



# California Native Plant Society

## MARIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

*Tiburon Mariposa Lily (Calochortus tiburonensis)*

*Marin Chapter established 1973*

### **Monday, April 9 Marin Chapter Meeting**

#### **"Alaskan Wildflowers: From the Mountains to the Sea" by guest speaker John Baston**

John Baston has been a National Park Ranger and guide for 22 years. His love of botany started in Marin when he was working at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and at Point Reyes National Seashore. He went on to spend 17 summers in Alaska working as a ranger and sea kayaking guide. He always carries his little pocket camera and has captured images of wildflowers from the beach fringe of Glacier Bay, the deep forests of the Tongass, and up into the subalpine of Denali National Park. Currently he is working again in the Bay Area as the Director of North American and Alaskan Programs at Mountain Travel Sobek.



**Above:** *Cypripedium parviflorum* (yellow ladyslipper orchid) by John Baston

John's program will be a survey of wildflowers that he has found in Alaska's diverse habitats, and he will have some ideas about arranging a trip that accesses all these wildflower hotspots.

April meeting:

**5:45 p.m.** 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.



**Above:** *Gentiana platypetala* (broad-petaled gentian) by John Baston



### **MT. TAMALPAIS RARE PLANT TREASURE HUNT 2012**

The Rare Plant Treasure Hunt (RPTH) is a volunteer program started by CNPS. It's designed to get people excited about rare plant conservation, as well as to gather important data on rare plants around the state. Details for trips will be at [www.cnps.org/cnps/rare-plants/treasurehunt/calendar.php](http://www.cnps.org/cnps/rare-plants/treasurehunt/calendar.php). To RSVP for a trip or find out more info, send an email to [dslakey@cnps.org](mailto:dslakey@cnps.org).

- **Thursday, April 12**

Harlequin lotus (*Hosackia gracilis*, formerly known as *Lotus formosissimus*) in Sky Oaks Meadow with Dominican College. Easy hike.

- **Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

Serpentine endemics along Rocky Ridge with City College of San Francisco. Moderate hike; shuttle available.

## **APRIL 2012 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 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 [www.marinnativeplants.org](http://www.marinnativeplants.org).

### **Coastal Grassland and Freshwater Marsh Wildflowers of Bull Point, Pt. Reyes**

**Sunday, April 22, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

Locally unusual native plants grow in the marshy wetlands near the Bull Point trailhead as well as in the adjacent coastal grassland and sand dunes. Species found here include blue camas, tofieldia, linanthus, May lilies, native clovers, yellow-eyed grass, Pt. Reyes checkerbloom, coast gilia, and the Sonoma and San Francisco spineflowers.

We'll meet at the trailhead on Pt. Reyes where there is ample parking. Be prepared for cool, windy weather. Bring lunch; rain cancels.

Leader: Doreen Smith, (415) 479-7888

## **RECOMMENDED MARIN COUNTY PARKS NATURALIST WALKS**

David Herlocker will lead all of the walks listed below. The walks are for adults, and no animals except service animals are allowed. Questions: contact David at (415) 893-9508 or [dherlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:dherlocker@marincounty.org). Heavy rain may cancel. Call (415) 893-9527 on the morning of the walk to hear a recorded message if cancelled.

For more information, visit [www.marincountyparks.org/Depts/PK/Programs/Naturalist](http://www.marincountyparks.org/Depts/PK/Programs/Naturalist).

### **Early Flowers at Ring Mountain**

**Tuesday, April 3, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**

Truly one of the best wildflower displays in the Bay Area, the overwhelming floral diversity of this site makes this walk a "spring classic". In addition to the many rare species found here, there are often

expanses of goldfields, tidy tips, and other early bloomers, and a multicolored carpet providing a foreground for spectacular views of the entire bay.

Directions: Meet at the end of Taylor Rd. in Corte Madera: from Hwy. 101, take the Paradise Dr./ Tamalpais Dr. exit east and turn right at San Clemente Dr. (becomes Paradise Dr.) Follow Paradise Dr. for 1.5 miles and turn right at Taylor Rd.

