

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

January 2016, Number 256

Contemporary, Expressive and Sustainable Southwestern Gardens

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On the Cover: Succulents by the Shore

SPECIAL EVENT: Chinese Garden Bus Trip

Huntington Botanical Gardens on **Wednesday, April 20**

Join SDHS members on a *docent-led tour* of the stunning Chinese Garden, among the largest Chinese-style gardens outside China. Designed to promote the rich traditions of Chinese culture, the garden is truly a cross-cultural effort.

After the tour we'll have about four hours to see other areas of the Botanical Gardens, including the new California Garden. The bus leaves San Diego at 7am and returns around 7:30pm. All fees & tip included; lunch at the Gardens is on your own.



Members-\$89, Guests-\$99

Space is limited - register ASAP

Details & registration at:

sdhort.org

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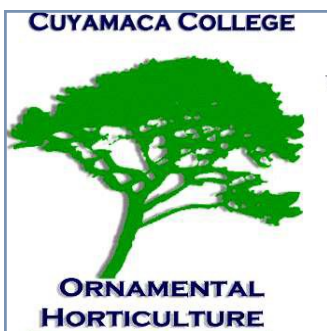
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sdhs





Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture

Class Offerings for Spring 2016

114	Floral Design 1	Citrowske	Mon	4:00 to 9:05 pm
117	Wedding Design 1	Citrowske	Tue	4:00 to 8:50 pm
120	Fundamentals of Ornamental Horticulture	Faulstich	Tue	10:00 am to 2:50 pm
120	Fundamentals of O.H.	Schultz / Faulstich	Mon	7:00 to 9:05 pm
	Saturday lab 1/30 - 2/20 - 3/5 - 3/19 - 4/9 - 4/30 - 5/14		Sat	8:00 am to 3:45 pm
121	Plant Propagation	Palafox	Thur	11:00 to 3:50 pm
130	Plant Pest Control	Schultz	Wed	11:00 to 3:50 pm
170	Plant Materials: Trees and Shrubs	Whitney	Thur	4:00 to 6:50 pm
172	Beginning Landscape Design	Holladay	Thur	4:00 to 8:50 pm
180	Plant Materials: Annuals & Perennials	Rottke	Tue	1:00 to 3:50 pm
220	Concrete and Masonry	Ratinsky	Tue	5:00 to 7:05 pm
	Saturday lab 2/6 - 2/27 - 3/12 - 4/2 - 4/16 - 5/7 - 5/21		Sat	8:00 am to 3:45 pm
235	Principles of Landscape Irrigation	Groot	Wed	5:00 to 8:50 pm
260	Arboriculture	Rottke	Wed	5:00 to 7:05 pm
	Saturday lab 1/30 - 2/20 - 3/5 - 3/19 - 4/9 - 4/30 - 5/14		Sat	8:00 am to 3:45 pm
275	Diagnosing Horticultural Problems	Faulstich	Mon	4:00 to 6:20 pm
290	Cooperative Work Experience	Palafox	Hours to be arranged	

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

www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb

CUYAMACA COLLEGE - ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE



Ornamental Horticulture Department Orientation

All are welcome, including new and continuing students.

Wednesday, January 20 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Cuyamaca College - Room M-111.

900 Rancho San Diego Parkway - El Cajon

Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture

- ◆ Largest horticulture facility in Southern California.
- ◆ Renowned instructional staff of landscape professionals.
- ◆ \$22,000 in scholarships to OH students last year.
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 - *Landscape Design *Nursery Technology *Turf Management
 - *Basic O.H. *Landscape Technology *Sustainable Landscapes

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

www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb



Landscape & Nursery Technology

Southwestern College

Spring, 2016 Schedule



Classes begin February 2, 2016

LNT 70

Pruning Fruit Trees & Vines: Want to learn the best way to prune your fruit trees to produce the largest fruits? Did you know that by using the correct pruning practices that your fruit trees will be more in control, easier to pick, and simpler to maintain? Get hands-on training provide by local fruit tree expert Tom Del Hotal. Oh, and you'll learn the best fruit tree varieties for your local climate.

Lect: Tues 6:45 – 8:50 pm Room 1802 1 unit Del Hotal (6 week course Feb 2 – Mar 22)
Lab: Sat 3:30 – 4:35 pm (Lab dates are: 2/6,2/20,2/27,3/5,3/12,3/19)

LNT 100

Plant and Horticultural Science: This is a perfect class to learn the vast and exciting skills of the horticultural trades. Topics include basic plant structure and physiology, plant propagation, soils, proper plant pruning, fertilization, basic design principles, pest control, and more. This is a great way to discover if a horticultural career is for you. Plus, this class qualifies as a general education class in the Natural Sciences area.

Thursdays 4 units Rottke
Lectures 9:30 am – 12:40 pm Room 1802
Labs 12:50 pm – 4:00 pm Room 1802

LNT 102-104

Plant Identification-Trees: All plant professionals and plant lovers alike need to know the names and proper growth requirements of trees commonly used in the San Diego landscape. This class provides both a fun and practical method of learning these plants in easy to take 5 week modules.

Tues & Thursday 4:30 – 5:50 pm Room 1802 1 unit each Sinclair
(five week classes – overlaid with LNT 106-108)
LNT 103: Conifers and Palms 2/2 – 3/3/16
LNT 104: Broadleaf Trees 3/8 – 4/14/16
LNT 102: Deciduous Trees 4/19 -5/19/16

LNT 106-108

Plant Identification-Shrubs: All plant professionals and plant lovers alike need to know the names and proper growth requirements of shrubs commonly used in the San Diego landscape. This class provides both a fun and practical method of learning these plants in easy to take 5 week modules.

Tues & Thursday 4:30 – 5:50 pm Room 1802 1 unit each Sinclair
(five week classes – overlaid with LNT 102-104)
LNT 106: Flowering Shrubs 2/2 – 3/3/16
LNT 107: Foliage Shrubs 1 3/8 – 4/14/16
LNT 108: Foliage Shrubs 2 4/19 -5/19/16

LNT 129

Sustainable Landscape/Water Auditor: The urban landscape is a vital component in the cleaning of our air and the filtering of other pollutants. However, the installation and maintenance of our landscapes can also be a tremendous waste of our natural resources. This class teaches you the methods used to evaluate and adapt our landscapes into sustainable ecosystems and also teaches you the new laws, regulations, and codes that are now governing these areas. Learn how to perform both landscape and water audits and become a “greener” landscaper.

Saturdays 8:25 – 11:45 am Room 1802 3 units Staff

(more classes on the back of this page)



Landscape & Nursery Technology

Southwestern College

Spring, 2016 Schedule



Classes begin February 2, 2016

- LNT 134 **Soils:** Proper soil management is critical to all phases of horticulture. Knowing what type of soil you have is the first step towards the correct amending and management of your soil. Learn soil texture, soil structure, soil nutrition, and soil management techniques. Turn your soil into the envy of your neighbors!
- Wednesdays 6:45 – 9:55 pm Room 1802 3 units Homyak
- LNT 138 **Floral Design I:** If you are thinking of a career in the floral design trade or just want to learn how to make great floral creations in your own home, then this class is your perfect starting point. Acquire the skills needed to properly store, prepare, and preserve your flowers. Discover all the different floral arrangement styles such as round, triangular, natural, and more! Learn about the opportunities available in the floral design industry.
- Mon & Wed 9:05 – 11:35 am Room 1802 3 units Del Sol
\$30 supply fee (overlaid with LNT 140)
- LNT 140 **Floral Design II:** In this more advanced class, you will learn how to create larger scale designs such as those used in weddings, funerals, and other events. Learn how to start your own floral business or how to manage existing operations. And, find out how the floral business has changed from the typical floral shop to “in-home” operations and on-line ventures. Note: this class requires that students have completed LNT 138 – Floral Design I or can prove the completion of an equivalent class or experiences. If you have trouble registering for the class or want to discuss your experiences, contact the instructor by email at betty@floralclass.com
- Mon & Wed 9:05 – 11:35 am Room 1802 3 units Del Sol
\$50 supply fee (overlaid with LNT 138)

Landscape Architecture Courses

- LA 104 **Landscape Graphics and Planting Design:** If you are considering a career in Landscape Architecture, Landscape Design, or perhaps Landscape Contracting and want to learn the principles of attractive and functional landscapes, then this class is your first step. Learn proper drawing techniques and how to create attractive yet functional planting designs. This class leads into our Landscape Design 1 course and, for the ultimate professional, our Landscape Design 2 course.
- Tues & Thurs 6:40 – 9:25 pm Room 503 3 units Landis

Call (619) 421-6700 ext. 5416 for more information, or email whomyak@swccd.edu
To enroll, visit the college website at www.swccd.edu and click on Apply Online.
Revised: 12/18/15

(more classes on the front of this page)

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(or use commercial car washes that re-circulate water)

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



San Diego County
Water Authority

2016 Spring Garden Tour

Saturday, April 2nd, 9 AM to 4 PM



Showcasing the wonderfully
diverse private gardens in
Carmel Valley & Del Mar

Online ticket sales only:
Sdhort.org



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Calendar/Resources/Ongoing Events

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

MEETING SCHEDULE

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

MEETINGS & EVENTS

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

- February 8 Dave Ericson on Think Outside the Box: Thirty Design and Horticultural Techniques for Creating Perfect Pairing, Focal Points and More
- March 13-18 SDHS Tour: Gardens of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – see sterlingtoursltd.com
- March 14 Stephanie Shigematsu, Danny Simpson & Michael Letzring on Botanical Collection at the San Diego Zoo
- April 2 SDHS SPRING GARDEN TOUR – see page 3
- April 11 David Fross on Perspective, Forty Years Among the Natives
- April 20 SDHS Day at The Huntington Bus Tour - see page 8



www.sdhort.org

COVER IMAGE: Our Program Committee Chair Mary James took the cover photo of a stunning seaside garden designed by January speaker Michael Buckner. This garden was the SDHS Featured Garden in September 2013, and Mary's article about the garden was seen in *San Diego Home/Gardens Lifestyles* magazine.

