

# Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

March 2014, Number 234

## Citrus in Today's Gardens

SEE PAGE 1

**FREE ENTRY TO SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW**

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**NATIVE GARDEN EVENTS**

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On the Cover: Kumquats for your garden



San Diego County Orchid Society  
Presents

## A Symphony of Orchids

### Orchid Show & Sale

March 21 -23, 2014

Friday: 3pm – 7pm

Saturday: 9am – 6pm

Sunday: 10am – 4pm

Admission: \$7

Weekend pass: \$10

Children under 12: Free

Parking: Free



Scottish Rite Center  
1895 Camino Del Rio South  
San Diego, CA 92108

Information:  
[www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)  
Contact: (760) 529-2947

## Tour Sherman Gardens and Roger's Gardens with the San Diego Horticultural Society

March 28 Bus Tour

Details and registration at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org)



Ken Blackford

Sherman Gardens (pictured here) is a coastal gem, a museum of living plants, displayed amidst a setting of fountains and sculptures and an abundance of seasonal flowers. Roger's Gardens is a destination home and garden store for those seeking creative ideas and unique products for outdoor and indoor living, with beautiful foliage and flowering plants, fountains and designer pottery.

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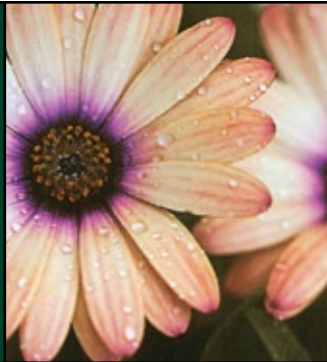
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sdhs





# California-Friendly Landscape Contest

Sponsored by local water agencies



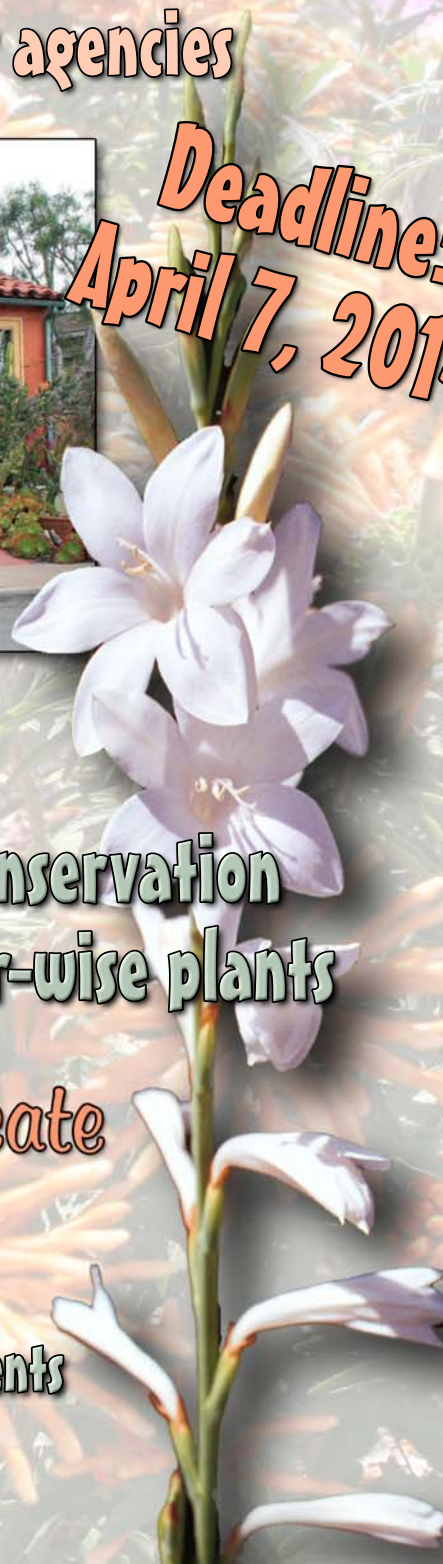
**Deadline:**  
**April 7, 2014**

## Basic Judging Criteria:

- Design for beauty & water conservation
- Creative use of colorful water-wise plants

**Win a \$250 gift certificate  
and other prizes**

For more info, including eligibility requirements  
and application procedures, visit the contest  
website: [www.landscapecontest.com](http://www.landscapecontest.com)





The Water Conservation Garden's



# Butterfly Festival



April 5, 2014  
9am to 3pm

## About the Event

Celebrate the opening of the Dorcas E. Utter Butterfly Pavilion at the first annual Butterfly Festival!

- Tours of the Butterfly Pavilion
- Pollinator Parade and Butterfly Release
- Butterfly-Habitat Plant Sale
- Butterfly Experts Booths and Workshops
- Butterfly Discovery Lab, Crafts and Games
- Ms. Smarty-Plants™ and Miss Metamorphosis

For full program details, visit

[www.thegarden.org/butterfly](http://www.thegarden.org/butterfly)

Admission: \$5 18+ years; \$1 Ages 3-17.

Free Parking!

THE  
water conservation  
garden

12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA 92019 • 619-660-0614  
[www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org)





# Butterfly Festival

## EVENT PROGRAM



### Schedule of Activities

- 9:30am** Story Time with Miss Metamorphosis
- 10:00am** Workshop: Butterflies of San Diego  
Kojiro Shiraiwa, author of *The Butterflies of San Diego County*
- 10:00am** Entertainment at amphitheater
- 10:30am** Story Time with Miss Metamorphosis
- 11:00am** Pollinator Parade  
Kids of all ages are invited to dress as their favorite winged pollinator or caterpillar and parade through The Garden with Ms. Smarty-Plants™ and Miss Metamorphosis!
- 1:00pm** Workshop: Creating Your Own Butterfly Garden  
Clayton Tschudy, Director of Horticulture & Exhibits, The Water Conservation Garden
- 1:00pm** Unity Dance Ensemble in The Garden's amphitheater
- 1:30pm** Story Time with Miss Metamorphosis

### Throughout the Day

#### Butterfly Pavilion Tours

Discover the wonder of San Diego's native butterflies in the **NEW Dorcas E. Utter Memorial Butterfly Pavilion!** Tours run every 15 minutes. We suggest that you reserve a tour time upon arrival at The Garden, as space is limited.

#### Butterfly Plant Sale

Find all of the plants that you need to create a beautiful and water-wise butterfly garden at home.

#### Butterfly Discovery Lab

Examine butterflies close-up in various stages of life and learn about the vital role these insects play as pollinators.

#### Design Consultations

Learn to make a butterfly garden or other water-saving garden. Sign up for a **private 20-minute** landscape design consultation with a professional landscape designer or architect for just \$15.00. Call 619-660-0614 x 10.

#### Face Painting

Kids of all ages! Let our talented face painter help you show off your colorful side!

#### Ms. Smarty-Plants™ Fun Booths

Make your own butterfly craft and step up to the canvas to help us paint butterfly wings!

#### Animal Encounters

Meet other animals native to our region and learn about the roles they play in our ecosystem.

#### Crafts & Gifts

Shop vendors offering jewelry and crafts and discover beautiful garden-related items in our Garden Gift Shop.

#### Bake Sale

Enjoy delicious homemade treats baked by Garden volunteers.

#### Rancho San Diego Farmer's Market

Shop the market's array of fresh, organic produce and specialty food vendors.





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San Dieguito Water District  
Water Conservation Garden  
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## SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

**OUR MISSION** is to promote the enjoyment, art, knowledge and public awareness of horticulture in the San Diego area, while providing the opportunity for education and research.

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Renewal information is on page 20 and at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org).  
For questions contact [membership@sdhort.org](mailto:membership@sdhort.org)  
or Jim Bishop at (619) 296-9215.

### MEETING SCHEDULE

6:00 – 6:45 Vendor sales, lending library, plant display, silent auction  
6:45 – 8:30 Announcements, door prizes, speaker

### MEETING CHECK-IN EXPRESS LINE

Please have your membership card in your hand when you get on the EXPRESS Check-In Line at our monthly meetings. This will greatly speed up the process for everyone - thanks!

### MEETINGS & EVENTS

(FW = Free Workshop; Register at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org))

Feb. 28 - March 2	Spring Home/Garden Show (see page 2)
March 8	Plant Propagation Success (FW)
March 15	Building Wooden Planter Boxes (FW)
March 28	Bus tour to Sherman Gardens & Roger's Gardens (register at <a href="http://www.sdhort.org">www.sdhort.org</a> )
April 5	Spring Garden Tour (see page 10)
April 14	Fred Roberts on Oaks in San Diego County
May 4	Wine Country Garden Tour (see website)
May 12	Phil Bergman on Best Palms for Southern California
May 17	Featured Garden: Fallbrook (register at <a href="http://www.sdhort.org">www.sdhort.org</a> )
June 9	SDHS Night at the Fair



**[www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org)**

**COVER IMAGE:** Kumquats are just one of the many fascinating fruits you'll hear about at our March meeting.

## NEXT MEETING: MARCH 10, 2014, 6:00 – 8:30 PM SPEAKER: TRACY KAHN ON *TRIED AND TRUE OR BRAND NEW:* *CITRUS IN TODAY'S GARDENS*

Meeting is open and everyone is welcome. Admission: Members/free, Non-Members/\$15. Parking is free. Meeting Place: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Surfside Race Place, Del Mar; Info: (619) 296-9215

This month we welcome Dr. Tracy Kahn, curator of the University of California, Riverside (UCR) Citrus Variety Collection, one of the world's most diverse assemblages of citrus cultivars, consisting of over 1000 different citrus cultivars and citrus relatives. What we call "Citrus" is much more than Washington navel oranges, Valencias, Satsuma tangerines, grapefruits, lemons and limes. Dr. Kahn will provide a virtual tour of the UCR Citrus Variety Collection and focus on the origins of new varieties and some of the diversity of citrus that is grown commercially and in people's backyards. She will also touch on rootstocks and challenges and threats to growing citrus in California today.

Dr. Kahn provides field days and tours of the UCR Citrus Variety Collection, which is a valuable resource for gardeners, citrus growers, nursery owners, produce providers, chefs, students and the public. In addition, she advises California citrus growers, through her work with the Citrus Research Board, by evaluating newly introduced cultivars so growers can make informed choices about which new cultivars are most likely to be successful and sustain productivity and profitability in California. Dr. Kahn received her B.S. degree in Botany from the University of Michigan in 1977 and her Ph.D. in Botany from the University of California, Riverside in 1987.

As a special treat, Dr. Kahn will bring some citrus samples for tasting. For more information visit [www.citrusvariety.ucr.edu](http://www.citrusvariety.ucr.edu) and see page 3. ☺





# SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

## BOARD MEMBERS

Cindy Benoit – Member at Large  
Patty Berg – Volunteer Coordinator  
Jeff Biletnikoff – Meeting Room  
Coordinator  
Jim Bishop – President  
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Past President

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**Editor/Advertising:** Susi Torre-Bueno;  
(760) 295-2173; [newsletter@sdhort.org](mailto:newsletter@sdhort.org)

**Calendar:** Send details by the 10th of the  
month before event to [calendar@sdhort.org](mailto:calendar@sdhort.org).

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## New Email? New Street Address?

Please send all changes (so you will continue  
to receive the newsletter and important  
notices) to [membership@sdhort.org](mailto:membership@sdhort.org) or  
SDHS, Attn: Membership, PO Box 231869,  
Encinitas, CA 92023-1869. We NEVER share  
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## BECOME A SPONSOR!

### Do you own a garden-related business?

SDHS sponsorships have high recognition  
and valuable benefits, including a link to  
your website, discounts on memberships  
for your employees, and free admission to  
SDHS events. This is a wonderful way to  
show your support for the SDHS. Sponsors  
help pay for our monthly meetings, annual  
college scholarships, and other important  
programs. Sponsorships start at just \$100/  
year; contact Jim Bishop at [sponsor@sdhort.org](mailto:sponsor@sdhort.org). Sponsors are listed on page 10; look for  
"SDHS Sponsor" above their ads. We thank  
them for their support.

