Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society March 2015, Number 246 Eucalyptus: The Goo The Bad and The PAGE 1 SPRING GARDEN TOU **PAGES 3 & 10** FREE ENTRY TO SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW STER GARDENERS SPRING SEMINAR PAGE 6 SPRING GARDEN FESTIVAL PAGE 8 On the Cover: Majestic Sugar Gum

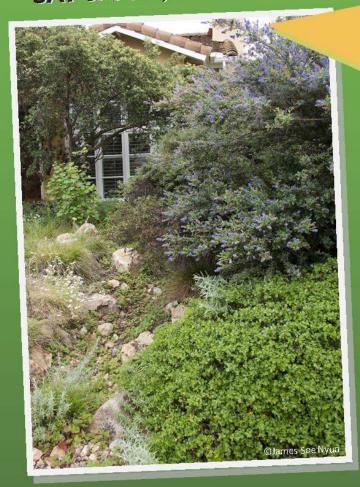


▼SDHS SPONSOR





SAT & SUN, MARCH 28-29



19 SPECTACULAR NATIVE & WATERWISE LANDSCAPES CREATIVE CONSERVATION SOLUTIONS KUMEYAAY ARTIFACTS, EDIBLES & MORE!

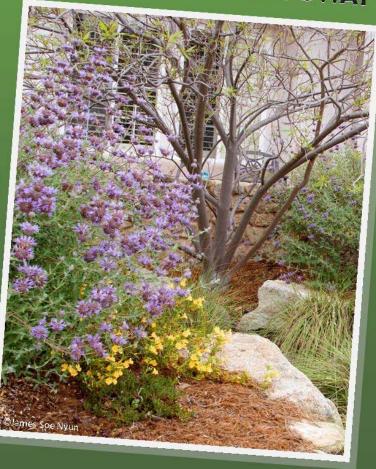
Visit GardenNative.org

GARDEN NATIVE TOUR 2015

SDHS members get 20% off! Use code "SDHS"

9:30 am to 4:30 pm Tickets \$25 Kids are free!

SAN DIEGO & POWAY





Water Conservation Garden

Tours of the Butterfly Pavilion Pollinator Party & Kids' Activities **Butterfly Experts, Booths & Workshops Plant Sales & Craft Vendors**

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

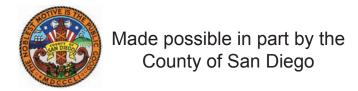
NATIVE MILKWEED PLANTS FOR SALE

Support the Monarch Butterfly population by planting milkweed in your garden!

> Admission: \$1 ages 3-17, \$5 ages 18+ Garden members FREE



www.theGarden.org/butterfly







March 14, 2015, 9am-3pm at The Water Conservation Garden

Join California's largest (and most fun) tomato seedling sale!

Enthusiastically referred to as "the tomato freak's Woodstock" by the *New York Times*, TOMATOMANIA! is a crazy celebration of America's favorite garden vegetable!

Rare, classic and brand new (to many) tomato varieties and expert advice are core attractions, and this year TOMATOMANIA! creator Scott Daigre will introduce and sign his new book, TOMATOMANIA!

A Fresh Approach to Celebrating

Tomatoes in the Garden and in the Kitchen.



FREE ADMISSION TO THE EVENT!

Special presentations: \$5 Garden Members; \$10 Non-Members

Presentation Seating is limited!

Scan the code at right or visit
www.theGarden.org to reserve your seat today.





Scott Daigre, creator of TOMATOMANIA!

Learn to grow perfect heirloom tomatoes at these presentations:

10:00am

TOMATOMANIA! with Scott Daigre (book signing follows)

1:00pm

TOMATOMANIA! with Stephen Baldonado



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







Paul Ecke, Jr. Garden Show A Walk in the Park Entries Accepted Online Now through May 1, 2015 For more information visit sdfair.com/entry or call 858-792-4273

SDHS SPONSOR



▼SDHS SPONSOR



Spring Garden Festival

Tomatomania!® | Herbal Marketplace Bromeliads | Palms and Cycads Garden Emporium

March 14 and 15 • 9 AM — 5 PM

This year, Scott Daigre will be our special guest speaker. Scott is an avid gardener, sometimes farmer and enthusiastic landscape designer/owner of POWERPLANT Garden Design. He's just finished a new book that will teach new gardeners and accomplished veterans a thing or two about growing tomatoes.

Eniov...

- On-going speakers
- Herb Festival Marketplace
- Spring Plant Sale
- Crafts and activities for Kids
- One Stop Shopping for all of your Spring Garden Needs ...and so much more!

For a \$2 off **Admission Coupon** visit SDBGarden.org

Free with paid admission or membership.

KIDZONE Pony Rides • Petting Zoo

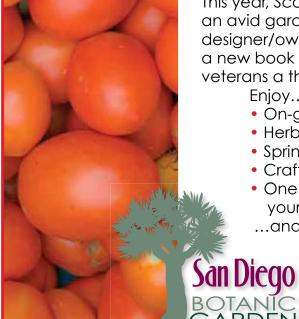


Back by popular demand is Tomatomania!® with lectures









IN THIS ISSUE...

- 2 Volunteers Needed
- 2 Subscribe to Garden Design and Get a FREE Issue!
- 3 Spring Garden Tour: Gardens Then and Now
- 3 Gardens, Plants, Fun For Free!
- 3 From the Board
- 4 The Real Dirt On... Mia Yamada McCarville
- 4 Book Review
- 5 Trees, Please California Historical Landmarks
- 5 March Garden Tours
- 5 Free Workshop: Dry Shade Gardening
- 6 Going Wild With Natives
- 6 A Spring Fling with SD Master Gardeners
- 8 Welcome New Members!
- 8 Discounts for Members
- 8 What's Up At San Diego Botanic Garden?
- 9 My Life with Plants
- 10 Spring Garden Tour
- 14 Sharing Secrets
- 18 February 2015 Plant Display
- 19 February Meeting Report
- 20 Pacific Horticulture Tours
- 20 Get a lob at the Fair

A Californian's Guide to the

INSERTS:

California Native Plant Society Garden Tour The Water Conservation Garden 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)

March 6-8	Spring Home/Garden Show
March 7	Guided Nature Walk at San Elijo Lagoon (FG)
March 25	Dry Shade Gardening Workshop (FW) – SEE PAGE 5
April I I	Spring Garden Tour - Gardens Then and Now
April 13	Special Meeting at the San Diego Natural History Museum
May I I	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



www.sdhort.org

COVER IMAGE: The huge sugar gum tree (Eucalyptus cladocalyx) on the cover was photographed by March speaker Matt Ritter. Learn more about these and other eucalyptus in his lively talk.

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 9, 2015, 6:00 - 8:30 PM Speaker: Matt Ritter on Eucalyptus: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

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

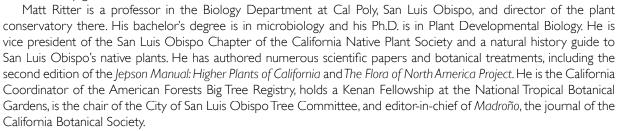
We are excited to welcome back Dr. Matt Ritter, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo Professor of Botany and Plant Conservatory director, to talk about effective uses of Eucalyptus trees in the garden. Eucalypts are the most recognizable and controversial non-native trees in California. In the regions where they are conspicuous landscape features, they are either admired as aesthetically valuable heritage trees and monarch butterfly habitat, or demonized as America's largest weeds. Matt Ritter will explore the history, ecology, and uses of eucalypts in California landscapes and will present appropriate small, drought tolerant species. Join him for an in depth look at this fascinating and misunderstood group of

trees. He is the author of A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us, the state's most popular natural history guide to the urban forest.



Horticultural

Society



A book sale and signing will follow the meeting. For more information visit baobabbotanical.com/Ritter/Home.html and tinyurl.com/MarchMattR.39



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
Julian Duval – San Diego Botanic Garden
Representative

Mary James – Program Committee Chair Princess Norman – Secretary Susanna Pagan – Public Relations Coordinator Sam Seat – Treasurer Susan Starr – Garden Tour Chair Susi Torre-Bueno – Newsletter Editor, Past President Roy WIlburn - 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.

Copyright ©2015 San Diego Horticultural Society, Encinitas, CA. All rights reserved. Not to be reproduced by any means for any purpose without prior written permission.

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

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)

Sign up TODAY for Spring Garden Tour Volunteers

Time to sign up for our biggest fund-raising event of the year: the 2015 Spring Garden Tour (see page 3). This year's tour, a joint event with the San Diego Floral Association, honors the centennial of the Panama-California Exposition and features twelve gardens in historic neighborhoods surrounding Balboa Park. We need dozens of volunteers to sell tickets, greet people in the gardens, direct parking, and more. Plan to participate and make this our best tour yet. Sign up TODAY; all volunteers receive free admission to the tour. To sign up, go to sdhort.wildapricot.org/VolunteerGardenTour.

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 lim 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 March 3I 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!



SDHS Nametags

Sturdy magnetback nametags are just \$10



To order go to https://sdhort.wildapricot.org/Shop or buy one at any monthly meeting.

SPRING GARDEN TOUR: GARDENS THEN AND NOW

Saturday, April II Tour Photos & Details on Pages 10-11

Here are descriptions of six more of the exceptional gardens on this outstanding tour. Descriptions of all gardens are on the garden tour page on our website.