NEXT MEETING: JANUARY 11, 2016, 6:00 – 8:30 PM

Speaker: Michael Buckner on Contemporary, Expressive and Sustainable Southwestern Gardens – Desert and Coastal – The Buckner Way

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

Parking is free.

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

We kick off 2016 by welcoming Michael Buckner, landscape designer, artist and naturalist who has been designing creative landscapes throughout Southern California for over 30 years. Bold, colorful, racy and raw describe Michael Buckner's landscape designs! His presentation will cover designs applicable to both arid and coastal regions in Southern California, focusing on the qualities and considerations specific to the various and diverse climates of its canyons, beaches, and its interior desert landscapes, including native rocks and soils, changing elevations, and the plants and wildlife that thrive in these areas. Michael will share his tremendous knowledge and expertise in the processes he employs that are integral to designing and executing a successful, expressive, site specific and sustainable landscape from concept to completion.

A native son, Michael's pursuits span years and multiple genres all relative to design, plant knowledge and our natural environs. He is also a nationally Certified Judge for the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, a horticulturalist, a grower of rare and exotic plant material, a sought after speaker on designing with plants and succulents, a long-time nursery owner, an avid student of natural history, a teacher and more.

For more information see page 6. ☞



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

BOARD MEMBERS

Lisa Bellora - Member-at-Large
Cindy Benoit – Membership Chair
Patty Berg – Volunteer Coordinator
Jeff Biletznikoff – Meeting Room Coordinator
Jim Bishop – President
B.J. Boland – Corresponding Secretary
Ray Brooks - Member at Large
Bruce Cobbledick – Workshop Coordinator
Julian Duval – San Diego Botanic Garden Representative
Mary James – Program Committee Chair
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Sam Seat – Treasurer
Susan Starr – Garden Tour Chair
Donna Tierney – Member at Large
Susi Torre-Bueno – Newsletter Editor, Past President
Roy Wilburn – Outreach Coordinator

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

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

Advertising: Ellie Knight;
advertising@sdhort.org.

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

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New Email? New Street Address?

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

BECOME A SPONSOR!

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

FREE WORKSHOP

Dormant Season Pruning and Care for Deciduous Fruit Trees and Roses
Saturday, January 9, 10:00 am

Join us for this hands-on workshop on how to prune your deciduous fruit trees and roses during our dormant season. Learn from tree experts Patty Berg and Rachele Melious on the important aspects of pruning and care, and how to make your trees more productive with better quality fruit within a smaller backyard orchard tree habit.

Roy Wilburn will also show you the basics of how to prune your roses, with tips on fertilization and disease control to obtain large blooms of America's favorite flower.

This workshop will be held at Sunshine Care, a sponsor of SDHS (see ad page 13). Additional details and registration are at sdhort.org.

If you'd like to volunteer for the workshop committee contact Bruce Cobbledick at workshop@sdhort.org.

**Members at our February
2013 Fruit Tree Pruning
Workshop**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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.

ALOES, WINE & CHEESE

A Garden Event in Support of Pacific Horticulture Society

Join us Saturday, January 9th, for an afternoon of winter bloom and good cheer in the home and garden of Pacific Horticulture Society board member Scott Borden and San Diego Horticultural Society president Jim Bishop. Perched on a hillside overlooking Mission Valley with an expansive view from the mountains to the sea, Scott and Jim have created a Mediterranean villa garden brimming with plants from all over the world. Their collection of plants from Australia and South Africa are at their best in January – especially the aloes. Immerse yourself in seasonal blooms with a guided tour of the densely planted slope as you stroll up and down the garden's hand-built pathways. Then, gather in the garden casita to nibble on winter treats while enjoying a glass of wine – perhaps from South Africa in honor of the aloes – and warm up next to the fire as you relax to the pleasing accompaniment of the three nearby fountains. \$35 for PacHort members, \$45 for non-members. Space is limited, reserve now at pachort.org, click on "Events."





FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

Exciting Events Planned for 2016!

First 6 Months of 2016 Meetings Now Online

We think you'll be as excited as we are about the lineup of great topics and speakers. The programs for the first half of 2016 are now on our website at sdhort.org/meetings. So you don't miss any meetings, add the meetings to your online calendar by clicking the "Add to My Calendar" link in the upper right corner on each meeting page. Also, help us get the word out about our great meetings. The "Like" and "Share" buttons under the login section on our website let you share any page from our website on your Facebook page. Also included in the monthly email message is the latest information about the next meeting. Four days before the meeting an email reminder is sent. Please feel free to forward these emails and invite your friends.

Mary James, program chairperson, has already started working on programs for the remainder of 2016. If you'd like to volunteer to help with speakers or have ideas for meetings, email Mary at programs@sdhort.org.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico Garden Tour

From March 13 to 18, the San Diego Horticultural Society will visit the gardens of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Our tour guide is president of the San Diego Bromeliad Society, Robert Kopfstein. Our home for all 5 nights is the Posada de Roger, a quaint Mexican-style hotel in downtown Puerto Vallarta surrounded by beautiful gardens and authentic Mexican architecture. The hotel is within walking distance of many markets, shops, and cafes in the area and is located one block from the main beach in Old Town.

The tour visits the Vallarta Botanic Gardens, the old mining town of San Sebastian de Oeste, Cabo Corrientes (the southernmost point of the Bahia de Banderas (Bay of Flags) on the Pacific coast of the Mexican state of Jalisco), and several other gardens and locations. This is a small tour and is quickly filling up. To find out more and reserve your spot, go to sterlingtoursltd.com/PuertoVallarta2016fin.html.

Spring Garden Tour

Speaking of updating your calendar, this year's garden tour, *From Valley to Sea - Gardens of Del Mar and Carmel Valley*, is Saturday, April 2nd. So that everyone can have an enjoyable and relaxed experience on the tour, the total number of tickets available will be capped this year. To be sure and not miss out, we recommend buying your tickets early, either online on at sdhort.org or at a monthly meeting. If we meet our sales goal in advance of the tour, no tickets will be available for purchase the day of the tour. Online ticket sales will start mid-January.

Bus Tour to the Huntington

A full day excursion via luxury motor coach to the Huntington Botanical Gardens is planned for April 20. We'll have a private tour of the Chinese Gardens and have time to explore the other gardens and gift shop, plus the new California Garden. Look for more information on page 8 and on our website.

Continued on page 12

SPRING GARDEN TOUR:

From the Valley to the Sea

By Susan Starr, Chair, SDHS Spring Garden Tour,
and Karen Dorney

Our 2016 Spring Garden Tour, "From the Valley to the Sea," will take us to nine beautiful gardens in Del Mar and Carmel Valley. Below is a sample of gardens you will see on the tour. Be sure to join us on April 2nd for this special event. Please note that there will be no day of tour ticket sales this year, so be sure to buy your tickets in advance at SDHS meetings or on the SDHS website: sdhort.org.

Palm Paradise

Visitors will marvel as they enter this secluded garden sanctuary down a long, curving driveway lined with palms and hibiscus. Once inside, the street and the city vanish from view and San Diego seems far, far, away. At the end of the drive, a stunning gate and bamboo fence welcome guests to a palm-shaded patio, with a fishpond, stream, and infinity pool.

The previous inhabitant of this 1.1-acre property, which the owners purchased in 2012, was a palm and bamboo specialist and a longtime member of the International Palm Society. Designer Steve Anthony re-landscaped the entire area for the current owners, moving the bamboo to the edges of the yard and planting many of the then boxed palms, some of which are rare species, in strategic locations around the patio and adjacent property.

The result is a breath-taking wonderland of palms, bamboo, Mediterranean plants, and multiple fruit trees. Meandering down tree-lined paths reveals surprising elements such as a coop with clucking, egg-laying chickens; a secluded meditation garden surrounded by bamboo; a small, private patio with waterfall; raised vegetable beds; rare plants from Madagascar; and novel guavas. Orange, pomegranate, and grapefruit trees provide shade and beauty. The garden also includes a number of Cycad species including six large *Encephalartos* from South Africa.

Much to the owners' delight, the state of the art irrigation system allows the seemingly lush landscape to flourish with relatively little water.

Continued on page 7



Barbara Raub

THE REAL DIRT ON...

The Santa Fe Botanical Garden

By Donna Tierney

On a recent trip to Santa Fe, I was focused on the city's art and restaurants, but stumbled on another gem – the Santa Fe Botanical Garden! This garden is relatively new and very impressive. A small group of visionary local gardeners, environmentalists, and botanists decided to establish a botanical garden in 1987. By 1993 they had acquired a long-term lease for the 35-acre Lenora Curtin Wetland Preserve. This land consists of a spring-fed pond and lots of diverse plants and animals. Hundreds of hours were spent removing invasive and exotic plants, restoring habitat, and ensuring that the pond remained healthy and capable of supporting plants, birds, and other species. The land provided the basis for the garden's initial public educational offerings.

By 2006, the group was able to acquire a long-term lease for an additional 11 acres at Museum Hill for the development of an actual botanic garden. Museum Hill is the Santa Fe location of 4 museums that highlight the art, history, and culture of southwestern Native Americans, Spanish colonial history, and folk traditions from around the world. W. Gary Smith, a nationally recognized landscape architect, was hired to create the garden's master plan. The initial phase of the development, Orchard Garden, opened in 2013. The visitor center and Ojos y Manos (Eyes and Hands Garden) are scheduled to open in 2016. The groundbreaking ceremony was held on October 30, right before my visit!

The current visitor's center and gift shop are housed in a temporary building and staffed by very enthusiastic volunteers. Upon buying a ticket, I was immediately approached by a volunteer who offered to show me through the garden. It was a wonderful experience! I learned all about the native plants and trees in the garden, great stories about issues associated with installations and plantings, and the constant need to fund raise. I also saw Kearny's Gap Bridge, a very interesting 100-year old red bridge, which can be converted to a wonderful event venue.

