

# Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

March 2013, Number 222

## ***Tillandsias – The Cutting Edge for Ornamental Horticulture in the 21st Century***

**SEE PAGE 1**

**LANDSCAPE CONTEST  
INSIDE FRONT COVER**

**SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW  
PAGES 3 & 12**

**FREE WORKSHOPS  
PAGES 5 & 7**

**SPRING GARDEN TOUR  
PAGE 10**

**On the Cover: A stunning tillandsia**





# California-Friendly Landscape Contest

**Deadline:**  
**April 5, 2013**



For info, visit [landscapecontest.com](http://landscapecontest.com)

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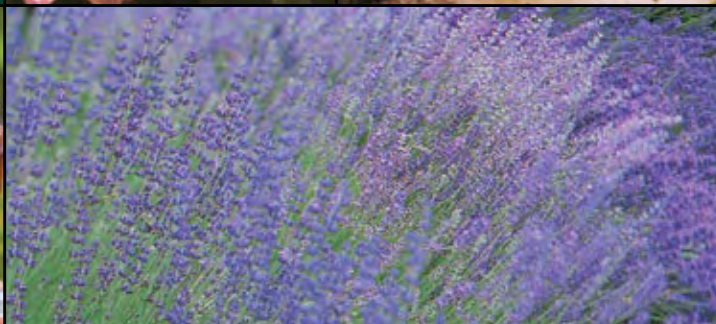
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## SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

**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](http://www.sdhort.org)  
For questions contact [membership@sdhort.org](mailto: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

(REGISTER FOR FREE WORKSHOPS AT [WWW.SDHORT.ORG](http://WWW.SDHORT.ORG))

- March 1-3** Spring Home/Garden Show (see page 3)  
**March 3** Herbs: How to Grow & Use (Free Workshop)  
**March 4** Pruning Woody Shrubs (Free Workshop)  
**March 16** Success with Orchids (Free Workshop)  
**April 6** SDHS Spring Garden Tour in Poway (see page 9)  
**April 8** Greg Rubin and Lucy Warren on Writing the Book on Natives  
**April 21** Getting Your Organic Garden Ready for Spring/Summer Veggies (Free Workshop)  
**April 25** New Varieties of Plants for Our Area (Free Workshop)  
**May 5** Organic Pest Control (Free Workshop)  
**May 6** Gardening for Birds, Hummingbirds & Butterflies & Planting on a Slope (Free Workshop)  
**May 13** John Schoustra on Seriously Funny – The Business of Plants  
**June 24** SDHS Night at the Fair and Horticulturist of the Year Award Ceremony

[www.SDHort.org](http://www.SDHort.org)



**COVER IMAGE:** This *Tillandsia* 'Crowning Glory' is aptly named. This is often one of the most spectacular of any *Tillandsia* in the genus. *Tillandsia xerographica* x *T. exserta* is a most beautiful, large and ultra rare hybrid. Because it has *T. xerographica* as one parent, these gems take a looong time to grow!  
Photo by March speaker Paul Isley.



## Next Meeting: MARCH 11, 2013, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

### Topic: PAUL ISLEY ON "TILLANDSIAS – THE CUTTING EDGE FOR ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE IN THE 21ST CENTURY"

**Meeting is open and everyone is welcome. Admission: Members/free, Non-Members/\$15. Parking is free.**

**Meeting Place: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Surfside Race Place, Del Mar; Info: (619) 296-9215**

We welcome Paul Isley, professional tillandsia grower and hybridizer. He has more than 40 years' experience in the field, is co-owner of Rainforest Flora, Inc. and has authored two books, *Tillandsia* and *Tillandsia II*. Paul was introduced to tillandsias (a.k.a. "air plants") while a student at UCLA in the 1960s. He was fascinated by these incredibly unique looking plants that grew with no soil, could take temperatures down to freezing, could go a month without watering, and rehydrate when dried out by submerging under water overnight.

Paul and his partner, Jerry Robinson, started Rainforest Flora, Inc. 38 years ago and they are now the world's largest tillandsia grower, hybridizer, and distributor, producing 100% of its inventory. They last imported plants in 1993, which is quite an achievement since "tillys" take between six and twenty-five years to mature from seeds. They have also introduced to the marketplace many incomparable hybrids that exhibit tremendous hybrid vigor, growing much larger with correspondingly larger blooms than either parent. The almost limitless combination of different shapes presents an unprecedented opportunity to create fabulous new shapes, colors, and sizes.

Paul's talk will cover why tillandsias can grow with no soil, how they can survive weeks with no watering, cutting edge techniques to present and grow them indoors and out, what to look for when buying them, the best places to find them, which species have wonderfully fragrant flowers, and where the future of ornamental horticulture is going. Paul's presentation will include marvelous close-up photos of tillandsia species, cultivars, and hybrids.

To learn more, visit [www.rainforestflora.com](http://www.rainforestflora.com) and see page 3. 🌿





# SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Patty Berg** – Volunteer Coordinator

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**Susan Oddo** – Publicity Coordinator

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**Sam Seat** – Treasurer

**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?

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website, discounts on memberships for your  
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for the SDHS. Sponsors help pay for our monthly  
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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  
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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 March 11 meeting. An expert from the APLD (Assoc. of Professional Landscape Designers) will be on hand to answer your questions.

### 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.

### Do You Have a New Email or Other Change?

It's quick and easy to update your member profile – see page 13.

### THANKS SO MUCH!

Thank you to Carey Pratt and Steve Hopkins for hosting the February Featured Garden at their stunning Point Loma home. It was hard to believe this is a very new garden, started by Carey in 2008, who has planted every plant himself. There was an astounding array of shrubs, succulents and trees, many chosen for their fascinating variegated or colorful foliage, all surrounding a beautiful home with marvelous views of San Diego bay. 🌿



## 20TH ANNUAL SPRING GARDEN FESTIVAL AT CUYAMACA COLLEGE

The Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture Department and The Water Conservation Garden invite you and your family to enjoy the 20th Annual Spring Garden Festival on Saturday, April 27, from 9am-4pm. The theme of this year's 20th anniversary event is *Celebrating Urban Farms and Gardens*, and the day-long community event offers an exciting day of entertainment and education, with nearly 200 exhibitors and a bevy of experts on hand to help people reconnect with the food they eat and learn to live more sustainably in our arid southern California region.

A highlight of the event is the Ornamental Horticulture department's biggest plant sale of the year at their on-site nursery, which will be bursting with plants including ornamentals and edibles, at incredibly affordable prices. Horticulture demonstrations will provide insight to the department's programs, and in keeping with the event's urban farming theme, visitors will be treated to presentations on raising chickens and goats in an urban setting, beekeeping, cheese making, and more.



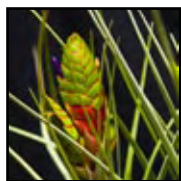
The Water Conservation Garden will also feature education and fun, with a special focus on creating water-wise gardens. Guest speaker Greg Rubin, will give a talk based on his new book, co-authored with Lucy Warren, titled *The California Native Landscape: The Homeowner's Design Guide to Restoring its Beauty and Balance*. Other experts will offer information on making compost, growing edibles, and creating a basic landscape design for the do-it-yourselfers. *The Ms. Smarty-Plants™* and the *Magic of Water* program will be featured in The Garden's 450-seat amphitheater in

addition to other live entertainment throughout the day.

Children will enjoy the various animal encounters throughout the day, including a petting zoo, alpacas, birds of prey and other critters. The Rancho San Diego Farmer's Market, which joins the festival for the first time, will offer an international food court, locally grown organic produce, and specialty food items.

For more information, visit [www.thegarden.org/springfest](http://www.thegarden.org/springfest). 🌿





## TO LEARN MORE...

By Ava Torre-Bueno

### Tillandsias

Tillandsias are epiphytes, which means they hang out on a host plant for support, but they are not parasitic, since they depend on the host only for support and don't take sustenance from it. Read about them here:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tillandsia> and here:  
[www.airplant.com/bromeliadtips.html](http://www.airplant.com/bromeliadtips.html)

All tillandsias are bromeliads, but not all bromeliads are tillandsias. You can learn more about bromeliads (including pineapples and Spanish moss) at:  
[www.bsi.org](http://www.bsi.org)

"Many bromeliads have stiff, overlapping leaves which hold rainfall like buckets. Leaves and debris fall into these reservoirs and help algae and other single-celled organisms to grow, which in turn feed mosquitoes, insect larvae and other organisms. The bromeliad is like a small ecosystem in itself – animals such as tree frogs, snails, flatworms, tiny crabs and salamanders might spend their entire lives inside them." From the Rainforest Alliance:

[www.rainforest-alliance.org/kids/species-profiles/bromeliad](http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/kids/species-profiles/bromeliad)

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](mailto:gardeners4peace@hotmail.com) and visit [sandiegofriendscenter.org/volunteers.htm](http://sandiegofriendscenter.org/volunteers.htm). ☘



## SPRING HOME/ GARDEN SHOW OWNERSHIP WITH PRIDE

By Lucy Warren

Some of our newer members may not know the what and why of our involvement in the Spring Home/Garden Show. It goes back to our mission statement: to promote the enjoyment, art, knowledge and public awareness of horticulture in the San Diego area, while providing the opportunity for education and research.

