Monday, June 11 Marin Chapter Meeting
“What does the new Jepson Manual mean for California floristics?” by guest speaker Bruce Baldwin

Bruce Baldwin is Curator of the Jepson Herbarium and Professor of Integrative Biology at U.C. Berkeley. He is Convening Editor of the Jepson Flora Project, including The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California, Second Edition.

June meeting:
5:45 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, and cards will be for sale before as well as after the meeting. Lecture starts at 8 p.m.

MT. TAMALPAIS RARE PLANT TREASURE HUNT 2012

The Rare Plant Treasure Hunt (RPTH) is a volunteer program started by CNPS. It’s designed to get people excited about rare plant conservation, as well as to gather important data on rare plants around the state. Details for trips will be at www.cnps.org/cnps/rare-plants/treasurehunt/calendar.php. Please RSVP for trips by emailing dslakey@cnps.org.

- Thursday, June 7, June 14, and June 21
  Carson/San Geronimo Ridge, Mt. Tamalpais.
  Serpentine endemics.

- Saturday, June 9
  Old Air Force Base, Mt. Tamalpais
  Serpentine endemics, including Tamalpais bristly jewelflower (Streptanthus glandulosus ssp. pulchellus) and Santa Cruz microseris (Stebbinsoseris decipiens). Easy-moderate hike.

- Thursday, June 28, and July 19
  Serpentine seeps in search of Mt. Tam thistle (Cirsium hydrophilum var. vaseyi) and the vanished California lady-slipper orchid (strenuous hike).
GROWING NATIVES!

Early summer is when fall-blooming natives put out a lot new growth, taking full advantage of soils which are still moist, and the gentle, warm sunlight. I see lots of fresh new growth on established Baccharis pilularis (coyote brush), and seedlings that germinated in the rainy months now seem to double in size overnight.

Those fresh new tips have lots of energy for vegetative growth; given the right conditions, each tip cutting has the potential to grow a new plant. I’m taking dozens of cuttings from the coyote brush that thrive on my hillside, and throughout my gardens. We’ll be growing the Baccharis for local habitat restoration projects of the Marin Audubon Society. After cuttings have rooted, they will be grown on in Deepots, and will be ready to be planted out into the field during the rainy season.

These cuttings, and lots of other native perennials will need potting on, pruning, fertilizing, and watering during the summer months. We’ll be building up stock for a fall plant sale, selectively starting a variety of species from seed, cuttings, or divisions as appropriate.

Fall is also the time that teachers and garden coordinators start thinking about resurrecting school gardens. CNPS, and all the volunteers who do the work of propagating plants, are eager to support school gardens by providing both California natives and well-behaved habitat plants at discounted prices.

We will be working in the nursery, but other activities such as botanizing field trips and seed collecting can take us out of the nursery on scheduled workdays. I also like to get out into the forests on camping trips, so during the summer months, please call or email to confirm the tentative schedule listed below.

We work in the shade, sharing good energy, tips, and ideas. Often a nice breeze and lots of birds around, and as an added bonus, volunteers helping with propagation often take home choice plants for their own garden!

Following is a schedule of work days and times:

**Tuesdays, 1 to 3 p.m.**
- June 12 and 26
- July 10 and 24
- August 7 and 21

**Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**
- June 7 and 21
- July 5 and 19
- August 2, 16, and 30

Come to Green Point Nursery, 275 Olive Ave. at the corner of Atherton Ave. in Novato. No need to bring anything; we have gloves and tools on hand, all necessary supplies, and lots of grow-power! Please remember to confirm summer work days in advance.

I’m looking forward to sharing in the abundance of plants propagated here at Green Point!
—Charlotte Torgovitsky
torgovitsky@comcast.net, (415) 892-9148

Save native plant habitat at Point Reyes with the…

THIRD THURSDAY WEEDERS

Next workdays: June 21, July 19, August 16, 9:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Join the “Third Thursday Weeders” to spend a day at beautiful Point Reyes and help tackle invasive weeds that threaten important plant habitat in the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The Weeders meet regularly on the third Thursday of every month, either in the Seashore or at other locations in West Marin. The locations of each session are set in consultation with Seashore staff. Over the past year, we have made great progress on the iceplant and veldt grass infestations at the Outer Point and also prevented resprouting of European beachgrass seedlings at Abbott’s Lagoon.

