



Louise Bernice Hallberg

January 3, 1917 – February 25, 2017

Louise's Legacy

By Don Mahoney, Board President



Louise Bernice Hallberg, 1933

Below: Louise Hallberg, 1920



Louise Hallberg was always very protective of all the lifeforms in her garden, especially butterflies and quail. She expressed her concern many times that all the birds and butterflies, “the little creatures,” would soon have nowhere to go as Sonoma County became more developed with more and more grapes. She saw her nine acres as a refuge for butterflies, and created the Hallberg Butterfly Garden nonprofit as an instrument to keep the property as a refuge into the future after her death.

The mission of the nonprofit is to preserve her property as habitat and to provide education on the value of wildlife to the general public and especially children. She has left her property to the nonprofit to keep the habitat intact. We, the Board of Directors, have been given the responsibility of keeping Louise's vision alive and thriving. We have dedicated volunteers and several very part time staff who are quite capable and are continuing the work. Louise left a small endowment, which along with fundraising and donor help, should sustain the garden for many years to come.

We will keep the garden open

Louise with her father, Alfred Hallberg, circa 1920



for tours by appointment, especially for school groups. But more than anything, we want to keep the garden a healthy habitat for butterflies and other wildlife. Habitat gardens can be low maintenance, but they are not no maintenance. We always eagerly seek volunteers who are willing to work hard either giving tours, pulling weeds, or making new plantings. We hope to improve the gardens by adding many new butterfly plants, especially natives. We would like to make the gardens an educational model of how habitat can be both aesthetically pleasing and a valuable home for butterflies, bees, birds, salamanders and all other creatures of the ecosystem.

We hope all of our supporters will continue to help us in any way they can. This is a garden for the community of Sonoma County and with that community's help we will thrive into the future.

2016 Open Gardens Day

By Louise Hallberg and Linda Johnston

Dear Dedicated Volunteers,

The June 2016 Hallberg Butterfly Open Gardens was not a day to be forgotten. Volunteers did their best and made it a great day even when temperatures reached 97 degrees.

The plant sale was a great success thanks to volunteers Jo Benz, Leah Brorstrom, Norma Hallsberma, Pat Muscat, Kathy Spalding, Janet Bosshard and Linda Johnston. Nancy Hargraves and Dan Jennison of Shooting Star Propagation donated many seedlings for the sale. Many of the favorite plants in the Hallberg Garden were propagated for this special sale. Plants that attract butterflies are always popular. Jo Benz and Jane Merryman created the description and pictures of the mature plants. This was a great help making the best plant selection. We hope the plants sold thrive in many different gardens. Plants continued to be sold to friends of the garden for several weeks after the June event. Don Mahoney eventually bought all plants that were left.

Parking assistance is necessary with 720 guests. Mark Brorstrom, Bill Brungardt and Aidan Sheehan directed guests to parking spaces. Special thanks to Bill who came very early to mark spaces making sure no space was wasted.

Heather Topham, Annika and Ivy Baker were golf cart drivers escorting guests down and back the long drive. On the way to sign-in table the orchard side of the driveway was decorated with posters and art created and given to the garden as thanks for tours children's groups have taken in the past. Lists of butterflies and birds seen in the garden gave guests an idea of what they might see that day.

The sign-in table's helpful volunteers/greeters included Margaret Rued, Nancy Glazer, Keithley O'Neal and Mickey



Enter the Gardens. Photo by Bryden Lane Photography

Marshall. Greeters make guest feel welcome and get them started on the tour for the day. The "Tour" signs were left up after the event and helped self-guided tours the rest of the season.

Open Gardens was fortunate that Kathy Biggs, the dragonfly lady was at the Dragon Fly Pond to greet guests and explain details about this unique insect. Kathy's book is a great reference for dragonflies in our area. Three species were seen that day.

Continued on next page.



Left: Kandis Gilmore with Sonoma State Entomology Outreach program shares their collections. Photo by Bryden Lane Photography

Below: Credo High students Audrey Heckman and Symon Myers volunteer their time and pot up fantastic host and nectar plants from Shooting Star Propagation. Our annual plant sale occurs on Open Gardens Day, June 25th 2017, 10am-4pm. We have a lot of Pipevine and Milkweed, host plants for Pipevine Swallowtail and Monarch Butterflies. Photo by L. Brorstrom



Open Gardens Day

Continued from page 2.



