

Carpenteria

CNPS SEQUOIA CHAPTER



October 2017

www.cnps-sequoia.org

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 or call 559.765-9954. She will contact you with the hike details for her next outing.

CHINA CREEK REPORT

October 2017 Work Party

--Warren Shaw

Juliana and Rebecca, two students from Fresno Pacific, got to the Park early and were waiting at the gate when we arrived. It's always a pleasure to see new volunteers, and these two fresh-faced young women turned out to be hard workers too, as we tackled the chores of flagging seedling valley oaks (*Quercus lobata*), removing cages from those no longer needing them, and, of course, the usual weed work. All this occurred in the north section of the park where we will still have cattle grazing in the spring.

After our mid-morning coffee and muffin break Juliana and Rebecca walked the trail, and later reported it hard to follow because it was overgrown. Hank, who has been keeping the trail in shape for years, has been under the weather, though has continued to spray weeds and help out when he's been up to it.



We felled the last of the dead tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) trees in hopes of expediting decomposition. We also took note of the number of root sprouting Ailanthus and plan to treat those with herbicides in the coming months.

Some good news: we recently received word that Becky Reilly of the State CNPS staff has worked with our insurance provider to cover volunteers using herbicides.

http://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/media/Html/ailanthus_altissima.htm

This was the final requirement in the long and complicated process of establishing a Memorandum of Understanding with Fresno County; thus, giving

our work in the Park official legal standing. We should get that signed and sealed in the near future.



In October, we'll probably, once again, concentrate on the north section caging seedlings, treating Ailanthus sprouts, and, of course, hunting thistles. Because our original China Creek work date of October 21 conflicted with the Plant Sale, the work party has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 14th. We hope people who marked their calendars for the original schedule will be able to adjust.

We expect a classic fall day, and we really hope you can come to the Park and share it with us.

To get there, drive east on Kings Canyon/ Highway 180, 16.5 miles to Centerville. Turn right (south) on Smith Road and drive 0.2 miles to Rainbow Drive. Continue straight, 0.5 miles down the small road to the Park gate at the end of the road.



Upcoming Events and Classes in 2017

•October 21, 9:00am to 4:00pm Tree Identification

Location: CSU, Chico

- Will introduce approximately 50 trees found on the campus.
- Will talk about key characteristics of their leaves, bark, and reproductive structures (cones or flowers).
- Will provide information about tree biology, pruning, and urban forest management.
- Worksheets and tree identification resources will also be provided.
- International Society of Arborists (ISA) units are available for this workshop.
- Class size is limited to 25 people.

Cost: \$90 members of Friends of the Herbarium/ \$100 personal / \$125 business/ \$40 students

Details: contact Linnea Hanson linneachanson@gmail.com or Emily Meigs Doe at edoe@csuchico.edu about workshop content. Contact biology office at 530.898.5356 or sscholten@csuchico.edu about registration or other information.

•October 24-27 Cal-IPC Symposium



Location: Palm Springs, CA

- Their first ever Symposium in the desert!
- Latest in invasive plant biology and management.
- Will have talks, posters, trainings, discussion groups, and field trips on projects addressing invasive plants from riparian, grassland, mountain, coastal, and aquatic/wetland habitats.

Cost: \$345 Members / \$395 Non-members

Details: <http://cal-ipc.org/symposia/index.php>

FIELD REPORT

Fallen Giant

--Warren Shaw

Photos by Warren Shaw



In June, when we arrived at the Park for our scheduled work party, we were saddened to see that another great old Valley Oak had fallen. In the previous week we had had copious

rain followed by wind, and the tree, tall and top-heavy, bereft of its tap root, toppled. It was (is) at least a hundred years old. We have been warned that this will, sooner or later, be the fate of most of the big old oaks in the park, victims of an unnaturally high water table produced by irrigation all over the surrounding area. The high water table causes the tap roots to rot, so the trees are dependent on surface roots in the soft alluvial soil of the floodplain where the grove is located.



Though down, this old oak isn't out. The accompanying photos were taken on September 16th, and show that a large part of the tree is still living, despite its horizontal position. Apparently, enough roots remain in the soil to provide nutrients to those parts that remained intact after the fall, and through the phenomenon of undifferentiated tissue, new roots will grow where the limbs are touching the ground. This old oak may live for another hundred years—or two or three. In fact, there are several large oaks living in this state throughout the Park.



**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.

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: November/December 2017

Send newsletter suggestions to Laura Castro at lacastror@outlook.com. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is **Friday, October 27, 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

October 2017

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SEQUOIA CHAPTER

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Call for Used Garden Books and Magazines

The Fall Plant Sale set for October 21 at Clovis Botanical Garden will include a USED BOOK SALE. If you would like to donate items to the Clovis Botanical Garden, you can leave bagged garden books and magazines in the wagon labeled "Book Sale", which is under the green canopy near the flagpole, anytime on or before October 18. The Garden is open Wed-Sun 9 am to 4 pm. If you have any questions call Georgia Porcella at 559.287.2320. Thanks!

Garden address: 945 N Clovis Ave, Clovis, CA 93611

Call for Plant Sale & Fair Volunteers

If you can you help our CNPS chapter make the plant sale a success by volunteering a little of your time, please send an email or leave a message for Thelma Valdez at yucca37tv@yahoo.com or 559.323.8962.

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>.