General Meeting
Annual Chapter Picnic
August 19, 2012 3 PM

We hope that you can join us for this fun event.
The Milo Baker Chapter Annual Picnic will be held at Pat and Bryan Sesser’s home located at 1147 Hexem Ave., Santa Rosa.
Please carpool.
Pat’s garden is a little on the wild side with many California natives mixed in with other flowering plants, trees and vegetables. The garden is a Certified Backyard Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation.
Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery is short walk away with a lovely garden that member Rebecca Montgomery, along with others, planted as a native plant demonstration garden to show people how a native garden looks and to provide some of the habitat that has been destroyed in our area. The garden provides plants that creatures like native bees and butterflies endemic to our area might find difficult to locate in the city. They also emphasized the use of drought tolerant plants. The garden is designated as an official Monarch Sanctuary and is a National Wildlife Federation Certified Backyard Wildlife Habitat.

We will begin to assemble at 3:00 p.m. and a potluck dinner will be served at 4:00. Bring your own utensils and a dish to share. There will be a gas barbecue available. Call Pat for more information. 528-9197.

Plant ID Hour

You see the plants blooming but the names are unclear? No need to fret, Plant ID. Hour is here! Arrive at 6:45 p.m. before the General Meeting, and bring specimens of plants you want to identify. At Plant ID. Hour you can see plants up close and key them to species, while getting to know fellow Milo Baker Chapter members. Plants that you key out or learn with friends are easily remembered! Bring in some mystery plants to challenge us.

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, 833-2063, or lizpar8993@aol.com if you plan to attend.

General Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa.
Milo Baker Chapter Board meetings start at 7:00pm, 2nd Tuesday nine months of the year, Environmental Center, 55 Ridgeway Avenue, Suite A, Santa Rosa. The next Board meeting is July 10th. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!
**President's Report**

**Plea for a new Membership Chair**
If you are a member who has been thinking that you would like to help the Chapter but are not familiar with plants or horticulture then here is the job for you...Membership Chair. All you need is an internet connection and computer skills.

Gary Hundt has been doing this job for many years. Now he is hiking on the Pacific Crest Trail and we wish him well. Treasurer Jim Piercy is doing the job on an interim basis, but it is a critical job and surely there is someone in our membership who will volunteer for this position. The dues that members pay are a big part of the budget of the state organization. Therefore, retention of members is very important. Many members do not renew after one year or so, but if we can keep a member for 5 years they are committed to California Native Plants and our society. If you think you might be interested in this important job call me at 833-2063 for more details.

*Liz Parsons*

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**Gardening with Natives**

**Through the Garden Gate**
Musings on the CALIFORNIA PIPEVINE

The California Pipevine, aka Dutchman’s Pipe, (*Aristolochia californica*) is endemic (indigenous) to California, and is the sole host to the spectacular Pipevine Swallowtail Butterfly. I planted the vine about ten years ago, and it has really come into its own in the last two years. It’s beneath an oak tree, so the vines have been surreptitiously creeping under the dead oak leaves on the ground all these years. This spring, they popped up in a huge circle around the mother plant. Not only that, they have been quietly rooting themselves under the leaves! Now the vines climb three trellises I put out and several are a good eight feet long. The ‘piece de resistance’ is that the leaves are being chewed to rags by the very beautiful black and red caterpillars, the larvae of the Pipevine Swallowtail Butterflies.

This butterfly is a gorgeous, large black butterfly with iridescent tones of shimmering blue. I have seen them for several years nectaring on a variety of the flowers I grow for pollinators. Since I live on a hilltop above a creek, I assumed they were coming up from that riparian zone, as there are a few Pipevines in the woods around the creek. However, I now believe they are also coming from my own vines, which is the very reason I grew this odd plant from the start. The Pipevine has soft, slightly fuzzy leaves, heart-shaped, and beautifully spaced on a brittle stem. It puts out very strange-looking, U-shaped flowers in the early spring...they look like a Dutchman’s pipe, hence the name. The flowers are pale-green or brownish, with maroon stripes and attract fungus gnats, which enter the flower and in their efforts to escape, get covered with pollen and thus pollinate the flowers.

