

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

April 2017, Number 271

The No Sacrifice Low Water Garden Page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

Sylvia Crowe,
English Landscaper - page 11

Deadly Citrus Disease
approaches San Diego - page 12

Why are our street trees
so short? - page 14

Sharing Secrets:
Australian plants -page 17

THE CELEBRATION
GARDEN
DEDICATED TO THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF
THE SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
APRIL 19, 2017

SPRING Garden Festival

and
Butterfly Fun

At The Water Conservation Garden!



Saturday, April 29, 2017
9:00am to 3:00pm

- Activities at College, Garden & Museum
- Edible, Ornamental & Native Plant Sales
- Wine Tasting & Food Trucks!
- Butterfly Pavilion Tours & Releases
- Landscape Design Consultations
- Garden Vendors & Animal Ambassadors
- Fine Arts Sale, Tours & Presentations



Free Admission! Free Parking!

www.SpringGardenFestival.com or facebook.com/SpringGardenFestival



HERITAGE OF THE
AMERICAS MUSEUM



900 Rancho San Diego Parkway, El Cajon, CA 92019 • www.SpringGardenFestival.com

SDHS SPONSOR

GREEN THUMB SUPER GARDEN CENTERS

1019 W. San Marcos Blvd.
(Off the 78 Frwy. near Via Vera Cruz)

760-744-3822



www.supergarden.com

- CALIFORNIA NURSERY PROFESSIONALS ON STAFF
- HOME OF THE NURSERY EXPERTS • GROWER DIRECT

WITH THIS
VALUABLE *Coupon*

**20%
OFF
ANY ONE
PLANT**

- Must present printed coupon to cashier at time of purchase
- Not valid with any sale items or with other coupons or offers
- Offer does not include Sod, Gift Certificates, or Department 56
- Not valid with previous purchases • Limit 1 coupon per household
- Coupon expires 04/30/2017 at 6 p.m. **sdhs**



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

OUR MISSION is to inspire and educate the people of San Diego County to grow and enjoy plants, and to create beautiful, environmentally responsible gardens and landscapes.

BOARD MEMBERS

Cindy Benoit – Membership Chair
Patty Berg – Volunteer Coordinator
Jeff Biletnikoff – Vendor Coordinator
Jim Bishop – President
B.J. Boland – Corresponding Secretary
Ray Brooks – Treasurer
Jason Chen – Member at Large
Marilyn Guidroz – Secretary
Mary James – Program Committee Chair
Jennifer Morrissey – Publicity
Anne Murphy – Workshop Coordinator
Lisa Robinson - Member at Large
Ari Tenenbaum – Member at Large
Susan Starr – Newsletter Editor
Roy Wilburn – Outreach Coordinator

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

Managing Editor: Susan Starr; newsletter@sdhort.org

Copy Editor: Lisa Marun; lisamarun@gmail.com

Advertising: Bob Clark; advertising@sdhort.org

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

Copyright ©2017 San Diego Horticultural Society, Encinitas, CA.
All rights reserved. Not to be reproduced by any means for any purpose without prior written permission.

BECOME A SPONSOR!

Do you own a garden-related business?

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

IN THIS ISSUE...

SDHS NEWS

- 2 Meetings & Events
- 3 Volunteers Needed
- 3 Spring Home/Garden Show Awards
- 3 Discounts For Members
- 3 To Learn More...
- 4 From The Board
- 5 This Month's Local Garden Tours
- 5 SDSH Spring Workshops
- 6 What's Up At San Diego Botanic Garden?
- 7 April 8 Spring Garden Tour
- 10 March Meeting Report
- 10 Welcome New Members

OUR COLUMNISTS

- 11 The Real Dirt on . . .
- 12 Bugs and Bugaboos
- 13 The Understory
- 14 Trees, Please
- 15 Book Review
- 16 Going Wild with Natives

DIGGING WITH OUR MEMBERS

- 17 Sharing Secrets
- 19 March 2017 Plant Display

INSERTS:

Calendar/Resources/Ongoing Events



COVER IMAGE: Join us on April 3 when landscape designer Scott Kleinrock will tell us how we can have a no sacrifice, low water, California garden.

www.sdhort.org

**NEXT MEETING: APRIL 3
6:00 – 8:30 PM**

SPEAKER:

**Scott Kleinrock's No-Sacrifice
Low-Water California Garden**

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

**Congregation Beth Israel,
9001 Towne Centre Drive, San Diego 92122
(across the street from the Westfield UTC mall).
Parking is free.**



On Monday, April 3, 2017, the San Diego Horticultural Society welcomes Scott Kleinrock, horticulturist, landscape designer, and garden educator focused on California native, regionally adapted, and edible landscapes.

Low water landscapes do not have to be about “going without.” A yard that is just gravel with a few succulents is not necessarily moving in a sustainable direction. The gravel holds on to the summer heat and gravel spaces become abandoned spaces where people don't want to spend time. A garden

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Renewal information is at www.sdhort.org.
For questions contact membership@sdhort.org or call
Cindy Benoit at 760-473-4244.

MEETING SCHEDULE

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

MEETINGS & EVENTS

APRIL 3
Scott Kleinrock on The No Sacrifice Low Water
California Garden

APRIL 8
SDHS Garden Tour – Save the Date – see page 7

APRIL 26
Workshop: Companion Plants for Succulents

MAY 3
Workshop: Hummingbird and Butterfly Friendly
Gardens.

MAY 8
Karen Chapman on Foliage First

JUNE 12
SDHS Night at the Fair

should be a pleasure to be in, a pleasure to maintain, and a pleasure to experience with all its birds and insects. Scott's presentation will discuss how to envision spaces that include everything you could want (including color, habitat, shade, and places for respite) from gardens that need less water and resources because they are composed of plants naturally adapted to our regional conditions. Examples will include the California Garden at The Huntington, other public gardens, residential gardens, and inspiring images from the wilds of Southern California.

Scott is currently the Conservation Programs Manager at the Chino Basin Water Conservation District, a San Bernardino County agency dedicated to creating a culture of sustainable water use through demonstration and education. Previously, he was the Landscape Design and Planning Coordinator at The Huntington, where he led the planting design of the Brody California Garden, a 6.5-acre Mediterranean climate landscape with nearly 50,000 California natives and dry-climate plants. ☘

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Spring Garden Tour

Still a few open spots for volunteers on the Spring Garden Tour in Point Loma on Saturday April 8. If you can handle steps and hills, if you enjoy working with the public, and if you want to take in the Tour for free, contact Patty Berg at pattyjberg@gmail.com and make that ASAP!



Del Mar Fair Exhibit Builders

We expect to have another great display garden at this year's San Diego County Fair in Del Mar. Volunteers are needed to assist the committee in building the garden. Though details are being worked out, the projected work days will be in the middle of May. If you can lend a hand, please contact Terry Chamberlin at chamberlin.terry@gmail.com. 🌿

SPRING HOME/GARDEN SHOW AWARDS

Congratulations to all the Garden Masters for the gardens they designed for this year's Show. We're proud that several were designed by SDHS members:

- **Green Acres Nursery;** Garden Master: Mike Kish; Garden Name: California Gold; Silver Award; Best Interpretation of Theme; Best San Diego Adapted Garden
- **Mooch Exterior Designs/North Park Nursery;** Garden Master: Paul Hunyady, Michelle Bernson; Garden Name: Urban Sanctuary; Silver Award; Best Container Plants
- **Gardens by the Sea Nursery;** Garden Master: Mike Hirsh; Garden Name: Creating Harmony; Silver Award; Best Specialty Garden; Best Combinations of Plant Materials
- **Evergreen Nursery;** Garden Master: Steven Collins; Garden Name: Diversity; Landscape Dreams; Colorful Desert Isle or Tropical Paradise?; Silver Award; Best Compatibility of Plant Materials; Perfection in Nomenclature 🌿

TO LEARN MORE...

The No Sacrifice Low-Water California Garden

By Ava Torre-Bueno

This highly interactive web page from the San Diego County Water Authority pretty much has everything you'll need to know to transform your garden to a low-water paradise: watersmartsdlandscaping.org/.

Here's a short Union-Tribune article, followed by a long, clickable list of other articles they've run about low-water gardening: sandiegouniontribune.com/lifestyle/home-and-garden/sdut-watersmart-website-landscape-designs-2014sep12-story.html

The County Water Authority has another online guide (you can order a free hard copy as well) called San Diego Sustainable Landscape Guidelines: A Watershed Approach To Landscaping: watersmartsd.org/sites/default/files/slp_guidelines_final_10-13-15r_0.pdf. This guide is about rethinking your whole property so you can be your own watershed manager. Sinking ALL the water from the first rain of the season into the ground on your property cleans the water and keeps toxins out of the larger watershed.

Back in June, I shared my experience with creating a run-off garden at sites.google.com/site/plantingtherain/. What I would do differently now is to dig a bit deeper and bury the trash can lower by at least half a foot than I did. Maybe if I ever have a mad fit of energy, I'll pull all the rocks out and dig deeper; but for now, this has worked well to absorb hundreds of gallons of water into the ground with every rainfall. 🌿

DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

(see ads for more discounts)

Get a 15% discount at **Briggs Tree Co.**

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

Get a 10% discount at **San Diego Botanic Garden**

on Family/Dual or Individual memberships. Just state you are a current member of SDHS on your membership form. It cannot be done online, so mail it in or bring it to the Garden. Info: Josh Pinpin, jpinpin@SDBGarden.org.

Join **Grangetto's** FREE Garden Club for helpful info delivered to your inbox: grangettosgardenclub.com.



FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

Spring Garden Tour

REMINDER: Tickets are *not* sold the day of the tour, so don't wait! Purchase tickets NOW at sdhort.org.

