

# Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

September 2014, Number 240

## New Australian Plants for California Gardens

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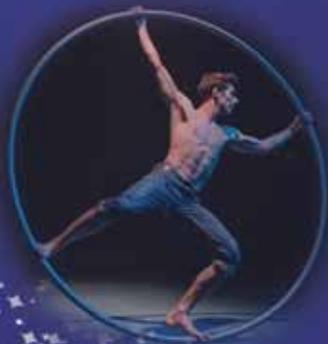
On the Cover: *Banksia ericifolia* 'Fireworks'

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sdhs



# THE RELAUNCH OF GARDEN DESIGN MAGAZINE

Recently, the story of Garden Design magazine was covered by Chantal Gordon at The Horticult. We thought it reflected our goals and mission at Garden Design perfectly, so we wanted to share it with you.

The new issue of Garden Design magazine is so highly, gloriously visual that it's almost fragrant. This issue also represents the relaunch of the title, known for decades for its in-depth stories and spectacular images; the new leadership is manifested in cleaner design, photos with room to spread, an ace website, and completely ad-free pages.

For the behind-the-scenes scoop, we caught up with the magazine's editor in chief Thad Orr for a brief Q&A.

## GIVE US A BRIEF HISTORY OF GARDEN DESIGN'S RELAUNCH

We read that the magazine was closing in the Wall Street Journal [in early 2013]. As fans of Garden Design we couldn't believe such a wonderful magazine was closing. The new publisher, Jim Peterson, contacted the previous publisher, Bonnier, to see what was being done with the magazine. The next thing we knew, we were purchasing the company!

We started traveling around the country to visit people who had been involved in the magazine, like past subscribers, photographers, writers, retailers and previous editors. In our conversations, it kept coming up that people love the printed magazine, the articles, the photography, and what Garden Design stood for. We decided to continue with the printed magazine with a few adjustments.

## WHY DID YOU GO AD-FREE?

The advertising business can be difficult and at times it's a situation where the tail wags the dog. We heard from the previous team that this was a challenging area and decided to forego advertising. We found that this model opened up a number of opportunities for us. For example, we feel that the design of the magazine is improved. We can run larger, high-quality images without interruption. Because Garden Design is now completely reader supported, we only serve our readers in creating and delivering material they want to sit down with four times per year.

## WHAT REACTIONS HAVE YOU BEEN GETTING FROM READERS?

There's been a tremendous response. Readers are responding to the balanced coverage we offer on outdoor design, horticultural expertise, and the people who design and install these world-class gardens.

One common response from readers is that they are pleasantly surprised by the volume of information in the issue. I read an article a few weeks ago with Randall Lane, the editor of Forbes, discussing their recent announcement that the magazine hit record readership levels in the U.S. this year. Their focus, he explains, is on providing "deep dive" articles that their readers want. We are of the same opinion. Print is great for magazines that are highly visual in nature and where the readership wants expertly-researched articles. The experience of sitting down to read detailed articles accompanied by full, two-page images, is better in print.



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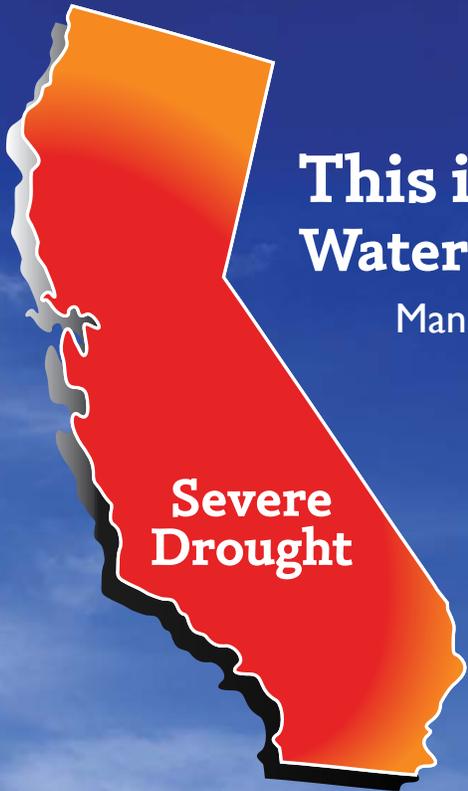
# From the August Meeting Plant Display

Top Right: *Brunsvigia litoralis* flower closeup  
Below: *Boophane disticha* flower head  
Bottom right: *Boophane disticha* foliage



Ken Blackford (3)

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WHEN IN DROUGHT

Save every day, every way.

## This is **Serious** Water Conservation is Mandatory

Mandatory conservation measures include:

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

Local rules vary. Find restrictions in effect in your community at [whenindrought.org](http://whenindrought.org).



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# San Diego International Orchid Fair October 4 - 5, 2014

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

- September 13-15 Fall Home/Garden Show, Del Mar Fairgrounds (pages 2 & 6)
- September 19 Welcome to the World of Bromeliads (FW)
- September 20 Featured Garden: Succulent Extravaganza, Fallbrook  
(register at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org))
- October 13 Lawn Replacement Ideas – Landscape Designer Panel
- October 18 Simple Diagnosing and Improving Your Garden Soil (FW)
- November 10 SDHS Holiday Marketplace
- November 23 Featured Garden: Fall Fruit Pick, Pauma Valley
- December 8 Nancy Carol Carter on Centennial Celebrations:  
Remembering and Commemorating the 1915  
Panama-California Exposition



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

**COVER IMAGE:** This stunning flowering shrub (*Banksia ericifolia* 'Fireworks') is just one of the newest Koala Blooms Plants that Randy Baldwin will be talking about at the September meeting.

## NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 8, 2014, 6:00 – 8:30 PM

### Speaker: Randy Baldwin on New Australian Plants for California Gardens

Everyone is welcome. Admission: Members/free, Non-Members/\$15. Parking is free.

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

We are excited to welcome Randy Baldwin, partner and General Manager of San Marcos Growers, a wholesale nursery in Santa Barbara. They are known in the nursery industry for the diversity of plants that they grow and for their introduction of new plants suitable for cultivation in California.

Randy will be talking about Australian plants that are now available for California gardens, including *Banksia ericifolia* 'Fireworks' (shown on the cover) and a new cultivar (yet unnamed) of *Zieria arborescens*.

San Marcos Growers has been growing plants appropriate to California's Mediterranean climate since 1979, and their inventory includes many California native plants, as well as vines, trees, shrubs, ferns, perennials, succulents, ornamental grasses and grass-like plants from other areas around the world. Randy maintains the San Marcos Growers website which features a robust plant database, searchable by plant type, geographic origin, and alphabetic listing by Latin name. Each listing also includes the common name, a photo, a comprehensive description of the habit and culture of each plant, and the grower's experience with many of them.

Randy has worked for San Marcos Growers since 1981, and prior to this worked for a retail nursery while completing a BA in Environmental Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara. In his spare time, Randy speaks to groups about his love of plants.

For more information, see page 3 and visit <http://smgrows.com>. ☺



# 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  
B.J. Boland – Corresponding Secretary  
Julian Duval – San Diego Botanic Garden  
Representative  
Bill Homyak – Member at Large  
Mary James – Program Committee Chair  
Dannie McLaughlin – Tour Coordinator  
Princess Norman – Secretary  
Susanna Pagan – Public Relations  
Coordinator  
Sam Seat – Treasurer  
Susi Torre-Bueno – Newsletter Editor,  
Past President

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

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

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

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### **New Email? New Street Address?**

Please send all changes (so you will continue  
to receive the newsletter and important  
notices) to membership@sdhort.org or  
SDHS, Attn: Membership, PO Box 231869,  
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## **BECOME A SPONSOR!**

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

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college scholarships, and other important  
programs. Sponsorships start at just \$100/  
year; contact Jim Bishop at sponsor@sdhort.  
org. Sponsors are listed on page 10; look for  
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Do more than belong: participate.  
Do more than care: help.  
Do more than believe: practice.  
Do more than be fair: be kind.  
Do more than forgive: forget.  
Do more than dream: work.

(William Arthur Ward)

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

### **Fall Home/Garden Show Booth**

We are looking for volunteers to staff our table at the Fall Home/Garden Show at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on Sept 13, 14, and 15th. This is part of our outreach to the community and a chance to show and tell San Diegans about all the great benefits of being an SDHS member. And it gets you free admission to enjoy the Show before or after your shift. We're looking for 12 members to help out. It's also your last chance to qualify for our sure-to-be-wonderful Volunteer Appreciation Party, which is coming up in October at the McLaughlins' Garden of the Year! To volunteer, please contact Patty Berg at PattyJBerg@gmail.com or (760) 815-0625.

### **Board Opening: Volunteer Coordinator**

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

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

### **Newsletter Advertising Manager Needed**

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

## To Learn More...

### Australian Plants for Our Gardens

By Susi Torre-Bueno

Here are some Australian plants I have grown that are oldies but goodies to add to your garden.

A very nice small tree is *Agonis flexuosa* 'Jervis Bay Afterdark', with narrow deep-burgundy leaves. Our speaker's website has an excellent description and two good photos:

<http://tinyurl.com/august-jervis-bay>.

*Callistemon* 'Canes Hybrid' is an excellent large shrub with a long bloom period and requiring little water. Bees love the flowers!

[www.mastergardeners.org/plant-dictionary/bottlebrush](http://www.mastergardeners.org/plant-dictionary/bottlebrush)

*Hardenbergia violacea* is a charming low-water vine, with violet flowers in winter to summer. Several cultivars are available.

<http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/go/2235>

*Isopogon formosus* gets a lot of notice when s in bloom. This 3-6' shrub has finely cut leaves and daisy-type flowers with thread-like petals. This website has info about lots of Australian plants:

[www.drought-tolerant-plants.com/isopogon-formosus](http://www.drought-tolerant-plants.com/isopogon-formosus). 🌿

## SUBSCRIBE TO GARDEN DESIGN AND SUPPORT THE SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Don't miss out on a very exciting offer! Our 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 September 31. We have already received \$696 from *Garden Design* for folks who subscribed in the last few months.