Because Santa Fe is home to so many artists, the garden partners with them to become an outdoor gallery for some very fine, diverse sculpture. A walk through the garden offers the added benefit of seeing great artwork. One of my favorite pieces was called "Waiting for El Niño." The art changes periodically as different artists are featured. There is also an artist's workshop on site where old compressed gas cylinders are converted to magnificent wind chimes. Similar to our own San Diego Botanic Garden, Santa Fe Botanic also features a GLOW event during December when the garden is adorned by thousands of lights, holiday music, and amazing food!

If you get the opportunity to go to Santa Fe, a visit to this garden and the nearby assortment of museums is highly recommended. You will be impressed by the quality of the displays, friendliness of the people, and the gorgeous mountain views! Learn more at santafebotanicalgarden.org/visit-us/museum-hill-garden.



Sculpture
"Waiting for El Niño"

Donna Tierney

BOOK REVIEW

Earthly Paradises: Ancient Gardens in History and Archaeology

By Maureen Carroll

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

In my last month's review of Tatiana Holway's book *The Flower of Empire*, I said that she had provided us with an entertaining and educational read. This month's book, *Earthly Paradises*, is educational, but not especially entertaining. I still recommend it to you, though. Surprised? I don't think it works as something to spend an hour in the evening reading. It reminds me of an Intro to Archaeology class I once took. It just overwhelmed me with detail, and this book does the same thing.

I do think it's useful as a reference work if you're interested in the history of gardening. Most of us are aware that human agriculture probably started ten thousand years ago when wandering hunter-gatherers in the Middle East figured out that if they spread seeds in an area, they might find a crop waiting the next time they passed that way. Over time, as they gained experience, they found it useful to stay in the areas and focus more on growing things than gathering. That led to villages, towns, civilization, and to us.

But farming is not gardening. At some point in that progression, the idea of bringing plants closer to home arose and then, when people accumulated more wealth and time to spare, the concept of the pleasure garden came into being. The pleasure garden could be a place to grow food or to display wealth, or even to provide a home for the gods. And it was often a place to sit in the shade and enjoy the day.

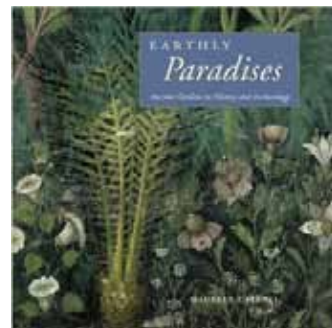
Carroll tells us that when archaeologists started excavating village and town sites, they mostly ignored the bare spaces they found next to house foundations and city walls. It took a second wave of excavations to find that those "empty spaces" were, in fact, gardens. In many cases it was possible to discern the shapes and sizes of planting beds, hardscape, water features, and even figure out what plants were grown.

Evidence comes from several sources besides excavations. Ancient writings about gardens, including poetry, as well as artworks, including mosaics, paintings, and even pot shards, give us clues to what existed.

Carroll's book surveys gardens and gardening practice in the Near East, Egypt, Greece, Italy, and the Roman Empire over a period of three thousand years from 2,000 BCE to 1,000 CE. That's a lot of time and a lot of area to cover in just 144 pages, including more than 100 photos, which gives you a hint as to why the book is so packed with detail.

Besides a good bibliography, the book includes a list of ancient garden excavations you can visit in Britain, France, Italy, and Portugal.

It's definitely worth a look. 🌿



**SHARE IN THE FUN AND BRING
A PLANT OR CUTTINGS TO OUR
JANUARY PLANT DISPLAY TABLE -
SEE PAGE 18.**

TREES, PLEASE

The Empress Has No Clothes

By Robin Rivet

It's January. The Empress Tree's oversized, hairy leaves have vanished for the season, along with its unworldly, purple inflorescence. In winter, day length is short, temperatures are cool, and most regional deciduous trees are similarly naked.

In Australia, the seasons are reversed. January is summer "down under." There, the Empress tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*) is very popular; prolific and grows extremely fast. However, if you guessed it might be leafed-out in January, amazingly, you'd be correct!¹ Oddly enough, this is an anomaly, and isn't always reciprocated.

Since the beginning of the 20th century, the northern hemisphere has warmed faster than the southern hemisphere, with the rates of warming three times higher over land than ocean.² Although no one has studied plant adaptations for all species' phenology in depth, suffice it to say that some trees adapt to introduction around the world faster than others. Complex factors influence how rapidly a species might adjust its seasonal rhythms. Genetics, phytochrome (light-sensitive proteins), and metabolism all play a role.

Unlike the Chinese Empress Tree that readily adapted to Australia, many cultivated trees here in San Diego are native to the southern hemisphere, but they have not altered their senescent phase to reflect our seasonal cycles.

Despite its honor as official San Diego City tree, Jacaranda is native to Bolivia and Argentina. Its cultivation in North America is recent, and its rhythms remain attuned to its former home south of the equator. Jacarandas are ostensibly "pre-programmed" to lose their leaves via an internal circadian clock. This, coupled with our mild winters, results in delayed defoliation. Typically, they don't lose all their leaves until March, when "normal" Southern California trees are already foliated or budded. It is not alone. Hailing from Brazil and Bolivia, the commonly planted *Tipuana tipu* also waits to flower until summer, flaunting its leguminous, nitrogen-fixing leaves all winter here.

Another South American oddity is the cherimoya, *Annona cherimola*. Here, it gets labeled "sickly" in spring: raggedly defoliated when most North American fruit trees sport lush, green foliage. Eventually it flushes velvety-green leaves by summer, and aromatic, tropical fruit that ripen December/January, during our coldest season, defying Mediterranean logic.



Paulownia tomentosa in full leaf



Paulownia tomentosa in flower

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

From the Coast to the Country and Back

By Patty Berg, Volunteer Coordinator, and Tina Ivany

With a last name like Forest, it's only natural that frequent volunteer Connie Forest would love plants, but her roots literally go deeper than that. Connie's father spent his career working for the US Forest Service. As dad worked his way up the ladder, the family moved every three or four years, settling in or near forests from the East Coast to the West. Accordingly, Connie started grade school in Berkeley, California and graduated from high school in northern Minnesota, and from college in Dallas, Texas. Happily for us, Connie settled in San Diego and has lived here since 1960.

Connie spent most of her working career in education, working in museums, historical societies, and for the San Diego Community College District. Later, she imported and sold Latin American art and crafts, traveling extensively in Mexico. As luck would have it, just as Connie closed her retail business in 1995 and was ready to return to volunteering, she saw a big article in the paper about Quail Botanical Gardens, now San Diego Botanic Garden (SDBG). Julian Duval had just become the first Executive Director, and with Connie's love of gardening, Quail Gardens was a natural fit. She taught the docent classes there for three years and says she met many wonderful people. Through them, Connie learned of the Horticultural Society and joined shortly after it was formed.

Connie has gardened both inland and along the coast. One of her proudest achievements was turning a large area in her Fallbrook property from dying Bermuda grass to an attractive, drought-tolerant garden. She accomplished this using Mediterranean shrubs for the most part. Although Connie sold that property two years ago and returned to her home in La Jolla, she will always remember her country home and the nature surrounding it, especially the old live oaks that have survived hundreds of years. Connie's latest project involved building a rooftop deck onto her cottage near the sea, and she is braving the challenges of gardening in pots in the sun and salty sea breeze. When not gardening, Connie enjoys traveling, learning, volunteering and being with her family.

Connie says that after all these years, she considers SDHS an essential part of her life. That goes both ways - we could not have done it without you, Connie. Thank you for sharing your energy and talents with us at SDHS! 🌿



Connie Forest

Continued on page 12

GOING WILD WITH NATIVES

Retrofit your Irrigation System for Natives

By Susan Krzywicki

In converting your garden to natives, you will need to develop a new strategy for your irrigation system. If you have a working overhead spray system and want to keep it, here are some retrofit ideas.

First: perspective...

The irrigation industry grew out of agriculture and golf course management, with a common thread (delivering even, regular artificial irrigation). The industry taught installers to apply artificial irrigation to the needs of the highest water-using species in the landscape. Which means that lower water users, including succulents and Mediterranean plants, are often overwatered. Symptoms in succulents are rapid growth and potential root rot followed by death, and in low-water users: death. This is a common cause of plant failure and frustration. Now you will turn the paradigm on its head and irrigate to the lowest water using species in your garden.

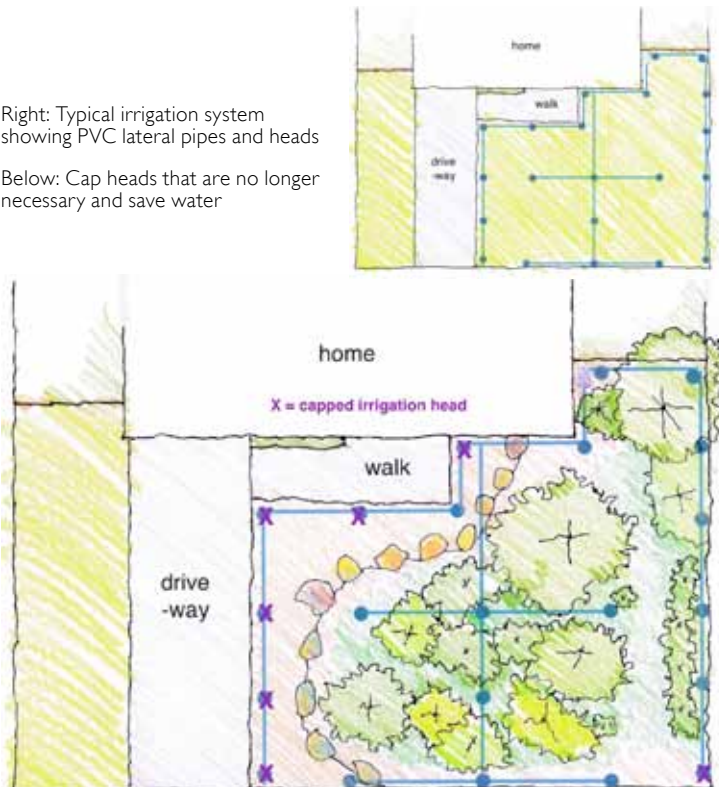
Evaluate the old design and adjust

If you have an irrigation plan, including placement of heads, pull it out and walk the garden with it in hand. If you don't have one, pull out the sketch pad, the camera, and walk the garden, while serially turning on each section to locate heads and deduce where buried PVC pipes, called "laterals," must run.

