

# Milo Baker Chapter California Native Plant Society

## Calendar

11/2	Ice Plant Removal
11/6	Ice Plant Removal
11/14	Propagation Meeting
11/15	Submissions deadline: Dec/Jan Newsletter
11/17	Fairfield Osborn Preserve Fieldtrip
11/19	General Meeting
11/20	Ice Plant Removal
12/5	SCCC Holiday Networking Party

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## Emerging From the Ashes: How Fire-shaped Communities are Responding Two Years after the 2017 Tubbs Fire

With Michelle Halbur, November 19, 2019 at 7:30 P.M.

Pepperwood serves as an integrated climate-ecosystem field station for California's Coast Ranges and facilitates productive exchanges between scientists and land managers. Prior to the 2017 Tubbs Fire, which burned over 90% of the 3,200-acre preserve, Pepperwood had been collecting weather, hydrology, and biological data via a Sentinel Site monitoring framework for nearly a decade. As climate change pushes us towards a more fire-prone future, the time is now to take a multi-disciplinary approach to collect the data our community needs in order to understand the local drivers of fire, to monitor landscape recovery, and to support resilient forest management strategies. This presentation will provide a high-level overview of pre- and



post-fire ecosystem indicators, highlight botanical observations including 12 new fire-following plant species to the preserve, showcase the beautifully recovering landscape, and describe how these findings are informing resilience strategies.

Michelle has served as Pepperwood's Preserve Ecologist since 2011. She is a Sonoma County native, attended the local Santa Rosa Junior College, received her B.S. from UC Davis in Plant Biology and a Master's from Purdue University where she studied the conservation genetics of a rare California vernal pool plant *Sebastopol meadow foam*. At Pepperwood she manages a multitude of projects that monitor the impacts of adaptive land management on the preserve and its inhabitants including Pepperwood's conservation grazing, prescribed fire, invasive weed management, and forest management programs. She also manages the Stephen J. Barnhart Herbarium and has expanded into the faunal realm supervising the Wildlife Picture Index project, Breeding Bird Survey project, as well as Pepperwood's citizen science and visiting scholar programs. Her quest to maintain a sense of wonder throughout life is fulfilled by her love of science, nature, good food and friendship, and the joy of rediscovering the magic of flowers with her children.

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](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 fall plant sale was a fun and sometimes crazy scene. One shopper commented that the nursery looked like Wal-Mart on Black Friday. Amazingly most of the plants found new homes and the last ones on the benches will go into the garden at the Laguna Foundation. For next year, there are a few logistical changes that have to be made to keep the lines moving and for more space to browse the plants. All in all though, it was very successful. There is a wave of new interest in natural plantings and gardens that cater to our native animals. Thank you to everyone who helped out and to all our customers.

October also began our cycle for awarding student scholarships. For all of our members, please help us get the word out! Thanks to a very generous donor the chapter has a fund that enables us to support two categories of awards. Merit scholarships are available to students studying native plants, plant ecology, plant genetics or related studies. The funds may be used for any student expense. The Research Scholarship is available to students for plant related projects and a project budget must be submitted. The Milo Baker Board voted in October to increase the amounts to \$1000 for Merit awards and up to \$4000 for Research awards. The deadline for application is in November. For more information, contact Sean at [seanmcneil0@gmail.com](mailto:seanmcneil0@gmail.com).

November brings welcome cooler weather and with it the lovely colors of red poison oak, yellow big leaf maple and madrones loaded with orange berries. It is great weather for planting those new healthy plants in our gardens.

🦋 Wendy Smit  
Milo Baker Chapter President

## Plant Sale News

I hope that many of our members were able to attend our first plant sale at the Laguna. The new shade house is a wonderful place to grow plants and our customers were delighted with the great looking, well-grown plants and bought most of them. We sold out! Treasurer Jim Piercy reports that we grossed \$16,000.00. An all-time record! Of course, there will be expenses that must be subtracted, but our final net profit will be more than \$10,000.00.

Huge thanks to our nursery manager, Betty Young. Betty spearheaded the building of the shade house and has guided a group of propagators to successfully grow the 2000 healthy plants that we sold. This was our first year without the support of the Shooting Star nursery and we thank them for their 35 years of support for our sale and wish Dan and Nancy a happy retirement. This year we grew our own plants from seeds and purchased liners from several commercial sources. Cal Flora Nursery in Fulton helped with these purchases by sharing some of their orders with us.

Judy Johnson was our greeter and she counted 371 people attending. Traffic directors were important since parking is rather limited at the Laguna. Thanks to Paul Furst and Bob Tancreto, as well as several volunteers from the Laguna Foundation. Our collaboration with the Laguna Foundation was very beneficial for the sale because they have their own volunteer list and Allison Titus was so helpful with coordinating between our organizations. The Laguna Foundation also donated some plants to the sale. Bryan Sesser and Steve Smit put up the banners and signs that graced our space.

Judy Hartwig once again called our Milo Baker volunteers and was at the sale signing them in. We thank her for her 25 years of finding volunteers for the sale! Marcia Johnson was a

big help to Judy and now has the email addresses of most of our workers. The cashiers were slammed due to the large number of customers that we had. But everyone finally got to the end of the line and paid for their purchases and plant carriers Helen and Nancy Clark (Judy Hartwig's nieces) and Susan Dean helped them to their cars.

Cashiers were Sandy Martenson, Lynn Houser, Patrick Smithson, Linda Webster, Steve Smit, and Betsy Livingstone. Our treasurer Jim Piercy was assisted by Cindy Tancreto and both handled the crush with grace and calm. The cashiers table was really busy. Penny Dalton and Patty Mohar were at plant holding once again.