**To take advantage of this very generous offer, you must go to the link in their insert OR click the link on the home page of our website ([www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org)). Don't delay; the offer ends September 31st.**

Support SDHS and enjoy amazing gardens, beautiful plants, and expert insights inside the pages of *Garden Design*. (This is 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! 🌿

*Let's Talk Plants!* September 2014, No. 240



## FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

This month the San Diego Horticultural Society celebrates its 20th anniversary. Normally, at this point one would say we've grown in amazing ways since our modest beginnings. However, our modest beginnings lasted less than four months as we outgrew the meeting space at Quail Gardens (now the San Diego Botanic Garden) and have been meeting at the Del Mar Fairgrounds since January 1995. Within a few years we had over 1000 members. Thanks to all of the members, volunteers, former board members, and past presidents (Don Walker and Susi Torre-Bueno) who have helped maintain and nourish this organization over the years.

Today, and for many previous years, we have around 1300 members and 50 sponsors. From the beginning we have had some of the best horticultural speakers and programs in Southern California. People look forward to our annual garden tour and display garden at the Fair. We've recognized 19 local talented individuals who have made significant contributions to the San Diego horticulture community as our Horticulturist of the Year. Each year we award the best gardens at the San Diego County Fair; give scholarships to local horticulture students, and award students who participate in local science fairs. Each month Susi publishes this outstanding newsletter. We offer tours to interesting horticultural destinations. In recent years, we've upgraded our technical infrastructure to better communicate directly with members and automate some tasks, offered tours highlighting gardens in different areas of the county,



(from left) Kathy Musial, Fred Meyer, Steve Brigham and Don Walker. From the first SDHS garden tour, Spring 1995, to Fred's research greenhouse in Escondido. Kathy, Steve and Don were three of our founders (see pages 7 and 10).

added featured garden tours and workshops. And this year we are helping to restore several gardens in Balboa Park to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Panama-California Exposition.

Today we truly are a San Diego institution that has stayed true to our mission to educate San Diego about what makes horticulture here unique. I'm pleased and honored to have been a part of it, and daily enjoy all the friends, colleagues and plants I've gained through the society. 🌿

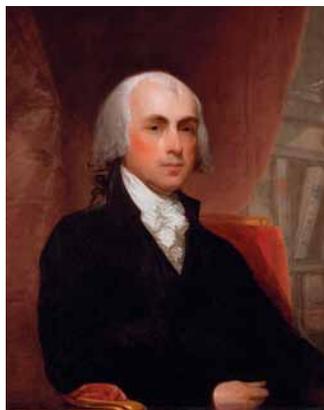
San Diego Horticultural Society 3

## THE REAL DIRT ON...

### James Madison

By Donna Tierney

James Madison (1751-1836) is considered the Father of the Constitution, architect of the Bill of Rights, and was the fourth President of the United States. John Adams wrote, "Madison's administration had acquired more glory and established more union that all three of his predecessors put together." Even with such great accomplishments under his belt, Madison, like Washington and Jefferson, couldn't wait to get back to his Virginia plantation (Montpelier) and put on his gardening breeches!



Madison's home was over 2500 acres of rolling hills, horse pastures, and spectacular views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. He had inherited the property from his father, and spent many years remodeling the house and gardens. Because of the scope of the garden project, he hired a French and Scottish gardener to assist in design and maintenance. He, like Adams, used ha-has to keep the animals out of the gardens, and to provide uninterrupted views of the landscape. Madison planted fragrant plants (gardenias, jasmine, roses, and sweetbriar) near the house. An acre of grass stretched between the house and the very thick forest that surrounded it. There were numerous varieties of ornamental trees in the forest, many of which came from his neighbor, Thomas Jefferson.

Madison carved out a series of semi-circular terraces near the house, where he grew a kitchen garden and flowers. Most all of the food (vegetables, fruits, and herbs) needed to run the house was grown in this garden. Many of the varieties came from seeds provided from Jefferson's experimental gardens. Madison would take a daily ride around his property, often stopping to pick fruit, or to relax with a book under a shady tree.

Madison was extremely knowledgeable about plants. Many of his neighbors relied on his expertise to prove the correct Latin names. He also exchanged seeds with many European botanists, such as the Director of the Botanic Garden in Madrid. When the commercial crops of tobacco and wheat began failing in Virginia, the prosperity of the entire state was threatened. Because of Madison's passion for agricultural innovation and education, he was elected the first President of the Agricultural Society of Albemarle. The purpose of the society was to improve agricultural practices, and Virginia's soil, in order to restore prosperity. A year after his election, Madison made a speech that would make him America's first environmentalist, dedicated to preserving American natural resources. Madison told this group, "Nature was not subservient to the use of man. Not everything could be appropriated for the increase of the human part of creation. If it was, nature's balance would collapse."

During their time in Washington, Madison's wife, Dolly, had earned a reputation as a gracious hostess. She was good-natured and always eager to entertain visitors. Montpelier experienced a steady stream

*Continued on page 12*

## BOOK REVIEW

### *The Dirty Life: On Farming, Food, and Love*

By Kristin Kimball

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

I've mentioned the good feeling you get when you read the first paragraph of a book and know you're in for a treat. If you're a reader, and you probably are, you know what I mean. This memoir is one of those books.

Kristin Kimball was a freelance writer when she met Mark. It's hard to imagine two people who would seem less suited to each other. Kimball was a sophisticated New Yorker. Mark was a farmer who believed in doing things the old way. But something clicked and they formed a partnership and, later, a marriage. This book covers the time from their first meeting to the wedding.

How does this qualify as a garden book? Well, a garden and a farm are the same thing in the way a cup of water and the ocean are. It's just a question of scale.

Mark has an ambition. He wants to create a farm that provides a "whole diet" for its community: meat, milk, eggs, vegetables, fruit, grains, beans, maple syrup, herbs, and spices. People (currently 222) join the community by buying an annual membership.

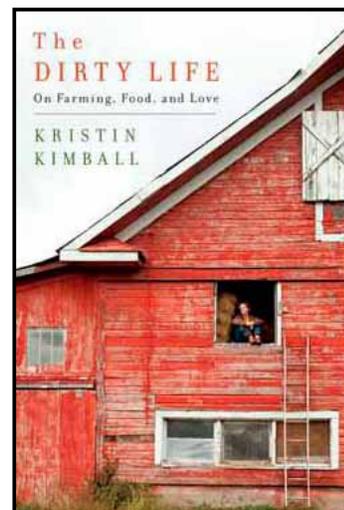
Kristin bought into the dream without knowing which end of a hoe to hold. Out of necessity, she learned. We get to go along with her on that trip. It's a familiar trip and a new one at the same time. We've all had our dreams over seed catalogs, the excitement of the packages arriving, the labor of preparing a garden or field; the excitement of seeing the first green growth, the heartbreak when pests find the new crop. It's all there in our lives and in hers.

There are some differences. Mark believes in the old ways: draft horses instead of a tractor (Kristin becomes the resident horse whisperer), compost instead of fertilizer, no pesticides or herbicides. They get up several hours before sunrise to get the chores and the milking done, and then continue to work from "can see" to "can't see."

Almost by definition, their life is full of crises; crop failure and runaway horse teams are just two. There are the rewards though: the satisfaction of seeing the plants and animals thrive, seeing their 500-acre farm mature and become productive, and seeing themselves find their place in their new community.

Kimball has a website: [www.kristinkimball.com](http://www.kristinkimball.com). I encourage you to check it out, but don't think that if you do, it's as good as reading this book. This book is a gem not to be missed.

*The Dirty Life* (ISBN 978-1-4165-5160-7) is hardbound and 276 pages. A small warning: there are discussions of animal slaughter. That meat has to come from someplace. I think you can skip over those parts and still enjoy this book. 🌿



## TREES, PLEASE Tree Risk Assessment (Part 2)

By Tim Clancy

In July we discussed the path to becoming a qualified International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Tree Risk Assessor. Let's look at the field process.

The ISA has developed a form to aid the risk assessor in the process. It can be downloaded by the general public from the ISA web site ([www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com)). At first, it may look a bit intimidating, but careful study reveals that the layperson can decipher it and even apply some of it to their own situation.

The first page is to document the tree(s), and includes basic information such as address, tree height, tree canopy spread, the diameter at breast height (or DBH, measured at 54" above grade) as well as tools used, i.e. binoculars, clinometer, DBH tape, etc.

The second section, "Target Assessment," is where you identify the target, the occupancy rate, and if you can restrict access or move the target. For example, if the target is a campground picnic table, perhaps the table can be moved and entrance to the target zone (where the tree part or tree may fall) restricted. These are acceptable solutions to lower the risk.

The third section, "Site Factors," is where we describe the site situation like wind factors, soil conditions, and if there is any failure history.

In section four, "Tree Health and Species Profile," we document the tree's vigor, which can be determined to some extent by looking at how much has the tree grown in recent years. One way to assess this factor is to observe shoot elongation, or how much did this year's new shoots grow and how do they compare to previous years and to other trees of the same species nearby? This is one of the first things I look at on a regular basis, as it gives me a quick assessment of the vigor even when I am not doing a risk assessment.

Section five, "Load Factors," is where we try and document the crown size and density as well as wind exposure. Wind exposure is important. Recently, I was asked to risk assess some trees that were on some slopes behind some homes (see photo). The wind tunneling effect on these trees was significant due to the way the homes were laid out and the surrounding geography.

Section six is where we describe any defects that may affect failure. There are three sections here: 1) the crown and branches, 2) the trunk, and 3) the roots and root collar. Each section has information specific to the part of the tree being assessed, such as cracks, rot, severed roots, etc.

The second page is where all of this information is used in a matrix that will determine if the assessor thinks the tree risk is low, moderate, high or extreme. An interesting note is that in our risk assessment class we were told that it is very unlikely that we will ever encounter an "extreme" risk tree in our careers.

