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

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

His presentation will also describe the regulator context and how mitigation is determined and directed, including mitigation and conservation banks. How the Conservation Strategy will improve conservation efforts and achieve the objectives of the original Vernal Pool Preservation Plan, what the future looks like and what is needed will be covered, too.

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!

December General Meeting: Wreath-Making Workshop
Tuesday, December 20th, 7:30pm

Come join us for some holiday fun!

Measure M: Why Native Plant Lovers Should Vote Yes

Measure M: Sonoma County Ordinance to Prevent Agricultural and Environmental Contamination From Genetically Engineered (Transgenic) Organisms

Measure M is on the ballot in the Special Election this November 8. It would create a 10-year moratorium on the introduction of genetically engineered (GE) agricultural crops in Sonoma County. Because so little independent research currently exists on GE foods and crops—and what does exist points to serious health effects—it is hoped sufficient new research will be conducted during this period of time to make possible an informed decision based on solid scientific evidence.

Measure M was inspired by a similar ballot measure passed in Mendocino County two years ago. Sonoma County’s measure is superior to the one passed in Mendocino because it exempts medical and other controlled uses of genetic engineering and is not a ban, but a moratorium. It is based on the precautionary principle of science, which requires that when a new technology is proposed that poses a threat of serious or irreversible damage to humans and environmental health, it must first be proven safe before it is used.

In spite of widespread opposition to the use of GE technology in agriculture around the world, farmers in the U.S. have been pressured to use GE crops by chemical companies such as Monsanto. This use is now spreading to more areas of the country, including California, where it has not yet been widely used. Last year California’s rice farmers did successfully resist the introduction of GE rice, and in the northwest farmers have banned GE wheat from their fields.

(Continued on Page 2)

Help us decide the future of our newsletter! Please fill out and return the survey on the back page!
October was an exciting month with both the plant sale and two new members joining the board. Liz will be reporting on the sale results so I’ll just mention that we did very well and a big thanks to all of you that participated. Being our only fundraising event it is extremely important that we have your support.

Lily Verdone is a graduate student at SSU doing her research on Ludwigia in the Laguna de Santa Rosa and has joined us as director-at-large. Another impressive student in our midst. Jim Piercy has SSU bachelor degrees in business management and economics and currently works as a budget accountant for the Sonoma County Dept. of Health Services. Jim joins us as treasurer and it looks like he’ll really get us in shape! You’ll be reading more about Lily and Jim later. Thanks Lily and Jim for joining the board.

A huge thank you to Marianne Perron, our outgoing treasurer, the spunkiest 70+ year old I’ve ever met. She wants more time and a big thanks to all of you that participated. Being our only fundraising event it is extremely important that we have your support.

If you want to see other volunteer possibilities check cnpsmb.org and “Volunteer Letter.” A few hours of your time could make such a difference in how much the chapter is able to accomplish. Please consider joining a really fine group of people that are having a good time while making a great contribution.

I stated in the Sept. issue that Adam Stebbins was our first SSU intern. Shortly after that I realized that Sarah Gordon joined us previously as our first SSU intern, just to keep the record straight, note this correction. Anyway, we are continuing our new “tradition.”

Reny Parker

Measure M (Continued from page 1)

However, small farmers alone are no match for the powerful, rich corporations that continue to press for the production of GE crops and food products. Without strong public support, the farmers cannot hold the line.

How would GE agricultural crops affect native plants in Sonoma County? Based on experiences elsewhere, it is clear that “superweeds” are likely to develop in areas where GE crops are grown. Since invasive weeds are one of the biggest threats to native plants and plant communities today, anything that results in stronger weeds will negatively impact natives.

We already know that in every instance where GE crops have been introduced there has been “drift” due to wind, cross-pollination, and mixing of varieties. For example, it has been documented that in Canada a GE herbicide-resistant variety of canola crossed with wild radish, which is also a common weed in Sonoma County. This was possible because both are in the mustard family. What resulted was a wild radish “superweed” that now is also resistant to Roundup (glyphosate), an herbicide widely applied to agricultural crops.

