

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

May 2014, Number 236

Stuck on You! Indoor and Outdoor Projects with Succulents

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On the Cover: Succulent terrarium with a beach vibe

Admire a garden, discover a new plant, be inspired, enjoy . . .

Join the San Diego Floral Association's Annual Historic Garden Tour

**Tour of eight home gardens in University Heights
Saturday, May 17, 2014, 10:00AM – 4:00PM**

Plus Birney School Garden and points of interest

Shop at the Garden Marketplace in Old Trolley Barn Park

WHERE: Start at Old Trolley Barn Park on May 17

(1998 Adams Avenue at Florida Street) Tickets, will call, maps, guidebooks

TICKETS: \$20 in advance | \$25 on May 17 Purchase online at sdfloral.org



Tickets also available at local plant nurseries:

City Farmers Nursery – San Diego

Mission Hills Nursery – San Diego

Walter Andersen Nursery – San Diego & Poway

Weidners Gardens – Encinitas

First availability of
'Ollie Marmot'
a new Geranium introduction
by Jim Zemcik

sdfloral.org



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Garden Design is partnering with the San Diego Horticultural Society to support their efforts in promoting horticulture in the San Diego region.

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**GARDEN
DESIGN**

2014 Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale

Presented by

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

June 7th & 8th

At **Balboa Park** in

The Casa Del Prado

Show: Room 101, Sat June 7, 10 to 3, Sun June 8, 10 to 4

Sale: Courtyard, Sat June 7, 10 to 5, Sun June 8, 10 to 4
SDCSS Members only shopping Sat Jun 7, 9am to 10am

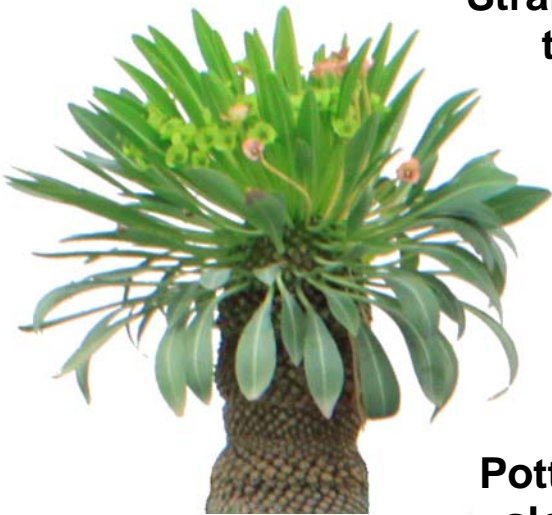
**Strange and exotic plants from the far corners of
the world gathered together for your
viewing amazement!!**

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

**Potting service will be available
along with cultural information**

See a great selection of “water wise” plants for landscaping.
For additional information visit: www.sdcss.net

If you have trouble finding a parking spot, use the **Balboa Park TRAM**. The free tram provides access to Balboa Park's museums and attractions. You can park in the Inspiration Point lot and wait at Tram Central, a shady arbor with benches. The tram will deliver you to the heart of Balboa Park. Trams pick up every 8 to 10 minutes. Riders may also board at one of the designated pick-up areas around the Park. The tram operates seven days a week from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm.

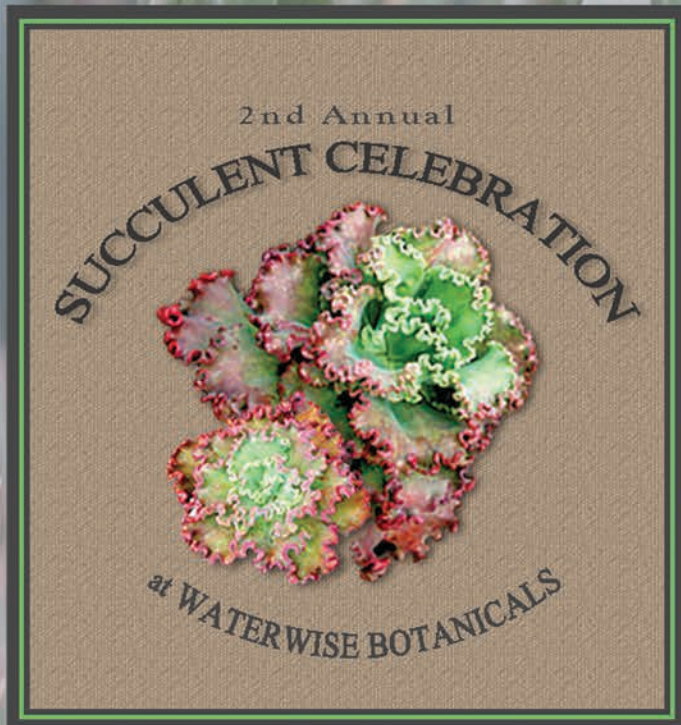


WATERWISE BOTANICALS

Friday & Saturday
June 7-8, 2014

RSVP

www.SucculentCelebration.com



North County
San Diego



Growers
Designers
Authors



featuring...

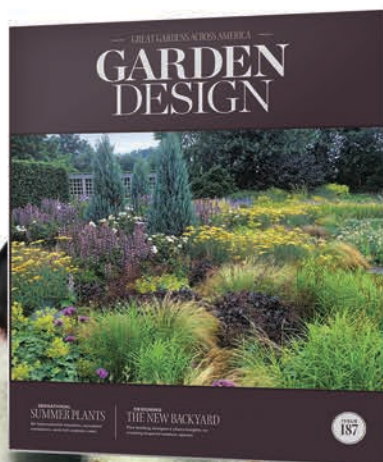
- *Debra Lee Baldwin, bestselling author*
- *Robin Stockwell, The King of Succulents*
- *Succulent Funkie Jeanne Meadow*
- *Peter Loyola, creator of Succulent Cafe*
- *Kelly Griffin, Altman Plants*
- *Tom Fesch, Waterwise Botanicals*

succulencesce.

The largest "Celebration of Succulents" Southern California has ever seen! Join us as we learn together and explore the beautiful world of succulents with renowned landscapers, artists, designers, & educators.

Food, fun, fabulous vendors and activities will be available.

Visit with the masterminds behind the new and improved Garden Design Magazine!



Waterwise Botanicals - 32183 Old Hwy 395 Escondido, CA 92026

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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; Register at www.sdhort.org)

May 3	Gardening on a Slope (FW)
May 4	Wine Country Garden Tour (see website)
May 17	Featured Garden: Fallbrook (register at www.sdhort.org)
June 7	Using plants with colorful & interesting foliage: Living large in a small garden (FW)
June 9	SDHS Night at the Fair
July 14	Mike Atkinson on Scent-sational Plumeria
August 11	Tom Piergrossi on New Tropicals for San Diego Gardens
September 8	Randy Baldwin on New Plant Introductions from San Marcos Growers



www.sdhort.org

COVER IMAGE: This lovely photo by Shaun Buchanan is just one of many from the exciting new book, *Planting Designs for Cactus and Succulents*, by our fascinating May speakers.

NEXT MEETING: MAY 12, 2014, 6:00 – 8:30 PM SPEAKER: SHARON ASAKAWA AND ROBYN FOREMAN ON *STUCK ON YOU!* INDOOR AND OUTDOOR PROJECTS WITH SUCCULENTS

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.

Crazy for cacti? Sweet on succulents? On May 12 we are delighted to welcome Sharon Asakawa and Robyn Foreman, who will share their vast knowledge and experience and fuel your passion with all-new designs and projects to captivate your imagination. Discussing their new book, *Planting Designs for Cactus and Succulents*, Sharon will illustrate some of their weirdly wonderful collectors' choices, and Robyn will demonstrate some easy and elegant projects.

Sharon Asakawa and her husband Bruce were our Horticulturists of the Year in 2010. She has been part of the nursery industry for decades, in their nursery and leading garden tours around the world. Sharon is the author or co-author of numerous books and co-host of the nationally syndicated *GardenLife Radio Show*.

Robyn Foreman is a highly skilled floral designer with over 25 years' experience. Her business specializes in custom upscale events, focusing on décor and outrageous florals. She has been featured in *Country Gardens Magazine*, with her fresh take on combining flowers with succulents in everyday arrangements.

Their book, *Planting Designs for Cactus and Succulents*, will be available for purchase and signing by the authors. For more information, see page 3 and visit <http://tinyurl.com/maysharon>. 🌵



Sharon Asakawa



Robyn Foreman

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

BOARD MEMBERS

Cindy Benoit – Member at Large
Patty Berg – Volunteer Coordinator
Jeff Biletnikoff – Meeting Room
Coordinator
Jim Bishop – President
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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,
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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.

SPRING GARDEN TOUR A HUGE SUCCESS THANKS TO MANY VOLUNTEERS

By Dannie McLaughlin

We couldn't have asked for better weather as day dawned on the fifth annual SDHS spring garden tour. The theme of *Surf and Turf* was appropriate, as tour goers spent a glorious day visiting fabulous gardens in Solana Beach (the Surf) and Olivenhain (the Turf). Photos of the gardens are on page 21 and the back cover.

Many thanks go to the wonderful hosts who opened their spectacular gardens to us: Traci and Jim Campbell; Katie and Steve Pelisek; Barbara Jenkins-Lee; Lynn Weston and Paul Nyerges; Susie and Jack Burger; Irina and Erik Gronborg; Heather and Morrie Callaghan; and Dannie and Craig McLaughlin. A special thanks goes to Jessica Ellis for sharing the organic edible garden at the Boys & Girls Clubs and preparing an amazing “farm to table” lunch for tour goers.

I want to especially thank Katie Pelisek for not only helping identify some of the tour gardens, but also having her garden, as well as her neighbor's (Barbara Jenkins-Lee) garden, on the tour. In addition, Katie also designed and created the fantastic landscape at the Burgers' (Craftsman with a View) garden, and is the landscape architect who designed the lush vegetable garden and surrounding areas at the Boys & Girls Clubs Center for a Healthy Lifestyle.

Thanks also to Susan Starr and Heather Callaghan for “riding shotgun” with me as we toured potential gardens and helping out in so many other ways, not the least of which was moral support. Thanks to Jeannine Romero for writing the garden descriptions that accompanied the garden photos in the March and April newsletters. Thanks to Barbara Raub for placing artists in each garden. Barbara puts much time and thought into matching specific artists with specific gardens, and she did a fabulous job again this year. She also took the photos on page 21 and the back cover. We also appreciate the vendors who displayed and sold garden merchandise.

Continued on page 12

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Board Opening: Membership Chairperson

Are you an outgoing “people person?” Our membership chair is a job you'd enjoy! You'll recruit new members, interact with current members, set membership policies, and answer questions regarding membership renewals. Also, you'll help with outreach tables at non-SDHS events and conduct two semi-annual new member orientation events in member's gardens. Best of all: the majority of the routine membership tasks are done by our bookkeeper and automated on our website. Requires familiarity with email and computer editing skills. Contact Jim Bishop: president@sdhort.org.

Board Opening: Garden Tour Co-Chair for 2015

We're already in the early planning stages for the 2015 Spring Garden Tour, even though the current year's event is still a few months away. That's because 2015 marks the Centennial Celebration at Balboa Park and we'll be featuring gardens in that area. If you love gardens and have strong organizational skills, consider co-chairing this exciting event. Tasks include identifying the tour area; scheduling the tour date; finding and reviewing tour gardens; and working with homeowners, sponsor(s), and vendors. You'll work with and supervise other volunteers who staff the gardens, create publicity materials, and sell tickets. Requires familiarity with email. Contact Jim Bishop at president@sdhort.org.