### **Wildlife and Wildflowers at Deer Island**

**Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

No longer a true island, this small preserve is still a wildlife oasis at the edge of urban Novato and the surrounding seasonal wetlands. The forest and grasslands here are home to a variety of birds (including many breeding raptors), reptiles, insects, and wildflowers.

Directions: Meet at the Deer Island Trailhead in Novato: from Hwy. 101, take the Atherton Ave./San Marin Dr. exit east on Atherton Ave., turn right at Olive Ave., and turn left at Deer Island Lane (305 Deer Island Lane).

### **Trek to the Top of White Hill**

**Sunday, April 15, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**

We'll aim for lunch at the summit, but we'll make the 1,000 foot ascent at a pace that will allow us to enjoy all of the wildflowers and wildlife we encounter along the way. By now, almost all of the birds that breed here but winter elsewhere will be back, so don't forget your binoculars!

Directions: Meet at the parking area on the left side of the road, just below the top of the hill: From Fairfax, head west on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. To cross to the south side of this busy road it is best to pull off into the long gravel area on the right, and then cross with caution.

### **Flowers at Mount Burdell**

**Tuesday, April 17, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.**

The serpentine laced slopes on the south side of this Novato preserve produce a splendid mix of wildflowers of all shapes, colors, and sizes. The bloom at this location is among the best wildflower displays to be found in Marin County—prepare to be overwhelmed!

Directions: Meet at the San Carlos Trailhead: from Hwy. 101, take the Atherton Ave./San Marin Dr. exit west on San Marin Dr. and turn right at San Carlos Way. Gate is at the end of San Carlos Way.

### **San Geronimo Ridge**

**Saturday, April 28, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.**

This ridge above the south side of the San Geronimo Valley is one of the great gems in the county. Wildflowers (including some unusual serpentine

*Field trip information continued on page 3*

Field trip information continued from page 2

endemics), a pygmy Sargent Cypress forest, and incredible views are our reward for the sustained climb that will bring us to the top (1,200 foot elevation gain, seven miles round trip).

Directions: Meet at the Willis Evans Trailhead (formerly Bates Canyon): from Sir Francis Drake Blvd. (in Woodacre), turn left at San Geronimo Valley Dr., then left on Redwood CANYON Dr., (not Redwood Dr.)

## OTHER TRIPS

### Brooks Island

**Sunday, May 6, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.**

The environmentally sensitive island is a marvelous bird sanctuary. Over 18 species of birds nest there, including Caspian terns, black-crowned night herons, gulls, and ducks. The island also supports an unusual variety of plant communities, including native coastal grassland that persists in a relatively undisturbed state. There is also a salt marsh and many acres of northern coastal scrub. In spring, the wildflowers put on a colorful show.

The boat will depart from the Berkeley Marina at 10 a.m. and return about 4:30 p.m. There is a tour of the bay on our way to our anchor spot. All passengers are then ferried over to Brooks Island in a 17-foot skiff (in several trips). The water is very shallow around the island, so the trip has to be planned around a higher tide to allow for landing.

Everyone brings their lunch and liquids plus all-weather clothing just in case. A storm will cancel the trip, but not light rain.

Contact East Bay Regional Parks at (888) 327-2757 or (888) EBPARKS. Limited to 23 people—call soon. Course Name: CNPS Boat to Brooks, Course #29606. Cost is \$72 resident (Alameda & Contra Costa counties) \$80 non-resident.



## 36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE

**Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.**

Our annual spring plant sale and associated events will take place at a new venue at Green Point Nursery, 275 Olive Ave. at the corner of Atherton Ave. in Novato.

To celebrate Native Plant Week (April 15–21) and the grand opening of the new native plant nursery, we will have a good selection of native wildflowers in addition to native perennials, shrubs, and succulents available at our sale.

Knowledgeable volunteers will be available to help with your selections; author Nancy Bauer will be present to advise habitat gardeners; and we'll have on-going home composting demonstrations, with a chance to win a free composting bin. You can learn about the

local restoration projects of Marin Audubon Society and the native landscaping projects of the Novato Streetscaping Maintenance Advisory Committee, and you can join native plant expert Doreen Smith for a 1 p.m. walk at nearby Deer Island.

