



# California Native Plant Society

## MARIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

*Tiburon Mariposa Lily (Calochortus tiburonensis)*

*Marin chapter established 1973*

### **Monday, March 12 Marin Chapter Meeting**

#### **Dick O'Donnell on "Our Pals, the Pollinators"**

Our enjoyment of flowers seems to expand the more we know about the lives of flowering plants. Pollination is fundamental to the very act of flowering; it is one of those processes that certainly rewards deeper acquaintance. Were it not so confoundingly complicated, everyone with even a grain of interest in flowering plants would know all about it. This presentation will illustrate the considerable complexities and pleasures of knowing about the pollination of some of our native flora. Consider it a promotion of further study with a few interesting examples to start you off.



*Trichodes ornatus* (ornate checkered beetle) on *Erigeron linearis* (narrow leaved fleabane)—Dick O'Donnell

Dick travels throughout northern California, Oregon, and Arizona every year to learn about their distinctive floras. A retired economist, he has no economic reason to do otherwise, he says. The best course of action, he adds, is to apply himself to the most rewarding undertakings and to share the findings with the botanical world.

#### **March meeting:**

Note the **earlier dinner and meeting starting times.**

**5:30 p.m.** Join friends for a no-host dinner at The Cantina, 651 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 p.m.** Meet at the Redwoods retirement home, 40 Camino Alto, Mill Valley. Books, posters, and cards will be for sale before and after the meeting. Lecture starts at 7:30 p.m.



### **NEED TO BORROW A WEED WRENCH OR SIX?**

In view of the disastrous fires north of Marin County last year, it is especially important to consider clearing your property and adjacent land of flammable shrubs. Borrow as many as six broom wrenches for two weeks at a time from Marin CNPS! Our county is overrun with French broom (*Genista monspessulana*) and, to a lesser extent, Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), invasive shrubs native to the Mediterranean area. Preventing wildfires that start along the wildland/urban interface (WUI) by creating "defensible space" is presently a focus of land managers and fire agencies in the county. With the help of a broom wrench, you can create defensible space around your home or take the battle to adjacent wildlands. The wrenches will work on virtually all woody plants, even on previously cut plants, if a section of the original stem is accessible

CNPS owns wrenches in three different sizes:

- 1 medium wrench—jaw capacity up to 2.25 inches, weight 17.5 lbs
- 2 light wrenches—jaw capacity up to 1.5 inches, weight 11.5 lbs
- 3 mini wrenches—jaw capacity up to 1 inch, weight 5.25 lbs

Please contact Eva Buxton (Conservation & Invasive Species Chair) at [evabuxton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:evabuxton@sbcglobal.net) to arrange for pickup of the wrenches. Your name, address, phone number, and a small refundable deposit per wrench will be required.

## IN MEMORIAM: BILL FOLLETTE

**December 16, 1923–January 31, 2018**

Bill and Wilma Follette were a frequent and welcome sight on CNPS field trips and events of all kinds. Bill was a great photographer and provided 2,644 portraits of California native plants to CNPS, available through Creative Commons on PlantID.net. His collections of accurately identified slides of native plants were invaluable in producing the *Marin Flora*. Wilma has led hundreds of fabulous field trips all over California and the west—quite a team!

Bill Follette's long 50-year career was spent in the Kaiser Psychiatry Department, where he was department chair for 20 years. Prior to undergraduate and medical school at University of California, Bill served in the Second World War in Marseille, where he was shot through the knee, an injury that ultimately required a knee replacement.

Bill had a growing interest in cameras, receiving an early one from his parents. He joined a photography club at UC Berkeley, where he met Wilma. He was elected club President and Wilma Treasurer. Bill claimed he married Wilma because she had a photographic enlarger, which long resided in a darkroom built in their house.



Wilma with common manzanita at Olompali—Bill Follette

Bill also had an interest in plants and gardening and vacations were always camping vacations. Bill and

Wilma had four children: Anne, a perennial globe trotter; Bill, retired from PG&E; Molly, who deals with regulatory issues at a pharmaceutical firm; and Julie, a physician. They also had four grandchildren.

## MEMORIES OF GINI HAVEL

**September 10, 1926–July 18, 2017**

I first knew Gini Havel as one of the teachers in NSER (Natural Sciences Education Resources), a small group of teachers who then participated in the founding of the Environmental Forum of Marin. Gini and I both were teachers in that program in its early years. Gini went on to become an instructor at the College of Marin, where she taught biology, botany, physiology, anatomy, and nature study.

