

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MARIN CHAPTER

March 2023 Newsletter

Marin Chapter March 2023 Meeting

"Impacts from the Woodward Fire and their influence on community resilience"

Guest Speaker: **Tanya Baxter**, Principal at Baxter Botanical, Botanist and Natural Resource Management Specialist

Monday, March 13 @ 7:30 pm

In 2020, the Woodward Fire at Point Reyes National Seashore burned 5000 acres throughout diverse plant assemblages on the coast. A third of the fire re-burned in a section of the 1995 Vision Fire. Differing fire behavior and vegetative fuel types caused varying burn severities. Learn how the mix of fire intensity and recent fire history influenced what grew back.

In 2021, we designed monitoring plots to address several different compositional changes, including plant diversity. Post fire studies contribute to developing sound management strategies for post fire recovery.

[Register for this Zoom meeting here.](#)

[Read more. . .](#)



Woodward Fire from Limantour Beach



Woodward Fire Burn Scar
By Woody Elliott



Marin Chapter Field Trips

Field Trip Guidelines:

- **Email Susan Schlosser** at scschlosser52@gmail.com to sign up for a field trip, as we are limiting participants to 20.
- **Electronically sign** the CNPS Liability waiver for the trip (Susan will provide the link.)

Pilot Knob and Lake Lagunitas - Lagunitas Meadows Area, Sky Oaks

Thursday, **March 9, 2023** - 10 am to 2 pm

Leader: **Sherry Adams**, Marin Water Vegetation Ecologist

Early season wildflowers are in bloom! In addition to seeing plenty of showy ones like hound's tongue, shooting star, zigadene lily, and warrior's plume, we will also see some of the more subtle beauties of the season like hazelnut (separate male and female flowers!) and two species of sanicle and saxifrage.

On this walk you will see the impact of forest pathogens, (including Cinnamon dieback, first isolated on Pilot Knob ten years ago) along with Marin Water's active management. We will talk about the ecology of this dynamic system, learn about some of the trees here, and meet native grasses.

This hike is especially suitable for beginning plant enthusiasts. Meet at the Lake Lagunitas picnic/parking area. Marin Water will provide parking passes.

[Read more. . .](#)

Chimney Rock, Point Reyes National Seashore

Sunday, **March 19** – 10 am to 1 pm

Leader: **Carolyn Longstreth**

While February is the beginning of wildflower season in Marin, native wildflowers really start to flourish in March. Depending on the particular year and the weather, Chimney Rock has yielded in recent years as few as 15 and as many as 65 different species of wildflowers in bloom. This year, with the January rains, we can expect an exciting year with chocolate lilies, wallflowers, larkspur and many others. We will also see hundreds of elephant seals and might even witness a battle between 3000-pound males trying to impress their potential mates.

Meet at the Chimney Rock parking area, which is located in outer Point Reyes, near the end of Sir Francis Drake. Veer left a mile or so before reaching the Lighthouse. And remember, even if it is warm and sunny when you leave home, it could be cold and foggy and very, very, very windy on the headlands.

[Read more. . .](#)



Delphinium decorum ssp. *decorum* - coastal larkspur
at Chimney Rock Photo by Bob Sikora



Pedicularis densiflora - warrior plumes
at Lake Lagunitas Photo by Sherry Adams



Fritillaria affinis - chocolate lily
Photo by Vernon Smith

Native Plant Gardening Roundtable

- Are you growing some native plants in your garden?
- Would you like to get your native plant gardening questions answered?
- Want to get advice and tips about native plant selection and best gardening practices?
- Are you willing to share your knowledge of and experience with native plant gardening?
- Would you like to visit gardens that use native plants?



native plant borders and along steps

Let us know your interest by filling out this [short questionnaire](#). We look forward to sharing information online and touring some gardens (in person or virtually).

Tour of Home Ground Habitats Nursery

For CNPS members only

Saturday, **April 1**, 10:30 am - noon.

Join us for a tour of [Home Ground Habitats Nursery](#) in Novato. Charlotte Torgovitsky has built out a one-acre nursery and growing ground that is a delight to visit. The site includes a pond, fruit orchard, planting beds featuring groupings of natives, and thousands of plants her team is carefully cultivating, many of which will be offered at our spring sale. She'll showcase what's growing and talk about how to choose the right plant for the needs of your site.



Charlotte Torgovitsky at Home Ground Habitats Nursery Photo by Laura Lovett

Limited to 15 people; be sure your CNPS membership is up to date! RSVP required to marincnpsevents@gmail.com

2023 Microgrants Awarded

Marin Chapter is pleased to announce the recipients of our 2023 microgrants:

- Ole Schell's West Marin Monarch Sanctuary - Bolinas
- Coleman Elementary School – San Rafael
- Neil Cummings Elementary School – Corte Madera.

Funds will be used for development of native plant gardens, their signage, and outreach materials. We will post grantee project information on our website and ask them to present a short talk at the Chapter's General Meeting in December.



Ole Schell West Marin Monarch Sanctuary

Ring Mountain Docent Program Starts Spring 2023!

Become part of the first group of Ring Mountain Preserve Wildflower Docents. Join the Marin Chapter of CNPS and Marin County Parks for this fantastic opportunity to share your love of Ring Mountain's unique ecology, wildflowers, and unusual serpentine grassland habitat with the general public, while also fostering stewardship of this Marin landmark. The program will run weekends from April through mid-June 2023, with training in March. No experience is necessary, but familiarity with native plants is helpful.



Layia platyglossa - tidy tips and poppies
Ring Mountain Photo by Laura Lovett

Training dates:

Four Tuesdays in March on Zoom, 7-8:30 pm

Two Saturday field trainings, 10 am to 1 pm, March 18 and April 1.

Some missed training may be accommodated.

