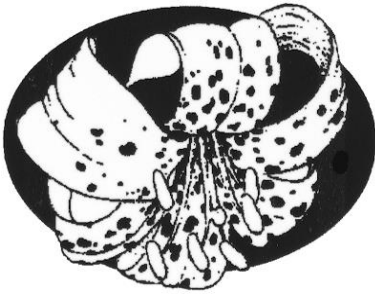


July / August 2019



Milo Baker Chapter California Native Plant Society

Calendar

7/13	Kenwood Marsh Trip
7/14	Conservation and Sierra Club Gathering
7/15-	Stillwater Cove
7/17	Camping Trip
7/18	CNPS presentation at Laguna Foundation
8/15	Submissions deadline: September Newsletter
8/17	Fairfield Osborn Preserve
8/18	Chapter Picnic

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August Meeting: Members' Annual Chapter Picnic
Sunday, August 18, 2019 3 P.M.
Santa Rosa, CA

The chapter picnic this year will be held in Santa Rosa at the home of
Leia Giambastiani.



Leia's garden has been featured as a native plant garden on the Eco-Friendly Garden Tour. Her garden includes a native grass lawn, native landscaping and vegetable garden. It will be a wonderful place to meet friends, enjoy the summer afternoon and share a potluck dinner.

We will begin to assemble at 3 P.M. and serve dinner at 4:30. Bring your own utensils and a dish to share. Beverages will be provided. Parking is limited so please carpool if possible. For more information, the address and directions, please contact Liz Parsons lizpar8993@aol.com or 707 833-2063.



Note: There is no general meeting in July

General Meetings are held at 7:30pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Ave, Santa Rosa. Milo Baker Chapter Board meetings are held at 7 pm on the 2nd Tuesday nine months of the year, Environmental Center, 55 Ridgeway Ave, Ste A, Santa Rosa. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!

Chapter News

A Message from our Chapter President

The California Native Plant Society consists of 35 chapters in California and the most recently added are Baja California and a Bryophyte Chapter. The Milo Baker chapter covers most of Sonoma County with the exception of the far northern coastal area, which is part of the Dorothy King Young Chapter. CNPS has two ruling bodies: a Board of Directors and a Chapter Council. The Board is made up of officers and 5 directors plus 2 representatives from the Chapter Council. The Chapter Council is made up of one delegate from each chapter and they together determine policy for the organization. Both groups meet together quarterly at different locations around the state, hosted by the local chapters. Milo Baker hosted in September of 2017 in Kenwood, shortly before the fires.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the June meeting at a beautiful UC Preserve, high above San Jose in a gorgeous open Blue Oak savanna. It was hard to believe that Silicon Valley was only 5 miles away. The meeting lasted all one day with discussions of conservation work at the state level involving fire related legislation, stopping the huge new city planned at Tejon Ranch by L.A., new funding for rare plant seed banking and the California Biodiversity Initiative. The next state conservation conference will be held in autumn of 2021. Revised Fire Recovery Guide will be out soon. Much time was spent on administrative topics and a call for self-nominations of officers and directors for next year.

The meetings are always educational and take the discussion to the level of state wide policy and priorities. Plus it is always interesting to hear what is happening in other chapters, what went well for them and to benefit from their perspectives.

Much more information is available on each of these conservation topics on the CNPS.org website. The next Chapter Council meeting is September 6-8 in Santa Cruz. It is open to any member. Please contact me if you want to attend or if you want more information on the June meeting.

🦋 Wendy Smit
Milo Baker Chapter President

Fieldtrip Report

Saddle Mountain, Sonoma County Open Space Preserve

May 26, 2019

A few pleasant drops of light rain didn't thwart our initial CNPS - Milo Baker trip to this preserve, nestled in the upper southern Mark West Creek watershed, off Calistoga Road northeast of Santa Rosa. While showy wildflower displays were dampened, blossoms reluctant to open their faces to a spritzing, our human spirits were light and joyous with new trails to explore.



Photo taken by Ruthie Saia.