I have been told by several Pipevine gurus that spiders and birds eat the tiny caterpillars as they hatch from their masses of yellow-orange eggs. So when I found several of the little larvae, I put them in a jar with lots of Pipevine leaves, intending to raise them and keep them out of the clutches of their predators. I spoke with Louise Hallberg, the “Butterfly Lady” from Graton, who informed me that the caterpillars eat for at least six weeks, then pupate, and take up to a year to hatch! I decided that I would not be a good Pipevine Swallowtail mom and released them the next day! They are munching away on the vines and all is hopefully well.

If you decide to grow a Pipevine, be sure you have good shade, a small trellis to start them on, and lots of patience. The fact that they crawl under dead leaves and debris is most likely a good thing, as the cover gives them protection from predators. A Pipevine is well worth the small amount of effort and hopeful expectations that you put forth.

*Judy Brinkerhoff*
joobrink@comcast.net
Invasives Corner

M L Gets Annoyed & Something Slightly Funny

An article came out in Scientific American last year headed, “Time to Stop Worrying About Invasive Species?” There have been a flurry of articles about how we should stop worrying about invasive plants and halt attempts to restore areas back to growing their original species. The insinuation is that taxpayers are paying for a problem that exists because of overzealous eco-micromangers who try to get rid of every little pineapple weed or scarlet pimpernel so they can exult over politically correct native plants growing on every inch of the state. (Slight exaggeration.) They advise weed managers to study the weeds and figure out which ones are truly threatening to our health and economy, and forget about the rest which are just doing what plants do – innocently growing and competing. Gosh, I wish we were at the place where we could attack only the worst infestations. We are actually so against the wall that we just try to identify and get rid of new infestations so they don’t become as unmanageable as the worst infestations. Haven’t we all seen what gorse, ivy and broom, etc. etc. have done in our county? Study? Tons of studies. Weed managers are aware of the research and what weeds are the worst. It’s their job. The problem is to do as much as possible with ridiculously limited resources. Weed control does not make headlines, and has no sad-looking seal to play on the public’s sympathy when the budget is being concocted. I would suggest that those who have been spreading these ideas are the ones who need to do their research. So there Scientific American – indeed! I was looking at a site entitled, “100 of the World’s Worst Invaders” (http://www.issg.org/database/species/search.asp?st=100ss)

About 20 were plants, the rest being aliens from outer space. I thought I’d see if any were for sale. (Plants, that is. I doubt space aliens share our currency.) I found this site, Gardlino Nursery Corp., Rare and Unusual Plants, when looking for Hiptage benghalensis, a beautiful shrub/vine, but a huge problem in several tropical ecosystems, including Florida and Hawaii.

Here’s a quote I found above the group of plants including our beautiful but bad shrub/vine: “These

Plant Sale News

The 41st Annual Plant Sale will be Saturday, October 13 at the Santa Rosa Vet’s Building. Mark your calendars and tell your friends. We have been preparing for the event all year and now the fourth and final potting workshop will be held at Casa Grande High School in Petaluma on August 18 at 10 AM. We will be potting up liners of Mimulus, Cornus, Zauschneria, Salvia, and other fast growing perennials. If you would like to help, give Liz a call at 833-2063.

At the May potting workshop at Cal Flora in Fulton Kathi Dowdakin, Rob Fox, Elmarie Hutchinson, Alison Willets, Penny Dalton, Janet Ross, Lea Davis, Wendy Krupnik, Wendy Smit, and Liz King worked so well together that we potted up 500 liners in 2 hours. I’m sure it was a new speed record! Everyone said that it was the best workshop and the most fun. We thank Shooting Star Propagation Nursery for the liners and Cal Flora for the work space.

