

# Let's Talk Plants!



Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

November 2011, Number 206

## San Diego Plant Atlas Project

SEE PAGE 1

Coast Aster  
PAGE 4

SDHS Bay Area Tour  
PAGE 5

Storm Water Exhibit  
PAGE 9

On the Cover: Boojum Tree



▼ SDHS SPONSOR

## The Perfect Baby Gift (for *your* Perfect Grandchild!)



Imagine her very own backyard tree... it grows stronger & more beautiful with each passing year—just like her!  
Fabulous gift package includes a premium fruit, flowering ornamental or shade tree, Easy Tree Care Kit, delivery & planting



[www.thewishingtreecompany.com](http://www.thewishingtreecompany.com) 760.753.1760

## October Coffee in the Garden & New Member Orientation



Photos Barbara Raub

Susan & Frank Oddo (shown here) were the gracious hosts for the October Coffee and also the New Member Orientation. They created the garden art from old metal parts and a very special container. More photos are on our [Facebook page](#).

▼ SDHS SPONSOR

## GREEN THUMB SUPER GARDEN CENTERS

1019 W. San Marcos Blvd. • 760-744-3822  
(Off the 78 Frwy. near Via Vera Cruz)

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

[www.supergarden.com](http://www.supergarden.com)

**Fall Savings!**

WITH THIS  
VALUABLE **Coupon**

**\$5<sup>00</sup> OFF**

Any Purchase of \$30<sup>00</sup> or More!

OR

**\$10<sup>00</sup> OFF**

Any Purchase of \$50<sup>00</sup> or More!

- Coupon not valid with any sale items or with other offers or coupons
- Coupon may not be used towards purchase of gift certificates
- Must present printed coupon to cashier at time of purchase
- Offer does not include sod • Limit 1 coupon per household
- Coupon expires 11/30/2011 at 6 p.m.



## IN THIS ISSUE...

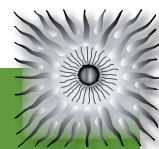
- 2 Important Member Information
- 3 Activities Committee
- 3 To Learn More...
- 3 From the Board
- 4 The Real Dirt On... Gary Hammer
- 4 Going Wild With The Natives: Coast Aster
- 5 Trees, Please
- 5 SDHS San Francisco Garden Tour
- 6 Book Review
- 6 Community Outreach
- 7 Meet the SDHS Horticulturist of the Year
- 7 My Life With Plants
- 8 Membership Committee Needs YOU!
- 8 Volunteer Appreciation Party a Hit!
- 9 Storm Water Pollution Prevention Exhibit
- 9 Job Opening
- 9 Pacific Horticulture Spring Tours
- 10 Welcome New Members!
- 10 Discounts for Members
- 10 What's Up At San Diego Botanic Garden?
- 14 Sharing Secrets
- 18 October Plant Display
- 19 October Meeting Report
- 20 Membership Renewal Form

### INSERTS:

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.



SAN DIEGO  
HORTICULTURAL  
SOCIETY

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Details on membership are on page 20 and at [www.sdhortsoc.org](http://www.sdhortsoc.org)  
For questions contact [membership@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:membership@sdhortsoc.org) or  
Jim Bishop at (619) 296-9215.

### MEETING SCHEDULE

5:00 – 6:00 Meeting room setup

6:00 – 6:45 Vendor sales, opportunity drawing ticket sales, lending library, plant display

6:45 – 9:00 Announcements, Hot Hort Picks, speaker, opportunity drawing

### MEETINGS & EVENTS IN 2011-2012

<b>November 5</b>	Pomegranate & Persimmon Picking, Valley Center
<b>December 12</b>	Ben Gill on Growing Proteas in Your Garden
<b>January 9</b>	Scott Calhoun on Provocative Succulents
<b>February 13</b>	Robin Rivet on Selection and Care of Trees for So. Calif. Landscapes
<b>March 12</b>	Susan Heeger and Jimmy Williams on From Seed to Skillet
<b>March 31</b>	SDHS Tour – Gardens of La Mesa
<b>April 9</b>	Susan Krzywicki on Fitting California Natives into California-Style Gardens
<b>May 17-20</b>	SDHS Tour – Gardens of the San Francisco Area (see page 5)

**COVER IMAGE:** No, this isn't a tree from a Dr. Seuss book! This bizarre form of the Boojum Tree (*Fouquieria columnaris*) was photographed in Baja California by our November speaker.

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



## Next Meeting: NOVEMBER 14, 2011, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

### Topic: JON REBMAN ON "SAN DIEGO PLANT ATLAS PROJECT" AND HORTICULTURIST OF THE YEAR PRESENTATION

**Meeting is open and everyone is welcome. Admission: Members/free, Non-Members/\$10. Parking is free.**  
**Meeting Place: Del Mar Fairgrounds, Surfside Race Place, Del Mar; Info: (619) 296-9215**



Our November speaker, Dr. Jon P. Rebman, of the San Diego Natural History Museum, will talk about the exciting work being done to identify the plants of San Diego County and about his explorations in Mexico. Jon is the lead botanist on the San Diego Plant Atlas Project, which is improving scientific knowledge through better documentation of the flora of San Diego County. The project fosters public awareness and respect for local natural history; increases our scientific collections of regional flora; and provides essential data on the distribution, variation, and diversity of local plants. We will be honoring him as our Horticulturist of the Year (see page 7).

Dr. Rebman also heads the Museum's project of bringing together all of the floristic data on plants of the Baja peninsula, Mexico. He is updating and rewriting the 1989 book by Norman Roberts, *Baja California Plant Field Guide*, and preparing a new Checklist of the Vascular Flora of Baja California, including the literature, synonymy, endemism, and English and Spanish common names of the Baja flora. Jon is active in public education on botany, teaching classes, and leading field trips, as well as participating in organizations for plant enthusiasts and professional botanists. He earned his Ph. D. in Botany from Arizona State University.

For more information visit [www.sdnhm.org/research/botany/rebman.html](http://www.sdnhm.org/research/botany/rebman.html) and see pages 3 and 7. ☞



# SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Jeff Biletnikoff** – Meeting Room Coordinator  
**Jim Bishop** – President, Membership Chair  
**Judy Bradley** – Co-Chair-Program Committee  
**Linda Bresler** – Member at Large  
**Mark Collins** – Finance/Budget Committee  
**Julian Duval** – San Diego Botanic Garden Representative  
**Mary James** – Member at Large  
**Dannie McLaughlin** – Tour Coordinator  
**Susan Oddo** – Publicity Coordinator  
**Stephanie Shigematsu** – Member at Large  
**Susi Torre-Bueno** – Newsletter Editor, Past President  
**Cathy Tylka** – Treasurer  
**Don Walker** – Past President  
**Nancy Woodard** – Volunteer Coordinator  
**Lucy Warren** – Secretary

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

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

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

Copyright ©2011 San Diego Horticultural Society, Encinitas, CA. All rights reserved.  
Not to be reproduced by any means for any purpose without prior written permission.

## ☛New Email? New Street Address?

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

## BECOME A SPONSOR!

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

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



## IMPORTANT MEMBER INFORMATION

Our new Facebook page gives us more options to grow and share and replaces our old Facebook group. Join our community of mad gardeners, share your garden questions, and get to know fellow Hort members. You can LIKE us at our new page by going to:

www.facebook.com/#!/pages/San-Diego-Horticultural-Society/169836313077520



## EVENT PLANNERS NEEDED

Share your passion for plants! Our five-person Events & Outreach Committee needs a second co-chair and more volunteers to plan exciting events. This committee organizes our outreach tables at the Spring and Fall Home/Garden Shows, helps with our display at the San Diego County Fair, creates workshops (see page 3) and special events. For more info contact Susi Torre-Bueno at (760) 295-2173.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Susan Oddo is looking for a Public Relations email list assistant. She would like the help of someone who will maintain contact with PR persons at garden clubs, plant societies, and the garden press to keep our publicity database of email addresses current. You will manage the names and email addresses in an Excel sheet for Susan's monthly PR emailings about upcoming speakers and events. Contact her at: soddod@earthlink.net.

## THANKS SO MUCH!

We had an exceptional information display at the Fall Home/Garden show in mid-September thanks to Jim Bishop, the folks on the Events & Outreach Committee, and volunteers during the event: Kimberly Alexander, Diane Bailey, Anne & Bill Beckett, Julie Hasl, Chris Herman, Linda Johnson, Sue Kelly-Cochrane, Neal & Hilda King, Cheryl Leedom, Sherrill Leist, Miriam Machell, Jane Morton, Anne Murphy, Sue Ann & Bill Scheck, Susi Torre-Bueno, Paula Verstraete, Darlene Villanueva and Kim Walker. A big thumbs up to Chicweed (<http://chicweed.com>) in Solana Beach for donating an extremely popular succulent container planting demonstration and to Courtyard Pottery (see page 15) for loaning us some lovely ceramic pots.

Big hugs to Susan & Frank Oddo for hosting a double-header on October 2nd – a morning Coffee-in-the-Garden AND an afternoon New Member Orientation. Both events were tons of fun – see photos on the inside front cover. It was so exciting to see how the Oddos have enhanced their fascinating garden with the roadster sculpture that was in our Fair exhibit this summer (they had the winning bid in our silent auction for this original piece of garden art).

On October 1st we had a vendor table during the Master Gardeners' first Autumn in the Garden Tour & Market event. Thanks to Jim Bishop, Susan Morse and Paula Verstraete for setting up and staffing the table. Members Cindy Sparks and Lynlee Austell had their gardens featured on the tour. ☺

## ▼ SDHS SPONSOR



## SAN DIEGO'S LARGEST WHOLESALE NURSERY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Over 500 Acres of  
Plants & Landscaping Materials  
from Saplings to Specimens



**Best Quality Soils**  
*Bagged for convenience  
or in bulk for pick up;  
delivery available*

- ♦ Amended Top Soil
- ♦ Planter Mix
- ♦ Sand
- ♦ 3/4" Gravel
- ♦ Fill Dirt
- ♦ Decorative Bark
- ♦ Fine & Coarse Ground Cover Mulch
- ♦ Decomposed Granite

**See our web site**  
[www.evergreennursery.com](http://www.evergreennursery.com)



**BLOSSOM VALLEY**  
Coming Soon!

**CARMEL VALLEY**  
13650 Carmel Valley Rd.  
(858) 481-0622



**OCEANSIDE**  
3231 Oceanside Blvd.  
(760) 754-0340

**Fall/Winter HOURS**  
Monday-Saturday... 7:30am-4:30pm  
Sunday..... 9:00am-4:30pm

## Activities Committee

We are organizing an Activities Committee to select topics, work with presenters, and conduct educational classes and hands-on workshops for our members. This year we had three very successful workshops: the Hypertufa Workshop, the Pebble Mosaic Workshop, and the Debra Lee Baldwin Succulent Container Design Workshop. We already have a list of ideas from our membership to get you started. We are looking for a committee chair and two volunteers. A terrific incentive, aside from this being a very fun committee, is that committee members who help out at an activity get to attend it for FREE!

