

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

February 2013, Number 221

The Future of Roses in Today's Gardens

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On the Cover: Roses at The Huntington

San Diego County Orchid Society's

Orchids by the Sea **SHOW & SALE**

In memory of Loren Batchman

SHOW DATES:

March 22, Friday
3 PM – 7 PM

March 23, Saturday
9 AM – 6 PM

March 24, Sunday
10 AM – 4 PM

SCOTTISH RITE CENTER
1895 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108

Admission \$7
Weekend Pass \$10
Children under 12 FREE
Parking FREE



Information:
www.sdorchids.com
Contact: (760) 529-2947

SDHS Spring Garden Tour **April 6 in Poway - see page 9**

The award-winning garden below, designed by Linda Bresler, is one of six outstanding and eclectic gardens on our annual tour.

Last year's tour sold out, so reserve your space now at www.sdhort.org. Advance tickets are \$20. Tickets will also be sold at our February meeting.



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SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

MEETING SCHEDULE

5:00 – 6:00 Meeting room setup
6:00 – 6:45 Vendor sales, lending library, plant display
6:45 – 9:00 Announcements, door prizes, speaker

MEETINGS & EVENTS

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| February 2 | Featured Garden, Point Loma (register at www.sdhort.org) |
| February 23 | SDHS Bus trip to the Japanese Garden at The Huntington Botanical Gardens (see back cover) |
| March 1-3 | Spring Home/Garden Show (see page 3) |
| March 11 | Paul Isley on Tillandsias – The Cutting Edge for Ornamental Horticulture in the 21st Century |
| April 6 | SDHS Spring Garden Tour in Poway (see page 9) |
| April 8 | Greg Rubin and Lucy Warren on Writing the Book on Natives |

www.SDHort.org



COVER IMAGE: The Temple of Love, an 18th Century piece made of French stone, houses a statue titled "Love, the Captive of Youth." This is the classic photo stop and entry point for the Huntington Rose Collection. Photo by February speaker Tom Carruth.



Next Meeting: FEBRUARY 11, 2013, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Topic: TOM CARRUTH ON "THE FUTURE OF ROSES IN TODAY'S GARDENS"

Meeting is open and everyone is welcome. Admission: Members/free, Non-Members/\$10.

Parking is free. Meeting Place: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Surfside Race Place, Del Mar; Info: (619) 296-9215

We welcome Tom Carruth, award winning rose hybridizer and curator of the Rose Collection at The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens, who last spoke to us in 2002. Tom is now overseeing the renovation of the three-acre Rose Garden, which showcases over 1,200 cultivars and 4,000 individual shrubs, with an eye on refocusing the collection to equal the beauty of the many other spectacular gardens at The Huntington.

Tom earned his Bachelors in Horticulture and a Masters in Plant Breeding from Texas A&M University, and immediately launched his dream to become a rose breeder. He has worked in the California rose industry since 1975, first with Jackson & Perkins and the former Armstrong Nursery. From 1987 until early 2012, he was Director of Research & Marketing in charge of rose hybridizing at Weeks Roses, one of the nation's leading commercial wholesale rose growers, and recently retired to assume his new role at The Huntington.

During his long career as a rosarian, Tom's goal was to make the rose a contender with all plants, rather than a fussy queen of the garden. His introductions stress disease resistance, fragrance, floriferousness, novelty and attractive habit. He has introduced more than 100 hybrids, among them such notable blooms as 'Julia Child', achieving a very rare world-wide introduction, and 'Ebb Tide', a true color breakthrough with stable, deep purple tones. Some other stars from his work include 'Scentimental', 'Cinco de Mayo', 'Hot Cocoa', 'Chihuly', and 'Betty Boop'. He has won numerous national and international awards, including the American Horticultural Society's Luther Burbank Award for outstanding plant breeding.

To learn more, visit <http://tinyurl.com/tomfeb> and see page 3. 🌹



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

BOARD MEMBERS

Patty Berg – Volunteer Coordinator

Jeff Biletnikoff – Meeting Room Coordinator

Jim Bishop – President, Membership Chair

B.J. Boland – Corresponding Secretary

Mark Collins – Finance/Budget Committee

Bryan Diaz – Member at Large

Julian Duval – San Diego Botanic Garden
Representative

Mary James – Program Committee Chair

Cheryl Leedom – Member at Large

Dannie McLaughlin – Tour Coordinator

Susan Oddo – Publicity Coordinator

Susanna Pagan – Member at Large

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Susi Torre-Bueno – Newsletter Editor,
Past President

Don Walker – Past President

Lucy Warren – Secretary

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

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

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

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☛New Email? New Street Address?

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

BECOME A SPONSOR!

Do you own a garden-related business?

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

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFORMATION

Join the fun and bring a plant or cutting to show off at the Plant Display table at our February 11 meeting. Because the topic is roses, a rose expert will be on hand to answer your questions.

FREE Tickets for the Spring Garden Tour

In just ten weeks the best garden event of the season – the SDHS annual Spring Garden Tour – will take place on Saturday, April 6 in Poway. **We have an urgent & immediate need for someone to help with Graphic Design (create the tour map and brochure) and another to help with Publicity (get the word out to all media, gardening clubs, retail garden centers, etc.) You need not be a professional!** We are also looking for folks to help with parking, registration, garden guides, etc. Each volunteer will receive two free tickets and also an invitation to the 2013 Volunteer Appreciation Party. And possibly a 'sneak preview' private tour of the gardens – we're working on it but can't promise just yet! Please contact Patty Berg today and start having more fun. PattyBerg@gmail.com or 760-815-0625.

Organize Free Workshops

We need members to organize workshops (to be held at their homes or at the instructors' home or business) in each part of the county. Don't be shy! Wouldn't you like to get some project started in your garden or share your expertise with others? If you have a special talent or a garden-related business, this is your opportunity to show off your skills (and perhaps get some new clients). See page 7 for more details. To volunteer, please contact Patty Berg at PattyBerg@gmail.com or 760-815-0625.

Volunteers Wanted – Spring Home/Garden Show

Here's a chance to help spread the good word about SDHS and take in the biggest Home/Garden show of the year at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. We need about a dozen outgoing members to staff our booth. Sign up new members, sell our tree book and as always, talk plants with the folks attending the show. You need not be an expert. You'll have free admission to the show and parking is reimbursed. Dates are Friday, March 1 through Sunday, March 3. Contact Volunteer Coordinator Patty Berg at PattyBerg@gmail.com no later than Friday, February 1st.

Volunteers Wanted – SDHS Program Committee

Join the group of spirited SDHS members who plan our monthly programs, the "heart and soul of the organization," according to President Jim Bishop. Volunteers on the program committee gather a couple times a year to suggest and help select the speakers at our meetings. They also help with books sales, plant sales and silent auctions related to each speaker's presentation. Committee members are knowledgeable about horticulture and San Diego's gardening community, and strive to create monthly programs that are diverse, inspiring and educational. Contact program chair Mary James at maryjames@gmail.com with questions or to join this dynamic group. Next meeting will be in February.

Plant Experts at Monthly Meeting

We are looking for members who are plant experts to answer questions at the Plant Display table at our meetings. You don't expect you to know everything about every plant – maybe you know a lot about roses, or sell perennials, or perhaps you can share your knowledge of low-water plants with other members? To volunteer please contact Susanna Pagan at 858-342-8667 or susannapagan@gmail.com.



Thanks So Much!

Thank you to Karen Contreras (of Urban Plantations) and to Nautilus Business Park for hosting the January Featured Garden event. It was wonderful to see businesses serving locally grown, sustainable produce to their employees. The organic garden and gourmet lunch were enjoyed by all attendees. You can learn more at www.urbanplantations.com. ☘



TO LEARN MORE...

By Ava Torre-Bueno

Roses

Roses are many people's icon for the flower. The history of the rose is more interesting than you might expect. See this long and engaging article about the history of the rose:

www.rosefarm.com/blog/the-great-history-of-roses

Pierre Joseph Redouté (1759 – 1840) was a botanical illustrator who lived through the French Revolution despite being an official court artist to Marie Antoinette. His watercolor collection "Les Rose," is still considered one of the finest records of botanical illustration. Go to Google Images and put his name in to see hundreds of his beautiful paintings of roses (one is shown above) and other flowers, or view: <http://tinyurl.com/febroses>

Kew Gardens has a page with links to the different variety of roses: www.kew.org/plants/roses/history.html

Here is a weird video lecture on the evolution and history of roses (it has one picture, and sounds like it's being read by Stephen Hawking): www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6BR9b2f06c

To learn more about growing roses in San Diego, check out the websites for our local rose groups:

California Coastal Rose Society: www.calforiacoastalrose.com

Del Mar Rose Society: www.delmarrosesociety.org

East County Rose Society: www.eastcountyrosesociety.com

San Diego Rose Society: www.sdrosesociety.org

Member Ava Torre-Bueno is a psychotherapist in private practice and the organizer of Gardeners 4 Peace. This group of volunteers is helping to create a peaceful, organic, permaculture garden at the San Diego Friends Center. To learn more contact Ava at gardeners4peace@hotmail.com and visit sandiegofriendscenter.org/volunteers.htm. ☘



GARDENS, PLANTS, FUN! SPRING HOME/ GARDEN SHOW

By Lucy Warren

If you love plants, great garden design, and a chance to learn more about gardening, don't miss the show from Friday, March 1 to Sunday, March 3 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. As an SDHS member you get the best discount for admission. Go to the show website at www.springhomegardenshow.com and **use the code SDHS to purchase tickets at 50% off**, only \$4. On Friday only, seniors (55+) are only \$1.

