

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

January 2015, Number 244

Under the Spell of Succulents

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**SPRING
GARDEN TOUR
PAGE 3**

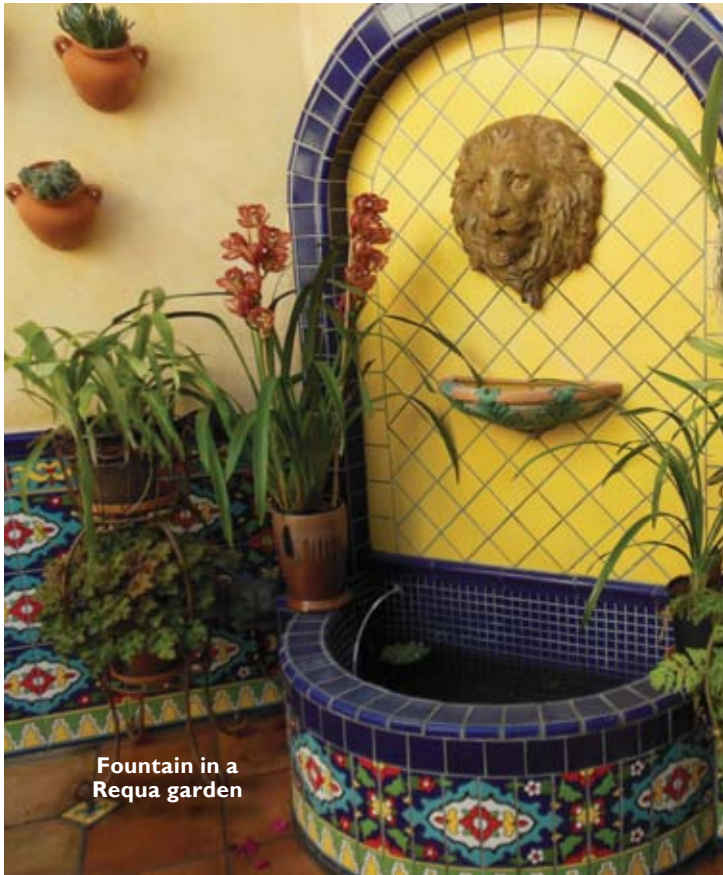
**THE EARTH MOVED
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**GET YOUR NATIVE
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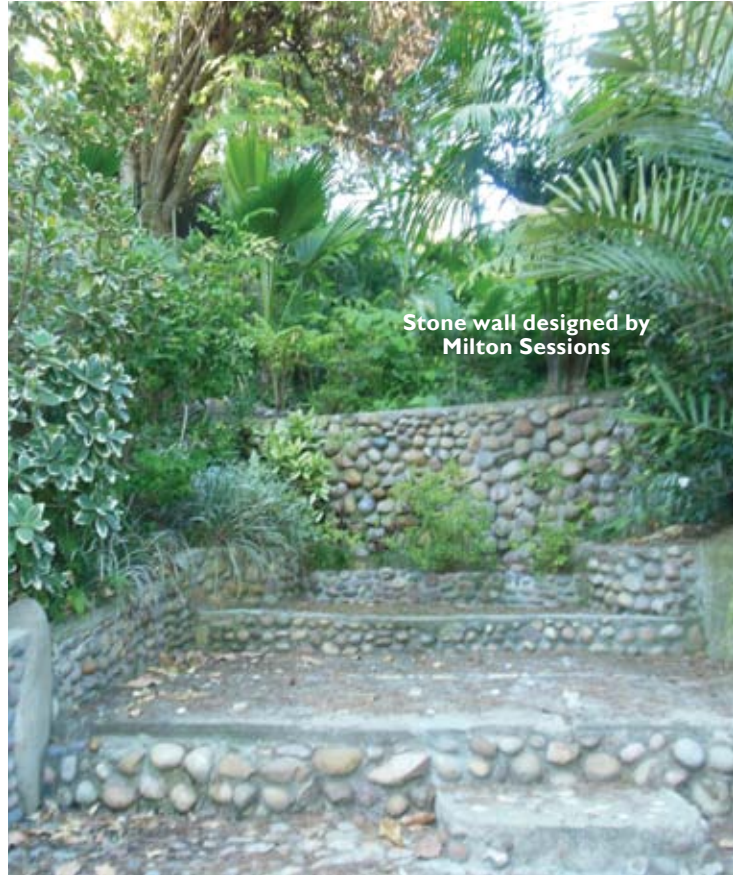
**On the Cover:
A very special agave**

SPRING GARDEN TOUR – See page 3



Fountain in a Requa garden

Susan Starr (2)



Stone wall designed by Milton Sessions

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sdhs





Landscape & Nursery Technology

Southwestern College

Spring, 2015 Schedule



Classes begin January 21, 2015

- LNT 70 **Principles of Pruning Fruit Trees and Vines:** Want to learn the best way to prune your fruit trees to produce the largest fruits? Did you know that by using the correct pruning practices your fruit trees will be more in control, easier to pick, and simpler to maintain? Get hands-on training provided by local fruit tree expert Tom Del Hotal. Oh, and you'll learn the best fruit tree varieties for your local climate.
- Room 1801 1 unit Del Hotal (6 week course Jan 22 – Feb 26)
Lect: Thur 6:30 – 8:50 pm
Lab: Sat 3:30 – 5:00 pm (Lab dates: 1/24,1/31,2/7,2/14,2/21,2/28)
- LNT 100 **Plant and Horticultural Science:** This is a perfect class to learn the vast and exciting skills of the horticultural trades. Topics include basic plant structure and physiology, plant propagation, soils, proper plant pruning, fertilization, basic design principles, pest control, and more. This is a great way to discover if a horticultural career is for you. Plus, this class qualifies as a general education class in the Natural Sciences area.
- Room 1802 4 units Rottke
Wednesdays 11:00 am to 4:50 pm
- LNT 119 **Plant Identification-Xeriphytic Plants:** There is no doubt that San Diego landscapes are moving towards the use of drought tolerant or xeriphytic plants. Learn the scientific names, common names, and correct uses of plants which can tolerate lower amounts of water including California native plants, Australian plants, and Mediterranean plants. Take fun field trips to areas such as Torrey Pines, the Cuyamaca mountains, local estuaries, and more. Taught on various Saturdays as shown below:
- Room 1802 3 units Sinclair
Various Saturdays 8:00 am to 1:50 pm (1/24,2/7,2/21,3/7,3/21,4/11,4/25,5/9)
- LNT 120 **Landscape Design 1** – Proper landscape design combines the use of the right plant in the right place along with proven design principles that highlight and showcase the beauty and vast diversity of plants. Learn essential design methods such as balance, scale, repetition, color, texture, and more. Develop the skills needed to properly draw and present professional landscape design plans to clients. Perfect for entry level designers and potential landscape contractors or future landscape architects. Also, a great class for homeowners wishing to learn design principles for their own home.
- Room 503 4 units Landis
Tuesdays and Thursdays 6:00 – 9:50 pm
- LNT 131 **Landscape Contracting and Estimating:** This class instructs students in the proper and accepted methods of performing accurate landscape cost estimates. Proper estimates can determine the costs of installing a new landscape which includes labor, materials, equipment, and subcontractors and then adds on overhead and includes a fair profit. In addition, this class covers the information needed to become a licenses landscape contractor – a requirement to legally install new landscapes.
- Room 1802 3 units Homyak
Wednesdays 6:00 – 8:50 pm

Call (619) 421–6700 ext. 5416 for more information, or email whomyak@swccd.edu
To enroll, visit the college website at www.swccd.edu and click on Apply Online.

(more classes on the back of this page)



Landscape & Nursery Technology

Southwestern College

Spring, 2015 Schedule



Classes begin January 21, 2014

(more classes on the front of this page)

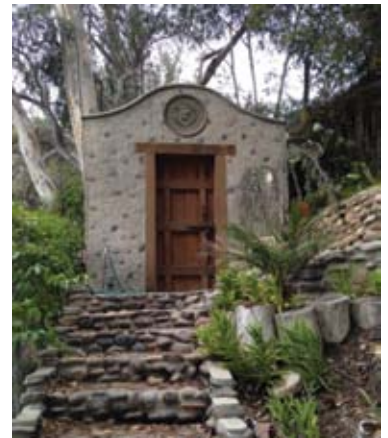
- LNT 136 **Plant Pest and Disease:** Weeds, insects, diseases – oh my! Find out how to correctly identify the most common pests in your garden and how to keep them under control. This class shows you ways to safely eliminate or lessen these problems without using toxic pesticides. And, while pesticide use is discussed, you will learn the “greener” ways of keeping plant pests in check.
- | | | |
|-----------|----------------|-------|
| Room 1802 | 3 units | Rotke |
| Mondays | 4:00 – 6:50 pm | |
- LNT 138 **Floral Design I:** - If you are thinking of a career in the floral design trade or just want to learn how to make great floral creations in your own home, then this class is your perfect starting point. Acquire the skills needed to properly store, prepare, and preserve your flowers. Discover all the different floral arrangement styles such as round, triangular, natural, and more! Learn about the opportunities available in the floral design industry. \$30 supply fee for flowers.
- | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| Room 1802 | 3 units | Del Sol |
| Tuesdays | 9:00 am – 1:50 pm | |
- LNT 140 **Floral Design II:** - In this more advanced class, you will learn how to create larger scale designs such as those used in weddings, funerals, and other events. Learn how to start your own floral business or how to manage existing operations. And, find out how the floral business has changed from the typical floral shop to “in-home” operations and on-line ventures. \$50 supply fee for flowers. Note: this class requires that students have completed LNT 138 – Floral Design 1 or can prove the completion of an equivalent class or experiences. If you have trouble registering for the class or want to discuss your experiences, contact the instructor by email at betty@floralclass.com (this class is an overlay with LNT 138 – Floral Design 1)
- | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| Room 1802 | 3 units | Del Sol |
| Tuesdays | 9:00 am – 1:50 pm | |
- LNT 146 **Plant Propagation:** The science and art of plant propagation is critical to the success in starting new plants from seeds, cuttings, divisions, tissue culture, and more. Learn the skills needed to reproduce plants and get them growing on to a marketable plant. Great class for both homeowners and garden professionals alike.
- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------|
| Room 1802 | 1.5 units | Diaz (9 week class) |
| Thursday Lecture | 6:00 – 8:15 pm | |
| Various Saturday Labs | 8:00 am - 1:20 pm (3/28, 4/18, 5/2, 5/16) | |

