



The Shooting Star

SIERRA FOOTHILLS CHAPTER

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2015

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The Kral Garden
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October Meeting Program: **CNPS NATIVE PLANT SALE** **Native Plants** **for Fall Planting**

OCTOBER 1st, 7 pm
Sonora Library

Our speaker for October will be Stephanie Garcia talking about native plants for fall planting with a focus on the species that will be available at the Fall Plant Sale, October 24th at Rocca Park in Jamestown. Stephanie will have demo plants to look at and she'll give information on the best sites and growing conditions for them.

OCTOBER 24th

Join us at one of our favorite events of the year, our fall plant sale. This drought year has many of us thinking about including drought tolerant plants in our garden. As you look for plants that need less summer water, don't forget to include California natives. For many of our natives, summer is their dormant season. So, once established, they need less summer water; some require little to no summer water at all!

Our sale is on Saturday, October 24, from 9 am 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 sum-

mer 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 trucks or a 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.

Calaveras and Amador Counties:

We offer you strength and peace in this time of transition following the Butte Fire.

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
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Sierra Foothills Chapter
www.sierrafoothillscnps.org

Dedicated to the Preservation of California Native Flora.

Field Trips



There are already fall colors starting to come on. Dogwoods are starting to turn in Yosemite. Willows are turning yellow. There are reports of aspens starting to turn on the eastside of the Sierras. The cold snap in mid-September will bring on more color. We're in for a treat.

October 17 – Fall Colors. Leader: Jennie Haas. Hiking level: very easy (car tour with limited, flat ground walking). Our route will be Highway 120 over Tioga Pass, south to June Lake, then as time allows, to Conway Summit. An earlier plan was to take our always popular route on Highway 4 over Ebbetts Pass and return home by way of Hope Valley and Carson Pass. However, there are reports that from Sonora Pass northward, aspens are already dropping their leaves due to black spot fungus. One estimate was that about half of the trees had already lost their leaves. So, we'll take the Highway 120 route which is normally quite fabulous and, so far, has no reports of mass leaf loss. We'll have lunch at the Whoa Nellie Deli in Lee Vining (home of the world famous fish tacos). We'll meet at 9:00a.m. at the Groveland Library and Museum parking lot, on Highway 120, next to Mary Lavaroni Park. Please **RSVP by October 15th**. For information, contact Jennie at (209) 962-4759, jhaas953@gmail.com. Also check out the website <http://www.californiafallcolor.com/> for the current status of fall colors and a taste of the views we'll be seeing.

You'll want to bring water, sunscreen and appropriate clothing and footwear. Temperatures can be on the cool side at these higher elevations. Carpooling is encouraged. Call ahead if the weather looks iffy. We'll cancel if there is rain or snow. Check http://www.twitter.com/SIE_CNPS for updates.

Our field trips are open to everyone, including non-members. 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.

If you would like to be on our field trip alerts e-mail list, send an e-mail to Jennie at jhaas953@gmail.com.

--Jennie Haas, Field Trip Coordinator

SIERRA ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY'S 2015 FALL GALA

**ROCKING WITH ROCKS
THE HOWS AND WHYS OF ROCK GARDENS**

**FREE PRESENTATION BY JERRY KRAL
OF ROCHESTER NEW YORK
THURSDAY EVENING, OCT. 22
DOORS OPEN AT 6:00; SPEAKER AT 7:00
STAGE 3 THEATER, SONORA**

Please join fellow plant enthusiasts for a wonderful and *free* evening featuring a presentation by horticulturalist supreme, Jerry Kral. After explaining the usefulness of rock gardens, he will then introduce us to the different styles of rock gardens and show us how to make them. This conifer expert will also teach us ways to improve the gardens we already have.

Starting at 6:00 pm, the local rock garden members will treat everyone to tasty finger foods, beverages, conversation, and a chance to meet Jerry. He will give his power point presentation at 7 pm. Call Val Myrick, 533-3193, for more information.

Bryophyte Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

Ever wonder about those emerald jewels you find in the woods? Now there is a chapter to learn more about these non-vascular plants that are mosses, liverworts and hornworts.

As a CNPS member, you can join this chapter for **FREE** as your secondary chapter.

Just go to the CNPS.org webpage and login and request the Bryophyte chapter as your second chapter. You can also call CNPS directly at:

(916) 447-2677

For more information, contact:

bryophytechaptercnps@gmail.com

Gardening with Natives Symposium - a Success

Our Gardening with Natives symposium was held September 12th with the possibility looming that we might be asked to vacate the building due to the Butte Fire. We were informed at 4:30pm the previous day that because CalFire was taking over the Calaveras Fairgrounds, the Red Cross might need our building to run an evacuation center. We were able to hold the symposium without vacating the building.

Two speakers, Scott Oneto and Judy Dean had to cancel because of the fire. They and their families, including our Chapter President Bob Dean, had to evacuate their homes. Our hearts go out to them and everyone else affected by the Butte Fire, in this very challenging time.

