



California Native Plant Society

MARIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Tiburon Mariposa Lily (Calochortus tiburonensis)

Marin chapter established 1973

Monday, April 11 Marin Chapter Meeting

Bob Stewart on "Interrelationships of Flora and Fauna in Southeast Arizona"

The extreme southeastern part of Arizona contains a high diversity of plants, insects, reptiles, and birds. That diversity is due to the subtropical latitude, altitudinal variation in the basin and range topography, and a confluence of the northern Rocky Mountain and southern Mexican Sierra Occidental floras.

Geologists think that 40 million years ago, the area was a high, flat plain. About 12 mya, basin and range topography developed due to stretching (up to 80%) of the land towards the west by the northwest movement along the San Andreas fault in California. Erosion since that time has resulted in filling of the basins around Tucson and Sonoita with over 5,000 feet of sediment. From fossils found in the San Pedro River Valley to the east, we know that woolly mammoths, camels, rhinos, bears, and large cats roamed the area in the last few million years.

The continuous evolution and development of the flora and fauna continues in the multitude of habitats of the region. Bob will elucidate known interrelationships as well as briefly describe flora of the region.

Bob has been a naturalist since 1962. He has been a biology teacher in the California public schools (junior



Aquilegia chrysantha (golden columbine)—Bob Stewart

high, high school, junior college); a biologist/teacher at Point Reyes Bird Observatory; and a naturalist for the Marin County Open Space District (where he gave over 2,000 free walks to the public). He has lead innumerable outings to California, Arizona, Texas, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Trinidad & Tobago. He has self-published two photographic butterfly books: *Common Butterflies of California* (1997) and *Butterflies of Arizona* (2001).

April 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. The Redwoods is undergoing major renovation work, and onsite parking will be limited, so we recommend parking along or across the street. The main auditorium is currently unavailable, so our meetings continue to be held in a room in the wing parallel to Miller Ave. The main entrance is also shifting to that southern side of the complex, so look for directional signage. We apologize for any inconvenience!



Aristolochia watsonii (desert pipevine)—Bob Stewart

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

California Native Plant Week is being celebrated again this year with a wonderful number of opportunities to become more engaged with native plants and the web of life that they support. In this newsletter issue, you can find out about all sorts of activities that are taking place during the nine-day "week" of April 16 to April 24.

The Marin chapter is kicking off Native Plant Week with a fund-raising plant sale at Falkirk Cultural Center in San Rafael on Saturday the 16th. Every day of the following week we're promoting some sort of activity, be it hiking the wild lands with a naturalist, getting an introductory lesson on the intricate world of botany, or learning about native plant pollinators. We're collaborating with a number of other organizations in this Celebration of Native Plants, and hope that you'll find the compilation of activities (all on one beautiful postcard, and on the chapter's website) useful in deciding how you want to show your appreciation of California's wonderful flora and fauna. To paraphrase Elizabeth Terwilliger, a much-loved Marin County naturalist and founder of WildCare, "You protect that which you know and love."

Graphic designer Laura Lovett, who is a new member of our board, has done a beautiful job with our publicity pieces; she also lined up a free training class led by a team from the California Academy of Sciences to familiarize participants with the online social platform *iNaturalist*, both in the lab and in the field. The class will no doubt be popular to a broad range of people, all eager to learn more about the natural world around them. Be sure to pre-register!

I've had a deep affinity with the natural world my whole life, accumulating knowledge slowly, without the help of an "app"; but that's terribly old-fashioned, and today people seem to want immediate information. During my early childhood in Bombay, India (now Mumbai), any free time in the world outside was always somewhat restricted, and for good reason, with my ayah always following close on my heels. It was only during summer months spent in Denmark, where my grandfather was the forester of a large wood near Copenhagen, that I was allowed to roam freely. And I took full advantage of that, spending the deliciously long summer days exploring, investigating, and sampling from the world of nature: first through my grandmother's kitchen gardens, then through the farmer's fields, and on into the woods, which led down to the strand, and then on to see what had come in with the fishing boats in the harbor that day.

