October General Meeting: Protecting Plants and Animals
Under the Endangered Species Act
Tuesday, October 18th, 7:30pm

The Center for Biological Diversity is one of the nation's leading conservation groups focusing on imperiled species and habitat protection. Monica Bond, the Center's southern California staff biologist, will give a brief history and overview of the world's foremost environmental law, present results from the Center's research projects investigating the ESA's role in preventing extinction and the importance of citizen involvement in ESA enforcement. She will also discuss the current political situation surrounding the law, which is one of the top environmental targets of the Bush Administration.

Monica received her bachelor's degree in Biology from Duke University and her M.S. degree from the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Oregon State University, studying behavioral ecology of small mammals. She went on to study western burrowing owls in the Central Valley and California spotted owls in the Sierra Nevada for 4 years before coming to the Center, where she works primarily on urban wild lands and forest protection.

Note: Plant ID hour starts at 6:30 PM with Lynn Houser. Bring plants and or questions. All are welcome. Admission and refreshments are free; books, posters and T-shirts will be for sale. Please Join Us!

November General Meeting: Vernal Pool Habitat Protection
Tuesday, November 15th, 7:30pm

Carl Wilcox, Habitat Conservation Manager, Central Coast Region of California Department of Fish and Game. Carl will bring us up to date on the Santa Rosa Plain Conservation strategy and conservation efforts for vernal pool habitats. The presentation will focus on rare plant and California tiger salamander distributions, and what has been accomplished to date to conserve listed species and the habitat that supports them on the Santa Rosa Plain.

34th Annual Fall Native Plant Sale: Saturday October 8
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. @ Santa Rosa Veteran's Memorial Building

The success of our annual plant sale is vitally important because it is our major source of revenue. This year we are featuring habitat plants that attract birds, bees, and butterflies to your garden: salvias, monkeyflowers, zauschnerias, flowering currants, manzanitas, wild lilac, and buckwheats are all sun loving, drought tolerant CA native plants that will turn your garden into a wild life habitat. Remind your friends and neighbors by posting the sale flyer that was in your September newsletter on a bulletin board in your neighborhood.

(Continued on Page 2)

*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 October 11. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!
President's Corner

I want you to know that I am very proud of all that is happening with the board/chapter activities. Our dynamic duo of John Herrick and Bob Hass as conservation co-chairs are really moving projects forward. The Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy Letter giving comments on this important issue has been submitted and was a tremendous effort by John with Sandra Cleisz. For about a year Sandra has been the chapter representative at the California Tiger Salamander Conservation Strategy Group—that also involves protecting threatened and endangered plant species on the Santa Rosa Plain. In Bob’s words, this is the best comment letter he’s seen coming from the chapter. A huge thank you goes to both of them as well as the numerous others that helped along the way.

Bob represented the chapter by writing comments and speaking at the County Supervisors hearing on General Plan and zoning code amendments providing greater regulation of timberland conversions. Good going, Bob.

The chapter has our first student intern, Adam Stebbins, from Sonoma State University. He will be assisting John with vegetation/community-oriented programs. I sat in on the interview with Adam and am very impressed with his skills and enthusiasm. We look forward to working with additional interns in the near future. Thank you, Adam, for joining our group.

Jeffery Barrett, student from SRJC, is our fairly new Southridge Preserve steward and is making inroads regarding our relationship with the Fountain Grove homeowners association. One of the goals being to work more closely with them regarding fire prevention activities.

It is very inspiring to see students and young people taking such an interest in our native plants and the environment plus be willing to take action. Currently we have seven such folks on our board, plus Adam. I want to especially thank all of you for your efforts.

These are all beyond the usual activities that we are always pursuing. Thanks board and chapter members for the great progress we are making and the dedication we share.

A little late, but a big welcome to Heide Klein and Michelle Jensen for taking on our newsletter. And a really big thank you and so long to Debby Zygielbaum, past newsletter editor.

Reny Parker

Plant Sale News – October 8th is the date!

