



California Native Plant Society

MARIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Tiburon Mariposa Lily (Calochortus tiburonensis)

Marin Chapter established 1973

Monday, April 11, Marin Chapter Meeting

“Reimagining the California Lawn” by guest speaker Carol Bornstein

Californians are avid gardeners, and for good reason. Throughout much of the state, outdoor gardening activities are enhanced by mild weather, frost-free nights, and relatively fertile soils. As in other regions on the country, water-loving lawns have been a major element in our gardens. Turfgrass lawns seduce us with their seeming simplicity and versatility, but our reliance on them comes at a high cost. After considering the resources and maintenance that most California lawns demand—from heavy irrigation to regular applications of fertilizers to frequent mowing with power equipment—one conclusion becomes inescapable: we need to find alternatives to turfgrass that are more environmentally sound.

If you are one of the many gardeners who is thinking about removing or reducing your lawn, we invite you to the northern California premier of the new book *Reimagining the California Lawn: Waterconserving Plants, Practices, and Designs*. Authored by Carol

Bornstein, David Fross, and Bart O'Brien, it describes hundreds of water-wise plants from California and other Mediterranean climates of the world and provides information on how to plan, install, and maintain an attractive landscape that can replace your lawn. The book is packed with ideas and advice and richly illustrated with more than

300 color photographs. It offers a variety of practical designs and plant palettes to choose from.

Carol Bornstein is a horticulturist, instructor, and garden designer. For more than 30 years, she has been an advocate for sustainable, regionally appropriate landscaping. While Director of Horticulture at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden (which solely features California native plants), she managed the living collections, retail nursery, and plant introduction program and selected several new cultivars. She continues to seek out exceptional plants for California gardens and to share her knowledge of plants native to California and other Mediterranean regions through her writing, teaching, and design work. Along with David Fross and Bart O'Brien, she is also the coauthor of *California Native Plants for the Garden*.



April meeting:

5:30 p.m. Note the earlier starting time!

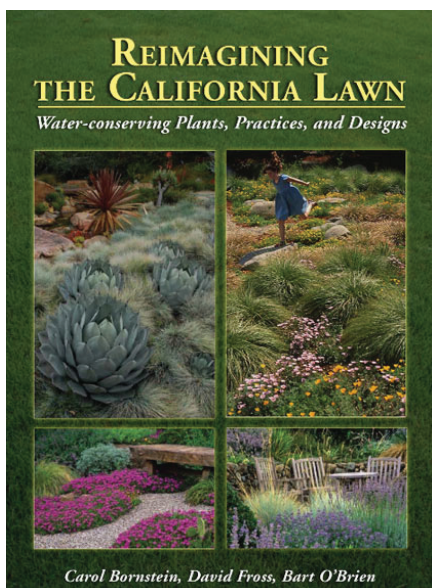
Join friends and meet our speaker for a no-host dinner at Gira Polli of Mill Valley, 590 East Blithedale Ave. at Camino Alto. Please call Gerd or Kristin Jakob at (415) 388-1844 at least one day ahead to be assured of a seat with our group.

7:30 p.m. Meet at the Redwoods retirement home, 40 Camino Alto, Mill Valley. Books, posters, and cards will be for sale before as well as after the meeting. Lecture starts at 8 p.m.



NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE!

You can find a color PDF edition of this newsletter on the Marin chapter website by visiting www.marin.edu/cnps/newsletters.html.



Carol Bornstein, David Fross, Bart O'Brien

HELP SAVE OUR RARE NATIVE PLANTS—JOIN THE CNPS “WEEDWHACKERS”

As a CNPS member, you are likely aware that invasive weeds are overtaking many common and sensitive habitats, some of which support rare or uncommon plants in Marin County. Like many other chapters of our society, we would like to gather a group of volunteers, who, when called upon, would be willing to go to various locations to try to control or eradicate a problematic weed.

Whatever your motivation for volunteering, the rewards are many—the good feeling that comes from being involved with saving plants, making new friends, doing something different from your regular job, and learning something new. All these can be had by joining the group of volunteers. If you would like to join the Weedwhackers, please let Eva Buxton know at evabuxton@sbcglobal.net. The motto “Come when you can, leave when you must” will always apply!

