



Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

April 2016, Number 259

Forty Years among the Natives

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Our Spring Garden Tour – pages 3 & 10

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On the Cover: Meadow of native plants

Luxury Kauai Garden Tour with Dr. McDougall

Kauai is known as "The Garden Isle" for its tropical rainforests, fertile valleys and lush flora; it is not surprising to find some of the world's most beautiful gardens there. This tour includes three of the nation's five National Tropical Botanical Gardens along with other spectacular gardens and farms.

<http://ntbg.org/tours/kauai-south>

This is an ALL INCLUSIVE tour: Lodging at the oceanfront Sheraton Poipu Beach Resort, transportation, gourmet plant based meals by master chef, one daily lecture by world famous physician, Dr. John McDougall, who has specialized in the use of a whole food, plant based diet to prevent and treat chronic disease.

LIMITED SPACE Reserve early

Trip Price: \$4520-\$4760 not including airfare

Discount of \$200 signed up before June 30, 2016

Additional \$100 discount SDHS members

Dates: January 28 to Feb 4, 2017

For more information: www.drmcDougall.com/health/travel/kauai



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Severe Drought

WHEN IN DROUGHT

Save every day, every way.

This is **Serious** Water Conservation is Mandatory

Mandatory conservation measures include:

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- Watering only during the late evening or early morning hours
- Eliminating runoff from irrigation systems
- Repairing all leaks within 72 hours
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Local rules vary. Find restrictions in effect in your community at whenindrought.org.



San Diego County
Water Authority

SPECIAL EVENT: **Chinese Garden Bus Trip**

Huntington Botanical Gardens on **Wednesday, April 20**

Join SDHS members on a *docent-led tour* of the stunning Chinese Garden, among the largest Chinese-style gardens outside China. Designed to promote the rich traditions of Chinese culture, the garden is truly a cross-cultural effort.

After the tour we'll have about four hours to see other areas of the Botanical Gardens, including the new California Garden. The bus leaves San Diego at 7:00am and returns around 7:00pm. All fees & tip included; lunch at the Gardens is on your own.



Members-\$89, Guests-\$99

Space is limited - register ASAP

Details & registration at: sdhort.org

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SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

OUR MISSION is to inspire and educate the people of San Diego County to grow and enjoy plants, and to create beautiful, environmentally responsible gardens and landscapes.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Renewal information is at www.sdhort.org.

For questions contact membership@sdhort.org or call Cindy Benoit at 760-473-4244.

MEETING SCHEDULE

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

MEETINGS & EVENTS

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

- April 2 SDHS SPRING GARDEN TOUR – see pages 3 & 10
- April 16 Featured Garden, Fallbrook (FG)
- April 20 SDHS Day at The Huntington Bus Tour – see page 2
- May 9 Dennis Cathart on Bromeliads in the Wild
- May 14 Featured Garden, San Diego – South Park (FG)
- June 13 SDHS Night at the Fair



www.sdhort.org

COVER IMAGE: This charming meadow of California native plants was photographed by David Fross, who will share his decades of expertise at the April meeting.

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 11, 2016, 6:00 – 8:30 PM

Speaker: David Fross on *Home Ground: Forty Years among the Natives*

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 welcome David Fross, founder and President of Native Sons Wholesale Nursery, specializing in plants from Mediterranean regions of the world that flourish in a climate defined by moderate winter rainfall and warm dry summers. The perception of native plants has seen remarkable change, and what was once a niche market in the nursery industry is now mainstream. Native plants are commonly encountered in urban and suburban landscapes as hundreds of new cultivars have been added to a rich and growing palette of available plants. Reflecting on forty years with California native plants as a grower, teacher, and gardener, David will discuss the changes that have occurred during this period. He will present some of the gardens and landscapes that demonstrate these changes and identify some of the challenges that remain.

As founder and President of Native Sons Wholesale Nursery since 1979, David has seen his business grow in size and scope to include plants from other Mediterranean regions of the world (Mediterranean Europe, Southwestern Australia, South Africa and Chile) as well as California natives. Through his travels, he has added appealing new species and cultivars to the collection, and he continues to pursue and develop new selections with the intention of adding a sense of discovery and exploration to California gardens. He taught horticulture at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for twenty-five years and is the co-author of *Ceanothus*, *Reimagining the California Lawn*, and *California Native Plants for the Garden*.

For more information see nativeson.com and page 6.



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

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

Editor: Susi Torre-Bueno;
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Advertising: Ellie Knight;
advertising@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
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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

Help wanted! Our Spring Garden Tour is just around the corner, and we'll present the best of Del Mar and Carmel Valley. Have fun as a volunteer and enjoy the Tour before or after your shift as our guest. No special plant knowledge required. The ideal candidate is outgoing, dependable, and able to handle steps and hills. Sign up on the website (sdhort.org). Questions? Contact Patty Berg, Volunteer Chair, at pattyjberg@gmail.com.

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 🌿

SDHS DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON

Tour the Chinese Garden and More!

April 20th Bus Tour

Hop aboard our private motorcoach on Wednesday, April 20, for a full-day excursion to the Huntington Botanical Gardens (huntington.org). We'll start with private small group docent-led tours of the Chinese Garden, among the largest Chinese-style gardens outside China. If you've never seen a Chinese garden before, be prepared to be wowed at the extraordinary craftsmanship of the rock work and wood carvings, and enjoy uncommon plants in an exceptional setting. Lunch is on your own at either the Cafe or the legendary Rose Garden Tea Room. Afterwards you have the afternoon to explore the rest of the Huntington Botanical Gardens or Museums on your own, including the new California Garden (shown here). We'll head back to San Diego in late afternoon. This tour is \$89 for SDHS members and \$99 for non-members. Details and registration are on our website: sdhort.org 🌿



CALIFORNIA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE CONTEST

Entry Deadline is April 8

Got water-thrifty plants? Of course you do! Why not enter your garden in this local contest? You could win \$250! Member Joy Lyndes, a landscape architect (coastal-sage.com), whose garden is shown here, was a winner in 2015. Other members have won in previous years, so submit your entry by April 8th and maybe you can be a winner.

The California-Friendly Landscape Contest was developed by local water agencies to show residents that a beautiful yard can also be water efficient. The best-in-show landscape winner in each of 12 water districts is awarded \$250 and has their landscape featured in district, local media and regional publications and community events. You can view winning landscapes for wonderful ideas of water-smart designs and apply for this year's contest by April 8 at landscapecontest.com. 🌿



Joy Lyndes



FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

Spring Garden Tour

No Day of Tour Tickets sales this year!

There are just a few days left to purchase online tickets to the Spring Garden Tour – From the Valley to the Sea. As the line above notes, there are only advance tickets sales this year. If you want to attend the tour, you need to purchase your ticket NOW online at sdhort.org/tickets. Also, to ensure an enjoyable day for all tour guests, ticket sales are limited to a maximum of 800.

As a benefit of being an SDHS member you pay only \$25 for a ticket, a savings of \$10 off the non-member tour price of \$35. You will receive the tour map via email the day before the tour and can check in at any garden on the tour.

The tour features nine gardens in the Del Mar and Carmel Valley neighborhoods (see page 10). You'll find lots of inspiration for your home garden on the tour. Three of the gardens have previously won garden awards. You can read all about the gardens featured on the tour in this newsletter and in previous month's editions. Full garden descriptions and a featured plant in each of the gardens are also available on our website.

In one of the gardens on the tour the Del Mar Garden Club will be selling unique living plant arrangements and plant art for your garden. And rumor has it that garden guru Pat Welsh will be painting in one of the gardens.

There are fewer garden tours this year and we think our tour is one of the best in San Diego, so don't miss out on this opportunity.

2016 Garden at the San Diego County Fair

We are pleased to announce that Dave Ericson will design and construct our garden at this year's County Fair. If his name sounds familiar, it is because he was the speaker at the February meeting. Also, Dave is one of the main contributors of the *Hawaiian Hilltop* garden on this year's garden tour. The garden was selected as the "Garden of the Year" in 2014 by *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine, and we are sure it will be one of the most popular on the tour. Dave has previously hosted a SDHS workshop and Featured Garden event at this Del Mar garden.

The theme of the garden show this year is *Wonderland*. In support of the theme, Dave will be designing a garden using exotic and varied plants originating from South Africa. The list of South African plants that grow in Southern California gardens is amazing, but there will also be some new and exotic surprises. With 20,300 species of flowering plants, the South African Cape Floral Kingdom is one of the six most significant concentrations of plants in the world and is a true wonderland of plants. It is home to 10% of the world's flowering plants, but only covers 1% of the planet's land surface. The Cape of Good Hope is located at latitude of 34° S and San Diego is at 33° N. Both enjoy a similar Mediterranean climate with wet mild winters and hot dry summers, so it is not surprising that we can easily grow so many plants from the region.