**As a member you can buy tickets for 50% off.** Go to the website [www.springhomegardenshow.com](http://www.springhomegardenshow.com) and use the code SDHS.

Our organization is in charge of judging the gardens at the show. We created the rules. We provide the judges and awards.

One of our most prized awards is the "Perfection in Nomenclature" award, whereby we ask the Garden Masters to label their plants with the correct botanical names to guarantee the proper nomenclature. Our judges spend hours checking and double-checking the plant names for accuracy. Why all this trouble for a little detail? If we don't insist on proper nomenclature, who else in San Diego will?

The Spring Home/Garden Show is one of our greatest outreach opportunities to the public. When our volunteers are selling plants or books or memberships, they are offering people the opportunity to learn more about plants and good cultural practices appropriate for our community. That's a great charge and responsibility.



## FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

### 2013 Meetings Online

The program committee, chaired by Mary James, has completed scheduling all of the 2013 programs. We think you'll be as excited as we are about the lineup of great topics and speakers. Of special note are the number of local garden experts and authors who will be speaking this year: Greg Rubin and Lucy Warren, Nan Sterman, Debra Lee Baldwin and Ruth Wolfe. In June at the San Diego County Fair Flower & Garden Show, we'll be honoring Brad Monroe (recently retired after 32 years at Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture program) as our Horticulturalist of the Year. Note: this meeting is on June 24, the FOURTH Monday of the month. The November meeting is a special "Sponsors Night and Holiday Bazaar." We have over 50 sponsors that help make SDHS possible. This will be an opportunity to talk directly with our sponsors and many business members. If you are interested in helping organize this meeting, contact Mary James at [programs@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:programs@sdhortsoc.org). Returning in December is the always popular and entertaining Amy Stewart who has a new book, *The Drunken Botanist*.

In conjunction with our March speaker, Paul T. Isley III, a special Featured Garden is scheduled the day after the meeting on Tuesday, March 12 at the Rainforest Flora growing grounds in Bonsall. At 11 AM Paul will give a tour of the facility. After the tour you can shop for tillandsias. Sign up online at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org).

You can view the entire lineup of speakers and topics online at [www.sdhort.org/meetings](http://www.sdhort.org/meetings). So you don't miss any meetings, add the meetings to your online calendar by clicking on the "Add to My Calendar" link in the upper right corner on each meeting page. Also, help us get the word out about our great meetings by inviting your Facebook friends to join us. There is a "Like" under the meeting title on each meeting page.

Mary has already started working on the 2014 programs. If you'd like to volunteer or have ideas for meetings, email Mary at [programs@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:programs@sdhortsoc.org).

### Spring Garden Tour

Dannie McLaughlin has been working to make this year's garden tour on Saturday, April 6, even more spectacular than usual. *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine has signed on as sponsor, and the prestigious winners of magazine's 2011 and 2012 Gardens of the Year are on the tour. You can learn more about this year's tour on our website at [www.sdhort.org/GardenTour](http://www.sdhort.org/GardenTour) and on page 10. You can save \$5 per ticket and skip the ticket line at the tour by purchasing advance tickets for the Spring Garden Tour online.



Barbara Raub

Bighorn sheep artwork from a tour garden.

### Free Workshops

The new workshop committee has been busy planning and scheduling free *Members Only* workshops. They have an educational and exciting lineup of events planned. You can read more about workshops on page 5. Thank you for input about what workshops you are interested in (see page 7) and thanks to members who volunteered to teach or host a workshop. Special thanks to the hard work done by committee members Susi Torre-Bueno, Sam Seat, Mara Woods, Kathryn Blankinship, Dan Petersen, and Roy Wilburn.



## THE REAL DIRT ON...

By Linda Bresler

### Ernest Edward Galpin

Ernest Edward Galpin (1858-1941) was an amateur botanist and explorer in South Africa during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. He was born in Grahamstown, South Africa in 1858. As a child, his mother encouraged in him an interest in botany, etymology, and natural history. He left school at the age of fourteen to take over his father's jewelry business (due to his father's ill health and his older brother studying in Europe). A few years later, when his brother and father could resume their responsibilities, Galpin began a banking career as an accountant. He was transferred several times in the course of his banking career.



In his spare time, Galpin explored the surrounding countryside looking for specimens for his extensive plant collections. He corresponded with other leading botanists in South Africa and Europe, and sent plant specimens and seeds to Kew Gardens, Zurich, and Berlin.

Galpin married Maria Elizabeth de Jongh in 1892. She also loved exploring uncivilized areas and discovering new plants. Together, they traveled through Southern and East Africa, as well as the wilds of Kenya and Uganda.

In 1916, Galpin presented his herbarium of 16,000 mounted, named, and classified sheets to the South African government at Pretoria. Later, he added another 6,000 sheets to it. This formed the nucleus of the South African National Herbarium. Galpin received international recognition from his work, and was made a Fellow of the Linnean Society in 1890. In 1935, the University of South Africa conferred an honorary doctorate on him.

Galpin was responsible for the introduction into cultivation of many indigenous South African plants. The genus *Galpinia* was named after him. One species is *Galpinia transvaalica* (Pride of the Transvaal), a multi-branched shrub or small tree with white flowers. Also named after him were a number of species, including *Bauhinia galpinii*, *Kniphofia galpinii*, *Streptocarpus galpinii* (shown at top in a photo by Linda Loffler from [www.sntc.org.sz](http://www.sntc.org.sz)), *Gerbera galpinii*, and *Watsonia galpinii*.

Member Linda Bresler is a certified landscape designer living in Poway. She specializes in drought-tolerant, low maintenance designs that provide four-season beauty. 🌿

## ARE YOU SEEING THE GORGEOUS FLOWERS ABOVE IN COLOR??

Our monthly eblast has the link for the digital newsletter, featuring all color images and live links. Back issues are also on our website. Over 60% our members like it so much they get only the digital edition! To switch to the digital edition exclusively send an email saying "online only" to [membership@s hort.org](mailto:membership@s hort.org).



## BOOK REVIEW

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

### Flowers and Herbs of Early America

By Lawrence D. Griffith

Photography by Barbara Temple Lombardi

Life, in the form of recent cataract surgery, forced me to look for a book with lots of pictures this month. I won't have glasses with the correct prescription for several more weeks. Serendipity brought me *Flowers and Herbs of Early America*, a coffee-table sized book by Lawrence Griffith, curator of plants for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.



It's much more complicated to compile a list of the plants of an area for a certain time than I had realized. Griffith read old letters, diaries, herbals, florilegia (a collection of excerpts from written texts), and gardening encyclopedias. He even studied period drawings for clues. The 58 species of flowers and herbs he describes are in no way an exhaustive list of the plants of the Virginia area in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, but they are interesting.

Once he'd created his list, he conducted field trials of the plants. His information is slanted toward growing in Virginia, but much of it is general enough to be of use to us, and many of the plants are ones we might see in a local garden: marigolds, nasturtiums, poppies, columbine, sunflowers, and others. All have had a home in my yard over the years.

Griffith has many interesting stories to tell about these plants. For example, sunflowers were first brought from Mexico to Spain by the conquistadors. From Spain they were transported to Italy and then to England. They rested from their travels in Virginia.

Since the early settlers were most interested in utilitarian plants, many have food or medicinal uses. Thomas Jefferson planted 35 hills of nasturtiums at Monticello. Leaves, flowers, and pickled seeds and buds were served at his table.

The text is interesting, but the photographs will appeal to you even more. Barbara Lombardi photographed the trials as they occurred. The results are great. The book is full of spectacular full-page and half-page photos of breath-taking flowers and plants. In addition, many illustrations from the old florilegia add to the beauty.

This sumptuous hard-bound book of 292 pages includes a list of additional plants from colonial and early Federalist gardens. We are connected to the founders of our country by many things. Plants and gardens are not the least of these.

*Flowers and Herbs of Early America* (ISBN 978-0-300-14536-6) lists for \$50. I bought it on a sale table for \$5, so I'm sure it's available on the Internet at a lot of different prices. I often mention the Internet in these reviews. I think once in a while for an out-of-print or expensive book it's worth checking, but remember that if we don't patronize our local independent bookstores, they and printed books may go away forever. No e-reader could ever do justice to this book.

Note: Don't miss items adapted from my book *American Trivia* on the front page of the Union Tribune every morning. You may even see information from this book there. 🌿





## TREES, PLEASE

By Tim Clancy

### Made in the Shade

Many cities in California, including several in San Diego County, have a shade requirement for their parking lots. Trees are used to conform with the shade requirement in many projects. Landscape architects usually look for trees that ultimately will have large canopies that will cast shade on the parking lot and the vehicles parked in it.

Trees also slow rain runoff, sequester carbon, capture particulate matter (soot, etc.), and modulate ambient temperatures. Their very presence just makes us feel better in general. (Studies have positively correlated tree presence and increased retail activity.)

