General Meeting:
Beauty & Diversity of Our North Coast Range Wildflowers

With Reny Parker
February 16, 2015  7:30 pm

Abstract: Reny invites you to sit back and share her passion for wildflowers in her Beauty & Diversity of Our North Coast Range Wildflowers multimedia show. The recent revised edition of her popular, twice award winning photographic field guide is now titled Wildflowers of California’s North Coast Range with many useful additions, including two new counties: Humboldt and Del Norte.

Speaker Bio: Reny has lived and photographed wildflowers in rural northern California for the past 40 years. She and her husband live off the power grid in northern Sonoma County where they maintain a large garden of native drought and deer tolerant plants and immensely enjoy the surrounding environs.

You see the plants blooming but the names are unclear? No need to fret, Plant I.D. Hour is here! Arrive at 6:45 pm before the General Meeting, and bring specimens of plants you want to identify. At Plant I.D. Hour you can see plants up close and key them to species, while getting to know fellow Milo Baker Chapter members. 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 at 833-2063 or lizpar8993@aol.com by February 15th, if you plan to attend.

General Meetings are held at 7:30pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Ave, Santa Rosa. Milo Baker Chapter Board meetings start at 7 pm, 2nd Tuesday nine months of the year, Environmental Center, 55 Ridgeway Ave, Ste A, Santa Rosa. The next Board meeting is February 9th. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!


Chapter News

Southeast Greenway 2016 – The Time is Now!

Please join partners in planning the Santa Rosa SE Greenway. Sat. Feb. 20th, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon Montgomery High School Cafeteria, 1250 Hahman Drive, Santa Rosa.

There is wonderful opportunity for significant native plant restoration in the Greenway and Steve Barnhart is requesting that native plant lovers participate in this event.

Project partners include Sonoma Land Trust, the City of Santa Rosa, Landpaths, Sonoma County Water Agency, Regional Parks, the Bicycle Coalition as well as Greenway Campaign volunteers.

Please see southeastgreenway.org or call 707-703-1922 for more information and to register for this free event.

Eco-Friendly-Native Plant Garden Tour
Saturday, April 30, 2016

Pat Sesser’s garden

It’s finally happening, our own Sonoma County Native Garden Tour. Be sure to mark your calendars for April 30. The tour, a partnership with the Sonoma County Water Agency and Daily Acts, will feature 9 of our members’ native plant gardens in Sonoma Valley, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol and Monte Rio.

There will also be gardens showcasing water collection, water reuse systems, and permaculture.

This is a great opportunity to introduce our neighbors to the beauty and importance of gardening with natives and how to start gardening with natives at home.

You can help with the event. Before the tour, you can help us groom and label plants at gardens where the owner would like support. During the tour, we want to have greeters to welcome visitors at each garden, native plant gardeners to answer questions and provide gardening information to visitors. At 2 gardens we will have plant, book and t-shirt sales, so we also need cashiers. Orientation with plant list and info on each garden will be available before the tour. If you haven’t already been contacted, and would like to help, contact Betty at 595-1463 or younghb0721@msn.com.

Whether or not you volunteer, please put the date for this fun day on your calendar.

Information on the tour will be on the Sonoma County Water Agency and our website in the next couple of weeks.

Betty Young

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Invasives Corner

Updates on the Milo Baker Weeders Group

In early December of 2015, the Weeders Group met out at Doran Regional Park in Bodega Bay to spend a satisfying and productive morning pulling up nonnative iceplant that was displacing native marsh plant species, including the rare Point Reyes bird’s-beak.
(Chloropyron maritimum ssp. palustre). This is a low-growing herbaceous plant species that is California Rare Plant Rank (CNPS) 1B. This 1B designation means the plant is rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. Removal of the iceplant will allow the Point Reyes bird’s-beak and other native plant species to recolonize areas of the marsh and expand their numbers. We had so much fun, and with more iceplant remaining, we will be returning to Doran Regional Park the morning of March 29. Please join us!

**Upcoming Weeders Group events:**

**Saturday, January 30. 9 AM to 12:30 PM. Kenwood Marsh.** We’ll be weeding/trimming vegetation that is encroaching into endangered plant habitat.

**Thursday, February 18. 9 AM to 12:30 PM. Sonoma Valley Regional Park.** We’ll be pulling up scotch broom and other easily-pulled invasives.

**Tuesday, March 29. 9 AM to 12:30 PM. Doran Regional Park.** We’ll be pulling up iceplant to benefit the rare Point Reyes bird’s-beak.

**Sunday, May 15, 2016. 9 AM to 12:30 PM. Nefertierra off of St. Helena Road.** We’ll be strolling and pulling herbaceous weeds on this lovely 80-acre rugged private property. CNPS List 1 species benefit.

**Thursday, May 26, 2016. 9 AM to 12:30 PM. Bohemia Ranch with LandPaths (near Occidental).** Remove barbed-goat grass to benefit the endangered Pennell’s bird’s-beak.

**Tuesday, June 7, 2016. 9 AM to 12:30 PM. Nefertierra off of St. Helena Road.** We’ll be strolling and pulling herbaceous weeds on this lovely 80-acre rugged private property. CNPS List 1 species benefit.

To RSVP and/or to get on the Weeder’s Group email list for event details and future event notification, contact Kate Symonds (Milo Baker Invasive Chair) at kate@terraserve.net. Check also the Milo Baker website for these and other volunteer opportunities. No experience necessary, we provide most of the tools. The more of us the merrier, and less of the invasive plants!