(Continued from page 1)

Our members are our best customers so, dear member, make plans now to come to the sale to buy plants to create your own native plant sanctuary. California native plants are naturally adapted to our local soil and climate. They thrive without amendments, fertilizers, or pesticides, and offer incomparable habitat value. Fall is the time to plant in California. The soil is still warm and rain is just around the corner. The rains will help the plants establish the root system and reduce the need for supplemental water. In California’s unique Mediterranean climate, this underground growth during the winter powers the stunning floral displays of spring.

Publicity is a key component and, thanks to our new publicity person, Pauline Haro, it has been excellent. Look for our free ad in the Press Democrat on Tuesday, October 4. We thank them for providing this service.

We need members to work at the sale. Workers have the privilege of shopping early on Friday evening after 7 o'clock. If you want to help with the sale call Judy Hartwig 823-1821 or me, Liz Parsons, 833-2063. For a complete list of the plants that will be at the sale, check our web-site-www.cnpsmbc.org and look at the September newsletter.

An excellent selection of seeds and bulbs was packaged by members at the meeting in September. Look for many native bulbs and Lilium pardalinum, too. Louise Hallberg and Nancy Bauer will answer all your questions about bird and butterfly plants at their special habitat table. Yes, the sale is all about plants, but there will also be t-shirts, posters and books as well as Louisa Carter’s native plant notecards.

Finally, if you can help with labeling and pricing the plants on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday the week before the sale, call me at 833-2063. I would greatly appreciate the help.

If you have been growing plants for the sale, bring them

Sticky Monkeyflower
to the collection centers the weekend of October 1 & 2:
East Santa Rosa:  Mary Aldrich's,  4775 Newanga, 539-9005
Sebastopol:  Hale's Apple Ranch;  1526 Gravenstein Hwy North.  Dave Hale, 823-4613
North Santa Rosa / Fulton:  Cal Flora Nursery, D and Somers, 528-8813

Everyone please begin to collect beer flats to hold the plants that our customers purchase.  Your local deli just throws them away, so ask them to save some for you. Bring them to the sale or on Friday night.
See you there!

\[Liz Parsons\]

Chapter Treasurer (and more) Positions Open

Marianne Perron, our current treasurer is leaving the position after the fall plant sale in October, while staying on as a board member.  I've enjoyed Marianne's company while carpooling to board meetings, so I am happy she will remain on the board.

If you enjoy paying bills (!) and using programs like QuickBooks and can volunteer a few hours a month, Milo Baker chapter could use your talents. Duties include managing the chapter’s receipts and bills, and attending chapter board meetings.  The treasurer also helps the chapter prepare an annual budget in January. State duties are only quarterly sales tax transfers and an annual report.  This volunteer position will typically only take a few hours of your time each month plus monthly meetings and a weekend when we have our big event: the Fall Plant Sale in October.  The chapter currently uses QuickBooks, so knowing this program is a plus, but not necessary; it's easy to learn.

If you want to become more involved in our chapter, and work with a great group of people while expanding your knowledge and skills, this is the opportunity for you. For more information on the position contact: Marianne Perron; mariannesp@earthlink.net. Or contact Ruby Herrick; rdherr@yahoo.com 887-8542, or Reny Parker; reny@renyswildflowers.com

If you feel you want to get more involved with the chapter, but not as treasurer, we also have openings for Vice President and Education Chair and we are looking for someone to share the hospitality duties at the general meeting.  Each one of these jobs take several hours a month plus attending board meetings. Go to www.cnpsmb.org and see ‘Volunteer Opportunities’ for more information.

\[Ruby Herrick, Volunteer Coordinator\]

Conservation Report

Restoration/Conservation/Forestry/Invasive
Exotics/Political Presence

\[Liz Parsons\]

