Milo Baker Annual Plant Sale
October 11th, 2008
Veteran's Memorial Building, Santa Rosa

I am very excited about the number of plants that we will have this year. I have posted a partial plant list on the web-site. We will have the best selection of ferns that we have ever had with five finger (*Adiantum aleuticum*), lady ferns (*Athyrium felix-femina*), giant chain fern (*Woodwardia fimbriata*), a few Lyman’s polypody (*Polypodium californicum var. lymani*), and lots of sword ferns (*Polistichum munitum*). (Continued on page 3.)

Gardening with California Native Grasses
October 21st, 7 pm

Join us for a fun and lively discussion about California native grasses with Bob Hornback. He will cover both the cultivation and ecology of these wonderful plants focusing on their use in gardens and the landscape.

Bob Hornback is known as the "Grass Man," an early advocate for incorporating ornamental grasses into the landscape. He was drawn to grasses by their graceful forms, striking colors and sheer practicality. Back in 1989, when few regarded grass as anything but lawn, he launched Muchas Grasses nursery making these then hard to find plants available. Now, ornamental grasses are staples in Sonoma County gardens in part because of his work on their behalf. Muchas Grasses has since evolved from a nursery to a brokerage and consulting firm. For more than 30 years, he has lead courses in the use of ornamental grasses in the landscape. As instructor, he has shared his expertise in classes through UC Berkeley Extension, The San Francisco Botanical Garden, Merritt College in Oakland, Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, Santa Rosa Junior College and College of Marin – among many venues. "I approach teaching as show biz," he says. "I think a lot of it is like stand-up comedy. Comedy is a wonderful device. You can make them laugh, but they learn stuff."

Join us for Dinner before the Meeting:
We'll gather for dinner at 6PM at Kirin Restaurant, 2700 Yulupa Ave. We hope our speaker will join us, but we always have an enjoyable group of fellow members and a delicious Northern Chinese meal in any case. Please contact Lynn Colborn at 829-9128 or clc123@comcast.net by October 21st if you plan to attend.

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 start at 7:00pm, 2nd Tuesday nine months of the year, Environmental Center, 55 Ridgeway Avenue, Suite A, Santa Rosa. The next Board meeting is October 14th. Anyone interested in the work of the chapter is welcome to attend!
President's Report

As the days get shorter and the nights get cooler, I look forward to feeling the first rain of the season and putting new plants in the ground. Judy Hartwig, who coordinates the volunteers, is calling on us to help. Our plant sale volunteers are wonderful, sharing knowledge and helping customers find what they are looking for. I will be cashing, as I have done for the past ten years or so. Hope to see you there.

I was quite impressed with the Milo Baker Chapter hosting the state meeting of the Chapter Council and Board of Directors in September. Keeping it local and simple was a great theme and benefit, since a convenient location, good acoustics, and a tasty dinner and program is what makes the meetings productive and memorable. The feedback from the delegates was very positive; everything went smoothly. Liz Parsons was the main coordinator and Wendy Krupnick and Liz Cook did the catering with organic, local foods. I hosted the camping at Spring Lake, which had good turnout with several leaders of the Society, complete with two guitars and the singing of Beatles songs. In addition to Liz and Wendy, I’d like to thank Mary Aldrich, Penny Dalton, Lea Gillespie, Gary Hundt, Betsy Livingston, Charlotte Martin, April Owens, Jim Piercy, Katy Redmon, Pat Sesser, and Cindy Tancreto. Hosting and serving the state meeting is no small task and I am very proud of our Chapter.

Photo: At the Dept. of Fish and Game’s Harrison Grade Ecological Preserve field trip with Gene Cooley: Chapter Council Vice Chair Larry Levine observes the serpentine reed grass (Calamagrostis ophititis), with Treasurer Steve Hartman looking on, as I check the name in the Flora.