Doesn't it all sound dandy? A nice shady parking spot at the doctor's office. Asphalt that doesn't emanate heat waves as you walk to your appointment. Too bad that is the exception rather than the rule.

The shade ordinances are similar in that their goal is 50% parking lot coverage 15 years after planting. Presumably, this 50% coverage is to be maintained in perpetuity from that point forward. The reasons why this is so infrequently achieved are many. The big three are species selection, available grow space and pruning schedule.



In Encinitas, the commercial parking lot shown here was recently re-landscaped. The original plants had matured to a point of aesthetic displeasure, and the trees (California sycamore, *Platanus racemosa*, shown above), while the correct species, had been pruned so severely and had such restricted soil volume that their ability to provide shade

was compromised. They did, however, provide some respite from the sun. One sycamore remained in the parking lot as it was just too big and doing its job too well to be removed.

The newly planted trees appear to be dwarf *Magnolia grandiflora* 'Little Gem' (shown here). This is without a doubt a great tree. It will, however, not shade the parking lot 50% in 15 years. (Remember, this parking lot is supposed to have 50% coverage *now*.) On the upside, the limited soil volume will be less of an impediment as this tree matures.



Parking lots are built on highly compacted ground. Once the compaction level is attained, planting pits are established (typically a 4' x 4' or 6' x 6' foot pit). These are essentially large pots. The soil is so compacted outside the pit that the roots have a difficult time establishing. And then, of course, there is the issue of water availability. The lack of soil surface to absorb water also limits tree vigor.

Even if a tree is able to overcome the harsh cultural conditions, human intervention will invariably prove to be counterproductive relative to the shade goal. Of course, trees need to be maintained in a safe condition and some pruning will be necessary. Unfortunately, what often happens is over-pruning by thinning, topping, etc., which prevents the tree from developing any appreciable canopy.

And so the cycle goes. What can we do? We can start by asking those in charge to start requiring compliance with the ordinance, code, guideline or whatever they call it. Until then, don't forget your windshield sunshade.

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

## FREE WORKSHOPS HAVE BEGUN!

By Susi Torre-Bueno



Our approximately 1300 members comprise a diverse group of gardeners: people who have recently moved here from out of state, long-time orchid growers, folks who just started gardening now that the kids are off to college, busy landscape designers, weekend weed warriors, and everyone in between. Our monthly meetings offer top notch speakers with wonderful images of stunning plants and insights into various garden topics... but we wanted to offer MORE to our members, many of whom are unable to attend these evening meetings. As Jim Bishop notes on page 3, our workshop committee has been efficiently putting together a lineup of short, highly focused workshops that we think will offer something for everyone. We hope to be able to offer 2-3 different workshops each month, and welcome your participation.

By the time you read this we will have completed our first two workshops: Pruning for Fruit Trees (taught by Patty Berg) and Pruning 101 for Roses and More (taught by Kathryn Parker). Cheers to Patty and Kathryn for volunteering to be our inaugural teachers.

To register for workshops, and to find out about which ones

are still open, go to [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org) and click on EVENTS and then WORKSHOPS. Our upcoming workshops are:

- Herbs: How to Grow & Use (March 3)
- Pruning Woody Shrubs (March 4)
- Success with Orchids (March 16)
- Getting Your Organic Garden Ready for Spring/Summer Veggies (April 21)
- New Varieties of Plants for Our Area (April 25)
- Organic Pest Control (May 5)
- Gardening for Birds, Hummingbirds & Butterflies & Planting on a Slope (May 6)

Some of the workshops are still being finalized as we go to press. Keep checking the website as we add more workshops. These free workshops are a valuable member benefit – if your friends would like to join you, they can become members online and register for a workshop immediately afterward. If you have a family membership and another family member wants to register, first check your membership status on the website to be sure their name appears on your membership, along with an email address for them. It's easy to add a family member and/or update their information (see page 13).

Special thanks to the teachers and hosts who have already volunteered, and to my fellow committee members Sam Seat, Mara Woods, Kathryn Blankinship, Dan Petersen, and Roy Wilburn. If you'd like to join the committee, or teach or host a workshop, please contact me at [newsletter@sdhort.org](mailto:newsletter@sdhort.org).



## GOING WILD WITH THE NATIVES

By Pat Pawlowski

### Anyone Care For a Mint?

Ah, the nose. What a wonderful organ; yet, it sometimes gets no respect.

For example, my very own personal nose goes into hissy fits in the supermarket, as I make my way through the olfactory hell of the Cleaning Aids aisle, overpowered by the militant aromas of room deodorizers, cleansers, etc.

Where are many of the natural, subtly sensuous wonderful smells?

Outside, of course. I'm thinking of the gloriously scented plants that smell so much better than all those artificially scented potions.

So, don't ignore all the nasal treat sensations available at your local nursery, particularly offered by native plants. It's not too late to plant natives; just make sure they have supplemental water if needed, since they are accustomed to being sprinkled by Ma Nature in late Fall and Winter.

There are so many aromatic natives to choose from, and so little space to mention them all; so for now, let's just stick to the fabulous family of *Monardella* (California native mints).

There are many reasons to include a *Monardella* or twelve in your landscape: all have fragrant foliage, are non-invasive (unlike some exotic mints), and are compact pristine little evergreen subshrubs that fit nicely into a small yard or large container. In fact, you may want to have one close at hand (or nose) when you are lazing about on a bench in the outdoors.

More pluses: Our native mints are generally hardy, pest-free and have colorful little blossoms whose nectar is prized by butterflies and bees. (Incidentally, butterflies' sense of smell, called chemoreceptors, happens to be located at the ends of their antennae.) Luckily, bunnies (Easter or otherwise) don't seem to snack on mints, so you'll have enough to make an herbal tea out of the leaves. Though drought tolerant, mints may like a sip of water and bit of shade, depending on where you live (coastal or inland).

Here are a few of the best native mints:

San Diego willow mint (*Monardella linoides*) has purple flowers and a long-blooming season.

Scarlet coyote mint (*Monardella macrantha*), shown here, has gorgeous red-orange blossoms loved by (naturally) hummingbirds.

Mountain pennyroyal (*Monardella odoratissima*) has profuse rosy purple flowers visited by bees and butterflies.

Coyote mint (*Monardella villosa*), shown above, has lavender blooms and is a butterfly favorite (the coyotes don't seem to care).

And, just for those who feel even more attention should be showered on the nose, there's a video on YouTube you need to watch. Just type in "nose flute video beat it" and you will hear Michael Jackson's hit "Beat It" performed on – get ready – a nose flute and ukulele! Indescribable!

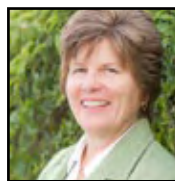
Sitting nearby at the computer, you might position a nosegay – a "nosegay!" (think about it) – of *Monardella* flowers, which hold up well as cut flowers, completing your nasal experience.

You can't go wrong with *Monardella*. The nose knows.

Member Pat Pawlowski is a writer/lecturer/garden consultant who has the sense to appreciate fine scents. 🌿



*Monardella macrantha*



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

By Patty Berg,  
Volunteer Coordinator

### To Their Health!

Did you know that couples who garden together have fewer fights, stronger quadriceps muscles and more blissful moments together than those who don't? Well, okay, we just made that up. But if volunteers Barbara and Bob Bandhauer are any example, it stands to reason that digging in the dirt together may have multiple benefits for any relationship.

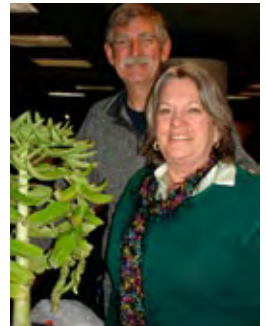
For one thing, it gets Bob and Barbara out on their bikes to check out gardens all over greater San Diego. That means hills. And that's where the quads, hamstrings and glutes get a good workout. So does the heart, of course and that all translates to a lot of stamina in the garden.

Born and raised in Orange County, Bob ran an avocado grove in Fallbrook at one time and now gardens in Clairemont with Barbara, his wife of seven years. Barbara's parents grew veggies for their eight children and she continues the tradition with flower gardens with water-wise choices, a skill she perfected when gardening in Los Cabos.

Over their years together, the Bandhauers have volunteered for several organizations. What spurred them to get more involved with SDHS was their curiosity. They wanted to get a look at Susi Torre-Bueno's ever-evolving Mediterranean acre in Vista - that was the reward for last year's volunteers when Susi hosted the 2012 Volunteer Appreciation Party. So they signed up to help out and have been active ever since.

One of their proudest garden accomplishments will appeal to every gardener's creative side. It is also a project that proves that the reward is in the doing and not something that awaits us when the garden is "finished." And it includes another healthy heart connection. For this project, Bob and Barbara took hundreds of broken wine bottles and tumbled the glass in a cement mixer, batch after batch. Then they created a flowing emerald river through their front yard, a visual delight that just had to be full of great memories of good times. What a great way to repurpose and keep the recycle stream more manageable.