A New CNPS Project:

SAVE NATIVE PLANT HABITAT AT POINT REYES

with the “West Marin Weedwhackers”

The Marin chapter of CNPS is teaming up with the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin to tackle invasive weeds that threaten important plant habitat in the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The new group will meet at the Point Reyes Lighthouse Parking Lot at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 14. A park biologist will accompany the group and demonstrate the proper techniques for iceplant removal. After a session or two, we will continue the work on our own. Other groups have already made terrific progress at the site and native plants are eagerly recolonizing these areas, including such rarities as Pt. Reyes meadowfoam, chocolate lily, north coast phacelia, and Franciscan thistle. But follow-up is needed and there are plenty of areas that are still lush with iceplant.

Bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks, warm and wind-stopping layers, sturdy shoes, and work clothes. No shorts or open-toed shoes.

The Weedwhackers will meet regularly on every 3rd Thursday of the month, either in the Seashore or at other West Marin locations. We'll pull weeds until about 1 p.m., have a picnic lunch, and then take a hike.

For more information, contact Carolyn Longstreth at cclongstreth@gmail.com/(415) 669-7514 or Amy@eacmarin.org/(415) 663-9312.

Hope to see you on the 14th!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ✿ **Tuesday 4/5, 7 p.m.**
Chapter Board Meeting at Marin Recycling
- ✿ **Saturday 4/9, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**
Marin Chapter Plant Sale
- ✿ **Monday 4/11, 7:30 p.m.**
Chapter Meeting: Carol Bornstein on “Reimagining the California Lawn”
- ✿ **Thursday 4/14, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**
West Marin Weedwhackers—Initial Meeting at Point Reyes
- ✿ **Saturday 4/16, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**
Regional Parks Botanic Garden Plant Sale
- ✿ **Saturday 4/16, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Mary Moser Memorial Hike, Abbotts Lagoon
- ✿ **Monday 4/18, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Deer Park; Yolanda! Yolandaaaaa!
- ✿ **Tuesday 4/19, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Carson Ridge and the Mystery of the Serpentine
- ✿ **Wednesday 4/20, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Cataract of Wildflowers
- ✿ **Thursday 4/21, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Pam’s Blue Ridge to the Cul-de-Sac
- ✿ **Friday 4/22, 1–4 p.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Lake Lagunitas with Assemblymember Jared Huffman
- ✿ **Saturday 4/23, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Fern Foray on Mount Tam
- ✿ **Saturday 4/30, 9:30 a.m..**
Field Trip: Mt. Tam Interpretive Association Wildflower Walk with Botanists
- ✿ **Tuesday 5/3, 7 p.m.**
Chapter Board Meeting at Marin Recycling
- ✿ **Monday 5/9, 7:30 p.m.**
Chapter Meeting: Richard O’Donnell on “Some Streptanthus Species of Northern and Central California”

✿ ✿ ✿

GET YOUR COPY OF THE REVISED MARIN FLORA!

Now available: the long-awaited, 2007 revised edition of John Thomas Howell’s classic *Marin Flora* (originally published in 1949). Copies of the book are available at chapter meetings and most field trips. You can also print out an order form at the chapter website (www.marin.edu/cnps).

Prices:	Hard cover	Soft cover
Retail	\$45 (plus \$3.49 tax)	\$35 (plus \$2.71 tax)
CNPS members (20% off)	\$36 (plus \$2.79 tax)	\$28 (plus \$2.17 tax)

MARIN CHAPTER 35TH ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Saturday, April 9, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Celebrate the beauty and diversity of our native flora at our annual plant sale to be held once again at the Richardson Bay Audubon Center and Sanctuary, 376 Greenwood Beach Road, Tiburon. There will be a good selection of California native plants including wildflowers, flowering currants and gooseberries, ceanothus, manzanitas, irises, monkey flowers, salvias, wild strawberries, heucheras, grasses, rushes, and sedges. Most are native to Marin and many have been propagated from Marin genetic stock. We'll also have seeds, books, posters, grass placemats, and cards available for purchase. At 11 a.m., Charlotte Torgovitsky will speak on "Creating Habitat with Natives for the Natives." Knowledgeable members will be present to help with horticultural questions.

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers will be needed and appreciated to help set up, write up sales, and assist customers. You do not have to know everything there is to know about native plants in order to volunteer! Volunteering for just an hour or two or for the day is a great way to meet other members and our supportive public. If you can't help this year, we would still welcome you to stop by and pick up a few beautiful native plants.

