General Meeting:  
Annual Chapter Picnic  
August 21, 2016 at 3pm  
Liz Parson’s home in Kenwood

Once again the Milo Baker Chapter Annual Picnic will be held at Liz’s Kenwood Home at 8 Turtle Creek Drive. Liz’s garden is located on Sonoma Creek and has a lot of interesting riparian vegetation. The Sonoma Ecology Center has been revegetating the area after getting rid of vinca and blackberries, and Liz has planted an interesting mix of natives and Mediterranean plants in a continually evolving scene. Bring a dish to share and your own table setting. There will be a propane bbq available. We will meet at 3:00 pm and a potluck dinner will be served at 4:00. Call Liz for more information, 833-206

Upcoming Programs:

There is no general meeting in July.

Stay tuned for more info about our September speaker Steve Barnhart as he talks about:  
The Impact of Natural landscapes on Human Preference and Well Being

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. 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 at 833-2063 or lizpar8993@aol.com by September 19th, 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 July 12th. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!
Chapter News

Chapter Elections

The Milo Baker Chapter holds elections every two years for the following positions: President, Vice President, three Directors at Large and Secretary. The elections are held in November for positions starting in January of 2017. Interested candidates should consider running for office as we have a few positions that need filling. The Director at Large is a great way to be introduced to the board and no experience is required. See description below for more information on the director at large position.

Director-at-Large Position

- Attend board meetings (9 per year)
- Guide direction and vote on decisions that the board raises
- To act with care & loyalty to the chapter
- Experience the operations and activities of the chapter
- May lead and/or join committees

For more information or to announce your candidacy please contact:

Wendy Smit  wendysmit@hughes.net
Sarah Gordon  sarahpgordon@gmail.com

New Nursery

You may have heard from different resources that there is a problem with root rot disease (Phytophthora spp) in restoration plantings. These infections have begun from infected plants grown in nurseries – some of the same nurseries from whom you may buy your landscape plants.

As you know our chapter’s activities are funded by our plant sale. In order to assure that the plants we sell at our plant sales are disease free, we need to have a properly designed facility for growing that prevents contamination – since there is no cure for this disease.

As we announced at the last general meeting, we are investigating the possibility of a partnership with the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation. If this partnership works out, we would jointly finance the rebuilding of their shade house and share it to grow both our plants and the plants needed for Laguna restoration projects. The construction project hinges on 2 factors;

1. Funding from contributions and hopefully grants – although this is a difficult project for which to find grant funding.

2. A volunteer experienced construction person, who can lead volunteers to: build a retaining wall and fill with drain rock to level the site (34’ x 72’), place structure footings, and supervise the erection of the shade house and growing benches.

If you can help us with grant writing or other funding possibilities or would be able and willing to lead the construction itself, please contact me; Betty Young 595-1463 or youngb0721@msn.com.

Betty Young

Electronic Newsletter

If you have an internet connection, you can get your newsletter on line and save the chapter those funds for our other good work, at our four rare plant preserves, outreach, invasive plant control, education and outreach. You will
get an e-mail when the newsletter is ready, often days before it arrives in the mail. You can save the newsletter as a PDF document or print out yourself, if you love to have a paper copy to refer to throughout the month. To change to online, just email cnpsmbmembership@gmail.com

### Invasives Corner

**Update on the Milo Baker Weeder’s Group**

The Milo Baker Weeder’s Group continues to visit wildland sites around Sonoma County to benefit special status native plant species through the removal of invasive nonnative plants.

On May 26 we went to Bohemia Ecological Preserve near Occidental and pulled barbed goat grass from around the endangered Pennell’s bird’s-beak. We made a visible difference! Thanks to Ben V., Natasha G., Peggy C., Penny D., Wendy K., and for guidance and snacks by LandPaths staff Erin Mullen. Thanks for the great work!

On Tuesday, June 7, we had our second of two Weeder’s events at Nefertierra, an 80-acre undeveloped private preserve near Mt. St. Helena Road. Ben V., Penny D., Natasha G. and I assisted owner Sue Smith in pulling small patches of tocolote (*Centaurea melitensis*), medusahead grass (*Taeniatherum caput-medusae*), and other herbaceous nonnative invasive plants to keep them from going to seed.

**Upcoming Weeder’s Group events:**

**Thursday, August 4, 2016. 9 AM to 12:30 PM. Bohemia Preserve with LandPaths (near Occidental).**

We’ll be pulling yellow star thistle before it goes to seed from a serpentine rock outcrop that supports many rare plant species. We’ll walk in 1/10 mile on a fire road. The patch of yellow star thistle is on a slope in full sun. This time of year the fog tends to not burn off until noon, but sun protection recommended. Email kate@terraserve.net for meeting location.

Stay tuned for more events, (likely not until the rainy season starts)! Enjoy the summer!

