

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

October 2012, Number 217

A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us

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On the Cover: *Lemon-Scented Gum*

Morocco & Andalucía: Islamic Gardens & Architecture

Co-sponsored by Pacific Horticulture Society
& San Diego Horticultural Society

April 4-15, 2013

Join us to discover the splendid Islamic gardens and architecture of Morocco and Andalucía. Our tour will take us from the Imperial Cities of Marrakech, Fez, and Meknes to Tangier and across the Straits of Gibraltar to the Moorish Kingdoms of Granada, Córdoba, and Seville. We'll explore ancient medinas and fabulous palaces that have enchanted travelers for centuries.

We have invitations to visit exceptional private homes and gardens. Enjoy regional cuisine in acclaimed restaurants and private homes while staying in traditional hotels in the heart of the old cities. Just a few spaces are open, so sign up now and join an amazing adventure!

Info: www.pacifichorticulture.org/tours
or (800) 976-9497



Jeffrey Bale



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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

Details on membership are on page 20 and at www.sdhortsoc.org
For questions contact membership@sdhortsoc.org or Jim Bishop at (619) 296-9215.

MEETING SCHEDULE

5:00 – 6:00 Meeting room setup
6:00 – 6:45 Vendor sales, lending library, plant display
6:45 – 9:00 Announcements, Hot Hort Picks, door prizes, speaker

MEETINGS & EVENTS IN 2012

- October 14** Volunteer Appreciation Party
- October 27** Borden Ranch Fruit Pick
- November 12** Ivette Soler on Design Guidelines for Creating a Successful “Integrated” Edible Front Yard
- December 10** Debra Prinzing on Slow Flowers: Follow Your Flowers from Field to Vase

COVER IMAGE: The cover image was taken by speaker Dr. Matt Ritter in the Winter of 2010 in Santa Barbara, California. It shows the trunk and canopy of *Corymbia citriodora* (*Eucalyptus citriodora*). Each year the bark peels off this tree to reveal a perfectly smooth, cream-colored, new inner bark. The leaves smell like citronella and refined oil from them (mostly produced in China and Brazil) is used in perfumery and insect repellent.

www.SanDiegoHorticulturalSociety.org

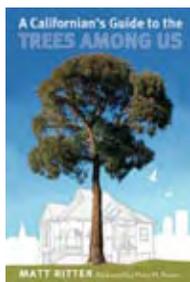


Next Meeting: OCTOBER 8, 2012, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Topic: DR. MATT RITTER ON “A CALIFORNIAN’S GUIDE TO THE TREES AMONG US”

Meeting is open and everyone is welcome. Admission: Members/free, Non-Members/\$10.

Parking is free. Meeting Place: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Surfside Race Place, Del Mar; Info: (619) 296-9215



This month we welcome botanist Dr. Matt Ritter for an important talk on local trees. In California, you don't need to travel to an exotic location to be awed by nature. So much of the world's plant diversity is represented in our neighborhood parks, gardens, and streets. Dr. Ritter's presentation will be a photographic exposé of the lives and stories of some of the fascinating urban trees featured in his new book, *A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us*, and in his recent series in *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. Dr. Ritter will share stories, cultivation and identification tips, and natural history of some of his favorite trees. He will also talk about his current work mapping tree abundance in California's cities using aerial images and computer image recognition software.

Matt Ritter studies cultivated trees and trees that escape cultivation. He has a bachelor's degree in microbiology and a Ph.D. in plant developmental biology. He is currently a botany professor in the Biological Sciences Department at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and director of the plant conservatory there. He is the chair of the City of San Luis Obispo Tree Committee, has authored numerous scientific papers about plants, and contributed to botanical references including the upcoming second edition of the *Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California and the Flora of North America Project*. He holds a Kenan Fellowship at the National Tropical Botanical Gardens, is the Ray Collett Visiting Scholar at the UC Santa Cruz arboretum, and teaches for the Organization of Tropical Studies in Costa Rica.

Dr. Ritter's beautiful book will be available for sale at a discounted price of \$20. To learn more visit www.cosamfaculty.calpoly.edu/ritter/ and see page 3. 🌿



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

BOARD MEMBERS

Patty Berg – Volunteer Coordinator

Jeff Biletnikoff – Meeting Room Coordinator

Jim Bishop – President, Membership Chair

B.J. Boland – Corresponding Secretary

Mark Collins – Finance/Budget Committee

Bryan Diaz – Member at Large

Julian Duval – San Diego Botanic Garden
Representative

Mary James – Program Committee Chair

Cheryl Leedom – Member at Large

Dannie McLaughlin – Tour Coordinator

Susan Oddo – Publicity Coordinator

Susanna Pagan – Member at Large

Sam Seat – Treasurer

Susi Torre-Bueno – Newsletter Editor,
Past President

Don Walker – Past President

Lucy Warren – Secretary

**Let's Talk Plants!, the SDHS
newsletter, is published the fourth
Monday of every month.**

Editor/Advertising: Susi Torre-Bueno;

(760) 295-2173; newsletter@sdhortsoc.org

Calendar: Send details by the 10th of the month
before event to calendar@sdhortsoc.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@sdhortsoc.org or SDHS, Attn:
Membership, PO Box 231869, Encinitas, CA
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meetings, annual college scholarships, and other
important programs. Sponsorships start at just
\$100/year; contact Jim Bishop at sponsor@
sdhortsoc.org. Sponsors are listed on page 10;
those with ads in the newsletter have the words
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for their extra support!

2013 SPRING GARDEN TOUR: WE NEED YOUR HELP!

By Dannie McLaughlin

Remember how much you enjoyed the garden tours you've been on? How fascinating it was to see the ways other people used perennials and pathways, succulents and stones, color and texture and art in their gardens? If the Hort is going to continue with this wonderful event, WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We're looking for gardens for the 2013 tour. Currently we're considering either the Poway or Carlsbad area, but are open to other areas as well. You don't have to have an estate garden to be on the tour. Variety is the spice of life and that's what we want for the garden tour: cottage gardens, veggie gardens, succulent gardens... even orchards. Sharing your garden with others is part of the great tradition of nurturing and caring that gardeners have in common. Just as you've enjoyed other people's gardens, so will they delight in yours!

The Spring Garden Tour is our biggest fundraiser of the year and proceeds go towards funding college scholarships for local horticultural students, as well as for our programs that promote the enjoyment and knowledge of horticulture in the San Diego area. Your beautiful garden can help us reach our goals by being an inspiring part of this tour. Best of all, our volunteers will take care of all the mundane things on tour day, freeing you to do the fun part – talking to visitors about your garden.

Please contact tour coordinator Dannie McLaughlin at drdannie@roadrunner.com. Let her explain how easy it is to share your garden with others, and how we'll make tour day a joyful and rewarding experience for you.

Tour planning and organization starts this Fall, and you'll enjoy being part of this very exciting activity. What a delightful way to see some marvelous gardens! Volunteer ASAP to help with: garden selection and photography, event logistics, tour publicity, organizing musicians and artists, signage and map preparation, plant ID, ticket sales strategy, etc. The time commitment is very varied, and some tasks involve just a few phone calls, while others will keep your organizational skills well-honed. Contact Patty Berg for more details at pattyberg@gmail.com. ☺



Barbara Raub

Caparas garden from
the 2012 tour.

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFORMATION

Volunteer Appreciation Party

This year's Volunteer Appreciation Party will be held in Vista at the fabulous, always-evolving garden of past president Susi Torre-Bueno. Invitations went out by email a few weeks back to everyone who has volunteered in any capacity since September 2011. Please contact volunteer coordinator Patty Berg at (760) 815-0625 if you did not receive your invitation. The party is on Sunday, October 14 from 11:30 to 2:30. There will be great company, a delicious lunch, lots of door prizes and time to explore Susi's amazing collection of plants from all over the world. Hope to see you there!

Coordinate Plant Display Table At Monthly Meeting

We are looking for a volunteer to organize and recruit other volunteers to help with the plant display table (see page 13) starting in 2013. For 2012, Susi Torre-Bueno has been organizing the table to highlight one type of plant, usually related to the meeting topic, and finding an expert to staff the table and answer questions. You can continue this in 2013, or come up with new ideas that would encourage member participation. To volunteer please contact Patty Berg at PattyJBerg@gmail.com or 760-815-0625.

Thanks So Much!

Many thanks to Bobbi & Gene Hirschhoff for hosting our August Featured Garden at their fascinating Encinitas garden. Thanks also to Bea and Dick Ericksen for graciously hosting the



September Featured Garden in Bonita. It isn't every day that you see a miniature railroad in a garden. Look for photos on our Facebook page. ☺



TO LEARN MORE...

By Ava Torre-Bueno

Trees

This month's speaker, Matt Ritter, studies cultivated trees and trees that escape cultivation. I like to think that escaping cultivation makes them wild and crazy, and sure enough, here are some web sites of trees eating manmade things! Go trees!

www.flickr.com/groups/13845408@N00

www.flickr.com/photos/moocat/sets/72157594245781878

<http://hungrytrees.com>

Here's a decision tree for finding out "What tree is it?":

www.oplin.org/tree

Darwin drew a little tree that completely revolutionized how we understand the natural world:

www.fossilmuseum.net/Evolution/darwin/darwintree.htm

And watch some quintessential Brits go to Isaac Newton's Apple Tree (where the universe changed) at Woolsthorpe Manor:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=4bmpzPzi384

Then you can watch other videos in this series.

"When we plant trees, we plant seeds of peace and hope."

– Wangari Maathai

This amazing woman, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, created a movement to save the environment of Kenya, and all Africa, and to empower women, through the massive planting of trees:

www.greenbeltmovement.org

And locally, our urban trees are being nurtured here:

<http://energycenter.org/index.php/urbanforestry>

Plant a tree!

Member Ava Torre-Bueno is a psychotherapist in private practice and the organizer of Gardeners 4 Peace. This group of volunteers is helping to create a peaceful, organic, permaculture garden at the San Diego Friends Center. To learn more contact Ava at gardeners4peace@hotmail.com and visit sandiegofriendscenter.org/volunteers.htm. ☘

SDHS WINNING MEMBER

By Patty Berg

During the SDHS Night at the Fair festivities back in June, member Meilly Dun Smith was shocked to hear her ticket number called as the winner of the door prize. She received a gift tree package from our sponsor The Wishing Tree Company (www.thewishingtreecompany.com), which included her choice of custom-grown tree, delivery, planting and a gift bucket of tree care essentials. Meilly selected a beautiful Fuyu persimmon, *Diospyros kaki*, for her young backyard garden in Rancho Penasquitos. Here she admires her new tree along with her kitty, Mochi. ☘



FROM THE BOARD

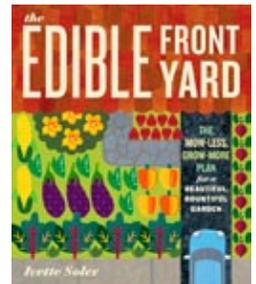
By Jim Bishop

Volunteer Appreciation Party

Our annual Volunteer Appreciation Party on Oct. 14th will be held at Susi Torre-Bueno's lovely home and garden in Vista. Invitations have already been sent out to last year's volunteers. This replaces the October Featured Garden and is just for volunteers. If you volunteered in the past year, but did not receive an invitation, please contact Patty Berg at volunteer@sdHORTSoc.org. We are always looking for more volunteers, see page 2 for opportunities so you don't miss the 2013 Volunteer Party.