The next stop on the walking tour is past the weather stations. It was a good place to check on rising temperature of the day.

The Sonoma State Insect display was a great hit. SSU staff brought microscopes for a close up view of insects. They were able to answer many questions.

In the barn was a popular exhibit of butterfly host plants. Each butterfly has a different and limited number of plants on which they will lay their eggs. The buckeye butterfly lays its eggs on the weedy plantain plant. It is good to learn which weeds are helpful to butterflies so you can leave a few in your garden. The volunteers were Margaret and Carl Brown.

The bird table volunteers were Linda Widdifield, Alexandra McDonald, Karen Nagel, and Glenda Ross. Twenty-five different bird species were seen or heard. It takes the experience and birding skills of volunteers at the bird table to come up with the variety seen or heard that day. Vaux Swifts that nest in the chimney of Louise's house were heard. We also had a collection of bird nests on display.

Above left: Docent and Volunteer Mike Kambour helps illuminate the life cycle of the Pipevine Swallowtail

Left: Caterpillars, chrysalids and old barns.



Butterfly Sightings (13 species)

- Acmon Blue
- American Lady
- Anise Swallowtail
- Cabbage White
- Common Buckeye
- Gray Hairstreak
- Monarch
- Mournful Duskywing
- Painted Lady
- Pale Swallowtail
- Pipevine Swallowtail
- Spring Azure (Echo Blue)
- Western Tiger Swallowtail

Dragonfly Sightings (3 species)

- California Darner
- Flame Skimmer
- Western Forktail

Bird Sightings (25 species)

- Acorn Woodpecker
- American Goldfinch
- Anna's Hummingbird
- Band-tailed Pigeon
- Bushtit
- California Quail
- Chestnut-backed Chickadee
- Downy Woodpecker
- Eurasian Collared Doves
- European Starling
- House Finch
- Lesser Goldfinch
- Northern Mockingbird
- Nuttall's Woodpecker
- Oak Titmouse
- Pacific-slope Flycatcher
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Spotted Towhee
- Turkey Vulture
- Vaux Swift
- Violet Green Swallow
- Western wood Pewee
- White Breasted Nuthatch
- Wren (Pacific)
- Wrentit

Left: Natural pairings: Larval Host Plants with image of Adult Animal. Photos this page by Bryden Lane Photography

Butterfly Gardening for Beginners

By Don Mahoney

Louise was always interested in educating people about butterfly gardening. She had years of experience, especially on how to manage a garden for butterflies. She also had many college courses in Botany and was proficient in identifying plants. Following are some basic guiding principles that she followed. There are three main needs butterflies have: food for adults, food for larvae or caterpillars, and shelter.

Since adult butterflies need nectar, it is important to have an abundance of flowers providing nectar. Plants that have single flowers and or flowers in heads are more readily used by butterflies. Flowers should be available in all seasons. In early spring native ceanothus is a good choice as are lavender and rosemary plants. Early wildflowers such as Eryissimum, meadowfoam,

irises and poppies all provide nectar. Even wild radishes and mustards are useful. Early summer brings out butterfly bush or Buddlejia which is one of the essential nectar plants. Milkweeds, Verbenas, especially Verbena bonariensis, and toyon trees are excellent. Single dahlias, Zinnias, marigolds, sunflowers, echinaceas, and cosmos all have nectar. Later in the summer native buckwheats, some of the best nectar plants come into full bloom. Autumn is one of the most important seasons for some butterflies that are getting ready to overwinter as adults and for others that will lay one last set of eggs to hatch and overwinter as larvae. Monarchs need lots of food to be able to migrate. Great fall nectar plants include asters, such as Louise's large stand of 'October Glory', goldenrods, native gumplant, sedum 'Autumn Joy' and native pearly everlasting. Many Ceanothus repeat bloom in the fall. There is even a great plant for winter bloom,



Pipevine Swallowtail chrysalis on Ginkgo tree, October 2016. Photo by Jyoti Chalpe

the winter buddleja, Buddlejia salvifolia, which is winter hardy in Sonoma county. There are hundreds of other useful nectar plants and online lists are easy to come by. The plants mentioned above are particularly good for our area.

Once you have attracted butterflies
Continued on next page.