## GARDENS, PLANTS, FUN – FOR FREE!

Spring Home/Garden Show: February 28 to March 2

By Lucy Warren

If you love plants, great garden design, and the chance to learn more about  
gardening, don't miss the show from Friday, February 28 to Sunday, March 2 at the  
Del Mar Fairgrounds. **SDHS members get a free VIP pass for two: <http://springhomegardenshow.com/SDHS>.** You'll definitely want to bring your  
significant other or your best garden buddy.

SDHS sponsors the judging of dramatically-lit display gardens designed and created  
specifically for this show. Garden Masters put their best efforts into creative new ideas  
for wonderful gardens for our climate. See the creativity and style of top designers and  
horticulturists. Our free informative seminar series covers a wide range from sustainable  
landscaping, natives and succulents, to growing organic fruits and vegetables.

For more personalized information, sign up for the "30 for 30" private consultations  
hosted by professionals from the American Institute of Architects (AIA), American  
Society of Interior Designers (ASID) and American Society of Landscape Architects  
(ASLA). It costs just \$30 for a private 30-minute consultation, which can be reserved in  
advance at <http://springhomegardenshow.com>.

You'll see interesting and unusual plants to tempt your wallet. Top growers and  
specialty nurseries are all located together, so you  
can find just the right plants without all the driving.  
Talk to these people; they have the expertise to  
share with you about how to make their plants  
thrive in your garden. ☘

  
**Spring**  
**HOME/GARDEN SHOW**  
**29TH ANNUAL**

**Del Mar Fairgrounds**  
**February 28 – March 2, 2014**

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### Spring Garden Tour Volunteers

Can you lend a hand on April 5th in Olivenhain or Solana Beach? Eight fabulous gardens  
will be featured on this year's "Surf & Turf" Tour (see page 10). We'll have dozens of  
assignments for ticket sales, garden docents, parking guides and more. Sign up early  
and you may be able to select your assignment. Enjoy a special preview tour just for  
volunteers in the preceding week. Contact Volunteer Coordinator Patty Berg at 760-  
815-0625 or [PattyJBerg@gmail.com](mailto:PattyJBerg@gmail.com).

### Board Opening: Membership Chairperson

Are you an outgoing "people person?" Our membership chair is a job you'd enjoy! You'll  
recruit new members, interact with current members, set membership policies, and  
answer questions regarding membership renewals. Also, you'll help with outreach tables  
at non-SDHS events and conduct two semi-annual new member orientation events in  
member's gardens. Best of all: the majority of the routine membership tasks are done  
by our bookkeeper and automated on our website. Requires familiarity with email and  
computer editing skills. Contact Jim Bishop: [president@sdhort.org](mailto:president@sdhort.org).

### Board Opening: Garden Tour Co-Chair for 2015

We're already in the early planning stages for the 2015 Spring Garden Tour, even though the  
current year's event is still a few months away. That's because 2015 marks the Centennial  
Celebration at Balboa Park and we'll be featuring gardens in that area. If you love gardens  
and have strong organizational skills, consider co-chairing this exciting event. Tasks include  
identifying the tour area; scheduling the tour date; finding and reviewing tour gardens;  
and working with homeowners, sponsor(s), and vendors. You'll work with and supervise  
other volunteers who staff the gardens, create publicity materials, and sell tickets. Requires  
familiarity with email. Contact Jim Bishop at [president@sdhort.org](mailto:president@sdhort.org).

*Continued on page 3*



## To Learn More...

### Tried and True or Brand New Citrus

By Ava Torre-Bueno

There are more varieties of citrus than we normally consider growing in our gardens. Some are unusual in flavor, some in shape:

[www.innvista.com/health/foods/fruits/unusual-citrus-fruits](http://www.innvista.com/health/foods/fruits/unusual-citrus-fruits)

Some have beautiful and explosive interiors:

<http://paradisexpress.blogspot.com/2013/04/finder-limes.html>

Any article with a sentence that starts "Citrus are rambunctious, even exuberant growers..." is worth a read: <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/8wz382fh#page-1>

My mom's current favorite citrus is the Kaffir lime. She is very proud of her new potted tree and has named it "Bumpy." Kaffir limes are used in Indochinese, Thai, and Malaysian cooking, so I offer a picture of it here with a recipe:

[www.thetasteoforegon.com/2010/12/tom-yum-seafood-soup-with-kaffir-lime](http://www.thetasteoforegon.com/2010/12/tom-yum-seafood-soup-with-kaffir-lime)

If you have more space for growing citrus, or anything else, than you're willing or able to work, here's a very cool idea about sharing your land with a landless grower, and getting a share of their bounty in return! This is a way collaborative way to create a more sustainable world:

[www.sharedearth.com](http://www.sharedearth.com)

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Member Ava Torre-Bueno is a psychotherapist in private practice and the organizer of Gardeners 4 Peace. This group of volunteers is helping to create a peaceful, organic, permaculture garden at the San Diego Friends Center. To learn more visit [www.sandiegofriendscenter.org/volunteers.htm](http://www.sandiegofriendscenter.org/volunteers.htm). ☘

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## ■ Volunteers Needed Continued from page 2

### Tech Support Help at Meetings:

Do you have video and tech support skills, and also love to garden? We need a tech-savvy volunteer to help load speaker presentations onto a laptop prior to our monthly meeting, and to assist the speaker. Also, we are looking for an individual who can load past presentations onto the internet. Contact Jim Bishop: [president@sdhort.org](mailto:president@sdhort.org).

### La Jolla Garden Tour Volunteers Needed

Tammy Schwab is recruiting Plant Information Volunteers for the La Jolla Historical Society Secret Garden Tour on May 17. If interested, click this link to sign up: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C094EA9AC22ABFE3-plant](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C094EA9AC22ABFE3-plant). ☘



## FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

### Spring Garden Tour

Have you purchased your tickets for our Turf and Surf garden tour on Saturday, April 5th? The tour features gardens in the Solana Beach and Olivenhain areas. A special treat this year is touring Garden Tour Chair Dannie McLaughlin's garden. Dannie and her husband Craig's garden was the winner of 2013 *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine Garden of the Year. It is always a treat to visit Dannie's garden... well, actually, it is many gardens spread over their 3-acre property. And for those tour goers not interested only in gardening, Craig will have his classic car collection on display. But wait; there are still 7 more gardens to tour, plus a special optional stop at the Boys and Girls Clubs in Solana Beach for a tour of the organic vegetable garden and a cooking demonstration! Add in food trucks, fine artists, live music and many vendors of garden-related merchandise and plants, and you have one of the best ways to enjoy San Diego gardening at its finest.

Online pre-tour ticket purchases for SDHS members save \$5 off the non-member and day of tour price of \$25. Besides saving money, online purchasers will receive the tour map via email two days before the tour, and can check in at any garden on the tour, allowing you to skip the ticket line and spend more time touring. Carpools of four or more receive a free guest pass to one of our regular meetings.

All profits from this year's tour go towards funding our restoration of the gardens adjacent to the lily pond in Balboa Park. You also have the opportunity when purchasing tickets to make an additional tax-deductible contribution to this worthwhile project. So what are you waiting for? See page 10 or go to **[www.sdhort.org/GardenTour](http://www.sdhort.org/GardenTour)** right now and purchase your tickets.

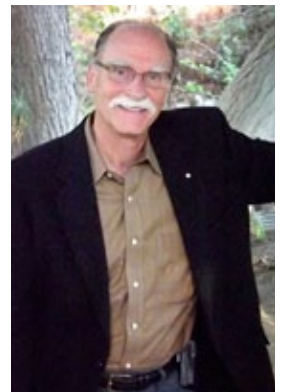
### Balboa Park Lily Pond Garden Restoration

You can read an interview with Cindy Benoit on page 7. Cindy and Chris Drayer are the SDHS volunteers and landscape architects who are creating the updated design for the gardens adjacent to the lily pond in front of the Botanical Building. Besides creating a beautiful landscape, one of our major goals of the project is to show San Diegans many of the wonderful, low maintenance and waterwise plants they can easily grow in their own gardens.

You can view the proposed plant list for the project at <http://tinyurl.com/n9yyvzp>. It will be fun watching the garden come to life over the next several months as we update one of the most iconic parts of San Diego.

### Horticulturist of the Year: Julian Duval

Every year the board of the San Diego Horticultural Society selects an important member of the local horticultural community to honor as our Horticulturist of the Year. The award recognizes an individual for a lifetime of achievement and service. A very hearty congratulations to Julian Duval, President and CEO of the San Diego Botanic Garden, on being selected as our 2014 Horticulturist of the Year for his tremendous contribution to horticulture in San Diego; we're pleased to honor him this way. An article about Julian will appear in a future newsletter. ☘



## THE REAL DIRT ON...

### George Washington

By Donna Tierney

We often think of George Washington as the great American General who led American patriots to independence from Britain and later became the first President.



But, his true passion was for American land: surveying, horticulture, and agriculture! At the age of 17 he became a surveyor and surveyed lands on the western side of Virginia. As he surveyed, he became enamored with the native American plants he encountered: trees, shrubs, and flowers. His travels also gave him the opportunity to talk with local farmers about their crops, seeds, soils, and farming techniques. This early experience gave him technical knowledge that he would use in a lifetime advocacy for American plants, landscape design and farming innovations. It also convinced him that America's extensive land resources were key to breaking away from Britain and eventually becoming a self-sufficient nation.

As Britain was preparing to attack New York, Washington and his staff were preparing their defense plans. Weary of the effort, Washington dismissed his team and began to think about his plans to landscape his home at Mount Vernon. On the eve of the first battle to secure American liberty, this action may appear strange! But in his mind, Washington had already decided that his gardens would be American, no English trees allowed! Even during the darkest times of the war, Washington continued to find solace and encouragement by spending time planning his great American garden at Mount Vernon.

After the war, Washington returned to his estate to implement his landscape plans. He insisted on only using American native plants, which was revolutionary. Most colonial estate owners tried to duplicate their former English gardens, and considered American plants common weeds.

His workers dug species from surrounding forests, and he directly supervised the collection and planting with great intensity and enthusiasm. He was the epitome of the "dirty knees" gardener. Wanting his garden to represent all of America, not just Virginia, he collected plants from surrounding states (e.g., magnolias, live oaks, white pines, hemlocks). He traded seeds and plants with the many visitors who came to Mount Vernon.

Many of the trees and shrubs that Washington selected were flowering varieties that provided fragrance and great color in both spring and fall. He also chose trees with interesting bark. He wanted his gardens to impress visitors throughout the year.

In addition to his horticulture pursuits, Washington was considered the most innovative farmer of his time. He grew 80 crops on five different farms, and experimented with seeds, crop rotation, new tools, and soil amendments. He kept extensive records, which promoted best practice information and provided historical data about all of his work.

Washington's legacy lives on. The Mount Vernon Ladies Association purchased the estate from his heirs in 1858. They pioneered important historic preservation concepts that have been key to ensuring that this estate remains a national treasure.

## BOOK REVIEW

### *Fern House: A Year in an Artist's Garden*

By Deborah Schenck

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

I've been to Vermont. There are three things I think about when I remember that trip: the lush beauty of the very green countryside, the humidity, and the mosquitoes. Deborah Schenck wisely deals with only the first of those three memories. And she does a beautiful job of it.

As I was first reading this book and looking for an angle for the review, I noted all the things it isn't. When you get done reading, you won't feel like you've been on a trip to Vermont; it's not a travelogue. You won't especially know how to plant anything, although she does give some sketchy descriptions of her process. You won't know how to design a garden. She does include some planting layouts of some parts of her garden, but she doesn't tell you what decisions she made as she made those layouts. It's not biography. You won't end up feeling like you know her, like she could be your next door neighbor, or you wish she were. There is some text, but it's really extraneous. It might take you an hour to read it all.