A few days after the Chapter Council Meeting, the Milo Baker Board met and discussed several items. We wrote a letter to support a grant award for the Adopt-a-Vernal Pool Project headed by Dr. Christina Sloop at the Laguna Foundation, which continues data gathering about rare plants on the Santa Rosa Plain.

This month we will elect the Milo Baker Board of Directors. I am really pleased about the enthusiasm and positive energy that surrounds us in our CNPS activities and so have agreed to run for a second term as President. A deciding factor was the success of the volunteers hosting the state meeting and recruiting new volunteers without me doing “all the work”. I am grateful for time off I was able to enjoy instead of getting crunched, because everyone stepped up to the task. We also found some new volunteers in September. Natasha Granoff was recruited by Beth Robinson to lead field trips next year; she hosted Harrison Grade on September 7th. Michael Hogan has offered to help with conservation, and we will be meeting with him soon. As you will see on the ballot in this issue, we have a great group of dedicated volunteers running for the Board, and I encourage you to vote. You can mail in your ballot (received by Oct. 21st) or vote at the October 21st general meeting. Thanks to the Nominating committee for their help and support. We have a great team, and I look forward to serving our members and working for our native flora in the future.

Merit Scholars

We are pleased to announce the recipient of the chapter’s merit scholarship for students of native plants: Frédérique Lavoipierre of Sebastopol. Frédérique is a Master’s student in biology at Sonoma State University. She was awarded a $500 scholarship for use towards her research on the pollination biology of California bay laurel. Though bay trees are an abundant, important, and well-loved element of California’s plant communities, little is known about how these aromatic trees are pollinated. Frédérique plans to conduct her study at Sonoma State’s Fairfield Osborn Preserve. In addition to her studies, Frédérique has recently become the director of a new program at Sonoma State, the Sustainable Landscape Professional Certificate Program. (For more information on this program, see www.sonoma.edu/sustainablelandscape/index.htm) She has also done extensive work studying, writing and teaching about beneficial insects in the garden and landscape; she gave a talk on this topic to our own chapter last year. Congratulations, Frédérique, and best wishes with your research and your exciting new work with the Sustainable Landscape Program!

The Chapter awards these scholarships to support students of native plant conservation, restoration, or other native plant sciences. Scholarships are available each semester to students at Sonoma State or Santa Rosa Junior College. The funds may be used for educational or research-related expenses. Applications for the spring 2009 scholarship will be
accepted this winter. For details, please contact Joan Schwan (SSU Representative), at 707-823-0446 or jschwan@sonic.net.

© Joan Schwan

Chapter Field Trips

Fall Hike at Salt Point State Park
Saturday, October 25, 10:30 am - 3:00 pm
Join Ann Howald for a relaxing October hike at the coast. We may catch a glimpse of fall color, search for a rare manzanita, find Pt. Reyes ceanothus on the coastal bluffs, or even spot fringed corn lily in all its late flowering glory. Meet at the Stump Beach parking lot promptly at 10:30 am (no fee). For those coming from Santa Rosa, meet at the River Road Park and Ride at 9:00 am for an unstaffed carpool. From there, continue west on River Road/Highway 116 to Highway 1, then travel north through Jenner and past Fort Ross to Salt Point State Park (about 20 miles). Go past the Gerstle Cove Campground about 2 miles to the Stump Beach parking lot, on the left (west/ocean) side of Highway 1. Driving time from the River Road Park and Ride is about 1.5 hours. Bring lunch, water, hat, windbreaker, sunscreen. Wear long pants, sturdy shoes. Hike limited to 15 people. Heavy rain cancels. Contact: Beth, bethysmail@gmail.com, or 490-4951.

© Beth Robinson

Save the date:
The Luther Burbank Art and Garden Center will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary with a Gala Celebration on Sunday, October 26 from 1 PM to 5 PM. The Center has a beautiful new look with a new front entrance and new landscaping. The building is looking better than ever. Milo Baker Chapter rents the Center for our monthly meetings and we have been invited to participate in the Gala. The member clubs will have tables where they can show the community what they do and perhaps recruit new members. There will be complimentary hors d’oeuvres and wine tasting for a small fee. The event promises to be a lot of fun. The public is invited. Hope to see you there.

