



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT GARDEN AT CBG

Planning is underway for a California native plant demonstration garden at the Clovis Botanical Garden. Hurrah! Double hurrah! Plants should be in the ground before the end of 2015 and final touches in the couple of months thereafter.

Some species of California native plants have been mainstays of the Garden for many years. Each fall we direct plant sale customers to different areas of the Garden to see examples of a number of species.

This new planting will be all California native plants, featuring species that are not currently in the Garden. The designated area is about 350 feet long by 35 feet wide with a walking path that lets visitors meander through the area and see California natives up close.

The plant list has been decided, pending availability, and the layout is mostly complete. It's now time for the "boots on the ground" work.

You can help in a number of ways:

- Send a donation directly to CBG with a note on the check that it's for the California Native Plant Garden. As you can imagine, this is a costly effort but will be a great addition to the Garden. Mail to: Clovis Botanical Garden, 1865 Herndon Suite K Box 330 Clovis, CA 93611
- Do you or someone you know have a Bobcat and a Bobcat driver that would be willing to do some grading and carving of the walking path? If yes, contact Anne Clemons at 559.493.8052 or <anneclemons4@gmail.com>
- Email Thelma Valdez (yucca37tv@yahoo.com) if you are interested in volunteering to help in any way. We will need volunteers in November to help with the planting. Help make this a wonderful showcase of California natives.
- A large donation warrants a big recognition. The California native plant garden will be named for the first \$4,000 donor.



**CLOVIS
BOTANICAL
GARDEN**



CHINA CREEK REPORT, JUNE, '15

--Warren Shaw, Education Chair

We knew it was going to be hot, but we also knew there had been a resurgence of Yellow Star Thistle plants, so, armed with shovels, ice water and the promise of Ingrid's home-made ice cream, a good crew of stalwarts gathered on Saturday, June 13 to battle evil invasive exotics. By break time (10:00 am) we had uprooted hundreds of YST and Bull Thistle plants, and the temperature was already over 100.

After ice cream and cold beverages it was declared a day, and we officially disbanded. However, there were those who just couldn't quit, and went out and slew more dragons. The temperature eventually rose to 106.

Our July work party will be on Saturday, July 11, from 8-12. We're hoping for a break in the weather, and also hoping to get to some trail maintenance and caging some Valley Oak seedlings, and -- of course -- we're hoping you can join us.

To get to the park, 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. Email <warshaw1955@gmail.com> or call (559-451-1256) or for more information. I'll have my cell on at the park (559-281-8080)

TEMPERANCE DAM

--Jeanne Larson, Conservation Chair

Temperance Flat Dam is on the list again.

The loss of riparian vegetation, which is the least type of native habitat remaining, would be severely impacted. A portion of the trail system leading to the High Sierra would be inundated. Temperance would be a dry hole in the ground in many years.

Even if Huntington Lake gets back to its normal capacity, there would be few years that Temperance would be of benefit. The enormous cost of a dam at Temperance Flat would not justify the benefits even in high rainfall and snow pack years.

The recent article in THE FRESNO BEE describing how Arizona has, since 1989, met their needs by recycling and conservation of water, and groundwater recharge are wise practices California could adopt to meet water needs.

BIG CREEK AND BEYOND

--Jane Pritchard, Field Trips

On the cold, overcast morning of May 13, we hiked on 8S08, which runs to the east off Big Creek Road, and took the 8S33 fork. The temperature was 46 degrees F at the start, seemed colder a while later when a polar wind started blowing, and climbed to 48 at the end of the hike that afternoon. The unpaved road is an easy hike on the north side of a slope overlooking Big Creek Canyon. A forest of Douglas-fir, sugar pine, white fir, black oak, and white alder shaded the prolific flowers of early spring at that elevation: Indian pink, Indian warrior, littleleaf ceanothus with bright blue flowers, showy phlox, fan violet with deeply lobed leaves, iris or western blue flag, Lemmon's campion with nodding white flowers and reflexed petals, a variety of mountain violet, sulfur pea, deer brush, an unkeyed rose with the signature spicy rose aroma, mule-ears, a small madia (probably not common madia), lesser star-tulip, broad-leaved lotus, Sierra gooseberry, Sierra current, western raspberry, wild-ginger, trail plant, hazelnut, and white-leaf manzanita. After about 2 miles the terrain opened up to a drier, rocky, west-facing area. Blue dicks, purple milkweed, arching rockcress, and Sierra Nevada pea grew in the decomposed granite among shrubs seen all along.

A bear and (I thought) 2 cubs of different sizes had walked through a pool of water. The large bear tracks clearly showed the heel, forefoot, and toes. Later we saw huge dog tracks so at least one "cub" was a dog. I was trailing behind the other hikers and neglected to closely inspect the smaller tracks. The tracks must have been very fresh because they were already on their way to obliteration on our return. Back at the cars, I found that no one had photographed the tracks.

A little more than 15 years ago, I started walking in the mountains and learning flowers. I had gone somewhere off Big Creek Road to a waterfall and a bridge and never found it again. We often hike that general area, and friends didn't quite believe me. The bridge crosses Balsam Creek. Stairs lead up beside and over the waterfall - a fun experience and a good view.

