



California Native Plant Society

MARIN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Tiburon Mariposa Lily (Calochortus tiburonensis)

Marin chapter established 1973

Monday, May 14, Marin Chapter Meeting

Andrea Williams on “Measuring the Health of a Mountain: Vegetation Indicators for Ecosystem Health of Mt. Tamalpais”

Mt. Tamalpais in Marin County is a biodiversity hotspot, hosting over 1,000 plant taxa in more than 100 recognized communities—as well as the animals and physical processes that maintain this rich landscape. Determining whether Mt. Tam is “healthy” was the focus of a year-long process, selecting indicators and metrics and determining statuses and trends in relation to goals, with information gleaned from available sources such as vegetation maps, species lists, rare and invasive plant inventories and monitoring, research, and plant community monitoring.

Initial indicators included grasslands, redwood forests, oak woodlands, maritime chaparral, serpentine barrens, Sargent cypress, riparian areas, and wet meadows; these communities represented high diversity, iconic or rare plants, and sensitivity to stressors such as climate change, disease, absence of natural fire regime, and presence of invasive species.



“Pygmy” Sargent cypress along San Geronimo Ridge—MMWD



Measuring grasslands at Pine Mountain and Azalea Hill: what do the signs say?—MMWD

After workshop feedback, shrublands were added. The overall species list, percentage of non-native and invasive plants in the flora, and provisional list of likely extirpated species were also examined. Having repeated landscape-scale vegetation maps, up-to-date rare and invasive plant population data, and reasonably comprehensive historic and recent local floras were essential in the process.

Andrea Williams is the Vegetation Ecologist for Marin Municipal Water District, where she works to monitor and manage vegetation resources for the district. In addition to ongoing projects, she completed a re-survey of forest plots for a Sudden Oak Death study, and a citizen science initiative to document all 900 plant species on watershed lands, which added 100 new taxa to the list. Until mid-2009 she served as Vegetation Specialist for the NPS San Francisco Bay Area Inventory & Monitoring Network. She wrote and tested early detection protocols, materials, and systems; she also researched and prepared draft monitoring plans for several rare plant species as well as long-term vegetation community change at multiple scales.

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She worked previously at Redwood National & State Parks, surveying and managing rare and invasive plants (and also adding over 100 taxa to the plant list). She cofounded the Bay Area Early Detection Network, and serves on the BAEDN, California Native Grasslands Association, and Calflora boards; she is a past board member of the California Invasive Plant Council and worked closely with the California Native Plant Society on their 2015 strategic plan update.

May meeting:

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.**



Ridgecrest Coastal Trail—MMWD

✿ ✿ ✿
SUDDEN OAK DEATH BLITZ

Learn How YOU Can Help Stop the Disease as a Citizen Scientist

Saturday, May 5, 10–11 a.m.

This effort, led by UC Berkeley, is designed for all Californians to participate in the fight against Sudden Oak Death (SOD), the destructive and exotic disease that is decimating oaks throughout the state. Please attend our short and informative training session, where you'll receive an SOD Blitz collection kit with everything you'll need to survey and sample symptomatic trees in your area, making you a part of the hundreds of citizen scientists who are helping to track the presence of SOD.

Due to the extreme amount of rainfall, 2017 might have been one of the worst years for the spread of SOD. By volunteering a small amount of your time, you and your community can make a large impact toward helping control this terrible disease. By attending an SOD Blitz meeting in your area, you can learn the latest information about the disease. Each year the information that you help provide makes it possible for homeowners and land managers to successfully preserve and protect our native oak trees.

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

For more information, visit www.sodblitz.org.

✿ ✿ ✿
**SHORELINE SUNDAYS—
VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED!**

Sunday, May 6, 20, and 27, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

It's that time of year again when the pesky invasive sea lavender is popping up and needing to be removed before it displaces the native plants and sets its thousands of seeds. Marin Audubon volunteers have been removing this plant from various sites along the Richardson Bay shoreline and Corte Madera Ecological Reserve for several years and have made great progress in keeping it contained, but we still need to keep after it.

The Marin County Open Space District and Caltrans have been removing it where it is found on their properties, and this year the California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) has secured funding to have it removed from a few of the sites in Marin that have large infestations. Marin Audubon will be continuing to remove it from other various locations along the shoreline.

Our goal again this year is to completely remove all known invasive sea lavender plants from Marin County and WE NEED YOUR HELP to reach that goal.

We will work in light rain but heavy rain will cancel. All gloves, tools, supplies, snacks, and instruction will be provided. All you need to do is to show up.

