



# California Native Plant Society

## MARIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

*Tiburon Mariposa Lily (Calochortus tiburonensis)*

*Marin Chapter established 1973*

### ANNUAL MEMBERS' POTLUCK SLIDE SHOW AND DINNER

**Saturday, September 13, 6–9:30 p.m.**

Join members, their families, and friends for an evening of delicious food, beautiful pictures, and good company! Please bring a dish and beverage to share; bringing your own plates and drinking vessels will help reduce waste. Cutlery, napkins, and extra plates and cups, as well as tea and coffee will be provided.

If you would like to share up to 20 images from your botanical explorations near or far, please bring digital images on a laptop or flash drive. The chapter's digital projector and laptop will be available. Please do not bring more than 20 images to ensure that everyone will have time to show their images.

**Location:** Lucas Valley Community Center, 1201 Idylberry Rd., San Rafael

**Directions:** Hwy. 101 to west on Lucas Valley Rd.; after about two miles, turn right onto Mt. Shasta Dr., then take the second left onto Idylberry, and turn immediately left into the Community Center parking lot.

**Questions?** Contact Kristin Jakob 415.388.1844/[kristinjakob@att.net](mailto:kristinjakob@att.net).



### **Monday, October 13, Marin Chapter Meeting**

#### **Ted Kipping on "The West: A Closer Look"**

Come enjoy a pictorially comprehensive trip around California. Ted Kipping is a Life Member of CNPS and many other botanical, horticultural, and natural history groups. He studied natural history at Columbia University in NYC, worked at the Botanical Gardens in Golden Gate Park, and started his own arboriculture firm serving the Bay Area (Tree Shapers, LLC) 38 years ago. Ted has travelled all over the western US as well as wild places in many other parts of the world. His photography has been extensively published.



October meeting:

**5:30 p.m.** Join friends and meet our speakers 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.



### **SIGN UP FOR E-BULLETINS TO KEEP UP WITH CNPS MARIN NEWS!**

Periodic e-bulletins are sent out to members and others who wish to be reminded of upcoming events and activities or notified of schedule changes. To sign up, please write to Jim Desser at [jdesser@gmail.com](mailto:jdesser@gmail.com).

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My husband and I love to camp out during the summer, and we've been visiting the same favorite sites each year for almost 20 years. This year has been very different because of the extended drought conditions. A number of the lakes we love are almost non-existent. It's sad to see, but interesting, because plants that I had not seen before at these particular sites were now colonizing areas formerly under water. There must have been a seed bank, waiting all these years for an opportunity to grow!

Gardening has also become more challenging. The deer are eating plants that they've never shown any interest in before, and that is really frustrating; hopefully they will lose interest when more normal conditions return. I've done a lot of work on my irrigation systems so that a minimal amount of water will keep plants alive through the dry season. In many areas on our property, established native plantings survive without any additional summer water, but I have to admit that the summer-dry-brown look is a hard one for any gardener to fully accept. The reward comes with the first rain, when all these plants that survived the dry season in a dead-looking dormancy come alive again, full of vigorous green energy.

We hope to display a whole gallery of garden photos on the new chapter website to inspire and help others plant the natives that can survive these extreme conditions. We would like to showcase gardens inspired by the plant communities here in Marin. If you have a native garden that you are proud of, please send photos and descriptions to our webmaster at [webmarincnps@gmail.com](mailto:webmarincnps@gmail.com).

Most of the work updating the website and adding to the various features is done by members volunteering their time and expertise. Mary Stevens was our volunteer website manager for 17 years; she just recently stepped down. Our board wanted to acknowledge her contribution, and has done so by donating \$500 in Mary's honor towards a science display cabinet at the College of Marin. The cabinet is in honor of Al Molina, a popular instructor in the Biology department, and a person that Mary remembers with great fondness.