---

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



Eucalypts on slope behind homes

Tim Clancy

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Like Don & Dorothy, You Can Leave a Legacy

By Patty Berg, Volunteer Coordinator

Since I am still in a happy buzz from the August meeting, this month's column honors the volunteer spirit of our founders. Twenty years ago, they didn't wait for anyone to ask them if starting the San Diego Horticultural Society would be a worthy way to spend their time. As leaders do, they gathered like-minded folks together and let their vision, enthusiasm for gardening, and dedication to the mission carry them forward. And did it ever!

Now we are 1300 strong, arguably the largest regional hort group, and still a 100% volunteer organization. Many of us have gained invaluable plant knowledge and made lifelong friends because of the efforts of that small group back in 1994. For a modest membership fee, we get to enjoy great speakers, private evenings at the Fair Garden Show, monthly featured gardens all around the county, informative hands-on workshops, and so much more.

If you're feeling as grateful as I am to Don and Dorothy Walker, Steve Brigham, Diana Goforth, Laurie Bussis, Bill and Linda Teague, Adele Snyder and Kathy Musial, then there is really only one way to say thanks: be a volunteer and pass along their legacy.

The most effective way we carry out the SDHS mission is through the community outreach we do throughout the year. Most often it involves a four hour commitment at a fun, garden-related event and requires nothing more strenuous than being friendly and sharing information. If even just 25% of our members would take a turn, we'd be covered for two years of events and could ensure that this most worthy organization passes on to new generations. (In case you're wondering, about 10% of our members volunteer at least once a year.)

I don't know if our founders ever imagined that SDHS would become the vibrant and thriving group that we now enjoy in 2014 but there is one thing of which I am sure. The best way you can say thanks is to step up, jump in, be a volunteer. See page 2 for our current volunteer opportunities. 🌿



Founders Don & Dorothy Walker.



Founder Bill Teague at the award-winning 2005 Fair Garden he designed and installed

## GOING WILD WITH NATIVES Two Ways to Help the Planet through Plant Choices

By Susan Krzywicki

### Nurseries have an issue that you can help them to fix

We bring you, yet again, one more complicated issue that requires action. Fortunately, the two steps you can take to help solve the issue are simple and easy. For years, a group of pesticides you may never have heard of has been the go-to choice for growers and nurseries because they are cheap, effective, and easy to use.



*Bombus vosnesenskii* from Sharon Reeve's backyard in La Mesa on a California poppy

Neonicotinoids, or "neonics," are used in the trade as a spray and for wetting the soil. Recently, mounting evidence points out that these products may cause more damage than thought. And the damage is to insects and birds, and it may persist for long periods of time.

The Xerces Society has been especially concerned. See their article, "Are Neonicotinoids Killing Bees?" ([www.xerces.org/neonicotinoids-and-bees](http://www.xerces.org/neonicotinoids-and-bees)). Sharon Reeve has written an excellent summary article, called "Bee Brave - Survival in the Face of Chemical Onslaught" (<http://tinyurl.com/septbees1>). Europe has banned the products for the next two years, but the U.S. has been stuck at the "study" stage. I include here two steps you can take to make consumer voices known.

### Take this simple step

Kay Stewart, a local California Native Plant Society member, has written a letter to Ann Prichard, Pesticide Registration Branch Chief. In part, her appeal says, "I am writing to ask you to take action to terminate the studies that have been dragging on for five years about California's use of neonicotinoid pesticides and their impact on honeybees. Please require very speedy publication of its findings. If the study is unbiased and comprehensive, I expect the Department of Pesticide Regulation to conclude that these pesticides should be restricted greatly or outright banned!"

You, too, can write something similar, using the information above. If you want the full text from Kay or wish to comment or ask questions, follow up with her at [info@kaylarch.com](mailto:info@kaylarch.com).

Here is Ann Prichard's address: [ann.Prichard@cdpr.ca.gov](mailto:ann.Prichard@cdpr.ca.gov).

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## 2014 FALL HOME/GARDEN SHOW NOW'S THE TIME FOR FALL GARDENING!

FALL in Southern California is like spring everywhere else. Our region's Fall is one of our busiest times of year. We're switching annual flowers out to those that love winter and spring. We're planting fall and winter veggies. We're digging in spring bulbs, and buying others to cool now. And most important, just about EVERY shrub, tree, bush, perennial, and ground cover wants to go in the ground NOW to be ready for those first rains.

The *Fall Home/Garden Show* at the Del Mar Fairgrounds celebrates this local gardening tradition, and all facets of the garden-loving community. It runs Friday, Sept. 12, 11am-6pm; Saturday, Sept. 13, 10am-6pm; and Sunday, Sept. 14, 10am-5pm. Admission: \$8; children under 12 are free. Seniors: only \$1 on Friday. After 3 pm daily, all tickets are \$6. Discount tickets on the website (below) are \$6. Here's the perfect one-stop-shopping experience as you select plants—popular-to-rare—for our most important planting season. In the show's *Garden Marketplace* you'll find dozens of local growers and vendors selling hundreds of varieties. For more information and updates on show features, visit [www.fallhomegardenshow.com](http://www.fallhomegardenshow.com) or the Facebook page *San Diego Home/Garden Shows*.

**Members of San Diego Horticultural Society can get exclusive FREE VIP tickets by visiting [www.fallhomegardenshow.com/SDHS](http://www.fallhomegardenshow.com/SDHS).**

Once again, the SDHS plays an important role with our booth's informative display of plants that thrive here. This is a great time for our volunteers to "meet and greet" Society members as well as plant enthusiasts and hobbyists from all over the county. Got a question? There's no better time to plumb the depths of other enthusiasts' horticultural knowledge. Master Gardeners are also on hand to answer questions and lend advice, along with many specialty garden clubs.

### Garden lectures include:

- **Ari Tenenbaum** (Principal, Revolution Landscape) on "Love your Yard, and Eat it Too!" based on his many years of experience with turning landscapes into "food forests" that save water, provide fresh organic fruits and vegetables, and look fabulous!

- **Jeff Moore** (Owner, Solana Succulents) shares his passion with a talk on "Under the Spell of Succulents," his fascinating slide show and live-plant demonstrations of the world of cultivated succulents. Jeff has inspired many gardeners, and his award-winning succulent-based landscape designs are known far and wide.

- **Linda Bresler** (Owner, Living Designs by Linda) encourages gardeners about "Using Colorful Plants in the Waterwise Garden," giving her expert advice using plants with eye-catching colors and textures, plus those that flower for long periods in low-water-use and low-maintenance gardens.

- **Greg Rubin** (CEO, California's Own Native Landscape Design) unlocks the mysteries of our region's most interesting and aesthetically pleasing native plants with his popular talk on "Landscaping with California Natives." Turn your garden into a native habitat that attracts butterflies and birds...and looks great despite our region's sparse rainfall. ☘



## SDHS MEMORIES – THE EARLY YEARS

By Susi Torre-Bueno

Twenty years ago this month, plans were being finalized to found a new horticultural group which started with an important vision: of a friendly group, sharing information and the joy of gardening with gardeners of all skill levels and interests, from beginners to highly trained professionals. This vision very quickly became a reality, and the San Diego Horticultural Society now has over 1300 members, about ten times as many as most garden groups. We're one of the largest and most active garden groups in the United States. We owe a big THANK YOU to our founders, who had the foresight to sow the seeds of our Society: Don & Dorothy Walker, Steve Brigham, Diana Goforth, Laurie Bussis, Linda and Bill Teague, Adele Snyder and Kathy Musial.

I wasn't involved with the founding of the Society, but I saw an invitation to the first meeting of a new garden group in September 1994, and it really spoke to me. I was living near San Diego State at the time, and driving up to Encinitas seemed like a trip to Canada, but I'm so glad I went! Some of the people I met that night are still good friends.

Don Walker, a Los Angeles native, had been very involved with the Southern California Horticultural Society for 20 years. He and his wife, Dorothy, had moved from Torrance to Vista in 1989, and he spent 3 years designing and building his garden. He said that he realized he needed to get out in the plant community and meet other gardeners, so he volunteered as a design gardener at the Rancho Buena Vista Adobe in Vista and also at Quail Botanical Gardens (Quail) as curator of the stream and waterfall area. He served on the board of the Quail Foundation for one year, and stepped down to form the Hort. Society. He and some friends met at Bill and Linda Teague's house, modifying the by-laws from the Southern Cal. Hort. to meet our needs. To announce the first meeting, they did a mailing from the Buena Creek Gardens customer list, thereby reaching dedicated horticulturists and enthusiastic gardeners.

Don held the meeting at the Ecke Building at Quail. (Actually, any time Don did anything, Dorothy was also on hand, helping, often in the background, to ensure things went smoothly, and she served ably as our treasurer for many years.) The building was being renovated, and he had to run an extension cord from the gift shop to bring power for the projector, etc. There were no doors on the bathrooms (making for some interesting logistics), and the lighting was a little dodgy, but the room buzzed with the enthusiastic camaraderie that still is one of the best things about our meetings.

There were tables loaded with interesting plants (mostly from the gardens of Don Walker and Steve Brigham). There were about 100 people there, none of whom I had met before, and all of them were loving talking to each other about plants. I'm sure that Don made warm opening remarks, but what I remember most was how many people were using the Latin names of plants, none of which I knew. I recall rolling my eyes at that, as did the gal sitting next to me, Bobbi Hirschhoff, whose extraordinary Encinitas garden has been on many tours over the years. Little did I imagine that 2 years later

*Continued on page 9*

## 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](http://www.sdhort.org) for information on making donations. You can also donate at meetings and other events. Every contribution is very welcome. As of August 12, we have raised \$4935. **Thank you to these generous donors:**

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Ellen Merewether

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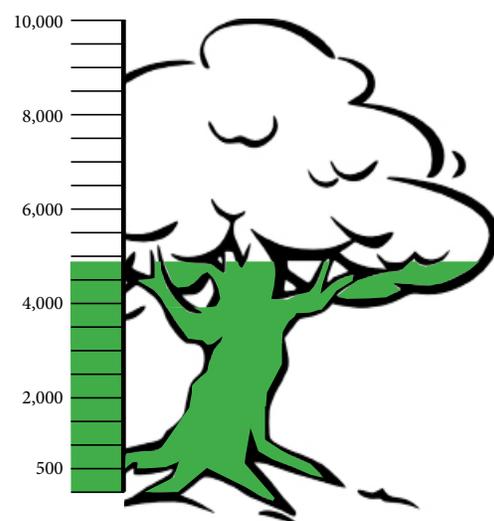
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## GROWING WITH CLASS: SCHOOL GARDENS AND HABITATS

A 2014 Conference presented by  
Master Gardener Association of  
San Diego County

Any good gardener knows that there is always more to be learned about the bugs and the weeds, the sunshine and the water, and the critters and the soil in our gardens. And, like gardeners, children are always eager to learn more. So it isn't surprising that school gardens and schoolyard habitats are gaining in popularity; yet educators sometimes lack the knowledge of how to successfully provide the richest possible learning environment within them. In an engaging, information-packed day, the UCCE San Diego County



Master Gardener program will be holding their popular Gardening With Class Conference from 8 am to 4 pm on Saturday, October 18, 2014 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. The conference is for preschool through high school educators, administrators, and school garden coordinators, and will be taught by Master Gardener School Garden Consultants, as well as a selection of qualified professionals with school garden and other relevant expertise.