Save the Date

The November 12th meeting is our annual Special Meeting, and we have an outstanding speaker. Ivette Soler is author of the bestselling book *The Edible Front Yard*, which tackles the institution of the front lawn and challenges readers to rethink that space, showing how a front yard can become a garden that can feed the body and soul, as well as stop traffic with its beauty! Join us for this very special meeting to hear Ivette share her experiences and insights. Be sure and invite your gardening friends to attend the meeting. Tickets are \$15 for members, \$20 for non-SDHS members, and free for sponsors. Tickets can be purchased at SDHS events or online at <http://tinyurl.com/nov2sol>.



New Membership Management System

As mentioned last month, we are transitioning to a new membership management system that includes a website, events and email systems. All membership information has been imported into the system and we've already started using the event management system. In fact, you can view all of the upcoming event information for future Monthly Featured Gardens, tours and monthly meeting speakers. If you use an online calendar, you can click on the "Add to Calendar" link in the top right-hand corner of any event to add it to your calendar so you never miss an SDHS event.

You have your own login using your email address and password that you specify. You will need to set your password the first time you login. Once logged in, you can download the newsletter, update your membership profile, renew your membership, review events you have registered for, make a donation, and access exclusive member only content. Your profile contains your membership information and contact information. In your profile you can also tell us about your skills and the types of activities you are interested in volunteering for. If you have a household membership, you can add your spouse by including their email address so that they will automatically receive SDHS emails and announcements. (Note: in Wild Apricot, you and the second person in your household are part of a "bundle.")

If you have registered for an event, you have already used the new site. You can preview the site at <https://sdhort.wildapricot.org>. ☘



THE REAL DIRT ON...

By Joan Herskowitz

William R. Dudley

William Russel Dudley (1849-1911) was a botanist, a dedicated teacher, and a pioneering conservationist. He was born in North Guilford, Connecticut in 1849 and received his bachelor's and master's degrees at the newly opened Cornell University. Dudley spent the next twenty years as Professor of Botany at Cornell, where he was well respected for his wide knowledge of the eastern flora and his mentoring of students who were inspired to continue in the field.



In 1893 Dudley accepted an offer to become Professor of Systemic Botany at the newly established Leland Stanford Junior University, which later became Stanford University. At Stanford, where Dudley remained until his retirement, he and his students studied and collected the diverse and often undocumented California flora. Their weekends were devoted to forays into the nearby Santa Cruz Mountains. Spring breaks were often spent in Southern California, and Summer in the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

Dudley's fieldwork in California focused on the study of trees: evolutionary relationships and issues relating to their geographical distribution. Concerned about the loss of forests, he became a leading member of the Sierra Club and director for several years. Dudley was also instrumental in inducing the state of California to purchase and preserve a forest of coastal redwoods in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Established in 1902, it became Big Basin State Park, the oldest state park and largest contiguous stand of coastal redwoods south of San Francisco, eventually expanding to 18,000 acres. He also worked with the federal authorities to induce them to consider other California forests for designation as national forests. Dudley never married, but had a close relationship with two nephews, who frequently assisted him in the field and who donated funds after Dudley's death for publication of his research.

In 1903, Dudley's colleagues N.L. Britton and J.N. Rose at the New York Botanic Garden published a scientific reworking of the genus *Echeveria*, splitting off the new genus *Dudleya* distinguished from *Echeveria* by its flower form and persistent basal leaves. The new genus was named in Dudley's honor, as Dudley had collected and supplied many of the specimens for this study. The genus *Dudleya* contains around forty species, all succulents typically growing on rock outcroppings, cliff faces and steep slopes in the American West and Northern Mexico.

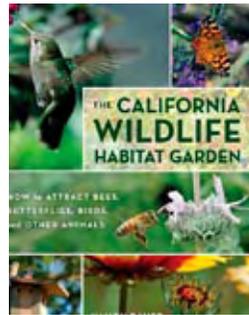
Sometimes called "California's Native Succulent Gems," *Dudleyas* commonly seen in San Diego natural areas are Chalk Live-Forever (*Dudleya pulverulenta*), Lance-leaf *Dudleya* (*D. lanceolata*) and Lady-Fingers (*D. edulis*). Although many *Dudleya* species are used effectively in San Diego gardens, one favorite is *Dudleya brittonii* from Baja California (photo here is by Rachel Cobb for San Diego Botanic Garden). Its large silvery-white rosette of leaves and colorful flowers and flowering stalk give it a striking appearance in the garden or as a pot specimen.

Member Joan Herskowitz worked as a Biologist for many years, including time spent on staff at the County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use. Now retired, she is a docent at the San Elijo Lagoon and at San Diego Botanic Garden. ☞



BOOK REVIEW

Reviewed by Pat Pawlowski



The California Wildlife Habitat Garden

By Nancy Bauer

"In the garden, almost everyone is someone else's lunch."

You've got to love a book that includes statements like this.

If you are already a person who gardens to attract wildlife, you'll appreciate the wide scope of nature knowledge in Nancy Bauer's book, which contains nutritious kernels of information on subjects you thought you knew everything about already. If you are a newbie gardener who wants to learn more about habitat gardening, this book will start you on the right garden path to attracting bees, butterflies, birds and other visual delights to your outdoor surroundings. If you are an overworked yet bored caretaker of a thirsty, labor-intensive, less-than-thrilling lawn with lollipop trees and bowling ball bushes, prepare to get really excited (especially when you see the gorgeous photos of exuberant gardens and fascinating animals).

The California Wildlife Habitat Garden will make you a believer, if you are not already, in environmentally friendly easy-care gardening practices. The author argues convincingly that it's up to us gardeners to provide a place of refuge for animals whose existence is threatened by over-development and over-chemicalization (my term, which means use of harmful pesticides and herbicides which kill everything in their path, eventually including us).

The book presents all kinds of options for the wildlife gardener: on the menu are bird habitats, pollinator gardens, wildlife ponds, and so forth. Being sort of an insectophile, I really liked the section on butterflies and other beneficial insects. I bet you didn't know that about 90% of all insects are neutral or beneficial – only a small percentage are what we label as "pests."

There are examples of different kinds of gardens, complete with gorgeous pictures and comprehensive plant lists, to give the reader an idea of just what is possible. Several of the gardens profiled are not that large, which is encouraging to those who don't have huge areas to work with.

A generous portion of native plants are described in the book, together with the birds, bees, butterflies etc. they attract.

Another thing I liked was the inclusion of some non-native (to California) plants, those from Mediterranean climates similar to ours. Although indigenous plants provide the best food and shelter for our native wildlife, some of our more adaptable animals make use of certain non-natives when possible.

Even though you might have had your appendix removed, be of good cheer: there are enough appendixes here to satisfy everyone. The appendixes (A to J) provide a cornucopia of information on plant communities, oaks, hedgerows, hummingbird favorites, butterflies and their host plants, nectar and pollen plant families, sources of native plants, books, websites, and more. There is also a plant index for index-happy persons like myself.

In short, the book will whet your appetite for a lively, life-affirming garden filled with beauty (and some beasts). ☞



TREES, PLEASE

By Robin Rivet

Revisiting the “Perfect” Tree

I once said that only craft stores sold “perfect” trees, but I fear I misspoke. Visualize luscious, lavender Jacaranda blooms, dropping everywhere, but whirring with life. Or whiff the heady scent of sycamore foliage first thing in the morning after a dewy night. Wow! Although a plastic tree may not litter inconveniently or need water to grow, the tradeoffs are harsh. Synthetic trunks glued into ornamental pots on your patio may not cause malignant root systems, but who complains about fibrous citrus roots or notoriously shallow-rooted avocados when plucking succulent, buttery fruit or slurping sweet tangerines?

Almost all trees seek gaps in impermeable surfaces, struggling to breathe air through compacted urban soils. Roots need oxygen for survival, and as urban temperatures continue to rise; so will humans. We are fortunate the cooling effect from tree canopies is nothing short of miraculous.

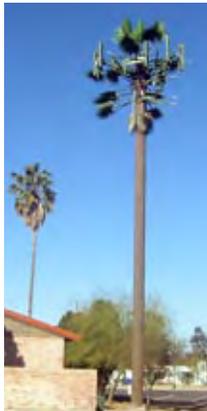
Luckily, October is prime tree-planting time, but selection is always daunting. Any mature tree creates awe, but most nursery specimens have the potential to be problematic. Take into account that trees should outlive you, and your great, great grandchildren might reap from your farsighted choices. Think permanence and function, and that flowering, although delightful, only lasts a few weeks. Consider form, scale, shade and edible possibilities, as well as soil, water, wind and drainage limitations.

Whenever possible, choose urban trees that become grand and majestic. Locate a full-grown specimen to see whether it really meets your expectations at www.sandiegotreemap.org. Remember that larger trees offer broader benefits for urban environments (see www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/uesd/uep/products/cufr_419.pdf).

We also need more diversity, so pay attention to cultivar and quality rootstock. Despite the best-laid plans, varied cultural practices and fickle weather can also yield aberrant growth for ANY species. I once saw a 65' tall crape myrtle in Spring Valley, despite most lagerstroemia maxing out at 30'.

Unfortunately, impatient gardeners frequently overplant fast-growing fan palms. These rapidly become towering totem poles (like the cell phone tree shown at the top), providing minimal shade and carbon sequestration, while producing quantities of inedible fruit - *unless you happen to be a hungry rodent.*

With bluish-green foliage, graceful tidy form, and well-behaved roots, Fern Pines are “near-perfect” trees for urban landscapes. Recently reclassified as *Afrocarpus falcatus* (from *Podocarpus falcatus*), they do have an odd sex life. Although many trees have “perfect” or bi-sexual flowers, Fern Pine is an ancient dioecious conifer, forming female and male cones on separate plants. Unlike their monoecious cousins, the fleshy female “berry” ripens only when



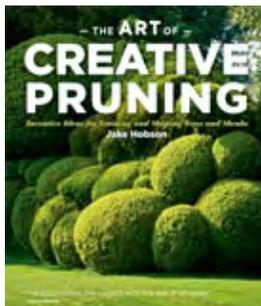
Fern Pine

Continued on page 8



BOOK REVIEW

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh



The Art of Creative Pruning: Inventive Ideas for Training and Shaping Trees and Shrubs

By Jake Hobson

My first comment about this book was that some people have w-a-a-ay too much time on their hands. My second comment was “Wow!”