With time on my hands this summer, I've been helping Marcia Basalla (see pp. 6-7) with maintenance on her traffic island projects. My plant propagation group has supported her efforts since she began by providing some of the native plants that are planted there; she has supported our propagation activities by allowing us to use her island plantings as "mother plants". We take divisions and cuttings, collect seeds, and dig up volunteer seedlings to pot on. We look for seedlings of coyote bush while we're weeding; if we can get the whole taproot without damaging it, the plant quickly recovers, and grows on to a good size when planted into a "conetainer." The seedlings are the straight species (*Baccharis pilularis* var. *consanguinea*) and local genetic stock of coyote bush; we tend them until the

rainy season, when Marin Audubon Society volunteers plant them out into the various areas in Novato that the group is restoring to native habitat.

—Charlotte Torgovitsky



## ZEN OF WEEDING

**Habitat Restoration at Samuel P. Taylor St. Park**  
**Second Friday & second Sunday of every month,**  
**1–3 p.m.**

2014 is the fourth year for our Marin CNPS collaboration with Samuel P. Taylor State Park and San Geronimo Valley's SPAWN (Salmon Protection and Watershed Network). Our list of exotic invasives has grown to about 10, although we focus mainly on *Myosotis latifolia* (forget-me-nots).

This is easy, companionable work. Spending time working under the redwoods restores our spirits as well as the habitat. Our goal is an invasive-free park. We want all the campers and visitors to Samuel P. Taylor Park to discover a more pristine native habitat. Bring your friends, neighbors, and families to join in this great project. We guarantee you will have fun and get hooked on weeding the woods.

We meet just before 1 p.m. at the far end of the picnic area. Bring gloves and get a free parking pass when you volunteer. Contact Nancy Hanson at [nandean@comcast.net](mailto:nandean@comcast.net) if you want to attend, need more info, or want notice of other work parties at Samuel P. Taylor Park.



## BUZZ ON BY THE BAY TO THE GARDENERS WORK PARTY FOR POLLINATORS!

Marin CNPS, in cooperation with Richardson Bay Audubon Center and Sanctuary, is in the process of developing the gardens at the Audubon site in Tiburon. Much has already been accomplished in the Hummingbird Garden: weeds pulled, exotics relocated off-site, shrubs judiciously pruned. More needs doing, but this month we enjoyed glorious flowering of California fuchsia, asters, and yarrow. In the next couple of months, we will be selecting a plant palette.

We invite all interested gardeners to join us on the first Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. to continue to prepare the site for fall planting. Bring gloves, hat, sunscreen, any favorite gardening hand tools, and a picnic lunch. Rain (!) does cancel.

Richardson Bay Audubon Center and Sanctuary is located at 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon.

RSVPs appreciated but not required. Contact Renee Fittinghoff at [reneef94941@gmail.com](mailto:reneef94941@gmail.com).

## PLANT OF THE MONTH: GRASS OF PARNASSUS

Text by Doreen Smith; photo by Vernon Smith

The type locality for this wildflower is Mt. Parnassus, Greece. So why do we have this plant growing as a native in Marin in serpentine seeps? It is one of the circumboreal group of species, also native to Europe and Asia in northern latitudes. It is thought that many wetland species have been spread by migratory birds, but *Parnassia* could have been present in geological history well before the Quaternary ice ages, first retreating southwards ahead of the glaciers then re-colonizing suitable sites later. Other species of *Parnassia* of California and the other western states are likely derived from this ancestor.



*Parnassia palustris*, Parnassiaceae

Each flower has five sepals, five white petals, five stamens, five branched and feathery staminodes, and a single ovary that matures into a many-seeded capsule. The Jepson Herbarium collections of this species all come from the Mt. Tamalpais area, but I haven't seen them there recently. In Tiburon, the *Parnassia* can easily be found at this time of year, growing in the seeps below Old St. Hilary's Chapel.



## CNPS EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

The CNPS Educational Grant application period has opened; proposals are due on September 30. For details, visit [www.cnps.org/cnps/education/grants.php](http://www.cnps.org/cnps/education/grants.php).

—Josie Crawford, CNPS Education Program Director, [jcrawford@cnps.org](mailto:jcrawford@cnps.org)/916.447.2677, ext. 205.