GE agricultural crops also negatively impact the environment, due to increased herbicide use. In spite of claims that GE can reduce pesticide use, that use has actually skyrocketed where these crops are grown, because stronger herbicides are now needed to kill the new class of superweeds that has developed. These stronger herbicides not only contaminate the soil, air, and water, but persist longer than weaker varieties, thereby harming not only native plants, but also the birds and insects (including pollinators) that feed on them, and the microorganisms in the soil. Since the agricultural ecosystem interacts with the native one, there is no containing this technology or its side effects. Do we want more super weeds invading our native landscapes? Can we afford to lose more native pollinators? Can our bodies withstand the added load of herbicides in the environment?

In addition to the harmful consequences of GE crops and increased herbicide use outlined above, there is also the threat they pose to the health of our entire food system. While there is not space here to go into much detail, suffice it to say that organic crops will be contaminated by GE crops through cross-pollination, and it may become impossible to obtain organic food. Should Measure M fail, there will be no way of knowing whether food comes from GE crops or not, since neither the federal, state, or local authorities require notice or labeling of GE food. It is also important to note that organic growing practices prohibit GE. Organic farmers can lose their certification if their crops become contaminated.

Measure M is supported by a large number of organizations such as the Sierra Club, Community Alliance With Family Farmers, California Certified Organic Farmers, Small Boat Commercial Fisherman’s Association, the North Bay Labor Council, and the Occidental Arts and Ecology Center, to name but a few. It has also been endorsed by a host of farmers, farmers’ markets, nurseries, vineyards, restaurants that use organic produce, health practitioners, and political clubs.

Opposition to this measure is heavily funded and well disguised by Monsanto. Over $1 million has been channeled through the Farm Bureau to defeat Measure M! (Monsanto is the company that sells both GE seeds and the herbicides that are designed to be used with them.) In addition, the Sonoma County Grape Grower’s Board of Directors voted to oppose Measure M without consulting their membership. In fact many wine grape growers were angry about this and support this measure, as they fear the loss of market share if consumers suspect that their wine has GE grapes in it.

The anti-Measure M forces also continue to distribute literature that contains outright lies. For example, it says that Measure M would ban the use of vaccines. In fact, the measure specifically refers only to living GE organisms that are able to reproduce and pass on their traits. No drug or vaccine is a living organism or can reproduce. In addition, Patrick Moore, a spokesperson for the anti-Measure M campaign and a paid lobbyist for the biotech industry, claims to be associated with Greenpeace. However Greenpeace is strongly opposed to GE crops.

Agriculture is one of the most significant land uses that affects our landscape and its native inhabitants. By protecting the integrity of Sonoma County’s agricultural products we help to
ensure long-term ecosystem health. Urban interfaces; protecting against biological invasion, education, we can build sustainable and resilient wildland-believes through ecologically grounded science and community stewardship has always been ingrained in her life. She and fourth generation Bay Area native, environmental respect management of invasive aquatic plants. As a nature enthusiast interested in the distribution and abundance of invasive plant species in relation to anthropogenic disturbance. Her research examines the influence of nutrients on the invasive aquatic plant, *Ludwigia*, in the Laguna de Santa Rosa. *Ludwigia* appears to be threatening plant and animal diversity by inhibiting native plant growth and recruitment, altering existing habitat and minimizing open water foraging grounds. The plant has also generated a public health threat as it creates protective habitat for mosquito species that are vectors of West Nile Virus; sharply inhibiting control efforts and potentially impacting human and bird populations that inhabit this urban greenbelt along the Pacific Flyway. Her findings support the proposition that *Ludwigia* and similar invasive aquatic plants have a greater ability to establish and invade areas with high nutrient loads and spatial and temporal nutrient perturbations. Results from this research are aimed at establishing acceptable nutrient ranges in waterways, to aid in the long-term management of invasive aquatic plants. As a nature enthusiast and fourth generation Bay Area native, environmental respect and stewardship has always been ingrained in her life. She believes through ecologically grounded science and community education, we can build sustainable and resilient wildland-urban interfaces; protecting against biological invasion, ensuring long-term ecosystem health.

