

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

October 2014, Number 241

Lawn Replacement Ideas

SEE PAGE 1



On the Cover: Fabulous lawnless front yard

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WATERWISE BOTANICALS
FALL GARDEN PARTY
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Lose the Lawn, Get an Outdoor Family Room



This impressive lawn replacement project, by October panelist Marilyn Guidroz, shows how removing a lawn can result in an outdoor room for leisurely living. See page 1 for meeting details.

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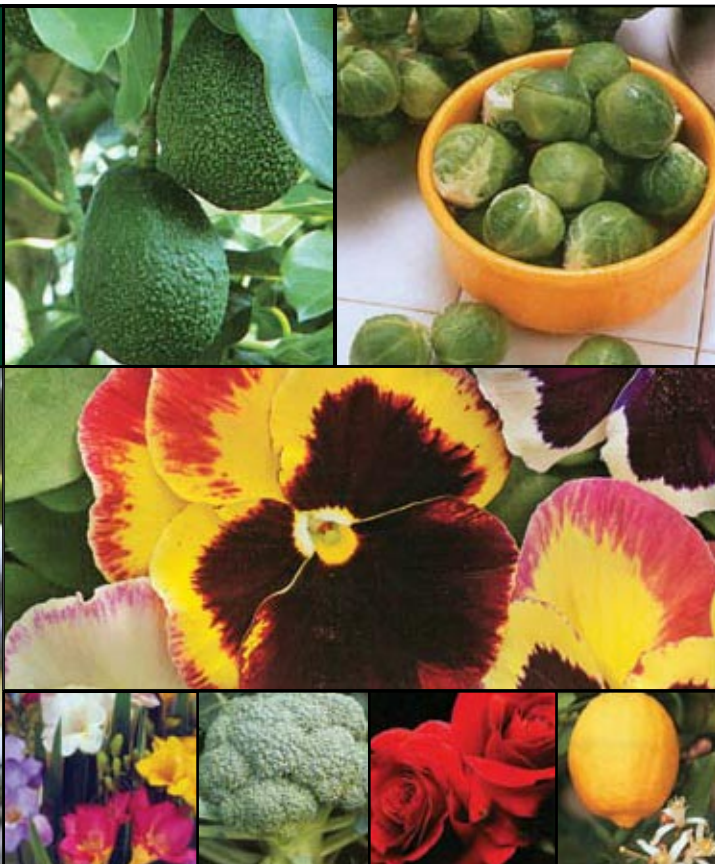
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The San Diego Horticultural Society's 2nd Annual

HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE M I N G L E ✦ S H O P ✦ L E A R N

MEMBERS FREE
*FRIENDS FREE TOO!
*WITH REGISTRATION AT
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NOVEMBER 10, 5-8 PM, SURFSIDE RACE PLACE, DEL MAR FAIRGROUNDS

MINGLE AND SHOP the SDHS Holiday Marketplace with exhibits by SDHS sponsors, business members, horticultural vendors, botanic gardens, and other non-profits. Shop for plants, garden related merchandise, gift memberships and horticultural services from leading businesses and vendors.

Exhibitor Highlights

SHOP PLANTS GALORE

- Find the perfect unique and rare plant, as well as, cut flowers, from a variety of vendors. Shop local nurseries and growers for the perfect plant for your garden, all under one roof!

BUY ONE OF A KIND HANDMADE GARDEN GIFTS

- From ceramics for the garden, to a variety of unique garden art, succulent arrangements, and beautiful holiday decor, you'll find the perfect gift for friends and family!

VISIT AND LEARN

- We'll have a variety of educational exhibitors, including representatives from horticultural departments at local colleges, garden clubs, garden designers and botanic gardens.
- Back by popular demand: 20 minute Mini-Demos by Pat Welsh, Lucy Warren, Roy Wilburn and Robyn Foreman.
- The Association of Professional Landscape Designers, will be hosting their popular \$30 for 30, half-hour landscape design consultations. Advance reservations required and spaces are limited. Registration begins in early October, at sdhort.org.
- Meet local authors - Pat Welsh, Lucy Warren, Robyn Foreman - who will be signing and selling their popular titles.

TASTE

- Looking for unique food items for entertaining during the holiday season? Exhibitors selling jams and jellies, local honey, and other edible items, will bring flavor to the Marketplace! We'll also have beverages and snacks on sale, should you need a treat!

Visit www.SDHORT.org, FOR A FULL LIST OF EXHIBITORS AND TO
REGISTER FRIENDS FOR FREE ENTRY INTO THE MARKETPLACE



THE Enchanted Garden GALA

AT THE WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 18, 2014
6:00 TO 10:00 PM

Join us for a magical evening amidst our illuminated gardens as you delight in uncommon artistry in entertainment and exquisite garden-inspired fare.

Experience

- ◆ Aerialists and acrobats
- ◆ Enchanting, illuminated gardens
- ◆ Gourmet dinner and tastings stations
- ◆ Silent auction
- ◆ Program hosted by NBC 7's Dagmar Midcap

Proceeds benefit The Water Conservation Garden's education programs and the creation of a new children's garden.



Tickets: \$150 per person

TheGarden.org/gala

Seating is limited for this very special event!

Event sponsor opportunities available

The Water Conservation Garden
12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West
El Cajon, CA 92019
619-660-0614 • www.TheGarden.org



Lose the Lawn, Get a Tropical Oasis



This impressive lawn replacement project, by October panelist Christiane Holmquist, has transformed a boring backyard into an inviting tropical retreat featuring low-water plants. See page 1 for meeting details.

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Severe Drought

WHEN IN DROUGHT

Save every day, every way.

This is **Serious** Water Conservation is Mandatory

Mandatory conservation measures include:

- Limiting outdoor watering days and times
- Watering only during the late evening or early morning hours
- Eliminating runoff from irrigation systems
- Repairing all leaks within 72 hours
- Using hoses with shut-off valves for washing cars (or use commercial car washes that re-circulate water)

Local rules vary. Find restrictions in effect in your community at whenindrought.org.



San Diego County Water Authority



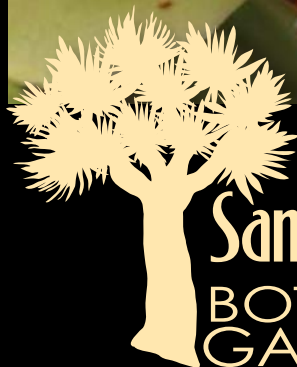
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October 4 - 5

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Cost: Free with paid admission or Garden membership.
Free for AOS members (*must show card*)



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SDBGarden.org

Also Don't Miss

Fall Plant Sale • October 18 – 19

Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale
October 25 – 26

Family Fall Festival • October 25

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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.
For questions contact 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; FG = Featured Garden; register at www.sdhort.org)

October 11	Volunteer Appreciation Party (invitations sent via email) see page 2
October 18	Simple Diagnosing and Improving Your Garden Soil (FW)
November 10	SDHS Holiday Marketplace – SEE INSERT
November 15	Featured Garden: Pacific Beach (FG)
December 8	Nancy Carol Carter on Centennial Celebrations: Remembering and Commemorating the 1915 Panama-California Exposition



www.sdhort.org

COVER IMAGE: This marvelous front yard transformation was designed by Kimberly Alexander, one of the three panelists who will explain how to go lawn-less at the October meeting. See the inside front cover and inside back cover for more before/after yard improvements by October panelists.

NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 13, 2014, 6:00 – 8:30 PM SPEAKERS: LANDSCAPE DESIGNER PANEL ON LAWN REPLACEMENT IDEAS

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 present a panel of three award-winning landscape designers who will share their expertise in designing landscapes that are compatible and sustainable with our Mediterranean climate. Susanna Pagan, landscape designer and SDHS board member, will moderate the discussion.

Christiane Holmquist is a landscape designer with Nature Designs Landscaping in Vista, and has owned Christiane Holmquist Landscape Design (www.cholmquistgardens.com) since 2001. Her specialty is designing sustainable landscape solutions that are drought tolerant and climate appropriate. She holds a Certificate in Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design from Cuyamaca College. Her designs have received recognition for Best Water Conservation Design in Escondido in 2011, and Garden of the Year in 2013 from *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine.

Kimberly Alexander is the owner and principal designer for Allée Landscape Design (www.AlleeLandscapeDesign.com), a residential design business serving San Diego and Southern Orange County. Her passion is not only for great design, but also how to create those designs in an environmentally-friendly and sustainable manner. She is trained



Christiane
Holmquist

Continued on page 5

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

BOARD MEMBERS

Cindy Benoit – Member at Large
Patty Berg – Volunteer Coordinator
Jeff Biletnikoff – Meeting Room
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Susi Torre-Bueno – Newsletter Editor,
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Let's Talk Plants!, the SDHS
newsletter, is published the fourth Monday
of every month.

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

Calendar: Send details by the 10th of the
month before event to 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 or
SDHS, Attn: Membership, PO Box 231869,
Encinitas, CA 92023-1869. We NEVER share
your email or address with anyone!

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**Do you own a
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SDHS sponsorships have high recognition
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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. Sponsors are listed on page 10; look for
"SDHS Sponsor" above their ads. We thank
them for their support.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IMPORTANT CHANGE

When the time comes, we hope you will renew promptly. About a month before your
SDHS membership lapses, you receive an email from us with information about how to
renew; follow up emails are sent to members who haven't renewed by the deadline.

For those members who do not have email, we have been mailing a letter with this
information. Due to the cost to mail renewals, and the low response, we are no longer
doing this. Members without emails will get a phone call from a volunteer. Email notification
for renewals will continue to members with emails.

By renewing promptly, you will have no disruption in member benefits, which include
free meetings, workshops, monthly featured garden invitations, this newsletter, nursery
discounts, and much more. You can also save \$10 by renewing for three years instead of
one year. 🌿

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS – PARTY TIME!

The 2014 Volunteer Appreciation Party is coming up on Saturday, October
11th. If you have volunteered in any capacity during the past twelve months
[beginning Oct 1, 2013] then you are invited! Email invitations were issued a
few weeks back. If you haven't already, please be sure to RSVP right away.
Didn't see your invite? No worries. Just call Volunteer Coordinator Patty
Berg at 760-815-0625 or email her at PattyJBerg@gmail.com so we can add
you to the guest list. It won't be any fun without you!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

2nd Annual Holiday Marketplace Needs YOU!