## RING MOUNTAIN GRASSLAND RESTORATION PROJECT

**Saturday, September 27 and Saturday, October 25, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.**

Location: end of Taylor Road, off Paradise Dr., Tiburon.

Join us for our monthly drop-in volunteer workday as we focus on restoring the grasslands of Ring Mountain! Ring Mountain is home to numerous rare and endangered plants, but this habitat is being threatened by invasive species. Volunteer work may include invasive species removal, seed collecting, tarping, and/or installing native plants. Educational components are included as we discuss the plants and animals that inhabit this unique place and explain how volunteer activities are having a positive impact.

Work is mildly strenuous and usually requires a short hike to the site. Drop-in days are held on the last Saturday of every month (except November and December) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Dress in layers, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. High fire danger or inclement weather may cancel. Questions: contact Ring Mountain Stewardship Coordinator Sarah Minnick at 415.473.5058 or [SMinnick@marincounty.org](mailto:SMinnick@marincounty.org).

Check the Marin County Parks website events calendar ([www.marincountyparks.org/depts/pk/calendar](http://www.marincountyparks.org/depts/pk/calendar)) for the latest info on meeting times, locations, and activities.



## DO YOU KNOW THE WAY TO SAN JOSE?

**Thursday, October 2, 5:30 p.m.**

We are inviting all Bay Area and beyond chapter members for a one-hour tour of the site of the CNPS Conservation Conference and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary kick-off at the San Jose DoubleTree by Hilton. We'll show you where all the events will take place, where chapter posters will be displayed, and the disco bar, and let you know about all the ways you could participate in this major CNPS event (January 13–17, 2015). The tour will be followed by an optional social hour.

Location: San Jose DoubleTree, 2050 Gateway Place.

For more information, contact CNPS Education Program Director Josie Crawford, [jcrawford@cnps.org](mailto:jcrawford@cnps.org)/916.447.2677, ext. 205.



## 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 8.

## SEPTEMBER MARIN COUNTY PARKS NATURALIST WALKS

The walks listed here are for ages 15+. MCP requests that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger may cancel: Call 415.893.9527 after 7 a.m. on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact hike leader David Herlocker at 415.893.9508/ DHerlockermarincounty.org.

### **Berries: The Bounty of Autumn at Indian Tree**

**Sunday, September 14, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**

Many of our wild fruits and berries ripen in the warm days of early fall, providing a cornucopia of sustenance for birds and mammals. We'll make our way to the ridge and back through a range of habitats looking for berries and discussing the ways in which animals (including humans) take advantage of this seasonal abundance. The trek to the summit is long, but worth every step. Distance: 6.5 miles; elevation gain: 1,300 feet.

**Directions:** Meet at the trailhead on Vineyard Rd. in Novato. From Hwy. 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr. west 2.7 miles. San Marin Dr. turns into Sutro Ave. at Novato Blvd. Follow Sutro Ave. one mile, turn right at Vineyard Rd., and follow one mile. Trailhead is on the left where the paved road becomes a dirt road.

### **Blithedale Summit**

**Saturday, September 20, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

We'll hike up to the long ridge that extends from the east flank of Mount Tamalpais and runs between Mill Valley and the Larkspur/Corte Madera area. The initial climb is steep, but once we are on the ridge, we can scan the sky for passing raptors as we enjoy a five-mile loop that includes the Huckleberry Trail and the Southern Marin Line Fire Road.

**Directions:** Meet at the gate near the end of Glen Dr. in Mill Valley. From Hwy. 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for E. Blithedale Ave. west 1.4 miles. Turn right onto Carmelita Ave., then right onto Buena Vista Ave., which turns into Glen Dr.) The gate is approximately one mile up on the left (before the dead end).

### **Deer Island**

**Sunday, September 28, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

This beautiful little ridge that rises above the surrounding marshland is a great place to enjoy an autumn day. We'll spend the day walking through oak forests, open meadows, and along the edge of a marsh as we discuss the change of seasons and what it means for our local flora and fauna.