Session topics include: Creating Your School Garden, Eating Healthy from Farm to Fork, Ethnobotany for San Diego Teachers, Enlisting Community Involvement and Support, and Adventures with Arthropods.

Curriculum sessions include great ideas from experts to help educators effectively use the outdoor classroom. Links between new concepts and activities and Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards are introduced throughout the sessions, and classes are offered by grade level. Afternoon networking sessions involve additional outdoor learning garden activities. A continental breakfast and lunch, exhibits, free plants, and other goodies complete a fun and fulfilling day.

Event registration begins September 1, 2014. For more event information, please visit [www.mastergardenerssandiego.org/schools/schools.php](http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org/schools/schools.php). Please share the link with school garden educators and others who can benefit from this unique, engaging, and informative event. Gardening enthusiasts such as members of the San Diego Horticultural Society, garden clubs, PTAs, or other educational foundations can support teachers with the reasonable \$50 registration fee. Teachers may also wish to register to receive 1.5 quarter units of UCSD Extension in-service credit for the day. ☞

## PLANT SALE AND OPEN HOUSE

September 20th in Balboa Park

By the UC San Diego Master Gardeners

Thinking about ways to boost your fall planting? Then make sure to visit Balboa Park on Saturday, September 20 for the Plant Sale and Open House sponsored by the UC Master Gardeners. Some 4,000 plants grown by Master Gardeners or donated by area nurseries will be offered for sale at great prices, including an amazing array of perennials, annuals, edibles, natives and unique specimens. Doors open at 9:00 a.m., but the best plants sell out quickly.

Along with the plant sale, dozens of Master Gardeners will be offering hours of free advice courtesy of 15 different exhibits and displays covering drought-tolerant landscapes, container gardening, composting, propagating, cool season vegetables, fruit trees, integrated pest management, and more. There will be affordable garden supplies for sale and a wide display of garden art, including rain chains, colorful and quirky planters, and gently used garden books. Master Gardeners will be offering their handmade bird houses made from locally grown gourds and re-purposed materials; a perfect house-warming gift!

Learn creative ways to start container gardens for instant gratification without the "agony of acreage" in drought-stricken San Diego. And find out how landscaping with California natives can cut your water bill by 60 to 90 percent.

All proceeds benefit numerous programs administered by the Master Gardeners, including community gardens, school gardens, a telephone hotline and dozens of free presentations given year-round. What better time to get the advice and plants that you need to create an amazing fall garden? Bring a friend new to gardening or treat yourself to that one plant you have always wanted.

The plant sale takes place in Balboa Park at Casa del Prado, Room 101, with exhibits, demos and crafts in the adjoining courtyards. Free and open to the public from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. For more information visit [www.mastergardenersd.org](http://www.mastergardenersd.org). ☞

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## YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IMPORTANT CHANGE

When the time comes, we hope you will renew promptly. About a month before your SDHS membership lapses, you receive an email from us with information about how to renew; follow up emails are sent to members who haven't renewed by the deadline.

For those members who do not have email, we have been mailing a letter with this information. Due to the cost to mail renewals, and the low response, we are no longer doing this. Members without emails will get a phone call from a volunteer. Email notification for renewals will continue to members with emails.

By renewing promptly, you will have no disruption in member benefits, which include free meetings, workshops, monthly featured garden invitations, this newsletter, nursery discounts, and much more. You can also save \$10 by renewing for three years instead of one year. ☞

## ■ SDHS Memories Continued from page 7

Bobbi and I would have new houses (and new gardens) about ½ mile apart and become plant shopping buddies.

Our speaker that night was Steve Brigham (who later would write our tree book), and his topic was *New Plant Introductions for Southern California*. I don't remember his talk, but I do remember his enthusiasm and his friendliness. He owned Buena Creek Gardens, so he was a nursery professional, but he seemed so approachable, as did the other folks I met that night. About 3 years later I started working for Steve at Buena Creek, the best job I ever had, and I stayed there about 4 years and it was like total botanical immersion 'cause I learned so much. Plus, at my request he paid me in plants – which was where all my salary was going anyway!

I learned years later that Don worried there wouldn't be much of a turnout at that first meeting. In fact, 44 people joined that night (including me and Jim Bishop). Within one month the Society had 100 members, and we outgrew the Quail meeting room in 3 months. In January 1995, we started meeting at the Fairgrounds.

One of the features of our early meetings, which I miss a lot, was our Plant Forum, where an expert – Steve Brigham, at first, and then very ably followed by Tom Piergrossi – would talk about plants that people brought in from home. Some months there were nearly 100 plants on display! As I was a transplant here from the East Coast, the vast majority of these plants were new to me, and it was invaluable learning about them. I remember that for many years, Steve and/or Don brought in the 18" long x 12" wide flowers of the *Aristolochia gigantea*, when it was in bloom, which Steve would sometimes wear as a jaunty cap while he told stories about the plants. When Tom was doing the plant forum, I recall he once said, to general hilarity, "Oh yes, I am familiar with this plant that so-and-so has brought in – I've already killed it twice."

A few months after our founding, in Spring of 1995, we had the first local tour, visiting the amazing Escondido research greenhouses that plant hunter and hybridizer, Fred Meyer, used for his breeding program. We saw thousands of amaryllis of every imaginable color – but were so disappointed we couldn't buy anything because they were either still being tested or were contracted for sale in Europe only for the cut flower trade. Fred was an amazing guy – both a hybridizer of all kinds of plants and also a plant hunter who frequently went to South America (especially Peru and Chile, I believe) in search of new species. Sadly, he died just a few years later, while only in his early 40s, and we honored his memory in 1999 by naming our first college scholarship the Fred Meyer Memorial Scholarship; it is given to a student at MiraCosta College.

That same spring we also had our first local garden tour, visiting North County gardens. Local tours have continued ever since, and in 2011 we started our Featured Garden visits so we could get our garden voyeurism fix each month. We've visited gardens in almost every area of San Diego County, seeing every kind of plant imaginable, plus garden railroads, Japanese landscapes, succulent meadows, native plant paradises, subtropical oases, herb and veggie gardens, grape vineyards, koi ponds, and colorful foliage extravaganzas. To me, this fabulous access to inspired gardens is worth the annual dues many times over.

Our first out-of-town garden tour (in Spring, 1997) was a very

ambitious day-long bus trip to Santa Barbara. We met at the Quail parking lot at 5AM so that we could make the 4-hour drive north (having breakfast on the bus) and have plenty of time to see gardens. We visited the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, Lotusland, AND two exceptional nurseries. We got back after 9PM, pleasantly exhausted.

On our 1999 San Francisco tour – the first one held as a 5-day trip away from home – we had a wine & cheese party at the home & garden of Roger Raiche and David McCrory – two plant-crazy guys from the Bay Area group that calls itself the Hortisexuals – and their garden included some exceedingly phallic ceramic faux-bamboo poles made by Marcia Donahue, whose own garden featured a twisty pathway paved with cemetery headstone rejects. We stopped at the Berkeley Botanic Garden and they were having a plant sale. Our tour guide, a plant fanatic and nursery owner, leapt off the bus ahead of all of us and when we called after him to ask what time we needed to be back at the bus he gleefully shouted, "Who the hell cares, it's a plant sale!" as he ran off. I especially loved visiting and meeting garden designers I had been reading about for years and seeing their personal gardens.

Each year since 1996 we've honored a Horticulturist of the Year for their many years of work serving the horticultural community in San Diego County. Our first honoree was Chuck Kline, who created the marvelous gardens at Sea World. Our members put together a fabulous Mediterranean feast and we ate it at the gazebo lawn area at Quail, laughing with delight as Pat Welsh put on a one-woman "roast"



Chuck Kline, our 1996 Horticulturist of the Year, being roasted at San Diego Botanic Garden by Pat Welsh, our 2003 Horticulturist of the Year.

*Continued on page 19*



## 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.*

### 1994 - Part 2

In the fall of 1994, I had learned about the first meeting of the new San Diego Horticultural Society at Quail Gardens (since renamed the San Diego Botanic Garden). I think I may have heard about the meeting from Patrick Anderson, or maybe Buena Creek Gardens, or both. I thought about attending, but wasn't certain I would. The Monday of the meeting, I was informed at work that my job of 13 years was being phased out and I would be laid off the following February. This somewhat painful push towards a new chapter in my life made the decision to attend an easy one. After all, what were they going to do if I left work a bit early, fire me?

I arrived to the meeting in the still being constructed meeting room and found it already packed. I sat somewhere in the back, where people were frantically adding more chairs. Having never attended a formal horticulture meeting before, I didn't know what to expect. I vaguely recall Don Walker, the president, talking about the need for a local horticultural society and asking us to join. I recall Steve Brigham of Buena Creek Gardens clowning around and providing his usual knowledgeable and entertaining banter about plants. While showing the unusual flowers of Dutchman's Pipe, *Aristolochia gigantea*, for some reason, he decided to wear one as a mask over his face and the audience burst into laughter. Patrick Anderson, Don and others pressured me to join that evening. In spite of my now uncertain finances, I gladly signed up. For many years, I arrived just before the meeting started and sat somewhere near the back. Little did I know then that 20 years later, I would be president of this organization.