Friday, April 8, Setup Day

Plants are delivered to the sale area at the Audubon Center between 12 and 2 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help label, price, and prepare the plants for the sale. Members who may be growing plants for the sale can either bring them on Friday between 12 and 2 or on Saturday morning before 8:45 a.m., when the gates will be closed to cars.

Saturday, April 9, 8 a.m.–2 p.m., Sale Day

Setting up starts at 8 a.m., arranging the plants, and getting everything ready for opening to the public at 9 a.m. It would be very helpful if you could arrive at 8, as there's much to do before the opening. Between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., we'll assist our customers and sell plants.

Items needed: Small boxes (about the size of a wine box) and wheelbarrows to help us carry plants to customers' cars.

For further information or to volunteer, contact Renee Fittinghoff at (415) 388-6850/reneef94941@gmail.com or Kristin Jakob at (415) 388-1844/kristinjacob@pacbell.net.

RARE PLANT OF THE MONTH

Text and photos by Doreen Smith

This serpentine-endemic paintbrush was originally thought to be restricted to grassland slopes in three locations on the Tiburon peninsula. One other Marin location has now been located on the GGNRA preserve on the Nicasio Highlands. Other counties have been found to have populations too: Coyote Ridge in Santa Clara County and above American Canyon in Napa County.

There is some variation in the color of the flowers and foliage. On the Tiburon peninsula, the leaves are green and the flowers cream to yellow, fading pink. The Nicasio Ridge plants have pale yellow flowers and purple foliage; they are growing in Ceanothus chaparral. A visit to this location is maybe possible this year for volunteers who help monitor local rarities with Michael Chassé.

The Tiburon Old St. Hilary's and Gilmartin Preserve plants are threatened by off-trail bicycles, trampling, weedy grasses, and French broom. We should be concerned lest this iconic plant disappear from *our* neglect.



Above: Tiburon paintbrush (*Castilleja affinis* ssp. *neglecta*) (Tiburon form)



Above: Tiburon paintbrush (Nicasio Highlands form)



CNPS 2011 WORKSHOPS

Visit cnps.org/cnps/education/workshops/index.php or contact Josie Crawford at (916) 447-2677 or jcrawford@cnps.org for more information.

APRIL 2011 FIELD TRIPS

Marin Chapter Field Trip News and Policies

Make some seedy pals with the Marin chapter of the California Native Plant Society. All hikes are free and open to the public, so please invite your friends. Beginning plant enthusiasts welcome on all hikes.

Come prepared for any type of weather or conditions, dress in layers, have non-slip footwear, and bring rain/wind protection just in case. Although it may be sunny and warm when you leave home, the weather could be cold and foggy when we reach our destination. Bring lunch and plenty of water, binoculars and/or hand lenses, and your favorite field guides. Contact Brad Kelley, Field Trip Coordinator, at fieldtrips@bradkelley.org, for trip requests or suggestions. Contact hike Leaders with any questions about individual hikes.

Field Trip Plant Lists

Plant lists compiled by Marin CNPS for many Marin localities are available on the Marin Chapter CNPS website at <http://www.marin.edu/cnps>.

Mary Moser Memorial Hike, Abbots Lagoon

Saturday, April 16, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

The Point Reyes Rare Plant Monitoring Group will never forget Mary Moser, who left us late last year after bravely fighting cancer for a long time. She had a knack for finding not only the plants we were looking for on the Seashore, but new species to add to the area's flora. Her most noteworthy discovery was bogbean (*Menyanthes trifoliata*), in the swamp at the headwaters of Kehoe Creek. This added not just a species and a genus, but a new family to the *Marin Flora*.



Above: Mary "surveying" the rare *Piperia michaelii* at Pt. Reyes. She was a free spirit, meeting enthusiastically with the flowers face-to-face, often roaming far afield and insistent on choosing our lunch spots with the best views. Rain postpones to a date that will be announced in May; call Doreen if in doubt. Bring something to share for lunch on the beach.

Leader: Doreen Smith—(415) 479-7888



Deer Park; Yolanda! Yolandaaaaa!

Monday, April 18, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

We don't know who Yolanda is, but a neighborhood and train station in San Anselmo was named after him or her. The Yolanda trail originally started from this neighborhood and wound around the west side of Bald Hill to Phoenix Lake. Starting at Deer Park in Fairfax, we'll visit a beautiful section of this trail with bountiful wildflowers. This hike is especially suitable for beginning plant enthusiasts. Meet at Deer Park at the end of Porteus Road in Fairfax. Rain cancels; call Dabney if in doubt.

