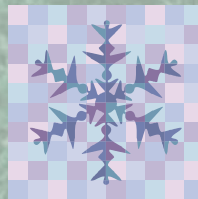




The Shooting Star



**DECEMBER
POTLUCK MEM-
BER'S
SLIDESHOW!
DECEMBER 7TH
@ 6:00 PM**



Aspen tree (with Quinn Young), Summit Ranger District, Stanislaus National Forest, 2006. Photo: Adam Rich

Thank you, Sierra Foothills Chapter members, for allowing me the privilege of serving as your newsletter editor. This will be my last newsletter, as I have accepted work opportunities in the Eldorado area.

I have truly enjoyed the shared interest and learned much from the many native plant articles and photos, field trip reports, and Chapter events over the years.

May we continue to work for and be inspired by California native plants!

-- Quinn Young

DECEMBER POTLUCK MEMBER'S SLIDESHOW

December 7th @ 6:00 pm

The December 7th monthly meeting is our annual potluck dinner held at the Sonora Senior Center which is next to the Sonora Library on Greenley Road. We will meet at our usual time of 6 pm, please bring a dish to share. It is requested that a card listing ingredients be included for those with food sensitivities. For our program, we ask those attending to please bring photos of native plants to share; pictures taken on field trips, from

**NO GENERAL MEETING OR NEWSLETTER IN JANUARY.
SEE YOU IN FEBRUARY!**

local gardens, or just some of your favorite native plants. Bring them in a jpeg form on a flash drive. We will provide a digital projector, screen and computer for the showing. If you have traditional analog slides, you need to let Jennie Haas know by December 6th, jhaas953@gmail.com, 209-962-4759, so we can also have a slide projector available.

Hope to see you there.

CALENDAR

Thursday, December 7th: Annual Potluck dinner 6:00pm

Location: Tuolumne County Senior Center, 540 Greenley Road, Sonora, 95370

Bring: A dish to share

Program: Bring photos of California native plants and trees, gardens, field trips, etc. This is a fun evening.

SEE YOU THERE!

Check in often for updates to our website:

www.sierrafoothillscnps.org

If you change your mailing or e-mail address, be sure to send a note to Jennie Haas. This will

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19287 James Circle
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Sierra Foothills Chapter
www.sierrafoothillscnps.org

Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora.

Field Trips

With the 2017 field trip season in our rear view mirror, we're looking forward to the 2018 season. The ad hoc field trip committee will get together in late January or early February to plan the schedule. If you have ideas about field trip locations or would like to help us plan, contact Jennie at jhaas953@gmail.com, 209-962-4759.



COLOR COMMENTARY: FALL FOLIAGE (Reprint)

People drive and fly miles to witness the fall foliage of New England. Others have learned that, although it may not be quite as spectacular, we have our own fall colors here in the mountains of California. Hope Valley east of Carson Pass, Sonora Pass, Monitor Pass south of Markleeville and many eastside canyons near Hwy. 395 draw photographers, artists and other fall aficionados. Calaveras Big Trees is famous for its fall dogwood colors. There visitors may leave a self addressed stamped postcard which will be mailed to them just before the color peaks. October is the best month and much depends on the weather.

This year large areas of aspens did not develop fall color because they lost their leaves early in this dry year. But not all the factors behind the spectacular seasonal leaf color change are completely explained. What is the reason that the trees go to the trouble of making red pigments just before the leaves fall? The making of these molecules does take energy so

the assumption is that there is a "pay back". The research botanists are still thinking about this but one current hypothesis is that red pigments act as a sun screen to block some of the ultraviolet light rays which are destructive to nucleic acids and proteins. The pigments also selectively admit light of bluegreen and red wavelengths which are important in photosynthesis. As the green chlorophylls break down the leaf needs more protection. Another hypothesis is that when insects see the red leaves they know not to lay eggs. This would be a waste of eggs as the leaves are soon to die and fall off. Being red is also of advantage to the leaf as with no eggs there will be no insect larvae to eat the leaf tissue. There are many types of red and yellow pigments found in flowers and other parts of plants including their leaves. Carotenoids are red, orange, or yellow pigments found in all chloroplasts. Two groups of carotenoids, carotenes and xanthophylls are normally found in chloroplasts, (The beta-carotene found in plants is the main source of the vitamin A which we