Thank you, Dave, for what will surely be both a stunning design and horticulturally educational garden.

Dave is a garden consultant and owner of Ericson Landscape Consulting. You can learn more about him and contact him through his website ericsonlandscapeconsulting.com. 🌿

APRIL 2 SPRING GARDEN TOUR

By Susan Starr, Chair, Spring Garden Tour

If you have not already done so, be sure to buy your tickets **today** for this year's Spring Garden Tour. Remember that all tickets must be purchased on our website (sdhort.org) in advance this year. *No day of ticket sales.*

Here are some things you will not want to miss (photos on page 10 and our website, which includes additional information):

Palm Paradise – a garden that reminds its owner, who grew up in Jamaica, of her childhood. Here you can enjoy over 40 kinds of rare palms, scents from numerous fruit trees, chickens, a gorgeous poolside patio, colorful raised vegetable beds, and multiple flowering shrubs and trees.

Simply Succulent – a small jewel box dedicated to exploring the beauty of succulents. If you have ever doubted that a dry garden could be charming and invited, this garden will persuade you otherwise.

Hawaiian Hilltop – an ever-changing garden described by Dave Ericson in his presentation at our February meeting. This is a garden with multiple vignettes; just when you think you have seen it all, you will find another one. Interesting sculpture, an innovative irrigation system, and a wide plant palette are sure to charm.

Spanish Villa – overlooking the sea, the view from this garden alone is worth the visit. You will enjoy how the owner has used paint and tile to make the garden come alive. Pat Welsh will be painting in this garden on our tour day.

Torrey Pines View – our other ocean view garden. This one belongs to a plant collector and features many kinds of cycads, melaleucas, and proteas. Don't miss the rock wall behind the house where succulents have found a home, and the owner's beautiful collection of artists' pots on the patio balcony.

Nature's Garden – one of two Master Gardener homes on our tour this year; this garden features a wide variety of low water plants. Toyon, senna, muhly grass, graptoveria, and *Euphorbia cotinifolia* thrive in a cleverly designed landscape that has turned an average suburban lot into a space you will want to explore and savor.

Texture and Tapestry – Last July this garden was entirely grass. Now it is a wonderland of different succulents, in colorful rock beds, that seem to move beneath your feet. Some of the succulents are familiar ones, such as jade and agave, but others will have you making notes about species that you can add to your own garden for interesting effects.

Horticultural Fantasy – aptly named, this garden is a stunning collection of plants of all shapes and sizes. Don't miss the succulent staircase and the view from the bridge.

Entertainer's Delight – another garden in which you will want to linger. The owner's eye for color and shape will surely inspire your own landscaping plans. Keep an eye out for the meditation garden and the owner's patio office retreat: beautiful!

See you on April 2. 🌿



THE REAL DIRT ON . . .

Thomas Coulter

By Carol Buckley

Reading about botanists of the 19th century one begins to see what a close network was maintained by those academic and hands-on explorers and analysts. Thomas Coulter (1793–1843), an Irish botanist who explored Mexico and Alta California from 1824 to 1834, came under the microscope of Harvard's Asa Gray (profiled here in February) in the 1880s. In *The Letters of Asa Gray*, Vol. 2 (edited by his wife, Jane Loring Gray, 1893), a letter to the eminent Swiss botanist Augustin Pyramus de Candolle mentions Gray's desire to know more about Coulter, who had studied with De Candolle, and describes meeting an "old settler" in Los Angeles who had traveled with Coulter in Arizona.

Gray wrote he found it "important to know his routes in Mexico and California." This was in part due to the number of plant species collected by Coulter. In 1828 he sent 57 species of Cactaceae to De Candolle, who published 47 of them, but did not give the specifics of where they had been collected. When Coulter returned home, where he founded and curated the herbarium at Trinity College, he brought "over 50,000 plant specimens, probably representing between 1,500 and 2,000 species" (Frederick V. Coville, "The Botanical Explorations of Thomas Coulter in Mexico and California," *Botanical Gazette*, vol. 20, no. 12, Dec. 1895). After Coulter's death in 1843, his successor at the herbarium sent duplicates of Coulter's specimens to Kew Gardens and, in America, to John Torrey and Asa Gray.

Coulter's avid collecting is reflected in the number of plant species whose binomial names include the specific epithet *coulteri*. Because Coulter passed through San Diego County, we would probably be familiar with several of the species – or those closely related – with his attribution. These include *Romneya coulteri*, the Coulter's Matilija poppy, or Californian tree poppy, and *Hibiscus coulteri*, or Desert Rosemallow.

Coulter's sojourn in the Americas began with his three-year contract as physician for a mining company in the mountains of Mexico, where at point he even successfully ran a mine. In Alta California he faced another challenge: traversing the dry riverbeds composed of hard sand on top of muddy sand:

It was only after a long search that I found a place where a bear had passed, and trusting his sagacity I followed his steps... The bed of clear sand on the surface of the deposit must have been very thin, for it sagged underfoot like the surface of a quagmire. A body of troops which passed this way some days before... had to wait for ten days to allow the sand to settle. (Coville)

On his return to Dublin in 1834, most of Coulter's botanical manuscripts were lost. 🍀



BOOK REVIEW

A Book of Bees . . . and How to Keep Them

By Sue Hubbell

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

My regular readers know I consider book buying to be a sort of hunter/gatherer activity. Anyone can go to a store and have a clerk order a book. Where's the challenge in that? It's quite another thing to hunt one down at a used-book store. You have the pleasure of the find and thrill of the bargain.

Many years ago (March 2003) I reviewed *A Country Year* by Sue Hubbell. I thought it was excellent and was delighted when I found *A Book of Bees* a few weeks ago. Hubbell's writing is as good as I remembered. This book is a treasure. It's not a new treasure though. It was written in 1988 – quite a score to find a 28-year-old paperback in new condition.

Hubbell hasn't published anything recently, but she was prolific in her time, with eight books and more than two hundred articles in newspapers, magazines, and professional journals, including the *Saint Louis Post Dispatch*, *Time Magazine*, the *New Yorker*, and the *New York Times*.

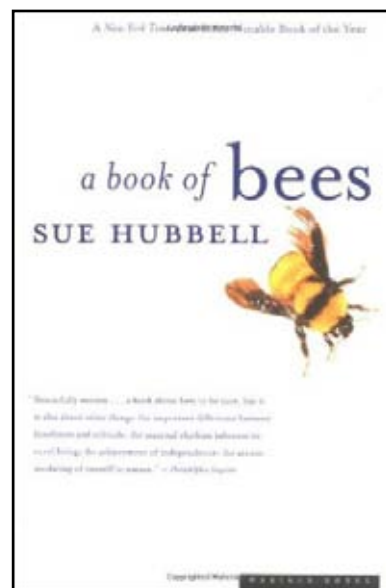
For many years, Hubbell earned her living as a beekeeper. At the time of writing this book, she had 300 hives at and near her farm in the Ozark Mountains in southern Missouri. Many of her hives were situated on rented space, called beeyards, on other farmers' land in groups of 10 to 12 hives, with around sixty thousand bees per hive.

Surprisingly, the beeyards closest to town produce the best honey. It makes sense when she explains that the townspeople keep flowers blooming in their yards through much of the spring and summer. Wild plants and crops in farmers' fields bloom and are done. They're much more seasonal than flower gardens around houses.

I was about as ignorant of beekeeping as I could be until I read this book. It never occurred to me how much work was involved. Bees, like cows, horses, or chickens, are livestock and take tending. Lots of things can happen. Disease or pesticide can wipe out a hive. Mice can build nests and chew through the structure. Wax moths can destroy the combs. Ants, cockroaches, and other bees can attack and steal honey. Queens may die, or the bees may just have a bad year and starve. All farmers live with the constant threat of crop failure, and beekeepers are no different.

So why does she do it? Because it's a source of constant joy. She loves the work, and she loves the bees. Her writing shows it as she takes us through her year, detailing the different chores of the autumn, winter, spring, and summer.

I'm highly allergic to bee stings, so I'll never keep a hive, but after reading this book, I'm regretting that. 🍀



TREES, PLEASE

American Society of Consulting Arborists

By Tim Clancy

In the largely unregulated world of arboriculture (we professionals even pronounce the word differently east and west, with the easterners leaving out the "i"), there are two main credentials one can obtain. The International Society of Arboriculture offers the Certified Arborist track with multiple categories of certified arborist designation available, including its highest regarded category: the Board Certified Master Arborist.

The American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA) has a designation referred to as a Registered Consulting Arborist (RCA). To become a registered consulting arborist there are several steps. First you need to apply to be an ASCA member. This has both experiential and educational requirements. Fortunately, the educational requirements can be met through many avenues and one need not have focused their education in horticulture (although it is the fastest way to acceptance).

