

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

August 2017, Number 275

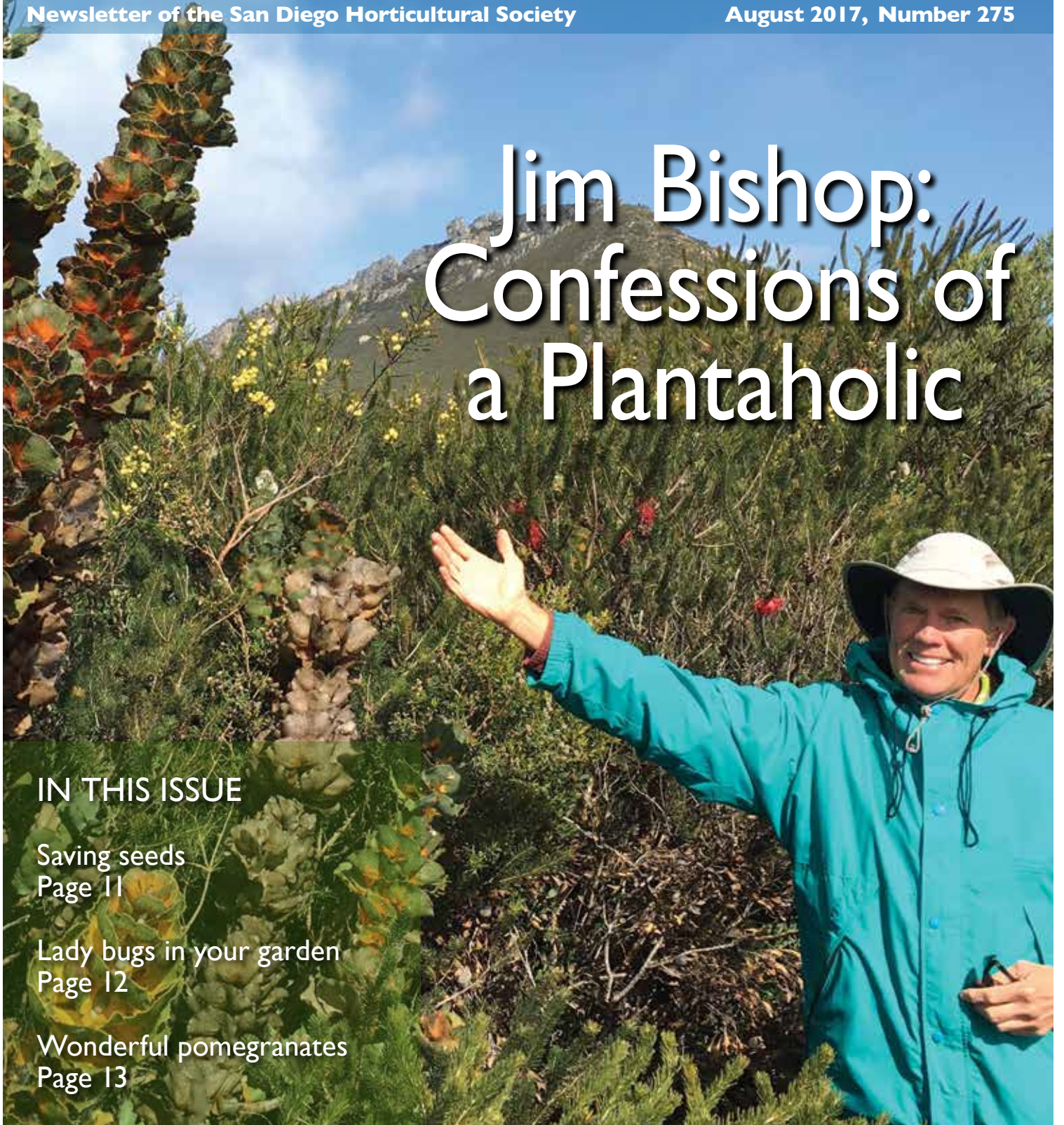
Jim Bishop: Confessions of a Plantaholic

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FALL 2017
miracosta.edu/hort



HORTICULTURE

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At MiraCosta College, you can earn an associate degree or a certificate in a variety of programs, including landscape architecture, sustainable landscape and turf management, nursery/horticulture crop production, pest control adviser, sustainable agriculture, viticulture and enology, and irrigation technology. Some certificates take as little as two semesters to complete!

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Community colleges are still California's best buy in higher education. Enroll now!
 See backside for courses offered this fall.

Horticulture Department Open House

Wednesday, August 9, 5:30–7:30 PM

MiraCosta College Horticulture Building, Room 7051
 Parking available in lots 7A and 4C, no permit required.

Join us for our Open House and find out how our program can get your life moving in a new direction. Come meet our professors; tour our facility; and learn about career, internship and scholarship opportunities. Everyone is welcome, including prospective and current students!

For more information contact **Carolyn Kinnon**,
760.757.2121, x6533 or ckinnon@miracosta.edu

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NEW Certificate & Degree Programs!

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- Study viticulture & enology to become a wine-grape grower or wine maker
- Learn the art and science of sustainable nursery crop production
- Impress clients with sustainable landscape management practices
- Develop career advancing skills in irrigation technology
- Put your creativity to work in landscape design/architecture.**

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MiraCosta College Credit Courses / Fall 2017

Class # Days Time Instructor Units Room #

HORTICULTURE

HORT 110 Introduction to Sustainable Horticulture


OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
1896 Th 9 am-2:05 pm BENDER G 3.0 OC 7053

HORT 115 Soil Science

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
1483 T 5 pm-9:50 pm MESSINA J 3.0 OC 7053

HORT 116 Plant Science

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
1485 MW 12:30 pm-3:30 pm MESSINA J & EHRLINGER C 4.0 OC 7053

ONLINE
1487 ONL  5 pm-7:50 pm EHRLINGER C 4.0 ONLINE OC 7053
&W +3 hours weekly online.

HORT 117 Plant Identification: Trees, Shrubs, and Vines

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
1489 F 1 pm-4:05 pm EHRLINGER C 3.0 OC 7051
&ONL +2 hours 10 minutes weekly online. ONLINE

HORT 118 Arboriculture

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
2473 W 6 pm-8:50 pm PALAT M 3.0 OC 7051

HORT 126 Landscape Irrigation

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
1491 T 5 pm-9:50 pm EHRLINGER C 3.0 OC 7051

HORT 127 Landscape Design

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
1495 W 9 am-1:50 pm RYAN L 3.0 OC 7051

HORT 128 Landscape Construction

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
2474 M 4:30 pm-9:35 pm BROWN R 3.0 OC 7053

HORT 144 Nursery Management and Production

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
1493 M 7 pm-9 pm MEADOR D 3.0 OC 7051
&S 8 am-10:50 am OC 7053

HORT 230 Landscape Architecture

PREREQUISITE: HORT 127.

OCEANSIDE CAMPUS **ROOM #**
3016 Th 4:30 pm-9:55 pm SENES R 3.0 OC 7051

HORT 299 Occupational Cooperative Work Experience

COREQUISITE: Complete 75 hrs paid or 60 hrs non-paid work per unit.
ENROLLMENT LIMITATION: Career Center approval. May not enroll in any combination of co-op work experience and/or internship studies concurrently.

2915 ARRANGED STAFF 3.0

Go to miracosta.edu/dataform or call 760.795.6772 for more info.
LATE-START CLASS, (09/05-12/16).



"Choosing to attend the MiraCosta College Horticulture Program was the best decision I've ever made and has led me to a career I thoroughly enjoy! One of my favorite experiences is the internship offered by the Horticulture Department as the greenhouse manager of the annual poinsettia crop.

The internship provided an exceptionally valuable experience, which led to my employment at a succulent nursery prior to graduation.

Today, I own a rapidly growing business designing succulent container arrangements and drought tolerant landscapes."

—Megan Boone, MiraCosta College graduate & owner of Nature Containers



OC=Oceanside Campus

*Pest Control Advisers (PCAs) are licensed professional production consultants who serve California agriculture and horticulture producers. PCAs specialize in pest management, but they are also an important resource to producers in a wide range of production concerns related to plant health.

**Students earning an associate degree in Landscape Architecture are eligible to take the Landscape Architecture Registration Exam to achieve state licensure after completing requisite apprenticeship.

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SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

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.

BOARD MEMBERS

Cindy Benoit – Membership Chair
Patty Berg – Volunteer Coordinator
Jim Bishop – President
Ray Brooks – Treasurer
Jason Chen – Member at Large
Marilyn Guidroz - Secretary
Mary James – Program Committee Chair
Jennifer Morrissey – Publicity
Anne Murphy – Workshop Coordinator
Ari Tenenbaum - Member at Large
Susan Starr – Newsletter Editor
Roy Wilburn – Outreach Coordinator

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

Managing Editor: Susan Starr; newsletter@sdhort.org

Copy Editor: Lisa Marun; lisamarun@gmail.com

Advertising: Bob Clark; advertising@sdhort.org

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

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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. We thank them for their support.