In most gardens that had turf areas, you will probably find that your laterals run alongside the driveway edge, foundation of the house, sidewalk and other hard surfaces. Heads are usually located ten to fifteen feet apart. There's usually a length of pipe that runs to the center of the old lawn area, with a couple of heads. This grid pattern was set up so that the entire area, right up to the edges of hardscaping, received complete coverage. In your new landscape, you will not need this entire grid pattern. Consider capping off or turning off the heads along edges. A diagram shows a "before and after" example.

Right: Typical irrigation system showing PVC lateral pipes and heads

Below: Cap heads that are no longer necessary and save water



Swing joint can be used to retrofit existing irrigation systems.

Photo courtesy Hunter Industries

Funny pipes, swing joints and rotating heads

If you just want to move the heads away from the sidewalk and driveway, there is a solution. Assemblies, using funny pipe or swing joints, can move the spray pattern in about twelve to sixteen inches – enough to save appreciable water; and prevent runoff. Replace old inserts in your heads with rotating spray pattern inserts that immediately save 20%. There are rebates still available: watersmartsd.org/programs/rotating-sprinkler-nozzle-rebates.

Adjust controller schedule

Remember to adjust your irrigation controller. Some older models will not allow you to program cycles that are more than seven days apart, so you may need to invest in an upgraded controller. Group plants by water needs, and eliminate runoff. With these simple techniques you can make long-lasting change in your garden.

Member Susan Krzywicki is a native plant landscape designer in San Diego. She has been the first Horticulture Program Director for the California Native Plant Society, as well as chair of the San Diego Surfrider Foundation Ocean Friendly Gardens Committee and is on the Port of San Diego BCDC for the Chula Vista Bayfront. 🌿

TO LEARN MORE...

Expressive Succulent Gardens

By Ava Torre-Bueno

Sometimes I drive around and happily notice that people are ripping out their lawns and trying to put in low-water gardens. But sadly, most of the time they replace their lawn with decomposed granite and put a few succulents at even intervals around the space. I want to jump out of my car and tell them to make some little hills, a streambed: to make their garden sculptural!

Here are two articles about Michael Buckner's process in creating vibrant succulent gardens. Take his advice when you convert from your lawn to a garden!

pacifichorticulture.org/articles/a-cactus-garden-takes-shape
legacy.utsandiego.com/uniontrib/2005/1120/news_mz1hs18cactu.html

Every exciting garden has art in it. Here are two ceramicists whose art is perfect for gardens:

chipstone.org/images.php/314/Ceramics-in-America-2006/A-Designer-Touches-Clay

chipstone.org/images.php/313/Ceramics-in-America-2006/Creating-Architectural-Elements-in-Clay

And here's this month's El Niño report:

climate.gov/news-features/blogs/enso/november-el-ni%C3%B1o-update-it%E2%80%99s-small-world 🌿

Barbara Raub (2)



Simply Succulent

The owner of this meticulously maintained succulent garden has created a jewel-box studded with succulents. The front garden beckons visitors down a path lined with mounds of agaves, jade, aloes, barrel cactus, and variegated elephant foot, ending at the foot of a large palm. A small inner courtyard features tillandsias, schleffera, bromeliads and statuary. In the rear garden a charming fountain is surrounded by copper colored jade, while a bed of more succulents, in a stunning variety of colors, surrounds a dry creek and carefully placed mounds of river rock. The garden has an almost mosaic effect, reminding the viewer, in its structure and size, of a Japanese landscape. In 2014, it won an award from the *Union Tribune* for its drought tolerant landscaping.

In addition to its lovely plantings, visitors will be able to view the owner's grey water system. To provide water for some thirstier hillside plantings, the owner is reusing water from her washing machine. Piping has been installed to send water from the washing machine, located in the garage, to a drip system on the hillside.

Nature's Garden

Tour-goers will delight in this Carmel Valley home, with a garden originally conceived by Chris Drayer, designer of many of the gardens at Rancho La Puerta, and installed by Steve Jacobs of Nature Design.



The Landscape Contractors Association recognized its beauty and significance by awarding it their Landscape Beautification Award. One of the owners is a Master Gardener; over the years she has steadily enhanced and improved the property. Today it is a certified Earth Friendly wonderland of diverse and drought-tolerant shrubs and trees. The property showcases 18 trees in 9 varieties, 27 different shrubs, and a wide selection of flowering vines. The cleverly designed rear garden creates an illusion of space, with two separate covered seating areas, one located at the front end and one at the rear of the garden. A staggered path takes the eye from one planting area to the next, each with its own unique character. A stroll along the paths from front to back reveals a gurgling granite fountain, a collector's mix of succulents, a raised vegetable bed, and fluttering yellow and gold butterflies attracted by plantings of *Cassia* and milkweed. Tucked around a corner of the house is a secluded meditation garden with a statue of Buddha perched on a rescued tree stump. In front, a rose-covered arbor flanked by *Leucadendron* 'Jester' welcomes visitors, while two olive trees are positioned to stretch across the drive.

We look forward to seeing you on the tour. If you have questions, please contact Susan Starr, Chair, SDHS Spring Garden Tour, at tours@sdhort.org.

SDHS DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON

Tour the Chinese Garden and More!

April 20th Bus Tour

Hop aboard our private motorcoach on Wednesday, April 20, for a full-day excursion to the Huntington Botanical Gardens (huntington.org). We'll start with private small group docent-led tours of the Chinese Garden, among the largest Chinese-style gardens outside China. If you've never seen a Chinese garden before, be prepared to be wowed at the extraordinary craftsmanship of the rock work and wood carvings, and enjoy uncommon plants in an exceptional setting. Designed to promote the rich traditions of Chinese culture, the garden is truly a cross-cultural effort. Architects and artisans from China worked alongside California builders and gardeners. As a result, the Garden of Flowing Fragrance combines the botanical with the artistic and scholarly.

Lunch is on your own at either the Cafe or the legendary Rose Garden Tea Room. Afterwards you have the afternoon to explore the rest of the Huntington Botanical Gardens or Museums on your own, including the new California Garden. We'll head back to San Diego in late afternoon, arriving early evening.

This tour is \$89 for SDHS members and \$99 for non-members. Details and registration are on our website: sdhort.org 🌿



HAWKS FOR THE WATCHING

By Pat Pawlowski

They're not your average Tweety Pie type of bird. You may not want to nestle up to them, or stroke their feathers (you might lose a finger). They're not interested in the bird seed you fling out to attract songbirds. They won't care if you've had a bad day at work.

But they WILL inspire you, as you stand outdoors and scan the sky. They are wild, bold and beautiful. They are birds of prey.

I am lucky to have Gary come visit me now and then. He is a Cooper's hawk (shown here), and he likes to use a very large birdbath that sits near the patio. Although hawks are not interested in bird seed, they ARE interested in a buffet consisting of assorted mice, rats, rabbits, etc. (all those furry thugs who can lay waste to a veggie garden). Thus, Gary, like all his friends, helps to keep the ecology, and your garden, in balance.



Cooper's Hawk

You can see Gary and his friends every Saturday in January and February of 2016, at a series of free events called Hawkwatch, presented by the Wildlife Research Institute, an organization that conducts research and provides data and education for the management of wildlife and wildlife habitat. Plan to arrive around 9:30 AM so you can partake of coffee and donuts and browse through their habitat store. The program starts at 10 AM. You might see falcons, barn owls, kestrels, Cooper's hawks, and will hear a delightful, interesting lecture about each bird. After that, a short easy walk to the Ramona Grasslands, where you can look through telescopes provided by WRI. Last time I was there I saw a bald eagle, and burrowing owls!

Hawkwatch takes place at the Begent Ranch at the Ramona Grasslands, 18528 Highland Valley Road, Ramona 92065. Their website is wildlife-research.org/hawkwatch.html.

Attend one, and you might get hooked on hawks (sorry, Tweety).



LAUNDRY TO LANDSCAPE

Greywater Workshop

Saturday, January 16, Carlsbad

When you wash your clothes, do you know where that water goes? Rather than letting this abundant resource go "down the drain" you can tap into it to sustainably irrigate your fruit trees and other landscape plants, getting your clothes and your conscience clean at the same time! The hands-on Laundry To Landscape Greywater Workshop is presented by the San Diego Sustainable Living Institute. It will teach and inspire participants to install their own "Laundry to Landscape" greywater system.



Learn how easy it is to use the washing machine to irrigate fruit trees and more with this cheap, easy, and permit-free legal method of greywater reuse. By the end of the day, participants will be able to design and install their own laundry to landscape greywater system with confidence. Cut down your water bill and grow an ecological and food producing garden. This class includes many handouts related to greywater design to help you further setup up your own system. Class will address:

- Greywater design for laundry systems
- Mulch basin and soil perk
- Greywater compatible soaps and detergents
- Greywater specific parts and tools
- Fruit and nut trees for greywater

The workshop fee is \$25; for details and registration go to sdsustainable.org/event/laundry-to-landscape-greywater.

THE DIRT ON WATER BLOG

The Garden Hose Nozzle Dilemma

By Jeanne Meadow

California is still in a drought and the current guidelines require that all garden hoses have a nozzle attached. Even without the drought, having a nozzle on your hose saves water and assists in directing the proper amount and type of water flow to ensure a happy plant. But I have a confession to make: nozzles and I just don't get along.

