April General Meeting
Tuesday, April 20, 7:30 pm

Frances Miller:
Plants Used by American Indians in the Sonoma and Lake County Areas for
Subsistence, Medicine, Clothing, and Shelter

This slide lecture will discuss a variety of common plants and herbs utilized by
the historic American Indians in their everyday life. Our understanding of their
traditional food and medicinal preparation of plants will be discussed as a
seasonal cycle of living in close connection to the land. Procurement of inedible
plant fibers for clothing, baskets, nets, and shelters illustrates the inhabitants’
rich and intricate understanding of resource use and management. Plant
specimens will enrich the discussion.

Fran Miller has been an anthropologist for over 17 years and has led numerous
crews on interviews, surveys, and excavations for protecting cultural resources
throughout the U.S. She presently lectures and leads hikes on American
Indian life ways and archaeology.

Join Us for Dinner Before the General Meeting!
Have dinner with our April speaker, Frances Miller and Program Chair Daniel
Murley at our monthly free-form, lots-of-talk dinner before the general meeting
on April 20th. Join us at 6:00 pm at the Kirin Restaurant at 2700 Yulupa Ave
(about a half mile south of the Art and Garden Center) for a co-op Chinese feast.
Be sure to be there by 6:00 pm so we can get our orders in by 6:15 pm and get to
the meeting on time. Contact May Miller, 538.4551, maygmiller@aol.com to
make sure we'll have the right size table.

Come to Plant ID Hour before the General Meeting!
Check out “Chapter Events & Activities” for more details!

May General Meeting - Tuesday, May 18, 7:30 pm

Daniel Murley:
Russian Natural Historians in Early
California

*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 are held on the 2nd Tuesday nine months of the year at the Environmental Center, 404 Mendocino Ave,
Suite A, Santa Rosa. Next meeting is April 13th. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!
President's Corner

We have just added five (!) new members to our board as well as filled the positions of president, vice president, and the new positions of volunteer coordinator and plant photo program. The position of secretary is still open (any volunteers?).

Let me introduce:
• Adele Wikner, Director-at-large, recently moved to our area with and has an interest in invasives and photography.
• Jessica Wilson, Director-at-large, biology major with many interests.
• Sarah Gordon, Director-at-large Sonoma State University Rep, assisting in our native vegetation monitoring.
• Michael Sheffield, Co-Book Sales Chair, was on the board a number of years ago.
• Thomas Kehrlein, Plant Photo Program, photographer and life-long Bay Area resident. You will be hearing more about this relatively new State program from him.

Other changes from within the board:
• Betsy Livingstone, Vice President, has graciously agreed to by my “partner” in leading the board.
• Reny Parker, President; I’ve agreed to serve in this position with the assistance of Betsy.
• Ruby Herrick, Volunteer Coordinator; she’s been doing the work so why not give her the title for this newly formed position!

These positions run for the rest of this calendar year and do not need to be voted on by the Chapter members. A nominating committee is being formed for 2005-2006 officers and directors-at-large positions that will be voted on at the October 2004 general meeting. If any of you have an interest in joining the board as a Director-at-large for the remainder of this year, please contact Ruby or me.

I sincerely want to thank all of these people for the commitment they have made to the Chapter and native plants. Thank you for joining us!

Reny Parker

Spring Wildflower Festival

Inserted in this newsletter is our beautiful poster for the upcoming Spring Wildflower Festival, May 8th. Please post it at your local grocery store, favorite store or place you like to hang-out, etc. You’ll be helping to spread the good word. I hope you have all marked your calendars to make certain you don’t miss this fun event that will be held at the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts. This is NOT our general meeting location, but the BIG LBC at the north end of Santa Rosa. The Festival is a very important fundraiser for the Chapter as well as our largest outreach event. We need your support so be sure to bring along your mother (it’s Mother’s Day weekend, you know), family, and friends to this Day of Celebration. Here’s a run down of the great seminars you can attend, times are still being finalized. Check our web site www.cnpsmb.org then click on Spring Wildflower Festival for an update. The final schedule will be in the May newsletter.