require in our diet.) In green leaves the color of the carotenoids is usually masked by that of the more abundant chlorophyll but does become visible when the chlorophyll breaks down in the fall. Western dogwood, (*Cornus nuttallii*), provides many shades of red from pink to deep wine Red. Many plants including big leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), western azalea, (*Rhododendron occidentale*) in addition to the cottonwoods **Western Dogwood** (*Populus fremontii*) and *P. trichocarpa*, add shades of yellow. Quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloide*) produces much brilliant yellow and orange. Various species of willow (*Salix spp.*) bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*), and the black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*), produce muted shades of yellow, orange, and brown. We don't have the reds of eastern deciduous forests but mountain ash

(*Sorbus californica*), particularly near Lake Tahoe, the low growing sierra gooseberry (*Ribes roezlii*, and poison

oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*), all add shades of red to the fall spectacle. In our more developed areas the non-native liquidambar, Lombardy poplar (*Populus nigra "italica"*) and American sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*, apples, (*Maulus spp.*) are among trees which add to our Sierran autumn display. We appreciate these sights after the

flowers of spring and summer have faded. Now we await spring.

-- Steve Stocking

Reference: "Biology of Plants" Sixth Edition. Raven, Evert & Eichorn

FALL PLANT SALE A HIT

Our fall plant sale was a great success with over 800 plants finding homes in our foothill gardens. The weather cooperated with rain clearing the air and leaving us with a beautiful, sunny fall day during our sale. We sold California Fuchsias, Penstemons, Salvias, Matilija Poppy, Lupine, Manzanita, Ceanothus, Buckwheat, and more!

A very special thanks to over 25 volunteers that helped. Without all of you, our plant sale would not have happened. Starting with the deliveries, thank you to Margaret, Suzanne, Pat Gogas and Pat Reh who helped unload the trucks and price the plants. Next, the stalwarts that provide the vehicles and help load and unload the plants. Think about it, no vehicles, no plants, NO sale. It took 7 trucks, and 1 SUV to haul plants, tables, wagons, and signs to the sale. Thanks to Nancy, Val, Martha, Todd, Heather, Wendy, Pat, Joanne, Linda, Ken, Paolo and Eileen. And, after the sale, thanks to Katy, Linda, Ken and Heather, for hauling plants, tables, signs and unloading all our "stuff" back to the growing area.

A special shout out to the cashiers, tag pullers, knowledgeable people, book sellers and those who helped unload plants – Sheila, Marsha, Cathy, Minou, Suzanne, Jennie, Becky, Karen, Diane, Jennie, Lucille, Stefani, Val, and Bob. And a big THANK YOU to our hospitality leader Margaret who provided the hot drinks and treats to get us through the chilly morning. I especially want to thank Heather Crotty, Pat Gogas, Val Myrick, Eileen Carlen, and Stefani Reichle who helped organize the plants as we unloaded them and took care of the many, many details that make our plant sale happen.

It truly takes a village to pull off a successful plant sale. If I have forgotten anyone, please know that your help was really appreciated. Thanks again and hope to see you all at our next plant sale April 2018 in San Andreas.

-- Stephanie Garcia, Plant Sale Chair-person



**Fall Plant Sale Sierra Foothills
Chapter CNPS (2007)**

Chapter Board Elections

We held our election of officers on Thursday, November 3rd according to by-law rules. No new nominations came through before we voted. We had a nomination at the end of the meeting which we will vote on at the December potluck and member slide show.