CNPS Inventory Revisions Streamlined

As you may know, the CNPS Inventory receives proposals for new additions, deletions and name changes on a continuing basis.  To streamline the status review process, Misa Ward, CNPS Rare Plant Botanist and Ann Howald, Rare Plant Program Director have created a series of forms to gather supporting information. Misa and Ann would appreciate those members interested or involved in updating the Inventory to comment on the proposed forms by Wednesday, October 5. You can request copies of the forms from me; joherr@ yahoo.com or call 887-8542.

\[John Herrick\]

Open Space District Hosts Public Meetings, Seeks Comments on Acquisition Plan Update

The Open Space District is sponsoring four public hearings from late September through October to solicit comments on their draft Acquisition Plan update. Meetings will be held:

Tuesday,  Sept 27- Sonoma Veterans Hall in Sonoma
Thursday, Oct 6- Finley Community Center in Santa Rosa
Monday, Oct 10- Cloverdale Veterans Hall
Tuesday, Oct 25- Petaluma Veterans Hall

Meetings will begin at 6:30, featuring the same agenda, information and meeting format. The first 45 minutes will be an Open House with informational displays. At 7:15 there will be a presentation followed by opportunities to ask questions or contribute comments. More information, including meeting handouts and comment cards, can be found at the District’s website: www.sonomaopenspace.org.

Adoption of the updated Acquisition Plan is anticipated for early 2006. The Chapter will submit comments on the Plan and recommend its acquisition priorities. We are currently considering a vegetation / plant communities approach to establish acquisition priorities. Our SSU intern, Adam Stebbins (more on Adam and his work with the Chapter next month), is developing maps and will be consulting with other CNPS Chapters and agencies advocating communities-oriented resource planning. Later this Fall, we will hold Chapter study sessions on the Acquisition Plan and formulate our comments. If you would like to be involved in developing the Chapter’s comments on the Acquisition Plan, email me at joherr@yahoo.com or call 887-8542.

\[John Herrick\]

\[Milo Baker Chapter Newsletter – October 2005\]
Work Continues on SR Plain Conservation Strategy
The Chapter submitted its comments on the Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy by the September 16 deadline and members are working on Chapter comments regarding the proposed FWS Critical Habitat designation for the Sonoma County population of the CA Tiger Salamander, due October 3.

Our work will not stop on October 4 and your assistance is needed to assure that effective conservation measures become reality. The Implementation Team of the larger Conservation Strategy will continue meeting to establish the local organization to oversee the Strategy and draft the necessary ordinances and agreements to implement the Strategy. We learned from the local jurisdictions’ failure in the early 90’s to implement the recommendations of the Vernal Pool Task Force that the current Strategy Implementation Team must be encouraged, cajoled if necessary, to recognize its obligation to follow through with the Strategy recommendations. We are particularly concerned that the Implementation Team lacks the scientific background and species-protection mission of the agencies represented on the Strategy Team and that creating policies that are easy to implement may take precedence over species protection. Which means our work will continue.

Thank you Sandra Cleisz, CNPS representative, for your work during the year-and-a-half Conservation Strategy process! Sandra attended regular sessions with Sierra Club and Audubon Society representatives starting with the creation of the Strategy Team in early 2004 through to the comments deadline for Critical Habitat designation. Sandra prepared articles, created the Conservation Strategy informational flyer, coordinated all drafts of the Chapter comments and represented the Chapter at public hearings. Thanks also to Keith Kaulum, the Environmental representative on the Conservation Strategy Team. Keith was our advocate and oracle. Keith has agreed to continue as the Environmental Representative on the Implementation Team.

Thank you to the Milo Baker members who attended the Chapter Study Group meetings, offered advice on the Strategy or Critical Habitat, contributed plant or project information or submitted comments to the various drafts. And as always, thanks to Betty Guggolz for your dedication to native plant preservation and willingness to offer advice.

The collaboration with Sierra Club and Audubon representatives affirmed trust and the importance of the conservation vision. Opportunities for further collaboration are being discussed. The Chapter comments will be posted on the website in the near future. You can contact me at joherr@yahoo.com or call 887-8542 if you have questions.