On Monday November 10, SHDS presents our second annual Holiday Marketplace. Will you
lend a hand to help make this bigger & better? We'll need close to sixty people to help with
set up, break down, parking and hospitality. Before or after your shift, enjoy a great evening
with gardening demos, guest speakers, designer consults, lots of plants and holiday shopping
for your favorite garden lovers – or for yourself. Please e-mail Volunteer Coordinator Patty
Berg ASAP at PattyJBerg@gmail.com. And Save the Date!

Board Opening: Volunteer Coordinator

Our current Volunteer Coordinator's term ends this year, so we are looking for someone
to fill that position. The primary commitment is organizing and scheduling volunteers for
the events and community outreach we do on an ongoing basis. It's a great opportunity for
anyone who enjoys people, plants, and creative collaboration. Time commitment averages
3-4 hours per month. Basic computer skills and good communication skills are all that is
needed. Doesn't that sound like YOU? A team of two would also work great for this position.
Patty Berg, current Volunteer Coordinator, will provide training, encouragement and help for
an easy transition. For info, contact her at PattyJBerg@gmail.com or (760) 815-0625.

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.

Newsletter Advertising Manager Needed

Here's a fun opportunity for members who like to work with local garden businesses and
clubs: we need a detail-oriented person to be our newsletter advertising manager. This takes
about 1-2 hours per month, and you'll be working with current advertisers, plus previous
and potential advertisers. For details contact Susi Torre-Bueno at storrebueno@cox.net. 🌿

TO LEARN MORE...

Lawns May Soon Disappear

By Ava Torre-Bueno

Lawns may well be illegal soon. And I say, "About time!" We are in year three of what could be a more permanent drought environment, and the first thing we need to learn is how to change our water-wasting ways in every aspect of our lives. Because our landscapes are the biggest use of water we have, they are an excellent place to start.

There are already new rules for water use in San Diego:
<http://tinyurl.com/octoberdrought>

The City of San Diego will pay you \$2 per square foot to take out your lawn and replace it with a low-water garden! www.sandiego.gov/water/conservation/residentialoutdoor

So will Encinitas: www.encinitasca.gov/index.aspx?page=295, and, I'm guessing, many other municipalities.

Another great source I've mentioned in a previous column is the web site of Brad Lancaster: www.harvestingrainwater.com. Volume 2 of his book *Rainwater Harvesting for Drylands and Beyond* is an excellent resource for rethinking and restructuring your garden.

And if you're hoping we'll have a strong El Nino this year, think again; the forecast has been downgraded to a 65% chance of a weak El Nino this winter, so our drought will be with us for at least another year: www.elnino.noaa.gov. 🌱

SUBSCRIBE TO *GARDEN DESIGN* AND SUPPORT THE SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Don't miss out on a very exciting offer! Our sponsor *Garden Design* magazine (see insert) is partnering with SDHS to support our efforts in promoting horticulture in the San Diego region. *Garden Design* will donate \$12 to SDHS for every new magazine subscription by members (or friends) until October 31. We have already received \$1224 from *Garden Design* for folks who subscribed in the last few months.

To take advantage of this very generous offer, you must go to the link in their insert OR click the link on the home page of our website (www.sdhort.org). Don't delay; the offer ends October 31st.

Support SDHS and enjoy amazing gardens, beautiful plants, and expert insights inside the pages of *Garden Design*. (This is one of your editor's all-time favorite gardening magazines!) Every quarterly issue has 132 pages with no advertisements, several outstanding gardens showcased with inspiring stories and photos, new products, new plants, garden tours and exhibitions, and much more! 🌱



FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

This month marks the start of our 21st year, as well as my second term and fourth year as president of San Diego Horticultural Society. It's been a wonderful adventure and I look forward to another term. This is a good time to look back and renew my commitment to the organization. We will continue to provide a friendly forum where dedicated horticulturalists, both skilled professionals and amateurs, can learn, meet and exchange ideas. Our primary areas of focus continue to be a professional monthly newsletter, monthly meetings featuring the best speakers, an annual tour of local gardens, participation in the San Diego County Fair Garden Show, recognition of a local horticulturist of the year, student scholarships and – most of all – promoting climate-appropriate plants and gardening practices.

We continue to be a volunteer driven organization, and could not be successful without our many volunteers. Everyone you interface with, from me to the greeter at our meetings, is a volunteer and has given up their time, energy and resources to assist the society



Lorie Johansen volunteering at a meeting in 2012

for free. Thanks to all our volunteer support, in 20 years we've only increased our basic membership dues five dollars in spite of continued increasing costs. Technology has also let us maximize our volunteer hours, and also extend our outreach in new ways, and automated many volunteer tasks.

(You can read more about my experiences and rewards as both a member and volunteer in this month's "My Life with Plants" column on page 10.)

Looking Forward

Still there are many challenges ahead. Over the next three years we will need to find a new president. Currently, we need both a first and second Vice President so that they can start learning now and assume responsibility for San Diego Horticultural Society in three years. We also will soon need a new editor of the newsletter. These are opportunities to make a large impact on horticulture in San Diego. We continue to need many volunteers to do the small and daily items that make San Diego Horticultural Society successful. And though we have no direct control over it, we will need to continue to update our procedures and practices as technology and communication methods continue to evolve.

What can you do to help?

Some things are simple and easy:

- Renew your membership on time and online. Better still, save time and money and renew for 3 years.

Continued on page 12

THE REAL DIRT ON...

John Hays McLaren

By Carol Buckley

"There was a young Scotsman came to California in 1870. John McLaren he was called, as though it were a single word — JohnMcLaren. Throughout his life friends would meet him and greet him with 'How are you, JohnMcLaren, and how are your trees?'" — Samuel Dickson (*San Francisco Is My Home*)

Driving into San Francisco in search of a hotel in the Haight at twilight, one need only search for what looks like an ancient wood. They are the trees of Golden Gate Park, the passion of the second superintendent of the park, John McLaren (1886–1943). His father told him, "Me boy, if ye have nothing to do, go plant a tree and it'll grow while ye sleeps," and as an adult McLaren managed to plant 2 million, including a grove of the Coast Redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) he revered, in the Park. He also planted the Howard-Ralston Eucalyptus Tree Rows along the El Camino Real near Burlingame. Now registered as a historical site, McLaren's original plantings were three-rows deep on each side of an unpaved road, included English elms, and stretched for four miles.

McLaren planted these trees shortly after immigrating to the United States, and travelling to California via the Isthmus of Panama. He came from Edinburgh, where the former dairyman had studied at the Royal Botanic Garden while employed as an apprentice gardener's helper. His apprenticeship on estates near the Firth of Forth set the 24-year-old McLaren in good stead for life in California. Here, he worked on estates of powerful men, such as Leland Stanford. He was hired by superintendent William Hammond Hall to help reclaim the wasteland of the western area of the 1,017-acre Golden Gate Park. In 1890, McLaren replaced Hall, and his reclamation efforts included a scrap-wood berm that incorporated shifting drilling wells, powered by windmills, one hundred feet from the ocean, and creating topsoil with what he called "street sweepings."

McLaren is responsible for the diversity of plants in the Park. In 1892, he toured parks in the United States and Europe with his wife, Jane. During McLaren's term, Baron Makoto Hagiwara expanded his Japanese Tea Garden from a small World Fair exhibit to five acres, and imported 1,000 cherry trees.

McLaren was loyal. He had camped in the Sierras with his friend John Muir and wanted the park to remain unadorned. He fought the "stookies" (memorial statues) popular with Victorians, and when one got past him, would order his gardeners to plant vegetation to hide them. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from UC Berkeley. Beloved by the city, he was allowed to go past mandatory retirement age, and at his death, he lay in state in the city hall rotunda. His funeral cortege passed through the park where he ruled for 53 years...🌿



San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

BOOK REVIEW

Trees and Shrubs for Dry California Landscapes

By Bob Perry

and

The Low-Water Flower Gardener

By Eric A. Johnson and Scott Millard

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

Oh, no! I saw that awful ad on TV, the one where the man is spray-painting a brown lawn green. We're in a drought again.

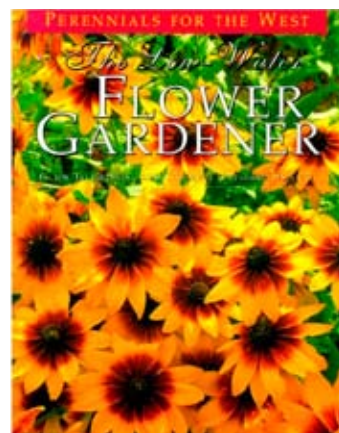
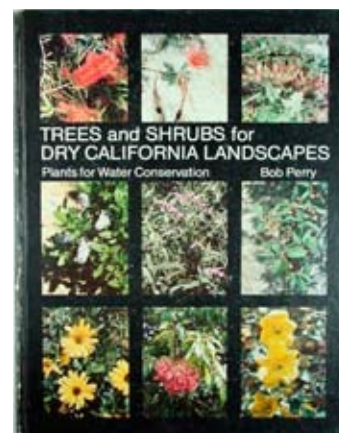
Actually, although we like to imagine something different, in Southern California we are always either in a drought or going to be in a drought. It really doesn't pay to assume anything different. We just can't have an English country garden at a reasonable price in labor and water. That's not to say we can't have spectacular gardens. We can.

There are a number of new books on drought gardening in the book stores, but I got lucky at my local Goodwill and found two fine books that would be useful in anybody's library: *The Low-Water Flower Gardener* by Eric A. Johnson and Scott Millard, published in 1993, and *Trees and Shrubs for Dry California Landscapes* by Bob Perry, published in 1981. As with just about anything that's ever been published, both these books are available on the net.

In researching to write this review, I was interested to see that I'm not the only one who thinks that *The Low-Water Flower Gardener* is a useful book. It's on the recommended reading list of a number of government agencies in Texas, Arizona, and California, and probably in other places too.

