General Meeting  
June 19, 2012 7:30pm  
Adopt a Vernal Pool Program- Past, Present and Future  
Speaker: Hattie Brown, Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation  
Panel: Hattie Brown, Gene Cooley and Joan Schwan  
The Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation’s Adopt a Vernal Pool Program (AVP) is concluding its sixth field season of sampling the three endangered vernal pool endemics Sonoma sunshine (*Blennosperma bakeri*), Sebastopol meadowfoam (*Limnanthes vinculans*) and Burke’s goldfields (*Lasthenia burkei*) in vernal pools on the Santa Rosa Plain and the Sonoma Valley.  
Hattie Brown, Conservation Science Program Manager for the Laguna Foundation will discuss the monitoring results and describe conservation activities undertaken as a result of AVP- including the upcoming Santa Rosa Plain Vernal Pool Field Guide. Over 70 volunteers have been trained through AVP, making it the largest and longest-lived plant monitoring program in Sonoma County.  
The meeting will also include a panel discussion between Hattie, Gene Cooley, Department of Fish and Game Botanist, and Joan Schwan, Vegetation Ecologist w/ Prunuske Chatham Inc., Milo Baker board member and long-time AVP participant, regarding the future of AVP, plant monitoring needs on the Santa Rosa Plain and future Milo Baker chapter involvement in AVP activities.  
**Speaker Biography:**  
Hattie Brown has coordinated AVP since 2008. Hattie holds a Master’s degree in Soils and Biogeochemistry from UC Davis and a bachelor’s degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Reed College. She has participated in or coordinated several studies in vernal pools including elucidating pollination dynamics, soil seed bank investigations, and invasive species control. Hattie also conducts ongoing education and outreach throughout the Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed.

### Plant I.D Hour

You see the plants blooming but the names are unclear? No need to fret, Plant I.D. Hour is here! Arrive at 6:45 p.m. 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, 833-2063, or lizpar8993@aol.com by June 18th if you plan to attend.
Through the Garden Gate
Native Bunch Grasses in the Garden

Bunch grasses, often called “ornamental grasses,” are not like lawn grasses that reproduce by underground stems, or rhizomes. Bunch grasses clump and grow outward, expanding gradually; some put out seeds that may or may not sprout and grow. Our bunch grasses come from hills, meadows, coastlands, mountains, woodlands—in short, from a great variety of plant communities. Native bunch grasses add wonderful shapes, colors, and textures to a garden. They can be delicate, graceful and soft, and some are so feathery you cannot help but reach out a hand to feel their plumes. Purple needle grass (Nassella pulchra), our California state grass, and nodding needle grass (Nassella cernua), both bloom with feathery awns. The needle grasses are cool season grasses, blooming in the winter and going dormant in the summer. Even in dormancy, they remain an attractive soft beige color, a perfect background for colorful perennials such as gum plants (Grindelia stricta var. platyphylla) or goldenrods (Solidago californica). Pacific hair grass (Deschampsia cespitosa ssp. holciformis) blooms in the spring and summer with airy clouds of green and gold inflorescences. Its winter dormancy is attractive with tan seed heads. These feathery grasses blend well with red-flowered buckwheat (Eriogonum grande var. rubescens or sulfur buckwheat (Eriogonum umbellatum var. polyanthum) with its bright yellow flat-topped flowers.

In contrast to the fluffy grasses, the upright stiff bunch grasses provide a solid background on which to spotlight a planting of native annuals, bulbs or perennials. Deer grass (Muhlenbergia rigens) becomes very large, up to 4 feet tall and around, spreading out from the center with long spiky flowering stems and tightly packed leaves. It needs room and full sun. Silver beardgrass (Bothriochloa barbinodis) blooms with silky panicles. California fescue (Festuca californica) and Idaho fescue (Festuca idahoensis) are two stiffly arching cool season grasses with silvery blue leaves. The flowers may stand up two to four feet above the plant; fescue do well in part-shade. Coast melic grass (Melica imperfecta), another cool season grass with tones of yellow in its leaves, would do well interplanted with purple-flowered coyote mints (Monardella villosa).

