Monday, June 13 Marin Chapter Meeting

“Weeds” by Marin Chapter Conservation Chair Eva Buxton

“One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds. Much of the damage inflicted on land is quite invisible to laymen. An ecologist must either harden his shell and make believe that the consequences of science are none of his business, or he must be the doctor who sees the marks of death in a community that believes itself well and does not want to be told otherwise.”

—Aldo Leopold

Plants that are not indigenous to an area can become invasive and can outcompete the natives that co-evolved with the local fauna. Weeds grow in most plant communities and Marin County has an exceptionally large percentage of these non-native species. As Leopold put forth at the beginning of the last century, many people are not aware of weeds and their degradation or destruction of our natural communities. It’s important that we learn to identify these plants and understand the role they play in the environment.

Eva Buxton, our Conservation chair, will illustrate and discuss some of the worst offenders.

Eva became interested in plants as a young child growing up in Sweden. She has an M.A. in Ecology and Systematic Biology with emphasis on botany, and worked as a botanist for an environmental consulting firm for 16 years. She volunteers for many environmental organizations in Marin County.

June meeting:

5:30 p.m.
Join friends and meet our speaker for a no-host dinner at Gira Polli of Mill Valley, 590 East Blithedale Ave. at Camino Alto. Please call Gerd or Kristin Jakob at (415) 388-1844 at least one day ahead to be assured of a seat with our group.

7:30 p.m. Meet at the Redwoods retirement home, 40 Camino Alto, Mill Valley. Books, posters, cards, and native plants will be for sale before as well as after the meeting. Lecture starts at 8 p.m.

LARNER SEEDS OPEN HOUSE

Larner Seeds, specialists in California native plants, is holding our 30th annual Summer Open House at our garden shop and demonstration garden in Bolinas, on Saturday, June 4. We will be open from 12 to 4, with garden tours at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Many interesting plants, seeds, and books will be available, and native plant edibles will be offered. Our chia seed cookies are world-renowned. Our Meadowfoam Meditation Garden will be setting seed, Quail Village will be sequestering newly formed quail couples, and our grow-out areas will include some of our new seed offerings. The winners of our Larner Seeds t-shirt logo contest will be announced, and the new Larner Seeds t-shirts will be available. All are welcome. Visit www.larnerseeds.com for directions, and call (415) 868-9407 with questions.
Save native plant habitat at Point Reyes with the…

THIRD THURSDAY WEEDERS

Would you like to help improve plant habitat with your own two hands?

Join the “Third Thursday Weeders”—a collaboration of the Marin chapter of CNPS and the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin—to tackle invasive weeds that threaten important plant habitat in the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Our new group meets on the Third Thursday of each month at locations arranged with Seashore staff. Our first project was to hand-pull small iceplant seedlings at a gorgeous location on the Outer Point, overlooking the Great Beach amid a glorious display of goldfields, baby blue-eyes, purple owl’s clover, coast fiddleneck and many other plants. Before removal, each of these seedlings had the potential to spread three feet in a season!

Our next work party will take place on Thursday, June 16. Meet at the Point Reyes Lighthouse Parking Lot at 9:30 a.m. We and other weeders have already made terrific progress at the site and native plants are eagerly recolonizing these areas, including such rarities as chocolate lily, north coast phacelia, curly-leaved monardella, and Franciscan thistle.

Bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks, warm and wind-stopping layers, sturdy shoes, and work clothes. No shorts or open-toed shoes. We’ll pull weeds until about 1 p.m., have a picnic lunch, and then take a hike.

Please let us know if you plan to join the group on the 16th by emailing Ellen Hamingson at Ellen_Hamingson@nps.gov. Ellen will send out a reminder and we’ll be sure to wait for everyone before heading to the work area. For more information, contact Carolyn Longstreth at cklongstreth@gmail.com.

Hope to see you on the 16th!

Above: Third Thursday Weeders Ellen Hamingson and Carolyn Longstreth—NPS photo

PLANTS OF THE MONTH

Text and photos by Doreen Smith

The Phlox family, Polemoniaceae, includes several Navarretia species in Marin. Some of them are common California natives; three are listed rare. See page 319 of the new edition of Howell’s Marin Flora for more details than are presented here.

We have nine species of Navarretia that can definitely be said to grow in Marin and one doubtful record. The doubtful occurrence is N. tagetina, which has a pale blue flowers and is perhaps to be found on the upper parts of Mt. Tamalpais, growing mixed in with the similar, but white-flowered, N. intertexta. If you happen to find it, let us know.

