

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

December 2014, Number 243

Centennial Celebrations

PAGES 1 & 7

VICTORY GARDENS ON
CAMP PENDLETON
PAGE 5

HEDGES FOR EDGES
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OUR RECENT ANT INVASION
PAGE 8

GARDEN OF LIGHTS
PAGE 11

On the Balboa Park Lily Pond

Centennial Celebration: Our 2nd Balboa Park Planting Day a Success (see page 7)



Some of our marvelous volunteers

Jim Bishop (2)

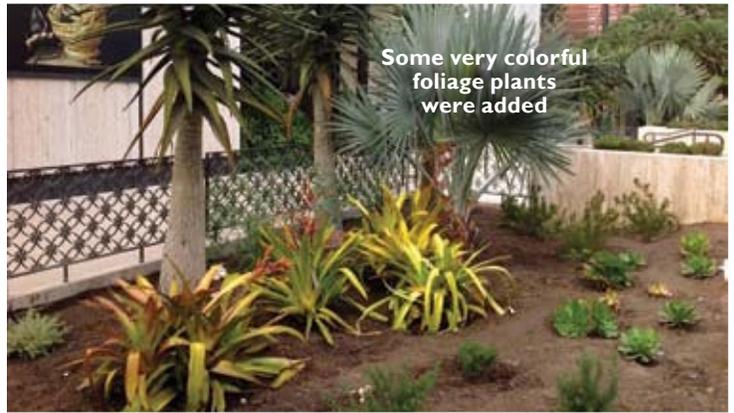


Ready for planting



After planting - wait till this fills in!

Chris Drayer (2)



Some very colorful foliage plants were added

▼ SDHS SPONSOR

GREEN THUMB SUPER GARDEN CENTERS

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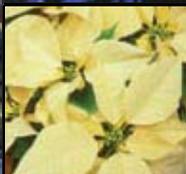
- Must present printed coupon to cashier at time of purchase
- Not valid with any sale items or with other coupons or offers
- Offer does not include Sod, Gift Certificates, or Department 56
- Not valid with previous purchases • Limit 1 coupon per household
- Coupon expires 12/31/2014 at 6 p.m.

sdhs



- Ornaments
- Garland
- Lights
- Wreaths
- Poinsettias
- Christmas Trees
- Outdoor Decorations

When in doubt, let them make their own choice with a GREEN THUMB GIFT CARD!



CUYAMACA COLLEGE



**ORNAMENTAL
HORTICULTURE**

Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture

Spring 2015 Class Schedule January 26 — June 1

<u>Num</u>	<u>Course Name</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
102	Xeriscape - Water Conservation	Schultz	Wed	2:00 to 3:50 pm
102	Xeriscape - Water Conservation	Rottke	Tue	5:00 to 6:50 pm
114	Floral Design 1	Citrowske	Mon	4:00 to 9:40 pm
118	Special Occasion Floral	Citrowske	Tue	4:00 to 9:00 pm
120	Fundamentals of O.H.	Faulstich	Wed	11:00 to 4:00 pm
120	Fundamentals of O.H.	Schultz	Wed	5:00 to 7:05 pm
	Saturdays 1/31 - 2/21 - 3/7 - 3/21 - 4/11 - 5/2 - 5/16		Sat	8:00 am to 3:45 pm
121	Plant Propagation	Palafox	Thur	7:15 to 9:20 pm
	Saturdays 2/7 - 2/28 - 3/14 - 4/4 - 4/18 - 5/9 - 5/23		Sat	8:00 am to 3:45 pm
130	Plant Pest Control	Schultz	Tue	10:00 am to 2:50 pm
140	Soils	Kotnik	Mon	5:00 to 7:10 pm
	Saturdays 2/7 - 2/28 - 3/14 - 4/4 - 4/18 - 5/9 - 5/23		Sat	8:00 am to 3:45 pm
170	Plant Materials: Trees and Shrubs	Whitney	Thur	4:00 to 6:50 pm
170	Plant Materials: Trees and Shrubs	Schultz	Thur	12:00 to 2:50 pm
	This class meets at Balboa Park for 12 of the class sessions			
172	Beginning Landscape Design	Holladay	Wed	4:10 to 9:00 pm
174	Turf and Ground Cover Management	Spardy	Mon	5:00 to 7:10 pm
	Saturdays 2/7 - 2/28 - 3/14 - 4/4 - 4/18 - 5/9 - 5/23		Sat	8:00 am to 3:45 pm
180	Plant Materials: Annuals and Perennials	Rottke	Tue	1:00 to 3:50 pm
200	Introduction to CADD	Sumek	Fri	12:00 to 3:10 pm
	Additional 2 hours per week via the internet			
220	Landscape Construction/Concrete & Masonry	Ratynski	Tue	7:00 to 9:05 pm
	Saturdays 1/31 - 2/21 - 3/7 - 3/21 - 4/11 - 5/2 - 5/16		Sat	8:00 am to 3:45 pm
235	Principles of Landscape Irrigation	Conger	Wed	5:00 to 8:50 pm
238	Irrigation System Design	Groot	Tue	4:00 to 8:50 pm
260	Arboriculture	Rottke	Thur	5:00 to 7:05 pm
	Saturdays 1/31 - 2/21 - 3/7 - 3/21 - 4/11 - 5/2 - 5/16		Sat	8:00 am to 3:45 pm
290	Cooperative Work Experience	Palafox		Hours to be arranged
	Required orientation Friday Jan. 23 at 5:00 pm			

**For additional information call 619.660.4023 or
visit the Ornamental Horticulture website**

**Come learn about
growing with Us!**

Ornamental Horticulture Department Orientation

All are welcome, including new and continuing students.

Wednesday, January 21 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Cuyamaca College - Room M-111.

900 Rancho San Diego Parkway - El Cajon

Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture

Award Winning Program in Sustainable Urban Landscapes

2012 State Board of Governors Sustainability Award

2013 Green California Leadership Award



Save the Date!

**Sustainable Turf and
Landscape Seminar**

Thursday, March 5, 2015

www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb





HORTICULTURE

SPRING 2015

miracosta.edu/hort



Horticulture Associate Degree or Certificate Program

At MiraCosta College, you can earn an associate degree or a certificate in a variety of programs including irrigation technology, landscape architecture, landscape management, nursery production, wine technology and more. Some certificates take as little as two semesters to complete!

To receive a spring course schedule with complete details and enrollment information, call **760.795.6615**. For more information about MiraCosta College's Horticulture Program, call **Claire Ehrlinger** at **760.795.6704**.

Spring classes at MiraCosta College start January 20

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

Horticulture Department Open House

Monday, January 5, 2015, 5-7 PM

MiraCosta College Horticulture Building Room 7051

Parking available in lots 7A and 4C, no permit required.

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

For more information contact **Jason Kubrock**, **760.757.2121, x6482** or jkubrock@miracosta.edu

Holiday Poinsettia Sale

Premium quality Poinsettias grown by the MiraCosta College Horticulture Department

Poinsettia Sale Hours at the Horticulture Sales Nursery:

Every Mon., Wed. & Fri., 11/12-12/23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
(or until sold out)

Poinsettia Varieties & Pot Sizes:

- 4" Red, White & Pink
- 6" Red, White & Other Varieties (Maroon, Cinnamon Star, Red Glitter, White Glitter, Sparkling Punch)
- 8" Square Decorative Pot
- Mixed Poinsettia & Foliage Planters



Quantity Discounts:

- 10% discount for quantities of 10 or more**
- 15% discount for quantities of 50 or more**

Payable by cash or check only.

For ordering or more information please contact:
Horticulture Sales Nursery

760.757.2121, x6994 or hortmail@miracosta.edu



Horticulture Department & Plant Sales Nursery

MiraCosta College, Oceanside Campus
1 Barnard Drive, Oceanside, CA 92056
Parking available in Lot-7A

MiraCosta College Credit Courses / Spring 2015

Class #	Days	Time	Instructor	Units	Room #
HORTICULTURE					
HORT 110 Introduction to Sustainable Horticulture					
This course introduces sustainable horticulture principles and practices in gardening, landscaping, nursery management, and floriculture. Students are required to attend field labs and field trips. CSU					
OCEANSIDE CAMPUS					
2058	T	9:30am-2:20pm	ALLISON M	3.0	OC7053
HORT 115 Soil Science					
This course examines the physical, chemical, and biological properties of soil with an emphasis on solving issues related fertility, salinity, pH, high calcium, specific toxicities, and physical problems. Students are required to participate in field labs and trips. CSU; UC					
OCEANSIDE CAMPUS					
2060	Th	9:30am-2:20pm	ALLISON M	3.0	OC7053
HORT 116 Plant Science					
This course covers the basic principles of plant science pertaining to food and ornamental plants and addresses plant taxonomy and nomenclature. Students are required to attend field labs and field trips. CSU; UC					
OCEANSIDE CAMPUS					
2062	MW	12:30pm-3:30pm	KINNON C	4.0	OC7053
2064	W	5:00pm-7:50pm	EHLINGER C	4.0	OC7053
&ONL +3 hours weekly online.					
HORT 117 Plant Identification: Trees, Shrubs, and Vines					
This course covers the identification, growth habits, culture, and ornamental use of plants found in Southern California landscapes. It emphasizes botanical and common names, plant family relationships, and environmental adaptations. Students are required to attend field trips both on and off campus. CSU; UC					
OCEANSIDE CAMPUS					
2066	F	1:00pm-3:50pm	EHLINGER C	3.0	OC7051
&ONL +2 hours weekly online.					
HORT 127 Landscape Design					
This introduction to landscape design covers the principles and process of design, drafting, hand drawn graphics, and presentation methods. Projects emphasize residential and small commercial sites. Students are required to attend field trips. CSU; UC					
OCEANSIDE CAMPUS					
2068	T	5:00pm-9:50pm	ALLISON M	3.0	OC7051
HORT 134 Plant Pest Control					
Students examine common pests of ornamental plants in Southern California (weeds, insects, and diseases). The course emphasizes diagnosis, control, laws and regulations, and preparation for state licensing exams or continuing education. CSU					
OCEANSIDE CAMPUS					
2070	T	5:00pm-9:50pm	KINNON C	3.0	OC7053