That's the kind of inspiration that thrives when gardeners get together. To that we say ¡Salud! 🍷





**Our 2012 Spring Garden Tour sold out! Avoid long lines this year and buy your tickets online – see page 10.**

Pat Crowl



## FREE Workshops Survey – REPLY BY MARCH 11th:

Please take a minute to complete this form and turn it in at the March 11 meeting check-in desk, or scan it and send it to [newsletter@sdhort.org](mailto:newsletter@sdhort.org), or mail it to Susi Torre-Bueno, 1941 Vista Grande Dr., Vista, CA 92084. Use the other side for any comments or suggestions. Thanks!

**FREE WORKSHOPS** are now being offered – see page 5 for details.

We need members to TEACH and HOST workshops 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 last 2 hours; the teachers and homeowners 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.*

### Do You Know the Way to San Jose? (Part One)

In August of 1979, I loaded up my lime green Ford Galaxy 500 with my few worldly possessions and a potted jade plant and set out from Austin, Texas for San Jose, California. My mother joined me on the drive. We took the Southern route of Interstate 10, then I-8 and Highway 1 up the California coast. We stopped for gas somewhere west of the Marfa Dry Line (Google it) and got odd stares from the gas station attendant as we stood with our arms outstretched and let the breeze remove the last vestiges of Gulf Coast humidity. After 12 hours of driving we made it to El Paso. We'd never been to this part of Texas and had no idea that a mountain range went through the middle of town. The next day after a quick visit across the Rio Grande to Ciudad Juarez we continued west through the sagebrush of southern New Mexico, through the giant rocks of Arizona, past Tucson, to Casa Grande, Arizona. The monsoon season was in full swing. That night the rugged desert mountains were lit by jagged bolts of lightning striking the peaks. The next morning we took a side trip to Pacheco Peak State Park. It is all you imagine the Arizona living desert to be – rocky jagged peaks covered with a saguaro forest and a plethora of other desert plants. There were even semi-wild burros wandering around between the unbelievably tall cacti. Even though I was dreaming of California, the short desert experience left a big impression on me. I've wanted to return for closer look for decades and by the time you read this I'll be doing just that on the Pacific Horticulture tour of Tucson.

After crossing the Colorado River, we assumed it was a straight, flat shot to San Diego. We were surprised by the giant sand dunes west of Yuma, after which I noticed I was pushing more on the gas and felt we must be climbing. Finally, we started passing through the large piles of boulders on the backside of the Laguna Mountains and thought surely this must have been where the opening scene of the movie "It's a Mad Mad Mad Mad World" (1963) was filmed. As we came over the crest the hills started turning green and we got our first look at another plant community we were unfamiliar with – chaparral. I noticed an abundance of bushes covered with dry looking white, pink and rust colored flowers. It would be many years later before I would learn that this is California buckwheat, *Eriogonum* sp.

We continued on past the I-8 trailer parks punctuated by giant palms and finally into San Diego. We stopped for lunch at the Jack in Box in Ocean Beach and marveled at a bike rider with a surfboard under his arm. We headed through Mission Bay Park and somehow ended up climbing the metal tower at Vacation Village (now Paradise Point) and gazed over the tropical gardens of the resort. From there we headed to La Jolla and wondered what had happened to the flat-topped pines along La Jolla Boulevard. I now know they were Italian Stone pines and grow this way naturally. We didn't understand the skinny gawky Washingtonia palms that line Prospect. We followed the signs up to the top of Mt. Soledad and stared in amazement at the view. Then we followed a road back to the freeway and again wondered what was wrong with the big open structured, grayish, pines that line the road (Torrey pines). In Texas, a drive to the beach



Jim's mom and burros.

means crossing miles of flat and swampy land before finally reaching the barren Gulf beaches – nothing like the gorgeous coastal scenery of Southern California. *Dur sure weren't nuttin' like dis in Texas.* We ended the day in Newport Beach and stayed with a college friend.

Part 2 continues in the April newsletter...

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

**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.



## 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 San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles magazine as our newest sponsor; visit them at [www.sandiegohomegarden.com](http://www.sandiegohomegarden.com).**

### NEW MEMBERS:

Ron Kaufmann	Bridget Thompson
Diana Block	Janice Kleinschmidt
Chuck Carroll	George Lombard
Julianne Clark	Rich Mayes
Robert Foster	Brad Monroe
Jennifer Gerson	Jeannine Romero
Bonnie Kalchev	Jeanne Skinner

**NEW ADVERTISER:  
CALIFORNIA-FRIENDLY  
LANDSCAPE CONTEST  
(INSIDE FRONT COVER)**

## 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.

Jim Bishop (1)	Carla Gilbert (1)	Mike Masterson (1)
Barbara Bolton (1)	Heather Hazen (1)	Sue & Dick Streeper (1)
Gigi Dearnas-Lopatriello (1)	Claudia Kuepper (1)	

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### Sunshine Gardens

The Wishing Tree Company

The Worms' Way

Tree of Life Nursery

### Walter Andersen Nursery

Weidners' Gardens

### 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 Reberman (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:

Donna & R. S. Ryan

Renee's Garden ([www.reneesgarden.com](http://www.reneesgarden.com))

## DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

Get a 15% discount at Briggs Tree Co.  
([www.briggstreet.com](http://www.briggstreet.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](mailto:psiley@SDBGarden.org)

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

Davy Tree Expert Company offers a 10% discount to  
SDHS members.

### SEE THESE ADS FOR MORE DISCOUNTS:

Anderson's, La Costa Nursery, Barrels & Branches,  
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Pacific Horticulture, Solana Succulents and  
Southwest Boulder & Stone.



# What's Up at

## San Diego BOTANIC GARDEN

It's the year of the Elderberry! Elderberry? Through the years, the elderberry herb (*Sambucus nigra*) has been used for used for medicine, dyes for basketry, arrow shafts, flutes, whistles, clapper sticks, and folk medicine. Keep in mind that only the blue or purple berries of elderberry are edible.

In addition, elderberries are high in Vitamin C. The blue or purple berries are gathered and made into elderberry wine, jam, syrup, and pies. The entire flower cluster can be dipped in batter and fried while petals can be eaten raw or made into a fragrant and tasty tea. The flowers add an aromatic flavor and lightness to pancakes or fritters, yum!

Naturally, here at the Garden, we celebrate the many herbs and plants and are once again hosting the Herb Festival, Spring Plant Sale and Tomatomania! on March 16 and 17. Just in time, because your friends at the Garden recommend planting your herb garden in late spring.

The Garden has announced that Holly Shimizu will be our honored guest at this year's Herb Festival. Since returning as Executive Director of the U.S. Botanic Garden, Holly has led the Washington, D.C. Garden in many new and exciting directions. The Garden was accredited by the American Association of Museums in 2007. On Saturday, Holly will be presenting how she started the National Herb Garden, and on Sunday she will discuss the "How tos" of growing herbs for use and beauty.

There will be on-going speakers on garden and herb-related topics, guided tours of our very own Herb Garden, an Herb Festival Marketplace to shop, the A-Z on Herbs information booth, and the infamous San Diego Botanic Garden Spring Plant Sale with a multitude of vendors and plant selections.

Tomatomania!® returns to SDBG for a seventh year as part of the annual plant sale. They will be prepared with lectures on culture and care, and plenty of tomato seedlings to purchase. Choose from over 150 varieties of classic heirloom and unique hybrid seedlings and learn everything else you'll need to have a successful season.

Kids will also partake in the fun! Special activities featuring the elderberry, "Respect Your Elders," will be available where they can learn about this marvelous plant and its uses. For more details visit [www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org).

**Herb Festival Spring Plant Sale,  
and Tomatomania!®**

**\$2.00 OFF Admission**

**Valid March 16 and 17, 2013 only | 9AM-5PM**





## SUCCULENT SANCTUARY

Bo & Elizabeth Matthys

This 2012 Grand Prize Winner of the *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles'* Garden of the Year contest replaced lawn with a mountain-view garden of succulents and drought-tolerant shrubs that provides year-round color and beauty. Designer: Linda Bresler.

Photo by Bob Wigand

Variety is the spice of life...



## HILLTOP RETREAT

Ann & Bill Dahnke

Panoramic views beckon from this boulder-strewn hilltop garden (above) with artistic vignettes, drought-tolerant plantings and a small grove. The surrounding 15 acres of open space invite visits by birds, butterflies and other wildlife.

## NATIVE PLANT PARADISE

Dennis & Pamela Mudd

The 2011 Grand Prize Winner of *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles'* Garden of the Year contest (upper right) features an artful array of native plants stretching across the 2-acre home site to an adjacent 4 1/2 acres the couple purchased for a nature preserve.

## SUNSHINE CARE

Sunshine Care (lower right) is known for its cutting-edge horticultural therapy programs and food bank-garden partnerships. Its 32-acre campus features five organic fields, two fruit orchards, a greenhouse, flower gardens and a Children's Garden.