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

Continued on page 7

To Learn More...

Stay Succulent in the Drought

By Ava Torre-Bueno

Have you noticed that we're having a slightly drier than normal year? (Read: Protracted drought.) Sadly, this is probably our new normal. The beautiful, broad plant palette we once enjoyed is shrinking. But fear not! Those we have left are so completely wonderful, diverse and weird that we can garden with abandon for years to come.

Here's a site with pictures and information on many kinds of succulents: www.paghat.com/garden14.html

And another very informative site that includes information on how to best to re-pot cactus (don't use your bare hands!): www.succulent-plant.com/cultivation.html

Are you an apartment dweller? No room for a succulent garden? Here's a how-to for making a vertical succulent garden: <http://tinyurl.com/Maymore1>

This month's guest speaker, Sharon Asakawa, has a new book on projects with succulents: <http://tinyurl.com/Maymore2>

And here's the facebook page for Pure Water San Diego, the project that will eventually lead to us all having (almost) enough ultra-pure water for our homes and gardens. "Like" them and stay tuned! www.facebook.com/PureWaterSD 🌿



Dannie McLaughlin

One small area of Dannie's garden

Rachael Cobb



FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

Spring Garden Tour

With over 800 garden enthusiasts attending, our April 5 tour was the largest and most successful event SDHS has ever hosted! With a "Surf & Turf" theme *and* featuring gardens in Solana Beach and Olivenhain, the tour offered something for everyone, including cottage gardens, low water flower gardens, succulents, palms, native plants, Mediterranean plants, organic vegetable gardens and panoramic views. Thank you to the garden owners for all of their hard work in creating such unique, creative, inspirational and beautiful gardens. We also appreciate our vendors and artists who participated in the gardens.

Thank you to all who attended and special thanks if you were one of the over 580 attendees who purchased tickets in advance. The advance ticket purchases allowed purchasers to start the tour at any garden without waiting to check in, and helped keep our ticket lines short on the day of the event. As previously noted, all proceeds from the tour will be used for our project to restore several of the planting areas in Balboa Park. Special thanks to those of you that made an extra contribution when you purchased your ticket.

Thank you to Patty Berg for coordinating the volunteers, and, of course, to all of the volunteers without whose help the tour wouldn't be possible (see page 2). Most of all, thanks to Tour Chairperson, Dannie McLaughlin, for orchestrating this incredible event. Dannie put in countless volunteer hours planning, scheduling and working to make sure that everything ran so smoothly; and her wonderful garden was also on the tour. Her careful attention to detail created an enjoyable and educational experience for all who attended.

As you may know, this is Dannie's last year as Tour Coordinator. She's done an outstanding job, and helped make our tour one of the best and most successful in San Diego. Susan Starr has volunteered to co-chair the 2015 tour, but we need an additional volunteer or volunteers to help out. We are currently planning on doing a tour of historic gardens around Balboa Park. It is exciting to be involved in the early planning. We will need volunteers to help select the gardens, work with garden owners, plan the logistics of the tour (check-in location, insurance, food, route, artists, etc.), recruit volunteers, and create press materials. If you are interested, please contact Jim Bishop at president@sdhort.org to find out more.

San Diego County Fair Garden Exhibit

This year we are fortunate to have Kimberly Alexander, owner of Allée Landscape Design, designing our garden, and we will again be sponsored by the San Diego Water County Authority. We will soon start signing up volunteers to staff the garden. Look for more information in upcoming monthly email messages. This is our largest outreach and education program and a great way to tell the public about San Diego Horticultural Society. And don't forget to save the date of June 9th, when we'll have our exclusive "Night at the Fair" meeting and also honor our 2014 Horticulturist of the Year, Julian Duvall. Julian has been with the San Diego Botanic Garden the past 19 years, and is President and CEO. See pages 6 and 8 for more information about our garden at the Fair. 🌿

THE REAL DIRT ON...

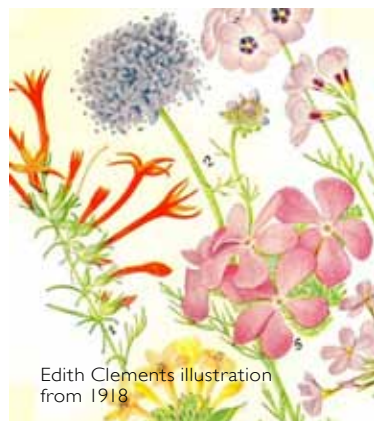
Edith Clements

By Carol Buckley

At times it seems all roads lead to San Diego. Such was the case of Edith Clements (1874–1971), who with her husband, Frederic Clements (1874–1945), a pioneer in ecology and soil conservation, covered over 600,000 miles of U.S. roads from 1917 to 1941, and then (as a widow), ended up in La Jolla.

Aside from being her husband's chauffeur (an arrangement made after the vegetation-distracted Frederic drove their car off a few roads), stenographer, mechanic, and cook, Edith understood ecological research. She shared an interest in taxonomy, and knew how to run a lab. Edith received her doctorate in botany from the University of Nebraska, the first woman to receive a Ph.D. from that university, and worked there as an associate botanist.

In 1907, the Clements moved to the University of Minnesota, where he headed the Botany Department and she taught botany.



Edith Clements illustration from 1918

In 1917, Frederic was hired as an ecological researcher by Carnegie Institute in Washington, D.C. Later, Edith was hired as a researcher and illustrator. In 1927, over 200 plates of her botanical watercolors were featured in *National Geographic*, and more in 1939. The Clements published many books, some featuring her botanical watercolors and pen and ink drawings of flowers of

various regions, especially important because part of the Clements' work for the Institute focused on the origins of plant species.

The Clements set up an alpine laboratory on Pike's Peak that became a place for ecology students and for scientists interested in soil conservation, forestry, and agriculture. After the Clements met leading botanists in Europe in 1911, the lab became a place for the exchange of international ideas. A linguist, Edith translated her husband's work, thus helping to spread his ecological theory. To him the land was an organism affected particularly by climate but also in a holistic relationship with animal life. This became the leading theory in the early part of the 20th century, and after falling out of favor, resurged at the end of the century in other forms, such as biodiversity.

Frederic died in Santa Barbara, where they had wintered since 1925, and where he had been the first director of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. Edith died in La Jolla, where she continued to promote Clementsian ecology through articles and finishing her husband's writings. In 1960, Edith wrote: "Application of the principles of ecology to human affairs, whether personal, national, or world-wide, would go far in solving the problems that beset us."

Back to the road... One of Edith's most heroic acts was driving her ailing husband, a consultant, to meetings in Washington, D.C., and across the Great Plains to help prevent more losses during the Dust Bowl tragedy of the 1930s. 🌿



BOOK REVIEW

Renoir's Garden

By Derek Fell

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

If I made a list of all the things a book of this type should have, *Renoir's Garden* has them all, and they're bound together by graceful and interesting writing.

When I first picked it up at a second-hand store, I debated with myself. I'm not that knowledgeable about the impressionist painters, and I didn't know whether a book like this would hold me, but it sure did. Fell has balanced information about Renoir's painting with that about the garden. I learned a lot and enjoyed it.

I guess I shouldn't be surprised. This is one of Fell's more than 100 published books, an astonishing number. He's also editor of *Avant Gardener* magazine in his spare time. (See a free issue at www.avantgardener.info.) Fell seems to be a renaissance man. He's well known as an author, but also as a garden expert and photographer.

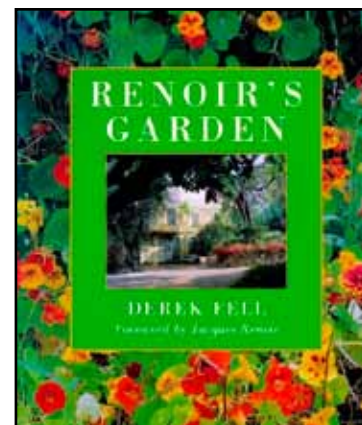
The book covers the last fifteen years of Renoir's life, when he, his wife and three children, and a raft of others moved to Cagnes, in southeastern France. A farmstead called Les Collettes was for sale, and Renoir was in love with its beauty and especially with the ancient olive trees that graced its hillsides. The other bidder proposed stripping the farm bare so he could grow carnations commercially. That didn't happen.

The farm had an old farmhouse, but Renoir gave his wife, Aline, carte blanche to build the house of her dreams. He didn't care as long as he had the gardens and a place to paint. Critics think he did his best work in these last years, even when he was so crippled with rheumatism that the brush had to be taped to his hand. He produced over 600 paintings and began sculpting, a new endeavor.

What he painted were the glorious gardens, the mountains, and the views of the Mediterranean. The book is replete with his paintings and Fell's photos of the scenes that inspired them both.

Besides the text, paintings, and photos, the book includes an interesting forward written by Renoir's great grandson, Jacques, many black and white family photos, an index, a separate index of the 27 included paintings, a bibliography, a list of gardens to visit in the South of France, a chronology of Renoir's life, a plant list, information for photographers, a plan of the gardens, and a map of France. The only thing it doesn't seem have is a partridge in a pear tree, but maybe I missed that page.

Renoir's Garden (ISBN 978-0711210059) is available in both hardcover and paperback. It was originally published in 1991. I wasn't able to find out whether it's still in print, but it is available second hand. Don't miss this one. 🌿



TREES, PLEASE Roots

By Tim Clancy

Besides supporting the tree, roots also store energy and absorb water and other elements that are required for life. Large roots that provide support are referred to as woody roots. Smaller fine roots that do the absorbing are called non-woody roots.

Root anatomy is similar to that of trunks, having a vascular cambium (the cell generator), bark, and wood, unlike branches roots have no pith in the center. While roots do have annual rings, they are more difficult to distinguish clearly. Roots also lack the familiar colored core of heartwood. There is a transition zone at the base of the tree where anatomical changes occur and the root evolves into wood.

As roots age and die, or are injured or infected, boundaries are formed that prevent the inward spread of decay causing organisms. Similar types of boundaries are formed when branches are lost. These boundaries are part of the compartmentalization of decay in trees (CODIT). CODIT instructs us on the process of boundary creation, rather than tissue regeneration, which is essentially the difference between "healing," which trees do not do and "sealing," which trees do.

Roots rely on leaves to produce food, as roots are unable to produce their own food. Roots have a higher proportion of living to dead cells than do trunks. To maintain the living cells in a healthy condition requires the energy made possible by leaves. Non-woody roots supply the tree with life maintaining essential elements and water, neither of which is food for the tree. When we say we are "feeding" the tree by fertilizing it, we are wrong. We are providing necessary elements (usually nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium) but not food, which is fabricated through the process of photosynthesis, beginning with leaves. So, there really are no such things as feeder roots!

When the energy supply is limited by heavy leaf removal, for example, roots will become stressed, which is a reversible condition. Stress occurs when energy is disrupted by some process. When not reversed, stress becomes strain, an irreversible condition. While strained, the boundaries formed are weak, or no boundaries form at all. This is when roots and the tree can get into trouble. Opportunistic pathogens infect the roots and can rapidly spread. If the tree has not been attacked so severely that the tree can form new normal boundaries, the pathogens will be walled off and stopped spreading. Unfortunately, the wood lost in the walling off process is no longer available to store energy, resulting in a smaller capacity to store energy and affecting the tree's growth rate.