Over the next several years, I attended as many meetings I could. I would listen to the wonderful speakers and topics that influenced my gardening style and what plants I grew in my garden. I especially loved looking at the unusual plants, flowers and cuttings that members brought in from their home gardens. There was always something on the plant display table that I had never seen before. Often, after the main meeting, Steve Brigham would talk about the plants on the display table. Was there anything he didn't know?

I realized that though I thought I knew everything about home gardening, I knew very little and even less about plants, especially those that do well in Southern California. Overall, I'd say the biggest impact that Society has had on my gardening is changing my tastes and appreciation of what I once considered unusual plants that I assumed were difficult to grow. Looking back over the plants I've mentioned in articles for this column, I grow relatively few of these today. Through the Society, I've been exposed to countless plants and garden styles and ideas that have inspired me to keep changing how I garden. I've learned about water management, low water use plants, and succulents. Twenty years ago I was intrigued and fascinated by succulents, but never thought that I would be growing so many. I never even imagined growing a tree aloe, protea or alstroemeria,



First SDHS garden tour (Spring, 1995) at Fred Meyer's research greenhouse

let alone knew what a leucadendron or cycad even was. Today they seem commonplace, but I can't imagine gardening without these and many others. And I imagine if you've attended a few meetings, you too have made changes in gardening practices and what you grow.

As you may know, I travel frequently and visit gardens whenever possible. In July of this year, I toured gardens in England and loved all the perennials and summer blooming plants they can grow. However, in the much prized plant collections growing in the Wisley Royal Botanic Garden greenhouses, I noted that we can grow almost all of these plants outside. While I always enjoy seeing how people garden in other parts of the world, I've come to realize that we are very fortunate to be able to grow so many exotic plants from around the world without much effort. We all are so lucky to live here and be part of such a wonderful organization. Happy Birthday Hort Society!

To be continued...



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

## HELP OUR SCIENCE FAIR WINNER GO GLOBAL!



We're delighted to announce that one of the winners of the SDHS prizes at the San Diego Science Fair, eighth grader Gregory Martin, is a finalist (out of 15 students worldwide!) for the Google Science Fair. The link is <https://www.google-science-fair.com/en/>. He is the green dot in the San Diego area. Voting starts September 1st for the voters' choice award.

Won't you take a minute and vote for Gregory? The voting link is on the lower right of the page. 🌿

## 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:

Chelsea Baron	Ellen Nelson
Paula Hildebrandt	Marc & Mariah Smith, Anderson's La Costa Nursery
Frances Jensen	Barbara Stevens
Andrew Lau	Susan Wille
Virginia & Mark Mahigian	Irene Williams

## HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2014; they earned Hort Bucks worth \$5 towards name badges, garden tours, dues and more! To get your Hort Bucks ask your friends to give your name when they join.

Kathy Ascher (1)	Lori Davis (1)	Julie Hasl (2)	Dannie McLaughlin (2)	Stephanie Shigematsu (1)
Annette Beaty (1)	Cindy Essary (1)	Jenny Hawkins (1)	Rebecca Moore (1)	Cindy Sparks (1)
Glenea Belice (2)	Kathy Esty (1)	Devon Hedding (1)	Anne Murphy (1)	Scott Spencer (1)
Linda Bresler (2)	Coni Fiss (1)	Sonja Hunsaker (1)	Joan Oliver (1)	Laura Starr (1)
Briggs Nursery (1)	Nancy Ford (1)	Victoria Lea (1)	Gayle Olson Binder (1)	Susi Torre-Bueno (1)
Carol Donald (1)	Kimberly Fraker (1)	Patricia Leon (1)	Laird Plumleigh (1)	Annie Urquhart (1)
Beatrice Ericksen (1)	Meredith Garner (1)	Suellen Lodge (1)	Barbara Raub (1)	Tami Van Thof (1)
Dave Ericson (1)	Kelly Griffin (1)	Vicki Lugo (1)	Tammy Schwab (1)	Roy Wilburn (1)

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## LIFE MEMBERS \*Horticulturist of the Year

\*Chuck Ades (2008)

\*Walter Andersen (2002)

Norm Applebaum & Barbara Roper

\*Bruce & Sharon Asakawa (2010)

Gladys T. Baird

Debra Lee Baldwin

\*Steve Brigham (2009)

Laurie Connable

\*Julian (2014) & Leslie Duval

\*Edgar Engert (2000)

Jim Farley

Sue & Charles Fouquette

Penelope Hlavac

Joyce James

Debbie & Richard Johnson

\*Vince Lazaneo (2004)

\*Jane Minshall (2006)

\*Brad Monroe (2013)

\*Bill Nelson (2007)

Tina & Andy Rathbone

\*Jon Rebman (2011)

Peggy Ruzich

San Diego Home/Garden

Lifestyles

Gerald D. Stewart

\*Susi Torre-Bueno (2012)

& Jose Torre-Bueno

Dorothy Walker

Lucy Warren

\*Evelyn Weidner (2001)

\*Pat Welsh (2003)

Betty Wheeler

## DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

(see ads for more discounts)

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(www.briggstree.com; tell them to look up the "San Diego Hort Society Member" account).

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## 15th Annual Gala In the Garden Honors Eric Larson Executive Director of the San Diego County Farm Bureau

The San Diego Botanic Garden's 15th Annual Gala in the Garden will be held on Saturday, September 6, 2014, from 5 – 9:30 pm. The theme of this year's event is *Right in Our Own Backyard*. The 2014 Paul Ecke Jr. Award of Excellence Honoree is Eric Larson, Executive Director of the San Diego County Farm Bureau.



Larson is being recognized by the Garden for his valuable and important work in San Diego County's agricultural industry, as well as his leadership of the San

Diego County Farm Bureau, the Carlsbad Municipal Water District, the San Diego County Water Authority, Carlsbad City Council, and the Encina Wastewater Authority. Larson's efforts to promote the growth of agriculture in San Diego County align with the San Diego Botanic Garden's mission to "inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature."

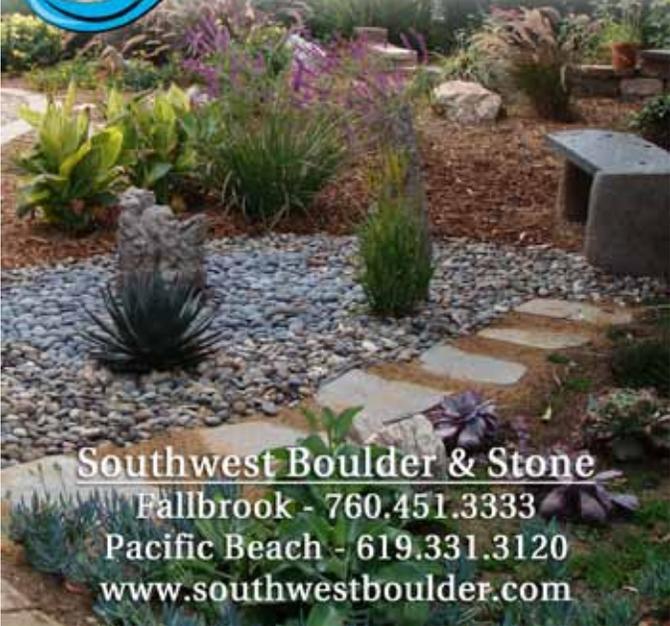
Gala in the Garden is San Diego Botanic Garden's largest annual fund raiser. Guests have the opportunity to explore our garden trails, enjoy fine wine, craft beer, and the best dishes from local restaurants, as well as listen to live entertainment and view exquisite floral designs. Rene van Rems will once again lead a team of local floral designers to create magnificent floral displays for the evening.

For more information, to purchase tickets, or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities, please call 760/ 436-4036 x218, or visit the website at [www.SDBGarden.org/gala.htm](http://www.SDBGarden.org/gala.htm). ☞

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■ The Dirt On... Continued from page 4

of visitors who love the informality at Madison's home, and the hospitality afforded to them.

The forest that Madison planted is now a 200-acre old-growth National Natural Landmark, and offers miles of walking trails. Madison's original ornamental garden was renovated by Annie DuPont in the early 1900s, and is now named after her.

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■ Natives Continued from page 6

And here is step #2

When you buy a plant, simply ask the store manager if the product was sprayed with neonics. The manager might not know the answer, so be persistent. Ask them to find out for you. Even if the answer is "Yes," you still have the choice to buy or not to buy that particular plant. The point of this action is to register your concern with the store. When store personnel hear this question from consumers, it helps them to put additional pressure on the growers and nurseries to act now.

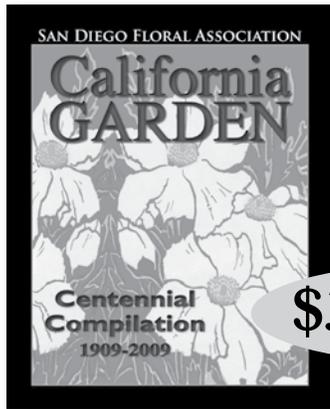
Recently, Suncrest Nurseries, due to consumer concerns and internal discussions, decided to stop using neonics. So public pressure works.

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For members interested in learning about the SDHS's financial status, including our balance sheet, income and expenses, it's now easy to do so. The link for the 2013 Include and Expenses is: <https://sdhort.wildapricot.org/Financial-Reports>

To view it, you need to be logged into the website as a current member. ❧



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

**The question for September was:**

*What spring-blooming bulbs have you successfully planted in fall, and where did you buy them?*

**Deborah Young:** We spent the spring tearing out most of the garden and putting in more drought tolerant plants. That said, I love iris, poking up wherever they want.

