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 7pm, 2nd Tuesday nine months of the year, Environmental Center, 55 Ridgeway Ave, Ste A, Santa Rosa. The next Board meeting is November 13th. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!

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### Plant Propagation with Walter Earle

**General Meeting November 20, 2018 7:30PM**
Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center
2050 Yulupa Ave, Santa Rosa

The talk will cover the basics of plant propagation, both from seed and cutting and division. Also mentioned are some of the important people in the native plant world. Specific plants will be discussed and how to best propagate them. It ends reminding people to get out and visit wonderful native plant areas.

### Speaker Biography:

**Walter Earle** holds a BA in Biology from Sonoma State University (1977). He established and co-owned with Margaret Graham Mostly Natives Nursery in Tomales. They sold their nursery and retired from the business last fall. Mostly Natives has now moved to Pt Reyes Station. Walter and Margaret grew and sold natives and suitable nonnatives to the general public, as well as to the landscape trade for over 40 years. Their interest has been to grow drought tolerant, acclimated plants suitable for the northern California garden. Walter continues to grow plants from locally collected seed and, also propagate from cuttings, as well as divisions. He is continuing his horticultural endeavors as the nursery manager at the Santa Rosa Laguna Foundation. They are currently growing many native oaks, as well as other species to be donated to people affected by the North Bay fires.

**Join us for Dinner before the November Meeting:** We'll gather for dinner at 5:45 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 call Liz Parsons at 833-2063 before noon on the day of the meeting, if you plan to attend.
Plant Sale News

The 47th annual plant sale was a big success. We had great looking, well grown plants thanks to the great growing conditions in our new shade house at the Laguna site. At the Laguna facility our plants were grown according to the Best Management Practices (BMP’s) and are free of Phytophthera.

We must thank Betty Young and many other members for getting the shade house built and functioning in time for us to to grow our plants in this year. Betty and Kathi Dowdakin oversaw the day to day growing of the healthy plants. This year we moved all 1400 plants from the Laguna to the Vet’s Memorial Building on Friday night. We have made the decision that next year we will hold the sale at the Laguna shade house and it will not be necessary to move the plants.

This move was possible because we have members with trucks who swiftly loaded the plants and moved them to the Vet’s building. Bryan Sesser oversaw this effort; he is a master at this after many years of experience at the Casa Grande growing area. Truckers were Betsy Livingstone, Wendy Krupnick, Wendy Smit, Marcia Johnson, Cheryl Paulus, Patrick Smithson, Joe Wagner, and Barney Brady (who sent a very large truck and two workers to help us). John Dean removed the old nursery tables so that we were able to get our trucks close to where our plants were growing.

The plants that we grow are donated to us by Shooting Star Propagation Nursery. They provide us with liners (rooted cuttings) that we move into gallon containers at the May and August workshops. Dan and Nancy, the owners of this nursery, are retiring at the end of this year. We thank them for over 30 years of support for our sale. Because of their donations, our expenses are low. Next year, without their plant donations, we will have to find other sources of plants and propagate more of our own plants using cuttings or seeds. None of this will be easy. I think that the mix of plants that we offer will be changing. Cal Flora Nursery in Fulton has been very generous with our sale too. Thanks to Sherrie Althouse, Phil Van Soelen, and Josh for supporting our sale with their donations of healthy, well grown plants.

At the end of the sale, most of the plants had been sold. Our revenue was more than it has been for the last few years. We grossed $12,000.00! Of course, we have sales tax and other expenses. I think that we will net between $9,000.00 and $10,000. The all-important treasurer, Jim Piercy kept track of the money with his able assistant Becky Montgomery. Over half of our customers used a credit card to pay for their plants.

Books, t-shirts and posters were sold by Judy Johnson, Coleen Gibbons, and Lea Davis. They did a great job. Our cashiers return year after year and we are very grateful to them for their loyalty. Thanks to Karen Blaney, Sandy Martensen, Linda Webster, Lynn Houser, Sharon Bouton, Teresa Wistrom, Brenda and Michael McAvoy, Allison Willets, Patrick Smithson, and Steve Smit. Ann Alexander also helped.

Once people bought their plants Susan Dean and Nancy and Susie Clark helped carry the plants to the cars. Inside the hall, Virginia Steenhoven hosted an Outreach table that informed people about the activities of the Milo Baker Chapter. Pat Sesser was very successful at the Membership table and signed up 11 new members! Nancy Bauer, Judith Rousseau, and Deb Dobish were at the Habitat Table. Alan Brubaker, Mary Aldrich, Terry Loveton, Pam Horton, Wendy Born, Natasha Granoff, Michelle Karle, Leslie Lihou, Lynn Colborn, and Walter Earle all helped people find the right plant.
The Laguna Foundation had a table where they informed people about their important work. The SSU Biology Outreach program had a display of pollinator species. Once again we had a wonderful botanical artist display her work. Kristin Jacob, from the Marin Chapter sold beautiful notecards and her lovely botanical prints.