The vegetation – grassland, oak woodlands, riparian scrub, Douglas-fir and redwood forests -- provided a palette of diverse textures to the landscape, each providing something a bit different in terms of species composition. Notably, this area did not burn at all in the

2017 wild fires, and the accumulation of fine fuels in the forest understory is notable. We also did not reach any of the preserve's serpentinite (California's official state mineral) outcrops, although we did see a few of serpentine's stray denizens along our way - Sargent cypress (*Hesperocyparis sargentii* [Cupressaceae] and white hedge-nettle (*Stachys albens* [Lamiaceae]).

Although we were too late in the spring to see Jepson leptosiphon (*Leptosiphon jepsonii* [Polemoniaceae; CA rare plant rank 1B.2), we found Napa false indigo (*Amorpha californica* var. *napensis* [Fabaceae]) on the verge of flowering; this taxon is ranked 1B.2 by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife, in conjunction with the CNPS Inventory.



Napa False Indigo (*Amorpha californica* var. *napensis*)

Alas, we were also stalked by the bearded creeper (*Crupina vulgaris* [Asteraceae]), a relative newcomer (locally established more than 30 years) to Sonoma County grasslands and woodlands; the California Department of Food and Agriculture includes the creeper on its A list of pest plants

<http://blogs.cdфа.ca.gov/Section3162/?p=2241>

Our chapter agreement with the Sonoma County Open Space District, affording access to organized Milo Baker plant-focused walks, was the product of efforts by Wendy Smit, Milo Baker Chapter president, and Becky Reilly, CNPS Engagement Specialist. Thank

you, Wendy and Becky, and to all, please join us on a Sonoma Open Space Preserve walk in the future!

☞ Ruthie Gaia

Fieldtrip Report

Hood Mountain, Sonoma County Regional Park

May 30, 2019

A cool weekday walk of strenuous proportions nonetheless attracted quite a gang for this CNPS Rare Plant Treasure Hunt (RPTH) event, led by CNPS RPTH manager Amy Patten. Our group's general goal was to reach the summit and beyond, to find what we could of the park's rare plants. As well, we were able to find many species characteristic of post-fire ecology. While some of us lagged - breaks to make plant discoveries, while not coincidentally gasping for air - most of us reached the summit, then a bit further to the Gunsight Rock overlook.

Among the day's notable plant observations: intact Sargent cypress woodland - a vegetation type endemic to serpentinite outcrops -- and demolished Sargent cypress woodland. I won't throw anyone in particular under the bus on the latter, but the bulldozer work seems like an ecologically errant bit of overkill; the former stand of serpentine reed grass (*Calamagrostis ophitidis*, CA rare plant rank 4.3), and individuals of rare *Ceanothus* species, in this area could no longer be located, although my survey was but a very brief look at the destroyed habitat.

Rare plant populations apparently still intact: Rincon ridge ceanothus (*Ceanothus confuses* [Rhamnaceae], CA rare plant rank 1B.1); Napa lomatium (*Lomatium repostum* [Apiaceae], rank 4.3; Sonoma penstemon (*Penstemon newberryi* ssp. *sonomensis* [Plantaginaceae], rank 1B.3, on Gunsight Rock, nearby rock outcrops), and a

post-fire , rejuvenated stand of dark-mouthed triteleia (*Triteleia lugens* [Themidaceae], rank 4.3; unfortunately, the Sonoma penstemon, 2 species of *Streptanthus*, and several other native forbs on and around Gunsight Rock have taken quite a beating at the hands and feet of *Homo sapiens* over the past few decades.



Sonoma penstemon (*Penstemon newberryi* ssp. *sonomensis*)

Plants considered typical of local post-burned landscapes were among the highlights of the newer trail from the Hood Mtn. summit to Gunsight Rock (a well-designed, much improved trail, courtesy of Regional Parks and the Sonoma Co. Trails Council): fragrant phacelia (*Phacelia suaveolens* [Boraginaceae]), California mustard (*Caulanthus lasiophyllus* [Brassicaceae], small-haired suncup (*Camissoniopsis hirtella*[Onagraceae]), and whispering bells (*Emmenanthe penduliflora* var. *penduliflora* [Boraginaceae]).