We will have an introduction article for Jim Piercy in the next newsletter – please check back next month for an intro of our new treasurer!

**Conservation Report**

Restoration/Conservation/Forestry/Invasive Exotics/Political Presence

**SR Plain Conservation Strategy Update**

November and December will be noteworthy months for the preservation of endangered species on the Santa Rosa Plain as the Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy is handed off to the Implementation Team and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) must designate or present a viable option to Critical Habitat for the Sonoma County population of the California tiger salamander.

The Santa Rosa Plain Conservation Strategy Team received 48 responses to the August 3 draft Conservation Strategy and worked through October taking the comments into consideration when preparing the final draft Conservation Strategy. The Implementation Team will request the City Councils of Cotati, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa and Windsor and the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors to pass resolutions committing to a Conservation Strategy Planning Agreement. The Agreement will lead to the implementation, approval and environmental review of a final Conservation Strategy within the next 2 years. It is important for the local jurisdictions to demonstrate their willingness to implement the Conservation Strategy by the December 3 court-imposed deadline for FWS to designate Critical Habitat for the Sonoma County population of the California tiger salamander. FWS prefers to adopt the locally-produced Conservation Strategy, however, with much of the Conservation Strategy’s details dependent upon mechanisms yet to be drafted, reviewed and approved and given the failure for past local conservation efforts on the Santa Rosa Plain to be implemented, it is uncertain how the judge will rule.

**What You Can Do:**

It is important that the science of the Conservation Strategy is not compromised by the desperation to meet deadlines and the challenges of implementation. Please contact your City Council if you live in one of the cities listed above and/or your County Supervisor (Mike Kearns and Paul Kelly sit on the Implementation Team). Let your representatives know that you want the Conservation Strategy Plan, the product of the Conservation Strategy Planning Agreement, to follow the principles and remain faithful to the final Strategy prepared by the Conservation Strategy Team. Our continued involvement is necessary in all steps leading to implementation of a conservation effort on the Santa Rosa Plain.

**Welcome New Board Members!**

Welcome to Lily Verdone, who has joined the chapter board as a Director at Large, and welcome also to Jim Piercy, our new treasurer!

Lily is a Master’s candidate at Sonoma State University in the Department of Biology. With a background in environmental studies, she is committed to pursuing innovative strategies for ecosystem management and conservation. Specifically, she is interested in the distribution and abundance of invasive plant species in relation to anthropogenic disturbance. Her research examines the influence of nutrients on the invasive aquatic plant, *Ludwigia*, in the Laguna de Santa Rosa. *Ludwigia* appears to be threatening plant and animal diversity by inhibiting native plant growth and recruitment, altering existing habitat and minimizing open water foraging grounds. The plant has also generated a public health threat as it creates protective habitat for mosquito species that are vectors of West Nile Virus; sharply inhibiting control efforts and potentially impacting human and bird populations that inhabit this urban greenbelt along the Pacific Flyway. Her findings support the proposition that *Ludwigia* and similar invasive aquatic plants have a greater ability to establish and invade areas with high nutrient loads and spatial and temporal nutrient perturbations.

We will have an introduction article for Jim Piercy in the next newsletter – please check back next month for an intro of our new treasurer!

John Herrick
887-8542 or joherr@yahoo.com.

**Rare Plant Group Heads Indoors**

As darkness looms and fieldtrips dwindle, the Rare Plant Group is taking a Holiday break before holding its first 2006 meeting on Tuesday, Jan 31. We will review 2005 accomplishments, set 2006 priorities and identify prefield tasks to complete prior to spring outings.

The Group accomplished much in its first six months of existence. We conducted 16 outings including trips to Annadel SP, Camp Meeker/Occidental area, Sonoma Valley Regional Park, Mayacamas parcels, Rincon Ridge, Doran Beach Regional Park, Hood Mtn Regional Park and Cunningham Marsh.

