March 2020

Milo Baker Chapter
California Native Plant Society

Calendar

3/4	Ice Plant Removal
3/7	Moss Walk at Annadel State Park
3/11	Ice Plant Removal
3/15	Submissions deadline: April Newsletter
3/17	General Meeting
3/18,25	Ice Plant Removal
3/24	Rincon Ridge and Southridge Preserve
3/30	Pepperwood Preserve Hike

Table of Contents

Calendar	1
General Meeting	1
Chapter News	2
Horticulture Committee	3
Invasive Update	4
Events	4-7
Milo Baker Officers	8

General Meeting March 17, 2020 7:30 PM
Discovering Mono County Plants with Ann Howald

Ann is a retired botanist who attended UC Santa Barbara, and was a teacher, consultant, and agency botanist during her working life. Her retirement project is to complete an annotated checklist of the plants of Mono County, where she now lives in the summer in her Airstream trailer, a used model refurbished as her botany lab. Her winter work takes her to herbaria all over the state, where she studies plant collections from Mono County made by others. She is also a volunteer for Sonoma County Parks, CA State Parks, the BLM, the Mono Lake Committee, and other non-profits, and a fieldtrip leader and weed puller for the Milo Baker and Bristlecone chapters of CNPS. Her presentation will highlight beautiful and rare plants from the far corners of Mono County, including several Nevada species newly discovered to occur in California.

Join us for dinner before the General Meeting: We'll gather for dinner at 5:45 pm at Kirin Restaurant, 2700 Yulupa Ave. We hope our speakers will join us, but we always have an enjoyable group of fellow members and a delicious Northern Chinese meal, in any case. Please contact Liz Parsons at 833-2063 or lizpar8993@aol.com before noon on the day of the meeting, if you plan to attend.

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

Almost every month of the year your Milo Baker board and volunteers welcome members and the public to Santa Rosa for our Regular Meeting. These meetings happen as if by magic yet behind the scenes is a small army of inspirational women. Liz Parsons and Becky Montgomery kick off the evening setting up chairs, readying hot water and goodies. Next comes Judith setting up books and t-shirts, often assisted by Betty Young and Penny Dalton. Soon after Lea Davis comes with a microscope and Cindy Tancreto with the

plants for the raffle. For months ahead Virginia Hotz-Steenhoven has researched and beseeched possible presenters for our programs. She checks and rechecks to gather bio information and a description for the newsletter. At the door, Becky greets the public with her big smile and unforgettable laugh as she hands out raffle tickets and encourages name tags and sign-ins.
Becky has been our hospitality chairperson since December of 2004! For more than 15 years she has faithfully hosted our beloved meetings. Becky has decided it's time to pass the baton. Last month she trained a new hospitality person, Karen Thompson. Welcome, Karen to our industrious hospitality group!

Wendy Smit
Milo Baker Chapter President

Eco-Friendly Garden Tour and Spring Plant Sale

Get in the mood for spring by putting the Garden Tour and Plant Sale on your calendar for Saturday, May 2nd. The garden tour will be from 10am to 4pm. The plant sale at our nursery on the Laguna Environmental Center property will be from 10am – 2pm.

We have 5 native gardens on the tour. There will be a total of 30 gardens throughout Sonoma and Marin counties. Our native gardens supported by CNPS, the Water Department and Habitat Corridor Project feature lawn removal and the creation of demonstrations of Fire-Resistant Native Planting, Habitat Planting, and Planting Under Oaks. These gardens, designed by April Owens, are conveniently located along Elliott Ave on the north side of Santa Rosa Junior College campus in Santa Rosa. The native garden in Roseland is a lovely habitat garden demonstrating how much you can do with a small space. As always, the native garden at the Laguna Environmental Center will be open. Check out our new Monarch Butterfly planting of milkweed and companion plants. To check out the garden information and to register for the tour go to: http://www.savingwaterpartnership.org/eco-friendly-garden-tour/ .