What is it, then?

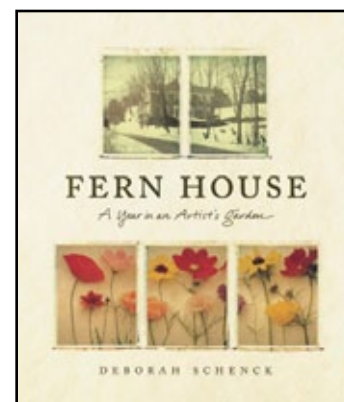
It's really a picture book. When I bought it, I thought I was looking at paintings, but in fact, Schenck is a photographer whose skill is to make photographs that make you want to linger and look at them slowly and completely. The subjects are her house and the plants from her garden. Some of the plants are dried and probably saved in a collection. Others are photographed freshly cut, but similarly arrayed as specimens, not *in situ*. They aren't all printed in sepia tones, but they have a misty look that made me think of old photographs.

I'm not educated in the visual arts, so I can't give you a scholarly discussion of the merit or techniques or place in the canon of her photographs, but I can tell you that I liked them a lot. As I said earlier, they make you want to linger and to savor.

I looked Schenck up on Google. Although I don't remember seeing her work before, she seems to be everywhere. She has designed postcards, note cards, posters, datebooks, fabrics, coasters, and even handbags with her work printed on.

*Fern House* (ISBN 0-8118-2835-2) is hardbound and lists for \$19.95. You can order it at your local book store or directly from the publisher, [www.chroniclebooks.com](http://www.chroniclebooks.com), and, of course, on line.

NOTE: I had thought that this month I'd write about books on low-water plants and especially low-water California natives, but then I decided to find out if you have any favorites in that category, either books or plants. Let me know if you do; email me at [carobil.l@netzero.com](mailto:carobil.l@netzero.com). ☘



Meeting Check-In Express Lines  
Now Open - see page 18.



## TREES, PLEASE

### How Much is That Tree Worth?

By Tim Clancy

Coast Live Oak.

Trees have value. There are many "ecosystem services" provided by our trees that we would otherwise have to pay for. They reduce cooling and heating costs, filter particulate matter from



the air we breath, and sequester carbon. They help reduce erosion and reduce storm water runoff. Studies in the last 15 years have even put a dollar figure on these services. One study pegs this value at \$75 per tree. That may not strike you as very much, but consider that the total number of trees estimated to reside in San Diego county is in the millions and suddenly you have a fantastically large number.

That's all very interesting, but it doesn't really tell us how much a tree is worth. To put a value on a tree we use an appraisal methodology outlined in *Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*. This guide is written by the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers (CTLA), a group of volunteers from several different plant and landscape related fields. There are multiple methodologies outlined in the guide. Let's take a look at the Trunk Formula Method.

The trunk formula method is typically employed when the tree in question cannot be replaced by simply visiting a nursery and purchasing a tree of equal size. In our example, we will use a coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*).

Our tree has a dbh (diameter at breast height) of 30". It is a solitary specimen approximately 60' tall, and is shading a ranch style house in Ramona. It is in good condition, with no decay or a history of limb failures. This information allows us to use the formula developed by the CTLA. There are several components to the formula, but the most important are dbh, condition, and contribution. In our case, we will give the tree a high contribution value (80%) due to the shading provided. Using these values and also accounting for installation costs of a new tree we calculate that this tree is valued at \$81,600.

Much of the information used in the formula is subjective, so a value provided by one arborist may differ greatly from that of another. For example, let's use a contribution value of 50% and a condition of fair. Now our tree's value plummets to \$35,500.

For comparison purposes let's change the species to a California pepper (*Schinus molle*). Using the same values as above, we get \$27,300 and \$19,800 respectively. The difference is due to the fact that as a native the coast live oak has a higher species rating than the California pepper (native to the Peruvian Andes). Species ratings are developed by another group of volunteers using their knowledge of how various species perform in their locations.

The Trunk Formula Method is not perfect, but a pretty good place to start until we come up with something better. (The 10<sup>th</sup> version of the guide is currently being written.)

NOTE: Space limitations require me to present a simplified case study.

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Member Tim Clancy is an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist #WE-0806A. Tim welcomes comments and questions and can be reached at [treemanagers@gmail.com](mailto:treemanagers@gmail.com). ☘

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### Spicing it up with Jeanne Meadow

By Patty Berg, Volunteer Coordinator

Have you noticed the beautiful arrangements recently at the meeting check-in desk? Volunteer Jeanne Meadow took it upon herself to "spice it up." She has been creating themed centerpieces for the check-in tables for all to enjoy.

Why? "Because the green counter is, well, ugly," says Jeanne. "And working at the check-in counter, we see a lot of people rushing in from work and traffic. A beautiful arrangement makes them stop, smile, relax, and ask questions about the plants."

"I became a volunteer for the Hort because of my friend, Nancy Woodard," Jeanne says. "I was new to the area and to plants and Nancy seemed super nice and asked me to help out. It was a great way to meet new friends and learn a lot about plants. Before long, a group of us were carpooling each month from Fallbrook, so it became a social occasion for us as well as a way to help the club. To top it all off, the SDHS actually showed appreciation for the efforts of volunteers, with big smiles and thank yous and, of course, the annual volunteer appreciation party!"

Jeanne spent much of her working life in high-pressure executive positions, a far cry from her current passion, succulents. She and husband Barry bought a home in Fallbrook in 2007. Then, for the next four years they commuted to Los Angeles, where Jeanne had a small garden featuring roses. Really! By 2010, Jeanne began working on her succulent garden with the help of designer Steve McDearmon. "I just wanted a nice garden for myself," Jeanne says. "I had no idea that anybody else would be interested in seeing it."

But that's what happened. The garden is featured in the current issue of *Country Gardens Magazine*, and also appears in the April 2014 edition of *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine.

Jeanne enjoys having lunch from her own garden every day, not succulents, of course! She has several planters full of lettuce, tomatoes and carrots, along with many herbs and fruit trees. "A garden is not only beautiful to look at," Jeanne says, "but it's a great place to unwind from the daily stresses of life. I think of my garden as a place of relaxation and peace."

Jeanne's garden hosted the publishing party for Debra Lee Baldwin's latest book, *Succulents Simplified*, and also the Fallbrook Garden tour, so hundreds of garden lovers have recently visited. Yet, Jeanne most enjoys when smaller groups come by.

"I love to show people how beautiful succulents can be, and answer their questions about growing and caring for them," she says. "I work in the garden every day – designing, potting, trimming, organizing – and to see how people enjoy the result of my labor is a wonderful feeling." ☘



Jeanne Meadow with *Aloe marlothii*

## GOING WILD WITH NATIVES

### California Floristic Province:

#### How we define what's native

By Susan Krzywicki

We often throw around the term "California Native Plants," but rarely do we consider what that actually means. The term refers to the way botanists describe a unique set of geographic, horticultural, and animal kingdom conditions that allow them to categorize plants, soils and other characteristics. The science underpinnings aren't as relevant to the home gardener as what this means for how we garden.

People often use the terms "desert" or "Mediterranean climate" to describe our San Diego environment. These terms are easy to use, but do not take into account our specific types of vegetation and the animal life that inhabits our region. And, although we are one of only five regions with a Mediterranean-type climate in the world, we are not technically a desert.

Our floristic province stretches from Oregon to northern Baja, from the ocean through the Sierras, and excludes the Colorado and Mojave deserts to our east. Cold ocean currents and high mountains bring short, cool, wet winters and long, hot, dry summers. We have more than 2,000 plants that are adapted to these conditions and are found nowhere else in the world. And, there is a whole animal kingdom that is tied to these plants for their very existence. Native plants are larval hosts, spots for pollinators, and provide food and shelter for wildlife.

Geology and soils are extremely varied, with a lot of granite soils, as San Diego gardeners can attest. We live amidst the beautiful coastal sage scrub and our beloved chaparral, which stretches inland into the low foothills. Low-growing strongly-scented foliage of the sages and *Artemisia* are typical of coastal sage scrub. The marine influence helps these plants survive our dry summers.

Chaparral plants often have hard, waxy leaves and are evergreen. The word chaparral is a loan word from Spanish. The word *chaparro* itself comes from the Basque word *txapar*, which describe short bushy evergreens on the Iberian peninsula. Some of our most well-known plants are chaparral: Manzanita, *Ceanothus*, and Lemonadeberry.

Recently, botanists have been discussing the boundaries of our floristic province. Will we see scientists deciding on DNA and other evidence that our northern-most forests are not "California native"? We will have to wait and see what further research brings. And this frustrating fact emerges: a little learning leads to a lot more.

Using these California icons in our gardens allows us to celebrate our heritage and encourage a sense of place - nowhere else in the world!



California Floristic Province

Conservation International

## MASTER GARDENERS INVITE YOU TO TOUR OUR DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

### A family event at The Flower Fields at Carlsbad Ranch®



The Master Gardener Association of San Diego County (MGASDC; [www.MasterGardenerSD.org](http://www.MasterGardenerSD.org)), in partnership with The Flower Fields at Carlsbad Ranch®, invites you to the opening of its new demonstration garden on March 1, 2014. Located inside The Flower Fields® at 5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, the 1200 square foot exhibit will demonstrate innovative garden design trends along with healthy and effective gardening methods researched and verified by the University of California. This is the first demonstration garden for MGASDC and is designed, built, planted, staffed and managed completely by UCCE San Diego County Master Gardener volunteers.

The demonstration garden will exhibit different gardens to illustrate the myriad of gardening options available to San Diego County residents. Examples of gardens on display include a square foot garden, a straw bale garden, a pizza garden, an edible front yard, an elevated garden, and a drought tolerant native garden. The vignettes present options for the home gardener and address Master Gardener earth-friendly principles, such as selecting appropriate plants, nurturing the soil, reducing green waste, and conserving water with the purpose of growing healthy, environmentally-friendly gardens in San Diego County.

According to Renee Tepper, Master Gardener Demonstration Garden Chairperson, "The garden is an important living educational classroom for the San Diego community where they can see planting methods that adhere to the policy of landscape sustainability. As advocates of the Certified Earth Friendly Garden program in San Diego County we want to put theory into practice."

MGASDC had been investigating locations for a permanent demonstration garden when approached by the Flower Fields at Carlsbad Ranch® ([www.TheFlowerFields.com](http://www.TheFlowerFields.com)) and offered space to show their visitors a variety of gardening options which could fit into any home gardener's space. The Flower Fields® and demonstration garden will be open daily from March 1 to May 11, from 9am to 6pm, and will be staffed with Certified Master Gardeners to answer exhibit and general gardening or pest questions. For more information regarding the demonstration garden, please contact Renee Tepper, UCCE Master Gardener and Demonstration Garden Chairperson at [ReneeTepper@yahoo.com](mailto:ReneeTepper@yahoo.com). ☘



## WORK AT THE FAIR

The 2014 San Diego County Fair Garden Show is looking for an outgoing person who loves working with children to facilitate the new Children's Garden Area. Please contact Cindy Benoit at 858-755-1161 ext. 2462, or email [cbenoit@sdfair.com](mailto:cbenoit@sdfair.com) if interested.



Member Susan Krzywicki is the Horticulture Program Director for the California Native Plant Society. She has been a landscape designer in San Diego, as well as chair of the San Diego Surfrider's Ocean Friendly Gardens Committee. ☘



## CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN BALBOA PARK

### What SDHS is Doing

By Linda Shaw

As we have printed here before, the San Diego Horticultural Society is working with the Friends of Balboa Park to renovate the gardens surrounding the Lily Pond in front of the Botanical Building for the centennial celebration of the 1915 World's Fair. One of our Board members, Cindy Benoit, has volunteered to represent us in this big undertaking. Below is an interview with her.