Call (619) 421–6700 ext. 5416 for more information, or email whomyak@swccd.edu
To enroll, visit the college website at www.swccd.edu and click on Apply Online.

Revised: 12/3/14

Spring Garden Tour - See page 3

Read about these lovely gardens in future newsletters



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This is **Serious** Water Conservation is Mandatory

Mandatory conservation measures include:

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

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

**WHEN IN
DROUGHT**

Save every day, every way.



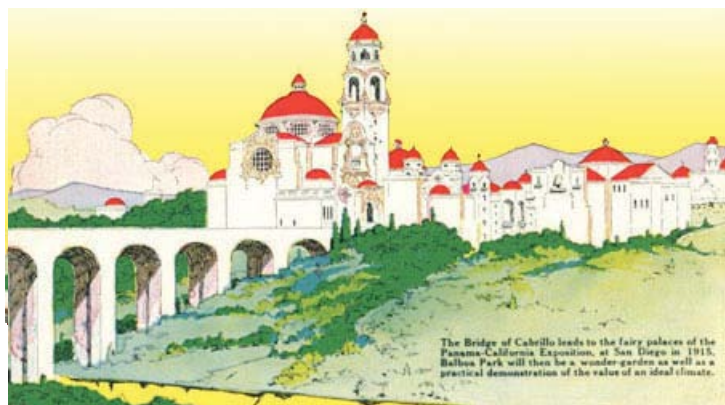
San Diego County
Water Authority

2015 Spring Garden Tour



A Centennial Celebration
of Historic and Contemporary
San Diego Gardens
Sdhort.org/GardenTour

Saturday, April 11th
9 AM to 4 PM



2015 Spring Garden Tour presented by:



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INSERTS:

Southwestern College
Calendar/Resources/Ongoing Events

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

MEETING SCHEDULE

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

MEETINGS & EVENTS

(FW = Free workshop; FG = Featured Garden; register at www.sdhort.org)

2015

February 9	Helen Yoest on Plants with Benefits
March 6-8	Spring Home/Garden Show
March 9	Matt Ritter on Eucalyptus: The Good, The Bad and Ugly
April 11	Spring Garden Tour - Gardens Then and Now
April 13	Special Meeting at the San Diego Natural History Museum



www.sdhort.org

COVER IMAGE: About the cover image (taken by our January speaker), Jeff Moore writes: "This agave is a bit of a mystery; it is growing and near maturity at Rancho Soledad nursery, and the best guess is it is an exceptional form of *Agave potatorum*, with wavy spines and beautiful leaf imprinting."

NEXT MEETING: JANUARY 12, 2015, 6:00 – 8:30 PM

SPEAKER: JEFF MOORE ON *UNDER THE SPELL OF SUCCULENTS*

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

For our first meeting in 2015 we start with a very fun speaker and a very timely topic. Longtime member Jeff Moore, owner of Solana Succulents, will tell us his tales of succulents. Jeff has owned and operated Solana Succulents in Solana Beach for the past 22 years, "starting back when you had to describe what a succulent was to people." He has created many award-winning gardens at the annual San Diego County Fair, where he has many times won the SDHS award for "Most Creative Use of unusual Plant Material. He's also been a multi-award winner for many years at the Spring Home/Garden Show. Jeff gained notoriety for his undersea themed succulent gardens, one of which you can



see at the San Diego Botanic Garden; another was an invited showcase garden at the prestigious Philadelphia Flower Show. He will show how he created these gardens, as well as other unique Southern California succulent landscapes.

Winter is aloe season, and Jeff is an aloe collector, so aloes will be highlighted in the talk. His new book, *Under the Spell of Succulents*, will be presented. It is a walk-through of succulent plants in cultivation, showing how we engage with our obsession with these unusual plants, including growers, collectors, landscaping, container gardening, and specialty niches such as variegates, crests and caudiciforms. The major succulent groups are highlighted as well. Jeff will also provide an insight into how a first-time author worked his way through the book-making process, and offer a tease into his upcoming book on aloes and agaves.

Jeff will be selling and signing his book at the meeting. For more information visit solanasucculents.com and see page 3. 🌿



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

BOARD MEMBERS

Kim Alexander - Member at Large
Cindy Benoit - Membership Chair
Patty Berg - Volunteer Chair
Jeff Biletnikoff - Meeting Room Chair
Jim Bishop - President
B.J. Boland - Corresponding Secretary
Bruce Cobbledick - Member at Large
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Princess Norman - Secretary
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Sam Seat - Treasurer
Susan Starr - Garden Tour Chair
Susi Torre-Bueno - Newsletter Editor, Past President
Roy Willburn - Member at Large

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Spring Garden Tour Logistics Coordinator:

Like any major event, the Spring Garden Tour's success depends on the details! We're looking for someone to help with all the "little things" that go into making for a smooth Garden Tour. If you have good organizational skills and can give some time at the end of March and beginning of April, this would be the perfect position for you. Please contact Susan Starr, Garden Tour Chair, at susanstarr1@gmail.com to join the team.

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. 🌿

NEWSLETTER BACK ISSUES:

Now Available Free for Non-Members

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

EMAIL OR ADDRESS CHANGES?

We know that you want to be informed about SDHS events and activities, such as the free Featured Gardens and upcoming tours, and to receive your newsletter in a timely manner. Please help us keep our membership info up to date by sending us your new email when you change it, and your new mailing address and phone number if you move. Send this info to membership@sdhort.org. 🌿

FREE WORKSHOP SURVEY



Patty Berg

We have been offering free monthly workshops for two years, and they've been a great success. It's time for you to let us know what you'd like to see offered in 2015. The survey will be distributed at our January meeting, and there is a FREE PLANT drawing for everyone who turns in a survey. You can also find the survey on our website by going to sdhort.org/Workshops; there is a link to the workshop file at the top of this page. You can print out the survey and either mail it back or bring it to the January meeting. 🌿

Hands-on fruit tree pruning workshop in 2013 was taught by Patty Berg

TO LEARN MORE...

Solana Succulents

By Ava Torre-Bueno

I've written a number of these little articles over the years about succulents, so I'm afraid this may sound a bit repetitive. California native plants, and succulents from around the world, are pretty much the only things we will be able to grow in San Diego in the near future due to the ravages of human-caused climate change. Many people think natives and succulents are less attractive than the hot-house plants we have been used to growing. This month's presenter proves those skeptics wrong! Jeff Moore's book is filled with page after page of gorgeous photos of extraordinary succulents: solanasucculents.com/solanasucculents.com/Home.html

But before you rip out your lawn to replace it with succulent beauties, get to know the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society to draw on their person-years of experience: sdcss.net.

It will also pay to ask your water district about generous rebates for taking out lawns and putting in low-water gardens. Here are just two of many districts giving rebates:

turfreplacement.watersmartsd.org
encinitasca.gov/index.aspx?page=295

The City of San Diego has run out of money for their rebate program due to high demand! How great is that?!

