



# INSIGNIS

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## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY ALTA PEAK CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Please send changes of address to:  
Membership Chair, Janet Fanning, 41118 Blossom Drive, Three Rivers, CA 93271  
or email [gardner@theworks.com](mailto:gardner@theworks.com)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE . . .

With the temperatures remaining unseasonably cool for much of the spring, we enjoyed spring flowers for an extended period of time; we have yet to tap the higher elevation resources. Be sure to take the time in the next couple of months to go into the mountains and enjoy their spring. There are several CNPS-led walks (see Calendar) scheduled for the three summer months. These are great opportunities to visit unfamiliar areas and see the different plant communities. If any of you have suggestions of places you would enjoy hiking this fall or next spring, give us a call or drop us a line. Some of you may have a "special" place you could lead us to and tell about?

While you are out working in your yards this summer, think about the plants you want to replace or the new beds you want to create. We'll be mailing out the plant lists (for our October Plant Sale) with the next newsletter, before the Plant Propagation Workshop we are planning for mid-September. Have a wonderful summer.

— President Janet Fanning

### CALENDAR - UPCOMING EVENTS

We continue to work with Tule Oaks Land Trust, based in Springville, in planning events that support the work and mission of our combined membership. "For the Foothills!" could well be our shared motto! Three hikes in Sequoia National Forest are planned in the Tule River watershed for Saturdays in June, July, and August. These are all at mid- or higher elevations, so the weather should be a pleasant change from temperatures in lower areas. As always, bring snacks, water, and dress appropriately for weather. Please no

dogs. Parking at trail heads is often crowded, so if you can arrange your own car pools, please do so. For more information or to confirm meeting time and place, call Joan Stewart, 539-2717.

#### **JUNE 26: JORDAN PEAK**

Repeat of last year's trip to the lookout on the top, perhaps to find the rare Fawn Lily. Meet at 10:00 at Hwy 190 and North Road, approximately 9 miles beyond Camp Nelson. From there we will convoy to trailhead, at close to 8000 ft elevation. We walk about one mile to peak at 9100 ft. Trail is moderately steep in places, through forest. Splendid views north-east to Mineral King and west into the drainages of three main forks of the Tule River, and the Wishon Fork just below. Leader, Joan Stewart.

#### **JULY 24: DOWN THE NELSON TRAIL**

Join us, as we are led by biologist Gary Adest who has lived at Coy Flat, near Camp Nelson for the past several years. Redwood trees along the upper reaches of the Middle Fork, Tule River, with who-knows-what kinds of plants. This also repeats a favorite from prior year, and as before we will meet at Pierpoint Springs cafe parking lot at 8:30 to organize car shuttles. Allow half an hour from Springville. We will walk downhill, about 5 miles from Quaking Aspen at 7,000 ft elevation, to about 6000' at Cedar Slope. Lunch stop, half-way down! Call Gary at 542-2680 for further information.

#### **AUGUST 28 - QUAKING ASPEN MEADOWS**

At last, a chance to wander through and explore the high mountain meadow habitat at Quaking Aspen Meadows, where Hwy 190 becomes the Great Western

Divide Highway. Turn in toward the campground, and follow CNPS/TOLT signs. We'll meet at 10:00. Late summer below where most of us live, but late spring or midsummer for the flowers there. We will stay at an elevation of about 7,000 ft, in and around the meadow areas. Depending on how dry portions of the area are at that time, you might want to consider wearing shoes that could get wet?

### SEPTEMBER 18 - PLANT PROPAGATION WORKSHOP

We've scheduled a Plant Propagation Workshop from 9:30 to 12:30, conducted by Ray Laclergue, of Intermountain Nursery. He has agreed to come to Three Rivers for our Chapter to demonstrate and discuss collecting, storing, and germinating seed; taking and rooting cuttings (Successfully!), and proper growing conditions for baby natives. There will be handouts and information about where to learn more. We will have the Plant Lists for the October Plant Sale, and will take pre-orders at this time. Cost of Workshop is \$15.00. Call Janet Fanning to reserve a place at this special opportunity for friends and members, plus anyone in your community who is interested in using native plants in landscaping. The session will be held outdoors, behind the Three Rivers Art Center. Details, call Janet Fanning, at 561-3461.