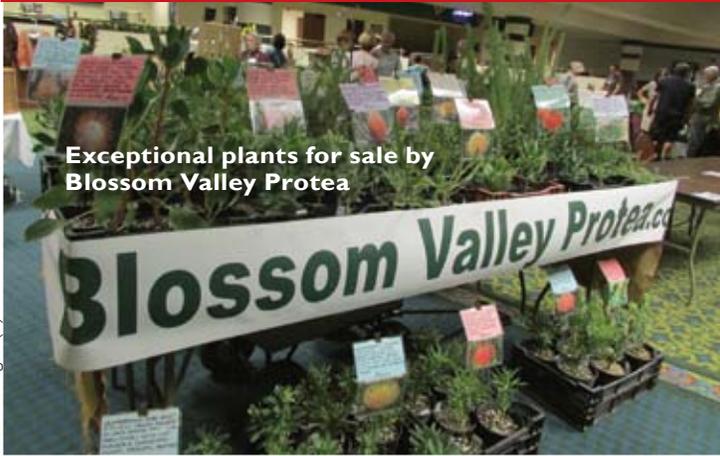
Class #	Days	Time	Instructor	Units	Room #
HORTICULTURE					
HORT 140 Subtropical Fruit and Plant Production					
This course covers the production of subtropical fruits grown primarily in San Diego and neighboring counties, including citrus, avocados, and exotic fruits. Field trips to local orchards and groves are required. CSU					
OCEANSIDE CAMPUS					
2072	M	5:00pm-7:15pm	BENDER G	3.0	OC7053
&S 8:00am-11:10am					
HORT 149 Vineyard Production and Management					
This course covers vineyard management responsibilities, including vineyard development, budgeting, grape selection, and care. Students are required to attend field trips to local vineyards. CSU					
OCEANSIDE CAMPUS					
2074	M	7:30pm-9:35pm	STEHLY A	3.0	OC7053
&S +6 hours every other Saturday from 8am-1:50pm beginning 1/24/14.					
HORT 230 Landscape Architecture					
This project-based class offers continued study in the field of landscape architectural design with an emphasis on sustainable design at the urban and community scale. Students work both individually and in groups. Field trips are required. CSU PREREQUISITE: HORT 127.					
OCEANSIDE CAMPUS					
2827	Th	5:00pm-9:50pm	ALLISON M	3.0	OC7051
HORT 299 Occupational Cooperative Work Experience					
This course is for students who are employed in a job directly related to their major and who seek to learn new skills or improve existing skills at work under the instruction of a MiraCosta faculty-mentor. CSU COREQUISITE: Complete 75 hrs paid or 60 hrs non-paid work per unit. Enrollment Limitation: Career Center approval. May not enroll in any combination of cooperative work experience and/or internship studies concurrently.					
◆2217 ARR STAFF 3.0					
Go to miracosta.edu/dataform or the Career Center in Bldg 3700, OC, to complete an employer contact information form. Faculty mentor will visit your worksite twice, unless you are employed more than 25 miles from any of MiraCosta's three campuses. You then may be required to travel to a campus to meet with your instructor and to meet virtually. Call the Career Center if you have questions: 760.795.6772.					
THIS IS A LATE-START CLASS, (02/02-05/22).					

OC=Oceanside Campus

◆ Repeatable course

Holiday Marketplace Lots of Fun (see page 19)

Susanma Pagan (5)



Exceptional plants for sale by Blossom Valley Protea



Great info available from Tree San Diego



Megan Boone at sponsor Serra Gardens table



Robyn Foreman's mini demo



Cut proteas sold by San Diego Floral Association

▼ SDHS SPONSOR

WHEN IN DROUGHT

Save every day, every way.

This is **Serious**
Water Conservation is Mandatory

Mandatory conservation measures include:

- Limiting outdoor watering days and times
- Watering only during the late evening or early morning hours
- Eliminating runoff from irrigation systems
- Repairing all leaks within 72 hours
- Using hoses with shut-off valves for washing cars (or use commercial car washes that re-circulate water)

Local rules vary. Find restrictions in effect in your community at whenindrought.org.

Severe Drought

San Diego County Water Authority

Garden of Lights

December 6 – 23 & 26 – 30

Horse-drawn Wagon Rides,
Snow on Selected Nights,
Holiday Crafts,
Marshmallow Roasting,
Santa, Live Music,
Hot Mulled Wine, Cocoa

The Garden of Lights is presented by
the County of San Diego



SDBGarden.org

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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

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

MEETING SCHEDULE

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

MEETING CHECK-IN EXPRESS LINE

Please have your membership card in your hand when you get on the EXPRESS Check-In Line at our monthly meetings. This will greatly speed up the process for everyone - thanks!

MEETINGS & EVENTS

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

2015

January 12	Rebecca Sweet on Refresh Your Garden Design
February 9	Helen Yoest on Plants with Benefits
March 9	Matt Ritter on Eucalyptus: The Good, The Bad and Ugly
April 11	Spring Garden Tour - Gardens Then and Now



www.sdhort.org

COVER IMAGE: This image (by Rachel Cobb) of the iconic Lily Pond in Balboa Park is especially apt because SDHS has re-planted the areas on both sides of the long pond (see page 7). Learn more about Balboa Park at our December meeting.

NEXT MEETING: DECEMBER 8, 2014, 6:00 – 8:30 PM

SPEAKER: NANCY CAROL CARTER ON CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS: REMEMBERING AND COMMEMORATING THE 1915 PANAMA-CALIFORNIA EXPOSITION

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



This month we welcome local historian Nancy Carol Carter, whose research focus is on horticulture in the San Diego region. With Balboa Park's centennial celebration next year, her timely presentation will cover the background and development of this jewel of our city. Nancy says, "So many people are unfamiliar with the dramatic early history of Balboa Park; I like to tell this story because it still has relevance as we consider the future of our Park."

When San Diego farsightedly set aside 1,400 acres of pueblo land for a park in 1868, the city did not establish a park commission, earmark funding, create a plan of park development or hire a single gardener. Lack of development nearly doomed the very existence of "City Park" in the early years. With real estate speculators greedily circling the park, interventions by concerned citizens, including Kate O. Sessions, George Marston, and Julius Wangenheim, led to the earliest planting and recreational development within the park. Despite early efforts, it was not until the Panama-California Exposition of 1915 that Balboa Park came into its own as a public landscape. Rejecting early visions from nationally famous landscape architects, the Exposition went its own way, popularizing a landscape style that remained influential throughout Southern California for most of the next century and setting Balboa Park on a path that permanently effected its development.

Nancy Carol Carter has published in *Pacific Horticulture*, *California Garden*, *Eden*, and the *Journal of San Diego History* on such topics as Balboa Park, Kate Sessions and other influential horticulturists. She is the retired Director of the Legal Research Center and Professor of Law at the University of San Diego, and now an active volunteer, serving as Historian of the Mission Hills Garden Club, Treasurer of the San Diego Floral Association, Associate Editor of *California Garden* and Vice President of the California Garden and Landscape History Society. She is a member of the Horticulture Committee of the Friends of Balboa Park and the Projects Committee of the Balboa Park Conservancy.

For more information see page 3. ☞

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

BOARD MEMBERS

Kim Alexander - Member at Large
Cindy Benoit – Membership Chair
Patty Berg – Volunteer Chair
Jeff Biletnikoff – Meeting Room Chair
Jim Bishop – President
B.J. Boland – Corresponding Secretary
Bruce Cobblestick – Member at Large
Julian Duval – San Diego Botanic Garden
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Princess Norman – Secretary
Susanna Pagan – Public Relations Coordinator
Sam Seat – Treasurer
Susan Starr – Garden Tour Chair
Susi Torre-Bueno – Newsletter Editor,
Past President
Roy Willburn - Member at Large

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

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

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

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New Email? New Street Address?

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

BECOME A SPONSOR!

**Do you own a
garden-related business?**

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Spring Garden Tour:

1. Volunteer Coordinator – we need someone to coordinate the volunteers for the Spring Garden Tour. This is a great position for someone who loves gardens, likes working with people, is comfortable using simple technology, and can help out in the winter and spring.

2. Logistics Coordinator – like any major event, the Spring Garden Tour's success depends on the details! We're looking for someone to help with all the "little things" that go into making for a smooth Garden Tour. If you have good organizational skills and can give some time at the end of March and beginning of April, this would be the perfect position for you.

Please contact Susan Starr, Garden Tour Chair, at susanstarr1@gmail.com to join the team.

Board Opening: Volunteer Coordinator

Our current Volunteer Coordinator's term ends this year, so we are looking for someone to fill that position. The primary commitment is organizing and scheduling volunteers for the events and community outreach we do on an ongoing basis. It's a great opportunity for anyone who enjoys people, plants, and creative collaboration. Time commitment averages 3-4 hours per month. Basic computer skills and good communication skills are all that is needed. Doesn't that sound like YOU? A team of two would also work great for this position. Patty Berg, current Volunteer Coordinator, will provide training, encouragement and help for an easy transition. For info, contact her at PattyBerg@gmail.com or (760) 815-0625.

Tech Support Help at Meetings:

Do you have video and tech support skills, and also love to garden? We need a tech-savvy volunteer to help load speaker presentations onto a laptop prior to our monthly meeting, and to assist the speaker. Also, we are looking for an individual who can load past presentations onto the internet. Contact Jim Bishop: president@sdhort.org.

Newsletter Advertising Manager Needed

Here's a fun opportunity for members who like to work with local garden businesses and clubs: we need a detail-oriented person to be our newsletter advertising manager. This takes only 1-2 hours per month, and you'll be working with current advertisers, plus potential advertisers. For details contact Susi Torre-Bueno at 760-295-2173 or storrebueno@cox.net. ☞

NEWSLETTER BACK ISSUES:

Now Available Free for Non-Members

Thanks to the computer wizardry of Jim Bishop, newsletters from 2008 to 2012 are now available on our website for public viewing. Please share this link with your friends and neighbors: <http://sdhort.org/PriorYearsNewsletters>. There's lots of very valuable information there! Perhaps this will also encourage them to join SDHS so they can enjoy current issues as well as all the other member benefits. Newer issues will be added periodically. ☞

SDHS FINANCIAL INFORMATION: VIEW IT NOW ONLINE

For members interested in learning about the SDHS's financial status, including our balance sheet, income and expenses, it's now easy to do so. The link for the 2013 Include and Expenses is: <https://sdhort.wildapricot.org/Financial-Reports>. To view it, you need to be logged into the website as a current member. ☞

To Learn More...

1915 EXPOSITION

By Ava Torre-Bueno

Politics is ALWAYS the same! Here's a quick but nasty history of the 1915 Exposition: sandiegohistory.org/journal/90winter/expo.htm

But these articles are less contentious:

balboapark.org/info/history

sandiegohistory.org/journal/90fall/amer0.htm

For all kinds of pictures of the Exposition see this excellent site:

<http://tinyurl.com/Decmore1>

This particular piece of boosterism (<http://tinyurl.com/Decmore2>) confirms the inexorable march of global heating: "Temperatures of 90 degrees or over occur on an average less than twice a year. Average summer temperature, 68; winter, 60. Normal rainfall is 10.00 inches, and thunder storms are of extremely rare occurrence. Nature has smiled in its kindest mood upon this favored spot, and bestowed upon it these almost perfect climatic conditions that make for the comfort, zest and joy of life obtainable nowhere else." ☞

2015 SPRING GARDEN TOUR:

Two Tantalizing Gardens

By Jeannine Romero & Susan Starr

This month we begin detailed descriptions of our annual garden tour: *Gardens Then and Now*. If you'd like to volunteer, see page 2.