What's good about this book? Practically everything. It covers the seven states of the Southwest. The first few pages of the book are a general discussion of designing a low-water garden. That's followed by an encyclopedia of plants well-adapted to our area. Each plant is pictured, and each picture shows the entire plant, not just a close up of a few leaves and a blossom. That's followed by a short discussion of the principles of planting and care of low-water plants. A useful index that lists both scientific names and common names of plants concludes the book.

As much as I like that book, I like *Trees and Shrubs for Dry California Landscapes* even more. This is considered a classic among California garden books, as are Perry's other two books: *Landscape Plants for Western Regions* (1992) and *Landscape Plants for California Gardens* (2010).



Continued on page 12

TREES, PLEASE Gone Missing - Our City Trees

By Robin Rivet

Not enough people seem to care much about city trees; that is, until they're all gone.

Case in point: The City of La Mesa recently removed all the street trees from their downtown La Mesa Boulevard, a congested village shopping thoroughfare. This action stirred up a lot of public sentiment, much of it negative. My question is, "Where was that concern when the street trees were declining from impaired nursery stock, crammed planting techniques, bone-headed pruning, and nearly zero irrigation?"

Interestingly enough, this radical step could actually be progressive government in action. The La Mesa city project that is removing all the lame and threadbare street trees will soon be installing state-of-the-art infrastructure to aid in capturing stormwater runoff – at the same time boosting the vigor for future tree plantings. This new technology installs below ground modules called "Silva cells," layered with structural soils that preserve large pore spaces for air, water and tree roots, while creating above ground permeable surfaces. The result will mean larger, faster-growing trees with improved health and increased longevity, thriving in small urban spaces, while reclaiming water runoff at the same time.

This process has installations worldwide, and a few California cities have already "un-paved" the way. However, to my knowledge this is a first for our county. Urban settings that are completely paved over yet bustling with city residents and tourists are places in dire need of healthy tree canopies, with all the ecosystem benefits big trees bring into communities. Bravo La Mesa!

However, due to problems of sidewalks buckling, excess litter, or fears of limb breakage, the La Mesa public works director explained that there are many more residents who contact the city to get rid of street trees, than those who want to plant new ones. As a result, although they are a Tree City USA, they currently budget funds to plant a mere 25 city trees annually. It is a small city, but surely they can instill greater public desire for trees, or does it take massive removals like this to stir attention?

Trees add so much value to our urban life that the City of La Mesa environmental sustainability commission has taken on urban forestry as a promotion for the coming year, and aims to begin a public educational campaign for its residents. What is your city doing to support trees?

Informative Videos:

How does it work? www.youtube.com/watch?v=TRSLy23B0Ic
Global Silva cell installations: www.deepproot.com/products/silva-cell/case-studies



Silva Cells being used in La Mesa

DeepRoot Green Infrastructure
www.deepproot.com/blog

■ Next Meeting Continued from page 1

in ornamental horticulture and arboriculture, and holds a Certificate in Landscape Architecture from MiraCosta College. She is on the advisory board for the Horticulture Department at MiraCosta College, and is Vice President of the San Diego District of the Association of Professional Landscape Designers. This June, Kimberly's design for the SDHS Fair garden won 15 awards!



Kimberly Alexander



Marilyn Guidroz

Marilyn Guidroz is the owner and president of Marilyn's Garden Design (www.MarilynsGarden.com), which serves San Diego North County, plus Temecula and Murrieta. Marilyn has been designing award winning residential landscapes for over 30 years. She graduated from the University of Arizona with a B.S. in Agriculture.

She is a certified member, and founding board member, of the San Diego District Association of Professional Landscape Designers, an active member of the San Diego Horticultural Society, and is an Associate Faculty Member and Advisory Board Member of the MiraCosta College Horticulture Department.

To learn more about lawn reduction and drought, see page 3. 🌿

SDHS HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE SAVE THE DATE – NOVEMBER 10 EARLIER START TIME IS 5:00PM

Mingle and shop at the 2nd Annual SDHS Holiday Marketplace with exhibits by SDHS sponsors, business members, horticultural vendors, botanic gardens, and other non-profits. Shop for plants, garden related merchandise, gift memberships, and horticultural services from leading businesses and vendors.

Free for members – no member registration is needed.

See insert and www.sdhort.org for more details and FREE ENTRY for your friends! 🌿

The San Diego Horticultural Society's

**HOLIDAY
MARKETPLACE**
MINGLE + SHOP + LEARN

Member Robin Rivet is an ISA Certified Arborist & Tree Risk Assessor; UCCE Master Gardener and serves the City of La Mesa Environmental Sustainability Commission and the City of San Diego tree board; she welcome inquiries at: robin@sandiegotreemap.org

GOING WILD WITH NATIVES

Love for Sale

By Pat Pawlowski

Well, actually, not love itself. But the opportunity to love. Love what? The natural world, naturally, and all the fascinating birds and butterflies we might be able to see, right in our own yards. If, that is, we plant what they (and we) like.



Here comes the "sale" part: California native plant sales. Summer is mostly over, and native plant sales are going to be sprouting up all over San Diego County this Fall, which is a great time to plant natives. Here's a partial list:

California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter (www.cnpsd.org): Sat., Oct. 18; members 10 AM-3PM, everyone 11 AM-3 PM; Casa del Prado Courtyard, Balboa Park.

Back Country Land Trust (www.bclt.org): Sat., Nov. 1; Plant talk with Don Hohimer at 8:30 AM; sale 9 AM-11 AM; Joan Macqueen Middle School, 2001 Tavern Rd., Alpine 91901

Coastal Sage Gardening (www.coastalsage.com): Sun., Jan. 1, 2015; 1 PM-5PM; 3685 Voltaire St., San Diego, 92106

Recon Native Plants, Inc. (patrick@reconnativeplants.com): Sat., Nov. 15; 1755 Saturn Blvd., San Diego 92154

Need incentive? Think about this:

A hummingbird nectaring at a Cleveland sage (*Salvia clevelandii*), then watching, like a tiny rancher, over his herd of sage blossoms. A feathered rustler approaches, and the fight is on. Luckily, they don't pack guns.

Bushtits bathing. There you are, watering a coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica*), which grows into a handsome rounded evergreen shrub. The leaves are glistening with moisture. This is a perfect invitation to a bushel of bushtits (tiny birds, scarcely larger than a golf ball) to come and wash up. Which is what they do, in a very charming way; not still for an instant, they flutter and brush against the wet leaves, which makes the whole bush twinkle in the sunlight. Magical.

Butterflies buttering up a milkweed blossom. As most of us know, milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.) is the destination of a Monarch female carrying a boatload of eggs. However, besides being a host plant, nectar-rich milkweed blossoms attract many other kinds of butterflies plus other beneficial and interesting insects. Included in the milkweed clientele are small stunners like the Behr's Metamark butterfly, only an inch wide, but an eyecatcher.

Thatchers and other songbirds singing their hearts out for you (actually not for you, but to attract a mate). Perhaps they'll be sitting in your lemonadeberry shrub (*Rhus integrifolia*). As we humans need a place to mingle and flaunt our assets, so do other, more melodic, species.

You get the idea by now. It's not just the plants, you know; it's what eventually comes with the plants. The interest, beauty, etc., etc.

So hit those plant sales; do some research, and make a list, if you want. Bring along a little red wagon or folding cart. Also some money. Look forward to hobnobbing with other nature nuts.

Don't you just love a good sale?

Member Pat Pawlowski is a writer/lecturer/garden consultant who is sold on the idea of plant sales. ☘

GREAT OAKS FROM LITTLE ACORNS

By David Mortimer*

Every year about this time I'm asked if there's a secret to planting acorns. Acorns that are good for planting are mostly brown in color. If you can find them still hanging on the tree, grab 'em. They will pop out of their caps and right into your hands. If you wait too long, acorns lying on the ground may be invaded by insects.

Place all your acorns into a container of cool water and soak them for about 24 hours. The acorns lying on the bottom of the container will have the best chance to germinate. Eliminate the ones floating on top.

Not every good acorn germinates. For best results, plant several acorns in several pots and not directly in the ground. You can use a pot of any size or shape to start your acorns, but make sure it has good drainage. Fill the pot with planting mix or peat moss to within 2 or 3 inches from the top, and pack lightly. Then place the acorn on its side and cover it with an inch of planter mix, again packing lightly. (Note: If you just push the acorn into the ground, pointed end first, you will inhibit the new shoot from easily popping out of the soil.) Water the pots well the first time, then, just keep the soil moist.

If you put your planting containers outside, cover the pots with chicken wire, or something similar, to protect them from birds and squirrels. If you have a sunny spot, you can keep your pots indoors.

In about three weeks, the pointed end of the acorn will crack open and the first thing that comes out is a tap root that goes straight down. Soon after the root comes out, a small shoot will appear above the soil surface with one little leaf. Sometimes, as the root pushes down into the pot, it will cause the still attached acorn to pop up above the soil surface. If this happens, do not pull the acorn off the shoot because the small tree still needs it for nutrition.

As the shoot gets taller, it will begin to take on the shape of a tree with more leaves unfolding from day to day. One month after the shoot emerges, give your little trees some liquid plant fertilizer when you water them. Just dilute a few drops in a cup of water per tree and apply it every three or four weeks.

Wait until the container is packed with good roots before you try to transplant your new little tree into a bigger pot. If you are eventually going to plant the tree in your garden or yard, wait until it is about 3 feet high and the little trunk is nice and sturdy.

So what are you waiting for? Plant some acorns and perhaps you will create a monument that will still be standing 600 years from now.

David D. Mortimer is a certified arborist and a certified tree risk assessor with more than 35 years' experience in the tree care industry. Email questions to dmortimer@theacorn.com.

*Originally published in the *Camarillo Acorn*, Nov 22, 2013, edited by Donna Tierney. ☘



TWO SPECIAL PLANT SALES IN OCTOBER

Fall is the best time to plant in San Diego, and these two sales will make it easy to find special plants to add to your garden! For more upcoming sales see page 6 and the monthly calendar.



**San Diego Botanic Garden
30th Annual Fall Plant Sale**
Saturday, October 18 and
Sunday, October 19
Hours: 10 AM to 4 PM
230 Quail Gardens Drive,
Encinitas

Free entry with paid admission or membership.

