General Meeting:
Lessons Learned while Gardening with Natives
Speaker: April Owens
September 18, 2018 7:30PM

First presentation of a six-part general meeting series:
“In Our Own Backyards:
The Joys and Benefits of Gardening with California’s Diverse Native Plants”.

Abstract: April Owens, CNPS Milo Baker’s Horticulture Chair, will give a hands-on and image rich talk about what she has learned in her twenty years designing landscapes with California native plants. April will share about her successes (and failures) while designing, installing, irrigating and maintaining with these amazing plants. Fall is for planting therefore, as an introduction to our Milo Baker Fall Plant Sale and perfect timing to get your garden planted - April will introduce you to some of her favorite plants available at the sale along with tips on how to make them thrive. April designs by the philosophy: if you plant them they will come and will speak to the joy of bringing habitat to your garden as well. This is a lecture not to be missed, full of horticultural advice, question and answer sessions and the exciting launch of CNPS Milo Baker's newest demonstration garden project at the Santa Rosa Junior College to be installed over the next two years. Come and get your free landscape plans to convert your lawns to California native biodiversity rich landscapes.

Speaker Biography: April Owens, executive director of the Habitat Corridor Project has been designing and building sustainable gardens for the past twenty-ish years. April has designed hundreds of landscapes from small residential to large projects for government and nonprofit organizations. A self-proclaimed native plant junkie- she never installs a garden with less than 90% native plants - usually 100%. April holds a Certificate in Landscape Architecture from UC Berkeley Extension and a MBA in Sustainable Enterprise from Dominican University of California. She prides herself on what some say is her obsession with the conservation of biodiversity via the use of native plants.

Join us for Dinner before the September 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 14th, 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 September 11th. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!
General Meeting cont.

Six-part General Meeting Series

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

September 18th: April Owens, see page 1 for abstract and speaker biography.

October 16: Cynthia Powell: “New Calflora Tools for CNPS Users”, a presentation providing resources to identify plants best suited to your neighborhood microclimate and habitat.

November 20th: Walter Earle, knowledgeable horticulturist /nursery manager will discuss native plant propagation, care and plant resources.

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 horticulturists, landscape designers, and experienced native plant garden owners.

Dates: General Meetings held on the third Tuesdays of the month; September through November 2018 and continuing January through March 2019.

Time: 7:30 p.m.

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

Community Notes

Open Board Position: Communications Chair

The Milo Baker Chapter is actively seeking to fill the newly created board position of Communications Chair. This volunteer position oversees emailing the members to notify of important events, activities and conservation alerts. The communications chair spearheads the effort to keep Milo Baker Chapter up to date with email communications.

- Develop appropriate means (tools and formatting) for email sending.
- Send email to members with permission from the board.
- Develop and maintain formatting for Milo Baker emails to the members.
- Create email groups for specific interests such as conservation, native plant gardening, chapter activities updates (hikes, workdays).
- Communicate regularly with membership chair, website administrator and newsletter editor.
- Work with Communications chair to learn process for managing and tracking emails regarding membership and public
- Ensure privacy of email addresses are maintained

This position is a Board Position which encourages regular attendance at monthly Board meetings (we have 9 meetings per year on the second Tuesday of each month from 7-9pm).

Interested candidates should contact: Leia Giambastiani leiagia@gmail.com

Leia Giambastiani,
Past President

Virginia Hotz-Steenhoven,
Programs & Lectures Chair
Plant Sale News

2018 Milo Baker Chapter Plant Sale

The Plant Sale is October 13; the second Saturday in October. I hope that everyone has their calendars marked for that most important day. This is the biggest fund raiser that the Milo Baker Chapter holds and we raise more than half of our annual budget. Come to shop so that you can fill your garden with plants that are native to California. If you would like to help with the sale, give Judy Hartwig a call at 823-1821.

The flyer is included in the newsletter. Please post it on a local bulletin board. Thank you to Vi Strain for the lovely Dudley farinose drawing that she did for us. When Vi and her friends spoke at the June general meeting, I asked her if she would do a botanical drawing for us. The lovely Dudley is the result. We thank her for helping us advertise our sale.

I am very excited about the number of plants that we will have this year. An almost complete list of the plants is on our website: milobaker.cnps.org. Most of them, almost 1200, are now at the new Laguna Shade House. We will have lots of sword ferns (Polystichum munitum), deer ferns (Blechnum spicant) and giant chain ferns (Woodwardia fimbriata) and Polypody (Polypodium californicum).