There are just a few days remaining to purchase tickets online for the Saturday, April 8 Spring Garden Tour, In Sight of the Sea: Gardens of Point Loma & Sunset Cliffs. Online ticket sales end when we are sold out, or April 6 at the latest. The last opportunity to purchase tickets by cash or check is before the April meeting on April 3.

Some highlights of this year's tour are visits to a large variety of garden types and some of the distinct neighborhoods on Point Loma peninsula. Most of the gardens are the loving creations of their owners, who show their fondness for plants and outdoor living. Due to the very temperate climate of Point Loma, many of the gardens highlight tropical plants and palms. Several of the gardens have views of either San Diego Bay and downtown or the ocean. One garden features pottery and plantings for sale that were created by the garden owners. Additionally, several of the gardens will have vendors selling plants or garden related items. Artists will also be working in some of the gardens.

You may want to make a day of it by having either lunch or breakfast at one of the many restaurants in Ocean Beach, Point Loma, and Liberty Station. Or pack a lunch to enjoy on Sunset Cliffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

To ensure that everyone has an enjoyable experience and gardens don't become too crowded, we've capped ticket sales. This means that if you'd like to be there, don't wait to purchase your tickets. SDHS members save \$5 per general admission ticket. You will receive the tour map via email by Friday, April 7 and can check in at any of the gardens on the tour. You can learn more about this year's tour on page 7. Also, be sure and let your garden friends and people at other organizations know about the tour. This is one of the best garden tours in the county, and you don't want miss it. You can purchase tickets, volunteer to help the day of the tour, and learn more about the tour gardens and their featured plants online at sdhort.org.

You Could Be Our Next President Or Board Member

August seems like a long way off, but we have some key board members whose terms expire that month, most notably

that of the **president!** Additionally, we are looking for a new **membership chair** to replace Cindy Benoit and a **volunteer chair** to replace Patty Berg. A lot of effort has been made over the last several years to make the board work in an easier and more flexible way to meet volunteers' schedules. Most responsibilities can be taken care of from home in a few hours per week. Please consider volunteering now, so you will have several months to learn about the position and be ready to start in August. In addition to these positions, we will have three one-year **member-at-large positions**. At-large positions are an opportunity to learn more about the organization and potentially move into a three-year position.

I encourage you to take the leap and volunteer to help lead this dynamic organization. Or maybe you have someone in mind that just needs a little nudge and reassurance that they can do it. It is a wonderful opportunity to play a major role in the San Diego horticultural community. The most important qualification is a passion for our mission and a desire to work with like-minded people eager to move our organization forward. You do not need to be a plant expert, although some knowledge doesn't hurt. Please contact me ASAP with your intention to serve or send questions to me at: sdhspresident@gmail.com. ☘

SDHS SPONSOR

Don't just dream it.
Grow it!



Now offering a fast and no-mess solution to compost and mulch application with our blower delivery service.

Compost • Mulch • Organic Recycling

www.agrisserviceinc.com
orders@agrisserviceinc.com

Julia Mattern
(760) 216-3385

THIS MONTH'S LOCAL GARDEN TOURS

By Mary James

SDHS's annual tour on April 8 is one of a half-dozen tours around the county this month. Learn more about our tour on Page 7 of the newsletter or at sdhort.org.

Below are details on the others that span from South Bay to Oceanside.

April 1 & 2: Gardens of Growth and Legacy

Twenty native plant landscapes in Lemon Grove, Chula Vista, Bonita, and Imperial Beach, as well as San Diego's North Park and South Park neighborhoods open for this Fifth Annual Garden Native Tour. Ticket holders can also visit four public gardens, including South Bay Botanic Garden where garden goods will be demonstrated and sold. Native plants will be on sale at Recon Native Plant Nursery. Sponsored by the San Diego Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. Details at gardennative.org.

April 8-9: 92nd Coronado Flower Show

This venerable show is the largest tented flower show in the U.S. Enjoy floral displays, exhibits, and entertainment at Spreckels Park and drive by winning front-yard gardens throughout the community. Vendors feature plants, garden supplies and accents, art, collectibles, and home décor. Sponsored by the Coronado Floral Association. Learn more at coronadoflowershow.com.

April 9: 15th Annual Seaside Native Plant Tour

Plant experts and residents lead this 1.5-mile walking tour past 18 front-yard native plant gardens in Oceanside's historic Seaside neighborhood. Tour goes gather at St. Mary's School parking lot, 515 Wisconsin Ave., Oceanside. Lemonade and cookies sold along the route. Sponsored by the Oceanside Coastal Neighborhood Association and the Buena Vista Native Plant Club. Details at BVAudubon.org or at OCNA101.org.

April 22: Bernardo Gardeners Club Spring Garden Tour

Five gardens in the Rancho Bernardo and Poway environs, including one on the site of a former winery, another at a landscape designer's home garden, and one on a half-acre 50-year-old riparian woodland, are on this North County tour. Enjoy complimentary refreshments, shop at the plant and craft sale, and seek advice from San Diego Master Gardeners. Learn more at bernardogardeners.org or email bernardogardenersclub@gmail.com.



Linda Faulkner

RiparianWoodland: This 50-year-old riparian woodland is one of five home gardens at the Bernardo Gardeners Club Spring Garden Tour.

April 29: Fallbrook Garden Club Tour

Seven gardens are part of this North County tour. Also includes vendors selling plants and garden goods at the Fallbrook Historical Museum. Tour begins at 260 Rocky Crest, Fallbrook. Details at fallbrookgardenclub.org.



SDHS SPRING WORKSHOPS

Plan to Sharpen your Gardening Skills

Earth Friendly Gardening with Master Gardeners

Thursday, March 30.

Two sessions: 10:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 3:00

Limit of 12 attendees at each.

Dawn Standke, Kathryn Blankinship and Valorie Shatynsk will present information on Landscape Sustainability, and you can plant a container of micro greens to take home.

Companion Plants for Succulents

Wednesday, April 26.

10:00 to 12:00.

Mike Hirsch, our local succulent expert, from Gardens By The Sea will be presenting information about plants that harmonize with succulents in your garden.

Hummingbird and Butterfly Friendly Gardens

Wednesday, May 3.

Two sessions 10:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 3:00.

Limit of 12 attendees at each.

Discover the joy of growing a hummingbird and butterfly friendly garden. Master Gardener Marcia Van Loy will lead you through the steps to create a beautiful, healthy and thriving nature wonderland. Discussed will be benefits to your garden, and the type of plants and habitat that provide food sources and shelter. ☘



**ARTFEST AT SAN DIEGO
BOTANIC GARDEN
APRIL 8 & 9, 2017
9 AM – 5 PM**

Featuring Fine Art, Asian Art,
a Plein Air Quick Draw Contest

ArtFest is a delightful combination of Fine Art Show, Asian Art Show, Art Demonstrations, and a Quick Draw Contest. Our juried Fine Art Show will feature over 20 artists, including sculptors, painters, glass artists, potters, and gourd and fiber artists, who will be showing and selling their works.

The Quick Draw Contest features artists who will be creating an entire work of art within an allotted time, right before visitors' and members' eyes. These pieces will be available for purchase after the contest.

The Asian Art Show celebrates the art of Asian horticulture with outstanding displays of Ikebana and Bonsai. Fresh sandwiches, salads, snacks, and coffee will be available from the Feel Good Coffee Cart. Enjoy live music by Bob Ballentine and friends in the Lawn Garden.

For more information, visit SDBGarden.org/events.htm.
Cost: Free with paid admission or membership. ☞



SDHS SPONSOR



Garden Design & Maintenance

- Custom Design ♦ Hardscape
- Native Landscapes ♦ Patios
- Lighting ♦ Fences
- Drainage ♦ Irrigation ♦ Repair
- Installation ♦ Consultation

**3685 Voltaire St., San Diego 92107
619-223-5229**

Coastalsage.mysite.com

SDHS SPONSOR

Over 500 types of
stone and boulder for your
Water-Wise Garden.

Flagstone
Pavers
Pathway DG
Boulders...
and so much more...

Our creative and
knowledgeable staff
will help you make the
best selections for the
garden of your dreams.

**KRC
ROCK**
Natural Stone & Boulder Supply

San Marcos (760) 744-1036
Poway (858) 748-3953
Lakeside (619) 443-8153
1 800 KRC ROCK (1 800 572-7625) www.KCRCRock.com

APRIL 8 SPRING GARDEN TOUR

If you have not already done so, be sure to buy tickets today for this year's Spring Garden Tour. All tickets must be purchased on our website (sdhort.org) in advance. No day of ticket sales.

Here are some things you won't want to miss (photos on page 8 and additional information at sdhort.org).

Artistic Asian-Style – Enjoy the strong Japanese and Asian influences in this garden's entry gate, teahouse, red bridge, window adornments, and sculptures, and the stunning landscape, as well as the Ricard Breceda horses frolicking on the lawn. Walk inside to appreciate the stunning view of the Bay.

Collector's Delight – This home belongs to a long time avid gardener who has taken every advantage of living just one block from the ocean. Collections of Clivias, Sansevieria, aloes and cactus thrive in this temperate climate along with staghorn ferns, plumerias, and a very large and old ponytail palm.

Contemporary Simplicity - In this architect's residence, the contemporary lines of the house are echoed in the organized garden that, in turn, picks up on the peaceful color pallet of the home and creates a smooth transition from garden to house.

Horticulture Wonderland - A collector's garden where you can enjoy over 500 different varieties of plants, largely drought tolerant, an intimate patio with waterfalls and eight connecting ponds, a grape arbor; and a flagstone deck below the house which offers the classic La Playa view.

Mid-Century Modern - A stunning and artistic 1959 Kendrick Bangs Kellogg designed home featuring glass, wood and tile and a close relationship with the surrounding gardens. The distinctive turquoise tiles were handmade by Kellogg. Highlights include art pieces by Jim Hubbell and an angled pond and water feature.