At first, I thought I could get away with one expensive heavy-duty nozzle. So I bought one. Maybe not the best investment I ever made. I could never find it: was it in the back, front, or did I put it in such an obvious place that I knew I could find it (only I didn't)? When I did discover the missing nozzle, there always seemed to be leaks when I'd switch it from one hose to another. So I began to lug extra rubber gaskets around. Somehow, a simple nozzle was taking the fun out of gardening.

I knew I needed one nozzle on each hose and our local water district was giving them away for free. "Great!" I thought. Ha. The celebration ended the first time I dropped the hose and the plastic cracked; another one never fit the hose just right and leaked all over the place. Half the time it was stuck between the shower pattern and the mister mode. So I got my shower while fully clothed in the front yard! Luckily no water police were around.

I'm always getting distracted by some weeds I missed, or by a beautiful bird, and I just let go of the hose, where it hits the walkway with a sickening thud. So the nozzle was going to break at some point anyway. Am I the only one who does this?

What now? Well, I hit the internet and looked up reports on the best hose nozzles. Turns out that complaints abounded about the super expensive ones. Yes, they had strong guarantees, but it would be time consuming and frustrating to exchange if something went wrong. The happiest consumers had special nozzles for their particular type of garden, like a wand nozzle for someone with a lot of hanging plants. But a specialty nozzle won't work for me as I have a little of everything. I can't imagine having a nozzle tool belt to wear in the garden!

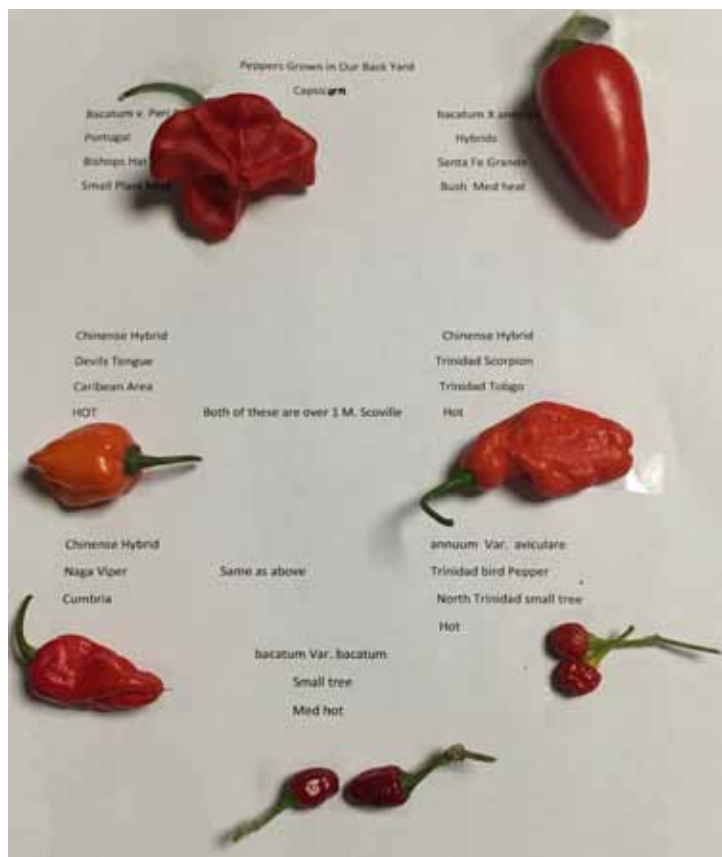
My current solution is to buy the old-fashioned all-metal nozzles. You can get them for around \$5, and you can drop them many times before they break. Which I plan to do whenever I see a beautiful bird.

Visit my blog at TheDirtonwater.com to read my latest rants or contact me at jeanne@jeannemeadow.com. ☘



Jeanne Romero

HOT PEPPERS IN DECEMBER



These hot peppers, some of them exceedingly hot, were displayed at the December plant display table by Charley Fouquette. See page 18.

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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.

Kirstenbosch, South Africa – This is the place!



Silver tree shown in foreground

Last month, I wrote about visiting the bulb fields at the Western Cape area of South Africa this past September. However, the original purpose of the trip was to visit Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden on the eastern foot of Table Mountain in Cape Town. I was fortunate to be able to spend two days there; one cool and rainy and the other bright and sunny. It is one of the great botanical gardens of the world and on every horticulturist's must-visit list. It is a UNESCO world heritage site located in the Cape Floral Kingdom. The garden contains over 7000 plant species including many that are rare and threatened. There is a large peninsula garden containing over 2500 plant species found only on the cape of the South Africa peninsula.

My first day in Kirstenbosch was cool and showery and allowed me to explore the garden mostly on my own. The occasional mist cloaking the top of the mountain and blowing through the trees added to the exotic mystique of the garden. However, with over 1300 acres it was difficult to know where to start. In every direction were strange, beautiful and unusual plants begging for my attention. Since it was raining lightly I began in the greenhouses and then slowly worked my way through the gardens in a clockwise direction going uphill. The greenhouses contain the plants mostly of South African regions drier than Cape Town. These included exotic succulents and euphorbias and a large collection of rare bulbs. Once outside I encountered what is probably the largest collection of *Strelitzia reginae* 'Mandela's Gold' (yellow-flowered bird of paradise) in the world. These led to Camphor Avenue. This was once a main road and was planted in 1898 with *Cinnamomum camphora* trees from China and Moreton Bay figs. They were some of the largest I had ever seen.

A bit higher up in the garden is a collection of 37 of the 40 known *Encephalartos* species of South African cycads. Some are the size of palm trees and one is the last known surviving plant of its species. Since cycads are dioecious (male or female) and this is a female plant,



Looking towards Table Mountain

without pollen from a male plant there is no way to propagate more of the species.

Nearby is tree canopy elevated walkway that goes through and above the arboretum that is a collection of over 450 South African tree species. Most notable for me was the largest *Cussonia spicata*, cabbage tree, that I've ever seen.

Next up were the Fynbos gardens with proteas, ericas, restios, leucadendrons, plus many more species endemic to the Western Cape. Fynbos is an Afrikaans word that translates to "fine bush." It is a similar ecology to our own coastal sage scrub, but with many more species, making it the smallest and richest density of plant species of the world's six floral kingdoms. It covers just 0.5% of the continent of Africa, yet contains nearly 20% of Africa's plant species. With most everything at the peak of spring bloom it became impossible to keep track of each plant, and instead I ran to exhaustion from one plant to the next in awe. There was no way to pick a favorite plant or even a favorite flower with thousands to choose from. Still, a few stood out.

There were countless Ericas of different sizes and foliage and flowers. And, of course, a huge protea collection, including the King Protea, the official flower of South Africa. While I know many of the proteas here in California are hybrids, the naturally occurring ones are every bit as beautiful and breathtaking. At the top of the cultivated garden was a bed of *Leucadendron argenteum*, silver tree. The leaves of this tree are frequently used on Rose Bowl Parade floats when they need to simulate the metallic look of silver. The tree grows naturally on the steep slope just above the garden on the side of Table Mountain. The tree is endangered in the wild, and in 2005 only about 1000 naturally occurring trees were counted on Table Mountain, down from 6850 in the 1970s.

There were also many different aloes, euphorbias, geraniums, pelargoniums, polygalas, acacia, coleonemas, asters, euryops, restios and countless other plants I had never seen before. There was even a display garden of South African plants that had become invasive in Southern California. Finally – some plants that I was familiar with, though not necessarily in a good way.