Contact **Amanda Magallanes**, Marin County Open Space District, to sign up, and for more information. AMagallanes@marincounty.org

[Read more...](#)

Spring 2023 Plant Sale

It's planting time! We are holding an online plant sale in April with order pickup in Greenbrae the following Saturday. Adequate rain means the spring wildflowers are coming along well and we'll be offering a big selection, as well as a discount for purchasing in quantity.



Cephalanthus occidentalis buttonbush

Opens: Wednesday. **April 5 at 6 pm**

Closes: Monday. **April 10 at 6 pm**

Order pickup at Bon Air: **Saturday April 15th, 10:30 am to 1:00 pm**

[Read more...](#)

Borrow a Weed Wrench!

Take advantage of the continuing that rain keeps our soils moist. Borrow the Chapter's weed wrenches to pull broom and other fire-prone weedy bushes.

Borrow up to seven wrenches in three sizes, including one large wrench weighing 16.5 lbs. with a jaw capacity of 2.5 inches.

Contact: Eddie Robertson ebulletinmarincnps@gmail.com

[Read more...](#)



Monarch Butterfly Events

["March Monarch Butterfly Update"](#) One Tam w/ Mia Monroe **3/1 noon**

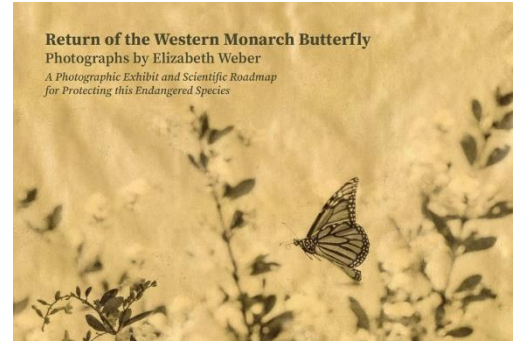
["Return of the Western Monarch Butterfly: A Photographic Exhibition and Scientific Roadmap for Protecting this Endangered Species"](#) Exhibit at Marin Art & Garden Center **March 17–April 30**. Fridays & Saturdays 10 am–4 pm, Sundays 12–4 pm



Monarch on *Gilia tricolor*

[Opening Reception](#): Saturday, **March 18 - 3 to 5 pm** - free

Join us for the opening of an exhibition that combines science and art. Featuring Elizabeth Weber's ethereal photographs of monarchs and the plants they need to survive, you'll also find out more about the actions of local community members working to protect this endangered butterfly, including a film by local filmmaker Ole Schell. Meet the artist and activists and learn more about what you can do to help.



Panel Discussion: ["The Science and Art of Creating and Protecting Monarch Butterfly Habitat in Marin County"](#) **March 25 - 2 pm** - free

What the Poppy Taught

My family is just coming on to our 8th year anniversary since moving to Marin from the Midwest (Evanston, Illinois), and I am still quite sentimental about the ubiquitous poppy, our state flower. This shot is of the first efflorescence I have spotted this season. My emotional attachment to the flower has everything to do with my feelings about our new home in the West. I have learned to respect this resonance, and it has taught me that there can be great beauty in the prosaic. *Eliezer Margolis*



Eschscholzia californica
California poppy in bud
Photo by Eliezer Margolis

Upcoming Marin Chapter Events

- **3/9 10 am Field Trip:** [Pilot Knob and Lake Lagunitas - Lagunitas Meadows Area, Sky Oaks](#),
Leader: **Sherry Adams**
- **3/13 7:30 pm Chapter Meeting:** [Impacts from the Woodward Fire and their influence on community resilience](#) Guest Speaker: **Tanya Baxter**
- **3/19 10 am Field Trip:** [Chimney Rock, Point Reyes National Seashore](#),
Leader: **Carolyn Longstreth**
- **3/7 Ring Mountain Docent** [Training begins](#)
- **3/31 Howard-Kohn Memorial Scholarship** [Application Deadline](#)
- **4/5 to 4/10** [Spring Native Plant Sale](#)



Sidalcea malviflora ssp. *malviflora*
dwarf checkerbloom at Chimney
Rock Photo by Ann Elliott

Other Activities of Interest

- 3/2 5:30 pm CNPS Native Gardening 101: [Growing Good Food](#) with California's native plants
- 3/4 9 am - noon [Broom Busters of Old St. Hilary's](#)
- 3/5 9 am - noon [Restoration at Hal Brown Park](#)
- 3/8 10 - 1:30 am [Senior Stroll: Coastal Trail](#) Marin County Parks
- 3/9 7:30 pm [The Wonders of Plant Galls](#) Yerba Buena Chapter
- 3/12 10 am - noon [Bothin Marsh Cleanup](#)
- 3/21 10 am - 2 pm [Rock Spring](#) Marin County Parks
- 3/21 7:30 pm [The Importance of Herbaria](#) Milo Baker Chapter
- 3/25 9 am - noon [Ring Mountain Grassland Restoration](#)
- [Milo Baker Chapter Plant Walks](#)
- [Napa Valley Chapter Field Trip Calendar](#)
- [Yerba Buena Chapter Field Trips](#)



Oxalis oregano - Redwood Sorrel
Samuel P Taylor SP Photo by Ann Elliott



Trillium ovatum - western trillium
Samuel P. Taylor SP Photo by Ann Elliott



Iris douglasiana at Millerton Point by Ann Elliott

Chapter News Submissions

Please send me any upcoming events related to native plants. I am looking forward to you all sharing photos from your spring explorations in Marin.

Ann Elliott, Newsletter Editor annonfire@gmail.com

[Join/Renew](#)

[Donate](#)



Marin Chapter
California Native Plant Society

[CNPS Marin Chapter Website](#) | [CNPS Statewide Website](#)

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