

Carpenteria

CNPS SEQUOIA CHAPTER



March 2020
www.cnps-sequoia.org

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CHINA CREEK REPORT

February 2020 Work Party

--Warren Shaw

The February China Creek “Work Party” (CNPS’s term) started off gray and sprinkly, but never developed into real rain. A fine crew of willing weed warriors showed up and we passed out shovels and hoes and went for it. By the end of the day, workers reported digging 8,652 milk thistle plants, and 10,762 bull thistle plants. Many of these were in the very early 2 or 4 leaf stage, when they’re really easy and quick to dig, which makes this the ideal time to deal with them. It was gratifying to note that both the southeast and northeast areas of the Park were visibly cleaner of thistle plants than they were last month, evidence of our hard work.

While the rest of us wound up the day after break hunting thistles, Sam walked the creek checking for water hyacinth, but found most plants either dead or dormant (and also, that our improvised equipment for pulling hyacinth plants out of the water didn’t work well; more work needed on that).

We also noted sadly that our display of informational materials at the kiosk had been mostly torn down, and because it was a short “Winter Schedule” day, we didn’t have time to repair the damage. Nor did we get a chance to check out the trail for maintenance needs.

In March, we’ll get together on the 21st for a full day, 8:00am to 12:00pm. (Of course, all are welcome any time; there is no tardy bell.) We’ll be continuing our anti-thistle campaign, but we’ll also try to get the kiosk back in shape, check out the trail, look for Valley oak seedlings to cage, and check the creek again to see if there is water hyacinth to “harvest.”

Please note that Highway 180 has been rerouted around Centerville, so the approach to the Park now is to take Oliver (right as you’re traveling east) to Rainbow, turning left (south) on Smith to the Park gate.



-bull thistle-

It should be a classic spring day to be in the Park; please join the “Party” if you can.

Upcoming Events and Classes

•March 13, Landscaping with Nature Workshop Friday, 8:00am – 3:00pm

Location: UC Davis Campus, Asmundson Hall, Room 242 (Jack Hanna Room), 255 California Avenue, Davis, CA 95616



- Workshop for landscape professionals, as well as anyone interested in maximizing habitat values.
- Will present cutting-edge methods of design, installation, management, and maintenance.

Cost: \$130 CNGA member/\$155 non-member/\$95 Student with ID

Information: <https://cnga.org/event-3621340>

•March 21, Spring Into Your Garden Friday, 12:00pm – 4:00pm and Saturday, 9:00am – 1:00pm

Location: Clovis Botanical Garden (CBG), 945 N. Clovis Avenue, just north of Alluvial at Dry Creek

- Plant sale on Friday and Saturday.
- Guest speakers on Saturday only.
- Garden tours on Saturday only.
- Exhibitors on Saturday only.

Donation: \$5.00, Children and CBG members free

•March 21–22, Spring Nature Festival, Saturday, 10:00am – 4:00pm Sunday, 10:00am – 2:30pm

Location: Wind Wolves Preserve, 16019 CA-166, Bakersfield, Ca 93311

- Experience exhibits, guided hikes, wildflower viewing, virtual reality rock art, a restoration station, and more.

Cost: Free

Information: https://www.wildlandsconservancy.org/preserve_windwolves_naturefestival.html

•March 22, CNPS Garden Ambassador Seasonal Garden Visits Sunday, 10:00am – 2:00pm

Location: Pierce Ranch Road, Davis, CA 95616

- RSVP Required.
- Enjoy Patricia's native garden on a secluded 1-acre on the slough.
- Self-guided garden ramble, features over 300 species and cultivars of California native plants.
- Orientation tours offered at 10:00am and 12:00pm.
- Composting toilet available.



Cost: Free

Information:

<https://www.cnps.org/gardening/patricia-carpenters-davis-garden-2-12725>

To RSVP:

<https://secure2.convio.net/cnps/site/Calendar?id=100661&view=Detail>

•March 23, Tule River Parkway Workshop Monday, 9:00am – 11:00am

Location: Tule River Parkway, 540 S. Jaye Street, Porterville, CA 903257

- Learn to use Observer Pro to document locations of plants.
- Download the app Observer Pro to your device before the walk.
- Easy walk, 1 mile with no elevation gain.
- Bring water and closed toe shoes.
- No restrooms available.

Information: <https://www.cnps.org/event/tule-river-parkway-workshop/2020-03-23>

•April 4–5, Ferns Saturday, 8:00am – Sunday, 1:00pm

Location: Tule River Parkway, 540 S. Jaye Street, Porterville, CA 93257



- Workshop has been approved for 5 Professional Development Credits by the California Consulting Botanist Board of Certification.
- Introduction to ferns of the world, with a focus on wild California species.
- Will learn the basics of fern morphology, ecology, development, and evolution.
- Personal vehicle required for possible field trip (carpooling possible).

Cost: \$275 member/\$305 non-member

Information:

<https://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/workshops/#LB>

**SEQUOIA CHAPTER OFFICERS*
AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Membership

Thanks to new and renewing members.

If you require corrections or additions to your membership information, contact Cherith Merson at echerith@gmail.com.

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.

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Next Newsletter: April 2020

Send newsletter suggestions to Laura Castro at lacastror@outlook.com. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is **Thursday, March 26, 2020.**



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: _____

- Student, Fixed Income \$25
- Individual \$50
- Plant Lover \$120
- Supporter \$500
- Patron \$1,000
- Benefactor \$2,500
- Steward \$5,000
- Guardian \$10,000

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

March 2020

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

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

GARDEN NOTES

--Jeanne Larson

With the early heavy rainfall and lengthening lack of precipitation, it has been interesting to see the various microclimate effects from the sandy soil in my garden. On the current one day watering schedule, pesky annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*), a non-native, is doing well in the backyard that receives some shade.



-*L. bicolor*- ©2004 Carol W. Witham

Except for the unwatered side yard of spring wildflowers and Ceanothus shrubs, the front yard is woody natives. Here, the bluegrass is a couple of inches high and almost dried up.

The ferny leaved bird's eye gilia (*Gilia tricolor*) that was abundant last year, has plants that are few and far between today. With no immediate rain in the forecast, it may be that the miniature lupine (*Lupinus bicolor*), which has started to bloom, may be the only flower color this year among the wildflowers.

The first neighborhood walk this year reveals that lawns that have not been watered for two or three years are now green. What many young gardeners do not know is how persistent common Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*) can be. The roots that have gone down a foot are "hibernating" until enough rain in a short period of time can revive growth. One yard, landscaped with decomposed gravel, shows a few spare weeds and herbaceous plants that are doing well.