Gini's husband Dick was a scientist at UCSF, where he was chair of the Cardiovascular Research Institute and was eminent in the field of lipid metabolism. He was frequently invited to Australia to give lectures, so Gini and he spent quite a lot of time there visiting friends they had made; they visited Prague often as well.

Dick and Gini had four children (Chris, Tim, Peter, and Julianne) and three grandchildren (Jocelyn, Tyler, and Cameron) and lived in a comfortable house in Ross. Gini and Dick built a weekend house in Inverness where they spent a lot of time after Dick retired. They built a tennis court there and a lovely garden and spent many happy times together there.

Gini was active on the board of CNPS Marin for many years as Program Chair, and hosted summer board meetings at her Inverness house. She also contributed articles on native plants to the chapter newsletter.

—Phyllis M Faber

Gini and Dick met at Reed College in Oregon, where she earned her BS in Biology. Later, she earned an MS in Physiology at University of Oregon. Dick worked at NIH, Cornell University Medical Center in NYC, and Karolinska Institute in Sweden, in addition to UCSF. On their worldwide travels, they were avid birders and botanizers.

I met Gini in 1973 when I took her nature study class at COM; I then became her teaching assistant. We reacquainted through CNPS in the late 70s. We were active in the SF Mycological Society as well, joining Bob West on forays. I have fond memories keying out plants and fungi and playing tennis.

Gini and I planned an extensive CNPS trip to Oregon/Washington/Canada in 1984. Gini and I were the best of friends and I treasure knowing their family.

—Dena Bergstrom

# PLANT OF THE MONTH

Text by Doreen Smith

Never think that Marin County has been botanized so thoroughly that there are no new native species that can be discovered here. Discoveries have been made by several people, who, exploring the wildlands, paid careful attention to unusual plants. To know something is unusual takes experience; first you have to know, by sight, most of the species usually found in Marin to recognize any exceptions.



Five-petaled blue flowers of *Ceanothus decornutus*—Vernon Smith

Some years ago, a large population of *Ceanothus* was discovered on the hills southwest of Nicasio Reservoir, on the McIsaac Ranch. Several taxonomists and other experts visited the site (a large serpentine



White flowers of *Ceanothus decornutus*—Vernon Smith



Fruit of *Ceanothus decornutus*—Vernon Smith

rock outcrop) and gave their opinions as to what it should be called. Most thought the shrubs were some form of *Ceanothus jepsonii*, but the flowers differ from that more common serpentine soil-endemic shrub in several respects.

Nicasio ceanothus consistently has five-petaled flowers versus the six petals of *C. jepsonii*, and the flowers vary in color from shrub to shrub. They can be blue-purple, pink, or white. In describing it for publication, V. Thomas Parker of San Francisco State University zeroed in on the distinctive fruit shape, which is “hornless,” so naming it *Ceanothus decornutus* in Latin. The land is now part of the GGNRA, but access is only by permission with a NPS botanist as the leader.



## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT WEEK

**April 14 through April 22**

Join us for California Native Plant Week! Celebrate the beauty and abundance of nature in Marin County, one of the most biodiverse regions in the entire state! Our focus this spring is on native wildflowers for native pollinators.

We'll kick off the week with our spring native plant sale on April 14, and host many activities during the week, from wildflower walks to naturalist-led hikes, bike rides, hands-on classes, free lectures, and a gathering on Earth Day.

Complete details of all Native Plant Week activities will be posted on our website and included in the April newsletter and in upcoming e-bulletins.

We hope you'll join us to learn about and appreciate our native flora, both in the wild and in the garden.

# GARDENING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

by Charlotte Torgovitsky

From November through February, my chipper pile grows steadily bigger. I begin cutting back perennial plants and shrubs as the fall blooming cycle ends; long, fairly straight stems go to the chipper pile, more twisted branches go to various brush piles along a low wooden fence, and still smaller stuff goes to a large hügelkultur pile, to which I occasionally add food scraps. (Hügelkultur is a method of composting in place that starts with a layer of decaying wood to retain moisture.) When I expect rain, I'll spread a lot of shredded paper on this pile, but only when I know the rains will wet it down to keep it from blowing around.

Choice food scraps feed the red wigglers in my upward-migration worm bins; the worms like the same foods we do, but they eat the parts we don't, like banana peels, melon rinds, and damaged outside leaves of lettuces. Other food scraps, soft flower and vegetable garden trimmings, leaves, and stable sweepings break down into rich compost in one of several bio-stack compost bins. When I grow tomatoes, I'll often dig a pit close by so that I can compost materials right next to these heavy feeders.

