General Meeting: Santa Rosa Creeks
With Sean McNeil
February 18, 2020 7:30 PM

Abstract: Did you know that the City of Santa Rosa has a Citywide Creek Master Plan? This document specifies creek protections and amenities that shall be made when developing property adjacent to a creek. The City has spent millions of dollars restoring Santa Rosa Creek and Colgan Creek, but also has plans to restore many other creeks in the City. Come hear about the brief history of the creeks, the protections that exist, and some of the planned restorations. Sean will discuss the trail network that has been developed, the wildlife and plants that you can expect to see and how you can become a creek steward of your local Santa Rosa Creek.

Speaker Biography: Sean McNeil is the Deputy Director of Environmental Services for the City of Santa Rosa. He received his undergraduate degree in Botany from the University of California at Davis and a Masters in Biology from Sonoma State University. Sean’s passion for stewardship of the environment originated during his childhood in Lake Tahoe where he grew to appreciate open and wild spaces and saw the direct impact of people on these natural resources. Over the past 20 years he has deepened his expertise in environmental issues by teaching Biology and Environmental Studies courses at the college level, managing riparian restoration projects, and developing conservation programs.

Sean enjoys working on programs developed to minimize the impacts of human populations and help preserve and protect the native plants in Sonoma County.

Join us for dinner before the General Meeting: We’ll gather for dinner at 5:45 pm at Kirin Restaurant, 2700 Yulupa Ave. We hope our speakers 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 before noon on the day of the meeting, 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 are held at 7 pm on the 2nd Tuesday nine months of the year, Environmental Center, 55 Ridgeway Ave, Ste A, Santa Rosa. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!
Chapter News

A Message from our Chapter President

It is 2/2020 and a lovely wet spring is here in California. Seemingly dead plants emerge green from beige thatch, buckwheats and perennial grasses among many we see on our winter walks. Even in burn areas new life jumps out, ignoring the black, a delight to our fire weary eyes.

This past year the Milo Baker chapter has enjoyed our continuing partnership with the Laguna Foundation (LagunaFoundation.org). There are many ways both our organizations benefit from working together. Two years ago we were all thrilled to be building a shade house/nursery side by side. We joined with staff to gather local acorns after the fires. Now we have a faithful party of volunteers working on the gardens at the Foundation’s Conservation Center, propagating in the nursery and staffing the plant sales and annual garden tour.

We were fortunate to have the CNPS Executive Director presentation at Heron Hall last year and this year on February 22 we will co-host an invasive plant training there with local experts and CAL-IPC. We are especially lucky to have the Laguna staff and volunteers working on the preservation of endangered plant species like Sebastopol meadow foam (Limnanthes vinculans).

Last spring in the nursery were tables of this plant, completely covered and spilling over with cream colored flowers. This was a successful effort to increase the seed availability for future restoration. After collecting 476 seeds they expect to grow an additional 10,000 or more seeds.

Best of all is the wonderful camaraderie we enjoy with so many Laguna Foundation staff. They are cheerful and enthusiastic, just as dedicated to California plants as our volunteers. As our spring activities unfold we hope to have more fun and fruitful experiences with the folks at the Foundation. Watch for plans on our website and in the newsletter.

Wendy Smit
Milo Baker Chapter President
Invasive Committee Update

The invasive team has agreed to monitor 3 CA State beaches for invasive plants. These are: the estuary at Salmon Creek, Wrights Beach, and Goat Rock. These 3 sites are nicely mostly native and have been worked to remove invasives. We will be monitoring and maintaining the native profile. It is great to be volunteering with the State Parks!

Weed Management Training for Volunteers

Milo Baker is sponsoring this California Invasive Plant Council workshop! Invasive plants are one of the greatest threats to diversity in our natural areas. Do you work with invasive plant or want to learn more about it? Whether you are an experienced volunteer or curious to know how to care for natural areas in your local community…

Join local experts for a training workshop!
We will cover:
- biology and ecology of invasive plants
- Tools and tips for dealing with weeds
- strategies for fuel reduction
- aquatic weed management
- regional weeds to look out for
- how to use Calflora to map weeds
- collaborating and sharing stories
- resources for plant ID

Register online for this free event at www.cal-ipc/wvn
Laguna Environmental Center
900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

More information contact Jan Lochner or Wendy Smit

Got BROOM? Get a puller!
The chapter is anxious to lend out our broom pullers to help you eradicate this plant from your property. We have one large and 2 small ones.

If you have never played with one, you will love the ease with which they pull that broom out of the soft winter ground. If you have a large area, you can ask for help from the invasive team.

Broom pullers will be loaned out at the general meeting (pick up and return) through Jan Lochner. Please contact her if you are in want of one. 797 569-4724 4lochs@comcast.net

You will need a Driver’s License for ID and security.

Events

Weekly Ice Plant Removal
Wednesdays 9-12pm
Doran Beach

One of the most pleasant workdays happens every week – a trip to Doran Beach to pull ice plant. We are clearing out the ice plant that is in the marshland to make room for natives. It is very visual and quite satisfying, with the sound of the waves, birds and foghorn. To join us on a Wednesday, please text Jan to let her know that you are coming: 707-569-4724.

Meet at Penny’s 1201 Garden Lane, in Sebastopol, by 9:00 to carpool OR meet at first parking lot on left after kiosk across from the walking path. Bring clippers if you have them.

Jan Lochner,
Invasive Plants Chair
Events cont.