Photo by Bob Wigand





SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY  
& LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB

# spring garden tour

SATURDAY APRIL 6 9AM - 4PM

## FEATURING SIX BEAUTIFUL DIVERSE POWAY GARDENS

Join us for the first garden tour of the year! Among the featured gardens are the 2011 and 2012 *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* Gardens of the Year. Check in for the tour at Lake Poway Park where a Marketplace will showcase jewelry, garden art, pottery, birdhouses and other garden-related merchandise offered by more than a dozen vendors. Watch artists at work in each tour garden. Ticket includes discounts for lunch at Hamburger Factory and for wine tasting at Bernardo Winery.

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LIFESTYLES



and of gardens, too.



### PALM PARADISE

Lyle (Chip) & Helen Arnold

Featured in *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles*, this combination botanical garden and nature preserve features an extensive collection of tropical and subtropical plants from around the world, including rare palms and cycads, on a 15-acre hilltop property.



### ECLECTIC VARIETY

Paul & Jo Casterline

Garden rooms, lush flowerbeds, a meditation garden and orchard are home to diverse plants, including many California and Australian natives, in this garden that has been featured in *Sunset* and other national garden magazines.

**2012 SHOW SOLD OUT! GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY AND SAVE \$5**  
**PURCHASE TICKETS AT [WWW.SDHORT.ORG](http://WWW.SDHORT.ORG)**

Members of SDHS and Lake Hodges Native Plant Club save \$5 on advance purchase tickets. Tickets are \$20 and can be ordered at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org).

Tickets are \$25 for non-members. Event day tickets are \$25 for all and will be sold starting at 9 a.m. at Lake Poway Park, 14644 Lake Poway Rd., Poway.

No tickets will be mailed. Maps will be provided at check-in at Lake Poway Park.

**Questions? Contact [tours@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:tours@sdhortsoc.org) or 619-296-9215, ext. 5**

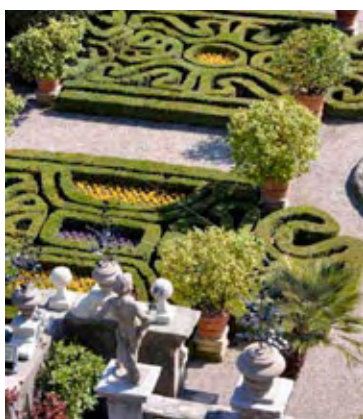




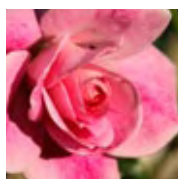
## PACIFIC HORTICULTURE TOURS

**Northern Italy: Garden and Villas through the Centuries.**  
Sept 13-24, 2013

Join Pacific Horticulture Society on a magical tour of historic Italian villas and gardens. Travel back in time to the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries as we visit gardens and villas in Veneto and Tuscany, including the Lake District and Chianti. We'll begin in Asolo, one of the most scenic villages in Italy, touring several Palladian villas, including the Villa La Rotonda. Our itinerary includes the beautiful towns of Bellagio and Varenna, and a tour of Parma. In Tuscany, our visits will include the wonderful Villa Chigi Cetinale, a Tuscan cooking class, as well as walking tours of San Gimignano and Siena. Accommodations include historic hotels and castles and we will enjoy several days taking in the architectural splendor of Florence. For more information on this tour and other trips to Tucson, Philadelphia, Cuba, Scotland, and Santa Cruz Island, visit [www.pacifichorticulture.org](http://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. Under development for 2014 are trips to Santa Barbara, Morocco, and more..✿



## ROSES, ROSES, ROSES

### At the Spring Home/Garden Show

Take home a rose plant *and* new pruners, and learn everything you ever wanted to know about rose care at a workshop during the Spring Home/Garden Show. Topics will include planting, pruning, fertilizing and general care of flowering hybrid tea roses, carpet roses, climbing roses, hedge roses, ground cover roses and more.

Fourth generation rose grower, Mark Collins, owner of Evergreen Nursery, will host the workshop, bringing to you the same principals of his great-grandfather Collins that have helped Evergreen grow more than 30,000 roses every year for decades.

Your \$15 workshop admission includes a 5-gallon rose that you will prune with your new pair of custom folding multi-function hand pruners (also included).

Here is the link for tickets: <http://www.evergreennursery.com/rose-pruning-workshop>. ✿

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## UPDATING YOUR MEMBER PROFILE IS QUICK AND EASY

By Susi Torre-Bueno and Jim Bishop

Members can register for any of our events (tours, workshops, etc.) online at our website: [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org). In fact, this is the *only* way to register for the featured gardens or the workshops. To do this you'll first need to be sure your member profile is up to date and includes a valid email address, which only takes a minute. One important reason to keep your profile current is so that you don't miss out on featured gardens, workshops, etc. That's also a good reason to be sure that there is a *different* email address\* for the other person included in your family membership. Here's the quick way to do this:

When you login to the SDHS website using your email address\*\* and password, the home page will be showing. In the left column, above the cover of the current newsletter, click on **View profile**. This will bring up a page with My profile at the top. Just below that is the **Edit profile** button you click on to make any changes. Once you've clicked the Edit profile button, a new screen will show you all the information we have for you. Just move your cursor to any item (for example, your email address) and update it. While editing your profile, you can also tell us your volunteer interests and availability. When you have finished entering your change(s) click the **Save** button near the bottom of the page to save this information.

Near the top of the edit page you'll see **Bundle Summary**. If you have a **family** membership, the **Bundle limit** will be 2. If you have previously given us information for the other member in your family, the **Used so far** will also be 2. Below that, **Your members** will show the name of the other person and a link to their profile.

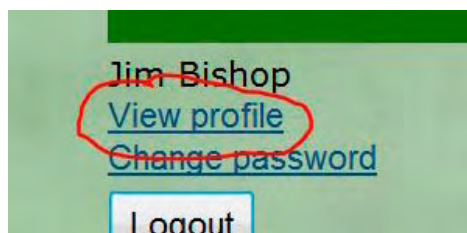
To update that person's profile, you simply click on their link, then click on **Edit profile** on the top of their page, to add a contact email for the other member of your household so that they can register for events.\* When you have finished entering their email address (and anything else, like their cell phone number) click the **Save** button near the bottom of the page.

If the **Used so far** is 1 when it should be 2, you need to add information about the other member of your household so that they can also register for events. Do this by clicking on the **Add Member** button below Used so far and fill in the requested information. Then click the **Save** button near the bottom of the page.

\* Regarding emails: an email can only be used *once* in the database, so husband and wife cannot have the same email address. But a lot of our members do share a single email address. This is not really a good practice since the intended person may never see the email.

\*\* If you have a *new* email address, login using your last email address and follow the instructions above to edit your profile to change the email address on your account.

\*\*\* While editing your profile, you can also tell us your volunteer interests and availability. ☺



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- Intergenerational Seed to Table Program.



## 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 March was:

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!

Regarding the Epsom salts mentioned above... An interesting article on the website for the National Gardening Assoc. showed gardeners had good results when they tested one tablespoon of Epsom salts mixed with a gallon of water as a foliar spray. To read the article, go to [www.garden.org/articles/articles.php?q=show&id=68](http://www.garden.org/articles/articles.php?q=show&id=68).

**Marilyn Wilson** wrote: Rainwater is PERFECT for my plants. But we don't get enough rain in San Diego County, so I must supplement with "city" water. To help lessen the effect of the hard water that comes out of the tap, I pour a gallon of vinegar into each of my large rain barrels (1000+ gallons). The plants get some acid and some alkaline. And of course they get some PLAIN RAIN straight from the sky. I just bought one big bottle for each tank. No figuring... just a guess. Better than nothing.

**Lisa Rini** had a great trick: You know that sticky stuff on pots under pricketags? Or when you have trimmed star jasmine and your tools get all sticky? Or you are working around a pine tree and you get pitch on your hands? A great option that works every time and removes sticky residue is to get tea tree oil pads (available at Trader Joe's) that are designed to be used for cleaning your face (so they are very gentle). They come in a small jar and you just toss each pad after you use it. I will never go back to Citrasolv!

**Dale Rekus** shared two good tips: I use worm castings tea for white fly. Put 1 cup castings in a gallon of water overnight, and shake a few times. Just dump the tea and worm castings into the pot and no more white fly. A lot cheaper than a 2"-3" deep mulch of worm castings. I also use peroxide water (1-1/2 teaspoons of 3% drugstore peroxide to a cup of water) to soak seeds prior to planting *and* watering them until first true leaves show. Seems to improve germination speed and rate and lessen disease (damping off).

**Roy Wilburn**, Director of Horticulture at Sunshine Care (and one of our workshop teachers) sent this good advice: When doing our fall/winter planting of cole crops, we are generally greeted with an attack of cutworms. These little lumberjacks come



out at night and chew through the stems of the tender broccoli and cauliflower transplants. If going out at night in the cold with a flashlight to squish these little devils is not in your playbook, then try this organic means of control. Try it around your strawberries, too. 3 oz of Safer Garden Dust

(a powder form of *Bacillus thuringiensis*, OMRI approved)

1 lb corn meal

Mix it up and toss a tablespoon or two around the base of the transplants. The little critters pop out of the soil at night and are attracted to the sweet smell of the corn meal and gobble it up along with the BT. They might nail one or two of the plants in the row, but will then burrow back into the ground before sunrise and DIE.