Here's my monthly El Niño report: "Assuming that El Niño fully emerges, the forecaster consensus favors a weak event. In summary, there is an approximately 65% chance of El Niño conditions during the Northern Hemisphere winter, which are expected to last into the Northern Hemisphere spring 2015." In other words, don't really count on this year's weather to get us out of drought.

cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/ensodisc.html

Finally, while we all can be doing a lot in our homes and gardens to use less water, the vast majority of California's water goes to raising livestock. If you were looking for that one last reason to go vegetarian or vegan, check out Truth or Drought's facebook page for more information: facebook.com/truthordrought/timeline ☘

SPRING GARDEN TOUR: Master Landscapers

By Susan Starr

As always, this year's Spring Garden tour will feature outstanding gardens full of inspiring ideas. However, our 2015 tour will also offer a chance to see the work of two important figures in San Diego landscaping: Milton Sessions and W.F. Sinjen. The tour, which commemorates the centennial of the Panama Exhibition in Balboa Park, takes place in neighborhoods with landscapes characteristic of Sessions and Sinjen: Mission Hills, Marston Hills, and 28th Street

Let's Talk Plants! January 2015, No. 244

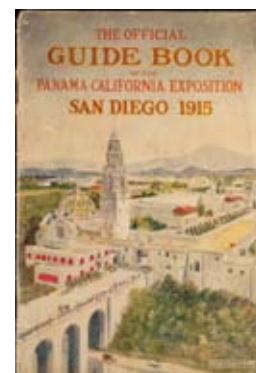


Continued on page 6



FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop



At the December meeting we kicked off our celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Panama-California Exposition with speaker Nancy Carol Carter's educational presentation of how the 1915 event came about. You can read a summary of her presentation on page 19 of this newsletter. Also, Nancy Carol Carter has written a feature article about the history of Balboa Park for the Winter 2015 edition of *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. If you are not a member of *Pacific Horticulture*, as a San Diego Horticultural Society member you can receive a \$4 discount on an annual membership, which includes this outstanding quarterly magazine. You can join online at pachort.org. Use code SDHS2014 when you join to receive the discount. And don't forget: a membership to either *Pacific Horticulture* or the San Diego Horticultural Society makes a terrific gift for a gardening friend.

SDHS's contribution to the Centennial Celebration is the updating of the plantings around the Timken Museum and the Casa del Prado buildings, which we completed in October, 2014. If you weren't able to help with the planting, you can join us for one the weeding parties during 2015. Look for details in future monthly email messages. We are also talking with SOHO (Save Our Heritage Organization), which manages the Marston House (located on 7th Avenue on the west side Balboa Park), about replanting the formal garden there.

Year End Donation

You can help us continue the legacy by making a financial contribution to fund the revitalization of Balboa Park plantings. We are short of our goal to raise \$10,000 in donations (see page 7). Please consider a year-end tax-deductible donation. Visit our website, sdhort.org, for information about making an online donation or instructions for contributing by mail. Large donations are encouraged, but every donation helps us reach our goal. Also, when you register for an event online or renew your membership, you will have an opportunity to make a contribution to this project. You can also make a donation by cash or check at any meeting or SDHS event. Balboa Park helped put San Diego on the map as a destination, and has created a rich horticulture heritage. Let's keep it going for another hundred years!

Website Login

If you use social networks Google+ or Facebook, you can now login into the SDHS website with your account. For this to work, both your social network and SDHS accounts need to use the same email address. To access, just use the log in buttons at the top right corner of our webpage. And remember, logging into our site gives you access to the monthly newsletter, members-only pages, as well as your membership status and profile. Once logged in you can renew your membership or signup for members-only events. ☘

San Diego Horticultural Society **3**

THE REAL DIRT ON...

Henry David Thoreau

By Carol Buckley

"I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately"—familiar words to most of us; they begin Henry David Thoreau's recollection of his two years living in a hut at Walden Pond, outside the village of Concord, Massachusetts, his hometown. Many of us know about his tracts on civil disobedience, but the 19th century philosopher, poet, essayist, abolitionist, naturalist, and inveterate hiker was also an amateur botanist whose well-documented walks in New England, the Great Lakes region, and Canada provide a wealth of information useful today.

Thoreau (born July 12, 1817) left an herbarium, comprised of pressed and identified flora, of 900 species. All but two items reside in the Harvard University Herbarium. Most were collected in Concord and the surrounding environs, and of particular importance is his collection of sedges and grasses. They are annotated in pencil; interesting for the son of a graphite producer.

Thoreau's first important botanical study came from his climb, in 1858, of New Hampshire's Mt. Washington, where, influenced by Alexander von Humboldt's research of different vegetation zones in the Andes, he noted the different species of flora at different altitudes.

His first exposure to botany was at Concord Academy. At Harvard, which he entered on scholarship at 16, botany was part a science course. He attended botanical lectures in Concord and shared his interest with his sister and a boarder at home. Thoreau's own fieldwork progressed, aided by Bigelow's *Flora Bostoniensis*, to the point when he began to list the Latin name of flora in his *Journal*, which held his observations over a 24-year span and led to the ecological publications *Autumnal Tints*, *The Succession of Trees*, and *Wild Apples*.

Thoreau's herbarium, started in 1850, is distinguished by his focus and attention to detail. Daily walks and work as a surveyor allowed him to observe the natural life of New England. So thorough was his data, Concord reigns large on the map of global warming and the field of phenology. By using Thoreau's chart of the flowering and leafing of various species over time as a platform, scientists can see how climate affects the onset of spring and fall in flora. For instance, it has been found that a change in one degree Fahrenheit can move up the flowering of a plant by four days.

In his explanation of his botanical investigations, the poet appears: "I am interested in each contemporary plant in my vicinity, and have attained to a certain acquaintance with the larger ones. They are inhabitants with me of this part of the planet, and they bear familiar names" (June 5, 1857, *Journal*).

Thoreau died of tuberculosis complicated by bronchitis on May 6, 1862, after counting tree rings in a rainstorm. ☘



BOOK REVIEW

The Earth Moved: On the Remarkable Achievements of Earthworms

By Amy Stewart

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

I could start this review in two ways. I could list the 41 rave reviews that are blurbed on the inside of the front cover. Or I could just reprint the three-page prologue. Then you would know what a really special book this is.

The author, Amy Stewart, writes that if you were asked to describe the area under the surface of the ocean, you could probably do a reasonably good job, but you probably could not describe the subsurface area of your own backyard. Are you aware that it's likely that billions of organisms live in your yard? You may think you have exclusive ownership, but think again. And some of those billions are earthworms. Modern scientists calculate that there are more than one million worms per acre, on average.

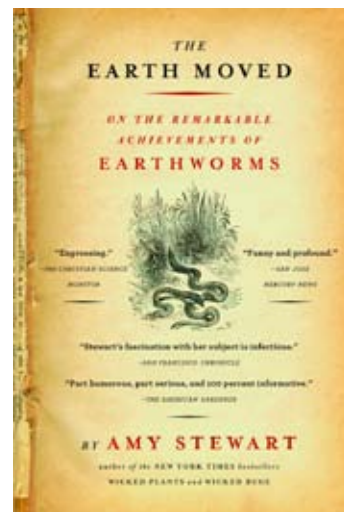
Those worms can range from tiny to more than three feet in length. Some of them come in bright colors. Epigeic worms live on the surface, endogeic worms live below around plant roots, and anecic worms live so far down that they've seldom been seen by the scientists who study earthworms. They're called oligochaetologists, by the way—the scientists, not the worms.

The first person to do serious study of earthworms was Charles Darwin. He became interested in them when he returned in 1837 from his voyage on the *Beagle*. Exhausted from the five-year trip, he went to rest at the home of his uncle, Josiah Wedgwood—yes, that Wedgwood. There, Uncle Josiah pointed out the action of some earthworms that had partially buried some bricks and cinders spread on the ground years before. Darwin thought about and wrote about worms many times after that. His last published book, in 1881, was *The Formation of Vegetable Mould, Through the Action of Worms, With Observations of Their Habits*.

That's just the beginning of what turns out to be a fascinating story. It's hard to believe how important these creatures are to life on earth, and how complex the lives are of what seem to be such simple creatures.

The Earth Moved (ISBN 1-56512-468-5) is available in paperback, and includes a short description of how to set up a worm composting system, a bibliography, a list of relevant magazines and websites, and addresses of places where you can buy worm bins. Stewart says that worms make perfect pets. They're quiet, they're clean, and they'll take care of your garbage for you. She may even be serious.

This is the second of Stewart's six published nonfiction books. Four of them, *The Drunken Botanist*, *Wicked Bugs*, *Wicked Plants*, and *Flower Confidential* were best sellers. Her next book, a novel, will be published in 2015. ☘



TREES, PLEASE

Don't Stress Your Trees

By Tim Clancy

Even the most casual observer can see signs of drought in our trees. The amount of water trees need to survive varies from tree to tree based on genetics and its location. The amount of water trees need to thrive and grow vigorously is also dependent on genetics and location. There are some recommendations about how much water to apply to a tree and they can be confusing. One way I like to apply water is with the use of a drip system or a soaker hose. Drip systems allow accurate calculation of water applied, while the soaker hose allows portability.

If the drainage is good a tree will use as much water as it can get. The objective is to apply water in quantities that will not create anaerobic soil conditions. Anaerobic conditions arise when there is no space left in the soil for oxygen. It is quite a common condition, and is the result of not understanding the drainage profile. I often use my soil probe, pulling a small core of soil from the ground, which I then smell for the odor of sulfur. If you smell sulfur the conditions are anaerobic, or close to it. There are tools available to test soil moisture, from expensive tensiometers to simple soil probes (my favorite). A long screwdriver can also give you a sense of soil moisture. Plunge it into the soil and the ease with which it goes in is an indication of soil moisture. Not exactly scientific, but helpful nonetheless.

So, what happens when a tree is water stressed? Tree growth is altered. Growth is the result of cell division, followed by enlargement and differentiation, resulting in an increase in size. Water deficits affect cell enlargement more than it affects cell division. This decrease in cell enlargement allows the tree to continue to function in time of water stress. Each year a tree creates a growth ring. That ring is a clue to how much water was available to the tree. In years where rainfall is highest the tree rings are wider, and they are narrow when water is less available. This affects the tree's diameter.