Our April 11, 2015, Spring Garden Tour, *Gardens Then and Now*, celebrates the centennial of the Panama Exhibition in Balboa Park. In honor of the centennial, we will be featuring gardens in the neighborhoods surrounding the Park. Many of our gardens will be in historic homes and some will have landscapes originally designed by famous San Diego landscapers.

Marston Hills will be one of the stops on the tour. This older residential community borders the north edge of the park. Two of the gardens on the tour actually end at the park boundary, which runs along the bottom of their terraced gardens. One was literally buried in jade when purchased by the current owner, who stripped back the jade to uncover landscaping dating from the 1930s; the other landscape was originally designed by Milton Sessions, Kate Sessions' nephew.

The garden designed by Sessions belongs to an Andalusian style house designed by Frank Hurlburt in 1933; it is now a designated historical landmark. The current owners maintain a meticulous garden, with a large fountain serving as the focal point. Overall, the garden has a Zen-like ambiance. Several peaceful sitting areas with serene views are strategically placed throughout the terraced garden, and the overall effect inspires meditative visits. Asked which spot is his personal favorite, the owner responded, "It depends on my mood." The garden currently includes agaves, cypress, palms, a loquat tree and a large holly that flanks the entrance to a courtyard

Continued on page 6



FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

This Month Kicks off the Balboa Park Centennial Celebration

The celebration starts with a special December Nights on December 5 & 6. We kick off our Celebration on December 8 with speaker Nancy Carol Carter and her talk on the history of Balboa Park.

Other celebration events not to miss in 2015 are:

- April 11th – Our annual garden tour: *Gardens Then and Now*
- April 13th – A special SDHS meeting at the Balboa Park Natural History Museum (theNAT). Members and guests will be able to tour the theNAT's newest exhibit, *Coast to Cactus in Southern California*, before and after a presentation by Jon Rebman, theNAT's Curator of the Botany. Jon was also our 2011 Horticulturalist of the Year honoree. Jon will share the museum's remarkable history documenting San Diego County flora for more than 100 years.
- May 9th – Balboa Park celebrates the *Garden Party of the Century*. More details to follow.
- June 5th – July 5th – The San Diego County Fair Flower & Garden Show exhibits will honor the gardens of Balboa Park.

Our Second Holiday Marketplace was a Great Success!

This Holiday Marketplace brings together the best of the San Diego horticultural community. Special thanks to the committee of volunteers that helped pull it all together. Sam Seat was in charge of the event. Susan Morse helped organize the exhibitors. Susanna Pagan put together the flyers, press releases and map of the room. Susi Torre-Bueno helped with promotion via the newsletter. Roy Wilburn organized the mini-

demos. Mary James organized the author's corner. Patty Berg and Susanna Pagan created the signs. Patty also recruited and organized the volunteers. Carol Lane was in charge of vendor check-ins. Jeff Biletznikoff helped with room setup and also vendor unloading. Dannie McLaughlin arranged for the food and beverage service with the Fairgrounds. Nancy Woodard and her team did the check-in of the attendees. Jim Bishop set up the website and email announcements.

We had nearly 60 vendors selling a wide variety of plants, ceramics, garden art, books, and much more. There were free plants, useful information from a number of non-profit groups, and four excellent mini-demos. Best of all, we received many compliments both from the vendors and the hundreds of people who attended. Our thanks to all of you for your participation and enthusiasm. For more about this event see page 19. ☞



Pat Welsh's bulb forcing demo

Susanna Pagan

THE REAL DIRT ON...

The White House Garden

By Donna Tierney

The development of the gardens surrounding the White House has been evolutionary, with most every President participating. George Washington purchased the land for what is now the south lawn from a tobacco planter named Davy Burns, and his dream was to create a botanical garden.

As the first President to occupy the White House, John Adams ordered the planting of a kitchen garden to support the food needs of the his family, staff, and visitors. Large portions of the White House were still under construction, and very little landscaping had been completed. The residence was primary surrounded by clay pits, brick firing kilns, and swampland.

When Thomas Jefferson became President, he completely redesigned the garden and started the tradition of planting trees. Jefferson also chose the locations for the flower garden, fences and walls. Though it is no longer standing, Jefferson built an arc of triumph on the southeast corner of the grounds.

President James Monroe increased tree planting on the White House grounds, and hired Charles Bizet, the first White House gardener. When John Quincy Adams followed Monroe into office in 1825, he replaced Bizet with John Ousley, who remained the White House gardener for the next 30 years. An avid gardener, Adams was the first President to develop the flower gardens that Jefferson had designed, and was also the first to plant ornamental trees.

During the 1830s, President Andrew Jackson hired several laborers to assist the White House gardener. During Jackson's term, elm, maple, and sycamore trees were planted for the first time. Jackson had an orangery built to accommodate indoor, year-round gardening.

In order to commemorate the Nation's Centennial in 1876, President Rutherford Hayes began the tradition of planting commemorative trees. Today, there are more than three dozen commemorative trees that have been planted by successive Presidents.

In 1902, Edith Roosevelt worked with White House gardener, Henry Pfister, to transform the West Garden into a colonial garden. Later, the first wife of Woodrow Wilson replaced Mrs. Roosevelt's colonial garden with a rose garden. The West Garden has been known as the Rose Garden ever since. Also, in 1913, Mrs. Wilson hired landscape designer Beatrix Farrand to plan the east side of the garden. During WWI, President Wilson kept a flock of sheep at the White House as a symbol of support to the troops. The flock eliminated the need for labor to mow the lawns, and their wool earned \$52,823 for the Red Cross.

In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt commissioned famed



Easter Egg Roll card, 1894. Courtesy White House

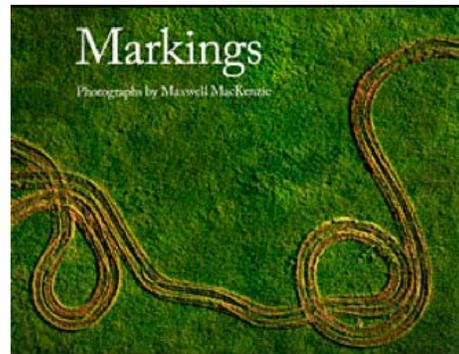
Courtesy of Smithsonian Institution, www.si.edu

BOOK REVIEW

Markings: Photographs by Maxwell MacKenzie

Review by Caroline McCullagh

I ordered this book from a catalog because its dust jacket was so appealing. (That, and because it had a recommendation from Michael Pollan, one of my favorite authors.) I had to look at the jacket several times before I realized what I was seeing. It was an aerial view of a green field with some random curving lines cut through it.



The book turned out to be something special when I finally received it. Maxwell MacKenzie is a well-known architectural photographer, now residing in Washington, D.C. He grew up in rural Minnesota, and developed an eye for both the beauty of nature and of man-made objects.

He decided to learn to fly. After much searching, he settled on learning on what he describes as "a rudimentary flying machine – known as a powered parachute." And the reason for that choice? He could steer it with his feet while he used his hands to hold his cameras. Made sense to him.

And I'm glad, because he's produced a spectacular book. The first picture in the book is MacKenzie flying his bright multi-colored powered parachute and giving the reader a big wave. We're in for a good trip.

The book includes 96 pages of color photos of growing things, plus quotes from poems selected by his long-suffering wife, artist Rebecca Cross. The first quote gives the philosophy that led MacKenzie to make these beautiful pictures. It's from *Philebus* by Plato:

What I am saying is not directly obvious. I must try to make it clear. I will try to speak of the beauty of shapes... straight lines and curves and the shapes made from them... These are not beautiful for any particular reason or purpose, as other things are, but are always by their very nature beautiful and give pleasure of their own, quite free from the itch of desire, and colors of this kind are beautiful to and give a similar pleasure.

Not all the pictures have those random curves that appeared on the dust jacket, but some do. I puzzled over how and why a farmer could have made those patterns. I think I solved the puzzle when I noticed that in the acknowledgments, MacKenzie thanks someone for "mowers." So he helped nature a little bit.

He has two other books in print: *Abandonings*, published in 1995, and *American Ruins: Ghosts on the Landscape*, published in 1999. You can check out all three books at his website www.maxwellmackenzie.com. His books are available on line or can be ordered by your local bookstore.

Note: The independent bookstore Mysterious Galaxy has moved to a new location in Clairemont, with more room and better parking. Check them out.☺

Continued on page 12

TREES, PLEASE

California Cones: Worthy of More than Ice-Cream

By Robin Rivet

Two-hundred million years before flowering trees, naked-seed plants dominated the planet. These ancient cone-bearing species rubbed shoulders with dinosaurs, and many survive today. Some examples are truly notable: the oldest living specimen on the planet, the tallest, the greatest non-clonal bio-mass, the largest (and most dangerous) cones, and a “living fossil” – an ancient tree species. Amazingly, all currently grow in California.



Coulter Pine cone

Age: Methuselah, a bristlecone pine, had its tree rings counted at 4,846 years, making it the oldest verified single-living organism on the planet, although there are older suspects. Its whereabouts is now secretive to prevent vandalism, since an even older tree was cut down in 1964.

Size: Although giant sequoias claim monopoly for bio-mass, the General Sherman tree has the largest volume of any on earth at 52,508 cubic feet. It's a coast redwood named Hyperion that is confirmed to now be the tallest tree, measuring 379.3 feet! And, since trees cannot run away from hooligans, its exact GPS coordinates are also undisclosed, although Hyperion was professionally ascended to document its height.

Reproduction: In some gymnosperms, sex-specific male cones are artfully situated in the canopy, physically below the receptive female cones, since conifers typically rely on updrafts of wind to complete fertilization. (See video link below.) It is a bit primitive, but this simple process has succeeded for millennia, although Torrey Pines can take up to 2-½ years for their seed cones to mature. Unlike angiosperms, which have a fleshy covering called fruit; the word gymnosperm literally translates to “naked seed,” and the progeny is largely unprotected from environmental hazards. One of the most amazing cones is our native San Diego Coulter pine, which can exceed 10” across and weigh 10 lbs. However, the *Araucaria bidwillii* (Bunya-Bunya) cones are so large that, when planted in public parks, the trees are seasonally cordoned off to prevent their plummeting cones from inadvertently causing harm.

Living Fossil: The modern day ginkgo tree is an odd relic, and one of the few remaining deciduous gymnosperms. Fossilized variations of ginkgo leaves have been found in ancient sedimentary rock formations, but today this unique species is endemic only to China. True to its antiquity, it's highly adaptable, acclimating to urban conditions, thriving on sidewalks in the harsh climate and smog of eastern cities

Continued on page 12

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Victory Gardens on Camp Pendleton – A “No Brainer!”

