General Meeting:
Conserving a treasure in the heart of the Santa Rosa Plain: a story of Sebastopol Meadowfoam (*Limnanthes vinculans*)
With Michelle Halbur
April 18, 2017 7:30 PM

Abstract: Wander through the conservation story of one of our beautiful endangered vernal pool plant species endemic to Sonoma County – Sebastopol Meadowfoam. Hear how conservation was put into practice primarily through mitigation activities during the peak of development within the Santa Rosa Plain. Learn how created and natural habitat may be supporting differences among Sebastopol Meadowfoam populations today. And come away with a renewed understanding and appreciation of our cherished, botanically splendid, and complex vernal pool system.

About the Speaker: As a native to Sonoma County, Michelle Halbur greatly values the biodiversity of the region and is honored to work on conservation and land management research at Pepperwood Preserve. She has an M.S. from Purdue University where she studied the conservation genetics and ecology of a rare vernal pool plant that occurs in the Santa Rosa Plain, Sebastopol Meadowfoam. Since 2011, Michelle has served as Pepperwood’s Preserve Ecologist where she oversees Pepperwood’s Citizen Science and Visiting Scholars programming.

Join us for Dinner before the Meeting: We'll gather for dinner at 6 pm at Kirin Restaurant, 2700 Yulupa Ave. We hope our speaker will join us, but we always have an enjoyable group of fellow members and a delicious Northern Chinese meal in any case. Please contact Liz Parsons at 833-2063 or lizpar8993@aol.com by April 17th, if you plan to attend
Chapter News

CNPS Milo Baker in Eco-Friendly Garden Tour

Deb Dobish’s Garden

We have a wonderful variety of native plant gardens on the Eco-Friendly Garden Tour from Glen Ellen to Santa Rosa, and Forestville to South Sebastopol. There are other gardens of interest in the tour also in Windsor and Petaluma. Our Garden Tour Committee has done a wonderful job of enticing our members to open their gardens.

The Garden Tour is Saturday May 13 from 10am – 4pm. These gardens will inspire you. And it is a perfect gift for Mom (Mothers’ Day 5/14).

It is self-guided so you can visit as many or few as you like, at your own pace. Visit the website to see descriptions and more information on each garden and to register. It is free, but addresses and maps will be provided only to those who register.


Thanks to all our members who are volunteering for the event, if you would like to volunteer, contact Pat Sesser, patricia.sesser@gmail.com, 528-9197. See you at one of the gardens, I hope.

Betty Young

Laguna de Santa Rosa –CNPS Partnership to build a nursery

WOW, our own nursery, or almost our own nursery. In an effort to grow the very highest quality plants for our plant sale, we have decided we need a permanent growing space. In previous years, we have had generous members who have grown plants in their backyards, or worked with local schools, but many of them are no longer able to do that. Having our own nursery will allow us to produce healthy well-grown plants that are disease free. There has been an increase in root rot diseases in nurseries the last few years. We want to be sure we are selling you healthy plants.

By partnering with Laguna Foundation, we can combine resources, financial and labor, to build and manage a nursery neither organization could do on their own. We have received a small $10,000 grant from the Wine Country Weekend (administered by the Community Foundation), a $1500 matching donation from our member, Art Slater. THANK YOU ART. Laguna foundation has received a $20,000 grant from a local family trust. With these funds we will be able to purchase the materials needed for the nursery shadehouse and tables to hold plants. The nursery will be located on the east side of the Laguna Foundation site, 900 Sanford Rd, Santa Rosa.
We are very excited. We will be able to grow more plants than before and have our plant sales right in the nursery. No hauling plants all over the county. We hope to finish our Cooperative Agreement and planning for the nursery, then purchase materials by early summer with construction happening through the summer. What these grants give us is professional construction help to be sure the foundation is done correctly and then to supervise all of us as we “raise the shadehouse”. If anyone has experience with construction, particularly with footing placement and pouring, please contact me. And if you can help putting the “erector set” shadehouse and growing tables together, no talent or experience necessary, please let me know. The shadehouse and benches should look something like these.
If you can help, let me know, Betty Young, 595-1463, youngb0721@msn.com.

One of her hobbies includes her Fresh Pressed Flower Cards business. This involves planting, harvesting and being on the lookout for various plants that are suitable for drying. She not only makes and sells pressed flower cards but regularly teaches this art to others.