Palm Oasis – This house started out as a 1925 fisherman's shack, but now displays a large collection of palms, cycads and other exotic plants and has a number of winding pathways that lead through the plantings, garden features and several seating areas.

Potter's Paradise - The owners of this home have created a truly water wise garden of contrasting fine-leaved grasses, agaves, aloes, other succulents and blooming shrubs and vines. Artistic pots made by the owner and filled with succulents planted by his wife will be for sale the day of the tour.

Santa Barbara Style - Enter this garden through an impressive gate that leads to a tropical front courtyard, then walk over a bridge that leads through the lush plantings to a back-patio arcade framed around a custom outdoor fireplace and spa and fronting on a large bird aviary.

Singen Classic – A multi-layered tropical fantasy marked by mature palms and curved walkways that reflects the influence of garden designer W. J. Singen, well known in San Diego for his natural looking tropical landscapes. Adding to the ambiance are treasures that the owner, a garden tour organizer, has brought home from around the world and placed throughout.

SDHS SPONSOR



North County's Premium Supplier of
Bark • Topsoils • Mulch • Sod • Seed

641 Rock Springs Road
Escondido, CA 92025

www.greatsoil.com

VISA

MasterCard

Discover

AMERICAN EXPRESS

Call Today! (760) 740-9191

HOME DELIVERY AVAILABLE

SAVE WATER
APPLY MULCH

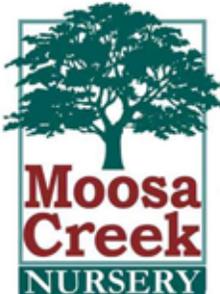
Free Delivery on 10yds Bark or 15 yds Soil in San Marcos and Escondido

<p><u>PREMIUM BARK</u></p> <p>Mini Fir Nuggets • Shredded Fir Medium Fir Nuggets 3/8" Fir Bark Shredded Redwood/Gorilla Hair Shredded Mulch - Coarse and Fine</p>	<p><u>OTHER PRODUCTS</u></p> <p>Pumice • Perlite- #3 Decomposed Granite Black Lava Rock (small and large) Sand • Peat Moss Certified Playground Mulch Rubber Mulch</p>
<p><u>PREMIUM TOPSOILS</u></p> <p>Landscape Mix for Grass Planter Mix for Vegetable & other Gardens Container Mix for Greenhouse Plants Bio Retention Soil Palm Mix California Native Plant Mix Custom Mixes on Request</p>	<p><u>SOIL AMENDMENTS</u></p> <p>Nitrolized Shavings 1:1 Soil Rejuvenation and Grass Topper Soil Conditioner 1:3 Concentrated Extra Strength Gypsum</p>

MARATHON SOD & MARATHON SEED

10% OFF
for the members
of SDHS

SDHS SPONSOR



**California's
Native Plants**

Available at your local
garden center

www.moosacreeknursery.com

760-749-3216

Saturday
APRIL 8
9 AM - 4 PM

.....
Nine beautiful gardens
in Point Loma and
Sunset Cliffs

Custom Pottery sale

Vendors and artists in
the gardens

Proceeds fund
Horticulture
Scholarships

.....
Garden tour map will be
emailed to purchasers
on April 6.

Ticket sales are limited
this year; all tickets
must be purchased in
advance. Don't miss
out, purchase your
tickets now.

No tickets will be
mailed. Check in by
name at any garden.

More information and
tickets:

**sdhort.org/
tickets**



In Sight of the Sea

Gardens of Point Loma & Sunset Cliffs

This year our annual Garden Tour takes garden lovers to the Point Loma peninsula with view of the ocean and the bay.

Our self-guided tour of nine beautiful gardens showcases all that San Diego horticulture has to offer. Some of the lush gardens we visit include beautiful, mature palm trees and tropical plants, appropriate to the coastal setting. We will take an up-close look at home gardens in several of the neighborhoods on the peninsula, starting with an artistic garden in Loma Portal and concluding with unique gardens in La Playa. Along the way, you'll visit one of San Diego's best palm gardens, a garden created decades ago by Sinjen (our 1998 Horticulturist of the Year honoree), some top designer gardens, plant collector gardens, a fabulous potter's garden, and several homes that were designed with the gardens in mind.

Selected vendors will be selling garden related items. A special attraction this year, one of the garden owners will be selling his custom-made pottery. Many of the pots include succulent arrangements planted by his wife.

TOUR & TICKET INFORMATION

Purchase tickets online at [sdhort.org / tickets](http://sdhort.org/tickets)

SDHS members \$30
Non-members \$35

SPRING GARDEN TOUR

Nine beautiful gardens
in Point Loma and Sunset Cliffs



Horticultural Wonderland



Singen Classic



Artistic Asian-Style



Santa Barbara Succulent



Palm Oasis



Mid-Century Modern



Potter's Paradise



Collector's Delight



Contemporary Simplicity

Our Mission: To inspire and educate the people of San Diego County to grow and enjoy plants, and to create beautiful, environmentally responsible gardens and landscapes.

Our Vision: To champion regionally appropriate horticulture in San Diego County.



Founded 1994
Let's Talk Plants

MARCH MEETING REPORT

By Lynn Langley

John Bagnasco absolutely loves roses. He has travelled extensively in pursuit of this passion, visiting many of world's great rose gardens. He is also one of the hosts of the weekly radio show *Garden America*, airing on Saturday mornings at 8 a.m. on KPRZ 1210 AM. At our March meeting, John discussed his efforts to "save the rose" by preserving rose genetics for future generations.

Roses have long been an important part of American horticulture. George Washington grew roses, naming one after his mother, Mary Washington. Ronald Reagan proclaimed the rose the national floral emblem of the United States on November 20, 1986. Roses were not only available from local nurseries, but also through a large group of mail-order companies offering a bewildering number of rose varieties. Unfortunately, this has changed over recent years. A majority of the mail-order firms have gone out of business. Rose varieties are disappearing as availability has decreased. Many varieties now only exist in a single rose garden and are in danger of becoming extinct.

John has joined in the efforts of other rosarians to try to protect these roses. He says it is important to get cuttings of rare roses into nurseries and people's gardens. For example, John spoke about one particular garden in Italy. Begun in 1967 by Professor Gianfranco Fineschi on his family's estate in Tuscany, the Fineschi Rose Garden (Roseto Botanico 'Carla Fineschi' Cavriglia) eventually grew to be the world's largest private rose garden with nearly 7000 distinct varieties of roses, 300 of which were the last in the world. Beginning in the 1970s, Fineschi established a relationship with the director of the Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen in East Germany. In an effort to safeguard against climate and other threats to the survival of the roses in both gardens, Sangerhausen and Fineschi exchanged specimens over the years.

In later years, attempts were made to further spread the Fineschi cache of rose specimens for preservation purposes, including an effort to acquire cuttings in Los Angeles. Because roses can't be shipped directly to the United States from Italy, 150 cuttings were first shipped from Denmark and then to Los Angeles. Sadly, the cuttings were mislabeled on their way to Los Angeles, and by the time they arrived at their destination, only ten of the cuttings had survived.

In the United States, there are several rose gardens of note. John mentioned the Wyck Rose Garden in Philadelphia, planted in the 1820s, which is the oldest rose garden in the United States that has retained its original plan. It contains the rose 'Lafayette', the only one of its kind and reputed to have been planted in honor of the Marquis of Lafayette's visit to Wyck in 1825. John also mentioned Columbus Park of

Roses in Ohio (once home to the American Rose Society), the San Jose Heritage Rose Garden, and Descanso Gardens in La Cañada Flintridge. During renovations in the early 1990s, Descanso Gardens planned to discard many aging and diseased Japanese roses. Given that (as with Italian roses) Japanese roses cannot be shipped to the United States, it was fortunate that volunteers were allowed to take cuttings from the Japanese roses and many of these are currently in private collections.

Internationally, several gardens work to ensure the preservation of rose diversity. Two of these gardens are the Roseraie du Val-de-Marne outside Paris containing roses from the early 1900s and the aforementioned Europa-Rosarium Sangerhausen, currently the world's largest rose garden with 9000 varieties.

Another source of rose diversity is amateur breeders. They are creating an incredible variety of beautiful roses, but, because these often are not registered and put into production, they disappear. John mentioned several people he calls rose rescuers who are actively working to preserve rose genetics. He also shared a list of eight companies currently selling roses in the United States. The California Coastal Rose Society, where John is currently president, has a rare rose auction in Carlsbad every year. He encouraged people to help CCRS continue their important work of preserving rose genetics by donating or becoming a member (californiacoastalrose.com).

Many thanks to John for sharing his insights and for his efforts to preserve rose genetics. Also, thank you to our raffle donors, Ausachica Nursery and Multiflora Enterprises, and to member Ray Brooks for sharing the beautiful bowl he created. 🌹

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

A warm hello to these new members:

John Blocker	Naomi McLean
Dianna Gilmore	Mary Jo Pfaff
Thea Gunns	Jennifer Ruffo
Camilla Hanson	Karen Ryan
Heather Heath	Dave Ryan
Linda Jimenez	Tricia Smith
Anna Kr	Nicola Suttner
Karen Krugman	Francine Tong

THE REAL DIRT ON . . .