© Liz Parsons

Plant Sale News

September 30, Tuesday, 5:00 PM–Seed packaging workshop at Liz Parsons' Kenwood house. A potluck supper will be served...Liz will make enchiladas. We will package the seeds that we have collected. Bring your seeds, the packaging materials and labels will be furnished. If you don't have seeds come anyway and help with the work. (If the bulbs have arrived we will package them, if not they will be packaged Friday night before the plant sale.) Call Liz if you have questions: 833-2063.

October Plant Sale
(Continued from page one.) Thank you to everyone who has changed the year in the current plant sale flyer. Please make that change to 2008 before you post the flyer. The day, October 11, is correct and it is the 37th annual sale.
We will have lots of PCN hybrid irises...in beautiful colors including striped gold, striped brown, red-violet w/gold blaze, magenta, lavender w/yellow, and one that we call sunset. The named variety ‘Canyon Snow’ is white with a yellow spot and is one of the easiest to grow and one of the most popular named varieties.
My garden is ablaze with California fuchsia a.k.a. Zauschneria. It blooms profusely from July until the first frost and the bright red-orange flowers make it the star of the late summer garden. It should be planted in the hottest, driest part of the garden. It responds well to a little water, but not too much because it spreads by underground runners. We will have many California fuchsias(Epilobium a.k.a. Zauschneria). Epilobium canum ‘Calistoga’ is a variety that Phil Van Soelen (co-owner of California Flora Nursery in Fulton) collected in the Palisades near Calistoga in Napa County. It grows to 1 foot tall with wide grey-green leaves and scarlet flowers. It is a slow spreader. Epilobium canum ‘Catalina’ is the tallest of the CA fuchsia varieties. It grows to 3 feet, has silvery-grey foliage, and spreads rapidly if watered regularly. It was selected on Catalina Island by Mike Evans owner of Tree of Life Nursery. ‘Wayne’s Silver’ is an Epilobium septentrioale (Humboldt County fuchsia) which forms a tight mound of silver foliage (under 1 ft.) with bright red flowers. Nevin Smith grew-out seeds that were collected by Wayne Roderick and he selected this variety. We will also have several varieties of Salvia.
Salvia clevelandi ‘Alan Chickering, which is a shrubby (5’ tall x 6’ wide) with lavender flowers, S. leucophylla ‘Pt. Sal’ (3’ tall x 6’ wide) pink flowers with grey, white leaves, and the great ground cover Salvia ‘Bee’s Bliss’ with a growth habit similar to Sonoma sage, only more garden tolerant. We will also have limited numbers of Salvia ‘Dara’s Choice’ (similar to Sonoma sage), S. apiana ‘Vicky Romo’ a white sage selection with blue flowers (3’ x’4’), and Salvia spathacea (Hummingbird sage) which creeps by underground runners and has large pink flowers.

Once again the County is in a water crisis. This benefits our sale because many of our natives are drought-tolerant and can be used in a water-wise landscape, also called a xeriscape. Manzanitas (Arctostaphylos), Sages (Salvia) and CA wild lilac (Ceanothus) are three large plant groups that can be used in xeriscaping and in a habitat garden. These are two movements that have encouraged people to seek out plants native to California. There will be a table featuring habitat plants at the sale.

A special feature of our sale will be Kathy Biggs (our September speaker) and water plants for a water habitat. There will be wonderful CA native bulbs from Brent and Becky’s again this year. We have also been increasing the number of seeds that will be offered. So check out the seed and bulb table at the sale, you might be surprised.

Becky Montgomery, Mary Aldrich, Lynn Houser, Kathi Dowdikan and I will be pricing and labeling plants the week before the sale. Anyone who has some free time during the day on Tuesday (Sebastopol), Wednesday (Cal Flora), or Thursday (Santa Rosa), please call Liz at 833-2063. These vital tasks go faster if we have a lot of help. The plants will be collected at the usual collection centers.