You will work with the Events & Outreach Committee to help identify presenters and set dates. The Public Relations Committee will create and send out email invitations and set up online registrations for each activity. The Activities Committee will handle the logistics to make the magic happen!

If you have good organization skills and would like to be in on the ground floor of launching this exciting committee, email Jim Bishop at [info@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:info@sdhortsoc.org).



## TO LEARN MORE...

By Ava Torre-Bueno

### San Diego County Plants

Plants of San Diego County are being collected into an atlas by this month's speaker, Jon Rebman. The image above, by Dr. Rebman, is of *Zeltnera venusta*. See lots more fascinating plants at: <http://www.sdnhm.org/plantatlas/>

The California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter is also a good place to start investigating our local flora: <http://www.cnpssd.org/>

And to see pages and pages of terrific photos (sadly, without identification) of SD plants by local photographer Herb Knufken, go to these two sites:  
[http://www.pbase.com/herblrm/flowers\\_in\\_and\\_around\\_san\\_diego](http://www.pbase.com/herblrm/flowers_in_and_around_san_diego)  
and  
[http://www.pbase.com/herblrm/wildflowers\\_\\_torrey\\_pines\\_state\\_reserve\\_2008](http://www.pbase.com/herblrm/wildflowers__torrey_pines_state_reserve_2008)

Member Ava Torre-Bueno is a psychotherapist in private practice and the organizer of Gardeners 4 Peace. This group of volunteers is helping to create a peaceful, organic, permaculture garden at the San Diego Friends Center. To learn more contact Ava at [gardeners4peace@hotmail.com](mailto:gardeners4peace@hotmail.com) and visit [sandiegofriendscenter.org/volunteers.htm](http://sandiegofriendscenter.org/volunteers.htm). ☘



## FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

I am excited and honored to be the new president of the San Diego Horticultural Society and invite all of you to join me as we set off to create unique horticultural experiences.

I am joined this year by a dedicated and motivated group of board and committee members. Together we are planning an ambitious lineup of speakers, events, tours and workshops that I hope you all will take advantage of, not only to increase your knowledge and gardening experience, but also to develop and network with horticultural-minded people who love to share their insights, gardens and plant knowledge.

We recently completed our eighth volunteer appreciation party. There were over 100 volunteers in attendance at the beautiful home and garden of our gracious hosts, Dannie and Craig McLaughlin. From the formal front entrance to the veranda and grotto overlooking Rancho Santa Fe, their expansive garden was an inspiration for us all. Paula Verstraete put together the event and everything came off without a hitch. Many donors provided an amazing array of door prizes and no one left empty handed. Thanks also to all the other volunteers that helped with check-in, set-up and clean-up. (See page 8 for a complete list of donors and volunteers.)

If you would like to attend next year's volunteer appreciation party, now is the time to get involved and volunteer. Our new volunteer coordinator, Nancy Woodard, would love to hear from you about what special skills you offer. Contact her at [nancy\\_woodard@earthlink.net](mailto:nancy_woodard@earthlink.net) or (760) 645-3323. Besides the satisfaction of contributing, volunteering is a great way to get to know other members.

Our most recent outreach event was at the Fall Home and Garden Show. We reused the columns from our exhibit at the Fair and decorated them with previous newsletters. A colorful and diverse array of labeled cuttings was displayed across the back of our 3 booths. Chicweed, on Cedros Avenue in Solana Beach, provided a display showing how to plant a succulent container, and we supplied handouts on succulent and vegetable container planting. Our membership table was surrounded by cuttings and potted succulents that were given as gifts to new members. All are now at the homes of our 14 newest members. And at the September meeting, Gerald D. Stewart, also known as the Geranium Guy, signed up to become our newest life member.



SDHS membership has many advantages. The SDHS newsletter, website and our monthly email have important information about upcoming events, current sponsors that we all should support, and other San Diego and horticultural issues.

SDHS is an organization made strong through the diversity and experience of its members. I to invite all of you to attend events and become involved, help us grow and strengthen our society and ourselves. ☘



## THE REAL DIRT ON...

By Linda Bresler

### Gary Hammer

Often called the "Indiana Jones of horticulture," Gary Edwin Hammer (1954-2011) made a living discovering and collecting new plants from around the world. He died on August 7th after being struck by a car in Arizona. He was on his way to Mexico for another plant expedition.

Hammer grew up surrounded by plant lovers. His grandfather owned an African violet nursery in Lake View Terrace, CA and his uncle also owned a nursery. After earning a bachelor's degree in horticulture from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 1976, he briefly had a job installing commercial landscapes. Soon thereafter, he opened a small retail business called Glendale Paradise Nursery. Here, he sold unusual cactus, succulents, palms, and perennials. However, he was never satisfied because, even after scouring the nurseries for oddball plants, he found that there weren't enough unusual plants out there. Thus began his lifelong adventures with the search for new and interesting plants. In the 1980s, he opened the Desert to Jungle Nursery, which was followed by his World Wide Exotics nursery in 1991.

For over 35 years, Hammer introduced scores of rare and unusual plants to the local landscape palette from countries around the world. Hammer and his father began the search for unknown plants in Baja California in the 1970s. However, they found Baja to be so well explored that there weren't many plants that had remained undiscovered. Hammer then turned his attention to mainland Mexico, which had a wealth of undocumented plants.

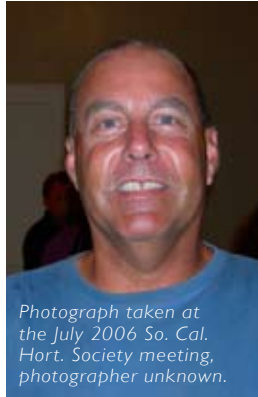
Since then, he traveled all over the world searching for new species of plants. His two favorite countries to explore for new plant material were Mexico and South Africa because of the diversity of plant material that they offered.

Hammer helped change the look of Southern California's gardens by emphasizing plants that were appropriate for the region. These included cacti and other desert-loving plants, as well as shade-loving subtropicals and herbaceous perennials. With his help, local gardeners started becoming exposed to more drought-tolerant plants from regions such as Australia, South Africa, and Mexico.

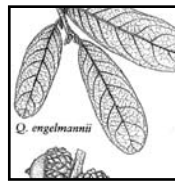
A very popular plant that Hammer introduced in the 1980s was *Euphorbia tirucalli* 'Sticks on Fire'. He had brought two snippets home from an expedition to the Transvaal region of South Africa, where he found the plant being used by the farmers for hedges. According to Michael Buckner of The Plant Man Nursery in San Diego, all Sticks on Fire plants in California originate from these two pieces that were propagated asexually. Hammer could have made a fortune patenting this plant, but instead he chose to disseminate it the fastest way possible by having Altman Growers propagate it.

During the 1990s Hammer also introduced the bushy African sage and the aromatic Mexican stachys shrub. Among many other plants that he introduced were the small palm, *Chamaedorea plumosa*, *Tillandsia hammeri* (shown at the top left), *Dyckia hammeri*, *Phormium* 'Maori Sunrise', and an epiphytic orchid.

Hammer loved Mexico so much that he finally moved to Orizaba in the state of Veracruz, where he maintained a nursery at a 5,000 feet



Photograph taken at the July 2006 So. Cal. Hort. Society meeting, photographer unknown.



## GOING WILD WITH THE NATIVES

By Pat Pawlowski

### Coast Aster



When you wish upon a star – think of an aster. Indeed, the English word "aster" is derived from the Latin *astrum*, meaning star.

Right now there is a little star that is blooming in my sun-soaked, poor-soiled, un-pruned, relaxed front yard. It is an *Aster chilensis*, informally known as a coast aster. Though my land is not on the coast, the little aster doesn't seem to care because it's doing great. It's a perennial, about a foot tall and several feet wide. Unlike a lot of my other natives, it blooms its head off in late summer and early fall, when many other natives have shut down for the season.

Now if you are only interested in engorged SUV-sized, splashy, boisterously large daisies, that's fine; but that's not what we have here. What we have here are little one-inch lavender daisy-like flowers that Jiminy Cricket would be proud of. Though they are small, the petite posies catch the eye and invite a closer glimpse.

Drawing nearer, you might spot beneficial insects such as ladybugs, hoverflies, and bees. And, butterflies! In my yard right now the coast aster plant is supporting loads of marine blues (the butterflies, not the *Semper Fi* folks). Websites like [www.laspilitas.com](http://www.laspilitas.com) have great photos of coast asters with monarchs and painted ladies perched on top.

Which brings us to the question: Just what in the daisy attracts butterflies and others? It helps to know that each daisy is kind of a corporation (oh no) composed of separate ray flowers (the petals) and disk flowers (the center). Submerged in the flower head are the nectaries that hold (take a guess) nectar.

Are you still awake?

I'm not going to dwell on the fact that, once again, our friends the taxonomists are putting their nomenclatory propositions where they don't belong. The new botanical name of *Aster chilensis* is *Symphotrichum chilense*. Oh goody. How easy it will be to spell, and pronounce – maybe I'll just keep calling it coast aster.

Now, on to three things that make more sense.

(1) Variability. In the case of coast aster, its height can vary between half a foot to three feet. Some plants will grow upright while others may sprawl somewhat. The cultivar 'Point St. George' is a 6-inch low growing mat of green that could be used in a meadow garden to replace a lawn. It is unbelievably durable – it is said you can walk on it – but by the same token it can spread very aggressively. The clone 'Purple Haze' is a particularly showy variety of aster with deep purple flowers.

(2) Easibility. By this, I mean you can relax. You don't have to fertilize it. You don't have to water it much (too much water can make it spread, so if you want it to stay small, keep it on the dry side). You don't need to remove the seed heads; leaving them on will make the birds happy.

(3) Adaptability. Makes no difference where you are – coast aster can grow in both sandy and clay soils. It accepts part shade. The cut flowers look good in a vase, too.

In short (which it is), want to provide a welcome mat for Jiminy Cricket and friends, plus add an easy-care, naturally attractive plant to your garden? Let your conscience be your guide, and plant a coast aster.

Member Pat Pawlowski is a writer/lecturer/garden consultant who likes to chase butterflies. 🦋

Continued on page 8





## TREES, PLEASE

By Tim Clancy

### Neglected Queens

Queen palms (*Syagrus romanzoffianum*) are not trees in the technical sense of the word. However, we do use them like we use trees. Betrock's *Landscape Palms* states that a typical healthy specimen should have about 15 mature deep green fronds about 10 to 15 feet in length.