Here is the 2018 Chapter Board:

Elected Positions:

President (Vacant)
V.P. Amador (Vacant)
V.P. Calaveras, Judy Dean
V.P. Mariposa, David Campbell
V.P. Tuolumne (Pending: Ian Cloyd nominated)
Secretary, Stephanie Garcia
Treasurer, Pat Gogas

Non-elected Positions:

Conservation Chair, Bob Dean
Education Chair, Margaret Klein
Field Trip Coordinator, Jennie Haas
Growing Area Manager, Stephanie Garcia
Invasives Exotics, Rebecca Andrade
Merchandise/Sales Coordinator (Book Sales), Diane Williams
Membership Coordinator, Jennie Haas
Newsletter Editor (Vacant)
Plant Sales Chair, Stephanie Garcia
Spring Plant Sales Coordinator, Judy Dean
Program Chair (Vacant)
Publicity Coordinator (Vacant)

Volunteers are desired to fill the vacant positions. Contact Jennie Haas for more information about the positions or to volunteer, jhaas953@gmail.com, 209-962-4759.

MOTHER LODE SEASONS

*Arid clouds of summer
reduce spring grasses
to stalks, bleached
by the scorching sun,
before November rains
are welcomed by rolling hills
of parched earth,
giving thanks
in a blanket of green
soon to explode into
a rainbow, whose pot of gold
is a treasure for the eye.*

-- Wayland Ezell

CNPS Sierra Foothills Chapter
 19287 James Circle
 Groveland, CA 95321

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Chapter Officers and Chairpersons				JOIN NOW	
All phone numbers are 209 area code unless otherwise specified.					
PRESIDENT	Robert Dean	754-5887	goldrushdean@yahoo.com	PLEASE INCLUDE ME AS A CNPS MEMBER!	
VP AMADOR CO.	OPEN			Student/Retired/Limited income ...\$25	
VP CALAVERAS CO.	Judy Dean	754-5887	goldrushdean@yahoo.com	Individual \$45	
VP MARIPOSA CO.	David Campbell	(612) 867-8700	moonwort.campbell@gmail.com	Family or Group \$75	
VP TUOLUMNE CO.	Pat Gogas	586-9043	pfgogas@yahoo.com	Library..... \$75	
SECRETARY	Stephanie Garcia	586-3593	sgarcia@mlode.com	Plant Lover \$100	
TREASURER	Patti Hohne	352-4312	phohne@gmail.com	Patron.....\$300	
CONSERVATION CHAIR	OPEN			Benefactor \$600	
EDUCATION CHAIR	Rebecca Andrade	591-7996	r.andrade218@gmail.com	Mariposa Lily..... \$1,500	
FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR	Jennie Haas	962-4759	jhaas953@gmail.com	As always, donations above the membership level chosen will be greatly appreciated.	
GROWING AREA MGR.	Stephanie Garcia	586-3593	sgarcia@mlode.com	Name _____	
HOSPITALITY COORD.	OPEN			Address _____	
INVASIVE EXOTICS	Rebecca Andrade	591-7996	r.andrade218@gmail.com	City _____ State _____ Zip _____	
MERCH./SALES COORD.	Diane Williams	586-1557	dianewilliams3664@gmail.com	Telephone _____ E-mail _____	
MEMBERSHIP COORD.	Jennie Haas	962-4759	jhaas953@gmail.com	(Dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible)	
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Quinn Young	272-4546	quinnyoung26@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/> I Wish to affiliate with the Sierra Foothills Chapter.	
PLANT SALES CHAIR	Judy Dean, Stephanie Garcia	754-5887 586-3593	goldrushdean@yahoo.com sgarcia@mlode.com	Please make your check payable to "CNPS" and send it to: 2707 "K" street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816 Tel. (916) 447-2677.	
PLANT SALES Vol. Coord.	OPEN			Join or renew on-line at www.cnps.org .	
PROGRAM COMM. CHAIR	OPEN			Membership includes the journal Fremontia, CNPS Bulletin and the Sierra Foothills monthly newsletter, The Shooting Star.	
PUBLICITY COORD.	OPEN			Email: sierrafoothillscnps@gmail.com	