Above: Special habitat being improved at the outer Point

To sign up and receive notification of the meeting places in June, July, and August, please send an email to Ellen Hamingson at Ellen_Hamingson@nps.gov. Be sure to let Ellen know if you plan to attend so we’ll know to wait for everyone before heading to the work area.

Bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks, warm and wind-stopping layers, sturdy shoes, work clothes. No shorts or open-toed shoes. The Park provides tools and gloves.

Hope to see you there!
—Carolyn Longstreth
MARIN CHAPTER BOARD MEETING

Sunday, August 19, 10 a.m.

The August board meeting will take place at the Seadrift home of Janice Barry. There will be a meeting at 10 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 (415) 388-1844 or kristinjakob@pacbell.net by August 17 if you plan to attend, so directions can be provided, and you can be assured of entry to the Seadrift community in Stinson Beach.

RESTORING THE HABITAT FOR A LISTED SUBSPECIES

Tiburon jewelflower (Streptanthus glandulosus ssp. niger) is a geographic and edaphic endemic subspecies occurring in shallow, rocky soils derived from serpentinite in two locations on the Tiburon Peninsula. It is listed as endangered under both the federal and State of California endangered species acts. Both occurrences are within preserved open space parcels (Town of Tiburon and Marin County), and both are threatened by non-native grasses and impacts from recreational use.

I have monitored this subspecies for the USFWS and CDFG since the mid-1980s and have become aware of the increasing invasion of wild oats (Avena sp.) into its habitat. In addition, the Town parcel is heavily used by professional dog walkers (several hundred dogs off-leash per week), and signs of ground disturbance are evident in the outcrops.

Annual species fluctuate in numbers in response to climate conditions; however, counts of a few thousand plants, as I reported in the late 1990s, are no longer a reality. Plants of limited distribution are vulnerable to a serious decline or extinction, if unfavorable conditions persist for several years. I believe that the survival of this subspecies is severely threatened, if wild oats are allowed to continue populating its habitat.

As the Town of Tiburon has no interest in conserving/protecting this endemic subspecies—in fact, there is no mention of it in the General Plan, and a leash-law is not enforced—I am trying to save the plant from extinction and have weeded some sections of the outcrops in the last few years. Last year, the Marin Chapter allocated money for the project, and it became possible to hire a “weeder” for a concentrated effort to restore the habitat of Tiburon jewelflower on the Town parcel. Carissa Brands started weeding the outcrops in mid-February and most of the wild oats have been removed. This year does not seem to be a “good” year for Tiburon jewelflower, but I strongly believe that the restoration of habitat will enhance the chance of survival of this very rare plant.

—Eva Buxton
Conservation Chair and Tiburon resident

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday 6/2, 10 a.m.—12 noon
Drip irrigation workshop at Green Point Nursery, 275 Olive Ave., Novato (see article on this page for RSVP details)

Saturday 6/2, 10 a.m.—1 p.m.
Native plant mini-sale at Green Point Nursery, Novato

Wednesday 6/3, 2 p.m.
Ring Mountain Sketching and Painting Walk

Wednesday 6/6, 10 a.m.
Chapter Field Trip—Memorial Hike for Ken Howard

Thursday 6/7, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
Mt. Tam Rare Plant Treasure Hunt—Carson/San Geronimo Ridge

Thursday 6/7, 9 a.m.—1 p.m.
Marin County Parks Field Trip—Loma Alta

Saturday 6/9, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
Mt. Tam Rare Plant Treasure Hunt—Old Air Force Base, Mt. Tamalpais

Monday 6/11, 7:30–9:30 p.m.
Chapter Meeting: Bruce Baldwin on “What does the new Jepson Manual mean for California floristics?”