Please join us in an effort to make this “grand opening” of the new native plant nursery the best plant sale ever! We always have a great time while working together, sharing good energy, tips, and ideas. As an added bonus, volunteers helping with the plant sale get first pick of the choicest plants!

Following is a schedule of work days and times:

- **Tuesday, April 3, 1–3 p.m.:** Grooming and labeling plants
- **Thursday, April 5, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.:** More grooming and labeling for sale  
This is a great way to become really familiar with plant names and details of care and culture!
- **Tuesday, April 10, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.:** More grooming, labeling, and pricing

### Plant Sale Preparation

**Thursday, April 12, and Friday, April 13**

We plan to start at 11 a.m. and work through the afternoon to set up for the sale.

### Spring Plant Sale

**Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.**

Volunteers will be needed and appreciated to complete setup, greet and assist customers, and write up sales. You do not need extensive knowledge of native plants in order to volunteer! Volunteering for just an hour or two during the day is a great way to meet other members and our supportive public. If you can't help this year, you're still welcome to stop by and pick up a few beautiful native plants.

To volunteer for plant sale work on April 12, 13, or 14, please contact Kristin Jakob ([kristinjacob@pacbell.net](mailto:kristinjacob@pacbell.net)), (415) 388-1844 or Renee Fittinghoff ([renee94941@gmail.com](mailto:renee94941@gmail.com)) (415) 388-6850.

### Post-Sale Work

Volunteers are also needed at these times:

- **Tuesday, April 17, 1–3 p.m.:** Help with clean-up after the sale
- **Thursday, April 26, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.:** More plant propagation

No need to bring anything; we have gloves and tools on hand; and lots of native plants!!!

For more information about the Growing Natives workdays (April 3, 5, 10, 17, or 26), contact Charlotte Torgovitsky ([torgovitsky@comcast.net](mailto:torgovitsky@comcast.net)), (415) 892-9148.

## PLANT OF THE MONTH

Text by Doreen Smith

*Ceanothus masonii* is a rare Marin County endemic shrub, probably confined to the middle part of Bolinas Ridge. It grows in chaparral on rocky, sandstone-derived soils with various other species of *Ceanothus* and three species of *Arctostaphylos*.



**Above:** Bolinas ceanothus (*Ceanothus masonii*) by Vernon Smith

I was first introduced to this plant in the early 1990s by Robert Allen, then our chapter's rare plant expert. We parked our cars at the junction of Ridgecrest and the highest point of the Bolinas to Fairfax Road. Then we hiked northwards through the coast redwood forest until we reached the open chaparral. Soon we found just a few shrubs of a short, stiff, holly-leaved blue-blossom, "real" *Ceanothus masonii*, growing by the shoulders of the fire road.

Advancing more to the north, past several specimens of the similarly rare Marin manzanita, *Arctostaphylos virgata*, we came across taller, larger-leaved, blue-blossom shrubs; these are the rare *Ceanothus gloriosus* var. *exaltatus*. The point at which the two taxa met was indistinct; they merged gradually into each other.

The theoretical origin of *Ceanothus masonii* is that it is a stable hybrid of *Ceanothus cuneatus* and *C. gloriosus* var. *exaltatus*; however, it may be just a variety of *C. gloriosus*. More study is needed.

This is not the only puzzle about defining the taxon "*C. masonii*". In several parts of Mt. Tamalpais and its north-trending ridges are blue-blossoms which are probably hybrids of *C. cuneatus* and *C. jepsonii*. They grow in chaparral at junctions of sandstone and serpentine rocks. They have been erroneously called *C. rigidus* or *C. masonii* on some herbarium voucher sheets. Who says identifying plants is easy as long as you key them out carefully? Maybe yes, but often no. A plant may key out "perfectly" but still not be "it".

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT WEEK

Is April 15-21. See [www.cnps.org/cnps/conservation/nativeplantweek](http://www.cnps.org/cnps/conservation/nativeplantweek) for details!