San Diego Horticultural Society members have a vested interest in the Spring Home/Garden Show because we've made it ours. It is

Continued on page 5



FROM THE BOARD

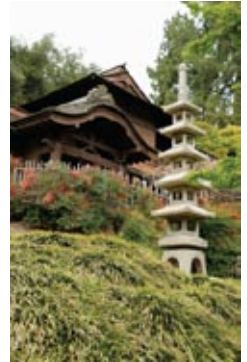
By Jim Bishop

Plant Display Table

Thank you Tom Jesch of Waterwise Botanicals for staffing our plant forum table at the January meeting. We will have additional guest plant experts at future meetings, including rose specialists at the February meeting. Members of the Association of Landscape Designers (APLD) will be staffing the March and April tables. If you are a sponsor or member and would like to staff the table and answer questions, contact Susanna Pagan at susannapagan@gmail.com.

A Day at the Huntington

Hop aboard our private motor coach for a full-day excursion to the Huntington Botanical Gardens on February 23 (see back cover). We'll pick you up at The Old Town Transit Center and the La Costa Park and Ride. We'll start with a private small group docent-led tour of the Japanese Garden, newly reopened after a \$6.8 million renovation. The garden is famous for its picture-postcard views of koi-filled ponds, distinctive moon bridge, and historic Japanese House. The spring bloom should be at its peak! The tour is just \$89 for members, \$99 for guests. Full details and online registration are at www.sdhort.org. You can also register and pay by check at the monthly meeting. Sign up soon, the tour is nearly full.



Spring Home/Garden Show

The annual Spring Home/Garden Show is March 1, 2, and 3. SDHS will be staffing a table inside the Bing Crosby building to inform attendees about our society and recruit new members. The building also is the location of the wonderful display gardens. You can help out by volunteering to staff a shift. Contact Patty Berg at PattyJBerg@gmail.com to reserve your spot; volunteers will get reimbursed for parking fees.

Spring Garden Tour

You can save \$5 per ticket and skip the ticket line at the tour by purchasing advance tickets for the Spring Garden Tour online at www.sdhort.org. You can learn more about this year's tour on our website and on page 9. Also be sure and let your garden friends and people at other organizations you are involved with know about the tour. We think our tour is one of the best in county and you won't want to miss it. Again this year to encourage carpooling, any vehicle with four or more tour participants will receive a free guest pass to one of our regular meetings!

Also, we can use volunteer assistance to help sell tickets, check-in attendees and greet and direct people at the gardens. See page 2 for information on how to volunteer.

Volunteer For the Membership Committee

The membership committee is looking for a volunteer with good email skills to respond to email inquiries regarding membership and membership renewals. Most of the questions are easy to answer and require just a few minutes of research. All information you'll need is online and well documented. If you are frequently online and have a couple of hours a week you can spare, contact Jim Bishop at SDHSPresident@gmail.com to volunteer. ☘



THE REAL DIRT ON...

By Joan Herskowitz

George E. Lindsay

George Edmund Lindsay (1916-2002) was a botanist with a passion for exploration of the natural life of Baja California, and his career included leadership positions at distinguished California museums. Lindsay was born in Pomona, California, where his parents were citrus growers. As a young man he developed a fascination with desert plants; with a driver's license at age fourteen, he made his first of many botanical collecting trips in Baja. His college education was sporadic, and for two years (1935-36) he lived with his parents on their Lemon Crest Ranch in Lakeside while attending San Diego State College. However, his travels and writings won him renown in the botanical community, and at twenty-two he was selected to be director of Arizona's newly-formed 300-acre Desert Botanical Garden in Tempe. Lindsay spent a whirlwind year at the Garden, overseeing the planting of thousands of native cacti, and supervising the garden layout and related construction.

Upon his return to the Lemon Crest Ranch, he worked on a taxonomic study of the genus *Cochemiea* (generally now included in the genus *Mammillaria*). [Shown above is *Cochemiea maritima*, which he described in 1937.] This was interrupted by his service in World War II, where he worked as an aerial cinematographer for the Air Force and flew twenty-five combat missions over Europe. During the next four years he managed the family orchards and continued botanical explorations of Baja. At thirty-three, Lindsay went back to college to study botany at Stanford University, and was awarded a doctorate for his taxonomic revision of the barrel cactus genus *Ferocactus*. He described twelve new species in this genus and authored over 120 articles on topics as diverse as new taxa, travelogues, biographies, expeditions, ecology, whales and geography.

From 1956 to 1963, Lindsay was the director of the San Diego Natural History Museum in Balboa Park. Under his direction the museum's herbarium became the most important repository for Baja California plants. He hired his long-term field colleague Reid Moran as Curator of Botany to help build up the museum's cactus collection. Lindsay also established the Vermillion Sea Field Station at Bahia de los Angeles in Baja, and raised the museum's profile with the public. From 1963 to 1982 he served as director of the California Academy of Science in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, which expanded dramatically under his leadership. Through his many contacts, Lindsay was able to secure substantial funding for the museum's mission of public education and for the Academy's collections. In the 1960s Lindsay played an important role in organizing expeditions exploring the biology of the Gulf of California islands. It is this scientific support that helped to elevate island conservation issues with the Mexican government and, among other achievements, led to the establishment of a nature reserve on Isla Rasa as a refuge for migratory birds.



Member Joan Herskowitz worked as a Biologist for many years, including time spent on staff at the County of San Diego Department of Planning and Land Use. Now retired, she is a docent at the San Elijo Lagoon and at San Diego Botanic Garden. 🌿



BOOK REVIEW

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

Some Ancient Gentlemen: Being an Examination of Certain People, Plants and Gardens

By Tyler Whittle

Another used book, and what a find. Tyler Whittle is identified on the dust jacket as an author and radio commentator. He describes himself as a plant collector and garden maker. If he's as good at gardening as he is at writing, wow! I don't usually do long quotes from the books I review, but I can't resist giving you a little taste of his prose:

[T]he Italians appreciated water, but not simply because it gave life. It had other gigantic powers and the Renaissance water artists joyfully manipulated it with the confidence of a sculptor manipulating the hardest stone. They made water do everything possible between the trickle of the source and the deep lake at the hillfoot. They obliged it to ripple and gurgle, run limpidly and pour, to sputter into misty vapour, to rest and disappear, to well and gush and overflow, to foam and spout, to splash and murmur, glide and rest again. In springs and streams, in conduits, gills and formal water courses, in rivulets, through sluices, chains of gargoyles and canals, in fountains, jets and pools and ornate tanks, the Italians made water a power, a charm and a plaything.

I wish I could write like that.

Not only is he a good writer, but I found myself laughing out loud many times as he describes his and various friends adventures in gardening and plant collecting. And while he's entertaining his readers, he's also educating us. I've browsed through many garden books. He has led me to finally understand how garden design is influenced by history and locale.

He ornaments each of his fourteen chapters with appropriate quotes from other writers; agreeable – but not exciting – line drawings; and 16 pages of photos. But those are unimportant. What's important here are the ideas and the writing. All the books that I read have interesting ideas, or I toss them aside to be donated. Few of the books have such pleasurable and skillful writing. I can't recommend this book highly enough.

It's old, published in 1965, but you can find anything on Amazon. I'll give you another quote as a treat. It's his closing of the last chapter:

Though I was a young boy I began to imagine . . . my own ending . . . to live alone and very simply in a garden under the warm sun of the South; to shed the greater responsibilities and the wilder gardening dreams; and, as graciously as possible, to replace in my affections all lush exotics with the Radish, Vine, and Scarlet Pimpernel. Because, after a lifetime of collecting and growing and nurturing and loving plants, nothing under the sky could be better than that. 🌿





TREES, PLEASE

By Robin Rivet

Training Miniatures, Not Militias

Do you need a Colt, M –111, or Mazzard? What about Duke 7 and Nemaguard? Maybe you need a Viking or Flying Dragon? No, these are NOT advertisements from a militia or martial arts magazine, but genuine options for the names of fruit tree rootstocks. Check for yourself at www.davewilson.com/roots.html (this website also lists which trees have been shipped to specific nurseries in San Diego!).

Grafting scion wood from clonal cultivars onto specific types of tree roots has been practiced for centuries, but the process continues to evolve. The goals are usually to impact the most fruit production and vigor from a dependable variety or hybrid, while producing the best disease resistance and size control from the rootstock. However, many savvy gardeners still rely on whatever their local nursery stocks, and that is not always smart. You can often custom order the cultivar you want, along with what size tree you need. Order bare root trees (as shown above) at www.baylaurenurseries.com. Keep in mind, some rootstocks may tolerate poorer soils or drainage, while others can withstand susceptibility to local pathogens, like nematodes or soggy soil.