Armstrong Redwoods Nature and Plant Walk
Saturday February 29, 2020 10-2pm
With Larry Williams

This will be a true nature hike, and not an easy walk on the park floor. We will walk through the misty glades and learn about the Coast Redwoods, check out the flora and learn about animals in the forest. We will search for the early blooming Slinkpods aka: Fetid adders tongue, and other mysteries of the dark woods.

Recommend to dress in layers, gloves, hat and scarf, sturdy walking shoes. Bring a bag lunch and hot tea recommended for your thermos. Heavy rain cancels.

Where: Armstrong Woods Rd. Guerneville
Meet at the Free Front Parking lot outside the Gate of Armstrong Woods

Carpooling is encouraged; West county
Carpool leaves at 9:15 at Luckys Parking lot under the redwoods. Santa Rosa Carpool leaves at 9:15 Santa Rosa Park and Ride 1350 Maple Ave. Under hwy 12. Carpools are free form for whoever shows up. No RSVP necessary.

Larry Williams is a Docent at Armstrong Woods, Certified California Naturalist, Certified Animal Tracker.

Moss Walk at Annadel State Park
Saturday March 7, 2020 10-2pm
With Ben Carter

Join us as we take a moss walk at Trione-Annadel State Park. We will start at the Warren Richardson trail. This trail (fire road) begins at the parking lot at the end of Channel drive and goes uphill through a forest of Douglas fir, Bay and Redwood trees. At the 900 foot elevation the forest gives way to open meadows. Looking for microscopic mosses we will head down the steep Steve S trail that is quite shaded by firs and bay trees. This trail can be rocky and uneven.

Bring hand lens. We will have some extras if you don’t have one.

Please wear hiking shoes, layers, bring bag lunch and water. No dogs. Heavy rain cancels.

We will start at the paid parking lot inside the park on the Warren Richardson trailhead. There is a fee ($7.00) for parking so coming early is good, and carpooling encouraged.

Where: 6201 Channel Dr. Santa Rosa

Carpoolers can meet at 9:15 at the Santa Rosa Park and Ride 1350 Maple Ave. Leaving at 9:30.

Ben Carter is a Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences San Jose State University.
Foothill Regional Park: Fire Followers
Friday April 10, 2020 10-2pm
With Peter Warner and Ruthie Saia

Foothill Regional Park in East Windsor is a 221-acre wilderness park in the foothills of the Mayacamas Mountains. The park features thick oak woodlands, rolling hillsides, ridge-top views, three ponds, grassy meadows, with spring wildflowers.

Foothill Regional Park burned in the Kincade fire of October 2019. The park has partially reopened with access to approximately 5 miles of trails. Much of the east side if the park remains closed. For our safety we will follow all closure notices posted in the park.

Many flowers and plants known as “fire followers” thrive after a fire has occurred. Together we will walk a gentle route, past ponds and examine how the ecosystem recovers from fire, discovering how the thriving plants, flowers, and animals have adapted to the changed habitat. Three Lakes Trail is gravel, wheelchair accessible with a gated parking and picnic area.

Bring sturdy shoes layered clothes, bag lunch and water. Friendly dogs allowed on leash.

Where: 1351 Arata Lane, Windsor

Parking is $7 or free with park pass. Carpooling is encouraged; carpoolers can meet at the River Rd, and 101 North power station park and ride, leaving at 9:30.

Upcoming Plant Walks

Monday 3/30/20 Pepperwood Preserve with George Jackson
Tuesday 4/14/20 Sudden Oak Death, Fairfield Osborn with Kerry Winingen
Saturday 4/18/20 Garrison Canyon at Pepperwood preserve with Michele Halbur
Saturday 4/25/20 Native Plant Wildlife Habitat garden and home landscapes with Terry Loveton
Thursday 4/30/20 Jenner Headlands Preserve Serpentine Grasslands, Wildlands Conservancy
Sunday 5/3/20 Fitch Mountain Open Space Preserve with Kate Symonds
Saturday 5/9/20 Santa Rosa Plain Vernal Pool Wildflower Walk with Sarah Gordon
Monday 5/11/20 Hallberg Butterfly Gardens with Evan Peterman
Sunday 5/17/20 The Cedars with Roger Raiche
Thursday 6/4/20 Westside Water Education Center, native gardens and riparian trees and flora. With Ryan Pedrotti and Ruthie Saia
Monday 7/13-7/17 Stillwater Cove Camping trip with Ruthie Saia

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

Our Milo Baker Chapter is a part of the eScrip program! eScrip is a program where merchants donate a percentage (usually 3%) of your purchase to local schools and nonprofit organizations.

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!

Help us raise money for the chapter!
Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense
Pitkin lily

Newsletter & Web Site Info:
Send newsletter submissions to:
Editor, cnpsmbnewsletter@yahoo.com
Deadline for inclusion in the March Newsletter is February 15th.
The chapter website milobaker.cnps.org contains a wealth of information plus current and archived newsletters.
For newsletter mailing/membership issues, contact: cnpsmbmembership@gmail.com

Milo Baker Chapter Officers & Board of Directors 2019/2020

President: Wendy Smit 707-481-3765, wsmit8000@gmail.com
Past President: Leia Giambastiani 707-322-6722, leia gia@gmail.com
Vice President: Liz Parsons 707-833-2063, lizpar8993@aol.com
Secretary: Kerry Winerary 707-888-5616, kerrywinerary@gmail.com
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Cunningham Marsh: Marcia Johnson owl snesttwo@att.net
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SRJC Rep.: Forrest Horobin
SSU Rep.: OPEN
Web Site: Natasha Granoff cnpsmb.webadm@gmail.com
Vine Hill Preserve: Sarah Gordon 707-833-1243, sarahpgordon@gmail.com

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

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
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