



# California Native Plant Society

## MARIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

*Tiburon Mariposa Lily (Calochortus tiburonensis)*

*Marin chapter established 1973*

### NEEDED: MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

The Marin chapter is looking for someone who can reach out to our members and really help our chapter grow! This is a very important position in a volunteer-based organization such as CNPS. The work can be done at home, and as Chair you can create a committee to help with the tasks, if you prefer.

CNPS members register with the state organization, and each chapter gets a monthly membership report in Excel spreadsheet format. The Membership Chair can decide to keep it simple with a welcome letter to new members on a monthly, quarterly, or semi-annual basis. We have a welcome letter already drafted; it just needs seasonal updating. CNPS stationery, envelopes, and nice little gifts such as a decal, bookmark, and informative brochures are provided for enclosures.

Our chapter will reimburse you for any other expenditures, such as stamps.

We also have more ideas to share about various resources and how previous Membership Chairs have reached out to the general membership. Outreach to engage both new members and “old-timers” is vital to the work our chapter does within the community.

Please consider donating your time to an important cause. In the process, you can also help the board of directors come to decisions about what our chapter can do to best protect the amazing floristic resources of Marin County and the state at this critical time.

Please get in touch with me, or either of our Co-Vice Presidents, if you’re interested in helping. Thank you!

—Charlotte Torgovitsky

### *Monday, June 8 Marin Chapter Meeting*

#### **Peggy Fiedler on “Fathers and Sons: A Journey with Famous Families in Western Botanical Science, Art, and Exploration”**

John Bartram and his son, William Bartram, were among the first American botanists active throughout the Revolutionary era, and the focus of a recent traveling exhibit of botanical art. John (1699–1777) was an indefatigable collector of plants and seeds during his travels across eastern North America, eventually establishing the first botanic garden in the New World. William (1739–1823) was similarly well traveled, an avid collector, and an extraordinary artist of both plants and birds.

The Bartrams were not the only father-son botanist duo that accomplished great things for plant science and botanical art in the western world.



William Jackson Hooker (Father)—  
Thomas Herbert Maguire

At roughly the same time as the younger Bartram, William Jackson Hooker (1785–1865) became an intrepid English explorer, botanist, and the third director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. His son, Joseph Dalton Hooker (1817–1911) followed in his father’s footsteps, becoming one of the greatest

British botanists of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the fourth director of Kew, and Charles Darwin’s closest friend and confidant. Yet there are so many other fathers and sons in the history of western botanical exploration that should be appreciated. The intertwining of these multigenerational family pursuits, including botanical illustration and exploration into parts unknown, provides an interesting canvas upon which to explore the interplay among the broader themes of science, art, and individual legacy.

Peggy L. Fiedler has been the systemwide Director of the University of California Natural Reserve System

*Chapter meeting information continued on page 2*

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(NRS) since 2010. The NRS is the largest university-administered suite of protected areas in the world, and is dedicated to university-level research, teaching, and public service.

Dr. Fiedler earned her BA from Harvard University in social anthropology/ethnobotany in 1976, then went on to receive an MS and a PhD from UC Berkeley in Wildland Resource Science, concentrating in the field of plant evolutionary biology. After completing her PhD, Dr. Fiedler joined the faculty at San Francisco State University, where she was promoted to full Professor in 1997. While at SF State, she initiated the first Conservation Biology master's degree program of its kind in the United States.

In 2000, Dr. Fiedler left San Francisco State in order to become more directly involved in hands-on conservation, working as an environmental consultant in rare plant protection and ecosystem restoration. In this capacity, she led or co-led multidisciplinary teams in the design, permitting, and implementation of wetland ecosystem restoration projects.

Dr. Fiedler's research on California species of *Calochortus* (Liliaceae) and her writings on the more theoretical aspects of conservation biology have earned her an international reputation as an authority in conservation biology and rare-plant ecology and management. She currently serves as a Senior Research Associate with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England. Peggy is a Fellow of the California Academy of Sciences, Fellow of the Linnean Society, and a Fulbright Senior Scholar.

June meeting:

**5:30 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.

**Note:** This spring, the Redwoods is undergoing remodeling work that will affect our meeting space; we will



Joseph Dalton Hooker (Son)—Charles Henry Jeens

likely be moved to a smaller room inside the western-most corner of the facility for our June meeting while the auditorium is used as a dining room. Please ask for directions at the front desk upon arrival.