By Patty Berg, Volunteer Coordinator

Back in October, when we were looking for help with the Volunteer Appreciation Party, Paul Kelly answered the call. Along with a handful of enthusiastic first-year members, he pitched in to set up the tables, chairs, and canopies as we all gushed over the stunning gardens where the party would be held the next day. Somewhere in the conversation, Paul mentioned a surprising fact: he is not now and has never been a gardener!

For someone who has never grown anything himself, Paul sure knows a lot about it. For example, Paul says that gardening can reduce food expenses and help people feel connected. It can engage the whole family and strengthen relationships. He also notes that gardening improves health and wellness and promotes better nutrition and environmental awareness. And that it fosters friendly interaction among neighbors.

How does a non-gardener know all this? Because Paul has authored a proposal to bring a pilot community vegetable garden to the Marine Corps families living on Camp Pendleton. And it is that simple idea: a victory garden right on the base, which he calls a “no brainer” that could help feed the families of our local servicemen and women.

A retired real estate attorney from Montrose, Pennsylvania, Paul now lives in Oceanside and loves it. He is a member of the Camp Pendleton Rotary Club and has joined SDHS in hopes of meeting folks who may be interested in supporting the community gardens project he envisions for the base. He already has several interested community groups standing by as the proposal moves from desk to desk on the base.

If you have some experience with community gardens, or otherwise have expertise to share, please give Paul a call at (607) 760-9572. Gardener or not, anyone who understands the true nature of growing things as well as Paul does will always be welcome at SDHS. 🌱



GOING WILD WITH NATIVES

Hedges for Edges

By Pat Pawlowski

A wall, high or low, can be a good thing. Maybe you want some peace and quiet and a little privacy while you read your National Enquirer; maybe you want to blot out the neighbors' giant animatronic garden gnomes; maybe you want a "line of demarcation" between you and the neighbors to announce to the world that your garden is gnome-free.

A wooden fence or stucco wall would work, but those are sort of stark, so you might need something to liven it up – a gnome, perhaps?

But wait. Instead, how about a beautiful living wall of green? And, decorating the living wall, how about your own version of animatronic gnomes: songbirds. They hop, they flutter, they sing their heads off – in addition to gobbling insects that might gobble your plants if they get the chance.

Hey, can a gnome do that?

But California native plants can; some kinds make wonderful hedges. There are many varieties to choose from, and it's impossible to include them all here. So, here's just a few:

- Mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides*) - great if you want a tall but narrow hedge
- Lemonadeberry (*Rhus integrifolia*) - amenable to pruning
- Sugarbush (*Rhus ovata*) - survives toasty inland summers
- Coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica*) - handsome berries
- Hollyleaf cherry (*Prunus ilicifolia*) - decorative cherries
- Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* spp.) - tiny applelike fruits and beautiful reddish bark
- Quail bush (*Atriplex lentiformis* ssp. *breweri*) - soft silvery leaves
- All of the above are evergreen, attract birds and other wildlife, and are drought-tolerant.

There are so many more choices, depending on what your situation is, so it's best to visit a native plant nursery like Las Pilitas Nursery (www.laspilitas.com), and/or Tree of Life Nursery (www.californianativeplants.com). Also, the California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter (www.cnpssd.org) is a good place to do some research; they meet the third Tuesday of every month, and their selection of native plant books for sale is awesome.

Speaking of awesome: how about hedgerows? Always popular in Great Britain, a hedgerow is a line of shrubs and/or trees that includes an understory of subshrubs and/or perennials with flowers that provide nectar and pollen to native bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Some understory plants are:

- California aster (*Aster chilensis*) - lilac daisylike flowers for butterflies
- California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*) - luminescent orange flowers
- Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.) - spreading groundcover
- Narrowleaf milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*) - Yes, yes, yes! Host for Monarch butterflies!
- Pearly everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*) - Host for Virginia Lady butterflies



© Curtis Clark

- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) - fernlike leaves, flowers for beneficial insects

The above is only a sampling. Travel (remember the traveling gnome?) to a native plant nursery to see for yourself. They'll help you select your green wildlife-friendly wall and achieve your own version of animatronic ecstasy.

Member Pat Pawlowski is a writer/lecturer/garden consultant who, at age 5, was frightened by a gnome in Philadelphia. 🐉

■ Garden Tour Continued from page 3

patio. Cairns decorate graves of the owners' pets.

One of the most dramatic sculptural elements is a striking example of the much-maligned Brazilian pepper tree. Although this tree recently lost most of its leaves from fungal disease, a stunning branch formation remains. The garden also includes a variety of other sculptural elements, as well as garden art collected on travels to Asian countries, including Cambodia.

At the entrance to the garden there is an iron gate, a reproduction of a sculpture of Buddha from Angkor Wat, and an oversized eucalyptus tree. The tree is old enough to have been planted by Milton Sessions himself, although that is undocumented. The tree is underplanted with jade, one of the few plants that will grow under eucalyptus. Although jade can be invasive, it appears to be under control, and the current owners have even opted to plant it under another tree in the terraced garden. The jade, frequently valued as a container or houseplant, is known for its extremely low water and light requirements.

In contrast, at another Marston Hills garden on the tour, "jade" is most definitely a four-letter word. When the current owners bought their property on in Marston Hills 20 years ago, the hillside canyon was covered in jade and trees. Removing the jade revealed beautiful old stone walls dating from the 1930s, and a path leading down the hill to Balboa Park below. The garden still has evidence of jade; the owner notes that she while she can control the jade, it is unlikely that it can ever be permanently removed.

This canyon garden contains a large gazebo where the yogini of 25 years practices and a waterfall and pond surrounded by a large and unusual concrete serpent. Another snake, the "serpent of wisdom," is carved on the door in the yoga wall.

The home was built by a Mexican physician who eventually swapped it for a home in Mexico owned by the former Mexican President, Pascual Ortiz Rubio. President Rubio was quite shaken by an attempt on his life, and moved from Mexico to San Diego. Visitors to the bottom of the canyon will see a guard house dating from this era that remains on the property.

Another garden feature is a carved, 30-foot Monterrey Pine. When this tree died, from disease, the owners had the totem-pole styled trunk hand-carved and then covered in lime. The garden also features roses, hibiscus, palms, guavas, and productive banana trees. One area, out of sight of most visitors, has chemical-free plantings used by the gardener to feed animals at the Zoo. The front doors of the home are flanked by large begonias, mature camellias, and a floss silk tree.

Be sure to join us on April 15, 2015 to see these and other wonderful gardens.. 🐉

San Diego Horticultural Society

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN BALBOA PARK

Planting of Casa de Prado

By Jim Bishop

We are proud to be part of the Centennial Celebration. In September, our volunteers completed the planting of the gardens adjacent to the Lily Pond around the Timken Museum. We returned on October 28th to plant the north and west sides of Casa de Prado. Landscape Architect Chris Drayer created the planting plan. Landscape Architect Cindy Benoit assisted Chris, and also helped acquire the plants and schedule the planting. Society Treasurer Sam Seat arranged for the plant deliveries to the park nursery. Twenty-nine volunteers showed up to help with the October planting. While Chris worked to help place the plants, volunteers weeded and cleaned up the planting we had done the previous month around the Timken Museum. The Borden Family arranged for a contractor to provide power tools, workers and assistance in digging the planting holes. Much of the area was heavily compacted, and full of palm tree roots that required a special jack hammer shovel to dig through. We were able to complete all of the planting in one day, as well as get the plants watered in, and we even installed a layer of mulch.

Hats off and a round of applause to our hard working volunteers: Kathy Ascher, Cindy Benoit, Jeff Biletnikoff, Jim Bishop, Scott Borden, Joan Braunstein, Bruce Cobbledick, Carolyn Dossett, Joann Dossett, Chris Drayer, Alice Dukelow, Dave Ehrlinger, Coni Fiss, Ann Heck, John Kramer, Linda Lawley, James Lucatore, David Lubs, Donna Mallen, Rachele Melious, Catherine Morley, Jaime Ramirez, Jorge Robles, Sam Seat, Marcy Singer, Else Karin Sjostrand Ottesen, Susan Starr, and Ed Thielicke.

Be sure and check out the plantings the next time you visit the park. They will take a few months to fill in, but we could already tell a difference in one month. Look for some weeding parties to help maintain the area in future months. More photos are on the inside front cover. 🌱



Digging planting holes

Jim Bishop (2)



Placing the plants

SDHS FUNDRAISING FOR THE BALBOA PARK RESTORATION PROJECT

We are raising funds to restore the gardens adjacent to the lily pond in Balboa Park. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 to help complete this pilot project in 2014. Visit www.sdhort.org for information on making donations. You can also donate at meetings and other events. Every contribution is very welcome. As of November 14 we have raised \$6434. This includes \$1224 donated by our sponsor **Garden Design** magazine, which represents \$12 per new magazine subscription by SDHS members. **Thank you to these generous donors:**

\$1000+

Ellen Merewether
Garden Design
magazine

\$750

Scott Borden

\$210

Bruce & Myra
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Gleneva Belice
Linda Canada
(in honor of Dr.
and Mrs. Edgar D.
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Dinah & Scott Carl
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Abby Esty

Fidelity Charitable
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(in memory of
Eva Fitzgerald)

Anne Fletcher
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Diane Scharar
Linda Shaw
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Barbara Whelan

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Gwenn Adams
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John Beaudry
Landscape Design

Sandy Burlem
Molly Cadranell
Chuck & Barbara
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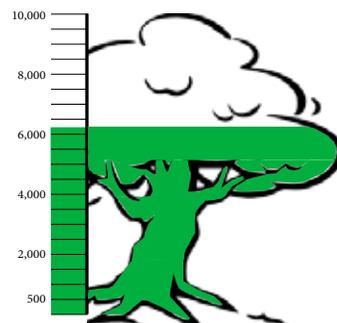
Blythe Doane
Cynthia Essary
Doris Gannon
Suzy Heap

Trisha Kolasinski
Brenda Kueneman
Barbara Lee-Jenkins
Jen-Jen Lin

Nita McColloch
Else Ottesen
Katie Pelisek
Cassidy Rowland

Peggy Ruzich
Don Schultz
Cindy Stewart
Bonnie Struzik

Renee Vallely
Salim Walji
Don Winans



SHARING SECRETS OUR RECENT ANT INVASION: Tears and Triumphs



Editor's note: The question for the Sharing Secrets column in November (about dealing with ants) generated so many replies that we continue the responses this month. At the top of page 14 learn how you can add your ant story to the Sharing Secrets section of our website. Thanks to everyone who replied.