## THE CNPS 2012 CONSERVATION CONFERENCE

by Eva Buxton

CNPS hosted its second Conservation Conference in January 2012. The Marin chapter generously sponsored me and I attended as many talks and activities as possible for three truly interesting days. One of the most appealing aspects of such a conference is the chance to meet prominent academics, agency personnel, educators, students, land-use planners, members of other CNPS chapters, and, in my case, old friends from many of those groups.

There were about 200 talks within 23 main categories, including California Plants and Climate Change, Advances in Plant Science, Rare Plant Communities, Renewable Energy and Conservation in California, Land Management and the Conservation of Plants and Communities, The State of CEQA: Challenges and Opportunities in Uncertain Times, and Impacts and Mitigation. Some that I found of great interest concerned the recovery of annual species, especially those occurring in serpentine habitats and the impact of climate change on serpentine endemics. Another area of great interest to me was the one dealing with digital keys such as comprehensive interactive plant keys for California and how to use online tools to transition from The Jepson Manual I plant names to TJM II names. In addition to the talks, there were poster sessions illustrating issues ranging from seed dispersal mechanisms to wetland restoration projects, poetry readings, and art displays. The keynote speaker at the banquet was Peter Raven, President Emeritus of the Missouri Botanical Garden and an outspoken advocate of the need for conservation throughout the world. One of the plenary speakers, Dr. Louise Jackson of UC Davis, discussed the role of biodiversity in agricultural systems and the potential for working landscapes to play a role in the restoration and conservation of native plants and animals.

Of course, CNPS organizers hope that the conference will motivate and encourage participants to act in the interest of our native plants and plant communities. I got many good ideas for my project in Tiburon, that is, trying to save the state- and federal-listed endangered Tiburon jewel flower from extinction due to its habitat's invasion by wild oats. I hope that our chapter can embark upon many such projects in the future. The conservation committee met recently and we are prepared to play a more active role in the conservation of our county's vegetation.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ✿ **Monday 4/2, 7 p.m.**  
Chapter Board Meeting at the TCC (Tamalpais Conservation Club) office at the MAAGC in Ross
- ✿ **Tuesday 4/3, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks Field Trip—Early Flowers of Ring Mtn.
- ✿ **Saturday 4/7, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks Field Trip—Wildlife and Wildflowers at Deer Island
- ✿ **Monday 4/9, 7:30–9:30 p.m.**  
Chapter Meeting: John Baston on “Alaskan Wildflowers: From the Mountains to the Sea”
- ✿ **Thursday 4/12**  
Mt. Tam Rare Plant Treasure Hunt—Sky Oaks
- ✿ **Saturday 4/14, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.**  
36<sup>th</sup> Annual Marin Chapter Spring Plant Sale
- ✿ **Saturday 4/14, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Mt. Tam Rare Plant Treasure Hunt—Rocky Ridge
- ✿ **Sunday 4/15, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks Field Trip—Trek to the Top of White Hill
- ✿ **Tuesday 4/17, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks Field Trip—Flowers at Mount Burdell
- ✿ **Thursday 4/19, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.**  
Third Thursday Weeders Workday at Pt. Reyes
- ✿ **Saturday 4/21, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**  
Annual Spring Plant Sale at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden
- ✿ **Sunday 4/22, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Chapter Field Trip—Coastal Grassland and Freshwater Marsh Wildflowers of Bull Point, Pt. Reyes
- ✿ **Friday 4/27–Monday 4/30**  
2012 Pt. Reyes Birding & Nature Festival
- ✿ **Saturday 4/28, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks Field Trip—San Geronimo Ridge
- ✿ **Sunday 5/6, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.**  
East Bay Regional Parks/CNPS Field Trip—Brooks Island
- ✿ **Monday 5/7, 7 p.m.**  
Chapter Board Meeting at the MAAGC in Ross
- ✿ **Monday 5/14, 7:30–9:30 p.m.**  
Chapter Meeting: Bob & Martha Sikora on “The Pacific Crest Trail”