Please come out and spend some Sundays in beautiful locations with really nice people for a worthy cause. Any amount of time you can help out is greatly appreciated.

Please let me know when you can come so I will have enough tools, supplies, and especially snacks on hand. I will send out an email every week to let everyone know where the location will be for the upcoming Sunday.

For more information, see <http://ft.floatinghomes.org/invasive-sea-lavender-threatens-our-shores>.

—Jude Stalker, Marin Audubon, 415.680.6291, judestalker@gmail.com.

2018 MARIN CNPS KEN HOWARD SCHOLARSHIP

The Marin Chapter is pleased to announce the recipient of our 2018 Ken Howard Scholarship. Isaac Marck of UC Berkeley has been chosen for his proposal "Reconsidering Jepson's death camas (*Toxicoscordion fremontii* var. *minor*) from the north coast of California." We wish Isaac all the best in his research and look forward to hearing about the results at a future meeting.

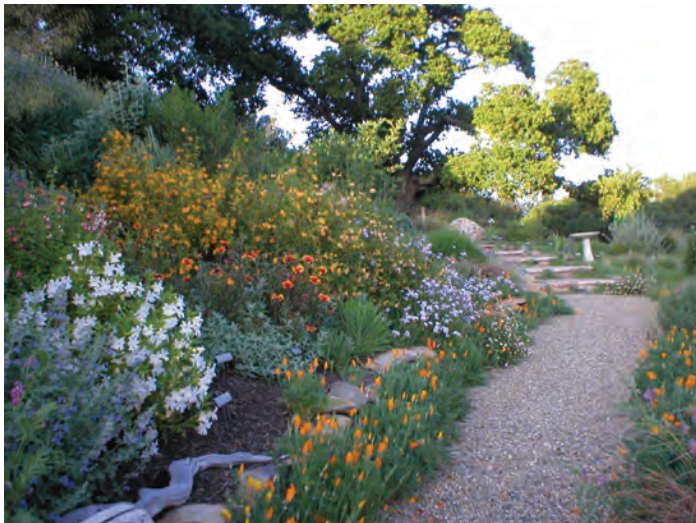


ECO-FRIENDLY GARDEN TOURS

Sonoma County and North Marin

Saturday, May 5, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

This FREE annual self-guided tour promotes sustainable landscaping practices by showcasing inspiring gardens. Registration is required at www.savingwaterpartnership.org. The website has garden descriptions and highlights, and often special demonstrations or short talks are offered in various gardens.



Front border of Charlotte's garden—Mieko Watkins

The Milo Baker (Sonoma County) chapter of CNPS is hosting a number of California native gardens on this year's tour, and my habitat garden in Novato is also open on the tour again this year. Every year many of the same visitors come back to see how my garden is evolving; I've added another water feature, sowed lots more wildflowers, and expanded my native habitat plantings, adding a number of new species of native trees and shrubs.

Many of the plants that are now mature in the garden got their start in my home nursery, and now play the role of "mother plants" for ongoing propagation efforts. A nice selection of California natives and other good habitat plants will be on sale, and at 1 p.m.,

I'll be demonstrating some simple propagation techniques so that others can feel more confident about growing their own plants. There is nothing quite so satisfying as having known a now vigorous and beautiful 18-foot redbud tree since it was a mere seedling!

Hoping to see you in my garden!—Charlotte Torgovitsky



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

THIRD THURSDAY WEEDERS

Thursday, May 17, 9:30 a.m.

Join the Third Thursday Weeders, spend a companionable day at beautiful Point Reyes, and help the protect important plant habitat in the Point Reyes National Seashore! Removal of invasive plants makes way for the resurgence of native vegetation, including many uncommon and rare species.

The Weeders meet regularly on the third Thursday of every month. Over the past four years, we have reduced 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 Abbotts 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 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



Weeders removing sea rocket from dune restoration—Nancy Hanson

MARIN CNPS FIELD TRIPS MAY 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 as well as 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). Check out our event listings at www.cnpsmarin.org/events/events-calendar.

The Cedars Conservation Area

Saturday, May 12, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Participation is limited to 20 people. \$25 contribution towards road and other site maintenance requested.

The extraordinary property in Sonoma County known as “The Cedars” includes 11 square miles of private and public lands around the headwaters of Austin Creek. The Cedars’ steep and rocky terrain has unique geological features, forested slopes, and seeps and springs; some portions have been compared to a moonscape.