**Directions:** Meet at the gate on Deer Island Ln. in Novato. From Hwy. 101 in Novato, take the exit for Atherton Ave. east 1.7 miles. Turn right onto Olive Ave. and left onto Deer Island Ln. The gate is on your right.

### **San Geronimo Ridge**

**Tuesday, September 30, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**

We'll start the morning with a slow ascent from the valley floor to San Geronimo Ridge. It's a sustained climb (elevation gain 1,000 ft), but once we reach the top, we will enjoy amazing views and the pygmy Sargent cypress forest that makes this preserve so unique. For lunch we'll drop down to a shaded clearing among towering Redwoods and Douglas-firs (eight-mile round trip.)

**Directions:** Meet at the gate on Redwood Canyon Dr. in San Geronimo. From Hwy. 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west 7.7 miles. Turn left onto Railroad Ave., take a sharp right onto San Geronimo Valley Dr., and take the second left onto Redwood Canyon Dr. The gate is immediately on the right.



## FALL IN LOVE WITH CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS

Two venues, a two-minute drive from each other!

**Saturday, October 4, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**

First Fall Plant Sale at Regional Parks Botanic Garden  
Friends of RPBG get to shop an hour early at 9 a.m.!  
For more info, visit [nativeplants.org](http://nativeplants.org).

**Saturday, October 4, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. &  
Sunday, October 5, noon–4 p.m.**

CNPS's Native Plant Fair at the Native Here Nursery in Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley, specializing in Alameda and Contra Costa County natives.

Sunday will be Family Day with local plant-themed art vendors, activities for children, and live music.

For more info, visit [nativeherenursery.org](http://nativeherenursery.org) and [ebcnps.org](http://ebcnps.org). Please support both the Regional Parks Botanic Garden and CNPS Native Here Nursery and have FUN!



## HELP NEEDED FOR BOOK SALES, STORAGE, AND TRANSPORT!

Doyleen McMurtry has retired from book sales, a position she has graciously held for a number of years. The chapter urgently needs one or more volunteers to sell books at our membership meetings and plant sales, if these sales are to continue. Also welcome would be a volunteer to store the inventory, and to bring a selection to and from our meetings and events. This could easily be a shared position, with storage and transport handled by a different volunteer from the salesperson. Please contact Kristin Jakob at 415.388.1844/[kristinjacob@att.net](mailto:kristinjacob@att.net) if you have questions or you can help.

## MARIN CNPS HELPS CREATE GROUP TO FIGHT INVASIVE PLANTS IN MARIN

Last spring, Marin Conservation League volunteer Paul Minault contacted Eva Buxton (Marin Chapter Conservation Chair) and David Long (Marin Chapter Co-Vice President) about creating a group that would focus exclusively on the control and eradication of exotic invasive plants in Marin. Rampantly spreading invasives such as French broom and jubata grass (commonly called pampas grass), threaten Marin's native plant habitats, and not nearly enough is being done to counteract this threat to our native flora and open space. Paul, Eva, and Dave spent several months strategizing about an organizational structure for this effort. The Marin Chapter of CNPS is a member of the Marin Conservation League, a broad-based conservation organization. As Eva and Paul are both on the MCL Parks & Open Space Committee (POSC), they proposed that this new group, which would focus on efforts to control and eradicate invasive plants in the County, be made a subcommittee of the POSC. This proposal was received favorably by the MCL board of directors, including Nona Dennis, the POSC chair. Consequently, the Invasive Plant Subcommittee was created, chaired by Paul Minault.

The primary focus of the Invasive Plant Subcommittee is on public policy initiatives and educational efforts that can address the spread of invasive plants. Its mission is to educate and inform the citizens of Marin County about the threat to our open spaces posed by invasive plants and to mobilize the human, financial, governmental, and institutional resources of our county to take effective action to restore our open space habitats to their natural condition to the maximum extent reasonably feasible.