ASCA also requires graduation from the ASCA Consulting Academy. This year the academy was in the city of Napa and I, along with a colleague, took the drive from San Diego to Napa to attend. (We drove for miles and miles by thousands of almond trees in bloom, all being pollinated by bees; it was a lovely sight.)

The purpose of the academy is to introduce budding RCAs to the dos and don'ts of a consulting arborist. There were four classroom sessions, each lasting four to five hours. Each session was followed by a question and answer period.

The first session was Professional Practice Guidelines, and concentrates on the Standards of Professional Practice and professional ethics. ASCA members agree to follow its Standards of Professional practice as a condition of membership. Unless acting in the role as advocate (which should be disclosed to all participating parties), the RCA is to remain neutral and provide information she/he thinks relevant to the situation. Our speaker closed with the following Mark Twain quote: "Always do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest."

The second session involved an overview of forensics and how it applies to the RCA when gathering, documenting and securing evidence for use in court cases. Some of the federal rules of evidence were covered, giving us a good idea of what is and is not allowed.

The third session covered the report writing format favored by ASCA. This is the format we will need to use when we submit our post-academy reports.

The fourth and final session covered the role of the RCA in contentious situations, such as court cases in a formal setting and arbitration in both formal and informal settings. This could be a view issue or roots damaging a property, among others.

The academy was well attended, with about 70 students. Most of us were from the U.S., and we had a few Canadians as well as a couple of Brits. All in all, it was a great experience and I soon hope to join the ranks of ASCA as a Registered Consulting Arborist.

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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). 🌿

## THE DIRT ON WATER BLOG

### Save the Trees!

By Jeanne Meadow

Trees everywhere are dying. Combine the pests that are killing California oaks with the prolonged drought and other problems, and trees are in trouble. I did an informal poll of some neighbors and friends and was surprised that most felt that except for an occasional pruning, their large trees didn't need care of any type, including water. But trees do need our help. No wonder there is a campaign called "Save our Water and our Trees" with websites such as [saveourwater.com](http://saveourwater.com), [canopy.org](http://canopy.org) and [californiareleaf.org](http://californiareleaf.org)

providing helpful tips on not only helping your trees thrive but why they are so important to protect.

Trees are crucial to our eco system. [Treepeople.org](http://Treepeople.org) lists 22 benefits of trees. Acting as giant filters, they clean the air and reduce excess carbon dioxide. According to the website, a large tree can provide oxygen for 18 people. Trees also provide shade, which reduces temperatures and gives plants and animals places to thrive. That shade cools outdoor spaces like roads, parks and your garden. Trees also prevent soil erosion and help recharge groundwater by slowing runoff from storms.

Some say if we don't have enough water, then the tree shouldn't get any either. Under pressure to reduce water usage, some businesses, municipalities and homeowners have shut off water to their trees. This could have long-lasting negative consequences.

What can you do? Well for starters, how are your trees doing? What else can you ration to give your trees a drink (mature trees need a soaking once or twice a month, with young trees requiring much more)? Do you have enough mulch down to capture the moisture from the rain we do get? Plant drought-tolerant trees, especially if you have cut down some. Check the websites above for advice.

Has your local community or city let the trees go? You can attend a city council meeting and let them know they need to find a way to take care of the trees. In Fallbrook, where I live, we have lost many trees. I was shocked at the local water board meeting to find out that we only use around 50% of the water we are recycling. The rest just gets sent into the Pacific Ocean. Sometimes they just need some good ideas and a good swift kick (and to know you are not going away). Let's fill up the large local water tankers and water the trees. Of course, some recycled water may not be ideal for certain trees, but to give the trees a boost, it's better than continued death by drought. So get out there and get creative and share your ideas!

Visit my blog at [TheDirtonwater.com](http://TheDirtonwater.com) to read my latest rants or contact me at [jeanne@jeannemeadow.com](mailto:jeanne@jeannemeadow.com). 🌿



Rachel Cobb

# GOING WILD WITH NATIVES

## Tuscany with Natives

By Susan Krzywicki

Tuscan Garden Style is a reflection of the sunny Mediterranean climate found in the northwest of Italy, a little above the "knee" of the boot.

San Diegans love this Italian design that includes soft, informal plantings overflowing beds that are set against warm stucco or masonry walls. We love creating pathways of brick or decomposed granite, and adding water features with an older, aged feel. We install wall fountains and courtyard fountains in the middle of a small bricked patio.

Statuary abounds, such as a reproduction of classical figures, old terra cotta planters, olive oil urns and vase shapes. And we love building walled areas and small seating sections – maybe just two chairs and a table.

We want the color palette to be warm, with strong reds, oranges and purples. The California native plant palette blends in perfectly. Additionally, the foliage is complimentary: the grays of *Salvia*, the beautiful dark green of *Ceanothus* and the mid-tone green of *Baccharis* give the look and feel, as well as the scent, of a warm, sunny day. Take this opportunity to create a Tuscany look with these suggestions.

### For Colorful Bloom

California fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*) looks great against the terra cotta of pottery and statuary. The rich red bloom sets the tone and gives color late in the year.

To establish the orange tone, try Apricot mallow (*Sphaeralcea ambigua*), with its gray-green leaves and nice bloom. And, of course, a sprinkling of California Poppies (*Eschscholzia californica*) come on strong in spring into summer.

Purple and deep lavender color is provided by the salvia family; try Cleveland Sage, especially 'Pozo Blue' (*Salvia clevelandii* 'Pozo Blue') or bee's bliss sage (*Salvia* 'Bee's Bliss'). Additionally, *Ceanothus* 'Concha' has intense blue-purple flowers that start in late winter.

### For Strong Foundational Design

Tuscany is known for bay trees, and the leaves are used in cooking, but did you know we have our own bay tree? *Umbellularia californica* is a relatively fast-growing shrubby tree, with leathery leaves that can also be used in savory dishes.

Tecate cypress (*Cupressus forbesii*) replaces the Italian cypress, which is so common in Tuscany. The Tecate cypress is beautiful, and



*Salvia apiana*: Great for hillsides



*Epilobium canum*: A Tuscan-style garden

Susan Krzywicki

Susan Krzywicki



*Umbellularia californica*:  
Have your own California bay tree

Las Pilitas

also gives the Thorne's Hairstreak butterfly a place to lay their eggs.

Deer grass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*) is a workhorse in the garden, adding structure, textural contrast and requiring minimal maintenance.

Coyote bush (*Baccharis pilularis* 'Pigeon Point') will replace turf areas for a wall-to-wall green carpet effect. Low water and low maintenance make this a must-have plant.

White sage (*Salvia apiana*) is also an architectural statement with the lovely pale gray-green leaves and stately towering flower stalks.

Try some of these native species in your gardens to make that Tuscan look really sing.

Susan Krzywicki is a native plant landscape designer in San Diego. She has been the first Horticulture Program Director for the California Native Plant Society, as well as chair of the San Diego Surfrider Foundation Ocean Friendly Gardens Committee and is on the Port of San Diego BCDC for the Chula Vista Bayfront. 🌿

## TO LEARN MORE...

### Native Plants 2016

By Ava Torre-Bueno

No matter how much rain we get over the next few months, we will not be out of the record drought of the last four years: [tinyurl.com/April-more-1](https://tinyurl.com/April-more-1) and [tinyurl.com/April-more-2](https://tinyurl.com/April-more-2).

With that sobering conclusion in mind, looking to turn our gardens into native habitats is making more and more sense. One place to get ideas for your native plant garden is The San Diego Botanical Garden which has a Native Plants and Native People Trail integrating our native plants with their uses by the indigenous people of this region at: [sdbgarden.org/garden\\_native.htm](https://sdbgarden.org/garden_native.htm).

Another garden to find ideas in is at the north end of Balboa Park: [tinyurl.com/April-more-4](https://tinyurl.com/April-more-4).

Really though, how we plant and water our gardens, how short our showers are, and how often we flush have almost no impact on the larger issues of water use in California. The meat and dairy industries are sucking all the water out of our aquifers: [tinyurl.com/April-more-5](https://tinyurl.com/April-more-5). (Really look around this site, especially if you don't want to!)

So absolutely plant natives, but also eat more veggies and many fewer burgers. 🌿



## FREE SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE WORKSHOPS

With or without a March Miracle the issue of water use in our landscapes is a big one. The San Diego Sustainable Landscapes Program ([tinyurl.com/April-Sustainable](http://tinyurl.com/April-Sustainable)) builds on Surfrider's Ocean Friendly Gardens, and funded by a state grant, the G3 Green Gardens Group is able to offer free Landscape Design Workshops and hands on turf removal workshops over the next few months. Is creating beautiful landscapes that use less water; capture and treat stormwater and sequester carbon of interest to you?