If you have volunteered before you should have received an e-mail from us about

volunteering this year. If you did not receive that e-mail and would like to help in a garden contact Marcia Johnson, owlsnesttwo@att.net. If you would like to help at the plant sale contact Cindy Tancreto, cindytancreto@gmail.com .
We hope to see you on the tour or at the sale on May 2nd.

Betty Young
Nursery and Garden Tour Chair

In the March Garden

"Earth laughs in flowers."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

This quote is so perfect for late winter to early spring gardens where the little blooms surprise us after the cold and gloomy darker days in the California native garden. As the sun comes out and warmer weather begins, and the California native plants quickly begin to bloom feeding our pollinators and our souls.

Our horticulture crew is busy preparing for the May 2nd Eco - Friendly Garden Tour. Sign up online for this free tour at www.savingwaterpartnership.org/eco-friendly-garden-tour/. Our nursery volunteers are preparing for the plant sale on that day at the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation and CNPS Milo Baker state of the art nursery. More to come in the next few months about that! Make sure to get there early to grab up your favorites. We also are putting the finishing touches on the gardens at the Santa Rosa Junior College - our partnership on creating these demonstration gardens called the Sonoma County Living Learning Landscapes has worked hard to create a place to view native gardens and download FREE planting and irrigation plans. Completely volunteer installed! Two gardens are finished, two to go for this Spring. Join us on a volunteer workday most Fridays from 10am-noon. LivingLearningLandscapes.com or email aprilleeowens@gmail.com for more information.

Any California native plant photographers out there? We would love to highlight what you've captured on your adventures in our social media and website. Get in touch, we will credit your work!

Star of the show this month: California Lilacs (Ceanothus species). Some of our favorites are the coastal groundcover form Anchor Bay California Lilac (Ceanothus 'Anchor Bay') and the shrubby species Blue Blossom California Lilac (Ceanothus thrysiflorous). Ceanothus 'Anchor Bay' is a selection from just over the county line in Mendocino County and Ceanothus thrysiflorous occurs pretty much all over the coast in California. They both have the signature purple flowers, but Anchor Bay is dark purple and Blue Blossom larger and paler typically. Their forms are quite different which is what's so great about so many of our California native plants in one genera of plants you get a groundcover and a pretty large shrub and a bunch of forms in between so choose carefully for your garden.

The Horticulture Committee

Invasive Plant Corner

Weekly Ice Plant Removal

Wednesdays 9-12pm
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. Bring clippers if you have them.

Jan Lochner,
Invasive Plants Chair

Got BROOM? Borrow a puller!

The chapter is anxious to lend out our broom pullers to help you eradicate this plant from your property. We have one large and 2 small ones.

If you have never played with one, you will love the ease with which they pull that broom out of the soft winter ground. If you have a large area, you can ask for help from the invasive team.

Broom pullers will be loaned out at the general meeting (pick up and return) through Jan Lochner. Please contact her if you are in want of one. 797 569-4724 4lochs@comcast.net

You will need a Driver's License for ID and security.

Nursery Request

Our CNPS nursery needs help picking up potting mix. Several times a year we pick up potting media from Grab and Grow on Llano Rd to bring back to the nursery to be pasteurized and used to grow plants for our 2 plant sales. If you have a full size truck and would be willing to go with me to Grab & Grow to pick up 1 or 2 cubic yards of potting media and take to our nursery at the Laguna Foundation, please contact me at 695-4257 or youngb0721@msn.com . Thanks in advance.

Betty Young
Nursery and Garden Tour Chair

Events

Moss Walk at Annadel State Park

Saturday March 7, 2020 10-2pm
With Ben Carter

Join us as we take a moss walk at Trione-Annadel State Park. We will start at the Warren Richardson trail. This trail (fire road) begins at the parking lot at the end of Channel drive and goes uphill through a forest of Douglas fir, Bay and Redwood trees. At the 900 foot elevation the forest gives way to open meadows. Looking for microscopic mosses we will head down the steep Steve S trail that is quite shaded by firs and bay trees. This trail can be rocky and uneven.

Bring hand lens. We will have some extras if you don't have one.