You don't have to look very far or for very long to see queen palms that don't even come close to these specifications. You do see palms with stunted fronds and yellowing older fronds. I see them everywhere around San Diego, often in otherwise well maintained gardens.

Frequently, a homeowner or gardener will cut off the yellow fronds, which only makes the problem worse. First, the palm evolved to support an optimum number of fronds as part of its survival strategy.

Fronds have an engineering function and higher fronds receive structural support from lower fronds. I am sure you have seen perfectly green queen palm fronds break and double over. This is often due to the removal of fronds below them. Those lower fronds also serve to dampen winds.

The second reason removing yellow fronds works against us has to do with fertility. Nutrient deficiencies are expressed in the fronds in two basic ways. Macronutrient deficiency can be seen in the oldest fronds. Micronutrient deficiency can be seen in the newest fronds.

To create new tissue that will become fronds certain nutrients are needed. When these are not available to the palm through its root system the palm will take nutrients from older fronds, which turns them yellow. Once those nutrients have been removed from the older fronds you can't put them back. The palm will continue to extract the nutrient until its needs are met. This is why you see varying degrees of yellow fronds as well as varying frond lengths. In severe cases only the newest emerging fronds will be green. When one of those yellow fronds is removed before all nutrient needs are met, the palm starts extracting from the next frond or even the next row of fronds. So the situation just keeps going and getting worse.

There is a way to prevent this from happening. The palms will do well if they are properly fertilized. There are several fertilizer developed specifically for palms. Each has application instructions on the bag.

I used to care for a few hundred specimen palms. I would fertilize them four times a year at or slightly above the manufacturer's recommended rate at every change of seasons (making it easy to remember).

So... queen palm fronds serve several functions, including structural and wind damping and as a nutrient backup. Leaving fronds on as long as possible benefits the palm. A regular fertilization program will go a long way in preventing them from prematurely yellowing.

Check out [www.flickr.com/treemanagers](http://www.flickr.com/treemanagers) for some photographs of queen palms.

Book recommendation: *Stearn's Dictionary of Plant Names for Gardeners: A Handbook on the Origin and Meaning of the Botanical Names of some Cultivated Plants*, by William T. Stearn.

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



These queen palms have yellow lower fronds.

Tim Clancy

## SDHS GARDEN TOUR GARDENS OF THE BAY AREA

May 17-20, 2012



Join fellow Hort Society members on our spring tour of the San Francisco Bay area, visiting top private and public gardens and select nurseries. Gardens of the Bay Area, scheduled for May 17-20, 2012, is an action-packed tour visiting some of the best horticultural attractions in the East Bay, North Bay and the City. Our headquarters hotel is the Embassy Suites Walnut Creek, an all-suite hotel located adjacent to a BART station and offering complimentary breakfast and happy hour each day. Public garden visits include the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden, the Ruth Bancroft Garden, and the San Francisco Botanical Garden. Nursery stops feature Annie's Annuals and the Flora Grubb Gardens. In between we will see extraordinary private gardens.

Our private garden visits will give us exclusive access to truly wonderful gardens such as the Jana Olson garden in Berkeley (shown here). Built into a stunning canyon, with a year-round creek running under the house and through the garden, Jana's garden is filled with a bounty of plant life and sculptures. Enjoy a myriad of sights: the kitchen garden with chickens, the Grotto of Santa Basura, and a two-ton granite head in the creek. A wild and woody garden, it is topped by the large rustic house dubbed "Camp Shasta" by its occupants, who feel as though they are at home in a park.

On our East Bay day, we'll tour the estate garden of landscape designer Margaret Majua, featuring a mini orchard, cacti & succulents and an inviting pool. Katherine Greenberg's 1.3 acre native garden has been featured in many publications and received a Garden Design Green Award in 2010. Located in the Happy Valley district of Lafayette, the garden features both natives and plants that adapt to the local microclimate as well as California bay trees that are nearly two hundred years old.

Our venture into the North Bay includes the Wave Garden and its spectacular vista of San Francisco Bay. Then we're off to Marin County to visit Roger and Mary Greenberg's garden in Tiburon (shown here), featured on tour for the Garden Conservancy, San Francisco Botanical Garden, Santa Barbara Garden Society and many others. On our way we'll have a private lunch at Jason's Restaurant (opening just for us!), featuring California cuisine with Asian and Italian fusion. We'll end our day of touring with wine and cheese at the garden of Raul Zumba, a huge garden with interesting hardscape, great water features and various sitting areas and garden rooms. Raul maintains the garden beautifully, and his house is small but spectacular.

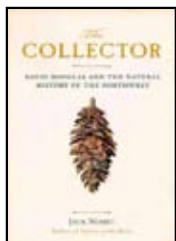
Our last day on tour is spent in the City of San Francisco and will include a visit to the San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum. We're also including several private gardens as well as a stop at the amazing Flora Grubb Gardens to see some unique displays and perhaps do some last-minute shopping.

Space is limited so plan to sign up early. For more information and reservations, visit [www.sterlingtoursltd.com](http://www.sterlingtoursltd.com) or contact Sterling Tours 800-976-9497, [info@sterlingtoursltd.com](mailto:info@sterlingtoursltd.com). ☺



## BOOK REVIEW

Reviewed by Caroline McCullagh



### ***The Collector: David Douglas and the Natural History of the Northwest***

By Jack Nisbet

When you find a new plant in a nursery, you probably don't think about the effort involved in bringing that plant into the trade. In general, plants come to us in two ways. They're bred directly from plants that have been collected or they're hybridized from those plants. Even today, plant collectors travel the world looking for something new. They are part of a long tradition of naturalists who have risked their health and their lives to expand our knowledge of the world.

David Douglas was one of those naturalists. Born in 1799 in Scotland, Douglas became interested in nature as a child. When he was twenty-one, he met Professor William Jackson Hooker, a professor of botany in Glasgow. Hooker mentored Douglas and arranged for him to start a career as a collector, first in the American Pacific Northwest and later in Hawaii.

None of this rings a bell with you yet? Have you heard of the Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)? It was named for David Douglas.

The life of a collector was not easy. In 1824, he took eight months to go by sea from England around the tip of South America to the mouth of the Columbia River. On the way, he stopped at the Galapagos Islands, ten years before Darwin. Douglas collected there and wrote glowingly of the flora and fauna.

In the Oregon Country, as it was called then, the Hudson's Bay Company sponsored his work. England and the United States both claimed the area and both wanted as much of a presence there as possible. Lewis and Clark visited the area in 1805. Part of the purpose of their expedition was to promote America's claim. This competition may explain the British company's seemingly altruistic sponsorship of Douglas.

He was a careful and systematic scientist. He accomplished much. But try to imagine the barriers to research. There are many examples I could quote to give you an idea of what he faced. One of them: Nisbet writes of Douglas and two others reaching a stream too swollen with rainwater to allow them to ride their horses across. The men decide to swim. "Floating on his back, Douglas hefted musket and paper [blotting paper used for drying specimens] over his head and frog-kicked across as a sudden hailstorm pelted the river. He made a second trip with his blanket and extra clothes while the Finlay boys ferried the saddles on their heads" (p. 82).

Douglas collected thousands of plants that had never been cataloged before. Many of the plants we currently grow were first identified by him.

Nisbet's well-researched and well-written biography, *The Collector* (ISBN 978-1-57061-667-9), has won several awards. It's available at your local bookstore in paperback (290 pages) for \$16.95 or from Sasquatch Books [www.sasquatchbooks.com](http://www.sasquatchbooks.com). I've recommended Sasquatch to you before. They have a varied and interesting catalog.

If you enjoy this type of book, you might also enjoy *Winter Brother: A Season at the Edge of America* by Ivan Doig. It's not a garden/plant book, but it is about exploration of the same area. Doig is one of my favorite authors.

Note to my readers: I've spent nine years recommending books on gardening and plants to you. I'd love to know if you have any to recommend to me. If so, send them to me at [carobil.1@netzero.com](mailto:carobil.1@netzero.com). ☺



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

By Linda Johnson

### **Need Gardening Help? Lots of Horticultural Resources Are Available!**

Linda Johnson has done an outstanding job writing this column for the last three years, and now she's going to be volunteering for something else. We're looking for someone to take over writing this column starting in December. Please contact Susi Torre-Bueno at 760-295-2173 if you'd like to learn more.

Take advantage of the wealth of horticultural resources in San Diego County...from colleges, from libraries, or from the Hort... whether you are a novice, a professional, a student, or just curious, there is something for everyone!

### **California Center for Sustainable Energy**

The California Center for Sustainable Energy (CCSE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating change for a clean energy future. The center offers free workshops, access to incentive programs, special events, and technical assistance. Located in Kearny Mesa, CCSE also provides a reference library that includes a wide range of sustainability topics, including gardening and landscaping. Books, DVDs and periodicals cover a broad range of information on sustainability topics, appealing to professionals in the industry, laypersons who want to learn the basics, educators seeking to create awareness with their students and a section designed just for children and young adults. For more information, visit [www.energycenter.org/library](http://www.energycenter.org/library).

### **City Libraries**

Resources include a collection of more than 100 journals focused on key issues in gardening, landscaping, and other areas of horticulture, with the addition of over twenty subject specific reference sources. Providing information for gardening enthusiasts and professionals alike, a comprehensive horticultural database is available as an easy way to find materials, with articles updated daily. Visit [www.sandiego.gov/public-library](http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library) for access to database and for locations of specific resources.

### **College and University Libraries (a few examples)**

Cal State San Marcos: <http://biblio.csusm.edu/>

Miramar College: <http://libcat.sdccd.edu/>

SDSU: <http://infodome.sdsu.edu/index.shtml>

Southwestern Community College:  
<http://www.swccd.edu/~library/>

UCSD: <http://roger.ucsd.edu/search>

USD: <http://sally.sandiego.edu/>

### **County Libraries**

Visit [www.sdcl.org](http://www.sdcl.org) and try the Encore Catalog Search. Among the hundreds of titles are these new (2011) books: *The Conscientious Gardener: Cultivating a Garden Ethic*, by Sarah Hayden Reichard; *First Garden: The White House Garden and How it Grew*, by Robbin Gourley; and *The Vegetable Gardeners Container Bible: How to Grow a Bounty of Food in Pots, Tubs, and Other Containers*, by Edward C. Smith.

Continued on page 8

San Diego Horticultural Society





## MEET THE SDHS HORTICULTURIST OF THE YEAR FOR 2011: JON REBMAN

Since 1996 the SDHS has been proud to recognize someone as our Horticulturist of the Year for her or his lifetime of achievement and service in horticulture in Southern California. This year the honor goes to Dr. Jon Rebman, who will be recognized at our November meeting for his contributions to identifying and cataloging the plants of San Diego County and Baja California. The first half of this article appeared in the October newsletter. Congratulations, Jon!