I still love nothing more than "going outside to play," and California has been the best "playground" of all. I can easily lose track of time, enjoying every minute "all eyes and ears" while participating in the nature of the richly populated oak woodland that is now my home.

—Charlotte Torgovitsky

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Text by Doreen Smith; photos by Vernon Smith



Gilia millefoliata (dark-eyed gilia), CNPS List 1B.2

Marin County is likely the southern limit for this small annual plant of coastal sand dunes. Populations exist in Sonoma, Mendocino, and Del Norte Counties, as well as Southern Oregon. Efforts have been made to reintroduce it to a site in San Francisco near Baker Beach. Some of these locations are threatened by coastal development, non-native weeds, and human activities. The easiest place to see plants in Marin is in April and May on Point Reyes near the Bull Point trail, in a sandy depression that was once a waste pit for Abandoned "F" Ranch. Other locations are by the Abbotts Lagoon trail and on Lunny "G" Ranch.



Usually plants are short and hard to find; they are sticky-glandular and get covered with sand grains. The small blue flowers can have blue or white pollen. After fertilization, the seed calyces and capsules swell, a diagnostic feature helping to separate them from similar small annual *Gilia* species like *Gilia clivorum*, though they are not usually found growing in the same habitat.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

* = California Native Plant Week event

- ✿ **Friday 4/1, 6–9 p.m. (also 5/6)**
Plant ID Workshop at College of Marin
- ✿ **Monday 4/4, 7 p.m.**
Chapter Board Meeting, 30 N. San Pedro Rd., San Rafael
- ✿ **Thursday 4/7, 7–9 p.m.**
Soil Health Talk: Biochar, Water Conservation, and Effective Soil Enhancement (see March *Newsletter*)
- ✿ **Friday 4/8, 1–3 p.m. (also 4/10, 5/8, and 5/13)**
The Zen of Weeding, Samuel P. Taylor State Park, Lagunitas
- ✿ **Sunday 4/10, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**
Chapter Field Trip: Spring Wildflowers at Chimney Rock
- ✿ **Monday 4/11, 7:30–9:30 p.m.**
Chapter Meeting: Bob Stewart on “Interrelationships of Flora and Fauna in Southeast Arizona”
- ✿ **Saturday 4/16, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.***
Chapter Spring Plant Sale, Falkirk Cultural Center, San Rafael
- ✿ **Sunday 4/17, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.***
Marin Audubon Volunteer Wetland Stewardship and Educational Program, Bahia Wetlands, Novato
- ✿ **Sunday 4/17, 11 a.m.***
“Natives at the Nursery” talk at Green Jeans Garden Supply in Strawberry
- ✿ **Monday 4/18, 1:30–3 p.m.***
“Native Bees Love Native Gardens” bee diversity garden tour and talk by Jaime Pawelek in Novato
- ✿ **Tuesday 4/19, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.***
“Introduction to Botany” class by Jolie Elan, Olema
- ✿ **Tuesday 4/19, 3:30–4:30 p.m.***
“Habitat for Wildlife in Marin” tour, WildCare, San Rafael
- ✿ **Wednesday 4/20, 10 a.m.–12 noon***
CNPS Wildflower Walk at Devil’s Gulch
- ✿ **Wednesday 4/20, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.***
Hike and learn about “Wild Foods and Medicines of Deer Park” with Jolie Elan, Fairfax
- ✿ **Thursday 4/21, 9:30 a.m.**
Third Thursday Weeders Workday at Point Reyes
- ✿ **Thursday 4/21, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.***
Marin Co. Parks Naturalist Walk: Wildflowers of Mt. Burdell
- ✿ **Friday 4/22, 12–1 p.m.***
The Bee-Friendly Garden talk and book signing by Kate Frey, Marin Civic Center Library, San Rafael
- ✿ **Saturday 4/23, 10 a.m.**
SOD (Sudden Oak Death) Blitz training at Dominican College in San Rafael
- ✿ **Saturday 4/23, 9 a.m.–12 noon***
“Restore the Earth on Earth Day” with One Tam and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy on Mt. Tam
- ✿ **Saturday 4/23, 1–3:30 p.m.***
“Adventure with *iNaturalist*” at College of Marin
- ✿ **Sunday 4/24, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.***
Marin Co. Parks Naturalist Walk: Wildflowers of Mt. Burdell