Scott arrived that evening and we visited Kirstenbosch on his second day there. It was clear and sunny and all of the flowers in the annual and bulb beds were fully open. The difference in lighting and temperature made it like visiting it all again for the first time.

~~~~~  
Jim Bishop is President of the San Diego Horticultural Society and a garden designer. 🌿

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We encourage our 1200+ members to be active participants and share in the fun; to volunteer see page 2. A warm hello to these new members:

### We welcome Living Designs By Linda as our newest Sponsor; see ad on page 9.

|               |                        |                  |
|---------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Barbara Brink | Diane Downey           | Judy MacKenzie   |
| Cathi Brown   | Bertha & Kevin Gifford | Bonnie Jo Manion |
|               |                        | Maria Mata       |

### HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2015; 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.

|                           |                             |                        |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Diedre Avery (1)          | Vanessa Huff (1)            | Deborah Polich (1)     |
| Jim Bishop (4)            | Joyce James (1)             | Kathy Purlava (1)      |
| Deborah Brenner (1)       | Nelda Johnson (1)           | Barbara Raub (2)       |
| Bonnie and Ray Brooks (1) | John Kramer (1)             | Marilyn Rinaldi (2)    |
| Bruce Cobbledick (1)      | Dannie McLaughlin (1)       | Catherine Robinson (1) |
| Sharon Corrigan (2)       | Naomi McLean (1)            | David Ross (1)         |
| Shirey Doig (1)           | Barbara Metz (1)            | Tammy Schwab (1)       |
| Claire Ehrlinger (1)      | Allison Miles (1)           | Jeanne Skinner (1)     |
| Susan Getyina (1)         | Francie Murphy (1)          | Nan Serman (1)         |
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| Devonna Hall (1)          | Ocean Hills Garden Club (1) | Paula Taylor (1)       |
| Wyatt Hayes (1)           | Joan Oliver (1)             | Susi Torre-Bueno (1)   |
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\*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

Caroline James

Joyce James

Debbie & Richard Johnson

\*Vince Lazaneo (2004)

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\*Bill Nelson (2007)

Deborah & Jack Pate

\*Kathy Purlava (2016)

Tina & Andy Rathbone

\*Jon Rebman (2011)

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Gerald D. Stewart

\*Susi Torre-Bueno (2012)

& Jose Torre-Bueno

Dorothy Walker

Lucy Warren

\*Evelyn Weidner (2001)

\*Pat Welsh (2003)

Betty Wheeler

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(see ads for more discounts)

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

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



## What's Up at

San Diego  
BOTANIC  
GARDEN

### Enrich your life! Take a Class at San Diego Botanic Garden

San Diego Botanic Garden offers a wide variety of classes geared toward garden lovers. This season, come to the Garden and learn the art of Zentangle or Kokedama. Or make your own Living Wall/Vertical Garden, or get ready for spring by building your own Hydroponic Spring Garden. Here's some additional information on a few of our great classes available this January & February. For additional information, prices and registration, visit the Garden's website at [SDBGarden.org/classes.htm](http://SDBGarden.org/classes.htm).

#### Introduction to Zentangle:

**Saturday, January 16, 1–3 pm:**

The Zentangle method is an easy to learn, relaxing and fun way to create interesting patterns. No art experience necessary!

#### Living Wall/Vertical Garden:

**Saturday, January 16, 9 am–12 pm:**

Learn the basics of planting a living wall. Students will create their own 10" x 20" vertical garden with a variety of succulents. Living walls can be used as a show stopping planting in your interior or exterior space.

#### Succulent Turtle Class:

**Tuesday, February 2, 9 am–12 pm:**

Take home a charming succulent turtle you make yourself in this class taught by the San Diego Botanic Garden's Succulent Wreath Team.

#### Kokedama Japanese Living Art:

**Saturday, February 6, 1–3 pm:**

Kokedama is a traditional Japanese living art form where moss is used as a container for a plant. Learn how to make your own living art piece in this hands-on workshop.

#### Build Your Own Hydroponic

#### Spring Garden:

**Saturday, February 20, 9 am–1 pm:**

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■ From the Board Continued from page 3

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SDHS has been able to maintain low membership dues (lower than many local garden clubs) thanks to multiple sources of revenue: special events, a grant from the San Diego County Water Authority for our garden at the Fair; awards our Fair garden receives, and member donations. In the last year we've seen increases for several expenses, including our meeting space at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, our insurance, and our website services. Your tax-deductible contributions help us keep our dues low and achieve these and other exciting objectives:

- Monthly meetings
- Monthly newsletter
- Free workshops and Featured Garden events
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- Student Scholarships and Science Fair awards

Please consider a year-end tax-deductible donation now. Visit our website, [sdhort.org](http://sdhort.org), for information about making an online donation or instructions for contributing by mail. Large donations are gladly received, but every donation helps. Also, when you register for an event online or renew your membership, you will have an opportunity to make a donation. You can also make a donation by cash or check at any meeting or SDHS event.

The board of the San Diego Horticultural Society wishes you a bountiful and rewarding year in horticulture. 🌿

■ Trees Please Continued from page 5

Eventually these, and similar southern hemisphere trees, like the floss silk with equally spectacular blooms, may align to our North American seasons, but for now they go naked in spring - attracting unwanted attention.

**References:**

photoperiodism: [plantphys.info/plant\\_physiology/photoperiodism.shtml](http://plantphys.info/plant_physiology/photoperiodism.shtml)

<sup>1</sup> [paulowniatrees.com.au/History.htm](http://paulowniatrees.com.au/History.htm)

<sup>2</sup> IPCC (2007) *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis*. Summary for Policymakers. Cambridge, UK: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.



Contact member Robin Rivet at [treetutor@gmail.com](mailto:treetutor@gmail.com); she is an ISA Certified Arborist and UCCE Master Gardener. 🌿



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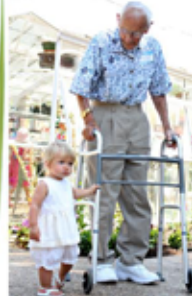
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## SHARING SECRETS

Edited by Dayle Cheever

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 January was: Do you have New Year's plans to change your garden or to fundamentally change the way you have been gardening?**

**Vivian Black:** Cutting back in 2016. Yes I plan to do a heavy pruning, as the trees have grown and are extending and overlapping into other trees and the neighbors' yards. So if there are people/gardeners looking for starts; fig trees, grapes, thornless blackberries, *Nandina domestica*, or geraniums, you can come get starts in January.

**Joan Braunstein:** I am going to follow Pat Welsh's book, *Southern California Organic Gardening, Month by Month*. Also my interests are leaning toward native plants, so I am going to learn more about them.

**Chuck Carroll:** I have been experimenting with greywater from the washing machine and the showers. For the past three months I have been hauling greywater, one bucket at a time, to some specific plants in the garden. The results have been very encouraging. Plants that would normally get watered less than once a week are now getting water three times a week. The plants are doing better than ever and my water bill has gone down. My New Year's plan is to install a greywater system.

**Candace Bandel:** I plan to replace my yard with more drought-tolerant plants. But I do not want to look like a desert landscape.

**Tynan Wyatt:** I plan to install more hardscape, walkways, and raised planting/sitting areas. I've realized I'll enjoy the garden a whole lot more if I can actually get to it! Plus, the permeable cobblestone and flagstone pathways will act as a very good water retaining mulch for the adjacent plants.

**Susi Torre-Bueno:** No, I don't plan to make major changes, but do intend to keep on planting additional drought-tolerant plants (including many succulents) to replace plants that die. Last year we changed our existing overhead irrigation to MP3 rotator nozzles, and we're planning to add more of this efficient watering system in 2016.

**Marilyn Wilson:** I don't plan to change any gardening techniques, but next year I will be replacing half of my rakes, shovels, and trowels. They are old and in bad shape, just like I am. The garden is large and I keep multiple tools in several locations. I might have to sharpen all the clippers, if I ever find the time.

**Charlotte Getz:** I plan to redesign my three garden boxes, removing old redwood and replacing it with Trex and adding Netafim drip irrigation to all the boxes. Soaker hose in the boxes did not provide sufficient coverage for the vegetables I grow, including cool and warm season varieties.

**Marilyn Guidroz:** This is a great topic to start off the 2016 year in gardening. We are fundamentally changing the way we garden with the

very old fashioned principle of composting. We purchased a double barreled composter to get it up off the ground and also provide the ability to stagger the new compost side with the aged compost side, so you are always rotating the process. Compost in the garden and on the trees will give your plants the tools they need to stay healthy and strong all on their own. What could be easier and simpler?

**Ken Selzer:** No.

**Ken and Donna:** I am hoping to use more greywater in my garden.

**Leslie Sheridan:** No, no plans for change.

**Rachel Cobb** Yes, my herb and perennial garden has become over grown. I have decided to start over creating a more decorative edible garden with blueberries, strawberries and asparagus to name a few, along with some of the beloved flowering perennials.

**Steve Zolezzi:** Have been changing from coastal to hot inland gardening for many years. With his year's mandated reduction in water use (38% on my last billing) coupled with a major change in my garden to succulents and water wise plants, it's true – they can survive on a lot less water. So in 2016 I will fundamentally continue to change how much water *I think* plants need to what they really need – easier said than done!

**Annie Urquhart:** I am always recycling for the garden and it is fun to do. 🌿



Annie's pink & blue painted pinecones look like flowers!

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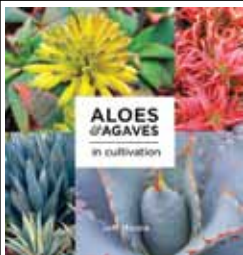
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## EARTH FRIENDLY HOMEOWNER

### A Gardening Podcast

By Diane Downey

My name is Diane Downey and I am passionate about gardening and the environment.

During my time running The Yard Fairy ([yardfairy.com](http://yardfairy.com)), we helped hundreds of clients take out lawn, save water, and create beautiful, sustainable landscapes. During the last two years I've been teaching hundreds more homeowners how they can not only create a beautiful yard that saves water, but one that can capture rain, prevent pollution and lock carbon up underground ([watershedwisetraining.com](http://watershedwisetraining.com)).