Hobson has created such an interesting book that he made me want to find out about something that had, until then, seemed a little silly. I came away with a new respect for this field. I may even try some creative pruning myself.

This is not your grandmother’s book of topiary. The focus is on gardens created in the latter part of the twentieth century. They are represented in photos taken in France, Belgium, England, Japan, South Korea, and even California and South Carolina. It’s difficult to explain the impact these photos have. Some of them amaze you, and others make you laugh out loud. Many of these artists with pruning shears have wonderful senses of humor.

The variety shown goes from simple trees that have been trimmed to develop multiple trunks to hedges shaped like Russian nesting dolls or boxes rolling down a hill. There’s even a large sofa, easy chairs, and a coffee table – green and inviting. It’s hard to understand that they are cleverly shaped bushes.

Balls, mushrooms, onions, cubes, and spirals seem to dance through the pages.

The abstract shapes are just as breathtaking. There’s an old joke about how to do sculpture. You just chip away (or prune away) everything that doesn’t look like what you’re trying to make. But how do these artists see these shapes in the trees and shrubs? I don’t have that kind of eye, but I’m glad that some people do.

Hobson includes clear instructions and simple diagrams for trying some of these shapes in your own yard. The one caveat is that most of the plants he shows are on estates that probably have twenty gardeners. You may have to curb your enthusiasm and try to prune creatively on a smaller scale.

The Art of Creative Pruning (ISBN–13: 978-1-60469-114-6, 200 pages, hard bound) has photos on nearly every page. It includes references for those who want further reading about the gardens shown. Published by Timber Press, it’s available at your local bookstore for \$34.95. You can see the impressive Timber Press catalog at www.timberpress.com.

Coincidentally, the same day I received this book, I happened to catch an episode of *California Gold* on our local PBS station. *California Gold* is Huell Houser’s latest iteration of his ongoing love affair with our state. This particular show was done at the Gilroy Family Theme Park (formerly known as Bonfante Gardens), the current home of the Circus Trees. What? You never heard of them? Me either, but I’m glad I know about them now.

In the 1920s and for the next 40 years, Axel Erlandson creatively pruned sycamore, box elder, ash, and Spanish cork trees into fantastic shapes unlike anything you’ve ever seen before. Nineteen of the original 74 trees were moved from the Santa Cruz Mountains property where they were created to Gilroy. You can check them out at www.gilroygardens.org, and you can see many of Houser’s shows on www.calgold.com.



CHANGES ON THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

Each September the SDHS board holds elections for new board members. I'm excited to introduce this year's new board members, but would first I would like to thank departing members who have served us all so well.

First is Cathy Tylka. Cathy has served as Treasurer and picked up and distributed SDHS mail for the last three years. Cathy also has made countless contributions, always going above and beyond the call of duty, and I'm sure she'll continue attending and helping out at SDHS events. She is currently working on training our new treasurer and also doing volunteer work for the Escondido library.

Linda Bresler completed a one-year term as a board member at-large. Linda is a garden designer and a garden she designed is the Grand Prize Winner of the 2012 Garden of the Year by *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine. There is a 7-page spread of this beautiful succulent garden in the September issue! I'm sure we'll be seeing Linda and the gardens she created in the future.

Stephanie Shigemitsu also has completed a one-year member-at-large term and continues to be involved in the world of horticulture as part of the Horticulture management team at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park in Escondido. We'll be working with Stephanie to schedule a special tour of Safari Park next year.

New Board Members

Sam Seat is our new treasurer. Sam is retired from the military and had a second career as a construction project manager. Currently he is helping several people update their landscapes. Sam has done work for a number of volunteer organizations. Sam and his wife, Terri, have a large garden and koi pond in Bonita.

B.J. Boland will be joining the board as corresponding secretary. B.J. is a fairly new member to SDHS having recently moved to Carlsbad from Massachusetts, where she had a large 2-1/2 acre garden. There, she was very involved in the Master Gardeners, Mass. Hort Society, National Garden Club, and the Mass. Garden Club Federation. She is a retired teacher of 40 years and taught English and creative writing. I'll be teaching her about San Diego gardening and she'll be teaching me to be a better writer.

Cheryl Leedom has joined the board as a one-year member at-large. Cheryl recently retired from Solar Turbines, where she managed Global Technical training. Cheryl photographed our Plant Forum for three years and also prepared the pre-meeting Powerpoint slides for a number of years.

You should already know Susanna Pagan from the beautiful display garden she designed and installed at the San Diego County Fair last May. Susanna will be joining the board as one-year member-at-large. Susanna is a garden



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

By Patty Berg

Unique landscapes designed by two unique members

Volunteers Victoria Monigold and Jason Hunter are a pair of MiraCosta College alumni who met in a Plant ID class. Their passion for nature, plants, and design of interior and exterior spaces brought them together to form Entwined Landscape Design.

"Regenerative systems design" is how Jason sums up their core philosophy of creating landscapes that meet the needs for each unique space, while regenerating the urban ecosystem.

As a child, Jason was allergic to pesticides and depended on home-grown food. This spawned an enthusiasm for edibles along with wild foods. Want to know what a Chaga mushroom tastes like? Just ask Jason.

Although in his mid-thirties, Jason has done a lot of living. He has hiked the Appalachian Trail, and hitchhiked around the country. He spent several years in Northern Minnesota by Lake Superior before finally settling in Vista.

Victoria grew up in the Bay Area, and enjoyed her mother's tradition of creating a new garden everywhere they called home. Additionally, her grandmother in Riverside cultivated orchids and other unusual plants in a glass greenhouse. Many fond memories of family gatherings include collecting fruit from the trees in Grandma Sherwood's backyard.

With a background in interior design, Victoria enjoys blurring the traditional lines between the house and the garden. "Who wouldn't rather be outside in a climate like ours?," she explains. She thoroughly enjoys living in South Oceanside with her husband Rudi and daughter Zoë.

The Entwined Landscape team took on the Fall Home/Garden Show booth design for SDHS this year. Many thanks for their clever design and generous gift of time. 🌿



designer and has her own design company, SPGardens (www.spgardens.com). In addition to landscape design, Susanna had an earlier career as a graphic and web designer.

Our third one-year member-at-large is Bryan Diaz. Bryan is the greeter at our monthly meetings (the tall handsome fellow) and also helped with the Spring Home/Garden Show, Coffee in the gardens and other events. Bryan is on the board of the Tri-Club San Diego (that is the triathlon club), so we won't be trying to keep up with him.

Please join me in thanking both our outgoing and incoming board members for volunteering their time and talents to SDHS. 🌿



GOING WILD WITH THE NATIVES

By Greg Rubin

Southwestern Style

Since starting my native landscape company in the early nineties, I have been approached by people who think that an indigenous landscape means a cactus garden. The truth is, our California deserts actually have very few species of cacti. In fact, my old business card used to read "We're Not Talking Cactus Here!" Not that there is anything wrong with cacti, but most of my landscapes tend to use evergreen, colorful shrubs and groundcovers that reflect the feel of Big Sur or Julian more than the desert. Then again, there are many folks who really like the architectural, open look of the southwest and want to capture that at home. However, a truly authentic southwestern style landscape contains only a smattering of cacti and succulents; the backbone still tends to be based on woody plants.

Achieving the look of the Southwest is really about the setting. Our desert plant communities are adapted to extreme heat and meager water. Each plant tends to be widely spaced from its neighbor, so it can have more room to gather moisture and nutrition. Because the density is so low, very little organic mulch is produced. The surface tends to be composed of decomposed granite and small sharp stones, often creating what is known as "desert pavement." Boulder outcroppings protrude from hills, mounds, and channels, frequently accompanied by a shrub seeking shelter for its roots. The plants tend to be open, exhibiting dramatic structure. Their leaves are usually small, though most are capable of dramatic seasonal flower shows following rains.

Unless there is perfect drainage, desert landscapes prefer overhead watering. I always provide a completely separate irrigation system, as the desert, unlike its coastal counterparts, tends to receive as much moisture in the summer time (monsoons) as in the winter. This was evident in a recent trip during the summer of 2012. Especially heavy monsoonal rains had left the desert a verdant, sparkling green, despite temperatures regularly topping 110 degrees. Because most of the winter moisture is blocked by the coastal mountains, I rarely water my desert gardens from about November through May, watering two to three times per month during summer.

The plant palette for desert landscapes is surprisingly large. Although slow growing, the shrub that provides the greatest burst of green during the monsoon season is **creosote bush** (*Larrea tridentata*). Despite its rather prosaic, even unappealing name, this is a beautiful shrub with handsome structure and evergreen leaves. To me the fragrance does not remind me of creosote, but rather a unique



Calliandra eriophylla



Opuntia basilaris



Chilopsis linearis

Stan Shebs

pungent sweetness that reminds me of, well, the desert. One of the surprising features of this wonderful shrub is its bright yellow flowers in spring.

There are other important desert species to consider. Remember that all of these plants need to be spaced far enough apart so that there is open area between them when mature.

Brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*) is a mounding silver gray shrub covered in bright yellow daisies in spring (shown at top left). Its form and foliage provide an important contrast to upright green desert shrubs.

Apricot mallow (*Sphaeralcea ambigua*) is tremendously showy with its bright orange cup-shaped flowers displayed for many months.

Apache plume (*Fallugia paradoxa*) is another favorite from the rose family, adorned with white flowers that transform into pink plumes.

Salvia 'Celestial Blue' (*Salvia pachyphylla* x *clevelandii*) lends fragrance and deep purple flowers with pink bracts.

Pink fairy duster (*Calliandra eriophylla*), which has tiny compound leaves and pink powder puff flowers. (Photo by Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson, Arizona)

Palo verde tree (*Cercidium* x 'Desert Museum') has large yellow flowers on thornless branches (see cover of September 2012 newsletter).

Desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*) tree is covered in frilly, large, trumpet flowers and is available in many colors.

Honey mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*) makes a beautiful shade tree with edible seed pods, though be mindful of its thorns.

New Mexico olive (*Forestiera neomexicana*) is a shrub/tree with gorgeous white bark, beautiful upright structure, and a benign nature.

Finally, use some colorful perennials and succulents around the edges and boulders. Consider penstemons like **desert beardtongue** (*Penstemon palmeri*) and **showy penstemon** (*P. pseudospectabilis*), **goldenbush** (*Ericameria cuneatus*) and succulents like **Dudleya cymosa**. Use **beargrass** (*Nolina* sp.) for spiky accents, and **beavertail** (*Opuntia basilaris*) for a rather benign but beautifully magenta flowered cactus.

