General Meeting  
Formerly Known As -- Plant Name Changes in the Jepson Manual, 2nd Edition  
November 20, 2012 7:30 pm  
Speaker: Peter Warner  
The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California is the generally accepted authoritative compendium of plant diversity in the state. The Second Edition, published early in 2012, provides names, descriptions, distributions, and other information for over 7000 native and naturalized plant taxa (species, subspecies, and varieties). This presentation will attempt to explain why and how plant names change over time, and then whisk you away on a whirlwind, and at times photogenic, tour of the plethora of plant name changes since the publication of the First Edition in 1993.

Peter Warner will do his best to cover the extensive “Jepson name change territory” in less than an hour. As a local consulting botanist and plant ecologist, he is by no means an expert on plant systematics or taxonomy – “others do the dirty work, I’m just a messenger.” Nevertheless, he’s fascinated by the application of scientific principles to classifying and naming organisms according to hypothesized evolutionary histories. Acceptance of the limitations of human understanding is integral to science, if not to our general curiosity and collective survival. The continual changes in classifying and naming plants provide substantial evidence that we still have much to learn.

Speaker Biography: In addition to consulting, Peter has enjoyed 20 years of teaching courses about plants – at Pepperwood Preserve, College of the Redwoods, and Santa Rosa Junior College, and for CNPS and other organizations – and leading countless field trips and tours of California’s remarkable plant habitats. Peter has a B.S. and M.A. from Sonoma State University in plant ecology, and continues to compile information on the phytogeography and ecology of California plant life.

Plant ID 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 Nov. 19, 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 November 13th. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!
Plant Sale News

The news is good! We had a very successful plant sale on Saturday October 13. We grossed over $10,000.00 and in just four hours! Sales tax and other expenses will be deducted and our final net profit will be around $7,500.00. This is much better than last year and one of the big reasons is that we had such good publicity. We must thank our member Liz King for her heroic efforts in the publicity department. She thought of a lot of new ways to advertise our sale. She sent public service announcements to every media outlet that she could think of and she created flyers in every size including a very nice business card size. In short, she blanketed the County with information about the Milo Baker Chapter and our plant sale. Our sale was mentioned twice in the Garden Section of the Press Democrat and that is the best advertising that we can get. We also had advertising in The Bohemian. Thanks to Rosemary McCreary for a mention in her column in the Press Democrat.

When the people entered the Vet’s Hall they saw lots of beautiful plants. We are always proud of the plants that we produce. Yes, we buy plants from nurseries, but most of our plants are the result of our four workshops. Thanks to the folks who helped pot up the plants and to the people who grew the plants in their gardens all year. Thanks to: Mary Aldrich, Kathi Dowdakin, Rob Fox, Cindy Tancreto, Penny Dalton, Pat Sesser, Alan Brubaker, Dave and Anna Webster, Louise Hallberg, Deb Dobish, Elmarie Hutchinson, Patty Mohar, Charlotte Martin, Janet Ross, and Wendy Smit. The Habitat table was beautiful, thanks to Nancy Bauer. I hope that you checked out her new book on habitat gardening published by UC Press.

We must thank Cal Flora Nursery owned by Phil Van Soelen and Sherrie Althouse and Mostly Natives owned by Walter and Margaret Earle, for their generous donations and for growing such beautiful CA native plants. We are especially grateful to Nancy Hargeaves and Dan Jennison of Shooting Star Wholesale Nursery who provide so many of the plants that we grow. The liners that they donate for our May and August workshops are so important to the sale. Thanks to John Schribbs of Casa Grande High School and his great growing grounds where we grew 600 plants from August until the sale. Those beautiful blooming Salvias, Monkeyflowers, and Zauschnerias all came from there!

The cashiers and calculators worked hard making sure that all plants were counted and paid for. Becky Montgomery was the treasurer’s assistant. Our treasurer, Jim Piercy, was busy counting our money and keeping good records. He is an amazing man and we are so thankful for all of his hard work for the Chapter. Jim keeps our books in order and pays our bills month in and month out. During the plant sale he works especially hard counting the money and doing all of the math that is required to pay the sales tax and other expenses. We are especially grateful to him for all the tasks that he does for the Chapter. He has been helping with the newsletter and membership for the last four months, this in addition to the treasurer’s duties. He has been the treasurer for 6 years and I know that he is the best ever! Thanks, Jim!