Inexpensive Traps

By Ava Torre-Bueno



I mix ½ cup of diatomaceous earth (pool filter powder) with a bit of corn syrup and a little water to make a thick but somewhat runny paste, which I keep covered in the fridge. When I get an ant invasion, I track it to its origin and, re-mixing my paste, I pour it in a semi-circle around where the ants are coming in so they have to cross it. Most stop and eat it right there and take it back to the colony. The paste slices up their little feet and they dehydrate. The paste they take back to the colony kills off the rest of the ants there, as well as making the eggs die. Mean, but effective. It takes a week of replenishing the paste, or at least putting a little water on it every day to keep it edible, for the nest to die off completely. The major benefit of this method is that it is not toxic to you, your children, or your pets.

Boy, did you ask the right person

By Jackie Seidman



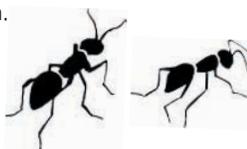
I maintain 2 vegetable gardens in North County, ORGANICALLY. Both have huge problems with ants. Well, let's see, what did I do first? Second? Third? Terro Ant Bait Stations: no luck. Amdro Ant Bait stations: no luck.

Research, research... this looks promising. Ordered 5 pounds of boric acid. Wow, that is a lot of that white powder. Ant Bait #1: Boric Acid, water and sugar boiled into a syrup, put into small rectangular baby food containers with a small square cut out of the top to let the ants in. Set in ground so lip of container is just at ground level. NO GO! Ant Bait #2: Peanut butter, boric acid and sugar made into a paste, put inside small rectangular baby food containers with a small square cut out of the top to let the ants in. Set like the liquid one. NO Luck. Ant Bait #3: Peanut Butter Balls: Tried making small balls out of the PB paste and setting out on the ground in and around the ant parades. That did not work either.

AntPro Bait Dispenser and Ant Pro bait. This is the first product I tried that even remotely interested the ants. This has had some amount of success. The bait stations get empty, so I assume the ants are consuming it. I move the bait stations to different parts of the garden as I see large conga lines of ants. It might take years at this rate.

Diatomaceous Earth. New white powder. Good thing I am not trying to bring this stuff on an airplane. I have had some success with this product as well. I use it in conjunction with the Ant Pro Bait stations.

At the time of my writing this, the ants still rule! If anyone has something new to add I'd love to talk to them.



Ants!!!

By J.B. Riekstins



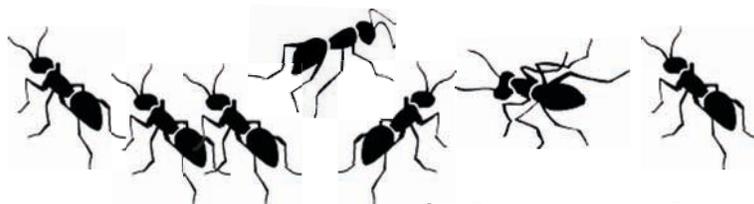
I live on a rather large hill that is so infested and attractive to ants that it is hard to believe that it is not actually an anthill masquerading as a foothill. There are coyote trails that one can see from the vantage point of many of our windows, and if you look hard enough you can also see ant trails. On either side of our drive are little 10-12, even 15-lane ant freeways that automatically go into overdrive with the beginning of each ant season. I have only found two products that have worked for ant control. I say control because we live between two empty lots, one on each side of us, at the end of a canyon, and this gives about five acres of ants access to our property, and they adore our compost pile, which is appropriately huge.

One product is TERRO ANT DUST, which I use sparingly because I believe it is toxic to bees; bees die with even the slightest whiff of it. So it is used to draw a ring around the pets' food dishes. Ants love even empty food dishes, and I try to use it for emergency "ants are in the house" situations. Spiders that breach the house are also subject to getting TERROed. There are little white blobs of the powdery stuff in the rough-sawn cedar beams that the ants love to enter on, and it is ever so difficult to vacuum that clean at the end of ant season, so it looks like someone has had one heck of a party with the white powdery stuff.

What I use mostly is a homemade concoction of 1 cup of cane sugar, 1 tablespoon of borax, and 1/2 cup of water. Bring to a boil, stir occasionally, and after the mix is well blended, totally dissolved, and the liquid is clear, it has boiled enough. Do not boil so hard as to run it over-that would really foul up the burner. When it is clear, and while it is still very hot, add 1-2 tablespoons of grape jelly, or 1 tablespoon of creamy peanut butter (Jif works well). Whisk in well. I have little chicken feeder type dispensers that animals cannot get into, along with being safe for small children, but you can use a jar with lots of holes punched in the lid(s) and place these near the ant trails. I find that the holes should be large, the containers do better in at least partial shade, and it helps if a little of the ant concoction is dribbled over the lid, or if on a solid surface, on that.

Some ant nests get totally eradicated within 5-10 days with only one application, but others need several refills. I move the applicators (I have four) around from time to time. In the last 4-5 years this has kept ant invasions in the house down to maybe once a year, usually when I am out of town and my husband is doing (not) the sink, stove and counter clean ups.

There are areas where the ants never seem to get totally eradicated, but these are coming over the wall from the canyon or from neighbors' homes, and I tend to think that these are not all coming from one nest. YouTube has many of these recipes; this is one that worked best for my situation, and when one can eliminate an 8- to 15-lane freeway of ants coming onto ones' property, even in just one direction, I will call that a success.



Still More Ant Stories:



Sue Lasbury: We seem to live on an enormous anthill. We refuse to have the Orkin Man spray at our house, so what do we do in the garden? We have found a wonderful device and if you use it correctly it will remove the ants in a specific problem area of your garden: Terro Liquid Ant Baits. We use their small household baits in the garden and the house with complete success. The active ingredient is Borax, but the key to its success is the yummy sweet stuff mixed in with the Borax. We learned about the Borax/sweetener concoction when I was training to be a Master Gardener. However, my recipe never worked as well as the one produced by Terro. The key is to identify the ant nests causing the most havoc, e.g. ants working with scale and aphids. Put the bait close to the nest, but remove it after about a week. By this time the yummy stuff has reached the queen and her nest is history. Just so you know, I have no stock in or affiliation with the Terro folks. Let me know how it works for you.

Linda Johnson: Using Terro Liquid Ant Baits as soon as ants appeared worked fairly well for the initial invasion (ants disappeared in a day or two). However, they would reappear in other parts of house later, so I just used the bait again. At this time they are gone. However, I am staying cautiously optimistic!

Suzanne Sorger: I look to see where their coming into the house and sprinkle baby powder across their path or trail. It stops them in their tracks.

Sue Fouquette: I don't notice that granular ant killer lessens the great number of ants that come out of potted plants, climb in our banana trees, crawl up my jeans, to my head, and bite me. They are so irritating, it causes me to swear a lot while watering. Sure hope a member has the cure.

Susan Morse: I have heard that Vista is the Ant Capital of San Diego County. If it isn't, I do not want to live where ants are worse than Vista. I got the following recipe from Loren Nancarrow about 15 years ago. It has been successful for me, but it often takes 48-72 hours to stop the invasion in the house. Use 1 tablespoon of boric acid powder, with 1 tablespoon of white granulated sugar, mixed in with 1/3 cup boiling water and stir until all crystals are dissolved. I put about 1 tablespoon of the dissolved liquid in plastic lids saved from containers, such as cottage cheese, etc. I place several of these in the area where the ants are accumulating or transiting. I will occasionally spray diluted Orange TKO on the ants directly. (Windex on kitchen counters would work, too, but the Orange TKO does not harm the wooden floors, it smells pleasant and the ants die.) The spray is only a temporary measure. Supposedly, the ants take the boric acid solution back to the nest and that stops the invasion. My vet said the dogs could walk through boric acid powder, then lick their paws and NOT be harmed. I've not had a pet emergency related to anything to do with the boric acid/sugar/boiling water mixture, despite the CAUTION warnings on the label of the Boric Acid. At the first sighting of scouting ants, I attack with my remedies. If the scout trails are eliminated, it often thwarts any further insurgency.

Sheila Busch: After using baits unsuccessfully for a number of years, I resorted to using Termidor. I spray it around the foundation of my house. For my plants, I control sucking insects with horticultural oil; that controls the ants in trees and plants.

Sharon Swildens: A friend of mind who has grape vines said he puts a teaspoon of granular borax around his vines to prevent the ants from eating his grapes. I did this last year and it worked, so I sometimes run it in the wood chips along my walkway to eliminate the ants there. I hope it doesn't kill anything else.

Susi Torre-Bueno: This was the worst and longest-lasting ant invasion we've had in years. Terro Liquid Ant Bait worked pretty well, although it took a few days. We also used my sister-in-law's diatomaceous earth, corn syrup and water concoction (see page 8), and that was a help, too, but slowly. I used lots of Windex as well.

So... What's the bottom line?

You'll need to read all the comments to find what might work best for you, but here's a short summary. Note that what worked for some people didn't work for others.

Home remedies that DID work: diatomaceous earth, borax, baby powder, boric acid, cayenne, cinnamon, cornmeal, oils of rosemary, mint and orange

Home remedies that DIDN'T work: Boric Acid, cinnamon sticks

Commercial products that DID work:

Andro granules (outdoors)

AntPro Bait Dispenser and Ant Pro bait

Combat roach control bait

Deet – worked

Granual ant killer (outdoors)

Home Defense (outside)

Kaboom

Pest Control Company (outdoors) (one company used rosemary oil spray)

Spray on ants inside – Orange TKO, Windex, window cleaner with ammonia

Termidor (outside)

Terro Ant Bait Stations (indoors)

Terro Ant Dust – worked

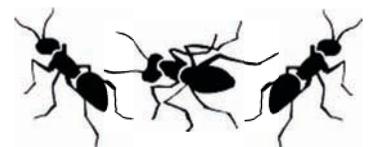
Terro Liquid Ant Bait (for garden use)

Commercial products that DIDN'T work:

Amdro Ant Bait stations

Orange Guard

EcoSmart granules (outdoors)





MY LIFE WITH PLANTS

By Jim Bishop

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

Uncle Harry

A watercolor painting hangs in our T.V. room that everyone has always referred to as "The Sheik." It was painted by my maternal grandmother's sister, Bess Hayes, on January 16th, 1896. Family members possess other watercolors she painted. Most are still-lives of flowers and other objects. I've always been curious how living her entire life in semi-rural Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, she chose the sheik as a subject matter. Bess was deaf and grandma said she lost her hearing from infectious meningitis that swept through her senior year high school class. Only Bess and one other student survived the epidemic. I was curious if the story was true, and tried googling everything I could think of, but have not been able to come up with any corroborating stories.