There will be no membership meetings in July or August; look for notice of a September membership event in the September newsletter.



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

## THIRD THURSDAY WEEDERS

**July 16 and August 20, 9:30 a.m.**

Don't you hate to see beautiful native vegetation being displaced by invasive exotic species? If so, consider joining the Third Thursday Weeders! Spend a companionable day at beautiful Point Reyes National Seashore and help us protect important plant habitat there. The Weeders meet regularly on the third Thursday of every month (no meeting in June this year). The location of each work party is set in consultation with Seashore staff.

Over the past four years, we have removed infestations of iceplant, veldt grass, European beachgrass, perennial pepperweed, cape ivy, and Napa star-thistle. We have a good time and it's highly rewarding to see the native plants making a comeback in these areas!



The joy of weeding—NPS photo

To sign up and receive notification of the meeting places in July and August, please contact Carolyn Longstreth at [cklongstreth@gmail.com](mailto:cklongstreth@gmail.com) or 415.669.7514. Bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks, warm and wind-stopping layers, sturdy shoes, work clothes. No shorts or open-toed shoes. The Park provides tools and gloves.

Hope to see you there!

—Carolyn Longstreth

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Much as I love the magnificent landscapes of Marin, the amazing diversity of plant communities, and all the wonderful trails open to hikers, I love nothing more than sitting in my own habitat garden and observing nature, up close and personal, on a daily basis.

11 years ago my husband and I found our paradise: a south-facing sunny slope for me to garden, my own oak woodland to restore, and acres of open space with wild animals living right next to us! It's not all that unusual for me to notice a coyote or gray fox running along the edge of the meadow, or skunks and raccoons rummaging through my big compost heap, or even a bobcat sitting at the garden's edge in the early morning!

Year after year, I have increased the biodiversity on my little bit of this hill, building a garden that provides enhanced foraging opportunities for a host of creatures. I've also put up a variety of nesting boxes all over the hill; now the hard part, for me, is to be observant, but remain detached, and not interfere with the natural order of life.

One nesting box in particular seems to be extremely popular; in years past Western bluebirds have successfully raised at least one brood before the tree swallows want to move in to the very same box. One year the swallows moved in and started building their nest before the bluebird babies were fledged, despite the fact that there were three other boxes available to them! This year white-breasted nuthatches decided to use that very same box; I watched many trips of "food in, fecal sac out" before it stopped abruptly one morning with tree swallows taking over the box!



Tree swallow pair at nest box—Bob Watkins

I won't be able to figure out what might have happened until I clean the boxes in the fall. Meanwhile, I can figure out all sorts of other little mysteries around the garden: white-crowned sparrows are fine with Swiss chard and comfrey for their spring greens; it's the goldfinches that turn the leaves of sunflowers into mere skeletons; the goldfinches love the seeds of elegant madia in late summer and fall.

I notice that ladybird beetles often pupate on the leaves of a large purple sage. I find larvae of both painted ladies and Mylitta crescents on Italian thistle, so therefore keep controlled patches of this weed growing on our property. And I'm partial to another non-native weed: *Gnaphalium luteo-album*, because I see the larvae of the American ladies using these plants nearly year round. I like to go out into my garden dusk to look for white-lined sphinx moths, which work the flowers just like tiny hummingbirds! In the daytime I'm sometimes fooled by snowberry clearwing moths, which look a lot like very large bumblebees, and I'm just starting to learn to identify more of our native bee species which abound in my garden.

I have large established stands of three different species of milkweeds (*Asclepias speciosa*, *A. fascicularis*, and *A. curassavica*) growing on our property. When the folks at Green Gulch Farms were frantic to find more milkweed for an unusually early and large population of monarch larvae, I didn't have any milkweeds in pots; Sukey from Green Gulch drove from the coast to my place with a couple dozen larvae. Now, nearly a month later, I've discovered some of the pupae around the garden, and am also treated to the sight of a freshly eclosed monarch flitting about on a nearly daily basis!

On a couple of occasions over the years, I've seen a lone male California quail on our property, frantically running here and there, seemingly calling out, "Where is everybody?" A few weeks ago a pair of quail spent the afternoon around the garden; when the quail decide to live and breed here I will know I've achieved my goal of creating a true California paradise right where I live.