Above: Navarretia intertexta ssp. intertexta (interwoven navarretia)

We have nine species of Navarretia that can definitely be said to grow in Marin and one doubtful record. The doubtful occurrence is N. tagetina, which has a pale blue flowers and is perhaps to be found on the upper parts of Mt. Tamalpais, growing mixed in with the similar, but white-flowered, N. intertexta. If you happen to find it, let us know.

Above: Navarretia pubescens (purple navarretia)

Plant of the Month continued on page 3
Most of these little herbaceous plants flower in late spring to early summer. The earliest to bloom is *N. pubescens*. It’s known from Mt. Burdell and wasn’t in the original *Marin Flora* because the locations were on private ranchland, off limits to Mr. Howell before they came to be county Open Space.

Two other species are also only on Mt. Burdell in this county. These are the May-flowering very small population of *N. cotulifolia* and the larger vernal-pool population of *N. leucocephala* var. *bakeri*.

On the northern ridges and meadows of Mt. Tamalpais as far as San Geronimo grow *N. rosulata*, *N. mellita*, *N. heterodoxa*, *N. viscidula*, and *N. intertexta*. Finally the most common and noticeable species, *N. squarrosa* (skunkweed), is almost everywhere. It is the only *Navarretia* on Pt. Reyes.

See the chapter website for photos of the other Marin *Navarretias*.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- **Saturday 6/4, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**  
  Chapter Field Trip: Pilot Knob and Lake Lagunitas
- **Monday 6/13, 7:30 p.m.**  
  Chapter Meeting: Eva Buxton on “Weeds”
- **Thursday 6/16, 9:30 a.m.**  
  Third Thursday Weeder at Pt. Reyes
- **Saturday 6/18, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.**  
  Chapter Field Trip: Rumination on Muddy Hollow
- **Friday 7/8–Monday 7/11**  
  Chapter Field Trip: Cook and Green Pass
- **Saturday 8/6, 10 a.m.–12 noon**  
  Chapter Field Trip: The Historic Gardens of Boyd Park
- **Monday 8/8, 10:30 a.m.**  
  Chapter Board Meeting in Inverness
- **Saturday 9/10, 6 p.m.–9:30 p.m.**  
  Marin Chapter Annual Potluck Dinner and Slide Show, Lucas Valley Community Center
SUMMER 2011 FIELD TRIPS
Marin Chapter Field Trip News and Policies

Make some seedy pals with the Marin chapter of the California Native Plant Society. All hikes are free and open to the public, so please invite your friends. Beginning plant enthusiasts welcome on all hikes. Come prepared for any type of weather or conditions, dress in layers, have non-slip footwear, and bring rain/wind protection just in case. Although it may be sunny and warm when you leave home, the weather could be cold and foggy when we reach our destination. Bring lunch and plenty of water, binoculars and/or hand lenses, and your favorite field guides. Contact Brad Kelley, Field Trip Coordinator, at fieldtrips@bradkelley.org, for trip requests or suggestions. Contact hike Leaders with any questions about individual hikes.

Field Trip Plant Lists

Plant lists compiled by Marin CNPS for many Marin localities are available on the Marin Chapter CNPS website at www.marinnativeplants.org.

Pilot Knob and Lake Lagunitas
Saturday, June 4, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Through one of the most picturesque areas in Marin, Dabney will lead us along the shore of Lake Lagunitas with its rocky outcroppings and varied forest settings to view the many wildflowers and plants that grow here.

From the lake, we’ll take a loop trail with some of the largest trees of various species in Marin to the top of Pilot Knob to see great views of the lake and our own Mount Tam. This hike is especially suitable for beginning plant enthusiasts. Meet at the Lake Lagunitas picnic/parking area. $8 parking fee.

Leader: Dabney Smith—(415) 320-9229

Rumination on Muddy Hollow
Saturday, June 18, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

This area of Point Reyes National Seashore has been the subject of recent restoration efforts focusing on the removal of livestock pond dams and the establishment of an elk herd. As we walk along a six-mile loop across the bluffs above Estero de Limantour, we’ll discuss the changes taking place to the plant communities due to elk grazing (rumination) and restoration of tides to the wetlands, all while drinking in the beauty that is Point Reyes. This hike is especially suitable for beginning plant enthusiasts. Meet at the Muddy Hollow trailhead, about six miles along Limantour Road.

Leader: Dabney Smith—(415) 320-9229

Cook and Green Pass
Friday, July 8–Monday, July 11

Cook and Green Pass Botanical Area near the town of Seiad Valley in Northern California was described by botanist Wayne Roderick as having the most diverse plant community in the smallest area in California and I couldn’t agree more. Hikes will cover the diversity in the immediate area of the Pass and, depending on the participants, hikes to more distant but no less spectacular areas are possible. Consider extending your stay in the Klamath Knot by exploring other hot botanical spots in this part of California.