Grasses can be mixed in plantings of meadows with oaks, manzanitas and ceanothus, all of which provide habitat for pollinators and birds. California poppies are naturals interplanted with grasses; so too are our native coast irises (Iris douglasiana). Showy milkweeds (Asclepias speciosa) are a good choice, as are sea thrift (Armeria maritima) and coast seaside daisies (Erigeron glaucus) that bloom in the summer and require little water.

Bunch grasses may be classified as cool season or warm season plants. Temperature, light, and moisture generally govern their growth. Thus, a gardener needs to understand the bloom time of the grasses and make the appropriate choice as to where to plant them. It’s much easier to group drought-tolerant grasses with other drought-tolerant perennials, and keep the water guzzlers in a separate area. Grasses need little maintenance, are especially drought tolerant, do not require special soils or fertilizer, and are generally pest-free and deer-resistant, all of which contribute to their popularity. Dormant grasses, such as the needle grasses, can be cut back in the early summer after they flower, which is important in fire-prone areas. Others, when the seed heads are in their prime, may be left for their beauty, especially when interplanted with colorful perennials. Combing through the grasses with fingers, or a metal rake, is sometimes enough to pull out the old foliage. Be sure to wear gloves, as they often have sharp edges.

Beware of the highly invasive bunch grasses that are aliens to California and readily outcompete our native plants. Pampas grasses (Cortaderis selloana and C. jubata,) take over entire hillsides to the exclusion of native buckwheats, sea thrift and seaside daisies. An invasive from Africa, fountain grass (Pennisetum setaceum), which although quite beautiful, spreads its seeds everywhere. Some nurseries may still sell invasive bunch grasses and need to be informed of their dangers.

There are a fair number of books available on gardening with grasses. California Native Plants for the Garden by Bornstein, Fross, and O’Brien and Designing Native California Gardens by Keator and Middlebrook are excellent resources for names, photos, and descriptions of native grasses. Rick Darke and John Greenlee have both written books on grasses, although they do not focus on California native grasses. Judy Brinkerhoff
joodbrink@comcast.net

Invasives Corner

Bringing Back the Natives Adventure
A friend and I who share the inability to drive anywhere without getting lost visited the East Bay to attend the
“Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour” on May 5th. We only made it to three gardens, but became acquainted with several neighborhoods in Albany, Richmond, El Cerrito, and Berkeley. The most difficult to find and most interesting in the guidebook had a big sign on its garage, “Tour Cancelled.” But fear not. There were weeds! Because so much “touring” had to be done looking for that best site, we saw so much of that Tower of Jewels, Echium, and English ivy I’ve written about that I am surprised the gardeners in that neighborhood who put up that sign were able to bring any of the natives back for more than 15 minutes. Perhaps that’s why they cancelled. They must have turned their backs and when they turned around there were only Hedera, Echium and a few gasping junipers to observe. Previously, I had not known junipers to gasp.

We found the UC native garden, which inexplicably contained vigorous examples (there are no other kind of this species) of bad, bad Echiums/Echia/Echiaiumcea. Furthermore, several of them had been recently planted as some kind of barrier from the genetically altered corn that was supposed to go in the adjacent plowed acreage. I do not understand the thinking. However, that site was chosen by the 99% the next day and it is hard to say what will be growing there.

Onward we proceeded to a garden with lots of ramping fumitory. “I wondered what that was,” commented the owner. Luckily he knew Doreen Smith who had identified it for me because I have absolutely no credibility, so I think he’ll remove it.