• Birds in Sonoma County Plant Communities, Peter Leveque
• Drought Tolerant Plants and Water Conservation, Ali Davidson
• Habitat Gardening, Leana Sims
• Weaving Baskets with Natural Plant Materials, Cheri Degenhardt
• Attack of the Aliens, Betty Young
• Native Plant Gardening, Panel with Phil Van Soelen, Rosemary McCreary, Kristin Jacob (Kristin will also be doing a book signing)
• Photographing Wildflowers and the Environment, Rosalie and Marcus Wardell
• Wildflowers of Sonoma County, Ann Howald
• Natives in My Backyard, documentary film by Springer Films
• Using Natives to Create Grassland & Oak Woodland Gardens, Glenn Keator (and book signing)
• Wildflower/Plant Pressing and Mounting, Wade Belew

The beautiful iris graphic on the poster by Mila Mintun will be on our NEW Spring Wildflower Festival t-shirt as well as on tote bags. Get in the buying mood! A great variety of art will be available to view and bid on. Check out the books and wine available for auction as well. There will be over 40 booths with a good diversity, everything from native plant nurseries, environmental and gardening groups, artisans, kids’ activities, and more. Refreshments will be available so plan to spend the day. See you there!
Volunteer Opportunities

Milo Baker Chapter needs you!

Call for Art and Artisans
The CNPS Milo Baker Chapter Spring Wildflower Festival invites artists to donate fine art, photography, ceramics, sculpture, or jewelry for a silent auction. The artist may opt for 100% donation or retain up to 20% from the sale of the work. The subject matter should be native flora or fauna. Donation forms are available online at www.cnpsmb.org or contact Rosalie and Marcus at wardellphoto@earthlink.net. Deadline for application is April 25th.

A few booth spaces are still available. We are looking for environmental groups, crafts, artisans, and native plant-friendly organizations to participate. Also, kids’ activities, since it will be Mother’s Day weekend. Contact Marcia at owlsnest@earthlink.net

The purpose of the festival is to increase the understanding and appreciation of wildflowers and their habitats, and raise funds for the Milo Baker Chapter. The festival is May 8th at the Luther Burbank Center for the Arts in Santa Rosa. For more information contact Reny, festival@cnpsmb.org or 707.894.9100.

Help protect native plants
Are you interested in becoming more involved in protecting Sonoma Country’s precious native plants and their habitat? They need your advocacy. There are lots of ways to help. If you’re not sure how you want to be involved, whether you’re just at the “checking it out” stage or looking for a committed role, you can start by introducing yourself to any of the Board members at the General Meeting. Or give a call to Ruby Herrick at 887-8542, or email her at rdherr@yahoo.com.

Rare Plant Enthusiasts Needed
Cunningham Marsh is home to 5 plants that are now Federally listed as endangered. The Chapter is working to bring the marsh back to its former glory. We are having a management plan written, using funds from last year's Spring Wildflower Festival, and have applied for a grant to fund major enhancements to the marsh. Before we start major work there, we need to do a baseline inventory of the current plants on site. We need plant people who know their wetland plants, and assistants for them who do not need to be botanists. Here’s a great way to learn those wetland plants. If you are interested in helping with spring and summer surveys, please call Betty Young, 415.897.3574, or e-mail at youngbetty@aol.com.

Wish List

Want to help out, but don’t have the time to volunteer? How about donating one of the following to Milo Baker Chapter? Donations are tax deductible and make you feel good, too.

- Fold up table(s)
- Free-standing umbrella(s)
- Adding machine
- Small calculators

Got pots?
MILO BAKER NEEDS YOUR GALLON POTS!
Every year our plant sale uses almost one thousand gallon pots. Please recycle your old pots with the Milo Baker Chapter. Call Liz Parsons, 833-2063 or bring them to the monthly meeting, or simply take them to Cal Flora in Fulton and tell them that you have containers for the CA Native Plant Society plant sale. Thanks!

Got books?
If you have any native plant books such as field guides, nature studies, etc. that you’d like to clean out of your closet we’d love to find new owners for them. The Spring Wildflower Festival art auction included books, the sale of which brought in a nice extra amount of money. To donate your books, and get a tax-deduction, bring them to Joan Grosser at the general meetings. Or contact Joan at 781.3854 JRGrosser@aol.com

Got plant lists?
We’d like to collect reliable Sonoma County plant lists from the membership to organize and cross reference for the use of the chapter and interested persons. If you can locate any for us, please contact M.L. at mlml@svn.net

Blue-eyed Grass  Reny Parker
Conservation Report

Cal-IPC, the California Invasive Plant Council, formerly called Cal-EPPC (“CA Exotic Pest Plant Council”), is a non-profit group made up folks who work hand-in-hand with groups like CNPS and the public to prevent the spread of invasive plants to wild areas.