Roots Demystified ...change your gardening habits to help roots thrive, by Robert Kourik, is a great place for more information on roots.



Root rot wins again

Tim Clancy

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT One is Silver and the Other's Gold

By Patty Berg, Volunteer Coordinator

Many years ago, I was a Girl Scout. My favorite part of being a Scout, besides getting to wear the groovy green skirt and sash with all my merit badges sewn on it, was going on field trips. We always sang on the bus, often in overlapping rounds. And we always sang the ditty "Make New Friends" on every trip. There were just two lines, the first being "Make new friends, but keep the old." Sound familiar?



Ava Torre-Bueno

This month's spotlight is on volunteer Evey Torre-Bueno, the gal to see if you need a name badge or want to purchase the SDHS Tree Book. Month after month, you'll see her at our meetings, always smiling, always ready to take care of business. Volunteering comes naturally to Evey and anyone would agree, it keeps her young at heart.

Evey joined the Navy during WWII. Sure, she got paid for her service, but she still had to volunteer – women were not drafted, of course. Later, as a young mom, she served as PTA President, and later headed a committee that organized concerts at Astoria Park.

Her interest in gardening began in New York City, of all places, where she raised her son and daughter. When her mother purchased a row house with a backyard, Evey planted peonies, lilacs, tulips and roses – quite a feat for someone who'd lived in apartments her whole life. Daughter Ava (who writes the column *To Learn More...* on page 3) moved to San Diego for college in the early 70s, and in the 80s son Jose (and his wife, Susi) relocated there, too. A few years later, Evey followed. NYC's loss was our great fortune.

Over the years, Evey has worked countless volunteer hours for many different organizations including the San Diego Museum of Art and the Mingei International Museum, Rancho Buena Vista Adobe, and the San Diego Docent League. At 92 years young, an age when most people are taking it easy, Evey stays engaged by volunteering.

What motivates her to keep up the volunteer work? It's simple. "I enjoy talking to people and making new friends," Evey says. And that takes us to the second line in the song: "One is silver and the other's gold." 🌿

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

GOING WILD WITH NATIVES A NURSERYMAN REMEMBERED

By Susan Krzywicki

Many of you may have heard the sad news that Bert Wilson from Las Pilitas nursery died recently. The Las Pilitas Nursery (www.laspilitas.com) is a well-respected local and international resource for California native plants. Bert was a "beloved husband, father, grandfather, and mentor," and his passage was sudden and deeply saddening. Bert ran two nurseries and a website that represented the best: wisdom, plants, knowledge and community.

His love of native plants began in the 60s and 70s. His website and the nursery were both his labor of love. He was friends with, and mentor, to native plant enthusiasts from one end of the California Floristic Province to the other. The outpouring of voices has been strong and poignant. Rick Halsey from the California Chaparral Institute (www.californiachaparral.org) wrote, "Although I never had the honor to meet Bert, we did communicate via phone and email multiple times. His passion for the natural world was an inspiration. Nature has lost a dear friend."

Sharon Reeve, habitat restoration grad student at SDSU, wrote, "... (H)is frequent email advice made me feel he was a friend. He was always timely and forthcoming with his knowledge. He deeply understood California ecosystems, soils, and organisms better than anyone I have ever met. He was an unparalleled advocate for wildlife gardening. His death is a devastating blow to us all."

Laura Camp, President of the California Native Plant Society board of directors and Tree of Life Nursery CFO (www.californianativeplants.com), "... (W)e all owe him a debt of gratitude for his pioneering work with native plants in the garden, and his passion and sense of humor permeated all his writings. I'm sorry for his sudden passing, too soon."

Frank Landis (<http://franklandis.wordpress.com>), botanist and CNPS chapter board member, said, "Bert was an inspiration to me as well. I was lucky enough to meet him once, and his views on native plants influenced a lot of what I went on to learn in grad school."

When someone undertakes a labor of love, like Bert did, it makes a wide path that many can follow. And as we follow, we also widen the path for even more people. Sharing our unique heritage is important.

Please read the Las Pilitas blog post (www.laspilitas.com/blog/post-75--in-memory-of-bert-wilson) for more information from his family, Celeste, Penny and Ian.

There will be an open house on May 24th at both the Escondido and the Santa Margarita nursery sites. Please email any stories you have of Bert Wilson to his son and website operator at ian@laspilitas.com so that we can all share them. 🌿

SEE US AT THE FAIR!

By Jim Bishop and Susi Torre-Bueno

Next month heralds one of the most fun events in San Diego County: the San Diego County Fair! For many years we have been fortunate to have one of our members design our large display garden for the Paul Ecke Jr. Flower & Garden Show at the San Diego County Fair, which this year runs from June 7 to July 6. The theme for the display gardens this year is "Flower Power," and we're sure to see some very imaginative and colorful designs.

For 2014 we are delighted to have our display garden designed by talented landscape designer Kimberly Alexander, owner and principal designer for Allée Landscape Design (<http://alleelandscapedesign.com>). Kimberly's own 2012 Fair entry was a very attractive modern garden (photos are on her website), and we honored it with our Most Outstanding Garden award; it won several other awards as well. Her 2013 display garden at the Spring Home/Garden Show won five awards. In addition to being a member of SDHS, Kimberly is the Vice President of the San Diego chapter of the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD – see page 18). Many thanks to Kimberly for volunteering her time and talent. See page 8 for her comments about the garden.

Our Fair garden is again being sponsored by the San Diego County Water Authority (www.sdcwa.org); they also sponsored our gardens in 2011 and 2013. We are grateful for their financial support, and for the opportunity to help educate San Diego homeowners that low water gardens can be both functional and beautiful (see page 21).

Also, on June 9, instead of a regular meeting, we'll have a SDHS members-only special evening event at the Fair Flower & Garden Show. We'll honor our 2014 Horticulturist of the Year, Julian Duval, President and CEO of San Diego Botanic Garden. Parking will be free, and because the Fair is closed to the public that day, we'll have the outdoor display gardens all to ourselves.

You can get involved by volunteering to staff the display garden during the Fair. Look for more information in future emails, and see page 2 now about how to volunteer. We are also looking for a volunteer to help coordinate the Night at the Fair event. See page 2 for more information.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Fair! 🌿



SUBSCRIBE TO GARDEN DESIGN AND SUPPORT THE SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

On April 15 we sent an important email to members. Don't miss out on a very exciting offer! Our newest sponsor, *Garden Design* magazine (see insert), is partnering with SDHS to support our efforts in promoting horticulture in the San Diego region. *Garden Design* will donate \$12 to SDHS for every new magazine subscription by members (or friends) until May 31.

To take advantage of this very generous offer, you must go to a special page. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/MayGdnDes>, OR click the link on the home page of our website (www.sdhort.org), OR click

the link in the original email we sent you. Don't delay; the offer ends May 31st. (Note: if you follow these links the SDHS will get their donation, although that info might not be on your receipt.)

Support SDHS and enjoy amazing gardens, beautiful plants, and expert insights inside the pages of *Garden Design*. (This was one of your editor's all-time favorite gardening magazines!) Every quarterly issue has 132 pages with no advertisements, several outstanding gardens showcased with inspiring stories and photos, new products, new plants, garden tours and exhibitions, and much more! 🌿

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN BALBOA PARK

Balboa Park Centennial Committee

By Linda Shaw

Our committee has been hard at work the last few months with the goal of restoring the gardens in Balboa Park adjacent to the lily pond in front of the Botanical Building. The theme for our garden restoration is "Kate Sessions' Vision of Balboa Park Gardens, 100 Years Later." Kate Sessions was responsible for landscaping many parts of Balboa Park, as well as many public and private gardens in and around San Diego. Even though you have heard about the demise of the Balboa Park Centennial Committee, we are moving forward with our project, and working directly with the Park's horticultural staff.

A planting plan for the gardens with a detailed plant list was developed by landscape architects and SDHS members Chris Drayer and Cindy Benoit. You can find the complete plant list on our website, www.sdhort.org, and the planting plan will soon be added to the website. The plan was presented to Mario Llanos and Ansen Caires, Horticulturists for Balboa Park, on April 3rd. They readily approved the plan, which showcases unusual but easy to find low maintenance and low water plants. The design concept uses interesting specimen plants surrounded by large drifts of colorful smaller plants, which help focus attention on the specimen plants. With this important approval, we can now begin to test the irrigation system, locate and purchase plants, schedule deliveries and start installation. We are hoping to have the garden installed by the end of June. Maybe the big wigs at City Hall could learn a few things from the Hort Society!

We appreciate your donations to fund the project. If you haven't made a donation, please consider doing so now. Donations can be made online at www.sdhort.org/donate. 🌱



Left to right: SDHS Treasurer Sam Seat, Linda Shaw, landscape architects Chris Drayer and Cindy Benoit, Jim Bishop (SDHS President)

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 April 11 we have raised \$3380. **Thank you to these generous donors:**

\$1000

Ellen Merewether

\$210

Bruce & Myra
Cobbledick

\$50-100

Gleneva Belice
Dinah & Scott Carl
Fidelity Charitable
Dinah Dodds
Ed Fitzgerald
(in memory of
Eva Fitzgerald)
Bill Homyak &
Meredith Sinclair
Christina Ivany
Gabrielle Ivany
Ellen McGrath-
Thorpe
Kathleen McKee
Mary Lou Meagher
Susan Morse
Jane Morton
Wendy Nash
Princess Norman
Ann and Jim Peter
Ida Rigby
Sam & Terri Seat
Tammy Schwab
William & Linda
Shaw
Paula Taylor

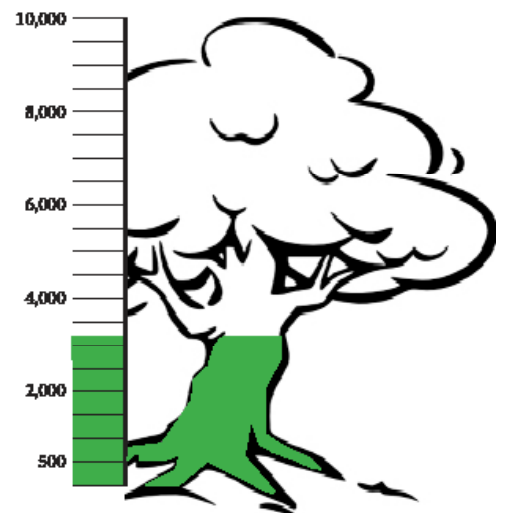
\$25 and above

Amy Carstensen
Deborah Dodds
Jean Emery
Robert Foster
Brandon Holland
Joyce James
Linda Johnson
Anne Murphy
Deborah Polich
Diane Scharar
Barbara Whelan

\$10:

Gwenn Adams
Sandy Burlem
Molly Cadranell
Chuck &
Barbara Carroll

Blythe Doane
Cynthia Essary
Doris Gannon
Suzi Heap
Trisha Kolasinski
Brenda Kueneman
Barbara Lee-Jenkins
Jen-Jen Lin
Donna Mallen
Else Ottesen
Katie Pelisek
Cassidy Rowland
Peggy Ruzich
Don Schultz
Cindy Stewart
Bonnie Struzik
Salim Walji



Volunteers Needed Continued from page 2

past presentations onto the internet. Contact Jim Bishop: president@sdhort.org. Llanos

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 about 2 hours per month, and you'll be working with current advertisers, plus previous

and potential advertisers. For more information contact Susi Torre-Bueno at storrebueno@cox.net.