If you are growing plants for the sale please bring them to any of the following collection centers on the weekend before the sale:

1. Mary Aldrich, 4775 Newanga, SR, SR, 539-9005
2. Cal Flora Nursery, D and Sommers, Fulton, 528-8813
3. Hale’s Apple Farm, 1526 Gravenstein Highway, N, Dave Hale, 823-4613

On Friday night we will need truckers to transport plants from the collection center to the Vet’s Memorial Building. Call Liz if you have a truck and can help.

We welcome everyone to our sale and want to provide the plants that people need for their particular purpose. I welcome suggestions. If you have any plant that you would like to see at our sale, let me know and perhaps we will be able to fulfill your request. An almost complete list of plants is on the website.

If you helped at our sale last year, Judy Hartwig (832-1821) will be calling you soon to ask you to volunteer. I hope that all members will help us again. This is a huge effort and WE NEED YOU! Call Judy and volunteer. We need cashiers, salespersons, drivers and help in many areas.

Please mark your calendars for October 11 and plan to help us by working at the sale. If you can't work, please come by and shop for plants. Workers only can purchase plants on Friday evening before the sale, so make plans to work for the sale.

The work of the Milo Baker Chapter depends on the success of our plant sale. Our members are our best customers. Please tell your friends to attend and buy plants.

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

Liz Parsons

Invasives Corner

Alaska and Sonoma County

I was in Alaska late in August, past the height of wildflower blooming, but there were lots of blue flowering plants in our first campground in Denali - in fact I believe we saw more flowers in our campground than anywhere else we traveled. Monks hood - Aconitum columbianum, bluebells - Campanula sp., and Gentiana sp. were best represented. I’ve noticed that Pomo Trail, near the Russian River outlet, has a preponderance of bluish flowers in August late in the blooming season: giant hedge nettle - Stachys rigida, Gentiana sp., and seven other bluish ones I counted, but can’t remember. Is there a reason why...
bluish flowers would be more prevalent in late summer? Or is my observation just a coincidence? Let me know if you have an answer.

Alaska is not a very weedy place for obvious reasons, but we kept seeing bright red spikes of fireweed, *Chamerion angustifolium* (used to be *Epilobium angustifolium*) to the point that I wondered if they were invasive. My friends who were driving back through Canada said the abundance of fireweed continued through Canada, and into Washington and California. I guess it is just one of those very adaptable plants that love water. And Alaska certainly has plenty of that! Wet, cool places in Europe and Asia - BEWARE!

We stopped on the side of the road to figure out where we were on the Kenai Peninsula, and noticed a delicately beautiful plant; snapdragony yellow flowers with a long spur on a spike. I didn't recognise it, but I found it illustrated in a field guide to Alaskan wildflowers in one of Alaska's several great museums of natural history. I showed it to a naturalist at the desk, and she informed me that I had found an Alaskan invasive problem. Dalmatian toadflax - *Linaria dalmatica*. I looked it up on Calflora and it has been documented in the great majority of counties, excluding Marin, Sonoma and a few others. Furthermore, the California Invasive Plant Council list of invasive plants includes it. Isn't that neat - an invasive plant that Sonoma County doesn't have - yet! Keep your eyes open, and please don't plant it.