✉️Kate Symonds

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**Plant Sale News**

**Division Workshop**
**February 20, 2014 10:30 AM Saturday**

There will be a division workshop at Liz’s house in Kenwood on Saturday February 20 at 10:30 AM. At this workshop, we will dig up plants that grow in Liz’s yard, put them into gallon containers, and grow them on until our
plant sale on October 8, 2016. (The plant sale is very early this year.) Among the plants that we will dig up are bleeding hearts (Dicentra formosa), wild ginger (Asarum caudatum), Polypody ferns (Polypodium californicum), Zauschneria (Epilobium canum) and goldenrod (Solidago californicum). The next plant sale workshop will be at Cal Flora in May.

For more information call Liz at 833-2063.

Liz Parsons

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**Events**

**Earliest Wildflowers at Armstrong Redwoods State Park**

![Scoliopus bigelovii](image)

**Thursday, February 4, 2016**

10:00 am – 2pm (carpool 9:15am)
Leader: Ann Howald

Ann Howald, retired botanist, will lead us through the misty glades of the old-growth redwood forest to search for early blooming slinkpods, aka fetid adder’s tongue (Scoliopus bigelovii), and other denizens of the dark woods. Then we’ll venture up into the light of the oak woodland, checking on the way to see whether Old Man’s Beard (Dolichousnea (=Usnea) longissima) is still festooning the Douglas firs in the canyon next to the road.

Bring lunch, with tea or hot chocolate recommended for your thermos. Dress in layers, and bring warm gloves, hat and scarf. Easy to moderate hike, with some elevation gain. We will form casual carpools at the east end of the park & ride lot under Hwy 12 (across from Fairgrounds) at 9:15am. Then meet those not carpooling in the parking lot outside the gate and walk in. Heavy rain cancels. Call Betty 595-1463 if questionable weather.

**Annadel State Park**

**Schultz Trail to Ledson Marsh**

![Anemone oregana](image)

**Tuesday March 8, 2016**

9:30 am – 4pm

Ann Howald, retired botanist, will lead this approximately 6 mile hike up the little-used Schultz Trail to Ledson Marsh. We should see Oregon anemones (Anemone oregana) near the mouth of Schultz Canyon, and early wildflowers (lupines, hounds tongues, linanthus, etc.) further up the trail as we pass through chaparral and oak woodland habitats. We’ll eat lunch near Ledson Marsh, where we could see early blooming pink star tulip (Calochortus uniflorus) and what might be an undescribed star lily (Toxicoscordion sp.). We’ll discuss changes to the marsh that threaten both the endangered California red-legged frog and a rare federally listed grass, Sonoma
alopecurus (*Alopecurus aequalis* ssp. *sonomensis*). Moderate to strenuous hike. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, hat. Parking is extremely limited, so carpooling is essential. Please contact Betty or Ann to sign up for this trip and arrange carpooling. Let me know if you need anything else. I'm around most of the winter.

Ann Howald
cell: 707-721-6120
annhowald@vom.com

**Early Wildflowers at Mt Burdell - joint trip with Marin Chapter**
Sunday, February 28, 2016
9:30 - 2pm leave Mt. Burdell (carpool 8:15)

The area of Mt. Burdell we will visit with Doreen Smith (Marin chapter rare plant chair) contains some of our earliest wildflowers such as *Blennosperma nanum, Mimulus douglasii, Dichelostemma capitatum, Fritillaria liliacea.* Starting from the Open Space gate at the end of San Andreas Dr, we'll take the fire road east to a serpentine outcrop that's usually populated with many different native species, then we'll explore further on the Michako Trail. A short circuit via San Marin Fire Road will return us to our starting point.

You can print a trail map at Marin County Parks website at [http://tinyurl.com/MCPMtBurdell](http://tinyurl.com/MCPMtBurdell). Doreen's plant list is here.

Since we are headed south from Sonoma County, we will carpool at 8:15am from the under Hwy 12 park and ride and at 8:30 from the park and ride on the southwest side of Hwy 101 and Rohnert Park Expressway. We will meet Doreen at the park entrance at the top of San Andreas Dr. in Novato.

**Notes on future field trips:**

Two of our future trips require planning ahead by participants.

If you are interested in learning more about **Byrophytes** (mosses) there is a great opportunity right here in Sonoma County. The new Bryophyte chapter of CNPS is presenting a weekend (March 18-20) statewide conference at the CYO camp near Occidental. You can attend the whole weekend to get the full scholarly treatment or come for a public hike on Friday 3/18 2:30-5pm. You must register and pay for either the Friday hike $10 or the full conference. Registration form can be found at [http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/common/images/SBF21_announcement.pdf](http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/common/images/SBF21_announcement.pdf).

Registration deadline is February 18.

**The Cedars** – one of the most popular trips we do is to the Cedars. Roger Raiche will host us on May 14. We have a limit of 20 people. You must register with Betty. Because the trip is so popular I expect a waiting list. So if you register, be sure that is a solid commitment to actually show up. There is a $25 charge for the trip, to support stewardship. We will need to carpool in with 4wd vehicles. So be sure to let Betty know when you register at youngb0721@msn.com or 595-1463 if you have a 4wd. Bring cash or check made out to Roger to the trip.
Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense
Pitkin lily

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

We invite you to join CNPS
Name________________________________________
Address______________________________
City/Zip______________________________
Phone________________________________
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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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