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INSERTS:

New Degree/Certificate Options Offered at MiraCosta Horticulture
Calendar/Resources/Ongoing Events

Workshop Ideas Wanted!

We are planning next year's workshops. If you have a topic, or a presenter, you'd like us to include next year, please email Anne Murphy at anne.murphy.gardening@gmail.com



COVER IMAGE: Jim Bishop in Fitzgerald National Park in Western Australia points to a Royal Hakea, *Hakea Victoria*.

www.sdhort.org

NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 14**6:00 – 8:30 PM****SPEAKER:****Jim Bishop on My Life with Plants:
Confessions of a Plantaholic**

On Monday, August 14, 2017, please join us at Jim Bishop's final meeting as president of the San Diego Horticultural Society. A self-proclaimed plantaholic, Jim will walk us through a humorous and educational evolution of the many memories, tales, people, and places that led to his life-long addiction and obsession with plants.

Jim was fortunate to grow up in many different environments in the U.S. and always noted the differences climate had on plants. From grade school on, he was already interested in gardening and growing flowers and vegetables from seed, taking care of his parents' yard, and eventually landscaping the home they purchased his freshman year of college.

Plants played a critical role in his decision to accept an unusual job offer in San Jose, California, and relocate from his native Texas. Eventually, the desire to own a home and grow more plants would lead to his decision to relocate once again to San Diego. His home in Encinitas for 14 years became his personal test garden for many different plants, plant passions, and landscape trends. Plants also played a key role in Jim's meeting his life partner, Scott Borden. In 1998, they would purchase their current home and transform it with plants, gardens, and hardscape to create a unique and well-known San Diego garden.

Despite his life-long obsession for plants, it was only in his mid-50s that Jim would briefly become involved

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, plant display

6:45 – 8:30 Announcements, door prizes, speaker

MEETINGS & EVENTS**AUGUST 14**

Jim Bishop. My Life with Plants - Confessions of a Plantaholic

SEPTEMBER 11

Frank McDonough on 20 South African Plants every Home Landscaper Should Know

OCTOBER 9

Debra Baldwin on Designing with Succulents in the New San Diego Garden

NOVEMBER 13

Rick Dark on Gardens of the High Line: Elevating the Nature of Modern Landscapes

in horticulture as a profession. He worked as a landscape designer and was the assistant coordinator of the Garden Show at the San Diego County Fair. In 2009, he joined the board of the San Diego Horticultural Society and was elected its third president in 2011. During his tenure, Jim has written a monthly featured column, entitled "My Life with Plants," for the Society's newsletter, *Let's Talk Plants!* You can read all of his past columns online at sdhortnews.org/home/category/My-Life-with-Plants.

The evening starts at 6:00 p.m. at the Congregation Beth Israel, 9001 Towne Centre Drive, San Diego. Parking is free and everyone is welcome. Admission is free for SDHS members and \$15 for non-members. For more information, call (619) 296-9215 or visit sdhort.org.

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FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

Goodbyes From the Board

After six years as president, this is my final From the Board column. It has truly been an honor to serve the San Diego Horticultural Society. I've had a lot of fun meeting and working with horticultural-minded people who love to share their insights, gardens, and plant knowledge. Everyone's support and contributions are greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to the following board members whose terms also end in August:

Mary James has served as program chair for most of the last six years. She's scheduled the great monthly speakers that have set a local standard for well-qualified horticulturist presenters covering contemporary topics. Some of the innovative programs she's coordinated include our meeting at the San Diego Natural History Museum, Night at the San Diego Zoo, Horticultural Day at San Diego Zoo's Safari Park, the Holiday Marketplace, and Horticulturist of the Year events.

Cindy Benoit, our outgoing membership chair, is always a welcoming face greeting people at meetings, and she's done a great job signing up new members and helping existing members renew. Cindy has also streamlined the meeting check-in process, which is now completed almost entirely online. This was quite a challenge to implement, but it has allowed us to keep our membership prices affordable.

Patty Berg is outgoing volunteer coordinator. Patty has been recruiting and scheduling volunteers for many of our events—most notably our annual garden tour—and staffing our exhibit at the San Diego County Fair. Additionally, she plans and organizes our annual Volunteer Appreciation Party and has found new and creative ways to entertain us each year.

B.J. Boland has been writing and sending thank you notes for the Society for several years. Oddly, the task of thanking people is a thankless one and B.J.'s help with this is greatly appreciated. Though B.J. has resigned from the board, she will continue sending thank you notes. (Thank you, B.J.!)

Jeff Biletnikoff has been in charge of meeting room setup and vendors for many years. We thank Jeff for doing the behind-

the-scenes work of setting up and cleaning up the meeting room each month.

The terms of two one-year board members (Ari Tenenbaum and Lisa Robinson) also end this month. Lisa coordinated the vendors at this year's garden tour and has retired to the Chicago area. Anne Murphy was the third one-year member, but she became workshop coordinator mid-year. She's done a great job finding people and places to host interesting workshops.

New Board Members

In September, you'll be learning more about our new president, membership chair, and garden tour coordinator. We are still looking for a volunteer coordinator to recruit and schedule volunteers for events and to organize the yearly Volunteer Appreciation Party. If you know of someone, please contact Patty Berg (pattyjberg@gmail.com) or me (sdhspresident@gmail.com).

Online Newsletter

Also in September, the new *Let's Talk Plants!* website launches, replacing the current printed and PDF versions of the newsletter. The site will continue to have great monthly news articles and feature columnists, and it will be accessible from any device connected to the Internet. Additionally, you'll be able to read past articles, search the site using keywords or by topic, date, or author, and share articles with your friends on social media. 🌿

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Get more out of your membership by volunteering. We especially need folks who can help with the meeting set up and member check in at CBI on the second Monday of each month. Easy work, fun people and, as always, plenty of opportunities to 'Talk Plants'. If you give a couple hours of your time 3-4 times a year, please email Patty Berg at pattyjberg@gmail.com.

WELCOME TO THE LAST PRINT ISSUE OF *LET'S TALK PLANTS!*

By Susan Starr, Editor

August 2017 is the last print issue of the SDHS newsletter, *Let's Talk Plants!* Launched shortly after the founding of the Society in 1994, the newsletter has grown into a twenty page monthly publication that includes contributions from multiple columnists as well as news related to SDHS and horticulture in San Diego.

Let's Talk Plants! is, by all accounts, a successful and well-read horticultural publication. So why the upcoming change? At its inception, the newsletter appeared only in print. In August 2009, as prices for mailing skyrocketed, a PDF version of the newsletter was added, allowing members to read it online instead. Members could continue to receive the newsletter in print format, but only for an additional fee to cover part of the mailing costs. Few members took advantage of the print option. Meanwhile, those who received the free PDF version have found it difficult to read and digest, a problem that was exacerbated by the advent of smart phones with their small screens. It gradually became apparent that a new version of the newsletter, one that could be easily read on phones and tablets as well as on computers, was needed.

So in September we will be replacing the print issue and its PDF counterpart with a new online website devoted solely to *Let's Talk Plants!* Each month, members will receive an email when new content is added to the site. You will be able to click on articles of interest and go directly to that material, or you can browse the site's home page to find all our news and columns. All the content on the site will be searchable by topic and date, and readers can easily share articles with friends on social media. The beautiful pictures that have been a key feature of *Let's Talk Plants!* will be on the new site as well.

Anyone with an outstanding balance on their printed newsletter subscription as of August 1 will receive a credit of extra days to their membership in an equivalent amount.

I hope you will enjoy our new newsletter format. Of course, like any new venture, there will be plenty of room for improvements. Once we launch the site, let us know what you like and what you think would make the newsletter better. Please send your comments and suggestions to newsletter@sdhs.org. 🌿

FREE SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE WORKSHOPS

The San Diego County Water Authority's WaterSmart Landscape Makeover Program is once again offering free landscape workshops for homeowners. This free, three-hour workshop will teach homeowners the basics of how to do a landscape makeover. Topics include soil, design, turf removal, plant selection, planning, irrigation, rainwater catchment and implementation – all the elements needed to convert high-water-use turf to a beautiful, water-efficient landscape.

Design for Homeowners Workshop in Encinitas

Tuesday, August 29, 2017 from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Encinitas Community Center

Design for Homeowners Workshop in Clairemont

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM
SDG&E Energy Innovation Center

Design for Homeowners Workshop in Clairemont

Monday, October 16, 2017 from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM
SDG&E Energy Innovation Center

More information and registration details at https://landscapemakeover.watersmartsd.org/design_workshop/

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TO LEARN MORE...

A Look at SDHS Through the Lens of Time and Transitions

By Lisa Marun

Just as we observe changes in our gardens as the seasons pass, SDHS has gone through its own transitions over the years. While the mission and purpose of SDHS remains steadfast, it's nice to look back and trace some of the changes that have made us better at achieving our goals. If you've been with SDHS for a while, enjoy this trip down memory lane; if you're relatively new to the family, this is your chance to learn more about just how far we've come.

