

# Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

April 2015, Number 247

## Special Meeting at the San Diego Natural History Museum

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CALIFORNIA-FRIENDLY  
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# SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW AWARD WINNERS (SEE PAGE 7)



Basic Elements by Kimberly Alexander, Allee Landscape Design and Ornamental Gardens by Lisa



50 Shades of Green by Danica Hirsch, Gardens by the Sea Nursery



Social Gardening Times Three by Steve Collins and Geronimo Chavez, Evergreen Nursery



Garden to Table by Paige Perkins, Garden Chat

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sdhs







tenth annual

# Encinitas Garden Festival & Tour

**Saturday, April 18, 2015 • 10am–4:30pm** Join us in celebration of our 10 year anniversary as we go back to our roots, exploring quintessential Encinitas, full of succulents, avocados, ocean breezes, and beautiful vistas. Come explore our free Gardener's Marketplace for a variety of vendors, exhibitors, and guest speakers. Every garden enthusiast will find inspiration within the mature coastal landscapes, eclectic plant collections, edible landscapes, and breathtaking scenery.



encinitas garden festival & tour

**Don't delay! tickets are limited and usually sell out.**

**Early Bird Tickets** (ages 11 and up) \$25\* **Children** (up to age 10) \$10

\*March 15 to April 10 Adult tickets April 11 to 17: \$30 Adult at-the-event tickets: \$35

**Purchase Tickets at these Nurseries**

Anderson La Costa, Encinitas • Barrels & Branches, Encinitas • Cedros Gardens, Solana Beach  
Glorious Gardens, Encinitas • Green Thumb, San Marcos • Sunshine Gardens, Encinitas  
The Madd Potter, Encinitas • Weidner's Gardens, Encinitas **OR ON OUR WEBSITE**

[www.EncinitasGardenFestival.org](http://www.EncinitasGardenFestival.org) • 760.753.8615

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Our proceeds support community gardening projects throughout the City of Encinitas including Encinitas schools through our Garden Festival Fund at the Coastal Community Foundation. The Encinitas Garden Festival & Tour is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.



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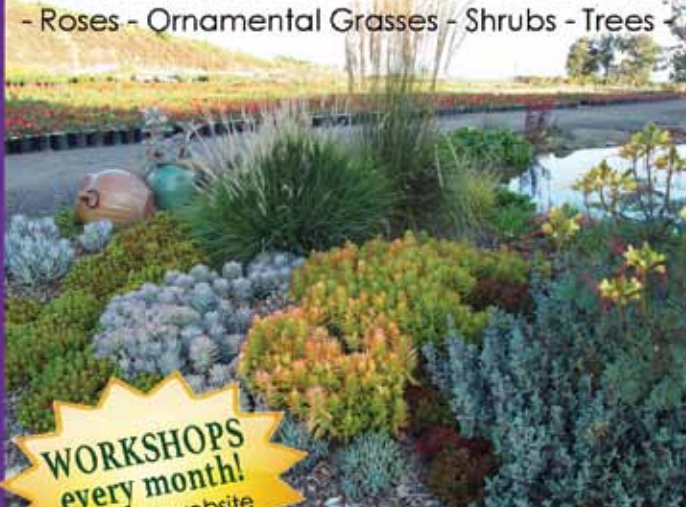


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- Limiting outdoor watering days and times
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- Eliminating runoff from irrigation systems
- Repairing all leaks within 72 hours
- Using hoses with shut-off valves for washing cars (or use commercial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

Local rules vary. Find restrictions in effect in your community at [whenindrought.org](http://whenindrought.org).



San Diego County Water Authority



THE WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN'S

# Butterfly Festival

2nd Annual

SATURDAY  
MAY 9, 2015  
9AM - 3PM

Butterfly  
Discovery Lab!



Face  
Painting!



Butterfly-Habitat  
Plant Sales!

Children's  
"Pollinator Party"!



Guided Tours of the  
Butterfly Pavilion!



Butterfly Experts,  
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Workshops!

Appearances by  
"Ms. Smarty-Plants" &  
"Miss Metamorphosis"!



Admission: \$1 ages 3-17, \$5 ages 18+  
Garden members FREE  
[www.theGarden.org/butterfly](http://www.theGarden.org/butterfly)



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## SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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



### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

### MEETING SCHEDULE

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

### MEETINGS & EVENTS

(FW = Free workshop; FG = Featured Garden; register at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org))

- April 11 Spring Garden Tour - Gardens Then and Now – SEE PAGE 10
- April 25 Herb Gardening in the Landscape, Beds, & Containers (FW)  
SEE PAGE 5
- May 5 Butterfly Gardening (FW)
- May 11 Phil Bergman on Palms for San Diego
- June 8 SDHS Night at the Fair
- June 13 Colorful Foliage for Low-Water Gardens (FW)
- July 13 Martin Grantham on Rush to Restios: Choices for San Diego Gardens
- August 10 California Bees & Blooms



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

**COVER IMAGE:** After the presentation at our special meeting, members and guests will be able to tour the theNAT's exhibits including the newest exhibit, *Coast to Cactus in Southern California*, shown on the cover. Buy your ticket now as seating is limited.

## SPECIAL MEETING: APRIL 13, 2015, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

**Speaker: Jon Rebman on Botanical History and Current Plant Research of the San Diego Society of Natural History**

**Admission: Members/\$10, Non-Members/\$15. Parking is free.**

**SPECIAL Meeting Place: San Diego Natural History Museum, Balboa Park; Info: (619) 296-9215**

**6:00 – 6:30: Check in and seating – 6:30 – 7:30: Presentation – 7:30 – 9:00: Tour theNAT exhibits**

For this special meeting we enthusiastically welcome Dr. Jon Rebman, Curator of Botany at the San Diego Natural History Museum since 1996, and our 2011 Horticulturalist of the Year. Jon will be speaking about the historical efforts of botanists associated with the San Diego Society of Natural History (SDSNH), and also discussing current research projects including recent binational, multidisciplinary expeditions into Baja California and the publication of many new plant species from our region.

For more than 140 years, the SDSNH has been studying and collecting plants in southern California and Baja California. With dedicated curators such as Daniel Cleveland (the "clevelandii" of *Salvia*, *Mimulus* and *Penstemon* fame), Frank Gander (the "ganderi" of *Lepechinia*, *Quercus*, and *Rubus*), and Reid Moran (the "moranii" of *Agave*, *Arctostaphylos*, and *Dudleya*), the institution has served as an important botanical resource in our region. SDSNH has amassed an extremely strong regional herbarium collection of over 250,000 plant specimens that are actively used for ongoing botanical research and publication. To supplement the scientific endeavors of the botanists and provide plant resources for the public, SDSNH also has an amazing library of botanical books, journals, and paintings including a complete run of *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* dating back to 1793; herbals dating to 1517; and 1,094 original watercolors of native California plants from 1908-1918 by A. R. Valentien.

Jon has a Ph.D. in Botany (plant taxonomy), M.S. in Biology (floristics) and B.S. in Biology. He is a plant taxonomist and conducts extensive floristic research in Baja California and in San Diego and Imperial Counties. He has over 15 years of experience in the floristics of



*Continued on page 20*



# SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

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

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

**Calendar:** Send details by the 10th of the month before event to calendar@sdhort.org.

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## New Email? New Street Address?

Please send all changes (so you will continue to receive the newsletter and important notices) to membership@sdhort.org or SDHS, Attn: Membership, PO Box 231869, Encinitas, CA 92023-1869. We NEVER share your email or address with anyone!

## BECOME A SPONSOR!

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

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

## FREE WORKSHOP: Herb Gardening in Your Landscape, Beds & Containers Saturday, April 25, 1:00 PM

Our free workshop teacher, Roy Wilburn, Horticulture Manager at SDHS sponsor Sunshine Care (see page 13), has decades of experience growing herbs and veggies, and he's also a most enjoyable and informative speaker. Learn how to use herbs for their eye appeal and use in the kitchen. Whether in your edible landscape or in containers, culinary herbs will make good food into great cuisine. The planting, care, and maintenance of perennial herbs, seeded herbs and basil will be discussed.

Class will be held at 1:00PM on Saturday, April 25th, and is limited to 50 members. Carpooling is recommended. Location: Sunshine Care, 12695 Monte Vista Rd., Poway, 92064.