Sign up for free workshops at the website above; upcoming Landscape Design Seminar Hands On Workshops include:

April 16, Balboa Park

April 23, Coronado Library

April 30, Montgomery Waller Rec Center (Otay Mesa West)

May 10, Encinitas Community Center

May 18, Rancho Bernardo

May 21, Lakeside

Also, you can enroll at the website above in a Turf Removal and Contouring for Ran Hands On Workshop to be held as follows:

April 19, Vista

May 14, South San Diego County

June 6, Mid/East San Diego County

With concerns about the current drought, along with the strong possibility of an El Niño, San Diego is ready to look to the urban landscape to provide solutions by:

- Building healthy, living soil that acts like a sponge by absorbing water when we irrigate or it rains
- Growing plants that thrive in our local weather conditions and 'feed the local pollinators'
- Collecting rain water from roofs and other hard surfaces, and redirecting it into the soil

Educating and informing San Diego residents is the name of the game. The San Diego Sustainable Landscape Guidelines (download the free info at: [tinyurl.com/April-Sustainable-booklet](http://tinyurl.com/April-Sustainable-booklet)) provide the backbone for a holistic package of in-depth professional training, homeowner Hands On Turf Removal Workshops, Design Seminars and one-on-one Garden Guru coaching. A number of the workshop leaders are SDHS members. 🌿



## CACTUS CHAT AT WATERWISE BOTANICALS

Free Event on April 8, 10:00 am

Join Debra Lee Baldwin, author, speaker, and everyone's "Succulent Sweetheart," along with Tom Jesch, founder of Waterwise Botanicals (a SDHS sponsor), as Debra presents the aesthetics and practical uses of cacti in your garden. Tom will be launching his new line of winter-hardy landscape cactus, covered with masses of flowers. Come see and hear all about the dramatic colors and delicate beauty of cactus flowers as they explode from their "armed and dangerous" prickly pads, earning their place in landscapes and water-wise gardening. Seeing waves of flowers up to 8" across will be a day you will never forget!



An informal tour will follow, so bring comfortable shoes, hats, sunscreen, and cameras as you experience a time of fun and learning, exploring and sharing, delight and wonder at Waterwise Botanicals Nursery & Garden Center, 32151 Old Hwy 395, Bonsall, CA 92003. For more info visit [waterwisebotanicals.com](http://waterwisebotanicals.com). 🌿

## GREEN ROOFS AND MORE!

Explore What's New on May 6 at Good Earth's Spring Open House

You're invited to come see what Good Earth Plant Company (a SDHS member) and GreenScaped Buildings has to offer at their Spring Open House and Plant Sale on Friday, May 6, from 1 to 4 p.m. See the latest green roof and living wall technology, check out edible gardens, a small aquaponics system, and exciting new innovations at their living lab in Kearny Mesa. Ask questions and see if you can stump the experts! They also offer the opportunity to purchase nursery grade plants and pots at unbelievably discounted prices.



There is no cost, but **please RSVP to [alexa@goodearthplants.com](mailto:alexa@goodearthplants.com)**. Everyone on the RSVP list will receive a free plant at the door. Parking is limited, so please carpool is possible. The Good Earth Family of Companies is in Kearny Mesa at 7922 Armour Street, San Diego, CA 92111. 🌿

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We encourage our 1200+ members to be active participants and share in the fun; to volunteer see page 2. A warm hello to these new members:

|                     |                         |                            |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Samantha Binkley    | Lisa Iavelli            | Richard & Marge Oliver     |
| Nick Binkley        | Zeeshan Kazmi           | Debbie Ortega              |
| Sally Bochwald      | Sandra Kinsler          | Andy & Jennifer Phillips   |
| Kate Bower          | Winnie Krushensky       | Susan Pituch               |
| Gay Butler          | Rosa Lack               | Meredyth Potter            |
| Carolyn Butterfield | Lynn Little             | Al Sambila                 |
| Nancy Dalton        | George Lombard          | Jennifer Tajimaroa         |
| Gail Earnest        | Reid Mannetter          | David Throop & Megan Moore |
| Barbara Emont       | Joanne Martinez & Susan | Christine Vargas           |
| Nancy Forcier       | McCarthy                | Patricia Vasquez           |
| Diane Gill          | Margaret A. McDonough   | Mimi Vreeland              |
| Pamela Greer        | Sue Melnyk              | Carol Weckerly             |
| Carol Gucwa         | Barbara Mhyre           | Anne Weickgenant           |
| Deborah Hall        | John & Allie Moore      | Judith Widman              |
| Heather Holland     | Catherine O'Connor      | Stephanie Wilson           |

## HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2016; 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.

|                       |                       |                          |                          |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Karen Bacceti (1)     | Alice Dukelow (1)     | Rachele Melious (1)      | Linda Teague (1)         |
| Gail Bakker (1)       | Brett Eckler (1)      | Toni Muncell (2)         | Tere Trout (1)           |
| Debra Lee Baldwin (1) | Dave Ericson (2)      | Mo Price (1)             | Marcia Van Loy (1)       |
| Ken Blackford (1)     | Cheryl Leedom (1)     | Sue Ann Scheck (1)       | Christine Vargas (1)     |
| Lorraine Bolton (1)   | Maria Mata (1)        | Sterling Tours, Ltd. (1) | Wishing Tree Company (1) |
| Kathe Closson (1)     | Dannie McLaughlin (1) | Susan Starr (2)          | Linda Woloson (1)        |

## SPONSOR MEMBERS (names in bold have ads)

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| <b>Barrels &amp; Branches</b>                                         | Falling Waters Landscape                    | <b>Moosa Creek Nursery</b>                             | Sterling Tours                       |
| Benoit Exterior Design                                                | <b>Garden Design</b>                        | <b>Multiflora Enterprises</b>                          | <b>Sunshine Care</b>                 |
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| <b>Coastal Sage Gardening</b>                                         | <b>Green Thumb Nursery</b>                  | Renee's Garden                                         | <b>Walter Andersen Nursery</b>       |
|                                                                       | JTM Nutrients                               | <b>San Diego County Water Authority</b>                | Waterwise Botanicals                 |
|                                                                       |                                             |                                                        | Weidners' Gardens                    |
|                                                                       |                                             |                                                        | Westward Expos                       |

## LIFE MEMBERS \*Horticulturist of the Year

|                                |                               |                       |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| *Chuck Ades (2008)             | Laurie ConnableDeeter         | *Vince Lazaneo (2004) | St. Madeleine Sophie's Center |
| *Walter Andersen (2002)        | Buckner                       | *Brad Monroe (2013)   | *Susi Torre-Bueno (2012)      |
| Norm Applebaum & Barbara Roper | Design Group                  | *Bill Nelson (2007)   | & Jose Torre-Bueno            |
| *Bruce & Sharon Asakawa (2010) | *Julian (2014) & Leslie Duval | Deborah & Jack Pate   | Dorothy Walker                |
| Gladys T. Baird                | *Edgar Engert (2000)          | *Kathy Puplava (2016) | Lucy Warren                   |
| Debra Lee Baldwin              | Jim Farley                    | Tina & Andy Rathbone  | *Evelyn Weidner (2001)        |
|                                | Sue & Charles Fouquette       | *Jon Rebman (2011)    | *Pat Welsh (2003)             |
|                                | Caroline James                | Mary Rodriguez        | Betty Wheeler                 |
|                                | Joyce James                   | Peggy Ruzich          |                               |
| *Steve Brigham (2009)          | Debbie & Richard Johnson      | Gerald D. Stewart     |                               |

## DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

(see ads for more discounts)

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

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

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



## ARTFEST 2016

Featuring Fine Art, Asian Art and a quick draw contest  
New this year:  
**Classic Woody Car Show**  
April 9 & 10, 9 am – 5 pm

ArtFest is a delightful combination of Fine Art Show, Asian Art Show, Art Demonstrations and a Quick Draw Contest. Our juried Fine Art Show will feature over 20 artists who will be showing and selling their works, including sculptors, painters, glass artists, potters, gourd and fiber artists. New this year is a classic Woody car show (on Saturday only).

The Quick Draw Contest features artists who will be creating an entire work of art, in an allotted time, right before participants' eyes. These pieces will be available for purchase after the contest.

The Asian Art Show celebrates the art of Asian horticulture with outstanding displays of Ikebana and Bonsai. Fresh sandwiches, salads, snacks and coffee will be available from the Feel Good Coffee Cart. Enjoy live music by Bob Ballentine and friends in the Lawn Garden.

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





# LOCAL GARDEN TOURS IN APRIL

By Mary James

The garden tours listed here cover a lot of territory! Because some tours sell out, purchase tickets early when prices often are discounted.