Ｊ John Herrick

Chapter Field Trips

October 22 Hopland Field Station with Kerry Heise, expert on trees, grasses, mosses - you name it.
Located in the Mayacmas Mountains of SE Mendocino County, the Hopland Field Station supports a diverse array of vegetation types including grasslands, chaparral, oak woodland, hardwood forest, and Douglas-fir forest. Wetland habitat includes vernal pools, permanent sag ponds, and seasonal creeks. There is one site of serpentine scrub with McNab Cypress, and extensive areas of serpentine grassland. The fall is a good time of year to look at the 10 species of oak on the property and some of the late blooming tarweeds. We'll do a combination of walking and driving seeing much of the 5,280 acre field station. Meet at the office parking area at 10:00am and bring lunch, water, and appropriate shoes and clothing. Meet at 9:00 at the Park and Ride on River Road at the electrical substation, just off the freeway to the west.

On November 19th we will be traveling to San Francisco from our meeting place at Noah’s Bagels in Petaluma at 9:00. Here's all the information in case you can't go with us that day: ART EXHIBIT - WAYNE RODERICK ART COLLECTION Memorial Exhibition & Sale. October through December, 10 am to 4 pm, except major holidays. Located at the Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture, SAN FRANCISCO BOTANICAL GARDEN.
have a look through a dissecting microscope, and
discover the differences between our many native plants.
I’ll bring some field guides, 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!
The best-learned plants are those learned with friends.
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
native plants are what CNPS is about—come get to
know them and some fellow chapter members too!
Lynn Houser

**Cunningham Marsh Work Day**

**Sunday, October 2, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

We will be doing light weeding within the lily enclosures
and cutting back blackberries.
Please come prepared for poison oak & blackberries.
John Herrick and group will also be taking
measurements. Contact John if you’d like to help with
that. Bring water. If you have a favorite weeding tool,
bring it, but we do supply tools. Meet at 1460 Big Cedar
Lane, Sebastopol (off of Lone Pine).
For directions, contact Marcia Johnson

**PLEASE RSVP (SPACE LIMITED)**

owlsnest@earthlink.net or 707-829-3808

**Other Events & Activities of Interest**

**Watercolor Wildflower Exhibit**

A.R. Valentien spent 10 years producing 1,094 original
watercolors of California plants. See the display now
through December 4 at the Oakland Museum in Oakland.
10th and Oak Streets. More info at www.museumca.org
or 510-238-2200.

**Cotati Creek Critters**

Help the Cotati Critters plant 2,000 native trees over the
next two years along Cotati’s reach of the Laguna de
Santa Rosa!

Workdays are the second Saturday of the month from
Jenny at 707-792-4422, email jenny@creeks.cotati.info
or visit www.CotatiCreekCritters.info for more details.

**Sonoma Land Trust Work Days**

**Glen Oaks Ranch Fall House and Garden Work Party**

Friday 9/30, 9 a.m. – Noon
Come explore the historic buildings at Glen Oaks Ranch,
constructed in 1868 by Charles and Ellen Stuart in Glen
Ellen, Friday, September 30th from 9am to noon. We
will be doing fall cleaning in the main house, including
dusting antique furniture, sweeping cobwebs, restoring
wallpaper, and other tasks to keep the house in good
condition. Outside the house, we’ll be cleaning up
flower beds. After snacks and lunch, volunteers are welcome to enjoy a short hike along Stuart’s Creek.

**Little Black Mountain Creek Restoration Project**
Saturdays 10/8 and 10/15, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Come assist with a creek-side erosion control project at Little Black Mountain, a spectacular 540 acre nature preserve near Cazadero. Volunteers are needed to help spread straw, scatter native seed and clear brush along the banks of Kidd Creek. Work is ongoing; please join us for one or both days.

For more information on either of these two work days or to sign-up, call 707-526-6930 ext. 100 or email: shanti@sonomalandtrust.org

**Cal-IPC Symposium 2005**

The chapter received a generous $100 anonymous donation for a member to attend this symposium with the board voting to pay the additional $110 for registration. ML Carle will be representing us and returning with a wealth of information.