To register go to sdhort.org and click on the workshop link. Please contact speaker Roy Wilburn at (858) 472-6059 or roy@sunshinecare.com for questions and in case of rain. ☂



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*Do more than belong: participate. Do more than care: help. Do more than believe: practice. Do more than be fair: be kind. Do more than forgive: forget. Do more than dream: work.*  
(William Arthur Ward)

### Tech Support Help at Meetings:

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

### Newsletter Advertising Manager Needed

Here's a fun opportunity for members who like to work with local garden businesses and clubs: we need a detail-oriented person to be our newsletter advertising manager. This takes only 1-2 hours per month, and you'll be working with current advertisers, plus potential advertisers. For details contact Susi Torre-Bueno at 760-295-2173 or storrebueno@cox.net. ☂

## SUBSCRIBE TO GARDEN DESIGN AND GET A FREE ISSUE!

Our sponsor *Garden Design* magazine has a special offer for members. Use the link in their ad on page 9 and get a FREE issue of this exceptional publication when you subscribe. Subscribe by April 30 and they'll donate \$12 to SDHS for our Balboa Park restoration project. Every quarterly issue has 132 pages with no advertisements, expert insights, outstanding gardens showcased with inspiring stories and splendid photos, new plants, garden tours, and much more!







## FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

### Spring Garden Tour

There are just a few days left to purchase advance tickets to the Spring Garden Tour – *Gardens Then & Now* (see page 10). SDHS members who purchase tickets online save \$5 off the non-member and day of tour price of \$30. Besides saving money, online purchasers will receive the tour map via email the day before the tour and can check in at any garden on the tour, allowing you to skip the ticket lines and spend more time touring. So what are you waiting for? Go to [sdhort.org/GardenTour](http://sdhort.org/GardenTour) right now and purchase your tickets.

The tour features 12 gardens in the Mission Hills, Marston Hills, Banker's Hill and South Park neighborhoods. You'll find lots of inspiration for your home garden. This tour is co-hosted by the San Diego Floral Association, and gives us an opportunity to get a closer look at some of the private homes and gardens loosely defined as Spanish, and to rekindle our love with this style. All of the gardens feature outdoor living spaces that are extensions of the home and take full advantage of our wonderful climate. Many of the homes have received historic designation for their history and architecture. You can read all about the gardens featured on the tour in recent previous newsletters; full garden descriptions are also on our website.

Also online, you can check out all of the vendors participating in the **Garden Marketplace**. Tour goers who visit the Marketplace can enter a FREE drawing for one of the many of prizes donated by the Marketplace vendors. A full list of prizes is at [sdhort.org/Marketplace](http://sdhort.org/Marketplace). *A special thank you to the many vendors that have donated prizes!* You can visit the Marketplace and buy additional tour tickets the day of the tour, starting at 9 a.m., at Francis W. Parker Mission Hills Campus, 4201 Randolph St. San Diego 92103

Besides visiting these inspirational gardens and supporting the Hort Society, tour goers will receive a special edition of *California Garden*, published bi-monthly by the San Diego Floral Association. It is the longest continuously published magazine dedicated to horticulture in the United States. This keepsake edition of the magazine has full details about the gardens on the tour, as well as the history of Balboa Park and neighborhoods near the park. You can get a sneak preview the special edition of the magazine at [sdfloal.org/magazine.htm](http://sdfloal.org/magazine.htm).

### Special April Meeting

There are also just a few days left to purchase advance tickets for our special meeting on Monday, April 13, at theNAT (San Diego Natural History Museum) in Balboa Park. Attendance is limited to 300 people, and you won't want to miss this event. theNAT recently opened its newest exhibit, *Coast to Cactus in Southern California*. Learn more about the exhibit at [sdnhm.org/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/coast-to-cactus-in-southern-california](http://sdnhm.org/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/coast-to-cactus-in-southern-california). General admission to the theNAT is normally \$17, but we are only charging \$10 for SDHS members and \$15 for non-members. Not only will you be able to visit theNAT exhibits, but you'll also hear Jon Rebman, theNAT's Curator of Botany and our 2011 Horticulturalist of the

Year, speak about the museum's remarkable history documenting San Diego County flora for more than a century. Learn more about Jon at [sdhort.org/Hort-of-the-Year/857062](http://sdhort.org/Hort-of-the-Year/857062).

Tickets can be purchased online at [sdhort.org/event-1736855](http://sdhort.org/event-1736855). **We expect this event to sell out, so buy your ticket now to avoid disappointment.**

We will be meeting in theNAT's dramatic theater style auditorium. Doors open at 6 PM. (If you arrive early, visit the nearby gardens that SDHS replanted at the Casa del Prado Building and Timken Museum.) The meeting will start 15 minutes earlier than normal, and you will need to be seated by 6:30 PM. The gift shop and snack bar (serving non-alcoholic drinks, snacks and pre-made sandwiches) will be open for purchases before and after the presentation. The Prado Restaurant in the park is closed, but there are numerous restaurants in the nearby Uptown, Hillcrest and Bankers Hill areas for an early or late dinner. After Jon's presentation, you will be able to explore the museum's exhibits until closing. The museum will also have on display some rare botanical illustrations and specimens from its collections.



## SPRING GARDEN TOUR: Experience the Garden Marketplace

By Susan Starr and Mo Price

This year's Spring Garden Tour on April 11 (see page 10) includes a special Garden Marketplace at Francis Parker Lower School in Mission Hills. Twenty+ vendors will be tempting you with pottery, garden books, jewelry, birdhouses, ceramics, garden art, unusual plants and more!

We will have an Opportunity Drawing with items donated by vendors and area merchants. Each tour-goer will receive a ticket for the opportunity drawing on the day of the tour, when they pick up their wristband and program. Simply fill out the ticket and drop it in the basket of your choice at the Marketplace.

The Grand Prize, donated by our media sponsor, *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine, is a one-hour garden consultation with Sara Bendrick, host of DYI Network's *I Hate My Yard*.

If you haven't already done so, buy your ticket today at [sdhort.org/GardenTour](http://sdhort.org/GardenTour). Then stop by the Marketplace on tour day and check out our vendors; you'll be glad you did! For a complete list of vendors and Opportunity Drawing items, see the Marketplace page of the Garden Tour web site: [sdhort.org/Marketplace](http://sdhort.org/Marketplace).

The Marketplace will be open from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The Drawing will be held at 4:00 p.m.; you do not have to be present to win.

See you at the Marketplace! 🌿



Dr. Jon Rebman  
in Mexico





## THE REAL DIRT ON...

### Frances Hodgson Burnett

By Carol Buckley

*The Secret Garden* is one of the best-loved children's books. The story of a spoiled orphan girl and lively working class lad who discover and nurse a neglected walled garden—and her wealthy young cousin—back to life on the vast Yorkshire estate of Misslethwaite Manor; it has enchanted readers, and perhaps sparked an interest in gardens in young hearts, since the early 1900s. Born in Manchester in 1849, to a prosperous merchant, author Frances Hodgson Burnett lost her father when she was a toddler and, as her mother attempted to keep the business alive, the family moved in with relatives who had a large enclosed garden, which she loved. At 16, Frances and her family moved to an uncle's home in Tennessee—bad timing in 1865. They ended up living in a log cabin in the hills, but destitution pushed Frances into her lifelong profession. Always creative, Frances began to write stories for magazines, selling her first at age 17. She paid for paper and postage stamps for her stories by picking and selling wild grapes with her sisters.

Through her writing, Frances provided for her family even after her mother's death in 1867. After marrying Dr. Swann Burnett in 1873, she continued to support her family, including her husband as he continued his medical studies. The couple had two sons, Lionel and Vivian, but their marriage was unhappy and they divorced in 1898. Frances had already amassed a fortune from her novels and plays, especially *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, which had made her what Dinitia Smith in the *New York Times* ("In a Topsy-Turvy Life, Finding Her Secret Garden," July 28, 2004) called the J. K. Rowling of her time. So it was then, bereft of her son Lionel, who'd died of consumption in 1890, and rebounding from a scandalous divorce, that she found her own Misslethwaite Manor—in Kent, England.

It was the neglected kitchen garden at Great Maytham Hall that drew her passion. "Like her adolescent heroine, Burnett was led by a robin to the door hidden in the crumbling, ivy-covered garden wall; she executed a massive restoration project with the head gardener, ... planting hundreds of flowers, and constructing a rose walkway" (Vanessa Blakeslee, "Secret Gardens," *Paris Review*, April 9, 2012). She continued her prolific writing, including her children's classics and her then-popular works for adults, sitting in the garden gazebo. When the estate was up for sale in 1907 she was unable to purchase it, so she moved to Plandome, Long Island, where she wrote *The Secret Garden*.

After her death in 1924, Frances's friends memorialized her in Central Park's Conservatory Gardens by a fountain on which Mary and Dickon work and rest, respectively, in their garden. 🌿



## BOOK REVIEW

### Microgreens: A Guide to Growing Nutrient-Packed Greens

By Eric Franks and Jasmine Richardson

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

Somehow we've managed in this column to go from the highest to the lowest. We looked at redwoods in *The Wild Trees* by Richard Preston. Now we're looking at some of the smallest plants – unless someone writes a good book about mosses.

This is one of those books that if you need it, here it is. If you're not interested in microgreens, move on. But how could you not be interested?