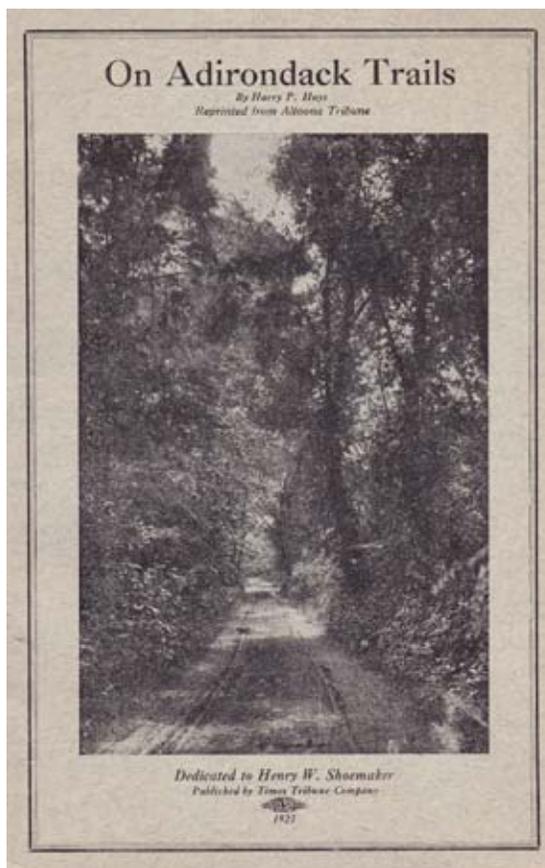
This got me thinking about other relatives, and I remembered that grandma's brother Harry Price wrote for the paper in Altoona, Pennsylvania. A quick google of him turned up a few interesting things. I've always been curious about Harry for a couple of reasons. The year before I was born, Harry passed away, at age 85. To honor his memory, I was given the middle name of Harry. Second, my grandmother, mother, and aunts would frequently say that I was just like Harry. This comment was most frequently made when I mentioned something about nature, plants, or hiking. I never knew exactly what they meant, but figured Harry, too, must have had an interest in anything involving the natural world. They said he loved hiking the Allegheny Mountains of central Pennsylvania.

One of the first things I found online was that Harry was a birder, or at least participated in the Audubon Christmas Census of Birds in 1917 and 1918. He was also concerned about overhunting of birds and other native animals. He was a member of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, an officer in the Alpine Club, and treasurer of the Pennsylvania Folk Lore Society.

However, the most interesting fact was that he had authored a 1923 booklet entitled "On Adirondack Trails," reprinted from the Altoona Tribune. It was the account of the trip he took to hike the high peaks of the Adirondack Mountains in New York State. Much to my surprise, there were several copies of the booklet available for purchase online, so I ordered one.

In September of 1922, Harry Price, Harry McGraw, and Harry Kinch of central Pennsylvania traveled to Lake Placid, New York, and met Scott Wood, "a six-foot product of the Adirondacks" and Tom Ladd, a "young man of iron nerve, muscles like steel and as sure footed as mountain goats," for a week-long hike to the top of 5 of the 42 "very high peaks" of the Adirondacks. The highest peak on their hike was Mount Marcy, at 5344 feet, the tallest of the Adirondacks. Harry notes that at the time only 14 of the peaks had trails, and many had no record of being climbed.

Much of the story is about the hike, the natural scenery, the mountains, the valleys, the rivers, the rocks, and birds. He compared



the vast and untouched evergreen forests to the already heavily logged deciduous forests of the frequently clear-cut Allegheny Mountains of Pennsylvania. The most detailed description of plants in the booklet is:

"Much to our surprise, was found growing from a small spit in the rock, a lone bluet, the humble little blue flower looking very much out of place on the great pyramid of stone. Wild flowers grow in great profusion in the valleys in spring and summer. We saw gentian blooming in the lowlands and found Labrador tea and modest little cloud berry. One thing that particularly attracts the attention of the traveler in these mountains is the size and beauty of the mountain ash, that grows much larger in this section, the branches being covered with great masses of red berries that glow from the walls of verdure like sheets of flame. A sprig of plant known as strawberry blight, was found the first day of our visit near Lake Placid. The stem of this plant is covered with red berries that resemble wild strawberries on short peduncles. It is very rare."

One other thing of note: Harry never married. However, with nearly ever mention of Harry Price, I also found mention of Harry A. McGraw. Mr. McGraw was a "lover of the out-of-doors...with a special emphasis on birds." I believe they would have called the two Harrys committed bachelors, or life-time companions. My 93 year old aunt says you never saw one without the other.

Today, I am in possession of Uncle Harry's shaving mug, the recently acquired booklet of the Adirondack hike, and his love of nature and the out-of-doors.

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

# 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:

- |                |                          |                       |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Carin Bunney   | Sherri Hannan            | Grace Swanson         |
| Laura Crenshaw | Robert & Leilani Hartman | Penny & Darren Wiemer |
| Jeanne Green   | Doloras Menagh           |                       |
| Donna Griffin  | Tammy Schwab             |                       |

## HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2014; 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.

- |                       |                     |                          |                        |                          |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Kathy Ascher (1)      | Kathy Esty (1)      | Pat Hoff (1)             | Dannie McLaughlin (2)  | Stephanie Shigematsu (1) |
| Annette Beaty (1)     | Coni Fiss (1)       | Sonja Hunsaker (1)       | Rebecca Moore (1)      | Cindy Sparks (1)         |
| Geneva Belice (2)     | Nancy Ford (1)      | Jeff and Wendy           | Susan Morse (1)        | Scott Spencer (1)        |
| Jim Bishop (1)        | Kimberly Fraker (1) | Hunt (1)                 | Anne Murphy (1)        | Laura Starr (1)          |
| Linda Bresler (2)     | Meredith Garner (1) | Cecilia Jolly-Baetge (1) | Joan Oliver (1)        | Susi Torre-Bueno (1)     |
| Briggs Nursery (1)    | Dennie Griffin (1)  | Linda Jones (1)          | Gayle Olson Binder (1) | Annie Urquhart (1)       |
| Carol Donald (1)      | Julie Hasl (2)      | Andrew Lau (1)           | Laird Plumleigh (1)    | Tami Van Thof (1)        |
| Beatrice Ericksen (1) | Jenny Hawkins (1)   | Victoria Lea (1)         | Mo Price (1)           | Chris Vargas (1)         |
| Dave Ericson (1)      | Suzie Heap (1)      | Patricia Leon (1)        | Barbara Raub (1)       | Pat Venolia (1)          |
| Lori Davis (1)        | Devon Hedding (1)   | Suellen Lodge (1)        | Diane Scharar (1)      | Roy Wilburn (1)          |
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## LIFE MEMBERS \*Horticulturist of the Year

- |                                |                               |                       |                          |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| *Chuck Ades (2008)             | *Steve Brigham (2009)         | *Vince Lazaneo (2004) | Gerald D. Stewart        |
| *Walter Andersen (2002)        | Laurie Connable               | *Jane Minshall (2006) | *Susi Torre-Bueno (2012) |
| Norm Applebaum & Barbara Roper | *Julian (2014) & Leslie Duval | *Brad Monroe (2013)   | & Jose Torre-Bueno       |
| *Bruce & Sharon Asakawa (2010) | *Edgar Engert (2000)          | *Bill Nelson (2007)   | Dorothy Walker           |
| Gladys T. Baird                | Jim Farley                    | Tina & Andy Rathbone  | Lucy Warren              |
| Debra Lee Baldwin              | Sue & Charles Fouquette       | *Jon Rebnan (2011)    | *Evelyn Weidner (2001)   |
|                                | Penelope Hlavac               | Peggy Ruzich          | *Pat Welsh (2003)        |
|                                | Joyce James                   | San Diego Home/Garden | Betty Wheeler            |
|                                | Debbie & Richard Johnson      | Lifestyles            |                          |

## DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

(see ads for more discounts)

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

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

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Join in the fun that includes horse-drawn wagon rides winding through several of the Garden's enchanting four miles of trails. Enjoy marshmallow roasting, live music, and an assortment of holiday refreshments including hot mulled wine (on select evenings), plus snow (also on select evenings). The holidays wouldn't be complete without a visit with Santa, who makes a special guest appearance at the Garden again this year.

For more information, visit the Garden's website at [SDBGarden.org/lights.htm](http://SDBGarden.org/lights.htm).



Rachel Cobb

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■ Trees Continued from page 5



Bunya Bunya cone

like New York. Gingkos are capable of producing aerial roots during times of extreme erosion, and can re-sprout from lignotubers (much like modern day eucalypts), which confirms their ability to survive natural catastrophes, like intense wildfire. Some individual specimens have been documented to be as old as 2,500 years.

Next time you want a cool treat, eat a pine nut.

Interesting Resources:

Cool video: [youtube.com/watch?v=VecK2tjk8II#t=70](http://youtube.com/watch?v=VecK2tjk8II#t=70)  
[pinetum.org/Lovett/pinecones.htm](http://pinetum.org/Lovett/pinecones.htm)  
<http://tinyurl.com/Dec-worlds-tallest-tree>

Member Robin Rivet is an ISA Certified Arborist, Tree Risk Assessor and UCCE Master Gardener: [robin@sandiegotreemap.org](mailto:robin@sandiegotreemap.org).

■ Real Dirt Continued from page 4

landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. to redesign the gardens. Today, his plan still serves as the basis for the gardens' layout.

During the John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson administrations, the Rose Garden and the East Garden were redesigned. The Rose Garden became an outdoor venue for ceremonies, and Lady Bird Johnson dedicated the East Garden to Jacqueline Kennedy. In 1969, Lady Bird Johnson created the first Children's Garden at the White House. To this day, the South Lawn continues to be used for the annual Easter Egg Roll and other large events, and can accommodate over 1,000 spectators. The Clintons planted a small vegetable garden, but had to put it on the roof of the White House. In 2009, Michelle Obama broke ground for the largest vegetable garden to date on the grounds, placing it on the White House lawn, where over 50 kinds of veggies are cultivated.

Today, the White House garden is the magical culmination of years of contributions from distinguished Presidents, their families, and famed landscaped designers. The grounds are maintained 365

Continued on page 18

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Exposition and Cultural Landscape:  
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Kate Sessions Birthday Celebration:  
November 7, 2015

Festival of Trees: December 4-5, 2015



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

The question for December was:

Are you using anything from your garden (veggies, flowers, leaves, twigs) to decorate your house and/or use as holiday gifts?

**Marsha Bode:** Everyone on my list gets persimmon fruitcake made with persimmons from my very large and prolific Hachiya persimmon tree. When they first open their gift, lots of fruitcake jokes follow, but once they take a bite all preconceptions fly out the window. I use dried fruit from Frazier Farms or Sprouts instead of the sugary bits in the plastic tubs. It takes a while to chop everything by hand, but it is worth it. A basket with fruitcake, lime marmalade, orange marmalade and plum/apple jam along with some fresh persimmons for color will be offered in the Silent Auction at the November fund raising luncheon for the Vista Garden Club.

