Monday, October 8 Marin Chapter Meeting

“Bringing Nature Back Home: Growing a Wildlife Habitat Garden” by guest speaker Nancy Bauer

See the September Newsletter for a description of this talk.

Monday, November 12 Marin Chapter Meeting

“Defensive Plants: Sticky Resins, Milky Saps, and Potent Poisons” by guest speaker Margareta Séquin

Plants have had to defend themselves since their emergence millions of years ago. Myriads of insects and snails feed on them, and larger herbivores devour fresh, green leaves and juicy stems. Being mostly anchored in place, plants have had to evolve elaborate defense mechanisms to survive the challenges. Most plants have structural defenses, in the form of tough skins, thorns, or sharp spines. Through time, plants also evolved a great diversity of defensive substances, in the form of strong odors, bitter saps, sticky resins, or potent poisons. Plants are masters at chemical defense!

During this presentation we’ll look at families of chemical plant defenses. This will be illustrated by many plant photos, mostly of California native plants including Marin County plants, and a few non-natives, too. We’ll examine what is typical of the molecules that compose strong leaf odors, gums and resins, soapy saponins, and the famous alkaloid plant bases (no previous chemistry knowledge required!). We’ll also remember that plant defensive substances have been the origins of many medicines for humans.

Margareta (Greti) Séquin has a PhD in organic chemistry and is a plant enthusiast. She has taught organic chemistry, natural products chemistry, and chemistry for non-majors at San Francisco State University for more than 20 years, and has also led numerous field seminars on the subject of plant chemistry. She is a docent at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden in Berkeley, as well as the author of the book *The Chemistry of Plants: Perfumes, Pigments, and Poisons*, published by RSC (Cambridge, UK) in April 2012.

October and November meetings:

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.

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.

Above: The husks of California buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) fruits contain soapy saponins—by Margareta Séquin
In the last Newsletter, we introduced the concept of a ballot measure to support our parks, open space, and farmlands. Called Measure A, it’s officially on the November 6th ballot—and we urge you to vote for it. Your CNPS Board voted its support and discussed the importance of reaching out to members to vote, and encouraging friends to do the same. The measure requires a two-thirds majority, which means we all need to give it some extra effort.

Marin County Open Space District, which was formed in 1972, has preserved some 20,000 acres that require ongoing stewardship. Proposition 13 cut deeply into revenues, and the cost of necessary improvements and repairs to facilities has escalated higher than available funds. Marin County’s Open Space Strategic Plan lists 88 planned projects at a cost of $33 million. Also, the County has had to cut staff positions, which means some normal maintenance no longer gets done.

There are some six million Marin park visits a year. How many have you made? How often have you enjoyed looking at our beautiful greenbelt open spaces, or enjoyed a drive through rolling farmlands from which some of our food comes? This is the legacy launched nearly half a century ago, and it’s time to renew our support. You might like to know that visitors to the County will be paying their share, as 20 to 25% of sales tax revenue comes from people who live outside Marin. If Measure A passes, the 1/4-cent sales tax will yield $10 million per year for nine years (renewable by another vote).

$6.5 million per year will be earmarked to “Protect or Restore Natural Resources and Maintain Existing County Parks and Open Space Preserves,” with 20% set aside, and accumulated as needed, for actual purchase of land or conservation easements to permanently protect “natural areas, streams, bay lands, and native ecosystems with high natural resource values.”

$2 million will be used for Farmland Preservation to purchase perpetual agricultural conservation easements and real property interests to protect our farms and ranches; 5% of this may be used for matching grants to enhance natural resource value and/or to monitor easements.

$1.5 million will go into an annual Grant Fund to which cities, towns, and applicable special districts can apply, to help them maintain, restore, or acquire parks, preserves, and recreational facilities.