Dame Sylvia Crowe

By Carol Buckley

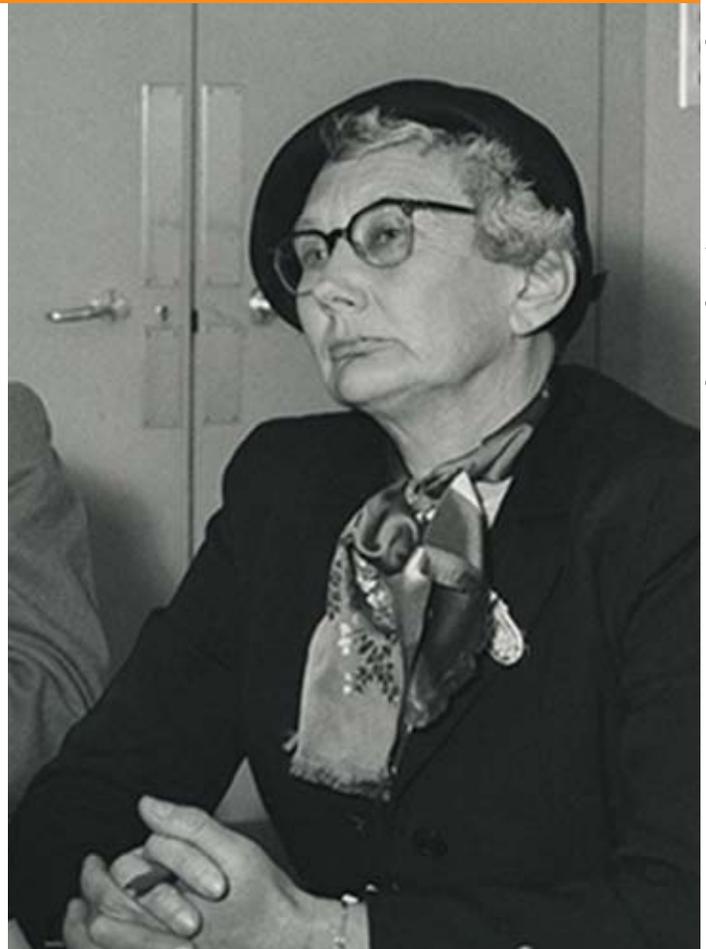
In these times of growing concern about land use and the need for development, the British landscape architect Dame Sylvia Crowe (1901–1997) is interesting to read about. Crowe came to prominence after World War II. She survived tuberculosis as a child, staying home from school and enjoying walks in nature. She obtained a degree in horticulture in 1922 with the aim of managing her parents' fruit farm in Sussex. After sketching expansive landscapes while wintering in Italy with her parents, she decided to study garden design.

She began her career working for a landscaping business where she learned surveying and was employed at the nursery, William Cutbush & Son in North London for thirteen years. One of her most praised gardens is at Whalebones, a private residence in Barnes, so named for the 24-foot-high arched entrance made from a blue whale's jawbone. Crowe's play with placement and use of trees to create privacy and intimacy is evident here.

At first, Crowe was controversial. In 1937, Crowe won a Gold Medal at the Chelsea flower show, using concrete to create a pond that seemed to have imperceptible edges. However, the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) criticized her for a later entry that included a concrete summerhouse. By 1990, RHS was sufficiently pleased with her work to award her the Victoria Medal of Honor.

Crowe became a proponent of the minimalist view in architecture and landscaping that came to the fore in the late 1940s. Her portfolio of work includes a remarkable range in landscape sizes. On the one hand, she gave her attention to the small garden details of Whalebones and the like, while she also had the responsibility for the design of hundreds of acres as part of the development of new towns that grew up in the countryside after the war. Even though she was working with a minimalist concept, she believed in the importance of staying true to the setting and context of her projects. For example, she sometimes used the excess soil dug up during the building of the towns to create flowing hills on which she planted native trees.

One of Crowe's biggest projects was the Scottish Widows headquarters on a six-acre site in Edinburgh in the late 1970s. For this, she grew a roof garden on top of a parking structure designed to accommodate 300 cars that reminds one of the grassy garden atop the California Academy of Science building in Golden Gate Park. The garden flows flawlessly into plantings of native trees, creating the aesthetic unity Crowe sought between nature and function. Well-known for her ability to achieve such unity, the Forestry Commission hired Crowe in 1964 to come up with a design that included



Design Council Archive, University of Brighton Design Archives

recreational facilities and aesthetic considerations that did not include (according to Londoner and planning lawyer Desmond Heap) "the setting up of row upon row of coniferous trees." Of her approach to designing functional spaces that also "look right in any given landscape," she said: "Landscaping is often what you leave out, not what you put in. You need absolute simplicity to knit the landscape back again." ❧

LOVE TO GARDEN? LOVE THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR?



Lots of jobs
are available
for all shifts at the
2017 Paul Ecke, Jr.
Garden Show
June 2 - July 4

Contact Coordinator
Cindy Benoit
@ 760-473-4244!

BUGS AND BUGABOOS

Deadly Citrus Disease Lurks Nearby

By Vincent Lazaneo

Huanglongbing (HLB), also known as citrus greening, is a devastating bacterial disease of citrus worldwide. The pathogen is primarily spread from tree to tree by a small, sap feeding insect, the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP). Every variety of citrus is susceptible to HLB. There is no cure for citrus with the disease. Infected trees decline and die, usually within five years.

ACP and HLB were initially detected in the United States in Florida – ACP in 1998 and HLB in 2005. Closer to home, ACP spread from Mexico into California and it was initially detected in San Diego County in 2008. The insect is now established throughout southern California and has spread as far north as the San Francisco bay area and Sacramento. In California, HLB was initially detected in Los Angeles County in 2012, on a single citrus tree in a residential area of Hacienda Heights. A second infected citrus was found in the same area in August 2015. In San Gabriel, about 10 miles from the initial find, several citrus with HLB were detected in July 2015 and more diseased trees were detected in the same area in 2016. In January 2017, a single citrus with HLB was found in Cerritos near the border of Orange County. In Mexico, HLB was detected in early 2016 in Ensenada and in October 2016 in Mexicali, only 23 miles from the U.S. border. HLB could spread into San Diego County any time, but it may not be detected here for a while since it takes up to two years after infection with the bacteria before a tree exhibits symptoms of HLB.

An early symptom of HLB in citrus is the yellowing of leaves on an individual limb or in one sector of a tree's canopy. Leaves that turn yellow from HLB show an asymmetrical pattern of blotchy yellowing or mottling of the leaf with patches of green on one side and yellow on the other side. Citrus leaves may also yellow due to a deficiency of zinc or other micronutrients, however, the pattern of this discoloration typically occurs symmetrically between or along leaf veins. It only takes a few months before ACP can spread the disease from a newly infected tree. Monitoring citrus for ACP and keeping its population under control can help slow the spread of HLB.

The best time to check citrus for ACP is when trees produce new growth. The psyllid's tiny eggs are laid in the folds of tender new leaf flush. They hatch into nymphs that are wingless, flattened, and yellow or orangish to brownish in color and only 1/100" to 1/14" long (yes, you need a magnifying lens to see them). The nymphs feed on sap and discharge a large quantity of sugary liquid which is excreted through a waxy tubule that is curly with a bulb at the end.



Copyright © 2017 Regents of the University of California.

This structure is unique to the ACP. Nymphs molt four times as they grow, then become adults which are brownish, winged insects about the size of an aphid. The adult psyllid is about 1/8" long with a pointed front end, red eyes, and short antennae. It feeds with its head down almost touching the leaf and the rest of its body is raised at about a 45° angle with its tail end in the air.

Agricultural officials do not have the resources to monitor every citrus tree in the state. They need your help. Learn to recognize the symptoms of HLB, know how to check your citrus for ACP, and learn what to do if the insect is present. See the UC IPM Pest Note "Asian Citrus Psyllid and Huanglongbing Disease" at <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74155.html>. If you suspect a citrus tree has HLB, call the CDFA exotic pest hotline at 1-800-491-1899 to have the tree checked. Visit californiacitrusthreat.org to learn more.

Vincent Lazaneo is UC Urban Horticulture Advisor Emeritus. He has a master's degree in horticulture and a teaching credential in vocational agriculture from UC Davis. In 1983, Vince began the Master Gardener program in San Diego. Vince frequently contributes to the San Diego Union-Tribune and other publications and he enjoys growing specialty plants in his home garden, reading, hiking, and fishing. 🌿



THE UNDERSTORY

Phosphorus and Australian plants

By Susan Starr

(This is the first in a series of occasional columns providing further information from the scientific literature on topics addressed by SDHS speakers).

Our January speaker, Jo O'Connell, referred to the well-known intolerance of Australian natives to phosphorus. Actually, it is not that they cannot tolerate phosphorus but, as she pointed out, that they have evolved very efficient methods for absorbing what little phosphorus is available in the phosphorus poor soils typical of Australia. Thus providing additional phosphorus is not necessary and may create chemical imbalances.

The soils of Western Australia are among the poorest on the planet, and some of these soils tightly bind phosphate, making what little there is difficult for plants to use. According to the literature, to adapt to these circumstances many Australian plants have evolved mechanisms, such as specialized root structures, that increase their uptake of phosphorus; they may also be able to distribute phosphorus from older to younger tissues.¹ As a result, Australian plants frequently will grow and thrive with less phosphorus than North American plants of similar size and leaf structure. At the same time, many Australian plants are relatively iron inefficient; they are used to growing in soils with an abundant supply of iron. When phosphorus is applied to these plants they readily absorb it, creating an excess of phosphorus. The excess phosphorus binds with iron, in turn creating an insoluble phosphate. The supply of available iron, on which the poor plant is counting, is thereby depleted, and the result is iron deficiency. This is why adding fertilizers containing phosphorus can lead to poor growth, chlorosis (yellowing leaves), leaf drop and susceptibility to fungi such as phytophthora. Additional iron can sometimes alleviate these symptoms.