Shoot and leaf growth are also diminished during a time of water



These trees were planted at the same time and were the same size. The one on the right gets extra water from the neighbor's lawn and is quite a bit larger.

Continued on page 12

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Wonders Never Cease

By Patty Berg, Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteer Vivian Blackstone is a remarkable person on so many levels. So it's a wonder that she finds time to tend her amazing organic garden and to be an active member of SDHS when she is knee-deep in documentary film projects. But her passion is to chronicle the lives of a select few who have been influential in her own life, so she has never quite gotten around to retiring 100%. Not yet.

Born in New York, Vivian studied illustration and went to work for a book

publisher at a young age. A naturally gifted artist in every way, she eventually segued into the graphic arts field after moving to California with her family when she was still very young. This put her in proximity to many of San Diego's most influential people. Many years later, some have had the good fortune to become the subjects of her films. Most recently, these include architect Sim Bruce Richards, a student of Frank Lloyd Wright, who left his own distinct imprint here in San Diego. An amazing person, Richards influenced many of today's architects and designers and he changed the lives of those whom he mentored. Vivian spent three years making this film. (It's available, by the way, at the Mingei Museum gift shop or contact Vivian directly at vivblack@gmail.com.)

Vivian gardens in Rancho Bernardo, where her overflowing front yard stands in sharp green relief to the majority of homes with easy care (read: gravel) landscapes. There are fruit trees galore and lots of containers cover nearly every available square foot. Two little Boston Terriers scamper around keeping watch over the bounty of her beautiful mini-Eden.

An SDHS member since 2008, Vivian also belongs to the Seven Oaks Garden Club in Rancho Bernardo. Those who know her well say she's always been ahead of her time. Impressive when one is young, but truly a wonder at the age of 86.

Her next project? Vivian is busy combing her archives in preparation for a film about natural health pioneer Edmond Szekely of Rancho La Puerta fame. For many years, Vivian worked closely with the Szekely family as their spas were developed and gained world-wide prominence. It promises to be another engaging film about a fascinating subject. ☺



GROWING TOMATOES FROM SEED

By Renee's Garden

This is an article from our sponsor Renee's Garden; visit their helpful and very informative website at ReneesGarden.com. [Your editor has had excellent success with seeds from this company, which may be purchased through their website or at these SDHS sponsor nurseries: Green Thumb (see inside front cover), Walter Andersen Nursery (see page 15), City Farmers Nursery, and Cedros Gardens. Also sold at Mission Hills Nursery, Green Gardens, Hunter's Nursery, Hawthorne Country Store, Joe's Hardware, and Myrtle Creek Gardens.]

If you love succulent tomatoes, mid-March to early April is the time to start your own plants from seed. It's the only way to have the very best tasting and old-fashioned heirloom varieties, which are not usually available as nursery started plants. It's fun to watch the whole growing cycle and the seed starting process is my favorite way to celebrate the gardening season as I watch baby seedlings grow into sturdy plants bearing wonderfully colored, superb tasting fruits to relish freshly picked.

Why Start Early

Tomatoes are heat-loving plants that need a long warm growing period to grow from seed to fruit. Except in the most tropical areas, all U.S. summers are too short for them to complete their fruiting cycles before summer's end if started directly in the ground, since seeds won't germinate until frosts have ended and weather warms up. We need to give plants a critical head start by germinating and growing seedlings in the warm indoors in early spring. Then when it warms up outdoors in late spring, we can plant out sturdy, well-established seedlings to bear fruit before cold weather sets in.

When to Sow Seed Indoors

Generally, the time to start your seeds is about 6-8 weeks before the last expected spring frost date in your area, planting the seedlings outdoors about 2 weeks after that date. Another way to figure is to plan on setting out sturdy seedlings in the garden when night temperatures stay in the mid-50 degree range both day and night. Count back and sow seeds 6 to 8 weeks before that date normally arrives. If you don't feel confident about timing, consult an experienced gardening friend, or ask at a good garden center or seek the advice of your local Master Gardener program.

Getting Started

Your planting containers should be at least three inches deep, with small holes for drainage. Use plastic yogurt or cottage cheese containers,

Continued on page 9

■ Garden Tour Continued from page 3

in North Park. In these settings, these two giants of San Diego gardening used plants familiar to us all, but in ways that will encourage you to see them with a new eye.

Milton Sessions, who died in 1995, just shy of his 95th birthday, devoted much of his life to carrying on the horticultural tradition begun by his aunt Kate Sessions. He began working in "Aunt Kate's" nursery when he was 8 years old, and became a partner there around 1920. Eventually, he established his own nursery in Old Town, later moving to La Jolla. Early in his career he formed a partnership with local architect Richard Requa and collaborated with him on many projects throughout San Diego; you'll visit one of Requa's homes on our tour. Like his aunt, Milton Sessions appreciated plants that were both water conserving and beautiful. Native species were frequently part of his design: Ceanothus, Toyon, and Catalina Cherry were typical choices for his gardens. You will see some of these choices on our tour as well, along with evidence of Sessions' efforts to educate San Diegans on the use of Mediterranean style landscapes. Homes on the tour include stone walls thought to have been originally designed by Sessions. One of our tour homes has been re-landscaped to echo Sessions' original design, including curving pathways leading the visitor to a series of new perspectives.

W.F. Sinjen designed and landscaped over 100 gardens in San Diego County. Sinjen, who died in 2001, received the SDHS Award of Horticultural Excellence in 1999. In contrast with Sessions, Sinjen favored camellias, azaleas, junipers, philodendrons and palms, often surrounding brick patios. However, like Sessions, he was adverse to straight lines and liked to include walkways that would draw the visitor into the garden and around the next turn. Born in Germany, he came to the U.S. in 1928, and settled in Ocean Beach after the war. He traveled widely to see the plants of other countries and incorporated ideas from his travels into his design. One of his trademark techniques was lacing, in which he pruned a tree in a way that made it more open but at the same time kept it looking entirely natural. Other characteristics of Sinjen gardens that will be visible on the tour are the use of both flowering trees and a variety of leaf textures.

Be sure to join us on April 11 to see the work of these master landscapers, as well as those of their modern counterparts. For advance tickets, visit sdhort.org/GardenTour. ☞

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Don't miss out on a very exciting opportunity! Our sponsor *Garden Design* magazine has a special offer for SDHS members. Use the link in their ad on page 7 and you'll get a FREE issue when you subscribe. We have received over \$1200 from *Garden Design* for our Balboa Park restoration project, and your subscription to their exceptional publication would be a nice way to thank them for their support while enjoying a quality magazine. You will enjoy amazing gardens, beautiful plants, and expert insights inside the pages of *Garden Design*. (This is one of your editor's all-time favorite gardening magazines!) Every quarterly issue has 132 pages with no advertisements, several outstanding gardens showcased with inspiring stories and photos, new products, new plants, garden tours and exhibitions, and much more! ☞



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We are raising funds to restore the gardens adjacent to the lily pond in Balboa Park. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to help complete this pilot project in 2014. Visit www.sdhort.org for information on making donations. You can also donate at meetings and other events. Every contribution is very welcome. As of December 9 we have raised \$6664. **Thank you to these generous donors:**

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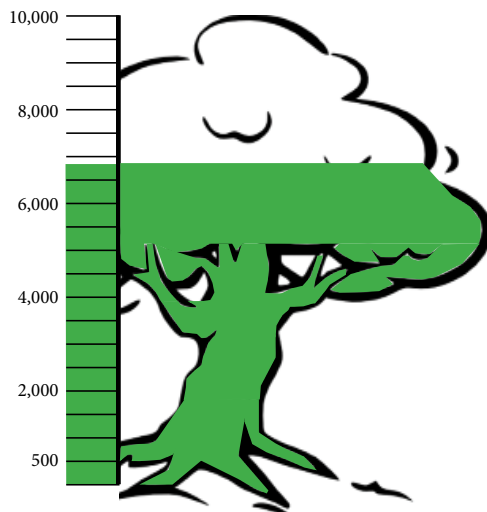
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GOING WILD WITH NATIVES

Get Your Native Garden Sign Now!

By Susan Krzywicki

A new addition to your garden

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is please to announce a new offering: a beautiful garden sign for your property. Finally, you can announce to your neighbors that you support the native plant gardening movement. This sign is one that anyone with native plants in their garden can buy and display. The signs say "Native Plants live here!" and show a pipeline swallowtail butterfly on the California native milkweed. The purpose of the signs is to generate neighborhood interest in how and why we garden with natives. Gardeners who use natives embody these forward-looking principles: great landscapes with habitat, low water use, reliance on Integrated Pest Management instead of chemicals, and conserving native plants throughout the state and Baja. The signs are available at the CNPS store (cnps.org/store.php) for \$36.00.

The signs are a means of celebrating native plants, wherever they are! This allows everyone to participate, even if your garden is not 100% native. We are encouraging people to change their gardening habits and this is a way to welcome all into the community.