Volunteers Wanted for Our Fair Display Garden

Yes, it's getting to be that time of year already! Once again, SDHS will have a display garden and we'll need volunteers to be ambassadors. You'll let folks know about SDHS and answer questions about our exhibit and plants in general. You don't need to be an expert of any kind – just friendly and outgoing. Please email Patty Berg at pattyjberg@gmail.com if you want to join in the fun. Free admission to the Fair and free parking make this one of the year's best volunteer opportunities!



SEE US AT THE FAIR!

"Imagine" Our Garden

By Susi Torre-Bueno



Kimberly Alexander

On page 6 we have information on our display garden for the San Diego County Fair. The garden – titled "Imagine" – was designed by SDHS member and award-winning landscape designer Kimberly Alexander of Allée Landscape Design (<http://alleelandscapedesign.com>), and I'm eager to see this intriguing and sustainable garden, which springs from her thoughtful perspective. Next month we'll have more details from Kimberly about the garden. In an essay she submitted to the Fair with her garden plan, she wrote:

Although I was very young at the time, I still remember the Beatles first appearance on the Ed Sullivan show. As with every other girl in America I fell in madly love with Paul. My love affair with "the cute one" continued – albeit all in my head – until I got old enough to appreciate the other Beatles, most notably John Winston Lennon. That began the first time I heard "Imagine." The lyrics and musical arrangement were so simple and elegant, yet extremely profound to me. As with the John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinations, I remember exactly where I was when John, too, was assassinated. I remember thinking at that moment how extraordinarily and enormously sad that the man who espoused peace and love was struck down so violently.

My intent in the design of this garden was to incorporate some of the philosophies that John so eloquently embraced, both in words and deeds. The last two lines of each stanza of "Imagine" will be etched on 2' x 5' floating glass panels as a tribute to the song and the man:

"...Imagine all the people, living for today..."

"...Imagine all the people, living life in peace..."

"...Imagine all the people, sharing all the world..."

My design focus was how to clearly convey his message not only in a unified manner using the principles of good garden design, but also to show how sustainable practices can be integrated into a residential setting. My first objective was to design an outdoor living space where one could enjoy not only today but each and every day in our wonderful San Diego climate. The second goal was to create a peaceful setting for contemplation and meditation, both crucial aspects of John's life and a must for all of us who lead busy and demanding lives in our modern society. The pops of flower color amongst the various grasses are in keeping with the Garden Show's theme of "Flower Power."

"...sharing all the world..." is critical to not only the human race, but to all the other creatures with whom we share this small, blue planet. Although I have no children of my own, I have a niece and nephew who deserve to have a future with unpolluted water, clean air and oceans, as well as plentiful food. With sharing comes responsibility, as we are all stewards of the earth. By incorporating simple sustainable practices into the design that are easily attainable, I hope I can help to raise awareness that we are all in this together.

Finally, the mosaic "Imagine" [which will be in the front area of the garden] is an homage to the 11' diameter mosaic that can be found in Strawberry Fields, a 2.5 acre park within Central Park that is dedicated to John. Although the actual mosaic is black and white, from time to time people come with flowers to create the peace sign within the mosaic itself. I made it a focal point, so that the viewers of the garden can imagine all sorts of possibilities of their own. ☘

MAY GARDEN TOUR SCHEDULE

By Mary James

May 2-4: 17th Annual Alpine Sage & Songbirds Garden Tour. Five owner-designed gardens, plus a wildlife rehabilitation center. Sponsored by CHIRP for Wildlife. Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets: \$20 (\$15 in advance, purchase by April 1); \$10 per person for groups of 10 or more. Info: www.chirp.org or (619) 445-8352.

May 10: "Beyond the Gate," the 16th Annual Mission Hills Garden Walk. A 2.5-mile walking tour stops at 10 gardens. Artists and musicians in residence, plus Garden Festival at Mission Hills Nursery. Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (rain or shine). Tickets: \$25 in advance; \$30 on tour day. Free for children 12 and under. Info: www.missionhillsgardenclub.org.

May 10: Fallbrook AAUW Country Garden Tour. A half-dozen gardens, plus a marketplace and refreshments at Palomares House, 1815 Stage Coach Lane, Fallbrook. Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets: \$20 in advance; \$25 on tour day. Info: www.aaufallbrookca.org.

May 10 and 11: 20th Anniversary Mother's Day Weekend Art, Garden and Studio Tour. Eight gardens in Encinitas and Solana Beach include artwork displays by artist-members of the San Dieguito Art Guild, tour sponsors. Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets: \$20 (on sale April 7), children under 12 are free. Info: www.offtrackgallery.com or (760) 942-3636.



May 14: 16th Annual Bonita Valley Garden Club Tour & Plant Sale. Six gardens in South Bay. Time: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets: \$15 in advance; \$20 on event day (for sale at Bonita/Sunnyside Library, 4375 Bonita Rd., Bonita). Info: Call Vera Mathias at (619) 479-0429.

May 17: Clairemont Town Council 18th Annual Garden Tour. A dozen gardens, including one in a school, in Clairemont, Bay Ho and Bay Park. An Expo (10 a.m. to 7 p.m.) with seminars, children's activities and refreshments. Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets: \$12 (\$10/seniors) in advance; \$15 on tour day. Children 12 and under are free. Info: <http://gardentour.clairemontonline.com>.

May 17: 16th Annual Secret Garden Tour of La Jolla. Six gardens linked by the theme "The Changing Garden." Designer displays and musicians and artists in residence. Garden boutique with plants and gifts. Platinum Tour includes brunch, shuttle and bonus garden. Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets: \$50 in advance (\$40 for members of the La Jolla Historical Society, tour sponsor); \$60 on tour day. Platinum Tour, \$150 (\$140/LJHS members). Info: www.lajollahistory.org.

May 17: San Diego Floral Association Presents 'Canyon Rims and Valley Views: Gardens of University Heights'. Eight gardens in one of San Diego's oldest neighborhoods. Garden marketplace at Old Trolley Barn Park, 1998 Adams Ave., San Diego. Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets: \$20 in advance; \$25 on event day. Info: www.sdfloal.org or (619) 232-5762.

May 17: Loma Portal Home & Garden Tour and Craft Faire. Visit five homes and garden in the Loma Portal neighborhood. Craft Faire at Loma Portal Elementary School. Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets: \$20 in advance; \$25 on tour day. Info: Loma Portal Elementary School at (619) 223-1683. ☘

2ND ANNUAL SUCCULENT CELEBRATION At Waterwise Botanicals on June 6-7

North San Diego County's Waterwise Botanicals nursery, a sponsor of SDHS, will host the spectacular two-day event, Succulent Celebration, on Friday and Saturday, June 6-7, 2014. If you attended last year, you'll know what a marvelous event this was! Details are on the insert in this issue.

This one of a kind event in Southern California celebrates the versatility, sustainability, and beauty of succulents. Come to Waterwise Botanicals to enjoy a kaleidoscope of color, creation, and education on drought tolerant landscaping, and living art at its best. Also featured is the exciting reinvention of *Garden Design* magazine and its creators.

The superior lineup of speakers includes best-selling author and photojournalist Debra Lee Baldwin, plant explorer and hybridizer Kelly Griffin of Altman Plants, Peter Loyola of Oceanside's Succulent Café, Robyn Stockwell of Succulent Gardens in Northern California, and Tom Jesch of Waterwise Botanicals.

All are invited to experience "the best garden event of the year," with acres of nursery and display gardens to explore, hands-on workshops, a grand assortment of succulents and low-water plants for sale, the chance to speak with industry experts, arts and crafts vendors with succulent-themed gifts, food trucks and more.

Waterwise Botanicals, established in 2010, is a 20+ acre wholesale/retail nursery located in the rolling hills of Escondido, just off Interstate-15 northwest of the highway at 32183 Old Hwy 395, Escondido, CA 92026.

The Succulent Celebration event hours are 9:00am to 5:00pm both days. Free parking (carpooling is recommended) and admission. Event details can be seen at www.succulentcelebration.com. ☘



A small part of the succulent display garden at Waterwise Botanicals



Mix of succulents

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR: THE 2014 WINNERS

By Cindy Sparks



In keeping with our educational mission, SDHS sends a judging team to the Greater San Diego Science and Engineering Fair held each spring in Balboa Park. The student winners each receive \$100 and a 1-year family membership. Eight members volunteered for our team this year, and judged the Fair entries on March 26. They evaluated all of the Plant Sciences entries from both Junior and Senior student categories. I was humbled by the combined experience base of the team: Jeff Biletnikoff, Dayle Cheever, Julie Hasl, Dale Rekus, Hanna Richardson, Phil Tackill, Janet Wanerka, and yours truly. The winners this year were standouts among their peers.

Eighth grader Gregory Martin, our Junior category winner, presented his extensive work on "Increasing lipid yields in *Chlorella vulgaris* through natural nitrogen depletion", a biofuels study. Our Senior category winner, Eleventh grader Soo Rim Choi, provided a study of "The Effect of Global Warming on the Changing Circadian Rhythm of Nyctinastic Plants". In addition, we were impressed with a third student, Alexander Zonce, also a Junior category entrant, and his study of rooting methods effectiveness for Plumeria cuttings.

Two things struck us as we studied the various competitors. First, the number of entries was half the size of last year's field of competitors. We could not assess the reasons, other than to suspect the same underlying causes that now prompt city-wide STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) promotional efforts. I would have thought that in our county, where agriculture is perennially among the top four money-making industries, agricultural interest would be high. This might be a wake-up call for us, a reminder to help promote interest in all things related to horticulture.

In addition, we questioned our own performance criteria as possibly not adequately recognizing the goals of the San Diego Horticultural Society. Very briefly, we evaluated entries based on clarity, originality of the problem, sound use of the scientific method, and what might be termed extra credit (for skill, thoroughness, etc.). But raising the question "Which competitor's efforts are most likely to help the San Diego horticultural scene in the long run?" caused us to reexamine our evaluations. I have made a mental note to augment our formal criteria for next year.

Our three winners have been invited to bring their projects to our August meeting, where you will have the opportunity to chat with them and study their exhibits. I hope you will be with me then to give these young horticulturists the enthusiastic encouragement they deserve. ☘

GARDEN OF THE YEAR CONTEST DEADLINE IS MAY 5TH

HURRY! May 5th is the deadline for the Garden of the Year contest from our sponsor *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles* magazine. SDHS members have won in previous years, so we hope many members will enter. For entry forms and info go to www.sandiegohomegarden.com. ☘



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.

Early Mentors

By the late 1980's, I wasn't really looking for garden mentors, just trying to learn more about local gardens and plants. However, touring gardens changed my way of gardening and plant selection in unimaginable ways. It still does. Here are two of the first local gardeners who made big impressions on me.

A friend at work mentioned that there was garden in Lakeside that hosted an open garden on Saturdays in April. She said that it was always full of flowers and that I should check it out, so I did. The garden belonged to Alice Maynard. She'd been gardening for years at this location and her garden looked very different from other home gardens. There was minimal use of lawn, mostly for pathways. It was loosely divided into rooms, something I hadn't seen before in a residential garden. There was a shade portion up near the house, a large rose garden, and vegetables. But, the most glorious of all, and the ones that made you gasp, were the front display beds planted mostly with what she called "sun colors" – bright yellows, orange, orange-red, coral, hot pink and whites, all glistening in the San Diego spring sunshine. Looking out from her front door, a small lawn sloped gradually towards the street. Beyond the lawn and slightly higher were very wide planting beds. In the middle of the beds was a split-rail fence dividing it from the street. On the fence bright-colored roses bloomed. There were lots of pelargoniums, geraniums and other perennials and annuals. She used many bulbs: daffodils, irises, ranunculus and especially bright colored South African bulbs like ixia, sparaxis, watsonias, freesias, and babiana.