- ✿ **Sunday 4/24, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.***
“Advice from the Expert” by Dan Dufficy at California Native Landscapes Nursery, Mill Valley
- ✿ **Saturday 4/30, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.**
2016 Eco-friendly Garden Tour, Novato
- ✿ **Saturday 4/30, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.**
Ring Mountain Grassland Restoration
- ✿ **Monday 5/2, 7 p.m.**
Chapter Board Meeting, 30 N. San Pedro Rd., San Rafael
- ✿ **Saturday 5/7, 9 a.m.**
Tam Lands Bioblitz
- ✿ **Monday 5/9, 7:30–9:30 p.m.**
Chapter Meeting: Jake Kurzweil on “A Snapshot of Marin’s Fauna,” plus Sarah Minnick on “Streptanthus Recovery Efforts at Ring Mountain”



2016 ECO-FRIENDLY GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, April 30, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

The Eco-friendly Garden Tour is a FREE self-guided tour highlighting practices sensitive to our local environment and designed to conserve water and protect local watersheds and the bay. At each location a professional landscaper, designer, or homeowner will be available to provide information on the garden and answer questions. Native habitat gardens, lawn conversions, low-maintenance gardens, oak woodland understories, permeable paving, and Mediterranean low-water plantings are highlighted this year. For Marin locals, Novato is the only city in Marin where the tour will take place, along with cities in Sonoma County.

Charlotte Torgovitsky’s Oak Woodland Habitat Garden will be on the tour. The article “Inspiration and Advice for Gardening with Native Plants,” describing her garden appeared in *Fremontia* (<http://tinyurl.com/Fremontia-40no3>) and the garden was also featured in the book *California Wildlife Habitat Garden* by Nancy Bauer.

Plant sale all day at Charlotte’s habitat garden, plus lots of information on creating a resource-rich garden for wildlife! The Eco-friendly Garden Tour is a public outreach and education program that promotes sustainable gardening practices by showcasing inspiring home gardens throughout the North Bay, and is sponsored by the Sonoma-Marín Saving Water Partnership and North Marin Water District. To register for this FREE tour, visit www.savingwaterpartnership.org.



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.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT WEEK: APRIL 16-24

Celebrate California's native plants in the wild and in the garden during the many free events we are offering the week of April 16–24. Find full event and reservation details at www.cnpsmarin.org/nativeplantweek and get better acquainted with our tough and beautiful native plants!

California Native Plant Sale

Saturday, April 16, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Co-sponsored with the Marin Master Gardeners, the focus of our spring plant sale is "Plants for Pollinators." We'll have a selection of unusual native perennials, bunchgrasses, and shrubs grown from seed, cuttings, or divisions and will offer expert advice on which plants do well together. Limited quantities of our unique native seed packets will be for sale as well as a wide selection of native plant books, educational posters, and notecards.



Tables at the 2015 fall plant sale—Marin Master Gardeners

11 a.m. talk: Native Plants and Native Insects: Partners in Ecosystems by Dr. Paul da Silva, Biology Instructor at College of Marin. Paul will talk about the multiple relationships that connect native plants and native insects. These include herbivory, predation, parasitism, pollination, and recycling of nutrients through decomposition.

Location: Gardens of Falkirk Cultural Center, 1408 Mission Ave, San Rafael

Directions: The Falkirk Cultural Center is on Mission Avenue at E St. in downtown San Rafael. Look for the white greenhouse structure behind the mansion. Parking is available along the driveway that passes in front of the mansion, or in the main parking lot at Mission Ave. and E St., where there is 2-hour parking in the front section. (Note: the back section is for permit holders only.) You may also park in the city hall lot across Mission Ave. from the Falkirk.

For more information, contact Charlotte Torgovitsky, 415.892.9148, torgovitsky@comcast.net or Kristin Jakob, 415.388.1844, kristinjacob@att.net.