Friday 6/15, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
Marin County Parks Field Trip—Cascade Canyon

Sunday 6/17, 9 a.m.—2 p.m.
Marin County Parks Field Trip—Cascade Canyon

Thursday 6/21, 9:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.
Third Thursday Weeder’s Workday at Pt. Reyes

Saturday 6/23, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
Marin County Parks Field Trip—The Unique Beauty of Bahia

Sunday 6/24, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.
15th Annual Open Gardens Celebration at Hallberg Butterfly Gardens, Sebastopol

Thursday 7/19, 9:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.
Third Thursday Weeder’s Workday at Pt. Reyes

Saturday 7/21, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
Marin County Parks Field Trip—Roy’s Redwood

Thursday 8/16, 9:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.
Third Thursday Weeder’s Workday at Pt. Reyes

Saturday 8/18, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
Marin County Parks Field Trip—Plant Galls at Mt. Burdell

Sunday 8/19, 10 a.m.
Chapter Board Meeting, Stinson Beach
SUMMER 2012 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.

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. Email Board Member Doreen Smith, Rare Plant Committee Coordinator, for “updated to Jepson 2” versions of some of these lists. In addition, the Natural Resources Database link on the Marin CNPS website has flora and fauna lists for many Bay Area sites.

Memorial Hike for Ken Howard
Wednesday, June 6, 10 a.m.
Save the date for a short hike and memorial for Ken Howard, who passed away September 4, 2011. Ken was an ardent, long-time member of Marin CNPS, serving for several years as Field Trip Chairman and subsequently as Plant Sale Co-chair. We will meet at the Rock Spring parking lot for a hike on the Cataract Trail and then regroup at noon at the parking lot for a short walk to the lunch spot. Bring your lunch and fond memories. Call Daniel Kushner at (415) 457-1211 with any questions.

RECOMMENDED MARIN COUNTY PARKS NATURALIST WALKS
David Herlocker will lead the June and July walks listed below; Shannon Burke will lead the August walks. The walks are for adults, and no animals except service animals are allowed. Questions: contact David at (415) 893-9508 or dherlocker@marincounty.org; contact Shannon at (415) 893-9520 or sburke@marincounty.org. Heavy rain or high fire danger may cancel. Call (415) 893-9527 on the morning of the walk to hear a recorded message if cancelled.

For more information, visit www.marincountyparks.org/Depts/PK/Programs/Naturalist.

Loma Alta
Thursday, June 7, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
The north slope of Loma Alta is always a fantastic destination for both birds and wildflowers. The late spring bloom on the serpentine soils here should be particularly good since we have had a late bloom this year (which means we also might see an interesting assemblage of insect pollinators too). The birds regularly seen here include lazuli buntings, horned larks, and grasshopper sparrows, who should be quite active at this time caring for nearly or newly fledged young. This fire road is a steady climb, but we will take it very slowly. We’ll find a shady place to enjoy lunch, and then descend before the afternoon heat.

Meet at the Big Rock Trailhead, about five miles west of Hwy. 101 on Lucas Valley Rd.

Cascade Canyon
Friday, June 15, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Birds and flowers should be plentiful as we explore the upper reaches of San Anselmo Creek, where shaded forests and serpentine-laced clearings will reward us with a variety of natural wonders. This is a particularly good place to see many different butterflies and other interesting insects at this time of year.

Meet at the gate at the end of Cascade Dr: In downtown Fairfax, drive about 0.4 mile west on Bolinas Rd. and make a soft right at Cascade Dr. (at a stop sign). Continue about a half mile to gate. Parking is limited; please carpool if you can.

Gary Giacomini
Sunday, June 17, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
We start the morning with a slow ascent from the valley floor to the San Geronimo Ridge. It’s a sustained climb of 1,000 feet, but after we reach the top, we’ll enjoy amazing views and the pygmy Sargent cypress forest that makes this preserve so unique. For lunch we’ll drop down to a shaded clearing among towering redwoods and Douglas firs. Eight-mile round trip.