Before looking at some snapshots of SDHS over time, let's start at the beginning. There would be no SDHS without our first president (1994-2003), Don Walker. Since his childhood in Los Angeles where he was in close contact with the nature that surrounded him, observing and interacting with plants was an integral part of his life. He had volunteered, been a member, and served on the boards of many garden and horticulture organizations before hatching a plan to start what became SDHS. I'm sorry that I never had the opportunity to meet this fascinating man: sdhort.org/Hort-of-the-Year/999974.

Wondering what was seen on the first SDHS local garden tour when Don was president? Take a look at the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society's April 1995 newsletter, *Espinas y Flores* (page 3, paragraph 3): sdcss.net/vol_30_no_04_april_1995.pdf. Also, read what Susi Torre-Bueno had to say in this wonderful recount of the early days of SDHS: sdhort.org/widget/SDHSNews/3084044.

Speaking of Susi, it's impossible to look back at what SDHS has done over the years without taking into account the boundless energy and generosity that she has given, always without hesitation. Susi was our second president (2003-2010) and newsletter editor from 1996-2016. This only scratches the surface of what Susi has contributed to SDHS and to horticulture in general in the San Diego region. Written about Susi in 2012, this article will make you wonder what you've been doing with your own life all of these years: sdhort.org/Hort-of-the-Year/995668.

If you're curious about who some of the meeting speakers were in 2005 during Susi's presidency, read page 9 of the Winter/Spring issue of Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture Department's newsletter, *The Urban Horticulturist*: cuyamaca.edu/academics/departments/oh/files/newsletters/2005-winter%20spring-newsletter.pdf.

In 2010, when Susi Torre-Bueno was still both president and newsletter editor, both Don Walker and Jim Bishop were board members. Sadly, in that year, another long-time board

member and one of our founders, Bill Teague, passed away. Bill had a profound scientific understanding of plants and he married this with an innate aesthetic appreciation of the environments plants inhabit. Read more about Bill, and about some of the other things going on at SDHS in November 2010, here: sdhort.org/Resources/newsletters/2010/SDHS_Nov_10.pdf.

Shortly after Bill Teague's passing, SDHS went through another important transition as Susi stepped down from her position as president and welcomed Jim Bishop in her place. Jim can tell you best about the many gifts and experiences that he's shared with us since, and before, he served as president (see *My Life with Plants*, page 15). However, I can't resist mentioning the gorgeous garden that he and his partner Scott Borden have created at their Mission Hills home. Many of us have been lucky enough to spend some time in this much beloved garden, but for those who haven't, Rebecca Sweet has some wonderful photos of it on her website, *Harmony in the Garden*: harmonyinthegarden.com/garden-designers-roundtable-focus-on-the-details/.

SDHS has recently been experiencing more changes than ever before. After having our monthly meetings at the Del Mar Fairgrounds for 21 years (we outgrew our first meeting venue after only two months!), we moved to our new meeting location at Congregation Beth Israel in August 2016. A few months later, Susi Torre-Bueno passed the journalistic reins on to Susan Starr after two decades of singlehandedly bringing the pages of *Let's Talk Plants!* to life for our members and for horticulture enthusiasts beyond San Diego. Susan's extensive editing experience, as well as her past leadership roles within SDHS, have prepared her well for the responsibilities that come with this role: sdhortnews.org/single-post/2017/01/01/A-New-Year-and-a-New-Editor. And while we're on the subject of newsletters, stay tuned for a newsletter metamorphosis that's just around the corner as we dive into the digital age by moving the publication to a new online format and leaving behind the print and downloadable PDF versions.

And now, as Jim Bishop steps down after six years at the helm, we are at the threshold of welcoming our fourth president. And so it is with great appreciation that we can look back at all of the learning and all of the memory-making that we've done over more than two decades at SDHS, and look forward to the changes to come, just as we do in our gardens. 🌿



SUMMER JAZZ CONCERT AT SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

Sunday, August 13, 5-7 pm

Spend the evening listening to the sounds of the Big Band and Jazz Hall of Fame Orchestra as they perform to the music of Glen Miller, Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Count Basie, Artie Shaw, Stan Kenton, and many more.

The BB&JHF Orchestra consists of musical talents playing authentic arrangements of these famous big bands. CDs will be available for purchase the day of the concert.

This event will be held in the Gazebo Lawn and chairs will be provided. Enjoy snacks and beverages at the Feel Good Coffee Cart or bring your own picnic dinner.

Both members and non-members are invited to attend. For more information, please visit sdbgarden.org/jazzconcert.htm. ☺

Rachel Cobb



Members of the Big Band and Jazz Hall of Fame Orchestra.

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(see ads for more discounts)

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(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: Josh Pinpin, jpinpin@SDBGarden.org.

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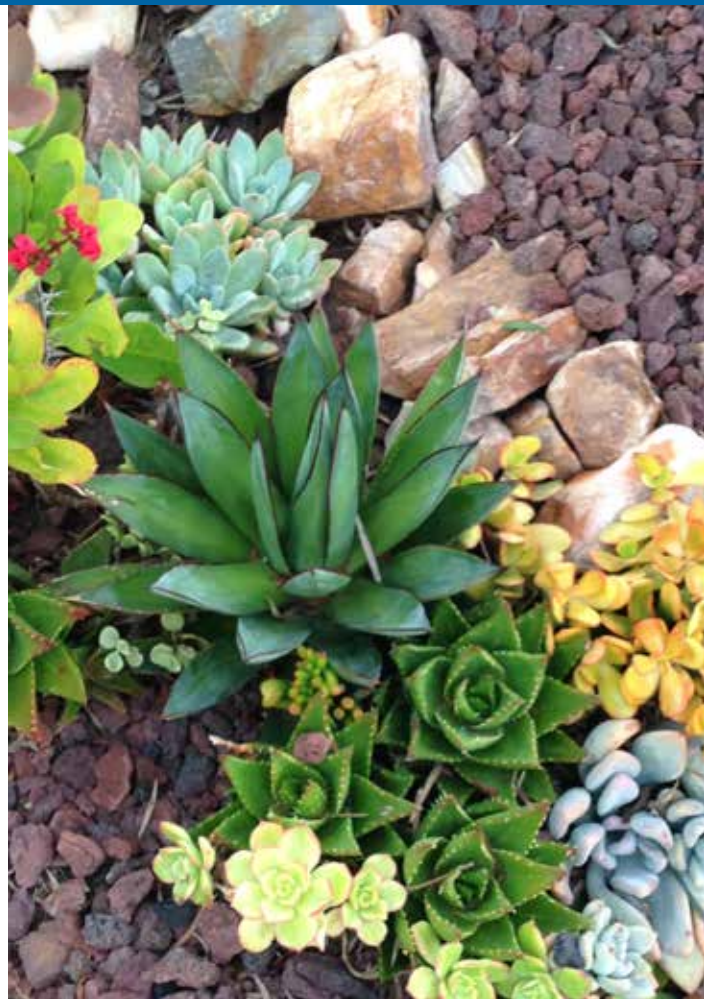
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SUCCULENT TAPESTRY WORKSHOP

By Susan Starr

On Tuesday, June 20, succulent landscape designer Laura Eubanks treated SDHS members to a workshop. Laura, owner of Design for Serenity, is well known in San Diego for her creative and innovative use of succulents. Laura began her landscaping career with more traditional gardens, but fell in love with succulents in 2010. She now has a YouTube channel with dozens of helpful videos; she also produces the "Succulent Tip of the Day" vlog. Avid gardeners all over the county, many of whom once regarded succulents as rare and difficult plants, regularly watch her videos. Laura's work reminds us that we are lucky to live and garden in San Diego where many beautiful succulents are, in fact, easy to grow.

Laura maintains the gardens she landscapes on a regular basis by pruning and replacing the plants. She explained that pruning succulents is the opposite of pruning most perennials; instead of pruning by cutting back and removing the outer growth as one would with roses, for example, she takes



Barbara Raub

Laura Eubanks designed this richly colored and textured succulent tapestry for a client in Carlsbad.

off the tops of succulents that have outgrown their space, discards the stems, and resets the tops in the landscape. Laura typically only pushes the tops lightly into the earth. Her intent is to force the newly set succulents to spend time setting out new roots, thereby limiting their growth for as long as possible. This way, she only needs to return once or twice per year for maintenance.

The workshop included the opportunity to tour a garden in Carlsbad that Laura had designed. She had replaced grass in the front yard with a succulent tapestry; created a side yard landscape with a stunning water feature; and landscaped the steep back yard hillside with succulents and goat paths. Another small side yard with raised beds and beautifully planted pots completed the effect.