**Candace Kohl:** I grow lots of Protea family plants, Grevillea, Leucadendron, Banksia, etc. These provide wonderfully interesting and long-lasting greenery. I am sometimes in charge of table arrangements for our events at Friends of the International Center at UCSD, and always use some of these materials. I also often use roses grown by one of my local friends. At Thanksgiving, the Del Mar Rose Society has a program called the Thanksgiving of Roses, where we make up bouquets and deliver them to local residents who are housebound or have been identified as needing some cheering up. There are sometimes 30 or so of these bouquets made up, and I contribute buckets of greenery. Holiday time is a special period to share my bounty.

**Sue Gutierrez:** I used the succulents from my garden, dried their ends, and using spray adhesive attached them to purchased pumpkins. I did these in early October, and they were centerpiece decorations for two parties, and I am planning to use them for Thanksgiving.



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**Al Myrick:** I make palm frond carvings of angels, fish, dolphins, wizards, birds, and so on (whatever is already in the frond and only needs to be carved out).

**Joanne Fishman:** I decorate with the following from my garden: pines, pinecones, eucalyptus, *Leucadendron* 'Safari Sunset', *Grevillea* 'Moonlight', white 'Iceberg' roses, and anything else that looks interesting. Maybe the tangerines and pomegranates will still be around.

**Marilyn Wilson:** When I prune, I propagate, so I always have plenty of plants to give away. Several of the garden clubs to which I belong have holiday gift swaps, and I am already preparing for those. Of course, I always label my plants so the recipient can look up horticultural requirements (in my fervent hope that the plants will live a long, healthy life).

**Vivian Blackstone:** I will probably use my holly for an arrangement. I gave my Ikebana friend bamboo cuttings I had, and she was thrilled and made a beautiful arrangement for the front office. Unfortunately, my maple leaves are damaged looking, but I would have used them otherwise.

**Connie Forest:** I have so many succulents outgrowing their pots that I have decided to use pieces of many of them as a basis for a door decoration. I am using a large oval grape-stick wreath as a base, and simply gluing the succulents to the base after adding Spanish moss. I am adding some fake red berries and a bow, and I think it will be quite nice. I don't know if the succulents will survive the holidays, but I have more.

**Enid Sherman:** Toyon berries dress up candles, make a table more festive and hang out well for a while with succulents. Succulents are fun for table decorations, or glue gunned down on squashes, Styrofoam forms, and plates.

**Barb Huntington:** I have a huge California Native Holly Berry (Toyon) I use for Christmas decorations on the mantel. I also use pine branches from a very large pine tree my son gave me some years ago as about a 3" plant from the grocery store. I may make some succulent arrangements, as I have lots of extras in the labyrinth.

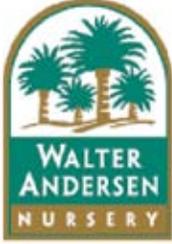
**Robin Rivet:** There's not much collectible from my neglected garden this summer, but I'm always on the lookout for local Bushy Yates; aka *Eucalyptus lehmanii* (australianseed.com/shop/item/eucalyptus-lehmanii). Of course, those taxonomists have been at it again, and this tree now goes by a new name: *Eucalyptus conferruminata*: <http://selectree.calpoly.edu/treedetail.lasso?rid=1489>. In any case, this awesome species really has spectacular buds and inflorescence, which then evolve into large woody capsules that appear unworldly. I seek them out around San Diego, where they grow with minimal care along highways, parks, and in odd places. If I didn't have so many fruit trees, I'd grow this puppy just for its cool decorations. Ironically, from afar the tree has a modest and undistinguished countenance, and only close inspection will shock anyone who casually encounters it. Here's an image: [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Eucalyptus\\_conferruminata](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Eucalyptus_conferruminata).

**Jeannine Romero:** Succulents, succulents and more succulents!

**Susan Krzywicki:** I've made a wreath of Torrey Pine boughs that was decorated with mini pumpkins for Halloween, and I will redecorate

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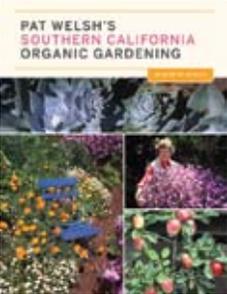
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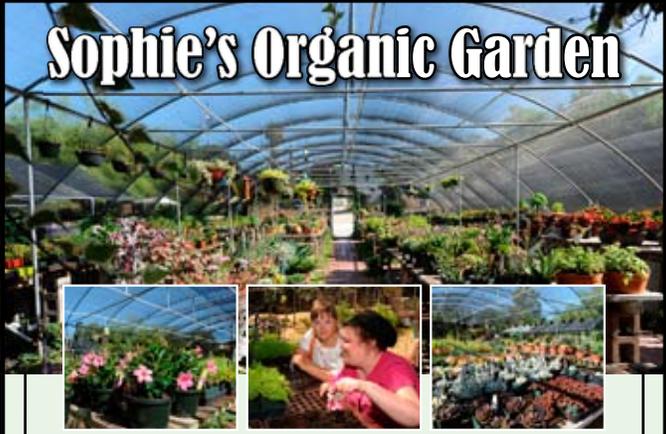
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it with other objects in the coming days. I always have bowls of the Torrey pinecones ready to use as table decor and scattered around my home when my brother and his family come to visit.

**Linda Chisari:** Since I don't have a lot of flowers in the garden right now to cut and bring in the house, I've been using Ikebana-like arrangements of *Camellia sasanqua* 'Yuletide' and 'Setsugekka'. The fine terminal branches are loaded with delicate single flowers in clear red ('Yuletide') and pure white ('Setsugekka') that will, when arranged in a needles flower holder, decorate the house from now through Christmas. Each flower only lasts a day but there are many buds on each branch and the arrangement lasts nearly a week.

**Cathy Tylka:** Rosemary and Cleveland sage are both welcomed inside all year long in flower arrangements around the house, or I just let them dry and they're keepers for a while. My roses are blooming since the rain, so I'm bringing in a few to decorate the room with and they smell so lovely. Also, I do make arrangements for friends and family using my many succulents, and try to remember the rule of thumb: something tall, something full, and something that drapes or hangs over; to make a nice mix.

**Jim Bishop:** Much to some people's surprise and sometimes horror, I use *Euphorbia tirucalli* (Sticks on Fire) the way others use evergreen branches. My huge pencil euphorbias usually need some shaping, so I prune them and let the cuttings fall to the ground, and try to avoid getting anywhere near the white sap. I let them lay on the ground a few days until they are good and callused over. I then pick them up and use them on top of the wall on the front patio as boughs of evergreens. They can last for up to 6 months. Mix in some round potted cacti and/or luminaries and you have a holiday display that doesn't dry out or fry in the winter sun. One year I even made a wreath for the front gate of euphorbia cuttings and succulents, but I wore disposable gloves and kept my hands away from my face while making it.

**Joan Braunstein:** Earlier this year I planted a young Japanese maple in my side yard in Old Town. For whatever reason, it did not make it and was completely dead a few months later. I cut off all the wilted foliage and was left with an attractive array of twigs from which I plan to hang Christmas ornaments and bird treats.

**Susi Torre-Bueno:** I make long-lasting foliage arrangements using variegated myrtle (*Myrtus communis* 'Variegata'), long stems of rosemary, and stiff upright stems of Cape Rush (*Chondropetalum tectorum*). These three can look very fine together in a vase for a week or two, and the myrtle and rosemary have lovely scents. To this I'll sometimes add flowers from aloes (which also last at least a week when cut), which are reliable late fall and winter bloomers. This year I'm also thinking of making small rosemary and bay laurel wreaths or bouquets to give out to my holiday visitors for them to cook with for weeks to come. I have both these herbs in abundance and now is a good time to cut them back.

**Deborah Young:** Depending on how well it turns out, maybe some homemade apple cider vinegar in cute bottles? Not a recipient-specific gift, but we have a huge, generous lime tree in the front yard and keeping up with the windfalls has always been a bit of a chore. This year, I put a box labeled "Please Help Yourself" out by the street, and all the falls go in there; people come by and take a couple of limes until they're all gone.

**Mary Lee:** I use dried/dead frowns from my King Palms to make hanging "baskets" for cuttings from my yard: tillandsia, blooms, etc. Vines from my star jasmine bush form the ties that keep the folded frown basket together. And also vine holders for smaller tillies. And I use smaller tillies to put into my collection of conch and other seashells to decorate my home. I also plan on using some dried bamboo cuttings (from lack of watering before our last rain) as holiday gift bow decorations.

**Cindy Sparks:** This year my Kishu tangerine is having an extra big crop. Last year I must have had 1000 fruit, and this year it will be even more. As a result, I'm using Kishu to decorate. In glass bowls, they look great, and if I have some little baggies stashed nearby, when somebody remarks on the fruit I can whip out a baggie, fill it with decorative Kishus, and give it away on the spot. Jeez, it's worse than zucchini already!

**Susan D'Vincent:** Like many members, my garden provides a lot for the holidays. For decorations, I can find interesting pieces of wood from cut down myoporum trees, which I decorate with juniper and nandina berries. This fall I found nice, big, fat orange rose hips to use as miniature pumpkins, with little faces drawn on with permanent marker. My full-sized pumpkins, which came from the compost as volunteers, will be used to make hazelnut pumpkin cheesecake, a fabulous Cooking Light recipe. Then, for holiday gifts, I will have low sugar jams made from my fruit trees and, also for the first time this year, even prickly pear fruit. Thank you garden, you were good to me this year, even with the drought.

**Tom Biggart:** My wife, Neal, makes incredible jam from the fruit of the jelly palm, *Butia capitata*, which makes wonderful gifts. Should you have this palm in your yard and do not know what to do with all that fruit, just give me a call and I will come and get it!

**Katrin Utt:** I use pine cones that I have collected on my walks through the years. I spray some of them with gold and silver spray paint. They really look festive combined with cedar or fir branches. They also keep for years.

**Diane Bailey:** Pomegranates come to mind first. I have been making some jellies and syrup right now. They make nice gifts. Also, dwarf pomegranates are great in wreaths and bouquets. Regular pomegranates make good centerpieces, bowl decorations, etc. The nice thing about this fruit is that it grows locally with very little water!

**Jane Coogan Beer:** This year I will be pruning my six *Osmanthus heterophyllus* (Goshiki and other variegated selections.) Also known as False Holly, this is the slowest growing shrub, but scattered over my property it gets no care. Thinned from the base, the long prunings are shared with friends and neighbors for table, mantel, door and other decorations. *Elaeagnus pungens* has been in a corner for maybe twelve years, allowed to form ten plus feet of viney growth in both directions. The small inconspicuous flowers perfume a whole room. The olive green leaves with silver bronze reverse give a fall flavor to vases of *Tithonia diversifolia* (giant Mexican sunflower). When this needs pruning, the vines can be used for forming wreaths.