**Robin Rushmore** had two tips for those plants in the Protea family: 1) Lomandras, Australian rush-like plants (closely related to the Grass Tree Family), are excellent at extracting phosphorous from the soil. This trait makes them very compatible with Grevilleas, Banksias and Leucadendrons. 2) When planting your Grevilleas, etc., a handful of cottonseed meal is beneficial for its establishment. Do not use inorganic complete fertilizers.

**Marilyn Guidroz** had two fine suggestions: I like to use the clumping clay balls from my used kitty litter boxes and roll them down into an open gopher hole. They hate that and move somewhere else. It doesn't kill the gophers but it might save your fruit tree or rose bush from an agonizing death by gopher bites. I also like to use corn meal around the base of my fruit trees and around the open ant holes to keep the little critters under control when it gets hot. It does seem to help and is much better than poisons.

**Cindy Sparks** shared several great remedies that work well in her garden: For snails and slugs, I save the rinds from cantaloupe and other melons and put a few out in the evening. In the early morning, when I go to run, I collect the (mostly) slugs and dispose of them. Near the birdbath, I like to take a gnarly bare branch, the more rugged the better, and clamp it to a tall pole nearby. It gives the birds a place to perch, and it is totally "natural." Copper bands around the veggie patch work well. I use the copper tape from a HAM radio grounding strip, because it's half the price of the copper at your full-service nursery, and the snails won't cross it even when it gets old and dull looking.

**Rachele Melious** uses dish soap to kill ants and other insects: The soapy water must touch the ants/insects to kill them; it is not residual like pesticides. If a pot has ants, I soak it in a bucket of soapy water. If they're in the ground, I usually re-use dishwater I've washed dishes in, adding a little more soap if needed and pour it around the plant/tree. It usually takes a few soakings. Sometimes, I will spray trees, especially citrus, with a hose end sprayer. This also works for whitefly and, best of all, no special equipment or gloves needed! The amount of soap needed is just a squeeze, the same as you would use to do fairly dirty dishes (hence adding a little bit to used dishwater). If I'm making a bucket, I add most of the water first, to avoid over-bubbling, because the hose has so much more pressure than the sink. Detergent will work as well, but there is more pushback by some because of phosphates. Simple Green and Orange something-or-other also work. However, dish soap, in my opinion, is the most benign.

**Ava Torre-Bueno** has a way to foil the ants: In a lidded container, mix about equal parts of sugar syrup (Karo syrup is good for this) and diatomaceous earth (pool filter powder). Add about half as much water to make a somewhat runny goo. Track your ant trail to as close to the nest as you can get. Sometimes this is to the floorboard the ants are coming out under, or it may be outside. Put about a tablespoon

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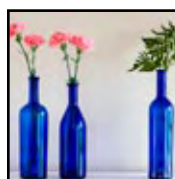
of the goo in a semi-circle around where the ants are starting to trail (you can also put the goo in a small open container). They will go for it immediately. Then, especially in dry weather, add a few drops of water twice a day to keep the trap moist. Every couple of days, add a bit more goo on or around the first goo. In two weeks, when there are no more ants, just use plenty of water to clean up the trap. This is completely organic and harmless to pets and kids.

**Margaret Jones** has an herbal tip: incorporate rosemary into flower arrangements to deter inquisitive cats!! You can also put rosemary cuttings into flower beds to deter cats; just be careful the cuttings don't root.

**The question for April is:**

During the winter months with freezing temperatures, Tina Ivany says she put out bird food in various feeders for the finches and other small birds, including the hummingbirds. She was wondering what types of local plants and berries other members grow that naturally provide food or shelter for birds? Specifically, what varieties of plants have you grown successfully in the San Diego climate and what has been popular with the birds? (Thanks, Tina, for this suggestion!)

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



## FEBRUARY 2013 PLANT DISPLAY

By Steve Brigham, Charley Fouquette and Susi Torre-Bueno

### What is the Plant Display?

Each month members bring in plants, cuttings or flowers and put them in blue bottles on our display tables. What a great way to see what plants grow well in our area. EVERYONE is invited to participate. 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 March meeting.** We thank those people who brought in plants to show to other members.

#### ***Hardenbergia violacea* 'Walkabout Purple'**

**PURPLE LILAC VINE** (Fabaceae) Cultivar  
 This evergreen vining shrub for full sun (light shade in hot areas) climbs by twining stems, and is supposed to be a compact form to 3 feet tall by 3 feet wide. However, in my garden it has stems to 7' long! Violet flowers with a chartreuse spot in the center appear in winter through early spring and "cascade like small Wisteria blossoms." The Native Sons Wholesale Nursery website ([www.nativeson.com](http://www.nativeson.com)) notes that it "tolerates and even prefers heavy soil so long as it drains well." A cultivar of an Australian native plant reported as being widespread along the coast and adjacent ranges in the eastern and southern states, it is drought-tolerant once established. Hardy to 25° F. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/13) – S.T.B.

#### ***Marah macrocarpus* WILD CUCUMBER, CALIFORNIA MAN**

**ROOT** (Cucurbitaceae) California, Baja California  
 Imagine a potato on steroids and you'll have a hint of what *Marah macrocarpus* looks like. The specimen displayed included an




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underground tuber about 2' around and about a foot high – it felt like concrete and it took several strong men to carry it into the meeting room! This cucumber relative is found in the southern half of California and into Baja California. (*Marah fabaceus* is the most common Marah species in California, but doesn't extend below Riverside or Orange Counties.) In spring it sends out thick, hairy vining stems with tendrils that help it cling to and climb up to 20' through larger plants. The tuberous roots can be enormously large with age, and weigh over 220 pounds (one root from Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden weighed 467 pounds). The small greenish-white or white flowers appear very early in the year (there were buds on the specimen displayed), and these become prickly fruits somewhat smaller than a tennis ball. When dry the fruits resemble small, round luffa sponges (borne by another cucumber relative). Native tribes used the seeds as necklace beads and made a fish poison from the tremendously bitter root. For an interesting description go to <http://tinyurl.com/manroot>. (Marilyn Wilson, Vista, 2/13) – S.T.B.

### **Oncidium Twinkle 'Yellow'** (Orchidaceae)

Horticultural hybrid  
This small orchid has an abundance of nicely-scented small yellow flowers with orange centers. It is a cross of yellow-flowered *Oncidium cheirophorum* (which comes from Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama and Colombia) and pink-flowered *O. sotoanum* (from Mexico). The plant grows best with 30-60% humidity and makes a nice houseplant. Grow it in sphagnum moss or fine bark. (Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 2/13) – C.F. & S.T.B.

### **Pyrus calleryana** FLOWERING PEAR (Rosaceae)

Korea, China, Japan, Taiwan  
Here's the description of this tree from our book *Ornamental Trees for Mediterranean Climates*: There are many varieties of fruiting pears that are pretty flowering trees in their own right, but there are also a number of ornamental pear trees that are grown just for their flowers and foliage. Particularly in inland climates where they get some winter chill, the various varieties of Flowering Pear that have been selected from the species *Pyrus calleryana* provide a good show of white flowers before their leaves emerge, attractive green foliage throughout the summer, and bright leaf color in the fall. The Flowering Pear is a deciduous tree that rows to 30-40' tall with a strongly upright branching structure. Some varieties such as 'Bradford' and 'Aristocrat' have a pyramidal growth habit and eventually develop a somewhat rounded crown, whereas others such as 'Whitehouse' are narrow and columnar in shape. In all selections, clusters of white flowers cover the tree in late winter or early spring, followed by a dense foliage of 2-3" long dark green glossy oval leaves which turn bright purplish-red to scarlet in the fall. Flowering Pear trees tolerate a wide variety of soils, need only average watering, and are cold-hardy to below 0° F. (Susanna Pagan, San Marcos, 2/13) – S.B.

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

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

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the February newsletter was *Abutilon* 'The Supremes'  
MOTOWN FLOWERING MAPLE.

*Centradenia inaequalis* 'Cascade' SPANISH SHAWL  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/13)

3 *Centaurea cineraria* DUSTY MILLER  
(Miriam Machell, Escondido, 2/13)

3 *Centaurea corrodium* RUSTY MILLER  
(Plant Lover, Escondido, 1/13)

Continued on page 18

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*Lachenalia aloides* var. *quadricolor*

## ■ Plant Display Continued from page 17

- 3 *Chasmanthe floribunda* var. *duckittii* YELLOW CHASMANTHE,  
ADAM'S RIB, YELLOW AFRICAN CORN FLAG  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/13; Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 2/13)
- Dendrobium* Aussie Chip (Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 2/13)
- Hyacinthus* cv. (HYACINTH) (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 2/13)
- Iris* 'Ruth's Love' REBLOOMING BEARDED IRIS  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/13)
- 3 *Lachenalia aloides* var. *quadricolor* (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/13)
- Leucorum* sp. or cv. SNOWFLAKE (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 2/13)
- Narcissus* cv. DAFFODIL (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 2/13)
- Ribes aureum* var. *gracillimum* GOLDEN CURRANT  
(Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 2/13)
- Strobilanthes dyerianus* PERSIAN SHIELD  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 2/13)

## ■ SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW

Continued from page 3

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Photography by Don Walker  
Text by Steve Brighman





## FEBRUARY MEETING REPORT

By Susi Torre-Bueno

It's awe-inspiring to have as a speaker someone who introduced over 100 rose hybrids, and won dozens of major awards over the last few decades. Imagine the patience and creativity involved in scrutinizing thousands of seedlings and the dedication necessary to select just one or two as being worthy of further breeding. February speaker Tom Carruth has done all that... but also so much more!