*Leucadendron 'Jester'*

Jim Bishop

#### **Q: How did you get started in the landscape business?**

A: I began while working in orchid and protea nurseries in Maui, Hawaii, after receiving my degree in Horticultural Science. When I came back to the mainland, I worked at Nurseryland and then went on to get my degree in Environmental Design. For several years I worked in landscape architecture offices, working on both large public projects and private residential ones. In 1996, I started my own firm to focus on residential design and horticulture, which is my passion. I enjoy the personal contact with my clients and working with them to create their dream paradise.

#### **Q: What should a consumer look for when hiring a landscape architect?**

A: Landscape architects must hold current licenses from the State Department of Consumer Affairs, and be able to provide all construction documents, including grading, drainage, construction, irrigation, planting and lighting plans, along with details. The most important aspect is that the client trusts and connects with the landscape architect. This will ensure that the needs and desires of the client are both respected and represented.

#### **Q: What is your involvement with the annual San Diego County Fair in Del Mar?**

A: Over the years I have been one of the expert garden speakers, judges, and presenters for the Garden Show, and for the second year now I have been hired as the Garden Show coordinator for the Fair. I work there from September through July to design the layout of the entire garden area, hire the staff, secure the speakers, demonstrators, ambassadors, judges, and exhibitors. I love it because I get to work with people from a variety of backgrounds and I get to educate the public about plants while having a good time!

#### **Q: Where are we now with the Balboa Centennial project?**

A: Member Chris Drayer and I (he is also volunteering his landscape expertise) have mapped out all the existing large plants and trees and are working on the design phase. We have received approval from the SDHS Board of Directors on the selection of plant material, which will mostly be the understory to the existing trees. Chris and I are preparing a color presentation for the Friends of Balboa Park and for our Board. We are, of course, hoping to get some of the plant material donated, but we will likely need to purchase the bulk of the items.

That's where we, as members of the SDHS, come in. PLEASE go to the SDHS web site to make a generous donation to this project: [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org).

## TWO NATIVE GARDEN EVENTS

### Celebrate "Blooming Consciousness"

Garden Native and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) are hosting a two-day garden tour to demonstrate that water conservation and environmental stewardship can be aesthetically rewarding. The inspirational tour showcases design elements and plant choices that use only a fraction of the water needed in conventional landscapes. They are also hosting a fundraiser to support their efforts and kick off the garden tour. Garden Native ([www.gardennative.org](http://www.gardennative.org)), a project of the CNPS, promotes the use of native plants in landscaping for their direct positive impact on our community's health and well-being.



#### **Garden Tour "Blooming Consciousness"**

**Saturday and Sunday, March 29-30, 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM**

The Garden Native Tour features a different part of San Diego County every year. "Blooming Consciousness" highlights both coastal and inland communities in North County, and is a self-guided tour of 15 private and public gardens. Each garden will have knowledgeable docents available to answer questions. Tickets are \$25 at [www.GardenNativeTour.org](http://www.GardenNativeTour.org); **SDHS members save 20% - see ad on page 12..**

#### **"A Night in the Garden" Celebration**

**Saturday, March 15, 6:00 – 8:30PM**

This event supports Garden Native's efforts to promote the conservation of our precious natural resources. Guests will enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, local artisan wines, and Stone Brewery beer to the sounds of popular local jazz band, Third Season. A lively presentation will be given by Nan Sterman, host of the popular TV show, "A Growing Passion," and Rick Halsey, director of the California Chaparral Institute. Cost: \$125, includes one ticket to Garden Tour above; available now at [www.gardennative.org/event.html](http://www.gardennative.org/event.html).

## THE SUCCULENT CAFE

### Exceptional Setting for a Fine Brew

By Susi Torre-Bueno

We're very fortunate to have the creative Peter Loyola living in our community. You've probably read about his delightful Succulent Café ([www.succulentcafeoceaside.com](http://www.succulentcafeoceaside.com)), which serves coffee and other beverages, plus some good pastry (try the chocolate muffins!). It has been featured on TV (a fine video is here: <http://tinyurl.com/succafe>) and in numerous blogs and elsewhere. There is art on display, plus occasional musical performances, and it's a relaxing place to enjoy a quiet respite while surrounded by stunning succulents (including many for sale) on the walls and in a wide range of containers. Only a block or two from the Oceanside pier, and equally close to the Oceanside Museum of Art, I highly recommend it as a fine spot to indulge your plant passion and your need for a latte. Open every day from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, at 322 N. Cleveland Street, Oceanside 92054; (760) 717-9612.



Peter Loyola

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We encourage our 1300+ members to be active participants and share in the fun; to volunteer see page 2. A warm hello to these new members:

Kathleen Closson	Kristin O'Shea	Cindy Rhodes
Joy Davis	Lynn Paine	Jackie Seidman
Jennifer Kinberger	Plant World Nursery,	Tejus Trivedi
Zach Kuenzi	Douglas Lukas	

## HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2014; they earned Hort Bucks worth \$5 towards name badges, garden tours, dues and more! To get your Hort Bucks ask your friends to give your name when they join.

Glenea Belice (2)	Julie Hasl (2)	Anne Murphy (1)
Briggs Nursery (1)	Jenny Hawkins (1)	Stephanie Shigematsu (1)
Beatrice Ericksen (1)	Suellen Lodge (1)	Scott Spencer (1)
Meredith Garner (1)	Rebecca Moore (1)	Laura Starr (1)

## SPONSOR MEMBERS (names in bold have ads)

<b>Agri Service, Inc.</b>	Davey Tree Expert Company	Sales & Consulting	<b>Serra Gardens</b>
<b>Anderson's La Costa Nursery</b>	www.EasyToGrowBulbs.com	Moosa Creek Nursery	<b>Landscape Succulents</b>
Aristocrat Landscape, Installation & Maintenance	<b>Evergreen Nursery</b>	Multiflora Enterprises	<b>Solana Succulents</b>
<b>Barrels &amp; Branches</b>	Glorious Gardens Landscape	Nature Designs Landscaping	<b>Southwest Boulder &amp; Stone</b>
<b>Botaniscapes by Tracey</b>	<b>Grangetto's Farm &amp; Garden Supply</b>	Ornamental Gardens By Lisa	Sterling Tours
Briggs Tree Company	<b>Green Thumb Nursery</b>	<b>Pat Welsh</b>	<b>St. Madeleine Sophie's Center</b>
<b>Buena Creek Gardens</b>	<b>Kellogg Garden Products</b>	Pro Flowers	<b>Sunshine Care</b>
Cedros Gardens	<b>KRC Rock</b>	Renee's Garden	<b>Sunshine Gardens</b>
City Farmers Nursery	Legoland California	Revive Landscape Design	The Wishing Tree Company
<b>Coastal Sage Gardening</b>	Mariposa Landscape and Tree Service	<b>San Diego County Water Authority</b>	The Worms' Way
Columbine Landscape	Mark Lauman, Agricultural	San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles	<b>Walter Andersen Nursery</b>
Cuyamaca College		San Diego Hydroponics & Organics	Weidners' Gardens
			Waterwise Botanicals
			Westward Expos

## LIFE MEMBERS \*Horticulturist of the Year

*Chuck Ades (2008)	*Steve Brigham (2009)	*Vince Lazaneo (2004)	Gerald D. Stewart
*Walter Andersen (2002)	Laurie Connable	*Jane Minshall (2006)	*Susi Torre-Bueno (2012)
Norm Applebaum & Barbara Roper	*Julian (2014) & Leslie Duval	*Brad Monroe (2013)	& Jose Torre-Bueno
*Bruce & Sharon Asakawa (2010)	*Edgar Engert (2000)	*Bill Nelson (2007)	Dorothy Walker
Gladys T. Baird	Jim Farley	Tina & Andy Rathbone	Lucy Warren
Debra Lee Baldwin	Sue & Charles Fouquette	*Jon Rebman (2011)	*Evelyn Weidner (2001)
	Penelope Hlavac	Peggy Ruzich	*Pat Welsh (2003)
	Joyce James	San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles	Betty Wheeler
	Debbie & Richard Johnson		

## DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

(see ads for more discounts)

Get a 15% discount at Briggs Tree Co.  
(www.briggstree.com; tell them to look up the "San Diego Hort Society Member" account).

Get a 10% discount at San Diego Botanic Garden on Family/Dual or Individual memberships. Just state you are a current member of SDHS on your membership form. It cannot be done online, so mail it in or bring it to the Garden. Info: skubrock@sdbgarden.org.

Join Grangetto's FREE Garden Club for coupons and tips delivered to your inbox.  
www.grangettos.com/garden.

Davey Tree Expert Company offers a 10% discount to SDHS members.

Get a 25% discount at all 5 locations of San Diego Hydroponics & Organics  
(www.sdhydroponics.com). ☘



## A Planthead's Dream: Herb Festival, Spring Plant Sale, Tomatomania!®, and Bromeliad Bonanza

San Diego Botanic Garden's Spring Plant Sale is a chance for the whole family to engage in healthy lifestyle activities, including: *Herb Festival*, *Spring Plant Sale*, *Tomatomania!®*, and *Bromeliad Bonanza*. The weekend features a fun and interactive Kidzone with petting zoo and pony rides, plus music by Bob Ballentine and food from Divine Fresh. The Spring Plant Sale extravaganza is March 15 – 16, 9am – 5pm.

This extraordinary plant-related event allows adults to explore and find culinary, medicinal, and aromatic herbs, tomatoes, and other plants. While parents peruse a variety of plants, children can enjoy sunshine, nature, and activities at the Kidzone. In addition, we are pleased to have Sharon Lovejoy as our special guest speaker. Sharon shares our mission and passions, making her a perfect fit for this outstanding event. Her passion for the natural world guided her to become an award-winning nature, gardening, and children's book author and watercolor illustrator.

Sharon will be speaking on *Secrets of a Good Natured Gardener (and Garden)* and *Contain Your Creativity (in pots, that is)*. *Secrets of a Good Natured Gardener* is all about teamwork, and the "team" is a hard working host of critters, herbs, edibles, and native plants.

During *Contain Your Creativity*, Join Sharon as she leads you to create small theme gardens in bountiful containers. Harvest ideas for a mini herb garden, a hummingbird haven, a tea garden, beneficial insects medley, gourmet's delight, succulent mosaic, window boxes, and more. Sharon Lovejoy will be speaking on Saturday and Sunday at 1:00 pm.

There will also be on-going speakers on garden and herb-related topics, and guided tours of the Herb Garden, and *Tomatomania!®, with tomatoes and lectures on culture and care of tomatoes*. You can find a list of speakers, topics, and times at [www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org). ☘





## MY LIFE WITH PLANTS

By Jim Bishop

*This is a continuing series of articles that chronicle Jim Bishop's experiences with plants and the effect they have had on his life.*

### Annual Adventure

In previous articles I talked about creating the “bones” – the hardscape, trees and large plants – of my mid-80's garden in Encinitas. But creating the garden was really all about my passion at the time... growing beautiful flowers. As my vagabond family had moved from house to house, I had acquired a lot of experience growing plants from seed. I discovered that in California, six-packs and one-gallon plants were more common. This was a somewhat new and seemingly more expensive way of planting for me. Still, to get some quick color in the garden, I bought flats of annuals to create drifts of color.