Below: Louise Hallberg, circa 1996

Right: Overseeing new plantings, Mere Tikoitogo, Louise Hallberg, and Catarino Contreras, May 2016. Photo by L. Brorstrom



Butterfly Gardening

Continued from page 4.

with nectar, you need the right plants for them to lay eggs on. Most butterflies have particular plants they need. The beautiful blue pipevine swallowtail is abundant at the gardens because Louise's mother planted dutchmens pipe or *Aristolochia californica* way back in the 1920s and it spread to cover nearly an acre today. It is the only plant the blue swallowtail can use to rear it's young. Milkweed is needed for monarchs and carrot family plants are needed for anise swallowtails. These include parsley, dill, fennel and native angelicas. Four butterflies, including the west coast lady and the gray hairstreak use the hollyhock family. Our native checkerbloom, *Sidalcea malviflora*, which is in this

family, seems to always have larvae. Some butterflies, such as the mourning cloak and the tiger swallowtail use trees including willows, elms, sycamores, and even plum. The red admiral butterfly uses the nettle family and nettles are easy to grow in wetter lower parts of the garden. Just put them where people won't be prone to touch them. A good way to develop your garden is watch what butterflies come to your garden and research what their larvae plants are and plant some in your garden. Those listed above are just a beginning sample.

The third and last need of butterflies is for shelter and this is the one least talked about in butterfly guides. Some butterflies overwinter as larvae at the base of dormant perennials, under fallen leaves, or even down small holes in the ground. Others, like gulf fritillaries can overwinter as adults. I found one at the base of asters I was cutting back in January. Others overwinter as chrysalis attached to the trunks of trees the sides of buildings, or even meters. Louise found one attached to her electricity meter and left a note taped to the meter to alert the meter reader to not disturb it. She found another one attached to her hose spigot. A study out of England reported that

Pipevine Swallowtails mating in pathway in front of Louise's home March 2017, by Meghan Ewing.



a major factor in the decline of butterflies in urban and suburban areas was excessive tidiness in gardens. If all the leaves are raked and all the perennials are cut to the ground, then there is no place for creatures to overwinter. Birds also need dead plant material in the spring to use for nest building. I have seen hummingbirds harvesting the fluffy seedheads on my asters as late as April so now I always leave some until summer.

The beauty of butterflies and birds vastly outweighs the distraction of some ungroomed areas in the garden. Besides, no one grooms the native prairies and shrublands in the wild where butterflies are still abundant, and yet those areas are very beautiful. We cannot always rely on butterflies to move from those areas into our gardens. How much better to create a habitat oasis of our own.

Louise at Mere's 70th birthday party, August 20, 2016. Mere Tikoitogo, along with Naomi Naqola on weekends, cared for Louise in addition to greeting and leading many guests around the gardens these last four years. We will miss their presence at the Gardens.

MONARCH RELEASES		
Year	Releases	Tachinid Fly Losses
1997	108	n/a
1998	53	80
1999	18	11
2000	82	5
2001	12	n/a
2002	22	4
2003	28	2
2004	51	20
2005	7	7
2006	57	3
2007	3	n/a
2008	24	3
2009	0	18*
2010	2	2*
2011	0	0
2012	0	0
2013	19	0
2014	0	0
2015	10	18*
2016	15	0

*Due to late hatch, too cold (not tachinid flies).



Sightless, Soundless Communication

by Meghan Ewing

Pheromones are chemicals produced as messengers that affect the behavior of other corresponding animals. They are usually wind borne but may be placed on soil, vegetation and various other platforms. Unlike sound and sight signals, pheromones travel slowly and do not fade quickly resulting in effective communication over a long range. Through leading research officials (including Tom Eisner) it is has been hypothesized that each species of insect relies on some one hundred chemicals in its life, to engage in essential activities.

For example, ants lay a trail pheromone to direct other ants to a food source. Aphids release an alarm pheromone that warns other aphids of potential danger, usually the presence of a predator or parasite.

In honeybee colonies, the queens secrete a glandular substance (a

pheromone) that is passed among workers, and this secretion coordinates nearly all activities in the hive, including the non-development of the ovaries in worker bees.

In mealworms, after mating, the male covers the females pheromone with his own, an antiaphrodisiac. This dissuades other males from mating with her. This strategy may also conserve the energy of the female.

Tiny parasitic wasps are known to have evolved to recognize and follow the pheromones of the hosts they parasitize or the prey they eat.

Some male cockroaches and crickets produce a pheromone called seducin from their bodies, on which the females eat during copulation.