Please visit my personal website ([www.homeground-habitatnursery.org](http://www.homeground-habitatnursery.org)) for lots of details on how to create habitat gardens, how to grow California natives, and how to get these plants established in the garden. For now, I'm looking forward to a summer out in nature!

—Charlotte Torgovitsky



## ZEN OF WEEDING

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

Join the collaboration of Marin CNPS and SPAWN (Salmon Protection and Watershed Network) to help root out exotic invasives. 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. 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) for more info.

## MARIN CNPS AND OTHER FIELD TRIPS, JUNE–AUGUST 2015

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.

### Ring Mountain

**Saturday, June 6, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.**

This dry spring might hold some surprises, but we hope to find in bloom several of this Marin County Open Space preserve's rare plants, including Tiburon mariposa lily (*Calochortus tiburonensis*), found only at this location, and Marin dwarf flax (*Hesperolinon congestum*). Other lovely flowers we can expect to see include Ithuriel's spear (*Triteleia laxa*) and farewell-to-spring (*Clarkia rubicunda*). Participants able to linger until 4 p.m. will be rewarded by the delightful sight of clouds of the whitish starry flowers of soap plant (*Chlorogalum pomeridianum*), which seem to hover over the grasses, of which there are many attractive native species in the preserve. The top of the ridge affords 360-degree views, and serpentine rock outcroppings host an array of interesting plants. A plant list is available on the CNPS Marin chapter website.

Meet at the top end of Westward Dr., off Paradise Dr. in Corte Madera, a few blocks east of the Paradise Shopping Center (comestibles and restrooms available at Paradise Market). Latecomers should easily find our group higher up the trail that starts at the end of Westward. Bring lunch, plenty of water, and clothes for possibly cold, possibly hot, almost certainly breezy weather. This will be a joint outing with the Northern California Society of Botanical Artists (NCalSBA), so bring your sketching supplies if you are artistically inclined.

**Leader:** Kristin Jakob [kristinjakob@att.net](mailto:kristinjakob@att.net) 415.388.1844 (land line).

## 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 cancels. If weather is questionable, call 415.893.9527 after 8 a.m. on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled.

## Exploring Lichens at Cascade Canyon

**Tuesday, June 9, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

Join Shelly Benson, President of the California Lichen Society, for an introduction to the fascinating world of lichens. We'll learn to identify the different lichen growth forms and structures, and admire the incredible diversity of our local lichen flora. Remember to bring your hand lens so you can truly appreciate the fine details. Questions: Contact Shannon Burke at [SBurke@marincounty.org](mailto:SBurke@marincounty.org) or 415.893.9520.

Meet at the gate at the end of Cascade Dr. From Hwy. 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west to Fairfax 3.4 miles. Turn left onto Pacheco Ave., turn right onto Broadway, and make first left onto Bolinas Rd. Go 0.4 miles and make a slight right onto Cascade Dr. (at the stop sign) and continue about 1.5 miles to the gate (dead end). Parking is limited.

## Birds and Flowers at Loma Alta

**Thursday, June 18, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**

This public trail easement passes through some great wildflower habitats including serpentine soil that hosts several unusual species. It's also one of the best places to see some great birds, including grasshopper sparrows, horned larks, and lazuli buntings. Remember to bring lunch. Questions: Contact David Herlocker 415.893.9508.

Meet at the gate to Loma Alta Fire Rd. on Lucas Valley Rd. in San Rafael. From Hwy 101. in San Rafael, take the exit for Lucas Valley Rd. west approximately 5.5 miles. Look for the big rock and roadside parking. The gate is on the south side (or left) of Lucas Valley Rd.

## Summer Botany at Bull Point

**Tuesday, June 23, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

The moist, coastal climate of Point Reyes makes this one of the few places in Marin to enjoy a diverse array of wildflowers during the summer. With most of the county showing the effects of a dry winter and spring, we'll take advantage of habitats ranging from freshwater marsh to coastal dunes, which support an assortment of unique plants and many gorgeous flowers. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at 415.893.9508.

Meet at the Bull Point trailhead in Point Reyes National Seashore. From Hwy. 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west 20.4 miles to Olema. Turn right onto Hwy. 1 and go 2 miles. Turn left onto Sir Francis Drake Blvd. and go 11.7 miles. Trailhead is on the left (before the North Beach turnoff).