Laura is a self-described "savant" when it comes to designing gardens, and she shares a talent for employing many of the same techniques used by other talented landscapers. She combines plants to contrast texture and enhance color, and often places plants to create a layered look in the garden. Rocks and pebbles are important features of her designs, as they lend a feeling of movement and lead the viewer's eyes through the landscape. 🌿

PACIFIC HORTICULTURE Chelsea & the English Gardens of the Bohemians

May 14-24, 2018

Join Pacific Horticulture and discover the extraordinary gardens of southern England's early 20th century bohemians and the Bloomsbury Set, made up of writers, philosophers, intellectuals, and artists. We'll explore the masterful gardens at Sissinghurst Castle, created by Vita Sackville-West and Sir Harold Nicolson, and Charleston's walled garden at the former country retreat of artists Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant. We'll also visit Farley Farmhouse, Nymans, and Virginia Wolfe's home and garden, Monk's House. Nearby, we'll see one of the country's greatest gardens, Great Dixter, designed by Sir Christopher Lloyd. Lunch and a tour of the gardens at Gravetye Manor, as well as visits to other gardens, are also on the itinerary.

Back in London, we'll enjoy a walking tour of Bloomsbury, historically home to many artists and intellectuals, and visit some of its most famous garden squares before enjoying high tea. Our trip culminates at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show on



Tony Hisgett

Sissinghurst Castle gardens.

the exclusive "members only" day.

Pacific Horticulture board member Linda McKendry will escort this tour. To learn more, visit pacifichorticulture.org/tours/england-chelsea-english-gardens-bohemians.

As an SDHS partner, Pacific Horticulture offers SDHS members a special membership rate of \$24/year using discount code: SDHSPARTNER. You'll receive *Pacific Horticulture* magazine, as well as advance notice and discounts on tours and events. Visit pachort.org for details. 🌿

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JULY MEETING REPORT

By Jeannine Romero

San Diego's Cynthia Pardoe, multimedia artist and gardener, is passionate about geraniums and *Pelargoniums*. Speaking at the July 10, 2017 meeting, Pardoe noted that gardeners are basically problem solvers by nature. Day-to-day garden challenges include yellowing leaves, managing pests, and irrigation issues.

However, Pardoe, an expert in Geraniaceae with 40 years of gardening experience, took on a problem much larger than her own backyard. She became aware that many of the old garden favorites, from the original *Pelargonium x domesticum* (aka regal, or Martha Washington, geraniums), were becoming nearly impossible to find. Few, if any, growers sell them anymore, preferring to hybridize and sell newer varieties instead. Pardoe decided to do something about it.

What most people call geraniums are actually of the genus *Pelargonium* (not, confusingly, of the genus *Geranium*). Murky naming aside, faced with a threat to the existence of the plants that "captivated" her life, Pardoe began collecting and preserving regals in her four and a half acre garden. She grows her plants in the ground and in pots that hang on tree branches. Pardoe, married for as long as she's gardened, said, "I don't have kids, but I have geraniums a plenty." She also has cats that enjoy her garden.

Pardoe finds pleasure and beauty in the variety of Geraniaceae attributes. She cites features such as hot and dark colors; color saturation and bleeding; fringed petals; tulip shapes; as well as variegated, velvety, bicolor, and veining leaves. Geraniaceae also have a wide span of sizes. Standards can be as tall as five feet, while the miniatures are about five inches tall.

She noted that there have been so many genetic interactions that one pot of *Pelargonium* may have three versions of the plant if parts of it revert back to their parentage. With so much diversification, she can't understand why anyone would not like them. Varieties that get rejected by growers are rescued and added to her collection.

In addition, geraniums are edible and scented varieties can be incorporated into recipes. She encouraged gardeners to experiment with tinctures and infusions.

Pardoe discussed care for the plants, noting that San Diego offers "the perfect climate" for growing them. She added that they do not like wet feet, they require minimal fertilization, and many benefit from some shade. Microclimates abound on her property and she attempts to pair plants with the microclimate that suits them. She noted that zonal geraniums seem to do well on hillsides and they naturalize well. Some plants benefit from good air circulation at the base so she



Rachel Cobb

recommends removing some leaves as needed.

In 2001, along with cofounders Brenda Archer and Riccardo Gallucci, Pardoe launched the International Regal Preservation Project with the aim of preserving, documenting, and sharing information about regals for future generations. To learn more about Geraniaceae and *Pelargonium*, visit geraniumsonline.com, hosted by the Central Coast Geranium Society, which includes more information on the International Regal Preservation Project, as well as the care and nurturing of Geraniaceae. 🌿

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

A warm hello to these new members:

Stacy Anderson	Jennifer Mayfield
Jan Bernardy	Alex Ozols
Valerie Bronson	Helen Pittman
Whitney Brown	Pamela Volkoff
John DeBevoise	Kathryn Waer
Becky Graul	Donna Westfall

THE REAL DIRT ON . . .

Horace Mann Jr.

By Carol Buckley

Perched on a slope high above the Pacific Ocean on Kauai, 20-year-old Horace Mann Jr. collected a fern (to be named *Diellia mannii*), which was the only plant of this species ever to be found. His travels in Hawaii with Yale professor William T. Brigham (1864–1865) and his discovery of more than 100 plant species new to science would inform Mann's most influential work, *Enumeration of Hawaiian Plants*. At such a young age, he had a bright future in the burgeoning realm of American botany.

Horace was a hybrid of many influences. His father, Horace Mann, founded Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, and is known as the Father of Public Education; his mother, Mary Tyler Peabody Mann (profiled here, June 2017), translated a groundbreaking German book on school gardens, wrote a botanical book for children, and was a leading abolitionist. His aunt, Elizabeth Peabody, opened the first English-speaking American kindergarten and was a publisher. As a teenager, Horace spent several weeks with family friend Julia Ward Howe and her husband. After his father's death in 1859, Horace, his mother, and brothers moved from Ohio to his mother's hometown, Concord, Massachusetts. There, they rented The Wayside, home of Mary's sister and brother-in-law, Sophia and novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Ensnared in this close-knit community, Horace was mentored in nature studies by Henry David Thoreau, whom he accompanied on an expedition to Minnesota in 1861. That fall, Horace began his studies at Harvard College, where he studied with renowned biologist Louis Agassiz and Asa Gray, known as the Father of American Botany.

Gray had his eye on Horace, who became his assistant in 1866. When Gray traveled to Europe in September 1868, he left Harvard's botanical garden and Botany Department in recent graduate Horace's hands, hoping that Mann would take over permanently when Gray retired. Sadly, Horace died of tuberculosis in November of that year—at age 24—on the same day that he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

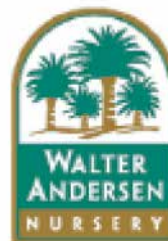
Horace left behind a collection of over 7500 species and an approximately 12500 sheet herbarium. In addition to *Enumeration of Hawaiian Plants*, which was his graduation thesis, he had begun the major work *Flora of the Hawaiian Islands and Analysis of the Hawaiian Flora*; William Brigham completed and published it after Mann's death. The University of Michigan has a repository of many of Mann's papers and it includes photographs he took in California's Mojave Desert before crossing the Pacific to Hawaii.



And what ever became of the *Diellia mannii*, or Mann's island spleenwort? For nearly 100 years, it was considered extinct until resource conservation technician Laura Arnold found a single specimen while weeding forest at Halemauu on northwest Kauai in 2002. Because this was the only sighting since 1906, the current listing is "critically imperiled." 🌿

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BOOK REVIEW

Seed Savers Exchange Catalog

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

Here we are in the dog days of summer when the Dog Star, Sirius, follows Orion around the sky and brings heat and misery to humans. I don't know about the misery part, but we're definitely having hot weather. In snow country, gardeners spend their down time in the winter reading seed catalogs and dreaming of the future. We do the same thing in the hot summer.

Here's a little test. Do you know what the following are?

A) Bear Paw; Blue Jade; Seneca Red Stalker; and Oaxacan Green. How about: B) Black Krim; Cream Sausage; Dr. Wyche's Yellow; and Hillbilly Potato Leaf? And finally: C) Boothby's Blonde; Crystal Apple; Little Potato; Longfellow; and Poona Kheera.

If you didn't know that these are varieties of corn (A), tomatoes (B), and cucumbers (C), you're probably not receiving the Seed Savers Exchange Catalog. And you're really missing out. I wrote about this catalog nine years ago. I don't think it's too soon to tell you about it again.