### The Plants of Baja California and Floristic Research

The Baja California peninsula is a narrow strip of land stretching approximately 800 miles long and ranging from 28 miles to 149 miles wide. Its geographic position, latitudinal span, and topographic heterogeneity have conferred a diverse assemblage of weather regimes including a Mediterranean-type, winter rainfall climate; extreme arid, hot desert conditions; and tropical, summer rainfall patterns. In addition, the region's biogeographic history and physiognomy have resulted in a wide range of vegetation types that include coastal sage scrub, chaparral, oak woodland, conifer forest, many desert scrub types, and tropical deciduous forest. The peninsula is also characterized by the presence of several islands varying in distance (<0.6 miles to 149 miles) from its coast, which are located in the Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) and the Pacific Ocean.

This piece of land and its adjacent islands support a wealth of species diversity in many different plant families. It is estimated that the flora consists of more than 4,000 plant taxa with approximately 30% of these known only from (endemic to) the Baja California region. Many of the plants from the peninsula and its islands are unique and stretch the imagination in respect to plant form and structure—including the bizarre Boojum Tree/Cirio (*Fouquieria columnaris*), the giant Elephant Cactus/Cardón (*Pachycereus pringlei*), and elephant trees (*Pachycormus discolor* and *Bursera* spp.).

Unfortunately, the rich diversity of plants that comprise the Baja California flora faces many threats such as habitat loss and degradation to pressure from competition with invasive plant species, fire, plant disease, drought, and pests. Some parts of the region such as the northwestern, coastal portion of the peninsula are experiencing extremely rapid urban development and habitat loss is reaching a critical level. Due to a lack of botanical study and inaccessible



Rebman standing at the base of a giant (over 60 ft tall) Cardon cactus (*Pachycereus pringlei*) in Baja California.



## 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.*

In 1960, my father was transferred from Houston, Texas to Wichita, Kansas. I only have a few plant-related memories of Wichita. Our house had junipers and other evergreen foundation plantings with a Bermuda grass lawn and no trees. We planted portulaca seeds saved from Houston in the small garden bed along the front walkway. The neighbor two doors away grew giant brilliantly-colored zinnias on the south side of their house.



I do, however, have memories of the Cold War. On a clear night, my parents would get my brothers and me out of bed to watch the bright glow of Sputnik as it passed over. Mom didn't allow us to eat the snow or hailstones for fear that they were "radioactive" from nuclear tests being conducted in Nevada and Utah. And mother said that should the Russians waste a nuclear bomb on Kansas, there is no doubt that the Bermuda grass would survive...but still be brown.

From Wichita, we were close enough to Colorado to go camping in the Rockies on my father's two week vacation. More than the mountains though, I remember the endless fields of corn in western Kansas, that were in fact as high as an elephant's eye. We would stop beside the road to take photos of zinnia fields that grew as far as you could see, and wonder, why doesn't anyone grow sunflowers in the Sunflower State? For lunch we'd stop at roadside parks, usually alongside a creek. I recall the loud noise made by the leaves shaking in the hot breeze, and the fuzz from cottonwoods falling on everything and thinking what a strange tree and how tall they were compared to everything else on the high plains.

That summer my grandmother fell off a ladder and broke her back. My mother returned to her family home in Pittsburgh with my younger brother and me to help her father in his veterinarian business. My aunt Betty showed me all the plants on the property. We picked fresh mulberries for breakfast. In the back, grandpa raised rabbits for food and fertilizer. Mixed into to the flower beds was a strange plant called rhubarb, with poisonous leaves, but you could eat the stems in early spring.

My younger brother would stay on with mom in Pittsburgh while I was sent to spend the summer with my Aunt Mary and her family in Akron, Ohio. Their entire backyard was a large vegetable garden where they would grow all of their fresh produce. Aunt Mary would can fruit and vegetables in mason jars and store them in the basement for winter use. Though it would still be several decades before I would be willing eat them, it was here that I saw my first vegetables that didn't come from the freezer or a can. On the front porch, between hands of bridge, my aunt would show me how to prepare fresh snap beans for cooking. In the garden, she'd explain how to grow beans, tomatoes, corn and strawberries. The different shapes and varieties of the plants were very surprising and fascinating to me. I was very confused that mulberries came from trees, strawberries came from plants that crawled on the ground and raspberries came from

Continued on page 12

Continued on page 8

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

Help with the monthly coffee in the gardens: scout, contact and qualify potential gardens, work with hosts on garden description and photos for inclusion in online invitation. This is a terrific way to visit wonderful gardens. Additional volunteer opportunities: answering questions from new members, setting up the new member orientation events (twice a year), etc. To find out more about how to participate contact Jim Bishop at [membership@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:membership@sdhortsoc.org).

### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY A HIT!

Susan Oddo



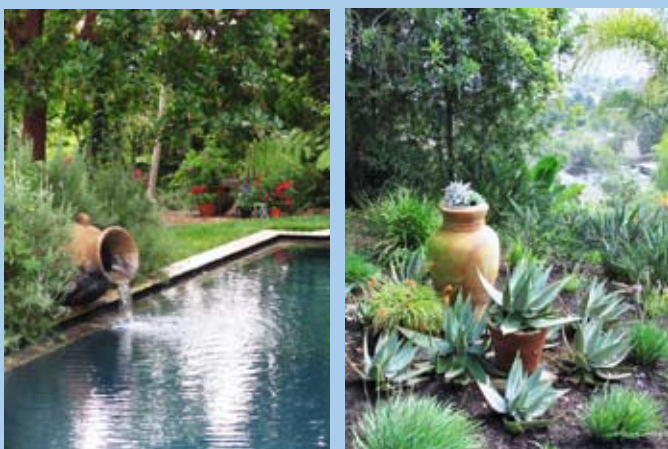
Our hosts, Dannie and Craig McLaughlin, with their Singer classic car.

Dannie & Craig McLaughlin were the gracious hosts for our annual Volunteer Appreciation Party in late September, and we owe them a BIG round of applause. Over 100 people attended and it was a marvelous afternoon. The garden looked great (due to Dannie's thoughtful vision and passion for details), and who could resist casting an admiring eye at Craig's beautiful classic cars? Members commented on all the shady seating areas, the many re-circulating water features (did you see the grotto!!!!!!), and the handsome foliage combinations – and all in a mostly low-water garden on a steeply sloping lot. Photos of the event are on our Facebook page.

We want to express our gratitude to outgoing Volunteer Coordinator Paula Verstraete, who coordinated the event and arranged for the terrific food. Cathy Tylka did an outstanding job getting 200 gifts lined up so that everyone got at least 2 door prizes! We appreciate the other volunteers who made the day so special: Jim Bishop, Scott Borden, Bette & Will Childs, Jane Morton, Evey Torre-Bueno, Nancy Woodard and Melissa Worton.

Thanks to these generous donors for wonderful door prizes: Barrels and Branches, California Mycorrhiza, Bette Childs, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Kellogg Garden Products, Mo Price, Renee's Garden Seeds, San Diego Botanic Garden, San Diego Horticultural Society, The Wishing Tree Company, Cathy Tylka and Nancy Woodard. 🌿

Barbara Raub



### ■ Real Dirt On Continued from page 4

elevation near Pico de Orizaba, the third highest peak and the tallest volcano in North America. He would periodically return to the U.S. to sell plants at flea markets and other plant sales. At a rare plant sale in South Coast Plaza, Buckner recalls Hammer being very stressed by the fast-moving life in Los Angeles after living in rural Mexico. After sharing a \$125 bottle of liquor and having a wonderful talk about plants, Hammer finally calmed down.

Hammer touched many people with his plants and his personality. A memorial plaque for him is being installed at the Domingos Adobe garden in Long Beach, CA, which is the headquarters of the Long Beach Cacti and Succulent Society.

[Here's the obituary for Gary Hammer from the L A Times: <http://articles.latimes.com/2011/sep/02/local/la-me-gary-hammer-20110902>.]

Member Linda Bresler is a certified landscape designer living in Poway. She specializes in drought-tolerant, low maintenance designs that provide four-season beauty. 🌿

### ■ Community Outreach Continued from page 6

#### Memorial Botanical Reference Library

The Memorial Library, as part of the San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation (SDBGF), provides facilities for students doing research in horticulture. In addition to horticulture books and other reference materials, there are private collections of books offered for use by Foundation members. From aquatic plants and hydroponics, to rock gardens and vegetables – this library in Balboa Park has it all. Visit [www.sdbgf.org](http://www.sdbgf.org) for more information.

#### San Diego Horticultural Society Lending Library

At each meeting all SDHS members have an opportunity to borrow horticultural books and videos, as well as DVDs and CDs from past speakers, through the Hort's substantial library collection. These items are loaned for your personal use, and can be pre-ordered from the librarian and picked up at the following meeting. Visit [www.sdhortsoc.org/library\\_lending.htm](http://www.sdhortsoc.org/library_lending.htm) to see what is available; then email [library@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:library@sdhortsoc.org) to pre-order. We welcome donations of books and videos. 🌿

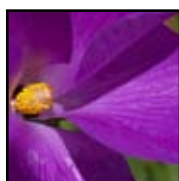
### ■ My Life with Plants Continued from page 7

bushes. On Sundays, we'd go on long drives in the country and stop occasionally at roadside stands looking for good prices on seasonal produce. At one stand I remember seeing the strange looking orange and white turban squash. I wondered how you would eat anything so hard and strange looking. I wanted one even though my aunt assured me that a picky eater like me would never eat it.

Our stay in Wichita would be short and we'd soon be off to the tropical paradise of South Florida where my interest in plants would really take off.

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





## STORM WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION EXHIBIT

The Water Conservation Garden, in partnership with the San Diego County Watershed Protection Program, opened a new exhibit recently that highlights storm water pollution prevention. You're invited to view the exhibit any time during normal operating hours – 9am-4pm, 7 days a week. The exhibit features a permeable pavement installation with a re-circulating fountain, situated alongside a straw bale house with a green, living roof.



Permeable pavement allows rainfall to sink into the soil, preventing runoff.

Permeable pavement allows water to flow through surface material to the soil below, preventing water from flowing into storm drains. Our extensively paved surfaces – roads, sidewalks, and other impermeable surfaces – contribute to toxic urban runoff, as water has nowhere to go but into storm drains, carrying pollutants from paved surfaces with it. Urban runoff has a negative impact on sea life, ocean habitat, tourism, and recreational use of beaches.