What’s your worst weed: French broom? Canary grass? Himalayan blackberry? I don’t enjoy fighting ryegrass, bermuda grass, and bristly ox-tongue in my city yard of weeds. I know the awful feeling I got when I was told that the “bamboo” in my backyard was giant reed, *Arundo donax*. But what really bothers me are the weeds taking over the hillsides and pristine areas. We can make a difference, though: thanks to M.L. Carle and Peter Warner, removing French broom at Lake Soulajoule with the Marin Chapter, the Marin Water District, and Americorps volunteers was empowering and quite successful!

The Chapter Council Policy Committee, chaired by Betsey Landis (from So. Calif.) and myself, has been conducting a survey of Conservation Issues in the 32 CNPS chapters. In early results, the problem with the most total points so far is “Management of non-native invasive plants and animals.” I have seen much dedicated involvement of Cal-IPC members and leaders at the CNPS state level, with collaborative goals and projects.

It’s time to focus on invasive plants: what brings the weeds in, how do we control them, and how can we keep them out of our native ecosystems? What happens when “preserved” areas get overrun by invasives? For conservation, we need good scientific data to oppose development near rare habitats, road building in wild areas, extreme fire-management clearing, and other practices that threaten native plants, often by introducing weeds. We need more science, more education, and more collaboration. Your support for CNPS and Cal-IPC is greatly needed. Watch those weeds, and please contribute today. Cal-IPC, 1442-A Walnut Street, #462, Berkeley, CA 94709; 510.525.1502; http://www.caleppc.org/

Chapter Events & Activities

Plant ID Before the April General Meeting

Arrive at 6:30, an hour before the April 20th General Meeting, and bring specimens of plants you want to identify. Some specimens will be available if you don’t have any but just want to practice. I will bring my dissecting microscope, hand lens, and books, and can help you work through the keys in *The Jepson Manual* and *A Sonoma County Flora*. Keying can be fun, even if you get stuck. For those who know a lot of plants already, there are always grasses, sedges, and composites to keep things challenging—bring in a curiosity or come to help others. Bring your dinner if you want to, a hand lens and a copy of *Jepson* or *Sonoma Co. Flora* if you have them. A copy of each and glossaries will be available. **The plants are what CNPS is about—come get to know them and some fellow chapter members too!**

Lynn Houser

Work Party at Rincon Ridge Park

The Milo Baker Chapter has recently entered into the “Adopt-A-Greenspace” program with the City of Santa Rosa. Our chapter has adopted the sensitive plant area at Rincon Ridge Park. This tiny two-acre remnant is the last remaining patch of a low growing chaparral that is home to two rare species: the Rincon Manzanita and the Rincon Ceanothus. This work party will be on **April 24th at 9:00am** and is the first work party at our newly adopted rare plant habitat. There will be tasks for people of all ages and abilities! Bring liquids and wear sturdy clothes, shoes and gloves. From northbound Hwy 101, take the Bicentennial exit to Mendocino Ave. Continue east, past Yardbirds and merge on to Fountaingrove Parkway. From Mendocino Ave, go about 2.2 miles to the top of the ridge and turn left on to Rincon Ridge Dr. You will see the undeveloped park on the right. Call me if you get lost along the way at 707.888.5316.

Greg Wahlert, Southridge Preserve Steward

Cunningham Marsh Work Day

Saturday, May 15, 9 am to 12 pm. The Lilies are calling, and we have scheduled a workday. Please come prepared for poison oak and blackberries and bring some water. If you have a favorite weeding tool, bring it. We will have shovels, rakes & trowels. Meet at 1460 Big Cedar Lane, Sebastopol (off of Lone Pine) For directions, please call Marcia Johnson, owlsnest@earthlink.net, 707.829.3808.
Plant Sale Potting Schedule

Sunday, May 2nd, Cal Flora Nursery, Fulton: pot up rooted cuttings. **Sunday, August 8th, site TBA:** pot up cuttings of fast growing perennials such as *Zauschneria, Salvia,* and *Mimulus.* **October 9th is the Fall Plant Sale!** Call Liz Parsons at 833-2063 for more information. 📞 Liz Parsons

**YIKES!!! Weeds, Weeds, Weeds at Doyle Park**

It's no big surprise, but a lot of rain and some nice weather resulted in a very good growing season for weeds (as I am sure you have discovered in your own yards). Unfortunately, our CNPS-adopted Native Plant Garden at Doyle Park got "a bit" out of hand this winter and the weeds have run rampant. Many thanks to the hardy souls (Jacqueline Levy, ML Carle, and Chris Schofield) who have helped weed a little at a time, whenever they had a free moment in their schedules. Through the month of March, week by week, we have started to make a dent in the weed population.