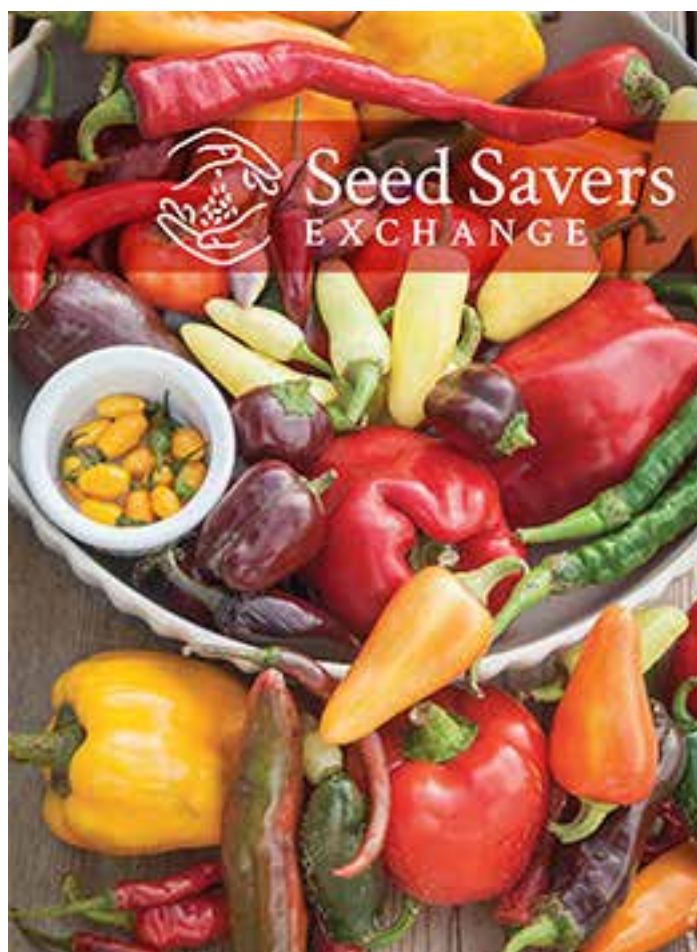
Seed Savers is headquartered in Decorah, Iowa, where they grow nearly 1,000 varieties of seed per year. They have many more varieties available in their catalog, more than 25,000 varieties of seeds in their vault, and even more available by trade with or purchase from other members of the organization. For example, members have for sale or trade approximately 200 other varieties of corn and of cucumbers and an astonishing 5,762 other varieties of tomatoes!

Besides seeds, they have transplants, grafted heritage apple trees, books and supplies for seed saving, bulk seeds, garden-related gift items, and gift certificates. Membership is \$25 (paperless) and \$50 if you want paper copies of the catalog, quarterly magazine, and yearbook.

If the above reads like an ad, it probably is, but Seed Savers is much more than a commercial seed company. For several reasons, their mission to conserve and promote seed diversity could very well save many lives in the future.

Most SDHS members are probably aware that there's a seed crisis in the U.S. and in the world. Most of what is planted here are millions of acres of monocrops, the same variety of corn, soybeans, cotton, etc. That means that if a plant disease arises for which we are not prepared, our entire corn, or other, crop could fail (think of the Irish Potato Famine (1845-1852) when the potato crop failed due to blight and a million people starved to death).

A second problem has to do with there being few seed companies cornering ownership of most commercial seeds and breeding them to produce sterile plants, thereby making seed saving impossible.



Finally, we don't know how commercial seeds will produce as weather changes due to global warming, so maintaining seed variety diversity is an added layer of security.

Saving seeds and the genetic variety they represent is part of the answer to these problems, and Seed Savers is doing an elegant job of it. Check them out at seedsavers.org.



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BUGS AND BUGABOOS

Lady in Red in Your Flower Bed

By Vincent Lazaneo

She is a killer but everyone likes her. Her good press is the envy of politicians and her image is iconic. But most people know little about her. Even gardeners, who like to see lady beetles—commonly called ladybugs—on plants in their yards, often are not familiar with the insect's lifecycle and its role in nature.

The most popular lady beetle is the convergent lady beetle, *Hippodamia convergens*, which is often sold at garden centers. The adult beetles are about ¼-inch long and usually have thirteen black spots on their reddish-orange wing covers. Females lay small yellow eggs on end in clusters of 10-50. They hatch into tiny alligator-shaped larvae that are black with orange spots on some body segments. (Some uninformed gardeners think the strange looking larvae are pests and try to kill them.) Mature larvae generally pupate on the upper leaf surface where they transform into the adult lady beetle. The entire life cycle from egg to adult takes between three and six weeks depending on temperature.

Lady beetles are beneficial predators. Adults prefer to eat aphids. The larvae also feed on other soft bodied pests and insect eggs. One larva will eat about 400 medium-sized aphids during its development to the pupal stage. A new adult beetle must eat about 300 aphids before it lays eggs and thereafter needs to eat between three and ten aphids for each egg it produces. During its life, a single adult lady beetle may eat over 5000 aphids.

The convergent lady beetle is a migratory insect. Adults feed and reproduce in the central valley from spring to fall and have up to six generations annually. The beetles store body fat and beginning in mid-May fly to the foothills of the Sierra Nevada where they hibernate in large aggregations through winter. Beginning in late February, they return to the valley.

Convergent lady beetle larva.



Jack Kelly Clark, courtesy University of California Statewide IPM Program

The aggregating beetles are easy for collectors to capture, store, and sell. Unfortunately for gardeners, nature designed the hibernating lady beetles to fly and disperse, which is what most lady beetles do when people buy and release them in a garden. To slow their departure, follow these tips:

- Buy healthy lady beetles stored in refrigeration. They rapidly dehydrate at room temperature.
- Lightly mist lady beetles with water at home to give them a drink, then store them in a refrigerator until released. Do not let water puddle in the container.
- Release lady beetles in the early evening or at night when the temperature is cool. They will fly away almost immediately if the sun is shining, particularly if the temperature is above 65°F.
- Release lady beetles on plants with a good supply of aphids.
- Before lady beetles are released, spray plants with a fine mist of water.
- Place lady beetles at the base of plants or in the crotches of low plants. They will crawl higher in search of aphids.
- Don't release lady beetles on plants recently treated with an insecticide that has a toxic residue.

Expect most lady beetles to fly away in a few days. About 95% of beetles in a research study flew away in 48 hours and the remainder were gone within five days. Lady beetles are unlikely to lay eggs on the plants they are released on. In one study, to control aphids on one heavily infested rose bush, two applications of 1,500 lady beetles each, spaced a week apart, was required.

The best way to control aphids and other pests in the garden is by protecting and promoting populations of lady beetles and other beneficial insects that already exist in gardens. Tolerate low populations of aphids on some plants so their natural enemies will have prey to feed on. If aphids or other sap feeding pests become too numerous, try washing them off with a forceful spray of water.

When an insecticide is needed, use insecticidal soap, horticultural oil, neem oil, or pyrethrin (derived from the seed pods of *Chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium*). These insecticides do not harm beneficial insects that contact treated foliage after the spray has dried. To control caterpillars, use a product containing *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt).

Vincent Lazaneo is UC Urban Horticulture Advisor Emeritus. He has a master's degree in horticulture and a teaching credential in vocational agriculture from UC Davis. In 1983, Vince began the Master Gardener program in San Diego. Vince frequently contributes to the San Diego Union-Tribune and other publications and he enjoys growing specialty plants in his home garden, reading, hiking, and fishing.

GOING WILD WITH NATIVES

Our Native Penstemons

By Bobbie Stephenson

During these hot summer days, you might want to spend some time thinking about the native species you would like to plant this fall. Fall is the perfect time to plant natives so they can take advantage of the winter rains that we receive in our Mediterranean climate. Some of the showiest natives are the penstemons, of which we have several native species in our area.

Formerly placed in the figwort family (*Scrophulariaceae*), new genetic research has led to the reassignment of *Penstemon* and other closely related genera in the vastly expanded plantain family (*Plantaginaceae*), which includes many showy genera, such as *Antirrhinum*, or snapdragon (yes, we have native snapdragons!) and *Digitalis* (including *Digitalis purpurea*, the non-native foxglove), as well as other genera that are not showy at all. The plantain family is named for the genus *Plantago* that consists of small, inconspicuous plants, commonly called plantains or fleaworts, that bear stalks with cream colored, almost translucent, flowers. Note that these are not to be confused with the unrelated, edible plantains.



Penstemon spectabilis: Showy penstemon is found inland from Poway and Lakeside to the foothills.

One of our most popular native penstemons in horticulture is the showy penstemon (*Penstemon spectabilis*), a perennial that grows naturally inland from about Poway and Lakeside to the foothills on the coastal side of the mountains, and up onto the slopes of Palomar Mountain. Showy penstemon, with its clusters of purplish, almost two-toned flowers, generally reaches three to four feet high and can be a focal plant in the garden or a tall background specimen for a colorful border against a wall or fence. It is generally easy to grow if planted in the sun and not overwatered.

A lower growing but no less stunning species is foothill penstemon (*Penstemon heterophyllus*). It's a long-lived perennial about a foot high with flowers in bloom April through August that are similar to those of showy penstemon, but borne singly in the axils of its leaves. It prefers to be planted on slopes and takes minimal care and maintenance. Again, don't overwater it.