All of the above categories include vegetation management, reduction of wildfire risk, promotion of biodiversity, and control of invasive non-native weeds. There is a limit of 5% expenditure on overhead, and the County cannot reduce its yearly general funding for parks (unless it’s an across-the-board cut to all departments). A seven-member Community Oversight Committee will be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and an annual public meeting on ballot measure spending and projects will be held by Marin County Parks and Open Space (POS) Commission.

During the decision-making process, the County reached out to many local organizations for their input and “wish lists.” CNPS emphasized the importance of protecting Marin’s indigenous rare plants and having protected areas for native flora to flourish; expressed concern over not having enough ranger control for trails; and supported efforts to eradicate and control destructive, invasive, non-native species.

The County listened to us; we can reciprocate by helping to pass Measure A.

—Sandy Ross, Marin CNPS Board representative to the POS Ballot Measure project

Save native plant habitat at Point Reyes with the…

THIRD THURSDAY WEEDERS

Next workdays: October 18, November 15, and December 20, 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 18 months, we have made great progress on the iceplant and veldt grass infestations at the Outer Point, European beachgrass at Abbotts Lagoon, perennial pepperweed in the Giacomini Wetland, and cape ivy at Pierce Point.

To sign up and receive notification of the meeting places in October and November, 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
HELP PRESERVE CALIFORNIA’S WILD GARDENS

Here in Marin, our wild gardens are enormous. Our rich native flora flourishes on Mt. Tamalpais, Ring Mountain, Mount Burdell, Chimney Rock, Loma Alta, and many other special places protected by our county open space program, water district lands, and state and national parks. But there are many places of equal botanical value all over California that aren’t. How do we help people to understand and appreciate such special places? How can we preserve them and the plants that live in them? How do we give the plants of California a future?

The Marin Chapter Board is urging all of our members to help ensure that California’s plants have a future by making a special gift to the CNPS Conservation Campaign this year. This Campaign is a year-long effort to raise money to support the CNPS Conservation Program. Your gift is needed to sustain this important program just as your regular gift to CNPS is needed to support all the other efforts of CNPS.

The CNPS Conservation Program works to preserve the natural heritage that we all cherish—the native flora and the beautiful places it needs to survive. The core of the Conservation Program is science and law, as well as a love of nature.

The CNPS Conservation Program works on a wide range of issues, including solar energy development, wind farms, legislation, and forestry reform. Wherever the Program is active, it brings the best botanical science to the discussion. The Program assists CNPS chapters as well. For example, Conservation Program staff helped the Marin chapter influence the outcome of the recent permitting dispute concerning Lawson’s Landing. The Program also helps chapters by improving federal and state policies that affect all chapters.

You have probably heard about CNPS’s ongoing activism around solar energy development in the Mojave and Colorado Deserts. A massive planning process is underway that will determine the fate of millions of acres of public lands. CNPS has had a major role in setting the standards for this process. The agencies overseeing the desert are also relying on CNPS to provide the basic scientific information on plant distribution, vegetation types, and endangered species that is needed to design huge preserves.

CNPS is working diligently to take advantage of all funding opportunities, but the simple truth is that the Conservation Program needs your gift to continue. That’s why your chapter board is asking CNPS supporters to make an extra gift this year to the Conservation Program. Only with this extra funding will CNPS remain an active and respected participant at the highest levels of conservation policy in California. We are depending on our membership to be even more generous than they usually are. Please consider adding a significant extra amount to help fund the Conservation Program.

Together we can ensure that California’s wild gardens have a future. If you care about science-based conservation in California, please consider making a special gift this year. The need is very real.

Donations can be made via the CNPS website (cnps.org/support) or by mail to CNPS Conservation Campaign, 2707 K Street, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816-5113 (please note “Conservation Campaign” on the check).

—Kristin Jakob and David Long, Chapter co-vice presidents

MAINTAINING A NATIVE GARDEN

Tuesday, December 11, 7–8:30 p.m.