Microgreens are seedlings.

They're bigger than sprouts (who hasn't grown bean sprouts?), but smaller than baby greens. You can grow them in a limited area with not too much work. They're ready to harvest in two weeks, more or less. You can use them in salads, soups, and sandwiches – just about anything. They come in a variety of colors: reds, yellows, greens, and purples. Flavors range from sweet to savory. They grow year 'round, no matter the weather. They're like what you see sold in the grocery stores as mesclun. Are you getting more interested?

This book is well-organized and informative, whether you want to grow microgreens as a backyard project or commercially. The ten chapters cover the ten-step process for growing, the tools and equipment you'll need, plus suggested sources, and even recipes. There's also a comprehensive chapter on composting, which you can do with the roots after you harvest.

The plants the authors recommend and discuss include amaranth, arugula, basil, beets, broccoli, purple cabbage, celery, chard, cilantro, garden cress, endive, mustard, pac choi, peas, radishes, and Tokyo bekana. (This last one is new to me.) I can tell you from experience that your dogs and pet birds will love microgreens. I can't speak for cats.

Four chefs plus the authors provide recipes: Broccoli Tart, Spring Salad with Carrot Ginger Dressing, Buttermilk Panna Cotta with Strawberries and Basil – wow! These are just some of the possibilities. And they're not too complicated for the home cook.

Besides the fact that this book tells you as much as you'd ever want to know about growing microgreens, it is beautiful in design. There's lavish use of the color green in the separator pages and section titles. Add to that the many different shades of brown. They all blend together in a pleasing design.

*Microgreens* (ISBN-13: 978-1423603641) is a 192 page paperback. It's loaded with photos of techniques and equipment as well as of the individual microgreens on black backgrounds, striking in their simplicity and beauty.

Published by Gibbs Smith, you can find it at Gibbs-Smith.com or at your local book store. It retails for \$24.99. Gibbs Smith is also the publisher of my two history books, co-written with Richard Lederer: *American Trivia* and *American Trivia Quiz Book*. 🌿





## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### Paying it Forward with Mo Price

By Patty Berg, Volunteer Coordinator

A fun part of our historic Spring Garden Tour this year will be the Garden Marketplace. More than twenty booths will offer everything from garden art and jewelry to gifts and plants. So this month's spotlight falls on our Marketplace coordinator and perennial volunteer, Mo Price. I asked Mo how she got involved with SHDS and she answered with this thoughtful note:



"My first attempt

at gardening was when my husband and I purchased our home in Encinitas, 30+ years ago. There was no landscaping, so we planted water-thirsty plants and a lawn. A few years later, in 1989, we were having a bit of a drought, which seemed to be a good excuse for removing the lawn, which never looked very good anyway. We started replacing the water-thirsty plants with succulents. However, we were both very busy with our jobs, so gardening was never a priority.

In 2001, shortly after retiring, I became a docent at San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG). I discovered Mediterranean plants and became a plant nerd, collecting mostly Australian and South African plants. I enjoyed the company of other gardeners and soon joined the San Diego Horticultural Society (SDHS), not only to meet more gardeners, but for exposure to a wider variety of garden topics.

I had many successes and learning opportunities growing Australian plants, and I began lecturing so I could share my knowledge of these unique plants with others. I dabbled in most of the volunteer jobs at SDBG, and realized that being a Tour Guide is the most rewarding job for me, as it gives me the opportunity to share my knowledge of plants and the Garden with others. I also joined Master Gardener Association of San Diego County in 2010, volunteering mostly at special events and working on projects.

Volunteering at SDHS is always fun and easy, whether it entails stuffing monthly newsletters, working at the membership table at the Home/Garden Show, greeting tour-goers at the Spring Garden Tour, or helping out at meetings. I always have the opportunity to chat with remarkable people and help out the organization in the process.

It's nice to join an organization, share common interests, have fun and learn. But, it is even nicer to take the time to volunteer and give a little back to the organization so that others may enjoy the same benefits. "

Thanks, Mo, for continuing to give your time and share your knowledge. 🌿

## APRIL GARDEN TOURS

By Mary James

Grab your garden hat, walking shoes and plenty of sunscreen. You'll need them almost every weekend this month, the busiest time for garden tours. In addition to **Gardens Then and Now**, the April 11 tour co-sponsored by San Diego Hort and the San Diego Floral Association (see pages 3 and 10), there are seven tours spanning the county from Coronado to Fallbrook.

- This is the 90<sup>th</sup> year that the Coronado Floral Association has presented the **Coronado Flower Show**. This year's event, April 18-19 in Spreckels Park, includes floral displays, exhibits and entertainment. Plus you can drive by winning front-yard gardens throughout the community. Tickets are only \$5 (free for CFA members and children under 12. Details are at [coronadoflowershow.com](http://coronadoflowershow.com).
- It's an anniversary year for the **Encinitas Garden Festival & Tour**, too. The popular event on April 18 celebrates 10 years running with a return to its roots. Scheduled are visits to 15 diverse gardens, plus a marketplace and garden talks. From March 25 to April 10, early bird tickets are available for \$25 for adults. Tour day tickets are \$35, while kids 10 and under are \$10. More info is at [encinitasgardenfestival.org](http://encinitasgardenfestival.org).
- Also on April 18, the **Bernardo Gardeners Club Spring Garden Tour** visits gardens around Rancho Bernardo. Among the 6 open for touring is a community food bank vegetable garden and orchard. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Walter Andersen Nursery, Poway, or ordered by mail. Send check payable to Bernardo Gardeners Club and self-addressed stamped envelope to 17361 Regalo Lane, San Diego, CA 92128. Questions? Email [bernardogardenersclub@gmail.com](mailto:bernardogardenersclub@gmail.com).
- Spend an afternoon in an historic Oceanside neighborhood as you enjoy the **Seaside Native Plant Garden Tour** past 18 front-yard gardens. Tour goes meet April 19 at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's School parking lot, 515 Wisconsin Ave., Oceanside. The tour is FREE, but a donation is requested for the map and plant list. Info: call the Buena Vista Nature Center at 760-439-2473.
- The **Fallbrook Garden Club Tour** on April 25 stops at 8 gardens ranging from a condo "pocket" garden to a 3-acre equestrian estate. The marketplace at the Fallbrook Historical Society, 260 Rockeycrest Rd., Fallbrook, features a plant sale, garden vendors and opportunity drawing. Tickets are \$20 in advance (order at [fallbrookgardenclub.brownpapertickets.com](http://fallbrookgardenclub.brownpapertickets.com)). Tour day tickets are \$25. Details are at [fallbrookgardenclub.org](http://fallbrookgardenclub.org).
- Also on April 25, the **Point Loma Garden Walk** tours homes and gardens in Loma Portal, a neighborhood prized for its city and bay views. This tour also includes a popular garden boutique. A Diamond tour with transportation and lunch also is offered. Proceeds benefit Crainofacial Services at Rady Children's Hospital. Tickets are \$25; Diamond Tour is \$150. Learn more at [pointlomagardenwalk.com](http://pointlomagardenwalk.com).
- The **Friends of East County Arts Garden Tour** celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with visits to 5 gardens around East County on April 25. Crafts and garden accents will be for sale in one of the stops, which include a rose garden and two gardens with putting greens. Tickets are \$15 (\$18 on tour day). More info is at [friendsofecarts.org](http://friendsofecarts.org) or 619-442-8515. 🌿

# GOING WILD WITH NATIVES

## Snow White and the Dwarfs

By Pat Pawlowski

Once upon a time, there was a house with an abbreviated yard. The owner, an outdoor type who was fond of California native plants and most of the animals (excluding gophers), wanted to have a nice comfortable yard full of interesting plants, tweety birds and fluttering butterflies.

How to accomplish this admirable dream on a small city lot? Easy as easy: introduce some dwarfs (not gnomes) into the yard. Hi ho, hi ho – it's NOT off to work you go; most native plants don't require a lot of work on your part. No fertilizing or misting; no hoe, hoeing either.

Happy, Sneezzy, Grumpy, Dopey, Sleepy, Bashful and Doc will tell you: To attract birds and butterflies, etc., plants need not be humongous in size. Here is a short list of small but mighty plants. Most of them are miniatures of their big hulking cousins and a few are petite to begin with; but all will help introduce a little bit of an "enchanted forest" into your outdoor space. (All, of course, are drought tolerant.)