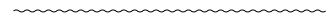
With so many choices of annuals that I had never grown before it was difficult to know what not to buy. Some choices, however, were easy. I had always wanted to grow foxgloves, so I planted these and fairy primroses in the shadiest areas of the garden. Old winter garden favorites that I grew in Texas went in the sunny areas: snapdragons, violas, pansies, lobelia, sweet alyssum, calendulas, and sweet peas. New to me were marguerite daisies, annual candytuft and annual stock in whites and pastels. I sought out and planted as many different cultivars of Pacific Hybrid delphiniums as I could find. I added bulbs of Dutch iris and finally lots and lots of tuberous Giant Tecolote ranunculus. I had grown ranunculus in Texas, but had no

idea that almost all the bulbs sold originated in nearby Carlsbad. The flower fields in the mid-80s were about twice their current size, and spilled over into the now developed area behind their current location. It was also while visiting the fields that I first became aware of South African bulbs: freesias, watsonias, ixis, sparaxis, and tritonia, but I'd have to wait another year before I'd be able to plant these.

I mail ordered roses from Jackson & Perkins. I spent hours reading over the catalogue and checking each variety to make sure it would do well. I was a little too inspired by the tree roses of the Pacific Northwest and planted two deep red American roses flanked by two pink hybrid teas. Unfortunately, with their long bloom stalks, these weren't the best tree rose selections for the garden.

By early April there were lots of beautiful flowers. As spring started to fade into summer, I ordered summer annual seeds and set up the kitchen atrium window with flats and trays to grow the next round of garden color. Falling back on what I knew best, I planted lots of hybrid marigolds, zinnias, and rudbeckia daisies. I also added many of the new hybrid petunias that were coming on the market, and I developed a bit of an obsession for Martha Washington Pelargoniums. Gradually, the early spring garden of whites, blues and pastels gave way to bright yellows, oranges and reds of summer. My mulch pile overflowed and the worms and grubs were very happy.

Still, I wanted every new plant I saw and I wanted to know more... much more. My gardening tastes were starting to change and year two would be different. Looking back over the list of plants in this article, it is amazing how few of these I currently grow.



Jim Bishop is President of San Diego Horticultural Society and a Garden Designer. 🌿



Jim's backyard in 1985.







# SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY spring garden tour

SATURDAY APRIL 5 9AM - 4PM

## FEATURING NINE COASTAL NORTH COUNTY GARDENS

Tour eight wonderfully diverse private gardens in Solana Beach - the surf - and Olivenhain - the turf - and visit the Solana Beach Boys and Girls Club garden. Tour gardens (previewed below) feature a wide array of water-wise plantings, including natives, Mediterranean plants, succulents and cacti, along with stunning outdoor living spaces. Fine artists will display artwork and more than a dozen vendors will sell jewelry, garden art, pottery, birdhouses and other garden-related merchandise. A performance by an ensemble from the San Diego Youth Symphony will be a special bonus. Refreshments will be available for purchase from food trucks.



### Out of Asia

The garden of world-traveler Barbara Jenkins-Lee embraces the serenity of an Asian-style garden, complete with a large Koi pond. Asian-style stepping stones and gravel paths lead past lanterns, statues and mature plantings of evergreens and shrubs. A patio is home to her collection of several hundred decorative frogs.

Photo by Bob Wigand



### Down-Under Wonder

Thirsty grass no longer dominates Heather and Morrie Callaghan's garden. Today, more than 1,000 plant varieties, including many from their native New Zealand, color the landscape that includes a backyard with a Celtic cross design. The garden also features brick trellising and stone walls, a rose garden and fruit trees.

### Garden of the Year

Many gardens in one describes Dannie and Craig McLaughlin's landscape, named 2013 Garden of the Year by *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine. Included are a formal rose garden, sloped succulent garden and a memory garden centered on a Koi pond. The latest addition is a butterfly bog with native plants.

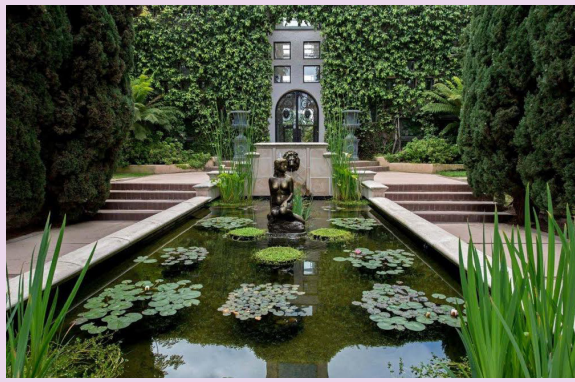


Photo by Bob Wigand

### Entertainers' Delight

The backyard garden of Katie and Steve Pelisek features an elegant pergola with a glass-door windbreak for outdoor dining, designed by Katie. She also designed a rustic trellis and bench by the tranquil pond. Katies cares for the ornamental plants and trees, while Steve is in charge of edibles, including the Pinot Noir vineyard.

### Succulent Sanctuary

Traci and Jim Campbell have created a succulent sanctuary in their garden. Diverse succulents are accented with rustic bird houses, sculpture and African art acquired during their travels. Staghorn ferns are mounted on the pillars of a pergola, while raised beds nurture berries and a variety of vegetables.



### Craftsman with a View

Jack and Susie Burger's ocean-view garden features beach elements as design details. Handcrafted tiles accent paths, a rustic fireplace and spa. In addition to a pool and pond, the landscape includes raised vegetable beds and a waterwise garden with lavender, yarrow and alstroemeria.



### Artists Retreat

The artistic personalities and world travels of Irina and Erik Gronborg are embedded in the colorful garden they have nurtured for more than 35 years. Erik's handcrafted tiles embellish a raised Koi pond. Also look for his collection of aloes and agaves.

### Modern Victory Garden

Vegetables and fruit trees star in Paul Nyerges' and Lynn Weston's garden. The modern victory garden features raised beds, numerous fruit trees, potted herbs and a grape vine. Large boulders create seating, while rock steps traverse a flower-filled slope.



Photo by Nathalie Belanger

## PURCHASE TICKETS AT [WWW.SDHORT.ORG](http://WWW.SDHORT.ORG)

Tickets purchased in advance are \$20 for SDHS members and \$25 for non-members. Advance ticket purchasers will be emailed the tour map on April 3, allowing you to skip check-in lines. Pick up your wrist band at any garden and start the tour at the garden of your choice.

Tickets purchased on tour day are \$25 for everyone and will be available starting at 9 a.m. at 1327-1335 La Sobrina Court, Solana Beach.

Questions? Contact [tours@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:tours@sdhortsoc.org) or 619-296-9215, ext. 5

Special thanks to the tour's media sponsor

**SAN DIEGO**  
HOME/GARDEN  
LIFESTYLES

Proceeds from the 2014 garden tour will go towards SDHS restoration of the lily pond gardens in Balboa Park for the centennial of the Panama-California Exposition.

Our mission is to promote the enjoyment, art, knowledge and public awareness of horticulture in the San Diego area, while providing the opportunity for education and research.





**Garden Tour**

**"Blooming Consciousness"**  
**Sat & Sun, March 29-30, 2014**

**Visit 15 gorgeous gardens  
 featuring California native plants,  
 inspirational designs, and  
 creative conservation solutions!**

**Details at [www.GardenNativeTour.org](http://www.GardenNativeTour.org)**  
**Tickets: \$25**  
**SDHS members get 20% off! (code: hort)**  
**Kids 12 and under are free!**

Presented by  
  
 Garden Native is a project of CNPS

Special thanks to 

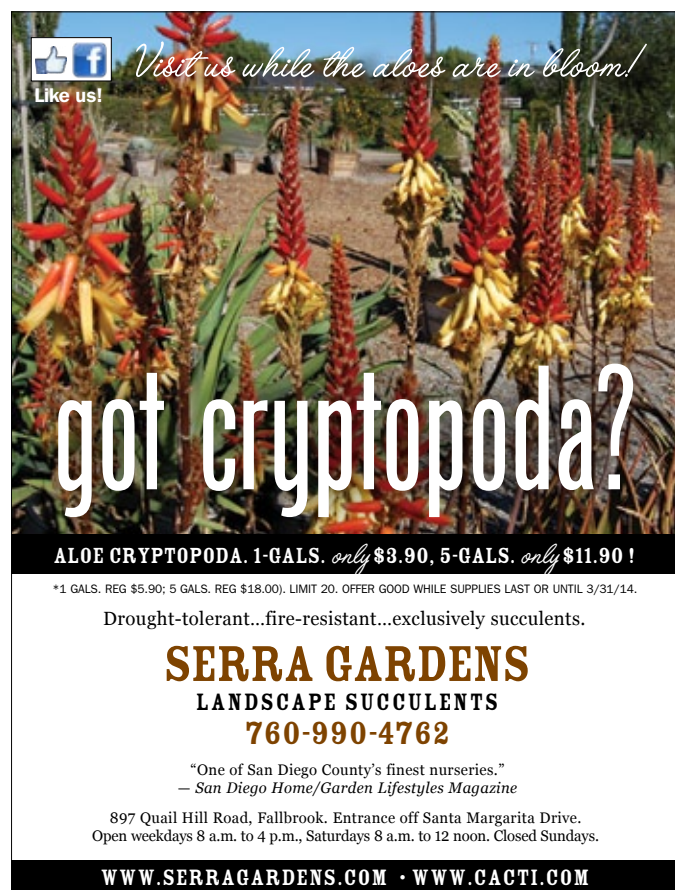
■ **The Dirt On...** Continued from page 4


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Member Donna Tierney is a recently retired career Defense Department civilian program manager who loves to garden and ride horses on her ranch in Ramona. She volunteers as a naturalist hike leader at Daley Ranch and is currently a member of the San Diego County Master Gardener Class of 2014.~

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## SDHS FUNDRAISING FOR THE BALBOA PARK RESTORATION PROJECT

As described on pages 3 and 7, we are raising funds to restore the gardens adjacent to the lily pond in Balboa Park. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to help complete this pilot project in 2014. Visit [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org) for information about making donations. You can also donate at meetings and other events. Every contribution is very welcome, and helps us reach our goal. As of February 14th we have raised \$1450.

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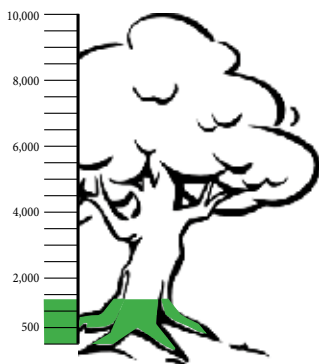
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## SHARING SECRETS

This column is written by you, our members! Each month we'll ask a question, and print your responses the following month. You can find copies of previous Sharing Secrets on our website at <https://sdhort.wildapricot.org/SharingSecrets?eid=1093874>.

**NOW ONLINE:** You can now continue the discussion by adding new replies to Sharing Secrets topics online. Here's your chance to comment on how the plants you mentioned two years ago are doing today, or to suggest another way to do something in the garden.

### The question for March was:

Do you grow any plants because they are especially entertaining or weird?

**Wanda Mallen:** I had to laugh when I read this question. I have so many plants that fit this description, and the weirder the better as far as I'm concerned. Of course, weird is in the eye of the beholder, and not really the word I would use, but I'm sure others would. In this category I would put anything with long spines or thorns, twisted shape, variegation, cresting, and any plant that puts out tons of babies, mainly cactus. I have a twisted hazel that everyone comments on (Harry Lauder's walking stick), and another plant with leaves like cardboard (*Hakea petiolaris*). I have several cactus in the *Tephrocactus* genus that have articulating stems, and one that looks like green ping pong balls stacked on top of each other. A favorite tree is *Caesalpinia cacalaco*, which has thorns all over the trunk and stems. Come see for yourself at the May Featured Garden at my home in Fallbrook.