## Plant Galls of Mount Burdell

**Sunday, August 23, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

There are many ingenious creatures that have devised ways to trick plants into growing structures, called

*Field trip information continued on page 5*

Field trip information continued from page 4

galls, which shelter and feed them. We'll examine an amazing array of bizarre and beautiful galls as we learn the incredible life cycles of the gall makers. Questions: Contact Shannon Burke at SBurke@marincounty.org or 415.893.9520.

Meet at the gate on San Andreas Dr. in Novato. From Hwy. 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr. west 2.3 miles. Turn right onto San Andreas Dr. and follow approximately 0.5 miles. The gate is on the right (before dead end).

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## PLANT SALE/NATIVE PLANT WEEK REPORT

On Saturday, April 11, the Marin chapter kicked off Native Plant Week with a native plant sale on the grounds of the Richardson Bay Audubon Center & Sanctuary in Tiburon. It was a beautiful day, and visitors to the sale found an excellent assortment of native plants, along with helpful advice on their garden uses and care. We are delighted to welcome 11 new members who signed up to CNPS and the Marin chapter at the sale!



Spring 2015 plant sale—Kristin Jakob

The success of our sales is due to the many volunteers who give of their time in a myriad of ways, from the planning stages through the event and beyond. We extend heartfelt thanks to the following people for all the help they provided: Laura Lovett for her beautiful graphic design work on the flyer; Alison Blume for publicity and outreach; Renee Fittinghoff for helping Kristin with plant purchasing at Mostly Natives; Charlotte and her volunteer group for growing beautiful plants and procuring others at Emerisa Gardens; and Ann Bauer for coordinating all the volunteers and helping with transport and setup/take-down of canopies, tables, and chairs both Friday and Saturday along with Treva McCarty, Georgia & Gary Fie, and Marcia Basalla. Friday setup was assisted by Daniel Kushner, Jonathon Jacobs, Jane Medley, and April Post.

On Saturday, the all-important cashiering and membership outreach were conducted by Daniel Kushner, Sam Abercrombie, and Amelia Ryan, and hospitality setup by Jean Ballestero. Plant advice was dispensed by Charlotte, Kristin, Lynn Lozier, Fred Sommers, and Nancy Brown, while rovers Kate Wing, Doyleen McMurtry, and Harold Hirsch provided extra customer assistance. Loretta Figueroa set up an educational display of labelled weedy plant specimens, Mila and Adrian Storganoff sold t-shirts and tote bags for the Yerba Buena Chapter, the One Tam collaborative outreach van was present, and Emily Wong brought her artwork inspired by native plants. Gerd Jakob sold CNPS posters and cards, while Carol Pollack and Treva McCarty helped Jane Medley with book sales. We couldn't have done it without you!

Following the sale was more than a week of diverse local native plant activities that drew many participants and glowing reviews. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped coordinate, lead, and publicize the chapter-sponsored events!

—Kristin Jakob and Charlotte Torgovitsky, Plant Sale Co-Chairs/Native Plant Week Planners

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## RING MOUNTAIN GRASSLAND RESTORATION PROJECT

**Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.**

Join us for our monthly drop-in volunteer workday as we focus on restoring the grasslands of Ring Mountain! This month we'll learn how to identify some of our native grasses and we'll spend time collecting their seeds. We'll grow the seeds in our nursery and later plant them at Ring Mountain in restoration areas. While we're collecting seeds, we'll get to enjoy the late-blooming flowers and beautiful views Ring Mountain has to offer.

Drop-in days are held on the last Saturday of every month (except November and December). July and August will feature TBD restoration/weeding activities. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling, and usually requires a short hike to the site. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. Snacks and extra water will be provided. RSVPs are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Ring Mountain Stewardship Coordinator Sarah Minnick at 415.473.5058. Check the Marin County Parks website events calendar ([www.marincountyparks.org/depts/pk/calendar](http://www.marincountyparks.org/depts/pk/calendar)) for the latest information about meeting times, locations, and activities.

Location: End of Taylor Road, Tiburon. From Hwy. 101 in Corte Madera, take the exit for Tamalpais Dr. east. Go straight onto San Clemente, which merges into Paradise Dr. after 0.4 miles. Follow Paradise Dr. approximately 1.7 miles, turn right onto Taylor Rd., and follow to end (dead end).

## PLANT OF THE MONTH

Text by Doreen Smith

The Marin County endemic species *Tamalpais lessingia* (*Lessingia micradenia* var. *micradenia*) can be discovered in flower any time between late May and September, but only in serpentinite areas. It is an unprepossessing, short, annual rare plant (CNPS Rare Plant Rank 1B.2). When mature, it's very branched, wispy, and slender, with tiny few-flowered mauve composite heads.