## April 2, San Diego Horticultural Society Spring Tour

See pages 3 and 10

## April 2-3, Garden Native Tour

Native plants, water conservation and wildlife habitats are the focus of this tour to 18 private and public gardens in East County. On Sunday, the Water Conservation Garden in El Cajon hosts a Sustainable Gardens Showcase open to tour goers and the public. Sponsored by the California Native Plant Society.

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. / Tickets: \$25; kids free

Info: [gardennative.org](http://gardennative.org)

## April 10, 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Seaside Native Plant Tour

Plant experts and locals lead this 1 1/2-mile walking tour past 18 front-yard gardens in Oceanside's historic Seaside neighborhood. Tour goers meet at St. Mary's School parking lot, 515 Wisconsin Ave., Oceanside. Refreshments sold by neighborhood youngsters.

Time: 2 p.m. / Tickets: Free; donation requested for map and plant list

Info: [BVAudubon.org](http://BVAudubon.org) (Buena Vista Native Plant Club), [OCNA101.org](http://OCNA101.org) (Oceanside Coastal Neighborhood Association), or call the Buena Vista Nature Center at (760) 439-2473.

## April 16-17, 91<sup>st</sup> Coronado Flower Show

Enjoy floral displays, exhibits and entertainment under the big tent at Spreckels Park and drive by winning front-yard gardens throughout the community. Sponsored by the Coronado Floral Association.

Time: 1 to 5 p.m. April 16; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 17

Tickets: \$5 (free for CFA members and children under 12)

Info: [coronadoflowershow.com](http://coronadoflowershow.com)

## April 23, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Point Loma Garden Walk

Point Loma's historic Plumosa Park neighborhood is home to the gardens (and some residences) featured on this tour, organized by the Rady Children's Hospital Auxiliary to benefit the hospital's craniofacial programs. Shop at the Garden Boutique in the Park.

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. / Tickets: \$25 / Info: [pointlomagardenwalk.com](http://pointlomagardenwalk.com)

## April 23, Bernardo Gardeners Club Spring Garden Tour

A *Sunset* magazine-featured garden, a landscape designer's home garden and a 19-acre collector's garden and natural preserve highlight this tour in the Rancho Bernardo environs. Refreshments provided in one garden.

Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tickets: \$20, purchase at Walter Andersen Nursery, Poway, starting March 14. Or order by mail: Send a check payable to Bernardo Gardeners Club and self-addressed, stamped envelope to 17361 Regalo Lane, San Diego, CA 92128.

Info: [bernardogardenersclub@gmail.com](mailto:bernardogardenersclub@gmail.com)

## April 30, Ramona Garden Club Tour

A diverse landscape around a Victorian home, a view estate next to the Cleveland National Forest and a landscape designer's home garden are among the eight water-wise landscapes on tour. Plants, garden accents and crafts for sale at the Ramona Community Library parking lot, 1275 Main Street, Ramona.

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. / Tickets: \$20 / Info: [ramonagardenclub.com](http://ramonagardenclub.com)



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Ticket sales are limited  
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More information and  
tickets:

**sdhort.org/  
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In 2016 the SDHS Annual Garden Tour takes garden lovers from the fertile low lying gardens of Carmel Valley to the sloping hillside landscapes of Del Mar.

Our self-guided tour of nine beautiful gardens showcases all that San Diego horticulture has to offer. Although every garden is water wise, each exhibits a unique approach to creating beauty in San Diego's distinctive climate. Tour gardens include an Hawaiian fantasy, a palm-studded paradise, a succulent jewel box and a celebration of the plants of Australia and New Zealand. One garden is a living plant tapestry; another gives a special nod to California natives. Stunning outdoor living spaces and inviting water features charm the visitor and encourage them to linger and savor the landscape.

Selected vendors will be selling garden related items, and clever irrigation techniques will be on display. A special attraction this year will be the Del Mar Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale featuring one-of-a-kind living plant arrangements and plant art for your garden.

.....

### TOUR & TICKET INFORMATION

Purchase tickets online at **sdhort.org / tickets**

**SDHS members \$25**  
**Non-members \$35**

## SPRING GARDEN TOUR

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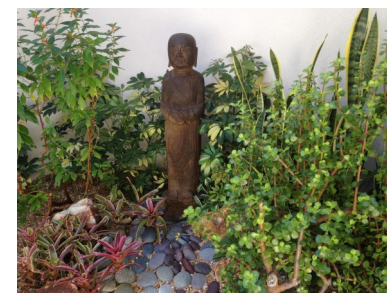
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**Simply Succulent**



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**Our Mission:** To inspire and educate the people of San Diego County to grow and enjoy plants, and to create beautiful, environmentally responsible gardens and landscapes.

**Our Vision:** To champion regionally appropriate horticulture in San Diego County.





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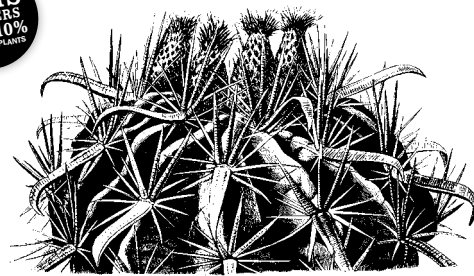
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## SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW AWARDS

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

- **Scotty's Plantscape**; Garden Master: Scott Ensign; Garden Name: The Giving Garden  
Statement of Purpose Silver Award, First Garden Finished, Perfection in Nomenclature
- **Evergreen Nursery**; Garden Master: Wally Kearns; Garden Name: Water-wise... Tropical Treasures  
Statement of Purpose Silver Award



Jose Torre-Bueno

Evergreen Nursery's display garden included three fruiting papaya trees.

- **St. Madeline Sophie's Center**; Garden Master: Mark Fisher; Garden Name: Sophie's Garden  
Statement of Purpose Gold Award, Judges' Choice, Best Specialty Garden
- **Lawrence Design**; Garden Master: Elfi Lawrence; Garden Name: Rustic Pleasure  
Statement of Purpose Gold Award, Perfection in Nomenclature
- **Charly Poppins**; Garden Master: Yann Salvatage; Garden Name: Urban Haven  
Statement of Purpose Gold Award, Pacific Horticulture Award for Horticultural Excellence, Best San Diego Adapted Landscape, Perfection in Nomenclature
- **Desert Theater**; Garden Master: Brian Bullard; Garden Name: Err on the Dry Side  
Statement of Purpose Gold Award, Best Compatibility of Plants, Best Combination of Plants, Perfection in Nomenclature, Outstanding Plants – *Aloe dichotoma*, *Agave 'Kissho-Kan'*, *Echinocactus polycephalus*
- **Epic Landscape**; Garden Master: Memo Garcia; Garden Name: Shifting Times  
Statement of Purpose Gold Award, Most Dramatic

Continued on page 20

San Diego Horticultural Society



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## SHARING SECRETS

Edited by Dayle Cheever

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

The question for April was: **What is the best red tomato variety for San Diego's coastal climate? Please assume appropriate care, water, soil composition, nutrition, and sun exposure. Also, is there a particular variety of tomato that you have had success with here in San Diego County?**

**Vivian Black:** I like Early Girl and Momotaro tomatoes.

**Linda Chisari:** Carmello!

**Lynne Blackman:** Our climate is coastal and we have the best results with Carmello and Juliet, which I order from Natural Gardening Co. I used to plant Stupice, but plants (from several sources) seemed to lack strength.

**Lynlee Austel-Slayter:** The best one is the heirloom tomato bin at People's Co-op in Ocean Beach; available year round, organic, and cheap by comparison with growing your own.

**Constance Forest:** I have had very good luck with the variety San Diego, developed for this climate. I have not been able to find it at chains like Home Depot, but it was always available at Grangetto's in Fallbrook.

**Christine Vargas:** Celebrity.

**Sue Martin:** Stupice and Early Girl perform the best for me, only two blocks from the ocean. During especially cool, foggy summers, everything mildews and shrivels. Planting tomatoes in April instead of May could make a difference, but sometimes my winter garden is still finishing up.

**Roy Wilburn:** Celebrity, BHN 1021, and Skyway have worked well for me in Poway. All three are determinant varieties. We also grow many types of cherry tomatoes, such as SunGold, Favorita, Nova, Yellow Pear, and Black Cherry. All these varieties can be found at Johnny's Selected Seeds, on line. Also check the websites of Totally Tomato and TomatoFest. I grew tomatoes commercially on the coast of Baja, which is just like our coastal areas, now I get to tackle the heat of Poway in the summer. I am of the opinion that you can grow any variety you like, anywhere in San Diego County. You might want to prune your tomatoes more on the coast since sunburn is not an issue. Inland San Diego might make you want to prune less, when expecting tomatoes in the heat of late summer. This should provide more foliage for less burning. Using black shade cloth will help your fruit from sunburn in the hot inland areas.