The Subcommittee will examine policy and programmatic options for the county, cities, and special districts that could address the growing problem of invasives displacing native vegetation, especially in park lands and open space. Our goal is for every jurisdiction to have an invasive plant ordinance, an invasive plant management plan, a dedicated staff, funding, and enforcement. As with the recent plastic bag bans, the concept would be to develop a model in one jurisdiction that could be used as a model for other agencies in the county and eventually throughout the state. The subcommittee will also consider ways of educating the public about the harm to the environment and biodiversity caused by invasive plant infestations and ways of motivating the public to take greater responsibility for eliminating these plants from property they own or control, especially where invasive plants on private land could impact wildlands.

No one involved in this effort believes that success in this effort will be easy or fast. The challenges are

daunting: lack of funding; lack of public awareness and knowledge; limited and superficial public engagement with the natural environment; competition from pressing economic and social issues; and overshadowing by larger environmental issues such as climate change, population growth, and resource depletion. Successfully combatting invasive plants will probably require a change of consciousness similar to that which has turned around public opinion on issues such as smoking, plastic bag bans, gay marriage, and marijuana legalization. This will take time and sustained effort.

If you are interested in joining the Invasive Plant Subcommittee or know of persons who might be interested in participating in its work, please contact Subcommittee Chair Paul Minault at 415.971.4090/ pminault@earthlink.net.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- \* **Tuesday 9/2, 7 p.m.**  
Chapter Board Meeting at the MA&GC, Ross
- \* **Thursday 9/4, 10 a.m. (also 10/2)**  
First Thursdays by the Bay, Audubon Center, Tiburon
- \* **Friday 9/12 & Sunday 9/14, 1–3 p.m. (also 10/10, 10/12)**  
Habitat Restoration at Samuel P. Taylor St. Park
- \* **Saturday 9/13, 6–9:30 p.m.**  
Annual Chapter Potluck at the Lucas Valley Community Ctr
- \* **Sunday 9/14, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks field trip—Berries: The Bounty of Autumn at Indian Tree (Novato)
- \* **Thursday 9/18, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. (also 10/16)**  
Third Thursday Weeders Workday at Point Reyes
- \* **Saturday 9/20, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks field trip—Blithedale Summit (Mill Valley)
- \* **Saturday 9/27, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. (also 10/25)**  
Ring Mountain Drop-in Volunteer Day
- \* **Sunday 9/28, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks field trip—Deer Island (Novato)
- \* **Tuesday 9/30, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks field trip—San Geronimo Ridge
- \* **Monday 10/6, 7 p.m.**  
Chapter Board Meeting at the MA&GC, Ross
- \* **Monday 10/13, 7:30–9:30 p.m.**  
Chapter Meeting: Ted Kipping on “The West: A Closer Look”
- \* **Saturday 10/18, 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.**  
Fall Chapter Plant Sale at Richardson Bay Audubon Center, Tiburon
- \* **Monday 11/3, 7 p.m.**  
Chapter Board Meeting at the MA&GC, Ross
- \* **Monday 11/10, 7:30–9:30 p.m.**  
Chapter Meeting: Sarah Swope on “Tiburon Mariposa Lily—*Calochortus Tiburonensis*”

## MEET A MEMBER: MARCIA BASALLA

My love for the outdoors began when I was growing up in Northeastern Ohio, exploring the many wonderful open spaces still accessible at that time. As a child, I spent my days running through open fields, chasing butterflies, catching frogs and turtles, and climbing trees; a favorite pastime was just lounging in the field behind our house to watch bugs and other critters crawl around and on me. From these treasured experiences, I developed a deep love and respect for the natural world and a sense of responsibility to protect it.



In the early 70s my sister and I moved to California, settling for a while in Yucca Valley. I loved the high desert, but within a few years I found myself in San Francisco, where I attended college before starting work as the manager of a dental office.