Our third garden featured a plant that everyone admired as they went by. Porcupine tomato had zingy orange thorns about an inch long protruding top and bottom from the midvein of each leaf. I thought, “Ew! This could be a really nasty weed.” I couldn’t find any bad press on it until I went to Dave’s Garden. Nestled in amongst the rave reviews for the plant was a post by Palmbob – my hero! He complained that even though he has a garden full of thorny plant specimens, this one sprouted up everywhere, and he couldn’t get rid of it, plus it’s poisonous. It’s not on Calipc’s bad list yet, but you might want to think twice before you order one. Maybe you could control it, but what if you go into an irreversible coma and the guy who rents your house is too busy making methamphetamine to care for your garden? You come out of your coma after a year to discover your house and all your neighbors’ enclosed in an impenetrable sea of poisonous orange thorns. M L warned you!

OK here’s the Latin names for the fussbudgets: Fumaria capreolata, Echium pininana, Hedera helix, Solanum pyracanthum.

M.L. Carle
<mlml@sonic.net>

**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**

**Saturday, June 2/Sábado 2 de junio**

Egret City/ La Ciudad de las Garzas

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 publico. 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

**Native Plant Nursery Workday**

**June 9, 2012 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

June is the perfect time to start our native herbaceous perennials. Join us at the nursery and gain experience working with Yarrow, Mugwort, California Bee plant and Sticky Cinquefoil. Volunteers will learn about using these beautiful, drought tolerant perennials to complement any garden.

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 and RSVP is required.

**Russian River Watershed Symposium 2012**

**June 22, 2012 Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm**

Cloverdale Citrus Fairgrounds

1 Citrus Fair Drive, Cloverdale, CA

Fee: $25

This Symposium is the only local conference focused on watershed management, sustainable agriculture, and restoration science for the Russian River Watershed. The symposium will bring together landowners, agricultural producers, local agencies, non-profits, students, and scientists for shared insight on the diverse challenges of our watershed. The event includes registration, breakout and roundtable sessions, informational booths, and a wine and cheese reception. Hosted by Sotoyome, Gold Ridge and Mendocino Resource Conservation Districts. For more info: rrsymposium@yahoo.com or 707-569-1448 ext. 100

**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.

**The Sedge Family (Cyperaceae)**

**June 15 & 16, 2012 Friday & Saturday**

(Note: This course will be listed on Pepperwood’s summer session events calendar.) This graminoid (grass-like) plant family can bewilder, confound, and frustrate! But take heart: this 2-day course will provide a firm footing in the ecology, morphology, and identification of sedges, bulrushes, tules, and more. We’ll review the family’s primary structural characteristics, spend time using dichotomous keys to differentiate among and within common genera, and visit one of Sonoma County’s foremost sedge habitats. We recommend bringing the 2nd edition of the Jepson Manual to assist you. Instructors: Peter Warner and Kerry Heise.

**15th Annual Open Gardens Celebration**

**Hallberg Butterfly Gardens, June 24, 2012 Sunday 10am to 4 pm**

8687 Oak Grove Road (across from Oak Grove Elementary School), in Graton/Sebastopol

This is a great, free, family event and a homegrown Sonoma County institution. Hallberg Butterfly Gardens is a 501c3 corporation formed to educate the public about butterflies and preserve habitat. It is run by Louise Hallberg and a cadre of faithful volunteers, who invite classes from local
schools and other visitors for guided tours by appointment throughout the spring and summer months. This summer, on Sunday, June 24th, from 10 am to 4 pm, we will be hosting our 15th annual Open Gardens Celebration. This special event is free and everyone is welcome to come and learn about the butterfly life cycle, wildlife gardening, and habitat preservation, no RSVP needed. This year we will display specimens of our local butterflies, host plants, wildflowers, and garden plants. Our guests are invited to partake in guided plant, bird and butterfly observation/identification and self-guided walking tours around the 9 acres of habitat. We will also have a large selection of butterfly-attracting plants for sale, including Dutchman's Pipe, which is the slow-growing host plant for our native Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly that first brought butterflies to Della's garden, as well as other host and nectar species. There will be a staffed kids' craft table, which is always very popular, and the opportunity to purchase books, crafts, drinks and souvenirs.