These signs are a great way to indicate your commitment and help people to learn more about natives. The sign, with the "Native Plants live here!" tag line, the CNPS logo and website address, shows where people can get more information about gardening with native plants. This is a proud moment, so join your friends and neighbors and get a sign now.

With the announcement of the Garden Sign program, we have provided resources at our website for how to garden with natives, how to "Ditch Your Lawn" and other information.

The information has been prepared by a group of experts in horticulture, soil biology, plant communities, biology, wildlife, and conservation. Please visit the site at cnps.org/cnps/grownative.

Preparing For Winter

First, install your new "Natives live here!" garden sign. Then, get ready for a nice long winter of activity. We are so lucky that we don't have to huddle inside all winter and just dream of happiness in the garden. We've got time to get a head start on Spring 2015. I'd recommend the following activities: buy your native plants now and install them during the next month or so. Use this new resource to get plant suggestions for natives that grew here, along with sources for where to buy the plants. Go to calscape.com and type in your zip code to get a comprehensive plant list.

Scatter seeds: lupines are a great addition (see photo). Lupines come in so many varieties, including perennial varieties. When you are just getting started with them, growing them from seed is a great treat. Allow them to go to seed in the late spring, and you will be rewarded with plentiful lupines in future years. Look for the arroyo lupine (*Lupinus succulentus*). You can find lupine seeds at lernerseeds.com.

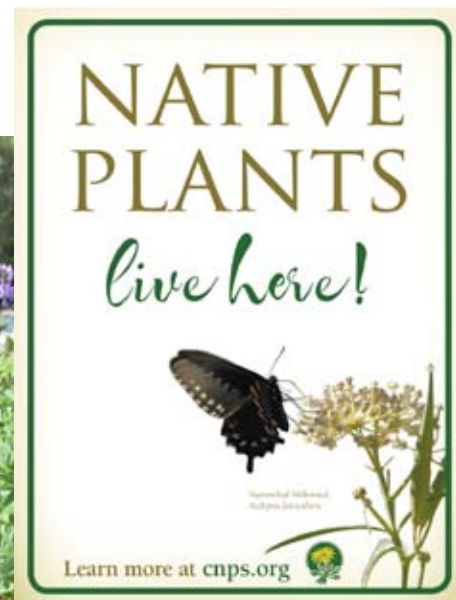
Finally, check your mulch and make sure to leave room for California native bees. They are mostly solitary, and dirt dwellers, so don't mulch every inch of your garden. Leave some bare earth; a loose guideline is 20% open space.

Take some pictures; early morning and early afternoon in winter have a magical light quality. Document your natives and if you have pictures to share, please let me know.

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



Native lupine



■ Tomatoes from Seed Continued from page 6

3- or 4-inch plastic plant pots or half-gallon milk cartons cut lengthwise, all with drainage holes punched in the bottoms. I don't recommend reusing egg cartons or old nursery packs, as they don't hold enough soil volume and dry out too easily. Buy and use a good quality seed starting mix, available from any good nursery or garden center. (Ordinary garden soil is not a good choice – it often contains weed seeds and fungus organisms and it compacts far too easily.) Seed starting mixes are sterile and blended to be light and porous so your fragile seedlings get both the moisture and oxygen they need to thrive.

In a big bucket, add water slowly to the seed starting mix and combine well. You want it to be thoroughly moistened but not soggy – about the consistency of a wrung-out sponge throughout before you fill your containers. Fill each container to an inch below the top and tap it on the tabletop to settle the mix. Use a plastic or wooden marker with the variety name and sowing date and slide it into the container. With the side of a pencil or chopstick, make a seed furrow about 1/4 inch deep and carefully drop in individual seeds about an inch apart. Sift some more starting mix between your hands to fill the furrows and firm gently to be sure the seeds have good contact. Use a spray bottle to water the seeds in with a fine mist.

Germinating and Growing

Tomatoes need warm 75 to 85 degree conditions to start germinating. Put the containers in a warm place where they'll get bottom heat like on top of the water heater or refrigerator or use a fluorescent shop light suspended just 1 or 2 inches above the container and it will provide warmth. Keep the container moist, but not soggy. You can cover it with plastic wrap or an old piece of rigid clear plastic to conserve moisture if you like, but be sure to pull it up to check daily to be sure they aren't drying out. Water as necessary with a very gentle spray of water. If container should get too dry, you'll need to set it in a pan of water so it can soak up water again from below. Expect germination to take 5 to 10 days. Don't keep your containers in the windowsill during the germination period; cold air at night will affect germination. Check often!

Just as soon as any baby seedlings begin to emerge above the soil level, it's critical to give them light right away. Remove any covering immediately and provide a strong light source. While a south-facing windowsill is traditional, it's far from ideal, and dimly-lit plants become tall and spindly. I like to start my containers from the beginning under grow lights or a simple fluorescent shop light suspended from chains so I can move the lights up as the plants grow. The fluorescent lights under your kitchen counter will work very well for this. Raise your flats closer to them (4" to 5") with some bricks or fat cookbooks. Tomato seedlings grow best in the 65-75 degree temperature range.

Pricking Out and Potting Up

When seedlings are 2 to 3 inches tall and have several sets of true leaves, it's time to move them to deeper containers or individual pots so they have room to grow. Fill the new containers with pre-moistened mix. With the help of a fork thrust to the bottom, lift the seedlings gently from your germinating container. Try to get all the roots and disturb them as little as possible. Make a planting hole in the new container and nestle the seedling into its new home a little deeper than it was originally. If your tomato plants are spindly

with long stems, you can actually bury the stems right up to the topmost cluster of leaves and new roots will grow along the buried stems. Gently press the mix around the transplanted seedlings and water them gently to settle the soil. Now is the time to begin feeding your plants once a week because starting mixes contain little if any plant food and the seedlings will have used up the entire stored food source available in its mother seed. Use a good liquid fertilizer or fish emulsion diluted to half normal recommended strength. Continue to give your rapidly growing seedlings as much light as possible and rotate them regularly so they grow evenly and don't lean in one direction.

Planting Seedlings in the Garden

In 3 or 4 weeks, or when the weather outdoors has warmed into the 50 degree range at night, it's time to "harden off", or gradually over 4 to 6 days to acclimate your seedlings to outdoor conditions. Put them outside in a protected shady spot for a half day at first, then 2 or 3 full days, then gradually move them into full sun, starting with mornings then all day long. Plan to transplant into the garden in the late afternoon or on a hazy or cloudy day to minimize stress. Set them about 3 feet apart in the garden into rich well-amended soil in full sun. Tomato plants can be buried several inches deeper than they were planted in their containers. Firm the soil around the plants and water well. Set in stakes or cages for tall-growing tomatoes at planting time. Keep your young plants moist but not soggy. I like to mulch them with a good thick layer of compost, well-aged manure, straw or other organic material. This will provide the even moisture balance needed for healthy, disease-free growth and early big fruit sets, and will also discourage weeds. 🌱

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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.

Raising the Roof

In October of 1983, when I bought my house in Encinitas, I figured I'd be living there only a few years. Encinitas was still a sleepy town and I lived in a suburban tract east of I-5. Coastal downtown Encinitas was just starting to add some new businesses and restaurants. Other than Moonlight Beach, most of the beaches south of Oceanside were cobblestones (until the dredged sand from Los Peñasquitos Lagoon was pumped onto the beaches in late 80's, that is). I thought I wanted to live somewhere a little closer to either San Diego and/or with swimmable beaches. There was a building boom going on and it was keeping my single story, 1200 square foot, 2 bedroom, 2 bath house from appreciating much in value. So I decided that instead of moving, I would add a second floor to the house, update it with some of the features seen in new homes and also tie it better to the garden.

The house had a relatively large lot compared to some of the newer homes, so I wanted to increase the footprint of the house as little as possible to maximize the gardening space. A new master bedroom, bathroom, laundry room and TV room was added above the existing garage, kitchen and dining room. The new bedroom had a small balcony over the entryway to the house. A larger balcony overlooked the backyard opened off the TV room. The area below the balcony allowed the dining room to be enlarged and a huge picture window with a window seat and a set of French doors on either side replaced the old sliding glass door. These changes really opened the house to the garden. Since the original back patio was replaced by the dining room expansion, a new much larger patio of interlocking brick pavers spanning the entire back of the house

was added. The building code required that the existing living room chimney needed to be made 11 feet taller. So, a new outdoor fireplace was built on the backside of the existing fireplace, with the new chimney encasing both the old and new flues. A wall fountain and barbeque grill were added next to the chimney, and a new outdoor dining area was at the far end of the patio. A sitting wall was added at the end of the patio.

The existing redwood patio cover was removed, and I reused the wood to create two large arbors that were placed to block the view of the neighboring houses into my dining room and existing downstairs bedroom. Four large Romanesque columns were added to support the arbors. The trellis also hid outdoor lighting and irrigation lines. A smaller matching trellis was added above the outdoor fireplace. This would become one of the favorite places for my cat to sleep on hot days. Another trellis was added over the gate to the backyard and covered with climbing roses. The patio really changed the functionality of the house and garden, and almost doubled the entertaining space. The outdoor fireplace was used much more frequently than the existing indoor one, and became the focal point of the garden.