**Jim Bishop:** I grow only two tomato varieties; Sweet 100 and Better Girl. I grow my tomatoes in pots, so I only have a couple of plants. I've

found heirloom and grafted varieties don't produce enough fruit to be worth the effort. Sweet 100 is perennial and I have had the same plant for several years. Since it isn't a hybrid, any plants that come from the fruit match the parent plant. It is one of the best tasting tomatoes I've ever grown. It fruits on and off all year, with the biggest crop in early summer. Usually I have just enough to eat right off the vine or in salads. Better Girl gives a couple of crops per year, mostly in the summer. The fruit is not large, but it doesn't split as easily as other varieties. It is a perfect size for sandwiches or salads. Both varieties are great with basil, which we also grow in pots.

**Charlotte Getz:** I live in Encinitas, just two miles from the coast. I have had good luck with Stupice, SunGold, and Early Girl. I have tried many other varieties and they have not done well with the marine layers we get in the morning and at night in May and June, and sometimes in April.

**Katie Pelisek:** Early Girl and SunGold are staples in our garden. Last year we tried Spoon and it was a huge hit at the Boys and Girls Club!

**Doris Enberg:** I love SunGold cherry tomatoes.

**Sheila Busch:** I always have good production of SunGold cherry tomatoes. They are also the best tasting I have ever had. They hold up to the brutal sun and heavy clay soil in Escondido.

**Walter Andersen:** There are so many tomatoes it can be very confusing. I live about 10 miles from the coast. I have found these are very good for my area: San Diego hybrid (sometimes sold as Otay), Celebrity, Champion, Sweet 100 (cherry-like but not as sprawling).

**Una Marie Pierce:** Every year it seems as if I get the best tomatoes from the plants that come up as volunteers. I have three going just now and I'm waiting to see what I have.

**Jason Chen:** I've tried many and probably my favorites have been Momotaro Gold, Black Krim, Black Trifele, Black Cherry and my absolute favorite, Anna Russian (I love the sweet meatiness of it, great cooked and fresh). I think the main thing is watering and cutting suckers and extra canes out of the plants. Unfortunately last year I had an issue with nematodes and fusarium wilt, big time, especially when it was warm with the summer rains. I'll have to try them in containers this year or spread out crab shells and organically combat the nematodes; not sure about the fusarium aside from buying resistant varieties.

**Vince Lazaneo:** I grew Litt'l Bites cherry, a window box tomato from Renee's Garden for the first time last year and have planted it again. I grew the plants from seed in five gallon pots and had a big harvest of cherry sized fruit from the small plants. They were tasty and did not crack during my winter harvest. I don't know how the plant would perform if it was planted in the ground.

**Lucy Warren:** I love SunGold; tough, reliable, and sweet little yellow bites for a long season—yum.

**Arlene Watters:** Cherokee Purple.

**Gabrielle Ivany:** I have had good luck with San Diego and Lemon Boy tomatoes. (92128)


**Susi Torre-Bueno:** It's been tremendously frustrating to grow tomatoes – any kind – at our home in Vista due to the @#\$%^& squirrels. I'm going to try SunGold and Sweet 100 this year, but expect I'll have far better luck buying them at the Farmers' Market.



Tomato 'Lit'l Bites' is available from Reneesgarden.com (see Vince Lazaneo's comments at left).

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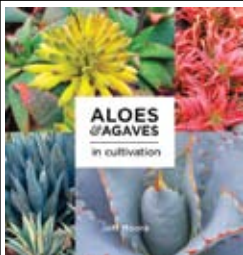
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## MARCH 2016 PLANT DISPLAY

By Steve Brigham, Joan Herskowitz & 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.

**Now available FREE on our website – all 21 years worth of plant descriptions! Go to [tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions](http://tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions).**

*Dorstenia foetida* SHIELD FLOWER (Moraceae)

Northern Africa and Middle East

A small caudex-forming drought-deciduous plant with an exotic, other-worldly appearance that attracts collectors of unusual plants and bonsai. The plant, which is indigenous to dry bushland and rocky outcrops, grows one or more thick brown stems from a low flat base. It grows up to about one foot with rosettes of long dark green leaves that arise from the stem ends. Small inconspicuous flowers are produced on grayish green disk-shaped "horned" bracts (hypanthodium). The plant is generally grown in pots using a well-draining soil mix, and in bright light with partial or full shade. It is a warm weather grower, so it should be well watered in summer and get reduced water in winter when some leaf loss may occur. Propagation is by seed. Because seed pods open explosively ejecting seeds up to 6 feet from the plant, seed collection requires bagging of the pods, and you may find seedlings appear in nearby pots. (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 3/16) – J.H.

*Echeveria pulvinata* 'Ruby Blush' RED ECHEVERIA (Crassulaceae)

Horticultural Hybrid

This charming succulent hails from a Mexican species, *Echeveria pulvinata*, which is from the Oaxaca area. The plant grows less than 1' tall and wide, and produces many succulent rosettes with shrub-like stems coming off the parent plant. It has very hairy green leaves (they look like velvet), which show various amounts of red coloring at the edges – some look almost completely red. The small light orange flowers appear in winter to spring. Best in full sun to light shade with good drainage; moderate to low water. Cuttings root very easily – just stick them in the ground, no need to let the cut edges dry off. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/16) – S.T.B.

*Hymenosporum flavum* SWEETSHADE (Pittosporaceae)

Eastern Australia

From the SDHS book, Ornamental Trees for Mediterranean Climates: Native to the coastal rainforests of Queensland and New South Wales, the Sweetshade is a popular evergreen tree because of its narrow, upright growth habit and sweetly fragrant flowers. With regular watering it grows at a moderate rate to 25-40' tall, with an open, tiered branching structure and glossy dark green leaves 3-6" long and 1-2" wide. The



Sweetshade flowers in spring and early summer; with terminal clusters of 1-2" wide flowers that are cream colored when they open and age to a golden-yellow. To most people, these flowers have a pronounced sweet fragrance of orange-blossom honey, although there are some who notice no fragrance at all. The Sweetshade prefers a rich, well-drained soil and regular watering. It flowers best in a warm spot away from coastal wind, and will grow in full sun or partial shade. It is fairly cold-tolerant, with mature trees tolerating temperatures as low as 20°F. Because of its narrow, upright habit, the Sweetshade can be particularly in confined areas or near tall buildings, and also looks good when planted in groups. Early training

by heading back branches is recommended to produce a stronger branching structure and more compact growth.

(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/16) – S.B.

*Linaria reticulata* PURPLE-NETTOADFLAX (Plantaginaceae)

Northern Africa

A vigorous flowering and colorful annual needing little care other than occasional water. The long-lasting flowers are scarlet and gold bi-colored snapdragon-type blooms that will create a splash of color in an annual border or in a container. The flowers are produced on stalks that grow to 12 inches tall, with whorls of short linear foliage. It is drought-tolerant and does well in full sun or part shade. Seeds can be sown directly in the ground in winter or early spring, or if already growing, plants can be allowed to reseed. Flowers may be cut back after the blooms fade and the plant will re-bloom. The flowers are reported to be very attractive to butterflies.

(Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 3/16) – J.H.

*Pennisetum setaceum* 'Fireworks' FIREWORKS FOUNTAIN GRASS

(Poaceae) Horticultural Hybrid

A showy ornamental grass (the species is native to Africa, Middle East and SW Asia) that has variegated leaf blades with longitudinal stripes of white, green and burgundy, giving the new foliage a candy cane appearance. It grows to 3-4 feet tall and, in summer, produces purple foxtail flowers that grow out above the leaves. The variegation fades as the season progresses, and although the plant remains evergreen in mild winters, it can be deciduous when exposed to frost. The plant does well in full or partial sun and is reported to be root hardy to 20 degrees F. It is drought-tolerant and, once established, requires only occasional watering. Cutting back in late winter is recommended to highlight the vibrant color of the new growth, and to maintain the plant's neat appearance. This cultivar is not considered invasive as it does not produce viable seeds. It is an attractive specimen plant, or can be grown in mass for a stunning display of color. (Susanna Pagan, San Marcos, 3/16) – J.H.

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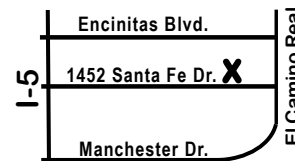
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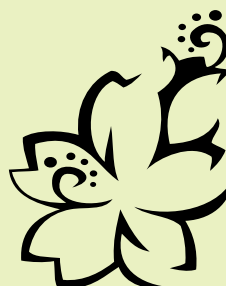
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*Polygala virgata* PURPLE BROOM (Polygalaceae) South Africa  
 This very fast-growing open shrub with long sprays of showy 1" magenta flowers is in bloom from winter to spring. It grows about 4-6' tall and 3-5' wide, with ¾" long narrow blue-green leaves that are very inconspicuous. The lower stems and branches are bare of leaves, so I've found it best to plant these in clumps of 2 or more plants with something dense growing at the base. They do best if staked, even when young, as they're prone to leaning over. Full sun for best results. My experience has been that the parent plant lives only a few years, but a few seedlings pop up (sometimes 100 feet away!) to carry on the show. Very showy when in bloom, almost invisible when not flowering. Needs only low water when established, very nearly drought-tolerant. Good for cut flowers. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/16) – S.T-B.