A week later we left one car at the helipad by Ely Rock and drove the other car to the Balsam Fore Bay trailhead above Shaver. It connects with the Dogwood Trail, and we caught it at the peak of bloom. All the dogwood flowers overhead were so beautiful with the sun shining through them. A spur off the Dogwood Trail is named Snake Pit Trail because it is allegedly near a snake den. An Edison worker told one of our group that years ago a crew driving up the trail encountered a large rattlesnake crossing the road and that it pays to keep your eyes open. I don't know if she forwarded that info to us for real or because it is funny. One snake in several years isn't so bad.

Ed. note: Jane welcomes any who are interested to join the hikes. See contact information on the list of officers and committee chairs.

Welcome to our newest chapter—

The Bryophyte Chapter was just formed on 30 May 2015. So, what is happening now? We are inviting our friends to join the Chapter (and if they are not already members, to join the Society). At the same time, we are renewing our call for self-nominations to run for the Chapter's Board of Directors and/or to be appointed to various duties within the chapter. An election will ensue with all deliberate haste. Our newsletter, *Bryolog*, will also be launched at the end of August. Articles that are planned include announcing up-coming events, reporting on how the Chapter is getting up and running, and some timeless bits on the life of bryophytes.



Mission:

The Bryophyte Chapter aims to increase understanding and appreciation of California's mosses, liverworts and hornworts, and to protect them and the habitats in which they grow.

- We explore bryophyte diversity around the state and are eager to collaborate with local chapters in presenting talks, leading workshops, and participating in hikes to
- learn native plants.
- We work to inventory rarity of bryophytes.
- We host an annual spring foray for our members and beginners.

To be on an email list or learn more about the Bryophyte Chapter and its activities, including the Spring Foray March 18-21, 2016: <http://bryophyte.cnps.org>

Upcoming Events

August 30- 1:00PM - Business/planning meeting—open to all. Check with Warren Shaw for location warshaw1955@gmail.com

October 7 (tentative) **7:00PM** Seminar – “Beauty Without (Much) Water, Phase 2”
Clovis Botanical Gardens

Oct. 10, 11 – Harvest Festival, Intermountain Nursery. Our chapter will have an information table at this always-popular event. Prather

Cat-Tail (*Typha latifolia*)

In the days of the Indians much more use was made of the Cat-Tail, *Typha latifolia*, than in the present day. A kind of bread was made from the pollen, the thick creeping root was roasted or dried raw and ground into meal and the young shoots were eaten as Bamboo shoots and many other young growths are used today. Floor mats and roofing thatch were made from the leaves, which with the leaf-sheaths, were used for calking materials in canoes and houses.
from: Early Uses of California Plants by Edward K. Balls, UC Press, 1962

Call for photos

Those of you who receive the email version of our newsletter are well acquainted with the beautifully composed page of color photos that arrive with the newsletter, thanks to our masterful webmaster, Thelma Valdez. Those of you who prefer the hard copy still have an option for seeing these gems. Go to our chapter website www.cnps-sequoia.org and click on “newsletters” to see years of back issues. Or, you can just stay on the home page, sit back, and watch a lovely slide show.

If, however, you have an email address and would like to get the newsletter with color images and the color photo page, contact the membership chair, John LuValle jlualle@mcn.org or the newsletter editor, Helen Shaw helshaw@gmail.com and we will change your preference.

Of course none of this is possible without photos, and here is where most of you can participate. Just share photos of plants you enjoy. We'd all enjoy them and thank you for sharing.

Send photos to Thelma <yucca37tv@yahoo.com>



Chapter Council Meeting excerpts

Representatives from CNPS chapters meet quarterly at various chapter locations for networking, legislative updates, information, and for business at the state level. Field trips are a concluding activity on the last day. The May meeting was in Quincy; Future meetings are hosted by Fort Brag (August) and Santa Clara Valley (December).

Some items of general interest:

- A new chapter was approved and welcomed (see previous page)
- The CNPS horticulture program is currently flourishing. In the forefront of the drought; Californians are looking for ways to save water through native plants, and the horticulture program is preparing a wealth of public resources to help:
 - The state office is coordinating a new statewide workshops program for residential landscape conversion, teaching homeowners how to ditch their lawns and replace them with native plant gardens, in partnership with several other organizations around the state
 - The CNPS Calscape tool, which allows a user to enter a geographic location and see a list of plants that naturally grow there, is being developed and refined by a team of volunteers in preparation for the launch of the redesigned CNPS website
 - CNPS has been recently asked to design and replant a section of the Capitol building's landscaping in Sacramento with CA natives.
- California does have a need for more – and cleaner – native plant nurseries, to help meet growing demands for native plants.
 - The council voted 21-0 to form an ad-hoc committee to develop short-term actions to minimize pathogens in native plant nursery stock and CNPS plant sale stock. The Jepson chapter agreed to facilitate forming this committee and to begin their work. Contact Steve Goetz for details. Resources are also available on the Chapter Council website, <https://sites.google.com/site/cnpschaptercouncilmay2015/agenda---sunday> (scroll down to Sunday, May 31).