Six Must-See Gardens

By Jeannine Romero

Old Home, New Garden

Our garden tour features numerous homes with a significant past and a coveted historical plaque next to the front door. Visitors therefore will be surprised to learn that one of the Mission Hills gardens on the tour was built to look old, but really is a newbie compared to the others. A Santa Barbara Mission style home, complete with a tower, on Conde Place was just built in 2003. The owner takes pride when he retells the story that someone once

Continued on page 7

GARDENS, PLANTS, FUN – FOR FREE!

Spring Home/Garden Show: March 6 to 8 By Lucy Warren

How does your garden grow? Do you want to push it to the next level? Come to the Spring Home/Garden Show at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Discover exciting plants, see great designs, and listen to leading landscaping and gardening experts for great tips for dabblers and expert diggers alike.

SDHS members get a free VIP pass for two: springhomegardenshow.com/SDHS. You'll definitely want to bring your significant other or your best gardening buddy.

SDHS sponsors the judging for the dramatically lit display gardens designed and created specifically for this show. Garden Masters put their best efforts into creative new ideas for wonderful gardens for our climate. See the creativity and style of top designers and horticulturists. These are people you want to know about. You will be able to talk with many of them at the show.

Learn from the experts at the free informative seminar series, with topics including spring vegetables, succulents, fruit trees, low water use plants, new plants to look for, and designing a beautiful climate-appropriate landscape. Learn how much water your plants really need... and more!

Sign up for the "30 for 30" private consultations hosted by professionals from the American Institute of Architects (AIA), American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), and American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). For just \$30, you receive a 30-minute private professional consultation, which can be reserved in advance at springhomegardenshow.com.

You'll find interesting and unusual plants to tempt your wallet. Top growers and specialty nurseries come together at the show with their best plants, so you don't have to drive all over San Diego to find what you want. Talk to these people; their advice can help you make these plants thrive in your garden.



FROM THE BOARD By Jim Bishop

Spring Garden Tour

If you are like me and many other San Diegans, you moved here from somewhere else and first visited Balboa Park as a tourist. The Park and the charming neighborhoods around the Park were part of what convinced me to move here. Okay, to be honest, the plants and gardens of the San Diego Zoo also played an important part. I remember driving through a wonderful walkable neighborhood just to the north of the zoo and thinking, I wish I could live here. I now know that this neighborhood is named Marston Hills and 3 of the I2 unique gardens on our 2015 garden tour are in this neighborhood.

This tour is co-hosted with the San Diego Floral Association (SDFA), 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 on this year's tour 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 learn much more about the tour in this newsletter and online at sdhort.org/GardenTour.

Besides visiting these inspirational gardens, tour goers will receive a special edition of *California Garden* magazine, published quarterly by the San Diego Floral Association. This 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 will want to attend the tour to receive your keepsake copy, and also so your great-grandchildren can sell it on eBay in 2115 to pay off their college expenses.

SDHS and SDFA members can purchase their tickets online now and 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 two days 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 right now and purchase your tickets.

Special April Meeting

Speaking of online purchases, tickets are selling quickly for our special meeting on Monday, April 13, at theNat (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. 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 the Nat exhibits, but you'll also hear Jon Rebman, theNat's Curator of Botany (and our 2011 Horticulturist of the Year) speak about the museum's remarkable history documenting San Diego County Flora for more than a century. The museum will also display some rare botanical illustrations and specimens from its collections.

Tickets can be purchased online at sdhort.org/event-I736855 or at our March meeting. We expect this event to sell out, so buy your ticket now to avoid disappointment. If you come early, you can visit the nearby gardens that SDHS has helped restore. If you are planning an early dinner before the meeting, the Prado Restaurant is closed on Monday, so we recommend one of the many restaurants in Hillcrest or Uptown.

THE REAL DIRT ON...

Mia Yamada McCarville

By Carol Buckley

It's Sunday at Cedros Gardens in Solana Beach, and several students are learning to plant a microgarden of edible flowers. A petite woman, with long dark hair flecked with silver and wearing simple jeans, a khaki shirt, and sunhat, is demonstrating how to let a plant drop from its plastic pot onto her two waiting fingers. It's a handson horticultural lesson lined with statements of practical wisdom, such as "Something that blooms all year doesn't last long."



Among the plants in this class is the pretty Shungiku, a relative of the chrysanthemum from Japan.

Mia Yamada McCarville is a transplant from Japan, but has been rooted in the United States since 1979, when she moved here with her husband, an American she met while studying in English literature in Tokyo. Her horticultural journey started in the coastal town of Miyazaki on Kyushu. "As a little girl I used to sit down with plant ID books with photographs." After opening Cedros Gardens (a sponsor of SDHS) in 1993, she gained firsthand knowledge: "When you work with plants it's not like designing furniture or something that doesn't move or doesn't grow – they're living things, so there are a lot of variables. And you have to deal with each variable as it comes. Book knowledge is book knowledge; it's not really flexible."

Flexibility at Cedros Gardens is reflected in the plant selection. If a plant can't be found, Mia and her staff raise it from seed on site. Mia says at home she tries "to have at least couple of things at each meal that come out of [my] garden." Mia's parents, both teachers, had an edible garden at her childhood home. "Matter of fact," Mia says, "when [my father] bought the first piece of land ... he planted tea seeds all around, and by the time he was able to build the house there, five or six years later, the tea bushes were big enough that we began to harvest tea leaves every May, and we made tea once a year."

Mia's previous passion was Japanese folk art, and this sensibility is reflected at Cedros Gardens in the old lime-color house; the hut where Molly, the cat, lazes; the aviary including rescued quails; and the variety of plant areas, some adorned with fountains, wind chimes, and artisan ceramics.

Mia says she was "thrilled" when Cedros Gardens was named as one of the best small nurseries in western states by Sunset in 2004, but when asked about her biggest achievement as a nurserywoman, she says, "I don't know, maybe creating this atmosphere. I think I'll take that as more of an achievement than any awards."

BOOK REVIEW

Living Wreaths: 20 Beautiful Projects for Gifts and Décor

By Natalie Bernhisel Robinson Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

Living Wreaths is the kind of book that inspires a trip to the store to buy tools and plants. Even if you just pick it up to have a glance, I'll bet you'll be seduced, maybe just for a moment, into thinking, "I could do that and it would look so nice."

I'm not "crafty" by nature or training, but I do dream. Those of you who have been reading the Hort Society newsletter for a long time, may remember that my first



review I2+ years ago was of a book on how to make concrete planting tubs, *Creating and Planting Garden Troughs*, by Fingerhut and Murffit. I haven't gotten around to it yet, but I still think that was a terrific book, and this one is too.

The author owns a floral design company, La Fleur, in Park City, Utah. If her floral designs are as attractive as the wreaths in this book, she probably has a lot of customers.

As per the title, this book includes 20 different wreaths: five of succulents, two of moss, and one each of mixed flowers, cactus, ivy, mixed vines, bronze clover and ground cover, strawberries, tomatoes, herbs, lettuce, lavender, spider plants, begonias and jade, and leafy houseplants.

It's a mix of round, square, and rectangular wreaths for table, wall, or door. As with anything, some – to my eye – are more successful than others. We've all seen lots of succulent wreaths, but I hadn't thought of planting cherry tomatoes on a wreath form. It will definitely impress your guests with your gardening ability. One I was dubious about was the spider plant wreath, but it is dramatic and would work anywhere. It could even be used as a spectacular Christmas wreath.

This is primarily a picture book, with photographs by Susan Barnson Hayward that carry you step-by-step through the design and construction of the wreaths. I imagine that the competent-looking hands shown in the photos are those of Robinson. She covers tools and techniques. Between the photos and the text, she's probably not left out anything you'd need to know to be successful at wreath-making.

If you really want to get into it, the author conducts a wreath-making class in December each year. I don't know if anyone has a class closer to home, but it sure looks like fun.

One small caveat: there are some spelling errors that should have been caught before publication, but they're not enough to decrease the value of the book.

Living Wreaths is a sturdy paperback of 128 pages published by Gibbs Smith. It sells for \$19.99 at their web site and at local book stores. Check out their other garden books at gibbs-smith.com.

TREES, PLEASE

California Historical Landmarks

By Tim Clancy

Old Arrow Tree

A past article looked at how we use trees as a means to honor loved ones by placing plaques near the tree with information about the honoree. Not only do we honor loved ones with trees, we also honor trees in the state of California.

California Historical Landmarks (CHLs) are buildings, structures, sites, or places that have been determined to have statewide historical significance by



meeting at least one of multiple criteria. There are over 1100 CHLs as of this writing. Several of those are trees. Some of the designations are based on events or locations where important historical events occurred, while others are, shall we say, of lesser importance.

Placerita Canyon State Park is the home of CHL #162, the "Oak of the Golden Dream." Here, on March 9, 1842, Francisco Lopez took a nap under an oak tree and dreamt of riches in the form of a pool of gold upon which he was floating. When he awoke, he crossed the stream near the oak and amongst some sycamore trees discovered gold. Mr. Lopez filed some paperwork related to his find, and this became the first documented gold discovery in California.

Near Victorville is CHL #939, The Hulaville Forest. I haven't been able to find any pictures of this landmark, which is described as being a roadside attraction with bushes and trees that had been adorned with bottles and other objects. At the entrance was a large paper cut out of a Hula Girl, presumably the source of the name. Sadly, the Hulaville forest is no more, having a life span of just 2 years from 1995 to 1997.