Additionally, most plums and cherries, and many pome fruits (apples, pears, quince), require cross-pollination, so using a grafted rootstock can accommodate the needs of multiple-grafted varieties onto one base plant. However, when you buy two, three or four-in-one grafted species of fruit trees, be aware that one variety may be stronger and more vigorous than the rest, and it may hamper balanced growth over time. This can create maintenance headaches. **Remember: Not**

■ GARDEN SHOW Continued from page 3

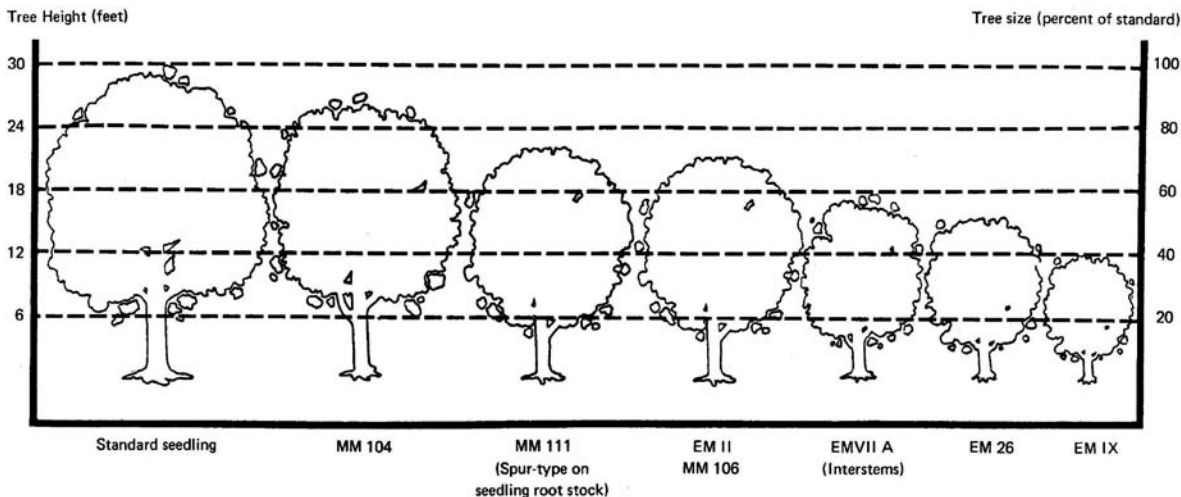
one of our biggest shows for public outreach to share our love of plants. Those who help at the show get free admission and SDHS will reimburse your parking. To volunteer contact Patty Berg at SDHSVolunteers@gmail.com.

SDHS also sponsors the judging of twenty dramatically-lit display gardens that will be designed and created specifically for this show. Garden Masters put their best efforts into creative new ideas for wonderful gardens for the San Diego climate. See the creativity and style of top designers and horticulturists, all in one place.

In addition, our seminar series is always informative and packed full of ideas. The seminars emphasize water wise, sustainable landscaping. The lectures are free for the price of admission. (Now, let's see... if you are a volunteer, that means completely free!) If you want more personalized information, sign up for the "30 for 30" private low-cost consultations hosted by professionals from the San Diego chapters of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) and American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). Just \$30 for a private 30 minute consultation, which can be reserved in advance on the website above.

You'll see interesting and unusual plants to tempt your wallet. Top growers and specialty nurseries are all located together, so you can find just the right plants without all the driving. Talk to these people; they have the expertise to share with you about how to make their plants thrive in your garden.

Many of our members especially love to help out at the Spring Home/Garden Show because they get to meet and interact with gardeners from all over San Diego and with other society members. What could be more fun than sharing good times with people with similar interests? Come. Enjoy. The 2013 Spring Home/Garden Show.



all dwarfs are the same. The chart below shows expected size results from various apple rootstocks, and similar options are available for many fruit trees, including most stone fruit, and even some citrus. Please check around. [Chart used with permission from New Mexico State University.]

"Topa-Topa" is a rootstock with an amusing name, and it came into production not for its taste; but because it withstood very cold temperatures. For a time, many California avocado orchards primarily used seedlings of this cultivar, since it tolerated our northern cold spells. However, Duke 7 has proved better at regenerating roots when

exposed to *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, a serious fungal disease of California avocados. Because of pathogens, most trees in California stick to the most disease resistant rootstocks instead offering variable grafted scions for diversity of seasonal harvest and best taste.

Children from temperate climates love to eat sweet cherries; but until recently, these were impossible to grow in San Diego. With the (200-300 low chill hour) Minnie Royal and Royal Lee cultivars, and the latest "Z-Dwarf" (or new Root I, or 3CR78) cherry rootstock, San Diegans can now keep two standard, robust 40' cherry trees - small enough to grow in two large pots on a patio, and held at six to eight feet. Do look for and ask about your cultivars and rootstock when buying new fruit trees.

Member Robin Rivet is an ISA Certified Arborist, UCCE Master Gardener, Cal-Fire supported urban forestry educator and she welcomes public inquiries at robin.rivet@energycenter.org.



GOING WILD WITH THE NATIVES

By Pat Pawlowski

Squeezing Your Galvezia

It's going to be Valentine's Day soon. Time to squeeze your Galvezia.

"Squeeze my what?," you might ask.

Well, Valentine's Day is a time to squeeze those you love, and if you are a lover of plants, squeezing a *Galvezia speciosa* (shown here; let's call it Gal for short) is a good place to start. Gal also goes by the name of Island Snap dragon, and hails from the islands of Guadalupe, Mexico; San Clemente Island; and Santa Catalina ("26 miles across the sea, Santa Catalina is a-waitin' for me...Santa Catalina, the island of romance..." sang the Four Preps, eons ago). But you don't have to brave the sea: all you have to do is visit a place that sells California native plants. Your heart will be captured by Gal's lipstick-red tubular flowers, beloved by hummingbirds.



There's even more to love about Gal. It has bright evergreen leaves and blooms almost year round in Southern California. You can enchant a friend with a bouquet of Gal's flowers, which have a long vase life. Outside, Gal is drought tolerant, grows in part shade to full sun, but if planted in a sun-kissed inland area, give it some water in summer. It grows quickly to about 4' tall to 7' wide but can be pruned (leave some flowers for the hummers). You don't have to baby Gal. It is frost-tender, but don't let that stop you from trying it; you can always cover your plant with a little blankie on cold winter nights.

Now comes the real fun! Look closely at each little blushing blossom. As the flower starts to unfurl, the petals seem to pucker up, waiting for a kiss. Since Gal belongs to the snapdragon family, you can squeeze the saucy red flower between your fingers, and its tiny dragon face jaws will open and close: thus the "snap." When the jaws are open, the tips of the stamens can be seen peeking out, looking like minuscule dragon teeth. So cute.

Now comes some semi-bad news. Plant taxonomists, eager to spoil the efforts of those of us who struggle with Latin names, have decided to rename Galvezia, which was named after Jose Galvez, a Spanish administrator. The new name is Gambelia, after some guy named William Gambel.

Cultivars of *Galvezia speciosa* (take that, Taxos!) include: 'Firecracker' grows to 3' by 3' and is more erect than the straight species, which tends to lounge about the landscape. 'Bocarosa' forms a dense 4' mound. *Boca rosa* means "red lips" in Spanish and is especially floriferous. *Galvezia juncea*, or Baja Bush Snapdragon, has rushlike stems with teeny leaves. If you want a plant that looks like a small ocotillo without thorns, this is the plant for you.

Finally, if you are looking for more native plants with ruddy blooms, here are some of Gal's friends: *Keckiella cordifolia* (Heartleaf Penstemon), *Lobelia cardinalis* (Cardinal Flower), *Mimulus cardinalis* (Scarlet Monkeyflower), *Ribes speciosum* (Fuchsia Flowered Gooseberry), *Salvia microphylla* 'Hot Lips' (Hot Lips Sage, shown at top left), *Salvia spathacea* (Hummingbird Sage), and *Zauschneria* species (California Fuchsia). These friends of Gal vary in cultural requirements, so make sure to look them up on the Web. Most are easy to grow; some are more temperamental.

But as for Galvezia – if you love it (and give it a little squeeze now and then), it's sure to love you back.

Member Pat Pawlowski is a writer/lecturer/garden consultant who is florally obsessed. 🌸



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

By Patty Berg,
Volunteer Coordinator

Looking at Your Garden Through Another Person's Eyes

"Gardens are about so much more than just plants and seeds. Gardens are about sharing and remembering; about thoughts and dreams; about joy and love; about past and present, and perhaps most importantly, the future."

So says Dannie McLaughlin, Ph.D, a clinical psychologist, SDHS Board member, and volunteer extraordinaire. Spend five minutes with Dr. Dannie and you're soon a believer as well in the garden as an expression of the transcendent.



For the second year in a row, Dr. Dannie is chairing the SDHS Spring Garden Tour, which takes place on Saturday, April 6, in Poway (see page 9). Last year's tour was a runaway success, and 2013 may just top that thanks to her outstanding leadership. She's managed to round up six spectacular private gardens, including the past two Gardens of the Year for *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine.

Dannie came to SDHS the way so many members have: she became friends with past-president Susi Torre-Bueno and was swept up in Susi's love of plants and dedication to SDHS. Dannie says it was a no-brainer to join and then to become a volunteer after having met so many great and friendly gardening enthusiasts and enjoying all the events and activities.

As a kid in the Midwest, Dannie gardened with her Dad and learned the fine art of growing roses and tomatoes. Those remembrances are so poignant that she now has a memory garden that is part of the three acres she tends in Olivenhain. It honors her dad and all the special people in her life who are no longer with us.

Dannie says she loves working in the dirt, but she's most happy when folks come to visit and she can share the garden with them. It would seem that visitors can help overcome the tendency we all have to be self-critical gardeners. Leave it to a psychologist to figure this out, right?

Dr. Dannie explains, "It's only when I see my garden through another person's eyes that I can take a moment to see its true beauty rather than everything that still needs to be done." So true! 🌸



Our 2012 Spring Garden Tour sold out! Avoid long lines this year and buy your tickets online – see page 9.

Free Workshops Survey: Please take a minute to complete this form and bring it to the next meeting; or scan it and send it to newsletter@sdhortsoc.org; or mail it to Susi Torre-Bueno, 1941 Vista Grande Drive, Vista, CA 92084. Add your comments or suggestions. Thanks!

We want to offer FREE WORKSHOPS for members only, if we find 1-2 volunteers to organize them. The instructors will donate their time, and the attendees will learn a valuable skill.