I used the existing patio and other concrete that was removed during construction to build small retaining walls and pathways on the hillside creating an upper pathway around the garden. Additional drystacked retaining walls were built using rocks collected from some of the new building sites in Olivenhain.

In the front yard, a *Ficus benjamina* – which should have been removed years ago – had lifted the front walkway and sprinkler manifold. Also, a new connection to the sewer line for the new upstairs plumbing was needed. The new line ran along the side of the garage and across the driveway and connected in the middle of the front garden. All the broken concrete was used in the garden, and a front patio of pavers was added. A new seating wall greeted visitors at the entrance to the house and added privacy from the street. A large old *Bougainvillea* 'San Diego Red' on the side of the garage was ripped out of the ground by me and the contractor, stuffed into a large 15-gallon pot, and stored on the far side of the house for several months. Amazingly, it survived when it was replanted and quickly covered the side of the house.

I was enormously happy with all the changes made to the house and garden. I was able to remove almost all of the lawn and increase the garden space. I had my new house. I would live and garden there for another 8 years.



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

Back sitting area after the addition was completed



## 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 the Association of Professional Landscape Designers, San Diego District ([apldca.org](http://apldca.org)) and Greatsoil LLC ([topsoilcondidoca.com](http://topsoilcondidoca.com)) as our newest sponsors. See their ads on pages 16 and 9.

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What's Up  
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## Spotlight on the Olive Tree

(From the Jerusalem Botanic Gardens, sister garden to the San Diego Botanic Garden)

By Dr. Ori Fragman-Sapir

Director of Research and Conservation,  
Jerusalem Botanic Gardens

(Translation by Susan Hatis Rolef)

The Common European Olive (*Olea europaea*) is a Mediterranean evergreen tree. The oldest olive finding discovered in Israel was in archeological digs in Mount Carmel in the form of olive pits, which were dated at around 10,000 BCE, suggesting that prehistoric man fed on olives. The domestication of the tree occurred around the year 4,000 BCE. Today, the olive is primarily a cultivated tree in Israel, meaning most of the olive trees are planted or are the seedlings of cultivated trees. Real, native wild olives may be found in Israel on Mount Carmel and in Western Galilee. These trees are shrubby olives, with smaller fruit.

Most olive trees are tens to hundreds of years old. It is impossible to tell the age of the olive on the basis of trunk rings, since olive trunk rings are not regularly annually created. After a hundred years or more, the olive trunk rots partially, but it frequently manages to rejuvenate at the base, so theoretically, the tree can live forever.

In April-May the olive tree is covered in many whitish, small flowers. The flowers disperse a good deal of pollen into the air, and they are pollinated by the wind and insects. In the course of summer fruit develop. The green olive is in fact an unripe fruit. In autumn, the green olives turn black spontaneously and their oil content rises. Therefore, the green olive and the black olive are just two stages in the development of the fruit.

The time of the olive harvest is one of the symbols of autumn. In Israel, it takes place in October-November, around the holiday of Succoth, and various festivals are held around it. ☘

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■ Trees Continued from page 5

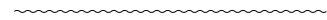
Rachel Cobb



stress. Trees with fixed growth (a single flushing out and elongation) rely not only on current water availability but also that of last year as well. Trees with free growth (multiple growth flushes during the year) rely on current water availability. These flushes can be affected by irregular water availability.

Tree height can be limited by availability of water. In California, redwoods grow taller when in valleys as opposed to the adjacent drier uplands. In the valleys they can grow to 100 meters, while in the higher elevations they reach a third of that height.

Irrigate your trees when possible to assure a vigorous growth process resulting in a beautiful plant you can enjoy.



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

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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 January was:

**What are the top 3 things on your garden "to do list" for 2015, and why?**

**Roy Wilburn:** (1) Attract more butterflies and hummingbirds around our greenhouse by planting and maintaining assorted goodies such as pentas, passionfruit, and milkweed. The kids and residents love what we have done in 2014. (2) Take better care of our protea by installing a drip system and occasional fertilizations. The few heat waves we had last year took out about 50% of them. (3) Install a better irrigation system in our orchards. The existing system was installed 10 years ago when the trees were young, but now they need a more completed and uniform wetting pattern.

**Amelia Lima:** (1) Create a vermi-compost bin as a way to recycle all my vegetable peels. (2) Redo my backyard to make it more inviting. (3) Add some natives to my garden, so I can learn more about them.

**Robert Foster:** (1) Finish landscaping! In May we ripped out the lawn and re-landscaped approximately 8,000 sq. ft. Have one problem area to complete (have I planted myself into a corner?). (2) Install landscape light so we can quit stumbling around in the dark. (3) Spend more time in the hammock enjoying the new garden.

**Stephen Zolezzi:** (1) Finally replace the lawn with natives and succulents. (2) Remove water needy plants. (3) Remove the koi pond; after having cut water usage by over 50% in recent years it seems nothing I have done will get the damn water bill to recede like Lake Mead has, so drastic steps are necessary, which highlight how I think about gardening on the whole. It's not easy to break long held practices, but it's where we all have to be; water, it seems, is not always a renewable resource!

**Carol Donald:** (1) At the top of my list is to finally make a vegetable garden that looks pretty. I say that every year and it's always the same "time versus desire" battle. (2) Start seeds in sprouting pots instead of directly in the garden so that the plants get a better start and I can choose more exactly where things will grow. (3) Keep up with weeding again. Last year the garden looked better because I didn't let the weeds get ahead of me.

**Cathy Tylka:** Well that's easy. My list is long. (1) Want to replant plants that have become too leggy. (2) Need to mulch a hillside. (3) Need to put in some hardy plants on the same hillside. Like I said, it was easy; now do it.

**Jeannine Romero:** (1) I will be planting more succulents because I am hooked on them and they make sense in our environment. (2) I will persuade my husband to give up some lawn (unfortunately it will be futile to ask for all of it now) because lawn does not make sense in our environment. (3) I have to get my self-fertilizing plum tree to start producing fruit! Please send tips.



**Tom Biggart:** The top 3 thing to do in the garden for 2015 are: (1) Build a gardening work center for my wife to include a roof area to collect rainwater. (2) Mulch, mulch, mulch everywhere, not that our tree man left us several large piles. (3) Remove 2 mature avocados in hopes of lowering the astronomical summer water bill. These are on top of regular maintenance of plantings, weeding, and generally having a fun time in the garden.

**Paula Suttle:** I plan to plant more plants that are drought tolerant and take care of the older ones. However, if they do not do well with the water I can give them, I will just let them go. I am just trying to save my trees.

**Nelda Johnson:** (1) Trim trees. (2) Make raised beds out of concrete blocks. (3) Put in a drip watering system.

**Vivian Blackstone:** I have 32 trees. I need to take some things out of pots and plant them in the ground. Prune, prune, prune.

**Sue Getyina:** (1) Replace my lawn with low water use plants and shrubs. (2) Grow lots of milkweed for Monarch butterflies. (3) Plant some fruit trees, like peach and nectarine.

**Dale Rekus:** I only have one thing on my 2015 list – do what I failed to complete on my 2014 list!

**Kathy Ascher:** (1) Have enough composted material to amend my vegetable beds by spring (because I don't want to buy it). (2) Start seedling vegetables early enough to keep them rotated (so I don't have to buy them). (3) Mulch everything (to conserve water).

**Marilyn Wilson:** (1) In 2015 I'm going to add gravel. My succulent garden contains a meandering trough that improves drainage and serves as a path between plants that bite (agaves). Originally it was lined with gravel, but that has turned to mud. They sell gravel in different colors and I shall buy the brown stuff, to match my adobe house. (2) I will also kill a number of great plants because I STILL don't know how to treat them properly, especially those in the protea family. (3) Finally, I shall take an inventory and make sure I have the proper name for each plant and review care instructions (again).

**Victoria Paris:** Since I'm an avid rose gardener I'll be pruning roses, installing a drip watering system, and planting succulents on my front walkway.

**Cassidy Rowland:** (1) Dig out raised vegetable bed to line it with metal mesh to keep out gophers. (2) Replace soil in said vegetable bed with the best soil I can find to eliminate tomato nematodes. (3) Add the best compost I can find to said vegetable bed to have wonderful tomato, peppers, and eggplant crops in 2015. Wish me luck!

**Louise Anderson:** That's easy, but may never be done. (1) Weed. (2) Prune. (3) Prune some more. Otherwise hire someone to do it. But as Tom Selleck said, "I can't find anyone who will work as cheaply as I will."

**Nancy Carol Carter:** In 2015 I will rework my small front garden to recover from a gopher attack, plant some of the 'grown-up grasses' Mary James wrote about in *California Garden*, and, with regret, remove a tree that has proved to be a poor choice for its location.

**Gerald D. Stewart** says the three top things on his to do list for next year are to continue fine-tuning the irrigation systems (that should be self-explanatory in this drought); planting everything purchased but not put in the ground yet (he's tired of hand watering plants – or not, then losing them during heat waves); and the third thing is to take

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more time enjoying the garden rather than all garden time being of the work mode (he says he's lousy at stopping to smell the scented-leaf pelargoniums). Hopefully, once all irrigation lines are on working time clocks and everything is planted, he can use what had been irrigation-oriented time to wander aimlessly around the acre.