About a year ago, I met Sheri Menelli at our Home Owners Association meeting, where we were both trying to urge them to be more sustainable in the approach to the landscaping guidelines. Sheri's background is a passion in permaculture, and she has worked with the most influential scientist in the realm of the soil food web, Dr. Elaine Ingham. Since much of the teaching that I had been doing was based on Dr. Ingham's work, we immediately hit it off.

We decided that we wanted to share our knowledge and experience of creating an earth friendly landscape and home with all our friends and family. There is so much conflicting advice out there on how to do this, and many people I speak to have made many costly mistakes. We want to help you do this right the first time, so that you won't have to make the same mistakes, and you can save yourself some money in the process.

We are not only interested in landscapes but also rainwater harvesting, investigating solar energy, reducing our energy usage in the home, and getting rid of toxins in the house.

Do you ever wonder if you could do anything to help stop climate change? If you could help the planet at all?

We have really good news – you can! We now have many answers and we have access to experts who also have the answers. People like

- Rosalind Creasy ([rosalindcreasy.com](http://rosalindcreasy.com))
- Brad Lancaster ([harvestingrainwater.com](http://harvestingrainwater.com))
- Diane Kennedy ([vegetariat.com](http://vegetariat.com))

Sheri and I are launching a podcast called the “Earth Friendly Homeowner.” Even if you aren't a homeowner I think you'll find a lot of these topics useful. The best part is that not only will a lot of these answers help the planet but most of the time it saves your money and helps your health too. To get started:

1. Sign up for our mail list ([earthfriendlyhomeowner.com](http://earthfriendlyhomeowner.com)) so we can let you know when the podcast launches
2. Download and listen to our podcast on iTunes ([itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/earth-friendly-homeowner-sustainability/id1067458262](http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/earth-friendly-homeowner-sustainability/id1067458262)) or follow us on Soundcloud ([soundcloud.com/earth-friendly-homeowner](http://soundcloud.com/earth-friendly-homeowner))
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Thank you so much for helping us share this important information. Diane Downey, [Diane@EarthFriendlyHomeowner.com](mailto:Diane@EarthFriendlyHomeowner.com) and Sheri Menelli, [Sheri@EarthFriendlyHomeowner.com](mailto:Sheri@EarthFriendlyHomeowner.com). 🌿



## FASCINATING PLANT INFO ONLINE

Compiled by Nick Stavros

Longtime SDHS member Nick Stavros sends your editor links to some truly fascinating stuff to be found on the internet, and here's some of them:

Ron Finley plants vegetable gardens in South Central LA in abandoned lots, traffic medians, along the curbs. Why? For fun, for defiance, for beauty and to offer some alternative to fast food in a community where "the drive-thrus are killing more people than the drive-bys."

[ted.com/talks/ron\\_finley\\_a\\_guerilla\\_gardener\\_in\\_south\\_central\\_la](http://ted.com/talks/ron_finley_a_guerilla_gardener_in_south_central_la)

The most commonly traded commodity in the world is oil. What comes in second? Coffee. It's been grown and loved since at least the 13th century in places such as Indonesia, Ethiopia and Central and South America. As a serious fungus threatens the crop worldwide, scientists are mapping the coffee genome to learn more about this plant. Though it's not coffee's natural growing environment, California is actually playing a role in the future of this most beloved and lucrative crop.

[www2.kqed.org/news/2014/11/08/california-foodways-growing-coffee-in-california](http://www2.kqed.org/news/2014/11/08/california-foodways-growing-coffee-in-california)

Watch 13 Years of Drought in California in 30 Seconds – a very interesting animation:

[weather.com/news/science/environment/california-drought-seconds-20141009?cm\\_ven=FB\\_WX\\_JK\\_101514\\_8](http://weather.com/news/science/environment/california-drought-seconds-20141009?cm_ven=FB_WX_JK_101514_8)

From BBC News: Carnivores help trees thrive without thorns, study says. Plants have two pathways to success. "You either protect yourself from herbivores by growing large thorns, or thrive in areas that are risky to your predators; plant eaters."

[bbc.com/news/science-environment-29617533](http://bbc.com/news/science-environment-29617533)

A garlic injection could tackle tree diseases! Garlic is one of nature's most powerful antibacterial and antifungal agents. It contains a compound called allicin, which scientists are interested in harnessing.

[bbc.com/news/science-environment-29522647](http://bbc.com/news/science-environment-29522647)

Monarch butterflies are at the center of a continent-wide conservation effort – read all about it in Scientific American online. The threats the butterflies face include:

- Loss of one billion milkweed stems in the summer breeding range because of converted grasslands and herbicides. Monarch larvae eat milkweed exclusively.
- Extreme weather, including colder winters in central Mexico and droughts in Texas.
- Invasive flora on which monarchs lay eggs. The hatched larvae are unable to survive there.
- Increased use of synthetic insecticides.
- Increasing scarcity of nectar plants along migration routes.

[scientificamerican.com/article/monarch-butterflies-at-the-center-of-a-continent-wide-conservation-effort](http://scientificamerican.com/article/monarch-butterflies-at-the-center-of-a-continent-wide-conservation-effort)

Plant spores hitch long-distance rides on feathers. You could be in the Arctic and spot some moss. And then you could be at the tip of South America and spot the same kind of moss, and never find it in between. So how did this particular plant get so well-traveled? Turns out it flew.

[scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/spores-hit-feather-rides](http://scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/spores-hit-feather-rides)

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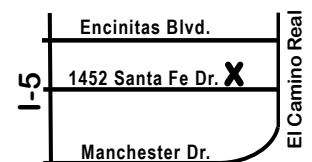
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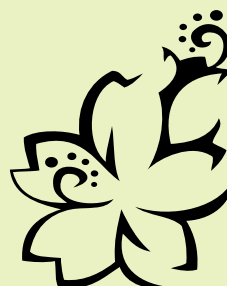
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# DECEMBER 2015 PLANT DISPLAY

By Steve Brigham & 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.

**Now available FREE on our website – all 21 years worth of plant descriptions! Go to [tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions](http://tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions).**

*Capsicum chinense* 'Naga Viper' (Solanaceae) Horticultural Hybrid  
According to World Seed Supply ([worldseedsupply.com](http://worldseedsupply.com)), "The Naga Viper is one of the hottest peppers in the world, holding the Guinness record in 2011 until it was surpassed by the Infinity Chili. Although many people still think of the Ghost pepper as the hottest pepper in the world, the Naga Viper is one of several peppers that are hotter. The Naga Viper has been recorded with Scoville heat ratings as high as 1,382,118. This pepper is nearly five times hotter than a habanero. The Naga Viper was created in the United Kingdom by hybridizing the Morich Naga, the Trinidad Scorpion and the Bhut Jolokia." Grow this at your own risk! (Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 12/15) – S.T.B.

*Cyanotis somaliensis* PUSSY EARS, FURRY KITTENS  
(Commelinaceae) Eastern Africa, Rwanda, Somalia  
Also known as *Tradescantia somaliensis*, this succulent perennial is related to Wandering Jew. It has small magenta flowers on and off from spring through fall, and can be propagated from cuttings. The pointed, hairy leaves give the plant its common names. Best in part sun with moderate watering. Usually evergreen, but may go dormant in winter. Makes a nice groundcover, or try it in a pot or hanging basket. (Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 12/15) – S.T.B.



Jeannine Romero

*Iris cv.* (reblooming bearded Iris, dark violet flowers)  
(Iridaceae) Horticultural Hybrid  
Bearded Iris are a 20<sup>th</sup> Century American success story, with hundreds of new varieties introduced each year. Many varieties of reblooming Tall Bearded Iris are becoming popular for their all-season performance in

our gardens. To the many gardeners who have bought bearded iris rhizomes "off the shelf" in nurseries, only to never see a bloom in the garden, it might seem surprising to know that some varieties bloom four times a year here. The secret is to get the right varieties for our climate, for not all iris get enough winter chill here to bloom well. Much emphasis lately has been placed on reblooming bearded iris, which flower two, three, or even four times a year in our mild climate. This makes them much more appealing to the gardener, and in fact, establishes an October–November bloom season that can equal April and May. Reblooming bearded irises come in all colors, and many are sweetly fragrant. Since they bloom so much, fertilizing with a 6-20-20 fertilizer is recommended after each bloom cycle. Full sun and good soil are important, and weekly or twice-weekly watering is best. The plant displayed (name unknown) has large deep violet flowers at least four times a year, and seems to thrive on neglect. It has a pleasing scent, too. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/15) —S.B. & S.T.B.

**In addition to the plants described above, the plants listed below were displayed; all have been previously described.**

What's that in front of the plant name? Plants marked 3 are fully described in the SDHS Plant Forum Compilation, available online for FREE at [tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions](http://tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions).

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the December newsletter was *Haemanthus dentalfloss* TOOTHBRUSH LILY.

**HELP!** The plant display cards for the December meeting were not picked up at the end of the evening, and some plants that were brought in are not listed here, or the member's name is unknown. Please contact Susi Torre-Bueno at [newsletter@sdhort.org](mailto:newsletter@sdhort.org) and let her know what plant(s) you brought in. Thanks!

3 *Capsicum annum glabriusculum* (= *Capsicum annum* var. *aviculare*)  
BIRD PEPPER (Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 12/15)

*Capsicum bacatum* x *annuum* 'Santa Fe Grande'  
(Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 12/15)

*Capsicum bacatum* var. *bacatum*  
(Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 12/15)

*Capsicum bacatum* var. *Peri Peri*, BISHOP'S HAT  
(Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 12/15)

*Capsicum chinense* 'Devils Tongue'  
(Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 12/15)

*Capsicum chinense* 'Trinidad Scorpion'  
(Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 12/15)

*Capsicum chinense* 'Trinidad Sonofagun' (Plant Nutt, El Cajon, 10/15)

3 *Citrus hystrix* KAFFIR LIME (Evelyn Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/15)

3 *Gasteria* 'Little Warty' (?), 12/15)

3 *Gomphrena decumbens* AIRY BACHELOR BUTTONS  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/15)

3 *Hakea laurina* PINCUSHION HAKEA  
(Sheldon Lisker, Sun City, 12/15)

3 *Justicia fulvicoma* MEXICAN PLUME  
(Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 12/15) ☞

## DECEMBER MEETING REPORT

### Ecology Landscaping and Waterwise Lessons

By Jeannine Romero

Bioswale, hugelkultur, and xeriscaping are sophisticated words for sophisticated gardens, and they are techniques designed to conserve water in water-challenged regions like Southern California. At the award-winning Water Conservation Garden in El Cajon, next to Cuyamaca College (see insert), they have experimented with many gardening techniques since they started 17 years ago. But the method that Clayton Tschudy, director of horticulture at the Water Conservation Garden, actually recommends to the homeowner is to simply use the plants that have adapted to your soil and local conditions.