One plant in her garden that I kept thinking about long after visiting was *Linaria maroccana*, with the awful common name of toadflax. It has small snapdragon-like flowers, often with the lower lip with a spot of a brighter color than the top or lower petals. She had many in sunny colors, but the one that caught my attention was bright orange with an even brighter yellow lower lip. It seemed to glow, and picked up the colors of the nearby orange California poppies and yellow bulbs tying the composition together. I thought it must be some exotic bulb, and was surprised when Alice told me they were annuals that she grew from seed. My obsession with the plant and all of my questions must have made me appear to be a little crazy. I searched this plant out and grew it myself from seed for many years.

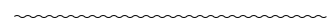
From her garden, Alice sold extra bulbs and plants. I arrived there late in the day and everything was pretty well picked over. However, Alice insisted that I buy this muddy used bread bag full of bulbs that she called blue star flowers. Feeling I needed to show my appreciation to her for sharing her garden, I hesitantly bought the bag. The muddy bag of bulbs turned out to be *Ipheion uniflorum* with Wedgewood blue star flowers with a white center. It readily naturalized in my garden and bloomed with abandon early each spring. Sadly, in a tragic accident, Alice passed away a few years after



Alice Maynard inspired this planting bed in Jim's garden

my visit, but I still grow her blue star flowers in my garden today and think of it as Alice's legacy to me.

The second big influence was the garden of Karen Kees in Poway. There was an article and photo of her garden in the Sunday *Union Tribune*, and it said on Thursdays in April she opened her garden to the public. A work friend and I took a very long lunch and set out to explore. I don't recall any lawn at all in Karen's garden. Just garden room after room stuffed with all sorts of plants that looked as though they had been effortlessly thrown together in large drifts with focal points. It all made the garden seem infinitely large, and it had many places to explore. I already had learned the trick of using white flowers in the garden to tie all the different colors together, but Karen also used light gray plants for this purpose. I've been in love with gray plants ever since, the closer to white the better. She also had an inordinate number of bulbs, especially Dutch iris in parts of the garden. I later learned this was because she was hosting several weddings in the garden. Like Alice's garden, she also used lots of easy to grow, low-water plants that bloom seasonally.



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



Dainty pink and violet linaria fill the center of this photo

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

We welcome Benoit Exterior Design and also Garden Design magazine (see insert) as our newest sponsors.

Benay Berl	Carol Ann Fenner	Linda & Bill Kerr	Nicholas Nielsen	Maggie Seeley
Yves Brancheau	Mary & Robert Frey	Niki Krutop	Paul Nyerges &	Kelly Skemp
Joan Braunstein &	Patricia Frinell	Sandra Logan	Lynn Weston	Gina Stack
Dove Kirby	Klaus Hofrichter &	Catherine Morley	Elaine Pierce	Barbara Summer
Susie & Jack Burger	Christina Schwarz	Bette Nagelberg	Susan Pituch	Jo Tipton
Jim & Traci Campbell	Maureen Hudson	Nature Containers,	Jacquelynn Rickstins	Whitney Thurston
Lori Dittmann	Sonja & Bob	Megan Boone	Jan Ryder	Frank Wajert
Kate Dzierczek	Hunsaker	Lori Neale	Marla Sanders	

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.

Glenea Belice (2)	Lori Davis (1)	Sonja Hunsaker (1)	Gayle Olson Binder (1)	Scott Spencer (1)
Linda Bresler (1)	Cindy Essary (1)	Suellen Lodge (1)	Laird Plumleigh (1)	Laura Starr (1)
Briggs Nursery (1)	Meredith Garner (1)	Vicki Lugo (1)	Barbara Raub (1)	Susi Torre-Bueno (1)
Carol Donald (1)	Kelly Griffin (1)	Dannie McLaughlin (1)	Tammy Schwab (1)	Annie Urquhart (1)
Beatrice Erickson (1)	Julie Hasl (2)	Rebecca Moore (1)	Stephanie Shigematsu (1)	
Dave Ericson (1)	Jenny Hawkins (1)	Anne Murphy (1)	Cindy Sparks (1)	

SPONSOR MEMBERS (names in bold have ads)

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Briggs Tree Company	Kellogg Garden Products	Renee's Garden	Sunshine Gardens
Buena Creek Gardens	KRC Rock	Revive Landscape Design	The Wishing Tree Company
Cedros Gardens	Legoland California	San Diego County Water Authority	The Worms' Way
City Farmers Nursery	Mariposa Landscape and Tree Service	San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles	Walter Andersen Nursery
Coastal Sage Gardening		San Diego Hydroponics & Organics	Weidners' Gardens
Columbine Landscape			Waterwise Botanicals
Cuyamaca College			Westward Expos

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 Rebman (2011)	*Evelyn Weidner (2001)
	Penelope Hlavac	Peggy Ruzich	*Pat Welsh (2003)
	Joyce James	San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles	Betty Wheeler
	Debbie & Richard Johnson		

DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

(see ads for more discounts)

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

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

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

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

Get a 25% discount at all 5 locations of San Diego Hydroponics & Organics (www.sdhydroponics.com). ☞



What's Up
at

San Diego
BOTANIC
GARDEN

Things to do in May at San Diego Botanic Garden

San Diego Botanic Garden is a wonderful oasis away from the day-to-day grind. Not only can you explore plants and wildlife 364 days a year, the Garden often offers special events and classes.

If you have never met a chocolate that you didn't like, this is your day. **San Diego Botanic Garden will have its annual Chocolate Festival on Saturday, May 10, from 10 am – 4 pm.** Your taste buds will thank you when savoring the many varieties of chocolate treats. Enjoy the day relaxing in the garden oasis while sampling the many chocolate treats and taking in chocolate demonstrations and tips. Food and music will round out the day, in addition to gift vendors and the Garden Gift Shop, where you can find the perfect something for yourself or a Mother's Day gift. Plus, we have Kidzone, where children can have fun making crafts and gifts for Mom.

The Garden will celebrate Endangered Species Day Friday, Saturday, and Sunday May 16 – 18 by mapping the endangered species right here in the Garden, both native and from other parts of the world. The San Diego Audubon Society will provide birding tours Friday and Saturday at 8:00 am, and will discuss the importance of habitat preservation for species survival. The Garden will offer free admission to San Diego Audubon Society members and Living Coast Discovery Center members on Friday, May 16 through Sunday, May 18, and San Diego Botanic Garden members will receive free admission to the Living Coast Discovery Center.

On Saturday, May 24, from 9 am - 3 pm, the Garden hosts the Palm, Cycad, Bamboo and Tropical Plant Sale. This one-of-a-kind event features rare and exotic species of palms, cycads and other tropical plants. These will be provided by exceptional Southern California nurseries. This event is co-hosted by the Palm Society of Southern California and San Diego Botanic Garden. ☞

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■ Spring Tour Continued from page 2

As always, a big thanks goes to the check-in crew: Terri and Sam Seat, Scott Borden, BJ Boland (who also wrote personal thank you notes to all the garden owners), Cathy Tylka, Cindy Rhodes, and Virginia Sherwood. They were quite busy as they sold a large number of day of tour tickets as well as memberships, tree books, and note cards.

I'm extremely appreciative of Jim Bishop and Susan Morse for their on-line marketing efforts, and for handling the on-line registration and the software glitches that inevitably accompany that task. Mary James wrote a fantastic piece about the tour for the *Union-Tribune's* annual garden tour article, and her husband, Ron James, helped create a fabulous promotional layout for the newsletter. While we're on the subject of husbands, I must mention and thank my husband Craig, who displayed several of his 1950s collector cars on tour day. I want to applaud Jeff Belietnikoff for schlepping tables, chairs, and canopies to the check-in area, and for volunteering all day as a docent in my garden.

I can't say thanks enough to Patty Berg for organizing all of the volunteers again this year. It is a monumental task and she pulled it off brilliantly, coming up with the extra last minute volunteers we needed to make the tour a success. Thanks, too, to Carol Lane and Susan Starr, who took on "roving duty," which allowed me to be in my garden on tour day.

Thanks to Marcia Van Loy and all the Master Gardener volunteers for providing an information table and answering the myriad questions that tour goers always have. Everyone loved their birdhouse display.

As always, a special thanks to Susi Torre-Bueno for her creative editorial skills in promoting the tour in the newsletter, as well as her tireless efforts to make SDHS the success that it is.

Finally, I would like to thank my neighbor, six-year old Brandon Holland, who provided lemonade and baked treats for tour goers in my garden. Brandon donated half of his proceeds to the SDHS garden restoration project at Balboa Park.

Based on the comments of tour goers, our 2014 Surf and Turf garden tour was a huge success, and I want to personally thank all of the volunteers below who made this possible. They say many hands make light work, and never was this saying more true than on tour day.

Jan Ahrens	Cecelia Jolley	Stella Ramos
Barbara Bandhauer	Sherril Leist	Gary Raub
Annette Beaty	Roberta Lohla	Jean Reilly
Ken Blackford	Yvonne Mao	Cassidy Rowland
Kathryn Blankinship	Jane Morton	Robin Rowland
Mel Conomikes	Anne Murphy	Linda Stewart
Connie Forest	Al Myrick	Trudy Thompson
Bob Frey	Dora Jean Myrick	Donna Tierney
Jean Giusti	Joan Oliver	Pat Tierney
Steve Harbour	Barbara Patterson	Marilyn Wilson
Dolly Hartman	Pat Pawlowski	Linda Woloson
Joan Herskowitz	Ann Peter	
Myrna Hines	Jim Peter	
Sonja Hunsaker	Ellen Preston	
Tina Ivany	Mo Price	



GARDENING DURING DROUGHT: PLANT ANNUALS, NOT TREES!

By Steve Brigham

Up here on the North Coast, we finally got some good rainfall totals in February and March. But because of a ridiculously dry fall and early winter, all of us in Northern California are still way short of our "normal" rainfall totals for this "rainy" season, as you are Down South. So, no matter whether your well is low, your water agency has mandatory cutbacks, or you just plain can't afford to inflate your water bill, this will be another summer of using less water.

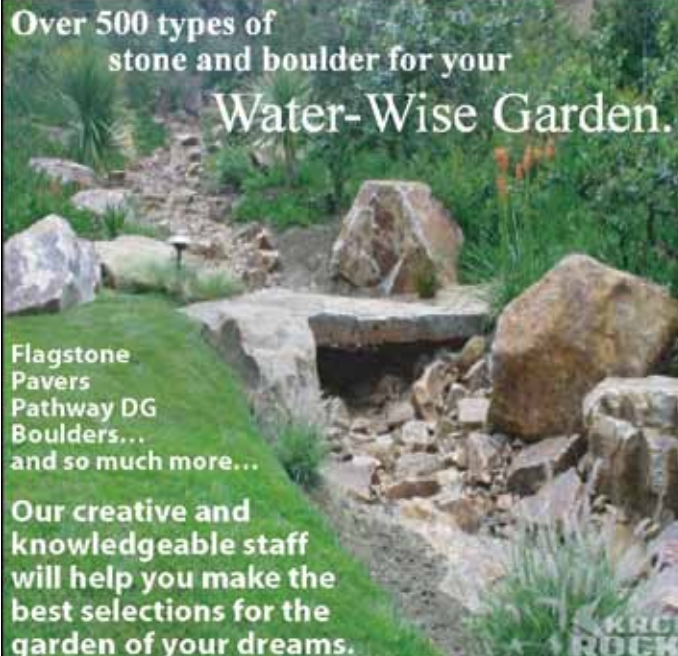
Although established drought-tolerant plants should be OK, this is not the year to plant a bunch of new trees and shrubs, unless you really can afford all the water that it will take to nurture them through their first long dry season. (For the first year in the ground at least, newly-planted plants (even drought-tolerant ones) need the same regular watering that they would if they were still in their nursery pots.)