In December, we potted up 50 PCN hybrid iris' in beautiful colors including striped gold, striped brown, red-violet w/gold blaze, magenta, lavender w/yellow. We also have the straight species Iris douglasiana that is found growing on the coast.

New this year is many Dudleyas: Dudleya cymosa ‘Bolinas Lagoon’, D. cymosa ‘Figueroa Mt.’, D. cymosa ‘Tuolumne River’, D. brittonii, D. farinose ‘North Coast’, and D. pulverulenta. The Dudleya cymosas were seedlings collected at the places indicated in their variety name and would be interesting to grow to see the differences. The D. brittonii and D. pulverulenta both come from southern California.

My garden is ablaze with California fuchsia aka Zauschneria. It blooms profusely from July until the first frost and the bright red-orange flowers make it the star of the late summer garden and a big favorite of the hummingbirds. It can be planted in the hottest, driest part of the garden. It blooms better with a little water, but not too much because it spreads by underground runners and will invade other parts of the garden. The sale will feature many California fuchsias (Epilobium sp.). Epilobium canum ‘Calistoga’ is a variety that grows to 1 foot tall with wide grey-green leaves and scarlet flowers. It is a slow spreader. Another variety that we will have is E. c. ‘Schieffelin’s Choice’. The tallest CA fuchsia is Epilobium canum ‘Catalina’ and it can grow to about 3 feet high. E. c. ‘Marin Pink’ is popular with those who don’t like bright red. There will even be a seedling that grew in my garden and we call it ‘Liz’s Choice’, as well as other seedlings than came up in my garden and we potted them up. I grow a lot of varieties of CA fuchsia and the pollinators love them, so there are some interesting crosses.

We will also have 12 varieties of Salvia. The CA salvias are aromatic, woody shrubs with grey green foliage and flower in whorls, in various shades of lavender. All attract pollinators and prefer a sunny position with occasional summer water in the garden. Our sale will feature many of the very easy to grow Salvia clevelandii ‘Allen Chickering’. It is shrubby (5’ tall x 6’ wide) with lavender flowers and grey leaves. S. clevelandii ‘Winnifred Gilman’ has green leaves and purple flowers--stunning red stems--and grows to 4’ x 4’. Salvia ‘Bee’s Bliss’ with a growth habit like Sonoma sage (low growing groundcover, very drought tolerant), only easier to grow. Look for S. apiana, the white sage with white flowers (3’ x 4’) and Salvia spathacea (hummingbird sage) which creeps by underground runners and has large pink flowers that hummingbirds love. A new plant for us is S. ‘Calamity Jane’. A cross between S. mellifera and S. leucophylla, it is a vigorous plant (4’ x 4’) with grey-green leaves and light lavender flowers. It is easy to grow and does well in dry sunny areas. Also, we will offer S. mellifera ‘Terra Seca’ a low growing plant (2.5’ x 5’). It is a dense ground cover that can spill over banks and look quite lovely.

There will be a huge selection of Mimulus aurantiacus, sticky monkeyflower. The Mimulus are very drought tolerant and love a sunny location with a little summer water. We will have 12

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Other unusual plants at the sale include Ribes, Frangula, Dicentra and Penstemon. We will have Ribes sanguineum ‘Claremont’, Ribes malvaceum, chaparral currant, Frangula (Rhamnus-coffeeberry) californica, F. ‘Mound San Bruno’ and F. ‘Eve Case’. Bleeding heart (Dicentra formosa) and the blue Penstemon ‘Margarita BOP’, a P. heterophyllus selection.

Many of our natives are drought-tolerant and can be used in a water-wise landscape, also called a xeriscape. Ceanothus, or wild lilacs, are great drought tolerant plants that fit well in the dry garden and in the habitat garden. At the sale, we will have Ceanothus ‘Dark Star’ and C. ‘Julia Phelps’, and Ceanothus thyrsiflorus var. griseus ‘Yankee Point’ and straight C. thyrsiflorus. A low form of C. cuneatus.