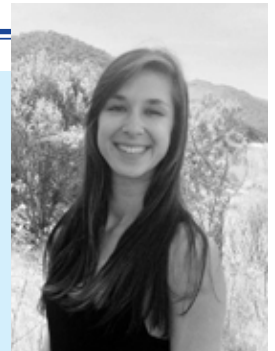
Males in larger members of the silk worm family, have been noted to travel nearly 30 miles following a pheromone trail to a female by using their large “plumed” antennae. These structures are capable of detecting a *single* molecule of a female hormone from miles away.

At this rate there might be only one pheromone molecule per cubic yard of air! Therefore, moth antenna are constructed to come into contact with the largest possible volume of air, making them superb scent receptors. A major portion of their development during pupation is entirely given to the construction of this efficient piece of equipment.

Wintress Huetter, son Joshua, and Louise, 2011



Meghan Ewing is a local artist with an inordinate fondness for insects. Inspired by Louise and her wonderful record keeping.



Meghan will be continuing photo documentation and also introducing another method of record-keeping to the butterfly gardens by drawing observations of plants and animals in a collective nature journal. She not only hopes to make a contribution to the outstanding archives kept in the past, but also to capture a piece of the unexplainable experience we have when we slow down to cherish special moments in nature.

This ever fascinating moth adaption is met with an equally fascinating adaptation of a predator. In 1987, Mark K. Stowe of Harvard University and his colleagues reported that bolas spiders manufacture and release pheromones identical to the attractant pheromones of females of certain night-flying moths. Thus, encouraging male moths to follow the pheromone only to find a spider waiting for them instead of a female moth.

Naomi Naqola and Louise receive guests October 2, 2016. Photo by Jyoti Chalpe



Louise and Judy Crawford, 1998



California Pipevine Project

—San Francisco Botanical Gardens

by Tim Wong, Biologist

Tim Wong with
Anise Swallowtails



Since the San Francisco Botanical Garden's founding and the initial plantings of the butterfly's host plant in the 1950s and 1980s, the butterflies had never established a significant colony naturally on their own from surrounding populations. Over decades, the plant grew into a massive colony but the butterflies still never established. In 2012, I approached the SFBG with a "crazy idea" to re-establish California Pipevine Swallowtails in the garden. To my amazement, they agreed! Also to my fascination, they mentioned that a woman by the name of Barbara Deutsch had tried



it before in the 1980s-1990s. Barbara had previously introduced

Pipevine Swallowtail chrysalids

500 caterpillars and butterflies to the garden in hopes that they would establish. The butterflies emerged the following years but then vanished—being absent for more than a decade. I started my California Pipevine swallowtail cultures at home in 2012 with caterpillars obtained from the donations. Using clippings of host plant obtained with permission from the SFBG, we fed and grew the caterpillars up quickly but had to wait until the following year for the butterflies to emerge. Raising the butterflies at home, we quickly produced hundreds and thousands of caterpillars each spring since then. We introduced large 5th instar caterpillars into the SFBG garden to have a better chance of survival. Each year since 2012, we have seen more butterflies and caterpillars complete their lifecycle in the garden naturally—a good sign that our efforts are working with less intervention! In 2015, I decided to volunteer in the garden to help

care for the plant collection. Working on the ground allowed me to focus more on improving the habitat and creating new habitat that was favorable for the butterfly. This change in my involvement towards habitat creation and optimizing existing habitat has resulted in the large increases of success. My volunteer work involves propagating more host plants, planting host plants, clearing weeds. These simple but effective changes in garden practice have been critical to our success so far. Many of these areas are where we find the highest number of eggs laid by the butterflies.

Sebastopol Has Lost Some Heritage Apple Trees...

by Keith C. Borglum

...and wants to find them for the replanting around the Library and City Hall. Everyone knows about the Gravenstein apples, and Luther Burbank's work, but few have heard of William Silva and his apple trees. While living in West County, Silva took the Gravenstein apple and cross-bred it with Golden & Red Delicious—and others—and received Federal U.S. Patents for the hybrids. All have been lost to time, except for his apple he named Hawaii (Grav x Golden). If you have an apple tree from the 1950s-1960s named Red Scarlet, Best Ever, Bonanza, Bonfire, Chief, Dominant, Monarch, or Silva July Red, the CA Rare Fruit Growers CRFG-Redwood.org would like to hear from you in order to save the trees from extinction, if its not already too late.