**Sylvia L Keating:** I love maidenhair fern. I try to plant only succulents and avoid water usage, but the beauty of the maidenhair fern just makes my heart sing. Some gardeners are able to put it in a certain spot where it grows like weeds without much care. Not I. But I've established a fairly good spot for it. When it gets too hot, it dies down, but then springs back again. Calming, soothing, beautiful quality of leaf and color green with gorgeous contrasting black stems. I still recall an aunt of mine many many years ago who had a huge gorgeous pot on her tiny wooden porch in the south. We all marveled at it as children. And so we still love it. What a plant! Zip is 92064.

**Torrey Neel:** The weird and fun plant that we grow and just got more of is, the Native California ground cover, *Artemisia californica* 'Montara'. We love the way it creeps around with its great smell and nice gray/green color. We call it "Sigmund" after the sea monster. My zip code is 91963.

**Louise Anderson:** A couple of years ago I grew a milkweed sometimes called Hairy Balls Milkweed (*Asclepias physocarpa*). The name alone is worth having the plant. Every time I mention the common name I smile... I'll have to do that again.

**Chris Harrison:** I grow Mexican Sour Gherkin, sometimes referred to as Mouse Melon, a cucumber that looks like a watermelon for the garden fairies, stripes and all. It's a pretty little plant that vines freely, and if you pick the fruit at about 1" long, they aren't sour at all, but have a lovely lemony flavor. They're a fun novelty to serve at parties, give to neighbors when pawing off your zucchini, and eat while working in the garden.

**Ellie Knight:** I LOVE weird plants. Of course, my family all think I'm weird. Fortunately, our climate is great for lots of very strange succulents and cacti, notably the "crests" (cristata). Many of the euphorbia group lend themselves to these mutations, like *Euphorbia lactea* – I've got a variegated one about two feet tall. A small favorite is *Euphorbia polygona*, which looks like a very obese snowflake. And then there's *Euphorbia obesa* – shaped like a smooth ball. Don't get me started! My zip is 92028.

**Devonna Hall:** This year I planted my favorite cottage garden flower, *Agrostemma githago*. It's so easy to grow, comes in white and pink flowers, and sways in the slightest breeze. It also makes great cut flowers and self-sows.

**Gabe Mitchell:** I've grown a species of mimosa, *Mimosa pudica* or the Sensitive Plant, for a few years now. The feathery leaves and leaf stalks fold up to the touch of your finger, which I remember vividly from my father bringing one home when I was young. Now I grow them from seed and give them out to those of my friends with young kids of their own. My zip is 91942.

**Marilyn Wilson:** I have a *Mimosa pudica* (sensitive plant). It's fun to play with. You touch a leaf or stem and immediately the leaves fold up and the stem collapses. Half an hour later it's back to normal. My zipcode doesn't matter – the plant is in my kitchen.

**Linda Bresler:** I enjoy growing *Caesalpinia gilliesii* (Yellow Bird of Paradise) for its summer blooms in my garden. Its yellow flowers with the red stamens can look lovely and unusual. It is also drought tolerant and attracts hummingbirds.

**Chuck Ades:** The special plant I always try to have in my garden is the Sensitive Plant, *Mimosa pudica*. We have a lot of people visiting our garden every year and this is a plant that always fascinates those who have never seen it before. Home Depot has had these plants in 4" pots near the check out stand in the garden section for the last couple of years. I transplant it to a 6" pot and place it in a sunny and obvious place. The plant will lose its leaves and possibly die if it dries out. A word of CAUTION: watch out for the thorns. My zip is 92024.

**Bea Ericksen:** I love Tiger's Tail (AKA Lion's Tail, *Leonotis leonurus*), that has darling little orange flowers grown on top of each other; it is just too cute. The humming birds love it and so do the bees. My other most favorite are my Aloes, with their striking flowers that appear in the winter. These and many more in my garden truly entertain me. My zip is 91902.

**Vivian Blackstone:** I like Butchers Broom (*Ruscus aculeatus*), sometimes called Witches Broom; I have divided and subdivided it a few times. I like Australian finger limes, altho one has to be careful: they have thorns. I love the citron tree, and everyone thinks that's weird, but I don't and I make marmalade with them. I'm constantly downsizing my thornless blackberries that are quite invasive and sprout up very easily. My zip code is 92128

**Angela Vasconcellos:** I enjoy unusual plants and count my many tilandsias, staghorn ferns, succulents, and epiphyllums among those. But the ones I get the most comments on are my two pitcher plants in the kitchen. They thrive on the bright light and enjoy the occasional bugs that I give them. Everyone who sees them comments! I live in South

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**Candace Kohl:** The weirder the better. Do you want to know about the ones I have killed or the ones still alive? I love cycads and especially the blue ones; the fact that they are such ancient and uncommon plants is part of their attraction for me. The blue ones do not do too well in my garden near the coast, and many have succumbed to being in the wrong climate. However, many of the other cycads do quite well, as do many of my protea family plants. I am especially fond of my *Banksia lemannian*, with its upside-down flowers, and my *Mimetus* sp., because even my expert landscape advisor couldn't keep his alive and mine is thriving. I have a row of succulent pots on my patio where I can admire their weirdness and keep them in good shape because I see them all the time. I am partial to Stapelias, Lithops, Haworthias and anything that non-plant people will look at and say, "You don't mean to tell me that thing is really alive?" I also have two Saguaro that I bought as 1" diameter things in Tucson about 20 years ago. They are now about 8" tall and seem to be doing quite well. I was in Tucson last week and passed up a chance to buy a Welwitschia; decided I would probably kill it.

**Susi Torre-Bueno:** My current favorite weird plant is the African Tulip Tree (*Spathodea campanulata*), because you can pinch off the tips of the flower buds and squeeze them to make effective water pistols. Great way to get kids excited about plants!

**Andy & Tina Rathbone:** While visiting San Francisco about a decade ago, we found Paxton Gate, which dubs itself as an "eccentric gardening store." There, we found varieties of carnivorous plants we'd never seen before. Even better, we found a Wardian case – a sealed protective container that traps in humidity – so they'd flourish in the San Diego weather. We chose a glass steeple-top Wardian case, a few varieties of carnivorous plants, and we hoped they'd survive a trip home in the back of our car. Ten years later, the pitcher plants still thrive in the Wardian case on the table by our front door. When visitors show any interest, we show them our stack of the International Carnivorous Plant Society newsletter, which details the latest carnivorous plant field studies carried out in the bogs from North Carolina to Peru. It's always fun to toss a fly or two into the case and see which plant has a meal that day.



Andy Rathbone

**The question for April is:**

What veggie varieties are you planting this year, and do you have any tips for growing them?

Send your reply by March 5 to [newsletter@sdsdhort.org](mailto:newsletter@sdsdhort.org).

## FEBRUARY 2014 PLANT DISPLAY

By Pat Pawlowski and Susi Torre-Bueno

### What is the Plant Display?

Each month members bring in plants, cuttings or flowers and put them in blue bottles on our display tables. What a great way to see what plants grow well in our area. EVERYONE is invited to participate. All plants are welcome. Write descriptions similar to those below, and put them with your plant(s).

Join the fun and bring something to the next meeting. We thank those people who brought in plants to show to other members.

#### ***Senna artemisioides*** (syn. *Cassia artemisioides*)

FEATHERY CASSIA (Fabaceae) Australia

This evergreen shrub forms billowy mounds (to 4'-6' tall and wide) of gray-green foliage, and is very drought-tolerant. Brilliant yellow fragrant flowers appear from December to May; they develop into flattened pods that gradually turn dark brown. It is a fast grower in full sun with good drainage, needing only occasional water. It is a host plant for Cloudless Sulfur Butterflies (<http://tinyurl.com/patbutter>), a solid yellow butterfly with a wingspan of nearly 3". The plant displayed had both a caterpillar and a pupa on it (which were taken home to thrive). (Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 2/14) – P.P. & S. T-B.

#### ***Wurmbea stricta*** (formerly *Onixotis stricta*; Syn. *O. triquetra*)

STAR-OF-THE-MARSH (Colchicaceae) South Africa

Some of the best plants for San Diego hail from South Africa, and this rarely-seen cormous plant is among them. Native to marshy areas, the foliage looks like a reed (one website compares the stiff foliage to knitting needles). In winter the starry pink and white flowers (which resemble our California native blue-eyed grass on steroids) are borne on stems up to about 20" high. The plant is dormant in summer, when it is deciduous, so it is well suited for pot culture where water can be withheld. Give it at least a half day of full sun and good drainage. (Sheldon Lisker, Sun City, 2/14) – S.T-B.

### In addition to the plants described above, those below were also displayed.

What's that in front of the plant name? Plants marked **3** are fully described in the *Plant Forum Compilation*. See [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org) for details on how to order this valuable reference tool.

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the February 2014 newsletter was *Hippeastrum* 'Bearded Dragon'.

*Acacia* sp. (Bob Wright, Vista, 2/14)

*Aloe divaricata* (cross made by Kelly Griffin)

(Kelly Griffin, Carlsbad, 2/14)

*Aloe* 'Orange Marmaduke' (Plant Hunter, Carlsbad, 2/14)

*Aloe* 'Orange Marmalade' (Kelly Griffin, Carlsbad, 2/14)

**3** *Billbergia nutans* QUEEN'S TEARS (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/14)

*Ceropegia dimorpha* (Kelly Griffin, Carlsbad, 2/14)

*Cleistocactus winteri* ssp. *colademono* (? , 2/14)

*Dyckia silverstar* 'Polar Bear' (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 1/14)

*Gladiolus splendens* (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/14)

**3** *Gladiolus tristis* (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/14)

**3** *Hippeastrum* 'La Paz' (Sheldon Lisker, Sun City, 2/14)

*Lupinus* sp. LUPINE (Marilyn Wilson, Vista, 2/14)

*Penstemon parryi* PARRY'S PENSTEMON

(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/14) ☞

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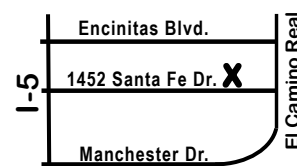
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## COORDINATE FREE WORKSHOPS

Our free monthly workshops have been a big hit, and we're looking for a member to take over as head of the 6-person committee that organizes them. As coordinator, you'll work with the committee members to schedule workshops and enter the details into our website, etc. This should only take a few hours a month. To discuss the details of this fun task, please contact Susi Torre-Bueno at (760) 295-2173. 🌿



Fruit tree pruning workshop taught by Patty Berg

## MEETING CHECK-IN EXPRESS LINE

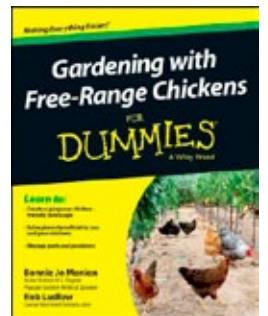
Please have your membership card **in your hand** when you get on the EXPRESS Check-In Line at our monthly meetings. This will greatly speed up the process for everyone! Many thanks to the check-in volunteers shown here from our February meeting. 🌿



Patty Berg

## CHICKENS IN THE LIBRARY

We thanks Bonnie Manion, co-author of the new book *Gardening with Free-Range Chickens for Dummies*, for donating a copy of this book to our library. Bonnie led an excellent workshop on chickens in February. Our lending library has hundreds of fine books you may borrow, and librarian Tim Thornton brings a selection to each meeting. To make certain the book you want is available at a meeting, you can pre-order from Tim and pick it up at the following meeting. Go to [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org), scroll down to the Members Only tab and click on Library for a complete list of books and the librarian's contact info. 🌿



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## FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT

By Ellie Knight

When program chair Mary James introduced speaker Kelly Griffin, she commented that we had a great turnout, and it was standing room only. Kelly is the Manager of Succulent Development for Altman Plants, and president of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society. He was previously a plant developer at Rancho Soledad Nursery, and responsible for such wonderful additions as *Agave* 'Blue Glow' and *Aloe* 'Christmas Carol'. He has traveled the world searching for rare plants, and is one of the most knowledgeable people in the field. A self-described plant nerd, Kelly grew up with plants (his mother was a florist). He studied applied physics in order "to have something to fall back on," which fortunately for us he has never had to do.