The Cedars is a special place for native plants. It is home to numerous, rare, serpentine-affiliated species, including *Arctostaphylos bakeri* ssp. *sublaevis*, (Cedars’ manzanita), *Epipactis gigantea* forma *rubrifolia* (burgundy-leaf stream orchid), *Eriogonum cedrorum* (Cedars’ buckwheat), *Holodiscus dumosus* var. *cedrorum* (Cedars’ oceanspray), *Calochortus raichei* (Cedars’ fairy-lantern), *Erigeron serpentinus* (serpentine fleabane), *Streptanthus glandulosus* ssp. *hoffmanii* (Hoffman’s bristly jewelflower), *Streptanthus morrisonii* ssp. *hirtiflorus* (Dorr’s cabin jewelflower). We hope to see many of these as well as *Rhododendron occidentale* (Western azalea), *Cypripedium californicum* (California lady’s slipper orchid), and other important and uncommon plants.

We are fortunate to have Roger Raiche leading us on the tour. Roger, who was director of the UC Botanical Garden for over 20 years, first explored the site in 1981 and acquired a portion of it in 1999. Roger is known for his encyclopedic knowledge of plants and has four plant species named for him.

The logistics for this adventure are challenging. It is an hour drive from the meeting place in Duncans Mills to the trailhead, and the last four miles of the road are dirt and have seven stream crossings. We will need several 4-wheel drive and high-clearance

vehicles and therefore, ask participants to sign up ahead of time and indicate whether they have a suitable vehicle and are willing to drive others. Priority will be given to participants with suitable vehicles.

The field trip will cover about two miles with 500 feet of elevation gain and plenty of uneven ground. Participants should bring lunch, water, a hat, and hiking poles. We plan to leave the canyon around 3:30 p.m. to return everyone to their cars by 4:30 p.m.

To sign up, email Susan Schlosser at scschlosser52@gmail.com and indicate whether you can be a driver.

This trip will be cancelled if heavy rain occurs preceding the trip. In addition, if not enough drivers with suitable cars sign up, an alternative outing will be offered on the same date; check the chapter website for more information.

Leader: Roger Raiche.

Abbotts Lagoon, Point Reyes National Seashore

Saturday, May 26, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

The Abbotts Lagoon trail is gentle and flat; from the parking lot, it is two miles to the brackish lagoon. The trail will take participants through coastal scrub, dunes, lagoon shore, and, if time permits, to coastal bluffs.

In late May, we should see shrubs of the coastal chaparral such as *Lupinus arboreus* (yellow bush lupine), *Ericameria ericoides* (California goldenbush), *Rubus spectabilis* (salmonberry), and *Baccharis pilularis* (coyote brush). Along the trail, we will be looking for *Achillea millefolium* (yarrow), *Eschscholzia californica* (California poppy), *Cardionema ramosissimum* (sandmat), *Lathyrus vestitus* (hillside pea), *Acmispon glaber* (deerweed) and hopefully, some late annuals such as *Lupinus nanus* and *L. bicolor* (sky and miniature lupine), *Castilleja exserta* (purple owl’s clover), and *Triphysaria eriantha* ssp. *rosea* (pink butter and eggs).



Lupinus arboreus (yellow bush lupine)—Doreen Smith

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In the dunes, we can expect to encounter *Monardella sinuata ssp. nigrescens* (northern curly-leaved monardella), *Abronia latifolia* (yellow sand-verbena), *Agoseris apargioides* (dune dandelion), *Armeria maritima* (sea thrift), *Calystegia soldanella* (beach morning glory), *Camissonia strigulosa* (dune sun cups), *Chorizanthe cuspidata* (San Francisco spineflower), *Fragaria chiloensis* (beach strawberry), *Layia carnososa* (beach layia), *Lupinus chamissonis* (dune lupine), and *Polygonum paronychia* (dune knotweed).

Meet at the Abbotts Lagoon parking lot on Pierce Point Road in the Point Reyes National Seashore. Bring lunch, water, hat, and sunscreen.