**Lisa Newberg:** SDHS sponsor [www.Easytogrowbulbs.com](http://www.Easytogrowbulbs.com) in Oceanside is where my successful bulbs have come from, and some at Rogers Gardens, Newport Beach. I've grown 'Amethyst' calla lilies, daffodil mix, and paperwhites (easy).

**Julie Rone:** I grew some miniature daffodils (thought I had bought full size!) and grape hyacinths ordered from American Meadows. They were pretty planted together randomly. American Meadows called me and warned me they might not grow in Southern California. I appreciated their concern, but they were reduced in price, so I thought I would take a chance. I had seen daffodils growing here previously, in my daughter's very neglected garden.

**Christine Harrison:** Freesias, anemones, and narcissus were planted many years ago, and while they all came back for a few years, the anemones failed to show after about 5 years. They were all purchased at Armstrong Nursery.

**Al Benner:** I have had little success this year except in saving water. I planted four solar lights with LED bulbs in my garden. Does that count? I couldn't even get tomatoes to grow and they were the free ones from a hort. garden walk. I'm converting my front yard into a rock garden, provided I can get rocks hearty enough to stand my abuse. The succulents that others are trimming because they are overwhelming their garden gasp and die with me in charge. I'm planning a service where I will come to your garden and care for your weeds. They don't stand a chance. Stay tuned!

**Susan Krzywicki:** I love California native bulbs! Great choices: Leopard Lily and *Allium unifolium* (Wild Onion family); they are both from Northern California, so here in Southern California, they make a good transition plant between the highly irrigated parts of a garden (near vegetables, for example) and the water-thrifty native plants. Leopard Lily can also take shade! Both can also grow in pots. The best place for native bulbs is Telos Rare Bulbs, online: [www.telosrarebulbs.com](http://www.telosrarebulbs.com).

**Louise Anderson:** I've got paperwhites in my front "meadow." Not

only have they done well, but they've increased their population. So very nice seeing the early spring flowers.

**Vivian Blackstone:** Iris (which I had and subdivided), daffodils from a Costco bag of bulbs, and dahlias from a Costco bag of bulbs.

**Katrin Utt:** I did not buy any new bulbs this year. While cleaning out my workbench I discovered a whole box full of bulbs that I forgot to plant last year. They will be planted soon! I am soaking them in water to give them a head start.

**Joan Braunstein:** I haven't planted any bulbs since moving to San Diego, but I loved them back east. In Pennsylvania the daffodils covered many a lawn, and the tulips offered a smorgasbord of color and variety, but my favorites were the hyacinths, whose scent still takes me back. In San Diego I have planted a lilac bush like I knew from colder climes and am hoping somehow I can coax a bloom out of it.

**Myrna Hines:** Ranunculus and anemone from 99 cent store. I love to see what 99 cents can bring, particularly in this "non-inflationary" time.

**Diane Bailey:** Some spring bulbs that I have in my garden are different irises. I didn't buy them. I traded some with friends, and got some from my brother in Julian. Also I have some Naked Ladies that my sister had in Australia (but they do not bloom in springtime!).

**Hilda King:** The last bulbs I bought were tuberous begonias from Costco.

**Susi Torre-Bueno:** Some of the fall-planted bulbs that have grown the best for me have been: Dutch iris (from [www.easytogrowbulbs.com](http://www.easytogrowbulbs.com)), watsonia (mostly swapped with friends), bi-colored daffodils and paperwhites for forcing indoors (from Green Thumb nursery in San Marcos), and *Cyrtanthus brachyscyphus* (Dobo Lily, from Plant Play nursery). About 5 years ago I planted 700 (yep, 700!) Dutch iris (from [www.easytogrowbulbs.com](http://www.easytogrowbulbs.com)) in my labyrinth garden. For the first year they were fabulous, but in the 2nd year after planting there seemed to be a few less. By this year only about 200 were still flowering in the labyrinth. A couple of years ago I noticed them springing up in other parts of the garden. My theory is that the @#\$%^& squirrels dig them up and plant them where the squirrels think they'd look better (or, more prosaically, they dig them up and bury them elsewhere to eat at a later date and then forget to eat them).

**Gerald D. Stewart:** Can't contribute directly on this one. I sat and thought for a minute or two, and now realize in over 50 years of gardening I've likely never planted spring blooming bulbs bought anywhere. When I was in high school I planted paper whites in the family yard, but they weren't purchased. I collected old bottles back then. An elderly neighbor, who had collected for decades, taught me that a great place to find old bottles was on old homesteads, and that there were a number just south of town up in the hills. The trick was to look for trees that were planted – not the native oaks that dotted the golden hills – then in spring walk the area, looking for where the grass grew taller. That would likely be where the outhouse was: people often dumped stuff there. On the crest of a particular hill there were

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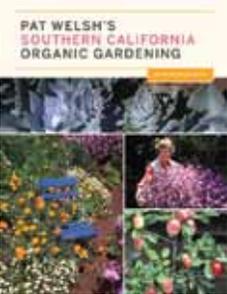
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Lombardy Poplars, a clear sign of a long-gone old homestead. The following spring I walked the area, and sure enough grass grew taller in one spot. I dug, and found some old prescription and drug bottles. Up there was also a clump of paper whites. I dug some and planted them in our yard. Fifty years later and that clump still blooms where I planted it. I think I need to split the clump in the family home's yard and start one here in Vista.

The question for October is:  
 September marked the 20th anniversary of the founding of SDHS. Please share one memory from your years as a member. Send your reply by September 5 to newsletter@sdhort.org.

OOPS! Although this reply was the first one received last month, it got left out of the August newsletter. My apologies to Sue Fouquette, and my thanks to her for this excellent reply.

The question for August was:  
 What are you making with produce, flowers, or other things from your garden?

**Sue Fouquette:** Produce: I am pulling up a whole plant of arugula lettuce for almost every dinner. It has become a weed in our back yard. The salsify are also going to seed, but I haven't yet pulled up any roots to eat. Anyone have a good cooking method or recipe? Plants are as tall as me. I've found the purple flowers do not last in a bouquet. Another weed that has come up in our yard for the first time is chicory, which has cute small pale blue flowers. I expect Charley to try adding it to our coffee. Flowers: I make bouquets for us, neighbors, meetings, and the assisted living home where my cousin lives. Spring flowers were especially spectacular, but there are other blooms any season. Seeds, divisions, cuttings, etc.: Because of time, I can't propagate everything I collect, dig up, or prune to give away, but it is hard for me to not want to. I'm recycling the plant material, but I'm spending \$\$ on soil and water. I'd never throw all in the trash, though. It becomes mulch on our ground or goes in green waste bin. Like Julian Duval, I've always been a nature nut. I don't like being on this computer when I could be outside on this beautiful sunny, breezy day. ☘

**AUGUST 2014 PLANT DISPLAY**

By Ken Blackford, Charley Fouquette, Koby Hall, Pat Pawlowski 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.

*Acanthostachys strobilacea* PINECONE BROMELIAD  
 (Bromeliaceae) Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay

This epiphyte would be found hanging from the limbs and branches

of trees and taller shrubs. Very narrow, green succulent leaves with slight dusting of gray, which arch over and down to 5' long. They have very tiny (nearly harmless) spines. The yellow flowers are borne in spiky cones, and the main bloom season here is in spring, but there are occasional flowers at other times, too. The flowers yield tiny pulpy fruits; they are edible, but of miniscule pea size and not many fruits are present. Requires part shade, but takes sun (best if not hot all day). Water once a week in summer, less in winter. Pot it in potting soil or small bark that retains moisture. It will grow in a 6" pot, but the leaves won't get really long unless it is potted up to a larger pot size. Makes an excellent hanging specimen or looks lovely cascading from a wall or pillar. (Koby Hall, Lakeside, 8/14) – K.H.



Koby Hall

*Ascanthostachys strobilacea*

**Asclepias angustifolia** ARIZONA MILKWEED (Asclepiadaceae)  
Arizona

This evergreen perennial is only found in Arizona, and it grows 2-3' tall and wide. It has slender leaves and small white flowers, and is a host for the Monarch butterfly. The flowers are visited non-stop by bees and other beneficial insects. The nectar is relished by many small butterfly species. It blooms spring through fall, and MUST have partial shade inland; full sun is fine only on the coast. Needs regular water. (Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 8/14) – P.P.

**Boophane disticha** OXBANE, SORE-EYE FLOWER, CAPE  
POISON BULB (Amaryllidaceae) South Africa

Drought tolerant bulb, water only sparingly. Likes full sun, but part shade in bright light is OK. Tolerates clay soil, but must have good drainage. Prefers to be in the ground or very large container where the roots can run. The roots are perennial, large and very long – in excess of 3 feet! Can flower in 4 years from seed under good conditions, but 5-6 years is more likely. Generally will bloom from mid- to late spring, usually while leafless or just prior to new leaf growth. Some plants may remain nearly evergreen. Foliage is interesting in itself, forming a fan of bluish-grey leaves in one plane, up to 2 feet across. For this reason, when planting multiples together, try to plant with the planes of the distichous leaves in parallel for a more pleasing presentation. Works well grown in a succulent garden. The distinct waviness of the leaves is usually greater if grown in full sun, although some specimens may not develop this trait. Protect from hard freezes. (Ken Blackford, San Diego, 8/14) – K.B.

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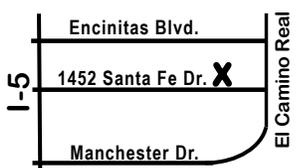
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***Brunsvigia litoralis*** CANDELABRA FLOWER (Amaryllidaceae)

South Africa

Drought tolerant bulb, water sparingly; only occasionally during summer. Prefers full sun, but very light shade in bright light is OK. Prefers sandy soil, but will tolerate clay soil with excellent drainage. Should be in the ground or a very large container where the roots can run. Roots are perennial, large and very long. Very similar to *B. josephinae*, but slightly smaller (18-24") and should flower sooner, in 4-6 years from seed under good conditions, then annually, usually in late August-September. Umbel should increase number of florets each year. This species can have 20-40 coral-colored flowers. The leaves are beautiful but summer deciduous, like Naked Ladies (*Amaryllis belladonna*), strappy and glaucous/bluish green, often with a slight twist if grown in full sun. Foliage forms a loose rosette 18-24" across when mature. Bulb neck should be right at soil line; do not plant too deep. A single, good drenching of mature bulbs in late July will usually insure good bloom. Works well with succulents. Protect from hard freezes. (Ken Blackford, San Diego, 8/14) – K.B.

