



The Shooting Star

SIERRA FOOTHILLS CHAPTER

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

AUGUST 2019

Upcoming Field Trips

The positive effects of the abundant May rains and high elevation snows have continued through July with flowering herbs like American lotus (*Acmispon americanus* var. *americanus*), scarlet monkeyflower (*Mimulus cardinalis*), crimson columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*) and Washington lily (*Lilium washingtonianum*) still blooming into late July at the mid-elevations.

With the late spring snow and rain, our three August field trips ought to be rewarding. Plants in the high country are progressing, as expected. Bob Dean reports that the earliest wildflower species are all but done in the Carson Pass area, however there will be plenty to see on his August 8th Carson Pass field trip. All three of the August field trips are worthy of the day hikes on the merits of the beautiful views alone. Adding alpine flowers to the mix is like the cherry on top. I hope you can join us.

For all field trips, bring lunch, water, sunscreen and appropriate clothing and footwear. It is Chapter policy that pets are not allowed on our field trips. We appreciate everyone's adherence to this policy.

Sign up for our field trip alerts e-mails. Send an e-mail with the subject line "Field Trip e-mail List" to Jennie at jhaas953@gmail.com. We'll use this mailing list to provide timely information of field trip changes and those impromptu "unscheduled field trips."
— Jennie Haas

August 8 – Carson Pass Meadows. 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, or 209-754-5887.

Bob is willing to entertain having an additional visit to the Carson Pass area if the August 8th doesn't work for interested individuals. Just contact him as shown above. Also, if anyone is interested in joining Bob on his scouting trip to Carson Pass, contact him ASAP.

August 17-18 – High Sierra Double Header. Leaders: David Campbell, Doug Krajnovich. Hiking Level: Arduous due to high elevation. High Sierra field trips sometimes get canceled because of T-storms, and even with perfect weather, attendance is often light because it is a lot of driving for a day trip. This year we invite you to make it a 3-day weekend: drive up Friday, August 16, spend Friday night camping nearby or in comfort at Mammoth Lakes or Lee Vining, then join us for one or both weekend field trips. Meet-up time for both field trips is 8 a.m. sharp. This will allow us to get walks in even if there is typical afternoon T-storm activity. (*see page 2 for details*)

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

California Native Plant Society
2707 K. St. Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816
www.cnps.org

Sierra Foothills Chapter
www.sierrafoothillscnps.org

*Dedicated to the Preservation of
California Native Flora.*

CNPS NATIVE PLANT SALE

October 19, 2019

MARK THE DATE... Our sale will be held on Saturday, October 19, from 9 a.m. until noon. We will be at the same location: Rocca Park, Main Street, Jamestown. We will have many different species of shrubs and perennials that need minimal water, once established, during our hot summer months. At the sale, there are always many knowledgeable people to answer your questions and help you choose the appropriate plant for your location.

Remember to come early for the best selection. Better yet, volunteer to help at the plant sale. Volunteers get to select plants before the sale is open to the public. We need volunteers with a truck or SUV to load plants the night before and deliver them the morning of the sale. We also need cashiers and tag pullers. So email Stephanie at sjgarcia@mlode.com to volunteer.

High Sierra Double Header (*cont'd.*)

August 17 – Gaylor Lakes

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Gaylor Lakes trailhead next to the Tioga Pass entrance station on Highway 120. If arriving from the east, no entrance fee is required if you park outside the gate and walk in. If coming from the west, the park entrance fee is required. This is a 3.6 miles round trip with about 800' of elevation gain and descent. The hike begins at around 10,000' elevation, so be prepared to be winded. Crossing through lodgepole pine forest the trail leads to Gaylor Lakes and lovely meadows filled with many blooms to enjoy throughout. **Sign up is mandatory** for Gaylor Lakes, due to group size restrictions inside the park. To RSVP or for more info, contact David at 612-867-8700, or moonwort.campbell@gmail.com

August 18 – Harvey Monroe Hall Research Natural Area

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the parking lot for the Sawmill Walk-in Campground. This parking lot is for registered Sawmill campers, so you will need to park your vehicle either at the Gardisky Lake trailhead (½ mile south of Sawmill) or at the Saddlebag Lake Resort (~1 mile north of Sawmill), and walk from there. A lovely trail winds through Sawmill and continues into the Harvey Monroe Hall RNA. The trail starts out level, then starts to climb. Bring creek-crossing shoes if you don't want to get your boots and socks wet. For more info, contact Doug at 209-580-4595 or djcran@comcast.net (e-mail preferred).

