



# INSIGNIS

FALL, 2001

Vol. 11, No. 4

## 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

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This issue of *Insignis* talks about gardening with native plants in residential and business landscapes. How to select, care for the kinds of plants that are appropriate for where we live. We would like to similarly focus future newsletters and CNPS Chapter programs on particular themes you are interested in. Invasive weeds in wildlands? How to Identify wildflowers? Soils and geology of southern Sierra vegetation? Tulare County vernal pools from statewide perspective? How climate changes could affect plants locally? These topics have been suggested for future CNPS events locally. Speak up...what appeals to you? We know individuals who enjoy offering programs to CNPS chapters; what interests our members in Tulare County? And while you are thinking of what you would like from Alta Peak Chapter, it is not too soon to look ahead to our field trip schedule. Spring comes early here. Ideas?

### PROGRAM - 15 September, 7:30 PM, at the Three Rivers Art Center

Turn off Hwy 198 at North Fork Drive--Watch for "CNPS" sign, but the junction is well marked. Ellen Zagory, horticulturist at UC Davis Arboretum, will present California Natives for Central Valley Gardens. She has degrees in Ornamental Horticulture and in Environmental Horticulture, making her a perfect match for the interests of our CNPS membership. At UC Davis she has served as propagator, nursery manager, and as collections development manager. In these roles, she grows a wide variety of plants, oversees nursery production, does planting design, and assists with planting in the Arboretum garden. Her program will illustrate the flowers, foliage, wildlife, and resource conservation value of native plants in the central-valley environment. Her extensive experience will provide some answers to why native plants sometimes fail in landscapes and what you can do to improve your chance of success. Please try to be prompt--program will begin on time.

### PLANT SALE - Three Rivers Art Center, North Fork Drive, 9 AM to 4 PM

Locally grown shrubs and trees, perennials and wild grasses, bulbs and books, CNPS members will be available with suggestions about how and where to plant the plants you want in your yard, mulching, and answers to your special questions. Remember, we make no promises about guaranteed success in this (or any other gardening task). Our best assurance is simply "make them happy and they'll make you happy"! Pre-orders (form enclosed) must be received with your deposit by September 24<sup>th</sup>. Our primary plant source is Intermountain Nursery in Prather.  
**WE NEED HELP October 5 and 6. CALL Janet at 561-3461 TO VOLUNTEER.**

*Oct. 6*

### **ANNOUNCEMENT :**

We have had requests for information about how individuals can obtain an inexpensive hand lens for magnifying the parts of a flower. On recent field trips, those with a lens have been glad to share, but it is helpful to have your own. A CNPS member in another Chapter has produced some simple magnifying glasses and we bought 10 to offer to those who join our field trips. These will be available for \$2.00.

**INSIGNIS** welcomes articles on any topics pertaining to native plants. Horticulture, conservation, things you have learned or discovered, and reports about places where you have enjoyed wild landscapes. Share your news and interests with your Editor. And thanks to all who have and will contribute. Send to *Insignis* (Newsletter) Editor.

### **Events OUTSIDE Tulare County**

Lichen Society...Have you ever wondered about the grayish or yellow-green fronds that grow on bark and branches in the forest? Or about the bright crusts that we find on long-undisturbed rocks? These are plants, insofar as their sustenance derives from photosynthetic algae that live symbiotically within the tissues of a fungus. The study of lichens is a specialty; the California Lichen Society is offering three events this fall, and all CNPS members (and others) are invited:

22 September, in San Jose;

20 October in Berkeley;

18 November in San Francisco.

Call Janet Fanning, Alta Peak President, for details if any of our Tulare County members are interested!

### **OCTOBER PLANT MEETINGS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

Any of these fit your travel schedules? Call Janet for information.

5-7 October, Cal EPPC Symposium, Workshop: Achievements and Challenges in Wildland Weed Management/ Ecology and Management of Invasive Plants in Southwestern North America, in San Diego.

20 October, Southern California botanists and CNPS sponsor Shifting Sands--Conservation and Biology of California's Dune Habitats, in Fullerton.

22-25 October, Oaks in California's Changing Landscape, in San Diego.

### **BOARD MEETING**

The next Alta Peak Chapter board meeting will be held on October 29, 1 PM, at the home of Janet Fanning. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

We greatly appreciate all of you who have renewed your memberships. And we would like to welcome our new members, Tom Ackerman, Tony Caprio, and Kathy Houton. For those of you who are only subscribing to this newsletter, a fee of \$10.00 per year will be due on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The mailing list will be gleaned of all unpaid subscribers at that time.