The day ended (well, about an hour from the parking lot), with a sighting of a single flame ragwort plant: *Packera greenei*[Asteraceae]. Started with smoke, end with a flame.



Single flame ragwort (*Packera greenei*)

Thank you to Ruthie Saia, Milo Baker Chapter field trips coordinator, and Amy Patten for leading the way into the wildflower wilderness!

🍷Peter Warner

Invasive Plant Committee

Weekly Ice Plant Removal

Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 PM
Doran Beach

One of the most pleasant workdays happens every week – a trip to Doran Beach to pull ice plant. We are clearing out the ice plant that is in the marshland to make room for natives. It is very visual and quite satisfying, with the sound of the waves, birds and foghorn. To join us on a Wednesday, Please text Jan to let her know that you are coming: 707-569-4724.

Meet at Penny's 1201 Garden Lane, in Sebastopol, by 9:00 to carpool OR meet at first parking lot on left after kiosk across from the walking path.

🍷Jan Lochner,
Invasive Plants Chair

Events

Kenwood Marsh Checkerbloom Conservation Site

July 13, 2019 9:30-11:00 PM
Deerfield Ranch Winery
with Kate Symonds

We'll meet a few hundred feet inside the entrance to Deerfield Ranch Winery, which is located at 10200 Sonoma Highway (Highway 12), just south of the town of Kenwood.

Kenwood marsh is the only known remaining location for the federal and state endangered Kenwood marsh checkerbloom (*Sidalcea oregano ssp. valid*) and is endemic (limited to) Sonoma County. This last known occurrence is on property owned by the Deerfield Ranch Winery.



Kenwood Marsh Checkerbloom
Sidalcea oregano ssp. valid
Federal Endangered Species

With a very short walk (few hundred yards) over grassy, uneven ground we'll visit the caged enclosures of the Kenwood marsh checkerbloom during its blooming season. Outing leader, Kate Symonds has been working with

Deerfield Ranch Winery since 2006 to promote conservation activities for the checkerbloom. Deerfield Ranch Winery owner and winemaker, Robert Rex, will be on hand to discuss the checkerbloom and their experience with stewarding an endangered plant on private land.

What to bring: We'll be in open sun - so hat, sunscreen, water. We will be close to our cars, no need for lunch or snacks. West county carpool leaves at 8:45 from Luckys in Sebastopol.

Stillwater Cove Regional Park

Camping Trip

July 15-18, 2019

With naturalist Ruthie Saia

Registration due by July 4.

It is not required to sign up for all 4 nights, sign up for as many nights as you like while spaces are available. This is a 'come-when-you-can' event. Ruthie has reserved 2 camp sites for Monday through Thursday nights. 16 people can stay overnight each night.

Fee is \$8 per night, parking \$7 per day or free with Regional park pass. \$10 per night with your friendly Dog (all pets must be leashed no longer than 6 feet, and have proof of rabies vaccination).

Campers are responsible for their own food, drinking water, tents and camping gear.

One mile up Highway 1 is Ocean Cove Lodge Bar and Grill which is another option if you do not want to camp. They serve 3 meals a day, have reasonable rates and dogs are allowed in some rooms.

Campground has coin operated showers, flush toilets, garbage receptacles, water for washing dishes, no RV hookups and is Dog friendly. Please bring your park pass if you have one. Cellular reception is zero, please don't expect to use your phone. There are raccoons that hang out at night so be prepared to secure your food, there are food lockers at each site.

What to expect: Tuesday night the 16th we will have a Potluck dinner and group campfire. (Please bring any firewood you want to share.) Wednesday Ruthie will be celebrating her birthday.

Ruthie will have one planned field trip a day to the Cove trails and other Beaches or Bluff trails, like Stump Beach and Fisk Mill, which

are up Highway 1. These will be Collaborative knowledge plant identification and exploratory hikes. Ruthie will bring field guides and plant books to share, please bring your favorites to add to our little library.

Ruthie will be available to guide you onto many of the hidden cove trails in the park. The park features a picturesque crescent beach and trails through Redwood forest and ocean bluffs.