"We are fortunate to partner with the County's Watershed Protection Program to bring awareness to the public about how they can help to protect our watersheds and prevent storm water pollution," said Marty Eberhardt, The Garden's Executive Director. "...we have... expanded our workshop curriculum to include information on green roofs and permeable pavement that will assist homeowners in incorporating these sustainable alternatives into their homes. From our perspective, the first step is to use only the water you need, and the second is to prevent pollution with the water you do use."

The Garden will feature a permeable pavement seminar at its Fall Garden and Home Festival on November 5. Check the event's website, [www.gardenandhomefest.org](http://www.gardenandhomefest.org) for details. The Garden is dedicated to promoting water conservation; visit [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org) or call 619-660-0614x10. ☘



## S. D. County Fair Flower & Garden Show Job Opening

**Position Title:** Flower and Garden Show Assistant Coordinator

**Job Description:** Seasonal part time position assisting Flower and Garden Show Coordinator with all activities required for the San Diego County Fair Flower and Garden Show. Specific emphasis will be on coordinating the landscapes and garden displays with a preference for multi-year availability.

**Pay Rate:** Salaried Position, \$10,000

**Skill Requirements:** Background and/or education in Horticulture. Experience exhibiting large landscape and garden displays. Ability to speak and present to small groups. Able to solicit display participation from Landscape and Garden companies. Ability to direct labor crews in display preparation, setup and teardown, and removal. Bilingual (English and Spanish) a plus. Basic computer skills, Word and Excel, drafting letters and maintaining contact lists.

Call Jayna Wittevrongel at 760-809-6327 or e-mail your resume to [jwittevrongel@sdfair.com](mailto:jwittevrongel@sdfair.com).



## PACIFIC HORTICULTURE SPRING TOURS

The San Diego Horticultural Society is proud to be a sponsor of Pacific Horticulture Society, which kicks off their 2012 spring tour season with **Gardens & Historic Houses of Savannah & Charleston**, March 25-April 1. The itinerary includes fine southern cuisine, walking tours, and private garden visits. Scott Borden is the tour leader; SDHS president Jim Bishop is rumored to be on the tour member list.

In April, Katherine Greenberg leads **Mallorca & Menorca: Gardens, Art and Cuisine**. The phenomenal itinerary includes visits to top private gardens, country estates, art galleries and more. A local guide provides insight into the history and culture of these fascinating Spanish islands.

Noted garden photographer Allan Mandell hosts **Kyoto: More than Gardens** in May. Guests stay in a traditional Japanese ryokan and spend their days visiting rustic Shinto shrines, serene temple gardens and a pottery village – even a lesson with an ikebana master. Azalea, wisteria and iris will be in bloom, and the Aoi Festival takes place during the tour.

**Natural History of Santa Cruz Island** is scheduled for June. Guests stay at the University of California research station, taking day trips by foot and 4-wheel drive vehicle to view the unique flora and fauna of the island, shown here.



For more information, contact Sterling Tours 800-976-9497 or visit [www.sterlingtoursltd.com](http://www.sterlingtoursltd.com) ☘

### ▼ SDHS SPONSOR

Southwest Boulder & Stone

**10% OFF  
ALL ROCK  
IN STOCK!**

PLEASE VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE FOR MAPS  
& DIRECTIONS.

**SWB**  
SOUTHWEST BOULDER & STONE

619-331-3120  
[www.swbrock.com](http://www.swbrock.com)

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

**WE WELCOME CALIFORNIA BEEWORKS AS OUR NEWEST SPONSOR – SEE THEIR AD ON PAGE 16.**

Bunny Amendola  
Kathleen Anderson  
Paul Beiley  
Sherry & Wayne Bommer  
Lori Browne  
Tina Chatroo  
Donna Dahms & Jamie Landers  
Carol Ann Dentz  
Bryan Diaz  
Laura Elliott & Atiya Henry  
Edmond Fitzgerald  
Ginny & Maddy Fogelberg

Georges Fortier -  
Vertical Garden Solutions  
Marilyn Goldammer  
Caroline Hendrickson  
Robin Karmousky  
Michelle Langdon  
Patricia Levine  
Gloria Marselas  
Daniel Navarrete &  
Deborah Beckman  
Bette Ruzevick  
Carmen Scull

Candy Sotelo  
Stephen Stephenson  
Vivian Terkel & Robert Smith  
Kathy Thomas  
Marilyn & Dave Truesdale  
Alice Wan  
Michael Welch  
Mary Yan-Lee & Alex Lee  
Joel Zhou

**NEW ADVERTISERS:**  
California BeeWorks  
(page 16)

## HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2011; they earned Hort Bucks worth \$5 towards Opportunity Drawing tickets, name-tags, Plant Forum CDs or dues. To get your Hort Bucks ask your friends to give your name when they join.

Kimberly Alexander (1)  
Ann Beckett (1)  
Bill Beckett (1)  
Joyce Berry (1)  
Jim Bishop (2)  
Scott Borden (1)  
Alyson Breathed (1)  
Linda Bresler (1)  
California Mycorrhiza (2)  
Zephyr Carlyle (1)  
Sharon Corrigan (1)

Pat Crowl (1)  
Cuyamaca College (1)  
Chris Drayer (1)  
Kathy Esty (2)  
Margaret Grasel (3)  
Devonna Hall (1)  
Julie Hasl (1)  
Joan Herskowitz (1)  
Eva Heuser (1)  
Pat & Willey Humphrey (1)  
Linda Johnson (1)

Robin Karmousky (1)  
Barbara Komur (1)  
Amelia Lima (1)  
Cathy McCaw (1)  
Elf Mitton (1)  
Jane Morton (1)  
Anna Murphy (2)  
Susan & Frank Oddo (1)  
Paige Perkins (2)  
Una Pierce (1)  
Barbara Raub (5)

Sue Ann Scheck (2)  
Jackie & Randy Schwartz (1)  
S.D. Floral Assn. (1)  
Sam Seat (1)  
Linda Shaw (2)  
Pam Skirgaudas (1)  
Bobbie Stephenson (1)  
Sue Toeniskoetter (2)  
Susi Torre-Bueno (2)  
Darlene Villanueva (1)  
Pat White (1)



## SPONSOR MEMBERS (names in bold have ads)

### Agri Service, Inc. Anderson's La Costa Nursery

Aristocrat Landscape,  
Installation & Maintenance

### Barrels & Branches

### Botanical Partners

### Briggs Tree Company

### Buena Creek Gardens

### California BeeWorks

### California Mycorrhiza

### Cedros Gardens

### City Farmers Nursery

### Coastal Sage

### Gardening

### Columbine Landscape

### Courtyard Pottery

### Cuyamaca College www.EasyToGrowBulbs.com

### EuroAmerican

### Propagators

### Evergreen Nursery

### Forget-Me-Not

### Landscape Design

### Glorious Gardens

### Landscape

### Grangerotto's Farm &

### Garden Supply

### Green Thumb Nursery

### Innovative Growing

### Solutions

### Kellogg Garden

### Products

### KRC Rock

### LandscapingNetwork.com Legoland California

### Living Green Design

### Solutions

### Mariposa Landscape

### and Tree Service

### Mary's Good Snails

### Moosa Creek Nursery

### Multiflora Enterprises

### Nature Designs

### Landscaping

### Pearson's Gardens

### ProFlowers

### Renee's Garden

### San Diego County

### Water Authority

### Solana Succulents

### Southwest Boulder & Stone

### St. Madeleine Sophie's Center

### Sterling Tours

### Sunshine Care

### Sunshine Gardens

### www.TheMulch.com

### The Wishing Tree

### Company

### The Yard Fairy

### Tree of Life Nursery

### Walter Andersen

### Nursery

### Weidners' Gardens

### Pat Welsh

### Westward Expos

## LIFE MEMBERS \*Horticulturist of the Year

Chuck Ades\* (2008)  
Walter Andersen\* (2002)  
Norm Applebaum &  
Barbara Roper  
Bruce & Sharon  
Asakawa\* (2010)  
Gladys T. Baird  
Debra Lee Baldwin  
Steve Brigham\* (2009)

Laurie Connable  
Julian & Leslie Duval  
Edgar Engert\* (2000)  
Jim Farley  
Sue & Charles Fouquette  
Penelope Hlavac  
Debbie & Richard Johnson  
Lois Kline  
Vince Lazaneo\* (2004)

Jane Minshall\* (2006)  
Bill Nelson\* (2007)  
Tina & Andy Rathbone  
Jon Rebman\* (2011)  
Peggy Ruzich  
San Diego Home/  
Gardens Lifestyle  
Gerald D. Stewart

Susi & Jose Torre-Bueno  
Don Walker\* (2005) &  
Dorothy Walker  
Lucy Warren  
Evelyn Weidner\* (2001)  
Pat Welsh\* (2003)  
Betty Wheeler

## CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

Philip Tackill & Janet Wanerka René van Rems

## DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

Get a 15% discount at Briggs Tree Co. (see page 11; 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: pisley@SDBGarden.org.

For the Grangerotto's Preferred Savings Program go to [www.Grangerottos.com](http://www.Grangerottos.com).

**SEE THESE ADS FOR MORE DISCOUNTS:** Barrels & Branches, Botanical Partners, Buena Creek Gardens, California BeeWorks Cedros Gardens, Courtyard Pottery, IGS, Pacific Horticulture, Solana Succulents, Southwest Boulder & Stone and The Plant Man.



## What's Up at

San Diego  
BOTANIC  
GARDEN

What is a Bromeliad? These plants are all seen over Southern California, including here in the Garden. We asked local bromeliad expert Andy Siekkinen to help with this question. Bromeliads range from the common pineapple to the small graceful Spanish moss and the spiny, succulent, and agave/aloe-like Hechtias and Dyckias. There are so many different and interesting plants in the Bromeliad family because they are so adaptable to area climates.



Most bromeliads are low-water beauties. Tillandsias (air plants) absorb water through their leaves. Many that do well here also grow in deserts; some even grow on cacti. Bromeliads like Neoregelias, Aechmeas, Billbergias, and Vrieseas have overlapping leaves that form a "cup" to collect and store water. Even in the heat of summer in the inland valleys of San Diego, most bromeliads can thrive with just a weekly watering.

Much of the charm of bromeliads can be enjoyed year-round, not just when they are in bloom. Some plants have leaves that have brilliant colors or patterns, some have an interesting shape or texture. Bromeliads can be grown in unique or unusual places: mounted on trees, hanging in baskets, or even hung by a string. Some even grow in the ground. Many are tough and reliable garden plants. With minimal care, bromeliads will reward you with great color or form and also provide offsets ("pups") for additional plants. With a good sample of bromeliads in your garden you will have something blooming during every season of the year.

