

**Trione-Annadel State Park**  
**Volunteer Hike Leader John Lynch**

*My name is John Lynch and I consider myself an avid nature lover and Interpretive Naturalist. I organized this site in 2016 when I began expanding my guided nature walks and needed a way to communicate with participants and fellow nature lovers.*

*So a little about me:*

*Growing up I spent most of my time outdoors in the Hudson River Valley in upstate New York where I became fascinated by the wide variety of wildlife (particularly the amphibians) in the fields, streams, ponds and marshes just outside my backdoor. I was intrigued with the smells and tastes of the plants around me and spent many enjoyable hours watching and imitating the birds. For me, home is green, smells of lush swamps and piney forests and is full of bird song.*

*In college I helped found the Rutgers University Conservation Action Committee which organized the 1st Earth Day Celebration in New Jersey.*

*When I moved to Sonoma County in 1980 I felt drawn to learn about California native plants and took several courses at the Santa Rosa Junior College studying native plants and their uses both currently and historically by California's native peoples. I also took every opportunity to hike Sonoma County's many trails.*

*When I retired from County service in 2011 I became a trail monitor for the Sonoma County Parks and regularly patrol the Shiloh Ranch Regional Park providing minor trail maintenance, visitor assistance and monitoring.*

*In the fall of 2011 I trained as a Docent at the Audubon Canyon Ranch Bouverie Preserve where I continue to provide classroom based nature studies presentations and nature preserve interpretive hikes for elementary school age children and the general public.*

*Im also a Certified Naturalist with Sonoma State University and provide regular Naturalist guided tours of the SSU Fairfield Osborn Preserve for elementary age students.*

*In 2012 I became a Volunteer Interpretive Naturalist with the Valley of the Moon Natural History Association and lead regularly scheduled nature hikes at Jack London State Historical Park with an emphasis on the interplay between natural and cultural history.*

*I'm currently planning a series of interpretive hikes with Annadel State Park. Please see the Annadel Park website for details: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=480](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=480)*

*Besides learning about and sharing my profound love of nature, I have a passion for photography and especially wildflower macro photography. I have a fascination with Native American stories and love sharing them. I'm also an active student of ethnobotany.*

*I deeply believe that helping to reconnect people of all ages to the natural world through the processes of curiosity, exploration, and inquiry is vital to healing our planetary ecosystem, our society, and ourselves.*

*I invite anyone of like mind and inclination to come and walk in nature with me.*

Thanks for all your help,  
John