Nonetheless, it would probably take an army of people to finish weeding the entire area, so we are focusing on weeding out the areas where we made our fall plantings. Then, we can ask the Parks & Rec people to Round-Up the rest (with less fear that they will accidentally spray herbicide on our native plants as well).

The good news is that the 6 yards of mulch we (ML Carle, Lynn Houser, my partner Chris, and myself) put down in the fall made a big difference (especially where we put down newspaper underneath!). Hopefully, over this next year we can get mulch down over the whole area...but it is HUGE job. Save your newspapers (we ran out in the fall): a layer or two of newspaper under the mulch really helps reduce the weeds.

If anyone would like to help with weeding, we would certainly welcome your efforts. Just a half an hour or an hour is a big help (it’s best to work for short periods of time as it is hard, back-breaking work). Several of us go over there whenever is convenient, so if you would like to work together give me a call (707.544.3006) or e-mail me (danaglei@pacbell.net) so that we can coordinate dates and time. My garden slave (my partner, Chris, that is) and I have been going over there for 1/2-1 hour most every weekend and we are happy to have help. Others have been going over during the week. Every little bit helps!

🏞 Dana Glei

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Chapter Field Trips

**Quarry Hill Botanical Gardens**

Saturday, April 3rd. A docent-led trip to this large and remarkable garden of plants, from various parts of Asia. If you can stay, we can go over to the Sonoma County Park nearby after the tour, eat lunch at the picnic tables, and check out the vernal pools. We meet at the Gardens at 9:45 am. We are limited to twenty people, so please contact M.L., mlml@svn.net for a reservation and directions.

**Hike to Tresch Ranch**

Saturday, April 10th. The Tresch family has a dairy and adjacent wildlands - riparian and meadow areas near the Sonoma coast - they have worked to preserve for years. We’ll see the glorious standards such as trillium, delphinium, and scarlet columbine, and a host of others on Peter Conners’ long plant list. We’ll start with an easy loop, eat lunch and continue on with those who’d like to see more, and don’t mind a more strenuous hike. Boots, lunch, water, and a bag to sit upon should be with you. We’ll meet at Noah’s Bagels at Washington and McDowell at 9:20 am. If you’d rather go on your own, or you’re approaching from north of Rohnert Park, please contact M.L., mlml@svn.net for directions.

**Bouverie Preserve, Glen Ellen, Sonoma Valley**

Saturday, April 17th. Meet at 9:30 am at the Preserve. During this all-day trip we will see some nice wildflower displays, visit grasslands, chaparral, oak savannah/woodland/forest, riparian forest, redwood forest and check out some interesting ceanothus and manzanita. Dr. Dan Gluesenkamp, Restoration and Habitat Protection Director for Audubon Canyon Ranch, will tell us about the habitat restoration projects and research on the impacts of turkeys on native vegetation that is going on at Bouverie. Moderately strenuous hiking. Bring all the usuals for an all-day trip – water, lunch, snacks, hat, plastic bag to sit on. Co-leaders: Dan Gluesenkamp and Ann Howald. We are limited to twenty people, so please contact M.L., mlml@svn.net for a reservation and directions.
East Park Reservoir & Walker Ridge
Saturday and Sunday, April 24th –25th. On Saturday we’ll botanize the blue oak-gray pine-juniper woodlands and grasslands of East Park Reservoir in Colusa County, possibly finding Colusa layia, Brandegee's woolly-star and red-flowered lotus, along with many other beautiful spring wildflowers. On Sunday we will visit Walker Ridge, a serpentine area of great biological, geological and cultural interest on BLM land, and the proposed site of a large-scale wind farm development. Primitive camping is available at East Park Reservoir for Friday (April 23) and Saturday (April 24) nights. Bring a full range of supplies and clothes, including plenty of water. Co-leaders: Peter Warner & Ann Howald. This is a joint trip with the Sacramento Valley and Sanhedrin Chapters. Should be some good birds, too! Contact M.L., mlml@svn.net to get on the list to receive camping and/or meeting information.

Upcoming Field Trips
• Saturday, May 1st: McCormick Ranch section of Sugarloaf State Park with Peter Warner
• Sunday May 16th: Mendocino coast, Gualala River estuary with Peter Baye
• Saturday and Sunday, May 28th & 29th: Mendocino Weed Festival
• June 25th through the 27th: Camping trip to Plaskett Meadows
• July 17th to July 24th: Camping trip to the Siskiyous

Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters or contact M.L. Carle, mlml@svn.net.

