



# The Shooting Star

SIERRA FOOTHILLS CHAPTER

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

AUGUST 2017 Page 1



***Malacothamnus fremontii*, Feliciano Mountain Preserve Field Trip, June 17, 2017.**  
Photo: Barry Breckling

**Feliciano Mountain Preserve Field Trip, June 17, 2017.**  
Photo: Barry Breckling

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: CNPS "GARDENING WITH NATIVES" SYMPOSIUM

Our fabulous fall symposium is just around the corner – all day on **Saturday, September 9**. You won't want to miss it. All we need is a little help from some of you to help this symposium run smoothly.

Volunteers are needed on Sat., Sept. 9, to help with various tasks such as registration, book sales, food service, and cleanup. We will also need people to help set up late afternoon of the day before. All will take place at the fairgrounds in Sonora. In return for volunteering, you will be eligible for 50% off your registration fee and the opportunity to be of service to your organization!

Please contact Val Myrick, [vkmyr-](mailto:vkmyr@pacbell.net)

[rick@pacbell.net](mailto:rick@pacbell.net), 209-533-3193, to volunteer.

You must be confirmed as a volunteer in order to receive the nice discount.

## Setup Help Needed for Symposium, September 8<sup>th</sup>

We need a few strong volunteers to help with setting up tables and chairs, and moving in boxes of supplies and whatnot on Friday September 8<sup>th</sup> at the fairgrounds. We'll start setting up at about 3pm and hope to wrap it up by 7pm. Please contact symposium volunteer coordinator Val Myrick to let her know you'll be there so that you get the latest details on timing. Val can be reached at 209-533-3193, [vkmyrick@pacbell.net](mailto:vkmyrick@pacbell.net).

## CALENDAR OF CNPS EVENTS

**July 27 (tentative date) – Carson Pass Area.** Leader: Bob Dean. Hiking Level: strenuous due to the very high elevation. RSVP required in case of date change.

**July 29 – Rare Plant Treasure Hunt, Rare Plants of Glacier Point Road Meadows.** Leaders: Peggy Moore and Alison Colwell. Hiking level: easy to moderate.

**August 5 – Gaylor Lakes.** Leader: David Campbell. Hiking Level: Arduous due to elevation.

**August 19 – Rare Plant Treasure Hunt, the Alpine Spring Beauty of Echo Peaks.** Leader: David Campbell. Hiking level: Very arduous, this trip will involve off-trail mountaineering and climbing a rugged peak.

**September 9 – Gardening with Natives Symposium, Sonora Fairgrounds, Sonora**

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

**Jennie Haas**  
19287 James Circle  
Groveland, CA 95321  
[jhaas953@gmail.com](mailto:jhaas953@gmail.com)

**California Native Plant Society**  
2707 K. St. Suite 1  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
[www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org)

**Sierra Foothills Chapter**  
[www.sierrafoothillscnps.org](http://www.sierrafoothillscnps.org)

*Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora.*

## Field Trips

Field trip season is still in high gear. The rest of our trips, except the Fall Colors trip, will focus on the high country where the flowers are popping up where the snow fields have melted. Reports have been coming in that the flowers are good. Two of our remaining trips are Rare Plant Treasure Hunts. These are fun trips where we get to help look for specific rare plants that haven't been seen in a while at those locations. The trip leaders are experts who will teach the participants what they need to know to help. Participants need not be botanical experts. However, please note that the August 19<sup>th</sup> Spring Beauty RPTH requires mountaineering skills and a moderate to high level of fitness.

For all field trips: bring lunch, water, sunscreen and appropriate clothing and footwear. Hiking level varies with each trip. Your trip will be enhanced by bringing field guides and magnifying lenses, although these are optional. Carpooling is encouraged. Call ahead if the weather looks iffy. Check [http://www.twitter.com/SIE\\_CNPS](http://www.twitter.com/SIE_CNPS) for updates. Our field trips are open to everyone. Bring a friend or two. It is Chapter policy that pets are not allowed on our field trips. We appreciate everyone's adherence to this policy.

**July 27 (tentative date) – Carson Pass Area.** Leader: Bob Dean. Hiking Level: strenuous due to the very high elevation. The destination of this Thursday hike will be a small meadow with a lot of native plants. The hike starts at about 8,000 feet elevation and rises to about 9,000 feet, with a lot to stop and see along the way including ancient junipers, beautiful scenery and plenty of wildflowers in the snowmelt-fed runnels. **RSVPs are necessary** in case the date needs to be changed due to a lingering snow pack and to coordinate meeting place and time. To RSVP or for more information, contact Bob at [goldrushdean@yahoo.com](mailto:goldrushdean@yahoo.com), or 209-754-5887.