If you garden with native plants and have ever wondered what to do, how to do it, and when to do it, you will find help and inspiration in Dr. Helen Popper’s recently published book, California Native Gardening: A Month-by-Month Guide. We are delighted that Dr. Popper will be speaking at the Fairfax Library on Tuesday, December 11. The library is located at 2097 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Fairfax. Map and directions can be found at www.marinlibrary.org. The talk is co-sponsored by the Fairfax Library and Marin CNPS. For further information on the talk, contact Renee Fittinghoff at reneef94941@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

🌟 Monday 10/1, 7 p.m.
Chapter Board Meeting at the MA&GC in Ross

🌟 Monday 10/8, 7:30–9:30 p.m.
Chapter Meeting: Nancy Bauer “Bringing Nature Back Home: Growing a Wildlife Habitat Garden”

🌟 Saturday 10/13, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
Fall Chapter Plant Sale at Green Point Nursery, Novato

🌟 Thursday 10/18, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Third Thursday Weeder’s Workday at Pt. Reyes

🌟 Monday 10/22, 7 p.m.
Chapter Board Meeting at the MA&GC in Ross

🌟 Monday 11/12, 7:30–9:30 p.m.
Chapter Meeting: Margareta Séquin on “Defensive Plants: Sticky Resins, Milky Saps, and Potent Poisons”

🌟 Thursday 11/15, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Third Thursday Weeder’s Workday at Pt. Reyes

🌟 Tuesday 12/11, 7–8:30 p.m.
Talk: Dr. Helen Popper on “Maintaining a Native Garden” at the Fairfax Library

🌟 Thursday 12/20, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Third Thursday Weeder’s Workday at Pt. Reyes
THE NEW NATIVE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN AT GREEN POINT

By Charlotte Torgovitsky

CNPS now has a beautiful native demonstration garden at Green Point Nursery in Novato. Just three months old, the late-summer garden is a vivid blend of colors; tarweeds, monkey flowers, and California fuschias are all in full bloom. The garden is buzzing with activity: lots of insects work the flowers, goldfinches forage for seeds (they are particularly fond of Madia seeds!), and hummingbirds traline the zauschnerias on a regular schedule.

In another area we’ve created a garden demonstrating alternative approaches to the traditional lawn. Sections large enough to walk on demonstrate no-mow lawns, one with Festuca rubra, another with Carex pansa. A larger area showcases native plants in a meadow-style planting.

The garden is “on view” to all those driving down Atherton Ave., and right next to the California native plant sales display area. All the plants in the garden are labeled with both botanical and common names. Seeing mature specimens in the ground will help gardeners make informed choices at our plant sales, and many of the plants will also serve as “mother plants,” a source of seeds and cuttings for our propagation activities.

Because the nursery is just five minutes from my home, I took on the role of project manager, and hired a helper to do all the really heavy work. The process of designing and installing the garden took place over several months. Kristin Jakob, Daniel Kushner, Renee Fittinghoff, Jeanne Lau, and I made decisions about size and dimensions, the look we wanted, and the plants that should be featured.

Jeanne, a landscape architect, drew up the final plans, both on paper and on the ground! Because the soil where the garden is placed is compacted fill, we decided to “berm up." A 2.5-foot dry-stack wall, built from recycled concrete, created the height. Greg’s Concrete Service was happy to deliver the “urbanite” as well as the clean fill needed for the base of the berm. Gophers are in the area, so we decided to play it safe by laying down chicken wire before we started building the berm.

We wanted boulders and a stone edging, so Jeanne, Daniel, and I drove up to W. Johnson Stone Yard in Santa Rosa to select just the right ones. Before the boulders could be placed, we needed soil, about 18 cubic yards of sandy loam. Tony at Marin Landscape Materials gave us a 25% discount, and waived the delivery charges. Bill Johnson delivered our selections, and with aid of a forklift carefully positioned the boulders.