Visit the Garden November 12 and 13 from 9am – 5pm for our 1st Annual Bromeliad Bash! Enjoy presentations, demonstrations, plant sales and book sales all weekend long. Art for sale includes 37 rare original 19th century botanical color illustrations of bromeliads and orchids from the collection of Jack Kramer, prolific author and collector. One featured book will be Kramer's newly released *Bromeliads for Home and Garden*. This event is proudly sponsored by the San Diego Bromeliad Society and SDBG; entry is included with general admission to the Garden. 🌿



# QUALITY never *grew* so good!

## Briggs Tree Company, Inc.:

- Over 200 acres in production
- Full-scale ornamental nursery - flats to 4" color, shrubs, vines and trees
- Unusual plant varieties and new introductions
- Commitment to quality and service
- In-house purchasing agent
- Delivery anywhere in the continental US



**San Diego**  
**760.727.2727**

**briggstree.com**  
view our Virtual Tour

▼ SDHS SPONSOR

Steve & Shari Matteson's

## BUENA CREEK GARDENS

*Not Just a Plant Nursery, A Botanical Destination!  
Come stroll our 4-Acre Display Gardens, Have a Picnic,  
Read a Book Amongst the Redwoods or Giant Bamboo...*

Visit our website  
**www.BuenaCreekGardens.com**  
for details about  
special activities this month

FALL & WINTER HOURS: Wed - Sat 9am to 4pm; Sun 10am to 4pm  
Closed Mon & Tues



418 Buena Creek Road  
San Marcos, 92069  
(760) 744-2810

**www.BuenaCreekGardens.com**

**10% discount for SDHS members**

▼ SDHS SPONSOR



Introducing our NEW OMRI Listed  
**NATURAL & ORGANIC FERTILIZERS**  
FOR BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS & BOUNTIFUL CROPS

Whether you're starting a garden from scratch, sprucing up your planting beds, or mulching your favorite fruit tree—Gardner & Bloome has a natural and organic premium garden soil, mulch or fertilizer to help your garden reach its best potential. We've been dedicated to meeting the needs of gardeners for over 85 years by providing products you can trust.

Find out more about our NEW  
Natural & Organic Fertilizers  
**www.KelloggGarden.com**



Available in a  
variety of sizes!

■ **Horticulturist of the Year** Continued from page 7

documentation (specimens of populations not yet databased or generally known, or the lack of collections of invasive plant species) we are not able to accurately assess many of these threats. Adding to the problem, the published *Flora of Baja California* is more than 30 years old, lacks at least 800 plant taxa, and provides only limited distribution information.

As a result of these combined factors, there is an urgent need to increase our knowledge of the botanical resources in Baja California. Regional scientists, land managers, and conservation-oriented organizations currently have limited scientific data on the local flora, along with mounting responsibilities for preservation and informed decision-making that will affect the future of the region's biodiversity.

Current collections-based curatorial and research projects being conducted by the SDNHM under the guidance of Jon Rebman, such as the Baja California vascular plant checklist project, data entry and georeferencing of specimens deposited in the SD Herbarium, and the digitization of plant photographic slides and prints in the Museum's botanical archives, are providing many online resources for the public, conservation, and scientific communities. To date, more than 4200 specimen vouchers (one of each taxon to be used as a visual resource for identification in a virtual herbarium) that document the diversity of the flora of Baja California (BC) and Baja California Sur (BCS) have been scanned; approximately 24,000 digitized plant and landscape photographs primarily from the Baja California region, and many other web-based botanical resources are available online at [www.bajaflora.org](http://www.bajaflora.org). These ongoing projects along with the increased accessibility to the SD Herbarium specimen data (approximately 43,000 records from the Baja California region in electronic format) and the development of the Baja California Botanical Consortium (BCBC), which is a combined dataset that contains 72,000 specimen records from five regional herbaria in CA, BC, and BCS, will provide an indispensable tool for mapping, conserving, and better understanding diversity and distribution trends of the flora of Baja California. These botanical resources will help to produce the most comprehensive, scientifically sound, information possible on the plants of Baja California.

Dr. Rebman has been conducting botanical research and publishing new plant species in Baja California for more than 20 years. New plant species that Rebman has previously described for science include: *Ambrosia humi*, *Grusonia robertsii*, *Amyris carterae*, *Cylindropuntia delgadilloana*, *Cylindropuntia sanfelipensis*, and *Cylindropuntia lindsayi*. Rebman's publications on the flora of Baja California are listed on our website.

### Plant Systematics/Taxonomic Research

Naming and describing new species for science is an essential part of understanding our biodiversity and conserving it for the future. As a result of many years of extensive field work, plant collecting, plus lab and herbarium research on the flora of southern California and Baja California, Dr. Rebman has discovered approximately 15 new plants from our region that still need to be formally described in order to be recognized by the scientific and conservation communities. Some of these new plant species already have ample collections available in order to describe them right now, and require only the time to study and write them up in a publication and have a botanical illustration drawn, but others will require return visits to the region where they grow in order to obtain better specimen samples and an increased understanding of their local environment and associations.

In the next few years, one of Rebman's scientific goals will be to formally describe and publish many of these new plant species



for science. By publishing these new plants the scientific community will become aware of them and this will lead to a better overall understanding of the taxonomy, diversity, and biogeography of plants in our region. Most of these plants are also very rare and by formally publishing them the conservation community will also become aware of their presence and this may help to protect and manage biological resources in our region. All of these newly described plants will add to the impressive diversity and endemism of the flora of southern California and Baja California.

Continued taxonomic investigation on cacti will soon yield the publication of Rebman's doctoral and post-doctoral research on the chollas (*Cylindropuntia* spp.) of Baja California. The methods used in this biosystematic work include: chromosome studies, pollen stainability, scanning electron microscopy of pollen, seed surfaces, and certain vegetative structures, field and herbarium analyses of morphology, and biogeographical data mapping. This study represents the first comprehensive monograph of this cactus group in Baja California. The Baja California peninsula and its adjacent Pacific and Gulf islands are found to contain 27 cholla taxa, making it the area of highest taxonomic diversity of the genus *Cylindropuntia*. Of these taxa, 17 or 63% are endemic to the region. This systematic treatment recognizes four new taxa (*Cylindropuntia alcahes* var. *gigantensis*, *C. alcahes* var. *mcgillii*, *C. cedrosensis*, and *C. ganderi* var. *catavinensis*) and three previously described species by the author (*C. delgadilloana*, *C. lindsayi*, and *C. sanfelipensis*); six new nomenclatural recombinations; and 12 new nomenclatural types.

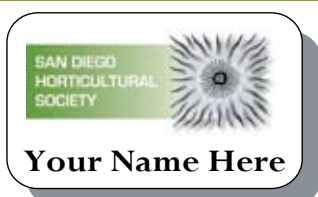
Baja California has 18 cholla species, of which nine are endemic. This high diversity of chollas most likely reflects the influence of past geological events and habitat diversity as well as past and present floristic associations. Chromosome studies of the chollas in Baja California indicate that most taxa (67%) are diploid, but some occasionally have putative autopolyploid individuals. If these autopolyploid taxa are considered, then up to 52% of the taxa have all or some members with polyploid counts. The range of euploidy varies from 2x to 8x ( $x = 11$ ), with the octoploids reported as the highest polyploid level determined for the genus *Cylindropuntia*. Chromosome counts for 12 taxa in the region are reported for the first time. Hybridization is a common occurrence in the Cactaceae, especially in the subfamily Opuntioideae. The chollas of Baja California are no exception with naturally occurring putative interspecific hybrids arising from such parents as *C. alcahes*, *C. bigelovii*, *C. californica*, *C. cholla*, *C. ganderi*, *C. molesta*, *C. prolifera*, and *C. tesajo*. The publication of this taxonomic research will be an important step towards better understanding the amazing diversity and evolution of cacti in Baja California.

For the entire article about Dr. Rebman, including a list of the literature cited in this article, go to the Plants page on our website: [www.sdhortsoc.org/plant\\_gallery.htm](http://www.sdhortsoc.org/plant_gallery.htm). 🌱

More on-line  
@  
SDHortSoc.org

## SDHS Nametags

**Sturdy magnet-back nametags are just \$8.50**



To order go to  
[www.sdhortsoc.org/ordernow.htm](http://www.sdhortsoc.org/ordernow.htm)  
or call Diana at (760) 753-1545

### ▼ 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](http://www.KCRCRock.com)**

### ▼ SDHS SPONSOR

**Coastal Sage Gardening**  
Garden Design and Maintenance  
Ca. Contractor License # 920677

**Water Drainage**  
**Water Holding Tanks**  
**Soil Analysis**  
**Soil Amending**  
**Mulching**  
**Plant Labeling**

**619 223 5229**  
**[coastalsage.com](http://coastalsage.com)**



**SUSTAINING THE CYCLES**  
Organic Recycling  
Mulch  
Soil Amendments



**Call for Fall Specials!**  
**800 262 4167**

**El Corazon Compost Facility**  
[www.AgriServiceInc.com](http://www.AgriServiceInc.com)  
Quality Local Organics for Quality Local Gardens

# SHARING SECRETS

This column is written by you, our members! Each month we'll ask a question, and print your responses the following month. **You can find copies of previous Sharing Secrets on our website at [www.sdhortsoc.org/sneak\\_peek\\_3.htm](http://www.sdhortsoc.org/sneak_peek_3.htm).**

## The question for this month was:

The economy stinks, budgets are tight... but we still want to garden. What is the BEST thing you purchased for \$25 (or less) for your garden?

**Cindi Allen** said, "I hesitate to mention this because the place where I buy this is in Lake Forest which is a long drive for people in San Diego County, but there is a place called Serrano Creek where horses are boarded. The smart owner of this establishment decided to take the waste from the horses and create compost. He charges \$2.00/bag for this dark brown, odorless, rich compost. For \$25.00, I can get 12 bags of this magnificent organic food for my garden. Maybe someone down that way who boards horses has figured this out, too. If you want more information about Serrano Creek, I'll be happy to send it your way."

**Emma Almendarez** got a great thing for FREE: "Mulch is the best thing I purchased for \$25 or less for my garden. Free to me as a resident of Oceanside if I load it myself at El Corazon green waste facility"

**Walter Andersen** had several fine suggestions: "Planting veggies can be a great investment that will pay dividends in a short time. Lots of cool weather veggies are available now; they grow fast and can be very rewarding in the tummy and the wallet. Planting from seed you can get even more!!! Most people still plant the small starts in six-packs; it is kind of instant gratification and they are ready to harvest a few weeks sooner. To brighten areas around your home it is difficult to beat annual color; and six-packs of bedding plants can work magic." [Find Walter Andersen Nursery on page 15.]