Bicycling has always been a favorite weekend sport of mine, but the highlight was a cross-country road trip with a friend. In 1986 we bicycled from one coast to the other in 72 days. My friend wanted to know why we couldn't just "go around the mountains"; we couldn't, of course, it had to be up and over the Sierras and the Great Divide! After that trip I yearned for more time outdoors, so for a few years I was a tour leader for Vermont Bicycle Touring.

By 1992 I was back in California, and back at my office job, but still spending a lot of time outside, on foot or on bicycle, and becoming more and more aware of all the wild places and beautiful plants in Marin. Smitten and intrigued by the subtle beauty of native plants, particularly the ceanothus in full bloom that I admired on Mt. Tam, I joined CNPS and started to attend classes in horticulture at Merritt College in Oakland. I wanted to know more; it just made so much sense to me that we should restore our native plant heritage in order to rebuild habitats, conserve water, and create a healthier environment for all creatures.

After 10 years of night classes, I earned a certificate in Landscape Design, and was ready to put my newly gained knowledge to work. While obtaining statistics on Novato's street trees for an arboriculture class, I met Bill Johnson, a supervisor in Novato's Maintenance Department. He mentioned the "Adopt an Island" program sponsored by the Novato

Streetscape Committee and asked if I might like to participate. In Pacheco Valle, at the southern end of Novato, there was a large traffic island, devoid of any vegetation, and in need of a facelift. In July 2009, with the assistance of the Novato Maintenance Department, we planted a 98% native landscape. We planted salvias, buckwheats, elderberries, toyon, and asters, to mention just a few species, and lots of bunchgrasses. Every rainy season we've sowed in wildflowers, and added in a few more deer-resistant species. The island has now become a thriving habitat with year-round interest and color, as well as lots of resources for wildlife such as butterflies, lizards, and quail.

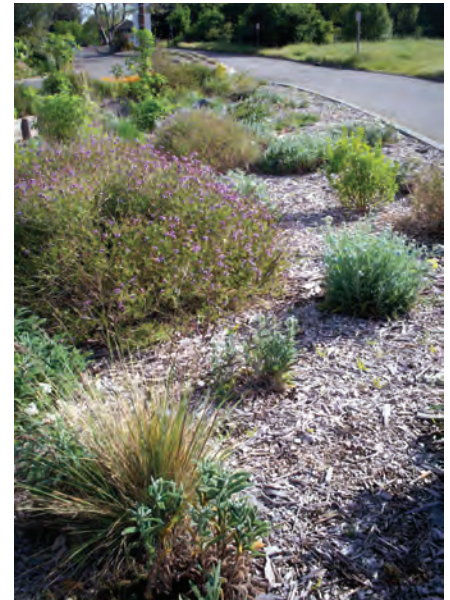


Elderberry and bunch grasses

Most of the residents of this neighborhood are pleased with the result, and they often stop by to thank me for my efforts. They also ask about the plants, and want to know which could work in their own gardens.

One admirer offered this written description: "The median island at the entrance to Pacheco Valle in Novato recreates the California coastal hills and fields in miniature.

The native plants are arranged loosely enough to suggest nature's spontaneity as well as to offer a pleasing sense of order. Each shrub and flower possesses the integrity of its character, and each seems to exist for a sensible reason—offering pollen; holding the soil; creating seeds, shelter, beauty. To



*Verbena lilacina* thrives here

*Meet a Member continued on page 7*

Meet a Member continued from page 6

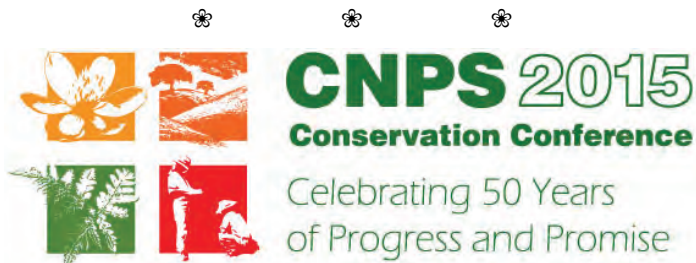
stand inside the island planting is to feel the exhilaration and freedom of the countryside. It is a microcosm of the macrocosm of rural California, and its intelligent design and beauty make it unique and a profound pleasure."