### OCTOBER 2 - ANNUAL CNPS NATIVE PLANT SALE

This year's plant sale will be held at the Three Rivers Art Center on the North Fork (just over the North Fork bridge as you come into town) from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Plant Lists, material we hope to be able to provide, will be available in Fall Newsletter and at the Sept. 18 Workshop. Pre-orders can be placed, to assure yourself of getting as many of the plants you especially need and want.

## REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

Linda Tanner's Chapter Program, May 13th at headquarters of Sequoia National Forest in Porterville, was a series of carefully selected slides illustrating the Sensitive Plants of Sequoia Forest. Some were breathtakingly lovely, others remarkable for being plants most of us will never see. She showed both close-up views, and habitats for many of these, and told of how the Forest was trying to manage lands to protect existing populations, and wherever possible, to help them spread into new areas. Thank You, Linda, for a

first-time ever opportunity to see all of these wonderful flowers together in one evening! And thank you, Steve Anderson, for supporting her, CNPS, and everyone's comfort in arranging for the program logistics.

The APRIL FLUME WALK to see and talk about post-fire recovery of vegetation was cancelled....snow the day before left ice and slush on the ground, with the probability of rain or snow on the day of the hike. So, discretion and common sense said—postpone, and reschedule, which we will do, next spring.

SCICON WALK on May 8th, showed us the late spring foothill vegetation at its best. We wandered along Bear Creek, seeing a full array (over 100 species!) of predictable foothill plants, and were delighted to find, unexpectedly, patches of Bleeding Hearts (*Dicentra formosa*), Cream Cups (*Platystemon californicus*), some Indian Pink (*Silene californica*), a few violets (*Viola purpurea*) and the very uncommon Munz's Iris (*Iris munzii*).

We thank Scicon for allowing us the privilege of this Saturday visit.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OTHER ORGANIZATION'S EVENTS

"Unbelievable Internet Site"! If you have access to the Internet, view a new online photo collection from the UC Berkeley Digital Library Project.

CalPhotos <http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/photos/>

The collection has about 17,000 photos of 3000 different California plant species in a searchable database. It includes the Brousseau photos, a new set of images from the California Academy of Sciences, Marc Hoshovsky's habitat photos, and the work of other contributors: Larry Blakely, John Game, Dan Nickrent and Dean Taylor.

All over the State, other chapters are scheduling trips, hikes, walks, and then in the fall, their own Plant Sales. Many of these are listed in the Bulletin that you receive from Sacramento. If you know you will be in an area away from Tulare County, and want to explore plant life with CNPS friends, you are welcome to join other Chapters' activities. Call the State office if you need a contact person in an area you will be visiting. Similarly, our Alta Peak walks and events are open to all, so invite and bring any of your friends and neighbors who might enjoy one of our outings.

## STATE CNPS NEWS

Reminder, check the Bulletin which is mailed to all members soon after each of the Quarterly State Board meetings—first weekends in March, June, Sept (first after Labor Day), and December. These are held in different parts of the State, hosted by local Chapters. June, now past, was in Coloma, east of Sacramento in Mother Lode country. September will be in Santa Cruz, and will feature an abbreviated Board Meeting, and programs and working sessions on aspects of Conservation. If you are interested in attending any of the State gatherings, call Joan Stewart.

### BACK HOME IN TULARE COUNTY

There are many un-done jobs locally that involve native plants. For example, chapter members could

prepare a plant list and guide for the Slate Mountain Botanical Area. Forest Service offers support to print a brochure for the area. And the upcoming Plant Sale welcomes your support—the description of last year's Sale in the Annual Report gives you some ideas of when and what help Janet needs. Call her to be part of the Plant Sale Committee!