We had two special features this year. M.L. Carle had a display that brought attention to the many invasive plants that threaten our native habitats. Frederique Lavoipierre from
the Entomology Department at Sonoma State University had a display devoted to insects and the important relationships that they have with plants. PLEASE NOTE: Insectapalooza will be held next April, 2013. Watch for it. The sale was well attended and the hall was full all day. We had about 250 plants left over and they went to good homes. The Laguna Foundation garden, Cotati Critters, and several other very visible local gardens will have beautiful native plants to show people. Special thanks to Judy Hartwig for calling and organizing all of the volunteers. We are so thankful to her for her perseverance and good cheer when asking members to volunteer. Thanks to the over 70 volunteers who worked so hard to make the sale a success. I cannot mention everyone, but we count on you year after year. So many of you return year after year to help us, that we now function very well together...like a well-oiled machine!

Our members are our best customers. Remember to get those plants in the ground while the soil is still warm and before the first rains. Their roots will grow all winter and be ready for spring growth.

On October 12, 2013, we will hold the 42nd Annual Plant Sale! We will continue to be at the Santa Rosa Veteran’s Memorial Building. It is under new management and the new people were very easy to work with. We continue to be happy there, as we have been since 1981.

© Liz Parsons

Gardening with Natives

Through the Garden Gate
An Untrimmed, Untidy Garden
In the autumn and winter, I leave my cottage garden untrimmed, unraked, and basically “untidy.” I allow it to remain thus until the light and warmth of Spring initiate new growth. The idea is to give spiders, butterflies, and other insects a secure hiding place from the cold and wet during their dormancy or egg stages. Further, the debris gives birds productive areas in which to forage when much of their food supply is at its most meager. It’s a rather revolutionary thought. Some people look at my yardful of collapsed brown stems, leaves, and seed heads and ask why it’s been left in such an untidy state. The principle is of interest to them, especially those who are interested in “gardening for wildlife.” I am finding it to be a successful experiment. Flocks of sparrows, finches, and pine siskins pick away at seed heads that to my eyes look unproductive. Perhaps insects hide down inside the empty pods. Towhees and sparrows scratch and forage all day under the debris. I myself went on my own foraging excursion. Getting down on hands and knees, and wearing my strongest magnifying glasses, I discovered egg cases everywhere, some even suspended on webs between dry stems. If those stems and debris had been trimmed down and raked away, I would have unwittingly destroyed that entire productive habitat. You might ask, aren’t there non-beneficial insects hiding out as well as the beneficial ones? True, I’m sure there are, but from the abundance of birds in the garden, most of the insects are being found anyway. So if nothing else, I’ve provided native birds with a whole new landscape in which to hunt. It’s satisfying to watch this pageant on display outside my office window.

A walk in the woods or in a wild meadow shows that Mother Nature does no tidying up. The leaves litter the ground, the brown stems ultimately tumble over, the dead branches fall, and the wild lands are still beautiful and provide all the food and shelter necessary to keep the ecology in balance. It’s only when we humans try to outwit our Mother that we end up out of balance. So here’s to a brown winter garden!

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joodbrin@comcast.net
Invasives Corner

A weed - not a weed?  

\textit{Conyza or Erigeron?}

Riding along Highway 101 to a hike at Samuel P. Taylor, I re-noticed a plant that seemed much more pervasive along the side of the road than in past years. When I saw it along the highway a year ago, it wasn't flowering yet, so I didn't know what it was. This year, because it was at its vegetative high point, I could tell it was probably horseweed, \textit{Erigeron canadensis}, previously known as \textit{Conyza canadensis}, previous to that \textit{Erigeron canadensis}. (You can ask Peter Warner about it, not me.) Years ago when I first joined our chapter, local botanist Dr. Keith Wagnon who had been Milo Baker's student and assistant, told me it was horseweed. He was very good about giving us aging neophytes among the Monday Walkers common names. (See? A person with a shaky memory can hang on to common names better and remember them later so they can look up the Latin names that have been changed again! and write blockbuster articles for our newsletter.) Anyway, Keith said it was a native plant. As we drove along, it occurred to me that this plant was showing signs of out-competing the dreaded \textit{Dittrichia graveolens}, stinkweed, which had spread so quickly from Marin to Sonoma County in the last ten years. Was Keith wrong that it was a native? Worse, was I wrong? And if we were right, is this a good thing? Not good for us, but good for native plants? We do have experience of a California native, \textit{Lupinus arboreus} moving north of its previous home, taking over areas of coastal scrub in our area, pushing out natives on dunes and coastal slopes. As you travel Highway 1 north of River Road you'll see whole hillsides covered with the blue form of that plant in spring.