Leader: Paul da Silva, PdaSilva@marin.edu.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

✿ **Saturday 5/5, 10–11 a.m.**

Sudden Oak Death training session, Dominican University, San Rafael

✿ **Saturday 5/5, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.**

Eco-friendly Garden Tours, Sonoma/North Marin

✿ **Sunday 5/6, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. (also 5/20 and 5/27)**

Shoreline Sundays Invasive Sea Lavender Cleanup

✿ **Sunday 5/6, 1–3 p.m. (also 5/11)**

The Zen of Weeding, Samuel P. Taylor State Park

✿ **Monday 5/7, 7 p.m.**

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

✿ **Saturday 5/12, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.**

Chapter Field Trip: The Cedars Conservation Area

✿ **Monday 5/14, 7–9 p.m.**

Chapter Meeting: Andrea Williams on “Vegetation Indicators for Ecosystem Health of Mt. Tamalpais”

✿ **Thursday 5/17, 9:30 a.m.**

Third Thursday Weeders Workday at Pt. Reyes

✿ **Saturday 5/19**

Novato Island Habitat Maintenance

✿ **Saturday 5/26, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**

Chapter Field Trip: Abbotts Lagoon, Point Reyes National Seashore

✿ **Monday 6/11, 7–9 p.m.**

Chapter Meeting: Cynthia Powell on “New Calflora Tools for CNPS Users”

✿ **Saturday 6/16, 10 a.m.–12 noon**

Plant propagation class: Who’s that Buzzing around the Garden?

✿ **Thursday 6/21, 9:30 a.m.**

Third Thursday Weeders Workday at Pt. Reyes

✿ **Saturday 7/14, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.**

Plant propagation class: Seeds, Seeds, and More Seeds!

ZEN OF WEEDING

Habitat Restoration at Samuel P. Taylor St. Park Sunday, May 6 and Friday, May 11, 1–3 p.m.

Note that this month, we’ll meet on the first Sunday, not the second (on Mother’s Day, the park is not accessible for volunteer work due to all the happy picnickers).

We’ve been clearing forget-me-nots and a little *Ehrharta* from the old hike and bike camp sites along Cross Marin Trail while they are closed for restoration. Now the natives like redwood sorrel, milkmaids, trillium, Solomon’s seal, stream violets, and redwood violets will have space to recolonize and flourish. Bask in the sounds of running water and bird song as our migrants return to this restored habitat and prepare to raise their young along with our resident birds.

We meet just before 1 p.m. at the far end of the main picnic area near the newly refurbished bathroom. Look for my red Honda. Bring gloves or borrow from the park supply and get a free parking pass when you volunteer. April rains have made weeding super easy. Please reply if you are coming so that I know who to expect. 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.



Anna and Nancy clear *Myosotis latifolia* to rescue redwoods—Harry McGrath



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 and provide your email address in the “Sign up for our E-Bulletin” section of the home page.

GARDENING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

by Charlotte Torgovitsky

The most rewarding things about habitat gardening are the creatures that show up to partake of the bounty offered. With knowledge about the particular native plant community that you live and garden in—and making careful, considered choices about the plants you grow—you can create a richer biodiversity, and more enhanced foraging opportunities, in a habitat garden than in the surrounding spaces.

The wild creatures will notice, and then you reap the rewards! Nature up close and personal: all these wonderful creatures going about the business of their lives in a place where you can easily observe and enjoy the activity. Gardening in this manner bridges the worlds of gardening and ecology, and also offers ample opportunities for in-depth studies of nature and life cycles.

I've now been living and gardening in the same place for 14 years, and during most of that time have kept a journal with sightings, interesting behaviors, and other observations. When living creatures move into gardens, all sorts of things start to change. As biomimicry expert Janine Benyus noted, "Life creates conditions conducive to life." In other words, when there are lots of insects in the garden, there will also be many more birds, and they, in turn, bring in the seeds of plants from other areas. When a "volunteer plant" shows up in a place where there is room to let it grow to maturity, I usually try to accommodate it. These days, I rarely need to start toyon from seeds in a controlled situation; I just dig up dozens of small toyon seedlings from all around my bird baths, and pot those up to grow on!

While I was garden education manager at the Marin Art and Garden Center, I set up nesting boxes to foster orphaned baby barn owls for the Hungry Owl Project. We put a camera in the nesting box; it was connected to a screen where all the school children coming on field trips could view the activities of the nestlings.



Albert Owlstein—Bob and Mieke Watkins



Myiitta crescent—Bob and Mieke Watkins

Soon nearly every visitor strolling the beautiful grounds at the Center also made a point of stopping by to check on the babies. Everyone loved those baby owls!

So, when we moved here, the first thing I did was to hang two nesting boxes for barn owls. The owls noticed right away and raised broods in one box or the other consistently for about seven years before conditions changed dramatically. I knew it would be different the moment I found a dead barn owl close to the nesting box. The great horned owls—whom we've always seen and heard on Deer Island, not more than five minutes from our place—had moved in on barn owl territory. These big birds don't share their space, and they dominate many other creatures; we didn't have barn owls again until about three years ago.