Wildflowers in bloom

My regular presence on the island inspired residents to help with another project at the entrance of Pacheco Valle. Non-native vegetation was removed and replaced with natives; native plants attract a variety of creatures, and each one of these "Island Habitats" helps to recreate corridors between open spaces for wildlife. I think of these islands as demonstration gardens that are accessible and visible to a larger audience.

I do some work on the island habitats almost every Saturday, and once a month a group of committed Pacheco Valle residents volunteer to help with regular maintenance; everyone has a great time, and we have developed a real sense of camaraderie during this whole process. The Novato Streetscape Committee will soon be creating another native landscape on a traffic island at Diablo Ave. and Redwood Blvd. This is an important step for showcasing natives to the public, as it is a very busy intersection. I always welcome helpers, and anyone interested in participating in our "work parties," or adopting an island, may contact me at 415.897.7124/ marciabasalla@hotmail.com.



The CNPS 2015 Conservation Conference is coming up this January 13-17 in San Jose! Kicking off the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CNPS, this event will be larger and

more exciting than ever before.

Join over 1,000 attendees in the heart of Silicon Valley for this historic event. The conference will begin with two days of workshops and field trips to area locations. The main conference starts on the 15<sup>th</sup>, with keynote speakers (including Michael Soulé, known as the "Father of Conservation Biology"! ) and over 300 presentations in 25 sessions by students, researchers, and CNPS chapters. We won't forget to have some fun too, with social events, art, poetry, music, and photography—not to mention your chance to explore the Bay Area and more from the ideal central location of San Jose.

In addition to attending the Conservation Conference, you can attend a workshop or field trip, volunteer, donate, or hold an associated meeting. Many CNPS Chapters are sponsoring students (see below), and there are also multiple unique opportunities for sponsors and exhibitors who are looking to connect with attendees on an even deeper level.

The 2015 Conservation Conference will cover topics across the spectrum from horticulture to vegetation, invasives to rare populations, and everything in between. Providing a forum for collaboration, discussion, and networking fun, there will be something for everyone who is interested in native plants and conservation! Discounted early registration is open July 15 to October 31 online, and you can visit [cnps.org/2015](http://cnps.org/2015) or email [breilly@CNPS.org](mailto:breilly@CNPS.org) for more information. We look forward to seeing you in San Jose!



## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

The Marin Chapter of the California Native Plant Society is pleased to announce four student scholarships to the CNPS Conservation Conference in San Jose, California, January 15-17, 2015.

Each scholarship will be \$250, covering early registration fees and travel expenses. Any college or graduate botany students living in Marin County or conducting research on plants native to Marin County are eligible to apply.

To apply, send a cover letter and a one-page description of your program of studies and interest in the conference by September 15, 2014 to:

Scholarship Committee  
Marin Chapter, CNPS  
c/o Dr. Paul da Silva  
Department of Life and Earth Sciences  
College of Marin  
Kentfield, CA 94904

For more information on the conference, visit [cnps.org/2015](http://cnps.org/2015).

# SAVE THE DATE!

## Marin Chapter Native Plant Sale

**Saturday, October 18, 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.**

Location: Richardson Bay Audubon Center & Sanctuary, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon

For our fall sale, we are back at the beautiful setting of the RBAC, next to the historic Lyford House. We'll be offering a wide selection of California native perennials, shrubs, and grasses, as well as wildflower seeds, books, and posters. There will be several free talks and workshops during the sale. Help will be needed for plant pricing and other sale preparations on Friday, October 17 from noon to 3 p.m., and for a variety of activities on the day of the sale: displaying plants, assisting customers with advice/carry-out, cashiering, refreshments, and take-down. Volunteers are promised a free plant and good company!

Please contact plant sale co-chairs Kristin Jakob, 415.388.1844/kristinjakob@att.net or Charlotte Torgovitsky, 415.892.9148/torgovitsky@comcast.net.