We visited reported occurrences of the following plants which, according to the California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB), had not been visited in the past ten years or needed additional fieldwork. Species followed by (u) represent unreported occurrences that we encountered during our outings:

- *Amorpha californica var napensis* (u), *Arctostaphylos bakeri ssp bakeri* (u), *A. stanfordiana ssp decumbens*, *Blechnum bakeri*, *Brodiaea californica var leptandra* (u), *Ceanothus*
confusus, C.divergens, C. sonomensis(u), Cordylanthus maritimus ssp palustris, C. tenuis ssp brunnneus, C. tenuis ssp capillaris, Downingia pusilla, Erigeron bioletii, Fritillaria liliaceae(u) and Liliium rubescens.

It is reassuring to report that most of the occurrences appear to be in similar or better condition (greater numbers of individuals and/or no observable treat) than last reported in CNDDB. It is exciting to report additional occurrences of some of these species.

2006 is promising; we are planning to conduct a monthly (conditions permitting) vegetation survey using the CNPS Rapid Assessment method, in addition to species-oriented outings. I hope we can visit some species at the southern end of the alphabet. Notice of the Rare Plant Group outings is spread via email or the alphabet.

It is exciting to report additional occurrences of some of these species.

If you are interested in participating in the above projects, want more information or believe there is a conservation issue the Chapter should consider, contact me at 887-8542 or joherrri@yahoo.com

John Herrick

Chapter Field Trips

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.

In keeping with his great generosity, noted plantsperson Wayne Roderick bequeathed his collection of botanical art to San Francisco Botanical Garden's Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture to be sold to benefit the library. The collection includes more than 100 pieces, ranging from 18th-century hand-colored prints to modern watercolors, and reflecting Wayne's unlimited botanical interests, which included, but were not restricted to, bulbs and California native plants. Wayne was a CNPS Fellow and head of the U.C. Botanical Gardens California section, and the East Bay Regional Parks' Botanical Garden at Tilden Park.

Information: 415-661-1316 x303; library@sfbotanicalgarden.org; www.sfbotanicalgarden.org.

ML Carle, Field Trip Organizer, mlml@svn.net

Lake Soulajule with Marin chapter and Janet Klein of Marin Water District

December 17th, 8:30 until 2 or 3 o'clock

Lake Soulajule is about ten miles west of Petaluma. Because of its out-of-the-way location it is a quiet, seldom visited, place. One side of it is very weedy, but the far side has many native plants, as documented by botanists Peter Warner and Doreen Smith. Many bird species live there, and we saw an otter playing in an adjacent pond on one of our trips. Three years ago Peter Warner noted that there were French broom plants just getting a foothold, and that we could save the native plants if we got after them. Janet Klein of the Marin Water District was interested, and we have been cleaning up broom and checking out plants for two years now. Since broom seeds last for years, the initial removal has to be followed up with further visits until the plants say uncle. Janet provides us with transportation to the far side, tools, and a crew of young people. It is one of the most satisfying outings we have. This time Janet promised to show us flaming as a weed control strategy, and a rapid assessment of a selected stand.

Bring a lunch and boots and clothes you don't mind getting dirty. A plastic bag to sit on in case of dampness is a good idea. You may want to bring binoculars, hand lens, and cameras.
Meet at Noah's Bagels in Petaluma at 8:30 for directions and possible car-pooling.

ML Carle, Field Trip Organizer, mlml@svn.net
Lichens at Armstrong Woods with Judith Robertson, Lichenologist
February 4
Investigate with a wonderful teacher the fascinating world of small things - in the world of very large things - the redwoods of Armstrong Woods.

ML Carle, Field Trip Organizer, mlml@svn.net

Chapter Events & Activities

Rains Follow Summer and Seeds Follow Flower;
Come Have a Close Look at Plant I.D. Hour!
Arrive at 6:30, an hour before the November 15th General Meeting, and bring specimens of plants you want to identify. You’ll see some current plants of interest from the local area, 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, November 13, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
As we did not finish weeding the lily enclosures, we are scheduling another work day. We will finish weeding, cutting blackberries and making brush piles from non-native poplars which have been cut, to attract quail. Please come prepared for poison oak & blackberries. Bring a favorite weeding tool, water and lunch. Meet at 1460 Big Cedar Lane in Sebastopol (off Lone Pine). Please RSVP. For directions, contact Marcia Johnson, owlsnest@directway.com (new email) or 707-829-3808.