This year, in January, I observed mating behaviors: three owls circling the meadow, with bills clicking and emitting soft screeches. There were a couple of males vying for one female, showing her that here was a perfectly sized hole leading to a cozy inside space; and now there's a pair raising a brood.

Barn owls are not the only creatures who know that great horned owls don't share territory with other raptors. One afternoon, late in summer, I heard the cries of the red-shouldered hawks; these birds are known to be very vocal, and I love the wildness of their calls, but this was beyond anything I'd heard here before! When I went to investigate, I discovered two red-shouldered hawks, one high, and one low in the canopy of a live oak—and in the middle was a day-roosting great-horned owl that was clearly not welcome! The hawks continued with this barrage of noise for nearly an hour before the owl had had enough and finally left!

In March, for the first time ever on our hill, I saw large flocks of band-tailed pigeons—40 to 60 of these impressively large birds coming to roost in the canopies of the oaks. They come to the ground rather cautiously, and just a few at a time, to forage for remaining acorns and seeds. These birds winter in

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Gardening in Harmony with Nature continued from page 6

Central America, but come north to breed; the large flock is now breaking up as they pair up to nest in loose communal groups. The band-tailed pigeons are one of the few birds that don't rely on insects to feed their young; pigeons and doves produce "crop milk," which is rich with protein and fats.

Also in March a number of people have once again noticed large numbers of California tortoiseshell butterflies, now all moving in an easterly direction. Last fall a similarly high number of these butterflies were observed moving in a westerly direction. The larval host plant of the tortoiseshells is *Ceanothus*. By migrating between the coast, where the first brood feeds on *Ceanothus thyrsiflorus*, to inland mountain ranges, where eggs can be laid on various species of *Ceanothus*, these butterflies can raise at least two broods in a year.

In April, the breeding season is just getting into full swing for many creatures. I've already noticed the larvae of Mylitta crescent butterflies feeding on Italian thistles, and fresh new adults coming to flowers in my garden, seeking nectar. Monarch butterflies are starting to move east in search of milkweeds to lay their eggs on; anise swallowtail butterflies, judging by the fresh adults, have raised a first brood, most likely on common fennel.



Nuthatch with fecal sac at nesting box—Bob and Mieko Watkins

A pair of white-breasted nuthatches already have a brood in a nesting box more often used by bluebirds or tree swallows; I've noticed the adults leaving the nest box with fecal sacs. (These sacs, which surround the feces of some species of nestling birds, allow parent birds to more easily remove fecal material from the nest.) And the sweet little Bewick's wrens are busily looking about for the perfect nesting cavities. These endearing birds will use almost anything; in years past they've built nests in gourds on a shelf on my back porch.

For much more detail on the life cycles of butterflies and creating habitat for a host of creatures, interested visitors can visit www.homegroundhabitats.org.

NOVATO ISLAND HABITATS

Saturday, May 19

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 we'll 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.



PLANT SALE THANKS!

We had a beautiful sunny day for our spring plant sale on April 14 and a lot of gorgeous plants went home with happy customers. A big THANK YOU to all who helped set up, take down, and, in between, advised potential native plant lovers which species would grow well in their corner of the county. Special thanks to our volunteer coordinator Jean Ballestero, and to our co-sponsor, the Marin Master Gardeners, for offering their lovely garden space and endless cheerful assistance. Our many volunteers are essential to making it a successful event. Full details on the sale will appear in the summer newsletter.



Volunteers Cindy LaMar, Daniel Kushner, and Dave Long assist visitors at the spring plant sale—Gail Mason

PLANT OF THE MONTH: DANDELIONS, ANYONE?

Text by Doreen Smith

One of the most difficult groups to identify to genus are the dandelions; by that I mean the yellow-flowered composites (Asteraceae), with heads of tubular flowers and milky juice if the stem is cut.

Most of the local *native* Marin dandelions are either in the genus *Microseris* or *Agoseris*. As examples,



Microseris paludosa (marsh silverpuffs)—Doreen Smith



Agoseris grandiflora var. *grandiflora* (giant mountain dandelion)—Vernon Smith



Microseris paludosa (marsh silverpuffs)—Vernon Smith



Agoseris grandiflora (large flowered agoseris)—Vernon Smith

I'll profile superficial look-alikes, the common *Agoseris grandiflora* and the rare *Microseris paludosa*. The latter species seems to have been extirpated from most of Marin and only remains on Pt. Reyes, found in seasonally moist grassland.

