Alert! - Newsletter delivery complication

--Helen Shaw, newsletter distribution

Many chapter members prefer emailed newsletters. If your newsletter comes to you via the US mail in spite of your preference for email delivery, please read the message below:

CNPS is working to align their privacy practices with the CAN-SPAM act, which “establishes requirements for commercial messages, gives recipients the right to have you stop emailing them, and spells out tough penalties for violations.” (ftc.gov)

If your newsletter is arriving via US mail, this is because your preference in the state CNPS's membership database is set as “no email.” This setting controls whether you receive any CNPS emails (state-CNPS generated email as well as an emailed chapter newsletter).

Currently the only way to change your email setting is to create a CNPS profile and change the setting in your profile or to email CNPS directly.

Here is how to do it:
Send an email to membership@cnps.org and include your name, contact information, and a message that you want to opt-in to accepting email. The update should be in place by the next monthly membership report.

If you get another newsletter via the US mail but prefer a color newsletter via email, contact CNPS and please cc me at helshaw@gmail.com.

January 2020 Work Party

--Warren Shaw

They just kept coming, some even who had announced they wouldn't be there! We really weren't expecting a good turnout for the January work party since it was Martin Luther King weekend and chilly and foggy. Instead, so many showed up that we were able to do at least a quick initial pass of the entire Park.

We were looking primarily for bull thistle and milk thistle rosettes, unusually early this year because of unseasonably warm weather and some rain. We asked workers to keep a rough count of the plants they uprooted. At break time, after an hour and a half's work, we totaled the counts at 1,618 bull thistle and 2,060 milk thistle plants.

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Upcoming Events and Classes

• February 7, New Environmental Group Mixer
  Friday, 5:00pm – 6:30pm
  Sponsored by Earth Day Fresno

Location: First Congregational Church, Fireside Room, 2131 N. Van Ness Blvd. (last building on left as you face church complex)

  o Forming an umbrella advocacy organization to augment collective environmental voice and build solidarity.
  o Earth Day Fresno, Inc.’s will share accomplishments to date and their plans for 2020.
  o Take a poll on which environmental issues to focus on in 2020.
  o Hear from partner organizations.
  To RSVP Contact: p.mcdonald@csufresno.edu

February 23, Tule River Parkway Workshop
Sunday 9:00am – 11:00am

Location: 540 S. Jaye Street, Porterville, CA 93257

  o Learn to use Observer Pro on your device to document locations of plants.
  o Easy 1 mile walk with no elevation gain.
  o Wear closed toe shoes and bring water.
  o No restrooms are available.
  Information: https://www.cnps.org/event/tule-river-parkway-workshop/2020-02-23

February 25-27, Vegetation Mapping Workshop
Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00am – 4:30pm

Location: Redlands, CA

  o Last day to register is February 9, 2020. Capacity is 20 participants.
  o Participants should have an initial understanding of the subject matter and should be able to perform basic GIS functions.
  o Through a combination of field and computer exercises, participants will learn techniques for fine-scale vegetation mapping.
  o Will learn principals of vegetation sampling, classification, and photo interpretation.

Cost: CNPS members $665/non-members $695
  Information: https://www.cnps.org/education/workshops/vegetation-mapping-february-2020

• March 15, Alta Peak Chapter Program:
  Planting for Birds
  Sunday, 7:00am – 8:30am

Location: Tulare County Office of Education, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93277

  o Co-sponsored with Tulare County Audubon Society.
  Information: https://www.cnps.org/event/alta-peak-chapter-program-planting-for-birds

February 29 and March 14, Wildflower Nature Hikes
Saturday, 10:00am – 12:00pm

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

  o Join Preserve naturalists for a 2-mile guided hike on the San Emigdio Canyon Trail.
  o Recommended for ages 6 and up (no strollers). Some uphill sections.
  Contact: windwolves preserve@twc-ca.org

Job Opportunities

CNPS Job Openings: Horticulture Outreach Manager; Horticulture Outreach Coordinator; East Bay Chapter Conservation Analyst; Rare Seed Collection and Accessioning Lead; Barbara Rice Vegetation Intern in Mendocino/Northern Sonoma Counties

Information: https://www.cnps.org/about/jobs

Grant Opportunities

American Penstemon Society (APS)
Applications Sought for 2020 Special Project Grants

  o The purpose of the APS Special Projects Program is to stimulate activities that promote knowledge and appreciation of Penstemons, particularly projects that promote conservation of wild populations or that promote appreciation for the diversity and beauty of Penstemons in the wild and domestic landscapes.

  o Applicants must be current members and may join for the purpose of submitting a proposal.

  o Maximum award amount for project grants is $1000.

  o Maximum award amount for graduate students conducting research on Penstemons is $2000.

Information on submittals can be found at: http://www.penstemons.org/index.php/society/grants
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.

Next Newsletter: March 2020

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

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*Secretary open
*Treasurer Thelma Valdez yucca37tv@yahoo.com 559/323-8962 (h)

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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 Society activities and conservation issues; and our chapter newsletter, Carpenteria.

I wish to affiliate with the Sequoia Chapter.

Name: _______________________________________________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ Zip: _____________________________
State: ___________________________

☐ New Member ☐ Renewing Member

Make your check payable to “CNPS” and mail with this form to:

Califonia Native Plant Society
2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

☐ Student, Fixed Income $25
☐ Individual $50
☐ Plant Lover $120
☐ supporter $500
☐ Patron $1,000
☐ Benefactor $2,500
☐ steward $5,000
☐ Guardian $10,000

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.
After the break we moved to the north part of the Park, where we kind of lost track of the counts, but we suspect the numbers would also be impressive, though, perhaps, with fewer bull thistles. We also now have a better idea of where to start next time.

After work, the new Restoration Team had an impromptu meeting at the Centerville taco truck to determine how to start writing a scientific restoration plan for the China Creek Project. It was decided that the first step was for the team members to become thoroughly acquainted with the Park.

All in all, it was a spectacular beginning for the “spring semester.” We foresee great progress for the project if we can sustain this level of energy.

February’s work party will be Saturday, February 22 from 9am — 12pm (our last month of “winter hours”). We will, once again, try to hit the early thistle rosettes and sprouts hard, while they’re easy to dig and have no blossoms to spread seed. We’ll also be on the watch for Valley Oak seedlings to cage, and we’ll check the trail for any maintenance needs.

We sure hope you can join us to show the Park a little love.

China Creek Park is located in Centerville, 16.5 miles east of Fresno. To get to China Creek Park from Fresno, drive east on Highway 180. Turn right (south) on Smith Road (you’ll see an elementary school) 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.