"Best Ever" Apple Tree

by Leah Brorstrom

Rachel Spaeth and Keith C. Borglum of the California Rare Fruit Growers, Redwood Chapter contacted Pat (Best) Costello, Louise's niece, about a "lost" tree. The group came out to gather samples to take to UC Davis for genetic testing on March 18th. This will help determine if the tree actually is the "Best Ever" Apple tree. The CRFG Redwood chapter is looking for eight varieties from 1950s-1960s. Please contact them if you have any leads! (See at left.)



Louise's Mother Della's favorite sitting spot.

Award Winning Film about Louise by Oak Grove Sisters

Johnna and Heather Schubert, 5th and 2nd grade students at Oak Grove Elementary, entered the Sonoma County Board of Education's 5 Minute Film Contest with their "Discovery in the Grove 2" (search YouTube). They interviewed Louise in her home the day before her 100th birthday. The Oak Grove Sisters won "Jury Award" for their age group. Louise is also honored in the closing portion of the Sonoma County Office of Education's 5 Minute Film Festival Highlights, currently on their website along with red carpet interviews of Johnna and Heather. We will treasure this film's footage for years to come.



Oak Grove Girls unite, Jan. 2, 2017 by J. Schubert.



Gay Bishop (left), Louise (center), and Linda Johnston (right), May 2013.

Gratitude for Linda Johnston

Volunteer and Docent Extraordinaire, Linda Johnston, has worked three hours weekly, Friday mornings at the Gardens since the year 2000! She is now 'retiring' from her weekly post. She promises she won't be a stranger. Linda's dependable, thorough, and thoughtful nature has been such support for the gardens and Louise all these years. Linda's husband, Jerry, will continue to do data compilation for the garden's records and newsletter. Thank you both for your decades of dedication.

Receive your newsletter by email! Drop us a line at:
Leah@hallbergbutterflygardens.org

HBG Garden Tours 1999 to 2016

Year	Visitors	School/ Children's Tours
2016	1,814	563
2015	1,904	484
2014	1,407	465
2013	1,891	417
2012	2,120	424
2011	2,358	489
2010	2,503	494
2009	1,884	679
2008	2,020	538
2007	1,620	493
2006	1,539	596
2005	1,573	818
2004	1,743	927
2003	1,872	912
2002	2,264	902
2001	3,239	1,290
2000	2,464	822
1999	2,505	484
Total	36,720	11,797

Activity Statistics 2016

(Number of guests shown in parentheses)

Month	Total Tours	Groups	Children's Tours	Open Gardens
JAN				
FEB				
MAR	1	1 (3)		
APR	23	20 (65)	3 (62)	
MAY	41	25 (86)	16 (321)	
JUN	22	19 (65)	3 (18)	(721)
JUL	52	48 (200)	4 (65)	
AUG	24	24 (85)		
SEP	11	8 (22)	3 (80)	
OCT	8	2 (4)	6 (17)	
NOV				
DEC				
Totals	182	147	35	
Total Guests	(1814)	(530)	(563)	(721)