A helpful feature to distinguish between them is not something about the flowers, but the involucre, the green cluster of bracts immediately under the

Plant of the Month continued on page 9

flower head. *Microseris* spp. have pointed bracts in the involucre, while *Agoseris* has rounded tips to the inner bracts. Their fruiting heads differ too; a *Microseris* fruit head is bristly; *Agoseris* spp. have puffy fruit heads. For more information about Marin's several dandelion species, native and non-native, no serious student of Marin botany is without a copy of Howell's *Marin Flora*, no matter that the latest edition is from 2007!



Microseris paludosa—Doreen Smith



Agoseris grandiflora—Vernon Smith



NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE!

You can find a color PDF edition of this newsletter on the Marin chapter website by visiting cnpsmarin.org/chapter/newsletters.

2018 PLANT PROPAGATION CLASSES

The following classes take place at the Red Barn at the Pt. Reyes Bear Valley headquarters. All the classes are free, but pre-registration is required. Please RSVP to Sarah Phillips, sarah@marinrcd.org, 415.663.1170 x 302.

Who's that Buzzing around the Garden?

Saturday, June 16, 10 a.m.–12 noon

Instructors: Sarah Phillips, Charlotte Torgovitsky.

From the soil to the topmost canopies of the trees, a healthy garden hosts abundant populations of arthropods and other invertebrates. A garden "full of bugs" is a habitat rich with resources—but did you know that while all "bugs" are insects—not all insects are bugs?

Though a few of the thousands of insect species may pose problems for humans, many, many, others provide beneficial ecosystem services. This brief introduction for the layman will help you identify some common insects, learn about their life cycles and plant associations, and learn how to manage their populations using integrated pest management techniques.

Seeds, Seeds, and More Seeds!

Saturday, July 14, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Instructor: Charlotte Torgovitsky.

"Before the seed, there comes the thought of bloom" (E.B. White) and "We have much to hope from the flowers" (Sir Arthur Conan Doyle). Seeds are one of nature's miracles, and so much of all other life is tied to the phenology of plants and the reproduction of their species.

To start learning about plant families, we'll look at the floral formulas, traits which are also easily identifiable in the fruits and seeds. In this class, we'll look at a selection of seeds from various native genera, talk about ethical harvesting, and learn how seeds travel. We'll practice some simple methods of cleaning these seeds, and learn how to properly label and store seeds.

You'll also learn to "think like nature" while timing your harvest, and to consider a variety of pre-germination techniques.

Class sponsors:

- Marin Resource Conservation District (www.marinrcd.org)
- Marin Chapter CNPS (www.cnpsmarin.org)
- Home Ground Habitats (homegroundhabitats.org)
- Point Reyes National Seashore Association (www.ptreyes.org)

MARIN CNPS FACEBOOK GROUP



Our chapter's Facebook group (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.

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
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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 wholesale sales: Bonnie Gosliner
Book Sales: Jane Medley
Poster Sales: Gerd Jakob
Newsletter Editor: Krista Fechner
Newsletter Mailing: Paul Kryloff

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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!

SFSU PLANT ID WORKSHOPS!

Second Thursdays, 6–7:30 p.m.

The spring semester brings us 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 May 10 and bring your *Jepson Manual 2nd* edition if you have one. The plant ID workshops at SFSU will be on summer break in June–August, resuming in September.

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

Questions? Email Mila Stroganoff at milastroganoff@sbcglobal.net.



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.

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 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 _____

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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: Marin CNPS, 58 Redwood Dr., Kentfield, CA 94904.

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: Katherine Wing, 58 Redwood Dr., Kentfield, CA 94904.

SHOP & SAVE AT GREEN JEANS GARDEN SUPPLY

Family-run Green Jeans Garden Supply in Mill Valley offers a 10 percent discount to card-carrying members of CNPS! The nursery is located at 690 Redwood Hwy, the east-side frontage road alongside Hwy 101, south of the Strawberry Shopping Center.

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!

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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 both the hard cover and soft cover books for at sale prices!!

Prices:	Hard cover	Soft cover
Retail	\$35 (plus \$2.89 tax)	\$25 (plus \$2.06 tax)
CNPS members (20% off)	\$28 (plus \$2.31 tax)	\$20 (plus \$1.65 tax)



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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
Meetup www.meetup.com/California-Native-Plant-Society-Marin-Chapter-Meetup

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 _____
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