Hite Cove Recovery

*Observations and reflections from your Editor,
one year after the Ferguson Fire.*

I just finished reading a WWII memoir* where the author (Leo Marks) describes his father's bookstore as "the only haven which had never failed me in times of distress, where the answers to everything were to be found if one knew where to look for them, and where agnostics like me could safely say their silent prayers..." For me, Hite Cove is that kind of place. When it burned a year ago, I felt as Leo Marks would have felt if his father's bookstore had burned down. The main Hite Cove trail, – which starts at Redbud Lodge and parallels the south fork of the Merced River for 4 miles or so, – was closed to the public after the fire (and remains closed even now), but Hite Mine Road (HMR) was left open. I volunteered to lead a field trip along HMR last March, but that trip got moved to a different location because the flowers were getting off to a dismally slow start in the burn zone. I walked HMR three more times – April 23, May 28, & July 8 – and was delighted to find a robust recovery underway. Almost all of the Hite Cove species that I was used to seeing were back. Most were close to their pre-fire abundance; some were throttled back; a few were greatly enhanced by the fire. Even more fascinating were species that I had *never seen here even once in the five years preceding the fire*, including three Monkeyflowers. My amateur understanding is that the seeds of annual "fire followers" lie dormant in the soil and remain viable for long periods of time, waiting for the next fire to clear away the competition. Something about the heat or smoke tells the seeds that it's time to germinate, and they do so *en masse*, producing a huge batch of seeds for the next hibernation. Page 3 shows pictures of some of the Ferguson Fire followers that I got to meet this year.

* *Between Silk and Cyanide*



Eight species of wildflower that I never saw near Hite Cove before the Ferguson Fire. (Photos © D. Krajnovich)
 TOP ROW: Golden Eardrops (*Ehrendorferia chrysantha*); Whispering Bells (*Emmenanthe penduliflora*); Hairy Suncup (*Camissoniopsis hirtella*); Thin-stemmed Navarretia (*Navarretia filicaulis*).
 MIDDLE: Hite Cove and South fork viewed from the top of Pinoche Ridge with Golden Eardrops in foreground.
 BOTTOM ROW: Congdon's Monkeyflower (*Diplacus congdonii*); Kings River Monkeyflower (*Erythranthe acutidens*); Viscid Monkeyflower (*Diplacus viscidus*); Sierra Threadplant (*Nemacladus interior*).

CNPS Sierra Foothills Chapter
 19287 James Circle
 Groveland, CA 95321

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Chapter Officers and Chairpersons (All phone #'s are 209 area code unless otherwise specified.)				JOIN NOW
PRESIDENT	OPEN			<p>PLEASE INCLUDE ME AS A CNPS MEMBER!</p> <p>Student/Retired/Limited income ...\$25 Individual \$45 Family or Group \$75 Library..... \$75 Plant Lover \$100 Patron.....\$300 Benefactor \$600 Mariposa Lily..... \$1,500</p> <p>As always, donations above the membership level chosen will be greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____ e-mail _____</p> <p>(Dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible)</p> <p>I Wish to affiliate with the Sierra Foothills Chapter. Please make your check payable to "CNPS" and send it to: 2707 "K" street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816 Tel. (916) 447-2677. Join or renew on-line at www.cnps.org. Membership includes the journal <i>Fremontia</i>, CNPS Bulletin and the Sierra Foothills monthly newsletter, <i>The Shooting Star</i>.</p> <p>E-mail: sierrafoothillscnps@gmail.com</p>
VP AMADOR CO.	OPEN			
VP CALAVERAS CO.	Judy Dean	754-5887	No E-Mail	
VP MARIPOSA CO.	David Campbell	(612) 867-8700	moonwort.campbell@gmail.com	
VP TUOLUMNE CO.	Pending			
SECRETARY	Stephanie Garcia	586-3593	sjgarcia@mlode.com	
TREASURER	Pat Gogas	586-9043	pfgogas@yahoo.com	
CONSERVATION CHAIR	Bob Dean	754-5887	goldrushdean@yahoo.com	
EDUCATION CHAIR	OPEN			
FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR	Jennie Haas	962-4759	jhaas953@gmail.com	
GROWING AREA MGR.	Stephanie Garcia	586-3593	sjgarcia@mlode.com	
HOSPITALITY COORD.	OPEN			
INVASIVE EXOTICS	Rebecca Andrade	591-7996	r.andrade218@gmail.com	
MERCH./SALES COORD.	Diane Williams	586-1557	dianewilliams3664@gmail.com	
MEMBERSHIP COORD.	Jennie Haas	962-4759	jhaas953@gmail.com	
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Doug Krajnovich	580-4595	djkran@comcast.net	
PLANT SALES CHAIR	Stephanie Garcia	586-3593	sjgarcia@mlode.com	
SPRING PLANT SALES COORD.	Judy Dean	754-5887	No E-Mail	
PROGRAM COMM. CHAIR	OPEN			
PUBLICITY COORD.	OPEN			