Near Calistoga California is CHL #915, The Petrified Forest. This landmark is a collection of trees that were petrified by an eruption of Mount St. Helens some 3.4 million years ago. Discovered by Othniel Charles Marsh, who determined the tree species was Sequoia langsdorfii, a tree now known to be extinct. Several of the trees have nicknames, including the Giant the Pit and the Queen, which was 2000 years old when the eruption occurred.

Paramount, California is home to CHL #1038, the California Hay Tree, where hay traders from the 1920s to the 1950s would meet under the still-standing camphor tree and decide the prices for hay which would then be quoted by New York merchants; it was the world standard. There is even a song about the location that begins:

"I'm 120 and fifty feet tall

I'm a camphor tree and that ain't all

I'm the face of the place where they'd decide

The price of hay worldwide."

There are several other California Historical Landmarks with tree themes. On your next road trip add one to your itinerary! For details visit ohp.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21387 and landmarkquest. com/fulllist.htm.

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. 39

MARCH GARDEN TOURS

By Mary James

Two very different tours kick off the 2015 garden tour season in the county. Here are details on both.

The third annual Garden Native Tour sponsored by the California Native Plant Society visits 19 gardens open for two days,

March 28-29 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The self-guided tour stops at waterwise native plant landscapes in neighborhoods ranging from North Park and University City to Carmel Valley and Poway. Among them is San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles magazine's 2011 "Garden of the Year." Tour goers also can visit the Kumeyaay Center Interpretive



Pauwai. All gardens will have docents available to answer questions. Many also feature wildlife habitats, rainwater collection and graywater systems and landscapes that replaced lawns. Tickets are \$25 (kids are FREE) and can be purchased at GardenNative.org. SDHS members get 20% off - use the code "HORT." (Also see article in our February newsletter.)

For the 17th year, the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association is hosting a tour of Borrego Springs desert gardens on March 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The six tour gardens include a hacienda-view home that overlooks Borrego's blooming "ocotillo forest," a 36-acre working horse ranch accented with old wagons and carts and a desert community garden. Tickets are \$30 (\$20 for ABDNHA members). Save \$2 per ticket by purchasing them on or before March 21. Order them online at abdnha.org/gardentour or by calling (760) 767-3098. 🗷

FREE WORKSHOP: Dry Shade Gardening March 25, 10AM

Are you looking for plants that require little or no water for those shady spots in your garden? SDHS is offering a FREE workshop for members only to inspire you and answer these questions. This workshop will show you some succulents, groundcovers, and other plants that can work together to enhance these spaces. The class will be led by Mike Hirsch, a California Certified Nurseryman with 46 years experience. It will be held at his wonderful nursery, Gardens By The Sea, situated in Leucadia at 1500 North Coast Hwy.

Class will be held at IOAM on Wednesday, March 25th, and is limited to 20 members. Parking is limited and carpooling is strongly recommended. Refreshments will be provided, and there'll be a 15% discount on any nursery purchase made directly after the workshop!

To register go to sdhort.org and click on the workshop link. Please contact Susan Groves at 858-759-3255 or csusancgroves@ Hotmail.com for questions and in case of rain on the morning of the workshop. 🗷

GOING WILD WITH NATIVES Early Thoughts on Seed Collecting

By Susan Krzywicki

It's not too soon to start

There seems to be a natural cycle for gardens – and I am not talking about the seasonal flow. No, it is how a passion for gardening often encourages other, related interests. We move from the purely physical aspects to sub-passions about birds in the garden, or conservation, or flower arranging. One logical progression is propagation. Many of my friends in the native plant world grow their own from cuttings, seeds, and other methods. The satisfaction this gives is immeasurable.

We see two main schools of seed collecting: for personal garden use, and for genetic diversity and scientific study. How and why botanists collect can inform home gardeners' efforts can teach us a lot; and now is the time to plan ahead for the 2015 seed collecting season.

Collect widely

Most home gardeners collect seed from their own plants, then grow these on, and then plant them or gift them. Gardeners may only collect from just one or two plants. So, remembering our genetics, these seeds will only carry the heritage of those specific plants. Think about the hemophilia issue that European royalty ran into around the turn of the 20th century. Some say it was intensified by breeding within too small of a gene pool. Let's add some diversity to our garden seed collecting pool.

Adapt these suggestions

Scientists have specific protocols. A July 2014 article from the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis suggests, "Saving seeds the right way can save the world's plants." Their protocol advises, "First, collectors must choose their plant populations from a wide area rather than a restricted one. Sampling widely can capture up to nearly 200 percent more rare genes than restricted sampling." And they suggest that it only takes about eight to ten seeds per plant. So, when you start collecting, consider swapping with friends and neighbors, and collecting from a greater variety of plants. Remember these guidelines, as well:

- If rare species grow in the locality, avoid their close biological relatives
- Permit processes for collection must be followed for collecting in public spaces

Two resources for more learning

Over the past two years, the Theodore Payne Foundation has implemented its Local Source Initiative: a collaborative program between the seed and nursery departments that provides native plants sourced from local populations. This program is an effort to protect the biodiversity of the local region, provide gardeners with plants adapted to their environments, and raise interest in preservation of local habitat. See theodorepayne.org/nursery/local-source-initiative.

The San Diego area will again see a native plant Garden Tour March 28th and 29 (see insert), so learn from the owners of these



great gardens. Go to gardennative.org for more information and tickets.

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.

A SPRING FLING WITH SD MASTER GARDENERS

By BJ Boland

What leaks foul tasting toxic fluid from its "knee"? What might be named after the Virgin Mary? What has a lifespan of 2-3 years? As a babe it resembles a miniature alligator? Can't guess? Let's make it easier.

What "needs to fly home"? Is a greedy eater? Had a car named after it? Loves polka dots?

That's right! Coccinellidae are those wonderful red and black beetles that help protect our gardens from aphids and mites. And they are the symbol of the **2015 Spring Seminar** presented by the UCCE Master Gardener Program of San Diego County, which will be held on Saturday, March 21, at the County of SD Operations Center, just off Rt. 52 between the I-15 and Rt. 163.

This year's theme is "Earth Friendly Gardening," and the Ladybug, or Ladybird (if you're British), or Lady Beetle (if you are wise) is the symbol of having a happy garden where every plant thrives.

- Enjoy demos and shopping and workshops and did I mention shopping?
- Expand your gardening skills by attending seminars led by experts in their fields.
- Explore the Marketplace (pictured here) for the newest hybrids and not so new books.

There will be Master Gardeners to stump with questions, authors to sign your new books, vendors to sell you things that go on, in, and under your garden. The seminars are given in 3 sessions (with 6 different classes offered in each session), allowing you to attend 1, 2, or 3 talks. The 9-10:30 morning session offers important information about replacing your lawn, using water-wise plants, attracting wildlife

Continued on page 14

■ **Spring Garden Tour** Continued from page 2

asked him, "where is the historical house plaque?"

One of the tricks used to make the home look as though it has been around for years, the owner said, was to apply three different coats of Venetian plaster on the exterior. The front of the home features a good luck shell over the door, and a false balcony, in the traditional Santa Barbara Mission style. The owner also used wood window frames, and repaints them every year. Tiles are used on the front steps, and a large potted sword fern plant flanks the door.

Only five palm trees remain from the original garden on this corner lot. There is a large angel trumpet in full bloom, and bougainvillea. A manicured climbing ficus grows on one side of the home. One of the interesting features of the garden is the combination of edible and ornamental plants intermingled throughout. Although the owners have a small tiered space near the garage for tomatoes, sorrel and broccoli, they also liberally plant kale, kohlrabi, numerous pepper varieties, beets and Swiss chard in the garden beds surrounding the house, along with ranunculus, primrose and other ornamentals and flowers. "We harvest something from the yard everyday," the owner noted.

History on a Canyon

Romantic. That is the ambiance evoked by the garden in a 1915 house built by Richard Requa, in the same year of the exposition in Balboa Park that changed the architectural landscape here. The current owners bought the house in 1985, and renovated much of it. The property includes a charming guest house in the back, and an old tree house near a deck off the back of the property now functions as a chicken coop. The late, and notable, San Diego garden designer known only as Sinjen worked his magic in this garden..

A wood gate entry and a large evergreen, with beautifully textured bark, welcome visitors at the front of the house. The owner said the tree was used as a living Christmas tree by previous owners, and then planted in the 1960s. There is a tiled courtyard packed with plants and shrubs, such as camellias, tea trees, and a large powder puff shrub. Balls of mature tillandsias grow on bare tree branches. Visitors step down a brick pathway to the back yard, to find a coral tree, a large macadamia tree that still bears nuts, and lemon trees along with cedar and clivia. Flower beds, always in shades of purple and white, the owner says, will feature foxgloves this Spring.

The back yard garden features a trumpet flower vine on a bay window that is original to the house, and an old, substantial wisteria that has grown through an olive tree. The one-acre property slopes down a large canyon and has jade plants and Pride of Madeira. There is a magnolia tree on the side of the property that blooms heavily most of the year.

Classical Colonial

The 1920 house on Thorn Street is a William Templeton Johnson house (with a basement), and a garden originally designed by Kate Sessions. A large pool, adorned with a modern Corten steel sculpture at its head, and a garage, were added in the 1960s. Some of the brick lined planting beds, and an overall old fashioned feel, remain from the original design. The current owners have lived in the historical, but not landmarked, home for 17 years. A small garage in the back of the yard was converted into a guest house. A large wood door opens into a peaceful garden.