Kelly's presentation, "The Wide World of Succulents," offered a world tour of succulents and cacti from wild origins to garden cultivation, peppered with precise taxonomy references. His slides demonstrated his mastery of plant photography, and were enlivened with local fauna (lots of snakes!) demonstrating the art of camouflage, something that many of the plants also showed.

He began with a discussion about *Dudleyas*, which are obligate winter growers needing moisture at night, with dry summers. They also like the sea air, and some do well at altitude. They ranged from a red *Dudleya* found at the base of the Golden Gate Bridge, to a spectacular *D. candida*, high on a cliff on one of the Coronado Islands. Next, Kelly took us on a quick trip to Australia, spotlighting unusual symbiotic ant epiphytes growing in *Melaleucas*, as well as the blue cycad, *Cycas cairnsiana*.

Zippering to Mexico, Kelly showed spectacular plants from Baja to Oaxaca: uber-spined *Ferrocactus rectospina*, huge shaggy *Agave shawii* contrasting with very neat garden-suitable *A. ovatifolia*, bare-branched *Bursera*, and exquisite *Echeverias* (*chihuahuensis*, *subrigida*, and *agavoides*). Among the wonderful agaves he showed were *Agave montana*, *A. guadalupensis*, and *A. titanota*. Other standouts were cliff-growing *Pachyphytum saltense*, *Echinocactus grusonii* (found more in cultivation than in the wild), and *Astrophytum colorent*, which not only mimics the rocks among which it is found, but also a copycat horned toad.

Hopping to Yemen, Kelly's photos took on a sandy desert hue, with ancient fortified villages and charming children enlivening the bleak landscape. At Tulah, Kelly found interesting *Aloe lavranosii*, non-spiny *A. inermis*, and a mustard-colored *A. disticha*, plus the lovely *A. rubroviolacea*, which can be found at the base of the Balboa Park bridge. Near Socotra, the *Dracaena cinnabari* looks almost exactly like *D. draco* from Madagascar. Also in this area, the tall bottle-shaped *Adenium socotrana* made the "desert roses" (*A. obesa*) of South Africa look like miniatures.

In a quick visit to South Africa, Kelly discussed the camouflage of many plants, which blend in to protect themselves. South African aloes are spectacular, many in tree form, but we were drawn to the coral-like *Aloe ramosissima*.

Kelly was most engaged with Madagascar, which he described as very rough travel. We saw slides of his vehicle fording rivers or traversing rickety bridges and ferries. One interesting aloe was *A. suzannae*, which some references state does not exist in the wild. Kelly found a large number in certain areas, and documented that



Elizabeth Segal

these are pollinated by sunbirds during the day, which differs from many accounts stating that it is pollinated at night by bats and lemurs. Aloes such as *A. capitata* and *A. conifera* grow in rocky soils. Others Kelly enjoyed were *A. intermedia*, *A. parvula*, and a new species, *A. delicatifolia*. Kelly's artistic photos of *Adansonia* were very striking – variations on these gigantic baobab trees included *A. grandidieri* and *A. rubrostipa*. Madagascar is famous for its *Pachypodium*, and Kelly showed the usual tall versions, along with *P. densiflorum*, which resembled a pile of potatoes on the ground.

Kelly is deeply concerned about the loss of habitat worldwide, with many rare and ancient plants lost to development and ignorant practices. In Madagascar, there is a belief that burning produces smoke that brings rain, and since it is very dry in most areas, the local people burn the bush to excess. Kelly fears that the rare plants he has seen will soon be gone. He also photographed many beautiful and unusual animals, such as incredibly colorful chameleons, shy lemurs and aye-ayes, and rare tortoises. These animals, too, may not survive these practices.

Kelly showed slides of the collection garden he designed for Rancho Soledad Nursery, and the exotic plants in his own garden, featuring many of the variations that he developed. His goal in plant development is to enhance the natural features that make each plant unique and beautiful. Many thanks to Kelly for sharing his photography and depth of knowledge. If you missed this talk you can borrow the video of it at the next meeting you attend. 🌱

## THANK YOU MEETING DONORS!

We thank all the donors for their generosity:

Sharon Asakawa & John Bagnasco

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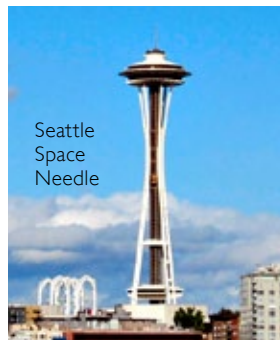
Oasis Water-Efficient Gardens





## PACIFIC HORTICULTURE 2015 TOURS

The Pacific Horticulture Society has just announced their lineup of small-group tours for 2015. The season begins in February with a trip south of the border to the delightful colonial town of San Miguel de Allende. The group will be based in San Miguel with day trips to Guanajuato and other nearby villages. Two of America's finest gardening cities will be featured on PacHort tours in 2015: Chicago in May and Seattle in July. A brand new tour to Switzerland is on tap for the summer, followed by an autumn visit to colorful Japan during peak fall foliage. The tour season wraps up with an awesome trip to see the wonders of Vietnam. All of the 2015 tours are currently under development.



Seattle  
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Needle

To be kept up to date, join the Interest List online (see below).

There is still space available on 2014 tours, including July's "Boston to Bar Harbor" tour, a delightful trip up coastal New England during the gorgeous summer season. In the fall, join SD Hort president Jim Bishop in Australia – he's reserved a space on the November horticultural adventure, "Springtime Down Under."

SDHS is an affiliate member of the Pacific Horticulture Society, producers of *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. Tours are operated by a SDHS sponsor, Sterling Tours. More info, reservations, and Interest Lists available at [www.sterlingtoursltd.com](http://www.sterlingtoursltd.com). 🌿

### Renew Now at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org) - It's quick and easy!

Membership Type	Online Newsletter	Printed Newsletter
Individual - 1 year	\$30	\$42
Individual - 3 years	\$80	\$116
Household - 1 year	\$45	\$57
Household - 3 years	\$125	\$161
Group or Business - 1 year	\$50	\$62
Group or Business - 3 years	\$140	\$176
Student - 1 year	\$16	\$28
Life Member	\$700	\$700

**Pay online for dues or events:** When paying online you do *not* need a PayPal account. To pay with a Credit Card, click on the "Don't have a PayPal account?" link at the bottom of the payment page and this brings up instructions for paying with a credit card.

**SDHS members...  
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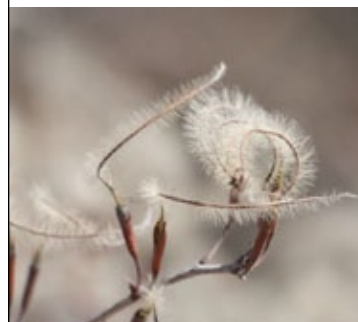
*Each fascinating issue has articles on places to visit, unique gardens, plant info, and lots more.*

**To get this great deal, go to [www.pacifichorticulture.org/join](http://www.pacifichorticulture.org/join) and use discount code SDHS2013**



**Purchase SDHS  
Note Cards  
at our meetings  
10 cards/\$10**

Last year we had a photo contest for striking images to be used on a set of note cards. The photos used range from succulents to seeds to garden vistas. These lovely cards are blank inside, perfect for gift giving, thank you cards, holiday greeting cards, birthday cards, or any special occasion (or you can frame them). Buy a set (or several) at the next meeting you attend.



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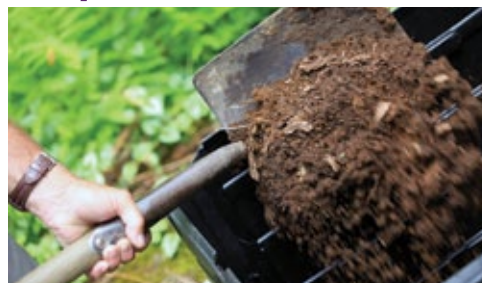
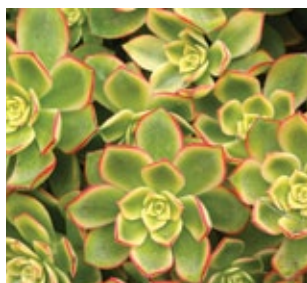
**1ST PLACE - \$3,500 • 1ST RUNNER-UP - \$1,500**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY APRIL 4, 2014**  
**QUESTIONS: (858) 792-4273 OR GARDENSHOW@SDFAIR.COM**

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The "eGuide to a WaterSmart Lifestyle" is your go-to resource for living water-efficiently in San Diego County. This free digital magazine includes:

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# Herb Festival, Spring Plant Sale, Tomatomania!® AND Bromeliad Bonanza

March 15 and 16 • 9 AM — 5 PM



**Sharon Lovejoy**, an award winning nature, gardening, and children's book author and water color illustrator will be our honored guest!

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- On-going speakers
- Guided tours
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- Spring Plant Sale
- Design a bookmark from natural materials
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Free with admission or membership



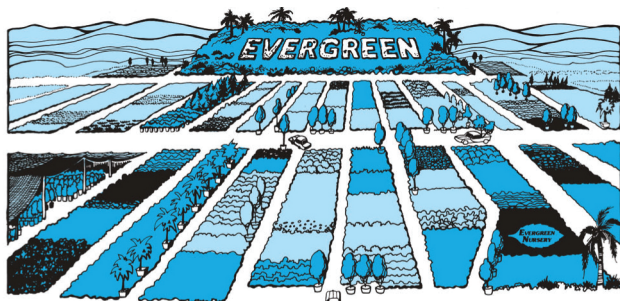
## What's Happening? for MARCH 2014

The SDHS is happy to publicize items of horticultural interest. See other side for resources & ongoing events.

Send calendar listings by the 10th of the month before the event to Neal King at [calendar@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:calendar@sdhortsoc.org).

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## Free Monthly Seminar

*First Saturday of every month*

*Starting at 10am at two locations:*

*Carmel Valley and Oceanside*

### March 1: Ask the Expert: Weeds, Gophers, Bugs, & Fertilizers

Our resident expert will teach you the best ways to fight the pesky critters in your garden and how to determine the best types of fertilizer to use to promote healthy, vigorous plants. We'll also answer your questions and discuss other gardening topics.

Each FREE seminar is about 1 hour long. Refreshments will be provided. Seminar attendees will receive a coupon for an instant discount for any purchases made the day of the seminar!

To view our entire seminar schedule and check  
our hours of operation, visit us at

**[www.evergreennursery.com](http://www.evergreennursery.com)**

Send questions and comments to:  
[info@evergreennursery.com](mailto:info@evergreennursery.com)

### Three Convenient Locations:

#### CARMEL VALLEY

13650 Carmel Valley Rd.  
(858) 481-0622

#### OCEANSIDE

3231 Oceanside Blvd.  
(760) 754-0340

\*\*\*\*\*NEW location (limited hours, call first):

#### EL CAJON

9708 Flinn Springs Rd., (619) 443-0873

## Events at Public Gardens

❖ **Alta Vista Gardens** contact info on other side  
See [www.avgardens.org](http://www.avgardens.org) for events & classes.

❖ **San Diego Botanic Garden** contact info on other side

**Mar. 9, 9-12pm, Succulent Turtle:** Take home a charming succulent turtle you make. Members \$35, non-members \$42. Register by 3/17.

**Mar. 15 & 16, 9am-5pm, Herb Festival, Spring Plant Sale, Tomatomania and Bromeliad Bonanza:** Speakers on garden and herb-related topics, guided tours of the Herb Garden, Herb Festival Market-place, the A-Z on Herbs info booth, and the SDBG Spring Plant Sale with a multitude of vendors. Free with admission or membership

**Mar. 22, 9am-1pm, Build Your Own Hydroponic Spring Garden:** Learn the hydroponic wick method by building your own sustainable garden to take home. Members \$75, non-members \$95, Register by 3/14.