His engaging talk about the future of roses started with a worrisome recap of the troubled state of the wholesale rose growing business. The introduction in 2000 of the "Knock Out" rose, with superior resistance to black spot the led to widespread demand, paradoxically resulted in a massive blow to the rose industry because people were asking *only* for that rose and not buying the hundreds of other roses available. Although sales of bare-root roses in the mid 90s were about 50-55 million a year, they plummeted to their current low of only 16-18 million. "Roses fell out of favor; they were perceived to be very fussy," said Tom. "I think the era of the bare-root roses is going away," and now they're sold mostly already potted and blooming. Quite a few big name producers of roses have gone bankrupt in recent years, some of them reorganizing (like Weeks Roses, which generously donated 15 plants for our Silent Auction) but others permanently shutting down. Due to rose nursery closures, some roses are no longer available in the trade, and he hopes new, smaller growers will emerge to fill the gaps and keep older roses growing strong.

After a long career in charge of hybridizing at Weeks Roses, in 2012 Tom became the curator of the rose collection at The Huntington Gardens. His first thought was what could he do to get people excited again about roses. The Huntington has over 1200 varieties of roses, and over 4000 individual plants, which the staff maintains with the help of 46 volunteers. The day Tom spoke to us was the last of their 5-week long major pruning effort. He is reorganizing the gardens, planting companion plants such as herbs, bulbs and perennials among the roses. He's especially happy to get youngsters enthusiastic about roses.

Among the changes Tom has already made is to add more types of roses, such as tree roses, ground cover roses, and miniature roses. They are putting in a new irrigation system to replace their decades old fixtures. An old decrepit wooden trellis is being replaced with a new one of aluminum and wood, and a rehabilitated old fountain has been beautifully restored and is a charming focal point now. In addition, they have vastly reduced the amount of boxwood hedges previously used, replacing them with rose borders whose bright colors have "lightened the whole garden." Roses are being added to the nearby Chinese and Japanese gardens, too.

No talk about roses would be complete without a peek at new varieties. Tom showed images of quite a few introductions, including 'Stormy Rose' (a scented climber), 'Koko Loko' (with tan buds opening to lavender flowers), 'Sugar Moon' (a very fragrant white hybrid tea), and the grandiflora 'Twilight Zone' (purple flowers with excellent fragrance). Not available into 2014, but worth watching out for, are 'Good as Gold' (very saturated color), 'Jump for Joy' (a peach floribunda), and a lovely new pink called 'Corretta Scott King'.

Asked about rose care suggestions, Tom said that roses should be watered deeply but not too often. Always water early in the morning so the leaves dry off. Fertilize with dehydrated alfalfa meal and/or kelp.

Thanks, Tom, for helping us appreciate the future of roses. If you missed this meeting you can borrow a video at the next meeting you attend. ☺

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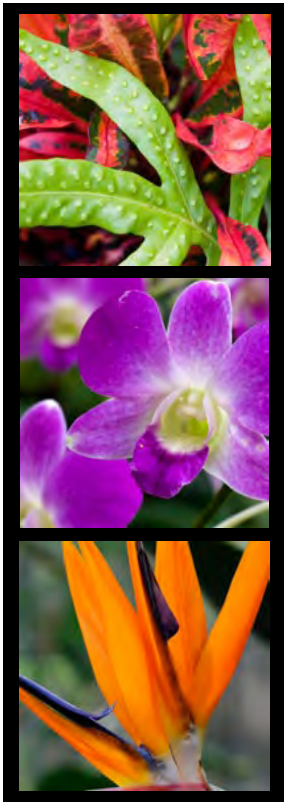
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Please contact Garden Coordinator Cindy Benoit at 760-473-4244 for details, or e-mail: [cbenoit@sdfair.com](mailto:cbenoit@sdfair.com)

**for more information visit [www.sdfair.com/entry](http://www.sdfair.com/entry)**

## Our January Featured Garden: Nautilus Business Park Organic Garden

By Anne Murphy

Nautilus Business Park in Torrey Pines reconfigured existing buildings and parking to create a drought tolerant garden and an organic vegetable garden. The onsite Green Acre eatery uses the garden-fresh produce in organic meals. SDHS member Karen Contreras of Urban Plantations, [www.urbanplantations.com](http://www.urbanplantations.com), a business that designs and installs edible gardens, gave a lovely talk about the challenges she faced with the garden installation here. She spoke about encouraging everyone to follow their passions and interests rather than the money, and took us around the garden, explaining the fruits and vegetables, including her special love of parsnips (enjoyed in our lunch). The garden also grows passion fruit and kiwi vines, plus finger lime and other citrus trees. All the plants were handsome and healthy, and I envied the beautiful edible pea pods, Sugar Sprint and Sugar Star. Other plants included potatoes, varieties of kale and other brassica, chard, radishes, artichokes, parsley, sage, thyme, oregano, lemongrass.

Indoors we met chef Joel Cammett, who runs Green Acre, [www.greenacresd.com](http://www.greenacresd.com), and who described our four-course lunch. The food was absolutely delicious! We started with a falafel patty made with different beans on greens with Green Goddess and a spicy sauce. Second course was very lightly dressed plate of mixed greens with some pickles that were made on the premises. Third dish was a glorious root soup with potatoes, parsnips, carrots, pale beets (each cooked separately) with a small serving of a cheddar cauliflower couscous (the orange cauliflower) and deep fried vegetable skin strips that went down very well. Final course was a lavender-infused milk dessert topped with peeled citrus segments in different colors and a small sprinkling of the tiniest chocolate eggs. The restaurant plates are cardboard and the flatware is made of corn and potato starches. The intent is to recycle all of the eating utensils.



San Diego Horticultural Society  
P. O. Box 231869  
Encinitas, CA 92023-1869

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# Herb Festival, Spring Plant Sale AND Tomatomania!®

March 16 and 17 • 9 AM – 5 PM



**Holly Shimizu**, Executive Director of the U.S. Botanic Garden will be our honored guest!

Enjoy...

- On-going speakers
  - Guided tours
  - Herb Festival Marketplace
  - Spring Plant Sale
  - Design a bookmark from natural materials
  - Crafts and activities for Kids celebrating the Herb of the Year, Elderberry
- ... and so much more!

Back by  
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Tomatomania!®  
with lectures on  
culture and care.

Details visit [www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org)  
Free with admission or membership





# MARCH - APRIL WORKSHOPS

## FREE Garden Workshops

### OVERVIEW

Join Grangetto's and guest speakers for informative workshops to help you grow an abundance of fresh veggies this spring. Learn the best soils to use, planting care, feeding and maintenance for in ground, raised beds & container growing! Get tips and ask questions from leading experts in the industry.

**garden club**  
JOIN TODAY!!

[GrangettosGardenClub.com/join](http://GrangettosGardenClub.com/join)  
Gardening information delivered to your inbox! Best of all it's FREE

### TIME

All start at 10:00am to 12:00pm

### WORKSHOPS OFFERED



#### PLANTING SPRING VEGGIES

Saturday, March 9, Escondido  
Saturday, April 6, Valley Center



#### GOTOMANIA - TOMATOES

Wednesday, March 27, Fallbrook  
Wednesday, April 3, Encinitas



#### CONTAINER GARDENING

Saturday, April 27, Escondido

### WHO CAN ATTEND

Anyone! It's FREE, we just ask that you register for a head count. Thanks!

**REGISTER & LEARN MORE AT**  
**[www.GrangettosGardenClub.com/workshops](http://www.GrangettosGardenClub.com/workshops)**

**Light Snacks & Refreshments will be served**

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK**

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GRANGETTOS](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GRANGETTOS)

**VISIT US ON THE WEB**

[WWW.GRANGETTOS.COM](http://WWW.GRANGETTOS.COM)



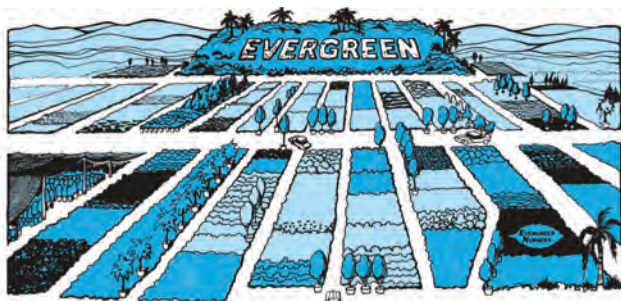
## What's Happening? for March 2013

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](mailto:calendar@sdhortsoc.org).

### ▼ SDHS Sponsor

## DISCOVER EVERGREEN NURSERY



Landscaping? Relandscaping?  
Just Sprucing Up Your Yard?