### END OF FIELD TRIP SEASON

The hike into the Freeman Creek watershed in August was from one perspective disappointing...meadow vegetation was generally past its bloom season, and starting to dry. Evidence of cattle grazing and trampling made them less than lush and inviting. But on the way in there was one spectacular patch of very tall bright blue Delphinium, and on the way out, late afternoon, a bear quietly munching.

From another perspective, however, it was interesting in an unanticipated way. Seeds, fruits, berries gave us a view of what the flowers are really all about--attracting pollinators that support reproduction! Three species of Ribes displayed smooth red, bluish-black currants, and spiny reddish-orange gooseberries. Both choke and bitter cherries earned their names. Dangling seed capsules from the saprophytic forest orchid helped us distinguish the dry stalks from those of Pinedrops. Comparing the fruits of two species of Penstemon showed us how useful this characteristic is in recognizing the genus (where leaves can be so very different). Mimulus fruits, in the same way, provide a common feature for the genus. Plentiful new cones on firs and pines (erect vs hanging) offered another way to separate these groups. For those familiar with the white-veined leaves of Pyrola, finding the well developed brown fruits on the still-standing stems helped fill in the picture of what this plant looks like at other times in its life. We could list more discoveries....but this is enough to indicate how the walk satisfied us. Once again nature surprised us; we'll plan another high meadow explore, but earlier in the season next year.

Last, certainly not least, the other reason this trip was planned was to introduce the Freeman Creek Sequoia Grove. This is the largest never-logged grove outside Sequoia National Park. According to one inventory there are 87 trees with diameters up to 15 feet, and 13 between 19-23 in diameter. These are spread out in two loose clusters, one centered in the Freeman Creek drainage, the other on the north-facing slopes toward Needles Lookout. Scattered in-between trees link these groups. One can look down over this area from Needles, to obtain a view of what a Grove looks like from above.

### A VERNAL POOL ISSUE

The selection of a site for the U.C. Merced campus is still an issue that is very much alive. The site that would avoid irreversible impacts on native plants is still open for comments. The website, [www.vernalpools.org](http://www.vernalpools.org), gives you a complete background plus a comment letter and up to date news coverage. For additional information call Joan Stewart at 539-2717.

### Next Insignis

We will focus on upcoming winter and early Spring programs and events sponsored by CNPS in Tulare County, report on several local activities that we are involved in, and suggest ways you may want to participate in these.

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**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 is 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 \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. \_\_\_\_\_

**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, \$1000

**Mail application and check to:**

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

**Chapter Board Members And Committee Chairs, January 2001**

PRESIDENT: Janet Fanning.....(559) 561-3461 h  
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**Insignia News, CNPS**

Alta Peak Chapter  
c/o Janet Fanning  
41118 Blossom Drive  
Three Rivers, CA 93271

Alta Peak Chapter 2001 Plant Pre-Sale Order Form

A 20% discount will be given to CNPS members who pre-order plants. Order forms must be received by September 24. Make check to CNPS and Mail form to Janet Fanning, 41118 Blossom Drive, Three Rivers, CA 93271.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I will be able to help with the plant sale on Friday \_\_\_ and/or Sat. \_\_\_

TREES	SIZE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Acer macrophyllum, Big Leaf Maple	DG1	8.00	X	.
Alnus rhombifolia, White Alder	5G	22.00		.
Calocedrus decurrens, Incense Cedar	D1G	8.00		.
Chilopsis 'Burgandy', Burgandy Desert Willow	1G	8.00	X	.
Cornus nuttallii, Western Dogwood	2GF	26.00		.
Fraxinus dipetela, Fresno Ash	D1G	8.00		.
Pinus contorta murryana, Lodgepole Pine	D1G	8.00	X	.
Pinus jeffreyi, Jeffrey Pine	D1G	8.00	X	.
Pinus lambertiana, Sugar Pine	D1G	8.00		.
Pinus monophylla, Pinyon Pine	D1G	8.00		.
Pinus ponderosa, Ponderosa Pine	D1G	8.00	X	.
Pinus sabiniana, Gray, Bull, Foothill Pine	5G	22.00	X	.
Platanus racemosa, California Sycamore	D1G	8.00	X	.
Populus freontii, Western Cottonwood	5G	20.00		.
Populus tremuloides, Quaking Aspen	1GF	12.00		.
Quercus Brewerii, Brewer's Oak	D1G	8.00		.
Quercus chrysolepis, Canyon Oak, Gold Cup Oak	5G	26.00		.
Quercus douglasii, Blue Oak	D1G	8.00	X	.
Quercus kelloggii, California Black Oak	D1G	8.00		.
Quercus lobata, Valley Oak	D1G	8.00	X	.
Quercus wislizenii, Interior Live Oak	D1G	8.00		.
Sequoiadendron gigantea, Giant Sequoia	D1G	8.00	X	.
Umbellularia californica, California Bay	D1G	8.00		.