Marin Audubon Volunteer Wetland Stewardship and Educational Program

Sunday, April 17, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Bahia is a large natural area between Atherton Avenue and the Petaluma River. The Marin Audubon Society acquired it 13 years ago and restored the wetlands by breaching the levees and reconstructing the land. We will be removing invasive plants in the upland and seasonal wetland areas to protect the native plantings that are getting established there. The program will focus on wetlands and wetland plants, as well as their importance to birds and other wildlife. Open to all ages, but children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

The event is free, but preregistration is required. Contact Katy Zaremba, Marin Audubon Volunteer Coordinator, at volunteercoordinator@marinaudubon.org to register. Call 415.680.6291 with questions or check the Marin CNPS website (www.cnpsmarin.org/nativeplantweek) for what to bring and driving directions.

Natives at the Nursery

Sunday, April 17, 11 a.m.

Green Jeans co-owner Kevin Sadlier is a lively speaker on all things plant-related. He will talk about a selection of unusual and interesting California native plants suitable for Marin gardens. Green Jeans is offering a discount on purchases to all participants at the event. The event is free and will proceed rain or shine.

Location: Green Jeans Garden Supply, 690 Redwood Hwy, Mill Valley

Directions: From Hwy 101 in either direction, take the Seminary Dr. exit. The nursery is along the east side frontage road, south of the Strawberry Village Shopping Center; there is plenty of street parking.

Native Bees Love Native Gardens

Monday, April 18, 1:30–3 p.m.

California is home to 1,600 species of native bees. Most are solitary in nature, do not build hives, and do not produce honey for human consumption. However, they are critical to the functioning of our ecosystem. Join Project Manager Jaime Pawelek of the Urban Bee Lab at UC Berkeley for an informal walk through a wildlife habitat garden in Novato. We will be looking for the native bee pollinators that visit or live in the gardens and learning what roles they play in the ecosystem.

Jaime will discuss the importance of native bees, their habitat needs, and what you can do to encourage them to become residents in your own garden. The Urban Bee Lab (www.helpabee.org) at UC Berkeley has been working since 1987 on documenting bee diversity and bee frequencies on wild California plants.

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The event is free, but preregistration is required at www.cnpsmarin.org/nativeplantweek. The address and driving directions will be provided upon registration.



Jaime Pawelek

Introduction to Botany

Tuesday, April 19, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Immerse yourself in gorgeous spring blooms and see the intricate beauty of flowers through the eyes of a botanist. Learn essentials of plant growth and development, reproduction, ecology and more. We'll begin with a classroom talk on the basics of botanical identification and then venture outside into the beauty of spring to see and identify the plants around us. We'll learn to use basic botanical keys in the field and start to recognize the floral patterns of major plant families. Students are encouraged to bring the *Pacific Coast Tree Finder* by Tom Watts and *Marin Flora* if they own them. It will be a fun and informative class!

Jolie Elan, M.S., Founder and Director of the Go Wild Institute, is an ecologist, ethnobotanist, educator, certified forester, and permaculture designer.



Jolie Elan

The class is free, but preregistration is required. To register, contact Preston Brown at SPAWN at preston@tirn.net, 415.663.8590. Directions and what to bring will be provided upon registration.

Location: SPAWN's home in west Marin, 9255 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Olema.

Habitat for Wildlife in Marin

Tuesday, April 19, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Meet the menagerie of wild animal ambassadors at WildCare animal rescue hospital in an engaging guided tour. Visitors will meet the non-releasable birds, reptiles, and mammals housed in the museum and outdoor courtyard. Learn about the habitats these animals depend on and why preserving healthy habitats is important to their survival. The tour includes a special animal encounter with one of our wildlife ambassadors!

Families with children 3 years of age and up are welcome. The event is free, but preregistration is required at www.cnpsmarin.org/nativeplantweek.

Location: WildCare, 76 Albert Park Lane, San Rafael.

Directions: Albert Park Lane runs between B St. and Lindaro St. in the Gerstle Park neighborhood of San Rafael. It is one way from B St. Turn right off 2nd St. onto B coming from the west, or left off 3rd St. onto B coming from the east and look for the bridge over the canal on your right.