Info: www.sdbgarden.org/plantsales.htm

Plant donations from over 100 local growers, wholesalers, retail nurseries, and individuals make this one of the most interesting and diverse plant sales in San Diego County. Plant selections include California natives, cacti, succulents, bromeliads, fruit trees, and subtropicals.

California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter

Saturday, Oct. 18

Hours: For members 10 AM to 3 PM, public 11 AM to 3 PM

Casa del Prado Courtyard, Balboa Park

Info: www.cnpssd.org

Excellent source for native trees, shrubs, perennials, seeds, books, etc. Convenient curbside parking for loading plants. Friendly and knowledgeable experts on hand to advise you. ☺

FREE WORKSHOP FOR MEMBERS: SIMPLE DIAGNOSING AND IMPROVING YOUR GARDEN SOIL

On Saturday, October 18th, you have a chance to learn how to analyze and improve your home soil by simple sight, feel, and some inexpensive garden soil test kits. Bring your own soil sample to the workshop and find out the soil's texture, organic matter content, it's pH and basic nutrient content, and how to amend your soil for better plant growth. Taught by SDHS board member Bill Homyak, retired professor of the Landscape and Nursery Technology Program at Southwestern College. Bill has taught the class of "Soils" at Southwestern College for over 30 years.

For more details and to register, go to www.sdhort.org and click on the workshop link at the bottom of the home page. ☺

NEWSLETTER BACK ISSUES: Now Available Free for Non-Members

Thanks to the computer wizardry of Jim Bishop, newsletters from 2008 to 2012 are now available on our website for public viewing. Please share this link with your friends and neighbors: <http://sdhort.org/PriorYearsNewsletters>. There's lots of very valuable information there! Perhaps this will also encourage them to join SDHS so they can enjoy current issues as well as all the other member benefits. Newer issues will be added periodically. ☺

SDHS FUNDRAISING FOR THE BALBOA PARK RESTORATION PROJECT

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 for information on making donations. You can also donate at meetings and other events. Every contribution is very welcome. As of September 9, we have raised \$4935. **Thank you to these generous donors:**

\$1000

Ellen Merewether

\$750

Scott Borden

\$210

Bruce & Myra
Cobbledick

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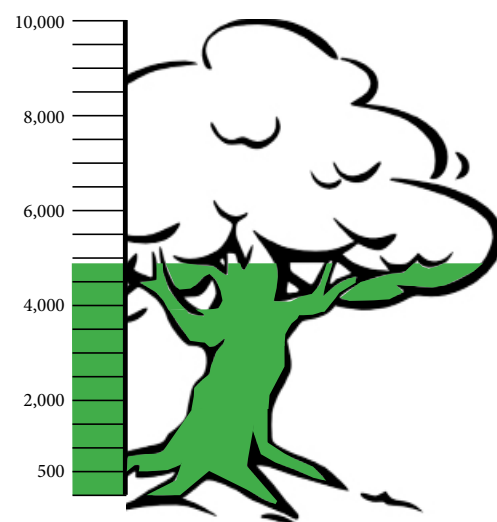
Cindy Stewart

Bonnie Struzik

Renee Vallely

Salim Walji

Don Winans



WATERWISE BOTANICALS INVITES YOU: CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT OF FALL AT THEIR 2ND ANNUAL FALL GARDEN PARTY

San Diego North County's Waterwise Botanicals nursery will be hosting the 2nd Annual Fall Garden Party on Saturday, November 8, from 9:00am to 3:00pm. This FREE event will highlight expert speakers such as Laura Eubanks, two succulent design workshops, specialty vendors, and Vista's Art Beat on Main Street artists. It will also celebrate the book launching of Jeff Moore's newest book, *Under the Spell of Succulents*. When you're ready for a break, the Bottaro Wood Fired Pizza truck will be on hand to serve you.

"The Fall Garden Party will celebrate the true spirit of Fall gardening in Southern California," said Tom Jesch, Manager of Waterwise Botanicals.

Slip away and join the fun for the day...or maybe for an hour, and learn something new about gardening from an expert. Or maybe you would like a hands-on experience by making a succulent wreath, or driftwood planting. You're sure to meet fellow succulent lovers at this exciting event.

Waterwise Botanicals is a sponsor of SDHS. They are a 20 acre wholesale/retail nursery located in the beautiful rolling hills of North County San Diego, and is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 8am-5pm.

This is a FREE event! Please visit www.TheFallGardenParty.com for more info. 🌿



SDHS FINANCIAL INFORMATION: VIEW IT NOW ONLINE

For members interested in learning about the SDHS's financial status, including our balance sheet, income and expenses, it's now easy to do so. The link for the 2013 Include and Expenses is: <https://sdhort.wildapricot.org/Financial-Reports>

To view it, you need to be logged into the website as a current member. 🌿

LOBSTERS FOR GOPHERS?

By Susi Torre-Bueno



Got gophers? I live in the north part of Vista, about 2 miles from Gopher Canyon Road, and about 3 miles from Little Gopher Canyon Road ("Little" because it is a small road, not because they have dwarf gophers). This should give you a clue about the density of our local gopher population. When we built our house in 2005, there were so many gophers we hired a monthly extermination service. The service killed about 5-10 gophers *each month* for about 6 years. However, their prices kept going up, and we decided to try less expensive solutions.

Yelling didn't work. Trapping didn't work. Cursing didn't work, and it must have annoyed the neighbors. I didn't want to use poison because I worried about the fate of any birds or coyotes who ate a poisoned gopher.

When I complained to Liz Youngflesh of Garden Glories Nursery (www.gardengloriesnursery.com), who lives just down the street from me, she had a solution that worked so well for her that she hadn't had a gopher in years. I was very skeptical, but even more desperate. She sells a plant called *Plectranthus neochilus* that works to repel gophers, and I'm so happy I tried it that I want to tell the world!

Plectranthus neochilus has the common name of Lobster Flower; for its oddly shaped blue blossoms. It is a succulent perennial in the mint family from South Africa. It'll grow in full sun to light shade to about 1' tall, and spread to about 1'-3' wide. Mine get very little water (they don't require much) and haven't gotten more than about 1' wide in almost 2 years. They're supposed to have blue flowers, but I've never noticed any flowers on mine, which is fine, as the foliage is attractive in its own right (I have a variegated version). For a good description, visit the website of San Marcos Growers: www.smgrowers.com/products/plants/plantdisplay.asp?plant_id=2884.

In late 2012, Liz sold me a 4" pot for a few bucks, and it was the best money I'd spent in years. I bought the variegated version, but the plain green form is more common. Some stems of mine have reverted to green (for plants in a visible location, I usually remove those reversions to keep the variegation).

Here's what Liz told me to do, and which has worked amazingly well. Just put the plant **still in its pot** at the gopher hole and the gophers will go away and not return. It worked!!! Liz also planted cuttings along her property line to keep gophers from coming in, and that has worked for me as well.

It is a no-brainer to simply pinch off a short stem and stick it into the ground to grow. We put a row of small cuttings about 3-4' apart along one property line and have had no gophers in that area since then (about a year ago). I also put a tiny cutting at some of the existent gopher holes (they were very busy for a few days last fall) and none of those gophers came back.

Honestly, if I hadn't used it myself I wouldn't have believed it. Try it yourself and please let me know if it was effective for you. Unfortunately, it didn't work for Jim Bishop in his Mission Hills garden, but hopefully it'll work in your garden. 🌿

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN BALBOA PARK

We've Made Tremendous Progress!

By Jim Bishop and Susi Torre-Bueno

The project to restore and landscape the gardens surrounding the lily pond in Balboa Park, which we've been working on all year, has completed the first phase of planting the beds around the Timken Museum. At the request of the Friends of Balboa Park, we took on the pilot project to celebrate the 2015 centennial celebration of the Panama-California exposition by restoring these important gardens. To accomplish this ambitious goal, we greatly appreciate the help we've gotten from the project leaders, two very talented landscape architect member volunteers, who donated significant time and expertise: Cindy Benoit (www.benoitexteriordesign.com) and Chris Drayer (www.chrisdrayer.com). Read more about them in the February, March and April editions of the newsletter.

The City Director of Park Operations (OCA), Mario Llanos, helped us with the complex requirements of working with the city of San Diego and Balboa Park. This SDHS pilot project will provide the stimulus for others in the community to follow our lead. The plan and plant choices made by Cindy and Chris were approved in April. The restoration includes sustainable, climate appropriate plant varieties introduced in the last 100 years, and will honor the original horticulturist of Balboa Park, Kate Sessions, with the theme "Kate Sessions' Vision for Balboa Park Gardens 100 Years Later". You can learn more about the project, including seeing the plant list and plant photos, on our website, www.sdhort.org.

After months of measuring, planning, drawing, plant selecting, and myriad meetings on site and elsewhere, we're almost done! Thanks



Planting plan and the bare dirt awaiting our creativity.

to the generosity of our sponsors and business members, some materials, plants and labor were donated. Some plants, including larger specimens, were donated by Botanical Partners (www.botanicalpartners.com), as well as Balboa Park Nursery itself! Other sponsors, business members and supporters supplied plants at substantial discounts, including Briggs Nursery (www.briggstree.com), Waterwise Botanicals (www.waterwisebotanicals.com), Evergreen Nursery (www.evergreennursery.com), Rancho Soledad Nursery (www.ranchosoledad.com) and Agri Service (www.agriserviceinc.com).



Jim Bishop (3)

Most of our indefatigable volunteers.

com). An irrigation retrofit was generously donated by Hunter Industries (www.hunterindustries.com), under the supervision of Chris Roesnik. We are also hoping for a new low voltage lighting system to be provided through FX Luminaire, a division of Hunter Industries. Many thanks to all these generous companies; we hope our members will show their thanks by using their services and products they sell.

This project has also benefited greatly from the cheerful assistance of our treasurer, Sam Seat. He had been paying the bills and meeting the deliveries to the Park nursery with checks in hand. He also joins Jim at the meetings of the "Adopt a Plot" group sponsored by Friends of Balboa Park. And special thanks to the staff at the Balboa Park nursery for storing and watering all the plants waiting to be planted and providing some of their existing stock for the project.