SHRUBS	SIZE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Arctostaphylos 'Dr. Hurd', Manzanita	1G	7.00	X	.
Arctostaphylos 'Emerald Carpet', Manzanita	1G	7.00	X	.
Arctostaphylos 'Massachusetts', Manzanita	1G	7.00		.
Arctostaphylos 'Pacific Mist', Manzanita	1G	7.00	X	.
Arctostaphylos 'Radiant', Manzanita	1G	7.00		.
Arctostaphylos 'Sentinel', Manzanita	1G	7.00	X	.
Arctostaphylos 'Rock Hill', McMinn x viscida	1G	7.00		.
Arctostaphylos d. 'Howard McMinn', Manzanita	1G	7.00	X	.
Arctostaphylos pajaroensis, Pajaro Manzanita	1G	7.00		.
Arctostaphylos uva ursi, Manzanita	1G	7.00	X	.
Asclepias eriocarpa, Woolly/Indian Milkweed	1GF	10.00		.
Atriplex lentiformis, Quailbush	1G	7.00		.
Atriplex spinifera, Valley Saltbush	1GF	10.00		.
Baccharis 'Pigeon Point', Coyote Bush	1G	7.00		.
Baccharis 'Twin Peaks, Coyote Bush	1G	7.00		.
Calycanthus occidentalis, Spice Bush	D1G	8.00		.
Carpenteria californica, Bush Anemone	1G	7.00	X	.
Ceanothus 'Centennial', Centennial Ceanothus	1G	7.00		.
Ceanothus 'Arroyo de la Cruz, Ceanothus	1G	7.00		.

Ceanothus 'Concna', Concna Ceanothus	1G	1.00	.
Ceanothus 'Dark Star', Dark Star C.	1G	7.00	.
Ceanothus 'Frosty Blue', Frosty Blue C.	1G	7.00	.
Ceanothus 'Joyce Coulter', California Lilac	1G	7.00	X
Ceanothus 'Julia Phelps', Julia Phelps C.	1G	7.00	.
Ceanothus 'Kurt Zadnick', Kurt Zadnick C.	1G	7.00	.
Ceanothus 'Skylark', Skylark C.	1G	7.00	.
Ceanothus 'Yankee Point', Yankee Point C.	1G	7.00	.
Ceanothus hearstorium, Hearstorium C.	1G	7.00	.
Ceanothus parvifolia, Littleleaf Ceanothus	1G	7.00	.
Ceanothus rigidis 'Snowball', Snowball C.	1G	7.00	.
Cercis occidentalis, Redbud	D1G	7.00	X
Cercocarpus befuloides, Mountain Mahogany	1G	7.00	.
Chrysothamnus nauseosus, Rubber Rabbit Bush	1GF	8.00	.
Cornus stolonifera, Red Twig Dogwood	D1G	8.00	X
Corylus cornuta californica, Hazelnut	5C	26.00	.
Dendromacon rigida, Bush Poppy	2GF	16.00	.
Eriogonum fasciculatum, California Buckwheat	1G	7.00	.
Eriogonum umbellatum 'Shasta, Sulphur Flower	1G	7.00	.
Fremontodendron 'Calif. Glory', Flannel Bush	2GF	16.00	.
Heteromeles arbutifolia, ChristmasBerry/Toyon	1GF	7.00	X
Lessingia 'Silver Carpet', California Aster	1G	7.00	.
Lupinus albifrons, Silver Bush Lupine	D1G	10.00	.
Mahonia aquifolium 'Compacta', Oregon Grape	D1G	10.00	.
Philadelphus lewisii GooseCr, CA Mock Orange	2GF	12.00	X
Prunus virginiana demissa, Chokecherry	1G	7.00	.
Rhamnus CA 'Mound San Bruno', SB Cofeeberry	D1G	8.00	X
Rhamnus californica, California Cofeeberry	D1G	8.00	.
Rhamnus californica 'Eve Case', Cofeeberry	D1G	8.00	X
Romneya coulteri, Matilija Poppy	2GF	12.00	X
Rosa californica, CA Wild Rose	1G	7.00	X
Rosa spithamea, Ground Rose	1G	7.00	.
Rosa woodsii, Wood's Wild Rose	1G	7.00	X
Salvia apiana, White Sage	1G	7.00	.
Salvia 'Bees Bliss', Bee's Bliss Sage	1G	7.00	.
Salvia clevelandii, Cleveland Sage	1G	7.00	.
Salvia greggii 'Annie', Autumn Sage	1G	6.00	.
Salvia greggii 'Lavender Rose', Autumn Sage	1G	6.00	.
Salvia greggii 'Lipstick', Autumn Sage	1G	6.00	.
Salvia leucophylla, Purple Sage	1G	7.00	.
Salvia mellifera, Black Sage	1G	7.00	.
Salvia sonomensis, Creeping Sage	1G	7.00	.
Salvia sonomensis 'Dara's Choice', Sage	1G	7.00	.
Sambucus mexicana, Blue Elderberry	1G	7.00	.
Sphaeralcea ambigua, Apricot Globe Mallow	1G	7.00	X
Sphaeralcea incana, Globe/Orange Mallow	1G	7.00	.
Trichosterna lanatum, Woolly Blue Curls	1GF	16.00	.
Vitis californica, CA Wild Grape	D1G	8.00	.