Meet at the Willis Evans Trailhead, formerly Bates Canyon. From Sir Francis Drake Blvd. in Woodacre, turn left on San Geronimo Valley Dr., then left on Redwood Canyon Dr., not Redwood Dr.

The Unique Beauty of Bahia
Saturday, June 23, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Our day starts with a visit to an unusual forest filled with hybrid oak trees, hundreds of individual trees that display various characteristics of three different “parent” species: Oregon, valley, and blue oak. We’ll discuss how and why hybrids occur so frequently in oaks, and what this phenomenon tells us about this particular piece of land. We should enjoy plenty of birds and late-blooming flowers as we explore this unique ridge. Our return route will take advantage of a shady trail overlooking the edge of a marsh where we might get glimpses of shorebirds that have just arrived from their breeding grounds up north.

Field trip information continued on page 5
Meet at the end of Bahia Dr. in Novato: from Hwy. 101, take the Atherton Ave./San Marin Dr. exit east on Atherton Ave. and turn left at Bugeia. At the ‘Y’, Bugeia turns into Bahia; follow to the end.

**Roy’s Redwoods**

*Saturday, July 21, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.*

We’ll start the day listening and looking for young Wilson’s warblers and spotted towhees, then stroll through the cool forest keeping an eye out for late-blooming flowers. We’ll visit a pure stand of madrone trees in addition to the majestic redwoods that grace this preserve.

Meet at the Roy’s Redwoods entry gate on Nicasio Valley Rd. just north of Sir Francis Drake Blvd.

**Plant Galls at Mount Burdell**

*Saturday, August 18, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.*

There are many ingenious creatures that have devised ways to trick plants into growing structures that shelter and feed them. We’ll examine an amazing array of bizarre and beautiful galls as we learn the incredible life cycles of the gall makers.

Meet at the San Andreas Trailhead in Novato: From Hwy. 101, take the Atherton Ave./San Marin Dr. exit west on San Marin Dr. for 2.3 miles. Turn right at San Andreas Dr.; gate is near the end on the right.

**Other Walks**

**Ring Mountain Sketching and Painting Walk**

*Sunday, June 3, 2 p.m.*

Kristin Jakob and Bernard Halliwell will lead this second annual Ring Mountain outing for fellow members of the Northern California Society of Botanical Artists (NCalSBA), but welcome others to attend.

*Calochortus tiburonensis* blooms in June, and is particularly lovely to see backlit in the afternoon when a companion plant, the soap lily (*Chlorogalum pomeridianum*), opens its lacy and ethereal spikes of white flowers around 4 p.m. Please join Kristin and Bernard on this sketching and painting walk. This is a wonderful opportunity to see, study, and celebrate these native treasures.

Bring outdoor drawing and painting supplies, and dress in layers for the Bay weather, which we expect will be sunny but which can often surprise. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes. Afterwards people may gather at a nearby restaurant for dinner.

Meet at the end of Westward Dr. (off Paradise Dr.), Corte Madera, to access Ring Mountain Open Space Preserve. RSVP: Kristin Jakob (415) 388.1844, kristinja-kob@pacbell.net; Bernard Halliwell (415) 383.6701.

**Plants of the Month**

Text and photos by Doreen Smith

Marin County has only one native species of true mint, *Mentha canadensis*, which grows mostly on Pt. Reyes in this county. Previously it was thought to be a variety of *M. arvensis* until the Jepson Manual #2 revision of the genus by Arthur O. Tucker. This plant grows in freshwater marshes and is apparently common and widely distributed in California.

**Mentha aquatica** is found in even wetter marshes, usually growing in standing water. Introduced from Europe, it is especially common by the Kehoe Beach trail on Pt. Reyes, in the marsh with the giant tules. Previous to the latest revision, it was listed in the *Marin Flora* as *Mentha X piperita*.

*Mentha pulegium*, an invasive weed, is the most common mint in Marin, found growing wild in ditches and seasonal wetlands.