Activities & Events of Interest

CNPS Marin Chapter 28th Annual Plant Sale
Saturday, April 3, 2004, 9:30 am to 2:00 pm at Tiburon Audubon Center and Wildlife Sanctuary, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon.
Directions: Tiburon Exit off HWY 101, east to traffic lights at Cove Shopping Center, turn right here on Greenwood Cove Rd. which becomes Greenwood Beach Rd. Great selection of annuals, perennials, grasses, books, posters, slide show and lovely views of the bay. For more info, contact Ken Howard at 415.332.4117.

CNPS Napa Valley Chapter Spring Wildflower Show & Plant Sale

Summer Field Classes at SRJC
Two summer field courses taught by Steve Barnhart, sbarnhart@santarosa.edu, Santa Rosa Junior College:
• Biology 71.10 - Sonoma County Woodlands. The flora and ecology of Sonoma County woodlands and forests. Lectures Tues, Thurs, 6-9:30pm (5/25 and 5/27). Field trips daily on 5/28, 5/29 and 5/30, Salt Point, Annadel and Mt St. Helena area. Cost: registration plus $5.00 fee.
• Biology 81.19 - Feather River Plants. Introduction to the diverse flora and ecology of the Feather River region. Orientation: 6/1, 7-9:00pm. Field trip 6/6-6/12/04. Cost: registration plus $300.00 fee. The fee covers transportation plus 6 nights lodging and food at the Meadow Valley Field Station owned by UC Berkeley near Quincy, CA. The accommodations are great and the food is first rate. Instruction isn’t bad either!!

Field Trips and other subversive envirolefotinkotreelhuggerflowersniffer gatherings of botanoterrorists

Let me know if you wanna go. Have Jepson, will ramble. Peter Warner, 707. 937.2278, corylus@earthlink.net.

Saturday, May 1: McCormick Sanctuary, Sugarloaf Ridge State Park.
Saturday, May 15: Grass ID and ecology workshop, Fairfield Osborn Preserve. Call 795-5069 or visit http://www.sonoma.edu/org/preserve for information and reservations.
Friday May 28 – Monday May 31, Russian Gulch State Park, Mendocino County.
# Board of Directors – Milo Baker Chapter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email/Phone</th>
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## Newsletter Submissions & Website

✈ Check out the Milo Baker Chapter newsletter on our chapter Web site at:  [http://www.cnpsmb.org](http://www.cnpsmb.org)

Send submissions for the newsletter to Debby Zygielbaum, zygie@sonic.net

Deadline for inclusion in the April newsletter is April 15, 2004.

NOTE: For newsletter subscription questions or problems, please contact Wendy Born, spores@excite.com

## Support Our Local Native Plant Nurseries

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<th>Nursery</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Appleton Forestry Nursery</strong></td>
<td>1369 Tilton Road, Sebastopol</td>
<td>707-823-3776</td>
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<td><strong>California Flora Nursery</strong></td>
<td>Somers &amp; D Streets, Fulton</td>
<td>707-528-8813</td>
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<td><strong>Circuit Rider Productions</strong></td>
<td>9619 Redwood Hwy, Windsor</td>
<td>707-838-6641</td>
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<td><strong>Mostly Natives Nursery</strong></td>
<td>27235 Highway I, Tomales</td>
<td>707-878-2009</td>
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<td><strong>North Coast Native Nursery</strong></td>
<td>(call for appointment)</td>
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<td><strong>Wayward Gardens</strong></td>
<td>1296 Tilton Road, Sebastopol</td>
<td>707-829-8225</td>
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THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY is a statewide non-profit organization of amateurs and professionals with a common interest in California’s native plants. The Society, working through its local chapters, seeks to increase understanding of California’s native flora and to preserve this rich resource for future generations. Membership is open to all. Membership includes *Fremontia*, a quarterly journal with articles on all aspects of native plants, the *Bulletin*, a quarterly statewide report of activities, and the Milo Baker Chapter newsletter. WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US.

Name________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Address___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

City_______________________________State_______Zip_____________Phone_____________________Email_______________________

CHAPTER AFFILIATION: ☐ Milo Baker ☐ Other________________________(County)

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY: ☐ Student, Retired, Limited Income $20 ☐ Plant Lover $100
☐ Individual or Library $35 ☐ Patron $250
☐ Family or Group $45 ☐ Benefactor $500
☐ Supporting $75 ☐ Bristlecone $1000

Please make check payable to: THE CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Mail membership application to: CNPS, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816