Wildflower Walk at Devil's Gulch

Wednesday, April 20, 10 a.m.–12 noon

Join Carolyn Longstreth on this classic Marin wildflower hike. In spring, the lower stretch of Bill's Trail in Devil's Gulch offers one of the county's most beautiful displays of spring flowers. Masses of starry Solomon's seal, hound's tongue, and columbine mingle freely with checker lily, fairy bells, maidenhair fern, and fetid adder's tongue, draping both sides of the trail. Of course, the precipitation pattern in any given year makes the extent and timing of the display hard to predict, but it's always a beautiful walk!

Easy walking; slight uphill grade for about 1.5 miles. Dress in layers and be prepared for rain, if forecast.

Location: Devil's Gulch Trailhead, Samuel P. Taylor State Park, Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Lagunitas.

Directions: The Devil's Gulch Trailhead is located on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. exactly 1 mile west of the main entrance to Samuel P. Taylor State Park. Meet at the unmarked parking area on the south side of the highway.

Wild Foods and Medicines of Deer Park

Wednesday, April 20, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Wild foods and medicines abound in Marin. Join Ethnobotanist Jolie Elan of Go Wild Consulting for this fun-filled educational walk and connect deeper to nature. She'll discuss how to identify common plants and use them for food and medicine. Learn how to distinguish useful plants from their poisonous cousins. Come immerse yourself in the myths, medicine, and magic of the wild plants in Deer Park near Fairfax. The walk will be friendly and slow paced. This walk is not a forage; wild plants will not be harvested, only greatly appreciated.

Appropriate for ages 12 and up accompanied by an adult; ages 16 and up without an adult. Bring lunch, water, and a magnifying glass or loupe. The event is free, but preregistration is required at www.cnpsmarin.org/nativeplantweek.

Directions: From US 101 in Marin County, take the San Anselmo/Sir Francis Drake exit. Drive about 5 miles west on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. to the town of Fairfax. Turn left on Pastori Ave., make the first right onto Center Ave., and then turn left onto Bolinas Rd. in the center of town. Drive about 0.5 mile, then turn left onto Porteous Ave. At the split, bear right to remain on Porteous. Drive about 0.5 mile to the trailhead at the end of the road.

Wildflowers of Mt. Burdell

Thursday, April 21, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Celebrate Native Plant Week at one of the best wildflower locations in the county. We'll visit a variety of habitats including volcanic outcrops, serpentine soils, freshwater springs, and oak woodlands. The flora of this Novato preserve is incredibly diverse and includes a number of rare plants as well as many species that don't occur anywhere else in Marin. We're offering the same walk on Sunday the 24th if you can't make this date.

This walk is easy to moderate, for ages 15 and up. Wear sturdy closed shoes; bring a picnic lunch and water bottle. If questionable weather, call 415.893.9527 after 8 a.m. on the day of the event to hear a recorded message.



Poppies on Mt. Burdell—William Follette

Leader: David Herlocker, Interpretive Naturalist for Marin County Parks.

Directions: Meet at the gate to San Andreas Fire Rd. on San Andreas Dr. in Novato. From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the San Marin Dr. exit and go west 2.3 miles. Turn right onto San Andreas Dr. and follow it approximately 0.5 miles. The gate is on the right, before you get to the dead end. Park along the road.

Designing the Bee-Friendly Garden

Friday, April 22, 12 noon–1 p.m.



Honeybee on willow—Craig Solin

Though many of us think of honeybees when we think of pollinators, there are 4,000 species of native bees in the U.S. In *The Bee-Friendly Garden*, award-winning garden designer Kate Frey and bee expert Gretchen LeBuhn describe what you need to know to create a stunningly beautiful, vibrant, safe, healthy garden that helps both the threatened honeybee and our native bees. Join us for a free presentation as Kate introduces us to some of our common bee groups, and shows colorful examples of gardens that foster pollinators. After her presentation, she will sign copies of her book, which can be purchased at the lecture for \$20 (payment in cash and checks only).