What you can do, even with water restrictions in a very dry year, is plant colorful annuals and perennials in big pots that you can enjoy on a patio right near your house. That might sound counterintuitive, but only a bare minimum of water will be necessary to keep big pots of color alive, much less than new plants in the ground, where a lot of the water you give them just gets soaked up by neighboring plant and tree roots. Mulch your pots with pebbles or bark to keep the soil cool and moist, and water with a watering can, and you'll use even

Continued on page 18

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SHARING SECRETS

This column is written by you, our members! Each month we'll ask a question, and print your responses the following month. You can find copies of previous Sharing Secrets on our website at <https://sdhort.wildapricot.org/SharingSecrets?eid=1093874>.

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

The question for May was:

After this very dry rainy season, and the seeming inevitability of global warming, do you plan to make changes in either how you garden or the plants you'll be adding?

Gerald D. Stewart says he's not making any changes in how he gardens or chooses plants due to the current drought and higher temperatures. He will continue to plant what catches his eye, and if it doesn't like his frugal and serendipitous approach to watering, let it die to make room for something else. He will, however, keep in mind what past experience has taught him—for example, to avoid all the great colorful coprosmas and kohulus in sunny locations because they have consistently, during one of the inevitable high heat episodes of August to October, had their leaves turn brown and their stems become dry and dead all the way down to the ground. That still leaves open the possibility of trying coprosmas in an afternoon shade spot in case they retain their delicious colors in lower light. Some likely will: the tiny-leaved Cappuchino is now 6' tall in bright shade and has retained its near-brown color; but others turned green in those conditions (Roy's Red, Tom Thumb, County Park Red, Cutie, and Karo Red).

Lisa Rini: I am slowly reducing my plants that are my "groundhuggers." These are the low growing plants that offer some different textures and colors to my potted plant garden, but which can be easily overlooked when I am watering or grooming plants. What I have been doing as the plants die is to find alternative decorative items that can be used for visual interest, but do not require any water: small boulders, driftwood, large shells, large pinecones, grapewood, pots filled with small colorful baubles, birdhouses, colorful heavy duty glass bottles, etc. All work to provide color/interest/texture, last for years, and require little or no maintenance.

Jo Tipton: I have lived in Carlsbad for one year. During that time I have removed some grass, and I plan to remove all of it in the future. I also have switched over my garden pots from annuals to succulents. My yard is small, so making these transitions is not very difficult. Due to the water shortage, I definitely want to be respectful to our community. Luckily for me, I love the look of water-wise plants.

Bobbi Hirschhoff: Gardens are never done, at least ours. About 2 or 3 years ago I started going more and more towards succulents for less water and care. We have reduced our water consumption by about 20%. The only problem is the water utility company has increased their rates by 20%!

Enid & Mark Sherman: Succulents and natives for us.

Marilyn Wilson: I have already made all the changes I am willing to make. "Global warming will have little effect on my garden in my

lifetime. Regarding our insufficient rain, I have it on Good Authority that next winter will bring El Nino."

Sue Getyina: I will be removing my lawn and will be making small gardens with drought tolerant plants.

Vivian Blackstone: I have put in three water tanks. Two are 250 gallon that got filled in the last rain, and one is 75 gallon that got filled in the first rain. I am not making any other changes, except I am planting my flowers inside the water spray for the fruit trees.

Alan Benner: My garden has been revised to include more succulents and more water wise plants. No turf and lots of ground mulch. I hope to add some coastal plants with a small herb garden.

Katrin Utt: I have about 80 roses. To water more efficiently, I water only after sunset, use drip lines and last but not least, I mulch, mulch and mulch again!

Stephen Zolezzi: Climate change is just one (a big one) of the constant variables gardeners have to consider for a successful garden. Any gardener in San Diego County who has not made adjustments due to climate change is out to lunch, or is willing to pay through the nose for enough water to garden as if in New England. I continue to make radical changes to my large garden focusing on natives (salvias), succulents and cactus. For the most part they do not need improved soil, much water and little, if any, fertilizer. I have the advantage of having a green house to propagate plants from cuttings, seed and division. I still am not willing to give up the lush look for the single plant surrounded by gravel and rock, so I mix plants up and plant close together for a full look I enjoy with less than half the water from six years ago.

Linda Bresler: I will try to add only succulents to my garden during the dry summer months. They are the most forgiving plants if they don't get enough water for a few months until the winter rains (hopefully) begin.

Christine Harrison: I'll grow fewer tomatoes this year. We have installed enough rainwater collection devices to store 280 gallons. The backyard lawn is no more, and the ground is instead covered with a combination of fallen leaves, hay, and whatever bits of Bermuda grass are willing to take care of themselves.

Susi Torre-Bueno: My current plan is to add a lot more succulents than I had originally planned to my still very young garden. Also, whenever something dies I try to replace it with a succulent. Seeing some of the fabulous gardens on our April garden tour has encouraged me to be even bolder in doing this. I'm also looking for more very low water and drought-tolerant shrubs and trees

Amelia Lima: For sure I will be adding ways to keep the rain water on the properties that I work on for as long as I can!

Al Myrick: MORE mulch, encourage our canopy on our north-facing canyon lot, leave more areas fallow. Depending more on the rain-water captured reservoir. Don't water until they cry out.

Candace Kohl: I have not been making many changes directly in regard to the water/climate issue (bad me), except for allocating more money to water in my budget. The small changes I have made seem to work well as far as the plants themselves go. I have put an underground drip system in one area that was always a problem, and I am grouping plants more than ever by water needs. Also, I am checking the system

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more often to maximize the water usage. I know there are some people who have marvelous gardens with little water; and certainly some of my areas don't require much. But I still love my roses and a cottage garden of color; and those need water. Succulents are lower water; but the reality here is that if I don't have the irrigation working when I plant, I might as well throw the plants in the trash. My BIG water use is for the grass. The garden was designed with fairly large lawn areas and to redo them in a nice way for low water would cost more than many years of my current water bill. This might not be a politically correct answer; but for me it is where I stand at present.

Barb Bolton: I am not making any changes to what I grow, but am planning to work on my automatic watering system to optimize water usage.

Wayne Julien: I'm planting more native plants that require little or no water at all. There is a myth that native plants do not produce flowers, which is truly untrue, since I have many which are in bloom at the present time and they sustain flowers much longer than non-native plants. I have noticed more bird, bee and butterfly life since planting native plants, which adds a great deal of pleasure in my life.

Barb Huntington: At some point I will get rid of grass in the front yard. I'm collecting pictures and ideas for now.

Joan Braumstein: In answer to whether I will modify my gardening plans following this past dry rainy season, the answer is yes. After attending a recent Master Gardener seminar, my interest was piqued by the abundance of native plants available, many of which are drought resistant. I'd like to offer another take on global warming: While we are seeing temperatures rise, we have also witnessed this past year more intense winter weather; indeed, more extreme global weather in many respects. I share the opinion of others that this disruption in normal weather patterns is being caused by cutting down the rain forests. I believe it will eventually become apparent just how important trees are in regulating water cycles and moderating the weather.

Chuck Ades: I am adding succulents. I removed my front lawn and replaced it with a walk-through succulent garden. I added a succulent garden in the back yard and in a few other spots. However, I can't seem to resist the wonderful new blooming bedding plants that are now available. The lawn that I have in the back is a hybrid Bermuda and gets watered every 2 weeks. It's about 28 years old and still is the envy of the neighborhood. We have many happenings in our yard every year, and it endures these parties quite well. My tropical garden is filled with very mature trees and plants, so is able to survive with less water if needed.

Stephen Rubin: I only plant natives, but I may put more emphasis on Southern California natives over Northern California ones. For edibles, I will likely continue with the ones I already do: citrus, tomatoes, berries.

Susan Clark: Our front is landscaped with succulents. The rose garden in a small courtyard has drip. The back and sides have potted succulents.

Paul Strauss: I am adding more succulents and drought tolerant plants, using more drip systems.

The question for June is:

Who got you started in gardening, and how old were you?

Send your reply by May 5 to newsletter@sdhort.org 🌿

APRIL 2014 PLANT DISPLAY

By Sue Fouquette, Susan Morse, and Susi Torre-Bueno

What is the Plant Display?

Each month members bring in plants, cuttings or flowers and put them in blue bottles on our display tables. What a great way to see what plants grow well in our area. EVERYONE is invited to participate. All plants are welcome. Write descriptions similar to those below, and put them with your plant(s).

Join the fun and bring something to the next meeting. We thank those people who brought in plants to show to other members.

Alstroemeria Princess Lilies® PERUVIAN LILY

(Alstroemeriaceae [Liliaceae s.l.]) Garden Hybrid

The Princess Lilies® series of about 15 Alstroemeria cultivars were developed by Royal Van Zanten in Holland and have been available since about 2010. They tolerate both cold and hot temperatures, and are available in a wide color range from white and yellow through orange to wine red and purple. They stay short (under 18" tall) and bloom in spring, with 3" flowers that are excellent for cutting. Flowering continues during the summer, and they can produce blooms to the first frost. They appreciate regular applications of fertilizer, and their small stature makes them good choices for containers. The cultivars displayed were red-flowered 'Letizia' (Alstroemeria 'Zaprilet') and violet-flowered 'Lilian' (Alstroemeria 'Zaprilian'). In the member's garden these plants have been ignored by rabbits, but do bait for snails. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 4/14) – S.T-B.

Chusquea coronalis MEXICAN CLIMBING BAMBOO (Poaceae)

Mexico, Central America

This is a very beautiful evergreen clumping bamboo with scandant (arching, trailing) branches to 12'-15' long. This slow-growing species has whorls of small leaves at the culm nodes, lending it a very soft appearance in the garden. Does well in large containers, and grows in full sun to part shade with moderate water requirements. Not an invasive bamboo. (Susan Morse, Vista, 4/14) – S.M. & S.T-B

Leucophyllum zygophyllum TEXAS RANGER, BLUE RAIN SAGE

(Scrophulariaceae) S.W. U.S., N. Mexico

(Chihuahuan Desert and elsewhere)

The drought-tolerant evergreen shrubs commonly known as Texas Ranger are wonderful choices for the garden. The species displayed is supposed to be the shortest in this genus, and has dense silvery foliage visible a long way. It grows to about 3' tall and wide (one source says 4-6' tall and wide) in full sun with good drainage, and does fine with very little water. From spring to fall, this heat-loving plant puts on a very striking display of violet flowers that contrast well with the foliage. Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and other beneficial insects. Mary Irish's excellent book, *Trees and Shrubs for the Southwest: Woody Plants for Arid Gardens*, notes that "It is almost round and the branches are so closely packed that it looks like a silver ball. This effect is enhanced by the young stems, which are tightly clustered, upright, and covered with fine, silvery hairs." (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 4/14) – S.T-B.