Bougainvillea covers a trellised patio, and raised garden beds grow vegetables. The garden's plant list includes bird of paradise, wisteria, roses, and mature camellias. Ivy climbs in diamond patterns on the walls of the tiled courtyard, just outside of a breakfast room featuring folding glass wall doors that open up accordion-style. The enviable courtyard garden has a fountain with Malibu tile, climbing iceberg roses and camellias.

The owner, who is originally from Portland, Oregon, confides that her favorite part of the garden is the small, shady zone facing north on the outside of the house. The branches of large Chinese elms, believed to have been planted by Sessions, arch, twist and dip, providing visual interest as well as respite from the sun. Clivias grow underneath the trees. The shaded garden bed has curved borders and includes more white flowering camellia shrubs, begonias, delphiniums, and sword ferns.

Unrivaled Spanish Revival

Twenty-eighth Street is a gem in the North Park neighborhood that faces Balboa Park. Many of the homes have landmark status and beautiful gardens. A Spanish style home, known as the Sam and Mary McPherson house is a landmark. It features a renovated garden that feels sophisticated, inviting and comfortable. The house was built in 1925, and the current owners have been remodeling for the past year. The kitchen ceiling was recently completed with concrete tiles and wood beams.

The kitchen opens onto a courtyard style garden. Tiles are used again on a large pool and fountain. The pool and Jacuzzi, installed II years ago, are solar heated. Head planters and tall urns add a classic look, and the large reclaimed wood dining table is a rustic addition. A small orchard on one side of the home has a heavily bearing grapefruit tree, orange tre and avocado, as well as hibiscus.

Meanwhile, the main garden features large philodendrons, bird of paradise, palms, aloes and sansevieria. The side yard patio (formerly the driveway), with an access door to the house, has a pale pink slate and gravel walkway and a two-tier fountain as a focal point. A Buddha statute from Bali adorns the area, which is planted with gardenias, lime and lemon trees, and agave.

Gardener's Paradise

The garden of a 1921 landmark home on 28th Street in North Park is a plant lover's paradise, with an impressive arrangement of large agave varieties, including Agave attenuata, A. americana mediopicta, and A. 'Blue Glow', are mixed with Aloe barbarae (tree aloe), aeoniums, rosemary, lavender, sage, Leucodendron 'Gold Tip', and false yellow oleander. A large branching magnolia tree in front of the home is not only valued for its lovely form, but the homeowner notes that the mature tree also serves the unexpected function of deflecting golf balls from Balboa Park across the street.

Fifteen years ago the back yard was all lawn. Now, the garden has stone paving, a stone fence, and a fountain made with 1920s Catalina tile. The garden is planted with an Arizona cypress tree, a large pomegranate tree that is original to the yard, and underplanted with pittosporum and clivia. There is large mature camellia with pink

Continued on page 20

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 Caroline James as our newest Life Member.

Beverly Bruff Marlaine Hubbard Elmer Lueker

Trish Harbers Joan Little Bobbie Stephenson

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)Joan Oliver (I)Jim Bishop (I)Nelda Johnson (I)Kathy Puplava (I)Deborah Brenner (I)John Kramer (I)Tammy Schwab (I)

Shirey Doig (I) Dannie McLaughlin (I)

SPONSOR MEMBERS (names in bold have ads)

Agri Service, Inc. Allée Landscape Design

Anderson's La Costa Nursery

Aristocrat Landscape, Installation & Maintenance

Assoc. of Professional Landscape Designers, San Diego District

Barrels & Branches

Benoit Exterior Design Briggs Tree Company

Buena Creek Gardens

Cedros Gardens City Farmers Nursery

Coastal Sage Gardening

Columbine Landscape Cuyamaca College Chris Drayer, ASLA www.EasyToGrowBulbs.com

Evergreen Nursery Garden Design Claricus Condons

Glorious Gardens Landscape **Grangetto's Farm &**

Garden Supply Green Thumb Nursery Greatsoil LLC Kellogg Garden Products

KRC Rock

Leichtag Foundation Mariposa Landscape and Tree Service

Marilyn's Garden Design Moosa Creek Nursery

Multiflora Enterprises Nature Designs Landscaping Ornamental Gardens By Lisa

Pat Welsh

Renee's Garden Revive Landscape Design

San Diego County Water Authority

Serra Gardens Landscape Succulents

Solana Succulents
Southwest Boulder & Stone

Sterling Tours

St. Madeleine Sophie's Center Sunshine Care Sunshine Gardens

The Wishing Tree Company

Walter Andersen Nursery

Waterwise Botanicals

Weidners' Gardens Westward Expos

LIFE MEMBERS *Horticulturist of the Year

*Chuck Ades (2008)
*Walter Andersen (2002)
Norm Applebaum &
Barbara Roper
*Bruce & Sharon
Asakawa (2010)
Gladys T. Baird
Debra Lee Baldwin
*Steve Brigham (2009)

Laurie Connable
*Julian (2014) & Leslie Duval
*Edgar Engert (2000)
Jim Farley
Sue & Charles Fouquette
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

DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

(see ads for more discounts)

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

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

Join Grangetto's FREE Garden Club for coupons and tips delivered to your inbox. www.grangettos.com/garden. 39



Spring Garden Festival & Tomatomania® March 14 & 15, 9 am – 5 pm

Don't miss the San Diego Botanic Garden's new Spring Garden Festival and Tomatomania®, featuring a widevariety of herbs, spring plants, bromeliads, garden art and implements and, of course, tomatoes! Garden experts will be on hand to answer questions and provide helpful advice on spring plantings and caring for your entire garden. A petting zoo, pony rides, delicious food from Divine Fresh, and music from Bob Ballentine and friends, make this an event the whole family will enjoy!

This year, Scott Diagre will be our special guest speaker. Scott is an avid gardener, sometime farmer, and enthusiastic landscape designer/owner of POWERPLANT Garden Design. He just finished a new book teaching new gardeners and accomplished veterans a thing or two about growing tomatoes – and having fun while doing it. Scott is happiest when showcasing rare and classic tomato varieties as owner and producer of Tomatomania®, the world's largest tomato seedling sale.

For more information, visit SDBGarden.org/events.htm. Cost is free with paid admission or membership.





MY LIFE WITH PLANTS By Jim Bishop

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

On the Move, Part 2

Last month I wrote about finding and buying our current home in Mission Hills. However, before we could move, we had to sell each of our houses. The spring of 1998 was the start of a housing boom, and above asking price offers were made on Scott's house the day it went on the market and it quickly sold. I needed a little more time to get my house in Encinitas ready for sale. Given how quickly Scott's house sold, and against my realtor's recommendation, I raised the asking price of my house just before it went on the market. We had a very rainy winter that year and the garden was at its best. After staging the house for sale, Scott and I went on a Sunday bike ride. We had heard from several realtors wanting to show the house, so we planned to return in the late afternoon. However, when we returned home there was a line of cars in front of the house all waiting their turn to show the house. The next week, I had several above asking-price offers to choose from.

Leaving my house and garden after 13 years wasn't as difficult as I expected. However, we relocated my cat to the new house several days before I moved and I hadn't realized how much of a companion he had become. He used to poke his nose into everything I was doing and follow me everywhere. The house and garden seemed very sad and empty without him.

We hired movers with a large van to move my possessions. The plan was to also have them move most of my potted plants as well. However, I had underestimated how much furniture and plants I had, and only some of the largest plants were able to fit onto the truck. So, we rented a U-Haul truck to move the rest ourselves. To my surprise, it took two trips to get everything. The new house didn't have an irrigation system and very few flat areas for the plants, so most everything ended up in the front courtyard. It was then that I realized that I had a lot of potted succulents. I had always enjoyed succulent plants, but never thought of myself as much of a collector, but over the years other plants in pots had died and the succulents survived, so I ended up with mostly succulents. It also became apparent how well they matched the architecture of the house. To this day, I still keep a collection of prized succulents in the front courtyard, and the collection has grown to cover just about every other available space for pots.