- Dwarf Black Sage (*Salvia mellifera* 'Terra Seca') - Hummingbirds, songbirds
- Dwarf California Lilac (*Ceanothus pumilus*) - Beneficial insects, birds; butterfly host plant
- Dwarf California Poppy (*Eschscholzia caespitosa*) - Native bees
- Dwarf Coastal Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos edmundsii* 'Big Sur') - Hummingbirds, songbirds
- Dwarf Coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica* 'Mound San Bruno') - Hummingbirds, songbirds, bees, beneficials; butterfly host plant
- Dwarf Coyote Brush (*Baccharis pilularis* 'Pigeon Point' and 'Twin Peaks') - Birds, beneficials
- Dwarf Rose (*Rosa gymnocarpa*) - Butterflies, birds, beneficials
- Dwarf Seaside Daisy (*Erigeron glaucus* 'Wayne Roderick') - Bumblebees, butterflies
- Dwarf Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos mollis*) - Birds; plant possibly grown by Snow White
- Dwarf Sunflower (*Helianthus gracilentus*) - Birds, bees, butterflies

Observant fairytale experts will notice there are more than seven dwarfs here; all the better to fill your yard with, my dears.

You might even be able to include a member of the oak family in your landscape. *Quercus berberidifolia*, the California scrub oak, is not called a dwarf, but it surely is, topping out at a mere 15 feet – a lot smaller than the rest of its relatives. Trimmed up, it becomes a small attractive tree. And just think: acorns for wildlife to eat and for you to toss at the neighbors.

For more suggestions, browse through native plant gardening books. For example, *California Native Plants for the Garden*, by Bornstein, Fross and O'Brian has a "Narrow Beds" section, listing plants for areas less than three feet wide. You can also visit the San Diego chapter of the California Native Plant Society, which meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month, for an impressive selection of gardening books for special situations.

And what of Snow White's situation? She's probably out shopping at a native plant nursery, since there's still time to plant compact, wildlife-pleasing natives that can survive our big bad drought.



And that's no fairy tale.

Member Pat Pawlowski is a writer/lecturer/garden consultant would like, for a change, a dwarf water bill. ☘

## TO LEARN MORE...

### Our Native Plants

By Ava Torre-Bueno

San Diego County native plants are a marvel of diversity. They have been catalogued in the San Diego County Plant Atlas: [sdplantatlas.org](http://sdplantatlas.org) by this month's speaker, Jon Rebman.

Only some of our native plants are chaparral, but they are well represented by the Chaparral Institute at [californiachaparral.org/about.html](http://californiachaparral.org/about.html), and desert plants are highlighted by Anza Borrego State Park at [abdnh.org/03flower\\_main.html](http://abdnh.org/03flower_main.html).

The San Diego Botanic Garden has a Native Plants and Native People Trail which integrates our native plants with their uses by the indigenous people of this region: at [sdbgarden.org/garden\\_native.htm](http://sdbgarden.org/garden_native.htm).

While looking for pages to include here, I found one about how to pronounce scientific names. Esoteric certainly, but useful: [sci.sdsu.edu/plants/plantsystematics/botnames.html](http://sci.sdsu.edu/plants/plantsystematics/botnames.html). ☘





## SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW AWARDS

Congratulations to all the Garden Masters for the beautiful gardens they designed for the Show, which was held in early March. We're proud that so many of them are SDHS members (members are shown in **bold**). To see photos of these gardens, go to the inside front cover of this issue and [springhomegardenshow.com](http://springhomegardenshow.com).



- Garden Master: Kimberly Alexander, **Allee Landscape Design, Ornamental Gardens by Lisa**.  
Garden Name: Basic Elements  
Gold Award, Judges' Choice, Pacific Horticulture Award for Horticultural Excellence
- Garden Master: Scotty Ensign, Scotty's Plantscape.  
Garden Name: Before...I knew and After...I learned  
Gold Medal
- Garden Master: Dominic Ramirez, Lux Landscape Design.  
Garden Name: Angle of Repose  
Gold Medal, Most Dramatic, Best Water Feature, Best Use of Hardscape, Perfection in Nomenclature
- Garden Master: Efie Lawrence, Lawrence Design.  
Garden Name: Avant Garde Conservative  
Silver Medal, Perfection in Nomenclature
- Garden Master: Steve Collins and Geronimo Chavez, **Evergreen Nursery**.  
Garden Name: Social Gardening Times Three  
Most Educational, Perfection in Nomenclature
- Garden Master: Jeff Moore, **Solana Succulents**.  
Garden Name: The Succulent Solution  
Best Compatibility of Plants, Perfection in Nomenclature
- Garden Master: Memo Garcia, Epic Landscapes.  
Garden Name: Cupula Del Mar  
Gold Medal, APLD Award for Excellence in Design Interpretation, Water Smart Award, Best Theme Interpretation, Best San Diego Adapted Garden, Best Intimate Garden, Perfection in Nomenclature
- Garden Master: Danica Hirsch, **Gardens by the Sea Nursery**.  
Garden Name: 50 Shades of Green  
Perfection in Nomenclature
- Garden Master: Calvin Briers, Advanced Waterscape.  
Garden Name: Back Country Spring  
Silver Medal, Best Interpretive Signage

- Garden Master: Paige Perkins, **Garden Chat**.  
Garden Name: Garden to Table  
Silver Medal, Best Specialty Garden, Perfection in Nomenclature
- Garden Master: Juan and Mari Dorta-Duque, Stonebrook Landscapes.  
Garden Name: Elements in Transition  
Silver Medal, CLCA "I Will Survive" Award, Best Home Landscape, Perfection in Nomenclature
- Garden Master: Barry Thau, Eco Minded Solutions.  
Garden Name: Land + Air + Sea  
Gold Award, Best Combination of Plant Material, Most Creative Use of Space
- Garden Master: Rick Warren, Olive A Dream Trees.  
Garden name: Metamorphose – A Garden Reborn  
Most Appealing to Children, Best Topiary Feature 🌿

## CALIFORNIA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE CONTEST Deadline is April 10

Got water-thrifty plants? Of course you do! Why not enter your garden in this local contest? You could win \$250! Member Amelia Lima, whose garden is shown here, was a winner in 2014.

The California-Friendly Landscape Contest was developed by local water agencies to show residents that a beautiful yard can also be water efficient. The best-in-show landscape winner in each water district is awarded \$250 and has their landscape featured in district, local media and regional publications and community events. You can view winning landscapes for wonderful ideas of water-smart designs and apply for this year's contest at [landscapecontest.com](http://landscapecontest.com).



## 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:

**We welcome JTM Nutrients as our newest Sponsor ([jtmnutrients.com](http://jtmnutrients.com))**

Lisa Adams	Arne Fjellant	James Lamping	Sanya Omerovic
Hilda Alsabrook	Dawn Getyina	Pamela Lardizabal	Kary O'Neill
Antonio Belendez	Greg Hebert Landscape Architect	Michael Layton	Brynn Proudfoot
Kelsey Brandt	M. Gail Henson	Andrea Lipson	Diana Shurtleff
Eileen Burnett	Alison Hiers	Marsha Livingston	Isiah Titus
C. Marc Capitano	Judy & Rick Huenefeld	Samuel Luna	Candace Vanderhoff
Stephanie Carroll	Daniel Jimenez	Jeremy Martin	Fiel Ventura & Charina Villaneal
Michael Cullen	Jo Haines Johnson	Michael Masterson	Dennis Vosper
Pat Davis	Kathy & Jim Johnson	Barbara McCulloh	Matt Wikler
Karen Dorney	Sally Katich	Ralph McKinnie	Karin Wilson
Brett Ecker	Chris Kibler	Mike McLaughlin & Tony Turpin	Sarah Yang
Jennifer Ewart	Chris Kohrs	You Mimura	

## HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2015; they earned Hort Bucks worth \$5 towards name badges, garden tours, dues and more! To get your Hort Bucks ask your friends to give your name when they join.

Diedre Avery (I)	Joyce James (I)	Laird Plumleigh (I)
Jim Bishop (I)	Nelda Johnson (I)	Kathy Puplava (I)
Deborah Brenner (I)	John Kramer (I)	Tammy Schwab (I)
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\*Chuck Ades (2008)

\*Walter Andersen (2002)

Norm Applebaum &

Barbara Roper

\*Bruce & Sharon

Asakawa (2010)

Gladys T. Baird

Debra Lee Baldwin

\*Steve Brigham (2009)

Laurie Connable

\*Julian (2014) & Leslie Duval

\*Edgar Engert (2000)

Jim Farley

Sue & Charles Fouquette

Caroline James

Joyce James

Debbie & Richard Johnson

\*Vince Lazaneo (2004)

\*Jane Minshall (2006)

\*Brad Monroe (2013)

\*Bill Nelson (2007)

Deborah & Jack Pate

\*Kathy Puplava (2015)

Tina & Andy Rathbone

\*Jon Rebman (2011)

Mary Rodriguez

Peggy Ruzich

Gerald D. Stewart

\*Susi Torre-Bueno (2012)

& Jose Torre-Bueno

Dorothy Walker

Lucy Warren

\*Evelyn Weidner (2001)

\*Pat Welsh (2003)

Betty Wheeler

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(see ads for more discounts)

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

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

Join Grangetto's FREE Garden Club for coupons and tips delivered to your inbox. [www.grangettos.com/garden](http://www.grangettos.com/garden).