### WELCOME NEW MEMBER RANDY LINKER MITCHELL, AND THANKS, TO ALL RENEWALS.

Finally, we pass along a thought, copied from newsletter of another Chapter.

“‘Just living is not enough,’ said the butterfly. One must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower.”

—Hans Christian Anderson

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1998**, submitted by Alta Peak for the State CNPS Activity Report. We reproduce it here, hoping many of you will be interested in what your Chapter does, and perhaps get ideas of what more we could do with your offers to help with some particular project.

“We started out the year at our February 2nd board meeting with great hopes for our spring events. However, personal problems intervened and we were unable to complete our schedule. Fortunately the Kaweah Land Trust and the Sequoia National Park had several publicized wild flower walks and seminars that our members could attend.

#### PLANT SALE

In our fall newsletter, we mailed out a pre-order form to our members and persons who attended previous plant sales. These enabled us to special order some items and still have plenty of choices for others to buy. We order our plants from Intermountain Nursery in Prather, which is in the foothills north of Fresno. They deliver the plants to us on Friday; and we sort and price them and get ready for the morning rush. We had several members volunteer to help Friday and Saturday, the day of the sale; and we made sure we had people familiar with the plants available to answer questions all day Saturday. Sunday morning we returned all the unsold plants to Prather. This was our fourth year, our most profitable plant sale, and we are looking forward to our next one.

#### CONSERVATION: DRY CREEK MINE LAW SUIT

An appeal of the lower court decision of October 10, 1997, upholding the mining permit, was filed on September 27 1998 in the California Fifth District Court of Appeal. The opening appeal brief of the Petitioners states:

We identify three areas of alleged CEQA non-compliance as follows:

1. Inadequate project description
2. Inadequate or deferred mitigation
3. Inadequate cumulative impacts analysis; also assert that the County failed to comply with the requirements of SMARA (State Mining and Reclamation Act) by failing to timely transmit Artesia's Reclamation Plan to the State Department of Conservation. This appeal was denied in February, 1999.

#### TULE OAK LAND TRUST/CNPS PROGRAM

Rosemary Donlon presented a wonderful program, Lester Rowntree: Contributions to Native Plant Horticulture, to members of CNPS and the Tule Oak Land Trust in the Springville Memorial Building in October of 1998. This is the second year we have co-sponsored programs in Springville. The attendance was excellent and everyone thoroughly enjoyed this slide show presentation.

#### BOOKS AND POSTER SALES

We bring our complete inventory of books and posters to every event in which we participate. We present appropriate books to the Sequoia History Association for approval to sell in the Park Visitor Centers, and recently they purchased “California's Wild Gardens, soft cover. We also provide them with Wildflowers of the Sierra Nevada posters.

#### THE FUTURE

Joan Stewart has been our liaison in Springville for the past two years and has represented us at the State quarterly Board meetings. We have built a good base of members in her area and she continues to help us with our newsletters and scheduling. We are back in action!”

**DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE NATIVE FLORA**

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide non-profit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California's native plants. The Society, working through its local chapters, seeks to increase understanding of California's native flora and to preserve this rich resource for future generations. Membership is open to all.

Membership includes informative publications, free field trips and monthly programs and discounts on books and posters. Also included are *Fremontia*, a quarterly journal with articles on all aspects of native plants, the *Bulletin*, a quarterly statewide report of activities and schedules, and the chapter newsletter. Please call the membership chairperson for more information.

**NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**I wish to affiliate with:**

\_\_\_ Alta Peak Chapter (Tulare County)

\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership category:**

\_\_\_ Student, Retired, Limited income, \$20

\_\_\_ Individual, Library, \$35

\_\_\_ Household, Family, or Group, \$45

\_\_\_ Supporting, \$75

\_\_\_ Plant lover, \$100

\_\_\_ Patron, \$250

\_\_\_ Benefactor, \$500

\_\_\_ Life, \$1,000

**Mail application and check to:**

Membership Chairman, California Native Plant Society, 1722 J St., Suite 17, Sacramento, CA 95814

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