The good news? Not all Australian plants are sensitive to additional phosphorus. In fact, a study by the Society for

Growing Australian Plants (SGAP), found that of over 800 species studied, 82% were not particularly phosphorus sensitive. You can find their list of Australian natives, grouped by relative phosphorus sensitivity, at <http://anpsa.org.au/APOL8/dec97-4.html>. Not surprisingly, plants widely planted in San Diego, such as *Dodonea viscosa* (hop bush), most of the *Callistemons* (bottlebrushes), *Agonis flexuosa* (peppermint tree), and *Boronia denticulate* are relatively insensitive. However, what I found most interesting about this list was that different species of the same genus had different sensitivities to phosphorus. So, for example, *Banksia audax*, *elderana*, *laevigata*, *lanata*, *littoralis*, *menziesii*, *petiolaris*, and *speciosa* are all relatively insensitive, but *Banksia aculeata*, *canei*, *cunninghamii*, *grandis*, and *victoriae* exhibited high rates of toxicity at high levels of additional phosphorus.

Bottom line: if you're having trouble with Australian natives, you may want to check out the SGAP list. Or look at the advice from fellow SDHS members on page 17. Perhaps there's another variety or a different genus better suited to the soil in your San Diego garden.

Susan Starr is SDHS Newsletter editor and a former science librarian.

¹Leake, Simon. Phosphorus and Iron Nutrition in Australian Native Plants. anpsa.org.au/APOLI/mar96-2.html. Australian Plants Online, The Society for Australian Plants, 1993.

SDHS SPONSOR

NORTH COUNTY'S MOST UNIQUE ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY



Call for a Personal Tour of our Homes, Greenhouse and Organic Fields.

858-674-1255 x 202

SUNSHINE CARE

A Community of Assisted Living Homes

Member of the SD Horticultural Society

www.sunshinecare.com

12695 Monte Vista Road
Poway, CA 92064

Lic#374601087

Specializing in Memory Care, Intergenerational Programs and Horticultural Therapy

- 7 care homes on 32 acres featuring 5 organic gardens, a greenhouse, fruit orchards, and California wildflowers.
- Organically grown fruits, vegetables and herbs used in our home cooked meals.
- Only 15 minutes from Del Mar and La Jolla on Route 56.
- FREE ongoing *Garden Lecture Series* with Farmer Roy Wilburn. For serious garden enthusiasts. Join us monthly, on the 3rd Saturday, at 10:30 a.m.
- Composting & Vermiculture Program
- Award-winning Intergenerational Seed to Table Program.



SDHS SPONSOR

Anderson's La Costa Nursery & Design Center

10% Discount for SDHS Members

400 La Costa Avenue
Encinitas

Open to the Public

Daily 9am to 5pm

(760) 753-3153

andersonslacostanursery.com

TREES, PLEASE

A Shady Business: Citizens Need to Speak Up

By Robin Rivet

Do you avoid parking under a tree because you're concerned that bird or insect feces might ruin your car wash? Although there are still people who think car paint is more valuable than breathing clean air, I'd guess many gardeners seek out the largest, lonely shade tree in public parking lots in order to avoid frying on hot, summer days. Did you ever wonder why there are so few large trees around?



Tree size is often a result of a combination of poorly conceived, but well-intentioned state contracting laws, commercial property managers who skirt the intent of regulations, inadequate government oversight, and overly zealous insurance underwriters – all typically lacking scientific knowledge. There is also a concern that landscape architects, who are usually tasked with advising and updating landscape codes, typically advocate on behalf of design, not biology. So why should this matter to you?

I'll explain. An ironic example of California tree pruning law gone awry is that you do not need a D-49 specialty contractor's license unless a tree is over fifteen feet tall. That seems reasonable, right? After all, homeowners don't want the government meddling if they choose to provide a ladder and hand saw to their favorite gardener in order to trim a small peach tree. There are key liability reasons why everyone should hire licensed and certified arborists anyway, but what about those parking lot trees? Why are there so many diminutive, deformed, and utterly useless trees when it comes to providing the shade many of us search for?

The answer lies in foolish incentives for commercial lots to keep all shade trees under 15 feet. HOAs, shopping malls, medical centers, and others are guilty of hiring unlicensed "tree pruners," but taxpayers forfeit cleaner air, cooled parking lots, and the cumulative effects of diminished carbon sequestration from savagely pruned foliage and limbs. In most cases, this also results in tree topping, which defies other regulations found in state public resources codes.

In the City of San Diego, one municipal code's goal is to



Qualcomm Stadium Parking Lot: Get to Qualcomm Stadium early to have your choice of more than 19,000 parking spaces, but you won't find a shady spot for the tailgate party.

achieve 50% shade in commercial parking areas, preferably with evergreen trees, while phasing out palms. Of course, like most city policies, the verbiage is extremely complicated and allows for all sorts of nuanced interpretation. Frankly, it's seldom enforced, as there are few tree wardens watching. Your city may completely lack any ordinance. Horticulturists need to be aware of countywide efforts to combat climate change by increasing the number of large-scale urban trees wherever possible. This means citizens need to speak up and demand our county's trees are allowed to grow up.

Member Robin Rivet is an ISA Certified Arborist, UC Master Gardener, and City of La Mesa Environmental Commissioner. She can be reached at treetutor@gmail.com.

Additional public resources on this topic:

1. A lawyer's perspective from the Center for Urban Forest Research at the USFS: fs.fed.us/psw/topics/urban_forestry/products/3/cufr_151.pdf
2. The City of San Diego's 2017 Urban Forestry Program Five Year Plan: sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/final_adopted_urban_forestry_program_five_year_plan.pdf
3. Contractors State License Board's warning of unlicensed tree trimmers: cslb.ca.gov/Media_Room/Press_Releases/2016/November_8a.aspx
4. California Government Code Section 53067. Tree pruning, legislative declaration; specifications: ufe1.calpoly.edu/files/pubs/CGC53067-TreePruning.pdf
5. Contractors State License Board's distinction between gardeners and landscapers: cslb.ca.gov/Resources/Consumer%20Education/GardenerOrLandscaperWhatsTheDifference.pdf

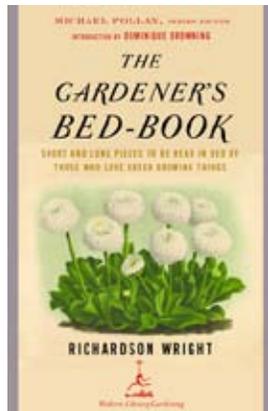
BOOK REVIEW

The Gardener's Bed-Book

By Richardson Wright

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh

I found this book in a stack of second-hand books for sale. I knew immediately that I wanted it because it is part of a series called Modern Library Gardening edited by Michael Pollan, author of *The Botany of Desire* and *Second Nature*. Modern Library published the eight-book paperback series in 2002 and 2003. I've reviewed three others: *The Gardener's Year* by Karel Čapek (April 2012), *We Made a Garden* by Margery Fish (November 2011), and *Green Thoughts* by Eleanor Perényi (May 2008). I look forward to finding the other four titles in my various forays to bookstores. They are *Old Herbaceous* by Reginald Arkell, *The American Gardener* by William Cobbett, *In the Land of the Blue Poppies* by Frank Kingdon Ward, and *My Summer in a Garden* by Charles Dudley Warner.



Pollen, one of the best garden and nature writers, put into words an appreciation I share with him. Speaking of the authors, he writes:

Their voices could be by turns personal and prescriptive, diffident and prickly, and, somehow, both self-deprecating and incontrovertible at the same time...I discovered that as soon as one got past the how-to volumes written by experts, and the illustrated coffee-table tomes of garden porn, the garden bookshelf brimmed with the sort of quirky, sui generis writing often produced by a good mind operating in a small space.

Richardson Wright (1887-1961) is one of those good minds that produced some quirky writing. He wrote 28 books during his career, including *The Gardener's Bed-Book*, originally published in 1929, in addition to editing *House & Garden* magazine for 35 years.

The author calls it a bed-book because you can read one short section every night before going to sleep. Most of the readings are less than a page, but he includes one longer reading (two-plus pages) at the end of each month. Following each reading is a suggestion for what you might do the next day in the garden. For January 27, he says, "This is an excellent season for carrying on garden correspondence, especially with people a little less favored than you." For the 28th, he suggests, "Hang a Cabbage from the ceiling of the chicken house and make your hens take vicarious exercise." For the

first week of April, he advises: "See that you have plenty of Dahlia stakes and Bean poles on hand."

For some reason, most of the people who write this kind of book live and garden well east of us. Wright's garden was in Connecticut, so many of his suggestions will not be relevant to us, except that they show us all the things we don't have to do to prepare for winter.

I found this book an absolute delight. I recommend it to you for Wright's good writing, his observant eye, and his wry sense of humor. No wonder Michael Pollan likes it so much.



SDHS SPONSOR

10% DISCOUNT FOR SDHS MEMBERS

OPEN 8AM TO 5PM

BARRELS & BRANCHES
GARDEN AND GIFT

FOLLOW US
Instagram Facebook

Plant Nursery • Event Space
Design & Installation Services

1452 Santa Fe Drive, Encinitas
760.753.2852 | barrelsandbranches.com

SDHS SPONSOR

12755 Danielson Court
Poway, CA 92064
(858) 513-4900
FAX (858) 513-4790
Open 9-5, 7 days a week

3642 Enterprise Street
San Diego, CA 92110
(619) 224-8271
FAX (619) 224-9067
Open 8-5, 7 days a week

Free Garden Classes at both locations on Saturday mornings
www.walterandersen.com

SDHS SPONSOR

Sunshine Gardens

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

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

- ☛ Bedding Plants ☛ Shrubs
- ☛ Citrus ☛ Houseplants
- ☛ Vegetables ☛ Fertilizers
- ☛ Soils ☛ Seed
- ☛ Trees ☛ Pottery

When you're here also visit
Elizabethan Desserts & Twigs by Teri

www.sunshinegardensinc.com

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

SUNSHINE GARDENS
ENCINITAS
155 Quail Gardens Drive
Encinitas
(760) 436-3244

GOING WILD WITH NATIVES

Adaptations to Aridity

By Bobbie Stephenson

We are having a glorious spring because the rains have been spaced to allow the germination of abundant annual wildflowers and blooming shrubs and trees. Native species have many adaptations to our arid climate and are able to survive years of drought such as we have recently experienced. These plants have evolved to adapt to our regional climate as it has changed over millions of years from subtropical to arid. Due to these adaptations, we cannot treat native species in our gardens the same way we treat most ornamental plants; in particular, we should not water them as much, especially in the summer.