Very little organic matter actually leaves my property, but a lot of it gets moved around. Live oak leaves are constantly dropping, and since they can be slippery, I rake them off the pathways and dump them on top of the brush piles. The leaves drop down through the twiggy stuff to the ground, where they decompose gradually. The only plant materials going into the green can are non-natives like the Santa Barbara daisy, toadflax, and verbenas; rosemary branches end up there as well, since they are way too hard to go through my small electric chipper. The chipper is a home-style McCulloch brand, which can handle soft wood up to about an inch and a half in diameter. It has served my



*Epilobium* 'Schliefflin's Choice' (California fuchsia)—Suzi Katz

needs well for more than 20 years. When the pile gets big enough, I hire help to get it all put through the chipper, and end up with a balanced combination of "greens and browns" to use in building compost piles or as a mulch around perennial plants.

Every year, most of my planted areas get a top-dressing: either a low-nitrogen compost (one that does not contain animal manure) or an early-screened mulch (one from all green materials that is not fully decomposed). After areas are planted, I never dig down to turn over the soil; all plant nutrients come from the top down. Doing otherwise is actually unnecessary work—and counterproductive—in that it totally upsets the soil food web. There are countless creatures living in the soil, all of them converting organic matter into plant-available nutrients.

The soil is the treasure chest of any garden; a soil rich in organic matter and soil organisms not only provides the nutrients that plants need, when they need them, but also helps fight plant pathogens.

## Cutting Back

Timing can be really important in tending the garden; nature waits for no one, and there are times when the necessary work is simply easier to do than it would be later in the season. I like to get to all the herbaceous perennials such as goldenrods, asters, and California fuchsias, before the new growth starts. The old flowering stems should be cut down to the ground, and it's so much easier to do this when you can step on the nascent growth without damaging it. Old flowering stems often still contain some seeds, so I cut them up a bit and use the old stems as a rough mulch in other areas where I'd like to see these same plants take hold.

This is also a great time to divide spreading perennials. A basic rule of thumb is: plants that bloom in spring or early summer (yarrow, hummingbird sage, and skullcaps) should be divided in fall; the fall bloomers (goldenrods, asters, and California fuchsias) should be divided in early spring. After a clump of plants has been removed from an area, I fill in with compost and some

*Gardening in Harmony with Nature continued on page 5*



*Symphyotrichum chilense* (California aster)—Bob and Mieko Watkins

*Gardening in Harmony with Nature continued from page 4*

soil amendments if necessary. The clump that has been removed can be divided further, and either potted up or replanted in a different spot in the garden.

### **A Bird Bouquet**

I grow a non-native aster, the Michaelmas daisy, which I love, and so does every pollinator anywhere in the vicinity. It blooms late in September, often on St. Michael's Day, and flowering stalks, with prolific lilac blossoms, can be seven to nine feet tall. I've never bothered to collect the seeds, but I've noticed that in January, Anna's hummingbirds will often collect the chaff from the spent flowers for nesting materials.

I like to cut this plant back fairly early, but always felt I was depriving the birds of an important resource. The solution was to set up an old tomato cage which holds a "bird bouquet" rich with seeds and chaff. The aster stalks go there, as do dried-up stalks of a native perennial sunflower (*Helianthus californicus*) and yellow-evening primroses (*Oenothera elata* ssp. *hookeri*). There's usually still a few seeds left in the sunflowers heads, and also in the tidy upright capsules of the primrose stalks. A wonderful added benefit is that the really pithy sunflower stalks offer potential nesting sites for some of our native bees.

For more on perennial wildflowers, native bulbs, and plant propagation, interested readers can visit Charlotte's blog at [www.homegroundhabitats.org](http://www.homegroundhabitats.org).



## **ZEN OF WEEDING**

### **Habitat Restoration at Samuel P. Taylor St. Park Friday, March 16 and Sunday, March 18, 1–3 p.m.**

—March Change of Schedule—

Nancy will be traveling again in March. So just in March, we'll shift to the third Friday and third Sunday for Zen Weeding. In April, we'll return to our regular schedule and weed on the second Friday and Sunday.