Janet Cobb, with the California Wildlife Foundation/California Oaks, spoke about the need to preserve our native oak woodland areas as the oak trees have been a major environmental factor throughout California's history. A food source for numerous animal species as well as a staple for the Native American Indians. With California's population projected to dramatically increase, people should all consider what can be done to set aside land for permanent conservation. Janet Cobb as well as Alrie Middlebrook, another morning speaker, stressed the need to involve school children in learning about ecology and the environment. What we are able to set aside in permanent open space or save in conservation easements will be the heritage of our children and grandchildren.

Frank Garcia, of the Sonora Wildcat Ranch, spoke briefly about how Sonora High School is currently engaging between 200 to 300 hundred students at their Ranch at Tuolumne and Wards Ferry Roads in Sonora.

They are not only using it as a learning area for growing plants but for other classes such as fire science and welding/building construction. He hopes to expand their program to include field trips for the local elementary schools. As Janet and Alrie stressed, The Wild Cat Ranch is engaging the children now in learning about the environment.

Steve Bickford, a local arborist, and Susie Kocher, a forester, explained that an arborist concerns themselves with one tree at a time while the forester looks at groups of trees. Steve stressed the need to watch the root zone of trees, the 2 to 4 feet of soil around the tree to avoid activities that may cause compaction. Susie discussed the types of beetle infestations in pines and how the drought has increased stress on the trees and therefore allowed more severe infestations. Both recommended watering our drought-stressed native trees.

Alrie Middlebrook, California Native Garden Foundation and Middlebrook Gardens, discussed environmental sustainability and planting with diversity in mind. She is using her garden in San Jose as a teaching tool for local environmental ecosystems and how to get students involved in nutritional planting.

Marlys Bell, a Master Gardener and owner of Bel Giardino of Columbia, showed examples of native planting and local sustainable gardening. She stressed diversity in plantings for sun and shade to make your own landscape aesthetically pleasing while considering wildlife needs, drought tolerance and energy conservation.

The final panel discussion of Marlys Bell, Alrie Middlebrook, and Stephanie Garcia answered some specific questions on local gardening problems.

A special thank you to the Master Gardeners for setting up food and snacks and the Cover Ranch for sandwiches and cookies for lunch.

Thanks also goes to Jennie Haas and Stephanie Garcia for stepping up and making sure all went well.

--Pat Gogas, Vice President Tuolumne County

List of Available Plants at the Fall Native Plant Sale Saturday, October 24

9 am—12 pm

Achillea millefolium	Black Butte
Arctostaphylos	Emerald Carpet
Arctostaphylos densiflora	Howard McMinn
Asclepias speciosa	Showy Milkweed
Baccharis pilularis	Coyote Bush
Baccharis pilularis	Twin Peaks
Berberis aquilifolium	Compacta Oregon Grape
Calycanthus occidentalis	Spice Bush
Carpenteria californica	Bush Anemone
Ceanothus	Anchor Bay
Ceanothus	Emily Brown
Ceanothus	Ray Hartman
Ceanothus	Concha
Ceanothus	Julia Phelps
Ceanothus cuneatus	Buckbrush
Cercis occidentalis	Western Redbud
Chilopsis	Burgundy
Cornus nuttallii	Western Dogwood
Epilobium canum	Cloverdale
Epilobium canum	Silver Select
Epilobium	Everett's Choice
Epilobium	Select Mottole
Epilobium	Sierra Salmon
Eriogonum fasciculatum	California Buckwheat
Eriogonum umb. polyanthum	Shasta Sulfur
Festuca idahoensis	Siskyou Blue
Fremontedendron	Ken Taylor
Fremontedendron	San Gabriel
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon
Lilium pardalinum	Leopard Lily
Lupinus albifrons	Silver Bush Lupine
Mimulus aurantiacus	Golden Sticky Mkyflwr
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deer Grass
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deer Grass
Penstemon heterophylla	Margaret B.O.P.
Penstemon speciosus	Showy Penstemon
Philadelphus lewisii	Goose Creek
Physocarpus capitatus	Western Ninebark
Rhamnus californica	Coffeeberry Eve Case
Rhamnus crocea ssp. ilicifolia	Holly Leaf Redberry
Romneya coulteri	Matilija Poppy
Salvia	Bee's Bliss
Salvia apiana	White Sage
Salvia clevelandii	Whirley Blue
Salvia clevelandii	Winnifred Gillman
Salvia clevelandii	'Bee's Bliss'
Salvia spathacea	Hummingbird Sage
Sambucus mexicana	Blue Elderberry
Trichostema lanatum	Woolly Blue Curls
Vaccinium ovatum	Blue Madonna



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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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 _____
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 (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 Fremontia, CNPS Bulletin and the Sierra Foothills monthly newsletter, The Shooting Star.