



# California Native Plant Society

## MARIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

*Tiburon Mariposa Lily (Calochortus tiburonensis)*

*Marin chapter established 1973*

### **Monday, January 11 Marin Chapter Meeting**

#### **“2015 Botanical Highlights” of Chapter Members**

January’s program will feature the botanical trips and activities of several of our chapter members, including a special presentation by Doreen and Vernon Smith: “Plant Safari Expeditions in 2015 on the Lands of the MMWD on Mt. Tamalpais.”

Recently a partnership was developed between MMWD and the California Academy of Sciences to collect a sample of every plant species on the Mt. Tamalpais watershed. Before 2015, staff and volunteers had observed and collected herbarium specimens in a series of Bioblitz events amounting to about two-thirds of the 935 species of plants expected to occur on the watershed.

Last year we participated in focused plant safaris, helping find some of the remaining plants not collected before. We accompanied several keen volunteers as a photographer (Vernon) and an expert botanist (Doreen) to search for the unusual plants in question. We were driven over the sometimes precariously rutted fire roads by skilled



Left: *Streptanthus glandulosus* ssp. *secundus* (one-sided jewelflower) Right: *Streptanthus batrachopus* (Tamalpais jewelflower)—Vernon Smith

MMWD personnel to get to promising out-of-the-way sites searching for those remaining elusive species.

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

#### **Stephen Rae on “Looking Down—Mosses in the California Flora”**



*Bryum argenteum* (silvergreen bryum moss)—Stephen Rae

Dr. Stephen P. Rae will take us on a journey into the world of mosses, with side trips to rocks, trees, streams and fens. He’ll explain how mosses differ from “real” plants and why you should be interested. After a slideshow overview, we’ll use microscopes to look at specimens and discuss local species. Some are easy to identify; others remain quite difficult even for the experienced.

Along the way, we’ll learn about the many mosses that are sensitive in California. We’ll talk about why mosses have been overlooked for so long, and why you will be pivotal in helping them gain the recognition they so richly deserve. While no experience is necessary, an urge to get on your knees and focus on little stuff is encouraged. Bring your hand lens (10x or better).

Dr. Rae has had a 40-year career in natural resources planning and conservation with various Napa County agencies, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and Musci Natural Resource Assessment (a consulting firm). He received his PhD in botany from

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