Kate Frey works as an international garden designer, consultant, and educator specializing in ecologically-friendly gardens and small farms. She has won two gold medals at the Chelsea Flower Show in London, and directed the Sustainable Landscape Program at Sonoma State University for five years.

Location: Marin County Civic Center Library, Room 427, 3501 Civic Center Drive, San Rafael.

Restore the Earth on Earth Day

Saturday, April 23, 9 a.m.–12 noon

Celebrate Earth Day and provide some TLC to our treasured Mt. Tam! One Tam, along with KQED and the Marin CNPS will host several service projects at Creekside

California Native Plant Week continued on page 7

Marsh, Bothin Marsh, Canyon and Moore Trails at the Marin Stables, Pantoll Ranger Station, and nearby trails at Muir Woods, Muir Beach, and Stinson Beach. Activities will include habitat restoration, trail and boardwalk maintenance, beach cleanup, and landscaping.

On this special Earth Day, we'll also be celebrating the National Park Service Centennial, as the Park Service turns 100 just two days later, on April 25, 2016. Our service projects are family-friendly and open to volunteers of all ages. No experience necessary. Event leaders will provide all the training and tools. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.parksconservancy.org/events/volunteer-events/special-events/mt-tam-earth-day-2016.html>. If you have questions, email volunteer@parksconservancy.org or call 415.561.3077.

Adventures with *iNaturalist*

Saturday, April 23, 1–3:30 p.m.

Join us for an introduction to *iNaturalist*, an online social platform in use all over the world that enables users to record observations about the natural world, receive help with identifications, and collaborate with other nature enthusiasts. We will learn how to navigate *iNaturalist* from both the web and your smart phone, and introduce you to *iNaturalist* guides. We'll start in a computer lab to give everyone hands-on time to explore the program and upload observations to the database. Then we'll venture out into the field and learn how to take photographs for beauty as well as botanical reference, identify our finds with the help of local botanists, and add to the knowledge base on Marin County's native flora. Appropriate for age 16 and up. You'll need a smartphone to participate.

The event is free, but preregistration is required at www.cnpsmarin.org/nativeplantweek. Upon registering, attendees will be sent information on downloading the app.

Instructors: Scott R. Loarie, co-director, *iNaturalist.org*, and Kendra Hauser, Senior Landscape Exhibits Assistant, California Academy of Sciences.

Location: Starts at the College of Marin computer lab and then heads out into the field to test our skills.

Wildflowers of Mt. Burdell

Sunday, April 24, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

(See the description for this same hike on April 21.)

Advice from the Expert

Sunday, April 24, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Would you like suggestions on plants that will attract birds to your garden? Need the right choices to stabilize a slope? Or some flowering, evergreen shrubs that

the deer won't eat? Bring your questions and problems to Dan Dufficy, owner of California Native Landscapes and Native Plant Nursery in Tam Valley and he'll suggest the perfect plants for your site. The nursery has an excellent selection of larger specimens and shrubs. All plants purchased that day will be 20% off. The nursery also carries wonderful pottery and garden art if you're looking to add a whimsical touch among your flowers.

Location: California Native Landscapes Nursery, 254 Shoreline Highway, Mill Valley.



TAM LANDS BIOBLITZ

Saturday, May 7, 9 a.m.

The parks partners that make up the Tamalpais Lands Collaborative are holding a grassland habitat bioblitz on May 7 at Rock Spring in Mount Tam State Park. At this bioblitz, we'll record as many nature observations as possible in the hours allotted, and then upload them to a master site using the *iNaturalist* online social media program, thereby adding to the knowledge we have of the mountain's biodiversity. Each team consists of a botanist, team lead, photographer, and three or four other volunteers.

The Marin chapter of CNPS is co-sponsoring the event and One Tam has asked us to recruit more botanists. A special request to all of you with knowledge of Marin's native flora: please consider signing up to help! The number of teams is limited by the number of botanists; if you can volunteer for the morning, please sign up at www.inaturalist.org/projects/one-tam-bioblitz-rock-spring. We'd love to have volunteers to photograph and record observations as well. If you are new to the program, consider signing up for our *iNaturalist* training on April 23 during Native Plant Week in order to get more comfortable with the app. The bioblitz is being led by an expert team from the California Academy of Sciences.