STATISTICS: Butterfly Species Sightings in 2016

Family Name	Common Name	Latin Name	First Date Seen	Last Date Seen																					
PAPILIONIDAE	Pipevine Swallowtail	<i>Battus philenor</i>	February 12	November 9																					
	Anise Swallowtail	<i>Papilio zelicaon</i>	March 14	August 30																					
	Western Tiger Swallowtail	<i>Papilio rutulus</i>	March 15	September 30																					
	Pale Swallowtail	<i>Papilo eurymedon</i>	May 27	June 24																					
PIERIDAE	Mustard (Veined) White	<i>Pieris napi</i>	March 21	July 30																					
	Cabbage White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	February 15	November 1																					
	Orange Sulfur (Alfalfa)	<i>Colias eurytheme</i>	March 2	October 19																					
	California Dogface	<i>Colias eurydice</i>	May 18	May 18																					
LYCAENIDAE	Purplish Copper	<i>Lycaena helloides</i>	September 16	September 16																					
	Great Purple Hairstreak	<i>Atlides Halesus</i>	June 15	July 30																					
	Gray (Common) Hairstreak	<i>Strymon melinus</i>	July 9	September 30																					
	Western Tailed-Blue	<i>Cupido amyntula</i>	June 29	August 7																					
	Spring Azure (Echo Blue)	<i>Celastrina ladon</i>	May 11	June 26																					
	Acmon Blue	<i>Plebeius acmon</i>	March 1	March 21																					
NYMPHALIDAE	Gulf Fritillary	<i>Agraulis vanillae</i>	May 19	July 28																					
	Field Crescent	<i>Phyciodes campestris</i>	May 17	August 12																					
	Mylitta Crescent	<i>Phyciodes mylitta</i>	March 28	November 9																					
	Variable Checkerspot	<i>Cercyonis pegala</i>	July 15	November 1																					
	California Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis californica</i>	August 11	August 11																					
	Mourning Cloak	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	February 25	July 25																					
	American Lady	<i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>	June 26	June 26																					
	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	June 26	July 22																					
	West Coast Lady	<i>Vanessa annabella</i>	March 9	November 9																					
	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	May 12	October 20																					
	Common Buckeye	<i>Junonia coenia</i>	May 9	November 7																					
	Lorquin's Admiral	<i>Limenitis lorquini</i>	April 17	September 26																					
	California Sister	<i>Adelpha bredowii</i>	May 17	September 1																					
	California Common Ringlet	<i>Coenonympha tullia, calif.</i>	April 22	June 19																					
	Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	February 24	October 12																					
	HESPERIIDAE	Mournful Duskywing	<i>Erynnis tristis</i>	April 24	October 22																				
		Common Checkered-Skipper	<i>Pyrgus communis</i>	August 30	October 11																				
Fiery Skipper		<i>Hylephila phyleus</i>	August 26	August 26																					
Sachem Skipper		<i>Atalopedes campestris</i>	September 2	September 30																					
Woodland Skipper		<i>Ochlodes sylvanoides</i>	April 7	September 13																					
Umber Skipper		<i>Poanes melane</i>	May 3	October 26																					
Unidentified Skipper		<i>unknown</i>	July 30	August 19																					
year	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16
# of species sighted	27	26	31	33	21	35	28	33	32	30	32	32	36	38	27	32	32	38	36	33	27	30	33	34	36

Fifty-nine of California's 236 native butterfly species are commonly seen in the San Francisco Bay Area. A total of 54 different species have been catalogued visiting at Hallberg Butterfly Gardens over the last 25 years...some just once, or only rarely, and some establishing populations in our enhanced habitat.

June 26, 2016

Guests	City	County
2	Alameda	Alameda
1	Albany	Alameda
2	Berkeley	Alameda
4	Dublin	Alameda
2	Oakland	Alameda
2	Pleasanton	Alameda
2	El Cerrito	Contra Costa
1	Richmond	Contra Costa
1	Long Beach	Los Angeles
3	Redondo Beach	Los Angeles
3	Torrance	Los Angeles
1	Fairfax	Marin
2	Marin	Marin
9	Mill Valley	Marin
13	Novato	Marin
2	Point Reyes	Marin
5	Ukiah	Mendocino
2	Orange	Orange
11	San Francisco	San Francisco
1	Hillsborough	San Mateo
2	Menlo Park	San Mateo
2	Palo Alto	Santa Clara
1	Vallejo	Solano
1	Cazadero	Sonoma
1	Cloverdale	Sonoma
6	Cotati	Sonoma
21	Forrestville	Sonoma
4	Freestone	Sonoma
2	Glen Ellen	Sonoma
26	Graton	Sonoma
3	Gualala	Sonoma
3	Guerneville	Sonoma
6	Healdsburg	Sonoma
2	Kenwood	Sonoma
4	Occidental	Sonoma
50	Petaluma	Sonoma
25	Rohnert Park	Sonoma
256	Santa Rosa	Sonoma
2	Sea Ranch	Sonoma
160	Sebastopol	Sonoma
3	Valley Ford	Sonoma
31	Windsor	Sonoma

From outside California

2	Gilbert	AZ
2	Wilmington	DE
4	Augusta	GA
4	Edina	MN
2	Silver City	NM
3	Beaverton	OR
1	Camas	WA

Louise

by Kathy Spalding

When I first met Louise she took me to a spot she wanted weeded, a baking slope covered with non-native grasses interspersed with struggling coffeeberry and ceanothus wired off from the deer. Louise explained that this area was a butterfly flyway and the slope would be an important food source. I thought she was delusional and planned to make this my first and last day of volunteering.