We need members to organize workshops (to be held at their homes or at the instructors' home or business) in each part of the county. Don't be shy! Wouldn't you like to get some project started in your garden or share your expertise with others? If you have a special talent or a garden-related business, this is your opportunity to show off your skills (and perhaps get some new clients).

Most workshops will last 2-3 hours; the instructors and homeowners will determine the date, time and format.

Name: _____ email: _____

I can organize workshops. Name: _____ email: _____

I WANT TO:			TOPICS
TEACH	HOST	ATTEND	
			My succulents have gotten too big – now what?
			Plant propagation: annuals, succulents, perennials, shrubs, etc.
			Creating raised beds
			Pruning trees & shrubs
			Hardscape ideas for simple pathways, etc.
			How to create a vertical garden
			Basic irrigation installation &/or repair
			Small kitchen gardens
			Creating Vertical Succulent Frames
			Landscaping designed to attract birds, butterflies & other wildlife
			Gardening on a slope
			Composting
			Veggies: when to plant, how to select, etc.
			Growing native plants
			Success with orchids
			How to light your garden for night use
			Herbs – how to grow & use
			Using plants with colorful foliage
			Organic pest control
			Building simple garden structures
			Designing container gardens
			Getting started with bonsai
			Selecting & caring for indoor plants
			What is permaculture?
			Good fertilizers – which ones for specific plants
			Getting started with organic gardening
			How do I collect & store rainwater?
			Garden tools – how to use, care for, sharpen
			Roses – pruning and more
			Shade gardening
			DIY garden projects
			How to hire and work with garden helpers
			Basic info & care on ponds, waterscapes, & fountains
			Creating a fire-wise & sustainable landscape
			How to get rid of lawns
			Garden crafts for gifts & home decor
			New varieties of plants for our area
			Beginning garden design
			How to extract, preserve, & save seeds from plants in the garden
			OTHER – be specific:



MY LIFE WITH PLANTS

By Jim Bishop

This series of articles chronicles Jim's experiences with plants and the effect they have had on his life.

The Rear View Mirror

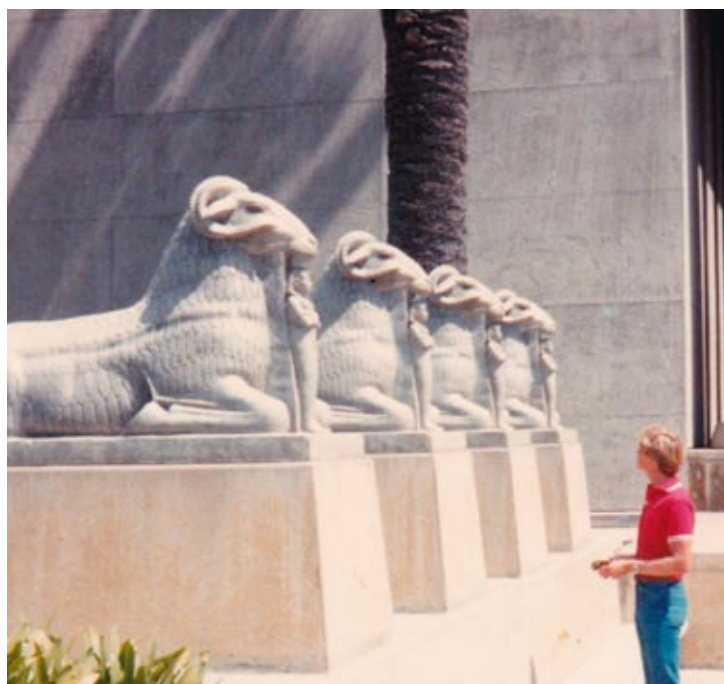
In the summer of 1979 I was completing graduate work at the University of Texas, going on job interviews, and experiencing the disillusionment that many graduates face when they realize that work will not be nearly as exciting as college. I was wishing for a job in Austin, hoping for a job in Dallas, and would have settled for a job in Atlanta. However, most employment opportunities were at oil tool companies in the much polluted heavy industrial area of Houston. To find a job out of the area I was attending job fairs in Houston. California wasn't even on the list of possibilities. At one job fair, there was an employer looking for engineering grads willing to relocate to San Jose. Since they were willing to fly me to San Jose for an interview, I thought I might as well check it out.

It was typical sultry Houston July day when I boarded a plane and flew first to Phoenix and then San Jose. I marveled at all the big mountains as we flew over LA and across California. When we disembarked in San Jose, I thought something was wrong when we walked across the runway to the terminal. Was this an emergency landing and where were the air conditioners hidden that were creating the cool, dry breeze. *Summer is hot and humid everywhere, isn't it?* As I drove to the Travelodge, I noticed impossibly tall evergreen trees that must be redwoods growing in the freeway interchange. The trees were surrounded by what appeared to be roses and other beautiful flowers that I didn't recognize. I thought to myself that if this were Houston, people would be picnicking in the middle of the freeway.

In front of the Travelodge grew more flowers that I was unfamiliar with. I couldn't get over how clean, neat and fresh everything looked. To the east were golden grass-covered hills and to the west were forested hills with fog rolling over them. The next day after the interview, not sure if I'd ever return, I decided I should see as much of the area as possible. As I entered the Highway 101, I got goose bumps when I looked at the freeway entrance signs; one marked San Francisco, the other Los Angeles. I headed for San Francisco. I was blown away by the lack of billboards, the beautiful scenery, and the landscaping along the freeway. *They landscape freeways...really!...* This was beyond anything I could have imagined.

Not knowing exactly where to go, I headed for Fisherman's Wharf and walked along the waterfront. The cool crisp air felt like fall and the views of hills, downtown, San Francisco Bay, the islands (*Was that REALLY Alcatraz?*) and the Golden Gate Bridge seemed like something out of a movie. At Pier 39, there were wonderful annual flowers in stunning hanging baskets, including the most gorgeous orange and purple pansies. Along the waterfront grew wildflowers that looked like sweet peas. Most of these plants, if they would grow at all in Texas, would have died months ago in the heat and humidity. On the way back to San Jose, I drove Highway 280, the Junipero Serra Freeway that runs along the San Andreas Fault and the edge of the Santa Cruz mountains. The sign at Daly City read "The World's Most Beautiful Freeway." Even though it was dark, I could make out the outline of the mountains, the reservoirs and lights of the cities that ringed the bay.

Needless to stay, I accepted the job offer from FMC at their



Jim at the San Jose Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum, featuring the largest variety of Palms in the Bay Area.

division that made aluminum armored personal carriers. It was one of those rare decisions you make in life that you know immediately will change your life forever in ways you can never imagine. My view of Texas (some would say the best view), where I was born and never dreamt I would leave, would forever be in the rear view mirror. And so, by chance or destiny, began a lifelong love affair with California that continues to this day.

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

Facebook interface showing options: **✓ Liked**, **Message**, **✖**, **✓ Show in News Feed**, **Add to Interest Lists...** (circled in red with a red arrow pointing to it labeled **CLICK HERE**), and **Unlike**.

FACEBOOK HAS CHANGED AGAIN!

In order to receive our posts you now have to add our page to your 'Interest Lists'. Just 'Liking' the page, or even clicking 'Show in News Feed' no longer works. You'll miss up to 90% of our posts if you do not add us to your interest lists.

First Garden Tour of the Year!



Join the San Diego Horticultural Society
and the Lake Hodges Native Plant Club

Saturday, April 6, 9 AM to 4 PM
Six Private Gardens in Poway

Variety is the spice of life... and of gardens, too. This year SDHS presents a variety of gardens for you to enjoy on our annual Spring Garden Tour in Poway. The tour begins with a check in at Lake Poway Park, which features a Marketplace where over a dozen vendors will be on hand to tempt you with jewelry, garden art, pottery, birdhouses, and other garden-related merchandise. Last month we highlighted the first two tour gardens, both winners of the prestigious *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine Gardens of the Year award. Here we highlight two more fascinating gardens that will be on the tour.

Barbara Raub



Barbara Raub



The palm paradise of Lyle (Chip) and Helen Arnold has been featured in *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine. A combination of botanical garden and nature preserve, the main garden contains an extensive collection of tropical and subtropical plants from around the world, including more than 80 palm and 50 cycad species. The garden also includes a koi pond built directly into existing boulders. Other sections are dedicated to various areas of the world and feature proteas, aloes, bromeliads and ferns, as well as flowering trees. Much of the 15-acre hilltop property is dedicated to a nature preserve of highly diverse, undisturbed coastal chaparral and native plants which should be in peak bloom on tour day. It is evident that the theme of the garden, "in balance with nature," has been achieved.



The eclectic garden of Paul and Jo Casterline has been featured in various national garden publications including *Sunset* magazine. A notable feature of this garden is the magnificent Santa Fe style garden room that was fashioned from an old garage. The garden room and rustic gates give way to sweeping views of the mountains beyond the vanishing edge pool, which is framed by lush flower beds. A stroll through the garden reveals an incredible variety of plants including roses, orange pincushion protea, bush poppy, leucadendron, kangaroo paws, and grevillea, as well as many other California and Australian natives. Wandering paths then lead through a grove of fruit trees to a secluded meditation garden.

Advance purchase tickets for members of SDHS and Lake Hodges Native Plant Club are \$20.
Non-member tickets are \$25. Day of tickets will be \$25 for all.

Purchase tickets at www.sdhort.org

Save \$5 and buy your tickets early - the 2012 tour sold out!

- Day of tickets will be sold starting at 9AM at Lake Poway Park, 14644 Lake Poway Road, Poway CA 92064.
- To encourage carpools, each vehicle with at least 4 people will receive one FREE meeting pass (a \$10 value).