There are more than 3 miles of trails, the Canyon Loop trail follows Stockhoff Creek through a canyon of Redwoods filled with ferns, Fringed Corn Lily, Death Camas Lily, Salmon Berry, Rhododendrons, Swamp Harebell, Andrews Clintonia, and Leopard Lilies. Let's see what else we can find!

How to register:

Please Email ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com or call. Put 'Camping Trip' in the subject line. Include how many members, date of arrival and departure, how many nights you will be camping.

Payments to reserve your spot made to Ruthie Saia. Check, Cash or PayPal.
9541 Graton Road Sebastopol Ca. 95472
707-322-7462

Fairfield Osborn Preserve

August 17, 2019 10:00-3:00 PM
Deerfield Ranch Winery
with Naturalist Ruthie Saia

Attendance Limit: 10
RSVP required to ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com

This will be another opportunity to explore Sonoma Mountain and connect with this powerful sense of place. We will take a moderately strenuous 4 mile hike up to the Summit reaching 2300 foot elevation, with views of all of Sonoma County.

We will walk through Bay forest, riparian forest, mixed evergreen, grassland, oak woodland and the Copland creek watershed.

While botanizing and learning about whatever plants and trees interest you, and seeing what is still blooming in summer, we will open to connection with those plants using our five senses and the elements.

As humans we are utterly dependent upon plants to cover all of our needs, fuel, shelter clothing, medicine and petrochemicals and food. As we enter their home we will offer them our debt of gratitude for their unconditional giving. They also give us joy, richness and significance in life, we will seek this ecstatic union with nature as medicine for our soul and body. "Ecstatic union with nature is necessary for normal health. It is necessary for survival." Eliot Cowan

This will be a mountain top experience in the middle of summer, be prepared for heat and sun, bringing hat, parasol, sunscreen, light layers, and lots of water and food. Bring bandana, light towel or tarp to lay on ground.

Meet in the parking lot at 6543 Lichau Road, Penngrove. Directions from Cotati, East on East Cotati Road, Right on Petaluma Hill Road, Left on Roberts Road, Right on Lichau, follow nearly to the end, turning right at the Preserve sign. Carpooling is encouraged.
Sorry no dogs.

Ruthie Saia
Field Trip Coordinator CNPS
707-322-7462

Upcoming Field Trips

9/19 Fairfield Osborn Preserve/ Kerry Winger
10/5 SRJC Landscapes/ April Owens
10/27 Fairfield Osborn Preserve/ Treegirl

Community Events

Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation

Restoration, Biodiversity, and Our Role in
21st Century California

July 18, 2019 6:30-8:30 PM

Presentation by Dan Gluesenkamp, Executive
Director of the California Native Plant Society

900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Lagunafoundation.org or (707) 527-9277 for more
information
\$14 (non-refundable) Pre-registration required

For over 50 years, our community has worked to save and restore California's celebrated wild gardens, from Joshua Tree to Point Reyes to our Laguna de Santa Rosa. During those decades, the human population has doubled and biodiversity conservation in California has been dramatically transformed. Against all odds, using a growing diversity of conceptual and technical approaches, we have somehow managed to save most of what makes California special. As we look ahead, we see new threats and wonder how to save California for the future.

Sonoma County Conservation Council and Sierra Club

Summer Gathering and Potluck

July 14, 2019 4:00-7:00 PM

Spring Lake Park, Santa Rosa
Shady Oaks Picnic Area

Featuring Poetry in Nature with Michael Sheffield
Bring: Plate & fork, and food to share.

Questions? Ask Wendy K at 707 544-4582 or
wlk@sonic.net

Pepperwood Preserve

Gardening with Native Plants Workshop

September 28, 2019 9:00-3:00 PM

Pepperwood Preserve, Dwight Center

\$35 for nonmembers, (\$30 for members), for age 13
and up

Spend the day at Pepperwood exploring the benefits and how-tos of gardening with native plants! Led by a team of experts from the Milo Baker Chapter of CNPS, this workshop will give you the knowledge and skills you need to nurture a garden that provides both beauty and habitat.