*Polygala virgata* PURPLE BROOM

*Salvia coahuilensis* SALTILLO SAGE, COAHUILA SAGE  
 (Lamiaceae) Mexico

Mexico is fortunate to have many wonderful salvias, and *Salvia coahuilensis*, found in the province of Coahuila, is one lovely example. This low-growing evergreen perennial grows to about two feet tall and spreads 3 feet wide (possibly more). From spring through fall it has stunning dark violet flowers. The foliage is very aromatic, with a slightly medicinal scent. In my garden it has flowered through November. Best in full sun with good drainage and low to moderate watering. I cut mine back heavily in early winter. For lots more info I highly recommend *The New Book of Salvias* by Betsy Clebsch. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/16) – S.T-B.



*Babiana stricta* BABOON FLOWER

**In addition to the plants described above, the plants listed below were displayed; all have been previously described.**

What's that in front of the plant name? Plants marked **3** are fully described in the SDHS *Plant Forum Compilation*, available online for FREE at [tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions](http://tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions).

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the March newsletter was *Leucojum aestheticum* FANCY SNOWFLAKE.

- 3 *Babiana stricta* BABOON FLOWER  
 (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/16)
- 3 *Dendrobium sex-pistolis* ROCK'N ROLL ORCHID  
 (Plant Lover, El Cajon, 3/16)
- 3 *Dendrobium speciosum* ROCK ORCHID  
 (Jane Coogan Beer, Los Angeles, 3/16)
- 3 *Freesia* cvs. (Darlene Villanueva, El Cajon, 3/16)
- 3 *Hippeastrum* 'La Paz' (Sheldon Lisker, Temecula, 3/16)
- 3 *Leucopyllum zygophyllum* TEXAS RANGER, BLUE RAIN SAGE  
 (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/16)
- 3 *Penstemon parryi* PARRY'S PENSTEMON  
 (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/16)
- 3 *Salvia africana-lutea*, syn. *Salvia aurea* BROWN SALVIA  
 (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/16)
- 3 *Salvia flocculosa* 'Curtis Blue' (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 3/16)
- 3 *Syringa* 'Lavender Lady' LILAC (Sheldon Lisker, Sun City, 3/16)



*Penstemon parryi* PARRY'S PENSTEMON



## MARCH MEETING REPORT

### 100 Years of Horticulture at the SD Zoo!

By Donna Tierney

The San Diego Horticultural Society expresses our sincere appreciation to the Zoo's horticulture staff, Stephanie Shigematsu, Danny Simpson, Christy Powell and Michael Letzring, for their wonderful presentation at the March meeting. As previously announced, the SDHS has chosen the past and current staff of the horticulture department of the Zoo as our Horticulturist of the Year for 2016, and after this talk it was easy to see why this honor was so well-deserved.

Wow, the San Diego Zoo is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary! When you think that it all began with left over structures from the Pam American Expo in 1916, the vision of Dr. Harry Wegeforth, and an arid, hilly canyon with little vegetation, the international treasure we have today is a miracle! Dr. Harry rode his Arabian horse to survey the initial land set aside for the Zoo, and used his walking cane to plant tree seeds as he went along. Acacias, pepper, and eucalyptus were some of the first trees planted. Between the 1920-30s the zoo received many gifts of plants and infrastructure from wealthy families. Three dams were built to catch run off from rains. During the 1930s, President Roosevelt's Works Project Administration (WPA) sent 200 people to San Diego to help build infrastructure. Some of the initial drainpipes they built were made from redwood slats that were lashed together! During the 1940s, victory gardens provided animal food. The Zoo began to get national and international attention in the 1950s when TV shows showcased the animals and property, and movies were filmed on site. The first automated irrigation systems were installed in the 1970s. Prior to that, all plants were hand watered!

From this humble beginning, the Zoo has become a global, nonprofit organization whose mission is a commitment to saving species worldwide by uniting their expertise in animal care and conservation science with dedication to inspiring passion for nature. Their Vision is to lead the fight against extinction, and their Rallying Cry is "End Extinction!" The Global Zoo includes three campuses: the Zoo, the Safari Park in Escondido, and the Global Institute for Conservation Research.

The Zoo uses an incredible team of horticulturists to plant landscape vegetation that can be used for animal food while also being very appealing to the eye and a magnet for plant lovers. The horticulturists travel world wide to collect plants for conservation to prevent species extinction. The micro-propagation lab has been expanded significantly, and the staff has traveled to teach people in remote areas how to propagate and conserve species. There is also a long-term cold storage Native Plant seed bank. The propagation staff has been instrumental in restoring areas around Lake Hodges that were burned in successive fires.

The landscapes at the Zoo are composed of varied collections of plants that have grown over the years. There are many rare species. Some of the highlights are: orchids, hibiscus, subtropical fruit garden (including 22 varieties of bananas!), aloes, acacias, ficus, cycads, and erythras. Beautiful brochures about these collections were created recently and available at our meeting. There are also geographic theme gardens, such as Hawaii and Madagascar.



If you haven't visited the Zoo or Safari Park recently, I think you will be very surprised at the many changes and improvements you will find. SDHS, in cooperation with the horticultural staff at the zoo, will be hosting a night at the zoo in July! Watch for details in upcoming newsletters. Thanks to all the Zoo staff members for an exceptional presentation and also for interesting displays of various Zoo projects and plants.

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## PACIFIC HORTICULTURE

### "Dia de Muertos" in San Miguel de Allende

PacHort returns to San Miguel de Allende this fall with a tour featuring the colorful *Dia de 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. Our tour will also include garden visits, and Dolores Hidalgo, full of history and a mecca for *talavera* shopping! San Miguel is both a quaint and cosmopolitan city with an historic center filled with well-preserved buildings from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. With its fine architectural details, cobblestone streets, and sumptuous interiors, San Miguel de Allende is arguably the prettiest town in Mexico. This tour sold out quickly last year, so please consider signing up soon if you are interested in attending.

SDHS is a Pacific Horticulture Partner. Visit [www.pachort.org](http://www.pachort.org) for more tour info or to subscribe to *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. A special rate of \$24 is available with discount code SDHS2016. ☘



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### ■ Spring Home/Garden Show Awards

Continued from page 12

- **Ericson Landscape Consulting;** Garden Master: Dave Ericson; Garden Name: Two Boys Playing in the Garden  
Statement of Purpose Silver Award, Most Intimate Garden, Outstanding Plant – *Dendrobium speciosum*
- Advanced Waterscape; Garden Master: Calvin Briers; Garden Name: Balance Point  
Statement of Purpose Silver Award, Best Water Feature, Outstanding plant – *Grevillea* 'Moon Light'
- Watersedge Landscape; Garden Master: Steve Harbour; Garden Name: Hot Summer Nights  
Statement of Purpose Gold Award, Best Home Landscape
- Mission Hills Nursery; Garden Master: Tiger Palafox; Garden Name: The Edible Landscape  
Statement of Purpose Silver Award
- Suncoast Waterfeatures; Garden Master: Jonathan Bosch; Garden Name: Easy to Look At  
Statement of Purpose Gold Award
- Chicweed Design & Landscaping, LLC; Garden Master: Jonathan Hawley and Melisa Teisl; Garden Name: Sights, senses, conservation and conversation  
Statement of Purpose Silver Award
- Lux Landscape Design; Garden Master: Dominic Ramirez; Garden Name: Dwell on This: for the Modern Lifestyle  
Statement of Purpose Gold Award, People's Choice Award, CLCA Award, APLD Award for Excellence in Design, Design Excellence, Best Hardscape, Most Educational, Perfection in Nomenclature
- Olive a Dream Trees; Garden Master: Rick Warren; Garden Name: Asian Fusion  
Best Topiary Feature, Perfection in Nomenclature
- **Garden Chat;** Garden Master: Paige Perkins; Garden Name: Cottage by the Sea  
Statement of Purpose Silver Award, Most Appealing to Children, Perfection in Nomenclature ☘

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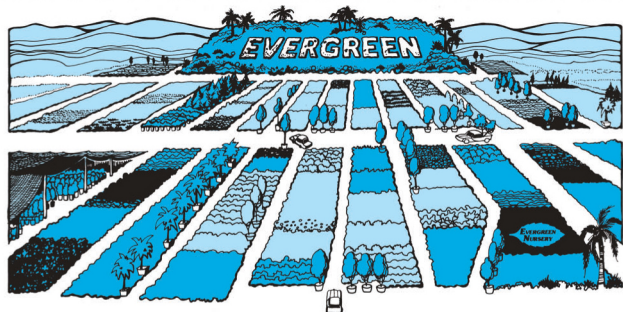
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## What's Happening? for APRIL 2016

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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#### OCEANSIDE

3231 Oceanside Blvd.  
(760) 754-0340

#### EL CAJON

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

## Events at Public Gardens

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

**Apr. 9, 10am-4:30pm:** Earth Day Festival. Plant Sales, guest  
Speakers, and more. \$3. Info: [www.altavistagardens.org](http://www.altavistagardens.org).