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.



SEQUOIA CHAPTER OFFICERS* AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- *President** open
- *Vice-Pres.** Warren Shaw 559/451-1256 (h)
warshaw1955@gmail.com
- *Secretary** Marian Orvis 559/226-0145 (h)
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- Membership** Michele LuValle luvalle@mcn.org
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helshaw@gmail.com
- Hospitality** Madeleine Mitchell 559/638-2784 (h)
madeleine43@comcast.net
- Horticulture** open
- Education** Warren Shaw (See Newsletter)
- Rare Plant** Jane Pritchard (See Field Trips)
- Plant Sale** Thelma Valdez (see Webmaster)
- Conservation** Jeanne Larson (see Treasurer)
- Director at Large** Belinda Gilbert belinda@sti.net
- Webmaster** Thelma Valdez 559/323-8962 (h)
yucca37tv@yahoo.com

Next Newsletter: September 2015

Send newsletter corrections or suggestions to Helen Shaw helshaw@gmail.com. The deadline for the next newsletter is Friday, August 21. Note early deadline.



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

July/Aug. 2015



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

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

MADELEINE'S MUSINGS

Madeleine Mitchell

madeleine43@comcast.net

Paul and I drove up to Grant Grove on Tuesday, June 30 to avoid the high temperatures and hoped to enjoy a rain shower. We did hear thunder off and on but no rain fell. We finally got a few showers in Reedley on Thursday. But in trying to dig a hole this morning to plant another tomato, I found the soil very dry under the 1" of mulch. I'm using the pre shower water on my vegetables and dish washing rinse water for the recently planted natives. We cut back 5,000 gallons from last year at this time. But we were gone to a convention for a week, so that may have helped, too.

While we were in the Sierra we climbed up Panorama Point and botanized a little, too. I took pictures of both Red Fir and White Fir growing side by side. They overlap between 6,000-7,000 foot elevations. We also saw a few wildflowers in bloom but mostly just relaxed and enjoyed the clean cooler air.

The Margarita BOP cultivar of *penstemon heterophyllus* has set seed and 2 babies are up near the plant, which is still blooming. The newer plant shows the benefits of weekly watering, and the compost that was used for mulch as it is larger than the 2-year-old plant. I also have another big batch of Redbud babies, but not a lot of weeds. I will share them if anyone is interested.



May 2015



Orange Lupine
(*Lupinus citrinus* var. *citrinus*)



Purple Milkweed
(*Asclepias cordifolia*)



Bastard toadflax
(*Comandra umbellata*)



Broad Leaved Lotus
(*Hosackia crassifolia*)



Viburnum
(*Viburnum ellipticum*)



Yellow-bellied marmot
(*M. flaviventris*)

Sargeant-at-Arms



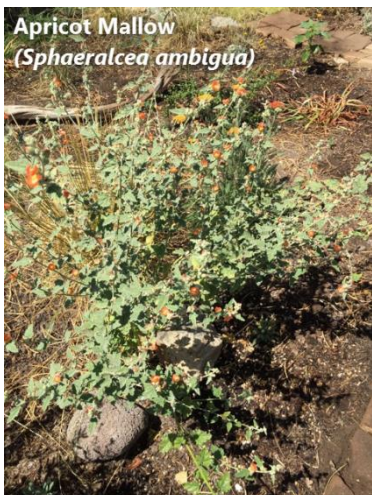
Hartweg's Iris
(*Iris hartwegii*)



Littleleaf Ceanothus
(*Ceanothus parvifolius*)



Sequoia Chapter CNPS



Apricot Mallow
(*Sphaeralcea ambigua*)

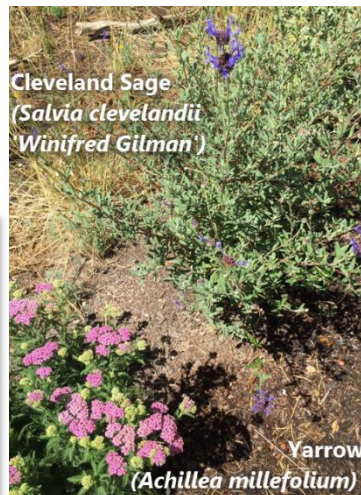


Winter's Sunflower
(*Helianthus winteri*)



Clarkia
(*Clarkia williamsonii*)

June 2015



Cleveland Sage
(*Salvia clevelandii*)
Winifred Gilman

Yarrow
(*Achillea millefolium*)



Liveforever
(*Dudleya cymosa*)

Photo credits:

Eileen Bennett: Bastard toadflax, Littleleaf Ceanothus, Viburnum, Broad Leaved Lotus, Hartweg's Iris
Madeleine Mitchell: Yarrow, Cleveland Sage, Winter's Sunflower, Apricot Mallow
Stuart Wilson: Orange Lupine
Dan Gabbard: Liveforever, Clarkia