State News

The CNPS Educational Grant Program has for many years supported and shared our CNPS goals
with students in graduate programs whose field research is in some way consistent with our objectives, our Mission. Each year we select from proposals received those we consider appropriate, and divide up the funds available to the program. This year we continue with the same guidelines, same procedures. Copies of the Guidelines for Drafting and Submitting a proposal are available from the Sacramento CNPS office. Address requests to the Chair, Educational Grants Committee. Completed proposals must be received in the CNPS office no later than September 30, 2012. Proposals are evaluated by reviewers who include active academic botanists, experienced botanical consultants, agency representatives, and Chapter conservation officers. Response letters are mailed early in November. Each student whose work is supported by CNPS is asked to submit a report, not necessarily a long article, to Fremontia when the research is completed. Having a report published in the widely circulated CNPS journal could constitute a young botanist's first Published Citation. The CNPS Education program, a major component of CNPS leadership in promoting the "preservation of California's native flora," views our support of university students as a major priority, and works to offer financial support, avenues for presenting research, and professional opportunities to the upcoming generation of concerned botanists in California. With this purpose we ask Chapter leaders, student members, those who guide and work with graduate students in botany, to inform others of this opportunity to receive financial support and recognition for work that promotes CNPS’ Mission—generally studies of taxa or systems that involve some field work, and that will serve our mutual purposes.

**Events and Items of Interest**

**WILDCARE’S Family Adventures/Aventuras Familiares**

WildCare invites you and your family to join experienced naturalists on Saturday visits to nearby parks to enjoy a day in nature. WildCare’s naturalists will lead fun, free family programs to discover butterflies, flowers, birds and much, much more. Free to the public, these programs will be conducted in both English and Spanish. Estos programas son en español e ingles y gratuitos para el público. Programs begin at 10:00 am at the trail head and end around 12:30 pm. If you would like to carpool, meet at 9:15 am at the Canal Alliance headquarters at 91 Larkspur Street in San Rafael. Questions? Contact Juan-Carlos Solis at 415-453-1000, ext.17 or juan-carlos@wildcarebayarea.org. For directions to program sites, visit www.wildcarebayarea.org/adventures

**Insect Safari**

**July 21, 2012 Saturday**

Look for signs of insects—butterflies, dragonflies and other six-legged creatures. We’ll also take time to admire the flowers and trees, and even learn the names of a few of them. Directions: From Sir Francis Drake Boulevard in Fairfax (heading NW) make a left on Pacheco Avenue, turn right on Broadway Boulevard, and left on Bolinas Road. Continue on Bolinas Road for half a mile and then turn left at Porteous Avenue and then right to stay on Porteus. We’ll meet at the parking area at the end of Porteous Avenue.

**Exploring the Redwoods**

**August 18, 2012 Saturday**

Come to Samuel P. Taylor State Park for a hike to an old-growth Redwood Tree called the Pioneer Tree. Samuel P. Taylor Park’s only old-growth trail is a short, easy walk (2.7 miles) that climbs a hillside, visits a lone old-growth redwood, then descends through a little canyon. Pack a lunch and after our walk, enjoy it in the picnic area along Papermill Creek under the Redwoods. We will meet in the group parking area beyond the picnic site and across the bridge on the left. Samuel P. Taylor Park is located in West Marin on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard approximately 14 miles west from San Rafael. Parking fee required.

**WildCare Nature Guide Training**

**August 4, 2012, Saturday 11:00 am to 12:30 pm**

76 Albert Park Lane, San Rafael, CA 94901

WildCare announces fall training for Nature Guides at Spring Lake Park, Santa Rosa. Once trained, new Guides will be ready to lead small groups of elementary school children on
nature walks offered Wednesday mornings during the school year.

Come to a free orientation at the WildCare office. Beginning August 11, eight half-day training and field sessions are offered at sites in Marin and at Spring Lake Park. Taught by experienced naturalists and biologists, the curriculum will focus on local biodiversity, with topics including redwood forest ecology, bird identification techniques, wildflowers, and much more. New Guides will learn naturalist Elizabeth Terwilliger's outdoor teaching methods. There is a fee for training materials.

Directions and additional information, including registration: www.wildcarebayarea.org/volunteer.

Contact person: Eileen Jones, (415) 453-1000, ext. 12 or email: volunteer@wildcarebayarea.org

Native Plant Nursery Workday
July 14, 2012 Saturday 9 am to 12 pm
Sonoma Garden Park
Address: 19996 7th Street East in Sonoma
Contact person: Megan FitzSimmons at (707)996-0712 x113 or Megan@sonomaecologycenter.org

Description
July is the month of transplanting. Volunteers will gain invaluable experience learning how to transplant and care for small native plants. Transplanting in July allows for enough growth for winter restoration planting. Now is the time to learn about identifying natives that live in our backyard.