Parking shuttle available; Limited wheelchair access. Please, no smoking or pets.

For more information:
www.hallbergbutterflygardens.org,
Leah@hallbergbutterflygardens.org, or Louise Hallberg at (707)823-3420

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 Wile at 865-2474 or VictoriaWile@usa.net. Visit our website at www.russianriverkeeper.org.

**We need more newspapers and cardboard. Please drop off in or near the sheds.

Changes in The Plant Families
By Marigold Klein
Here’s my understanding of the current family name changes. I limited this to genera found fairly locally (Mendocino and adjacent counties) and also to angiosperms. The whole point of the changes is to express our changing theories of the evolutionary history of flowering plants. Taxonomists aren’t just being difficult and moving the names around. They are exploring the origins of life! Forget dicots. That concept is gone. The concept of eudicots replaces most of what was considered to be dicots, but as the history of the development of the plants is coming to light, we have families that are neither dicot nor monocot.

**Cabombaceae** is our first one, which includes our *Brasenia* (water shield). **Nymphaeaceae**, the water lily family is next with our *Nuphar* (yellow pond lily). Then we go into the clade: **Magnoliids**. Clade means a grouping of related species which all have the same common ancestor, and the clade includes that ancestor.

**Aristolochiaceae**: is next with *Asarum*, wild ginger.

**Laureaceae**: includes *Umbellularia* (California bay) just as it did before. I'm including these families because they have a different placement now, in the order of things. But the families I'll list now are only ones that have experienced some change. You'll see a lot that is familiar still.

**Eudicots**

**Adoxaceae**: In older classifications this family was part of Caprifoliaceae (the honeysuckle family): *Sambucus*... elder; *Viburnum*...

**Apocynaceae**: The Dogbane Family includes *Asclepiadaceae* now, Milkweed Family: *Apocynum*... dogbane; *Asclepias*... milkweed; *Cycladenia*... lamb's horns; *Nerium*... oleander; *Vinea*... periwinkle

**Boraginaceae**: The Borage family includes *Hydrophyllaceae* now, the Waterleaf family:

- *Alloca*rya... popcornflower; *Amsinckia*... fiddleneck; *Borago*... borage; *Cryptantha*... popcornflower; *Cynoglossum*... hound's tongue; *Echium*... salvation june, Viper's Bugloss; *Emmenanthe*... whispering bells; *Eridictyum*... yerba santa; *Hackelia*... stick seed; *Heliotropium*... heliotrope; *Hydrophyllum*... waterleaf; *Mogotis*... forget me not; *Nemophila*... baby blue eyes; *Pectocarya*... comseed; *Phacelia*... *Pholisotoma*... fiesta flower; *Plagiobothrys*... popcorn flower; *Romanzoffia*... mistmaiden; *Symphytum*... comfret

**Myrsinaceae**: In a lot of the world Myrsinaceae may not be recognized. It may be sunk into Primulaceae, the primrose family. But we are lucky and have Myrsinaceae, which includes: *Anagallis*... scarlet pimpernel and chaffweed; *Clausia*... sea milk wort; *Trientalis*... star flower

**Orobanchaceae**: Broomrape Family. For this one, you can get out your old Munz and just move the last twenty some pages of Scrophulariaceae into Orobanchaceae. Munz and Keck's, *A California Flora*, was written in plant family order, meaning species were placed near closely related species. Orobanchaceae is only two pages away from the Scros. So much of the “new changes” are things we already knew. It includes: *Bellardia*... Mediterranean lineseed; *Boschniakia*... ground cone; *Castilleja*... paintbrush, and also now some of the owl's clover; *Cordylanthus*... bird's beak; *Orobanche*... broomrape; *Orthocarpus*... a few owl's clover;
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Parentucellia...yellow glandweed; Pedicularis... indian warrior and loosewort; Triphysaria... johnny tuck

