



The Shooting Star

SIERRA FOOTHILLS CHAPTER

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2018

November Meeting and Program

Patrick Matthew's Redwoods

Presenter: Peggy Edwards

Thursday, November 1, 6:00 p.m.

Tuolumne County Library Meeting Room

480 Greenley Rd., Sonora

– In 1853 in the tradition of the great plant hunters the race to send the first *Sequoiadendron giganteum* seeds to the United Kingdom was on. The first seeds from the Calaveras Grove to arrive in Scotland were shipped to Patrick Matthew of Errol whose acquisition was eclipsed four months later by William Lobb's delivery of seeds to Exeter. 165 years later Matthew is finally receiving the credit he deserves while the original redwoods (confirmed by genetic analysis) thrive, towering above all other woodland trees on the great estates of the Victorian era.

– Peggy Edwards, teacher and natural science illustrator (UC Berkeley & UCSC), is a frequent visitor to Scotland helping with botanical projects for Save Gillies Hill and the Carse of Gowrie Sustainability Group; and fundraising for Trees for Life. Peggy was a founding member of our CNPS Chapter. She was instrumental in setting up the chapter and by-laws and served as one of our first co-Presidents with Kathy Burnett.

Elections for 2019 Chapter Board of Directors

It's time to hold elections for our Chapter Board of Directors. We have several vacancies and would like to have Chapter members come forward to fill them. The slate of elected officers is as follows:

- **President: vacant**
- **Vice President, Amador County: vacant**
- Vice President, Calaveras County: Judy Dean
- Vice President, Mariposa County: David Campbell
- **Vice President, Tuolumne County: vacant**
- Secretary: Stephanie Garcia
- Treasurer: Pat Gogas

We will take nominations up to voting time at the November 1st meeting.

We also would like to fill the **Education Chair** position which is being vacated by Margaret Klein and the **Publicity Coordinator** position which has been vacant for four years after Conny Simonis vacated the position. Both of these positions are non-elected positions on the board. Please consider volunteering to take on one of these positions and come help us do good work for native plants in our Chapter area.

For more information about the positions, or to volunteer to take on an active role in our Chapter, contact Jennie at jhaas953@gmail.com or 209-962-4759.

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!

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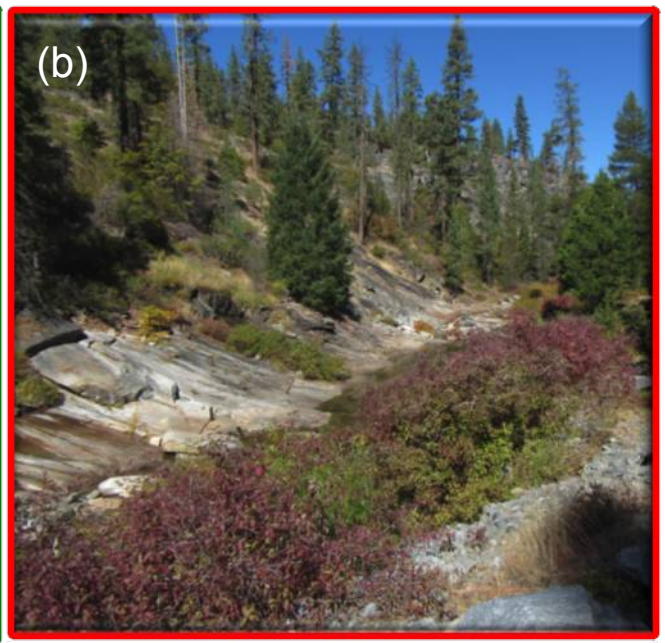
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*Dedicated to the Preservation of
California Native Flora.*

FIELD TRIPS

The weather for our final 2018 field trip on October 13th couldn't have been more perfect. Not too warm, not too cool... perfect. This wasn't our typical high elevation tour of aspen stands, although we did check out several along our way. The highest elevation that we reached along Forest Road 3N01 was about 6,400 feet. We were a bit early, color-wise. Some things were well into fall colors while most were just beginning. However, that didn't stop us from seeing cool plants. The American dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) lining the Clavey River were a stunning deep red. At a seep south of the Reynolds Creek crossing, we saw brilliant red berries on the yellow foliage of baneberry (*Actaea rubra*). The fireweed (*Chamerion angustifolium ssp. circumvagum*) at this same seep was impressive with tufts of seed plumes emerging from seed pods at the tops of the tall plants. We also saw a few shrubs of purpleflower honeysuckle (*Lonicera conjugialis*), with their small, light orange, upside-down-heart-shaped fruit. There was a lot to see and a lot to talk about. It was a great day! – Jennie Haas



(a) Bob Dean checks out developing colors in an aspen grove along Rd. 3N01. (b) Brilliant deep red of American dogwood colors the greenery along the Clavey River. (c) Gayle Wilson, Bob Dean, and Nancy Piekarczyk check out plants growing out of this rock wall at the Clavey River crossing on Rd. 3N01. (d) Plumes of cottony fluff containing tiny seeds emerge from the cylindrical seed pods of a fireweed plant. (Photos © Jennie Haas)

Field Trips: looking back on 2018 and forward to 2019

The Sierra Foothills chapter scheduled sixteen field trips & volunteer opportunities between February and October of 2018. Of these, thirteen actually took place – an 81% success rate! Three had to be canceled: one due to Hwy. 49 damage; one due to uncooperative wildflowers; one due to Ferguson fire disruptions. We'll start planning the 2019 field trip season sometime in January or early February. If you have ideas for next year, send them to Jennie at jhaas953@gmail.com or give her a call at 209-962-4759.

What's Blooming?

September 25. Your editor checked to see if anything was blooming at Hite Cove after the Ferguson Fire. The HC trailhead at Redbud Lodge is closed, but Hite Mine Road was still open from Indian Flat to Pinoche Ridge and down the other side. Here is a view from the ridge, looking down on the south fork and the mining settlement:



Despite the devastation, things looked almost normal in the immediate vicinity of the south fork. I found California Fuchsia blooming; two species of Goldenrod; Naked-stemmed Buckwheat; California Button-willow; small amounts of a few others. This well-protected “green zone” was only a few tens of meters wide.



CNPS Sierra Foothills Chapter
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Chapter Officers and Chairpersons (All phone #'s are 209 area code unless otherwise specified.)				JOIN NOW
PRESIDENT	OPEN			PLEASE INCLUDE ME AS A CNPS MEMBER! Student/Retired/Limited income ...\$25 Individual \$45 Family or Group \$75 Library..... \$75 Plant Lover \$100 Patron.....\$300 Benefactor \$600 Mariposa Lily..... \$1,500 As always, donations above the membership level chosen will be greatly appreciated. Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____ e-mail _____ (Dues and gifts to CNPS are tax deductible) 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> . E-mail: sierrafoothillscnps@gmail.com
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