**Anne Murphy:** Deal with climate change. (1) Put in more trees, probably white oak (*Quercus lobata*) and some large mazanita (probably Dr. Hurd) that will be grown as trees, among others. (2) Finish mulching areas that are used regularly. (3) Add more agaves and small leaf salvia (*S. munzii*, *S. brandegei*, and *S. mellifera*) to my non-irrigated steep, south-facing slope.

**Judy LaVine:** Our new house will be completed in early 2015, so I will be starting my new garden from scratch. The previous house burned in the 2007 fires, so the landscaping was scorched and then neglected for seven years. (1) Landscape the entrance to meet the HOA requirements. (2) Plant drought tolerant natives and cacti on the western facing slope. (3) Plant for fire resistance around the house. Throughout we will be cleaning up the property, getting rid of dead trees, and encouraging the development of native plants.

**Marilyn Guidroz:** My top three garden "to do list" items for 2015: (1) I plan to plant natives, especially trees like California Sycamore and Oak. (2) I plan to remove all water thirsty garden shrubs, like the Buddleias. (3) I plan to bring in more mulch to thicken up the garden surfaces.

**Katrin Utt:** I have 60 rose bushes in my small garden, half of them in pots because there is no more room in the flower beds. My top resolution for 2015 is: Do not buy any more Roses! I hope to be able to keep this promise to myself.

**Annie Morgan:** (1) I'm doing some major tree pruning to bring in more sun as the start of updating the hodgepodge of a yard. (2) It's time to simplify and lessen the hand watering, number of pots (hundreds!), and maintenance the garden requires in the hopes of getting it to where I control it instead of feeling guilty and losing plants to neglect. (3) I want each seating area to actually have room to sit and to have a pleasant surround so that we spend more time enjoying the yard. (4) Well it was almost last, but I can't leave off my goal to continue adding more butterfly plants, for both caterpillars and butterflies, so that there are multiple butterflies of the local species fluttering in the garden daily – such a joy to watch!

**Susan Krzywicki:** I've got one thing on my to-do list, finish my already started projects. Did I have this as my response when you asked last year? Uh, yes! I think so!

**Joan Braunstein:** (1) Find a place for a compost piles, because I hate throwing away valuable vegetable scraps, plus we're getting chickens! (2) Perfect my tomato growing technique, so I can extend tomato eating season. (3) Get permission to plant in empty spaces around Old Town, because my little plot has run out of room.

**Ken Selzer:** Ongoing issues with both fruit trees and raised vegetable beds. (1) Plants that grow best close to the coast/ocean. (2) Controlling insects/snails. (3) Fertilizers.

**Kathleen Downs:** My top to do items for 2015 are to get more cactus and succulents worked in and to use more rocks for mulch. Less water, easier maintenance, and easier cleanup. On the vegetable side, my highest priority is picking Roy's knowledgeable brain to find the most bountiful, flavorful tomatoes for the spring planting!



**Sheryl Bennett:** Now that we've successfully eliminated our lawn we'll be redoing the area with drought-tolerant plants. We've already started with bringing in loads of amended soil specific to the type of plants (primarily succulents) we plan on using. Next on our "to do" list is to add six more trees to our mixed orchard. We haven't decided yet on the specific types. Finally, we'll have a tree service do some much needed work on some of the big trees. The drought has been tough on some of the big guys and they need work!

**Bea Ericksen:** In January we will be purchasing mulch from Evergreen Nursery, to spread around the roses and the rest of the garden. This keeps the weeds down and moisture in. A great help for those hot summer days.

**Cassie DuBourdieu:** (1) Refine my sprinkler system. (2) Plant new plants; fertilize naturally. (3) Add to compost.

**Lisa Newberg:** (1) Hire a landscape designer. (2) Plant raised beds and start veggie garden. (3) Follow design per budget.

**Susi Torre-Bueno:** We lost a lot of plants (including well-established California natives) to the drought last year, so some major changes are in order for 2015. In addition to increasing the amount of low-water plants we have, I especially want to reduce the time spent in pruning and maintenance. (1) Remove all dead plants, composting as many as possible. Leave the roots to retain soil on steep slopes. (2) Replace most dead plants from front garden with succulent cuttings from elsewhere in the garden. We plan to limit ourselves to only 8 kinds of succulents (for a more cohesive look), and will plant at least 20-30 cuttings of each kind in large swaths. (3) Replace plants that need regular watering with low-water plants as much as possible.

There are 2 questions for February related to edible gardening – please answer at least one of them:

"Do you mulch your vegetable garden, and, if so, with what?" (Thanks to Barbara Patterson for suggesting this.)

What do you use to prevent birds and other foragers from eating fruit from your trees? (Thanks to Tami Joplin for this question. She added, "We just put nets up, which worked last year, but they're costly (a one-time use for us, since they rip when we harvest the fruit) and time-consuming.")

Send your reply by January 5 to [secrets@sdhort.org](mailto:secrets@sdhort.org).

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Do more than care: help.  
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Do more than forgive: forget.  
Do more than dream: work.  
(William Arthur Ward)*

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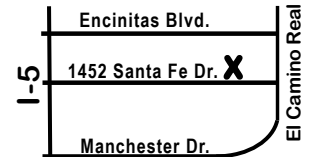
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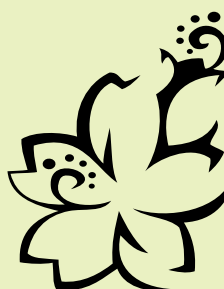
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## DECEMBER 2014 PLANT DISPLAY

By Pat Pawlowski and Susi Torre-Bueno

### What is the Plant Display?

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

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

*Plectranthus neochilus* DOGBANE, LOBSTER FLOWER

(Lamiaceae) S. Africa

*Plectranthus neochilus* has the common name of Lobster Flower, for its oddly shaped blue blossoms. It is a succulent perennial in the mint family from South Africa. It'll grow in full sun to light shade to about 1' tall, and spread to about 1'-3' wide. Mine get very little water (they don't require much) and haven't gotten more than about 1' wide in almost 2 years. They're supposed to have blue flowers, but I've never noticed any flowers on mine, which is fine, as the foliage is attractive in its own right (I have a variegated version). For a good description, visit San Marcos Growers: [smgrowers.com/products/plants/plantdisplay.asp?plant\\_id=2884](http://smgrowers.com/products/plants/plantdisplay.asp?plant_id=2884). TO SCARE GOPHERS AWAY: Just put the plant still in its pot at the gopher hole and the gophers will go away and not return. It works!!! Also, plant cuttings along your property line to keep gophers from coming in. It is a no-brainer to simply pinch off a short stem and stick it into the ground to grow. We put a row of small cuttings about 3-4' apart along one property line and have had no gophers in that area since then (about a year ago). I also put a tiny cutting at some of the existent gopher holes (they were very busy for a few days last fall) and none of those gophers came back. Honestly, if I hadn't used it myself I wouldn't have believed it. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/14) — S.T-B.

*Salvia chamaedryoides* 'Marine Blue' MARINE BLUE SALVIA

(Lamiaceae) Hybrid

One parent of this attractive hybrid sage is *Salvia chamaedryoides*, which hails from Mexico; the other parent is unknown. The plant is an evergreen, bunny-proof perennial which grows to about 2' tall (in bloom) and 3' wide, forming a small mound. The leaves are green, unlike the *S. chamaedryoides* parent, which has gray foliage (some sources say the hybrid also has gray foliage). This sage takes full sun (or light shade), is drought-tolerant, and hardy to about 10°F. The bees make a beeline for the small, intensely blue flower, which bloom from spring through fall (if spent blooms are removed). Hummingbirds enjoy the flower nectar. Does best in well-drained soil. (Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 12/14) – P.P.& 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 November newsletter was *Hypoestes decorata* BOW BUSH.

- 3 *Aloe ciliaris* CLIMBING ALOE (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/14)
- Gomphrena decumbens* AIRY BACHELOR BUTTONS  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/14)
- Iris* cv. BEARDED IRIS (Marilyn Wilson, Vista, 12/14)
- Justicia fulvicoma* MEXICAN PLUME  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/14)
- 3 *Rhus ovata* SUGARBUSH (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/14)
- 3 *Rhus saccharum* SUGAR RUSH (Plant Nutt, Vista, 12/14)
- 3 *Tulbagia simmleri*, syn. *T. fragrans* SWEET GARLIC, FRAGRANT  
WINTER TULBAGIA (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/14) 🌿

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Kate Sessions Birthday Celebration:  
November 7, 2015

Festival of Trees: December 4-5, 2015



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## DECEMBER MEETING REPORT

### The Early Days of Balboa Park

By Jeannine Romero

While San Diegans prepare to commemorate Balboa Park's 100th anniversary of the 1915 Panama California Exposition, today's gardeners and landscapers might be surprised to learn that the debate about plant choices appropriate for the region has not really changed all that much in one hundred years.

It was that debate, low water and native vs. water loving and tropical, that led the landscape architects of Central Park fame, the Olmsted Brothers, to resign from the San Diego park project before any dirt was ever turned over, according to horticultural historian Nancy Carol Carter.