Chapter Elections

Every two years the Milo Baker Chapter members vote on a new Board of Directors. You may wonder what we do, when we are not hiking, growing plants for the plant sale, commenting on development proposals, or talking to agency people on rare plant issues. The Board meets 9 months per year on the second Tuesday of the month. In addition to having potluck dinners each time and a Board potluck outing in January, we get the work done for the chapter, much of it with fundraising from the plant sale. Here are just a few things we have done in the last term. Starting in January 2007, John Herrick coordinated a Manzanita Workshop with the experts in the field, which earned money for conservation activities. Our chapter has contracted with Circuit Riders and the Laguna Foundation to restore Cunningham Marsh. Our conservation successes include protections for Pitkin Marsh and stronger language in the General Plan. The board has awarded scholarships for SSU students studying Botany, with the leadership of Joan Schwan. Our chapter has had record turn out on field trips with Beth Robinson, who has found a new field trip chair (Natasha Granoff) and will be serving on the board in the next term. We produce a very popular monthly program and beautiful newsletter. Our plant sale is great fun. There is a lot of great work being done on behalf of native plants. We have new candidates that you probably know from going to meetings and the plant sale. I think Milo Baker would be proud of our team.

Please vote and show your support. Thank you.

COME TO THE MEETING OR VOTE BY MAIL

Please complete, cut out and mail your ballot by Oct. 15th (to be received by Oct. 21st) and mail to: CNPS Milo Baker Elections, P.O. Box 892, Santa Rosa, CA 95402, or come to the general meeting and vote in person. Your participation is needed! Thanks to all for running and also to the Nominating Committee for recruiting: Sarah Gordon, John Herrick, Liz Parsons & Joan Schwan

CANDIDATES FOR THE MILO BAKER CHAPTER BOARD of DIRECTORS FOR 2009-2010:

Please check or write-in your choices below:

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<td>President</td>
<td>Lynn Houser</td>
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<td>Vice-President</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Pat Sesser</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>Directors-At-Large</td>
<td>Beth Robinson</td>
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Sonoma State Representative: (write in)

Santa Rosa Junior College Representative: (write in)

mlml@sonic.net
**State News**

**Attend the 2009 CNPS Conservation Conference – Milo Baker Chapter Scholarships Available!**

The upcoming CNPS Conservation Conference promises to be a very informative, valuable event for anyone who works with and/or cares about California native plant conservation—and our chapter wants to help make it affordable for local members to attend. The Milo Baker Chapter is offering three scholarships of $250 each to local CNPS members, to be used for registration fees or travel expenses. The conference will take place January 17-19, 2009 in Sacramento. Workshops follow the conference on January 20 and 21. Recipients will be chosen by lottery from the pool of member applicants. Early registration (before 11/15) for the full conference costs $290 for CNPS members; student members get a discounted rate of $100. The purpose of the conference is “to identify and promote science- and policy-based strategies and solutions to improve the conservation of California’s native flora and natural landscapes.” Keynote speakers will include environmental justice and clean energy advocate Jerome Ringo; Professor Steven Hopper, Director of the Royal Botanic Garden; and naturalist, educator, artist, and author John (Jack) Muir Laws. Over 200 presenters will address session topics including mitigation, climate change, land acquisition and management, and vegetation mapping and classification for conservation.


To apply for a scholarship, send your name and contact information to Lynn Houser, Chapter President, at housers@sonic.net or P.O. Box 892, Santa Rosa, CA 95402 by November 1st. You can call Lynn at 568-3230 for more information.

- Joan Schwan

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**CNPS Symposium**

A major 2-day native plant gardening symposium is being planned for March 28-29, 2009 on the theme of "Growing Natives: Celebrating California’s Beauty in Dry Times". CNPS is one of 3 major cosponsors, along with Friends of Regional Parks Botanic Garden and Pacific Horticulture Foundation.

- Arvind Kumar, CNPS Board Member

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**Preserve Stewardship**

**Rincon Ridge Park**

**Monday, October 20th, 10:00-noon**

**Work party and hike**

Goals for this month: Clear brush; contact City of Santa Rosa; identify areas for planting. The work days for Rincon Ridge are the **third Mondays of each month from 10-12**.

A plant list is available at our website, [www.cnpsmb.org](http://www.cnpsmb.org) and additions are welcome. The park is located off of Fountaingrove Parkway and Rincon Ridge Drive (at the stoplight). Go east on Rincon Ridge Dr. then right on Park Gardens drive and park. You can contact me at 304-3820 if you can’t find us. Bring loppers, gloves, pruners, and saws. I’d like to thank all the volunteers that have brought new activity to the preserve and really made a difference. Hope to see you this fall.