Leader: Dabney Smith—(415) 320-9229

Carson Ridge and the Mystery of the Serpentine

Tuesday, April 19, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Our blue-green serpentine originated millions of years ago deep in the earth's mantle. It was carried hundreds of miles by enormous forces and chemically changed by water to eventually form part of your landscape. These island-like soils and rock contain large amounts of iron and magnesium, and are areas in which our native plants have evolved to thrive. Often rare and unusual plants grow here, including leather oak, a rare *Ceanothus*, and jewelflowers. We'll walk along the ridge and return. A visit to adjacent Azalea Hill is encouraged for those who want to extend the day. Meet at the Pine Mountain trailhead, about four miles south of Fairfax on the Bolinas Fairfax Road, rain or shine.

Leader: Brad Kelley—fieldtrips@bradkelley.org

Cataract of Wildflowers

Wednesday, April 20, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

You'll see why this trail is so popular even if it's in an out-of-the-way location; it is aptly named, with Cataract Creek roaring and tumbling over rocks and boulders during the rainy season. We'll hike the two miles steeply up to the Laurel Dell picnic area looking at wildflowers in rocky outcroppings and grassy meadows, in shade and sun. We'll return by the same route. To get there, drive about seven miles south of Fairfax on the Bolinas Fairfax Road to the Alpine Lake dam. Continue across the dam and about a quarter

Field trip information continued on page 5

Field trip information continued from page 4

mile to where the road takes a hairpin turn. This hike is especially suitable for beginning plant enthusiasts. Rain cancels; call Dabney if in doubt.

Leader: Dabney Smith—(415) 320-9229

Pam's Blue Ridge to the Cul-de-Sac

Thursday, April 21, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Pam's Blue Ridge is a little-known gem in Fairfax. The hike will start at 10:15 a.m. at the Pam's Blue Ridge trailhead. The moderate difficulty hike will cover the serpentine wildflowers and shrubs of the Ridge and the oak/madrone woodland wildflowers of the Cul-de-Sac trail. We might see the unspotted spotted coralroot orchid! Parking is limited; hikers should meet at Doc Edgar Park at 10 a.m. to carpool. To get there, turn onto Bolinas Fairfax Rd. in downtown Fairfax. At the second stop sign, bear right onto Cascade Dr. There is a small park immediately on your right. Rain or shine.

Leader: Brad Kelley—fieldtrips@bradkelley.org

Lake Lagunitas with Assemblymember Jared Huffman

Friday, April 22, 1 p.m.–4 p.m.

California Assemblymember Jared Huffman is a coauthor of Resolution ACR 173 that proclaimed this week as California Native Plant Week. He'll join our trip leader, Dabney Smith, in an easy exploration of a prime Marin wildflower area, replete with butterflies, wonderful rock gardens, and a mountain lake on the shoulder of our own Mount Tam. This hike is especially suitable for beginning plant enthusiasts. Meet at the Lake Lagunitas picnic/parking area. \$8 parking fee. Rain cancels; call Dabney if in doubt.

Leader: Dabney Smith—(415) 320-9229

Fern Foray on Mount Tam

Saturday, April 23, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

If you've ever wanted to identify some of the ferns you've seen along the trail, now is your chance to do just that. A few years ago, fern enthusiast and expert, Phillip Hammond led a well-received fern field trip in Marin and he's returned to help us again. We'll start from the Bootjack trailhead and hike the medium difficulty trails in the area, possibly to Rock Spring, about a mile away. This will likely be a two-part trip; after we finish one loop, we will drive to another area to observe different fern species. Meet at the Bootjack parking lot (\$8 fee) on Panoramic Highway out of Mill Valley.

Rain delays trip to April 30th. Call Phillip if in doubt.

Leader: Phillip Hammond—(415) 684 2569

MILO BAKER CHAPTER HIKES

Jenner Headlands (Sonoma County)

Thursday, April 21 or Saturday, May 7

The splendid biological diversity and enthralling aesthetics of the Jenner Headlands beckon to all. This terrestrial jewel, acquired by the Sonoma Land Trust in 2009, offers sweeping—or fog-enshrouded—coastal vistas, deep forested canyons, and grasslands bedazzling in spring's tapestry of flowers. This spring, two field trips to the property will focus on plants and plant ecology, specifically arranged with CNPS members in mind. Reservations are required to participate in these trips.