And then the butterflies showed up.

I kept volunteering and Louise continued with her crazy talk. Weed around the stinging nettle. The dead poplars are staying put. Here is where the creek will go. By now it was becoming obvious the woman had a plan. Stinging nettle is the larval host of several butterfly species. The

dead trees became the cache site for Acorn Woodpeckers. And Butterfly Creek was born.

“She’s so sweet!” everyone would squeal, underestimating their brush with something much more rare, for Louise was a visionary. (Honestly, who puts in a creek?) Her compassion, curiosity, and dedication created vital space for butterflies and other wildlife. Her concerns extended far beyond her gardens’ borders as she added to our understanding of habitat loss, pesticide misuse, and climate change. She shared her gardens and insights with all comers, always encouraging visitors to grow a plant or three for butterflies, knowing full well our Insect Overlords would take it from there.

That desolate slope Louise had me weed is now awash with flowering plants. Just like she said it would.

Louise with Nephews Chris and Casey Costello and their children.



Celebrating Louise’s 100th Birthday at The Graton Community Center, by G. Pearson. Peter Leveque MCs the crowd of 95 guests on a very windy and rainy Sunday, January 8th, 2017.

2016–2017 Friends of the Gardens...

Donors *Major Donors

William Allen
in memory of Louise

Dr. & Mrs. Joseph C. Barbaccia
in honor of Joanne Taylor

Sandy Baker

Billie Herring Best
in memory of Louise

Tom Borowicz

Wendy Born

Janet Bosshard

Robin Bulman

Sally Cahill

Sue Carlson

Jyoti Chalpe

Nancy Davidson
in memory of Louise

Patricia Dervin*

Sheri Fox*

Clara Fusco
in memory of Louise

Azucena Gee

Betty Groce

Joan Grosser

Louise Hallberg*

Diane Heilesen

Melissa & Brandon Jolley

Jerry & Linda Johnston

Michael & Hillary Kambour

Rita Kyle

Charles Lahm*

Eleanor Laney

Peter & Olivia Leveque
in memory of Betty Burrige

Don Mahoney*

Sheila Moser

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Pat Muscat

Jim Musselman

Karen Nagel

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in memory of Alyse M. Roach

Caren Signorelli
in memory of Louise

Sandia, Ted, Kimi Shirai
in honor of Joanne Taylor

Lori Silver
in memory of Louise

Art Slater*

Don G. Sorenson

Kathy Spalding* & William Brungardt

Lee Stare
in memory of Margaret Stassforth

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Florence White
in honor of Louise Hallberg

Pedro Vera

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Sandy Baker Metzgar

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Mark & Gay Brorstrom

Margaret & Carl Brown

Sarah Brown

Bill Brungardt & Kathy Spalding

Rene Cardiehl

Loretta Bentancourt & Maureen Pape, Volunteers & Docents, Open Gardens Day 2016. by Julie Bennett.



Ana Castillo-Williams

Laura Close

Doris Collins

Caterino Contreras

Bob Cugini

Patricia Dervin

Beth Eastwood

Meghan Ewing

Carlene Ferguson

Jean Ferretti

Sheri Fox

Leo Garza

Kandis Gilmore & SSU Students

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Audrey Hecker

Wintress Huetter

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Holly Link

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Alexandra McDonald

Jane Merryman

Don Mahoney

Pat Muscat

Symon Myers

Karen Nagel

Naomi Naqola

Kathy Oetinger

Maureen Pape

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Evan Peterman

Jeannie Powers

Darla Radcliffe

Glenda Ross

Margaret Rued

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Betsy Skinner

Art Slater

Jason Sundstrom

Joanne Taylor

Mere Tikoitogo

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Kathy Trafton

Jennifer Wheeler

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**The Gardens
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Wednesday - Sunday,
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Call 707•591•6967



Kathy Pearson and Louise at her 100th birthday party. Photo by Gene Pearson

**Hallberg Butterfly Gardens
20th annual
Open Gardens Celebration
& Plant Sale**

**Sunday, June 25, 2017
10 am to 4 pm
8687 Oak Grove Avenue, Graton**

*Bird & Butterfly Sightings, Children's Activities,
Wildflower Display, Walking Tours, Docents
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Free, No reservations needed
Please park along the street and walk down driveway or wait for the shuttle
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