**Mar. 29, 10am-noon, New Plants for Southern California:** See exciting plants for our dry Southern California landscapes. Plant sale will follow. Members \$10, non-members \$12 Please register by March 21.

❖ **The Water Conservation Garden**

Register at [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org); contact info on other side

**Mar. 1, 10am-noon, Landscaping With California Native Plants:** Learn virtues and beauty that native plants can add to your landscape from Greg Rubin. Non-Member \$10.

**Mar. 8, 10am-noon, Protea And Grevillia Species:** Morning walking tour to discuss the protea and grevillia and learn about these exotic options for drought tolerant gardens.. Non-Member \$10.

## Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors:

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

✿ **Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops**

Info: [events.barrelsandbranches@gmail.com](mailto:events.barrelsandbranches@gmail.com) or (760) 753-2852. See ad on page 17.

✿ **Cedros Gardens, Saturday and Sunday FREE classes.**

Details at [www.cedrosgardens.com](http://www.cedrosgardens.com).

✿ **City Farmers Nursery Workshops**

See [www.cityfarmersnursery.com](http://www.cityfarmersnursery.com).

✿ **Cuyamaca College**

**March 6, Surf & Turf Landscape Seminar:** Register now!

See [www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb](http://www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb).

✿ **Evergreen Nursery: FREE Seminar Each Month**

See column at left for details.

✿ **Grangetto's: FREE Workshops**

Mar. 1: Planting Spring Veggies, 10am-noon, Escondido

Mar. 8: Planting Spring Veggies, 10am-noon, Encinitas

Mar. 22: Steve Goto - Gotomania (tomatoes!), 10am-noon, Escondido

Mar. 29: Planting Spring Veggies, 10am-noon, Fallbrook

Details and registration at [www.grangettos.com/events](http://www.grangettos.com/events)

✿ **Sunshine Care FREE Seminar Each Month**

**Mar. 15, 10:30am, Companion Plantings & Beneficial Bugs!**

Gardening is all about harmony - what plants grow well together, what plants you should avoid planting together. Plus learn about good bugs!

Address in ad on page 14. Info: (858) 752-8197 or [www.sunshinecare.com](http://www.sunshinecare.com).

✿ **Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes**

Details at [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com); addresses in ad on page 15.

#### Point Loma, 9am

Mar. 1 Spring Veggies

Mar. 8 Terrific Tomato Varieties Care & Culture

Mar. 15 Container & Potted Plants

Mar. 22 General Orchid Care

Mar. 29 Yummy Herbs Classic Kitchen Herbs

#### Poway, 9:30am

TBA

TBA

TBA

TBA

TBA

✿ **Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops**

See [www.weidners.com](http://www.weidners.com) or call (760) 436-2194.

## Next SDHS Meeting

**March 10:**

## Citrus in Today's Gardens

See page 1 for details

More garden-related events on other side.



## Free workshops for SDHS members!

Details & registration at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org)

March 8, Plant Propagation Success

March 15, Building Wooden Planter Boxes

## Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

**Feb 28 - Mar. 2: Spring Home Garden Show**

**SDHS members get a free VIP pass for two:**

<http://springhomegardenshow.com/SDHS>

◆ **Mar. 1 (9am-4pm) & 2 (9-3pm), Koi Club of San Diego:** Annual Koi Show, Del Mar Fairgrounds. Info: [www.koiclubofsandiego.org](http://www.koiclubofsandiego.org).

◆ **Mar. 1 & 15, 9am-1:30pm, San Diego Bonsai Club:** Bonsai Demonstrations inside the Bonsai Pavilion at San Diego Zoo Safari Park. Free with admission. Info: [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com).

◆ **Mar. 2, 1-3pm, Backyard Produce Project BBQ Fundraiser:** At Sunshine Care (see page 14). \$10/ person. 12695 Monte Vista Road, Poway. Info & tickets at [www.sunshinecare.com](http://www.sunshinecare.com).

◆ **Mar. 6, Village Garden Club of La Jolla:** Eddie Zaratsian, Floral demo and lecture. \$55 VGCLJ Members, \$65 non-members. Info: [www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com](http://www.villagegardencluboflajolla.com) or (858) 459-4846.

◆ **Mar. 7, noon, Vista Garden Club:** Gardening in a Mediterranean Climate. McClellan Senior Center, 1200 Vale Terrace, Vista. Info: [www.vistagardenclub.org](http://www.vistagardenclub.org).

◆ **Mar. 7, 1pm, Container Gardens by the Flower Girls:** Carlsbad Garden Club, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad. Info: [www.carlsbadgardenclub.com](http://www.carlsbadgardenclub.com) or (760) 683-5343.

◆ **Mar. 8, 9am-4pm, Native Plant Society Plant Sale.** At Tree of Life Nursery, San Juan Capistrano. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).

◆ **Mar. 9, 1:30pm, American Begonia Society:** Camellias. Olivenhain Meeting Hall, 423 Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas. Info: (760) 815-7914.

◆ **Mar. 12, 10am, Point Loma Garden Club:** New armature form design. 2818 Avenida de Portugal. Info: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org) or (619) 222-9304.

◆ **Mar. 12, noon, Ramona Garden Club:** Meredith French on The unseen world in your garden: micro insects. 524 Main Street. Info: [www.ramonagardenclub.com](http://www.ramonagardenclub.com) or (760) 787-0087.

◆ **Mar. 12, 10am, Poway Valley Garden Club:** Organic Pest Control. 14134 Midland Road, Poway. Info: [www.powayvalleygardenclub.org](http://www.powayvalleygardenclub.org) or (760) 743-9500.

◆ **Mar. 15, 9am-12pm, Gardening 101 Course:** Four week course, Saturdays, March 15 – April 4. \$40. Solana Center, 137 North El Camino Real, Encinitas. Info: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org) or (760) 436-7986.

◆ **Mar. 18, 6:30-9pm, Native Plant Society:** “Ecological Importance and Conservation of Native Bees in Southern California. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 104. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).

◆ **Mar 20, 1pm, Bernardo Gardeners Club:** Spring-themed floral designs. 16955 Bernardo Oaks Drive. \$5 non-members. Info: [www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org).

◆ **Mar. 21 (3-7pm), 22 (9am-6pm), 23 (10am-4pm), Orchid Show and Sale:** 20,000 square feet of orchid displays, exhibits, and sales. \$7/person or \$10/weekend pass. Scottish Rite Event Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. Info: [www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com).

◆ **Mar. 22, 10am-4pm, Cactus & Succulent Show & Sale:** Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society, many fine plants to buy and on display; demonstrations. 210 E. Park Avenue, Escondido 92026. Free.

◆ **Mar. 22, Master Gardeners Spring Seminar:** Register NOW! Info: [www.mastergardenerssandiego.org](http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org).

◆ **Mar. 24, 2pm Lake Hodges Native Plant Club:** Design with waterwise Plants and Succulents. 17110 Bernardo Center Drive, San Diego. Info: (858) 487-6661 or [www.lhnpc.org](http://www.lhnpc.org).

◆ **Mar. 29 & 30, 9:30am-4:30pm, Native Plant Society Garden Tour.** SDHS members get a discount – see pages 7 & 12. \$25/person See [www.GardenNativeTour.org](http://www.GardenNativeTour.org).

**For an extensive list of garden club meetings and events, visit**  
**[www.sdfloral.org/calendar.htm](http://www.sdfloral.org/calendar.htm)**

## Resources & Ongoing Events

**ALTA VISTA BOTANIC GARDENS:** Open Monday-Friday 7:00-5:00 ; 10:00-5:00 on weekends. Fee: members/free; non-members/\$2. 1270 Vale Terrace Drive, Vista. Info: [www.avgardens.org](http://www.avgardens.org) or (760) 945-3954.

**SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN** (formerly QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS): Open daily 9-5 (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day); 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Fee: \$12/adults, \$8/seniors, \$6/kids; parking \$2. Free to members and on the first Tuesday of every month. (760) 436-3036; [www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org).

**THE WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN:** Open 9-4 daily, FREE. Docent-led tours every Saturday at 10:00am. 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, (619) 660-0614 or [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org).

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK:** Guided hikes Wed., Sat. & Sun. Visitor Center open 9-5, off Mission Gorge Rd., San Carlos, (858) 668-3275.

**MASTER GARDENER HOTLINE:** Gardening questions answered by trained volunteers Mon.-Fri., 9-3, (858) 822-6910, [www.mastergardenerssandiego.org](http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org).

**SAN ELIJO LAGOON CONSERVANCY:** Free 90-minute public nature walk 2nd Saturday of each month start at 9:00 am. Call (760) 436-3944 for details.

**DESERT WILDFLOWER HOTLINE:** Anza-Borrego Desert State Park: (760) 767-4684. For information, events, road conditions, etc. call (760) 767-5311 or visit <http://desertusa.com/wildflo/wildupdates.html>.

**WILDFLOWER HOTLINE:** March to May call the Theodore Payne Foundation hotline: (818) 768-3533 for info. on blooms in Southern California and elsewhere; visit <http://theodorepayne.org>.

### BALBOA PARK:

**Offshoot Tours:** FREE 1-hr walking tour in Balboa Park every Sat., 10am. Meet at Visitors Center; canceled if rain or less than 4 people. (619) 235-1122.

**Botanical Building** is one of the world's largest lath structures, with 1200+ plants and lavish seasonal displays. FREE. Open Friday–Wednesday, 10am to 4pm.

**Botanical Library:** Room 105, Casa del Prado, Mon.-Fri. and first Sat., 10am-3pm, FREE. Info: (619) 232-5762.

**Japanese Friendship Garden:** Tues. to Sun., 10-4. Fees: free 3rd Tuesday; \$5/family; \$2/adult, \$1/seniors/students; (619) 232-2721, [www.niwa.org](http://www.niwa.org)

**Canyoneer Walks:** FREE guided nature walks Saturday & Sunday. (619) 232-3821 X203 or [www.sdnhm.org](http://www.sdnhm.org)

**Balboa Park Ranger Tours:** FREE guided tours of architecture/horticulture, Tuesdays & Sundays, 1pm, from Visitors Center. Info: (619) 235-1122.

**San Diego Natural History Museum:** Exhibits, classes, lectures, etc. (619) 232-3821; [www.sdnhm.org](http://www.sdnhm.org)

**S.D. Zoo:** Garden day 3rd Friday of every month from 10am. Pick up schedule at entry. Info: (619) 231-1515, ext 4306; [www.sandiegozoo.org](http://www.sandiegozoo.org).

### Garden TV and Radio Shows:

**Garden Compass Radio Show** (local). Saturday 9–10am. XEPE 1700AM radio, hosts Bruce and Sharon Asakawa, John Bagnasco. Call-in questions: (619) 570-1360 or (800) 660-4769.

**GardenLife Radio Show** (national). Saturday 8-9am and Sunday 8–10am. KCEO 1000AM radio, hosts Bruce and Sharon Asakawa, John Bagnasco. Call-in questions: 866-606-TALK. Hear it streaming live on [lifestyletalkradio.com](http://lifestyletalkradio.com). GardenLife shows are also archived at [lifestyletalkradio.com](http://lifestyletalkradio.com).

## San Diego County Farmers Markets

[www.sdfarmbureau.org/BuyLocal/Farmers-Markets.php](http://www.sdfarmbureau.org/BuyLocal/Farmers-Markets.php)

### Do you belong to a club or organization whose events aren't listed above?

For a FREE listing (space permitting) send details by the 10th of the month before the event to Neal King, at [calendar@sdhort.org](mailto:calendar@sdhort.org).