No tickets will be mailed. You will receive a map when you check in at Lake Poway Park.

Questions? Contact tours@sdhortsoc.org or 619-296-9215 ext 5

By purchasing a ticket I understand that I will tour these gardens at my own risk. Host gardens, Lake Poway Native Plant Club, and San Diego Horticultural Society assume no liability whatsoever. Tour is not handicapped accessible. No pets allowed.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We encourage our 1300+ members to be active participants and share in the fun; to volunteer see page 2. A warm hello to these new members

We welcome Revive Landscape Design as our newest sponsor; visit them at www.ReviveLandscapeDesign.com.

NEW MEMBERS:

Olivia Cerra
Don Doerfler
Patricia Leon
Kristen Olafson
Janet Ward
Joanzy Zeltinger

NEW ADVERTISERS:

San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society (INSERT)

San Diego County Fair (INSIDE BACK COVER)

San Diego County Orchid Society (INSIDE FRONT COVER)

Worldview Travel (PAGE 12)

HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2013; 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.

Carla Gilbert (1)

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Pat Welsh

Westward Expos

LIFE MEMBERS *Horticulturist of the Year

*Chuck Ades (2008)

*Walter Andersen (2002)

Norm Applebaum & Barbara Roper

*Bruce & Sharon

Asakawa (2010)

Gladys T. Baird

Debra Lee Baldwin

*Steve Brigham (2009)

Laurie Connable

Julian & Leslie Duval

*Edgar Engert (2000)

Jim Farley

Sue & Charles Fouquette

Penelope Hlavac

Debbie & Richard Johnson

*Vince Lazaneo (2004)

*Jane Minshall (2006)

*Bill Nelson (2007)

Tina & Andy Rathbone

*Jon Rebman (2011)

Peggy Ruzich

San Diego Home/ Gardens Lifestyle

Gerald D. Stewart

*Susi Torre-Bueno (2013)

& Jose Torre-Bueno

*Don Walker (2005) & Dorothy Walker

Lucy Warren

*Evelyn Weidner (2001)

*Pat Welsh (2003)

Betty Wheeler

MEMBER DONATIONS IN 2013:

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Renee's Garden (www.reneesgarden.com)

DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

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

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

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

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What's Up at

San Diego BOTANIC GARDEN

The San Diego Botanic Garden has, for years, hoped to expand its grounds. With urbanization taking over much of the prime real estate in Encinitas, this has become more and more difficult.

On January 5, James S. Farley, President and CEO of the Leichtag Foundation (which closed escrow on the purchase of Ecke Ranch on December 20), gave a presentation at the San Diego Botanic Garden's Annual Meeting. SDBG has had a long lasting relationship with the Leichtag Foundation, and the Garden hopes to continue the relationship with the sharing of the Ecke Ranch land for generations to come.

Farley mentioned that a number of significant issues must be taken care of before SDBG can receive any land from the Leichtag Foundation.

First, "...the Garden's ownership has to be in a form that guarantees it will be a public garden for generations." Currently, SDBG has two different leases (with San Diego County and the city of Encinitas) with two different expiration dates. Leichtag Foundation does not want to be a third landlord. This is a "major issue to resolve" before they will offer the land to the Garden. The Garden must come up with a new ownership plan, for example, a joint operating agreement.

Second, the governance of the Garden needs to change. The board has the ultimate authority of wellbeing of the Garden, and in the future the Foundation would act as a leader in authority. Leichtag Foundation wants, "to be assured that the best possible governance obtains with respect to the management of the resource they [Leichtag Foundation] are helping create."

Third, the Foundation wants to be assured that the Garden has the financial resources it needs to successfully implement its master plan. This needs to be accomplished within a reasonable amount of time. A great deal of money will need to be raised, which could be as much as \$25 million.

Most of the land designated for the Garden, if Leichtag Foundation chooses to give it to them, would be used as a flourishing parking lot and new welcome center. The proposed arts village would be on the perimeter of this parking lot and would include programs similar in nature to the village in Balboa Park. "It would provide an interesting buffer from all the activity on the [Ecke] Ranch," said Jim Farley. 🌿



PACIFIC HORTICULTURE TOURS

Join Pacific Horticulture Society in Italy this fall. Fly into Venice and then meet other tour guests in nearby Asolo, one of the loveliest villages in Italy. Visits include Bellagio, Varenna and the botanical garden at Villa Monastero – a beautiful lakeside garden featuring fountains, vases, temples and statues. In the Lake District, tour grand villas like Villa Carlotta, the inspiration for Longfellow's *By Sommariva's Garden Gate*. The Borromeo Islands on Lake Maggiore hold special treats as the unique climate allows maples, camellias, eucalyptus, bananas and palms to thrive. In Tuscany, see Villa Chigi Cetinale, with its restored 17th century garden. Beloved by Edith Wharton, this garden has been described by Penelope Hobhouse as "the epitome of garden design." Explore the medieval town of San Gimignano (shown here), with its wonderful towers and narrow streets. Chianti area sights include a visit the 14th century Villa di Geggiano and its gardens, as well as a short walking tour of Siena. Finish with two days enjoying the architectural splendor of Florence.



For more information on this tour and other trips to Tucson, Philadelphia, Scotland and Santa Cruz Island, visit www.pacifichorticulture.org.

SDHS is one of six West Coast societies providing support for the Pacific Horticulture Society. Producers of *Pacific Horticulture* magazine, PacHort also offers small group tours designed to educate and inspire plant enthusiasts everywhere. 🌱



WILD MUSHROOM FAIR

The San Diego Mycological Society presents their annual free Wild Mushroom Fair on Sunday, February 17 from 10:30am to 3:30pm in Balboa Park. Join them at Casa del Prado, room 101 for a fascinating look at locally collected native wild mushrooms with remarkable colors and shapes! Learn about the fungi of all parts of San Diego County. Vendors will be selling fresh wild mushrooms, cultivation kits, books and other mushroom-centric items. Bring mushrooms from your own garden and have experts identify them. There will be a slide show and lectures throughout the day, plus cooking demonstrations and mushroom growing demos.

The San Diego Mycological Society was established in 1997 and members include folks at various levels of involvement: amateurs, enthusiasts, and professionals. They are interested in mushrooms for a variety of reasons: culinary, cultivation, identification, photography, ecology, and more. The Society conducts classes, leads forays, and assists in mushroom identification.

More details are at <http://sdmyco.org>. 🍄

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HISTORY/NATURE MINI TOUR BUENA VISTA CREEK VALLEY

Join Preserve Calavera on February 9th and walk in the Buena Creek Valley and the grounds of the historic Marron Adobe while you still can! This historic adobe and the land surrounding it is identified as one of the twelve most endangered historic sites in all of San Diego County. The Valley includes the El Salto Waterfall, a sacred site to Native American s; an adobe dating back to the original Mexican land grant; a key link in the regional wildlife movement corridor; and Buena Vista Creek with its rich natural resources that support the downstream lagoon. Our native Stream Orchid (*Epipactis gigantea*) is one stunning plant well worth preserving! See it before it is too late! McMillin proposes 656 homes in this valley, a massive development that will destroy the historic context of this priceless area.

The mini tour includes a short walk in the valley down to Buena Vista Creek, tour of the grounds of the historic adobe, and special exhibits that highlight the cultural, historic and natural resources of this very special area. The tour will be on Saturday, February 9 from 10 am to 11 am. Meet at: Cul-de-sac on Haymar Drive near historic Marron Adobe in Carlsbad (near Hwy. 78 at College Ave. exit). Directions: From College Ave. exit off Hwy 78 take Haymar Drive/Plaza Road to the west (frontage road that goes past Mossy-Nissan) Go 7/10th of a mile to the end of the road. Park in cul-de-sac or along Haymar Dr. For more information visit www.preservecalavera.org, contact dandd2@peoplepc.com, or call 760-724-3887. 🌿



Stream Orchid



El Salto Waterfall

Both Photos: Diane Nygaard

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NEED HELP WITH YOUR GARDEN?

SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY MARCH 1, 2, 3, 2013

30 MINUTES FOR 30 DOLLARS



The Association of Professional Landscape Designers, APLD - San Diego District, presents 30 minute personalized design consultations with San Diego's Top Residential Landscape Designers for a special show price of \$30 per session.

This is your opportunity to get some great ideas for kick starting your garden effort, or polishing a space that's almost there.

Design consultations are available Friday, Saturday, and Sunday on a first come, first serve basis. Since

timeslots are limited, we encourage you to sign up for a consultation as soon as you arrive at the show.

To optimize your time, please bring photos of your garden, drawings you might have, pictures of gardens and plants you like, your ideas and your questions to the conversation.

APLD will also have experts on hand to answer your questions about gardens, plants, and design.

The APLD Designers' Lounge is easy to find: you walk through it as you enter the show through the main gate. While you are there, please stop to be inspired by – or even to purchase – some of the beautiful potted plant displays created by APLD designers.

APLD is an international organization founded in 1989. Its mission is to advance the profession of residential landscape design and to promote the recognition of landscape designers as qualified and dedicated professionals. APLD members adhere to a code of professional standards, encourage continuing education, and stay up-to-date about new developments and latest trends throughout the field. APLD members are trained professionals who help homeowners create the gardens of their dreams.

For more information about APLD and to find a member near you, please visit www.apld.org.



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SHARING SECRETS



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>.

NEW ONLINE: You can now continue the discussion by adding new replies to Sharing Secrets topics online. Here's your chance to comment on how the plants you mentioned two years ago are doing today, or to suggest another way to do something in the garden.

The question for January/February was:

Why do you photograph your garden, and what you do with the photos? (Thanks to Susan Krzywicki for suggesting this topic.) Many more responses appeared in the January 2013 newsletter.