Planting time of the first phase finally arrived, and under the supervision of Cindy and Chris, enthusiastic and hard-working members volunteered for this task. On Sept. 9th, starting at 8am and working throughout the long, very hot day, our members dug holes for 1-gallon and 5-gallon plants. And then carefully planted hundreds of plants, as the garden began its final step towards completion. Three cheers to Scott Borden for buying lunch for all these hard-working folks. The volunteers were: Kathy Ascher, Jeff Biletznikoff, Patty Berg, Jim Bishop, Scott Borden, Paula Hildebrandt, Donna Mallen, Dan Petersen, Linda Shaw, Sam Seat, Don Taylor, and Ed Thielke. Thanks also to Ansen



One small area after planting. It'll fill in and look much better in a year or two.



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.

As this month's column marks the start of our 21st year and my 4th year as president, I thought now would be a good time to look back at what the Horticultural Society has done for me and some of my memories of the organization. To help me recall, I looked back at our historical archive, mostly of photos. I'll bet you didn't know we have an historical archive. It has been stored safely at Ida Rigby's home for the last few years, and had lots of information until about 2005, when digital photography and online became the dominant means of sharing photos. However, it would be a wonderful task for an energetic volunteer to scan it into an electronic format so we could share it with a wider audience (hand up, anyone?).

But I digress. A few things stood out for me in looking through all those photos. First, we've had a lot of great events and members in the press over the years. Many of the faces are very familiar and still actively involved in SDHS. It brought back memories of some very special speakers. I wasn't able to attend all of the special speakers' presentations, but remember how excited I was when Christopher Lloyd, Penelope Hobhouse, and Felding Rusher spoke. I knew them from their books and PBS, but never imagined meeting them. Today, and perhaps rightly so, our horticultural superstars tend to be more local, though some like Debra Lee Baldwin and Amy Stewart have gained national fame.

Second, all those events took a lot of time, effort, and volunteers. In some ways, I think the internet has made organizing and publicizing events easier. However, it has also created a lot of competition and had significant changes on the publishing industry. This is especially true for things like plant books and magazines, where today you can find a treasure trove of information about a plant online in seconds. An iPhone is a lot easier to take to the nursery than a big stack of books.

Third, gardens and gardening have changed. Looking at pictures of earlier events, there were a lot of lush green high water plants, especially perennials, maybe some tropical plants, and only rarely a succulent. That all seems to have changed, and maybe it was just a coincidence, about the time we had Patrick Anderson's succulent garden on our spring garden tour. After that you start seeing succulents in almost every garden photo. I remember going to all those early meetings and being inspired to try lots of different plants that the speakers talked about. I had a perennial phase, a non-hybrid tea rose phase, an English rose phase, a South African bulb phase, a grass phase, a salvia phase and many, many others. Today, I still have remnants of most of those obsessions somewhere in the garden.

When I first toured other people's gardens via Hort, I remember thinking: no way could I ever do this. I could, however, put together a springtime flower-laden high maintenance garden, but was impressed by all the sculptural, rare and unusual plants that others grew. I tried new things in the lab of my own backyard and learned from my successes and failures. Today, and largely influenced by Hort



SDHS meeting plant forum, probably 1996, with Jim Bishop (2nd from left) and Tom Piergrossi (far right).

speakers, writers, plant vendors, and the plant forum, my gardening style is based on what is sort of rare and unusual, yet easy to grow, and looks good most of the year.

Fourth, it was amazing to think of all the people that have volunteered over the last 20 years. For most of the first 10 years, I did my best just to make it to meetings. Most of the people I knew at meetings were the plant vendors. I already frequented many of their nurseries and as my garden filled up, I would scout their tables each month for something new, rare, or unusual. Many got to know me and suggested plants I should try. I also remember Susi Torre-Bueno and her enthusiasm. She was always encouraging me to volunteer, get involved, or attend an event. Eventually, I did start to volunteer and worked as a greeter at several of the garden tours. I met Bill Teague at a Fall Home/Garden Show when I helped with the plant sales. Gradually, and slowly, I met more and more people... but it did take a number of years. I'll tell more of the story in subsequent articles, but in 2009 I joined the SDHS Board as a one-year term Member at Large. At first I was a bit nervous about it, but quickly started to feel comfortable. I had no idea at the time all of the people I would get to meet and work with and that it would change my life forever with a much bigger focus on people and less on plants. Who knew?