Member Greg Rubin is the founder and owner of California's Own Landscape Design, Inc. (www.calown.com) and a popular speaker. A specialist in the use of native plants in the landscape, he has designed over 500 native landscapes in San Diego County. His new book (coauthored with member Lucy Warren), *The California Native Landscape: The Homeowner's Design Guide to Restoring Its Beauty and Balance*, will be available in March, 2013...



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

Ostentatious Austin – Part I

After graduating high school and without giving it much thought, I enrolled in the Mechanical Engineering program at the University of Texas in Austin. Compared to Houston, Austin was a breath of fresh air. With less rain than Houston's 50+ inches, Austin is slightly dryer with just 35 inches. It is sunnier and often has a southerly breeze and is somewhat removed from the Gulf Coast haze and humidity. I would spend the next six years in the garden spot of Texas.

I arrived at UT in the middle of an oil boom. UT was set up as a land grant university in 1839, with the original intent for agricultural lands to provide an endowment to fund the university. By the time UT actually opened in the 1880s, worthless barren West Texas land had been designated for the endowment. In a Texas-sized twist of fate, one of the largest oil reserves in the US was discovered on those lands in the 1920s, and by the 70s UT was flush with oil money and an endowment larger than Harvard. Read the full story of oil and UT at <http://tinyurl.com/JimOct>.

A sizable part of the endowment was poured into football and a building boom. Overlooking the campus, the LBJ library had recently opened. It was landscaped with live oaks and massive beds of azaleas. The contemporary building clad in sheets of Texas limestone was a stark contrast to the more traditional red tiled roof buildings of the main campus. To join the various styles of buildings, limestone planters and walls were being erected around the existing live oaks and pecan trees that lined the perimeter of the campus to separate it from the city of Austin, euphemistically called the Great Wall of UT. In spite of the alkaline soil, UT installed huge beds of azaleas, spirea, ferns and other acid-loving plants.

At the center of campus is the 307 ft. Main Building, better known as The Tower, with 14-1/2 foot diameter clocks on each side and a 56-bell carillon at the top. From the tower, south, east and west malls lead to various parts of campus. Rumor is there is no north mall because the original forty acres of UT land was donated by confederate George Washington Littlefield under the condition that no buildings on campus faced north or included the word "north" in their names.

The grassy south mall terrace is the most beautiful of the three, situated on a slight slope and lined with massive live oak trees. At the top of the slope is a statue of George Washington facing south towards the legally protected unobscured view of the State Capitol and downtown Austin. Lining the slope are six controversial statues of Southerners including Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, and James



Hogg (Hogg was the first native governor of Texas and father of the Ima Hogg I wrote about in the April newsletter). At the bottom of the slope is a large World War I memorial, the Littlefield fountain (shown here).

The statues and fountain were commissioned by George Washington Littlefield and created by Italian sculptor Pompeo Coppini. The fountain is famous for its very un-Texas nude Mermen being sprayed by huge jets of water and riding finned seahorses while pulling a warship and a statue of victorious Columbia returning from war. In the 1970s, the planter in front of the fountain was planted with hesperaloes which bloomed with red flower spikes and seemed unfazed by the Texas heat and humidity.

To be continued next month...

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

■ Trees Continued from page 5

male trees waft pollen towards mature female cones on distant trees. Therefore, these "non-fruits" seldom appear in abundance. Surprisingly, once they do, birds must eat the inner pulp to ensure germination, as the pulpy flesh contains a natural growth inhibitor. Like us, real trees are amazingly complex, but wonderfully **IMPERFECT!**

For additional information:

<http://selectree.calpoly.edu/treedetail.lasso?rid=1114&-session=selectree:AE414399161f41C46Dmwp23FCFD2>

www.cal-ipc.org/ip/management/plant_profiles/Washingtonia_robusta.php
www.sfgate.com/homeandgarden/thedirt/article/Matt-Ritter-offers-guide-to-California-trees-2366532.php#photo-1889438

Member Robin Rivet is an ISA Certified Arborist, UCCE Master Gardener, member of CRFG, CaUFC, SDRUFC, CFAB and La Mesa Environmental/Sustainability Commission. She currently contracts as the urban forester at the California Center for Sustainable Energy. She welcomes public inquiries and rebuttals: robin.rivet@energycenter.org.



Join the fun and bring ORCHIDS to the Plant Display table at the October 8 meeting. Expert Charley Fouquette will be on hand to answer your questions.



DON'T OVERLOOK DAYLILIES

By Bill Maryott

Daylilies (*Hemerocallis* species and cultivars) are one of the underappreciated perennial plant genera in California, especially along the coastal areas. The modern hybrids are intercrosses of several different species. Some are totally evergreen, retaining their foliage all year, and others are totally dormant, completely shedding their foliage during the winter. When crossed together, we get evergreens, dormants, and semi-evergreens. Here in mild coastal California the evergreens and semi-evergreens do much better than the full dormants.

The color range, plant height, and flower size vary tremendously, so you have many options in choosing plants for your yard. Flower colors range from almost totally white through all the warm colors, into deep purples, and now approaching black. Since daylilies have true red pigments, we have an amazing assortment of pinks, peaches, raspberries, and cranberries all the way to true spectrum red.

For flower size we have flowers as small as three inches across to as large as seven inches. We have forms from extremely narrow twisting spidery forms, through very unusual open forms, to big round flat heavily ruffled muffin or bagel forms. For height, we have daylilies from about one foot tall to well over five feet tall.

The over 70,000 cultivar names are registered and standardized so everyone will know exactly what the plant looks like. If you ever want to see the registered details for a given cultivar, just go to www.daylilies.org and click on daylily database online. Most cultivars will be pictured with complete details as to height, flower size, and creator.

One of the most impressive characteristics of daylilies is their tendency to provide extended bloom, or rebloom. This occurs on

Clockwise from left to right: 'Arctic Sunrise' (Maryott, 2007), 'Busy Being Blue' (Maryott, 2012), 'Strikingly Dramatic' (Maryott, 2010), 'Winner's Trophy' (Maryott, 2010)



nearly all of the evergreen and semi-evergreen cultivars, but only in the mild coastal climates. In hot dry climates, the tendency to see rebloom is significantly diminished.

For culture, daylilies require constant moisture, rich loamy soil, a regular application of fertilizer, and at least six hours of full sun daily throughout the year. They will not tolerate a shady location. The foliage on evergreens and semi-evergreens is generally quite attractive all year. They can be planted as a companion plant with many other species such as roses and iris. They can also be mixed nicely with annuals to make an impressive display.

Once a daylily is established in your garden, it will not need transplanting for several years. Each year they increase in size, giving more flower scapes and becoming more impressive. When they are dug and divided the spare plants make excellent gifts for friends. Be sure to keep track of the names of each cultivar you have.

Daylilies are almost free of pests. They may require an occasional spraying for aphids, but they have few other problems. One pest, daylily rust (caused by a fungus, *Puccinia hemerocallidis*), was introduced into the United States less than ten years ago and is now a serious problem in mild climates. In cold climates the rust will not winter over; but in San Diego County it will. The solution is to buy a good systemic fungicide and spray the foliage occasionally and the plants will be immune to rust. Cabrio and Heritage brands, both available on the internet, are the best.

If you want to find sources for better daylilies, go the Charlottes Gardens; she maintains a complete list of commercial nurseries specializing in daylilies (www.daylilydiary.com). [Ed note – Many local nurseries sell daylilies, and one top-rated mail order source is a local long-time SDHS sponsor: www.easytogrowbulbs.com.]

If you would like to be involved in a daylily organization, The American Hemerocallis Society publishes a fabulous journal four times a year (www.daylilies.org/AHStdj.html), and there are both regional and national conventions held each year. If you want more information on this, please contact me at (800) 522-3198. I am a member of the Board of Directors of the AHS and am responsible for both marketing and membership.

Bill Maryott runs Maryott's Gardens located near Watsonville, CA (www.daylilygarden.net). He provided the daylily images here, which are from his own hybrids. Bill writes, "We have been in business now for 35 years, selling fine nursery products. I'm a retired IBM engineer now devoting all my time to creating and selling new daylilies." [Ed. Note: Bill wrote this thoughtful article at the request of SDHS member Meg Ryan, who is the editor of *The Daylily Journal*.]

ARE YOU SEEING THESE DAYLILIES IN COLOR?

Our monthly eblast has your password for the digital newsletter, featuring all color images and live links. About 60% of our members now get only the digital edition! Back issues are on our website. To get only the digital edition send an email saying "online only" to membership@sdhortsoc.org.

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

Terry & Jan Bluemer	Marsha Rafter, Hand and	Rudy Vaca
William Hart	Spirit Clayworks	John Wear
Carol Hartman	Robin Rushmore	Linda Woloson
Jennifer Kelly	Dale Serafin	Timothy Zaspal, Jr.
Delen Kitchen	Roshan Skiver	Edgar Zorrilla
Gaye Miller	Carolyn & Don Smith	

HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2012; they earned Hort Bucks worth \$5 towards Opportunity Drawing tickets, name-tags, Plant Forum CDs or dues. To get your Hort Bucks ask your friends to give your name when they join.

Jeanne Akin (1)	Marge Loneski (1)	Gary Payne (1)
Lynlee Austell (2)	Cathy McCaw (1)	Katie Pelisek (2)
Linda Bresler (1)	Rita McConn-Stern (1)	San Diego Floral Assoc. (1)
Jim Bishop (2)	Caroline McCullagh (1)	Kenneth Selzer (2)
Patricia Bockstahler (1)	Pat McDougal (1)	Patty Sliney (1)
Kay Harry (1)	Kay & Vince McGrath (1)	Nan Sterman (1)
Julie Hasl (1)	Gabriel Mitchell (1)	Marcia Van Loy (1)
Joan Herskowitz (1)	Susan Morse (1)	Janet Wanerka (1)
Marla Keith (1)	Karin Norberg (1)	Dick & Gail Wheaton (1)
Jeannine & John Le Strada (1)	Diane Norman (1)	Roy Wilburn,
Shirley Littler (1)	Joan Oliver (1)	Sunshine Care (1)



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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 & Leslie Duval

*Edgar Engert (2000)

Jim Farley

Sue & Charles Fouquette

Penelope Hlavac

Debbie & Richard Johnson

*Vince Lazaneo (2004)

*Jane Minshall (2006)

*Bill Nelson (2007)

Tina & Andy Rathbone

*Jon Rebman (2011)

Peggy Ruzich

San Diego Home/

Gardens Lifestyle

Gerald D. Stewart

*Susi Torre-Bueno (2012)

& Jose Torre-Bueno

*Don Walker (2005) &

Dorothy Walker

Lucy Warren

*Evelyn Weidner (2001)

*Pat Welsh (2003)

Betty Wheeler

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

Philip Tackill & Janet Wanerka

DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

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: pisley@SDBGarden.org.