*Tamalpais lessingia* habit (*Lessingia micradenia* var. *micradenia*)—Doreen Smith

The southernmost occurrence on record is from the area of Phoenix Lake on the north side of Mt. Tamalpais. The northernmost site where I've seen it is at Forest Knolls on the Marin County Parks' French Ranch Open Space Preserve. As far as I know it is not at Big Rock Ridge, though there is suitable habitat. Most of George Lucas's property there is private and not open to the public for exploration, with the exception of the Bay Area Ridge Trail easement.



*Tamalpais lessingia* closeup (*Lessingia micradenia* var. *micradenia*)—Vernon Smith

## 2015 MARIN CNPS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Marin chapter is pleased to announce the recipients of awards in our 2015 Scholarship Program. The winner of the Ken Howard Scholarship is Shelley Sianta of UC Santa Cruz for her research on fitness tradeoffs in closely related serpentine and non-serpentine annual plants. The winner of the Joe Kohn Scholarship is Cody Ender of Sonoma State University for her work on the effect of tule elk grazing on exotic velvet grass. In addition, two Awards of Merit will be given, one to Prahlada Papper of UC Berkeley for studies of blue oak hybridization and one to Ariane Kinnear of San Francisco State University for investigation of historical changes in stomata in chaparral shrubs. We wish all the best to our 2015 recipients and look forward to future reports of their work.

—Paul da Silva, Amelia Ryan, and Phyllis Faber



## IMPRESSIVE HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT

In April, I was interviewed and videotaped by some students at Tamiscal High School in Larkspur. For an AP Language and Composition class (English), the students were required to research and create a documentary and blog about a local environmental issue. A group of three girls chose to focus on French and Scotch broom and how they affect wildfires and native wildlife species in Marin. They chose this topic "because we feel that it is a serious issue that not many people know about." (How right they are!) They also interviewed, among others, a fire chief and a member of the Tiburon Open Space Committee. I am honored to have taken part in this project; the final video can be viewed at [https://youtu.be/ARITsqamw\\_k](https://youtu.be/ARITsqamw_k). I think that, as members of CNPS, we should approach schools in Marin and offer to inform and educate students on the weed problem in our county.

### **Weed Lecture**

Also in April, I gave a PowerPoint presentation at the Richardson Bay Audubon Center and Sanctuary (RBACS) on weeds and their effect on native vegetation in our wildlands and on the Sanctuary. The event, hosted by the Bay Shore Studies volunteers, was part of a lecture series offered at the RBACS this spring. Since its beginning in 1974, the Bay Shore Studies program has provided learning opportunities for third- through sixth-grade students, using the Bay shore as a model ecological community and exploring themes such as food webs, energy cycles, tidal zonation, and adaptation. (Please contact the RBACS for information regarding becoming a docent.)

—Eva Buxton, Conservation and Invasives Chair

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ✿ **Monday 6/1, 7 p.m.**  
Chapter Board Meeting at the MA&GC, Ross
- ✿ **Friday 6/5, 6–9 p.m.**  
Marin Plant ID Workshop
- ✿ **Saturday 6/6, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.**  
Chapter Field Trip: Ring Mountain
- ✿ **Monday 6/8, 7:30–9:30 p.m.**  
Chapter Meeting: Peggy Fiedler on “Father & Son Botanists”
- ✿ **Tuesday 6/9, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks Naturalist Walk: Exploring Lichens at Cascade Canyon
- ✿ **Friday 6/12, 1–3 p.m. (also 6/14, 7/10, 7/12, 8/9, and 8/14)**  
The Zen of Weeding, Samuel P. Taylor State Park, Lagunitas
- ✿ **Thursday 6/18, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks Naturalist Walk: Birds and Flowers at Loma Alta
- ✿ **Tuesday 6/23, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks Naturalist Walk: Summer Botany at Bull Point
- ✿ **Saturday 6/27 10 a.m.–1 p.m. (also 7/25 and 8/29)**  
Ring Mountain Drop-in Volunteer Day
- ✿ **Thursday 7/16, 9:30 a.m. (also 8/20)**  
Third Thursday Weeders Workday at Point Reyes
- ✿ **Sunday 8/23, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
Marin County Parks Naturalist Walk: Plant Galls of Mount Burdell

## VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR *MARIN FLORA* BOOK STORAGE/SALES/DISTRIBUTION

Wilma Follette is retiring from her long-held position handling *Marin Flora* book inventory and distribution on behalf of CNPS Marin. Vivian Mazur handles individual mail order retail sales, and Jane Medley sells them along with other books at our membership meetings and events, but we need a person willing to store the primary inventory (at present about 70 hardbound and five paperback copies in 11 boxes) and fulfill the periodic state CNPS office orders by UPS, as well as supply the books to a small number of local retailers. Records need to be maintained and an annual inventory and sales report provided to our chapter Treasurer. Anyone interested in helping the chapter in this important capacity may contact Wilma Follette at 415.332.4048 or Kristin Jakob at 415.388.1844/kristinjakob@att.net. Many thanks to Wilma for her dedication to the *Marin Flora* project, and Wilma earnestly hopes that we find a successor soon!

## SPRING 2015: EARLY DETECTION ALERT SPECIES

Harlequin flower (AKA South African wandflower, *Sparaxis tricolor*), in the iris family, grows from bulbs and has striking flowers (orange to purple petals with a yellow center) that are only visible in late winter to spring. Leaves are flat and pale green.



Harlequin flower (*Sparaxis tricolor*)—Noah Elhardt

New Zealand nightshade (*Solanum aviculare*), in the tomato (nightshade) family, grows large and woody; it has long, narrow leaves and its flowers have purple petals and a yellow center.



New Zealand nightshade (*Solanum aviculare*)—Matt Sop

If you find either of these non-native invasive plant species (currently occurring at very low abundance), please report the location(s) to the Seashore's Restoration Biologist at [Ellen\\_Hamingson@nps.gov](mailto:Ellen_Hamingson@nps.gov) or 415.464.5196.

Please specify the trail name (between which trail junctions) and as much detail as possible: side of the trail (compass direction), distance from trail, and number and size of plants.

# PLANT IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOPS AT SFSU!

**Second Thursday of each month, 6–7:30 p.m.**

The botany graduate students at San Francisco State University lead these free plant ID workshops. They very much enjoy teaching and do an excellent job. The next workshop will take place on June 11. No reservation is required.

Join us for some fun time keying plants and learning plant terminology in a relaxed atmosphere. Bring the *Jepson Manual* (old or new edition) or *Plants of the San Francisco Bay Region: Mendocino to Monterey* (revised edition), as well as a hand lens. Participants are welcome to bring their copy of the *Marin Flora*. If you have any further questions, please email Mila Stroganoff at [milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net](mailto:milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net).

**Location:** Hensill Hall at SFSU, 1600 Holloway Ave., Botany Lab, Room 440. Campus map: [sfsu.edu/~sfsu/sumap/](http://sfsu.edu/~sfsu/sumap/).

# MARIN PLANT ID WORKSHOPS

Would you like to join other people interested in a closer look at Marin plants? Then come to the monthly Plant ID Workshops at the College of Marin. Upcoming workshops will be on the first Friday of each month (June 5 and future dates to be announced), from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room SMN 112 on the Kentfield campus. Bring curiosity, as well as plants and a copy of the *Marin Flora* if you have them. For more information, contact Paul da Silva at [pdasilva@marin.edu](mailto:pdasilva@marin.edu).



# 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).

# MARIN CNPS CONTACTS

Position	Name
President; 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	Jacoba Charles
Board Member	Carolyn Longstreth
Board Member, Nursery Outreach	April Post
<i>Marin Flora</i> Project	Wilma Follette
Book Sales	Jane Medley
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

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

**Open Positions:** Conservation and Invasives Committee Co-Chair (Invasives), Membership Committee Chair

# 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.

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## 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.

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\_\_\_\_\_

Contribution designated for:

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## 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 offers 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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## PLANT COMMUNITIES OF MARIN COUNTY

Do you want to learn more about the diverse plant communities of this special county?

*Plant Communities of Marin County*, written by David Shuford and Irene C. Timossi and illustrated with exquisite black and white photographs of the communities and their member species, is an excellent resource. Send your check payable to **CNPS** for \$11 per copy (shipping, handling, and tax included) to:

Phyllis Faber  
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Mill Valley, CA 94941

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_. Please send me \_\_\_\_\_  
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