The April 21 walk will include a workshop on rare plant monitoring and reporting. The pace will be slow and mildly strenuous, an exploration of the serpentine-influenced flora of grasslands just upslope from the village of Jenner. This walk is recommended for those who want to visit the property without significant foot travel. The May 7 hike will be moderately to quite strenuous, covering several miles with substantial elevation changes, and will provide a broader look at the topographical and vegetational diversity of the property. Cameras, field guides, and hand lenses are among recommended companions for your tour of the Jenner Headlands.

Both walks start at the Russian Gulch State Parks parking area on Highway 1 about three miles north of the village of Jenner. The April 21 walk will end about 3 p.m.; on May 7 we'll be out until 4 p.m. or perhaps later. To reserve your attendance on one of these walks, please email Kristin Martinez at Kristinm.m@twc-ca.org. Otherwise, call Peter Warner for your reservation or further information.

Leader: Peter Warner—(707) 829-1183; phytopagan@gmail.com

OPEN SPACE DISTRICT HIKES

For information, visit the Marin County Open Space District website at http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/PK/Main/mcosd/os_walks.asp or contact David Herlocker at (415) 499-3647.

MTIA ANNUAL WILDFLOWER WALK WITH BOTANISTS

The Mt. Tamalpais Interpretive Association (MTIA) is in the planning stages for the annual spring wildflower walk. Botanist preview and wildflower flagging on Friday, April 29 at 10 a.m. Hike is on Saturday, April 30 at 9:30 a.m. Botanists are needed either or both days. Meet at the Rock Spring parking lot/trailhead at the intersection of Pantoll Rd. and Ridgecrest Blvd.

Contact Jordan Herrmann, MTIA Event Chair, at herrmann48@comcast.net.

PERPETUALLY PROPAGATING

Through our ongoing propagation efforts, we'll be supplying dozens of beautiful native plants for the chapter's annual fund-raising sale. We've been potting up some lovely annual wildflowers—from my garden beds or pathways, into a 4" pot, and then on to someone else's garden where the plant can complete its annual cycle of flowering and seed-set.

The process is a bit more involved with most of the perennials and shrubs that we're growing. The growth process is slower and more transplanting steps are involved. Seeds are sown into a flat, usually in fall; then, when a set of true leaves has matured, seedlings go into a 2" pot; when sufficient root growth is evident, the plant goes into a 4" pot, and sometimes a gallon pot after that. This process often takes a year, and sometimes longer. There's always work to do!

I've had success with *Cynoglossum grande* (hound's tongue) from seed, but had difficulty keeping transplanted seedlings alive in standard nursery pots. Seedlings did much better in Deepots, which allowed room for growth of a long taproot; from that they went into tree pots. But the growth is slow, which means some attention paid to the process all year long, and several years after that! Beautiful, vigorous 5-year-old plants will be offered at the plant sale.

We'll be offering beautiful *Arabis blepharophylla* (coast rockcress) now one year old from seed, and entering its first bloom cycle. The flowers are a lovely pale reddish-purple, held on short stalks over a low mounding form that can spread up to a foot wide. In my hot Novato garden, this *Arabis* is happy with a little afternoon shade. *Deschampsia caespitosa* (tufted hairgrass) is also a year old from seed. This is a nice small bunchgrass, with deep green leaf blades; also happiest with a bit of shade and a little extra moisture.

Propagation Workshops

We're still transplanting seedlings and rooted cuttings, and tending them for the April 9th chapter plant sale. I'd like to invite interested CNPS members to come to my house and work with us. All supplies are on hand, and we have a nice outdoor work space set up. We usually work for a couple of hours, and then break for a cup of tea; if it's raining we'll sit indoors and write plant labels.

We'll be working on the following Tuesdays: April 5th and April 19th, from 1 to about 4 p.m. On April 5th, we'll need lots of help getting plants labeled and looking their best for the sale.

Please call or email first to let me know that you'd like to join us.

—Charlotte Torgovitsky (415) 892-9148/torgovitsky@comcast.net.

Board of Directors

Position	Name
Acting President/Vice President	Jolie Egert
Chapter Council Delegate	Carolyn Longstreth
Secretary	Amelia Ryan
Treasurer	Daniel Kushner
Book Sales	Doyleen McMurtry
Conservation Chair	Eva Buxton
Education	Paul da Silva
Field Trips Coordinator	Brad Kelley
Gardening with Natives Chair	Renee Fittinghoff
Historian	Vivian Mazur
Invasives Chair	Open—Volunteer Needed
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<i>Marin Flora</i> Project	Wilma Follette
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Plant Sale Co-Chair	Renee Fittinghoff
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Rare Plant Coordinator	Doreen Smith
Website	Mary Stevens
Member at Large	David Long
Member at Large	Sandy Ross

Board contact information has been removed from the online version of this newsletter.