All ages and skill levels are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Volunteers will be getting dirty, so please dress appropriately: wear sturdy shoes, bring gloves, a snack and refillable water bottle. Space is limited. RSVP is required.

Sonoma Land Trust
Good-bye, broom!
July 28 and August 11, 2012 Saturday
Experience the Russian Gulch watershed at the Jenner Headlands while helping get rid of French broom on volunteer workdays this summer. We’ll take the first steps toward floodplain restoration in the watershed, home to the federally listed steelhead trout and foothill yellow-legged frog. This sensitive ecosystem has been invaded by French broom seedlings and we need your help to remove these stubborn invaders.

Register online or contact us.

Laguna Foundation
July 28, 2012 Saturday, 9am to 2pm

Join a long-time student of California Indian Basketry, Charlie Kennard, to learn about the use of tule-reed for clothing, boats, house thatch, rope, mats and baskets. Make your own small twined basket to take home using several different weaves. Fee: $75 ($65 Laguna Foundation members). Ages 13 and up.

Advanced registration required. For details and registration go to www.lagunafoundation.org or contact Anita at anita@lagunafoundation.org or 707-527-9277 x110

Upcoming Summer and Fall 2012 Workshops for the Chico State Herbarium
July 26, 2012 Thursday 9 am to 5 pm
Introduction to Native Bees as Pollinators
There are many kinds of bees in nature, and even within urban areas in northern California. Rob Schlising and Robert Irwin will showcase native bees for people who like nature in this workshop, and for those who are involved in land management and conservation. The workshop will also promote inviting these pollinating insects to
“work” and live in your own gardens. No specific knowledge of bees is needed ahead of time, although a basic understanding of general insect morphology and some familiarity with dichotomous keys would be helpful. The workshop will meet from 9 am to 5 pm in 129 Holt Hall at CSU, Chico. Cost is $100.00.

FEN-DANGO! Botany and Ecology of Northern Sierra Fens with Emphasis on Mosses and Liverworts
August 18, 2012 Saturday 10 am to 5 pm
UC Berkeley Sagehen Creek Field Station
Join Carl Wishner and John Dittes, exploring the botany and ecology of fens and meadows in a northern Sierra Nevada setting. Carl Wishner will give instruction on the ecology, life history, morphology and identification of common and rare bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) restricted to the Sagehen Creek habitat type.

John Dittes will aid in addressing landscape setting, meadow ecology and identification of the vascular flora. *Bryophytes of Fens in the Northern Sierra Nevada*, a field guide recently prepared by Carl Wishner, will be provided to each participant. This workshop will take place at the UC Berkeley Sagehen Field Station beginning at 10am and ending around 5pm. Cost is $100.00. Please register in advance.

For more information about registration please contact the CSU, Chico Biology office at (530) 898-5356 or jbraden@csuchico.edu

Detailed workshop descriptions and sign up forms are available on the Chico State Herbarium website: www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html

Pepperwood Preserve Activities
Pepperwood is an ecological institute dedicated to educating, engaging, and inspiring its community through land preservation, science-based conservation, leading edge research, and multidisciplinary educational programs. Dedicated to the protection of the region’s rich biodiversity represented within its 3,200-acre Preserve, Pepperwood provides unique open-space access to nature lovers, volunteers, students and scientists from the Bay Area and beyond. The Preserve is located at 2130 Pepperwood Preserve Road approximately midway between the towns of Santa Rosa and Calistoga, and adjacent to Safari West. To find out more information about Pepperwood Preserve and its programs as well as directions, visit http://www.pepperwoodpreserve.org.

Sonoma Land Trust
Enjoy open days at Glen Oaks Ranch

A happy Sonoma Land Trust member recently wrote, "Glen Oaks was so perfect Friday morning — cool sea breeze blowing well up into the chaparral — the place has quite a spirit and is so remarkably different from Bouverie. Thanks for being so welcoming!" More members and their guests are welcome to take advantage of open days at Glen Oaks Ranch, one place we can offer you access without a guide and you can bring however many guests you wish. Open days are the second and fourth Fridays through October. This year, we also have some open Saturdays. Visit our website for a complete listing of days and times.