To provide for the plants that need some organic matter, we amended with an all-green compost, and for plants fussy about drainage, we added in lava rock. We all worked together on the plant selections, mostly single specimens in order to showcase the amazing variety of natives suitable for garden culture. But then Kristin went wild with zauschnerias! The garden includes about a dozen different species and cultivars, all gorgeous, and all of which I’m eager to propagate.

The Urban Farmer Store sent Todd Rodriguez to work with us on the irrigation systems; the berm garden demonstrates both individual emitters and an in-line drip grid. The no-mow lawn garden is irrigated with MP rotators, a low-flow sprinkler system. The irrigation systems are controlled by a weather sensor that modifies the run times according to the evapotranspiration rates.

Above: Starting the planting by Charlotte Torgovitsky

North Marin Water District provided the funds for this state-of-the-art irrigation system, which was installed when just a few of the plants were in the ground. Then, in a marathon work session, Kristin, Jeanne, Daniel, and I planted about 90 native plants. Later I filled in around the shrubs and perennials with wildflowers, and on another day, Daniel, Renee, and I planted in the no-mow garden.

I want to thank the members of the CNPS Board for supporting this project. On behalf of the Board, special thanks are due to Ryan Grisso at North Marin Water

Demonstration garden continued on page 5
District for understanding the value of a demonstration garden; to Tony at Marin Landscape Materials, for always making things easy; and to Todd from The Urban Farmer Store for an excellent job on the irrigation systems. Thanks also to the CNPS volunteers who helped make this garden a reality by donating special plants, and most importantly, their expertise and willingness to give their time to this project. The garden is thriving, and even in high summer the results are spectacular! We invite you to come for a visit!

**RARE PLANT OF THE MONTH**

Text and photo by Doreen Smith

![Astragalus nuttallii](image)

This uncommon *Astragalus* has an CNPS Inventory rating of 4.2 (it is on the watch list of plants not presently thought threatened or endangered). This was one of our County’s rare plants that took me years to find. The single sprawling individual I’ve ever discovered is still present (as of August 2012) on the steep cliffs of the south end of McClures Beach, Pt. Reyes National Seashore, about 20 feet above the highest tideline. The white flowers are most usually seen in June, but a few may still be evident later in the year. Most noticeable at this time of year are the inflated pods.

Questions remain as to which variety this is. *Jepson 2* calls this occurrence var. *nuttallii*, while *Marin Flora 2* calls it var. *virgatus*. Frankly, I think the distinction in the *Jepson* key to the two *A. nuttallii* varieties (presence or absence of many versus only a few hairs on the backs of the leaves) is inconsequential.

Some members who answered the recent chapter membership survey indicated that they were “interested in rare plants”; these members may be asked to select an area of the County to monitor and then report their findings back to me. Additionally, some outings will be announced in the spring to monitor some of the Marin rare plant populations.

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**CNPS MARIN CHAPTER FALL PLANT SALE**

**Saturday October 13, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.**

Fall is ideal for planting California natives! View the beautiful new California native plant demonstration gardens and participate in free workshops and hands-on demos. Learn about native bulbs, proper planting techniques, wildflower seeding, and composting; find out how to provide resources for birds and butterflies in your garden.

Marin Audubon Society will be on hand to advise about nesting boxes, and expert native plant gardeners will be available to help with your selections from our extensive inventory of perennials, shrubs, and grasses, many of which have been grown on site.

Volunteers are needed to help out on the day of the sale, or on Thursday or Friday to help with advance preparations:

- **Thursday, October 11, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.**:
  - Grooming, labeling, and pricing plants
- **Friday, October 12, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.**:
  - Continuing to label and price plants, setting up tables, positioning and watering plants, and other preparations for Saturday
- **Saturday, October 13, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.**:
  - Help is welcomed for setup and staffing of tables for sales, membership, hospitality, and books/posters; greeting and assisting customers with plant advice and carry-out; and helping with take-down at the end of the sale. Boxes, small flats, and used grocery bags would help our customers pack their purchases. Volunteering, if only for an hour or two, is a great way to meet other members and our supportive public, and there are needs that even those without plant knowledge can fill, so bring friends and family members!