If you are interested in red flowers, try scarlet bugler (*Penstemon centranthifolius*). With its bright red tube-shaped flowers that bloom from April through July, this species draws in the hummingbirds, its primary pollinators. Scarlet bugler likes dry slopes and lots of sun, and naturally grows from Baja California through the foothills and mountains of San Diego County northward into the southern Sierra Nevadas at elevations of up to 6,500 feet. They couldn't be missed along the Sunrise Highway when I drove up to Laguna Mountain in July.

Drought tolerant and easy to care for, native penstemons provide a big splash of color in the garden. 🌸



Penstemon centranthifolius: Scarlet bugler, attractive to hummingbirds, thrives on dry, sunny slopes.

TREES, PLEASE

Pomegranates—More Than Wonderful!

By Robin Rivet

Revered for their sweet-tart taste, healthful anti-oxidants, and characteristic crimson juice, the allure of a store-bought pomegranate is almost always “wonderful”—at least until you shuck out \$5.00 for one fruit.

‘Wonderful’ is the most popular commercial cultivar in California. And no wonder: *Punica granatum* ‘Wonderful’ is prolific, ornamental, disease free, and almost a drought-proof orchard tree. It produces well in most San Diego gardens (and is easily propagated from cuttings) and its large, red, thick-skinned fruits burst open when cool weather arrives in late fall with super-juicy arils and a sub-acid, sweet/sour cherry-like flavor. However, depending on environmental conditions, they can be as tart as a cranberry.

Delicious as ‘Wonderful’ is, other California cultivars, as well as many from around the world—including from Turkmenistan, Iran, and India—vie for unpredictable taste preferences. Some sport higher acidity, variable seed hardness, or different ripening times. Outer skin tones vary a lot, but are not linked to juice color. One cultivar, ‘Pink Satin’ (aka ‘Pink Ice’), has soft pink arils lacking a sour component and with a taste reminiscent of watermelon. And, for finicky eaters, those juicy drips won’t stain your shirt. It also goes by the name ‘Sin Pepe’, which means “without seeds” in Spanish. This is a desirable trait if you dislike spitting out the hard seeds common to the sour types (although these often make better wine). If tartness is, however, your preference, the firmer-seeded cultivars like ‘Purple Heart’ fare better in

cooking applications, while ‘Desertnyi’ has a citrus-like taste and appearance, and the Indian ‘Ganesh’ is evergreen.

So what’s not to like? One of the few challenges with pomegranate cultivation is andromonoecious flowering, characterized by individual plants having fertile hermaphroditic flowers with both well-formed male and female parts, as well as male (“andros”) flowers that only produce pollen and do not set fruit. Unfortunately, most trees produce ample infertile males, teasing growers who realize that they lost a good thing when the abundant unfruitful andros drop off and potential fruit set and yield is decreased. If you look closely at pomegranate flowers, you can spot the difference between the female flower, which has an hourglass shape near the stem end, and the male flower, which originates pointed and narrow.

Today, pomegranates flourish in our Mediterranean climate, and although the etymology of the word pomegranate includes “pome,” which implies the family of apples and pears, they are totally unrelated. Pomegranates are closer to crape myrtles in lineage, and originated thousands of years ago in what is today Iran.

So, if anticipation of the “wonderful” taste of this globally and historically popular fruit is enough to tempt you, you’re not alone. In fact, Eden’s “apple” suggests pomegranates were actually the fruit of biblical legend.

To learn more about pomegranates, visit:

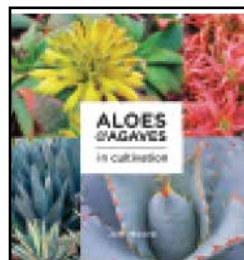
California Rare Fruit Growers’ Pomegranate page: crfg.org/pubs/ff/pomegranate.html

The Pomegranate Cultivar Table on the UC Davis Fruit and Nut Research & Information website: fruitandnuteducation.ucdavis.edu/fruitnutproduction/Pomegranate/Pomegranate_Cultivar_Table/

Member Robin Rivet is an ISA Certified Arborist, UC Master Gardener, and City of La Mesa Environmental Commissioner. She can be reached at treetutor@gmail.com. ☘



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MY LIFE WITH PLANTS

By Jim Bishop

This is the second of two articles about the recovery and revival of plant life at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park following the October 2003 Cedar Fire.

Climbing Cuyamaca: Part 2

We figured our hike in early May would be our last hike of the season in the Cuyamacas, but a surprising late season storm the second week of May dropped several inches of rain in the mountains and snow at the higher peaks. So, on Mother's Day, we decided to make a return trip to check out the waterfalls near the Green Valley Campground. On a previous visit in 2016, we had intended to visit the falls, but due to the drought, a park ranger said, "Why bother?" However, this year, we weren't disappointed.

It is a very easy walk from the parking lot to the falls and few people were in the area...so few that we saw no other people for over half of our hike. The falls are along the headwaters of the Sweetwater River and they cascade through a series of very large boulders with deep clear pools between them. There was a lot of running water and this created a scene very different from most of waterless San Diego County.

Green Valley, located towards the southern end of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park at an elevation of 4,000 feet, is lower than Cuyamaca Peak (6,512 feet at the summit). Consequently, there were a number of plants that don't appear at higher elevations. The first of these was a bright yellow mimulus that prefers the wetter soils near water. There were also a few areas with chaparral peas, which look a lot like old-fashioned sweet peas. Several large *Dudleya* rosettes clung to the steep sides of cliffs above the trail. In a small open grass area, there were soft pink *Calochortus splendens*, or splendid mariposa lily. (I was hoping we would find some of these!) A few large oak trees, which were somehow missed by the fire, shaded one area of the trail and, as with the view looking out toward the east from Cuyamaca Peak seen the week before, I was reminded of what the area had looked like before the 2003 Cedar Fire.

As we continued up the hill and onto the west facing slopes, the plants became more typical of the lower elevation foothills farther north: *Ceanothus*, manzanita, various *Salvia*, wooly blue-curls, *Hesperoyucca*, Chinese houses, white *Phlox*, and red *Penstemon*. A whole hillside was covered with manzanita that had grown after the fire. Beneath the



Yellow sticky monkey flowers are among the flora that have returned since the Cedar Fire.

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manzanita grew a seemingly endless groundcover mat of *Salvia sonomensis*, more likely to be seen in the Sierra foothills than in San Diego. It was a bit of a surprise to find several of our native peonies (yes, we have a native peony), *Paeonia californica*. It usually grows in the shade at the edge of other chaparral plants and, unfortunately, has small dark downward facing flowers. Maybe someday someone will hybridize it with other peonies and we will be able to grow peonies in our Southern California gardens. Also in the area was the sticky monkey flower, *Diplacus (Mimulus) aurantiacus*. I remember these growing in the same area decades ago and was glad to see they had returned after the fire.

We took Pine Ridge Trail back to the parking lot and there were young pines at almost every switchback along the way. Towards the top, there were some interesting rock formations and some great views of Sweetwater River where we had started our hike several hours earlier. We could see where the river made a sharp turn and the tree cover in the tight valley hid most of the river from view. We decided that someday we'd return again to hike that part of the trail. 🌿



Impressive rock formations compete with stunning vistas for hikers' attention.



Lower Green Valley Falls offers a welcome sight in drought-prone San Diego County.

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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 sdhort.wildapricot.org/SharingSecrets?eid=1093874. Also, you can continue the discussion by adding new replies online to Sharing Secrets topics.

The question for August was: Panayoti Kelaidis told us in February that succulents grow in the strangest places—like Germany and the mountain tops of Kazakhstan. What succulents are you using in a difficult spot in your garden (shade, wet, tree roots, etc.)?

Debra Lee Baldwin: A good ground cover succulent for shady spots is *Crassula multica* (fairy crassula), which tends to spread prolifically. I don't consider it invasive because it's so easy to remove. In my shade garden I grow *Sansevieria*, haworthias, *Gasteria*, aeoniums, and variegates thereof. In an area with lots of tree roots, I arrange the plants in pots or add several inches of potting soil and plant cuttings in it.

Kathleen Voltin: My son put a *Sedum pachyphyllum* on the northeast side of a queen palm. Still alive after six months (and he forgot about it for the past three months, until now).



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DIGGING WITH OUR MEMBERS

Al Myrick: We grow succulents everywhere. They don't read our books, so they don't know where they are supposed to be planted. We grow *Opuntia* in the shade and they flower and fruit. Shade bromeliads grow in sun in clumps without planting in soil. Donkey tails grow in gobs of Spanish moss without any other medium. *Epiphyllum* grow in the crotches of trees in straight sun or shade sans planting medium, except for a little palm frond hair. Agaves and relatives grow in sun or shade, in clay or in mulched areas. Dragon fruit plants snake out of pots along the ground and climb our trees, but some like to stay in shade. And... you get the idea. Ok, ok... some die; that's why we call it the Darwinian wilderness!