***Cattleya briegei*** BRIEGER'S LAELIA (Orchidaceae) Brazil

This lovely yellow-flowered orchid lives at an altitude of 3200-4600 feet (with temperature ranges from a high of 100° F to a low of 39°F, growing on "sandstone, with their roots protected by moss, lichens, and other low-growing vegetation," according to Charles Baker ([www.orchidculture.com/COD/FREE/FSI39.html](http://www.orchidculture.com/COD/FREE/FSI39.html)). The long-lasting flowers are about 1.6" to 2.2" wide and appear in groups of about 5-6 flowers. The specimen displayed is grown outdoors in 50% shade. Grows best in cool to warm conditions, of 58°F to 75°F at night. (Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 8/14) – C.F. & S.T-B.

***Guaicum coulteri*** GUAYACAN (Zygophyllaceae) Mexico

This slow-growing, low-water plant is a large shrub or small tree, growing to about 10' tall and wide (and perhaps up to 25' over many years). According to the website for Mountain States Wholesale Nursery (where the plant displayed was purchased), it is native "to the gravelly plains of western Mexico." The 5-petaled blue flowers should appear spring through fall. It grows best in full sun with good drainage. (Photos and more details: [www.msw.com/media/info\\_sheets/guaicum\\_coulteri.pdf](http://www.msw.com/media/info_sheets/guaicum_coulteri.pdf)) (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 8/14) – S.T-B.



*Guaicum coulteri*

***Leucophyllum pruinosum*** TEXAS RANGER, BUBBLE GUM SAGE

(Scrophulariaceae) Chihuahuan Desert – Mexico

This drought-tolerant evergreen shrub grows about 4-8' tall and wide in full sun. In summer it has many small purple flowers, fragrant like grape bubble gum; blooms on new wood. Attracts bees, butterflies and birds. The eye-catching silvery foliage is very attractive. For a good article about the various Texas Ranger species and cultivars, visit [www.azlca.com/uploads/documents/a-16\\_love\\_those\\_leucophyllums.pdf](http://www.azlca.com/uploads/documents/a-16_love_those_leucophyllums.pdf). (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 8/14) – S.T-B.

***xSophralaeliocattleya Hobcaw*** (Orchidaceae) Horticultural Hybrid

This orchid with stunning pumpkin-orange flowers is a hybrid of over a dozen different species from South America, but two of them each constitute 25% of the genes: *Cattleya coccinea* and *C. luteola*. According to Orchid Wiz, this plant grows best in dappled light, and it prefers cool to warm conditions of 58°F to 75°F at night. The specimen displayed is grown in a hot house. Plants must dry out between waterings. Grow it in a pot "with a porous, free-draining media. Fertilize weakly (one quarter to half the normal dose. Common media: fir bark, tree-fern fiber, expanded clay, lava rock, charcoal or a combination." (Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 8/14) – C.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](http://www.sdhort.org) for details on how to order this valuable reference tool.

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the August newsletter was *Origanum* 'Double Cross' DOUBLE CROSS OREGANO.

Aloe hybrid (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 8/14)

3 *Araucaria bidwillii* BUNYA-BUNYA

(Wanda Mallen, Fallbrook, 8/14)

*Broughtonia sanguinea* BLOOD RED BROUGHTONIA

(Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 8/14)

*Cyrtanthus elatus* x *C. montanus* FIRE LILY

(Sheldon Lisker, Sun City, 8/14)

*Cyrtanthus sanguineus* (Sheldon Lisker, Sun City, 8/14)

*Hibiscus acetosella* 'Mahogany Splendor' CRANBERRY HIBISCUS

(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 8/14)

3 *Kalanchoe daigremontiana* MOTHER OF THOUSANDS

(Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 8/14)

*Lilium* 'Big Brother' (Marilyn Wilson, Vista, 8/14 – available from many online sources)

*Lilium* 'Big Brother is Watching' (Plant Fanatic, Vista, 8/14)

3 *Sedum spurium* 'Tricolor' (Susie Pagan, San Marcos, 8/14)

3 *Sempervivum arachnoideum* COBWEB HOUSELEEK

(Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 8/14)

3 *Urginia maritima* SEA ONION, GIANT SQUILL

(Marilyn Wilson, Vista, 8/14) ☞

**MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE A**

# AUGUST MEETING REPORT: Creating Paradise Wherever You Live

By Ellie Knight

The August meeting celebrated the 20th anniversary of the San Diego Horticultural Society with cake, delightful reminiscences by Susi Torre-Bueno, and a well-known speaker, Tom Piergrossi. Tom, former Vista nursery owner, was welcomed by his many friends in the audience, and provided an entertaining look at his transplantation to the Big Island of Hawaii. Tom is now the owner of Vintage Green Farms and Kaloli Landscape, in Puna, a relatively dry (only 90" of annual rain) part of the Big Island. He grows "exceptional plants," about 2000 of them, available online by mail order (<https://tom-piergrossi.squarespace.com>). The title of his presentation, "Creating Paradise Wherever You Live," bears out his experience in Hawaii, while translating tropical plants to our San Diego setting, enabling our gardeners to emulate the tropical look and feel.

Tom described his experiences in planting a garden from scratch in his new home, on a solid bed of lava. Black cinder is the growing medium, which is acidic, with extremely fast drainage, and little nutrient value. He mounded organic mulch atop the beds to provide nutrients and to hold the water. He also has to fertilize after every 10" of rain, due to the fast drainage. He spoke of the stable temperatures year round, with the widest range being 63° to 87°. Among the native 'ohia' trees (*Metrosideros polymorpha*), he planted 'Pride of Burma' (*Amherstia nobilis*), bromeliads (which love lava), Malaysian rhododendrons, palms, anthuriums, crotons, cordylines, pineapples, bananas, and brugmansias. His design incorporated the amazing colors of tropical plants.

Among the tropical plants that he grows that would do well in San Diego conditions are bromeliads, cycads and palms. He recommended *Elaeagnus pungens*, iresines, justicias (in shade) such as *J. spicigera*, or *Schaueria flavicoma*. Also included in the plants he recommends are *Cordia boissieri*, *Duranta stenostachya* 'Sweet Memories', *Cassia bicapsularis*, *Cestrum aurantiacum*. Furthermore, Tom says we can grow bamboos such as *Bambusa chungii barbellata* or *B. vulgaris*, honeysuckles such as *Lonicera hildebrandiana* (Burmese honeysuckle), *Oxera pulchella*, aristolochia, *Gardenia thunbergia* or *G. volkensii*, and bougainvilleas, such as 'Blueberry Ice'.

Additional recommendations for plants that grow well here were *Solanum crispum* (potato vine), hibiscus (feed these shrubs heavily), heliconia (in protected areas), *Strelitzia reginae* (Bird of Paradise; try 'Goldcrest', also known as 'Mandela's Gold'). Trees that Tom recommended included *Erythrina falcata*, *Tabebuia ipe* in various colors, the palm *Ravenala madagascariensis* (no frost), and *Spathodea campanulata*, the African Tulip Tree, considered a pest in tropical climates. There are many new hybrid calliandras and bottlebrush (callistemon), both of which prosper here.

Many bromeliads will do well here, such as pineapples (*Ananas comosus*), as will *Aechmea recurvata*, and tillandsias. Other handsome plants include brunfelsia and thunbergias. Look for the caesalpinias (Mexican Bird of Paradise, or Yellow Bird) for truly drought-hardy tropical-looking plants. Tom also recommended camellias and salvias, orchids such as *Dendrobium kingianum* in many colors, or *Epidendrum falcatum* (reedstem orchids). Plumerias and ginger are tropicals

that will do well here, especially the former, which thrive in dry heat conditions.

Tom's suggestions allow us to do more than dream of a tropical garden – we can plant one here at home. Thanks, Tom, for a terrific presentation and for giving us serious food for thought. Members who missed this meeting can borrow a video of it at the next meeting they attend. 🌿

## THANK YOU MEETING DONORS

We appreciate the generosity of these SDHS sponsors for the door prize donations:

Green Thumb Nursery (see inside front cover)

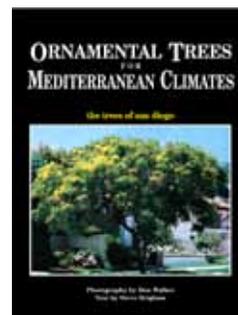
Multiflora Enterprises ([www.multifloraplants.com](http://www.multifloraplants.com))

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### ■ SDHS Memories Continued from page 9

of her dear friend Chuck, complete with a bag full of props! A few years later Pat was the one getting lightly roasted..

In 1995 we began participating in the San Diego County Fair, starting with an information booth set up by Don & Dorothy Walker. I got my favorite question when a young couple asked me how often they should fertilize their marijuana plants and what was the best fertilizer to use. I declined to reply, but it sure beat the more common question I was getting, which was "Where's the nearest restroom?"



For our tree book, *Ornamental Trees for Mediterranean Climates*, Don Walker started photographing trees all around San Diego in 1999. Steve Brigham wrote the text, and the first edition was published in 2003. It sold out in a few years, and was expanded and reprinted in 2005. Don was justly proud of this book, which has been used in college courses as a text and is in frequent use in many nurseries and by members and other home gardeners.

Over the years, and especially as I became more involved with the Hort. Society, I've come to know a great many members who have poured their hearts and energies into expanding and enriching the scope of what we do. It's been a great joy to meet so many passionate gardeners, to visit their gardens and swap plants and cautionary tales about gardening. So many of our members are leading horticultural professionals, but they remain enthusiastic gardeners at heart, happy to answer questions and provide guidance.