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The Asian Art Show will celebrate the art of Asian horticulture with outstanding displays of Ikebana and Bonsai, lectures, and a spectacular demonstration by San Diego Taiko Drummers. Divine Fresh will be serving delicious Greek food and Bob Ballentine and friends will perform native flute music with Didgeridoos in the Lawn Garden.

For more information, visit  
[SDBGarden.org/events.htm](http://SDBGarden.org/events.htm)  
Cost: Free with paid admission or membership. 🌿







## 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.*

### Steep Challenge

*This is a continuation of last month's article about challenges creating a garden in our new home in Mission Hills.*

While we were working on remodeling the house, I was desperate to create a garden. However, there were a few challenges to overcome. First, most of the house is surrounded by walkways and patios, leaving very little gardening space near the house. Second, there was no irrigation system and no faucets behind the house. Third was how to garden on a steep hill.

On the west side yard there was a very uplifted, steep and uneven walkway along the side of the house. Below this area were some crumbling brick planters and stairways with a unique handrail made from PVC irrigation pipe. Inside the pool area were several cracked concrete planters. The strangest of these was an 8-foot tall planter that the stairway to the pool wrapped around. It was planted with a very large and tall *Washingtonia* palm. Improper construction and the palm had created a large 2-inch wide crack from the top of the planter to bottom. Around the pool was a stucco wall with a noticeable lean that someone had added buttresses to on the backside to prevent it from falling over.

The only access from the pool area to the canyon was a side gate with a strange support at the top that was about five feet high and required ducking under to get through the gate. This may have been created to keep the pool wall from toppling, but it had pulled away from the concrete block wall above it and was now just something to hit your head on. Once you exited the gate, there was steep drop off into the canyon. Behind the pool wall was a chain link fence for a very narrow dog run. Below that was a weed and eucalyptus forest. One of the previous owners had planted row after row of eucalyptus trees every ten feet from the top to bottom of the canyon. There were a few overgrown trails, but no easy way to access them.



Side walkway when we moved in

Since any work behind the house required access from the street, the first project we tackled was replacing the walkway on the side of the house. A large volunteer *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Island Date Palm) had taken root at the base of one of the Italian cypresses just inside the gate to the street, and blocked access to the pathway. We set out to dig it out, unaware of the large spines at the base of the leaves. I watched in horror as one of the spines pierced

*Continued on page 12*

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through the skin between Scott's fingers and came out the other side. Luckily, he was able to free himself without further physical injury. The Italian cypress was not so lucky, and we ended up digging it out entirely to



Side walkway much improved

remove the palm. We transplanted both plants further down the hill where they both soon died. Next, we removed all of the old concrete and blocks along the side of the house, and cleaned the mortar off the bricks from the crumbling planters and re-laid them into a nice curving walkway that led to the back of the house. We were very proud of our first functional and aesthetic addition to the garden.

Next, we needed to figure out how to get irrigation into the canyon. We had noticed that there were several faucet outlets in the canyon and one just behind the pool wall. However, they did not work and we could not find where they tied into the house piping. I figured we could pressurize the line by connecting a hose to the top and eventually water would come out somewhere. So we did just that and noticed we could hear the water freely running and went about other chores in the garden. Several hours later, we heard a lot of people frantically yelling at us from the top floor of the parking garage behind our house. Once we were able to understand them, we realized that we had flooded the bottom floor of the parking garage. We quickly turned off the water and went down the hill to investigate. There was a PVC line that went from our property and into the bottom of the parking garage where it had been cut, but not capped. After talking to neighbors and hotel employees, we found out that one of the previous owners, who they referred to as the "bounty hunter," had owned both the hotel and our property. He had intended to put hotel suites on the canyon behind our house, but was unable to get city approval. He also had planted the eucalyptus grove and installed the PVC lines on the hill and connected it to the hotel.