Contact me for more detailed information and logistics. Primitive camping is available at the Pass and the nearest motels are in Happy Camp, about an hour away.

Leader: Brad Kelley—fieldtrips@bradkelley.org

The Historic Gardens of Boyd Park
Saturday, August 6, 10 a.m.–12 noon

Fancy gardens in this area of San Rafael date back to the late 1800s and some unusual trees, shrubs, and flowers have survived. We’ll explore the history of this area through what is left of these gardens started by historic families like Dollar, Boyd, and Coleman. If we get permission, we’ll take a look at the Elks Club property as well. This hike is especially suitable for beginning plant enthusiasts. Meet at the corner of B Street and Mission Ave.

Leader: Dabney Smith—(415) 320-9229

OPEN SPACE DISTRICT HIKES

For information, visit the Marin County Open Space District website at http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/PK/Main/mcosd/os_walks.asp or contact David Herlocker at (415) 499-3647.
CALIFORNIA NATIVE GRASSLANDS ASSOCIATION WORKSHOPS

Introduction to California Grasslands and Grass ID

**June 11, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.**

Location: Pepperwood Preserve, Santa Rosa
Fees: $30 CNGA and Pepperwood members, $35 non-members, $25 Students with ID
Instructor: Wade Belew

Grasses are fun and easy to identify! Our goal is to learn the basic skills of identifying grasses.

Day 1: Learn about California’s grassland ecology, the qualities of specific native grasses for restoration, and become skilled at recognizing the basic groups and common species through working with plant samples in the classroom.

Day 2: Explore a local grasslands, rich with a diverse assemblage of both native and naturalized grasses and make use of your new understanding and skills.

For more information, visit www.CNGA.org or contact Judy G-Scott, CNGA Administrative Director at (530) 661-2280 or admin@CNGA.org.

Identification and Appreciating the Native and Naturalized Grasses of California

**June 25–26**

Location: Point Reyes Dance Palace and Field Sites, Point Reyes Station
Fees: $220/CNGA members, $240 non-members, $135 Students with ID
Instructor: David Amme

Grasses are fun and easy to identify! Our goal is to learn the basic skills of identifying grasses.

Day 1: Learn about California’s grassland ecology, the qualities of specific native grasses for restoration, and become skilled at recognizing the basic groups and common species through working with plant samples in the classroom.

Day 2: Explore a local grasslands, rich with a diverse assemblage of both native and naturalized grasses and make use of your new understanding and skills.

For more information, visit www.CNGA.org or contact Judy G-Scott, CNGA Administrative Director at (530) 661-2280 or admin@CNGA.org.

GROWING NATIVES: INSPIRING & ENDURING GARDENS

**Saturday, September 17, Lafayette and Sunday, September 18, Berkeley**

Designing, installing, and maintaining native plant gardens of lasting value is the theme of this symposium aimed at professionals, home gardeners, and native plant enthusiasts.

The Saturday program at the Lafayette Community Center includes presentations on garden design by author Carol Bornstein, formerly of Santa Barbara Botanic Garden; site preparation by landscape professional Deva Luna; sourcing native plants by Michael Craib of Suncrest Nurseries; case study of a 40-year-old native plant garden by landscape professional Luke Hass; maintenance tips by nurseryman and author David Fross; a panel discussion; and Q&A. The Saturday program includes a continental breakfast and lunch. A selection of books will be available for purchase.

The Sunday program at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden in Berkeley offers five concurrent workshops over two time slots: container gardening by Pete Veilleux, wildlife gardening by Don Mahoney, plants for dry shade by Katherine Greenberg, rockeries in native plant gardens by Steve Edwards, and aesthetic pruning by Jocelyn Cohen. Participants are invited to bring a picnic lunch and stay for afternoon plant sales and docent-led tours at two locations: Regional Parks Botanic Garden and Native Here Nursery.

The symposium is organized by CNPS, Friends of Regional Parks Botanic Garden, and Pacific Horticulture. Members and subscribers of the sponsoring organizations receive a discount on registration fees. Space is limited and early registration is recommended. For more information and to register, visit http://gns.cnps-scv.org. If you have questions, call Margot Sheffner at (510) 849-1627. Earlybird registration deadline is June 30.
MARIN CHAPTER BOARD MEETING

Monday, August 8, 10:30 a.m.