Annual native plants avoid the extreme dryness of summer. They germinate during winter rains (a characteristic of California's Mediterranean climate) and then complete their life cycles very quickly. The drought-resistant seeds stay dormant in the soil over the hot dry summer until the next year's rains. But not all the seeds germinate in any given year; a seed bank is built up in the soil so that seeds are available for future years, even if we have one or more rainy seasons that don't provide the annuals with enough water to sustain a full life cycle. An example is the native annual canchalagua, or California centaury (*Zeltnera venusta*).

Other plants handle, rather than avoid, the aridity. Plant stomata, the tiny epidermal pores that are most abundant in plant leaves, open to allow both carbon dioxide to enter the



Zeltneravenusta: *Zeltnera venusta* is frugal when it comes to how many seeds will germinate in any given year.

plant for photosynthesis, and water and oxygen to escape the plant. Although these processes are crucial to photosynthesis, losing too much water can be dangerous, and plants have found interesting methods of offsetting this loss. Many of our local coastal sage scrub species are drought-deciduous – they drop their leaves during the driest time of the year. In the desert, ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*) can sprout leaves quickly when it rains and drop leaves as soon as the weather dries, thereby reducing water loss. An ocotillo can do this repeatedly throughout a season. The desert shrub chuparosa (*Justicia californica*) reduces water loss by having few leaves and pale green stems that photosynthesize.

Of course, cacti are the masters of water conservation. Most species of cacti have lost true leaves, retaining only spines, which are highly modified leaves without stomata. The stomata on cacti open at night when it's cooler rather than during the day. Cactus spines help shade the plant and reduce airflow close to it. In addition, cactus ribs can expand to store water in the plant when it rains and cacti have a waxy coating that helps seal in the moisture. Cacti have root systems that radiate away from the plant, just below the surface of the ground, ready to capture any water and conduct it to the plant's stems. Further, within an hour of a rainfall, cactus roots sprout tiny rootlets to help absorb water quickly.

These are just a few examples of how plants cope with their arid environments. Have you noticed these or other adaptations in your garden? 🌱



Justicialifornica: *Justicia californica* reduces water loss by having few leaves and pale green stems that photosynthesize.

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 sdhort.wildapricot.org/SharingSecrets?eid=1093874. Also, you can continue the discussion by adding new replies online to Sharing Secrets topics.

The question for April was: Our January speaker raved about Australian plants, but sometimes they don't do so well in San Diego. What success or failure have you had with Australian plants in your garden?

Lisa Bellora: I've had success with most *Grevilleas* (but not transplanting them), and difficulty with *Chamelaucium*. I've had success with *Dianella*, *Lomandra*, and *Eucalyptus*, of course.

Wanda Mallen: Aside from my cacti and succulents, I find Australian plants to be the most reliably easy to grow plants in my garden. *Acacias*, *Melaleucas*, and *Grevilleas* do very well in our Mediterranean climate. They need to be watered regularly for the first two years and after that, they're very drought tolerant. They are also, for the most part, tolerant of poor soils, frost resistant, fast growing, and reliable bloomers. What more could you want?

Charlotte Getz: All of the Australian plants in my yard are thriving. I have a wide variety of *Grevilleas*. They have been planted from six months to four years. I live near the coast in Encinitas.

Carey Pratt: Success with Aussies in San Diego, for me, depends on the genus. I keep my drought tolerant garden very dry, so that may be a problem. *Acacias* are always successful, and easily grown from seed and easily available by mail from Australia. *Acacia dealbata* is fabulous if you have the space for a huge tree. *A. coventyi*, is a beautiful gray foliaged tree which hedges beautifully. *Eucalyptus* may be a good choice if you have the space and are careful about selection. *Monrovia* grows a smaller bush type, 'Moon Lagoon', with beautiful gray leaves. *Callistemon* are fairly easy, *Grevilleas* are terrific and easy, *Melaleucas* are reliable and tough, especially *M. nesophila*. Any *Correa*, especially 'Ivory Bells'. *Brachychiton* is a favorite, especially *B. rupestris*. *Boronias* are generally delightful and easy small shrubs that are always in bloom. I have trouble with the *Chamelaucium*; I have killed many. Same with *Leptospermum*. Probably not enough water in my garden, as they're both a little thirsty. I don't fertilize any Aussies since they're very sensitive to phosphorus. I just use my homemade mulch. (92106)

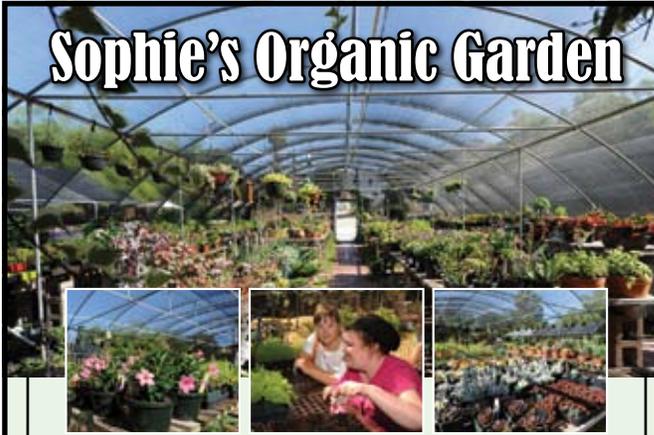
Rosemary Stark: I have only tried kangaroo paws. All six of my plants died.

Doreen Borseth: I recently had a backyard restoration that was completed in October of 2016. Susan Rojas was the designer and she primarily utilized succulents along with some beautiful *Grevilleas*. They have all done well with the exception of one that was water logged after repeated rainstorms. What I have learned is that they prefer well drained soil and they especially like the areas that have been built up (berms).

Linda Chisari: *Billardiera heterophylla* (formerly *Sollya heterophylla*) is very happy in my coastal garden. I love its clear blue flowers, which bloom over a long summer season. It has reseeded itself in several places, including my bed of natives, where it thrives with no summer water except the occasional rainfall. It has no pests of any kind that I am aware of.

Pat Welch: I am glad you asked this question! The main thing to remember when growing Australian native plants is never to give them phosphorus. Phosphorus is poison to plants from Australia. Australian soils are ancient and predate the creation of phosphorus on our planet. That is particularly true of soils in Western Australia. Southwestern Australia has the most ancient soils in Australia and a Mediterranean climate and native shrubbery, similar to our chaparral, and thus is a

SDHS SPONSOR



Sophie's Organic Garden

By purchasing garden items from Sophie's Organic Garden you are providing the opportunity for over 400 adults with developmental disabilities who attend St. Madeleine Sophie's Center to discover, experience and realize their full potential.

\$10 off with this coupon*

2119 E. Madison Ave. | El Cajon, CA 92019
www.stmsc.org | 619.442.5129

Open Mon - Fri 8 to 4 (year round) and Sat 9 to 3 (Mar 15th - Jul 15th)

*With purchase of \$50 or more

DIGGING WITH OUR MEMBERS

source of many of our garden plants. (Similar communities of plants are called “fynbos” in South Africa, “maquis” in the Mediterranean basin, “matorral” in Chile, and “kwongan” in Australia.) Australian plants are used to growing in poor soil and it’s what they like best. Australian plants actually thrive here if we remember not to fertilize them at all or only feed them very lightly and never with phosphorus. Just look at *Eucalyptus*. No one would think of fertilizing a eucalyptus tree.

One of our loveliest climbing plants native to Australia is *Hardenbergia violacea* ‘Happy Wanderer’ (purple vine lilac), which blooms in winter with a final spurt of flowering in spring. Every late winter or early spring, Home Depot and Costco sell thousands of these climbers in full bloom. Almost every shopper emerges with one of these handsome plants in his or her shopping cart, yet never or almost never do these plants survive. The main reason for that is that folks tend to feed them with a balanced fertilizer containing ingredients for both growth and bloom. If you feed this to a *Hardenbergia*, it will promptly die. Yes, I mean it will begin to decline immediately and be dead as a doornail within a month or two. Nonetheless, I know a couple who have a lovely purple vine lilac in Del Mar that blooms massively every year on an arbor in their front yard. The secret to its survival is that these folks are *not* avid gardeners, but they are doing just the right thing for a *Hardenbergia*: They treat it with benign neglect and cut it back a bit after bloom just to take away the tangles. If you purchase one this spring, be sure to water it to get it established. After that, don’t over-water. Sunset Western Garden Book says ‘Happy Wanderer’ needs good drainable soil, but from what I’ve heard elsewhere, it will grow fine in clay soil. (If you have decomposed granite, it might croak.)

Tom Biggart: You must be careful when selecting Aussie plants for your garden as many of them are frost sensitive and others are quite picky about soils and drainage. When you find one that is happy, be prepared to stand back and be wowed for the rest of your life! Sorta like a good woman!!

Paula Suttle: Once in a while I lose an Australian plant, but normally I have wonderful success with them. I think it’s because my garden gently slopes down to a creek and they get good drainage. I only water them in the hot months and not very often. No fertilizer. I like varieties with soft foliage, as some are unpleasant to touch. I have a few nights of frost and they don’t suffer. I’m in Poway.

Jan Ryder: Well, I bought a *Grevillea banksii* that Mo Price raved about at one of our meetings last year. It is on a west slope with poor soil (mostly clay) and doing well despite my efforts.

Linda Morse: I purchased a *Banksia* and it lived for a few months and then died. I recall that when I purchased it, I was

told to water it deeply once a month. Needless to say that it was on my drip system and that was not the watering schedule. I should have put the hose on it with a trickle once a month but I can barely remember to change the oil in my car; let alone baby a plant. Bye bye, *Banksia*!