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**Save native plant habitat at Point Reyes with the...**

## THIRD THURSDAY WEEDERS

**Next workday: April 19, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.**

Would you like to help improve plant habitat with your own two hands? Join the “Third Thursday Weeders—a collaboration of the Marin chapter of CNPS and the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin—to tackle invasive weeds that threaten important plant habitat in the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The group meets on the third Thursday of each month at locations arranged with Seashore staff. We have hand-pulled small iceplant seedlings at a gorgeous location on the Outer Point, and dug up European beachgrass at Abbott’s Lagoon. Not only did we enjoy fun days of camaraderie in the great outdoors at Point Reyes, we made a significant contribution to improving habitat for native species!

Our next two work parties will take place on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup>. Send an email to Ellen Hamingson at [Ellen\\_Hamingson@nps.gov](mailto:Ellen_Hamingson@nps.gov) to be notified of the time and place to meet. Tentatively, we are planning to weed around the edges of the Point Reyes Lighthouse Parking Lot, an area which supports numerous species of unusual native plants. Ehrharta grass and other invasives are trying to displace these species so the area needs our attention!



Bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks, warm and wind-stopping layers, sturdy shoes, work clothes. No shorts or open-toed shoes. Please let us know if you plan to join the group by emailing Ellen as mentioned above. Ellen will send out a reminder and instructions on where to meet. For more information, contact Carolyn Longstreth at [cklongstreth@gmail.com](mailto:cklongstreth@gmail.com).

Hope to see you on April 19<sup>th</sup>!



## ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT SALE AT THE REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN

**Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**

California shrubs, trees, and 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>.

## IMPORTANT MEMBER SURVEY COMING SOON!

All chapter members will be receiving, by US mail, a member survey relating to Marin Chapter CNPS priorities and activities. Please take the time to fill out the survey and return it. We will be enclosing a self-addressed stamped return envelope so all you need to do is put it in the mail.

This is an exciting time for Marin CNPS with our new Native Plant Nursery and Demonstration Garden about to open. It is also a challenging time for the conservation of native plants and their habitats because public land management agencies in the county are experiencing budget cuts. We need your input on Marin CNPS' priorities and on the interest you and other members have in specific Chapter activities and projects. This survey will also help the Marin CNPS do a better job of communicating with members. When this survey arrives in your mail, please get it back to us as quickly as possible and help give the chapter a stronger voice for native plants.

## MARIN CNPS CONTACTS

Position	Name
Co-Vice President; Plant Sale Committee Co-Chair; Program Committee Co-Chair	Kristin Jakob
Co-Vice President	David Long
Secretary	Amelia Ryan
Treasurer	Daniel Kushner
Board Member	Janice Barry
Board Member; Conservation and Invasives Committee Chair (Conservation)	Eva Buxton
Board Member; Education and Publicity Committee Co-Chair	Paul da Silva
Board Member; Legislation	Phyllis Faber
Board Member; Gardening with Natives Committee Chair; Plant Sale Committee Co-Chair	Renee Fittinghoff
Board Member; <i>Marin Flora</i> Project	Wilma Follette
Board Member; Chapter Council Delegate	Carolyn Longstreth
Board Member	Sandy Ross
Board Member; Rare Plant Committee Chair	Doreen Smith
Board Member; Website	Mary Stevens
Board Member; Membership Committee Co-Chair; Program Committee Co-Chair	Charlotte Torgovitsky
Book Sales	Doyleen McMurtry
Membership Committee Co-Chair	Ashley Ratcliffe
Historian	Vivian Mazur
Newsletter Editor	Krista Fechner
Newsletter Folding/Mailing	Paul Kryloff
Poster Sales	Gerd Jakob

**Open Positions:** President, Conservation and Invasives Committee Co-Chair (Invasives), Education and Publicity Committee Co-Chair, Field Trips Committee Chair

## EXPLORE THE UNDERGROUND AND DRIP IRRIGATION WITH ROBERT KOURIK

Robert Kourik, author of 12 books, including the seminal *Drip Irrigation for Every Landscape and All Climates* and his most recent *Roots Demystified: Change Your Gardening Habits to Help Roots Thrive*, will speak on roots and drip irrigation for native plants in early April.