Continued on page 12

SDHS SPONSOR



▼SDHS SPONSOR



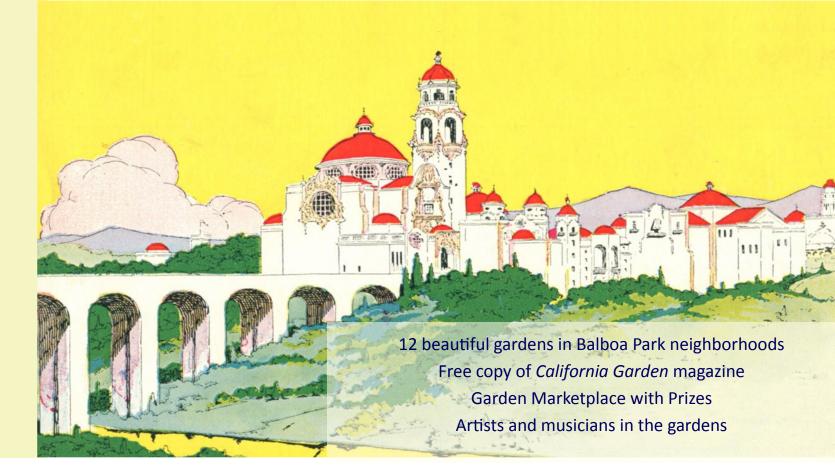
Gardens Then & Now Oplino Galden OOO

SATURDAY APRIL 11 9AM - 4PM

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE sdhort.org/Tickets

SDHS and SDFA members in advance \$25 Non-members and on day of tour \$30

Day of tour tickets (\$30) sold starting at 9AM at FRANCIS PARKER LOWER SCHOOL 4201 RANDOLPH STREET, SAN DIEGO 92103



Rediscover the Romance of San Diego's Garden Legacy



Unrivaled Spanish Revival



Mexican Connection



Richard Requa Classic



Mediterranean Estate



Classic Colonial



New Garden, Classic Style



Gardener's Paradise



Cozy Casita



Canyon Comeback



Milton Sessions Original



History on a Canyon



Blue Lagoon



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

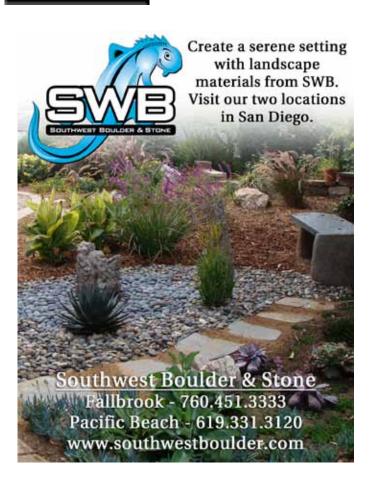
PRESENTED ВΥ

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION



MEDIA SPONSOR & MARKETPLACE GRAND PRIZE

▼SDHS SPONSOR



▼SDHS SPONSOR



■ My Life with Plants Continued from page 9

While we worked on plans to renovate the house, I started figuring out what to do with the rest of the property. The original intent of the remodel, besides fixing all the problems inside the house, was to figure out what to do with the pool area and strange veranda behind the house. However, our architect said our budget wasn't big enough to cover everything we wanted and the pool area would have to wait. So, while work progressed on the remodel, I started work on



the front garden. The previous owners had filled the beds in front of the house with loads of pansies and three large clumps of king palms. This was too many palms in such a small space. I also thought the house needed some "framing" when being viewed from the street. The entire front of the house, except for the main planter area, was entirely brick paving, with two small white stucco retaining walls between each of the two neighboring houses. Removing some of the brick work in front of the walls created more planting space, and I transplanted a clump of king palms into each bed in the hopes that someday they would be tall enough to frame the house.

The pansies looked great through the spring, but needed constant deadheading and died out by summer. This was the only open flat area on the property, so I planted many of the divisions and cuttings that I had brought from my former house here. I had fallen in love with the rose Sally Holmes at my previous house, and planted one against the tall white wall that creates the front courtyard. By the front courtyard door (now an iron gate), I planted another white climbing rose in a large pot.

There were also two vines of *Thunbergia grandiflora*. One was struggling to stay alive and was removed. The other quickly grew up over the front wall and onto the roof of the garage. The vine has lovely large blue flowers with a yellow center, which unfortunately turn brown and drop off after flowering. This created a large daily mess right at the entrance to the house. The dead flowers also stuck to the bottom of your shoes and were tracked into the courtyard and house. It also drew a large number of yellow jackets, which made it impossible to sit on the front patio. Once we found that the vine was home to large rats, we removed it and the large underground tuber that it was growing from, and replaced it with star jasmine, *Trachelospermum jasminoides*.

The garden did well for a few years, but as the palms grew larger, their roots made it increasingly difficult to grow perennials. Also, the white wall faced due south, and in mid-winter the sun angle burned many of the plants. So, gradually all the perennials and roses were gradually replaced by succulents.

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

NORTH COUNTY'S MOST UNIQUE ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY



Call for a Personal Tour of our Homes, Greenhouse and Organic Fields.

858-674-1255 x 202

SUNSHINE

A Community of **Assisted Living Homes**

Member of the SD Horticultural Society

www.sunshinecare.com

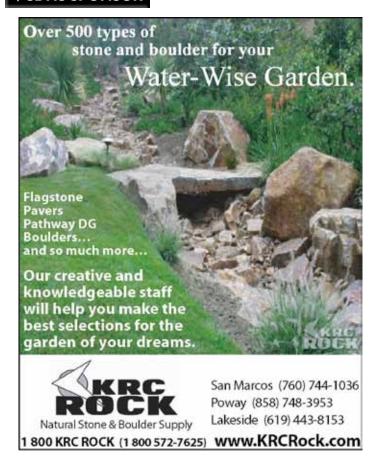
12695 Monte Vista Road Poway, CA 92064 Lic#374601087

Specializing in Memory Care, Intergenerational Programs and Horticultural Therapy

- 7 care homes on 32 acres featuring 5 organic gardens, a greenhouse, fruit orchards, and California wildflowers.
- Organically grown fruits, vegetables and herbs used in our home cooked
- · Only 15 minutes from Del Mar and La Jolla on Route 56.
- FREE ongoing Garden Lecture Series with Farmer Roy Wilburn. For serious garden enthusiasts. Join us monthly, on the 3rd Saturday, at 10:30 a.m.
- Composting & Vermiculture Program
- Award-winning Intergenerational Seed to Table Program.



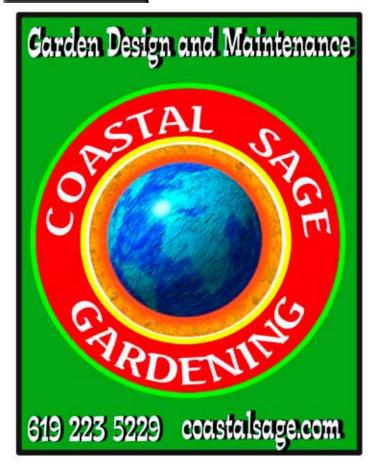
SDHS SPONSOR



SDHS SPONSOR



SDHS SPONSOR





Now offering a fast and no-mess solution to compost and mulch application with our blower delivery service.

Compost • Mulch • Organic Recycling

www.agriserviceinc.com orders@agriserviceinc.com Julia Mattern (760) 216-3385

▼ SDHS SPONSOR



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 March was:

What is your favorite book or story, fiction or non-fiction, with a horticulture theme?

Linda Lawley: It is not a new book and probably not in print anymore, but I have to say my favorite garden-related book is Pat Welsh's memoir *All My Edens*. I just re-read it for book club and enjoyed it as much as I did the first time I read it. It reads just like Pat

■ SD Master Gardeners Continued from page 6



(the good kind) to your garden, propagation, chickens (uh-huh) and fairy gardens to take home (for real!).

The II-12:30 session covers topics as diverse as organic gardening, tree identification, native plants, using clean rainwater and re-using graywater, growing veggies despite the challenges, and how to create a succulent chair. (Yes, that is *chair* and not bed.)

The 2-3:30 session offers classes about San Diego's top succulents, growing big fruit in small spaces, the importance of soils, delicious and powerful herbs, the newest in irrigation, and a handson propagation workshop.

To discover more about this once-a-year event, and to register, check out MasterGardenerSD.org. We welcome you to spend an hour or the day with us helping you to create an Earth Friendly Garden.

talks, and you know how much fun that is.

Katrin Utt: My favorite story set in a natural setting is Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House on the Prairie. My parents read it to me when I was small and I have read it again and again myself and to my children as they were growing up. I have read all of Wilder's books; I think they are wonderful. They taught me a lot about nature and about gardening.

Dee Starr: Night Gardening: A Novel, a fictional love story with lots of gardening by E. L. Swann and Kathryn Lasky.

Cheryl Hedgpeth Nichols: I had the pleasure of meeting Christopher Lloyd (the gardener, not the actor) several times. What a character! My favorite book of his is Dear Friend and Gardener: Letters on Life and Gardening, by Beth Chatto and Christopher Lloyd. For color and gorgeous pictures I like In a Mexican Garden: Courtyards, Pools, and Open-Air Living Rooms, by Gina Hyams.

Dan Petersen: Founding Gardeners, The Revolutionary Generation, by Andrea Wolf,

Robin Rivet: Literature about horticulture science, IPM, plant identification, landscape design, and beautifully illustrated coffee table books line my library shelves. However, if I were to recommend a timely read it would be Bruce Babbitt's Cities in the Wilderness. He addresses urban, natural resource management and water issues across America, keenly tied to present and future landscaping in the southwest. He wrote an insightful tome that is empowering and I couldn't put it down. (islandpress.org/cities-wilderness)

Patty Vickery: Hybridizers have been trying to create a blue rose for years without success. Anthony Eglin wrote a mystery with the blue rose as the theme and it was an excellent book: The Blue Rose: An English Garden Mystery. He has just written another book, but I don't know the name of it.

Enid Sherman: The Signature of All Things, by Elizabeth Gilbert.

Marilyn Wilson: I remember three from my childhood: Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow? With silver bells, and cockle shells, and pretty maids all in a row. Alice falls down the rabbit hole (presumably in a garden), beginning her Adventures in Wonderland. Peter Rabbit (along with Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cottontail, etc.) played in Mr. McGregor's garden.

Heather Callaghan: The Language of Flowers, by Vanessa Diffenbach.

Carol Kumlin: Invasion of the Body Snatchers, original black and white movie.

Denise Rodrigues: When I was young, The Secret Garden, by Frances Hodgson Burnett, was a favorite of mine and they did a good job on the movie. A great example of how gardening heals and bring people together in creating beauty.