**Plantaginaceae:** DNA research shows that Plantaginaceae s.s. (s.s. = sensu stricto, in the strict sense) was nested within Scrophulariaceae (but formed a group that didn't include the type genus of that family, Scrophularia). So, the plantain family now has most of the plants that you thought were scroths, plus a few surprises like Callitriche, water starwort, and Hippuris. Antirrhinum... snapdragon (the name started to change to Sairocarpus, but seems to be going back. Often happens. The changes in family names seem to me to be based on evidence. The changes in names of genera I take less seriously. They change, they change back. If you learn the most common of the common names, maybe the ones that Cal-Flora and Cal-Photo are using, people will understand you.

Plantaginaceae includes: Callitriche... water starwort; Collinsia...blue eyed mary; Cymbalaria...Kenilworth ivy; Digitalis... fox glove; Gratiola...hedge hyssop; Hippuris...mare's tail; Keckillia... beardtongue; Kickxia...fluellin; Linaria...toad flax; Penstemon; Plantago... plantain; Synthyris... snow queen; Tonella... baby innocence; Veronica...speedwell

**Hydrangeaceae:** Philadelphus... mock orange; Whipplea...modesty

**Phrymaceae:** Lopseed or Monkeyflower Family includes: Mimulus... monkeyflower and Phryma... lopseed (which has been found once in Sonoma).

**Sapindaceae:** Soapberry family. Our maples and buckeyes used to be in Aceraceae and Hippocastanaceae, but now they get to be together in Sapindaceae: Acer... maple and Aesculus... buckeye.

**Scrophulariaceae:**

Figwort family is pretty small now: Buddleja...butterfly bush; Limosella... mudwort; Myoporrum... lollypop tree; Scrophularia...figwort; Verbascum... mullein. (Other taxa moved to Plantaginaceae, Orobancheaceae, and Phrymaceae.)

**Monocots:**

**Agavaceae:** This family is considered to be part of Asparagaceae by many now, but the Jepson interchange isn't doing it that way, and since our local botanists say they're using the interchange, let's follow them: Agave... century plant; Camassia... camas; Chlorogalum... soaproot; Hastingsia... reed lily

**Alliaceae:** Onion family. Wikipedia says this is a subfamily of Amaryllidaceae, but the interchange says this: Ailium... onion and Nothoscordum... slender false garlic (invasive, headed north from Marin)

**Araceae:** Arum family. Genetic research shows that the duckweeds belong in the Arum family! Cool, huh? So now all in one happy family we now have: Arum...lords and ladies; Landolfa... dotted duckweed; Lemma... duckweed; Lysichiton... skunk cabbage; Spirodela... giant duckmeat; Wolffia... water meal; Wolffsella... bogmat, mud midget; and Zantedeschia... calla lily

**Liliaceae:** The lily family was formerly a paraphyletic "catch-all" group that included a great number of genera now included in other families, and some in other orders, including Agavaceae, Alliaceae, Asphodelaceae, Hyacinthaceae, Melanthiaceae, Nartheciaceae, Ruscaceae, Themidaceae, and Tofieldiae.
Preserve. Come learn about the unique assemblage of plant species that comprise coastal prairie grasslands, including the top 10-20 native and exotic grasses that occur in our region. Our botanical foray will traverse the coastal hills bordering the Estero Americano, a tidal estuary that forms the Sonoma-Marin border. Bring your binoculars and a camera for the spectacular views and soaring raptors along the way. Pre-registration is required. Register online at www.sonomalandtrust.org or contact us at outings@sonomalandtrust.org or 707.544.5614.ext.6 for additional information.