At the end of the day, just about everyone I've met through SDHS is a plant nut, and these monthly meetings have been one of the highlights of my life for the last 20 years. I plan vacations around our meeting dates, eagerly anticipate the annual garden tours, and my library is filled with books by our speakers. I've been privileged to have visited hundreds of gardens, and have learned something from each of them, and from the generous gardeners who shared them with all of us.

I'm looking forward to the next 20 years of the Hort Society, and hope you'll all be there to share them with me. 🌿



## PACIFIC HORTICULTURE SOCIETY TOURS

Pacific Horticulture Society offers small group tours to destinations of horticultural interest all over the world. While it's too late to join December's tour to Cuba or the San Miguel de Allende tours in February – all sold out – there's still very limited space open on the November trip to Australia. Also coming up in 2015, PacHort tours will visit San Diego (a horticultural hotspot indeed!), France, Chicago, Seattle and Japan. There's even talk of an exotic adventure to the Himalayas next spring (their blue poppy is shown here). The July tour to Seattle should be quite exceptional as an amazing array of private gardens are being organized by local authority Greg Graves, co-owner of the Old Goat Farm [www.oldgoatfarm.com](http://www.oldgoatfarm.com) and past president of both Pacific Horticulture Society and the Northwest Horticultural Society. By the way, if your travel plans have you in Washington state in December, don't miss the now-famous Christmas Teas at the Old Goat Farm, truly a step back in time.



The best way to keep up to date on everything PacHort is to subscribe to the highly regarded *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. You can join PacHort online at [www.pachort.org](http://www.pachort.org) and receive four full-color issues per year, plus access issues back to 2001 on the PacHort website. A special rate of \$24 is available right now by using the discount code JoinPHS2014 when you sign up at [www.pachort.org](http://www.pachort.org).

SDHS is an affiliate member of the Pacific Horticulture Society. Most PacHort tours are operated by SDHS sponsor, Sterling Tours. For more information and reservations, please call 800-976-9497 or visit [www.sterlingtoursltd.com](http://www.sterlingtoursltd.com).

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**Pay online for dues or events:** When paying online you do *not* need a PayPal account. To pay with a Credit Card, click on the "Don't have a PayPal account?" link at the bottom of the payment page and this brings up instructions for paying with a credit card.

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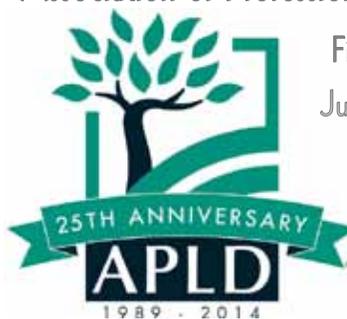
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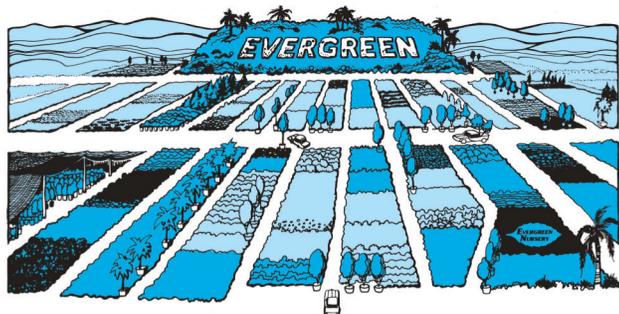
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## What's Happening? for SEPTEMBER 2014

The SDHS is happy to publicize items of horticultural interest. See other side for resources & ongoing events.  
Send calendar listings by the 10th of the month before the event to Neal King at [calendar@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:calendar@sdhortsoc.org).

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## Free Monthly Seminar

*First Saturday of every month*

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*Carmel Valley and Oceanside*

## Sept. 6: Citrus & Avocado Varieties and 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.

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

To view our entire seminar schedule and check  
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### Three Convenient Locations:

#### CARMEL VALLEY

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#### OCEANSIDE

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(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  
See [www.avgardens.org](http://www.avgardens.org) for events & classes

❖ **San Diego Botanic Garden** Contact info on other side  
**September 6, 5-9pm, Gala in the Garden:** Explore our garden trails, enjoy fine wine, craft beer, and the best dishes from local restaurants, as well as listen to live entertainment and more. \$200/person. Info: [LisaIreynolds@SDBGarden.org](mailto:LisaIreynolds@SDBGarden.org).

**September 16, 9am-2pm, Succulent Wreath Class:** Take home a beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself. Members \$60, Non-members \$72. Fee includes materials. Register by September 5.

**September 20, 10am-noon, New Plants for Southern California:** Mountain States Wholesale Nursery will introduce you to some exciting plants for our dry Southern California landscapes. Members \$10, Non-members \$12. Register by September 12.

**September 20, 9 am – 1 pm, Photo Workshop - Focus on Orchids:** Demystify the frustrations many camera enthusiasts have capturing these exotic flowers on digital. Members \$59, Non-members \$71. Register by September 12.

### ❖ The Water Conservation Garden

Contact info on other side

**September 13, 10am-noon, Hillside Gardening:** Tricks of planting on a slope. Members free, \$10 nonmembers. Register online or call (619) 660-0614 x10.

**September 20, 10am-noon, Firescaping With Native Plants:** Learn fire-wise landscaping essentials using native plants. Members free, \$10 nonmembers. Register online or call (619) 660-0614 x10.

## Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

### ◆ Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops

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

### ◆ Cedros Gardens, Saturday & Sunday FREE classes.

See [www.cedrosgardens.com](http://www.cedrosgardens.com).

### ◆ City Farmers Nursery Workshops

See [www.cityfarmersnursery.com](http://www.cityfarmersnursery.com).

### ◆ Evergreen Nursery: FREE Seminar

See column at left for details.

### ◆ Sunshine Care FREE Seminar Each Month

**Sept. 12, 10:30am, 12 Months of Homegrown Fruit:** Learn about the many varieties of fruits we can grow in San Diego and develop your plan for harvesting homegrown fruits every month of the year.

Address in ad on page 14. Info: [www.sunshinecare.com](http://www.sunshinecare.com).

### ◆ Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes

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

#### Point Loma, 9am

Sept. 6 Planning your own orchard

Sept. 13 Soil amendments

Sept. 20 Cutting & drying herbs

Sept. 27 Summer Rose Care

#### Poway, 9:30am

Succulents for pots

Xeriscape with Carol Fuller

Fall Veggies with Richard Wright

Backyard Orchards

### ◆ Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops

See [www.weidners.com](http://www.weidners.com) or call (760) 436-2194.

## Next SDHS Meeting

September 14:

## New Australian Plants for California Gardens

See page 1 for details

## More garden-related events on other side.

# Free workshops for SDHS members!

Details & registration at [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org)

Sept. 19: Welcome to the World of Bromeliads

Oct. 18: Simple Diagnosing and Improving Your Garden Soil (registration opens Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>)

## Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

**Aug. 30 & 31, 10am-4pm, Plumeria Society's Hawaiian Plumeria Festival, Plant Show and Sale:** Free. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Info: [www.socalplumeriasociety.com](http://www.socalplumeriasociety.com).

**September 6 10am-12pm, Solana Center's Composting Workshop:** Gain a more in-depth understanding of the composting process. Schwaesdall Winery, 17677 Rancho de Oro Dr., Ramona. Info: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**September 10, 10am, Point Loma Garden Club:** "Battle of the Blooms." Club members will arrange flowers in a timed setting. 2818 Avenida de Portugal. Info: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org).

**September 10, 10am, Poway Valley Garden Club:** succulent arrangements. 14134 Midland Road Poway. Info: [www.powayvalleygardenclub.org](http://www.powayvalleygardenclub.org) or (858) 204-9070.

**September 10, noon, Ramona Garden Club:** First time olive grower, from planting to making olive oil. 524 Main Street, Ramona. Info: (760) 789-8774 or [www.RamonaGardenClub.com](http://www.RamonaGardenClub.com).

**September 13, 10am-noon, Solana Center's Free Composter Workshop:** San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Registration and Info: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**September 16, 7pm, Native Plant Society Meeting:** Celebrating 50 Years of Wilderness - Affected Primarily by the Forces of Nature and California Native Landscaping Protocols. Free. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101 or 104. Info: [www.cnpssd.org](http://www.cnpssd.org).

**September 20, 9am-2pm, UC Master Gardeners Plant Sale and Open House:** Plants and unique garden art for sale plus exhibits and demonstrations on gardening. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101. Info: [help@mastergardenerSD.org](mailto:help@mastergardenerSD.org)

**September 22, 2pm, Lake Hodges Native Plant Club:** Head of Horticulture at the San Diego Zoo's Safari Park will be speaking about What's Happening at the Park. 17110 Bernardo Center Dr. Info: [www.lhnpc.org](http://www.lhnpc.org).

**September 25, 6:30pm, Del Mar Rose Society:** Hearst Castle Rose Garden. 1700 Coast Blvd., Del Mar. Info: [www.delmarrosesociety.org](http://www.delmarrosesociety.org).

**September 27, 1:30-3:30pm, Solana Center's Free Composter Workshop:** City Farmer's Nursery, 4832 Home Ave., San Diego. Registration and Info: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

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

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

For an extensive list of garden club meetings and events, visit [www.sdfloal.org/calendar.htm](http://www.sdfloal.org/calendar.htm)

## Resources & Ongoing Events:

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

**SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN:** (formerly QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS): Open daily 9-5 (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day); 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Fee: \$12/adults, \$8/seniors, \$6/kids; parking \$2. Free to members and on the first Tuesday of every month. (760) 436-3036; [www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org).

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

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

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

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

**DESERT WILDFLOWER HOTLINE:** Anza-Borrego Desert State Park: (760) 767-4684. Info., events, road conditions, etc.: (760) 767-5311 or <http://desertusa.com/wildflo/wildupdates.html>.

**WILDFLOWER HOTLINE:** March to May call the Theodore Payne Foundation hotline: (818) 768-3533 for info. on blooms in Southern California and elsewhere; visit <http://theodorepayne.org>.

### BALBOA PARK:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Garden TV and Radio Shows:

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

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

## San Diego County Farmers Markets

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