Bea Ericksen: There was this darling book that came out in 2004 called The Blue Rose, by Anthony Eglin. Life begins the day you start a garden. It is an English garden mystery book about a man that hybridized a blue rose. A lot of mystery and unexplained death went along with the story. A good read.

Tina Rathbone: Mrs. Greenthumbs, by Cassandra Danz. Crown Publishers, NY, 1993.

Gerald D. Stewart: The horticultural-themed book that has stayed with me for many years is David Fairchild's The World Was My Garden. The founder of Fairchild Garden in Florida was a USDA plant explorer a hundred years ago, and writes of his exploits, like smuggling date palm pups out of the Middle East so dates could be grown in the Indio, California area. It is a fascinating view into part of what it had

SDHS SPONSOR

12755 Danielson Court Poway, CA 92064 (858) 513-4900 FAX (858) 513-4790 Open 9-5, 7 days a week



3642 Enterprise Street San Diego, CA 92110 (619) 224-8271 FAX (619) 224-9067 Open 8-5, 7 days a week

Free Garden Classes at both locations on Saturday mornings www.walterandersen.com

SDHS SPONSOR

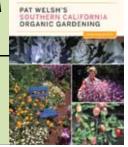
"It's the bible of local gardening."

Pat Welsh's SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA **ORGANIC GARDENING:** Month-By-Month

> **COMPLETELY REVISED AND UPDATED** Available at select nurseries

and bookstores everywhere Published by Chronicle Books

www.PatWelsh.com



SDHS SPONSOR



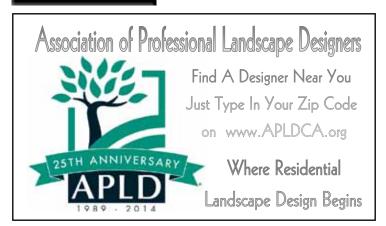
By purchasing garden items from Sophie's Organic Garden you are providing the opportunity for over 400 adults with developmental disabilities who attend St. Madeleine Sophie's Center to discover, experience and realize their full potential.

\$10 off with this coupon*

2119 E. Madison Ave. | El Cajon, CA 92019 www.stmsc.org | 619.442.5129

Open Mon - Fri 8 to 4 (year round) and Sat 9 to 3 (Mar 15th - Jul 15th) *With purchase of \$50 or more

▼SDHS SPONSOR



▼SDHS SPONSOR



▼SDHS SPONSOR



▼SDHS SPONSOR



Visit our website for details about special activities and sales.

WINTER HOURS: 9am - 4pm Friday, Saturday & Sunday



418 Buena Creek Road San Marcos, 92069 (760) 744-2810

www.buenacreek gardens.com

10% discount for SDHS members

taken to provide the incredible plant palate we enjoy today.

Kathy Ascher: People with Dirty Hands, by Robin Chotzinoff.

Marsha Bode: I don't have one favorite book, just as I do not have one favorite food or one favorite child, but there are four I am very glad to have read. (1) Epitaph for a Peach, by Mas Masumoto, tells the story of a Japanese/American family who is also a peach growing family. Extremely well-written. (2) The One-Straw Revolution: Natural Farming, by Masanobu Fukuoka, who is Japanese, is thought provoking, as it has many original methods and ideas that he has put into practice. (3) Flowering Plants of the Santa Monica Mountains, by Nancy Dale. This is the bible if you want to know what might be growing in the wild area behind your house. There are photos of every plant. (4) Earth on Her Hands, by Starr Ockenja. Great stories, each chapter is of a wellaged woman gardener, to whom many of us can relate.

Nancy Carol Carter: The World was My Garden: Travels of a Plant Explorer, written by David Fairchild (1938) is a horticulture adventure tale. He headed the USDA Office of Foreign Plan Exploration and Introduction for many years and traveled to every corner of the earth. Fairchild oversaw the introduction of 200,000 economic and ornamental plants to the United States, including the important crop of soybeans. Every Meyer lemon fan can thank Fairchild for hiring Frank N. Meyer, who brought the plant back from one of his four plant hunting trips to China for the USDA.

Barb Strona: The Secret Garden, by Frances Hodgson Burnett.

Bill Tweet: The World was My Garden, by David Fairchild.

Amelia B. Lima: Cows Save the Planet and Other Improbable Ways of Restoring Soil to Heal the Earth, by Judith D. Schwartz.

Patricia Fishtein: Michael Crichton's *Micro*, published posthumously and completed by Robert Preston.

Susi Torre-Bueno: I think my favorite is *The Standard Cyclopedia of* Horticulture, by L. H. Bailey, which went through a great many editions. The author is the justly famous Liberty Hyde Bailey, and this is the book (I own the 1941 3-volume edition, about 12 pounds!) that became Hortus 3rd, which many professionals, and quite a few passionate amateurs are familiar with. The Cyclopedia has more personality, I think, and tells a great deal more about the background of the plants – how they came to be found, etc. It also has a very large section about horticulturalists through the centuries, with some wonderful stories. Before the internet, these were references of choice for many people, myself included, who wanted to know more about plants than could be found in popular reference books, including the Sunset Western Garden Book. Here's the subtitle: "A discussion, for the amateur, and the professional and commercial grower, of the kinds, characteristics and methods of cultivation of the species of plants grown in the regions of the United States and Canada for ornament, for fancy, for fruit and for vegetables; with keys to the natural families and genera, descriptions of the horticultural capabilities of the states and provinces and dependent islands, and sketches of eminent horticulturalists." Whew!

Sonia Hunsaker: Most any Beatrice Potter book.

Candace Kohl: The Secret Garden, by Frances Hodgson Burnett, written in 1911. This children's book is the quintessential story of the garden as a symbol of mental and physical healing and redemption.

Joan Braunstein: For fiction, I won't be surprised if *The Secret Garden* shows up more than once. For non-fiction, Pat Welsh's *Southern California Organic Gardening* is teaching me many things a newcomer needs to know.

Anne Murphy: The Secret Garden, by Frances Hodgson Burnett.

From the Ground Up, by Amy Stewart or almost any of her other books. Into the Garden with Charles, by Clyde Phillip Wachsberger. Consider the Lily, or Revenge of the Middle-Aged Woman, by Elizabeth Buchan. Plant-Driven Design: Creating Gardens that Honor Plans, Place and Spirit, by Scott Ogden and Laura Spring Ogden. And I Shall Have some Peace There: Trading in the Fast Lane for my own Dirt Road, by Margaret Roach. Merry Hall, by Beverly Nichols.

Louise Anderson: I loved Johnny Appleseed as a kid. I thought it was just a myth but checking Wikipedia, there was a real person (with another name). Delightful memory. Check out YouTube.

Mary Roper: I just started a book called For all the Tea in China, about plant hunters in Victorian times. Should be interesting for history and 'hort' lovers.

Wendy Hunt: The Secret Garden.

Tim Biggart: Are you looking for a good read? Are you a hopeless romantic? Do you love Australian plants? If you fit this category, then I have the book for you! Set in a small town in New South Wales the father of a spectacularly beautiful young woman is looking for a young man to marry his daughter. The fellow must be able to identify all the Eucalyptus species in his extensive collection. It sounds sort of like a fairy tale, which it is. During the enchanting telling the reader learns the names of all the trees and gets a glimpse into the culture of that amazing place. So, look for Eucalyptus, by Murray Bail.

Ellen Bevier: Onward and Upward in the Garden, essays by Katharine S. White, edited by E.B. White, published in 1979. The Secret Garden: Dawn to Dusk in the Astonishing Hidden World of the Garden, by David Bodanis (1992). Kitchen Gardens of France, by Louisa Jones (1997). Gardens of Plenty, by Marilyn Abbott (2001). The Complete Book of Herbs and Spices, by Sarah Garland (1979).

Jo Casterline: I am reading The Signature of All Things, by Elizabeth Gilbert (Eat, Pray, Love). Set in the 1800s, it is about the early research and exploration in horticulture. The characters are interesting. It is a different book and not every reader will stay with it. She is an excellent writer, but I do wonder what attracted her to the subject.

Steve Bingham: That's an easy one! One hundred years ago, Australian May Gibbs was writing some of the best children's books ever written. They were inspired by her adopted country's vegetation, most notably some of the plants that we grow here in California such as Eucalyptus and Banksia. And so we have the Gumnut Babies and Snugglepot and Cuddlepie (among many other titles), which every child of any age should read and own!

Beth Callender: A book that was also made into a movie, Like Water for Chocolate. I love the recipe for the rose petal sauce, although my sauce never made anyone cry.

Victoria Lea Chapman: Prodigal Summer, by Barbara Kingsolver **Nelda Johnson:** My favorite book that got me started gardening was The Perennial Gardener, by Fred McGourty. I also thoroughly enjoyed Monet's Garden through the Seasons at Giverney, by Vivian Russel. However, neither of the books really apply to the San Diego area, which seems to be the toughest place to garden I have ever lived in.

Jackie Blank: The Secret Garden, of course.

Kathy McKee: All My Edens: A Gardener's Memoir by Pat Welsh - all-time favorite. Mrs. Whaley and her Charleston Garden by Emily Whaley. Thoughtful Gardening by Robin Lane Fox. Beatrix Potter's Gardening Life by Marta McDowell. The Shy Tulip Murders: A Botanical Mystery by Rebecca Rothenberg. The Cactus Club Killings by Nathan Walpow. Black Orchids by Rex Stout.