A few neighbors also told us that there was once a trailer on the flat area at the very bottom of the hill. We had noticed that there were a few old pine trees and some ice plants there, and wondered what else had been there. Several neighbors informed us that the trailer was used by prostitutes that were waiting for calls from clients in the nearby hotels. We've never been able to officially confirm the story, but we are grateful for the irrigation lines in the canyon. We were able to tie into them with an irrigation system that waters part of the canyon. We are less grateful for the eucalyptus, which I will discuss in future articles.

~~~~~

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



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## SHARING SECRETS

Edited by Dayle Cheever

This column is written by you, our members! Each month we'll ask a question, and print your responses the following month. You can find copies of previous Sharing Secrets on our website at <https://sdhort.wildapricot.org/SharingSecrets?eid=1093874>. Also, you can continue the discussion by adding new replies online to Sharing Secrets topics. Here's your chance to comment on how the plants you mentioned two years ago are doing today, or to suggest another way to do something in the garden.

### The question for April was:

**What are your plans for your spring garden or for your general spring season preparations? (Please include your zip code.)**

**Cheryl Nichols:** They say Sunset Cliffs has the closest climate to Hawaii on the West Coast. As a tropical garden lover, I recently discovered Jungle Magic Nursery in Encinitas. Last weekend I bought a long coveted Traveler's Palm (*Ravenala madagascariensis*), which is already in the ground, planted east/west. I also planted several varieties of Philodendron and small bromeliads. I am finally planting several Ti plant starts, which I (legally) brought back from Hawaii in January. They now have small roots. (92107)

**Tandy Pfost:** My garden definitely needs a spruce up. I am in the process of cleaning-up some of the old wood mulch that has not decomposed and laying fresh compost over all the ground. I will use the old wood to make compost. I am feeding everything and need to get started on grafting fruit trees with additional varieties. Now that the gopher is trapped, I will also re-do the herb garden.

**Susan M. Oddo:** Butterflies! Butterflies! Butterflies! While we are not especially fond of whole gardens devoted to natives, due to their off-season drabness, we have identified spots throughout the garden where we can tuck in one or two natives around succulents and bushes to support our local butterfly population. Those "one or two" spots added up to about thirty new plants, so we went to Las Pilitas Nursery in Escondido to learn more about what plants butterflies need for food or larva. Their website has an amazing aggregation of data about Southern California butterflies. In one raised bed we are creating a mix of natives and plants that Donna and Steve Brigham used in their amazing butterfly garden at Buena Creek Gardens in San Marcos. Here's a link to Steve's article in *Pacific Horticulture* magazine about this garden: [tinyurl.com/steve-article](http://tinyurl.com/steve-article). We will also convert a birdbath to a butterfly bog, by laying down a bed of sand and adding just enough water to be visible but not to drown the butterflies when they land in it for a drink.

**Diedre Avery:** In my yard, we'll be growing more herbs for us and flora that the butterflies and birds will love. Too much water went into last year's tomatoes, with so-so success. I'll leave the tomatoes to the masters (Home Town Farms in San Marcos; you can buy direct!) and I'll grow the accompaniments. I will be installing a better drip system this year, also. Finally, basil, basil, and basil; so many to play with. (92025)

**Sharon Corrigan:** I just had a handyman add extra drainage holes to one large pedestal cement pot, and then added a base of river rocks and screen to assist with drainage for succulents. I now need to empty out the second one and do the same things, as it turns into a lake and mud pit every time it rains or the irrigation drips in. It takes months to dry out and it kills the succulents. I've planted tons of bulbs around the edges of planted areas and they are popping up all over!

**Gwenn Adams:** I took inventory of stressed plants, carefully observed the variety of microclimates around the yard, considered water usage/reduction, and have planned new plantings accordingly. Along with adding healthy mulch, granular organic feeding and some soil optimizer, I have been collecting rain water and becoming more concerned with vignette plantings, rather than having a homogenous look. Hearing Debra Lee Baldwin speak has helped me incorporate design principles rather than dealing with annual plantings.

**Vivian Blackstone:** I'm planting tomatoes and some herbs, putting in a new peach tree, and heavily pruning grapes and figs. I am putting some new soil on the top of plants.

**Barbara Huntington:** Succulents, California natives, plants for bees and butterflies. I am now turf-less and proud of it. I am contemplating a raised vegetable bed with leftover pavers.

**Christine Harrison:** My plans are to plant all cover crops in my beds this spring for two reasons. I want to dig them into my soil and see if they really do improve fertility. Also, I've found that in my garden, it has become too hot during the past few summers to enjoy working outside, not to mention the water issue and the plants' increased water needs during our hotter summers.

**Sharon Ward:** I am downsizing this year in my garden. My plants have overgrown my deck and pots, the cats have used my garlic planters for their business, and I can barely get through to water. I need to move! (92117)


**Linda Woloson:** This spring I plan to focus on soil improvement by making lots of trips to the dump for compost. I am staying out of nurseries to resist planting anything new this year because of the drought. I plan to remove every tree and shrub that I am not in love with to simplify my landscape. Maintaining 2-acres has become just too expensive to water. In the past, I tried to maintain an exclusively tropical garden, but now I am embracing succulents and letting the natives grow when they come up in my gardens; they may be the only things that survive. I do feel sorry for the nursery owners during this drought. (92067)

**Cathy Tylka:** I am still working on getting my leggy succulents back into the lower ground and sharing the extras. I guess it's a work in progress, taking me longer than I expected, although I didn't give myself an exact timeline. This will neaten up my garden, and then I can proceed to add a few new proteas, I hope. I love the idea of something blooming all year-round and trying to improve on that. (92026)

**Donna Griffin:** I am planning to plant some citrus trees in my backyard and some jasmine vines to train up the posts on my back porch.

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**Ruth Sewell:** After reading the timely article on passion fruit, I purchased a replacement. While in the nursery, the bignonia, Tangerine Beauty, caught my eye. It is now at my front entrance and the hummingbirds found it immediately. Lastly, I am trying the new purple artichokes. (92107)

**Steve Brigham:** This year, and right now, I really need to get busy and re-start all my overgrown potted succulents! Just cut the tops off with some stem for rooting, and plant them in a new pot with new soil and you're good to go for another few years! (Mendocino Coast, 95488)

**Patricia Amador:** I'm going to plant herbs and some lettuces. A friend and I are going to build a community garden at her home so that we can plant tomatoes. My yard is mostly shade, hers is mostly sunny, and so tomatoes go there!

**Ellen McGrath-Thorpe:** After attending the Holiday Market Place, I followed through and made an appointment with Water Smart for a free survey of our garden. A very charming, young man came out one time and spent some quality time with us reviewing our plants and the changes to our irrigation system that we were contemplating. We are following through on his advice: change out certain parts of our irrigation system with a drip system and 1-gallon emitters on almost all of our plants (drought resistant) and 4-gallon emitters on our roses. We were so glad to get such advice from someone who had no profit motive at stake. (92010)

**Kathleen Arciero:** Happy to say we are almost (90%) ready to renovate our front yard. Remove all grass, widen the driveway, improve the entryway to make it more accessible, have a Tuscan/Mediterranean garden style, address water runoff issues (percolating system), look at hardscape materials, and encourage more birds and butterflies. (92056)

**Kenneth Selzer:** Prepare vegetable garden for spring/summer plants.

**Stephen A. Zolezzi:** Where would a gardener be without the proper tools to get the jobs done as easily as possible? On order for the spring war against critters are rolls of netting, so I get to keep more than 50 percent of my crops; a digital, three-way soil analyzer for proper fertilizer application and to know when water is really needed; a new auger with a long shank, less bending over to plant all sorts of plants; a new diamond sharpener kit, so all my cutting blades turn even hard wood to butter; and finally, get to the big job of removing the lawn to make way for natives and succulents to reduce water usage. Oh, then find the time to enjoy it all!

**Dannie McLaughlin:** I am going to continue to expand what I started last year: my butterfly bog and native plant garden. I need to take out a couple of trees in order to do this, but they are past their prime anyway. Because my goal is to attract more birds, butterflies, and all manner of wildlife, I am continuing to garden organically. I can't thank Ari Tenenbaum (he was the landscape designer for one of the gardens on last year's SDHS Garden Tour) and his company, Revolution Landscape, enough for helping me walk the walk, so to speak, when it comes to organic gardening. Since Ari and his guys took over tending my citrus and avocado orchard, things have never looked better. Thanks also to Pat Pawlowski for her knowledge and

expertise when it comes to California natives and plants that attract birds and butterflies. I already have monarchs and swallowtails in the garden! Finally, my lawn abatement program is well underway. I am removing all of the turf in front of the house. I'm not sure yet what I'm replacing it with, but once the Cypress trees are gone (yes, they are also past their prime; hope no one says that about me anytime soon) I will have a clean slate from which to consider a drought-tolerant Mediterranean style garden. Maybe some olive trees, manzanita, and shrubs with silvery gray leaves. I can almost see it now. Happy spring gardening from 92024.

**Sharon Swildens:** Since I have an acre and my summer water bills run \$700 to \$900 for two months, I will be removing my backyard grass and replacing it with stone. I will put in a few bulbs for the underground creatures to feed on, and remove an apricot tree that does not give fruit. (92064)

**Paula Suttle:** I plan to get rid of more crab grass in my garden by gradual removal by shovel. I have 0.8-acres, so it's slow progress. I plant natives here and there and create small garden patches to weed around. Also, it makes me happy to plant more natives and Australian plants, so I will be doing that as the rains still may come and go a bit. Plants that I can't keep up on the watering will just have to fend for themselves. I also have an enormous fallen, dead native willow that has smashed some beloved plants, which I have to remove. We have slowly been losing all the ancient willows along our property, alongside Rattlesnake Creek in Poway. (92064)

**Dawne Dickinson:** I've planted some San Diego native milkweed seeds that have just started coming up, and will plant some in my yard and some down at Escondido creek, hoping to help the Monarch in my area. (92009) 🌱



Our plant display with members' cuttings