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From small color packs to huge specimen trees.

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

Come on out and see for yourself!

- 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*

## March 2nd

## Ask the Expert - Weeds, Gophers, Bugs, & Fertilizers

Our 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 to promote healthy, vigorous plants. We'll  
also answer your questions and discuss other  
gardening topics.

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

[www.evergreennursery.com](http://www.evergreennursery.com)

Send questions and comments to:

[info@evergreennursery.com](mailto: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

See website for events & classes.

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

**Mar. 9, 10-noon, New Plants for Southern California:** These plants  
have been successfully used in low-water areas. Members \$10, non-members \$12,  
Register by March 1.

**Mar. 16 & 17, 9am-5pm, Herb Festival, Spring Plant Sale, and  
Tomatomania:** Speakers on garden and herb-related topics, guided tours of  
the Herb Garden, Herb Festival Marketplace, the A-Z on Herbs information  
booth, and a multitude of vendors. Free with admission or membership.

**Mar. 23, 10am-noon, Book Launch, The California Native Land-  
scape:** Members \$10, non-members \$12 Please register by March 20.

❖ **The Water Conservation Garden**

contact info on other side

**Mar. 2, 9-noon, California Native Plants:** Learn proper care & placement  
of drought tolerant natives from Greg Rubin. Members Free, Non-Members \$10

**Mar. 2, 9 & 16, 9-noon, Master Composter Workshop:** \$20. Register  
with the Solana Center at (760) 436-7986 x222, or [www.SolanaCenter.org](http://www.SolanaCenter.org).

**Mar. 23, 10-noon, Protea & Grevillea:** Walking tour to discuss the protea  
and grevillea. Members Free; Non-Members \$10.

## Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors:

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

## SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW

**March 1-3, Del Mar Fairgrounds**

**See page 3 - SDHS members get a special discount!**

**[www.SpringHomeGardenShow.com](http://www.SpringHomeGardenShow.com)**

### ✿ Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops

Mar. 2, 10-noon: Composting & Vermicomposting. FREE.

Mar. 24, 10-noon, Hypeertufa workshop. Make and take home a handcrafted pot. \$48.

Mar. 24, 2-4pm, Succulent wreath Easter centerpiece, materials included. \$55.

Info: [www.barrelsandbranches.com](http://www.barrelsandbranches.com), (760)753-2852 or [danica@barrelsandbranches.com](mailto:danica@barrelsandbranches.com)

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

Details at [www.cedrosgardens.com](http://www.cedrosgardens.com); address in ad on page 17.

### ✿ City Farmers Nursery FREE Classes

Mar. 3, 3PM, Hydroponics, Aquaculture & Aquaponics.

See [www.cityfarmersnursery.com](http://www.cityfarmersnursery.com) or call (619) 284-6358.

### ✿ Cuyamaca College Sustainable Landscape Conference

Mar. 7 - Details at [www.cuyamaca.org/ohweb](http://www.cuyamaca.org/ohweb).

### ✿ Evergreen Nursery FREE Seminar Each Month

See column at left for details.

### ✿ Grangetto's FREE Workshops

Mar. 9, 10am to noon, Planting spring veggies. 1105 W. Mission Ave Escondido

Mar. 27, 10-noon, GOTOMANIA (Tomatoes). 530 E. Alvarado St., Fallbrook 92028.

**See insert for details.** Info: (760) 745-4671 or [www.grangettos.com](http://www.grangettos.com).

### ✿ Sunshine Care FREE Workshop

Mar. 16, 10:30am, Winter garden recap and getting ready for spring.

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

### ✿ Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes

Details at [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com); addresses in ad on page 15

	<b>Point Loma, 9am</b>	<b>Poway, 9:30am</b>
Mar. 2	Spring vegetables	Container gardening
Mar. 9	Trees for San Diego	Fairy House Workshop (\$50)
Mar. 16	Shade plants	Veggies (with Richard Wright)
Mar. 23	Attracting birds	Health benefits of tea
Mar. 30	Herbs: care & uses	no class

### ✿ Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops

Mar. 23 & 24, Big Herb & Vegetable Festival; events, food, music & more both days.

Details at [www.weidners.com](http://www.weidners.com).

### Next SDHS Meeting:

**March 11 - 6:00 pm**

**Tillandsias - The Cutting Edge  
for Ornamental Horticulture**

**See page 1 for details**

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



Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

- ◆ **Mar. 1, noon, Vista Garden Club:** Calling all Home Orchardists. Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace Dr. , Vista. Info: [www.VistaGardenClub.org](http://www.VistaGardenClub.org), (760) 724-6256.
- ◆ **Mar. 1, Carlsbad Garden Club 80th Anniversary Luncheon:** Discovery Center, Cannon Road. The jubilee will have honored guests and special speakers. Info: [www.carlsbadgardenclub.com](http://www.carlsbadgardenclub.com).
- ◆ **Mar. 3, 2pm, East County Rose Society:** Monthly meeting. Info: [www.eastcountyrosesociety.com](http://www.eastcountyrosesociety.com).
- ◆ **Mar. 5, 6:30pm, San Diego Orchid Society:** TBA. Balboa Park, Casa Del Prado, Room 101. Info: [www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com).
- ◆ **Mar. 7, 1:30pm, Floral Demo & Garden Tea:** Remco van Vliet, gifted floral and event designer, gives a floral demo followed by an elegant Garden Tea at the Museum of Contemporary Art, La Jolla. Tickets are \$65. Details: Mary Johnson, 858-454-7699.
- ◆ **Mar. 9, 10am - 4pm, Cherry Blossom Festival:** Visit the garden and celebrate the blooming of 150 cherry trees with cultural performances, vendors, authentic Japanese food, more! Japanese Friendship Garden, Balboa Park. Free with paid admission to the garden. Info: [www.niwa.org](http://www.niwa.org).
- ◆ **Mar. 10, 1pm, Iris Society:** Hybridizing, Propagating, and Growing Irises from Start to Finish. 9906 Maine Avenue, Lakeside. Info: [www.sandiegoirissociety.org](http://www.sandiegoirissociety.org).
- ◆ **Mar. 10, 1:30pm, American Begonia Society:** Begonias to grow in Terrariums. Olivenhain Meeting Hall, 423 Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas. Info: (760) 815-7914.
- ◆ **Mar. 12, 10:00 am, Dos Valles Garden Club:** Scholarship Success Story. 31020 Cole Grade Rd., Valley Center. Info: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org).
- ◆ **Mar. 13, 10:00am, Point Loma Garden Club:** Better plant & garden portraits. 2818 Avenida de Portugal. Info: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org).
- ◆ **Mar. 13, 10:30am, Poway Valley Garden Club:** Principles for Home and Flower Show Design. 14134 Midland Road, Poway. Info: [www.powayvalleygardenclub.org](http://www.powayvalleygardenclub.org) or (760) 743-9500.
- ◆ **Mar. 13, noon, Ramona Garden Club:** Australian and South African Plants, with an emphasis on Proteaceae. 524 Main St. Info: [www.RamonaGardenClub.com](http://www.RamonaGardenClub.com) or (760) 787-0087.
- ◆ **Mar. 16, 9am-4pm, Calif. Native Plant Society Plant Sale:** Tree of Life Nursery, 33201 Ortega Hwy, San Juan Capistrano. See [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).
- ◆ **Mar. 16, 10-11am, Preserve Calavera:** Free Mini tour of Buena Vista Creek Ecological Reserve. Marron Adobe at west end of Haymar off of College Blvd. in Oceanside. See [www.preservecalavera.org](http://www.preservecalavera.org) or call Diane (760) 724-3887.
- ◆ **Mar. 19, 6:30pm, California Native Plant Society:** TBA. Casa del Prado, room 101, Balboa Park. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).
- ◆ **Mar. 21, 1pm, Bernardo Gardeners Club:** Heriloom tomatoes. 16955 Bernardo Oaks Dr.. \$5 non-members. Info: [www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org).
- ◆ **Mar. 25, 2:00pm, Lake Hodges Native Plant Club:** Attracting birds & butterflies. 17110 Bernardo Center Dr., San Diego. Info: [www.lhnpc.org](http://www.lhnpc.org).

**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](mailto:calendar@sdhort.org).

San Diego County Farmers Markets

[www.sdfarmbureau.org/BuyLocal/Farmers-Markets.php](http://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  
El Cajon ---NEW!!!  
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](http://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](http://www.avgardens.org) or (760) 945-3954.

**SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN** (formerly QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS): Open daily 9-5 (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day); 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Fee: \$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](http://www.SDBGarden.org).

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

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

**MASTER GARDENER HOTLINE:** Gardening questions answered by trained volunteers Mon.-Fri., 9-3, (858) 694-2860, [www.mastergardenerssandiego.org](http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org).

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

**DESERT WILDFLOWER HOTLINE:** Anza-Borrego Desert State Park: (760) 767-4684. 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](http://www.niwa.org)

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

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

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

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

Garden 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](http://lifestyletalkradio.com). GardenLife shows are also archived at [lifestyletalkradio.com](http://lifestyletalkradio.com).