For more information and registration go to
pepperwoodpreserve.org or call Holland at (707)
591-9310 x124 or email
hgistelli@pepperwoodpreserve.org

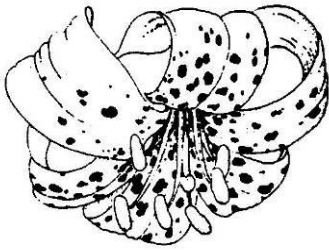
Raise Funds while Grocery Shopping!

eScrip is a program where merchants donate a percentage (usually 3%) of your purchase to local schools and nonprofit organizations.

To register: go to
escrip.com, choose
"Milo Baker-CA
Native Plant
Society" and
complete the
enrollment steps.

This is an easy way to help support our chapter!





CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Milo Baker Chapter milobaker.cnps.org
PO Box 892
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage Paid
Santa Rosa, CA
Permit #470

Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense
Pitkin lily

Newsletter & Web Site Info:

Send newsletter submissions to:
Editor, cnpsmbnewsletter@yahoo.com
Deadline for inclusion in the September Newsletter is August 15th.
The chapter website milobaker.cnps.org contains a wealth of information plus current and archived newsletters.
For newsletter mailing/membership issues, contact: cnpsmbmembership@gmail.com

Milo Baker Chapter Officers & Board of Directors 2017/2018

President:	Wendy Smit	707-481-3765, wsmit8000@gmail.com
Past President:	Leia Giambastiani	707-322-6722, leiagia@gmail.com
Vice President:	Liz Parsons	707-833-2063, lizpar8993@aol.com
Secretary:	Kerry Wininger	707-888-5616, kerrywininger@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Jim Piercy	707-539-3441, terrapenecarolinamajor@yahoo.com
Conservation Chair:	Sean McNeil	707-480-2965, seanmcneil0@gmail.com
Cunningham Marsh:	Marcia Johnson	owlsnesttwo@att.net
Director at Large:	Penny Dalton	
Director at Large:	Cody Ender	codyender@gmail.com
Director at Large:	OPEN	
Field Trips:	Ruthie Saia	707-322-7462, ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com
Horticulture Chair:	April Owens	707-331-2070, aprilleeowens@gmail.com
Hospitality:	Becky Montgomery	707-573-0103, montyb@sonic.net
Hospitality:	Liz Parsons	707-833-2063, lizpar8993@aol.com
Invasive Plant Chair:	Jan Lochner	707-569-4724, 4lochs@comcast.net
Membership:	Susan Dean	cnpsmbmembership@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor:	Caprice Disbrow	707-322-5119, cnpsmbnewsletter@yahoo.com
Outreach Co-Chair:	Virginia Hotz-Steenhoven,	707-528-6030 vsteenhoven@sonic.net
Plant Sale:	Liz Parsons	707-833-2063, lizpar8993@aol.com
Programs/Lectures:	Virginia Hotz-Steenhoven,	vsteenhoven@sonic.net
Plant Nursery Chair	Betty Young	707-595-1463, youngb0721@msn.com
Publicity:	OPEN	
Rincon Ridge Park:	Michelle Karle	michelle_karle@hotmail.com
Sales Chair:	Judith Rousseau	707-326-6454, jrousseau12@hotmail.com
SCCC Rep.:	Wendy Krupnick	707-544-4582, wlk@sonic.net
Southridge Preserve:	Michelle Karle	michelle_karle@hotmail.com
SRJC Rep.:	OPEN	
SSU Rep.:	OPEN	
Web Site:	Molly Levitt	cnpsmb.webadm@gmail.com
Vine Hill Preserve:	Sarah Gordon	707-833-1243, sarahpgordon@gmail.com

We invite you to join CNPS

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Chapter affiliation:

Milo Baker (Sonoma County)

Other county _____

Membership category:

Student or Limited Income..... \$25

Individual.....\$45

Family, Group or Library.....\$75

Plant Lover.....\$100

Patron.....\$300

Benefactor.....\$600

Mariposa Lily.....\$1500

New Member Renewal

Make check payable to CNPS and mail to:
CNPS, 2707 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816

To pay by credit card or for more info call
(916) 447.2677 or visit www.cnps.org