# BOARD NEWS

## Call for Nominations

Chapter members interested in serving as an officer or board member of the Marin Chapter of CNPS or who would like to suggest others for these positions are encouraged to contact President Charlotte Torgovitsky or one of the Co-Vice Presidents, David Long or Kristin Jakob.

The elected officers are: President, up to two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and up to 11 additional board members. A slate of nominees will be published in the October–December chapter newsletter, and voted on at the November membership meeting. Contact information: David Long, 415.381.6327/sfdlong@ix.netcom.com, Kristin Jakob, 415.388.1844/kristinjakob@att.net., or Charlotte Torgovitsky, 415.892.9148/torgovitsky@comcast.net.

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## MARIN CNPS CONTACTS

Position	Name
President; Membership Committee Chair; Program Committee Co-Chair; Plant Sale Committee Co-Chair	Charlotte Torgovitsky
Co-Vice President; Plant Sale Committee Co-Chair; Program Committee Co-Chair	Kristin Jakob
Co-Vice President; Chapter Council Delegate	David Long
Treasurer	Amelia Ryan
Secretary	Sam Abercrombie
Board Member; Education Committee Chair	Paul da Silva
Board Member, Field Trip Committee Chair/Coordinator	Sam Gilbert
Board Member; Legislation	Phyllis Faber
Board Member	Carolyn Longstreth
Board Member; <i>Marin Flora</i> Project	Wilma Follette
Conservation and Invasives Committee Chair (Conservation)	Eva Buxton
Gardening with Natives Committee Chair	Renee Fittinghoff
ID What You See Website Committee Chair	Bruce Homer-Smith
Rare Plant Committee Chair	Doreen Smith
Website	Vernon Smith
Publicity Committee Chair	Alison Blume
Historian	Vivian Mazur
Newsletter Editor	Krista Fechner
Newsletter Mailing	Paul Kryloff
Poster Sales	Gerd Jakob
<b>Open Positions:</b> Book Sales, Conservation and Invasives Committee Co-Chair (Invasives)	

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

# CNPS MEMBERSHIP/DONATIONS

The mission of the 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 benefits include 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, Charlotte Torgovitsky, 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

**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: Amelia Ryan, P.O. Box 162, Inverness, CA 94937.

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:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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Please send acknowledgement to:

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail check payable to **CNPS** to: Amelia Ryan, P.O. Box 162, Inverness, CA 94937.

## CNPS Contact Information

Phone                      916.447.2677 (state)

Fax                              916.447.2727 (state)

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

Web                              [www.cnpsmarin.org](http://www.cnpsmarin.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.

Facebook                      [www.facebook.com/groups/MarinNativePlants](http://www.facebook.com/groups/MarinNativePlants)

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

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)



## NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE!

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



Scan the image at left with your smartphone or tablet for immediate access to the Marin CNPS website!

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

## THIRD THURSDAY WEEDERS

**September 18, 9:30 a.m.**

Once a month, the Third Thursday Weeders help tackle invasive weeds that threaten important plant habitat in the Point Reyes National Seashore. The group meets on the third Thursday of every month, either in the Seashore or at other sites in West Marin. Over the past three years, we've made great progress on the iceplant and veldt grass infestations at the Outer Point, European beachgrass at Abbott's Lagoon, perennial pepperweed in the Giacomini Wetland, and cape ivy at Pierce Point.

For our September session, we'll meet at the Pierce Point Ranch parking lot and proceed from there to weed cape ivy from an area where small seedlings threaten to take hold and reinfest the ranch. We'll be sure to find a scenic overlook for our picnic lunch.

To sign up, obtain more information, or get directions, please contact [cclongstreth@gmail.com](mailto:cclongstreth@gmail.com). An RSVP assures the right quantity of tools will be provided. Bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks, warm and wind-stopping layers, sturdy shoes, and work clothes. No shorts or open-toed shoes. The Park provides tools and gloves.

Hope to see you there!