- Lynn Houser, Rincon Ridge Park Steward

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**Conservation**

A new volume of the Rainbow Series is out and focuses on fire and invasive species. The Rainbow Series is a good one and incorporates many solid reviews of fire effects. You can download a pdf file of the new volume (and older ones). The new volume serves as a reminder that sometimes natural recovery of wild lands after fire does not produce what we might like to see. Invasive species put a kink in recovery and fuel management plans. This will be a useful series and volume to backup CNPS policy on vegetation management for fire safety.

Zouhar, Kristin; Smith, Jane Kapler; Sutherland, Steve; Brooks, Matthew L. 2008. Wildland fire in ecosystems: fire and nonnative invasive plants.
Chapter 9 by Klingler, Wills, and Brooks and Chapter 8 by Rice, McPherson, and Rew provide useful reviews for our region. Chapter 14 by Matt Brooks pertains to fire suppression and post fire management. We need to think about situations where some seeding after fire can be beneficial, such as breaking the cheatgrass-fire cycle or other situations where natural recruitment is heavily biased toward invasive, non-native species.

* Arlee Montalvo

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**Gardening with Natives**

**Straw Mulch**

When I plant natives or any other plant including vegetables I like to use mulch to cover the bare earth around my new plants. I continue to add mulch to my plants as they mature. Mulching is good for all soil types and makes gardening much easier by eliminating many chores and problems. Mulching is nature’s way of recycling nutrients. However, some bare soil is good, a few inches around the plant stem should be left bare so as not to cause stem rot. I also leave occasional bare patches of soil for the ground nesting native bees and other pollinators.

Mulches save on watering by helping soil retain moisture. They keep the soil from drying out because they prevent dew and water found deep in the soil from escaping. Dew is partially made up of moisture from the air but also is made of condensation of moisture found in underground air pockets.

Mulches are good for suppressing weeds. Of course the mulch must be weed free. The mulch must be thick enough to prevent existing weeds from germinating. Some tough weeds will still find their way up through the mulch, but these will be weaker for having had to make their way to the surface, easy to spot once they surface and easier to remove if surrounded by mulch.

Mulches can help regulate root temperatures. They keep plants warmer in winter and cooler in summer. They act as insulation to keep the roots from having to cope with sudden temperature swing thereby reducing plant stress.

Mulches can be organic (things that decompose) or inorganic (things that don’t rot). Common organic mulches are straw, hay, compost, redwood bark, leaves, and agricultural by-products like hulls, but can be newspapers or even old cedar shingles. Common inorganic mulches are gravel, plastic and landscape fabric. Obviously some mulches are more attractive, more readily available, less expensive to use and longer lasting. Mulches will stabilize and improve soil. They can stop compaction and erosion by gently absorbing raindrops. When organic mulches break down they add organic matter to soil that in turn improves soil structure, aeration, water percolation and nutrient distribution. Mulches encourage one of my favorite garden critters, earthworms. Earthworms aerate the soil and enrich it with their castings. Organic mulches also increase microbial activity that does important work in soil. Microbes speed up the break down of organic matter to make nutrients and moisture available to the roots.

Acquiring weed-free mulch and putting it down in the garden can be challenging. One source of weed-free straw is Hedgerow Farms, in Winters, California. They grow native grass seed for retail sale. As a by-product they have native grass straw. Instead of weed seeds as found in most straw, the Hedgerow Farm straw has native grass seeds naturally mixed in as a side benefit. I have used bales of their straw, and now I have native grasses growing, which in turn generates straw for my own use.