The Manzanitas (Arctostaphylos) are another large group of shrubs from the chaparral. At the sale, we will have Arctostaphylos canescens ‘Emerald Carpet’ (ground cover), A. wu-ursi v. coactilis ‘Pt. Reyes’(ground cover), and another ground cover A. ‘Carmel Sur’. One of the most successful manzanitas is A. densiflora ‘Howard McMinn’ (5’x5’) it does very well in most gardens. For the first time in many years we will have the largest manzanita variety A. manzanita ‘Dr.Hurd’. This is a wonderful accent plant and grows to 12’. One of my favorites is A. ‘Pacific Mist’(2’ x 4’). It is a very nice size for the front of the garden and is a little taller than the ground cover manzanitas. It has lovely grey leaves with red stems.

There will be a table featuring habitat plants at the sale. The most popular is Aristolochia californica, the Pipevine that attracts the Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly. Plant it and they will come. Also, Asclepias fascicularis and A. speciose the milkweeds that are the food plants for the Monarch butterfly larva. Many CA native plants attract insects and pollinators and that is why we plant them.

There will be CA native bulbs from Brent and Becky’s again this year. Unfortunately, they have stopped offering Calochortus bulbs, but they offer the Brodiaeas and the Camas lily. We have seeds that were collected and packaged by our members. So check out the seed and bulb table at the sale you might be surprised.

PRICING FOR THE SALE

Becky Montgomery, Mary Aldrich, Kathi Dowdikan, and I will be pricing and labeling plants the week before the sale. Anyone who has some free time during the day can join us. On Monday and Tuesday (Laguna Foundation), Wednesday (Cal Flora), please call Liz at 833-2063. These vital tasks go faster if we have a lot of help.

If you are growing plants for the sale please bring them to the Laguna on Stanford Road.

On Friday night, we will need lots of truckers to transport plants from the Laguna to the Vet’s Memorial Building after 5 PM. Call Liz (833-2063) if you have a truck and can help.

This is a huge effort and WE NEED YOU! We need cashiers, salespersons, drivers, and help in many areas. Please mark your calendars for October 13 and plan to help us by working at the sale. If you can’t work, please come by and shop for plants on Saturday. Workers only can purchase plants on Friday evening before the sale, so make plans to work for the sale.

The work of the Milo Baker Chapter depends on the success of our plant sale. Our members are our best customers. Please tell your friends to attend and buy plants. Please place our flyer in an area near your home. If everyone does this we will blanket the county with the information.

Fall is planting season in California. The soil is still warm and the roots will grow slowly through the rainy season. The following spring, the plants are ready to survive the summer heat. A plant planted in the spring does not have a well-developed root system and will have difficulty surviving through the summer.

Liz Parsons,
Vice President
Successful August Potting Workshop!

We held our August workshop at the new facility at the Laguna Foundation. This is the final workshop prior to our October 13 plant sale. It was wildly successful and we potted up 730 plants! Our sale will still be held at the Vet’s Memorial Building in Santa Rosa, as you can see by our flyer. Because most of our plants are located at the Laguna, moving into the Vet’s building will be a lot easier this year.

Thanks to the following members for their help: Cindy Tancreto, Marcia Johnson, Kathi Dowdakin, Lea Davis, Deb Dobish, Patty Mohar, Betty Young, Penny Dalton, Mary Aldrich, Barbara Coe, Sandy Martensen, Wendy Born, Liz King, Natasha Granoff, and Helen Howard.

Seed Packaging Workshop

There will be a seed packaging workshop at Liz Parsons’ house on Thursday September 27 at 5:00 PM. We will package all the seeds that members have collected. If you have any seeds to contribute, call Liz (833-2063) or bring them to the workshop. We would prefer that they are cleaned, but some cleaning takes place at the workshop. When the work is finished, we eat pizza as a reward for a job well done.

Liz Parsons,
Vice President

Field Trips and Events

Propagation Group Classes

Our new nursery is in full production mode. We have, in the 40 years of our plant sale, potted up rooted cuttings provided by local propagation nursery. THANK YOU SHOOTING STAR NURSERY, for your many years of support. The owners are retiring and we will begin our own propagation.

In September, we will begin preparing cuttings that will become plants for the sale next year. Many of you have expressed an interest in helping with propagation at the nursery. I will be holding a series of classes about the science and techniques of:

- Cutting preparation and care, Thursday, September 13, 10am – 2pm
- Seed collection and cleaning, October 25, 10am – 2pm
- Pre-germination seed treatments and sowing, January 17, 10am - 2pm

If you would like to join the cuttings or seed team, attend either Cuttings class or the Seed classes or all three.