If you would like to attend, please email Renee at reneef94941@gmail.com so that she can inform you of the date, time, and venue once these have been finalized.



## BOOK DONATION

Many thanks to Margaret Powers, currently residing in Oregon, for her donation of California botany books to the Marin Chapter!

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***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](http://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

## 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

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

## CNPS Contact Information

Phone            (916) 447-2677 (state)

Fax                (916) 447-2727 (state)

Email             [cnps@cnps.org](mailto:cnps@cnps.org) (state)

Web                [www.marinnativeplants.org](http://www.marinnativeplants.org) (Marin chapter)

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



# RING MOUNTAIN STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Through a unique partnership between The Nature Conservancy and Marin County Parks, a new stewardship program was initiated in 2011 on the Ring Mountain Preserve. As many Marinites might know, Ring Mountain is home to some of the most intact and beautiful native serpentine grasslands in the area, which provide habitat for a few of the rarest plant species on earth, including the symbol of this CNPS chapter, the Tiburon mariposa lily.



In the continued interest of preservation, a program is underway to better address the needs of Ring Mountain. One of the main program focuses is on increasing volunteer opportunities and community outreach.

Beginning spring 2012, a new series of volunteer habitat restoration workdays will be held. Projects will include weeding, fence construction, native plant installation, and plant identification. For interested volunteers, more specialized projects will include seed collection and rare plant mapping and monitoring. These workdays will also be a great opportunity to meet local environmental experts who will periodically lead talks about Marin County ecology.

Please join us to protect this special place!

For more information, please contact Sam Abercrombie at [sabercrombie@marincounty.org](mailto:sabercrombie@marincounty.org) or (415) 473.2128 or visit [www.marincountyparks.org](http://www.marincountyparks.org).

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Visit us at [www.marinnativeplants.org](http://www.marinnativeplants.org)!

## GET YOUR COPY OF THE REVISED *MARIN FLORA*!

The 2007 revised edition of John Thomas Howell's classic *Marin Flora* (originally published in 1949) is available at chapter meetings and at the chapter website ([www.marinnativeplants.org](http://www.marinnativeplants.org)).

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



## WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you would like to make a suggestion for a chapter meeting program, field trip, plant identification workshop, outreach program for schoolchildren, or anything else that could help us improve our service to the public, please contact us. You can phone or email your ideas to any of the board members listed on page 6.



## NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE!

You can find a color PDF edition of this newsletter on the Marin chapter website by visiting [www.marinnativeplants.org/newsletters.html](http://www.marinnativeplants.org/newsletters.html).

## BOTANICAL ART EXHIBITIONS BY CHAPTER MEMBERS

### *Forms & Structure and Botanic Art*

Helen Drake Muirhead, whose art has graced our chapter's plant sale flyers and illustrated a brochure on plants of the Old St. Hilary's preserve in Tiburon, is exhibiting her lovely watercolors of Marin wildflowers alongside architectural and landscape photos by her husband, Fraser Muirhead, a past president of the Marin Chapter.

Dominican University, 50 Acacia Ave, San Rafael, through June 22. The exhibition is on the first floor of the science building. For more info, see [www.dominican.edu](http://www.dominican.edu).

### *Kristin Jakob—A Retrospective*

Kristin Jakob is a chapter board member and illustrator of the CNPS poster "Wildflowers of the Sierra Nevada"; the book *Wild Lilies, Irises, and Grasses; Gardening with California Monocots*; and the CNPS grasses place-mats. This retrospective will span the last 40 years of her botanical art career, in large part focussed on her first love, California's native plants.

Mill Valley Community Center, 180 Camino Alto, March 30–April 24, M–F 9–5, First Tuesday Artwalk Reception, Tuesday, April 3, 6–8 p.m. For more info, see [www.cityofmillvalley.org](http://www.cityofmillvalley.org).