Kate Engler: My wet clay soil doesn’t seem to support any of the varieties I’ve tried to date. I just bought another *Grevillea* and will try it in a pot with the planting mixture suggested by Obra Verde Growers.

Christy Powell: We propagated many Australian plants from seeds for the Australian Outback exhibit at the Zoo. We lost many seedlings early on, but once they got over a certain size, they seemed to do much better. Many plants took off once they got planted in the ground, too. Both in pots and in the ground, certain plants, such as *Banksias*, tend to get chlorotic, in our experience.

Candace Kohl: I grow a great number of Australian plants (and South African *Proteacea*) and was very sorry to be out of town for the last meeting. Many of mine are on a south facing and very sandy slope where they get drip water once a week. I have had many successes and a fair number of failures, some for unknown reasons. Some large bushes have looked just fine and in a week were completely dead, with no change in care. *Grevilleas* are the most reliable of the *Proteacea* for me and some of them are never out of bloom. They’re wonderful plants that provide excellent greens for arrangements. The *Banksias* are probably the trickiest, but very rewarding. I love the *Melaleuca* family and wish more of the interesting ones were available. They can be shaped, look spectacular, and are very hardy for me. I have *M. incana*, prostrate and draping over a block wall. *M. diosmifolia* and *M. densa*, are nicely shaped. I also have good results with some of the Australian cycads, and am especially fond of the smaller *Macrozamia*. I have quite a number of them that are doing very well. Those are the pots in semi-shade. I tried to grow the desert *M. macdonnellii* and was rewarded with the plant’s rapid death.

Joe Walker: When choosing which Australian natives you are going to plant, I think you need to consider plant varieties that can be grown in a Mediterranean climate similar to San Diego County. In San Diego County, we specialize in growing plants that thrive in our climate, which is similar to certain areas in Australia. We are able to grow a large and very diverse mixture with good results and have done so for decades. One of the problems we see in growing Australian natives in Southern California is water control. Gardeners tend to overwater these drought-tolerant plants, which brings on soil borne diseases that can kill these plants. We use a moisture meter, which takes the guessing out of when

DIGGING WITH OUR MEMBERS

the plants need water. Soil types are also very important. Most Australian natives like a sandy, well-drained soil. They do not do well in heavy soil. We always recommend growers amend their soil when plants in heavier soil. Proof of how well some Australian natives do here can be seen everywhere by simply driving around our roads. Many varieties sustain themselves with no water or care and thrive by both growing and reseeding themselves.

Susi Torre-Bueno: The Australian plant I've had great success with is a *Brachychiton acerifolius*, or Illawarra Flame Tree (you can read all about it in the SDHS tree book). I purchased it at the U C Riverside plant sale in 2011, paying \$10 for a one-gallon plant. Because I wasn't ready to plant it in the garden right away, I put the pot on top of one of my vegetable garden raised beds. And there it sat, getting bigger every year, until 2016. By that time it was about twelve feet tall and very well rooted, through the holes in the pot, into the raised bed. One night we had a windstorm and the tree blew over, breaking off most of the roots. We took a chance and finally planted it in the garden in February 2016. It has grown several feet since then, and it bloomed last year for the first time. Such a resilient plant! 🌿

SDHS SPONSOR

SOUTHWEST ESTD 1989
BOULDER & STONE

**Landscape
Rock & Supply
Superstore**

We Deliver!

**4 Convenient
SD Locations** PACIFIC BEACH • CHULA VISTA
ESCONDIDO • FALLBROOK

SOUTHWESTBOULDER.COM

MARCH 2017 PLANT DISPLAY

By Sherrill Leist and Lisa Marun

What is the Plant Display?

Each month, members bring in plants, cuttings, or flowers and put them in blue bottles on our display tables at the monthly meeting. What a great way to see which 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.

**Available FREE on our website:
All 22 years worth of plant descriptions!
Go to tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions.**

***Marah fabaceus* var. *fabaceus* WILD CUCUMBER,
CALIFORNIA MANROOT (Cucurbitaceae)**
California and Baja California

After appearing in response to late winter rains, this wild spring vine quickly grows over and around anything in its path. It has charming little yellow-green to white flowers. The unusual round, green prickly seedpod matures to a yellow color before breaking open come summer to ensure a return next year. (Dianna Gilmore, Ramona, 3/17) – S.L. & L.M.

***Nemophila menziesii* BABY BLUE EYES**
Oregon to Baja California

Charming little (four to twelve inches high) annual wildflower which blooms from March to May. Three varieties of this species are easily distinguished by looking at the flowers: *Nemophila menziesii* var. *atomaria*'s flowers are white with black dots; *Nemophila menziesii* var. *menziesii* has bright blue flowers; and *Nemophila menziesii* var. *integrifolia* has blue flowers with black dots at the center. Self-seeds and attracts pollinators. It is drought resistant, especially in partial shade (must be kept moist in full sun) and easy to grow. Too cute for words. (Pat Pawlowski, Vista, 3/17) – P.P. & L.M.

***Rosa x damascene* var. *semperflorens* QUATRE SAISON,
FOUR SEASON ROSE**

Smell this medium pink Damask rose for the fragrance it emits. It is commercially harvested for its oil, which is used in perfumery and for rose water. It is the only true Old Rose that blooms more than once per year! (Jason Chen, Del Mar, 3/17) – J.C. & L.M.

DIGGING WITH OUR MEMBERS

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

Plants marked '3' are fully described in the SDHS Plant Forum Compilation, available online for FREE at tinyurl.com/Plant-Descriptions.

3 *Camellia* 'Senritsu-Ko' (Jason Chen, Del Mar, 3/17)

3 *Tanacetum parthenium* FEVERFEW (Marilyn Wilson, Vista, 3/17)

Since our meeting emphasized roses, but not many were blooming yet, we thank the following members for sharing their early bloomers:

Rosa 'Gemini' (Susan Morse, Vista, 3/17)

Rosa 'Memorial Day' (Susan Morse, Vista, 3/17)

Rosa 'Amy Johnson' (Susan Morse, Vista, 3/17)

Rosa 'Lady Salisbury' (Jason Chen, Del Mar, 3/17)

Rosa 'Malvern Hills' (Jason Chen, Del Mar, 3/17)



SDHS SPONSOR

Great Results Start with Great Soil!



KelloggGarden.com
is proud to support the
San Diego Horticultural Society
for a greener world



SDHS SPONSOR

FIND A DESIGNER NEAR YOU!

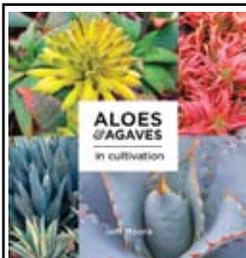


Association of
Professional
Landscape
Designers
San Diego District

Go to **www.apldca.org**
and type in
your zip code.

APLD—Where Residential Landscape Design Begins

SDHS SPONSOR



This 340-page, 1000+ color photo book is both a cultural overview and encyclopedia of aloes and agaves in cultivation. These African and Mexican plants are shown thriving in our Southern California suburban habitat, with growing advice and observations from a local succulent nursery owner. Also shown and discussed are the smaller related genera, such as yuccas, beaucarneas, haworthias, gasterias, etc..

Available late April 2016. Quality softcover, retail (est.) \$39.00. Please contact the author at Solana Succulents if you'd like to pre-order.

We are a retail nursery specializing in both common and rare succulents for container culture or landscape. Design help is available.

Open Wednesday - Saturday 10-5
Sunday 12-4

Solana Succulents
355 N. Hwy 101
Solana Beach, CA 92075
(858) 259-4568
www.solanasucculents.com

Over 100 Years of Gardening Experience...

Please Join Us

Membership is open to all interested individuals. Membership in San Diego Floral is a great way to meet other gardening and horticultural enthusiasts.

Membership Includes

- Subscription to California Garden, our bimonthly magazine
- Borrowing privileges from our extensive Horticultural Library of 3500+ books
- Reduced fees for selected events
- Quarterly meetings with informative programs
- Regular newsletters



Don't Miss Out
sdfloral.org/membership.htm



1650 El Prado #105,
San Diego, CA
92101-1684

sdfloral.org



CALLING ALL CONTAINER GARDEN EXHIBITORS
Come join in on the fun at the
2017 San Diego County Fair's Garden Show
"HAPPY TRAILS"

Container Plants Classes: Bromeliads & Tillandsias, Cactus & Succulents, Fairy Gardens, Ferns & Tropicals, Noteworthy Plants and Window Boxes

Cash Awards and Ribbons available
\$10 per entry (no limit)

Entry Deadline: May 5
www.sdfair.com/entry

Questions? Call: 858 755-1161 x2460
or e-mail gardenshow@sdfair.com



**Don't miss the
2017 Garden Tour
See page 7.**

SDHS SPONSOR



Free Videos On Demand

Learn Online How to Create a WaterSmart Landscape!

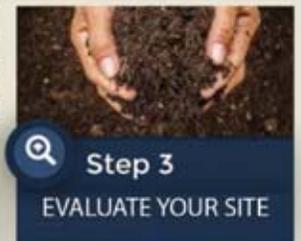
- 17 short lessons for homeowners on landscaping essentials:
 - Build healthy soil
 - Shape outdoor spaces
 - Create curb appeal
 - Irrigate like a pro
- Available 24/7 – whenever and wherever you are!
- Downloadable materials & other resources



Step 1
IDENTIFY YOUR
LANDSCAPE TARGET



Step 2
CREATE A PLOT PLAN



Step 3
EVALUATE YOUR SITE



Step 4
DESIGN YOUR WATER-
SMART LANDSCAPE



Step 5
IMPLEMENT YOUR PLAN



Step 6
CARE FOR YOUR WATER-
SMART LANDSCAPE



Visit WaterSmartSD.org



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

Nonprofit Organization
U S Postage
PAID
Encinitas, CA 92024
Permit No. 151

Change Service Requested



WE THANK OUR SPONSORS

Agri Service, Inc.