We made a lot of progress the last few months with the help of Park Staffer Bill Miller, reinforcing the mulched areas in the Orchard Hill campground to suppress *Ehrharta* seedlings with more sterile straw. In February, we filled 10 big bags with *Myosotis latifolia* (forget me nots) pulled from the hillside above the Ox Trail! It's like picking lettuce. We'll return our attention to that area in March, enjoying the newly appearing spring wildflowers as we work.

We meet just before 1 p.m. at the far end of the picnic area. Bring gloves or borrow from the park supply and get a free parking pass when you volunteer. Join us for easy, companionable work. Please reply if you are coming so that I know who to expect. Contact Nancy Hanson at [nphanson@comcast.net](mailto:nphanson@comcast.net) if you want to attend, need more info, or want notice of other work parties at the park.

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

## **THIRD THURSDAY WEEDERS**

**Thursday, March 15, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.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. Lately we've concentrated our efforts on the Lighthouse area and a dune restoration project near Abbots Lagoon. We always have a good time and it's highly rewarding to see the native plants making a comeback in these areas!

To sign up and receive notification of the meeting place, please contact Carolyn Longstreth at [cclongstreth@gmail.com](mailto:cclongstreth@gmail.com) or 415.669.7514. 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!

—Carolyn Longstreth



Predator and prey: iceplant threatening a population of Point Reyes blennosperma, February 2018—Bear McGuinness

# SPRING NATIVE PLANT SALE

**Saturday April 14, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**

Co-sponsored by CNPS Marin Chapter and Marin Master Gardeners.

Our ever-popular spring plant sale will be held in the Falkirk Center's lovely garden next to the greenhouse, with a focus on Wildflowers for Native Pollinators. We'll be highlighting a variety of native flowering perennials and bulbs, along with expert advice on the plants that offer resources for all our native creatures, including insects and birds that provide pollination services. In addition to the usual wide range of spring-blooming plants, we'll have for sale specially grown native annuals that we have not been able to offer previously, along with limited quantities of several species of hard-to-find bulbs such as leopard lilies, camas lilies, ground iris, and red *Dichelostemma*. We'll also have a large number of special shrubs and perennials grown from seed, cuttings, or divisions by our dedicated group of volunteer plant propagators, including *Lepechinia fragrans*, golden currant, foothill wallflower, and *Heuchera* 'Opal.' More than two dozen varieties of natives will be available in seed packets as well.



*Dichelostemma ida-maia* (firecracker flower)—  
Wikimedia Commons/CC BY-SA 3.0

Charlotte Torgovitsky will give a short, illustrated talk at 10:30 a.m. on encouraging a diversity of pollinators in your habitat garden. Long before European honeybees were introduced to the Americas, a host of other creatures were pollinating native plants and food crops. The talk will introduce the rich diversity of pollinators found in a healthy ecosystem. It will also cover some of the best plants to attract pollinators as well as important gardening methods that will ensure thriving populations of bees, butterflies, and birds in your garden.

An event like this takes months of planning for just a few days of work, but many hands make the work light and we have a good time! We need volunteers on Friday, April 13 to do setup, pricing, and arranging of plants, and on Saturday, April 14 to help with sales



*Iris macrosiphon* (ground iris)—Bill Follette

and membership, provide plant advice, and make guests feel welcome. If you are grateful that we offer these sales, please volunteer a couple of hours to make them happen. Each volunteer can choose a free 4" plant as a thank-you gift.

To volunteer, contact Jean Ballestero at [jeanballestero@gmail.com](mailto:jeanballestero@gmail.com) (preferred) or 415.794.9112.

Plant sale co-chairs:

- Kristin Jakob, 415.388.1844, [kristinjakob@att.net](mailto:kristinjakob@att.net)
- Charlotte Torgovitsky, 415.892.9148, [torgovitsky@comcast.net](mailto:torgovitsky@comcast.net)

**Location:** Falkirk Cultural Center Garden, 1408 Mission Ave., San Rafael.



*Camassia quamash* ssp. *breviflora*  
(smallflowered camas lily)—Bill Follette

# MARIN CNPS FIELD TRIPS MARCH 2018

There is no better way to learn your wildflowers and other native plants than to join chapter members and others in the field! All hikes are free and open to the public, so please invite your friends. Beginning plant enthusiasts are particularly welcome on all hikes.

Dress in layers, wear non-slip footwear and come prepared for cold, fog, rain and wind, just in case. Bring water, lunch, and snacks; binoculars and/or hand lenses; and your favorite field guides. Contact hike leaders with any questions about individual hikes.