A big thank you to Ruby Herrick, ML Carle, Ellen Sherron, Betty Young and Peter Ehrlich for help with the berries and weeding. Also joining us were members of the Rare Plant/Rapid Assessment Team: Lynn Houser, Jeff Woodward, John Herrick, Sarah Gordon, Dea Freid and Gary Hundt.

Marcia Johnson
Steward, Cunningham Marsh

Fall Planting for Restoration at Rincon Ridge Park Sensitive Plant Area
Saturday, November 12, at 9:00-Noon
The time has come to plant some gallon cans of rare shrubs up at Rincon Ridge Park! A couple years ago while walking around the park, I was concerned about the possible damage to rare Rincon Manzanita shrubs during the development of the play areas, as there were several healthy shrubs in the vicinity of the construction. I took fall cuttings of several plants, and also some of the single Sonoma Manzanita, (Artostaphylos canescens ssp. sonomensis) and propagated them in a perlite/potting soil mix for the winter, which were potted up in spring. Last fall I took more cuttings of other plants, including some Rincon Ceanothis. It turned out that several healthy plants were indeed lost during construction, and I am pleased to say that we have clones of the lost plants ready to go in the ground!

On Saturday, Nov. 12, we will plant out 30 1-gallon plants from my locally propagated stock of Rincon Manzanita, Rincon Ceanothis, Sonoma Manzanita, and Sticky Monkeyflower, to restore the areas impacted by the fire-safety clearing and fence construction. A local neighbor has offered to water the new plants in the summer and look out for them. We will have shovels and hoes, but we can’t do it without you! Please contact Lynn Houser for more information; your help is most welcome! A local troop of Brownie Girl Scouts, also lead by Lynn Houser, will be planting toyons (Heteromeles arbutifolia) in other areas of the park later on the 12th (1:00-3:00); we start ‘em young here in CNPS!

Rincon Ridge Park is located off of Fountaingrove Parkway in NE Santa Rosa. Take the Bicentennial Way exit east off Hwy 101N to Fountaingrove Parkway; turn left on Rincon Ridge Drive at the top, then right on Park Gardens Drive. Meet on the left side of the fenced area, by the gate. Hope to see you there!

Lynn Houser, Rincon Ridge Park Steward
568-3230 or housers@sonic.net

Other Events & Activities of Interest

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 9:00am – noon. November 12, December 10, 2005, January 14, February 11, March 11, 2006. Call Jenny at 707-792-4422, email jenny@creeks.cotati.info or visit www.CotatiCreekCritters.info for more details.

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.

There are also field workshops at the Fairfield Osborn preserve. November 13: Yoga & Walking Meditation, 8 – noon. $30. December 4: Wild Mushroom walk, 10:30 – 2:30. $20. For more info call: 795-5069, visit www.sonoma.edu/org/Preserve or email: fairfield.osborn@sonoma.edu

CNPS is celebrating its 40th anniversary, Friday December 2nd from 7:30 – 10:30 pm in the Brazilian Room, Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. There will be a silent auction along with food and drink, a jazz duo, and a live auction later in the evening. Please contact Elaine Jackson at elainex@ mindspring.com or (925) 372-0687 to RSVP (by November 25th) or if you have questions.
A Look at the Life Cycle of Native Plants

Understanding the “Sleeping Beauty Syndrome” is important to gardening successfully with many California native plants. Their life cycle includes a period of summer dormancy which is broken by the kiss of the first rains of fall. This is markedly different from the natural cycle of many of the eastern or British garden plants with which we are familiar. In their natural settings, winter often offers up the kiss of death, not of renewal.

Plants native to Mediterranean regions, like the coastal and chaparral plants of California, have had to develop mechanisms to survive heat stress. Their foliage consists of evergreen sclerophyll leaves—tough and leathery—often protected by waxy cuticle or surface hairs to resist dehydration. They toughen up in the summer, their aromatic oils or resins concentrating to repel grazing animals. Their metabolism slows down, reducing both new growth and loss of moisture by transpiration.