Volunteers get a preview, and first pick of the plants for sale! You can just show up, or contact the Plant Sale Co-Chairs about specific tasks:

- Kristin Jakob (kristinjakob@pacbell.net), (415) 388-1844
- Charlotte Torgovitsky (torgovitsky@comcast.net), (415) 892-9148

Watch for a complete inventory list, and printable color plant sale poster on our website!

**Location:** Green Point Nursery, 275 Olive Ave at Atherton Ave. in Novato, easily reached from Hwy 37.
MARIN CNPS MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

Earlier this year, Marin CNPS conducted a survey of its members. The Marin CNPS board wanted to know members’ views on CNPS’ activities. As an all-volunteer organization, Marin CNPS is only as active and effective as its volunteer base, and we wanted to know the types of activities members might be willing to volunteer time for. In addition, we wanted to know members’ communication preferences.

An email with a link to an online survey was sent to members whose email addresses we have. An identical survey was mailed to those for whom we do not have emails. Over one third (129) out of Marin CNPS’s approximately 350 members responded to the survey.

We asked members to rank CNPS activities by importance from 1 (not important) to 5 (very important). Members are very supportive of all of Marin CNPS activities: a majority of members responding gave a 4 or 5 rating to every CNPS activity. Activities considered most important were conservation of native plants and advocacy for native plants; not far behind in importance were rare plant monitoring and promoting the use of native plants in gardens.

Members were asked about their participation in CNPS events. A majority of respondents reported participating at least once in educational programs at the Redwoods, field trips, or plant sales. The survey also asked members about their interest in particular types of Marin CNPS education programs. Again, a majority indicated significant interest in all categories of education programs. The two most popular were programs on local conservation issues and on gardening with natives. Not far behind were programs that provide information about native plant habitats and hands-on workshops.

Members were also asked about their interest in being involved as a volunteer with Marin CNPS in particular areas. It was gratifying to find that Marin CNPS members showed significant interest in volunteering for Marin CNPS: 79 of 129 respondents (61%) checked off at least one area of volunteer interest and persons who expressed interest in volunteering identified on average about two areas of volunteer interest. The two most popular areas for volunteering were native plant gardening and native plant nursery/propagation. The next most popular areas of volunteer interest were conservation of native plants and habitats and eradication/control of invasives. Other categories in which there was significant interest included field trips, plant sales, rare plant monitoring, advocacy, education, and outreach/publicity. Some interest was expressed in every volunteer category. The Marin CNPS Board is currently considering how to follow up on the expressed willingness of members to be involved as volunteers to enhance the effectiveness of Marin CNPS’ efforts to promote, protect, and preserve native plants and habitats in the County.

The survey also asked members about particular skills they might consider using to assist CNPS. Nearly 40% of members responding identified at least one skill they might consider volunteering. The most commonly listed skills were gardening experience/expertise, native/invasive plant identification, advocacy, and botany/biological education/training/experience. Our members have a wide variety of skills that could advance the objectives of CNPS. The survey also found that about a quarter of survey respondents are professionally involved with native plants or related areas.

Because Marin CNPS can often be most effective when it networks with other organizations, the survey asked members about other organizations relating to nature or the environment they belong to or volunteer for. Not surprisingly, our members belong to many other organizations; MALT, Marin Audubon, and Sierra Club were the most popular, but many belong to or volunteer for a host of others as well. These responses were a reminder of potential allies on many issues.

We also wanted to know how members would like to receive their Marin CNPS newsletters and found that about half of those responding to the survey would like to receive newsletters by email only. However, about a quarter want their newsletters delivered by US mail only and 16% want to receive the newsletter by both US Mail and email. Consequently, it appears that Marin CNPS will be using multiple communications methods for the foreseeable future.