These classes are only for those who will commit to volunteering for at least four propagation workdays in the next year.

Each class will be limited to 10 people. Throughout the year, there will be potting up workshops, that can be joined without the above trainings.

Classes will be taught by Betty Young, retired director of nurseries for the Golden Gate National Parks and Walter Earle, retired manager of Mostly Natives Nursery.

Sign up with Betty at youngb0721@msn.com.

Betty Young,
Director-at-Large
Presentation: Bring the Wild Home: Best Native Plants for Sonoma County

Sunday, September 30, 3:00 - 5:00pm
Laguna Environmental Center,
900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Presentation with Terry Loveton, Brent Reed, Betty Young, and Dr. Wendy Trowbridge. Including a Tour of Our New Native Plant Nursery. $12 (non-refundable). Pre-registration required.
http://www.lagunadesantarosa.org/laguna_walks_classes.html#NativePlants

Field Trip to Taylor Mountain Regional Park

Wednesday, October 17, 9:00 to Noon
Taylor Mountain Regional Park
3820 Petaluma Hill Road, Santa Rosa 95404

Calflora Executive Director Cynthia Powell will be presenting “New Calflora Tools for CNPS Users” at the regular Milo Baker meeting the evening of Tuesday October 16. Wednesday morning, she will lead a rigorous hike while demonstrating plant data collection in the field (camera, smartphone/tablet use encouraged). Please be already logged in to Observer Pro iOS/android with your Calflora login before the hike. You don’t need to use wifi/connectivity/data plan while hiking, but you do need to login to the app first while still connected.

See page 7 for some plants we might see during our hike.

We will meet at the Petaluma Hill Road parking area. There is a $7/day use parking charge or free to members with pass. Bring water, snacks, sun hat, and good hiking shoes. Map of the park here http://parks.sonomacounty.ca.gov/Visit/Taylor-Mountain-Regional-Park-and-Preserve/

For more info call Wendy at 707 481-3765. We hope to see you there!

Wendy Smit,
Field Trip Chair

Chapter Support

Help our Milo Baker Chapter raise funds by shopping at local stores!

Our Milo Baker Chapter is now a part of the eScrip program! eScrip is a program where merchants donate a percentage (usually 3%) of your purchase to local schools and non-profit organizations. You can shop at the local stores listed below, and the stores donate a percentage to the Milo Baker Chapter.

For this to be successful for our chapter we need member support. All you have to do is register and shop. It doesn't cost you anything additional. To register: go to escrip.com, choose "Milo Baker-CA Native Plant Society" and complete the enrollment steps. This is an easy way to help support our chapter.

Follow Us on Facebook

We post updates about field trips, events, volunteer opportunities, and other important information there.

It's a great place to get up to date information about what's going on with the Milo Baker Chapter. Find us at: https://www.facebook.com/CNPSMiloBaker
Here are four native plants that bloom in October that we might see during our field trip to Taylor Mountain on October 17th:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Baccharis pilularis</em></td>
<td>Coyote brush</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Cyperus niger</em></td>
<td>Brown cyperus</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Hemizonia congesta</em></td>
<td>Hayfield tanweed</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Trichostema lanceolatum</em></td>
<td>Vinegarweed</td>
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**Baccharis pilularis**  
1 record  
native  
Shrub  
ASTERACEAE

2009 Margo Bars  
2004 David A. Tharp  
2011 Bing Huey

**Cyperus niger**  
1 record  
native  
Perennial grasslike herb  
CYPERACEAE

2009 Doreen L. Smith  
2003 Steve Matson  
2003 Steve Matson

**Hemizonia congesta**  
2 records  
native  
Annual herb  
ASTERACEAE

2015 Vernon Smith  
2010 Vernon Smith  
2015 John Deyen

**Trichostema lanceolatum**  
1 record  
native  
Annual herb  
LAMIACEAE

2001 Jeff Aikes  
2010 Angelique Herman  
2004 Carol W. Williams

Credit: www.Calflora.org
**Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense**  
Pitkin lily

**Newsletter & Web Site Info:**
Send newsletter submissions to:
Editor, cnpsmnewsletter@yahoo.com
Deadline for inclusion in the October Newsletter is September 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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**Milo Baker Chapter Officers & Board of Directors 2017/2018**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Rincon Ridge Park</td>
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<td>Dylan Gallagher</td>
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</tbody>
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**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

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