The new growing season starts in fall, rather than spring. When the first rains bless the land, the coats of fallen seeds begin to swell and split. Sensing the renewing moisture, the roots of perennials and shrubs begin vigorous new growth. While the nights may begin to feel chilly, the ground retains residual warmth from the summer. In the garden, we can simulate the early rains by beginning to water as early as mid-September to hasten the start of the growing season. I symbolically welcome the new season on the first day of fall, rains or not, by planting perennial seeds and beginning any new landscape planting that needs to be done.

The results of this early growth phase may not be immediately visible. Foliage may brighten, but tender new growth doesn’t push until after the serious cold snaps of December. With February’s early warm spell, the effects of that wonderful fall night cool are felt. Foliage may brighten, but tender new growth doesn’t push until after the serious cold snaps of December. With February’s early warm spell, the effects of that wonderful fall night cool are felt. Foliage may brighten, but tender new growth doesn’t push until after the serious cold snaps of December.

I find that the main jobs in the spring are not to plant, but to maintain the drop irrigation system, do a little (or a lot) of weeding and renew the mulch around the plants.

Our aesthetic in gardening is to enjoy the forms and foliage of a plant, and especially to appreciate its flowering. However, the plant has a different goal. Its whole agenda is directed toward the production of its seeds. The flower is the means by which the plant goes toward maturing the seeds. Then, job done, the perennial plant can rest, and the annual fades and dies.

This rest occurs during the hot summer. The plant often sheds some of its foliage to reduce the amount of moisture it loses. Leaves toughen, often taking on a waxy or dull cast, becoming more resinous and less appealing to browsers.

It is important to respect this process in the garden, to be sparing with summer water and fertilization. Allow your plants to toughen up. Less tender new growth means less deer damage, less cleanup and pruning, and longer lived plants. This is the time also to do a little deadheading or trimming.

Perennials should have spent seed stalks removed, shrubs can be tip pruned. In the winter, before new spring growth begins, I do the major cleanup, raking out dead debris, trimming out dead wood, burning the residue. We clean as Mother Nature does in these plant communities—by fire, but in the winter and with control.

Sometimes it is hard to think about gardening in the fall. Our energy seems spent. Assault by hyper-producing zucchini and tomato vines is abating. Neglected reading matter beckons, tea mugs become more appropriate than iced tea glasses. But, if you can summon up some energy from the returning coolness and promise of rain, you will be well rewarded by planting at this time of the year.

Mary Anderson, Master Gardener

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.
### Board of Directors – Milo Baker Chapter

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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 **Heide Klein**: nemorphila@yahoo.com

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

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

### Support Our Local Native Plant Nurseries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nursery</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Appleton Forestry Nursery</strong></td>
<td>1369 Tilton Road, Sebastopol</td>
<td>707-823-3776</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Buckeye Nursery</strong></td>
<td>2425 Old Adobe Road, Petaluma</td>
<td>707-559-7081</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>California Flora Nursery</strong></td>
<td>Somers &amp; D Streets, Fulton</td>
<td>707-550-0917</td>
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<tr>
<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 1, Tomales</td>
<td>707-878-2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>North Coast Native Nursery</strong></td>
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NEWSLETTER FREQUENCY SURVEY  Last chance to voice your opinion!

We are considering making a change in the number of pages and frequency of the newsletter. The chapter budgets $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: _______all of it    _____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 info    _____general meetings  _____other (please specify)_________________________________________________________________________

3. Do you have access to the internet  ____yes    ____no

4. 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

5. 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 are some options:
   4 page, 6 issue plan (save $2570)  ____yes    ____no
   6 page, 6 issue plan (save $2174)  ____yes    ____no
   6 page, 8 issue plan (save $1200)  ____yes    ____no

6. Please leave newsletter 8 pages and 10 times per year (no savings)  ____yes    ____no

7. Comments _____________________________________________________________________________________________

Please complete the survey and return it ASAP 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!