CNPS MEMBERSHIP/DONATIONS

The mission of California Native Plant Society is to conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants. Membership is open to everyone.

Join CNPS Now!

Membership includes informative publications, field trips, monthly programs, and discounts on books and posters. Also included are *Fremontia* (a journal with articles on all aspects of native plants published three times/year), the *Bulletin* (a quarterly statewide report of activities and schedules), and the chapter newsletter. Please call the membership chairperson, Ashley Ratcliffe, for more information.

Join or Renew Online

Renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card. As an option, set it to renew automatically year after year. It's quick, easy, convenient, and reduces renewal mailing costs.

Visit www.cnps.org and click **Join/Renew**.

Join or Renew by Mail

Yes! I wish to affiliate with the Marin Chapter.

New Member Renewal

Membership Category:

- Mariposa Lily \$1,500
- Benefactor \$600
- Patron \$300
- Plant Lover \$100
- Family, Group, or Library \$75
- Individual \$45
- Student or Limited Income \$25

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Please mail application and check payable to **CNPS** to:

California Native Plant Society
2707 K St., Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

The IRS considers dues in excess of \$12.00 per year and all gifts to CNPS Tax Deductible.

Newsletter Only

If you wish to receive only the newsletter, please make a \$10 check payable to **CNPS Marin** and mail to: Daniel Kushner, 201 Ross St., San Rafael, CA 94901.

Newsletter Subscription only \$10

Tax-Deductible Contributions

Tax-deductible contributions to the Marin Chapter are always welcome, either as memorial or honorarium donations or regular contributions. You may designate your contribution for a specific purpose of your choice. Unless otherwise designated, all contributions will be placed in the general fund, which will enable the Chapter to extend our efforts to plant conservation and education. Our regular, ongoing program and operating expenses are largely covered by our plant sales and book and poster sales.

A contribution of \$_____ is made in honor of:

Contribution designated for:

From:

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Mail check payable to **CNPS** to: Daniel Kushner, 201 Ross St., San Rafael, CA 94901.

CNPS Contact Information

Phone (916) 447-2677 (state)

Fax (916) 447-2727 (state)

Email cnps@cnps.org (state)

Web www.marin.edu/cnps (Marin chapter)

www.cnps.org (state) The state CNPS site is a resource for a wealth of materials, including promotional materials such as banners and posters.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
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CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT WEEK

Is April 17-23. See www.cnps.org/cnps/conservation/nativeplantweek for details!



OPPORTUNITY FOR BOTANISTS AND DATA NERDS

Botanical voucher specimen collections and associated documentation continue to be a critical source of information on plant biogeography, ecology, and biology. Public and private herbaria (collections of preserved plant specimens) are among the most important resources for such information. Some data on plant specimens housed in herbaria are now available on the internet through the Consortium of the California Herbaria (<http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/consortium>). However, many institutional and private herbaria do not have the means to provide their data to the Consortium.

The Sonoma State University Herbarium is a vital botanical reference collection for northern California, and includes specimens originally collected by Milo Baker chapter members and many other local botanists. This herbarium's data is not yet available through the Consortium's website. Peter Warner has arranged with the SSU Herbarium curator to compile the necessary

data for use by the Consortium, and he welcomes additional assistance. Most of this work will involve the use of computers to tabulate existing collections data (so you need not be a botanist!), and will provide an inside look at the efforts needed to maintain scientifically generated information about plants.

Please contact Peter Warner at (707) 829-1183 or phytopagan@gmail.com if you are interested in assisting in this effort.



ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT SALE AT THE REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN

Saturday, April 16, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

California native plants: Shrubs, trees, perennials. Find many plants that are not available in a nursery. Horticultural advice gladly given!

Come and explore the Garden, and buy some plants to take home. Please bring boxes to carry home your treasures and an umbrella if it rains. The proceeds directly benefit the Garden. Refreshments available; admission is free.

Location: The intersection of Wildcat Canyon Rd. and South Park Dr. in Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. For more information, visit <http://www.nativeplants.org/plantsales.html>.