Full plant lists for many locations are available to download at the Marin Chapter CNPS website ([www.cnpsmarin.org/plant-science/plant-lists/item/6-marin-county-plant-lists](http://www.cnpsmarin.org/plant-science/plant-lists/item/6-marin-county-plant-lists)).

Check out our event listings at [www.cnpsmarin.org/events/events-calendar](http://www.cnpsmarin.org/events/events-calendar).

## Wallflowers on the Tomales Point Trail, Point Reyes National Seashore

**Sunday, March 11, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**

If you have never seen the wallflower display at the end of the Tomales Point trail, you should treat yourself by joining this outing! Along the way, we may see lupines (*Lupinus* spp.), coastal Douglas' iris (*Iris douglasiana*), sneezeweed (*Helenium puberulum*), dwarf checkerbloom (*Sidalcea malviflora* ssp. *malviflora*), suncups (*Taraxia ovata*), Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja affinis* ssp. *affinis*), black berried nightshade (*Solanum americanum*), beach strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*), thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus*), blue violets (*Viola adunca*), elk, and spectacular views of the Pacific and Tomales Bay, sometimes simultaneously! The round trip is nine miles, so wear your best hiking boots and plan to spend the day. Of course, participants can turn back at any time.

Meet at the Tomales Point Trailhead. From Central Marin (or from further afield), take Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west through Marin County. Go past Fairfax, the San Geronimo Valley, Olema, and continue several miles past Inverness (on the west side of Tomales Bay). You will ascend and then descend a hill; then, at the fork in the road, bear right onto Pierce Point Rd., and follow that another 10 miles to the parking lot at Pierce Point Ranch.

Leader: Contact Todd Plummer with questions at [plummtodd@gmail.com](mailto:plummtodd@gmail.com).

## Bolinas Ridge Fire Road

**Sunday, March 18, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

Bolinas Ridge hosts some of the finest remnant maritime chaparral in Marin. Join David Greenberger

for a hike on Bolinas Ridge Fire Road that will showcase several species of manzanita and ceanothus, the major players in this narrow, rare habitat type. We will observe three endemic, CNPS-listed shrubs, and attempt to find MMWD's only recorded localities of rose-bay (*Rhododendron macrophyllum*) and salal (*Gaultheria shallon*). On a clear day, the view will include a stunning panorama with the Farallon Islands in stark relief. The hike is an out-and-back, around 1.75 miles each way, on a wide, unpaved road with only modest hills. Bring water, lunch, and appropriate apparel (outdoor shoes with good tread, layers for potential fog and wind, and a hat or other sun protection). Meet at the small parking lot where Bolinas-Fairfax Road intersects with West Ridgecrest Blvd.

Leader: David Greenberger, [dgreenbe1@gmail.com](mailto:dgreenbe1@gmail.com).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

✿ **Monday 3/5, 7 p.m.**

Chapter Board Meeting, 5 Hamilton Lndg, Suite 200, Novato

✿ **Sunday 3/11, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**

Chapter Field Trip: Wallflowers on the Tomales Point Trail, Point Reyes National Seashore

✿ **Monday 3/12, 7–9 p.m.**

Chapter Meeting: Dick O'Donnell on "Our Pals, the Pollinators"

✿ **Thursday 3/15, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. (also 4/19)**

Third Thursday Weeders Workday at Pt. Reyes

✿ **Friday 3/16, 1–3 p.m. (also 3/18, 4/8, 4/13)**

The Zen of Weeding, Samuel P. Taylor State Park

✿ **Saturday 3/17**

Novato Island Habitat Maintenance

✿ **Sunday 3/18, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

Chapter Field Trip: Bolinas Ridge Fire Road

✿ **Monday 4/2, 7 p.m.**

Chapter Board Meeting, 5 Hamilton Lndg, Suite 200, Novato

✿ **Monday 4/9, 7–9 p.m.**

Chapter Meeting: Charlotte Torgovitsky on "Gardening for Butterflies"

✿ **Saturday 4/14, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.**

Marin Chapter Spring Plant Sale, Falkirk Cultural Center, San Rafael

✿ **Saturday 4/14–Sunday 4/22**

California Native Plant Week (details in April newsletter)

## NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE!

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

## MARIN CNPS FACEBOOK GROUP



Our chapter's Facebook group ([www.facebook.com/groups/MarinNativePlants](http://www.facebook.com/groups/MarinNativePlants)) is a wonderful way to keep up with "what's blooming where," chapter events, and volunteer opportunities!