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

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What's Up at

San Diego
BOTANIC
GARDEN

By President/ CEO Julian Duval

The San Diego Botanic Garden has developed a rightful reputation for its promotion and practice of things that are sustainable or green. It just seems right for a botanic garden to be green in the current use of the word. We have tallied a pretty impressive list of sustainable practices. Naturally we have many programs related to water conservation. Over twenty of our displays are featured as good landscape examples for water conservation. We use and interpret weather-based irrigation controllers and recycled water is used for about one-third of the Garden.

We also contracted for an energy audit and changed out the vast majority of our lights and electrical appliances for more energy efficient ones. Plus, we offer incentives for energy savings: visit the Garden with four or more people in your car and we waive the parking fee. We installed three electric vehicle charging stations in the Hamilton Children's Garden parking lot, and will waive the parking fee for electric vehicles.

Recently, we completed a major renovation to one of our native preserve areas through generous donations from the Donald C. & Elizabeth M. Dickinson Foundation, Edward and Ellen Wong, and Rain Bird Corporation. This *Native Plants and Native People Trail* interprets native Kumeyaay plant uses to illustrate their value. We are indebted to Jane Dumas, a Kumeyaay elder and herbalist, who graciously provided the native names and plant uses. Given the diversity of plants in what remains of our local habitat it is fool-hardy for us not to be concerned about preserving these plants for the yet undiscovered purposes they could have.

Saving species through preserving them in botanic gardens is what we must do given the increasing threat levels to so many different plants, made more serious now with the impact of climate change. However, while we save what we can in botanic gardens and preserves, it is important to remember that to become the good stewards of the planet we will only conserve that which we love, and only love that which we know, and only know that which we have been taught. 🌿

SAVE THE DATES!

18th Annual International Orchid Fair
October 6-7, 9AM-5PM

30th Annual Fall Plant Sale
October 20-21, 10AM-4PM

SUCCULENT PUMPKIN ARRANGEMENT WORKSHOP

Waterwise Botanicals presents a Succulent Pumpkin Arrangement Workshop on Saturday, October 27 from 10 a.m. to Noon. Designed to be fun, creative, and educational, you'll learn how to choose and arrange succulents to create an enchanting fall pumpkin arrangement that is perfect for Halloween or Thanksgiving. These decorative pumpkins are breathtaking and last for months. The workshop will be presented by garden designer Laura Eubanks of Design for Serenity. Bring your own little scissors. Plants, pumpkins and inspiration provided. Admission is \$65 per person. Register by October 22 at www.designforserenity.com. For more information about the workshop, please email talkplants@waterwisebotanicals.com or call (760) 728-2641. ☘



PACIFIC HORTICULTURE 2013 TOURS

By Scott Borden

SDHS is the co-sponsor of *Morocco and Andalusia: Islamic Gardens & Architecture*. This tour is almost full; see ad on inside front cover.

Tucson – Gardens & Wildflowers of the Desert Southwest – March 6-11. Private and public gardens are featured, including the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and Tohono Chul Park. Tour escort will be the new editor of *Pacific Horticulture* magazine, Lorene Edwards Forkner, who spoke at our May meeting and is the author of *Handmade Garden Projects*. Here's your chance to discuss the new magazine format with the editor in person! We will also be welcomed by local hosts Dick and Sue Hildreth. Dick is one of the co-founders of Pacific Horticulture. Tour Manager Scott "Sherpa" Borden.

Gardens of the Philadelphia Region – May 20-26 features some of the nation's top gardens, including Chanticleer, Longwood, Meadowood Farms, Winterthur, Mt. Cuba and more. If you missed the 2008 SDHS tour to Philadelphia, don't let this chance pass you by!



Also on tap: a spring trip to Santa Cruz Island, a summer excursion to Scotland and an autumn adventure to Northern Italy.

November 2012 Oahu and Kauai is on request, act quickly if you want to go.

For more info visit <http://www.pacifichorticulture.org/tours/> or call 800-976-9497.

SDHS is one of six West Coast societies providing support for the Pacific Horticulture Society. Producers of *Pacific Horticulture* magazine, PacHort also offers small group tours designed to educate and inspire plant enthusiasts everywhere. ☘

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BOTTLE EDGING WALL FOR YOUR GARDEN

By Margaret and Peter Jones

Editor's note: At our display garden at the San Diego County Fair this summer, garden designer Susanna Pagan used wine bottles to create an edge along the garden path. This creative yet very simple feature got rave reviews and more comments than just about anything else, especially from visitors who weren't plant people. So, when Margaret Jones mentioned her bottle wall I asked for a description to share here with our members. Thanks, Margaret!



Barbara Raub



Margaret Jones

Bottle wall in the Jones garden

How to Build a Bottle Edging Wall:

- Save all wine bottles & corks, it matters not what color or how wide they are – it takes more of bottles & corks than you think it will. So far we have used 87 bottles.
- Locate your bottle wall safely away from traffic, lawn mowers and weed wackers.
- Remove labels (they have super glue now-a-days) by soaking overnight in soapy water, then use a knife to scrape off labels.
- Dig trench about the width of two wine bottles and about 6" deep (save soil in buckets for fill); use your trowel to make it a bit deeper for individual bottles to get that lovely uneven height.
- Place 2 bottles at a time in the trench, touching, using wider bottles where needed to make curves. Use fingers and/or chop sticks to pack in the soil REALLY FIRMLY between the bottles, between the bottles and the trench walls, & especially around the bottle necks. Be sure to keep the bottles parallel to each other and perpendicular to the ground.
- Plant small-leafed sedums and mulch with corks.

Closeup of bottles in our Fair garden

Walkway lined with bottles in our Fair garden



Susanna Pagan

- This project may take some time – the wall may just keep getting longer and longer! Enjoy the journey (with all that good wine, who would not enjoy) and the destination.

Members Peter and Margaret Jones, passionate gardeners, are newlyweds who meet at San Diego Botanic garden where they are both Docents, Beautification Team Captains, and enjoy the special events. They designed and implemented the award-winning SDBG 2011 Fair Exhibit (a tribute to SDHS founder Bill Teague).

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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 www.sdhortsoc.org/sneak_peek_3.htm.**

The question for this month was:

Susan Krzywicki collects pine cones from her native trees and uses them as decorative mulch for her potted plants; they look attractive and keep the soil a bit moister. What kinds of mulch do you use in your pots? (Thanks for sharing this, Susan.)

Carol Prior said: I have a lot of succulents in pots that have perlite in the soil that always manages to float to the top. I have found that very small pebbles are not only decorative but also cover the top of the soil and hides those white spots (caused by the perlite). I can buy a 50-pound bag for \$10 at Thompson Building Materials in Lemon Grove.

Jim Mumford was quick to suggest: Recycled and tumbled glass in multiple colors!

Ari Tenenbaum uses organic mulch: I like to mulch my containers with organic compost from City Farmer's Nursery. It looks nice and provided lots of organic nutrients so I don't need to fertilize as much!

Linda Bresler suggests a living mulch: I usually don't put mulch in my potted plants. Often, I put a small sedum around a larger plant so that you can't see the bare earth. Small, polished stones would also look nice as a decorative mulch in pots.

Wanda Bass has a source of free mulch: I use leaf mulch from tree trimmings. I get a load of tree trimmings dropped off in my driveway and use them to mulch plants and roses.

Tammy Schwab likes inorganic mulch: I can't seem to get away from the years I lived in the desert, which is why I predominantly use pea gravel. I have recently expanded my palette to shells and glass, both tumbled and nuggets. I love the look with my potted succulents.

Devonna Hall had a fun suggestion: I learned at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show a few years ago that used wine corks also help keep the soil moist for longer periods of time, and if you can bear the teasing about the amounts of wine you drink, they look nice too!

Peter & Margret Jones use a variety of mulches: In many of our pots the type of mulch varies with the type of & color of the plant and the pot. It should complement the pairing of the plant & its pot. So, we may use rounded pebbles of different colors and sizes, pumice, sea shells (crushed &/or whole shells), or pieces of wood, but my favorite mulch is corks. These are the corks from wine bottles (the best part is collecting the corks... one at a time). We have a BIG pot with a grape

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vine in it that is mulched with corks – it looks terrific! Fabulous pairing!! Since we had extra corks we put in a wall of wine bottles (the bottles are a by-product of the cork collecting). The mulch we are using by the wine bottle wall is more corks. We expect the wall will continue to grow. We really do believe in using LOTS of mulch.

Meg Ryan has a very thoughtful approach: The first decision I make regarding mulching pots is: does this plant require dry time? Is it susceptible to root rot? Some of the cacti and succulents need fast-draining and fast-drying soil. I learned the hard way, and now I don't mulch those at all. Plants that want constantly moist soil get a layer of pea-size gravel, washed before it is placed around the plant. Looks nice, and the gravel can be re-used if a plant bites the dust.

Donna Gottfried shared a tip for mulching in-ground plantings: When planting new areas I use landscape cloth over soil, covered with fine mulch to decrease the amount of weeding. To plant, I push back mulch in area, cut hole with scissors or blade, and lay a sheet of plastic down to put the soil removed for new planting. After the planting is completed, remove the plastic and any remaining soil and mulch still looks like new.

Shirley Elswick has a plentitude of pine needles: We have 40-year old Canary Island pines surrounding our yard, with barrels of long needles raked each day. The needles become so heavy if left unattended that they eventually weigh down and discourage growth of plants underneath. So, these needles work well as a filler for deep pots before good soil and desired planting. They also work as a mulch on the soil surface after your prized plants are in place. They do not rot away but do help hold moisture.

Tynan Wyatt's mulch serves two purposes: For mulch on my potted plants I like to use all the sweepings I collect about once per month when I see the spaces in between the pots is getting a little grungy. In addition, if I have some plants that died or plants that have die back (not from disease, though), I'll trim these parts off and clip them to mulch size. I keep all of these bits in a small bucket for ready use whenever a plant needs more mulch. I've found this system is a big help for a balcony gardener like myself!

Karen Eckhart has two types of mulch: In one pot I have a layer of smooth beach stones and shells for mulch. In another I have dried lotus seed pods repurposed from a spent holiday wreath.

Linda Espino likes cedar mulch: I am using cedar mulch now that I get at Cedros Gardens, Solana Beach. This mulch has various sizes and helps keep the moisture in the pot. My plants seem to be responding well to it. Also, it is supposed to last lots longer than the smaller decorative pathway bark I was using.

Pat Welsh has two suggestions: I don't use any mulch in pots. However pebbles are nice for mulching succulents, and the seedpods of Liquidambar will prevent cats from visiting large containers.