Janet Ward

(L to R) Susan Morse, Susan Starr and Scott Borden selling event tickets



Janet Ward

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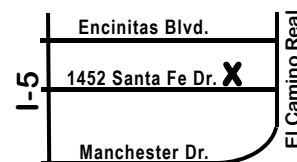
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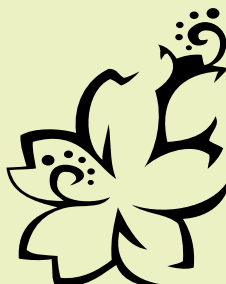
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# MARCH 2015 PLANT DISPLAY

By Steve Brigham, Pat Pawlowski and Susi Torre-Bueno

## What is the Plant Display?

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

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

***Aloe rupestris*** BOTTLEBRUSH ALOE (Aloaceae) South Africa  
The cheerful tubular, tangerine-colored blossoms on this winter-blooming aloe are arranged on a tall multi-branched stalk, and hundreds of blooms are clustered on each flower stem. In the wild this aloe can grow to nearly 30' tall, but the plants sold in the U.S. might actually be hybrids that don't get quite that large. Also, the plants sold here often form multi-stemmed clumps, whereas in habitat this is usually seen as a solitary specimen. The broad leaves have attractive red-brown marginal teeth, but the plant is otherwise smooth. In my garden it gets about ¾ day sun, and is thriving on very moderate weekly watering (less in winter if we get rain). I purchased mine (from Solana Succulents) as a 1-gallon plant in 2009, and it now a clump about 6' x 6', with five large (3' wide) plants. For a good discussion about this plant see davesgarden.com. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/15) – S.T.B.

***Eucalyptus cinerea*** SILVER DOLLAR TREE (Myrtaceae)

New South Wales and Victoria, Australia  
Excerpted from *Ornamental Trees for Mediterranean Climates*: The Silver Dollar Tree grows up to 50' tall and 40' wide, with bright silvery-gray foliage that really stands out in the landscape. This is a densely foliated evergreen tree that prefers well-drained soils and is very drought-tolerant as well as cold-hardy, withstanding temperatures down to 15°F... The Silver Dollar Tree is especially prized for its juvenile foliage, which consists of pairs of round silvery leaves that clasp the branchlets, and is even cultivated as a cut-foliage crop by regularly cutting back the plants to force new juvenile growth. On older Silver Dollar Trees left to grow naturally, mature leaves are longer and pointed, but in this species even the adult leaves are silvery and sometimes even mixed with juvenile leaves at the ends of the branches. (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 3/15) – S.B.

***Lachenalia namaquensis*** CAPE COWSLIP

(Hyacinthaceae [Liliaceae s.l.]) S. Africa (Namaqualand)  
This easy bulb is native to arid, rocky areas. It increases by stolons and also seeds. The color changes as the urn-shaped flowers mature, and they can range from pink to magenta. (Dylan Hannon, Bonsall, 3/95; Sheldon Lisker, Sun City, 3/15) – S.L. & S.T.B.

***Lasthenia coronaria*** ROYAL GOLDFIELDS (Asteraceae) California, Baja California, Guadalupe Island, Mexico

This petite annual grows to about 15" tall and blooms in early spring, after rainfall (a similar species is *L. californica*). It reseeds profusely! The sweetly-scented bright yellow blooms can last for several months, and they attract beneficial insects. Plant seeds in fall in full sun. (Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 3/15) – PP.

***Mirabilis californica*** (*M. laevis* var. *crassifolia*)

CALIFORNIA FOUR O'CLOCK, WISHBONE BUSH  
Many of us are familiar with the old garden favorites known as Four O'Clocks (*Mirabilis jalapa*), whose brightly-colored funnel-shaped

blooms open late in the afternoon. They come from Peru, and have long been in cultivation, growing easily from large black seeds. The specimen displayed is their local cousin, a water-thrifty California native perennial species that grows to about 1' tall x 3' wide. The oval to heart-shaped leaves are quite small, up to about 1-1/2" long, and slightly hairy, with a very thin reddish edge. According to *The California Native Landscape* (by SDHS members Greg Rubin and Lucy Warren), it is native to coastal sage scrub, chaparral and oak woodland. It does best in full sun with good drainage. The dainty violet flowers (about ½" long) open in the afternoon, and close by morning. Self-seeds (although this hasn't been a problem in my garden); dormant after flowering, so site carefully. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/15) – S.T.B.

***Salvia leucophylla*** 'Figueroa' PURPLE SAGE (Lamiaceae)

Horticultural selection

This heat-tolerant evergreen perennial selection of a California native sage has nicely-scented silver-green foliage, and grows to about 2'-5' tall by 6'-8' wide. The three 1-gallon plants I planted in 2010, have formed low mounds about 5'-8' wide. So far they have not been troubled by pests of any kind, and weathered the drought with minimal water, doing much better than a number of other native plants in my garden. The pale violet-pink flowers appear in whirls up along the stems in spring. Does best in full sun; needs only low water. According to California Native Plants for the Garden, "Purple sage produces two sets of leaves. The lush, new, apple green spring leaves are 1 to 3 inches long and somewhat bumpy. They are eventually replaced by smaller, silvery white foliage as the weather heats up." There are a number of other *Salvia leucophylla* cultivars and selections available, and they vary as to height, flower color and growing conditions. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/15) – S.T.B.

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

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

*Can you spot the phony plant this month?* The phony plant in the March newsletter was *Petrea valuabilis* QUEEN'S WEALTH, PAPER MONEY VINE.

*Beschorneria* sp. (Jeff Biletznikoff, Ramona, 3/15)

3 *Brunfelsia pauciflora* YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW  
(?, 3/15)

3 *Cestrum elegans* (Sheila Busch, Escondido, 3/15)

*Eucalyptus botryoides* BANGALAY (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 3/15)

*Gladiolus splendens* (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/15)

3 *Gladiolus tristis* (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/15; Sheldon Lisker, Sun City, 3/15)

3 *Scadoxus puniceus* ROYAL PAINTBRUSH, PAINTBRUSH FLOWER  
(Linda Woloson, Rancho Santa Fe, 3/15)

*Sphaeralcea ambigua* APRICOT MALLOW, DESERT HOLLYHOCK  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/15)

*Tabebuia impetiginosa* (*T. ipe*) PINK TRUMPET TREE (?, 3/15)

*Tillandsia fasciculata* AIR PLANT (Jim Wright, San Diego, 3/15)

*Tillandsia kautskyi* AIR PLANT (Jim Wright, San Diego, 3/15)

*Trichostema lanatum* WOOLLY BLUE CURLS

(Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 3/15)

*Trichostema margarinum* MOCK BUTTER CURLS

(Plant Putterer, El Cajon, 3/15)

Mixed bouquet of spring blooming plants brought in by Sue Fouquette:  
*Freesia*, sweet pea, *Sparaxis tricolor*, nasturtium, daffodils,  
*Leucojum aestivum* ❀

## MARCH MEETING REPORT

### Eucalyptus in California: The Good, the Bad, and The Ugly

By Ellie Knight

According to Dr. Matt Ritter, Professor of Biology, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, who gave a fascinating and fast-paced presentation last month, eucalypts have gotten a bad rap in California, much of it undeserved. Today, fully 33% of our urban tree species are from Australia, among these acacias, bottle trees, bottle brushes, melaleucas, pittosporums, carrot wood, casuarina, and eucalypts. Dry soil evolution in Australia makes these trees desirable in our ongoing struggles with drought.

There is a very wide variety of eucalyptus in Australia, from *Eucalyptus regnans*, one of the tallest trees in the world, rivaling redwoods, to the Snow Gum, *Eucalyptus pauciflora*, dwarfed by an alpine climate. They are all angiosperms (flowering, as opposed to coniferous), but range in type, formed by regional climate conditions. They include small chaparral-like coastal scrub species. There is also diversity in bark, some being decorticate (shedding) and others "ironbark." They have in common a change in leaf shape from juvenile to adult, where adult leaves hang vertically and are the same on both sides to promote photosynthesis.

The flowers and methods of pollination differ from other plants, in that the sepals form caps over the petals. These caps then fall off and reveal the flower, which then forms a womb for the seeds. Seeds can be wind-dispersed up to 100 yards away.

Eucalypts are the second most important solid timber and paper chip source in the world, used for plywood, fiberboard, poles, firewood, charcoal, essential oils, honey, shelter, ornament, and mostly, pulp. There are 20 million eucalypts planted worldwide. The most widely planted are *Eucalyptus globulus* (Blue Gum), *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (Red Gum), both noted for limb fall and shallow roots; and *Eucalyptus grandis* (Flooded Gum), which is mostly found in Brazil.

India, Brazil, and China account for one half of worldwide plantings. Even Portugal has 20 times the number as grown in California. There are 700 species in the genus, 374 of which were introduced into California (202 of these survive). Thirty-eight species are widely planted, and 18 taxa have naturalized in California (reproducing on their own). Southwest Australia, with a climate like that of California, is home to 135 species. Both the blue and red gums so common here are considered weeds, or invasive.

In the 19th century, eucalypts were imported into California as "miracle trees." Farmers were convinced that these tree crops would solve the timber problem with no work and large profits. Noted horticulturalist Theodore Payne called them "the most remarkable tree in the world." Disillusionment set in after huge fires decimated the Oakland/Berkeley hills, which had been the subject of a cultural push to beautify California with large plantings. Also, the mature wood turned out to be of poor quality. They developed a reputation for being dangerous, weedy and even bird-killers (nests supposedly fell due to sparse growth, but this is untrue). Today, we see the remnants of these trees in rows and groves throughout the state.

Dr. Ritter believes that the future requires balancing native and

exotic trees. His advice is not to jettison diversity because of species bias. We need trees in a drying climate, and we need diversity. He provided a list of "good" eucalypts – small, not fireprone, without falling bark, beautiful, and drought-tolerant:

*Eucalyptus kruseana*, Book Leaf Mallee

*Eucalyptus tetragona*, Silver Marloc

*Eucalyptus caesia*, Silver Princess

*Eucalyptus orbifolia*, Round-Leafed Mallee

*Eucalyptus erythrocorys*, Red Cap

*Eucalyptus tetraptera*, Four-Winged Mallee (with huge flowers)

*Eucalyptus macrocarpa*, Large-Fruited Mallee

*Eucalyptus rhodantha*, Rose Mallee

*Eucalyptus preissiana*, Bell-Flowered Mallee