Thanks to Wendy Smit and Liz King for taking care of refreshments and for those good cookies. The coffee and cookies kept our workers happy. A special thanks to Judy Hartwig who organized the volunteers and helped keep the tables clean. Judy is 90 years old and we are so grateful to her for her many years of phoning members and helping to organize the sale. Tamara Brown and Marcia Johnson were her able assistants.

**Plant Sale History**

As we move the plant sale to a new location, I want to give a brief history of the locations where we have held the sale. The first four sales were held at Old Court House Square in downtown Santa Rosa. They were small sales selling salvaged plants as well as plants grown by members. They made less than $1,000.00. It was called a Plant Fair because it was celebratory and included a lot of information about wildflowers and CA native plants.

One year the committee, Ruth Hass, Vannette Bunyon, Betty Lovell (later Guggolz), and Liz Jungsten went to Ida Clayton Road to collect wild yeast. They were not successful and had a display with a sign that said “The yeast died.” They were outdoors, so in 1976 the sale moved indoors to the Santa Rosa Junior College Student Union. After three years there, the SRJC decided to remodel the dining area of the Union and MBC had to find another home.

In 1979, we moved to the Santa Rosa Veterans Memorial Building and have been there ever since. This was the first year that I was on the sale committee and I remember when we made the decision to move into the dining room at the Vets Building. It has served us very well. After 39 years, the sale has been refined and improved so that the sale runs very smoothly, because we understand the space and how we all fit into it. Next year we will try a new space, our shade house at the Laguna Foundation.

The Vets Building has so many memories for me...memories of all of the people who have helped with the sale over the years. They were all my friends. They helped shape and grow our sale, to the success that we enjoy today. I like to think of all the plants that we have sold over the years. The trees are now mature and growing happily in someone’s yard. The shrubs could still be thriving in gardens throughout the county. The flowering perennials might have re-seeded themselves and keep growing happily through the years. Wildflower seeds that we have sold are still blooming every spring.

The Milo Baker Chapter plant sale has been a great success both with people and with plants. As we bid farewell to the Vets Dining Room, we hope that we can build on that success in a new home. It is the “new paradigm”.

*Liz Parsons,
Vice President*
General Meeting cont.

Join the Milo Baker Chapter of CNPS for our General Meeting series:

“In Our Own Backyards: The Joys and Benefits of Gardening with California’s Diverse Native Plants”

**January 15, 2019:** Arthur Dawson, the historical ecology of our iconic native oaks and their ecosystems.

**February 19:** Breck Parkman, retired Ca. State Archaeologist and Docia Dodds, SSU grad student: A presentation about some unusual plants identified in ancient soils of Sonoma County.

**March 19th:** Round table/panel discussion with experienced native plant specialists, including horticulturalists, landscape designers, and experienced native plant garden owners.

**Dates:** The third Tuesdays of the month September through November and continuing January through March, 2019.

**Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center, 3050 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa, Ca.

**Virginia Hotz-Steenhoven,**
Programs & Lectures Chair
Education and Outreach Co-Chair

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Field Trips and Events

**Iris Workshop**
December 6, 2018
10:30 AM

There will be a workshop to pot-up the Pacific Coast Native Iris. These are very popular at our sales and bloom in the spring. November and December are the best time to divide these irises. The workshop will be at Liz Parsons' house at 10:30 AM on December 6, 2018. If you have iris to divide, bring them to the workshop. Even if you do not have your own iris, we need help with this important workshop.

Contact Liz Parsons at 707-833-2063 or lizpar8993@aol.com for more information.

**One Year after the Fire in Hood Mountain Regional Park**
Sunday, November 11, 2018
10:00am-2:00pm
Hood Mountain Regional Park
Pythian Road parking

Carpool meets at 9:30 under Highway 12 across from the Fairgrounds, Park and Ride lot, far eastern end, Santa Rosa

This hike will climb steeply up along Hood Creek on the Bay Area Ridge trail, then break off onto Panorama Ranch Trail. The goal is to survey the Sargent Cypress and manzanita area one year after the fire in the park. This area burned at high temperatures and was also disturbed by a bulldozed fire break. We will search for signs of recovery and plant growth. We will continue up the trail to the top of the ridge for lunch. We will not hike the full loop to the summit and Gunsight Rock overlook. Round trip estimated 4-5 miles. Families are welcome, dogs not allowed in the park. Bring water, sunblock, good hiking wear and lunch. Rain cancels.

Questions: contact Wendy at 707 481-3765

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Milo Baker Chapter Newsletter – November 2018
Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense
Pitkin lily

Newsletter & Web Site Info:
Send newsletter submissions to: Editor, cnpsmbyn@mail.com
Deadline for inclusion in the December/January Newsletter is November 15.
The chapter web site milobaker.cnps.org contains a wealth of information plus current and archived newsletters.
For newsletter mailing/membership issues, contact: cnpsmbyn@gmail.com

Milo Baker Chapter Officers & Board of Directors 2017/2018

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

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To pay by credit card or for more info call (916) 447.2677 or visit www.cnps.org