You don't need to have a Facebook account to view the page, but you do need one if you'd like to post and comment.

## 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](mailto: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

### **Board Members**

Kristin Jakob, Co-Vice President  
David Long, Co-Vice President  
Katherine Wing, Treasurer  
Ashley Eastman Dumbra, Recording Secretary  
Charlotte Torgovitsky  
Laura Lovett  
Paul da Silva  
Carolyn Longstreth  
Rob Katz  
Eddie Robertson  
David Greenberger

### **Committee Chairs**

Chapter Council Delegate: David Long  
Chapter Programs: Kristin Jakob  
Education: Paul da Silva  
Field Trips: Carolyn Longstreth and Susan Schlosser  
Conservation; Invasive Species: Eva Buxton  
Rare Plants: Doreen Smith  
Gardening with Natives: Charlotte Torgovitsky  
Plant Sale Committee: Kristin Jakob and Charlotte Torgovitsky  
School Gardens Program: Charlotte Torgovitsky  
Nursery Outreach: April Post  
Communications: Laura Lovett  
Publicity: Alison Blume  
Membership: Eddie Robertson  
Legislation: open  
PlantID.net: Bruce Homer-Smith  
Marin CNPS Website: Vernon Smith

### **Other Useful Contacts**

*Marin Flora* mail orders: Vivian Mazur  
*Marin Flora* retail sales: Bonnie Gosliner  
Book Sales: Jane Medley  
Poster Sales: Gerd Jakob  
Newsletter Editor: Krista Fechner  
Newsletter Mailing: Paul Kryloff

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

## CNPS MARIN CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS 2018

Two scholarships will be available to qualified undergraduate and graduate students who will be conducting research on California native plants during the 2018–2019 academic year. The deadline for the Joe Kohn Scholarship and the Ken Howard Scholarship is April 1. For more information and an application form, please visit the Marin Chapter website at [www.cnpsmarin.org](http://www.cnpsmarin.org).



## SHOP & GIVE TO CNPS MARIN AT MILL VALLEY MARKET

Family-run Mill Valley Market gives 2 percent of your total receipt to CNPS Marin. No registration necessary, no membership card, no overhead; just mention the donation code #7048 at the beginning of the transaction to benefit native plants!



## 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 this page.

# NOVATO ISLAND HABITATS

**Saturday, March 17**

Come to Novato and help build and maintain native habitat in unique settings. In 2009 and 2014, several large traffic islands were landscaped with 95 percent California native and other drought-resistant plants. These sites now support a variety of birds, insects, pollinators, and small mammals, while connecting local habitat corridors. We do basic weeding and maintenance. Due to lack of rain, fall planting was postponed, so this winter we will be adding new plants to supplement these thriving sites. Join us to support this growing trend of using native plants in otherwise wasted space.

We meet the third Saturday of each month at the entrance to Pacheco Valle (Alameda del Prado exit) or Redwood Blvd./DeLong Ave. (DeLong exit).

Gloves and tools available, or if you prefer, bring your own. For more information and directions to the site for that day contact: Marcia Basalla at 415.897.7124 or [marciabasalla@hotmail.com](mailto:marciabasalla@hotmail.com).



# SFSU PLANT ID WORKSHOPS!

**Second Thursdays, 6–7:30 p.m.**

The spring semester brings us three more plant ID workshops on the second Thursday of the month. A collaboration between Yerba Buena Chapter and San Francisco State University, these workshops are a great, relaxing place to learn about botany. A PowerPoint presentation starts things off with a discussion that includes diagnostic characteristics of a plant family, as well as aspects of its ecology, distribution, and evolutionary history. After the talk, botany graduate students assist attendees in keying out live specimens.

Mark your calendars for March 8, April 12, and May 10 and bring your *Jepson Manual* 2<sup>nd</sup> edition if you have one.

**Location:** San Francisco State University, Hensill Hall, Botany Lab, Room 440.

**Questions?** Email Mila Stroganoff at [milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net](mailto:milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net).



# 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, visit the CNPS Marin website at [www.cnpsmarin.org](http://www.cnpsmarin.org) and provide your email address in the "Sign up for our E-Bulletin" section of the home page.

# CNPS MEMBERSHIP

*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.

## 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:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mariposa Lily             | \$1,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor                | \$600   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron                    | \$300   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Lover               | \$100   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family, Group, or Library | \$75    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual                | \$45    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student or Limited Income | \$25    |

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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[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.

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