If you go to Hedgerow Farms you can pick out the type of grass straw you want. I chose a species of grass that is native to Bodega Bay in Sonoma County, blue wild rye (Elymus glaucus). It is a large, wide-leaf bunchgrass, usually tall about 24-55 inches. The seeds heads are long and narrow. It grows in a wide variety of sites and weather conditions. It prefers full sun or partial shade and is found in rich soils of flood plains and riparian areas. It is tolerant to mowing, fire, drought, and short duration flooding. Native blue wild rye is used for grassland and habitat restoration. The straw was very affordable at between $3-5 for a bale. You can contact Hedgerow Farms by phone...
at 530-662-4570 or email hedgefarm@jps.net to get directions and more information. Another source of straw without weed seeds is rice straw from the central valley. It is usually available in the late summer and early fall after the rice harvest. You can purchase it locally and inexpensively. The straw is a bit tougher and the strands are longer so it has a different look and feel than the native grass straw. Worms love either straw. Both grass straw and rice straw are easy to apply. The bales are heavy but once you cut the binding string you can break off “pancakes” for application.

If you don’t care for the appearance of straw mulch, you can top-dress with other more expensive and attractive mulches. You know you have healthy soil if you have earthworms.

This column appeared in the August 2008 issue of the Russian River Times

Victoria Wikle

Events and Items of Interest

Native Plant Class
A short class in Native Plants is being offered by SRJC. The class is Natural Resources (NRM) 102-Selection & Propagation of Native Plants for Restoration. It is on three Fridays from 2-5, and two Saturdays 9-2:30, from Sept 26 to Oct 11. It is being taught by Karen Tillinghast and Jay Pederson, both longtime supporters of native plants.

Wayne Clark
gyrfalcon@sbcglobal.net

Garden Allies: Beneficial Insects and Other Helpful Garden Denizens
Saturday, October 25, 9-2 p.m.

Meet the Garden Allies: How to Control Pests without Pesticides
Powerpoint lecture on beneficial insects and the advantages of conservation biological control. Presenter Frederique Lavoipierre is author of the Pacific Horticulture magazine series ‘Garden Allies’, coordinator of the SSU Entomology Outreach program, and director of the SSU Sustainable Landscape Program.

Creating Beautiful Habitats
Powerpoint lecture on creating attractive and effective habitats for beneficial insects and other garden inhabitants. Presenter Kate Frey is an instructor in the SSU Sustainable Landscape Program, winner of two gold medals at the Chelsea Garden Show in London, and works as a landscape designer and consultant.

A Look Through the Lens
A close-up look at some of the insects that keep gardens healthy, using high-quality microscopes. Includes a tour of the SSU Museum entomology collections, and displays of posters and exhibits developed for the outreach program.

Garden Tour
A tour of the SSU gardens: the demonstration garden at the Center for Sustainable Communities, and the Butterfly and Native Plant gardens. This workshop is a fundraiser for the Entomology Education and Outreach Program, which provides presentations for local school gardens and classrooms for grades K-8 as well as workshops for garden groups and other organizations. Workshop held at Sonoma State University, Darwin Hall, Room 103

Included: information packet, morning refreshments and bag lunch.
$35 ($25 tax-deductible)
No parking fee on weekends.
Maps: www.sonoma.edu
Limited seating - to reserve contact:
lavoipie@sonoma.edu, phone 707-829-0751
Checks may be made out to SSU Biology and remitted to:
Ruth Burke, Administrator
School of Science and Technology
Sonoma State University
1801 East Cotati Avenue
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