As the lead volunteer for 14 years at the Willowside School Nursery, she has supported students in hands on gardening and regular plant sales. Jan also volunteers as a docent at the Laguna Foundation and enjoys their steward workdays. In addition she does several Wilderness Volunteers projects each year, some of which include eliminating non-native species.

Jan is looking forward to learning more about invasive plants and we hope you can join Ms. (nicknamed) “Relentless” for a day in the field or just say hello at the next Milo Baker gathering.

Invasive Plants Targeted

We have many workdays scheduled for the spring for those who would like to help remove invasive plants from the environment. Please check the web site for the most updated list.

One of the most fun workdays happens every week – a trip to Doran Beach to pull ice plant. We are clearing out the ice plant that is in the marshland to make room for natives. It is very visual and quite satisfying, with the sound of the waves, birds and foghorn. To join us on a Wednesday, meet at Penny Dalton’s house, 1201 Garden Lane, Sebastopol by 9:30. Return before 1 pm. Please text me to let me know that you are coming. JAN 569-4724.
Upcoming Workdays:
Monday 4/24 at Ragle Ranch Regional Park
500 Ragle Rd. in Sebastopol from 9:30-12:30.
We will be removing black berries in a place
where lilies will grow. Meet in the main
parking lot. Volunteers do not need to pay for
parking. The ranger on staff will know about
the event to keep anyone from getting ticketed.
Carpool from Santa Rosa Hwy. 12 Park and
Ride (between Vet’s Hall and Fairgrounds
under freeway) at 9:10.

Friday 6/30 at Sonoma Valley Regional Park
from 9:30-12:30.
Members can meet in the main parking lot.
Volunteers do not need to pay for parking. The
ranger on staff will know about the event to
keep anyone from getting ticketed. Carpool
from Santa Rosa Hwy. 12 Park and
Ride (between Vet’s Hall and Fairgrounds under
freeway) at 9:00.

Jan Lochner

Events

Van Hoosier Wildflower Preserve, Sonoma
Monday April 10, 2017, 10am -2pm at the
preserve.
Carpool 9:15a.m. at Preserve at 10:15a.m.
Leader: Liz Parsons, Marilyn Goode – host

This property, now a protected preserve has
one of the best wildflower displays in the Bay
Area. There will be displays of tidy-tips (Layia
platyglossa), purple owl’s clover (Castilleja
exserta), false lupine (Thermopsis
macrophylla), cream cups (Playstemon
californica), narrow-leaved mule’s ears
(Wyethia angustifolia) and johnny jump-up
(Viola pedunculata) as well as other grassland
and oak woodland flowers. We’ll see
wildflowers of several plant communities
which should be at peak bloom; from native
grassland, to wetland and riparian and on to
mixed evergreen forest, this is what Sonoma
valley used to be.

Carpool at 9:15 from Hwy 12 (Vet’s
Hall/Fairgrounds) park and ride. Meet at the
east end. Or meet at 10am at the corner of
Arnold Drive and Grove Street in Sonoma. Liz
Parsons will be coordinating. Call her with
questions, 833-2063 or cell 508-8345. Bring
lunch, water, hat, sunscreen, and wear sturdy
shoes.

Carrizo Plain to E. Mojave National Park
camping trip
April 10-April 17 (estimated)
Trip leader: Peter Warner, botanical/ecological
consultant and educator.
Peter writes: A week for wildflowers in the S.
Coast Ranges and desert, I hope. Camping will
be ad hoc, depending on travel plans day-to-
day, although I’m hoping to stay at improved
campsites at Carrizo Plain and Midhills, E.
Mojave. We may make other stops and camp
elsewhere, so carrying all camping supplies
(including water) is essential. I plan to leave on
Monday April 10 and return no later than
Monday April 17.

This trip is very tentative (for me), depending
on my eventual work schedule and other
factors. I will try to have a more firm plan no
later than about mid-March. Contact me about
details once you’re reasonably certain you’re
going along. Email: Peter Warner at
phytopagan@sonic.net ; telephone: (707)666-
9071.

Soulajule Reservoir walk and broom pull
Thursday April 20, 2017, 9am carpool, 10-
2:30pm at Soulajule.
Leader: Suzanne Whelan, Stewardship
Manager, Marin Municipal Water District
Celebrate Earth Week with a hike and broom pull. Soulajule Reservoir is a little known gem in northern Marin County. Some of us have occasionally helped steward an area on the far side of the reservoir with rare plants. We’ll hike (one big hill) around the reservoir to the south side, make our way to our stewardship area, and remove any new broom plants causing a threat. This area is a lovely mixed forest with a pretty much intact understory. Marin Chapter will join us for this trip.