SDHS SPONSOR



▼SDHS SPONSOR



▼SDHS SPONSOR



▼SDHS SPONSOR



FEBRUARY 2015 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.

Crassula rupestris ROSARY PLANT, BEAD VINE (Crassulaceae) South Africa

What a charmer this low-water succulent has proven to be, in or out of bloom. According to worldofsucculents.com, it is "a muchbranched, succulent, perennial subshrub, 6 - 12 inches (15 - 30 cm) tall and wide (up to 3 feet/I m tall in nature). The stems are thin, fleshy near the growing tip, but rather woody lower down. Leaves are small, thick, opposite, ovate and lanceolate in shape, up to I inch (2.5 cm) long and greyish in color (during the summer months the leaf margins turn a brilliant red or yellow). Deep pink to pale pink star-shaped flowers (0.24 inch/6 mm across) are grouped in clusters." I wouldn't describe the leaves as lanceolate, though, as they are more triangular. Further, the inner part of the leaf is a frosted pale green, while the edges are not frosted, giving an almost heartshaped effect. The pink flowers have a sort of dusty scent if you hold them to your nose, but aren't offensive otherwise. I take cuttings frequently from mine (they root easily) so they never reach the 3-foot tall size described above. Mine are growing in part shade with very little water, and blooming in February. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/15) - S.T-B.

Encelia californica CALIFORNIA SUNFLOWER, BUSH SUNFLOWER (Asteraceae) Southern California,

Baja California

The California Sunflower is an evergreen subshrub whose brilliant 2" yellow daisy-like flowers have dark brown centers. It attracts butterflies, bees, and other beneficial insects. This drought-tolerant plant withstands high heat and grows about 3' tall and 5' wide. Best in full sun, it is a fast grower and an easy plant in cultivation. Good for cut flowers as well as erosion control, it has a long blooming period (winter through early summer); extend bloom by deadheading. Cut back to maintain a nice, rounded form. (Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 2/15) – P.P.

Salvia dolomitica DOLOMITE SAGE (Lamiaceae) South Africa

This grey-leaved frost-tolerant evergreen shrub grows to 3-6' tall and wide. It spreads slowly by runners, and can eventually form a good-sized clump if not contained. The lightly aromatic leaves are green when young, getting grey as they age, and are covered with very fine grey hairs. The white and pale lilac flowers appear winter through early summer, and the calyx remains on the plant until the seeds fall off after the petals fall, becoming a deep pink-purple color. According to plantzafrica.com, "The dolomite sage is restricted to the provinces of Limpopo and Mpumalanga, where it occurs at altitudes of II50–I900 m on dolomite rock outcrops." However, it has thrived in my Vista garden in mostly decomposed granite soil

at an altitude of about 600 feet. Low water requirements, best in full sun but will tolerate some shade. Needs well-drained soils. The website above suggests that "The plants need to be pruned back hard every year or alternatively every second year to encourage bushy, non-woody growth. This is best done in late winter, prior to its new spring growth." I planted mine as a I-gallon plant in 2008, and this year will be the first time I'm pruning it. It is supposed to be easy to grow from both cuttings and seeds. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/15) – 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 for details on how to order this valuable reference tool.

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the February newsletter was Quercus bathroomia SCRUBBING BUBBLES OAK.

3 Callistemon 'Jeffers' BOTTLEBRUSH (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/15)

Dendrobium peguanum (Jim Wright, San Diego, 2/15)

3 Eucalyptus forrestiana FUCHSIA GUM, FUCHSIA-FLOWERED EUCALYPTUS (Tom Biggart, El Cajon, 2/15)

Kalanchoe manginii (synonym: Bryophyllum manginii)

CHANDELIER PLANT (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 2/15)

- 3 Petrea valuabilis QUEEN'S WEALTH, PAPER MONEY VINE (Plant Nutter, Escondido, 2/15)
- 3 Petrea volubilis QUEEN'S WREATH, SANDPAPER VINE (Sheila Busch, Escondido, 2/15)

Tillandsia hybrid (Jim Wright, San Diego, 2/15) 💸

▼SDHS SPONSOR

The Association of Professional Landscape Designers

The Spring Home/Garden Show

Help for YOUR Landscape!

Where?

Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.

When?

March 6–8, 2015 at the Spring Home/Garden Show

How?

"30 minutes for \$30" Landscape Design Consultations



SIGN UP TODAY!

http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1260239

FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT **Plants with Benefits**

By Jeannine Romero

For garden writer Helen Yoest, a long time career reporting about the birds, bees and butterflies recently led her to writing a book about the birds and the bees.

The North Carolina journalist recently published a book that was written up in the New York Times and was even commented on by the sex specialist Dr. Ruth. The book, Plants With Benefits, is botany with an R rating, or, as Yoest likes to call it, the "horticultural kama sutra."

Speaking at the February 9th meeting, Yoest describes herself as "the last person in the world that would have written this book." She is a wildlife gardener who said she lives in a hotbed of well-known gardens in the Raleigh, Chapel Hill, and Durham region, just "the average Joe," who loves hellebores, and happens to be a curator of garden art. Some of the sex-related vocabulary in the book, she admitted, still makes her blush and flush during public speaking events. Nevertheless, her audience will never look at asparagus and avocados in quite the same way after her presentation, and will walk away with an interesting anecdote for the next time they are sharing guacamole and chips at a party.

She stumbled onto the subject, and her editors suggested that she narrow her previously planned garden book and focus only on plants with aphrodisiac qualities: that is, plants with the scents, sights and even hormones, that encourage nature to take its course. As she puts it, Yoest agreed to do it and "just go all the way."

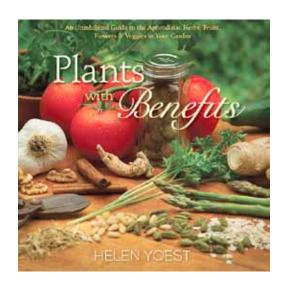
What she found when she pursued the subject is plenty of historical and literary references, as well as some studies to back up how certain fruits, vegetables and herbs are believed to influence the libido. Scents, whether it is mint to improve the breath, or basil that Aztec women rubbed on their skin, are well known to attract interest. But, did you know that the spice cardamom is also a breath freshener and was used in ancient love spells?

The scent of other plants, such as lavender and pumpkin, and the licorice root, are known to increase blood flow. The zinc in cucumber also increases blood flow and visually, of course, the vegetable itself is extremely suggestive.

But, the banana, she said, is hands down the "poster child" for a suggestive shape that has made generations of adolescents giggle at the sight. Yoest noted that San Diegans are well aware of the avocado tree, but are probably not aware that the Aztecs named it "achuactl," which literally means testicle. They likely were influenced by the notable resemblance of the fruit growing and hanging on the tree in pairs. She also observed that the seed and the pitted avocado is suggestive of a pregnant belly.

Many of us would not be surprised to hear that eating chocolate is considered an aphrodisiac for women. Also, consider the date tree: what came first, the fruit or the social engagement?

Yoest reports that the famous lover Cassanova is known to have eaten celery soup every day to stimulate his libido. Peppery plants that create heat also stir up a receptive mood, while other plants like fennel and papaya have the hormonal effects of estrogen. And, in some countries, ginseng, aka "manroot," actually goes up – ahem – in value the more it resembles a man's scrotum.



Not only does Yoest's book identify aphrodisiac plants from A to Z, recipes are included, too, so the reader reaps the benefits 🦃

THANK YOU MEETING DONORS We appreciate the generosity of:

Ray Brooks (hand-turned wooden bowl) Green Thumb Nursery (see inside front cover) Helen Yoest (books, basil seeds)

San Diego Floral Association *Gardens, Floral Design, Community since* 1907

Centennial Events 2015 SAVETHE DATES

Botanical Building Tours throughout 2015

Historic Garden Tour: April 11, 2015

Flower Show: May 8-10, 2015

Lecture Forum: The Panama-California Exposition and Cultural Landscape: October 3, 2015

Kate Sessions Birthday Celebration: November 7, 2015

Festival of Trees: December 4-5, 2015



San Diego, CA

92101-1684

Join the Fun Fund!

For more information on each event and to donate to the Fun Fund visit sdfloral.org/centennial.htm



PACIFIC HORTICULTURE TOURS "DIA DE LOS MUERTOS" IN SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE

PacHort returns to San Miguel de Allende this fall with a tour featuring the colorful Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) festival. The multi-day celebration includes parades, street parties, art walks, and a beautiful market to buy alfeñiques — sugar figurines



used for altars to family members. We'll join in La Calaca Festival, a participatory art and culture festival during the Day of the Dead celebration that commemorates the transitory return to Earth of those who have departed from this life, and by doing so, provokes a moment of reflection on our transitional nature. Art projects become a hub where artists engage their audience to help them produce their vision. Join in the celebration by remembering those who have passed and welcome them back. Take part of the Ruta Mictlán and immerse yourself in a voyage that will challenge your mind and soul to reach new understandings of life and its relationship to death. Our tour will also include garden visits plus day trips to the nearby towns of Guanajuato – a UNESCO World Heritage site, and Dolores Hidalgo – full of history and a mecca for talavera shopping!

SDHS is a Pacific Horticulture Partner. Visit pachort.org for more tour info or to subscribe to *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. A special rate of \$24 is available with discount code SDHS2015.