Anderson's La Costa Nursery

Barrels & Branches

Benoit Exterior Design - Landscape Architecture

Briggs Tree Service

Chris Drayer, ASLA - Landscape Architect

Coastal Sage Gardening

Cuyamaca College

Evergreen Nursery

Falling Waters Landscape, Inc.

Garden Design Magazine

Glorious Gardens

Grangetto's Farm & Garden Supply

Greatsoil LLC

Green Thumb Nursery

JTM Nutrients

Kellogg Garden Products

KRC Rock Inc

Marilyn's Garden Design

Moosa Creek Nursery

Multiflora Enterprises

Ornamental Gardens by Lisa

Pat Welsh

Renee's Garden, LLC

San Diego County Water Authority

Serra Gardens Landscape Succulents

SiteOne Landscape Supply

Solana Succulents

Southwest Boulder & Stone

St. Madeleine Sophie's Center

Sterling Tours, Ltd

Sunshine Care

Sunshine Gardens

Walter Andersen Nursery

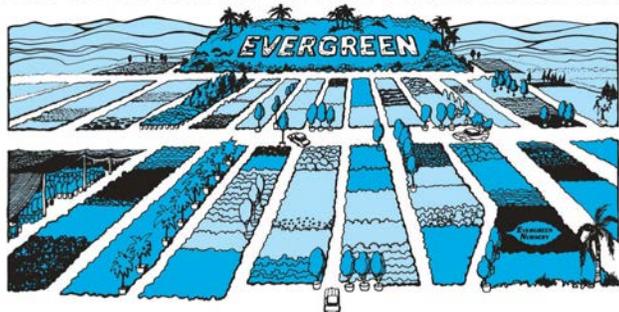
Westward Expos, L P

What's Happening? for APRIL 2017

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 Barbara Patterson at calendar@sdhort.org.

▼ SDHS Sponsor

DISCOVER EVERGREEN NURSERY



Landscaping? Re-landscaping?
Just Sprucing Up Your Yard?

WHY PAY MORE?

BUY DIRECT FROM THE GROWER AND SAVE!

ONE STOP SHOPPING

Incredible selection. Over 500 varieties on 400 acres.
From small color packs to huge specimen trees.

DRIVE THRU SHOPPING

Use your car as a shopping cart!!!



UNBEATABLE VALUE

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

Come on out and see for yourself!

- 1 gallon plants starting at \$3.50
- 5 gallon plants starting at \$10.00
- 15 gallon plants starting at \$39.00

PROMPT DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Hours - call to confirm

ALL LOCATIONS:

Monday – Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Free Monthly Seminar

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

April 15, All About Roses

See and enjoy a huge selection of colorful roses and become a garden rose expert! Bring in some of your own best roses and share your own success secrets.

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

Send questions and comments to:
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
TBA – check their website calendar.

❖ **San Diego Botanic Garden** Contact info on other side
May 6 and 7, 9:00am – 4:00pm, Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild: Thirty classes for students of all abilities. Learn basket weaving and/or decorative gourd skills. Complete information at: www.baskets-gourds.com. Registration and materials fees vary.

May 27, 9am-3pm, Palm, Cycad, Bamboo and Tropical Plant Sale: One-of-a-kind event featuring rare and exotic species from exceptional Southern California nurseries. Co-hosted by the Palm Society of Southern California and San Diego Botanic Garden. Questions: Phil Bergman at (619) 291-4605, Free with paid admission or membership.

Last Saturday of month, 10:30am, Waterwise Tour: There are so many alternatives to using large amounts of water in the garden. Come see the gardens and take home lots of tips for conserving water in your own garden.

❖ The Water Conservation Garden

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

April 2 and April 9, Noon-4pm, Docent Training – Parts 1 and 2: Become a Garden docent. Get involved and meet new people. To register, contact Pam Meisner, Education Director, at Pam@thegarden.org or at (619) 660-0614 x13. Cost: Free

April 8, 10am-noon, Designing San Diego Habitat Gardens: A class for butterfly and hummingbird lovers. Clayton Tschudy, takes you through the steps to creates your own water saving habitat garden. Cost is \$10 for Non-Members. Members free. Register at: www.thegarden.org

April 29, 9am-3pm, Spring Butterfly and Garden Festival: Kids' Activities, Educational Exhibits and Edible, Ornamental and Native Plant Sales, Butterfly Pavilion Tours. Landscape Design Consultations with prepayment of \$20 for 20 minutes. Call (619) 660-0614 x10 to register.

Events Hosted by SDHS Sponsors

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

◆ Barrels & Branches Classes & Workshops

Info: www.barrelsandbranches.com. See ad on page 17.

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

◆ Sunshine Care: FREE Seminar Each Month

April 15, 10:30am-noon: Twelve Healthy Herbs for Your Kitchen Garden. RSVP: (858) 472-6059 or roy@sunshinecare.com. www.sunshinecare.com. See ad page 13.

◆ Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes

Details at www.walterandersen.com; address in ad on page 16.

Point Loma, 9am

Apr. 1 To Be Determined

Apr. 8. To Be Determined Children's Gardening

Apr. 15 To Be Determined No Class

Apr. 22 To Be Determined Spring/Summer Veggies

Apr. 29 To Be Determined

Poway, 9:30am

Spring Rose Care

Children's Gardening

No Class

Spring/Summer Veggies

DIG Irrigation – You Must RSVP

Next SDHS Meeting

April 3:

The No Sacrifice Low Water California Garden

See Page 1 & website for details

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

Other Garden-Related Events: Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

Apr. 7, 10am, Vista Garden Club: Pick strawberries at a nearby field during 10am workshop; at noon Diane Kennedy of Finch Frolic Gardens will speak about her permaculture garden filled with food, medicinal and native plants. Guests welcome. Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace Ct., Vista. Info: www.vistagardenclub.org

Apr. 8, 1pm-5pm and Apr. 9, 10am-4pm. 92nd Annual Coronado Floral Show: "Our Family Tree.. Out On A Limb". Landscape displays, floral competitions, lectures and demonstrations. Live entertainment, food, wine, beer garden, and shopping! Cost: \$5 per day, children under 12 free. Spreckels Park, 635 Orange Avenue, Coronado. Cost: Adults \$5. Free for children under 12 and for Coronado Floral Association members. More info: www.coronadoflowershow.com

Apr. 11, 10am, Dos Valles Garden Club: Mark Smalley, manager of One Grow Seeds, will present: "Where Do Your Garden Seeds Come From?" St. Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center. More info: www.dosvallesgardenclub.org

Apr. 12, 9:30am, Bonita Valley Garden Club: Meeting at Bonita-Sunnyside Library, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita. More info: Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585.

Apr. 12, 10am, Point Loma Garden Club: A presentation and plant sale by the San Diego Fern Society. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego. More info: www.plgc.org

Apr. 19, 1:30pm, San Diego Floral Association: Designing Native Gardens presented by author Carol Bornstein. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. More info: (619) 232-5762 and www.sdflo.org

Apr. 20, 11:30am, Chula Vista Garden Club: Greg Alder, Master Gardener, will speak about Collecting Rainwater and Greywater. Norman Park Senior Center, 270 F St., Chula Vista. Info: 619-991-0526.

Apr. 22, 10am to 3pm, Bernardo Gardeners: Self-guided tour of five beautiful gardens, plus craft and plant sale. Proceeds to scholarship fund. Cost \$20. More info: (858) 432-4060 or www.bernardogardenersclub@gmail.com

Apr. 22, 9am-noon, Point Loma Garden Club: Annual Plant Sale. Not to be missed. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3598 Talbot Street, San Diego. Info: plgc.org

April 23, 10am to 4pm, California Rare Fruit Growers San Diego Chapter: Annual Plant Sale! Patio B, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Info: www.crfgsandiego.org

Apr. 28, 11am, San Diego Floral Association: Join the S DFA for a free docent led tour of the Balboa Park Botanical Building. Meet at the south end of the Lily Pond, Balboa Park. Info: 619-232-5762 and www.sdflo.org.

Apr. 29 and 30, 10am-5pm, San Diego Bonsai Club: 52nd Annual Spring Show and Sale. Bonsai technique demonstrations at 11am and 1pm. Bonsai display in the courtyard both days. Bonsai plants, pots and accessories for sale. Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Free. Donations welcomed. Info: www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

Apr. 29, 10am-4pm, San Diego County Dahlia Society: Tuber and cutting sale. Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Information: Dave Tooley, 858-672-2593.

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

For a FREE listing (space permitting) send details by the 10th of the month BEFORE the event to Barb Patterson at calendar@sdhort.org.

For an extensive list of garden club meetings and events, visit www.sdflo.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/\$5. 1270 Vale Terrace Drive, Vista. Info: www.avgardens.org or (760) 945-3954.

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

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

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

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

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

DESERT WILDFLOWER HOTLINE: Anza-Borrego Desert State Park: (760) 767-4684. Info., events, road conditions, etc.: (760) 767-5311 or 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.

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: Tuesday to Sunday, 10am-4pm. Fees: Free 3rd Tuesday; \$5/family; \$2/adult, \$1/seniors/students; (619) 232-2721, www.niwa.org.

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

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

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

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

Garden Radio Show:

Garden America Radio Show (local). Saturday 8-9am on KPRZ 1210AM radio. Hosts Bryan Main, John Bagnasco and Tiger Palafox. Call-in questions to toll-free number (855) 424-9825. Each show also features an industry "expert". Podcast and live stream are available through "Biz Talk Radio". Archived shows are posted on the "Biz Talk Radio" website: www.biztalkradio.com.

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