Jan Ahrens wrote: I often take photos of my garden to give me a different perspective. Somehow my eye doesn't pick up that there are gaps or overcrowding, but when I look at a photo it's obvious. The photos are also a history of how the garden and my tastes have evolved.

Mo Price documents her plant purchases: I take a photo of every plant that I purchase, and another photo when I place it in the ground. I periodically take a photo of the plant over the years, usually when it is blooming. I keep a corresponding Excel spreadsheet that contains pertinent information about the plant. The photos are catalogued in such a way that I can page through the library and see how a specific plant has grown (or not) over the years. This is such a handy reference, as I often look at a plant and wonder... how old is that plant? How big was it when I planted it? What is its botanical name? The information is at my fingertips!

Lucy Warren said: My garden is eclectic and always changing (not always for the best, but that's called learning). I photograph it as it captures my attention, overall and more often in one or more details. Most photos linger; but some I share and some find their way into my writing.

Paula Suttle captures the garden's beauty: I take photos of plants in magnificent flower I am proud of and wish to remember. Also, this week I took photos of the garden fall colors. Sometimes I take an overall scene if it looks really nice.

Tynan Wyatt records his garden's changes: I photograph my garden so I can document the conversion from all lawn and (not very) ornamental landscaping to fruits, flowers, succulents, and vegetable beds. I used to mow that massive lawn every weekend and it's always nice to look and see how much less work there is now and how much more rewarding the work that's left is. Also, the pictures are like baby pictures for my trees; as they grow I can see how far they've come and trust in the potential of each new tree I plant!

Meredith French has three reasons she takes photos: I make images in my garden for several purposes. 1. To post on Facebook. 2. To use as illustrations for my two talks on "Making Better Plant Portraits" and "Habitat Garden Development." 3. And just because something really excites me – the lighting on the subject or the fear that I will never see it again if I don't capture it. What else motivates a photographer? We are all rather sick!

Barb Huntington said: I photograph my garden and my grandchildren for similar reasons. I am a proud grandma! I also like to keep my friends up-to-date with my labyrinth and veggie garden on Facebook, show folks at the nursery what I am trying to do, and send updates to the kind construction guys who leave two rocks a day out for me to carry home from work. The photos are on my computer, my Facebook page, and my phone. I used to enter pictures in the Fair once in awhile, but don't currently have time.

Sharon Corrigan's photos help her plan changes: I photograph everyone's garden, including my own. I use it as motivation to weed and prune: before and after; to capture ideas or combos that strike my fancy, and to share on Facebook with like-minded garden nuts like myself. What do I do with the photos? Got a million DVDs full and can't bear to throw them out. I'm a visual person and garden plant photos are only a part of my collection.

Anne Spindel wrote: I photograph my garden to share its beauty with my friends and family on Facebook. (I don't photograph it during its scraggy times!)

Steve Brigham likes to document his young garden's growth: Interesting that you mentioned this question right now, which is early December. I like to see the way my garden has grown over the months and years, and looking back on photos, I am always surprised how much it's grown over time! You'd actually have to leave your property for a few months to get the same realization (when you return). Even better, right now my garden photos from this year are going out to my friends with their Winter Holiday greeting cards. What else is so important to send?

Michael McCaslin hopes to paint his garden: I photograph the garden thinking I will make a painting of it someday. I keep most of the photos on the computer.


Linda Bresler captures her plants at different stages: I photograph my garden for three reasons. First, when it is looking great, I want to capture that moment. Second, I photograph a garden in its infancy, and then again every so often so I can compare its growth from when everything was first planted. Third, I photograph certain plants at different times in their lifespan so I can see how they mature, and how long it takes.

Amelia Lima also likes to use her photos for documentation: I like to photograph my garden so I can compare and observe as plants grow and feel the spaces.

Susanna Pagan shares some photos with clients: I take pictures of plants and ideas in my yard usually to show to clients, to get an idea across, show them what a particular plant looks like, or I use the photos to promote my business on Facebook.

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Cheryl Hedgpeth Nichols said: I take lots of pictures of other people's gardens, but not my own. After reading your question, I went outside to see if there was anything worth photographing. I discovered an epiphyllum in full bloom. I had promised my Dad a cutting, so I took a picture for him.

Louise Anderson wrote: I took a photo of my roses to put up as wallpaper on my cell phone.

The question for March is:

Do you have some home remedies that work well for you in the garden? Mollie Allan told me that Epsom salts are a good monthly fertilizer for plumerias (and hibiscus); she dissolves the salts in water before putting them at the base of her plants. Thanks, Mollie, for suggesting this topic!

Send your reply by February 5 to newsletter@sdhort.org.



JANUARY 2013 PLANT DISPLAY

By Susi Torre-Bueno

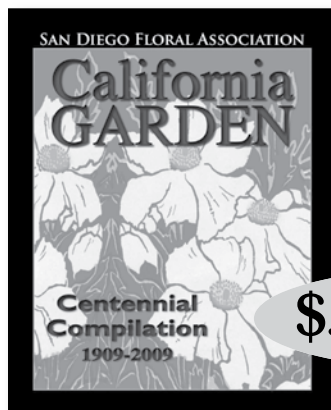
What is the Plant Display?

Each month members bring in plants, cuttings or flowers and put them in blue bottles on our display tables. What a great way to see what plants grow well in our area. EVERYONE is invited to participate. Each month the display highlights one type of plant, and an expert talks informally about the plants and answers questions. All plants are welcome, but we hope you'll try to bring plants in the categories shown here. Write descriptions similar to those below, and put them with your plant(s).

Join the fun and bring ANYTHING AT ALL to the February meeting. A rose expert will be on hand to answer your questions. We thank Tom Jesch (www.waterwisebotanicals.com) for being our helpful expert at the January meeting, and appreciate those members who brought in plants to show to other members.

Aloe arborescens CANDELABRA PLANT, TORCH ALOE, TREE ALOE (Aloeaceae) South Africa

The fall to winter blooms of this commonly grown aloe are a stunning deep coral-red color; and appear in tall spires of flowers that are covered in what looks like snake scales before the buds fully develop. Although one common name is Tree Aloe, this is more of a clumper and climber, forming a large mound to 9' x 9' (or even larger) in just a few years. The mound is formed of "many 18 inch wide rosettes of narrow recurved soft-toothed margined leaves that are dull green or yellowish or sometimes blue-green depending on the location and amount of sunlight it receives," according to the excellent description on the website for San Marcos Growers (www.smgrowers.com). Planted near the trunk of a sturdy tree, it can climb up many feet, completely hiding the trunk. It has been grown in California for at least 100 years, possibly more. In it's native South Africa, where it is quite common, it is often used as a barrier plant to protect animals and crops. It occurs naturally



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mainly in the mountains, often on exposed ridges up to a mile above sea level. Very easy to propagate from cuttings, this is a fine plant to share with your friends. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 1/13) – S.T.B.

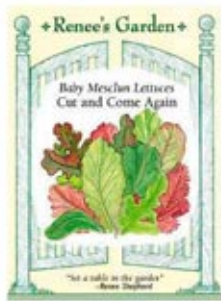


Aloe arborescens

Averrhoa carambola STARFRUIT, CARAMBOLA (Oxalidaceae)

Southeast Asia, Indian Subcontinent

If you've had a fancy fruit salad with thin slices of a distinctly star-shaped yellow fruit, you've tasted carambola. You'll probably be surprised to learn it is in the same family as the weedy yellow-flowered oxalis in your garden! As an ornamental plant, it is an evergreen, slow-growing, attractive small tree. It blooms like a redbud, with small fragrant pink flowers several times a year. To learn a lot more about growing this plant, including nine named cultivars, go to this helpful page from the California Rare Fruit Growers: www.crrfg.org/pubs/ff/carambola.html. (Linda Woloson, Rancho Santa Fe, 1/13) – S.T.B.



Lactuca sativa (mesclun mix)
LETTUCE MESCLUN MIX

(Asteraceae) Cultivated varieties

Lettuce is in the Sunflower Family, and this annual plant has been a cultivated food crop since before the pyramids arose. There are a great many different kinds of lettuces grown; some form tight round heads and some grow long loose leaves. The tasty leaves come in many colors, too; try

planting red, speckled or pink lettuces for more interesting salads and a prettier veggie garden. The leaves can be buttery or crunchy, ruffled or smooth, rounded or oak-leaf shaped. Lettuce leaves can be eaten at any stage, but be sure and harvest the plant before it bolts and starts to set seeds. Lettuce seeds can be sown nearly all year here, and many varieties do fine in large pots. For a fine review of how to grow lettuce in our climate see *Pat Welsh's Southern California Organic Gardening: Month by Month*. The plants displayed in this "mesclun mix" were a variety of looseleaf and romaine lettuces, some mild and some tangy (mustards, arugula, cress, chicory, radicchio, and mizuna). (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 1/13) – S.T.B.

Continued on page 18

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

What's that in front of the plant name? Plants marked **3** are fully described in the *Plant Forum Compilation*. See www.SDHort.org for details on how to order this valuable reference tool.

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the December newsletter was *Aloysia wrigleyi* CHEWING GUM PLANT.