**Lisa Bellora** wrote: "I mulched this year with Agri Service perennial mulch. I had absolutely NO WEEDS where I mulched. I think it was about \$12 a yard and I got 1 1/2-2 yards. I love that stuff!!!! So I got to spend time pruning and such instead of weeding." [See page 14 to contact Agri Service.]

**David Bittar** didn't purchase his best thing: "The sun! It was FREE!"

**Vivian Blackstone** got a bargain: "I bought a 25' coil hose for the garden with a spray nozzle at a sale for \$5. It's terrific."

**Linda Bresler** also got a great bargain: "Over the summer I purchased some opportunity drawing tickets at a SDHS meeting, and was lucky enough to win several plants which were worth much more than the cost of the tickets."

**Denise Carriere** likes a handy product: "Nitrile gloves – they are soft, flexible and durable. It is the next best thing to feeling the dirt."

**Aenne Carver** put a great bargain outdoors: "I bought a vintage chandelier on ebay for \$25, including shipping. The low price had me worried about its overall condition, but it worked perfectly. The only issue was a few crystals were missing and that was a simple fix. My husband put a plastic plate/thing-a-ma-jig over the top to seal and protect it from water and then we hung the fixture under the wooden

**A New On-line Gardening Community Just For You!**

**www.theMulch.com** is Southern California's newest and most innovative on-line gardening community.



**theMulch**

**Plant. Grow. Share.**

- Connect with other gardeners who have similar interests.
- Access the most complete Gardening event calendar in Southern California.
- Get practical recommendations from local garden experts.
- Ask members and experts questions and get useful answers.

Visit theMulch.com today & join, it's free, easy & it's all about having fun!



pergola. By the way, my husband rents out cheaply for such projects, if you let his band practice in your garage weekly. The chandelier has two oblong, textured globes, dangling from chains at different levels. This is a cheap way to add charm and elegance to outdoor dining. An unexpected bonus, the globes are visible from my kitchen window, so I turn them on low and watch the goldfish in the fountain as I do the dishes. Now, if I could just get my husband's band to play quietly..."

**Ralph Evans** purchased a water-saving device: "A Gilmore 9200 automatic shutoff meter (purchased at Grangetto's for under \$20) – this is a manual dial garden hose timer. No batteries, and I always forget to turn off the water, for those spot waterings." [Grangetto's offers members a discount – see page 21.]

**Linda Fiske** beautified and fed her garden: "My best buy was a BIG scoop of Certified Organic Compost from the dump for \$12. This allowed me to dress all of my garden beds. Plus I had enough to increase my own compost."

**Barb French-Lee** is making her own great garden food: "The best thing I've recently purchased for my garden is two plastic containers, a block of coir and worms donated to me to start a worm bin (\$13). Oh what wonderful worm tea and compost to give my plants a nutritional boost."

**Devonna Hall** recommended two books: "I love garden books and I just purchased *Garden Up: Smart Vertical Gardening for Small and Large Spaces*, by Susan Morrison and Rebecca Sweet. It has great pictures that inspire and wonderful ideas to resolve some of the challenges of vertical gardening. I also love Nancy Goslee Power's book, *Power of Gardens* – heaven!"

**Jennifer Harris** wrote that she got "a set of various size tweezers.... very large to smallish, purchased at the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society convention earlier this year for less than \$15. I purchased them to enable me to clean between cactus stickers and succulent leaves, but also find them extremely helpful when it comes to reaching into a webby area, bending down to clean Geraniums, or reaching up into a Star Pine to pull out dry needles."

**Susan Hirsch** appreciates "Succulents! They are bulletproof, look good with other types of plants, reproduce themselves and can be traded for other succulents!"

**Sylvia Keating** told us, "The very best thing I've EVER bought for my garden is a mattock tool. Cost is about \$20, when you can find them. They are hard to find. Mia at Cedros Gardens nursery has them now and I got one as a gift for my sister. I noticed one of the gardeners at Balboa Park using one, too, this past spring, and I stopped to chat with him about the huge number of delphiniums that were in the park and the tool he was using. Found out that there were so many delphiniums at Balboa Park this spring because they were over-ordered by mistake and the park had lots of them, so they were putting them in everywhere. The point, however, is that he agreed the mattock tool is now just about the only tool he uses, too. He loves it." [Members get a discount at Cedros Gardens – see page 17.]

**John Keeler** likes a tiny organism: "Of course my reply is biased... one pound of Symbivit Mycorrhiza (\$20.00)." [John's company, California Mycorrhiza, is one of our sponsors: <http://www.californiamycorrhiza.com/>.]

**Amelia Lima** is crazy about: "Tillandsias!!!! They are fabulous plants, easy, decorative, and very architectural!"

## ▼ 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](http://www.walterandersen.com)

## ▼ SDHS SPONSOR

### MARIPOSA LANDSCAPE & TREE SERVICE INC

- Expert Tree Care
- Water Wise Irrigation
- Earth Friendly Landscaping

30 years in RSF & North County Area

(858) 756 2769

[www.MariposaLandandTree.com](http://www.MariposaLandandTree.com)

C-27 Lic #658986

## ▼ SDHS SPONSOR



### Courtyard Pottery

142 S. Cedros Ave  
(across from the Belly Up)  
Solana Beach, CA 92075

ph 858.481.POTS (7687)  
[www.courtyardpottery.com](http://www.courtyardpottery.com)

10% DISCOUNT FOR SDHS MEMBERS

## ▼ SDHS SPONSOR

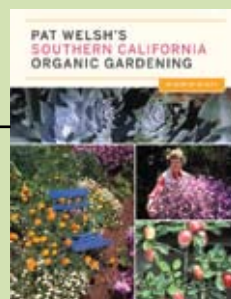
"It's the bible of local gardening."

### Pat Welsh's SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ORGANIC GARDENING: Month-By-Month

COMPLETELY REVISED AND UPDATED  
Available at select nurseries  
and bookstores everywhere

Published by Chronicle Books

[www.PatWelsh.com](http://www.PatWelsh.com)



▼ SDHS SPONSOR

**INDOOR GARDEN SUPPLY  
ORGANICS  
HYDROPONICS**

**New  
Location!**

*"Help us Grow and we'll help You Grow!"*



**Innovative Growing Solutions**

*"Your Success is Our Success"*

**858.578.4477**

**www.IGShydro.com**

**5060 Santa Fe Street #D**

**San Diego, CA 92109**

*10% discount for SDHS members*

▼ SDHS SPONSOR



*California  
Bee Works*

*...it's all about the Bees!!*

Experience the  
Joys of Backyard  
Beekeeping with  
a B-HAV-N Hive!

Locally made,  
Easy to use,  
Attractive in  
your yard.

We sell beeswax  
candles, too!



**www.californiabeeworks.net**

*10% discount for SDHS members*

**Carol McCollum** had a "green" reply: "I love solar powered lights... they light up at night in my patio!! One of my favorites is the spotlight on my fountain."

**Jim Mumford** suggested something you can get for free: "Mulch and compost from the dump!"

**Anita Noone** likes something you can make on your own: "Mulch, mulch, and more mulch. I ask tree-trimmers, horse owners, and people who use hay bales for display. I'd love to know how many tons of mulch I've gotten for free over the years. It's amazing what people will give you if you ask."

**Tamma Nugent** wrote, "Seeds, of course!"

**Stella Ramos** just hit the jackpot: "Yesterday, while browsing in a thrift store in Laguna Beach, I found a package of 20 plant identifier stakes for \$2.99! Now when I plant some bulbs I won't forget where I put them!"

**Kay Rideout** emailed to say: "I love the product Sluggo for controlling slugs and snails. Easy to use and safe around animals."

**Reg Ryan** said, "For fall, the very best thing to own is a leaf shovel. It is lightweight, and you can scoop up a lot of leaves (or other debris) quickly. Mine went missing for a while, and I was lost without it."

**Anne Saxe** got "a couple of late bargains...first, at my local home improvement store early on a Sunday morning after a busy Saturday, I found broken bags of top of the line name brand soils and soil conditioners grouped together in a shopping cart offered for under \$10 for the whole cart! Of course there may be things you don't want/can't use but you can save them or share with a neighbor. My best bargain though... a neighbor recently replaced her concrete driveway and walkways and had her old surfaces jack-hammered ready for pickup and disposal... 5 or 6 wheelbarrows full of random-sized 4-5-inch thick pieces provided me with a neat, short stretch of 2-3 foot high retaining wall... total cost: \$0! So... keep your eyes open in your neighborhood and at your local stores for things you can use in your own garden."

**Tammy Schwab** repurposed an interesting item: "I was thrift store shopping with some friends when I spotted an old metal card rack that swivels which I purchased for \$15.00. I had a vision and turned it into a succulent tower; it stands about 6' tall. The whole thing is planted and it looks marvelous!"

**Sue Ann Scheck** got a great bargain: "My best deal was a marvelous Talavera pot from Homegoods!"

**Stephanie Shigematsu** is another lover of: "Seeds! It can be rewarding and dirt cheap to grow plants from seeds. It's also a great way to inspire young gardeners. Save seeds for next spring from your last crop of favorite tomatoes or try some new lettuce seeds soon for fresh at hand winter salad. And you can't beat get-it-yourself free mulch or compost from the Miramar landfill. The strong odor may be off-putting to some, but it dissipates in a couple of days. They thoroughly compost all the city curbside green waste and occasionally food waste from local restaurants to help enrich our native soils."

**Jim Strelluti** shared this tip: "I shop for garden tools at garage sales and swap meets. Older tools are of very good quality compared to today's tools, especially tools with blades. Prices vary. The bottom line is: the tools are inexpensive and gently used. A high quality sawing blade is hard to come by today."



**Barbara Strona** replied: "Joining Mission Hills Garden Club in April, 1999!"

**Sharon Swildens** got some new plants: "The best thing I have purchased recently are two gigantic yellow mum plants for \$10.00 each at Home Depot. I put them in my large pots by the pool and they give lots of color during this rather dull fall time. They have been in full bloom for two weeks and I should be able to have them for the rest of the month now that the weather has turned cooler."

**Katrin Utt** told us: "The best thing I do for my plants is buying alfalfa hay cubes at the local feed store. It comes in 50-pound bags and is less than \$25, and each one lasts me about a year. I soak a small amount in water and apply the hay soup to my roses. It works wonders and is long-lasting. You can also let it ferment for a couple of weeks if you want to bypass the cow and create a more potent but smelly mixture that needs to be diluted."

**Janet Voinov** found a favorite plant: "I had seen a *Pittosporum* 'Silver Sheen' tree up in Long Beach and fell in love with it. Nursery visiting in Leucadia I found one for \$49 but didn't purchase it because it was just a little too much. Several days later, passing a nursery off of Hwy. 8 that I had never been to but heard a lot about, I decided to stop and look. Happily, they had lots of Silver Sheens and they were \$24. Of course, I bought one and plan on going back and buying several more, one at a time."