All three of the above mints have been used either presently or historically in food or folk medicine.

Other garden-escape *Mentha* species and hybrids like peppermint and spearmint are occasionally found in the wild, usually in moist places.

**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.
**DRIP IRRIGATION FOR A NATIVE GARDEN**

On Saturday, June 2 from 10 a.m. to noon, staff from the Urban Farmer Store will conduct an outdoor, hands-on workshop on the practical aspects of drip irrigation at Marin CNPS’ new demonstration garden at Green Point Nursery, 275 Olive Avenue at the corner of Atherton, Novato. Urban Farmer staff will guide participants in the installation of the irrigation system and provide installation tips.

Space is limited, so if you would like to attend, please email Renee at reneef94941@gmail.com to reserve a space. Please wear gardening clothes and shoes, and bring your gloves! Heavy rain cancels the workshop. Check out the mini-sale at Green Point that day if you want to purchase some native plants that will benefit from your new-found irrigation knowledge.

**CALICO SOLAR PROJECT**

AB 1073 (Calico Solar project) passed and we, the environmentalists, are all distraught. I hope that those of us mourning the loss of an area in the desert supporting perhaps the last population of *Penstemon albomarginatus* in California, sensitive communities, and habitat for the desert tortoise have solar panels on our roofs, bought smaller refrigerators and learned to drink room-temperature beer, take public transportation to our gyms, and shower no more than twice a week. When overconsumption of energy stops, then we can maybe really complain about the destruction of our environment to accommodate renewable energy production facilities, including large-scale solar projects.

Just my opinion!
—Eva Buxton, Conservation Chair

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**MARIN CNPS CONTACTS**

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<td>Co-Vice President, Program Committee Co-Chair</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Amelia Ryan</td>
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**Open Positions:** President, Conservation and Invasives Committee Co-Chair (Invasives), Education and Publicity Committee Co-Chair, Field Trips Committee Chair

*Board contact information has been removed from the online version of this newsletter.*
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

Please mail application and check payable to CNPS to:
California Native Plant Society
2707 K St., Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816-5113

The IRS considers dues in excess of $12.00 per year and all gifts to CNPS Tax Deductible.

Newsletter Only

If you wish to receive only the newsletter, please make a $10 check payable to CNPS Marin and mail to: Daniel Kushner, 201 Ross St., San Rafael, CA 94901.

☐ Newsletter Subscription only $10

Tax-Deductible Contributions

Tax-deductible contributions to the Marin Chapter are always welcome, either as memorial or honorarium donations or regular contributions. You may designate your contribution for a specific purpose of your choice. Unless otherwise designated, all contributions will be placed in the general fund, which will enable the Chapter to extend our efforts to plant conservation and education. Our regular, ongoing program and operating expenses are largely covered by our plant sales and book and poster sales.

A contribution of $_______ is made in honor of:

_____________________________________________________________________

Contribution designated for:
_____________________________________________________________________

From:
Name
Address
Telephone
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Please send acknowledgement to:
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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.
Visit us at www.marinnativeplants.org!

GET YOUR COPY OF THE REVISED MARIN FLORA!
The 2007 revised edition of John Thomas Howell’s classic Marin Flora (originally published in 1949) is available at chapter meetings and at the chapter website (www.marinnativeplants.org).

Prices:                      Hard cover       Soft cover
Retail                      $45 (plus $3.49 tax)  $35 (plus $2.71 tax)
CNPS members (20% off)      $36 (plus $2.79 tax)  $28 (plus $2.17 tax)

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
765 Miller Ave.
Mill Valley, CA 94941

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

Name
Address
Telephone

MARIN CNPS MEMBER SURVEY UPDATE
There has been an excellent response to our survey, with about 1/3 of our members responding by mail or online. As these surveys are still arriving, we will collate the results over the summer, and expect to publish a summary of the survey in our September newsletter. We wish to thank all members, longtime and new, for helping us get to know you and make our chapter more effective!

—Kristin Jakob and David Long, Co-Vice Presidents