So why not begin writing your Hort story today? I hope I've encouraged you to become involved, volunteer and make some new friends.

~~~~~

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



## 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:

|               |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cindy Davison | Marcy Singer  | Derek Woodman |
| Nancy Fain    | David Verner  |               |
| Barb Sands    | Julie Willard |               |

## 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.

|                       |                     |                          |                          |                      |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Kathy Ascher (1)      | Cindy Essary (1)    | Devon Hedding (1)        | Rebecca Moore (1)        | Cindy Sparks (1)     |
| Annette Beaty (1)     | Kathy Esty (1)      | Sonja Hunsaker (1)       | Susan Morse (1)          | Scott Spencer (1)    |
| Glenn Belice (2)      | Coni Fiss (1)       | Cecilia Jolly-Baetge (1) | Anne Murphy (1)          | Laura Starr (1)      |
| Linda Bresler (2)     | Nancy Ford (1)      | Linda Jones (1)          | Joan Oliver (1)          | Susi Torre-Bueno (1) |
| Briggs Nursery (1)    | Kimberly Fraker (1) | Victoria Lea (1)         | Gayle Olson Binder (1)   | Annie Urquhart (1)   |
| Carol Donald (1)      | Meredith Garner (1) | Patricia Leon (1)        | Laird Plumleigh (1)      | Tami Van Thof (1)    |
| Beatrice Erickson (1) | Kelly Griffin (1)   | Suellen Lodge (1)        | Barbara Raub (1)         | Roy Wilburn (1)      |
| Dave Ericson (1)      | Julie Hasl (2)      | Vicki Lugo (1)           | Tammy Schwab (1)         |                      |
| Lori Davis (1)        | Jenny Hawkins (1)   | Dannie McLaughlin (2)    | Stephanie Shigematsu (1) |                      |

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Lifestyles

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### Sunshine Gardens

The Wishing Tree Company

The Worms' Way

### Walter Andersen Nursery

Weidners' Gardens

Waterwise Botanicals

Westward Expos

## LIFE MEMBERS \*Horticulturist of the Year

\*Chuck Ades (2008)

\*Walter Andersen (2002)

Norm Applebaum &

Barbara Roper

\*Bruce & Sharon

Asakawa (2010)

Gladys T. Baird

Debra Lee Baldwin

\*Steve Brigham (2009)

Laurie Connable

\*Julian (2014) & Leslie Duval

\*Edgar Engert (2000)

Jim Farley

Sue & Charles Fouquette

Penelope Hlavac

Joyce James

Debbie & Richard Johnson

\*Vince Lazaneo (2004)

\*Jane Minshall (2006)

\*Brad Monroe (2013)

\*Bill Nelson (2007)

Tina & Andy Rathbone

\*Jon Rebman (2011)

Peggy Ruzich

San Diego Home/Garden

Lifestyles

Gerald D. Stewart

\*Susi Torre-Bueno (2012)

& Jose Torre-Bueno

Dorothy Walker

Lucy Warren

\*Evelyn Weidner (2001)

\*Pat Welsh (2003)

Betty Wheeler

## 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). ☞



## Artists' Favorites Art Show An Exhibit of the Botanical Artists Guild of Southern California



Melanie Campbell-Carter

The San Diego Botanic Garden is pleased to host "Artists' Favorites: An Exhibit of the Botanical Artists Guild of Southern California," on display now through November 16, 2014, in the Garden's Ecke Building. This collection of beautiful and unbelievably detailed works of art depicting different plant species – several found in the San Diego Botanic Garden – have been carefully selected by Botanical Artist Guild of Southern California members to be displayed at this one-of-a-kind show. Curator of Artists' Favorites Art Show, Lesley Randall, is also the Plant Recorder at the San Diego Botanic Garden.

Forty-three works representing 18 different artists were carefully selected for the special place they hold in each artist's heart. A work may have been chosen because of the particular plant species, because of the special technique used, or because it evokes a memory of a special time, place, or person for the artist.

The Botanical Artists Guild of Southern California is a chapter of the American Society of Botanical Artists. Guild members are an extremely talented group of artists dedicated to improving their artistic and technical skills. Many members have exhibited internationally and have won a number of awards.

For more information, please call 760/436-4036 x204 or visit the website at www.SDBGarden.org/events.htm. ☞

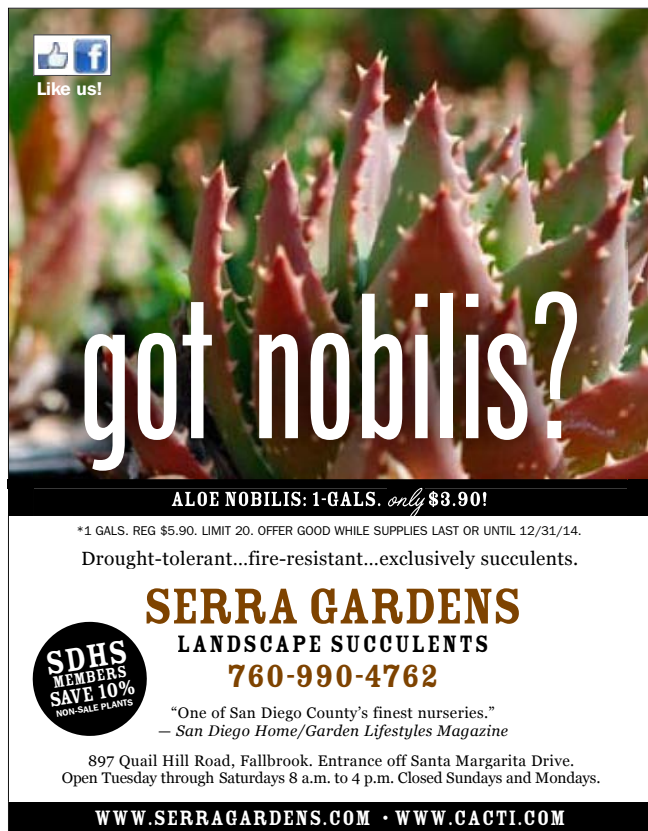
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■ From the Board Continued from page 3

- Say “Thank you” to a volunteer for volunteering their time.
- Attend our annual garden tour and bring a friend. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. A lot of time and effort goes towards making this one of the best garden tours in San Diego. Still, it has always surprised me that with 1300 members, less than half attend.
- Invite a friend to join the society.

*Others involve a little more time, but can be very rewarding:*

- Organize or host a workshop.
- Organize or host a featured garden.
- Volunteer to staff the registration at an event.
- Do one or more outreach shifts at the San Diego County Fair, Fall or Spring Home/Garden Show, or other San Diego event.

*Still others require a larger contribution of time and talent:*

- Join and participate in a committee (newsletter, workshop, garden tour, events, etc.)
- Help organize the annual garden tour.
- Help organize or host the annual Volunteer Appreciation Party.
- Become a board member. Currently we are looking for a newsletter editor, first and second Vice Presidents, a Volunteer Coordinator, and – starting next year – a new Treasurer.
- Design and build our garden at the San Diego County Fair.

If you would like to serve your fellow members in one of the roles above, please contact me at [sdhsresident@gmail.com](mailto:sdhsresident@gmail.com). ☘

■ Book Review Continued from page 4

*Trees and Shrubs* has a plant compendium and photos of plants. Additionally, it includes a general discussion of planting a low-water garden and charts to aid in selecting plants. It also includes a chapter of lists of plants for specialized circumstances. They include lists of plants that are drought deciduous, plants tolerant of salt spray, and eight other categories.

The most useful section, though, is the one on planting for fire safety. We all know with drought comes fire. We need to be prepared, and rethinking our gardens is part of that preparation. ☘

■ Centennial.. Continued from page 9

Caires, the Horticulturist OCA of the Park, and his staff for all of their help delivering plants, materials and digging lots of planting holes so we could complete the job in just one day. Our heartfelt thanks to all of them!

**You can help with the next phase!**

The next phase of planting around the Casa de Balboa building will take place in a few weeks. We'll need lots of SDHS volunteers to get the job done in one day. This could be your only chance to say to friends and family when you visit the park, “Kate Sessions planted that tree 100 years ago, and I planted this plant.” We hope you can join us.

You can still play an important role by donating towards this project – see column to the right. We need funds to pay for all those plants we purchased! If there is sufficient money left, we're considering restoring another garden in the Park, and will keep you posted about that. ☘



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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>. Also, you can continue the discussion by adding new replies online to Sharing Secrets topics. 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 October was:

*September marked the 20th anniversary of the founding of SDHS. Please share one memory from your years as a member.*

**Louise Anderson:** Listening to Tom Piergrossi and Steve Brigham discussing the horticultural display table and telling us about all of the plants we just have to have in our gardens.

**Ken Blackford:** Sixteen years ago, in 1998, I was planning my move from the Bay Area to San Diego. I was a docent at the Ruth Bancroft Garden, and Richard Turner, our director (and then editor of *Pacific Horticulture* magazine), suggested when I got settled to "check out the San Diego Hort Society... they are a really good bunch of people!" Well, it took me a couple years to get settled, along with the new job, but I did finally join SDHS after a couple years, and am very happy I did so. Later, receiving *Lets Talk Plants!* via email while I took another job recently on the East Coast, reminded me of all the horticultural fun I was missing in San Diego and played a part in my decision to return! Much thanks to SDHort and to Dick Turner for pointing me in your direction!

**Jeanne Meadow:** I will never forget my very first hort meeting. I drove from Fallbrook alone and attended the meeting to hear Debra Lee Baldwin speak. I had no idea that hundreds of people would be there, especially on a Monday night! I did not know anyone... yet! I was amazed that so many others were in love with these plants, and made fast friends that remain good friends to this day! I bought Debra's book and waited in line to have her sign it. I was thrilled! Realizing that it was quite ok to be crazy about these plants, the obsession grew!

**Al Myrick:** We had purchased a garden panel (made by Sitting Duck Studio) when it was on display at the SDHS garden exhibit at the County Fair. We were Horticulturists of the Day on opening day that year. Bill Teague (who had designed the exhibit), told us that we had to wait until the Fair was over to take it home. When Bill Teague came over with a bunch of gift plants for the "honor" of placing our garden panel out in the garden. What a treat! What a great day! We were the ones who received the honor, of course.

**Anne Murphy:** I do not have one memory; I have so many. I met new friends. I learned so much about gardening, first from the meetings and then from my new friends, and then the symposia led by Susi Torre-Bueno, and then by going on garden tours, and then from workshops, and then from becoming a Master Gardener, which happened with the support of my SDHS friends. Wow! Thank you San Diego Horticultural Society.



**Joan Braunstein:** I've only been a member a few months, but I remember the day I joined. I discovered SD Hort at a booth during last spring's Master Gardeners seminar. I was ecstatic!

**Pat Greer Venolia:** I wasn't a member in November 2001, when I attended my first SDHS meeting to hear Jan Smithen talk about Mediterranean gardening (from her book, *Sun-Drenched Gardens: The Mediterranean Style*). Jan is a longtime friend and family member from the Pomona area. For years I've used "Auntie K's Dressing," a turkey-stuffing recipe from her family's elderly neighbor. At the meeting, I sat beside a young woman who turned out to be Auntie Kay's granddaughter! She was so surprised and told me that she didn't have that recipe, which I sent to her later. I continued to attend the wonderful Hort meetings for a while (free in those days), but out of guilt I finally joined in 2002, and have been very happy to be part of this remarkable organization from then on.

**Connie Forest:** I have many memories since I have been a member since the first meetings in Encinitas. I would have to say that one of my best memories that is largely responsible for my becoming an enthusiastic member from the beginning, is of Tom Piergrossi picking up from a long plant-laden table yet another plant and telling us not only its name, but usually many facts about it as well. I was always impressed, and the plant display table was my favorite part of the meeting.

**Sue Ann Scheck:** My most awesome experience at the Hort was last November's Show and Sale of Plants! Meeting with all the radiant folks who make up our Hort family, sharing and buying exquisite treasures; absolutely awesome! Also I remember Susi Torre-Bueno and sitting at the Fairgrounds a couple of years ago when she was called up and honored (her beautiful family seated in the first row). Hearing her story, her commitment to plants, adorning San Diego with her knowledge, and bringing us together as a community bent on beautifying our environment. She is an amazing living force that keeps on giving!

**Vivian Blackstone:** I love meeting my friends and new people at the monthly meetings.

**Steve Brigham:** There are a million wonderful memories, of course. But the very best one for me was getting the 2009 SDHS Horticulturist of the Year Award at what was then still called Quail Botanical Gardens (it's now the San Diego Botanic Garden). I grew up at Quail, I planted my babies (who grew up with me) at Quail, and the whole garden that evening was alive with voices of plants and volunteers from my past and present. My hero, Julian Duval, gave a talk that absolutely thrilled me, and brought all these voices to a crescendo. "This guy really gets it!" was all I could think. Everyone felt the energy, and we all "got it" all at once. Suddenly, all those years of scheming, sitting in booths, working plant sales, giving talks, and cranking out newsletters cashed out into a feeling of pure happiness for all of us. Because we all – plants and people – had done it together!

**Dale Rekus:** One of my best memories was in July of 2002. Susi Torre-Bueno asked me to pick up some SDHS printed material from Samia

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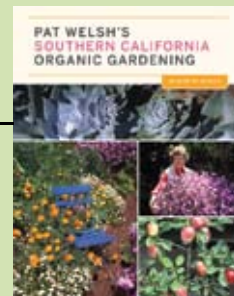