**Lynn Becker:** Last year I used a collection of abalone shells, and small kitchenwares and pots that were in my yard and kitchen, and filled them with succulent cuttings from my containers. I gave them

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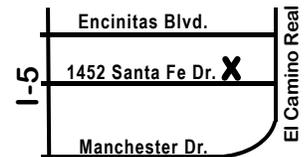
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to parent helpers and fellow teachers at my school. I've started using wine corks as markers; people love them.

**Jill Coughlin:** Beautiful fall leaves from Feather Acres Nursery in Solana Beach - since all I have is Torrey Pine needles! They also have a spectacular plain fall leaf wreath nice and full; needs nothing else added to it except maybe a burlap bow if you want, and well priced at around \$45. Lots of pumpkins: any size, color and shape; large for outside and small for inside. Baby pomegranates, small tangerines, any small long-lasting veggies. Acorns I picked up back East. Baby succulents tucked in here and there. Broken up pieces of the long Brussels sprout logs they sell at this time of year. Orange pyracantha berries, coffee berries; actually any kind of berry or seeds I see on any bushes anywhere (I keep clippers in my car for a little pruning now and then!). Dried poppy pods. At Thanksgiving we usually set a long table at the end of our dining room table so we have a long harvest table. Last year our daughter used small pewter tea sets and other small pewter cups I have and filled them with succulents, berries, pieces of wheat, etc., and set them on leaves scattered all down the table with the berries, veggies, etc. and lots of candles and it looked great.

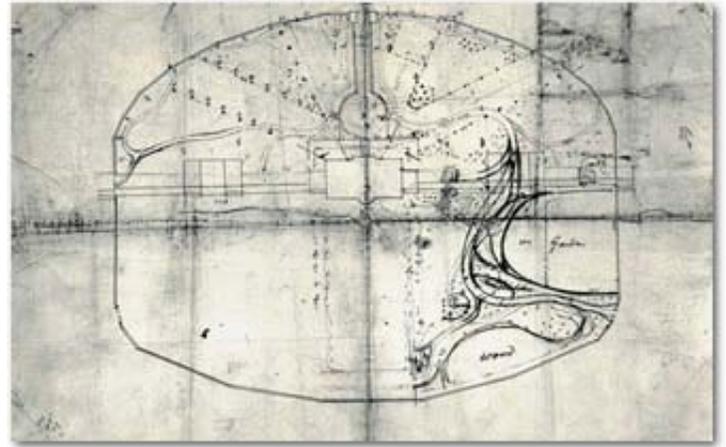
**Ellie Knight:** Twisted golden willow. Can spray paint any color; great in floral design live or dry.

The question for January is:

What are the top 3 things on your garden "to do list" for 2015, and why?

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

## Real Dirt Continued from page 12



Thomas Jefferson's plans for the garden, 1802-5. Courtesy Library of Congress.

days a year by 20 National Park Service employees. The lawn is tall fescue. A major renovation of the lawn is completed each fall. During White House garden tours, flowers such as tulips, hyacinths, and chrysanthemums can be seen in the East Garden. Plants in the Rose Garden include magnolia trees, 'Katherine' crab apple trees, and a variety of roses. Many of the plants used for seasonal displays are grown at an offsite nursery maintained by the National Park Service.



First Lady Michelle Obama and White House Chefs join children from Bancroft and Tubman Elementary Schools to harvest vegetables during the third annual White House kitchen garden fall harvest Oct. 5, 2011.

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# HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE 2014 A GREAT SUCCESS!

By Donna Tierney

On a sunny San Diego afternoon, 45 San Diego Horticultural Society volunteers, and a crackerjack team of students from MiraCosta College, scurried all over the Surfside Race Place in Del Mar setting up tables, decorating, and assisting 55 vendors, authors, and exhibitors in offloading their wares in preparation for the 2nd Holiday Marketplace held on November 10. Well before the doors opened at 5PM, shoppers were eagerly standing in line hoping to find the perfect plants and gifts!

The array of goods for sale was intoxicating! On hand were many varieties of plants (cacti, succulents, tropicals, proteas, Australian natives, evergreens and more), one of a kind ceramics and pottery, decorated gourds, fabric crafts, food items, bird houses, garden art, books, hand crafted jewelry, and wreaths. In addition to shopping, customers were also able to talk with local authors Pat Welsh, Lucy Warren, Greg Rubin, Sharon Asakawa, John Bagnasco, Robyn Foreman and Bonnie Manion. Attendees flocked to educational demonstrations by Pat, Lucy, Robyn, and Roy Wilburn. Additionally, they could obtain expert consultations with landscape designer members of the Association of Professional Landscape Designers.

For those involved in the planning and execution of this fine event, it was so gratifying to see the hundreds of shoppers who packed the exhibit hall. Their arms were loaded with plants and gifts, and there were huge smiles on their faces! Thanks to all of our members, authors, exhibitors, and vendors who made this wonderful event possible! 🌿

MiraCosta College had poinsettias and much more



Susanna Pagan (4)

Membership Chair Cindy Benoit



SDHS Sponsor The Wishing Tree had a very handsome display

SDHS Sponsor Sunshine Care had free veggie starts for all attendees





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Other 2015 PacHort tours include the Himalayas in April & Chicago in June. Tours to San Miguel de Allende, Seattle and Japan are full – sorry! On tap for 2016 are South Africa, Costa Rica, New Orleans and more!

SDHS is a Pacific Horticulture Partner. Visit [www.pachort.org](http://www.pachort.org) to learn about tours and subscribe to the highly regarded *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. A special rate of \$24 is available right now by using the discount code SDHS2014. ☘

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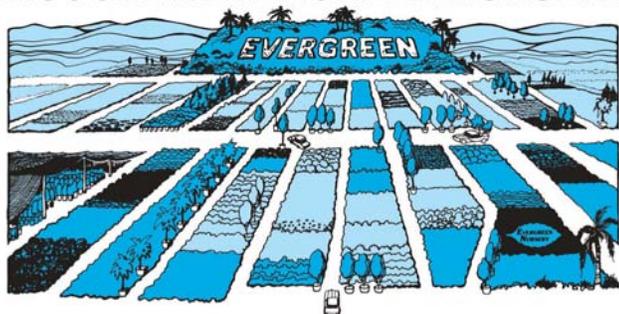
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## What's Happening? for DECEMBER 2014

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).

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### January 3: Landscaping & Maintaining your Garden in Winter

If you love gardening then you love San Diego. We are fortunate enough to be able to be outside in our garden all year long. Lots of people are buried in snow while we are able to do the feeding, planting, and pruning necessary to have that beautiful garden throughout the year. We will discuss all these things and more.

Each FREE seminar is approximately 1 hour long. Come to the location nearest you! Refreshments will be provided. Seminar attendees receive a coupon for an instant discount for any purchases made the day of the seminar!

To view our entire seminar schedule and check our hours of operation, visit us at

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##### EL CAJON

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

## Events at Public Gardens

❖ **Alta Vista Gardens** Contact info on other side  
See [www.avgardens.org](http://www.avgardens.org) for events & classes

❖ **San Diego Botanic Garden** Contact info on other side  
**Dec 6 - 23 and 26 - 30, Garden of Lights:** After the sun goes down in December, the Garden is transformed into a dazzling winter wonderland. \$14 discounts available; see website.

❖ **The Water Conservation Garden**

Contact info on other side

**Saturdays, 10:30am, Garden Tour:** Docent led tour of the Water Conservation Garden. Meet at the main gate at the Garden entrance. No reservations required.

**Dec. 6, 9am-3pm, Garden Gift Shop Open House:** Pick up great hostess and holiday gifts, check out new inventory and enjoy surprise discounts

## Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors

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Info: [events.barrelsandbranches@gmail.com](mailto:events.barrelsandbranches@gmail.com) or (760) 753-2852. See ad on page 17.

♦ **Cedros Gardens, Saturday & Sunday FREE classes.**  
See [www.cedrosgardens.com](http://www.cedrosgardens.com).

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

♦ **Evergreen Nursery: FREE Seminar**  
See column at left for details.

♦ **Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes**  
Details at [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com); addresses in ad on page 15.

#### Point Loma, 9am

Dec. 6 Pruning roses, new varieties

Dec. 13 Pruning stone fruits

Dec. 20 Pruning apples & cherries

#### Poway, 9:30am

Bird Feeder workshop \$25 prepaid

Rose pruning

Fruit tree pruning

♦ **Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops**  
See [www.weidners.com](http://www.weidners.com) or call (760) 436-2194.

## Next SDHS Meeting

**December 8:**

**Remembering and  
Commemorating the 1915  
Panama-California Exposition**

**See page 1 for details**

# Happy Holidays!

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

## Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

### Dec. 1, 12:30pm, Palomar District's Floral Design

**Forum:** Get inspired to decorate for the holidays. \$15. Shinoda Design Center, 7170 Miramar Rd. Info: [www.californiagardenclubs.com/palomardistrict](http://www.californiagardenclubs.com/palomardistrict).

### Dec. 3 (3-10pm) & 6 (noon-10pm), San Diego Floral

**Assoc. Festival of Trees:** Enjoy the sights and scents of the season. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 101. Info: [www.balboapark.org/decemberevents](http://www.balboapark.org/decemberevents).

### Dec. 6, 8-noon, Dos Valles Garden Club Poinsettia,

**Wreath & Plant Sale:** Martin Gang Ranch, 28933 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center. Info & preorder: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org).

### Dec. 6, 10-noon, Solana Center's Manure

**Management & Composting Workshop Course:** Registration and info: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

### Dec. 10, 10am-noon, Point Loma Garden Club:

Holiday tea & bazaar. 2818 Avenida de Portugal. Info: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org).

### Dec. 20, 10-noon, Solana Center's Free

**Composting Workshop:** The Farm at Ocean Knoll, 910 Melba Rd., Encinitas. Registration and info: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**Do you belong to a club or organization whose events aren't listed above?**

For a FREE listing (space permitting) send details by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month BEFORE the event to Neal King at [calendar@s hort.org](mailto:calendar@s hort.org).

For an extensive list of garden club meetings and events, visit [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: \$14/adults, \$10/seniors, \$8/kids 3-12; parking \$2. Free to members and on the first Tuesday of every month. (760) 436-3036; [www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org).

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

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

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

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

**DESERT WILDFLOWER HOTLINE:** Anza-Borrego Desert State Park: (760) 767-4684. Info., events, road conditions, etc.: (760) 767-5311 or <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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday; \$5/family; \$2/adult, \$1/seniors/students; (619) 232-2721, [www.niwa.org](http://www.niwa.org).

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

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

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

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

### **Garden 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 [www.lifestyletalkradio.com](http://www.lifestyletalkradio.com).

## San Diego County Farmers Markets

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