#### PERENNIALS

Achillea 'Moonshine', Moonshine Yarrow	1G	7.00	.
Achillea 'Red Beauty', Red Beauty Yarrow	1G	7.00	.
Achillea lanulosa, Common White Yarrow	1G	7.00	.
Achillea 'Summer Wine', Summer Wine Yarrow	1G	7.00	.
Aquilegia chrysantha, Golden Columbine	1G	7.00	.
Arabis sparsiflora, Rockcress	1G	7.00	.

Artemesia ludoviciana 'Silver King', Mugwort	1G	7.00	.
Fragaria virginiana, Mountain Strawberry	1G	7.00	.
Fragaria virginiana, Mt. Strawberry	1G	7.00	.
Heuchera 'Opal', Opal Coral Bells	1G	7.00	.
Heuchera 'Santa Ana Cardinal', Coral Bells	1G	7.00	.
Heuchera micrantha, Coral Bells	1G	7.00	.
Iris PCH 'Cherry Cheesecake, PCH Hybrid	1G	7.00	.
Iris PCH 'Lavender', PCH Hybrid	1G	7.00	.
Iris PCH 'Rubies', PCH Hybrid	1G	7.00	.
Iris PCH 'Yellow', PCH Hybrid	1G	7.00	.
Linum lewisii, Western Blue Flax	1G	6.00	.
Lupinus polyphyllus, Broad Leaf Lupine	1GF	10.00	.
Mimulus a. calycinus, Yellow Monkeyflower	1G	7.00	.
Penstemon heterophyllus, Blue Bladder Penst.	1G	7.00	.
Penstemon laetus, Foothill Penstemon	1G	7.00	.
Penstemon newberryi, Mountain Pride	1G	7.00	.
Penstemon rostriflorus, Beard's Penstemon	1G	7.00	.
Penstemon speciosus, High Elevation Penst.	1G	7.00	.
Potentilla glandulosa, Sticky Cinquefoil	1G	6.00	.
Rudbeckia californica, California Coneflower	1GF	10.00	X
Zauschneria 'Cloverdale', Cloverdale Fuschia	1G	7.00	.
Zauschneria 'Etterii', Etterii Ca. Fuschia	1G	7.00	.
Zauschneria 'Everetts Choice', Fuschia	1G	7.00	.
Zauschneria 'Hurricane Point', Fuschia	1G	7.00	.
Zauschneria 'Matthole Select', Fuschia	1G	7.00	.
Zauschneria californica, CA Fuchsia	1G	7.00	.
Zauschneria cana, Grey CA Fuschia	1G	7.00	.
Zauschneria canum latifolium, High Elevation	1G	7.00	.
Zauschneria 'Solidarity Pink', Pink Fuschia	1G	7.00	.

WILD GRASSES

Aristita ternipes, Tree-Awn	1G	5.50	.
Bromus carinatus, California Brome	1G	5.50	.
Carex barbara, Barbara Sedge	1G	5.50	.
Carex temuicola, Berkeley Sedge	1G	5.50	.
Deschampsia caespitosa, Tufted Hairgrass	1G	5.50	.
Festuca idahoensis, Idaho Fescue	1G	5.50	.
Juncus 'Carmen's Grey', Carmen's Gray Rush	1G	5.50	.
Juncus balticus, Baltic Rush	1G	5.50	.
Juncus effusus, Rush	1G	5.50	.
Leymus triticoides, Creeping Wild Rye	1G	5.50	.
Melica imperfecta, Beautiful Melic	1G	5.50	.
Muhlenbergia rigens, Deer Grass	1G	5.50	.
Nassella cernua, Foothill Needle Grass	1G	5.50	.
Nassella pulchra, Purple Needle Grass	1G	5.50	.
Sporobolus airoides, Alkali sacaton	1G	5.50	.

		TOTAL	.
	20% DISCOUNT (MEMBERS ONLY)	MINUS	.
		SUBTOTAL	.
D=Deep	Add 7% SALES TAX		.
F=fiber pot		SUBTOTAL	.
X=avail. in 5G or 15G for add'l cost		SUBTRACT 50%	.
		MAIL THIS DEPOSIT	.