CHAPTER FIELD TRIP

Spring Wildflowers at Chimney Rock

Sunday, April 10, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Come catch the wildflowers at their peak at Chimney Rock, famous for its spring displays. We'll look for Douglas iris, wallflower, Johnny tuck, pussy-ears, Indian paintbrush, baby-blue eyes, and many other beauties as we walk along this gentle trail. While we're at it, we'll keep our eyes out for birds, elephant seals, and gray whales making their northern migration, so bring binoculars.

Meet at Chimney Rock parking area (outer Point Reyes, near the end of Sir Francis Drake Blvd.) Heavy rain cancels; call Amelia if in doubt.

Leader: Amelia Ryan 707.481.9932.

BOARD NEWS

New Field Trip Coordinator!

Many thanks to board member Carolyn Longstreth for stepping up to be Field Trip Coordinator. Carolyn lives in Inverness and is a native plant gardener, birder, and activist. At the state CNPS level, she currently serves as Secretary of the Board of Directors.

Note: A meeting to plan field trips for the remainder of 2016 will take place at David Long's house (333 Lowell, Mill Valley) at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12. All are welcome!

Many thanks to the board members willing to serve again in 2016! We still have several open positions that are vital to the club:

Needed: Recording Secretary

Previous Secretary Sam Abercrombie left Marin in January, so we are in urgent need of a board member who can attend our first Monday board meetings (held January–June, and September–November), take minutes, submit a draft by email for board review prior to the next meeting, and prepare a corrected version suitable for posting on the chapter website. This could be an ideal position for someone new to the board.

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

Needed: Marin Flora Sales Volunteer

Wilma Follette has retired 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 fulfill the periodic state CNPS office orders by UPS, as well as supply the books to a small number of local retailers. We are very grateful to Mia Monroe, who is storing the inventory at her Mill Valley home! 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!



RING MOUNTAIN GRASSLAND RESTORATION

Saturday, April 30, 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! 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.

Drop-in days are held on the last Saturday of every month (except November and December). 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. In the event of heavy rain and/or high winds call 415.473.3778 to find out about event status. In the event of cancellation, program will be rescheduled.

RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: contact Ring Mountain Stewardship Coordinator Sarah Minnick at 415.473.5058.

Location: 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).

SOD BLITZ IN MARIN

Saturday, April 23, 10 a.m.

The above-average rainfall levels officially make 2016 a year in which Sudden Oak Death (SOD) may spread dramatically. This comes after four years of very limited spread of the disease due to drought conditions. Despite the drought, we did observe some new outbreaks in 2015, suggesting that in 2016 we will witness many more. A second group of strains, genetically quite distinct from the one currently present in California, has been found in Oregon, heightening the need to monitor California SOD outbreaks.

SOD is present in over 500 miles of coastal forests; hence the help of volunteers to survey such a large region is absolutely necessary. SOD blitzes, now in their 10th year, are volunteer-driven surveys. These events are made possible thanks to funding from the PG&E Foundation and the State and Private Forestry organization of the US Forest Service. In the past decade, SOD blitzes have identified a number of new infestations larger than those identified by any other surveys. In addition to this major contribution, the best predictive model on SOD spread has been generated thanks to data collected by volunteers (<https://nature.berkeley.edu/garbelottowp/wp-content/uploads/SODBLITZProof-2b2015.pdf>).

Research shows that volunteers participating in SOD blitzes are 10 times more likely to actively manage their properties to slow down the spread of SOD. While some preventive treatments against SOD have been shown to work, a cure is not available. Therefore, preventing infection in areas where the disease has just arrived is crucial. Intensive surveys are necessary to achieve this result.

Thanks to the massive datasets generated by the volunteers during the yearly SOD blitzes, two tools are available to learn about the presence or absence of the disease: 1) the SODmap website (www.sodmap.org) and 2) the free SODmap Mobile app (www.sodmapmobile.org), available on both the Apple store and Google Play. SODmap Mobile can calculate the risk of oak infection by the SOD pathogen in the physical location of the app user.