Don Yeckel uses a variety of mulches: Depending on size of pot and type of plant: pine needles, Mexican beach pebbles/rocks, Spanish moss (found at many garden centers, but Michael's is an especially good source), various small decorative stones (from Southwest Boulder, KRC, and many garden centers) – these work especially well in succulent containers.

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Bea Ericksen uses LOTS of mulch: Every year for the past fifteen years we have ordered mulch from Evergreen Nursery; this last year we had them deliver 25 yards. This is placed in all our beds, even on the garden railroad layout; we spread it about 4 to 6 inches deep. This keeps down the weeds and holds in the moisture. For our potted plants, we use shades of gravel in our pots with the cacti and succulents. We have found this is very attractive and also holds in the moisture. [Editor's note: Bea & Dick Ericksen's marvelous Bonita garden was our Featured Garden in September.]

Steve Brigham sometimes uses mulch... and sometimes not: At the Westport Community Garden, we grow our vegetables in either raised beds or large half-wine-barrel-sized pots. We use rice straw for our mulch, which works very well, since there are no seeds in it. However, I always fill up all the space around newly planted larger vegetables with leaf lettuce seedlings, since they'll be harvested quickly, so no need for too much mulch.

Why grow mulch in pots when you can grow color instead? When I plant pots here at home, they're always "chock-a-block" (an Australian term) with a mixture of plants. Even when just newly planted, the pots are so full of annuals, perennials, and sometimes even shrubs that there is never any soil visible from the get-go. So no mulch needed!

Gerald D. Stewart says: For several years I've had three small ponds to house the variegated bog & aquatic plant collection, with feeder goldfish for mosquito control. Early on it became apparent something was needed on the mud used in the pots because the fish action over them muddied the water (sidebar: clay pushed-up by gophers is a great source of dirt for the pots). Small black Mexican beach cobbles were perfect in this unusual "mulch" that keeps the dirt in a pot submerged under water. Scoria (a dark-colored volcanic rock) provides a two-purpose mulch for the colorful succulent collection: it retains soil moisture, yet because it stays dry itself, keeps the crown of the plant dry. Another "mulch," used in larger containers, is tightly-spreading small-scale ground covers, like Cape Blanco or Blue Spruce stonecrop, dwarf Mondo grass, or Chocolate Chip bugleweed.

Kathy Esty has a novel approach: For my vegetable garden, I like to use bedding that is used in small animal cages (the sawdust natural color kind). I place a nice thick layer in my pots that are growing peppers, etc. I even lay a nice thick layer where my tomatoes are growing in the ground. This gives my vegetable area a wonderful smell of sawdust "farm-like" fragrance. It keeps the weeds down and makes everything look very clean.

Candace Kohl uses different sizes of rocks: I use small rocks in different (natural) colors to compliment the plants and pots, especially for my succulent collection. Then I add larger rocks and shells collected from travels. Not a mulch item but fun: I have a number of 2- 3 inch metal insects that I put out on top of the little rocks.

Ruth Sewall said: My son picked up one cubic yard of compost for \$12.00 at the Miramar Landfill.

Annie Morgan employs a range of mulches: In most of my succulent pots I use small, 1/8" - 3/4", stones of various natural colors, or the larger pieces of decomposed granite (DG) that I get when it's screened. (Apparently succulents like more minerals vs. nitrogen and the DG provides that. In fact I read a comment from a Haworthia grower about how DG will prevent the black spots they get on their leaves,

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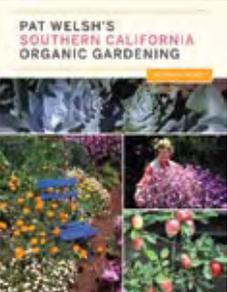
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and since I started using it all the new leaves have stayed spot free.) In my houseplants and large outdoor potted plants, I don't use anything except leaves that fall into them, but would love some ideas. August's speaker mentioned tumbled terra cotta, so next time my neighbors go out of town I'm going to use our cement mixer to tumble some larger pieces (1"-3") for the larger pots. I love Susan Krzywicki's idea and will be doing that, too, as I've been collecting pine cones of all sizes.

Barb Thuro is another rock lover: I use river rocks for my larger planters. They add another design dimension.

Judy La Vine has a local source for glass mulch: I used recycled glass in some areas. I have recycled art glass (available sometimes from Glass Ranch in Escondido) and I also have used broken safety glass around potted plants. It adds a little sparkle to the garden.

Al Myrick get his mulch for free: We hijack our local arborists who want to save dump fees and have them fill our driveway with a hill of shreadings from their trucks. Three-fourths of that goes on soil surfaces directly (up to about 10 inches thick; and it is already hot); the rest usually goes into various piles that naturally leach and decompose. We mine the decomposing layers (usually full of worms and other animals) and use them in our pots and planters. Works well especially when mixed with composted manures. The fresher stuff usually goes around plantings to keep the soil moist. *Be careful not to mix it into soil until it has mostly broken down.*

The question for next month is:

During the warm summer temperatures, have you gardened in your pajamas even though that wasn't your intention? Alternatively, what other less-than-appropriate attire have you worn in the garden? (Thanks to Lorie Johansen for suggesting this.)
Send your reply by October 5 to newsletter@sdhortsoc.org.

YOUR MONTHLY MEMBER E-MAIL

About two weeks after our monthly meeting we send all members an email with important information. If you haven't been getting this it means we don't have a current email address for you, so please send that address to info@sdhortsoc.org. We never share your email address with anyone!

The email always has these items of interest (and often more!):

- ❖ Password for the digital newsletter (changes every month)
- ❖ Invitation to Featured Garden events (register ASAP – they usually fill up in under 24 hours!)
- ❖ Details about the talk at the next meeting
- ❖ Information about upcoming events
- ❖ Description of volunteer opportunities



SEPTEMBER PLANT DISPLAY

By Pat Pawlowski and Susi Torre-Bueno

What is the Plant Display?

Each month members bring in plants, cuttings or flowers and put them in blue bottles on our display tables. What a great way to see what plants grow well in our area. EVERYONE is invited to participate. Each month the display highlights one type of plant, and an expert talks informally about the plants and answers questions. All plants are welcome, but we hope you'll try to bring plants in the categories shown here. Write descriptions similar to those below, and put them with your plant(s).

Join the fun and bring ORCHIDS to the October 8 meeting. Expert Charley Fouquette will be on hand to answer your questions. We thank Stephanie Shigematsu for being our helpful expert on annuals and perennials at the September meeting.

***Impatiens x hybrida* 'SunPatiens® Compact Blush Pink'** SUNPATIENS (Balsaminaceae) Horticultural hybrid

From the September, 2010 newsletter: "A massive planting of colorful SunPatiens®, a new hybrid impatiens was planted July 22, 2010 in Balboa Park's Alcazar Garden. Friends of Balboa Park and Armstrong Garden Centers teamed up to donate over 700 SunPatiens, bred by the Japanese plant breeding company Sakata. This exciting new large-flowered impatiens thrives in full sun during hot summer months, unlike the popular impatiens most homeowners know that only grow in shade. Bred from species that are more hardy and robust, SunPatiens are vigorous and very easy-to-grow in the Full Sun but will thrive anywhere they're planted – even in the shade. Flowers are large—3 inches—and have rich green to bronze leaves. Plants form a mounding spectacle of color. Learn more at www.SunPatiens.com. We thank Josh Schneider from Cultivaris North America (representing SunPatiens), for donating 400 of these plants to SDHS. They were given out at our August 9, 2010 meeting. We'd love to hear feedback about how they did in your garden – send an email to Susi Torre-Bueno at storrebueno@cox.net." The cuttings displayed at the September 2012 meeting are from two of these plants, which have thrived for the last two years in large pots with about half-day sun. They grow about 2-3' tall and wide, and bloom almost all year and show no signs of letting up. Pretty impressive for two-year-old annuals! I cut them back periodically to keep them bushy. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 9/12) – S.T-B.

***Pentas lanceolata* 'Tall Red'** STAR FLOWER, EGYPTIAN STAR CLUSTER (Rubiaceae) Horticultural Hybrid

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Continued on page 18

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■ Plant Display Continued from page 17

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.SDHortSoc.org for details on how to order this valuable reference tool.

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the August newsletter was *Physalis philadelphica* 'Paisley' PAISLEY TOMATILLO.

Adenium obesum DESERT ROSE, IMPALA LILY
 (Stephanie Shigematsu, Safari Park – Escondido, 9/12)

3 *Amaryllis belladonna* NAKED LADY
 (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 9/12)

3 *Amaryllis belladonna* (white) WHITE NAKED LADY
 (Darlene Villanueva, El Cajon, 9/12)

3 *Ampelopsis brevipedunculata* BLUEBERRY CLIMBER, PORCELAIN BERRY, PORCELAIN VINE (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 9/12)

3 *Asclepias physocarpa* MILKWEED, SWAN PLANT, GOOSE PLANT
 (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 9/12)

3 *Calliandra surinamensis* (Barbara Patterson, Solana Beach, 9/12)

3 *Haemanthus coccineus* (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 9/12)

Justicia brandegeana 'Variegata' VARIEGATED SHRIMP PLANT
 (Barbara Patterson, Solana Beach, 9/12)

Malus 'Beverly Hills' BEVERLY HILLS APPLE
 (Barbara Patterson, Solana Beach, 9/12)

Malus 'Beverly Hills Cop' BEVERLY HILLS COP APPLE
 (Eddie Murphy Gardener, Hollywood, 9/12)

3 *Plectranthus ecklonii* (Donna Mallen, San Diego, 9/12)

3 *Salvia* 'Indigo Spires' (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 9/12)

3 *Salvia madrensis* YELLOW SAGE, FORSYTHIA SAGE
 (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 9/12)

Stachytarpheta jamaicensis BLUE SNAKEWEED, JAMAICA VERVAIN, JAMACIAN PORTERWEED
 (Stephanie Shigematsu, Safari Park – Escondido, 9/12)

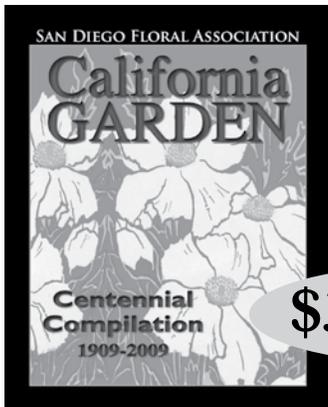
3 *Strobilanthes dyerianus* PERSIAN SHIELD
 (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 9/12) ☞

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SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

By Susi Torre-Bueno

When three experts on Mediterranean climate plants team up to share their knowledge with us, we get a triple dose of excellent information. Our September meeting started with Mo Price, whose expertise on Australian plants comes in part from a stint as an intern at the widely-respected Australian Native Plants Nursery (www.australianplants.com). Mo loves Aussie natives for their unusual foliage and flowers, evergreen habit, drought-tolerance, and ease of growth. To get them off to a good start she mixes 2 parts peat moss, 2 parts sand, and 1 part perlite with her garden soil. Good drainage is essential, and don't crowd these plants – they need good air circulation. Don't use any fertilizer, and water once a week for about 20 minutes. Mo recommends mulching because the roots of Australian natives are close to the surface; she mulches with low groundcovers.