Montini Open Space Preserve
Full Moon Hike Outing
June 2, 2012 Saturday 7 pm to 10 pm
Place: Montini Open Space Preserve
Contact person: Jessica Glatt
Telephone: (707)996-0712 x110
Email: Jessica@sonomaecologycenter.org

Description
Come and enjoy the Montini Open Space Preserve in its full moon glory! Ecology Center naturalists will talk about the rich natural and cultural history of this Preserve as we stroll through this scenic hillside backdrop to Sonoma on the full Strawberry Moon! The June full moon got its name because in North America, strawberries are harvested in the month of June. In Europe however, they have dubbed it the Rose Moon, while other cultures have called it the Hot Moon as June is the month that kicks off the start of the summer heat. The Montini Open Space Preserve is protected by the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District in December 2005 for recreation and preservation of its natural and rich historic significance having been a working ranch since the time of General Vallejo. The property, which encompasses 152 acres, is in and adjacent to the City of Sonoma. With oak woodland, large rock outcroppings and open grassland, the property offers beautiful views of San Francisco and San Pablo Bays.

This is an intermediate to advanced level hike. There is no charge for the outing, as it is made possible by the voters of Sonoma County who funded the District’s work with a quarter cent sales tax. Reservations are required by Friday, June 1, 2012.

Mayacamas Sanctuary
Sunday, June 10, 9:30am to 2:00pm
Sherry Adams, biologist with Audubon Canyon Ranch, will lead a hike focusing on serpentine outcrops. We’ll see late season plants and topics for discussion include post fire regeneration, serpentine ecology and grasslands. A plant list will be available; this is a moderate hike, please bring lunch and liquids. Bring field guides, hand lens, cameras and notebooks. Older children ok with supervision. Meet on the Pine Flat Road between Red Winery Road and the Sausal Creek Bridge. Pine Flat Road begins 1/4 mile past the Jimtown Store on Highway 128 East at the first sharp right hand turn. Reservations are not required. For more information contact Suzanne at 829-7234.

The Cedars
June 16th, 2012 Saturday 9:30am to 4:00pm (ish)
Hidden miles behind locked gates in rural northwest Sonoma County and forming the extreme headwaters of the two main branches of Austin Creek and several tributaries of Wheatfield Fork of the Gualala River, lies a huge massif of ultramafic (serpentine) rock called The Cedars. It’s 2000 ft. + ridges are deeply eroded, forming steep canyon walls, numerous waterfalls and cascades, ephemeral, intermittent and perennial creeks, and fascinating travertine seepages and formations. Massive barrens and talus slopes alternate with old-growth Sargent cypress woodlands, forming an intricate mosaic of vegetation, with 7 of its plants found nowhere else in the world, while others have their only Sonoma County populations here.

Roger Raiche will lead 15 participants to explore some of this remote area. Participants will carpool into the canyon in vehicles with 4WD. We will need some of the participants to have 4WD cars or trucks to access the canyon. Bring lunch and water. RSVP for additional information on where to meet. Cindy Tancreto, cindytancreto@pacbell.net, or 707.528-9225.

Jenner Headlands
June 24, 2012 Sunday
The splendid biological diversity and enthralling aesthetics of the Jenner Headlands beckon to all. This terrestrial jewel, acquired by the Sonoma Land Trust in 2009, offers sweeping- or fog-enshrouded – coastal vistas, deep forested canyons, and grasslands bedazzling in spring’s tapestry of flowers. This spring, two field trips to the property will focus on plants and plant ecology, specifically arranged with CNPS members in mind. Reservations are required to participate in these trips. Please contact Kristin at 707-328-8539 or kristinm.m@twc.ca.org for your reservation.

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Send newsletter submissions to:
Editor, cnpsmbnewsletter@yahoo.com
Deadline for inclusion in the July/August Newsletter is June 15.
The chapter web site www.cnpsmb.org contains a wealth of information plus current and archived newsletters.
For newsletter mailing/membership issues, contact: Gary Hundt, ghundt@gmail.com