The survey also asked whether members would like to receive Marin CNPS E-bulletins. An E-bulletin would supplement the newsletter and provide timely information to members relating to native plant matters and Chapter activities. Although three-quarters of respondents said they would like to receive E-bulletins, there were significant differences between those who answered the survey online and those who filled out a mailed survey: nine out of 10 online survey respondents said yes to this question, whereas a majority of mailed survey respondents either skipped this question or said they did not want to receive E-bulletins. Again, this indicates that Marin CNPS will have to use multiple communication methods for the immediate future.

We want to thank Marin CNPS members who took the time to fill out and return the survey. You have provided immensely valuable information about members’ views on the importance of CNPS activities and members’ interest in participating and volunteering with Marin CNPS. During the coming months we will be reaching out to those of you who have expressed interest in participating or volunteering in various areas.

David Long, Chapter co-vice president
RING MOUNTAIN WILDFIRE

Those familiar with Ring Mountain and its flora can attest that the serpentine grasslands dominating its rolling hills are a sight to behold. Few other places boast such extensive tracts of intact grasslands, or the diversity of native, rare, and endangered plants that thrive in these grasslands. Due to the rarity and sensitivity of this habitat, it is a high priority of Marin County Parks (Parks) to properly manage this habitat to ensure that its integrity and native composition is kept intact. Most often, successful management means controlling non-native species. However, sometimes major management challenges arise unexpectedly.

On June 14th, a wildfire broke out on Ring Mountain, burning 14 acres of some of the most intact grasslands on the preserve. The flames were fueled by dry, hot summer conditions, and quickly consumed virtually all of the above-ground growth of an entire hillside. Among the plants affected by the fire were four special-status species: serpentine reedgrass (*Calamagrostis ophitidis*), Tiburon buckwheat (*Eriogonum luteolum* var. *caninum*), Marin dwarf flax (*Hesperolinon congestum*), and the Tiburon mariposa lily (*Calochortus tiburonensis*).

Parks took immediate action. In an effort to minimize further disturbance to the burn area, restrictions were placed on the entire footprint, preventing the public from accessing the burned area. Reasons for this include the need to limit the potential for spreading non-native species into this largely intact system (areas are particularly prone to invasion post-fire, due to increased resource availability), as well as the desire to limit disturbance to the soil and the native seed bank therein. The area will be closed for a full year in order to allow for native seed recruitment and establishment.

Along with the challenges presented by the wildfire are also great opportunities. Although fire is a native disturbance event that used to be far more prevalent in California ecosystems, very little is known about the effect of fire on serpentine habitats. Parks is taking this opportunity to initiate a number of studies and monitoring efforts to better understand the fire’s effects, and will use this information to make more informed management decisions. Parks will also take this opportunity to remove a number of unauthorized trails that traverse the burn area, which will improve erosion issues and restore rare plant habitat. In the summer of 2013, the burn area will reopen with a single trail leading through the burn and past petroglyph rock.

As part of our ongoing commitment to environmental education and community engagement, Parks will host several interpretive walks through the burn, allowing the public to view the post-wildfire succession, and learn about fire ecology. Please visit our events calendar at www.marincountyparks.org, or contact Sam Abercrombie at SAbercrombie@marincounty.org or (415) 473-2128 to learn more.

—Sam Abercrombie, Ring Mountain Stewardship Coordinator, Marin County Parks

Ring Mountain Grassland Restoration Project

Join us for a regular “drop-in” volunteer program on Ring Mountain to help us restore the native grasslands that make this preserve so special. Activities will include weeding, seed collecting, and native plant installation. Work is mildly strenuous and family-friendly. For more information, contact Sam Abercrombie (see above).

Next volunteer date: October 27, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
Meeting place: the end of Taylor Rd., off of Paradise Dr., in Tiburon.

GROWING NATIVES!

Plant propagation is a year-round endeavor; so even as mature plants are being groomed for the upcoming fall plant sale, we are busy starting still more natives from seeds and cuttings. It’s never too soon to start planning for the spring planting season!