From the feds: "Yellow bush lupine is an aggressive colonizer of dunes, where it outcompetes native dune mat species. It encourages other non-native invaders by fixing nitrogen (Pickart and others 1998) and creating shade. Outside its former range, it also hybridizes with native lupines, especially \textit{L. rivularis} ."

In researching Conyza, I found that it was native to North America, and inhabits most of the world as a pest. But the reports that come in from all over list it as plant of roadsides and disturbed soil, such as agricultural land. Not to worry, the aggies will nuke it? Nope, it has been identified as the first ag weed to develop Roundup/Glyphosate resistance. Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive - a plant! Furthermore, if it can evolve that quickly, what else might it become? How will global warming affect its ability to take over? Will it tower above our redwoods? Will it undermine our home's foundations? Aieee!

Below is a link to an extensive negative article in Greenpeace magazine on glyphosate, commonly used to kill weeds in agricultural and wildland situations. I would be interested to hear of a credible rebuttal.


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

Events and Items of Interest

Laguna Foundation  
Laguna Keeper Day – Cotati Creek Critters  
November 3, 2012, Saturday 9 am to noon  
We’re always delighted to share and celebrate our love of the Laguna and partnership with
the Critters. Please visit www.cotaticreekcritters.info or call (707) 792-4422 for more info and directions to this special workday.
Contact info: John Guardino (707) 527-9277 x108 or email: john@lagunafoundation.org

**Pepperwood Preserve**

**Tending the Wild: Native Plants and Native People**

**November 3, 2012, Saturday 9am to 3pm**
The Native American tribes (Wappo, Pomo, and Miwok) whose territories surrounded Pepperwood relied upon plants for their survival and used them in every aspect of their lives. Join anthropologist and Pepperwood Cultural Resources Coordinator Benjamin Benson and Autumn Summers, Program Director for the California School of Herbal Studies, as we explore through lecture and field work the sophisticated system of “tending of the wild” that these tribes and other groups of California’s first peoples used to create an abundance of edible, medicinal, fibrous and basketry plants.
Ages 14 and up welcome. Please arrive 10-15 minutes early to meet, greet, and sign liability release waivers. Meet at the Dwight Center. FEE: $20.00

**Water Wise Gardening**

**November 3, 2012, Saturday 10 am to 3 pm**
Sonoma Garden Park
Address: 19996 7th Street East in Sonoma
Contact person: Megan FitzSimmons
Web Site: https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/248848
Telephone: (707)996-0712 x113
Join us for an informative tour of SGP’s climate-appropriate demonstration gardens focusing on water-wise gardening techniques and plants appropriate for Sonoma’s Summer-Dry Climate. Learn how you can create a beautiful garden with plants that need little or no summer water. It’s good for the environment and for the water bill!

**Mushrooms and Other “Fun-Guys”**

**November 17, 2012, Saturday 9am to 3pm**
Have you ever wondered about the mushrooms along the trail? Did you know there are slimes native to our area? Join Chris Kjeldsen, retired SSU botany professor and an expert on mushrooms, lichens and other “fun-guys” as we learn to recognize the amazing

**Laguna Environmental Center – Open House**

**November 10, 2012, Saturday 10am to 3pm**
Location: 900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa
Additional info: Learn about the natural and cultural history of the Laguna de Santa Rosa and historic Stone Farm by taking a self-guided nature walk or a guide-led tour of the historic house & barn. Fun, hands on environmental education activities for all ages! Birdwatch from the observation deck. Visit our gift shop and art exhibit in Great Blue Heron Hall.

**Native Plant Nursery Workday**

**November 10, 2012 9 am to 12 noon**
Sonoma Garden Park
19996 7th Street East in Sonoma
Contact person: Megan FitzSimmons
Telephone: (707)996-0712 x113
Acorns are plentiful and we can’t wait to propagate them. Come learn about the different acorn producing cycles of the many oak species of the Sonoma Valley. Participants will also learn how to use the “float test” to determine if an acorn will germinate and other interesting facts about our glorious oaks! 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, and bring gloves, a snack and refillable water bottle. Space is limited. RSVP is required.
array of fungi and their equally amazing features here at Pepperwood. Please arrive 10-15 minutes early to meet, greet, and sign liability release waivers. Meet at the Dwight Center. FEE: $20.00