Please RSVP to Betty, byoung.cnps@gmail.com so MMWD brings enough tools.

Bring hat, water bottle, sunscreen, lunch. Marin Municipal Water District will provide gloves, tools, snacks and water. Carpool at 9 a.m. Park and Ride under Hwy 12 (across from SR Fairgrounds) east end, or at 10 am in the parking lot below the dam on Arroyo Sausal Rd, 1 mile past the gate on Marshall Petaluma Rd. We will leave there by 2:30pm.

Vernal Pools at Hall Road preserve for EARTHDAY
Saturday, April 22, 2017
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Leader: Michele Halbur, Pepperwood ecologist
We’ll look at both remnant natural pools and created vernal pools to see how each is fairing. Michelle will discuss her Master’s thesis work on vernal pools and we’ll look for the species she studied.
Bring hat, waterproof shoes or boots, sunscreen, water and lunch.

Fog Lichens Introduction, Bodega Head
Wednesday April 26, 2017
Carpool 9AM, meet at end of Westshore Rd parking lot at 10 AM, leave there at 2 PM.

Leader: Shelly Benson, Lichenologist and President, California Lichen Society

If you were excited by Shelly’s talk at our regular meeting or have just been curious about those wonderful lichens, join Shelly for a walk at Bodega Head to find and identify the amazing lichens that love the fog. Bring lunch, water, hat, sunscreen, study shoes, and hand lens, if you have one.

Future trips:

Sat. 5/6-Mon. 5/8 Salt Point State Park campout, Barbara Rice The Sea Ranch Make your own reservations, but RSVP with Betty now.

Saturday 5/13/2017 ECO-FRIENDLY GARDEN TOUR – NOTE DATE CHANGE

Friday, 5/19/2017 Ethnobotanical walk at SRJC, with Virginia Holz-Steenhoven

Saturday, 5/27/2017 Hood Mountain with Peter Warner

Saturday 6/3/2017 Nefertierra preserve with Sue Smith (date changed due to Garden Tour)

Saturday, 6/24/2017 Effects of Elk Grazing to Habitat at Pt Reyes with Caprice Lee

Th. 7/6-Sun.7/9 Plaskett Meadows, Masterson Group Campground reserved, RSVP to Betty-group campground has been reserved but we have a maximum.

Thursday 8/10/2017 Wildlife Photography at Pepperwood, with Michelle Halbur

© Betty Young
Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense
Pitkin lily

Newsletter & Web Site Info:
Send newsletter submissions to:
Editor, cnpsmbnewsletter@yahoo.com
Deadline for inclusion in the May Newsletter is April 15.
The chapter web site milobaker.cnps.org contains a wealth of information plus current and archived newsletters.
For newsletter mailing/membership issues, contact: cnpsmbmembership@gmail.com

Milo Baker Chapter Officers & Board of Directors 2017/2018
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Field Trips: Betty Young, byoung.cnps@gmail.com, 595-1463
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Plant Sale: Liz Parsons, 833-2063, lizpar8993@aol.com
Poster & T-Shirt Sales: Cindy Tancrero, 528-9225, cindytancrero@pacbell.net
Programs/Lectures: Virginia Hotz-Steenhoven, vsteenhoven@sonic.net
Publicity: Wendy Born, wendybora@comcast.net
Rincon Ridge Park: Penny Dalton
SCCC Rep.: Wendy Krupnick, 544-4582, wlk@sonic.net
Southridge Preserve: 539-3441, terrapenecarolinamajor@yahoo.com
SRJC Representative: Dylan Gallagher
SSU Rep.: OPEN
Web Site: Molly Levitt, cnpsmb.webadm@gmail.com
Vine Hill Preserve: Sarah Gordon, 833-1243, Sarahpgordon@gmail.com

We invite you to join CNPS
Name__________________________________________
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Chapter affiliation:
☐ Milo Baker (Sonoma County)☐ Other county ______________________
Membership category:
☐ Student or Limited Income……………….. $25
☐ Individual…………………………………….. $45
☐ Family, Group or Library………………….. $75
☐ Plant Lover…………………………………….. $100
☐ Patron………………………………………….. $300
☐ Benefactor…………………………………….. $600
☐ Mariposa Lily………………………………… $1500
☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

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