Please wear hiking shoes, layers, bring bag lunch and water. No dogs. Heavy rain cancels.

We will start at the paid parking lot inside the park on the Warren Richardson trailhead. There is a fee ($7.00) for parking so coming early is good, and carpooling encouraged.

Where: 6201 Channel Dr. Santa Rosa

Carpoolers can meet at 9:15 at the Santa Rosa Park and Ride 1350 Maple Ave. Leaving at 9:30.

Ben Carter is a Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences San Jose State University.

Milo Baker Rincon Ridge Preserve/ Southridge Preserve

Tuesday March 24, 2020 3-5pm
With Michelle Karle, Preserve Manager

Southridge Ceanothus *Ceanothus confusus. Photo Gary Hundt.*

Easy walk with spring blooms and fire-adapted chaparral plants in recovery mode from 2017 Tubbs Fire. Hike will be approximately 1/4 mile at cautionary speed to protect fragile (baby) plants.

Hat, sun protection and water are good ideas. Boots not necessary but sandals not recommended— potential for unpleasant weed seeds. No dogs please. No bathroom on site. No rsvp, no limits.

Where: 3949 Park Garden Drive, Santa Rosa

There will be a self-directed carpool at the River Road and 101 North PG@E Powerplant Park and Ride leaving at 2:30. West county carpool leaves at 2:30 from the Luckys parking lot under the redwoods.

Pepperwood Preserve

Monday March 30, 2020 11-3pm
With George Jackson, Pepperwood Steward

View of Mt. Saint Helena, Pepperwood Preserve

George will take us on an intimate walkabout on his homeland. We will see how the last two fires have affected the plant populations and see what wildflowers are showing up. This is a moderate intensity walk. Please bring water, bag lunch, sturdy shoes, sun protection, and hiking poles if you need them. Suggested $10 donation. No dogs allowed.

Where: 2130 Pepperwood Preserve Road, Santa Rosa

Please meet at the parking lot passed the Dwight Center at 10:45. Carpooling is encouraged. Carpoolers can meet at 10:00 at the River Rd and 101 Power plant park and ride. Leaving by 10:15.

Foothill Regional Park: Fire Followers

Friday April 10, 2020 10-2pm
With Peter Warner and Ruthie Saia

Foothill Regional Park in East Windsor is a 221-acre wilderness park in the foothills of the Mayacamas Mountains. The park features thick oak woodlands, rolling hillsides, ridge-top views, three ponds, grassy meadows, with spring wildflowers.

Foothill Regional Park burned in the Kincade fire of October 2019. The park has partially reopened with access to approximately 5 miles of trails. Much of the east side if the park remains closed. For our safety we will follow all closure notices posted in the park.

Many flowers and plants known as "fire followers" thrive after a fire has occurred. Together we will walk a gentle route, past ponds and examine how the ecosystem recovers from fire, discovering how the thriving plants, flowers, and animals have adapted to the changed habitat. Three Lakes Trail is gravel, wheelchair accessible with a gated parking and picnic area.

Bring sturdy shoes layered clothes, bag lunch and water. Friendly dogs allowed on leash.

Where: 1351 Arata Lane, Windsor

Parking is $7 or free with park pass. Carpooling is encouraged; carpoolers can meet at the River Rd, and 101 North power station park and ride, leaving at 9:30.

Sudden Oak Death at Fairfield Osborn Preserve

Tuesday April 14, 2020 11-3pm
With Kerry Wininger, SOD Program Coordinator for UCCE Sonoma County

Sonoma County has more sudden oak death (SOD) than any other area in California, with new outbreaks still appearing. Osborn Preserve is home to majestic oak woodlands along with 8 other plant communities, including dozens of native species that are susceptible to this devastating forest disease. Osborn Preserve is the location where SOD was first confirmed in the county in 2000, hosted the first fully bilingual (English and Spanish) SOD blitz citizen science event in the state last spring, and continues to be a hot bed of SOD research and educational activities. Join us for a journey across this varied and abundant landscape while learning about SOD biology and hosts, history, ecology, current state of the field, and what you can do to help protect our native oaks.