LOVE TO GARDEN? LOVE THE COUNTY FAIR?

Jobs are available for this year's Garden Show June 5-July 5. Contact Coordinator Cindy Benoit

@ 760-473-4244



SAVE \$4 on Pacific Horticulture

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

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

To get this great deal, go to www.pacifichorticulture.org/join and use discount code SDHS2013



■ **Spring Garden Tour** Continued from page 7

blooms that is also original to the house, and variegated holly. A rose garden was replaced with agaves and sage. The garage, adorned with a Chinese dragon above the entrance was turned into a ty/sitting room. The owner notes the dragon can be viewed from the kitchen window.

Blue Lagoon

Outdoor entertaining is a breeze in the sunny, back courtyard of a Marston Hills landmark home located in one of San Diego's most walkable neighborhoods. Visitors to this garden will find it difficult indeed to believe they are in the center of the city. The home was built in 1926, and the garden entirely remodeled by the former owners; the current owners are recent transplants from the Pacific Northwest. Blue tile, sansevieria, and palms surround a romantic swimming pool and Jacuzzi that doubles as a reflection pond. A cozy fireplace and bench is nearby. A large, three-tier fountain centers the garden, drowning out the sounds of the city, while a roomy covered dining area near the kitchen is heated to encourage year round al fresco dining. Colorful pots, blue and Spanish tile, and borrowed views of neighborhood palms complete this oasis.

The owners have taken advantage of every inch of space. A vegetable garden nestles in a raised bed in the side courtyard. A non-fruiting fig and a mandevilla vine grow in the side yard. Strelitzia flanks the home in the narrow front yard, which features red brick and a tall, decorative urn along with succulents and agapanthus.

25 Years Experience in So. California



Sunset Horticultural Services (760) 726-3276

Professional solutions to problems with plants, soil and irrigation

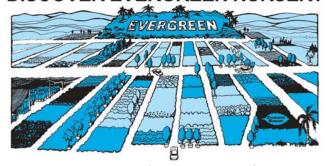
Landscape renovation Complete landscape care

What's Happening? for MARCH 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.

▼ SDHS Sponsor

DISCOVER EVERGREEN NURSERY



Landscaping? Relandscaping? Just Sprucing Up Your Yard?

WHY PAY MORE? **BUY DIRECT FROM THE GROWER AND SAVE!**

ONE STOP SHOPPING

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

DRIVE THRU SHOPPING

Use your car as a shopping cart!!!

UNBEATABLE VALUE

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

Come on out and see for yourself!

- I gallon plants starting at \$3.50
- 5 gallon plants starting at \$10.00
- 15 gallon plants starting at \$39.00

PROMPT DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Hours change mid-March - 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

March 7: Choosing & Caring For **Fruit Trees**

How to choose, plant, and grow stone fruit trees. Fruits of topic will be: apples, apricots, figs, nectarines, pears, peaches, persimmons, plums, and pomegranates.

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

Send questions and comments to: info@evergreennursery.com

Three Convenient Locations:

CARMEL VALLEY

OCEANSIDE

l 3650 Valley Rd. (858) 481-0622

3231 Oceanside Blvd. (760) 754-0340

******NEW location (limited hours, call first): **EL CAJON**

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

Events at Public Gardens

- Alta Vista Gardens Contact info on other side See www.avgardens.org for events & classes
- ❖ San Diego Botanic Garden Contact info on other side March 24, 9am-2pm, Succulent Mushroom Class: Take home unique garden design in succulents and moss that you make yourself. Members \$35, Non-Members \$42. Register by March 14.

March 28, 9:30am-4pm, Build Your Own Hydroponic Spring Garden: Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method by building your own sustainable garden to take home. Members \$75, Non-Members \$90. Register by March 20.

The Water Conservation Garden

Contact info on other side

March 14, 9am-3pm, Tomatomania: Tomato seedling sale featuring hundreds of heirloom and hybrid tomato varieties, expert advice, and more. Nominal charge for presentations: \$5 Garden Members; \$10 Non-Members. See website for more information.

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 or (760) 753-2852. See ad on page 17.

- ♦ Cedros Gardens, Saturday & Sunday FREE classes. See www.cedrosgardens.com.
- **♦ City Farmers Nursery Workshops** See www.cityfarmersnursery.com.
- ♦ Evergreen Nursery: FREE Seminar See column at left for details.
- ♦ Grangetto's Farm & Garden Supply: FREE Seminar Planting Spring Veggies: FREE, at 2 locations: Mar. 14, 10am-12pm, 530 E. Alvarado St., Fallbrook Mar. 28, 10am-12pm, 189 S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd., Encinitas
- ♦ Sunshine Care FREE Seminar Each Month

Info: www.grangettosgardenclub.com. See ad page 14.

March 21, 10:30am, Vegetable Gardening 101: Basics for a successful and bountiful harvest, whether in the ground or in pots.12725 Monte Vista Rd., Poway. RSVP: (858) 472-6059 or roy@sunshinecare.com. Info: www.sunshinecare.com. See ad on page 13.

♦ Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes

Details at www.walterandersen.com; address in ad on page 15. Poway, 9:30am

Point Loma, 9am Mar. 7 Spring Vegetables

Mar. 14 Tomatoes Mar. 21 Growing Orchids

Container Gardening Xeriscape Veggies

DIG Irrigation (Must rsvp at Mar. 28 Garden Trends (858) 513-4900)

♦ Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops

See www.weidners.com or call (760) 436-2194.

Next SDHS Meeting

March 9:

Eucalyptus: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly

See page 1 for details

More garden-related events on other side.

Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

March 1, 8-11am, Calif. Native Plant Society Explore Nature's Gardens: Walk up the less traveled north side of Tecolote Creek. Info: www.cnpssd.org.

March 2, 1-3pm, Backyard Produce Project BBQ: All proceeds go to Backyard Produce Project, \$10/person. Sunshine Care Assisted Living Homes 12695 Monte Vista Road, Poway. Info: www.sunshinecare.com.

March 5, Sustainable Turf & Landscape Seminar: Healthy landscapes with limited water. \$75. Cuyamaca College, El Cajon. Info: www.cuyamaca.edu/OHweb.

March 6 (11am-6pm), March 7 (10am-6pm), March 8 (10am-5pm), Spring Home/Garden Show: Come see hundreds of different exhibits. Del Mar Fairgrounds. \$9, under 12 free. For info and discounts see page 3 and www.springhomegardenshow.com.

March 7, 8am-1pm, Dos Valles Garden Club: Community Seed Swap and Plant Sale. 28933 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center. Info: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org, Julie (760) 751-1906, or Robyn (760) 751-9416.

March 7, 9am-4:30pm, Native Plant Society & Tree of Life Nursery Plant Sale: 33201 Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano. Info: www.cnpssd.org.

March10,6-8pm,SolanaCenter'sCompostingWorkshop:5556CopleyDrive.Info/register:www.solanacenter.org.

<u>March 11, noon, Ramona Garden Club</u>: Principles of floral design. Mountain Valley Church, 1191 Meadowlark Way, Ramona. Info: www.ramonagardenclub.com.

March 14, 2-4pm, Solana Center's Composting Workshop: 1920 South El Camino Real at Manchester Ave. Encinitas. Info/register: www.solanacenter.org.

March 21, 2:30-3:30pm, Solana Center's Composting Workshop: 910 Melba Rd Encinitas. Info/register: www.solanacenter.org.

March 23, 2pm, Lake Hodges Native Plant Club: Invasive insect pests in San Diego Country. Rancho Bernardo Public Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Dr. Info: www.lhnpc.org.

March 27 (3-7pm), 28 (9am-6pm), 29 (10am-4pm) Orchid Society Spring Show & Sale: Admission \$8/day \$10 weekend pass. Scottish Rite Events Center 1895 Camino Del Rio South. Info: www.sdorchids.com.

<u>March 28, 10am-noon, Solana Center's Composting</u>
<u>Workshop</u>: Crestridge Ecology Reserve 1171 Horsemill
Rd. El Cajon. Info/register: www.solanacenter.org.

March 28, 1-3pm, County Farm and Home Advisors Lecture: How to Grow a Salsa Garden. Learn How to Cultivate Healthy Plants and tips for controlling common pests & diseases. Fallbrook Library, 124 S. Mission Rd. Fallbrook. Info: cesandiego.ucanr.edu.

March 28, 1-3pm, County Farm and Home Advisors Lecture: Starting to Grow Your Own Food? Learn How to Win the Battle Against Pests. Learn How to Keep Your Plants Healthy, Prevent Pests from the Start, and Good Bugs and Bad Bugs. Valley Center Library, 29200 Cole Grade Rd. Valley Center. Info: cesandiego.ucanr.edu.

March 28 & 29, 9:30am-4:30pm, Garden Native Tour: 19 gorgeous gardens. \$25/person, kids free. Info: www.gardennative.org. SEE PAGE 5 and INSERT.

March 29, 10am-3pm, Solana Center's Drought-Proof Your Landscape with Greywater Workshop: Greywater guidelines, permitting and more. 441 Saxony Road, Encinitas. Info/register: 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 10th of the month BEFORE the event to Neal King at calendar@sdhort.org.

For an extensive list of garden club meetings and events, visit 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 3rd Tuesday; \$5/family; \$2/adult, \$1/seniors/students; (619) 232-2721, www.niwa.org.

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

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

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

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

Garden Radio Shows:

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

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

San Diego County Farmers Markets

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