The Koala Blooms Program, established in 1998 at U. C. Santa Cruz, introduces 4-5 new Australian plants each year to U.S. gardeners. They select plants with spectacular flowers, fragrance, and ease of cultivation. Mo arranged with Barrels and Branches Nursery (see ad on page 15) to sell the newest Koala Blooms introductions to the meeting, and they were very popular indeed. Mo had beautiful photos of many plants, proof positive that these make very worth additions for your garden. The plants mentioned here are all easy and low water. *Grevillea lanigera* is a 3-4' tall shrub that doesn't require pruning. *Lomandra longiflora* 'Breeze' is a great grass for swaying in the breeze. *Philotheca myoporoides* 'Profusion' is a 4-5' tall shrub with beautifully-scented white flowers in winter and aromatic foliage. *Boronia crenulata* 'Shark Bay' has pink flowers all year on an evergreen shrub about 3' tall and wide. *Stenocarpus sinuatus* (Firewheel Tree) is a slow-growing small tree with stunning wheel-shaped coral red flowers.

Wendy Proud has worked for over 20 years in the nursery business, and she arranged for a generous donation of plants for our silent auction from her employer, Mountain States Wholesale Nursery (MSWN). Most of the plants she spoke about are from the Sonoran Desert of the American southwest, and they are well-adapted to our climate. *Hesperaloe parviflora* 'Brakelights' is a new introduction hybridized at MSWN, with true red flowers on 2' x 2' plants. Hummers love it and it flowers 8-10 months of the year. Your editor was thrilled to go home with another hummingbird magnet: *Hesperaloe funifera* ssp. *chiangii*, a giant succulent (to 6' x 6') with 12-15' tall spikes of white flowers in late spring and summer. The stiff lime-green leaves have attractive white filaments all along their sides. One very hardy drought-tolerant and rabbit-resistant groundcover Wendy showed was *Dalea capitata* 'Sierra Gold', which gets 6-12" tall and about 3' wide. In spring and fall (or longer) the ferny foliage makes a great foil for bright yellow flowers. For white, self-cleaning daisy-like flowers most of the year she recommends *Melampodium leucanthemum*, an evergreen perennial reputed to be deer-resistant; it grows 1' tall x 2' wide.

These desert plants have a weird side: *Pedilanthus macrocarpus* (from Baja California) has no leaves and unusual orange flowers from spring to fall in sun to part shade. The grass *Bouteloua gracilis* 'Blonde Ambition' has flowers that look like eyelashes. You can purchase MSWN plants locally at these SDHS sponsors: Green Thumb, Walter Andersen Nursery, Evergreen Nursery.

Jason Kubrock from MiraCosta College had such interesting things to say about South African plants, which have been used in San Diego since Kate Sessions introduced them here in the early 1900s. Although

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the Fynbos Biome of the Western Cape area of South Africa has only 0.08% of the land surface of the planet, it has huge plant diversity, with about 9000 species. Some of these plants are familiar to us, and more species and cultivars are available every year. Each of the plants listed here has a number of forms, with a wealth of colors, sizes and growth habits to choose from. *Asparagus densiflorus* 'Myers' is a perennial to about 2' tall and 3-4' wide, with long upright stems of needle-thin leaves, very dramatic in the garden. *Clivia* species and cultivars have flowers ranging from near-white to deep orange; they thrive in shady spots and are common sights in older gardens planted under trees; new variegated forms are available. Hundreds of different Euphorbias come from So. Africa; many have highly irritating sap, so site them carefully.

African Daisies (*Osteospermum* cvs.) now come in many colors and various unusual petal shapes. Pelargoniums (often called Geraniums) include about 200 species and hundreds of cultivars, including the popular "scented geraniums." They are among the least favorite gopher plants! *Sutera cordata* (sold as Bacopa) is a good long-flowering low ground cover that rabbits ignore.

Thanks to Mo, Wendy and Jason for their excellent presentations! If you missed this trio you can borrow the video at the next meeting you attend. ☘

Thank You To Our Generous Donors for the September Meeting Door Prizes:

A garden gift from Grangetto's (see page 21)

A gift basket of Mediterranean Foods from AgriService (see page 14)

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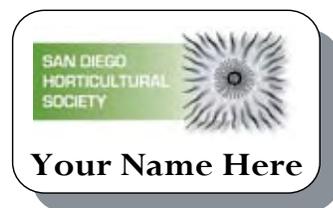
36% off Pacific Horticulture membership & magazine:
 \$18 / 1 year \$36 / 2 years \$90 / 5 years

Join online at: sdhortsoc.org



SDHS Nametags

Sturdy magnet-back nametags are just \$8.50



Order at meetings or go to www.sdhortsoc.org/ordernow.htm

Volunteers Needed

See Page 2

25 Years Experience in So. California



Daniel F. E. Cannou
 Consulting Horticulturist

Sunset Horticultural Services
 (760) 726-3276

Professional solutions to problems with plants, soil and irrigation

Landscape renovation
 Complete landscape care

Hand-Painted Door for Sale



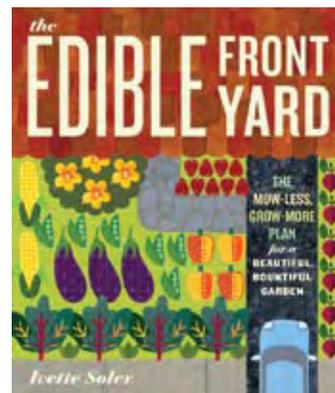
This gorgeous wooden door was painted by artist Katie Gaines (www.lovepaperpaint.com) especially for the SDHS display garden at the Fair. Wouldn't it look great in your home or garden? And you'll be buying it from SDHS, so your money will help fund our activities. **Make us an offer! Call Jim Bishop at (619) 296-9215 for details.**

The Edible Front Yard

Hear from a fascinating speaker about how **you** can transform your front yard into a beautiful *and* productive landscape! At the SDHS November meeting the delightful Ivette Soler will have you re-thinking how to use this most visible part of the garden.

For this **SPECIAL MEETING** there is a fee of \$15/members and \$20/guests. Tickets can be purchased at SDHS events or online at

<http://tinyurl.com/nov2sol>



▼ SDHS SPONSOR



60 Gallon Rain Barrel ONLY \$99.99
*See store for details

Quality Products • Expert Advice • Friendly Service

Organic Products and Water Saving Devices!

- Plant Food & Nutrients
- Amendments & Mulch
- Seed & Sod
- Veggie & Flower Packs
- Garden Tools
- Water Storage
- Irrigation Supplies
- Pest & Disease Control
- Rodent Control
- Bird Food & Feeders
- Vineyard Supplies

GRANGETTO'S WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

RAINWATER HARVESTING

10AM - 12PM

Grangetto's Escondido Location

SEE A DEMO

Rainwater Harvesting is a great way to save water & money in your yard. Come join Grangetto's & Bushman USA for an informative workshop on collection, design and utilization of rainwater harvesting.

REGISTER AT grangettos.com/rainwater

Helping Your Garden Grow



VALLEY CENTER
29219 Juba Road
760-749-1828

ESCONDIDO
1105 W. Mission Ave
760-745-4671

FALLBROOK
530 E. Alvarado St.
760-728-6127

ENCINITAS
189 S. Rancho Santa Fe
760-944-5777

Let Us Help You Take Your Next Garden Project From Start to Finish!



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Change Service Requested



Annual Fall Plant Sale

October 20 - 21

Plant donations from over 100 local growers, wholesalers, retail nurseries, and individuals make this one of the most interesting and diverse plant sales of San Diego County.

Ask about our exclusive members-only presale



Cost: Free with membership or admission to the Garden.



www.SDBGarden.org



California Native Plant Society

Fall NATIVE PLANT SALE

Saturday, October 13, 2012
11 AM - 3 PM

Balboa Park, San Diego
Casa del Prado Theater Courtyard
1700 Village Place

Open to CNPS members at 10 AM
Join or renew membership at the sale

- *Native shrubs, trees, flowering plants*
- *Seeds, books, posters*
- *Convenient curb-side parking for loading plants*
- *Friendly, knowledgeable experts to assist you*
- *More information at www.cnpsd.org*
- *cash, checks, & credit cards accepted*

Why Native Plants? Attract birds and butterflies, save water, and preserve San Diego's natural heritage!

All proceeds support the San Diego Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, a 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to the preservation of native California flora

Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture



16th Annual Aggie Open Golf Tournament Bonita Golf Club Friday, October 26

**Reserve Now
Sold Out in 2011**

You are invited to join us at this annual fundraiser for the Cuyamaca College Botanical Society Scholarship Fund and the Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture Program.

Don't miss this year's better-than-ever tournament.

More prizes, games, and winning opportunities for players of all levels.

10:30 a.m. Registration

12 Noon Tee Time

For more information and to register: www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb

Or call 619-660-4262

Sustainable Landscape Conference

Thursday
March 7, 2013

**Performing Arts Theater
Cuyamaca College
900 Rancho San Diego
Parkway
El Cajon, CA. 92019**

Sponsorship opportunities
& exhibitor booth locations
are available.

Sustainable San Diego, the 5th Annual Sustainable Landscape Conference and Trade Show, will feature a full program of speakers and examples of how the landscape designs in San Diego are influenced by the major environmental factors of earth, air, water and fire. Over 1000 landscape professionals and students have attended the first four conferences. The 5th conference promises to be the best yet! Please visit our web site as we announce our agenda and speaker lineup soon.

The Sustainable Landscape Conference is produced by the Cuyamaca College Horticulture Department in conjunction with the Cuyamaca College Botanical Society. For more information or to register for the event call Don Schultz, OH Dept. Co-ordinator, at **619 660-4023** or visit the web site at **www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb**.



Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture



It's all about growing...

Come learn about growing with us!

Ornamental Horticulture Department Orientation

Landscape Design ~ Nursery Technology ~ Floral Design ~ Golf & Sports Turf Management
Arboriculture ~ Irrigation Technology ~ Landscape Technology

Wednesday, January 23, 2013 ~ 6:00 – 8:00 pm

**Refreshments Served—Cuyamaca College—Room M-111
900 Rancho San Diego Parkway—El Cajon, CA 92019**

**This free presentation is open to the public, as well as new and continuing students.
Meet the professors, find out about classes, careers, job opportunities and
the Ornamental Horticulture Program at Cuyamaca College.**

For more information, call John Thomas at 619-660-4242 or visit us online at www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb.