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Rose Topiary (now closed) in Encinitas. Bill Teague spotted me loading the boxes into my trunk. He asked if I had the next ten minutes free, and I replied that, yes, I did. He advised me to hurry next door to Quail Botanical Gardens (so named at that time) before they closed in the next ten minutes. He explained that a corpse flower (*Amorphophallus titanum*) was at its peak bloom and would collapse by morning. I knew this very rare plant, but I did not know there was one at Quail, and I most certainly did not know it was in bloom! I dashed on over to the garden and there it was, in all its stinky glory. Best ten botanical minutes for me, at the least, in that decade!

**Marilyn Guidroz:** I was a member of SDHS long before I ever attended a meeting. I wanted the newsletter because it was well done, informative, and kept me up to date in San Diego. As a professional landscape designer, I worked with my clients and contractors, and that was it. I was lonely. I didn't really have anyone to share my passion and my thirst for gardens. So, I said to myself one night while reading my SDHS newsletter, "Marilyn, why don't you actually go to these meetings?" So, I went. I loved it so much that I just kept going. I got to know Susi Torre-Bueno and her mother-in-law and started making other friends like Jim Bishop. It opened a whole new world to me and then I VOLUNTEERED for a symposium that we were hosting in San Diego. My husband and I had the assigned duty to help out at Buena Creek Gardens, where we met and relieved Bill Teague from his shift, who introduced us to Steve Brigham. Need I say more? You never know where you will find inspiration when you volunteer at SDHS!

**Walter Andersen:** My memories would include being able to meet interesting folks who had a great interest in plants of all sorts. Also, becoming friends with a few (like Susi Torre-Bueno) I would probably not have come to know if it wasn't for the Hort Society. I have also been able to find a few treasures from some vendors at the meetings; unusual plants that caught my eye because they were different. Also, I have enjoyed interesting speakers who had wonderful presentations of their plants and projects.

**Linda Bresler:** I love to attend the SDHS meetings because of all the positive energy that I feel when I go there. Everyone is so excited to learn something new about plants. Our collective love of plants is evident in all of our meetings.

The question for October is:

Many of us had a terrible time with ants this past summer. What did you do to combat them successfully? (Thanks to Lisa Rini for suggesting this.)

Send your reply by October 5 to [newsletter@sdhort.org](mailto:newsletter@sdhort.org). ✉



## SEPTEMBER 2014 PLANT DISPLAY

By Sue Fouquette 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.



*Aloe juvenna* TIGER  
TOOTH ALOE  
(Aloeaceae) Kenya

This handsome clumping aloe is supposed to bloom in the summer, although the plant displayed has also had flowers in winter on occasion. From the website of San Marcos Growers ([www.smgrowers.com](http://www.smgrowers.com)): "An attractive and unusual succulent with 1 to 2 foot long stems that are at first erect but later arch over and are covered from the

base with bright toothy-margined green leaves flecked with lighter green to white spots on inner and outer surfaces. The stems are densely stacked and tipped with a spiky tight rosette. When grown in full sun the leaves often take on reddish to brown tones. This plant suckers profusely to make a dense stand or ground cover and can trail downwards over rocks or walls. It does not flower regularly but when it does it is in mid to late summer and is an unbranched spike with orange-red flowers. Plant in a well-drained soil in light shade to full sun, but red coloration [is] best with bright light. Give regular to occasional water in summer and avoid overwatering in winter - tolerates winter rainfall if soil drains well and is great in containers of even a hanging basket." The coral-red flowers have greenish-yellow tips. Very easy and quick to propagate (I just stick a cutting in the ground, water it, and walk away). Some websites say it is not frost-tolerant, but some say it is hardy to around 25°F. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 9/14) — S.T-B.

*Antigonon leptopus* CORAL VINE, ROSA DE MONTANA,  
QUEEN'S WREATH (Polypodiaceae) Mexico

This fast-growing summer-blooming Mexican vine grows rapidly and can reach 20-40 feet. Deciduous in the winter, the heart-shaped great leaves can be up to 4" long. The clusters of bright pink flowers are stunning and are produced from late spring to fall; a white form (A. l. 'Alba') is also available. Site it carefully in your garden, as it can be invasive (a large pot might be the best solution). Best in full sun with good drainage. Drought-tolerant once established, it also

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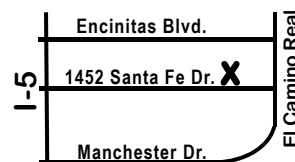
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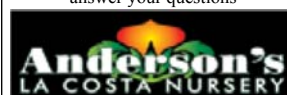
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produces edible tubers. The website for the University of Florida warns: "Not only is coral vine a prolific seed producer, but the seeds will float on water, dispersing the plant to new locations. Fruits and seeds are eaten and spread by wildlife such as birds, raccoons, and pigs. Underground tubers produced by coral vine will resprout if the plant is cut back or damaged by frost. *Antigonon leptopus* is a smothering vine that invades disturbed areas and forest edges, quickly covering nearby plants and structures." (Joyce Coogan Beer, West Los Angeles, 9/14) – S.T-B.

#### ***Gaura lindheimeri* 'Belleza Dark Pink' (Onagraceae)**

Horticultural Hybrid

*Gaura lindheimeri* is a drought-tolerant perennial native to Texas and Louisiana, and the cultivar displayed has dark pink butterfly-shaped flowers blooming at the ends of long, narrow stems. The parent species has white flowers and green foliage, while this plant is supposed to have reddish leaves, which it did when I purchased it. The leaves now, however, are plain green, a disappointment. It is supposed to be a short compact form, getting only 1'- 2' tall (the species can grow 3'-4' tall) and about 18" wide. However, in my garden this year (the 2<sup>nd</sup> year it is in the ground) it has reached 4' tall and the flower stems rise up to 6' tall. It's also about 3' wide at least (I've been cutting it back to keep it out of the pathway). I planted three 4" pots in March 2013 and that clump is now about 6' wide and 3' deep, even with my pruning, very little water, in poor soil with no fertilizer at all. I'll probably be cutting it to the ground soon and if the new leaves stay green I'll likely remove it, as the colorful foliage was the main reason I purchased it. The plant does best with very good drainage in full sun. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 9/14) – S.T-B.

#### ***Podranea ricasoliana* PINK TRUMPET VINE, TRUMPET VINE (Bignoniaceae) South Africa**

This vigorous, evergreen, woody vine grows to about 20 to 30 feet tall, sending up many stems with spreading branches that arch over gracefully. It bears clusters of pink trumpet-shaped flowers at the branch tips in summer. It has glossy leaves, and climbs without the aid of tendrils. Grow it in full sun or partial shade with moderate water. According to one website ([www.plantzafrica.com](http://www.plantzafrica.com)), "The genus *Podranea* contains one or two species: *Podranea ricasoliana* that is found at the mouth of the Mzimvubu River at Port St Johns, roughly half way between East London and Durban on the Eastern Cape coast; and *Podranea brycei*, the Zimbabwe creeper which has

been collected from the ruins of Great Zimbabwe near Musvingo in Zimbabwe, and from the surroundings of Nova Sofala, on the Mozambique coast south of Beira. These two species differ only in the hairiness of the flowers and the size of the leaves. As it is virtually impossible to tell them apart when seen growing together many botanists regard them as the same species. The name *Podranea* is an anagram of *Pandorea*, a closely related Australian genus... Many South African botanists suspect that this climber may not be indigenous to southern Africa and that it was introduced here by slave traders. All the sites where both *Podranea ricasoliana* and *Podranea brycei* are found have ancient connections with slave traders, who frequented the eastern coast of Africa long before the 1600's. It has become such a widely grown garden plant in all the warmer parts of the world that it may prove difficult to find its real origin. ... Because it is so vigorous and so fast it can get a bit out of control and may grow into gutters and roof overhangs and into trees, particularly in subtropical regions. It will need pruning to be kept neat, and to keep it down to shrub size it should be pruned back hard every year. Pruning will also improve flowering. The best time for pruning is in winter or early spring just before new growth commences. It is known to sprout where prunings have been thrown, and it is an invasive garden escape in parts of Queensland and New South Wales in Australia and in New Zealand. This is an excellent plant for arbors, pergolas and carports and is a valuable shade-giving plant in a hot climate. It is ideal for an informal hedge or planted against a wall or a fence to create a screen. It is a useful rambling ground cover for an embankment as the stems root wherever they touch the soil, forming large, swollen water- and soil-holding root clumps. It is suitable for the coastal garden. It looks good in a large container and is a candidate for espalier and can be pruned and trained into a weeping standard. It has no tendrils, so it has to be tied to supports." (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 9/14) – S.F. & 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 September newsletter was *Lilium* 'Big Brother is Watching'.

- 3 *Agapanthus* 'Elaine' PURPLE LILY-OF-THE-NILE  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 9/14)
- 3 *Ampelopsis beverageculata* BLUEBERRY WINE COOLER  
CLIMBER (Plant Nutter, El Cajon, 9/14)
- 3 *Ampelopsis brevipedunculata* BLUEBERRY CLIMBER,  
PORCELAIN VINE (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 9/14)
- Antigonon leptopus* 'Alba' ROSA DE MONTANA, CORAL VINE,  
QUEEN'S WREATH (Joyce Coogan Beer, West Los Angeles,  
9/14)
- 3 *Hibiscus schizopetalus* FRINGED HIBISCUS, JAPANESE  
LANTERN (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 9/14)
- Pentas lanceolata* 'Tall Red' STAR FLOWER, EGYPTIAN STAR  
CLUSTER (Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 9/14)





# SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT: New Australian Plants for California Gardens Key Learning Points

By Donna Tierney

Randy Baldwin from San Marcos Growers, Santa Barbara, provided a very exciting slide show of over 100 varieties of Australian native plants that have been recently introduced to California. The shapes, colors, sizes, and blooms of the featured plants were extraordinary! For San Marcos Growers, Randy developed and maintains a very large plant database which is an excellent source for information about Australian natives (and many other kinds of plants as well): [www.smgrowers.com](http://www.smgrowers.com).

Australia is over 300 million square miles and is about the same size as the contiguous United States. The southeastern and southwestern coasts of Australia have a Mediterranean climate similar to Southern California. For this reason, many Australian plants are great companion plants for Southern California gardens. They require growing conditions very similar to cacti, succulents, California natives, and other plants found in Mediterranean climates worldwide.

Randy talked about a number of people and universities who were responsible for hooking him on Australian natives, and who were critical to finding, testing, and introducing these plants to Southern California nurseries. The special individuals included Dr. F. Franceschi, Fred Meyer (an early SDHS member), Kathy Musial (a founding board member of SDHS), Rodger Elliott, and Ray Collett. Additional information about these special people can be found in the resource links provided below.