Cotati Creek Critters: Inside/Outside Nature Education Series
Cotati Creek Critters: October events include a Fall Bird Walk (Sunday, October 5, 9 a.m.), a Trash PickUp along the Laguna in Cotati (Saturday, October 11, 9 a.m. – 12 noon), and a Creek Stewardship Day focusing on restoring the tools of restoration (Sunday, October 26, 10 a.m. – 1p.m.)
Riverkeeper Stewardship
Park Volunteer Days
What: Enjoy time on the Russian River working with other volunteers to restore healthy riverbank habitat. Everyone and all ages are welcome. Activities include: planting and caring for native plants, weeding, erosion control, restoration education and Park cleanup. Students can receive volunteer credit for participating. Everyone and all ages are welcome, no experience is necessary. Visit the park to see the transformation or be part of the transformation taking place. Light refreshments are provided.
When: Every Wednesday.
Time: 8:30 - 11:30 am, please join us for all or part of the time.
Bring: water and gloves - wear sturdy shoes.
Where: 16153 Main St., Guerneville, located on the north bank of the Russian River directly upstream of the pedestrian bridge. Access is down a driveway in front of Sonoma Nesting Co. At the bottom of the driveway look for the blue and white sign that says, “Russian Riverkeeper Demonstration Riparian Restoration Project Future Community Park.” Parking is available near the sign.
For more information, contact Victoria Wikle at 865-2474 or VictoriaWikle@usa.net. See the website at http://www.russianriverkeeper.org or call Don McEnhill at 217-4762, or e-mail him at rrkeeper@sonic.net.

Sonoma Land Trust
Friday October 3rd, 10:00am –3:00pm
Little Black Mountain Volunteer Workday
Volunteers are needed for a workday at the Little Black MountainNature Preserve near Cazadero in west Sonoma County, Friday Oct. 3rd, 10-3. Come clip and saw Douglas fir seedlings that are encroaching upon the grassland meadows and oak woodlands. Douglas fir seedlings that sprout at the drip line of oak crowns can eventually shade out the oaks.

Friday October 24th, 10:00am –2:00pm
White Rock Preserve Erosion Control Straw Mulching Project
Join Sonoma Land Trust staff for a volunteer workday at the White Rock Nature Preserve northeast of Healdsburg, Friday Oct. 24th, 10-2. Come spread rice straw and native seed over the recently re-contoured roadbed before the rainy season starts. Volunteer activities will be followed by a hike through the oak woodlands to a lookout with extensive views of the Alexander Valley.
For more information or to RSVP, call (707) 544-5614 ext. 2 or email: volunteer@sonomalandtrust.org

New Resources for Members
CNPS Lending Library at the EC
Back in February 2006, Maxine Durney, a long-time CNPS member, donated approximately 40 books to our Chapter. They are mostly for plant and flower identification, some local, some not, but which might be useful to borrow when you are planning a trip out of state. This collection is now available to CNPS members at the Environmental Center (EC) at 55 Ridgeway in Santa Rosa. Also available at the center is a larger collection of environmental books and audio/visual media and various planning documents, EIR’s, etc. In addition, Gary Hundt has made available his personal collection of plant books. The EC is a resource for meetings and information shared with about a dozen local environmental groups including the local Sierra Club, Madrone Audubon, and other groups focused on water, transportation, farming, and other local issues. The center is generally open afternoons Monday through Thursday. See www.envirocentersoco.org for more info on the SCCC, the coalition organization that operates this shared resource. See Gary or Tom Devlin for particulars on using the materials at the center.
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

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RareFind Custodian: John Herrick, 887-8542, joherrri@yahoo.com
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Southridge Preserve, Jeffery Barrett, barrett8@sonic.net
SRJC Representative: OPEN
SSU Representative, Joan Schwan, 823-0446, jschwan@sonic.net
Vine Hill Preserve, Sarah Gordon, 833-1243, Sarahpgordon@gmail.com

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
Milo Baker Chapter www.cnpsmb.org
P.O. Box 892
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Lilium pardalinum ssp. pitkinense
Pitkin lily

Newsletter & Web Site Info:
Send newsletter submissions to:
Katy Redmon, cnpsmbnewsletter@yahoo.com
Deadline for inclusion in the November
Newsletter is October 15.
The chapter web site www.cnpsmb.org
contains a wealth of information plus
current and archived newsletters.
To receive notification of the online newsletter,
or for newsletter mailing/membership issues,
contact: Gary Hundt, ghundt@gmail.com

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