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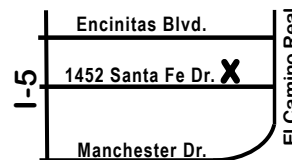
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Watsonia borbonica, syn. *W. pyramidata* BUGLE LILY (Iridaceae)

South Africa

This spring-blooming perennial grows from corms. It produces sword-shaped leaves to 2-1/2' long. Sends up flower stems to 5' tall, bearing trumpet-shaped flowers in shades of pink, rosy red, white and orange. Does best in full sun with regular water during growth period and bloom; deciduous during the summer, when it needs little or no water. It attracts butterflies and hummingbirds and makes a nice cut flower, especially if stems are picked when the buds are just beginning to open. Can be divided every 2-3 years. (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 4/14) – S.F. & S.T-B.

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

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

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the April 2014 newsletter was *Coleonema pulchellum* 'Sunset Boulevard' HOLLYWOOD BREATH-OF-HEAVEN.

- 3 *Anomatheca laxa*, syn. *Lapeirousia laxa*
(Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 4/14)
- 3 *Callistemon* 'Jeffers' (*C. citrinus* 'Jeffersii') BOTTLEBRUSH
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 4/14)
- 3 *Cestrum fasciculatum* 'Newellii' RED CESTRUM
(Sheila Busch, Escondido, 2/14)



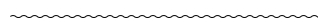
- 3 *Cestrum fasciculatum* 'Newly Married' WED CESTRUM
(Garden Lover, Escondido, 2/14)
- 3 *Galvezia speciosa* ISLAND BUSH SNAPDRAGON
(Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 4/14)
- Paphiopedilum delenatii* SLIPPER ORCHID
(Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 4/14)
- Paphiopedilum gratrixianum* SLIPPER ORCHID
(Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 4/14)
- Paphiopedilum wolterianum* SLIPPER ORCHID
(Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 4/14)



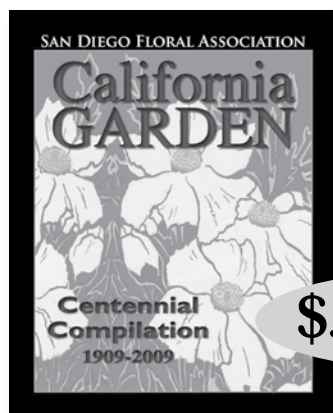
■ Gardening During Drought Continued from page 13

less water! I promise you, the amount of "gardening pleasure per gallon of water" will be the greatest you've ever seen!

P.S. But what if you see a rare and terrific shrub at a plant sale or nursery this spring or summer, and you just have to have it? Plant that in a big pot, too! And pray for rain next fall and winter: your plant will be bigger then, and you can plant it in the ground when the rains come!



Member Steve Brigham, a founder of SDHS, our 2009 Horticulturist of the Year, and author of our book, *Ornamental Trees for Mediterranean Climates*, sold his San Marcos nursery a few years ago and now gardens in northern California. 🌿



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APRIL MEETING REPORT

The Oaks of San Diego County

By Ellie Knight

Fred Roberts is an expert on oak trees in Southern California, and, appropriately, the author of *The Illustrated Guide to the Oaks of Southern California*. While there are oaks in all but two of the United States and other parts of the world, those of Southern California have unique habitat. They are found in gallery forest land, especially in the canyons where they find more shade and less evaporation, and in scrub oak chaparral.

Surprising to many of us, California has 21 species of oaks, 17 of which occur in no more than two states. Half of these are found in San Diego County. In comparison, Texas has 51 different species, and there are up to 47 in Mexico, some shared with San Diego County.

In San Diego, we are concerned mostly with the genus *Quercus*, of the beech family, Fagaceae. To identify the different *Quercus* individuals is not so easy, especially since within their groups they are extremely promiscuous, and hybridize easily. The most important identification characteristics are:

1. Habit (tree or shrub)
2. Leaf shape (entire, spiny-margined or lobed)
3. Trichomes, which are minute stellate hairs on the upper and/or lower surface of the leaves. These serve to aid survival in dry conditions, and sometimes are visible only with powerful microscopes.

4. Shape of acorn and acorn cup

Of the oaks in California there are three distinct groups:

1. Black (or red), of which the acorn cups typically have flat scales. It takes two years for the acorns to mature.
2. Golden, which have warty and sometimes massive acorns and cups.
3. White, with warty cups, hairy leaves, and which produce and mature new acorns each year.

Black Oaks

There are two kinds of black oaks that we call Southern Coast Live Oaks: *Quercus agrifolia* var. *agrifolia*, and *Quercus agrifolia* var. *oxydenia*, identified by their convolute leaves, hairy underneath. There is also *Quercus kelloggii*, called California Black Oak, found in the mountains, with bright green, deeply lobed leaves that give fall color; they are deciduous. Another variety is the Interior Live Oak, which has both shrub and tree forms, found in chaparral habitat. They are *Quercus wislizenii* var. *wislizenii* and *Quercus wislizenii* var. *frutescens*. There are also two hybrids of note: *Quercus x morehus* (called Oracle Oak, a cross between the Coast Live Oak and the California Black Oak) and *Quercus x gander* (cross between Southern Live Oak and California Black Oak).

Golden Oaks

There are three types: the Cedros Island Oak (*Quercus cedrosensis* found on Otay Mountain), the Canyon Oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*, found in the mountains of San Diego County in either tree or shrub form, with a massive acorn and cup), and Palmer's Oak (*Quercus palmeri*, inland shrub form with spiny, rigid leaves and an unusual umbrella acorn cup).

White Oaks

There are four of this group: the California Scrub Oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*, with a warty acorn cup), Mueller's Oak (*Quercus cornelius-mulleri*, found at desert edge, with fused trichomes), Nuttall's Scrub Oak (*Quercus dumosa*, rare, a dense mat that is semi-deciduous in dry or cold years), and Engelmann's Oak, (*Quercus engelmannii*, with its distinctive blue-grey appearance).

In the question and answer session after his talk, Fred noted issues that are affecting oaks. He stated that while "sudden oak death" has not yet appeared in San Diego County, there are significant issues with the golden oak borer beetle, which spreads a fungus. Interestingly, he mentioned that the introduction of wild turkeys for the benefit of hunters has had a negative effect due to their habit of eating oak seedlings.

Thanks to Fred Roberts for his thoughtful comments and excellent identifying photos of the many local oak species. If you missed this talk, you can borrow the video of it at the next meeting you attend.

THANK YOU MEETING DONORS!

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COORDINATE FREE WORKSHOPS

Our free monthly workshops have been a big hit, and we're looking for a member to take over as head of the 6-person committee that organizes them. As coordinator, you'll work with the committee members to schedule workshops and enter the details into our website, etc. This should only take a few hours a month. To discuss the details of this fun task, please contact Susi Torre-Bueno at (760) 295-2173. ✂



Fruit tree pruning workshop taught by Patty Berg



PACIFIC HORTICULTURE TOURS

San Miguel de Allende

PacHort visits San Miguel de Allende in February, 2015, and the itinerary is sure to include the famous Sunday Home & Garden tour. Highlights from a recent tour:

"House #1 was once part of a hacienda dating to the 1750s and many parts are still intact, including the outside dining room with the original trough where the cattle were kept. A water wall, artwork, and plants were added. On the opposing wall are sculptural representations of the sun and moon which, in days of old, was where the chickens were kept. Everything else was built by the owners and is absolutely stunning! House #2 was built by two incredibly creative artists. When you walk into the house you are immediately hit by light and spaciousness. All the corners of the walls have been rounded. The living room features glass walls, a boveda ceiling, fountain, and a skylight. A fanciful wrought iron banister makes the staircase, made of rare green cantera stone, soar up to another skylight. Another skylight lights up the generously sized artist's studio. A roof garden crowns the house. When you enter the house, don't miss the blue elephant opposite the elephant fountain."

SDHS is an affiliate member of the Pacific Horticulture Society. Producers of *Pacific Horticulture* magazine, PacHort tours are operated by SDHS sponsor, Sterling Tours. More info, reservations, and Interest Lists available at www.sterlingtoursltd.com. ☘



Purchase SDHS Note Cards at our meetings

10 cards/\$10

Last year we had a photo contest for striking images to be used on a set of note cards. The photos used range from succulents to seeds to garden vistas. These lovely cards are blank inside, perfect for gift giving, thank you cards, holiday greeting cards, birthday cards, or any special occasion (or you can frame them). Buy a set (or several) at the next meeting you attend.



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Individual - 1 year	\$30	\$42
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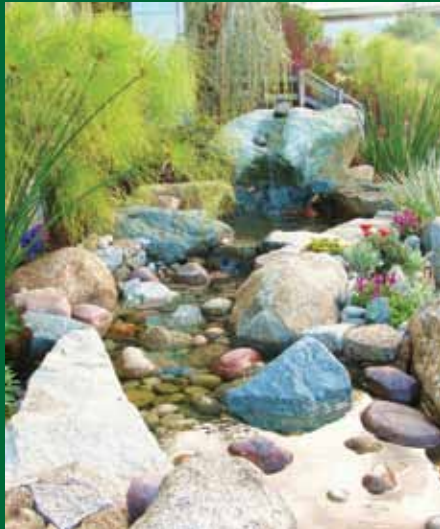
Landscape renovation
Complete landscape care

SDHS Surf & Turf Garden Tour: A Great Success!

See article on page 2; more photos on back cover.



Rachel Cobb



Barbara Raub (3)



Gardens shown, clockwise from top left: Dannie & Craig McLaughlin, Susie & Jack Burger, Boys & Girls Clubs, and Barbara Jenkins-Lee.

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San Diego County Water Authority eGuide to a WaterSmart Lifestyle



The "eGuide to a WaterSmart Lifestyle" is your go-to resource for living water-efficiently in San Diego County. This free digital magazine includes:

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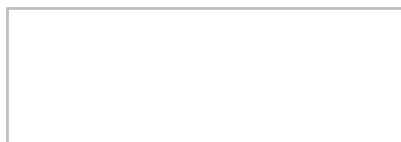
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SDHS Surf & Turf Garden Tour: A Great Success!

See article on page 2; more photos page 21.



Gardens shown, clockwise from top left: Katie & Steve Pelisek, Irina & Erik Gronborg, Paul Nyerges in his & Lynn Weston's garden, Heather & Morrie Callaghan, Barbara Jenkins-Lee, and Traci & Jim Campbell. All photos by Barbara Raub.

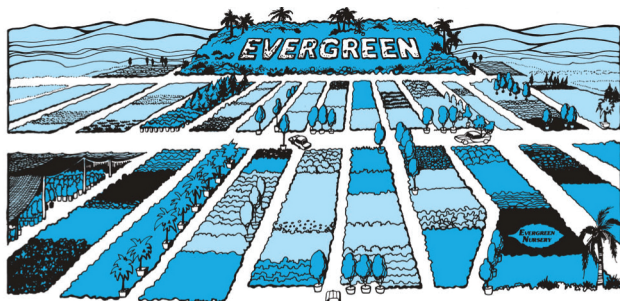
What's Happening? for MAY 2014

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.

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Free Monthly Seminar

First Saturday of every month

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Carmel Valley and Oceanside

May 3: All about roses

Come see and enjoy our huge selection of colorful roses and become a garden rose expert. We would love to see some of your "best" roses, please bring 'em in and show 'em off and share your own secrets of success!