Viv Black: I really put them wherever there is a space; I'm not worried about them because they are so adaptable. Shade, sun, corners, steps, wherever they can fit in.

Dale Rekus: My favorite succulent surprise is when a potted one, such as *Agave americana* or *A. americana* var. *medio-picta* 'Alba', grows out of the drainage hole in a container and pops up outside the base of it.

Susi Torre-Bueno: Succulents rock! There is a very steep slope that starts at the edge of our property and continues down on our neighbor's property. It was totally bare, and

I threw a few pieces of *Jordaaniella dubia* (a South African succulent; see plantlust.com/plants/12692/jordaaniella-dubia) on bare dirt. This low growing succulent roots as it grows, and slowly has formed long stems that are starting to cover the slope. Yes, I just threw the pieces down and walked away, and the result is delightful.

Cathy Tylka: I have many that grow well on a hill getting no water, except from God!


Jim Bishop: While not exactly an answer to the question, when I was in South Africa in 2015, I was excited to see a succulent I grow at home, *Crassula rupestris*, growing in the wild. On closer inspection, I saw it was mostly growing on top of large rocks with almost no soil. This got me wondering about the meaning of the word "rupestris." So after a lot of googling, I learned that "rupestris" is Latin for "growing near rocks." I use the plant as filler in pots and it usually blooms in February through early spring, with pink flowers. Unfortunately, the flowers smell like dirty socks. Attached is a photo of the plant in the wild.

Crassula rupestris



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JULY 2017 PLANT DISPLAY

By 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 at the monthly meeting. What a great way to see which 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.

Available FREE on our website:
All 22 years worth of plant descriptions!
Go to tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions.

Dasyilirion longissimum MEXICAN GRASS TREE (Nolinaceae) Mexico

This architecturally striking succulent from northeastern Mexico can grow (slowly) to up to ten feet tall and eight feet wide. It thrives with minimal water in full sun. According to San Marcos Growers (smgrowers.com), it has "glaucous-green stiff unarmed grass-like 4 to 6 foot long leaves. The leaves radiate symmetrically out of a large woody trunk that can slowly but eventually grow 6 -15 feet tall. In the summer, a nine foot tall spike of small white flowers emerge from reddish buds. Plant in full sun to light shade. Drought tolerant and cold hardy to at least 15° F. A great container plant or focal point specimen in the garden. The older, bottom leaves can be trimmed off to expose the trunk." For a very interesting long article about *Dasyilirions*, with lots of photos, go to davesgarden.com/guides/articles/view/1367. (Jim Bishop, San Diego, 7/17) – S.T-B.



Leucadendron galpinii (Proteaceae) South Africa

There are so many fabulous plants from South Africa that thrive in our climate, and this one happens to make good filler material for bouquets. The plant displayed was part of a very large bouquet brought to our meeting by president Jim Bishop, and the plant's cones added a fascinating element to the arrangement. This evergreen shrub, which thrives in full sun with moderate water, grows six to eight feet tall and about as wide. Like most plants from South Africa, it needs well-drained soil, but isn't fussy about soil type. According to San Marcos Growers (smgrowers.com), it "has soft, narrow, silvery-gray leaves. Male flowers are yellow pompons and the female flowers are silvery-gray cones flushed with pink. It is hardy to about 20-25° F. A very useful and durable plant in the garden and the flowering cones are great in flower arrangements." Said to make a good and fast-growing screening or hedge plant. Australian Native Plants (australianplants.com) notes that it is "suitable for front line coastal situations as well as inland." (Jim Bishop, San Diego, 7/17) – S.T-B.

Leucadendron salignum 'Summer Red' (Proteaceae)

Horticultural cultivar

This evergreen shrub is a cultivar of a South African species, and can provide vibrantly colored and interesting bouquet material. Like most plants from South Africa, it needs good drainage and full sun, and isn't fussy about soil, preferring unimproved soil. A multi-stemmed plant, it also does well with very little water. Suncrest Nurseries (suncrestrnurseries.com) notes that it "grows in a dense mass to 3-4 feet in height. Narrow new leaves in spring and summer are red, then mature to a pale green color. The female flowers have most of the parts of conventional flowers reduced to small scales, but their dense, cone-like clusters are surrounded by circles of leafy bracts that develop cream and red tones before and during the actual flowering season. Male and female flowers are normally borne on separate plants in the genus *Leucadendron*. Occasional to infrequent watering." (Jim Bishop, San Diego, 7/17) – S.T-B.

Leucadendron 'Wilson's Wonder' (Proteaceae)

Horticultural cultivar

This is another drought-tolerant evergreen shrub grown for interesting and long lasting cut flowers (actually, the "flowers" are leafy yellow bracts surrounding small dense cones). Australian Native Plants (australianplants.com) notes that this cultivar (of a South African species) is a "beautiful shrub to 6'x8' with green foliage and bright yellow bracts ageing to orange in winter-spring. Excellent cut flower around Christmas time. Tolerant of most well-drained soil types and conditions. Full sun. Frost tolerant and growing well in Ojai and on the coast. Attractive screen or hedge." (Jim Bishop, San Diego, 7/17) – S.T-B.

JULY 2017 PLANT DISPLAY CONTINUED

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

Plants marked '3' are fully described in the SDHS Plant Forum Compilation, available online for FREE at tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions.

- 3 *Aleurites moluccana* CANDLENUT
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 7/17)
- 3 *Leucaena esculenta* GUAJE (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 7/17)
- 3 *Grevillea* 'Red Hooks' (Jim Bishop, San Diego, 7/17)
- 3 *Melaleuca incana* GREY HONEY-MYRTLE, SILVER
MELALEUCA (Jim Bishop, San Diego, 7/17)
- 3 *Trichostema lanatum* WOOLLY BLUE CURLS
(Pat Pawlowski, Vista, 7/17)

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THE EVOLUTION OF LET'S TALK PLANTS!



San Diego Horticultural Society
October 10, 1994 • 6:30 - 9:00 PM



Meeting Place: Quail Botanical Gardens, Ecke Building
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas
(619) 436-3036

Native Plants and Gardens of Southeast Australia

Kathy Meard, Curator of Living Collections at Huntington Botanical Gardens, will be showing slides of plants native to the state of Victoria. Featured will be the Melbourne gardens of Green and Rodger Elliot. Rodger is the author of *The Landscapes of Australian Plants*. Plants from this region do especially well in Southern California gardens because even though they are drought tolerant they will accept summer watering, unlike many California native plants, which make them look artificial all year.

Future meetings:
November: Laid Landscape Designs of Southern California Gardens by Chris Rosman, Landscape Designer.
December: Laid Food Meyer

Message from the President

We had a very successful first meeting, in spite of no windows, doors and limited lighting. Our October meeting should find the room, while not completely finished, presentable and functional.

We had 44 people join that evening. Many memberships have been working in and at the present time we have 36 members. Our target is 80 members in 6 months. With their dues plus money received from plant sales and the raffle we will be able to present the membership with quality speakers from San Diego and elsewhere.

The Board is very pleased with the response shown at the September meeting, and reaching our goal of 80 members should be received before the March meeting.

Thank you for your enthusiastic endorsement; we will do our utmost to bring quality meetings in the future. The members can help by bringing plants for discussion by the experts. Cards will be available at the Plant Forum Table. Please fill these cards out with relevant plant information. They will be collected at the end of the meeting and will be noted in the following month's meeting notice.

Beginning with this meeting notice we will acquaint you with the members of the Board which are: Don Walker, President; Linda Torgue, for Vice President and Program Chair; Steve Brighams, 2nd Vice President; Diana Goforth, Secretary; Dorothy Walker, Treasurer (Acting); and Membership Chair, Patrick Anderson; Roger Holdman; Loretta Baran; Kathy Mural and Adele Snyder.


Don Walker, President

Board Member Biography
Don Walker, President

Don had an interest in plants and landscaping during back to high school. In 1961 he was asked to be a founder member of the South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation located in the Palos Verdes Peninsula in the Los Angeles area. A few years later he became a founder member of the Torrey Herbarium Commission in the city of Torrance.

In 1965 he joined the Southern California Horticultural Society and served on their board from 1966 - 1989, two of those years as President.

He has a strong interest in palms, bamboos and plantains. His garden is full as size in size and is located in Vista. He retired in 1989 after spending 14 years in the aerospace industry and is presently serving on the Board of Trustees at Quail Botanical Gardens. He can be found on Thursdays maintaining the pond and stream areas of QBG.



WILD RED PLUM
(Prunus americana Marshall)

SDHS INFO: (619) 630-7307



BOTANICALLY CORRECT

August 2000, Newsletter #71 of the San Diego Horticultural Society
Established December 1994

Next Meeting: August 14, 2000 • 6:30-9:00 PM
Free Admission - Everyone Welcome!
Meeting Place: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Satellite Wagering Facility
Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar, Info: (760) 630-7307

San Francisco's Once and Future Arboretum

Celebrating its diamond jubilee this year, Golden Gate Park's Strybing Arboretum is known around the world for extraordinary plants from the world's Mediterranean, mild-temperate and tropical cloud-forest climates. Discover Strybing's rich horticultural history and landscape design traditions, while learning more about renowned plants to watch both the Arboretum's plant collections and the visitor experience.