We urge all concerned citizens to participate in the SOD blitzes to maintain a vigilant eye on this lethal threat to four native oak species and the related tanoak. To volunteer, you'll need to participate in a 1-hour training, where you'll receive all instructions and materials necessary for the survey. Bring your phone, with the SODmap Mobile already installed if possible. You'll then be asked to go and survey your property or public land for a couple of hours.

SOD blitzes are crucial in monitoring the spread of the disease and providing essential data to keep the

SODmap website and SODmap Mobile app up to date and useful. While a few hundred people usually participate in the SOD Blitzes, the generated data is used by hundreds of thousands, making the SOD Blitzes one of the most useful and consequential citizen science programs in the country. For a detailed list of SOD blitzes, visit https://nature.berkeley.edu/garbelottowp/?page_id=816.

Location: Dominican University in San Rafael, Joseph R. Fink Science Center, Room 103.

Contact: Wolfgang Schweigkofler, wolfgang.schweigkofler@dominican.edu.



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

THIRD THURSDAY WEEDERS

Thursday, April 21, 9:30 a.m.

Don't you hate to see beautiful native vegetation being displaced by invasive exotic species? If so, the "Third Thursday Weeders" are for you! Spend a companionable day at beautiful Point Reyes and help us protect important plant habitat in the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Weeders meet regularly on the third Thursday of every month. 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!

To sign up and receive notification of the meeting places, please contact Carolyn Longstreth at 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!



Enthusiastic weeders celebrate their progress on iceplant near the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse—Carolyn Longstreth

ZEN OF WEEDING

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

2016 is the sixth 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 nphanson@comcast.net if you want to attend, need more info, or want notice of other work parties at the park.

PLANT ID WORKSHOPS AT THE COLLEGE OF MARIN

College of Marin Plant ID Workshops have resumed in 2016 on the first Friday evening of each month. Upcoming dates are April 1, May 6, and June 3. Workshops will be held from 6–9 p.m. in SMN 112 on the Kentfield campus. The easiest access is from Parking Lot #9 off Kent Avenue. From there, it is just a short walk across the footbridge to the SMN building. Bring plant samples and the *Marin Flora* if you can! For more information, contact Dr. Paul da Silva (pdasilva@marin.edu).



GET YOUR MARIN CHAPTER CNPS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY

Help the Marin chapter reduce unnecessary costs and use of paper for the chapter *Newsletter* by receiving the color version of the *Newsletter* by email instead of by snail mail. Write to deliveriesmarincnps@gmail.com with "Email Newsletter" in the subject line and your name and address in the body of the email. Many thanks!

MARIN CNPS CONTACTS

Position	Name
President; Plant Sale Committee Co-Chair	Charlotte Torgovitsky
Co-Vice President; Plant Sale Committee Co-Chair; Program Chair	Kristin Jakob
Co-Vice President; Chapter Council Delegate	David Long
Treasurer	Amelia Ryan
Communication Chair, Board Member	Laura Lovett
Education Committee Chair, Board Member	Paul da Silva
Field Trip Coordinator, Board Member	Carolyn Longstreth
Legislation, Board Member	Phyllis Faber
Nursery Outreach, Board Member	April Post
Board Member	Jacoba Charles
<i>Marin Flora</i> Project	Wilma Follette
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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

Open Positions: Conservation and Invasives Committee Co-Chair (Invasives), Membership Committee Chair, *Marin Flora* volunteer, Secretary

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 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:

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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 (state)

Web www.cnpsmarin.org (Marin chapter)

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

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GET YOUR COPY OF THE REVISED *MARIN FLORA*! NOW ON SALE!

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). We are now offering the hard cover books for the same price as the soft cover!

Prices:	Hard cover or soft cover
Retail	\$35 (plus \$2.98 tax)
CNPS members (20% off)	\$28 (plus \$2.38 tax)



NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE!

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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
765 Miller Ave.
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Enclosed is \$_____. Please send me _____
copies of *Plant Communities of Marin County*.

Name _____
Address _____

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