Bob Dean mentioned recently that there is a lot of flower action right now at Carson Pass. It might be interesting, time available, to do several trips to catch the sequence of blooms. So, if you are interested in additional dates, contact him soon.

**July 29 – Rare Plant Treasure Hunt, Rare Plants of Glacier Point Road Meadows.** Leaders: Peggy Moore and Alison Colwell. Hiking level: easy to moderate, depending upon participant preference, but including some off-trail hiking. Glacier Point Road has provided tourists access to the famous overlook of Half Dome since the 1880s. The greater bounty, however, has since been enjoyed by botanists, who have relished the easy access to the diverse plant communities of the red fir zone and the lush wet meadows of this granitic upland. The botanical rewards are many, as this area was largely unglaciated during the recent Tioga Glaciation and is thus a refugium, including for several CNPS-listed species. We are likely to see Bolander's clover (*Trifolium bolanderi*), Yosemite Ivesia (*Ivesia unguiculata*), and Yosemite bog-orchid (*Platanthera yosemitensis*). We may split into small groups to visit multiple meadow sites to census populations of one or more rare species. Note that an entry fee to Yosemite NP of \$30 is required. **Please sign up** so that updates and directions can be sent and car-pools arranged. For more information and to sign-up, contact Peggy at 209-966-5728 or [pemoore4@gmail.com](mailto:pemoore4@gmail.com).

**August 5 – Gaylor Lakes.** Leader: David Campbell. Hiking Level: Arduous due to elevation. Departing from the Tioga Pass entrance station in Yosemite National Park, this hike is a 3.6 mile round trip with about 800' of elevation gain and descent. The hike begins at about 10,000' elevation, so be prepared to be winded. Acclimating to elevation before the field trip is recommended. Crossing through lodgepole pine forest the trail leads to Gaylor Lakes and lovely meadows filled with high elevation flowers, including some reported but unverified rare plants such as Davidson's fritillary (*Fritillaria pinetorum*). Nearby metamorphic outcrops also harbor rare flora that may be of interest. Group size will be limited; RSVP required. Meet at 10:00a.m. at the Tioga Pass entrance station on Highway 120. If arriving from the east, no entrance fee is required. If coming from the west, a \$30 entrance fee is required. Carpooling is encouraged. Let David know if you're interested in carpooling when signing up. For more information or to sign up, contact David at 612-867-8700, or [moonwort.campbell@gmail.com](mailto:moonwort.campbell@gmail.com).

**August 19 – Rare Plant Treasure Hunt, the Alpine Spring Beauty of Echo Peaks.** Leader: David Campbell. Hiking level: Very arduous, this trip will involve off-trail mountaineering and climbing a rugged peak. The destination is about 5 miles into the backcountry from the trailhead with about 2,500' elevation gain. The alpine spring beauty (*Claytonia megarhiza*) is a CNPS list 2B.3 rare plant. Several reported locations exist in the alpine fell fields of Yosemite, but due to inaccessibility, most of these locations have not been visited since the 1980's. We will visit one such location at Echo Peaks, in the Cathedral Range of Yosemite's High Country. We will collect geospatial and habitat data on its occurrence, and make collections to be submitted to permanent herbaria. This foray will be logistically complicated and will require advanced planning. Experience in high elevation mountaineering is a must for anyone attempting the trip. Contact David by August 1st if you are interested in joining. For more information or to sign up, contact David at 612-867-8700, [moonwort.campbell@gmail.com](mailto:moonwort.campbell@gmail.com).

### CRITICAL NEED FOR A NEW TREASURER

We have a critical need for a volunteer to step forward and take on the role of Treasurer. This member of the Chapter Board of Directors manages the budget, pays the bills and reports on the account balances to the board once per month. Contact Bob Dean, (209) 754-5887, [goldrushdean@yahoo.com](mailto:goldrushdean@yahoo.com) if you are interested.



Feliciana Mountain Preserve Field Trip, June 17, 2017

Photo: Barry Breckling

-- Jennie Haas, Field Trip and Membership Coordinator

## Gardening With Natives Symposium

If you haven't decided yet whether or not to attend the September 9<sup>th</sup> Gardening with Natives symposium, check out the information below about some of our speakers.