Autumn Stargazing at Pepperwood
November 17, 2012, Saturday 6pm to 9pm
View the Moon, Jupiter, the Ring Nebula in Lyra, colorful double-stars, the Andromeda Galaxy and perhaps even a few meteors at this family-friendly stargazing event. Bing Quock from the California Academy of Sciences and Ron Dammann from the Fremont Peak Observatory Association will guide you through a tour of the season’s celestial sights using a combination of historic and modern telescopes. All ages are welcome. Please arrive 10-15 minutes early to meet, greet, and sign liability release waivers. Meet at the Dwight Center. FEE: $10.00 for Adults, $5.00 for Children under 18

Nathanson Creek Preserve - History, Picnic & Stewardship Outing
November 17, 2012, 10 am to 1 pm
Nathanson Creek Preserve
Contact person: Jessica Glatt
Telephone: (707)996-0712 x110

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. Free to the public, these programs will be conducted in both English and Spanish. 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

Birding at Stafford Lake
November 10, 2012, Saturday
Take a family stroll at Stafford Lake in search of waterfowl and other birds found here such as Belted Kingfisher and the Red-shouldered Hawk. Directions: From Highway 101 in Novato take the San Marin Drive/Atherton Avenue exit west of San Marin Dr. and turn right at Novato Boulevard. Stafford Lake Park is on the left. We’ll meet at the parking lot.

Sonoma Ecology Center Wreath Making
December 1, 2012, Saturday, 10 am to 12 pm
Sonoma Garden Park
Address: 19996 7th Street East in Sonoma
Contact person: Megan FitzSimmons
Web Site: https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/248884
Telephone: (707)996-0712 x113
Join our annual wreath making workshop. Learn the basics of wreath making and then put your new found skills to work on creating a beautiful and festive wreath for your home. All materials provided but feel free to bring special trinkets or materials of your own. $30 Members, $35 Non-Members
REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

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 website at www.russianriverkeeper.org.

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

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**Field Trips**

**Forest Fuels Reduction at Little Black Mountain**

**November 4, 2012, Sunday 10 am to 2 pm**

Little Black Mountain Preserve was donated to Sonoma Land Trust after being devastated by the Creighton Ridge fire of 1978. Since that time, we have done significant work to manage defensible space and safety issues while improving forest health. Join project manager Shanti Wright and other members of the Coast Ridge Community Forest to see the work on the ground and learn about resources available for forest management. **Level 3**

**Pepperwood Preserve Public Hike**

**November 10, 2012, Saturday 9am to 1pm**

Join us for a FREE general introduction to the natural history and land management of Pepperwood Preserve. This is a moderate 4-5 mile hike with an elevation loss and gain of about 750 feet. Participants should be in good health and able to hike over hilly terrain.

All hikes are rain or shine. Plan to hike with the group; leaving early or separating from the group is NOT PERMITTED. Participants are encouraged to wear appropriate clothing (layers!) and sturdy boots. Please bring a day pack with snacks, water, field guides, etc. Families welcome. Advance registration NOT required. Meet at the red barn.

**Managing for Ecologically-Healthy Forests at Jenner Headlands**

**November 17, 2012, Saturday 10am to 3pm**

Learn about forest ecology and the plans to care for the Jenner Headland’s 3,100 acres of forest, now and into the future. Meet project manager Brook Edwards and our partners, The Wildlands Conservancy, who will share about redwood ecology, the plants and animals found among the trees, and how to manage the land for a healthy forest. Ecologically-sound management practices are the key to our long-term goal of bringing back the big trees and restoring the native forest. **Level 4**

**When One World Ends, Another Begins: Autumn Tales at Tolay Creek Ranch**

**November 18, 2012, Sunday 10 am to 4 pm**

Abundant wildlife and views stretching from the Petaluma River to Mount Diablo make Tolay Creek Ranch an exceptional place. Equal to its natural beauty is Tolay’s rich human history, which spans at least 8,000 years. Join historical ecologist and storyteller Arthur Dawson for an autumn ramble across space and time. With the land itself as a backdrop, we’ll hear old stories about how the world began on top of Sonoma Mountain, catch a glimpse of Tolay as it was just prior to Mexican settlement, and recount how that world has become the one we know today. **Level 4**

Photo credits:

*Minulius aurantiacus ©2011 Robert A. Hamilton*

*Erigeron Canadensis ©2009 Barry Breckling*
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We invite you to join CNPS

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☐ Mariposa Lily………………….$1500

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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

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Milo Baker Chapter www.cnpsmb.org
P.O. Box 892
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense
Pitkin lily

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