Abutilon 'Pink Supreme' PINK FLOWERING MAPLE
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 1/13)

Abutilon 'The Supremes' MOTOWN FLOWERING MAPLE
(Plant Lover, Vista, 1/13)

Aloe juvenna TIGERTOOTH ALOE (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 1/13)

Camellia japonica 'High Fragrance' (Sharon Lee, Solana Beach, 1/13)

3 *Camellia japonica* 'Katie' (Sharon Lee, Solana Beach, 1/13)

Camellia japonica 'Scented Sun' (Sharon Lee, Solana Beach, 1/13)

Correa 'Dusky Bells' (Jo Casterline, Poway, 1/13)

Echeveria pulvinata 'Frosty' WHITE CHENILLE PLANT
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 1/13)

Grevillea 'Peaches and Cream' (Jo Casterline, Poway, 1/13)

Iris cv. REBLOOMING IRIS (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 1/13)

Iris unguicularis WINTER IRIS, ALGERIAN IRIS
(Jo Casterline, Poway, 1/13)

3 *Laelia anceps* (Jim Wright, San Diego, 1/13)

Nicotiana tabacum TOBACCO (Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 1/13)

Pelargonium 'Irvine' (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 1/13)

Rossioglossum insleayi (Jim Wright, San Diego, 1/13)

Tillandsia stricta (Jim Wright, San Diego, 1/13)



Above: Jim Bishop (at left) and Tom Jesch.

Left: Plant Display table.

Below: Mary James (at left) overseeing the Silent Auction of bulbs from Dylan Hannon.



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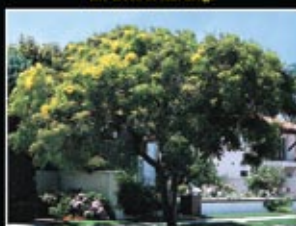
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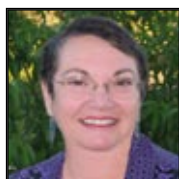
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JANUARY MEETING REPORT

By Susi Torre-Bueno

If you want to capture a rainbow in just a few 4" pots, you need look no further than the stunning examples photographed by Dylan Hannon, our January speaker. Dylan, the Curator of Conservatory Collections at the Huntington Botanical Gardens, spoke passionately about the merits of some less common bulbs from around the world that are especially suited to our Mediterranean climate. Most of the bulbs he showed were either fall/winter bloomers who are dormant in summer or spring bloomers who are dormant in the fall. Dylan's talk was arranged with the bulbs ordered according to their plant family, a logical way to order these small treasures. He grows his bulbs in mostly 4" pots, and although many of these would make good specimens planted in the ground, Dylan cautioned that the smaller plants could easily be lost in a large border and that planting them in rock gardens or keeping them in pots would be a wiser choice. You can get more information at www.PacificBulbSociety.org, and can purchase his bulbs through www.ebay.com at dylansbulbs.

In the Agave Family, the first flower we admired was *Polianthes howardii*, an orange-hued green-tipped summer growing beauty from Mexico. The Onion Family includes many bulbous plants, and the winter growers we saw included yellow-flowering *Ipheion hirtellum*, *Allium praecox* (a white-flowered San Diego County native and one of the first bulbs to bloom each year), and three natives of Chile: *Miersia chilensis*, with tiny pale greenish-white orchid-like flowers; *Leucocoryne purpurea*, light violet with darker purple streaks; and *Leucocoryne vittata*, with six-petaled violet-purple flowers. One thing to note, Dylan said, was the sometimes wide range of flower color in native populations.

The Amaryllis Family provided over three dozen examples, including many that do best as houseplants. *Boophae haemanthoides* is from the Western Cape of South Africa, with really huge bulbs. Three Mediterranean plants formerly in the genus *Leucojum* are sometimes called Autumn or Summer Snowflakes: *Acis autumnale*, *A. ionica*, and *A. trichophylla* all have elegant white bell-shaped flowers and can remain in 4" pots "forever." Ecuador and Peru is home to the *Eucrosia* genus, tropical bulbs best grown in pots on a shady patio or indoors. Another good plant for indoors is *Rauhia decora*, which hails from Peru and has thick leaves and green-tinted white flowers with long protruding stamens. Brazil is home to *Griffinia liboniana*, with pale lilac flowers and evergreen leaves. This and other *Griffinia* species are best grown inside. We also saw some miniature narcissus which are ideal for our climate. *Narcissus miniatus* has tiny white blooms, while *N. gaditanus*' yellow 1/3"-wide flowers are the smallest of all narcissus. *N. viridiflorus* has sweetly-scented green flowers.

Among some of the most unusual (and smelly!) bulbs are those in the Aroid Family, which includes the enormous *Amorphophallus titanum* (Titan Arum, arguably the world's largest flower) and the bizarre *Amorphophallus cirrifer*, with maroon flowers and vibrating hairs.

The Begonia Family has plants that form tubers, and Dylan showed an unusual Mexican native called *Begonia monophylla*; it has a single 8" round leaf and small white flowers. The Andes Mountains are home to orange-flowered *Begonia cinnabarina*. There are over 100 species of tuberous Pelargoniums, some of which have nicely scented foliage, including South Africa's *Pelargonium oblongatum*, which does fine here in a shady location.

Pink-flowered *Polyxena pygmaea*, which Dylan highly recommended, is just one of many plants in the Hyacinth Family that adorn gardens with sweetly-scented flowers. *Ornithogalum umbellatum* is a Spanish species with white flowers. Some nicely scented South African species

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You're probably familiar with some members of the Iris Family, but did you know that the orange and green flowers of *Gladiolus equitans* are quite fragrant? Another easy-to-grow plant in this family is orange flowered *Romulea sabulosa*, from South Africa.

We were treated to photos of dozens of other bulbs, and if you missed this talk you can borrow a video at a future meeting. When asked about soil mix, Dylan said he grows most of his bulbs in a mixture of 2/3 pumice, 1/3 sand, and a little bit of organic matter. Some interesting bulbs are available online from www.PlantDelights.com and seed can be purchased from www.SilverhillSeeds.co.za. Thanks, Dylan, for an outstanding evening of bulbous eye candy! 🌱

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- Don Schultz, Conference Chairman and OH Department Coordinator

Conference Speakers and Topics



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► **Catherine Hollinger**, CID, CLIA, President, *Hollinger and Associates, Inc.* Water Management and Water Conservation Consultants will lead a comprehensive talk on watershed issues that affect landscaping in San Diego.



► **Vicki Estrada**, FASLA, APA, is a landscape architect and urban designer and President of Estrada Land Planning in San Diego. Ms. Estrada will discuss land planning issues that impact the sustainability of open spaces in San Diego County.



► **Dan Simpson**, Horticultural Dept. Manager and Certified Arborist at the *San Diego Zoological Society* will talk about the role of trees in sustainable landscapes.

► **Mike Lee**, Public Affairs & Media Relations, from the San Diego County Water Authority will moderate our panel of speakers who will answer your questions on sustainability in the city and the county.

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TOPICS	PRESENTERS
Registration and Continental Breakfast at 7 AM	Trade Show and Refreshments
Introductions & Welcome 8 AM	Moderator: Don Schultz, Conference Chairman & Ornamental Horticulture Dept. Program Coordinator Mark Zacovic, Ph.D., Cuyamaca College President
Keynote Speaker	Jeff Fulgham
Trees, Landscape and Sustainable Air Quality	Dan Simpson
TRADE SHOW and BREAK	Refreshments in the Lobby
Open Space and Sustainability	Vicki Estrada
Integrated Watershed Solutions	Catherine Hollinger
TRADE SHOW and LUNCH	Student Center Cuyamaca College
Wildland Fires and Chaparral Ecosystems	Richard Halsey
Panel Discussion: Dan Simpson Vicki Estrada Catherine Hollinger Richard Halsey	Panel Moderator: Mike Lee
Conference Overview	Nick DeLorenzo



**San Diego County
Water Authority**



The **Foundation** for
Grossmont & Cuyamaca Colleges



C U Y A M A C A
• C O L L E G E •

Cuyamaca College, OH Department 619 660-4023 www.cuyamaca.edu/OHweb

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Governing Board Members: Bill Garrett, Mary Kay Rosinski, Edwin Ramon Hiel, Greg Barr, Debbie Justeson, Grossmont College Student Trustee, Samantha Elliot, Cuyamaca College Student Trustee, Mohammed Alyasini
Cuyamaca College President, Mark Zacovic, Ph.D. Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Chancellor, Cindy L. Miles Ph.D.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR SECURE ONLINE REGISTRATION VISIT: www.cuyamaca.edu/OHweb

Winter Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale

Presented by

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

February 9, 2013

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Room 101 and Adjacent Patio Area

Casa del Prado

Balboa Park, San Diego

Strange and exotic plants from the far corners of the world gathered together for your viewing amazement!!

Sale of choice specimen plants for the novice and collector as well as handmade stoneware planters and pots!!

Members only shopping from 9 to 10

For additional information visit: www.sdcss.net



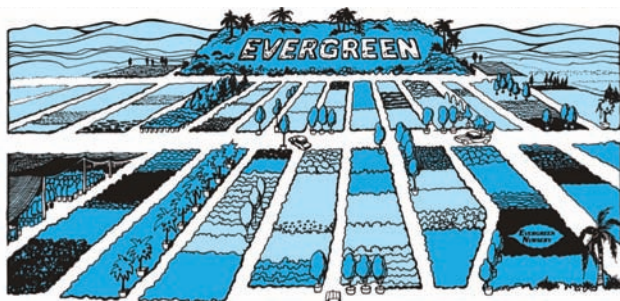
What's Happening? for February 2013

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@sdhortsoc.org.

▼ SDHS Sponsor

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UNBEATABLE VALUE

The discount houses and depots can't compete
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- 1 gallon plants starting at \$2.90
- 5 gallon plants starting at \$9.00
- 15 gallon plants starting at \$35.00

PROMPT DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Winter Hours

Mon. – Sat. 7:30 – 4:30 Sun. 9:00 – 4:30

Free Monthly Seminar

First Saturday of every month
Starting at 10am at both locations

February 2nd Landscaping with Succulents

Creating a beautiful landscape with
succulents without looking like a desert.
Yes, it can be done and you'll also use a
lot less water.