Bonnie Bladen grew up gardening with her grandmother and developed a love of California foothill and mountain native plants while compiling a plant collection for her high school biology class. Plant identification and admiration became a steady hobby. Bonnie collected seeds while hiking in the Sierra to give to her future husband, Raymond Laclergue, who started Intermountain Nursery in 1980 in Prather, Calif. Raymond has a horticulture degree from UC Davis and studied propagation with a local Mono Indian woman. Bonnie has a forestry degree from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. After they were married 25 years ago, Bonnie and Raymond attempted to grow every native plant they could find by seed or cuttings just to see if they could. Intermountain Nursery has 11 demonstration gardens where they test out California native plants to see how they grow and to showcase the various native species at their full size. Besides a full line of low water use plants, they currently specialize in four species of local native milkweed, *Carpenteria californica*, which is endemic to Fresno County, and pine trees for homeowners wishing to replant. They also grow site specific plants for Yosemite National Park, PG&E, the Forest Service, and land conservation organizations. They practice forestry on 240 acres of conservation land they own in the Sierra. More information about Intermountain Nursery can be found on their website, <http://www.intermountainnursery.com/> and on their Facebook page.

Bonnie's talk is titled 'California Native plants for Landscapes in Valley locations, the Sierra Foothills and Mountains.' She'll have photos and a plant list showcasing California native plants appropriate for landscape use over a wide range of locations. Her talk will include plant requirements, planting tips, plant combinations and communities.

John Whittlesey operated Canyon Creek Nursery - a mail order nursery specializing in uncommon perennials - for twenty years. A graduate of the California School of Garden Design, he is now a garden designer/landscape contractor with an emphasis on drought tolerant/wildlife friendly gardens. He likes to use regionally adapted plants to provide sustainable, welcoming habitat for all manner of life, including pollinators, birds and people. He is the author of *The Plant Lover's Guide to Salvias*, published by Timber Press. He is passionate about photographing and observing pollinators in the wild and in gardens. You can see more about John's business and activities including samples of his photography at <http://www.canyoncreeknurserydesign.com/>.

John's talk is titled 'Keeping Company With Flowers - Native Plants for the Garden and the Pollinators They Attract.' He describes his talk this way: Gardens, if the right plants are chosen, can provide habitat for a whole range of insect life - our native bees and bumble bees, fascinating flies, along with a myriad of moths and butterflies. He will share his passion for observing flower visitors - which mostly includes pollinators, but occasionally the predator that stalks them. In this program he will discuss some of the best California native plants for attracting the insect world into gardens.

We thought it would be interesting to have an expert who could explain the wild shifts in our weather patterns that have given us drought years and, most recently, a greatly above normal year. After all, weather patterns ultimately dictate how much water becomes available each year for our plants to use.

Meteorologist Rob Carlmark is a true 6th generation Californian with two kids embarking on a 7th in the Golden State. He has been forecasting weather in California for the majority of his decade long career that also included time in Mississippi, Montana and Arizona. Rob believes you need to be better than a weather app on your phone if you want to have a long career and is spending more time explaining the weather and looking at long term phenomena to help viewers understand the weather around them with context, and fun. You can watch Rob Monday through Friday on ABC10 early in the morning.

His talk is titled "Gardening's Green Future in the Mother Lode: Adapting to Change." He describes it this way: The last 5 years in California have been truly historic in the weather world. From record rain and snow, to drought, to another round of record rain it's been tough to figure out which California we will get in any given year. We will look back at what the area has been through, our temporary relief at the moment, and the future boom and bust cycle California is certain to face in the decades to come.

The planning committee has gone to great lengths to ensure that we have excellent speakers presenting interesting talks. To see the full schedule of speakers and other details about the symposium, see the symposium brochure on-line at our website, <http://www.sierrafoothillscnps.org/event/2017-gardening-with-natives-symposium/>. If you need a paper copy of the brochure mailed to you or need more information, contact Nancy Piekarczyk, at 510-816-0132 or [nanpiekarczyk@gmail.com](mailto:nanpiekarczyk@gmail.com). Remember that lunch and refreshments are included in the registration fee. Space is limited. Early registration is recommended.



Pen and ink drawings of *Clarkia concinna*, *C. amoena*, *C. lingulata*, *C. biloba*, *C. unguiculata* by Peggy Edwards

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