The August board meeting will take place at the Inverness home of Gini and Dick Havel, at 60 Woodhaven Rd. There will be a meeting at 10:30 a.m., followed by a potluck lunch at 12:30 p.m. Bring a dish and beverage to share, and please RSVP to Kristin Jakob at kristinjakob@pacbell.net if you plan to attend, so the Havels can be told how many people to expect.

Directions: Take Sir Francis Drake Blvd. past Inverness Park, and through Inverness. One mile west of Inverness you will pass the Boatel and Barnaby’s Restaurant. Take the next left, Pinehill Rd., go uphill and take the first left, Kehoe, one block, then turn left onto Woodhaven Rd. Number 60 is the first driveway on the left. The lunch and meeting will take place in the guest house to the left (west) of the main house as you approach. Main house telephone: (415) 669-7315, guest house telephone: (415) 669-7310.

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE!

You can find a color PDF edition of this newsletter on the Marin chapter website by visiting www.marinnative-plants.org/newsletters.html.

JOE KOHN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Joe Kohn Memorial Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the winners of the 2011 Scholarships.

The undergraduate scholarship ($500) was awarded to Eric Slessarev of Stanford University for his study of forest succession on Inverness Ridge following death of tanoak due to sudden oak death.

The graduate scholarship ($1,000) was awarded to Eric Wrubel of San Francisco State University for his production of a visual guide to the sedges of Marin and Sonoma Counties.

In addition, Genevieve Walden from UC Berkeley also received a special award of $750 for her graduate work on the systematics of the section *Humiles* of the genus *Phacelia*.

These three recipients were also awarded gift memberships in CNPS, to encourage these new botanists in their endeavors.

—Paul da Silva
CNPS MEMBERSHIP/DONATIONS

The mission of California Native Plant Society is to conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants. Membership is open to everyone.

Join CNPS Now!

Membership includes informative publications, field trips, monthly programs, and discounts on books and posters. Also included are *Fremontia* (a journal with articles on all aspects of native plants published three times/year), the *Bulletin* (a quarterly statewide report of activities and schedules), and the chapter newsletter. Please call the membership chairperson, Ashley Ratcliffe, for more information.

Join or Renew Online

Renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card. As an option, set it to renew automatically year after year. It’s quick, easy, convenient, and reduces renewal mailing costs.


Join or Renew by Mail

Yes! I wish to affiliate with the Marin Chapter.
☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Membership Category:
☐ Mariposa Lily $1,500
☐ Benefactor $600
☐ Patron $300
☐ Plant Lover $100
☐ Family, Group, or Library $75
☐ Individual $45
☐ Student or Limited Income $25

Name ________________________________
Address ________________________________
Telephone ________________________________
Email ________________________________

From: ________________________________
Address ________________________________
Telephone ________________________________
Email ________________________________

Please send acknowledgement to:
Name ________________________________
Address ________________________________
Telephone ________________________________
Email ________________________________

Mail check payable to CNPS to: Daniel Kushner, 201 Ross St., San Rafael, CA 94901.

CNPS Contact Information

Phone (916) 447-2677 (state)
Fax (916) 447-2727 (state)
Email cnps@cnps.org (state)
Web www.marinnativeplants.org (Marin chapter)
www.cnps.org (state) The state CNPS site is a resource for a wealth of materials, including promotional materials such as banners and posters.

The IRS considers dues in excess of $12.00 per year and all gifts to CNPS Tax Deductible.
Visit us at www.marinnativeplants.org!

GET YOUR COPY OF THE REVISED MARIN FLORA!


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prices:</th>
<th>Hard cover</th>
<th>Soft cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retail</td>
<td>$45 (plus $3.49 tax)</td>
<td>$35 (plus $2.71 tax)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNPS members</td>
<td>$36 (plus $2.79 tax)</td>
<td>$28 (plus $2.17 tax)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(20% off)

WE’D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you would like to make a suggestion for a chapter meeting program, field trip, plant identification workshop, or anything else, please contact us. You can phone or email your ideas to any of the board members listed on page 6 of the newsletter.

PLANT COMMUNITIES OF MARIN COUNTY

Do you want to learn more about the diverse plant communities of this special county?

*Plant Communities of Marin County*, written by David Shuford and Irene C. Timossi and illustrated with exquisite black and white photographs of the communities and their member species, is an excellent resource. Send your check payable to **CNPS** for $11 per copy (shipping, handling, and tax included) to:

Phyllis Faber  
212 Del Casa Dr.  
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Enclosed is $_________. Please send me_________ copies of *Plant Communities of Marin County*.

Name
Address
Telephone