Scott Melbury is director of the Strybing Arboretum and Botanical Gardens in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. A horticulturist, historian and environmental planner, Scott is a veteran of botanical gardens in Hawaii, the Pacific Northwest, England and New Zealand. He has served as a consultant on several arboretum and botanical garden master plans in the West, including plans for gardens in Seattle, Flagstaff, Las Vegas and Reno. Scott maintains a special interest in the horticultural and landscape design history of American public gardens, and is the author of numerous articles and reports on those and other topics.



FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Sept. 11: Marketing Plants in the New Millennium, by Wendy Prasad
Oct. 7: **FALL GARDEN TOUR** - details on page 2
Oct. 9: Don't Panic, It's Organic! - Natural Pest Control, by Andrew Lopez
Nov. 13: Gardening for Change in Thailand, by Pamela Koide
Dec. 11: Longwood Gardens Flower Show, Annual Cooks Meeting

Dues are due now!
see page 3

Grandma's Jade Plant!
By Debra Lee Baldwin

I was a bride at 20, and from then, my husband's grandmother, was 80. When the arrival of our first child with her wedding gift, our apartment was strewn with wrapping paper, tissue, silver and gleaming crystal goblets. She handed me a shallow terracotta pot 12 inches in diameter. In it was a plant about the size of my hand, with grey bark and thick, green leaves. "It's a jade plant," she said. "Also known as Crassula. It's a good house plant, but will grow old-fashioned, too." I wondered if it was accompanied by a box tied with gold ribbon, and I when I saw it wasn't, I thanked her and set the pot on the kitchen counter. "Put it next a window, dear," she said as she left. "But not in direct sunlight."

Our apartment was so small, I put the plant outside the back door, on a concrete stoop. For weeks at a time, I forgot about it. When the leaves had fine wrinkles that reminded me of Grandma's hands, I worried it. At family gatherings, anyone who sat near Grandma knew got an earful. "She had lived through tough times, when family members had to move in with doctors, too." I wondered if it was accompanied by a

(continued on page 11)

First Issue October 1994
December 2006

August 2000
August 2011

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

December 2006, Number 147



Thanks!

SEE PAGE 11

Time for Cookies PAGE 4
Drips and Drizzles PAGE 7
Good Fat PAGE 8
A Plot of One's Own PAGE 12
Best Garden Gifts PAGE 14



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

On the Cover: *Erythrina x bidwillii*

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

August 2011, Number 203



Creating & Keeping a Sustainable Landscape

SEE PAGE 1

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER IS FREE PAGE 5
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM PAGE 7
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS PAGE 11
BECOME A MASTER GARDENER PAGE 12



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

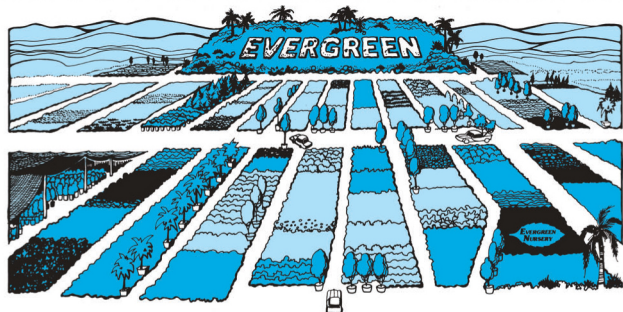
On the Cover: Bees are garden treasures!

What's Happening? for AUGUST 2017

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 Barbara Patterson at calendar@sdhort.org.

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Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Free Monthly Seminar

Starting at 10am at three locations: Carmel Valley, Oceanside and El Cajon

August 5, Ask the Expert – Weeds, Gophers, Bugs & Fertilizers

A resident expert will teach you the best ways to fight the pesky critters in your garden and how to determine the best types of fertilizer to use for healthy, vigorous plants. Seating limited. Call numbers below to reserve your seat.

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

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Send questions and comments to:
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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
TBA – check their website calendar.

❖ **San Diego Botanic Garden** Contact info on other side
August 5, 9am-11am, Planting for Pollinators: Learn about pollinators, the role they play and how to support them. Instructor: Marianne Brettell-Vaughn. Members \$30, non-members \$36.

August 12, 9am-Noon, Build Your Own Hydroponic Summer Garden: Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method, while building your own garden to take home. Members \$80, non-members \$96. Fee includes materials. Instructor: Alex Kallas.

August 19, 9:00am-Noon, Living Wall/Vertical Garden: Learn the basics! Plant a 10" x 20" living wall of succulent varieties. Register early. Classes sell out. (Ages 18+) Members \$30, non-members \$36 plus \$80 per student materials fee paid directly to instructor, Mary Lou Morgan, at the class.

Last Saturday of month, 10:30am, Waterwise Tour: There are so many alternatives to using large amounts of water in the garden. Come see our gardens and take home lots of tips for conserving water in your own garden.

❖ The Water Conservation Garden

Contact info on other side.

August 3, Logs, Pits & Char – Advanced Soil Management: Clayton Tschudy, Director of Horticulture, teaches on three traditional practices and how to adapt them to dry climate horticulture. Members \$5, Non-members \$15. Call 619-660-0614 to register.

Free ADA Shuttle Tour, 10am-11am: Explore the garden from the comfortable Verbeck Shuttle with a garden docent. Tour seats only 4-5 people. Minimum of 2 weeks advanced reservations required. Call (619) 660-0614 Ext. 16. Free.

Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

◆ Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops

Info: www.barrelsandbranches.com. See ad on page 17.

◆ Evergreen Nursery: FREE Seminar Details in left column

◆ Sunshine Care - FREE Seminar Each Month

August 19, 10:30am-noon: Successes and failures in your summer garden, and preparing for fall. Seating is limited to the first 45 people. RSVP: (858) 472-6059 or roy@sunshinecare.com. www.sunshinecare.com. See ad page 13.

◆ Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes

Details at www.walterandersen.com; address in ad on page 16.

Point Loma, 9am

August 5 Orchid Care, Repotting

August 12 Summer Fruit & Pruning

August 19 Weed Wars

August 26 Salsa Ole with Marco

Poway, 9:30am

To be Determined

To be Determined

To be Determined

To be Determined

Next SDHS Meeting

August 14:

My Life with Plants: Confessions of a Plantaholic With Jim Bishop

See page 1 & website for details

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

Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

August 1, 6:30pm, Novice Meeting, 7:30pm, General Meeting, San Diego County Orchid Society: Culture class starts at 6:30pm. Program to be announced. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. More information: www.sdorchids.com

August 2, 6:30pm, Palomar Orchid Society: General meeting. Gallery Room at Lake San Marcos, 1105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos. More information: www.palomarorchid.org

August 8, 7pm, San Diego Geranium Society: General Meeting, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. More information: www.sdgeranium.org. Or, call: 858-472-0540.

August 9, 7:30pm, San Diego Epiphyllum Society, General Meeting: Program to be announced. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. More information: www.sdcss.net

August 12, 1pm to 4pm, San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society: General Meeting: Program to be announced. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. More information: www.sdcss.net

August 13, 1pm, Southern California Plumeria Society: Tex Norwood of Florida Colors Nursery will discuss Plumeria fertilizers and seedlings. Jean Farb Middle School, 4880 La Cuenta Dr., San Diego. More information: www.socalplumeriasociety.com

August 16, 7:00pm, San Diego County Cymbidium Society: General Meeting. Program to be announced. Lake San Marcos Pavilion, 1105 La Bonita Dr., San Marcos. More information: (760) 433-2544.

August 19 and 20, Saturday Noon to 5pm, Sunday 10am-4pm, San Diego Fern Society: Plant show and sale. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. More information: www.sandiegofernsociety.com

August 22, 7:30pm, San Diego County Dahlia Society: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego. More information: (858) 672-2593.

August 23, 7pm to 9pm, California Rare Fruit Growers, San Diego Chapter. Speaker to be announced. More information: www.crfgsandiego.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 Barb Patterson at calendar@sdhort.org.

For an extensive list of garden club meetings and events, visit www.sdfloral.org/calendar

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 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: Tuesday to Sunday, 10am-4pm. 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 Show:

Garden America Radio Show (local). Saturday 8-10am on KPRZ 1210AM radio. Hosts Bryan Main, John Bagnasco and Tiger Palafox. Call-in questions to toll-free number (855) 424-9825. Each show also features an industry "expert". Podcast and live stream are available through "Biz Talk Radio". Archived shows are posted on the "Biz Talk Radio" website: www.biztalkradio.com.

San Diego County Farmers Markets

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