THE WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN'S



2012 FALL GARDEN FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2012 ~ 10am - 4pm



PLANT SALES ~ GARDENING & LANDSCAPE
EXPERTS ~ COOKING DEMOS ~ KIDS BOOTHS
LIVE MUSIC ~ HOLIDAY GIFT SHOPPING ~ FOOD
"MS. SMARTY-PLANTS"TM ~ PETTING ZOO

NEW THIS YEAR!

RANCHO SAN DIEGO FARMERS' MARKET

Admission \$5

Garden Members and
Kids 12 & under FREE!

~ FREE PARKING ~



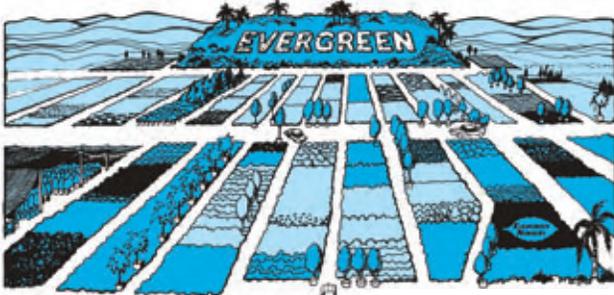
What's Happening? for October 2012

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.

▼ SDHS Sponsor

DISCOVER EVERGREEN NURSERY



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Just Sprucing Up Your Yard?

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BUY DIRECT FROM THE GROWER AND SAVE!

ONE STOP SHOPPING

Incredible selection. Over 500 varieties on 400 acres.
From small color packs to huge specimen trees.

DRIVE THRU SHOPPING

Use your car as a shopping cart!!!



UNBEATABLE VALUE

The discount houses and depots can't compete
with our grower direct prices.

Come on out and see for yourself!

- 1 gallon plants starting at \$3.50
- 5 gallon plants starting at \$10.00
- 15 gallon plants starting at \$35.00

PROMPT DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Hours: 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 both locations*

October 6 Fall is the Time for Planting

*This is a walking seminar. We will tour the nursery
and look at our advertised plants that will be
featured in our Annual Million Dollar Fall Sale
and how they will fit into your landscape.*

Seminars are free; refreshments will be provided.

All participants will get a coupon good towards your
purchase for that day only.

For more details or to view our entire seminar
schedule, visit us at

www.evergreennursery.com

Send questions and comments to:
info@evergreennursery.com

Two Convenient Locations:

CARMEL VALLEY
13650 Carmel Valley Rd.
(858) 481-0622

OCEANSIDE
3231 Oceanside Blvd.
(760) 754-0340

Events at Public Gardens

❖ **Alta Vista Gardens** contact info on other side
Oct. 6, 10am - 2:30pm, Fall Fun Festival & Plant Sale. FREE.

❖ **San Diego Botanic Garden** contact info on other side
Oct. 6 (9am-5pm), & Oct. 7 (9am-4pm), 18th Annual International Orchid Fair: Official AOS judging, sale and workshops on culture and care. Free with admission or AOS or SDBG membership.

Oct. 13, 2-4pm, Designing with Water-wise Plants and Bulbs: Introductory class on how to design a colorful and interesting drought tolerant landscape. Members \$30, non-members \$40. Please register by October 10.

Oct. 20-21, 10am-4pm, 30th Annual Fall Plant Sale: HUGE plant selection, much more!!! Members Only Pre-Sale on Oct. 20, 9-10 am. Free with admission or membership.

Oct. 27 (9am-5pm), & 28 (9am-4pm), Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale: Judging will take place on Saturday from 12-3 pm.

❖ The Water Conservation Garden

contact info on other side

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

Oct. 6, 10:00am-noon, Irrigation 101: Tune up your existing irrigation and make it Water Smart with How-to-Tips for retrofitting and installing a basic drip system that saves you money. \$20 Members, \$28 Non-Members.

Oct. 20, 10:00am, Plants for Attracting Birds & Butterflies: Meet at the front Garden gate to begin this specialty tour led by docent, Kay McGrath.

FREE Events by SDHS Sponsors:

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

❖ **Barrels & Branches**, Oct. 28, 10-11am, Free E.B. Stone Information Session. See page 15 and www.barrelsandbranches.com.

❖ **Cedros Gardens, Saturday and Sunday FREE morning classes.** Details at www.cedrosgardens.com; address in ad on page 17.

❖ City Farmers Nursery FREE Classes

Oct. 20, 9:00am -5:00 pm, Fall Harvest Craft Festival. FREE.
See www.cityfarmersnursery.com or call (619) 284-6358.

❖ Evergreen Nursery FREE Workshop on October 6

See column at left for details.

❖ Grangetto's FREE Workshops, etc.

Planting Fall Veggies with Richard Wright, 10am to noon
Oct. 6, 530 E. Alvarado Street, Fallbrook

Customer Appreciation Event, 11am to 1pm

Oct. 13, 29219 Juba Road, Valley Center
Oct. 27, 530 E. Alvarado Street, Fallbrook

Rainwater Harvesting Workshop, 10am to noon

Oct. 20, 1105 W. Mission Ave., Escondido
See www.grangettos.com or contact Jennifer at (760) 745-4671x215 or e-mail events@grangettos.com.

❖ Sunshine Care FREE Workshop on October 20

10:30am, TBA. Doorprizes and refreshments. Address in ad on page 14.
Info: (858) 752-8197 or www.sunshinecare.com.

❖ Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes

Details at www.walterandersen.com; addresses in ad on page 15

	Point Loma, 9am	Poway, 9:30am
Oct. 6	TBA	Orchid Care
Oct. 13	TBA	Citrus & Avocados
Oct. 20	TBA	Natives for your Garden
Oct. 27	TBA	Fall Rose Show
Oct. 28	No class	Fall Rose Show

Next SDHS Meeting:

October 8 - 6:00 pm

The Trees Among Us
See page 1 for details

**More garden-related events on
other side.**

Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

◆ **Oct. 2, 6:30pm, S. D. County Orchid Society:** Paul Tuskes will present "Outdoor Landscaping with Orchids." Room 101, Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park. See www.sdorchids.com.

◆ **Oct. 5, Noon, Vista Garden Club:** "Bring on the Birds," overview of everyday local birds of California. 1400 Vale Terrace Dr., Vista. Visitors welcome. Info: www.VistaGardenClub.org, (760) 536-9404.

◆ **Oct. 6, San Diego Master Gardeners Fall Seminar:**

Lectures, plant sales, workshops, more! Info & registration at www.mastergardenerssandiego.org.

◆ **Oct. 6, Solana Center TWO Free Composting Workshops:** From 8-10am at the Otto Center, San Diego Zoo. Also 10am-noon at Fallbrook Community Center. Info: www.solanacenter.org.

◆ **Oct. 6 & 7, 10am-4pm, Begonia Society Plant Show and Sale:** Room 101, Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park. Info: (760) 815-7914 or email marla.keith@cox.net.

◆ **Oct. 10, 10:30am, Poway Valley Garden Club:** Laura Eubanks will demonstrate succulent topped pumpkins 14134 Midland Road, Poway. Info: www.powayvalleygardenclub.org or (760) 743-9500.

◆ **Oct. 10, 12, noon, Ramona Garden Club:** Jeff Moore - Gardening with Succulents. 524 Main Street. Info: (760) 787-0087 or www.RamonaGardenClub.com.

◆ **Oct. 13, 11:00am-3:00pm, California Native Plant Society Plant Sale:** Great selection of plants!!! Casa del Prado Courtyard, Balboa Park. See www.cnpssd.org or call (619) 282-8687.

◆ **Oct. 17, 2:00pm, San Diego Floral Association:** Native plant expert Greg Rubin will share design and care tips. FREE. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Info: www.sdfloal.org.

◆ **Oct. 18, 1-3:30pm, Bernardo Gardeners:** Bus tour to Mushroom Farm, \$29/\$34. Contact Clo at 858-487-4781 or ecmassad@san.rr.com See www.bernardogardeners.org.

◆ **Oct. 20, 9am-3pm, Ramona Garden Club Plant Sale:** In front of Albertsons, 1459 Main St. See www.RamonaGardenClub.com.

◆ **Oct. 22, 6:30pm, Edible Garden Society:** Pomegranate cultivars. FREE. Rm 104, Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park. See www.sdedible.org.

◆ **Oct. 24, 7pm, Cymbidium Society Orchid Auction:** Orchids of all types and sizes will be auctioned off at reasonable prices. San Diego Botanic Garden. Info: (760) 931-0502 or billtcwong@att.net.

◆ **Oct. 27, 8am-1pm, Dos Valles Garden Club:** Plant Sale & Free Community Bulb Fest. Martin Gang Ranch 28933, Cole Grade Road. Info: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org.

◆ **Oct. 27 (12-5pm) & 28 (10am-4pm), Orchid Society Fall Show:** Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Info: www.sdorchids.com.

◆ **Oct. 27 10am-noon, Waterwise Botanicals:** Succulent Pumpkin Arrangement Workshop in Escondido. \$65. RSVP by Oct. 22. Info: www.designforserenity.com.

◆ **Oct. 29, 9:30-10:30am, Bridge and Bay Garden Club:** Rene Van Rems, AIFD. \$20. Info: (619) 397-1211.

San Diego County Farmers Markets

www.sdfarmbureau.org/BuyLocal/Farmers-Markets.php

MONDAY:

Escondido - Welk Village

TUESDAY:

Coronado
Escondido
Mira Mesa
Morena District
Otay Ranch
Pacific Beach
UCSD/La Jolla

WEDNESDAY:

Carlsbad
Encinitas
Mission Hills
North San Diego
Ocean Beach
San Marcos
Santee

THURSDAY:

Chula Vista
Horton Square
Linda Vista
North Park
Oceanside CFM
Oceanside Sunset
Pacific Highlands
Poway-Alliant Univ.
San Carlos
UTC

FRIDAY:

Borrego Springs
Fallbrook
Imperial Beach
Kearny Mesa
La Mesa
Rancho Bernardo
Southeast San Diego

SATURDAY:

Carlsbad
City Heights
Del Mar
Golden Hill
Little Italy
Pacific Beach
Poway
Ramona
Rancho San Diego
Scripps Ranch
Vista

SUNDAY:

North San Diego
Gaslamp District
Hillcrest
Julian
La Jolla
Leucadia/Encinitas
Point Loma
Rancho Santa Fe
San Marcos
Solana Beach

For an extensive list of garden club meetings and events, visit the San Diego Floral Association website: 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 or (760) 945-3954.

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

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.

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) 694-2860, www.mastergardenerssandiego.org.

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

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

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

BALBOA PARK:

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

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

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

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

Canyoneer Walks: FREE guided nature walks Saturday & Sunday. (619) 232-3821 X203 or 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

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.

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. GardenLife shows are also archived at lifestyletalkradio.com.