Plan to hike at least 1 mile with 200-foot elevation gain, and up to 3.5 miles with 500-foot elevation gain. Steep trails. Prepare for a journey through shady oak woodlands and sunny grasslands with ticks and insects, poison oak, and uneven terrain. Please bring a bag lunch, water, sun protection, sturdy shoes, layers with long pants. No dogs or pets are allowed.

Where: 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 wooden Fairfield Osborn Preserve sign through the gate into the parking lot. Children must be accompanied by a legal guardian. Carpooling is encouraged.

Carpool meets at Cotati Park and Ride East side of 100 at St Joseph's Way. Leaving at 10:30. Please be on time as the gate will be locked at 11:05. Phone reception is poor on the mountain.

Attendance limit 15 people. Please rsvp number of attendees and if you will meet the carpool to Ruthie at ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com, put SOD in subject line. Contact Kerry Wininger 707-888-5616 or Ruthie 707-322-7462.

Upcoming Plant Walks!

Monday 4/6/20 Elarra Preserve with owners Marc Schwager and Allison Ash, and botanist Ann Howald

Friday 4/10/20 Foothill Fire Followers with Peter Warner and Ruthie Saia

Tuesday 4/14/20 Sudden Oak Death, Fairfield Osborn with Kerry Wininger.
RSVP to ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com

Saturday 4/18/20 Garrison Canyon at Pepperwood preserve with Michele Halbur and Amber Huntington
RSVP to ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com

Saturday 4/25/20 Native Plant Wildlife Habitat garden and home landscapes with Terry Loveton
RSVP to ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com

Thursday 4/30/20 Jenner Headlands Preserve Serpentine Grasslands, Wildlands Conservancy

Sunday 5/3/20 Fitch Mountain Open Space Preserve with Kate Symonds

Saturday 5/9/20 Santa Rosa Plain Vernal Pool Wildflower Walk with Sarah Gordon
RSVP to ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com

Monday 5/11/20 Hallberg Butterfly Gardens with Evan Peterman

Sunday 5/17/20 The Cedars with Roger Raiche
RSVP to ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com

Thursday 6/4/20 Westside Water Education Center, native gardens and riparian trees and flora. With Ryan Pedrotti and Ruthie Saia

Monday 7/13-7/17 Milo Baker Member Camping trip to Stillwater Cove Regional Park with Ruthie Saia. Please go to milobaker.cnps.org for details.
RSVP to ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com

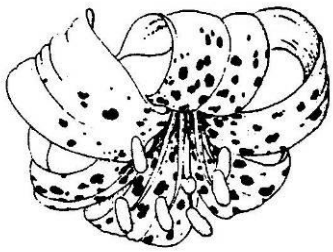
Ruthie Saia
Fieldtrip/Plant Walk Chair

Help our Milo Baker Chapter raise funds by shopping at local stores!

Our Milo Baker Chapter is a part of the eScrip program! 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!

Help us raise money for the chapter!



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Milo Baker Chapter milobaker.cnps.org
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Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense
Pitkin lily

Newsletter & Web Site Info:

Send newsletter submissions to:
Editor, cnpsmbnewsletter@yahoo.com
Deadline for inclusion in the April Newsletter is March 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 2019/2020

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:	Natasha Granoff	
Field Trips:	Ruthie Saia	707-322-7462, ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com
Horticulture Chair:	April Owens	707-331-2070, cnpsmilobakerhorticulture@gmail.com
Hospitality:	Karen Thompson	415-786-6788, ket@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	
Outreach Co-Chair:	Catherine Lipson	clipson@berkeley.edu
Plant Sale:	Liz Parsons	707-833-2063, lizpar8993@aol.com
Programs/Lectures:	Virginia Hotz-Steenhoven, vsteenhoven@sonic.net	
Nursery/Garden Tour:	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.:	Forrest Horobin	
SSU Rep.:	OPEN	
Web Site:	Natasha Granoff	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