Please RSVP to Kate Symonds, Invasive Chair, Milo Baker Chapter of CNPS. kate@terraserve.net, 707-318-3183 (text/call)

© Kate Symonds
Preserve Update

CUNNINGHAM WORKDAY-VERY SUCCESSFUL!!

On June 2nd, Team Prunus, loosely connected with the Laguna Foundation, sent a hard-working group, headed by Denise Cadman, to open the trails, clear around the exclosures, cut limbs, poison oak and a lot of velvet grass in just 2 hours. This was followed up by a lunch in the Johnson garden with most food prepared by Denise. Betty and Marcia are hoping that this will be an annual treat.

The next day, June 3rd, 9 great workers walked down to the Marsh to weed the lily exclosures of velvet grass, free oaks and protect needed ones in the big field and put larger caging around some native hawthorns......all this on a very hot day!!!! A big thank you to all of those who participated. Cunningham Marsh is looking good after a wet winter where some trails were made impassable.

Marcia Johnson
Steward, Cunningham
Marsh
owlsnesttwo@att.net
707-829-3808

Plant Sale News

On May 19, members gathered at Cal Flora Nursery in Fulton to pot up plants for the October 8 plant sale. We potted up 415 plants in about 2 hours. Thanks to Alan Brubaker, Ed Niehus, Kathi Dowdakin, Rob Fox, Mary Aldrich, Wendy Born, Patrick Smithson, Ben Verduin, Penny Dalton, Cindy Tancreto, Cynthia Kayser, Judy Johnson, and Betty Young who all worked very hard to get this accomplished.

We potted up Asclepias fascicularis (narrow leaved milkweed), Asclepias speciosa (milkweed), Baccharis pilularis var. pilularis “Pigeon Point’ (Coyote bush), Baccharis pilularis var. pilularis ‘Twin Peaks’ (Coyote bush), Calamagrostis foliosa (reed grass), Ceanothus ‘Dark Star’, Ceanothus ‘Centennial’, Ceanothus ‘Julia Phelps’, Ceanothus cuneatus (flat form), Ceanothus gloriosus ‘Anchor Bay’, Ceanothus thyrsiflorus var. griseus ‘Yankee Point’, Clinopodium douglasii (Satureja) (Yerba Buena), Dudleya brittonii, Dudleya cymosa, Dudleya farinosa (Dudleyas are succulents),
Eriogonum fasciculatum ‘Warriner Lytle’ (buckwheat), Eriogonum grande var rubescens (red flowered buckwheat), Festuca californica (CA fescue grass), Fragaria vesca ‘Montana del Oro (strawberry), Frangula californica ssp. californica ‘Eve Case’ (Rhamnus) (Coffeeberry), Frangula californica ssp californica ‘Mound San Bruno’, Gambelia speciosa (Galvezia)(Island Snapdragon shrub), Heuchera micrantha ‘Martha Roderick (Alum root), Heuchera maxima, Iris douglasiana, Lewisia cotyledon fimbriatum, Monardella villosa ‘Russian River’ (Coyote mint),

Morella californica (Myrica) (Wax myrtle), Muhlenbergia rigens (Basket grass), Ribes viburnifolium (Currant; Catalina perfume), Salvia clevelandii ‘Allen Chickering’, and Trichostema lanatum ‘Midnight Magic’ (Wooly Blue Curls).

Former scientific names are in bold. We have to get used to the new names that are in the new Jepson Manual.

Ferns: Adiantum x traceyi (Maidenhair fern), Blechnum spicant (Deer fern), Polistichum munitum (Sword fern), and Woodwardia fimbriata (Giant chain fern).

As always we thank Dan Jennison and Nancy Hargeaves of Shooting Star Propagation Nursery for their donation of the liners (rooted cuttings) that we pot up into one gallon containers and grow on for our sale.

Also thank you to the plant sitters: Kathi Dowdakin and Rob Fox, Liz Parsons, Cindy Tancreto, Penny Dalton, Dave and Anna Webster. They donate space, time and water to see that the plants do well until the sale.

**August Workshop at Casa Grande**

On Saturday August 6 at 10 AM, we will have our final workshop at Casa Grande high school in Petaluma. At this workshop, we will be potting up cuttings that Shooting Star has grown from the plant material that we brought to them in May. At this workshop, we will have about 700 plants. We need people to come and help. The workshop is held at the nursery in the NW corner of the campus on Juliet Street off of Ely in eastern Petaluma. Call Liz at 833-2063 if you can help us.

**Events**

**Field Trips**

Field trips are taking a break for July and August.

®Betty Young

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Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense
Pitkin lily

Newsletter & Web Site Info:
Send newsletter submissions to:
Editor, cnpsmbnewsletter@yahoo.com
Deadline for inclusion in the Sept Newsletter is August 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

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