Come join us! Each session is fun and educational. We work in the shade, often with a nice breeze and lots of birds around, sharing good energy, tips, and ideas. 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, 1–3 p.m.
- October 2, 16, and 30
- November 6 and 20
- December 4

Thursdays, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
- October 11 and 25
- November 1, 15, and 29
- December 13

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!

I’m looking forward to sharing in the abundance of plants propagated here at Green Point!

—Charlotte Torgovitsky
torgovitsky@comcast.net, (415) 892-9148
BOARD NEWS

Dear Members,

The Marin Chapter’s Annual Meeting for the election of officers and board members will be held in connection with the Chapter’s regular public meeting on Monday, November 12 at 8 p.m. at the Redwoods. The slate of officers and board members for the 2013 Marin Chapter Board is as follows:

- President: Open—Volunteer needed
- Co-Vice President: David Long
- Co-Vice President: Kristin Jakob
- Secretary: Amelia Ryan
- Treasurer: Daniel Kushner
- Board Members:
  - Janice Barry
  - Eva Buxton
  - Paul da Silva
  - Phyllis Faber
  - Wilma Follette
  - Carolyn Longstreth
  - Sandy Ross
  - Charlotte Torgovitsky

There are several open positions on the board; if you are interested in serving or would like to suggest others, please contact one of the Co-Vice Presidents: Kristin Jakob (415) 388-1844 (kristinjakob@pacbell.net) or David Long (415) 381-6327 (sfdlong@ix.netcom.com). The board wishes to extend thanks to outgoing board members Renee Fittinghoff, Doreen Smith, and Mary Stevens for their valuable service to the chapter. They will continue leading Marin CNPS’ Gardening with Natives Committee (Renee), Rare Plant Committee (Doreen) and website (Mary).

MARIN CNPS CONTACTS

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<td>Kristin Jakob</td>
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<td>Board Member; Conservation and Invasives Committee Chair (Conservation)</td>
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<td>Board Member; Education and Publicity Committee Co-Chair</td>
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<td>Board Member; Legislation</td>
<td>Phyllis Faber</td>
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<td>Gardening with Natives Committee Chair</td>
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<td>Mary Stevens</td>
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<td>Board Member; Membership Committee Co-Chair</td>
<td>Charlotte Torgovitsky</td>
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<td>Newsletter Editor</td>
<td>Krista Fechner</td>
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<td>Newsletter Folding/Mailing</td>
<td>Paul Kryloff</td>
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<td>Poster Sales</td>
<td>Gerd Jakob</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 ______________________________
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.
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 $36 (plus $2.79 tax) $28 (plus $2.17 tax)

LAST OF THE SUMMER WILDFLOWERS TRIP REPORT
by Doreen Smith

It was a foggy, mild day at Abbots Lagoon on September 2. The 10 participants found 91 species, both native and weedy, still in bloom. The photographers had a busy time documenting even the tiny flowers of Hydrocotyle verticillata and Lilaeopsis occidentalis. Additional highlights to the expected goldenrods, marsh mints, coast asters, orchids, harebells, pleated gentians, and pink catchfly were the birds. On the first pond there were two un-shy bitterns and a great blue heron. Then on the outer lagoon many phalaropes.

FIRE AND FUEL MANAGEMENT
Wildfire is a natural part of California ecosystem. However, wildfire also has significant potential for creating conditions that aid in the establishment or spread of invasive plants.

To address these conditions, the California Invasive Plant Council and a team of fire and fuel management experts have developed a set of voluntary best management practices (BMPs) for fire management planning, fuel management, fire suppression, and post-fire activities. The 3rd edition of Best Management Practices for Land Managers incorporates these BMPs and is now available. Download your free copy from www.cal-ipc.org/ip/prevention/landmanagers.php.

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, outreach program for schoolchildren, or anything else that could help us improve our service to the public, please contact us. You can phone or email your ideas to any of the board members listed on page 8.