For more details or to view our entire
seminar schedule, visit us at

www.evergreennrsery.com

Send questions and comments to:
info@evergreennursery.com

Two Convenient Locations:

CARMEL VALLEY
13650 Carmel Valley Rd.
(858) 481-0622

OCEANSIDE
3231 Oceanside Blvd.
(760) 754-0340

Events at Public Gardens

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

Feb. 23, 1pm, Novice Bonsai class. Introduction to bonsai and their care: water, feeding, styling. You will receive your own bonsai starter plant, learn to prune it, and then take it home and care for it. All materials provided; bring plant shears. Fee: \$35 members, \$45 non-members. Second class in March.

See website for details, more events & classes.

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

Feb. 2, 10am - 1pm, Through the Eyes of an Artist: Panel discussion recognizing the value of garden art with stunning illustrated examples. Sculpture Artists include Matt Devine, Jerry Dumlao, Lynn Forbes. Garden Artists include Frank and Susan Oddo, Bonnie Teckemeyer, Robert Kopfstein presenting the garden of John Allen. All participants are extremely accomplished so it promises to be a most insightful day. After the program and light refreshments, there will be a tour of the sculptures on exhibit in the Garden. Free w/admission or membership

Feb. 16, 9-11am, Gardening Basics for Beginners: Get the info you need to get growing! Members \$28 non-members \$34. Please register by: Feb. 8.

Saturdays, 10:30am, Docent led tour of Garden: Departs from the Visitor Center/Gift Shop.

❖ **The Water Conservation Garden**

contact info on other side

Feb. 2, 10-noon, Native American Healing: Ken Cohen, health-educator, author, and teacher, explores Native American medicine as a living and still-evolving tradition. Ken will share cross-cultural perspectives on the principles, ethical values, and practice of Native American medicine. A book signing follows class. Free to Members, \$10 Non-Members

Feb. 2, 10-noon, Home Composting Workshop: Learn the basics of composting. Free. Register with the Solana Center at (760) 436-7986 x222, or www.SolanaCenter.org.

Feb. 23, March 2, 9 & 16, 9-noon, 4-week Master Composter Course: A unique opportunity for residents to hone their composting skills and become a local resource for their community. Fee: \$20. Register with the Solana Center at (760) 436-7986 x222, or www.SolanaCenter.org.

Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors:

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

✿ **Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops**

Info: www.barrelsandbranches.com, (760)753-2852 or danica@barrelsandbranches.com

✿ **Cedros Gardens, Saturday and Sunday FREE classes.**

Details at www.cedrosgardens.com; address in ad on page 17.

✿ **City Farmers Nursery FREE Classes**

Feb. 2, 10am. and Feb. 3, 1pm: Building a plantable retaining wall.

Feb. 9, 8am: Beekeeping 101.

Feb. 17, 10am: Spring Gardening 101.

See www.cityfarmersnursery.com or call (619) 284-6358.

✿ **Cuyamaca College Sustainable Landscape Conference**

March 7 - See insert for details or www.cuyamaca.org/ohweb.

✿ **Evergreen Nursery FREE Seminar Each Month**

See column at left for details.

✿ **Grangetto's FREE Workshops**

Feb. 2, 10am to noon, Berries: Richard Wright gives an informative workshop on growing, and maintaining bushberries and caneberries. 530 E. Alvarado Street, Fallbrook 92028.

Grangetto's - ad on page 21. Info: (760) 745-4671 or www.grangettos.com.

✿ **Sunshine Care Fundraiser and FREE Workshop**

Feb. 10, 2 - 5pm: Wine, Sweets & Savories Fundraiser: Supports learning in the gardens. \$10.

Feb. 23, 10:30am - 2:00pm, Funding a Community Garden (part 2 in a series).

Sunshine Care - ad on page 14. Info: (858) 752-8197 or www.sunshinecare.com.

✿ **Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes**

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

✿ **Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops**

Feb. 16, 10am. Grafting Workshop; \$40 for materials & workshop

Feb. 23, 10am. Tufa Pot Workshop; \$10 for materials & workshop

Details at www.weidners.com.

Next SDHS Meeting:

February 11 - 6:00 pm

The Future of Roses in Today's Gardens

See page 1 for details

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

Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

- ◆ Feb. 2 (noon-4pm) and Feb. 3 (10am-4pm), San Diego Camelia Society Show & Sale: Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado. Info: Dean Turney, (760) 942-1919.
- ◆ Feb. 3, noon, Vista Garden Club: Growing Veggies 101. Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace Dr., Vista. Info: www.VistaGardenClub.org, (760) 724-6256.
- ◆ Feb. 3, noon, East County Rose Society: Monthly meeting at Summers Past Farms, 15602 Old Hwy 80, El Cajon. Info: www.eastcountyrosesociety.com.
- ◆ Feb. 5, 6:30pm, San Diego Orchid Society: Grooming plants for show, and Australian Dendrobiums. Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101. Info: www.sdorchids.com.
- ◆ Feb. 9, 10am to noon, Solana Center Composting Workshop: Free. Crestridge Ecological Reserve, 1171 Horsemill Road El Cajon. See www.solanacenter.org to register.
- ◆ Feb. 9, 10am-4pm, Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale: Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Info: www.sdcss.net or (858) 382-1797.
- ◆ Feb. 12, 10:00 am, Dos Valles Garden Club: Debra Lee Baldwin on Designing with Succulents. 31020 Cole Grade Rd., Valley Center. Info: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org.
- ◆ Feb. 12, 1:30-3:30pm, Carlsbad Watershed Network: Bye-Bye Grass. Learn several methods for removing or reducing lawns. Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center, 1580 Cannon Rd., Carlsbad. Info: (760) 724-3887.
- ◆ Feb. 13, 10:00am, Poway Valley Garden Club: How to create an outdoor fairy garden. 14134 Midland Road, Poway. Info: www.powayvalleygardenclub.org or (760) 743-9500.
- ◆ Feb. 13, 10:00am, Point Loma Garden Club: Hows and whys of amazing floral design. 2818 Avenida de Portugal. Info: www.plgc.org.
- ◆ Feb. 13, noon, Ramona Garden Club: Gardening in a Mediterranean climate. 524 Main St. Info: www.RamonaGardenClub.com or (760) 787-0087.
- ◆ Feb. 16, 10am-noon, Waterwise Botanicals: The Magical World of Hummingbirds. Free. 32183 Old Highway 395, Escondido. Info: (760) 728-2641 or www.waterwisebotanicals.com.
- ◆ Feb. 17, 10:30am-3:30pm, Wild Mushroom Fair: Native wild mushrooms on display, Food, cooking & growing demonstrations. Free. See page 11 and www.sdmyco.org.
- ◆ Feb. 19, 6:30pm, California Native Plant Society: TBA. Casa del Prado, room 101, Balboa Park. Info: www.cnpssd.org.
- ◆ Feb. 23, 9-11am, Solana Center Composting Workshop: Free. The Flower Fields, 5704 Paseo del Norte, Carlsbad. See www.solanacenter.org to register.
- ◆ Feb. 23, 10-11:30am, Healthy Garden/Healthy Home IPM Workshop: Controlling Ants the Healthy Way! Lakeside Community Center, 9841 Vine Street, Lakeside. Info: (858) 822-6932 or www.cesandiego.ucdavis.edu.
- ◆ Feb. 25, 2:00pm, Lake Hodges Native Plant Club: Australian Plants. 17110 Bernardo Center Drive, San Diego. Info: www.lhnpc.org.
- ◆ March 1, Carlsbad Garden Club 80th Anniversary Luncheon: Discovery Center, Cannon Road. The jubilee will have honored guests and special speakers. Info: www.carlsbadgardenclub.com

Do you belong to a garden club or organization whose events aren't listed above? For a FREE listing (as space permits) send details by the 10th of the month before the event to Neal King, Calendar Editor, at calendar@sdhort.org.

San Diego County Farmers Markets

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

MONDAY:

Escondido - Welk Village

TUESDAY:

Coronado
Escondido
Mira Mesa
Morena District
Otay Ranch
Pacific Beach
UCSD/La Jolla

WEDNESDAY:

Carlsbad
Encinitas
Mission Hills
North San Diego
Ocean Beach
San Marcos
Santee

THURSDAY:

Chula Vista
Horton Square
Linda Vista
North Park
Oceanside CFM
Oceanside Sunset
Pacific Highlands
Poway-Alliant Univ.
San Carlos
UTC

FRIDAY:

Borrego Springs
Fallbrook
Imperial Beach
Kearny Mesa
La Mesa
Rancho Bernardo
Southeast San Diego

SATURDAY:

Carlsbad
City Heights
Del Mar
Golden Hill
Little Italy
Pacific Beach
Poway
Ramona
Rancho San Diego
Scripps Ranch
Vista

SUNDAY:

North San Diego
Gaslamp District
Hillcrest
Julian
La Jolla
Leucadia/Encinitas
Point Loma
Rancho Santa Fe
San Marcos
Solana Beach

For an extensive list of garden club meetings and events, visit the San Diego Floral Association website: www.sdfloal.org/calendar.htm

Resources & Ongoing Events

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

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN (formerly QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS): Open daily 9-5 (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day); 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Fee: \$12/adults, \$8/seniors, \$6/kids; 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) 694-2860, 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. For information, events, road conditions, etc. call (760) 767-5311 or visit http://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 http://theodorepayne.org.

BALBOA PARK:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Garden TV and Radio Shows:

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

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