that the law is working. But sufficient funding and a real long-term commitment to saving species are needed to truly improve upon the ESA's impressive record of success. We need to provide America's endangered wildlife with more protection, not less, if we want to support their continued recovery," said Rep. Rahall. (Contact: Allyson Ivins, (202) 226-1736



Hollyleaf Cherry
(*Prunus ilicifolia*)
From *Useful Wild Plants* by
Charles Saunders

OBSERVATIONS

Cleveland Sage from which they fed in the Spring. (Imagine giving hummingbirds a food source without having to clean a feeder!) Today I watched native bees, European honeybees, and even carpenter bees in the back field filled with Vinegar Weed. Small black wasps were busy on tarweed blossoms. Weeds to us (albeit native), but worthwhile to a wasp. And in the native plant version of "stop and smell the roses", a mockingbird mother and baby were busy stopping and eating the bright red hips from a California Wild Rose. They've already eaten all the nearly black Coffeeberry fruit from a lone plant that stubbornly persists in the heavy clay. Back a couple of months the Blue Elderberry fruit was cleaned out by local finches, mockingbirds, and sparrows.

In the foothills, Blue Oaks are beginning to drop acorns, and wild pigs and deer can occasionally be spotted feeding under the trees. The crop (in the Watts Valley area, at least) seems heavier than last fall, but still fairly light. Some of these trees are also beginning their brief little display of golden fall color; others are putting on bright new leaves to replace those dropped during the hot spell in July. So there is a good deal of color variation among individuals. Doveweed and tarweed are thriving, but all other annuals are waiting patiently for the first rain. Of course, Doveweed is a source of seed for doves and bees also collect pollen from its nondescript flowers. If you haven't done so, stop and listen. There's lots of activity around native plants.

NEW & RENEWING MEMBERS

July and August 2006 *New Members and Membership Renewals
The Sequoia chapter serves the Fresno, Madera, and Kings counties.

Fresno County: Evans, Mitchell, Olson, Unruh, *Gonzalez
Out of Area: Tuttle (Los Angeles)

Thanks to all for your continuing support. Send membership corrections to Helen Shaw at helshaw@netptc.net.

Want your newsletter by e-mail instead of printed and mailed? If so, email Helen Shaw at the above email address.

NEWSLETTER



Send newsletter corrections or suggestions to Thelma Valdez at nmtv@att.net. The deadline for contributions to the October newsletter is Wednesday, October 4, 2006.

Your Good Quality Landscape Photographs Are Needed for CNPS Projects

The CNPS Vegetation Program needs you to donate photographs representing plant communities within California.

The Program's expanding photograph collection will be used to illustrate the variety of vegetation types found in California and to underscore the value of protecting our state's native and rare plant communities. We plan to incorporate photographs into vegetation publications and resources, including the next edition of the Manual of California Vegetation, which will be published by CNPS in 2007 and will describe over 500 vegetation alliances.

If you have high quality digital images of vegetation / plant communities taken from the broader landscape perspective, please consider donating them to our collection. The following link provides more information:

<http://www.cnps.org/programs/vegetation/photocollection.htm>

Questions? Contact hazelgordon@hotmail.com. Thank you!

The IRS considers dues in excess of \$12.00 per year and all gifts to CNPS as tax deductible.

SEQUOIA CHAPTER OFFICERS* AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Education	Peggy Jones	(see President)
Rare Plant	John Stebbins 357 Adler Clovis, CA 93612	559/278-2179 (w) johnst@csufresno.edu
Plant Sale	Marian Orvis	(see Secretary)
Conservation Co-chairs	Jeanne Larson Joseph Oldham	(see Treasurer) (see Horticulture)
Directors at Large	Jim Seay Verna Arnest	jaseay@comcast.net vernaj@sti.net



JOIN THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY RENEW

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

I wish to affiliate with the Sequoia Chapter.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

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

New Member

Renewing Member

- Student, Limited Income\$25
- Individual\$45
- Family, Group, or Library\$75
- Plant Lover \$100
- Patron \$300
- Benefactor \$600
- Mariposa Lily \$1500

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 2006



CALIFORNIA NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY
SEQUOIA CHAPTER

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

Dedicated to the Preservation of the California Native Flora.
For a membership brochure call Helen Shaw at 559/855-4519.
CNPS Web site: < www.cnps.org >

15th Annual California Native Plant Sale



CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SEQUOIA CHAPTER

- 168 East
- Exit Herndon Ave.
- Rt. (E) on Herndon to Clovis Ave
- Lt. (N) on Clovis Ave, past Alluvial.

Nees

X

Alluvial

Herndon

Clovis Ave.

168 Fwy.



California Wild Rose
(*Rosa californica*)

Saturday
Sept. 30, 2006
8 am - 2 pm
Clovis
Botanical
Garden
(945 North Clovis
Avenue)

This is our second year at the Clovis Botanical Gardens, where you can see established native plants in a landscape setting. For the second year, CBG will also be selling beautiful non-native drought-tolerant plants. Come on down!...up!



THE CLOVIS
BOTANICAL
GARDENS