As Bob Hass says: This is THE annual gathering to attend if you want to become better informed about a variety of issues and research related to invasive plants in California. This year’s theme of "Prevention" should cover a lot of territory often ignored. We can’t treat or remove more than a small percentage of the invasives that are gobbling up our natural areas, so prevention is key in the battle to at least control these aggressive invaders.

**Naturalist-Led Hikes at Fairfield Osborn Preserve**
Saturdays at 10:00 am, September 17 – December 10. The Preserve is located on Sonoma Mountain at the end of Lichau road. It is open to the public only during these scheduled Saturday hikes. There is a $3 donation requested per adult. For more info call: 795-5069, visit www.sonoma.edu/org/preserve or email: fairfield.osborn@sonoma.edu

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**NEWSLETTER FREQUENCY SURVEY**
We are considering making a change in the number of pages and frequency of the newsletter. The chapter spends $4250, the largest expense we have, to produce and mail the newsletter. Currently we print 550 newsletters ten times a year for mailing to members. In order to save money and be able to put the savings toward our conservation and outreach programs there are several variations of possibilities. Your response to these questions will help us as we consider whether to make any changes in the length of the newsletter and how often it is published.

1. Do you read your monthly newsletter: _____almost all of it _____a few items of interest _____not at all (in which case you probably aren't seeing this!)
2. What type of information are you most interested in: _____conservation ____field trips _____ garden / plant info ____general meetings ____other (please specify) __________________________
3. Would you be willing to read the newsletter online (and download your own hardcopy if you wished) in lieu of receiving a mailed copy, which would save us even more money? ____yes _____no
4. An option is to print the newsletter as a 4 page issue (versus current 8) being sent out 6 times a year (versus current 10). Short articles could appear in total, but longer articles would have a paragraph or two with the complete version being on our web site. Information about other groups’ activities would appear on the web site. This would save us approximately $2570 per year! Here’s the question:
   Do you have access to the internet ____yes ____no
   Would this 4 page plan be acceptable to you ____yes ____no
   Would a similar 6 page plan, saving about $2174 be acceptable ____yes ____no
5. Please leave newsletter 8 pages and 10 times per year ____yes ____no

Please complete the survey today and return it to Ruby Herrick, CNPS, PO Box 892, Santa Rosa, CA 95402. Or email her at rdherr@yahoo.com with the numbers of the questions and your answers. Please have a voice in this decision. Thank you!
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Newsletter Submissions & Website
✓ Check out the Milo Baker Chapter newsletter on our chapter Web site at: http://www.cnpsmb.org✓

Send submissions for the newsletter to Heide Klein: nemorphila@yahoo.com

Deadline for inclusion in the November newsletter is October 15, 2005.

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

Support Our Local Native Plant Nurseries

Appleton Forestry Nursery
(call for appointment)
1369 Tilton Road, Sebastopol
707-823-3776

Buckeye Nursery
2425 Old Adobe Road, Petaluma
707-559-7081

California Flora Nursery
Somers & D Streets, Fulton
707-528-8813
www.calfloranursery.com

Circuit Rider Productions
(call for appointment)
9619 Redwood Hwy, Windsor
707-838-6641

Mostly Natives Nursery
27235 Highway 1, Tomales
707-878-2009
www.mostlynatives.com

North Coast Native Nursery
(call for appointment)
2710 Chileno Valley Road, Petaluma
707-769-1213, www.northcoastnativnursery.com

Milo Baker Chapter Newsletter – October 2005
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 and membership includes *Fremontia*, a quarterly journal with articles on all aspects of native plants, the *Bulletin*, a quarterly statewide report of activities, the Milo Baker Chapter newsletter and an opportunity to participate in chapter events. 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  
- [ ] Individual or Library $35  
- [ ] Family or Group $45  
- [ ] Supporting $75  
- [ ] Plant Lover $100  
- [ ] Patron $250  
- [ ] Benefactor $500  
- [ ] 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