Our beautiful plants almost sold themselves. Assisting our customers was our team of horticulturists who were a great help to our customers. Thanks to Betty Young, Wendy Born (ferns), Sarah Gordon, Terry Loveton, Deb Dobish, Denise Kelly, Louise Riedel, Pat Chan and Natasha Granoff. Pat Sesser had a special Habitat Table where she featured plants that are particularly good for pollinators. Pat talked to a lot of customers about the value of planting CA native plants in your garden and the native insects that will benefit. There were several Monarch caterpillars on the narrow-leaved milkweed and it was wonderful to see them happily eating away.

We sold a lot of books and t-shirts too. Helene Walton and Judith Rousseau were busy answering questions and selling our Oaks of Sonoma County t-shirts as well as a new t-shirt that the state CNPS has printed with the icon flower of every chapter in the outline of the state of CA. Lea Davis signed up new members.

Our President, Wendy Smit, took care of refreshments and we were all well fed. Wendy also handled logistics, gathering tables and producing lots of signs in the nursery and at our former location, the Santa Rosa Vet's

Memorial. Signs instructed any old customers that we were at a new location. I would say that the news about the new location did get out as we had so many customers including many new ones. Publicity is the key, and Natasha Granoff did a fabulous job of getting news releases to all local outlets.

In Heron Hall, Milo Baker Chapter Outreach was a very active place, with Virginia Hotz-Steenhoven and Catherine Lipson informing people about the many activities of the chapter. There were also speakers in Heron Hall. April Owens, Kandis Gilmore and Steve Swain gave important information about growing CA native plants for beauty and for attracting pollinators and for fire resistance. The talks were new this year and all three were very well attended.

The new nursery/shade house was an excellent place to hold the sale. We did not have to move the plants except to the customer's cars! The logistics of holding the sale there were worked out by Kathi Dowdakin, Betty Young, and Wendy Smit. This was our first year and we learned a lot about the pluses and minuses of the site. There will be lots of discussion about how to change and improve our sale.

This is Milo Baker Chapter's main fund raiser and our success is so important. Thank you to all who helped with the sale and to those members who came and bought plants.

Next year will be our 49th plant sale and we will begin to grow plants for that right away with a native Iris division workshop in November. The cycle continues.

Our propagation meeting is on Thursday, November 14. For more information, contact Liz Parsons at [lizpar8993@aol.com](mailto:lizpar8993@aol.com).

🐞 Liz Parsons  
Milo Baker Chapter Vice President

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## Events

### Forest Ecotherapy at Fairfield Osborn Preserve

\*November 17, 10:00 to 3:00 PM  
With Treegirl

\*\*New date- rescheduled due to air quality \*\*

Rewild with TreeGirl as she leads you on a gentle multi-sensory forest walk, sit and rest, introducing you to the California Bay, Oak, and Big Leaf Maple trees as ecological and energetic beings with their own gifts to give and wisdom to share. We will enter the forest in a mindful way and learn to develop our skills of sensory awareness and interspecies listening. Bring your intentions for leaving behind what you don't need for the day and reconnecting with wild nature. Each walk we will focus on the seasonal gifts the forest has to offer.

Attendance limit: 10; Rsvp required to [ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com](mailto:ruthiegardengirl@gmail.com). Bring a sun hat, water, sunscreen, lunch and hiking shoes. Sorry, no dogs.

We'll meet 10 AM in the parking lot at Fairfield Osborn Preserve, 6543 Lichau Road, Penngrove. **Carpooling is strongly encouraged as the parking lot is small.** West county carpool leaves 9:15 from Sebastopol Luckys parking lot.

TreeGirl (aka Julianne Skai Arbor)--award-winning photographer and author of *TreeGirl: Intimate Encounters with Wild Nature*, is a certified ISA arborist and California naturalist, forest and ecotherapist. Her unique modality called Forest Ecotherapy weaves together forest sensory skills, forest ecology, arboriculture, nature interpretation, inter-species listening, ecopsychology and over 23 years in experiential environmental education

along with her own direct sensory contact and intimate connection with over 100 species of trees all over the world. She leads individuals and groups in Forest Ecotherapy sessions as well as mentoring and training facilitators. [www.treegirl.org](http://www.treegirl.org), [www.forestecotherapy.com](http://www.forestecotherapy.com)

### Weekly Ice Plant Removal

Wednesdays 9-12pm  
Saturday Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10-1pm  
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

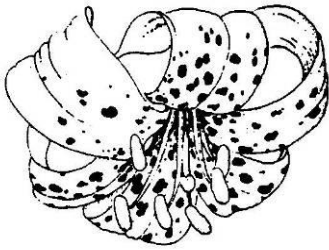
### Sonoma County Conservation Council Holiday Networking Party

Thursday December 6, 2019 5-8pm  
Sebastopol Grange

Enjoy food, wine, hot cider, and music by the NewGrange Band! Mingle with your friends and local movers and shakers. The 2019 Ernestine I. Smith "Environmentalist of the Year" award will be awarded to Woody Hastings and a posthumous award for the Sonoma County Lifetime Environmental Achievement award to Pat and Ted Eliot.

\$30 per person includes dinner and one drink.  
6000 Sebastopol Ave/Hwy 12

RSVP at <http://www.envirocentersoco.org>.  
For more information contact Wendy Krupnick  
at [wlk@sonic.net](mailto:wlk@sonic.net), 707 544-4582.



# CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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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 December/January  
Newsletter is November 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:	Natasha Granoff	
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
Outreach Co-Chair:	Catherine Lipson	
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.:	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