*Eucalyptus woodwardii*, Lemon-Flowered Mallee

*Eucalyptus forrestiana*, Fuchsia Gum

*Eucalyptus torquata*, Coral Gum

*Corymbia ficifolia*, Marri or Red-Flowering Gum –  
a close relative of eucs

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## ■ Speaker Continued from page 1

San Diego and Imperial Counties and 21 years experience studying the plants of the Baja California peninsula. He leads various field classes and botanical expeditions each year and is actively naming new plant species from our region. He also does general floristic research and he co-published the most recent edition of the *Checklist of the Vascular Plants of San Diego County*. He has over 22 years of field experience with surveying and documenting plants, including rare and endangered species.

We've reserved the San Diego Natural History Museum in Balboa Park (theNAT) for our exclusive use for this very special meeting. Members and guests will be able to tour the theNAT's exhibits including the newest exhibit, *Coast to Cactus in Southern California*, after the presentation.

For more information see page 6. 🌿

## SDHS Nametags

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



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

25 Years Experience in So. California



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Consulting Horticulturist

**Sunset Horticultural Services**  
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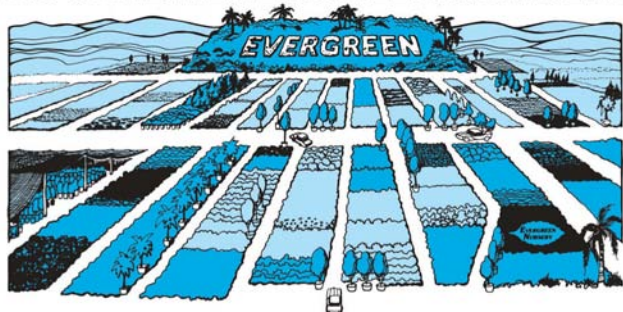
**Landscape renovation**  
**Complete landscape care**

## What's Happening? for APRIL 2015

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@sdhort.org](mailto:calendar@sdhort.org).

### ▼ SDHS Sponsor

## DISCOVER EVERGREEN NURSERY



Landscaping? Relandscaping?  
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### WHY PAY MORE?

**BUY DIRECT FROM THE GROWER AND SAVE!**

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Incredible selection. Over 500 varieties on 400 acres.  
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The discount houses and depots can't compete  
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- 1 gallon plants starting at \$3.50
- 5 gallon plants starting at \$10.00
- 15 gallon plants starting at \$39.00

### PROMPT DELIVERY AVAILABLE

#### Hours - call to confirm

Mon-Saturday 7:30-4:30; Sunday 9:00-4:30 – to mid-March  
Carmel Valley and Oceanside: Mon–Thurs 7:30-5:00,  
Fri–Sat 7:30-6:00, Sunday 9:00-6:00  
Blossom Valley: Mon–Sat 7:30-4:30, Sunday 9:00-4:30

## Free Monthly Seminar

*First Saturday of every month*

*Starting at 10am at two locations: Carmel Valley and Oceanside*

### April 4: Starting a Vegetable & Herb Garden

What does it take to grow your own vegetables and herbs?  
Learn the best techniques for growing in containers, or raised  
beds, or just planting directly into your garden.

#### April 18<sup>th</sup> - All About Roses

Come see and enjoy our huge selection of colorful roses and  
become a garden rose expert. We would love to see some of your  
“best” roses, please bring ‘em in and show ‘em off and share your  
own secrets of success!

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

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

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

Send questions and comments to:

[info@evergreennursery.com](mailto:info@evergreennursery.com)

### Three Convenient Locations:

#### CARMEL VALLEY

13650 Valley Rd.  
(858) 481-0622

#### OCEANSIDE

3231 Oceanside Blvd.  
(760) 754-0340

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

#### EL CAJON

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

## Events at Public Gardens

### ❖ Alta Vista Gardens Contact info on other side

**April 11, 10am-3pm:** Earth Day Festival. Plant Sales, guest  
Speaker on Permaculture in the 21st Century, and more.  
See [www.avgardens.org](http://www.avgardens.org) for events & classes

### ❖ San Diego Botanic Garden Contact info on other side

**April 25, 9am-noon, Living Wall/Vertical Garden:** Plant a 10”  
x 20” wall utilizing a variety of succulents. Members \$30, Non-  
Members \$36. Register by April 16.

**April 28, 9am-2pm, Succulent Wreath Class:** Take home a  
beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself. Please bring  
small clippers or scissors to class. Members \$60, Non-  
Members \$72.

### ❖ The Water Conservation Garden

Contact info on other side

**April 4, 10am-Noon, Irrigation 101:** tips for retrofitting existing  
systems and installing a basic drip system. \$10 Non-Members.

**April 25, 9am-4pm, Spring Garden Festival:** Activities and  
bountiful plant sale. Info: [www.cuyamaca.edu/springfest/2015](http://www.cuyamaca.edu/springfest/2015).

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

## Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

### ◆ Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops

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

### ◆ Cedros Gardens, Saturday & Sunday FREE classes.

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

### ◆ City Farmers Nursery Workshops

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

### ◆ Evergreen Nursery: 2 FREE Seminars in April

See column at left for details.

### ◆ Grangetto's Farm & Garden Supply: FREE Seminar Planting Spring Veggies: FREE, at 2 locations:

**April 4, 10am–11:30am,** 1105 W. Mission Avenue Escondido

**April 4, 1:30-3:00pm,** 29219 Juba Road, Valley Center

Info: [www.grangettosgardenclub.com](http://www.grangettosgardenclub.com). See ad page 14.

### ◆ Sunshine Care FREE Seminar Each Month

**April 18, 10:30am, Vegetable Gardening 101 Lecture:** The  
Wonderful World of Chiles, Sweet and Hot. Plants, seeds and  
more will be available for purchase. 12725 Monte Vista Rd.,  
Poway. RSVP: (858) 472-6059 or [roy@sunshinecare.com](mailto:roy@sunshinecare.com).  
Info: [www.sunshinecare.com](http://www.sunshinecare.com). See ad on page 13.

### ◆ Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes

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

#### Point Loma, 9am

April 4 Yummy Herbs

April 11 Worms & beneficials

April 18 Low water gardening

April 25 Fairy Gardening

#### Poway, 9:30am

Spring Flowers

Garden to table

Citrus & Avocado

Organic veggies

### ◆ Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops

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

## Next SDHS Meeting

April 13:

## SPECIAL MEETING at Natural History Museum

See page 1 & website for details

**Advance ticket purchase required**

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



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

**Free Workshop: Details on page 2**  
**Herb Gardening in the Landscape, Beds & Containers**  
Saturday, April 25, 1:00 PM, Poway  
The planting, care, and maintenance of perennial herbs, seeded herbs and basil will be discussed. To register go to [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org) and click on the workshop link.

**April 1 to May 10, 9am-6pm, Master Gardener's Demonstration Garden:** Garden features plants native to Mediterranean regions. The Flower Fields, 5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad. Info: [www.mastergardenerssandiego.org](http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org).

**April 4, 10-noon, Solana Center's Composting Workshop:** 1250 Laguna Drive, Carlsbad. Info/register: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**April 7-May 5, Tuesdays, 5:30pm-8pm, Solana Center's Master Composter Course:** 11769 Waterhill Rd., Lakeside. \$25. Info/register: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**April 11-May 9, Saturdays, 9:30pm-noon, Solana Center's Master Composter Course:** 9601 Ridgehaven Court, San Diego. \$25. Info/register: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**April 11, 9am-3pm, Poway Valley Garden Club Standard Flower Show:** A variety of horticulture and design; Plant Sale. Free. 14134 Midland Road, Poway. Info: [www.powayvalleygardenclub.org](http://www.powayvalleygardenclub.org).

**April 11, 1-3pm, San Carlos Community Garden Spring Festival:** 6460 Boulder Lake Avenue. Info: [www.mastergardenerssandiego.org](http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org).

**April 14, 10-noon, Solana Center's Composting Presentation:** 31020 Cole Grade Road Valley Center. Info/register: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**April 18, 8-11am, Native Plant Society Explore Nature's Gardens:** Piedras Pintadas Trail. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).

**April 25, 10-11:30am, County Farm and Home Advisors Lecture:** Growing Fresh Herbs. 4S Ranch Library, 10433 Reserve Dr., San Diego, 92127. Info: <http://cesandiego.ucanr.edu>

**April 29 (4-7pm) & 30 (9am-noon), Village Garden Club of La Jolla's Expressions in Art & Flowers:** Art interpreted by a floral design. 8320 La Jolla Scenic Dr. North, La Jolla. Non-Members \$20 Wednesday, \$15 Thursday. Info: [www.vgclj.com](http://www.vgclj.com).

APRIL GARDEN TOURS  
Details on page 5

- **April 11, 9am-4pm, San Diego Horticultural Society's Garden Tour:** see pages 3 & 10, [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org).
- April 18-19, Coronado Flower Show: [www.coronadoflowershow.com](http://www.coronadoflowershow.com).
- April 18 Encinitas Garden Festival & Tour: SEE INSERT [www.encinitasgardenfestival.org](http://www.encinitasgardenfestival.org).
- April 18, Bernardo Gardeners Club Spring Garden Tour: Email [bernardogardenersclub@gmail.com](mailto:bernardogardenersclub@gmail.com).
- April 19, Seaside Native Plant Garden Tour: call the Buena Vista Nature Center at 760-439-2473.
- April 25, Fallbrook Garden Club Tour: [www.fallbrookgardenclub.org](http://www.fallbrookgardenclub.org).
- April 25, Point Loma Garden Walk: [www.pointlomagardenwalk.com](http://www.pointlomagardenwalk.com).
- April 25, Friends of East County Arts Garden Tour: [www.friendsofecarts.org](http://www.friendsofecarts.org) or 619-442-8515.

**Do you belong to a club or organization whose events aren't listed above?**  
For a FREE listing (space permitting) send details by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month BEFORE the event to Neal King at [calendar@sdhort.org](mailto:calendar@sdhort.org).

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

Resources & Ongoing Events:

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

**SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN:** (formerly QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS): Open daily 9-5 (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day); 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Fee: \$14/adults, \$10/seniors, \$8/kids 3-12; parking \$2. Free to members and on the first Tuesday of every month. (760) 436-3036; [www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org).

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

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

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

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

**DESERT WILDFLOWER HOTLINE:** Anza-Borrego Desert State Park: (760) 767-4684. Info., events, road conditions, etc.: (760) 767-5311 or [www.desertusa.com/wildflo/wildupdates.html](http://www.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 [www.theodorepayne.org](http://www.theodorepayne.org).

BALBOA PARK:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Garden Radio Shows:

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

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

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