"It solves so many problems," Tschudy noted. He suggested that gardeners consider that native plants are really only the plants that have adapted to your local conditions, not all of the plants identified as natives in the state. For example, the conservation garden, he noted, has even lost numerous native Californian manzanitas that could not survive the longer, hotter, and even dryer summer conditions recently experienced.

Tschudy said that after choosing the appropriate plants, it is important to use your own compost material, rain barrels to collect water, and to mulch the ground. Finally, an efficient irrigation system should be installed.

Like the name suggests, water conservation is the mission of his garden. The Water Conservation Garden offers composting classes and a youth educational program. Visitors can learn about several garden styles and techniques, and 2,000 drought tolerant plants, mature trees and shrubs. That includes about 300 native plants. They also have lawn alternatives, including a sedge that can be walked on and mowed, and which uses 50% less water than fescue lawns.

Tschudy noted that the garden's challenges include difficult clay soils and drought conditions. They are experimenting with hugelkultur, a technique that involves a system of hills, trenches and in ground wood composting. The wood makes a spongy mass that is wet all winter and dries all summer, allowing natural rains to water a nearby tree, for example, all year long.

A bioswale is another innovative concept on display. This involves a large, bowl-like depression in the garden that fills up in a rainstorm, and increasing the level of ground water to nourish the plants without additional watering.

There is also a new butterfly pavillon and a yearly festival that attracts 5000 people a year to the garden. Though many of the host plants also attract adult butterflies, Tschudy said, eventually this will be a habitat for many living things. The wonderful thing about habitat gardens, Tschudy said, is that "you invite nature into your garden. It is a garden of discovery."

The newest class being offered next spring is the "Habitat Masterclass," Tschudy's expertise. Topics include habitat concepts, San Diego ecology, local plant species diversity, local scientific resources and plant design methodology. Participants will leave with a plan for their own garden.

Tschudy encouraged membership at the Water Conservation Garden includes free gardening classes and reciprocal admission at more than 250 botanic gardens worldwide. There are also discounts at many nurseries in San Diego county and at the garden's gift shop.

Many thanks to Mr. Tschudy for a very informative evening. To learn more, visit [thegarden.org](http://thegarden.org).



The cheerful check in gals at our December meeting. Left to right: Jane Morton, Nancy Woodard, Eva Raines, Jeanne Meadow, Cheryl Lindbery, Ellie Knight, and Lorie Johansen.

## THANK YOU DOOR PRIZE DONORS

We thank the following for their generous door prize donations:

Green Thumb Nursery (see inside front cover)

Ray Brooks (hand-turned wooden bowl)

Jeanne Meadow (pinecone & succulent tree ornaments) 🌿

# Thanks for all your support for SDFA's 2015 Centennial Events

- Botanical Building Tours
- Spring Flower Show
- Historic Garden Tour
- Lecture Forum
- Kate Sessions Birthday Celebration
- Festival of Trees

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[sdfloral.org](http://sdfloral.org)





## PACIFIC HORTICULTURE

Surprising Singapore &  
Legendary Bali

Join fellow Pacific Horticulture Society members in September as we explore the allure of tropical gardens in sleek Singapore and the colorful island of Bali. Singapore is a contrast of ultra-modern urban design and traditional cultures. Visits include Gardens by the Bay and Singapore Botanic Gardens, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our Balinese adventure includes private gardens, villas, music, dance, and visual arts, with stays in the village of Ubud and the beach-side town of Sanur. We include colorful markets, ancient temples, palaces, and workshops of Balinese artisans working in silver, stone, wood and cloth. San Diego Horticultural Society president Jim Bishop has signed up for this tour.

While 2016 PacHort tours to Oaxaca and Japan are already full, there is still limited space open on an April tour to Charleston & Savannah, a June adventure to Victoria and Vancouver, and a July expedition to Oaxaca, Mexico, featuring the world-famous Guelaguetza festival.

Nearing its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Pacific Horticulture is a non-profit organization that believes in the power of gardens to enrich people's lives and inspire environmental stewardship. SDHS is a Pacific Horticulture Partner. Visit [pachort.org](http://pachort.org) for more info or to subscribe to *Pacific Horticulture* magazine. A special rate of \$24 is available for new and renewing members using discount code SDHS2015. ☘



## LOVE TO GARDEN? LOVE THE SD COUNTY FAIR?

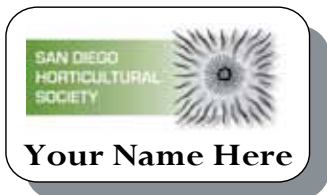
Lots of jobs are available for all shifts at the 2016 Paul Ecke, Jr. Garden Show June 3 - July 4.

Contact Coordinator  
Cindy Benoit @ 760-473-4244!



## SDHS Nametags

**Sturdy magnet-back nametags are just \$10**



To order go to  
<https://sdhort.wildapricot.org/Shop>  
or buy one at any monthly meeting.

## SUB-TROPICAL BLOOMS IN DECEMBER



*Justicia fulvicoma* was displayed at our December meeting - see page 18.

Jeannine Romero

## Sunshine Gardens

**It's time to plant ... Come on Down!**

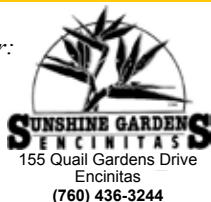
*We have just about everything the gardener in you is looking for:*

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**Open 7 Days Monday-Saturday 7:00-5:00; Sunday 9:00-4:00**

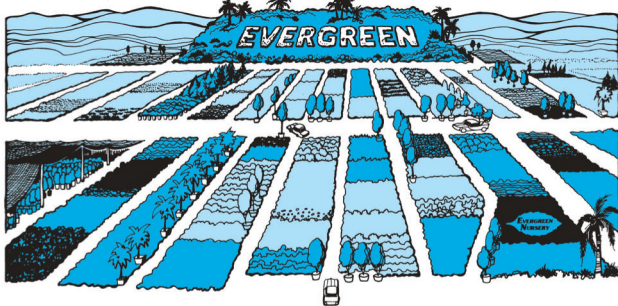


## What's Happening? for JANUARY 2016

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

### ▼ SDHS Sponsor

## DISCOVER EVERGREEN NURSERY



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ALL LOCATIONS:

Monday – Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Free Monthly Seminar

**First Saturday of every month**

*Starting at 10am at two locations: Carmel Valley and Oceanside*

### January 2, Four Seasons Gardening

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

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

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

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

Send questions and comments to:  
[info@evergreennursery.com](mailto:info@evergreennursery.com)

### Three Convenient Locations:

#### CARMEL VALLEY

13650 Valley Rd.  
(858) 481-0622

#### OCEANSIDE

3231 Oceanside Blvd.  
(760) 754-0340

#### 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  
**January 16, 9am – 12pm, Living Wall / Vertical Garden:**  
Learn the basics of planting a living wall. We will be planting a 10"x20" wall of succulent varieties. Members \$30, non-members \$36. A \$70 materials fee per student is also paid directly to the instructor at the class.  
**Saturdays, 10:30am, Garden Tour:** Docent led tour of Garden. Departs from the Visitor Center/Gift Shop.

### ❖ The Water Conservation Garden

Contact info on other side. For ALL events below, register online or at (619) 660-0614.

**January 16 & 23, 12:30-4:30pm, Winter Docent Training Program:** Utilize your skills and talents to contribute to The Garden's success by becoming a docent! There are many ways to get involved and wonderful new people to meet.

**January 17, 10-11am, Free Special Access Tour:** Have trouble navigating the terrain of The Garden? Explore The Garden from the comfortable Verbeck Shuttle with a Garden Docent. This tour seats only 4-5 people. Advanced reservations required. Call 619-660-0614 x16.

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

## Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

### ◆ Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops

Info: [www.barrelsandbranches.com](http://www.barrelsandbranches.com). See ad on page 17.

◆ **City Farmers Nursery** – see [www.cityfarmersnursery.com](http://www.cityfarmersnursery.com)

◆ **Evergreen Nursery: FREE Seminar** Details in left column

### ◆ Sunshine Care FREE Seminar Each Month

**January 18, 10:30am-noon:** How to Grow America's Favorite Flower – Rose Workshop. RSVP: (858) 472-6059 or [roy@sunshinecare.com](mailto:roy@sunshinecare.com). [www.sunshinecare.com](http://www.sunshinecare.com). See ad on page 13.

### ◆ Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes

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

#### Point Loma, 9am

Jan. 2, Pruning Pears & Figs  
Jan. 9, Gardening 101  
Jan. 16, Color in Winter/Spring  
Jan. 23, Spring Bulbs  
Jan. 30, The Rose Class

#### Poway, 9:30am

TBA  
Fruit Tree Pruning  
Rose Pruning  
Spring Bulbs  
Winter Veggies

### ◆ Weidners' Gardens classes & workshops

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

## Next SDHS Meeting

**January 11:**

## Contemporary, Expressive & Sustainable Southwestern Gardens

See page 1 & website for details

## More garden-related events on other side



## Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

### Free Workshop: See page 2

**Saturday, January 9, 10 AM**

**Dormant Season Pruning and Care for  
Deciduous Fruit Trees and Roses**

To register go to [www.sdhort.org](http://www.sdhort.org) and click on the workshop link.

**Jan. 9, 9:15am-noon, San Diego Rose Society:** Rose Pruning Demonstration. Try your hand at pruning. Bring gloves, pruners, and (if you have them) a small saw and a lopper. 2125 Park Boulevard, San Diego. Info: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org).

**Jan. 12, 10am, Dos Valles Garden Club:** Pruning and new roses for Valley Center. St. Stephen Community Hall, 31020 Cole Grade Rd., Valley Center. Info: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org).

**Jan. 13, 10am, Point Loma Garden Club:** Home Grown Mushrooms. 2818 Avenida de Portugal. Info: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org).

**Jan. 16, 9am – 1pm, Sustainable Living Institute:** **SEE PAGE 8.** Laundry To Landscape Greywater Workshop \$25, Carlsbad area. The address will be sent out to registered participants. Info: [www.sdsustainable.org](http://www.sdsustainable.org).

**Jan. 16, 10am-noon, Solana Center's Master Composter Course Encinitas:** Saturday mornings through February 13. \$50. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive Encinitas. Registration and Info: [www.solanacenter.org](http://www.solanacenter.org).

**Jan. 21, 1:30- 3:30pm, Bernardo Gardeners Garden Club:** History of Balboa Park by Lucy Warren. Rancho Bernardo Swim & Tennis Club, Castille Room, 16955 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo. Info: [www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org).

**Jan. 25, 7:30pm, San Diego Rose Society:** Garden tools and pruners. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Info: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org).

**Jan. 30, 10am-noon, Solana Center's Free Composting Workshop:** Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. West, El Cajon. 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  
**[sdfloral.org/calendar.htm](http://sdfloral.org/calendar.htm)**

## Resources & Ongoing Events:

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

**SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN:** (formerly QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS): Open daily 9-5 (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day); 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas. Fee: \$14/adults, \$10/seniors, \$8/kids 3-12; parking \$2. Free to members and on the first Tuesday of every month. (760) 436-3036; [www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org).

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

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

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

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

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