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

**April 2, 10am-noon, Free Compost Workshop:** basics of  
backyard composting and vermicomposting (composting with  
worms). Register online.

**April 2, 10am-noon, Build Your Own Hydroponic Spring  
Garden:** Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method by  
building your own sustainable garden to take home. Please  
register by March 25. Members \$80, Non-Members \$96.

**April 9, 9am-2pm, Succulent Wreath Class:** Take home a  
beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself. Members \$65,  
Non-Members \$78.

**April 23, 9am-12pm, Living Wall / Vertical Garden:** Learn the  
basics of planting a living wall. Members \$30, non-members \$36  
plus a \$70 per student materials fee paid directly to the instructor  
at the class. Please register by: April 15.

❖ **The Water Conservation Garden**

Contact info on other side. For ALL events below, register online  
or at (619) 660-0614.

**April 2 & 3, 10am-Noon, Irrigation 101:** tips for retrofitting  
existing systems and installing a basic drip system. \$10 Non-  
Members.

**April 23, 9am-3pm, Spring Garden Festival:** succulent sales,  
landscape design consultations and Garden tours. Reserve  
consultation spot by calling (619) 660-0614 x16.

**April 30, 10am – noon, Sustainable Seed Harvesting:** Easy  
methods to collect and process seeds, along with ways to treat  
mature mother plants for next season's seed harvest. Non-  
Members \$10.

## Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

## SDHS Garden Tour

**Saturday, April 2, see page 10.**  
**[www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org)**

♦ **Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops**

Info: [www.barrelsandbranches.com](http://www.barrelsandbranches.com). See ad on page 17.

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

♦ **Evergreen Nursery: FREE Seminar** Details in left column

♦ **Grangetto's FREE Workshop**, [www.grangettosgardenclub.com](http://www.grangettosgardenclub.com)  
**Planting Spring Veggies, 10-11:30am**

April 2, 29219 Juba Rd., Valley Center, Info: (760) 749-1828.

♦ **Sunshine Care FREE Seminar Each Month**

**April 16, 10:30am-noon:** HERBS – Amazing and Wondrous! With  
teacher Mary Friestedt, UCCE Master Gardener and Herb  
Specialist RSVP: (858) 472-6059 or [roy@sunshinecare.com](mailto:roy@sunshinecare.com).  
[www.sunshinecare.com](http://www.sunshinecare.com). See ad page 13.

♦ **Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes**

Details at [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com); address in ad on page 16.

#### Point Loma, 9am

Apr. 2 Natives

Apr. 9 Kitchen Herbs

Apr. 16 Fairy gardening

Apr. 23 Staghorn Care

Apr. 30 Color Your Garden

#### Poway, 9:30am

Staghorn Ferns

Native Habitats

Spring/Summer Veggies

Tomatoes

Spring Rose Care

♦ **Weidners' FREE Events**

**April 16-17: Succulent Weekend.** Talks by Jeff Moore & Debra  
Lee Baldwin, lots more!

**April 30: Spring Open House**, including greenhouse tours.  
695 Normandy Rd., Encinitas. Info: [www.weidners.com](http://www.weidners.com), (760) 436-  
2194.

## Next SDHS Meeting

**April 11:**

**Forty Years Among the Natives**

See page 1 & website for details



## Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

### SDHS GARDEN TOUR April 2<sup>nd</sup>

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

### Other Garden Tours in April

See page 9

**Apr. 1 – May 8, 9am-6pm, Master Gardener's Demonstration Garden:** A wonderful garden that follows the irrigation guidelines. The Flower Fields, 5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad. Info: [www.mastergardenerssandiego.org](http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org).

**Apr. 1 (10am-4:30pm), 2 (8am-12:30pm), & 3, Succulent Gardening:** Please email [succulentsus@gmail.com](mailto:succulentsus@gmail.com) for an invitation or call (858) 342-9781. Info: [www.succulents.us](http://www.succulents.us).

**Apr. 2, 10-noon, Solana Center's Composting Workshop:** La Mesa. Info/register: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**Apr. 2, 10-noon, Solana Center's Composting Workshop:** Encinitas. Info/register: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**Apr. 2, 10-11:30am, Healthy Garden Healthy Home Free Gardening Workshop:** Growing Fresh Herbs for Cooking. Bonita-Sunnyside Branch Library, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita. Free garden gift for first 50 attendees. Info: (858) 822-6932.

**Apr. 2 & 3, 10am-4pm, Plumeria Society Cutting Sale:** Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Info: [www.socalplumeriasociety.com](http://www.socalplumeriasociety.com).

**Apr. 8, 10am, Waterwise Botanicals Cactus Chat: SEE PAGE 7.** The Wonder of the flowering cactus. 32183 Old Hwy 395, Escondido. Free. Info: [www.waterwisebotanicals.com/](http://www.waterwisebotanicals.com/)

**Apr. 9, 10-noon, Solana Center's Composting Workshop:** 1670 E. Valley Pkwy, Escondido. Info/register: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**Apr. 9, 9am-3pm, Poway Valley Garden Club Flower Show & Annual Plant Sale:** Free. 14134 Midland Road, Poway. Info: [www.powayvalleygardenclub.org](http://www.powayvalleygardenclub.org).

**Apr. 16, 10-11:30am, Healthy Garden Healthy Home Free Gardening Workshop:** How to Grow a Salsa Garden. Valley Center Branch Library 29200 Cole Grade Road Valley Center. Free garden gift for first 50 attendees. Info: (858) 822-6932.

**Apr. 16, Native Plant Society Explore Nature's Gardens:** Mission Trails West entry, Tierrasanta. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).

**Apr. 16 (1-5pm), 17, (10am-4pm), Coronado Flower Show: SEE PAGE 9.** Music, continuous entertainment, \$5. 635 Orange Ave., Coronado. Info: [www.coronadoflowershow.com](http://www.coronadoflowershow.com).

**Apr. 16, 10am-3pm, Oceanside Earth Festival:** Oceanside, Pier View Way & Tremont St. Info: [www.mastergardenerssandiego.org](http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org).

**Apr. 16 (noon-5pm) & 17 (10am-4pm), Rose Society Rose & Arrangement Show:** Over a thousand roses on display. Liberty Station. Info: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org).

**Apr. 23, 1-2:30am, Healthy Garden Healthy Home Free Gardening Workshop:** Growing Fresh Herbs for Cooking. Ramona Branch Library 1275 Main Street, Ramona. Free garden gift for first 50 attendees. Info: (858) 822-6932.

**Apr. 23, 1-3pm, Solana Center's Composting Workshop:** 9928 Protea Gardens Road, Escondido. Info/register: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**Apr. 23, 9am-3pm, Native Plant Society Plant Sale:** The Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. West, El Cajon. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).

**Apr. 24, 10am, Native Plant Society Explore Nature's Gardens:** Elfin Forest, Harmony Grove, Escondido/San Marcos. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).

**Apr. 19, 7-9pm, Native Plant Society:** Native Gardening and Edible Landscaping. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).

**Apr. 20 (4-7pm) & 21 (9am-noon), Village Garden Club of La Jolla's Expressions in Art & Flowers:** Artwork and floral designs. Music, opportunity drawings, and more. 8320 La Jolla Scenic Dr. North, La Jolla. Non-Members \$20. Info: [www.vgclj.com](http://www.vgclj.com).

**Apr. 22 (9:30am-5pm), Apr. 23 (9:30am-3pm) Dos Valles Garden Club:** Flower and Horticulture Show. 22<sup>nd</sup> only 8am-Noon Plant Sale. 29200 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center. Info: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org), (650) 477-9609.

**Apr. 29, 30, & May 1, 9am, San Diego Museum of Art:** Art Alive Floral Exhibition. More than 100 floral interpretations of famous works. \$20. Info: [www.sdmart.org](http://www.sdmart.org).

**Apr. 30, 2-4pm, Solana Center's Composting Workshop:** 330 Park Blvd San Diego. Info/register: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

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/\$5. 1270 Vale Terrace Drive, Vista. Info: [www.avgardens.org](http://www.avgardens.org) or (760) 945-3954.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### BALBOA PARK:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Garden Radio Shows:

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

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

### San Diego County Farmers Markets

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

**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).