May 17: Citrus & Avocado Varieties & Care

How about some fruit fresh off the tree? Wow your family and friends with your delicious fruit right from your yard!! You will learn all about your favorite Citrus and Avocado varieties and the best way to care for them.

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

www.evergreennursery.com

Send questions and comments to:
info@evergreennursery.com

Three Convenient Locations:

CARMEL VALLEY

13650 Carmel Valley Rd.
(858) 481-0622

OCEANSIDE

3231 Oceanside Blvd.
(760) 754-0340

*****NEW location (limited hours, call first):

EL CAJON

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

Events at Public Gardens

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

May 3, 1pm, World Labyrinth Day: Walk our labyrinth!

See www.avgardens.org for events & classes.

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

May 3-June 7, WaterSmart Landscape Makeover Series: (May 3, May 17, May 31, and June 7) 4-session series that will help them learn how to replace their lawns with a beautiful, WaterSmart landscape. Free for eligible participants. Info: www.landscapemakeover@sdca.org or (619) 289-8890.

May 17, 9am-2pm, Build Your Own Hydroponic Summer Garden: Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method by building your own sustainable garden. Members \$75, non-members \$90. Register by May 9.

May 20, 9am-2pm, Succulent Wreath Class: Take home a beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself. Members \$60, non-members \$72. Fee includes materials.

❖ **The Water Conservation Garden**

Register at www.thegarden.org; contact info on other side

May 10, 10am-noon, Marvelous Monarchs: Learn why butterflies are very important to the eco-system. Non-Member \$10.

May 17, 10am-noon, Free Home Composting Workshop: Workshop on the basics of composting. Compost bins will be sold at the end of the workshop with subsidized prices for Unincorporated County residents. Info: www.solanacenter.org or (760) 436-7986 ext. 222.

Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors:

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

✿ **Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops**

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

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

Details at www.cedrosgardens.com.

✿ **City Farmers Nursery Workshops**

See www.cityfarmersnursery.com.

✿ **Cuyamaca College**

May 3, Spring Garden Festival: See www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb.

✿ **Evergreen Nursery: 2 FREE Seminars in May**

See column at left for details.

✿ **Sunshine Care FREE Seminar Each Month**

May 17, 10:30am, Culinary Herbs. Get some history, culinary tips, and knowledge on how to grow and maintain a variety of your favorite culinary herbs. Learn how they add flavor and pop to your landscape. Address in ad on page 14. Info: (858) 752-8197 or www.sunshinecare.com.

✿ **Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes**

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

Point Loma, 9am

- | | |
|--------|------------------------------------|
| May 3 | Cactus & Succulents Rule The Day! |
| May 10 | Successful gardening indoors |
| May 17 | Composting: how, why, when, where? |
| May 24 | Pet safer gardens |
| May 31 | Tropical plants |

Poway, 9:30am

- | |
|----------------------|
| Summer veggies |
| Cymbidium repotting |
| Lawns |
| ROSE SHOW - no class |
| Rose care & culture |

✿ **Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops**

See www.weidners.com or call (760) 436-2194.

Next SDHS Meeting

May 12:

**Indoor & Outdoor Projects
with Succulents**

See page 1 for details

**MANY garden tours are being held
in May. For a complete list, with
descriptions, see page 8.**

More garden-related events on other side.

Free workshops for SDHS members!

Details & registration at www.sdhort.org
June 7, Using plants with colorful & interesting foliage:
registration begins on May 7

Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

- ◆ **Through May 11: 9am-6pm, Master Gardeners Organic Demonstration Garden at the Flower Fields:** 5704 Paseo Del Norte, Carlsbad, Info: www.mastergardenerssandiego.org.
- ◆ **May 3, 9am-3pm, La Mesa Beautiful Annual Plant Sale:** Trees, shrubs, bedding plants. St. Andrews Lutheran Church, corner of Glen and Lemon Ave. La Mesa, 91941. Info: (619) 466-4877.
- ◆ **May 3, 10-11:30am, Healthy Garden Healthy Home FREE Community Workshop:** Garden Vegetable Pests & Diseases. Sunnyside Branch Library, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita. Info: www.projectcleanwater.org/html/ipm.html.
- ◆ **May 3-4, Vista Garden Club Flower Show & Plant Sale:** Lots to see & buy! McClellan Senior Center, 1200 Vale Terrace, Vista. Info: www.vistagardenclub.org.
- ◆ **May 10 & 11, 9am-4pm, San Diego Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale:** (Show Sunday only) & Sale (Sat. & Sun.), Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park. Info: www.sandiegoepi.com.
- ◆ **May 10 (1:30-5pm) & 11 (9am-5pm), American Rose Society National Convention:** Town & Country Resort, 500 Hotel Circle North. \$80. Info: www.rosefamilyholiday.com.
- ◆ **May 13, 10am, Dos Valles Garden Club:** Butterflies & plants, by Maureen Austin. St. Stephen Community Hall, 31020 Cole Grade Rd., Valley Center. Info: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org.
- ◆ **May 14, noon, Ramona Garden Club:** Laura Eubanks on creating art with succulent cuttings and glue. 524 Main St., Ramona. Info: www.ramonagardenclub.com or (760) 787-0087.
- ◆ **May 14, 10am, Poway Valley Garden Club:** The best bulbs for Southern California. 14134 Midland Road, Poway. Info: www.powayvalleygardenclub.org or (760) 743-9500.
- ◆ **May 17 (9am-3pm) & 18 (noon-3pm, Mira Costa Horticulture Club Plant Sale:** Hundreds of plants, great prices. Free. 4613 Sheridan Road, Oceanside. Info: <http://mchclub.org>.
- ◆ **May 17, 10am-2:30pm, Palomar Orchid Society Auction:** Hundreds of flowering orchids; learn about orchids. Free. 1105 La Bonita Drive, San Marcos. Free. Info: www.palomarorchid.org.
- ◆ **May 17, 2:30pm, Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society Meeting:** The Future of Succulents in Garden Design. Park Avenue Community Center, 210 Park Ave., Escondido. Info: (760) 753-3651.
- ◆ **May 18, 1:30pm, Begonia Society:** Nursery tour and plant sale. Kartuz Greenhouses, 1408 Sunset Dr., Vista. Free. Info: (760) 753-3977 or marla.keith@cox.net.
- ◆ **May 20, 6:30-9pm, Native Plant Society:** TBA. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 104. Info: www.cnpssd.org.

May Garden Tour Schedule

For details see page 8 and websites listed

- ◆ May 2-4: 17th Annual Alpine Sage & Songbirds Garden Tour. www.chirp.org or (619) 445-8352
- ◆ May 10: "Beyond the Gate," Mission Hills Garden Walk. Info: www.missionhillsgardenclub.org.
- ◆ May 10: Fallbrook AAUW Country Garden Tour. www.aauwfallbrookca.org.
- ◆ May 10 and 11: Mother's Day Weekend Art, Garden and Studio Tour. www.offtrackgallery.com or (760) 942-3636 or (619) 479-0429.
- ◆ May 14: Bonita Valley Garden Club Tour & Plant Sale. (619) 479-0429
- ◆ May 17: Clairemont Town Council 18th Annual Garden Tour. <http://gardentour.clairemontonline.com>.
- ◆ May 17: Secret Garden Tour of La Jolla. www.lajollahistory.org.
- ◆ May 17: San Diego Floral Association: 'Canyon Rims and Valley Views. www.sdfloal.org or (619) 232-5762.
- ◆ May 17: Loma Portal Home & Garden Tour and Craft Faire. Loma Portal Elementary School, (619) 223-1683.
- ◆ May 31: San Clemente Garden Club Garden Tour. www.SanClementeGardenClub.com

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

For a FREE listing (space permitting) send details by the 10th of the month before the event to Neal King, at calendar@sdhort.org.

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

Resources & Ongoing Events

- ALTA VISTA BOTANIC GARDENS:** Open Monday-Friday 7:00-5:00 ; 10:00-5:00 on weekends. Fee: members/free; non-members/\$2. 1270 Vale Terrace Drive, Vista. Info: www.avgardens.org or (760) 945-3954.
- SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN** (formerly QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS): Open daily 9-5 (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day); 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Fee: \$12/adults, \$8/seniors, \$6/kids; parking \$2. Free to members and on the first Tuesday of every month. (760) 436-3036; www.SDBGarden.org.
- THE WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN:** Open 9-4 daily, FREE. Docent-led tours every Saturday at 10:00am. 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, (619) 660-0614 or www.thegarden.org.
- MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK:** Guided hikes Wed., Sat. & Sun. Visitor Center open 9-5, off Mission Gorge Rd., San Carlos, (858) 668-3275.
- MASTER GARDENER HOTLINE:** Gardening questions answered by trained volunteers Mon.-Fri., 9-3, (858) 822-6910, www.mastergardenerssandiego.org.
- SAN ELIJO LAGOON CONSERVANCY:** Free 90-minute public nature walk 2nd Saturday of each month start at 9:00 am. Call (760) 436-3944 for details.
- DESERT WILDFLOWER HOTLINE:** Anza-Borrego Desert State Park: (760) 767-4684. For information, events, road conditions, etc. call (760) 767-5311 or visit <http://desertusa.com/wildflo/wildupdates.html>.
- WILDFLOWER HOTLINE:** March to May call the Theodore Payne Foundation hotline: (818) 768-3533 for info. on blooms in Southern California and elsewhere; visit <http://theodorepayne.org>.
- BALBOA PARK:**
 - Offshoot Tours:** FREE 1-hr walking tour in Balboa Park every Sat., 10am. Meet at Visitors Center; canceled if rain or less than 4 people. (619) 235-1122.
 - Botanical Building** is one of the world's largest lath structures, with 1200+ plants and lavish seasonal displays. FREE. Open Friday-Wednesday, 10am to 4pm.
 - Botanical Library:** Room 105, Casa del Prado, Mon.-Fri. and first Sat., 10am-3pm, FREE. Info: (619) 232-5762.
 - Japanese Friendship Garden:** Tues. to Sun., 10-4. Fees: free 3rd Tuesday; \$5/family; \$2/adult, \$1/seniors/students; (619) 232-2721, www.niwa.org
 - Canyoneer Walks:** FREE guided nature walks Saturday & Sunday. (619) 232-3821 X203 or www.sdnhm.org
 - Balboa Park Ranger Tours:** FREE guided tours of architecture/horticulture, Tuesdays & Sundays, 1pm, from Visitors Center. Info: (619) 235-1122.
 - San Diego Natural History Museum:** Exhibits, classes, lectures, etc. (619) 232-3821; www.sdnhm.org
 - S.D. Zoo:** Garden day 3rd Friday of every month from 10am. Pick up schedule at entry. Info: (619) 231-1515, ext 4306; www.sandiegozoo.org.
- Garden TV and Radio Shows:**
 - Garden Compass Radio Show** (local). Saturday 9-10am. XEPE 1700AM radio, hosts Bruce and Sharon Asakawa, John Bagnasco. Call-in questions: (619) 570-1360 or (800) 660-4769.
 - GardenLife Radio Show** (national). Saturday 8-9am and Sunday 8-10am. KCEO 1000AM radio, hosts Bruce and Sharon Asakawa, John Bagnasco. Call-in questions: 866-606-TALK. Hear it streaming live on lifestyletalkradio.com. GardenLife shows are also archived at lifestyletalkradio.com.

San Diego County Farmers Markets
www.sdfarmbureau.org/BuyLocal/Farmers-Markets.php