During the December meeting of the SDHS, Carter said that unbeknownst to the citizens then—who were calling Balboa Park 'the garden of Eden'—the untold cost of paradise in today's money was the equivalent of \$10 million for 345 acres of landscaping. The project was intended to put San Diego on the map, and included Spanish-style buildings, formal flower gardens, and 33,000 palm trees alone in Palm Canyon.

As a result, she said, the park attracted throngs of people and the exposition was considered a great success—even more so than the official United States exposition held in San Francisco. So the Panama Canal, a remote project outside of the United States, had a profound influence on the landscape of San Diego and Southern California.

Balboa Park itself (formerly called City Park) was founded in 1868. Some 1400 acres were set aside for a park in a city that was land rich, but without finances to formally landscape the property. However, Carter said that in 1905 a new law created a park fund from property taxes and, with a funding source in place, the city council could not turn its back on the park.

Prior to 1905, Kate Sessions, frequently called the mother of Balboa Park, moved her nursery there and paid rent to the city in the form of trees. Carter said the nursery was, in effect, a demonstration garden for the city, with Sessions' nursery showing what could be grown in the undeveloped land. Sessions eventually planted more than 10,000 trees there, and she also presented the first comprehensive landscape plan that suggested poppies, bougainvillea and morning glories among the plant choices for the park.

Carter said "the unsung maker of Balboa Park" that most San Diegans never heard of was Mary B. Coulston, an editorial assistant to *Garden & Forest* magazine that published from 1888 to 1897. Carter said Coulston was the most informed person on parks across the U.S. because of her extensive contacts. She wrote incessantly about why San Diego should make improvements to the park, and, most likely, she picked the park's first landscape designer, Samuel Parsons, Jr.

Parsons thought the park was beautiful and believed it should not be landscaped like East Coast parks, or those in Europe. Instead, Parsons recommended highlighting canyon features and planting trees suitable to the region. Urban parks were considered an alternative to unpleasant city life at the time, Carter explained, and the strategy was to keep it as natural as possible with borrowed canyon views and a few formal gardens for citizens to visit.



Janet Ward

Nancy Carol Carter

The Olmsted Brothers were hired when exposition fever hit the U.S. Although the official exposition was awarded to the much more populated San Francisco, San Diego decided to hold an exposition anyway. The goal was to attract people to move here and show them that anything could grow in San Diego.

The Olmsteads spent months working on plans to preserve open space, use native plants and trees appropriate to the climate, and not add buildings to the land. On the other hand, architect Bertram Goodhue disagreed with the Olmstedes, and he convinced the city to build a "fantasy land" on the central mesa of the park, with lots of Spanish-style buildings, the botanical building, tea houses, formal gardens, and lots of tropical flowering plants and vines. The Olmstedes resigned from the project, while Goodhue, Frank Lloyd Wright, Jr., and Carleton Winslow began the extensive renovation on the newly named Balboa Park.

Carter said the "over the top landscaping" created better press for San Diego over San Francisco. People flocked here and the exposition continued into 1916. She also noted that Goodhue's lush, tropical landscaping strategy for San Diego "has only recently been challenged" due to our awareness of drought.

Thanks, Nancy, for an exceptional and fascinating presentation! Members who missed the meeting can borrow a video of it at the next regular meeting they attend. 🌿

## THANK YOU MEETING DONORS

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about tours, make a donation and subscribe to the highly regarded

*Pacific Horticulture* magazine. A special rate of \$24 is available right

now by using the discount code SDHS2014 when you sign up at

[www.pachort.org](http://www.pachort.org). 🌿



## Congratulations to Kathy Puplava!

Our heartfelt congratulations to Kathy Puplava for being selected as the SDHS Horticulturist of the Year for 2015. Kathy is the co-author of *Trees and Gardens of Balboa Park*, and for many years was the Horticulturist of Balboa Park. We'll be featuring her in an upcoming newsletter.

## 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 (which a short note) to [membership@sdhort.org](mailto:membership@sdhort.org). We never share your email address with anyone!

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

- Link to the newest digital newsletter on our website
- Invitation to Featured Garden and other events
- Link to upcoming FREE WORKSHOPS
- Details about the talk at the next meeting

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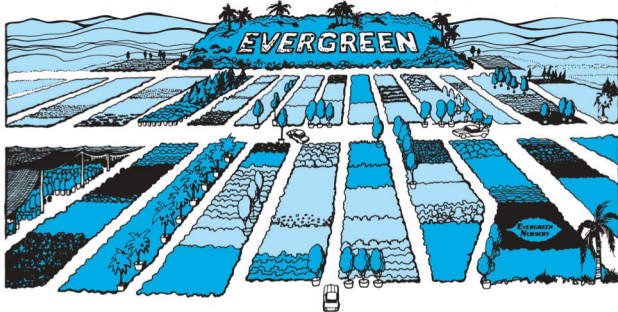


## What's Happening? for JANUARY 2015

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).

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Mon.-Saturday 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*

## January 3: Landscaping & Maintaining your Garden in Winter

If you love gardening then you love San Diego. We are fortunate enough to be able to be outside in our garden all year long. Lots of people are buried in snow while we are able to do the feeding, planting, and pruning necessary to have that beautiful garden throughout the year. We will discuss all these things and more.

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:  
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#### CARMEL VALLEY

13650 Valley Rd.  
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#### OCEANSIDE

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(760) 754-0340

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

#### EL CAJON

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

## Events at Public Gardens

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

❖ **San Diego Botanic Garden** Contact info on other side  
**Dec 6 – 23 and 26 – 30, Garden of Lights:** After the sun goes down in December, the Garden is transformed into a dazzling winter wonderland. \$14 discounts available; see website.  
**Jan. 10, 17, & 31 WaterSmart Landscape Makeover Series:** Comprehensive overview and the basic skills necessary for the successful conversion of their traditional turf grass yard. Pre-registration is required. Info: Angela Benson at [landscapemakeover@sdcw.org](mailto:landscapemakeover@sdcw.org).

**Jan. 31, 9am-noon, Succulent Turtle Class:** Take home a charming succulent turtle that you make yourself. Members \$35, Non-Members \$42. Register by Jan. 23.

### ❖ The Water Conservation Garden

Contact info on other side

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

## Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

### ◆ Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops

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

◆ **Cedros Gardens, Saturday & Sunday FREE classes.**  
See [www.cedrosgardens.com](http://www.cedrosgardens.com).

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

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

### ◆ Sunshine Care FREE Seminar Each Month

Jan. 17, 10:30am, **Bare Root Fruit Trees.** With a combination of deciduous and citrus fruit trees, there is no reason why people in So. Cal. can't enjoy fresh fruit, every week of the year, from their own garden. Learn from David's experiences with varieties, planting and care of bare root fruit trees, to help bring nature's bounty to your yard. 12725 Monte Vista Rd., Poway. RSVP: (858) 472-6059 or Email [roy@sunshinecare.com](mailto:roy@sunshinecare.com). Info: [sunshinecare.com](http://sunshinecare.com).

◆ **Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes**  
Details at [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com); addresses in ad on page 15.

|         | Point Loma, 9am              | Poway, 9:30am               |
|---------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jan. 3  | Pears & Figs – Pruning, etc. | Rose Pruning                |
| Jan. 10 | Best Bare Root selections    | Orchard Planning & Planting |
| Jan. 17 | Success with Indoor Plants   | Fruit Tree Pruning          |
| Jan. 24 | Winter & Spring Color        | Spring Bulbs                |
| Jan. 31 | Spring Bulbs                 | TBA                         |

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

## Next SDHS Meeting

January 12:

## Under the Spell of Succulents

See page 1 for details

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

## Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

## JANUARY IS FRUIT TREE & ROSE PRUNING TIME!

Check out these free workshops:

### SUNSHINE CARE:

Jan. 17, 10:30am, **Bare Root Fruit Trees**. With a combination of deciduous and citrus fruit trees, there is no reason why people in So. Cal. can't enjoy fresh fruit, every week of the year, from their own garden. Learn from David Ross's experiences with varieties, planting and care of bare root fruit trees, to help bring nature's bounty to your yard. 12725 Monte Vista Rd., Poway. RSVP: (858) 472-6059 or Email roy@sunshinecare.com. Info: www.sunshinecare.com. (See ad page 13.)

### WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY:

Jan. 3, 9:00am, **Pears and Figs, Pruning and new Varieties**

Jan. 3, 9:30am, **Rose Pruning**

Jan. 10, 9:00am, **Best Bare Root Selections**.

Jan. 10, 9:30am, **Orchard Planning & Planting**.

Jan. 17, 9:30am, **Fruit Tree Pruning**.

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

**Jan. 4, 4-5pm, Solana Center's Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop**: \$10/person. 137 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas. Registration & info: www.solanacenter.org.

**Jan. 11, 10am-noon, Point Loma Garden Club**: Balboa Park Centennial. 2818 Avenida de Portugal. Info: www.plgc.org.

**Jan. 17, 9:30-5pm, Solana Center's Grow Your Own Food Course**: Four week course that will be held every Saturday, through February 7<sup>th</sup>. 137 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas. \$40. Info: www.solanacenter.org.

**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).

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**And may your garden**  
**delight you in 2015!**

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

## Resources & Ongoing Events:

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

**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) 822-6910, 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.

**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.

### 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.

**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 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)