Riverkeeper Stewardship Park Volunteer Days
Wednesdays 8:30 am to 11:30 am
Everyone and all ages are welcome to visit or volunteer. No experience necessary. Enjoy time on the Russian River every Wednesday except when there is enough rain to need a raincoat. Please bring your own drinking water and wear sturdy footwear. The Park is located at 16153 Main St., Guerneville on the north bank of the Russian River directly upstream of the pedestrian bridge. Access is down a driveway in front of Sonoma Nesting Co. At the bottom of the driveway look for the blue and white sign that says, “Russian Riverkeeper Demonstration Riparian Restoration Project Future Community Park.” Parking is available near the sign. For more information contact Victoria Wikle at 865-2474 or VictoriaWikle@usa.net. Visit our
**We need more newspapers and cardboard. Please drop off in or near the sheds.**

**Support Needed to Protect our Coastal Forests**

In early June, Friends of the Gualala River, Sierra Club Redwood Chapter, and the Center for Biological Diversity, filed a lawsuit challenging the approval of the EIR for the controversial “Artesa Fairfax” vineyard conversion. The proposal allows the Spanish winery giant, Codorniu S.A. of Barcelona, Spain, to clearcut 154 acres of redwood forest and plant wine grapes in the Gualala River watershed in Annapolis. The lawsuit contends that the lead state permit agency for vineyard conversions, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), failed to follow California law in its preparation of the project’s Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

This is the first EIR for a redwood forest-to-vineyard conversion to ever get approval in California. It sets a ground-breaking precedent for more, one-at-a-time, conversions of forest to intensive agriculture. If projects like this become business as usual for state approvals, they will transform our whole region into a mosaic of clearcuts that will never heal, permanently sacrificing forests and habitat for steelhead and other creatures. Friends of the Gualala River has taken the lead in stopping this disastrous development and process; they need our financial help in order to take a stand and tell the State that this is unacceptable.

Unlike logging clear-cuts, vineyard conversions remove viable tree stumps and top soils that regenerate forests. Over 70% of Sonoma County’s forestland lies outside protected "timber production zone" (TPZ) zoning that prohibits forest conversion, and is vulnerable to sprawl of vineyards like Artesa. There is no state or county regulation - no legal limit - on the amount of groundwater vineyards may withdraw for irrigation during critical droughts. The Gualala River and its threatened steelhead depend completely on groundwater to sustain base flow and deep stream pools during critical droughts. In addition, the Kashia and Point Arena Bands of Pomo Indians have passed resolutions opposing the Artesa project because of its unacceptable impacts on Pomo cultural resources. Even CAL FIRE concedes the many archaeological sites within the Artesa project area are collectively eligible for registry as National Registry of Historic Places and California Register of Historic Places. The development plans to fence individual cultural sites, which is not acceptable to the Native people.

At this critical time where global warming/climate change is impacting all places on earth, our forests are among our most important land assets for countering the rising atmospheric carbon by carbon (CO2) sequestration. We need more forests, not less. The precedent for converting carbon-sequestering forests into petroleum-consuming (pesticide, fertilizer, herbicide, frost protection), carbon-emitting agriculture is a huge step backwards. Please see www.gualalariver.org for more information and to donate.

**Past President Barbara Hopper** passed away peacefully at home in Kenwood on May 16. Barbara was Milo Baker Chapter president from 1988 to 1990. She and her husband John worked very hard for the chapter. They helped enlarge the Ken Stocking Native Plant Garden at Sonoma State with the addition of a special butterfly section. Barbara and John had a wonderful garden and devoted much time and energy to plants of all kinds. John died in December, 2010. For more complete details please read the obituary in the June 10 Press Democrat or the San Francisco Chronicle.

**Upcoming Speakers**

**September 18, 2012**

Phil Van Soelen of Cal Flora Nursery will speak on gardening with CA native plants. This will get us all fired up for the plant sale on October 13.

**October 16, 2012**

Judith Larner Lowry, proprietor of Larner Seeds in Marin County, will speak to us about growing California native plants from seed.
We invite you to join CNPS

Name_________________________
Address________________________
City/Zip________________________
Phone__________________________
Email__________________________

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

Make check payable to CNPS and mail to:
CNPS, 2707 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816

To pay by credit card or for more info call 916.447.2677 or visit www.cnps.org