Critical to the development of Australian plants in the California market was the establishment of the Koala Blooms plant introduction program by the UC Santa Cruz Arboretum. This is a joint venture between UCSC and nursery growers in California and Australia. The Arboretum imports Australian plants that are then trialed in the garden. The Arboretum makes plant selections based on their tests results. These selected plants then undergo trials by the wholesale nurseries participating in the program. The plants are evaluated for beauty, durability in landscapes, drought tolerance, varying soil conditions, and extreme temperatures. Based on trial results, plants are selected and offered for sale to the public. Today, fifty cents from every sale of a Koala Blooms plant goes back to the UCSC Arboretum to support the garden. Another portion of the profit goes back to the growers in Australia who originally selected and developed the plants.

One of the challenges that has been experienced during tests of Australian plants is varying soil pH (Australians sometime need more acid soil than most of us have in San Diego). Some plants grow well in containers, but not when planted in the ground because it's more difficult to control the soil pH. Additionally, there has been some difficulty in estimating growth characteristics. Many Australians have exceeded the estimates for height and width, and have outgrown their gardens! One of the most successful recent Australian introductions is the shrubby *Acacia cognata* 'Cousin Itt' ('Mini Cog'). Its beautiful chartreuse color and feathery foliage make it an outstanding addition



Donna Tierney

Plant vendor Sergio Regalado (right), from Plant Play Nursery, with Sharon Lee at the Sept 2014 meeting.

to our Mediterranean gardens in San Diego.

Thanks, Randy, for an excellent presentation and for bringing some gorgeous plants for us to drool over! Members who missed this meeting can borrow a video of it at the next meeting they attend.

## Resources:

- [www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/dr-francesco-franceschi-and-his-park](http://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/dr-francesco-franceschi-and-his-park)
- Article on Dr. F. Franceschi: [www.smgrowers.com/info/friends.asp](http://www.smgrowers.com/info/friends.asp) (list of the many people who have provided plants information, specimens to San Marcos Growers)
- [www.smgrowers.com/index.asp](http://www.smgrowers.com/index.asp) Access to large database of plant information at San Marcos Nursery
- <http://arboretum.ucsc.edu/> UC Santa Cruz arboretum contains the largest collection of native Australian and New Zealand plants outside of the native countries.
- <http://arboretum.ucsc.edu/koala-blooms/> Information on the USCS Koala-Blooms Program
- [www.fbts.com/everything-salvias-blog/sage-experts/sage-experts-meet-huntington-gardens-curator-kathy-musial.html](http://www.fbts.com/everything-salvias-blog/sage-experts/sage-experts-meet-huntington-gardens-curator-kathy-musial.html) Information on Kathy Musial, curator at Huntington Gardens
- [www.australianplants.com/books.aspx?id=1019](http://www.australianplants.com/books.aspx?id=1019) Rodger Elliott's encyclopedia of Australian plants
- <http://arboretum.ucsc.edu/about/remembering-ray-collett/> Information about Ray Collett, Founder of UC Santa Cruz Arboretum
- <http://ucanr.edu/sites/WUCOLS/> Provides evaluations of the irrigation water needs for over 3,500 taxa (taxonomic plant groups) used in California landscapes. It is based on the observations and extensive field experience of 36 landscape horticulturists. 🌿

## THANK YOUR MEETING DONORS: We appreciate the generosity of

Ausachia Nursery – Plant Donation for Door Prize

San Marcos Growers – Donation of plants for Silent Auction



## SAY "BONJOUR" TO PACIFIC HORTICULTURE TOURS

Don't miss the June 2015 PacHort small-group tour to France, beginning in Rouen, a city of magnificent Gothic architecture, charming half-timbered houses and contemporary bustle. Visit the Arboretum d'Harcourt, comprising over 500 species of trees and shrubs, before continuing to the lovingly restored gardens at Chateau du Champ de Bataille, owned by renowned stylist and designer



Chateau du Riveau

Jacques Garcia. A must-see is Claude Monet's gardens at Giverny, as well as the Jardins d'Angelique, created by the owners around a lovely country manor house. Visit the coast of Normandy to see the late Princess Sturdza's iconic Vasterival Garden. A self-taught gardener, the Princess acclimatized more than 10,000 species and plant varieties, from the most common to the quite rare, in this small and sheltered valley, creating a beautiful setting all year round. And all of that in just the first 3 days of this 10-day tour! Several days and many chateaux in the legendary Loire Valley are in the plans, including the International Garden Festival at Chaumont-sur-Loire.

SDHS is Pacific Horticulture Partner. The best way to keep up on everything PacHort is to visit [www.pachort.org](http://www.pachort.org), where you can learn about tours and subscribe to the highly regarded Pacific Horticulture magazine. A special rate of \$24 is available right now by using the discount code SDHS2014 when you sign up at [www.pachort.org](http://www.pachort.org). ☺

### 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               |
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| 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... **SAVE \$4 on** *Pacific Horticulture*

**Only \$24/year brings you a beautiful full-color magazine all about West Coast gardening!**

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



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## SDHS Nametags

**Sturdy magnet-back nametags are just \$10**



To order go to [www.sdhortsoc.org](http://www.sdhortsoc.org) and click on **SHOP** or buy one at any monthly meeting.

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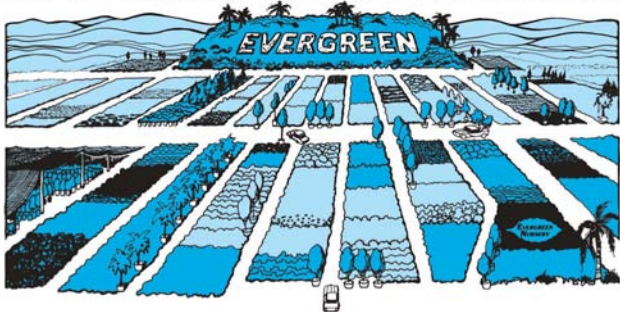


## What's Happening? for OCTOBER 2014

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).

### ▼ SDHS Sponsor

## DISCOVER EVERGREEN NURSERY



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- 1 gallon plants starting at \$2.90
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### Summer Hours - call to confirm

Mon.-Thurs. 7:30-5:00; Fri.-Sat. 7:30-6:00, Sun. 9:00-5:00

## Free Monthly Seminar

*First Saturday of every month*

*Starting at 10am at two locations:*

*Carmel Valley and Oceanside*

## October 4: Fall is the Time for Planting

Tour the nursery on foot and look at our advertised plants that will be featured in our Annual Million Dollar Fall Sale. We will discuss how they will fit into your landscape.

Each FREE seminar is approximately 1 hour long. Come to the location nearest you! Refreshments will be provided. Seminar attendees 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 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  
**Oct. 4, 9am-5pm, & 5, 10am-4pm, Orchid Fair:**

Thousands of varieties on display and on sale. Orchid care lectures throughout the day. See [www.sdbgarden.org/orchid.htm](http://www.sdbgarden.org/orchid.htm).

**Oct. 11, 9am-2pm, Succulent Wreath Class:** Take home a beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself. Members \$65, Non-members \$75; includes materials. Register by Oct. 3.

**Oct. 18 & 19, 10am-4pm, Fall Plant Sale:** Over 100 local growers, fabulous plant choices, much more!

**Oct. 25, 9am-noon, Build Your Own Hydroponic Fall Garden:** Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method by building your own sustainable garden to take home. Members: \$75; Non-members: \$90. Fee includes materials.

**Oct. 25, 9am-5pm, 26, 10am-4pm, Cactus and Succulent Show & Sale:** Spectacular specimens of succulents and plant and pottery vendors. Free with paid admission or membership.

**Oct. 28, 9am-noon, Succulent Turtle Class:** Take home a charming succulent turtle that you make yourself. Members: \$75; Non-members: \$90. Fee includes materials.

### ❖ The Water Conservation Garden

Contact info on other side

**Oct. 4, 10am-noon, Soil Testing, Prepping And Planting:** Learn how to test your soil, prepare it for planting, and the proper use of fertilizers. Members free, \$10 nonmembers. Register online or by phoning (619) 660-0614 x10.

**Oct. 18, 10am-noon, Enchanted Garden Gala:** A magical evening amidst our illuminated gardens. \$150. Register online or by phoning (619) 660-0614 x10.

**Saturdays, 10:30am, Garden Tour:** Docent led tour of the Water Conservation Garden. Meet at the main gate at the Garden entrance. No reservations required.

## 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 & Sunday FREE classes.**  
See [www.cedrosgardens.com](http://www.cedrosgardens.com).

♦ **City Farmers Nursery Workshops**  
See [www.cityfarmersnursery.com](http://www.cityfarmersnursery.com).

♦ **Evergreen Nursery: FREE Seminar**  
See column at left for details.

### ♦ Sunshine Care FREE Seminar Each Month

Oct. 18, 10:30am, Growing Proteas 101: Learn about growing these beautiful low-water plants in your garden.  
Address in ad on page 14. Info: [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

#### Poway, 9:30am

|         |                             |                            |
|---------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Oct. 4  | Dormant Fruit Tree Spraying | Fall Rose Care             |
| Oct. 11 | Staghorn Fern Remounting    | Backyard Chickens          |
| Oct. 18 | Fall Bulbs                  | Citrus with Richard Wright |
| Oct. 25 | Adding Veggies & Herbs      | Natives with Moosa Creek   |

♦ **Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops**  
See [www.weidners.com](http://www.weidners.com) or call (760) 436-2194.

## Next SDHS Meeting

**October 13:**

## Lawn Replacement Ideas

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)

Oct. 18: Simple Diagnosing and Improving Your Garden Soil

## Other Garden-Related Events: Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

**Solana Center's Composting Workshops:** Gain a more in-depth understanding of the composting process.

Oct. 4, 8-10am, San Diego Zoo

Oct. 11, 10am-noon, Lakeside River Park Conservancy, 12108 Industry Rd., Lakeside.

Oct. 18, 10am-noon, Smarts Farm, Makers Quarter corner of F Street and 15<sup>th</sup>, San Diego's East Village.

Info & registration: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**Oct. 1, 6:30pm, Palomar Orchid Society:** Culture for outdoor growing orchids. Lake Pavilion, 1105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos. Info: [www.palomarorchid.org](http://www.palomarorchid.org).

**Oct. 4, 4-5pm, Solana Center's Low Water Landscaping:** Natives, non-native and edibles. 137 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas. \$10. Info & registration: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**Oct. 4 & 5, 10am-4pm, Begonia Society's Plant Show and Sale:** Room 101 of Casa del Prado in Balboa Park. Info: (760) 815-7914 or [marla.keith@cox.net](mailto:marla.keith@cox.net).

**Oct. 8, 10am, Point Loma Garden Club:** Creating and planting unique containers for the garden with an Autumn theme. 2818 Avenida de Portugal. Info: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org).

**Oct. 8, 10, 10am, Poway Valley Garden Club:** Master composter Flip McCarthy. 14134 Midland Road Poway. Info: [www.powayvalleygardenclub.org](http://www.powayvalleygardenclub.org) or (858) 204-9070.

**Oct. 15, 1:30pm, San Diego Floral Association Meeting:** Eugene Marley – Floral arrangements with dried natural materials. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. Info: [www.sdfloal.org](http://www.sdfloal.org)

**Oct. 18, 9am-3pm, Ramona Garden Club Fall Plant Sale:** Many plants and crafts. Ramona Tractor Supply, 203 Hunter St., Ramona. Info: (760) 789-8774 or [www.RamonaGardenClub.com](http://www.RamonaGardenClub.com).

**Oct. 18, 11 am, California Native Plant Society Fall Plant Sale:** Plants, seeds, books, more! See pages 6 & 7. Free. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Theater Courtyard. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).

**Oct. 21, 10am-4pm, Japanese Friendship Garden FREE Admission:** Only for San Diego residents, active military (and dependents) with ID. Balboa Park. Info: [www.niwa.org](http://www.niwa.org).

**Oct. 25, noon-5pm and Oct. 26 (10am-4pm), San Diego Orchid Society Show & Sale:** FREE admission. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 101. Info: [www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com).

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

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

For an extensive list of garden club meetings and events, visit [www.sdfloal.org/calendar.htm](http://www.sdfloal.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: \$14/adults, \$10/seniors, \$8/kids 3-12; 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. Info., events, road conditions, etc.: (760) 767-5311 or <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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 [www.lifestyletalkradio.com](http://www.lifestyletalkradio.com).

### San Diego County Farmers Markets

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