**Kimberly von Atzigen** appreciates her "Dramm watering wand."

**Melissa Worton** also likes "mulch. Bags of mulch. Keeps the weeds down, makes the garden look neat, smells good and is very easy on the wallet."

**Tynan Wyatt** got a great tool: "The best item for under \$25 I purchased (besides seeds) this year was the well-built adjustable hose nozzle. The cheapo ones always break and leak but spending \$14-\$16 to get a quality product that fits tight, sprays, bubbles, mists, etc. and can withstand a 4 foot drop onto concrete was well worth it. One tip is to minimize the amount of plastic in the nozzle. Metal and rubber are better. The one I have is a Gilmour 8-Pattern Cushion Pistol Grip Nozzle with Dial; sells for \$10.70 plus tax at Lowe's"

**Joanzy Zeltinger** repurposed a kitchen item: "A flour sifter. This summer, again, I had aphids on my dwarf Meyer Lemon Tree. I sprayed it good with water. Then I spritzed the affected areas with Jungle Juice; Jungle Juice alone does not work to rid the tree of pests. Then I put my worm castings into the flour sifter and sifted the casting powder on the affected areas. The moisture helps retain the casting dust. The ants and aphids broke up: no more synergistic relationship! Leave the dust on the tree for a few weeks, then host it off. Retreat if necessary. You can also use water and sifted castings on new seedlings to keep the bugs from devouring the leaves! So, now my flour sifter sits in the garden cabinet along with all my other garden tools. Each time I see it I think of my childhood, making mud-pies in grandmas back yard next to the rain barrel."

**Joel Zhou** is pleased with his "45-gallon wheeled can for green recycling."

#### The question for next month is:

Are you one of those folks (we know you are!) who can't resist a free plant? What is the BEST plant you rescued from someone else's trash or otherwise got for FREE, and why do you like it so much?

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

#### ▼ SDHS SPONSOR



## Solana Succulents

• Rare & Exotics • Container Gardens

Jeff Moore

355 N. Highway 101  
Solana Beach, CA 92075

(858) 259-4568

[www.solanasucculents.com](http://www.solanasucculents.com)



10% Discount for SDHS Members with this ad

#### ▼ SDHS SPONSOR

## You're Invited:

For the Best in Bamboo, Palms, Cycads & now featuring Aloe, Agave, and other succulents.

Visit our 4 Acre Display Garden and see the newest and most unusual flora from around the world, including our special Australian, New Zealand and South African collections.

10% discount for SDHS members

2498 Majella Rd, Vista

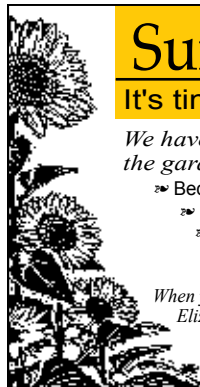
760-758-6181

[www.BotanicalPartners.com](http://www.BotanicalPartners.com)



Home of  
**Bamboo**  
Headquarters

#### ▼ 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.sunshinегardensinc.com](http://www.sunshinегardensinc.com)

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



155 Quail Gardens Drive  
Encinitas  
(760) 436-3244

#### ▼ SDHS SPONSOR



- Edibles • Succulents
  - Fruit Trees
  - Drought Tolerant Plants
- Pesticide-free since 1993

330 South Cedros Avenue  
Solana Beach, CA 92075  
(858) 792-8640

10% discount for SDHS members

[www.CedrosGardens.com](http://www.CedrosGardens.com)

▼ SDHS SPONSOR

**Pearson's Gardens**  
SAN DIEGO'S TRADITIONAL HERB FARM




Cultivating Herbs, Gourmet Vegetables, Scented Geraniums, Sages, Lavenders for Your Gardens

1150 Beverly Dr., Vista, CA PearsonsGardens.com

▼ SDHS SPONSOR

**Nursery, Maintenance & Design**  
Unusual plants, pottery and gifts  
10% discount for SDHS members



**Barrels & Branches**

Open daily 8am to 5pm  
1452 Santa Fe Drive, Encinitas  
(760) 753-2852  
www.barrelsandbranches.com




## OCTOBER PLANT DISPLAY

By Ken Blackford, Pat Pawlowski and Susi Torre-Bueno

### What is the Plant Display?

Each month members bring in plants, cuttings or flowers and put them on our display tables. What a great way to see what plants grow well in our area. All plants are welcome – EVERYONE is invited to participate. We encourage you to write descriptions similar to those below, and put them with the plant on the Plant Display tables. Join the fun and bring something from your garden for the November 14 meeting.

**Boophone haemanthoides** (Amaryllidaceae) South Africa  
This summer-deciduous bulb is from the winter rainfall area of South Africa. It forms a fan of undulating leaves and produces a large brush-like flower. (Ken Blackford, San Diego, 10/11) – K.B.

**Quercus berberidifolia SCRUB OAK** (Fagaceae)  
San Diego County

The drought-tolerant evergreen Scrub Oak grows 6-15' tall, with leaves that vary in shape. Best in full sun, it can be pruned to make an elegant small tree. It produces acorns galore and is an important wildlife plant. (Pat Pawlowski, El Cajon, 10/11) – P.P.

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

What's that in front of the plant name? Plants marked 3 are fully described in the *Plant Forum Compilation*. See [www.SDHortSoc.org](http://www.SDHortSoc.org) for details on how to order this valuable reference tool.

Can you spot the phony plant this month? The phony plant in the October newsletter was *Amaryllis belladonna* (green form) NAKED ENVY.

- Abutilon* cv. or sp. (Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- Allamanda* cv. or sp. (Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- Amaranthus caudatus* (Jane Beer, Los Angeles, 10/11)
- Barlaria* cv. or sp. (Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- Begonia* 'Walt Meiers Orange Delight' (Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- Boophone disticha* SORE-EYE FLOWER  
(Ken Blackford, San Diego, 10/11)
- Brunsvigia litoralis* (Sheldon Lisker, Sun City, 10/11)
- 3 *Campanula lactiflora* MILKY BELLFLOWER  
(Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- Dendrobium antennatum* (Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 10/11)
- Dendrobium dearei* (Charley Fouquette, El Cajon, 10/11)
- 3 *Fuchsia magellanica* HARDY FUCHSIA  
(Walt Meier, Oceanside, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- Helianthus salisifolius* (Jane Beer, Los Angeles, 10/11)
- Impatiens* cv. or sp. (Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- Koeleruteria paniculata* GOLDENRAINTREE  
(Sue Fouquette, El Cajon, 10/11)
- 3 *Oxypetalum caeruleum* (Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- 3 *Salvia discolor* ANDEAN SAGE (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 10/11)
- 3 *Salvia miscolor* HOMELY SAGE (Plant Addict, Vista, 10/11)
- Salvia urica* BLUE BUSH SAGE (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 10/11)
- 3 *Saponaria* 'Bressingham' (Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- 3 *Thunbergia battiscombei* (Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 10/11)
- 3 *Tithonia diversifolia* (Jane Beer, Los Angeles, 10/11)

**HOLIDAY SPECIAL**




\$15.



\$20.

**Centennial Compilation**  
(reduced price of \$20 until Dec. 31)

**The Complete Writings of Kate Sessions in California Garden**  
(price of \$15 until Dec. 31)

PRICES INCLUDE TAX AND SHIPPING

**Available at [www.sdfloal.org](http://www.sdfloal.org)**

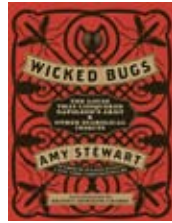
**GREAT GIFT IDEA**





## OCTOBER MEETING REPORT

By Susi Torre-Bueno



Amy Stewart is a dynamic, fascinating, and funny speaker, and she delighted us in October with many stories from her newest book, *Wicked Bugs: The Louse that Conquered Napoleon's Army & Other Diabolical Insects*. This book follows her popular *Wicked Plants*, about poisonous plants, which she regaled us with at our January 2010 meeting. She noted that, "Bugs are everywhere and pretty much everything alive on the planet is bugs." There are over 1 million insect species and about 2 million bugs per person! Bugs do a lot of good: pollination, decomposition, food for other animals, medical ingredients, etc. But some bugs are... well... WICKED, and those are the ones that Amy spoke about with great enthusiasm.

For starters, how about three examples of bugs involved in **notorious murders**? Here in San Diego, Carole Hargis attempted to murder her husband in 1977 by trying many things, including baking a tarantula venom sac into his pie! She finally achieved his demise by beating the poor man to death, and was duly convicted. The infamous French Marquis de Sade poisoned prostitutes (accidentally) by feeding them candies he had made using Spanish fly (the beetle *Lytta vesicatoria*); eating just 100 of these insects could kill a large horse! In 1835 Charles Darwin was a naturalist on the ship *The Beagle* when he was bitten by assassin bugs in Argentina, along with other crew members (some of whom he convinced to allow the bugs to bite them as an experiment). This insect is now known to transmit the fatal Chagas disease, and Amy said it is possible that the many health problems that plagued Darwin the rest of his life, and even his death, might be traced back to these wicked bugs.

Some bugs are what Amy called **horticultural horrors**. The Rocky Mountain Locust, which caused several plagues in the 1800s in the U.S., were a scourge that filled the skies – they were so numerous that they blocked out the sun and flew in a living cloud the size of the state of California! The Colorado Potato Beetle, native to the U.S., only became a major pest when we started potato farming, subsisting before then (in much smaller numbers) on nightshade plants. The Mediterranean Fruit Fly is a major pest that attacks over 300 fruits and vegetables. No wonder Amy says, "The bugs always win!"

Amy considers other bugs **extreme annoyances**, such as the biting midges ("no-see-ums") that were a huge problem in Hervey Bay, Australia. The community did a scientific study and found that the divorce rate increased after infestations, probably because, "married couples had to spend much more time indoors together." Here in the States, both Edgar Allen Poe and Mark Twain wrote about the death watch beetle, whose clicking sounds were thought to mean death was approaching (it eats wood and makes a ticking sound).

**Parasites and zombies** are also in Amy's book. The emerald cockroach wasp has a life cycle that includes the female laying her eggs inside a living roach; the larvae hatch and eat their host. The distinction of "most wicked bug in the world" goes to the mosquito, which carries 1 in 5 insect-transmitted diseases.

Thanks, Amy, for a lively look at the tiny creatures which surround us every day. Both *Wicked Plants* and *Wicked Bugs* are available for loan from our librarian, and if you missed Amy's talk you can borrow the video of it when you attend an upcoming meeting. ☺

Ready to replace your turf with a more sustainable landscape?

### REIMAGINING THE CALIFORNIA LAWN

*Water-conserving Plants,  
Practices, and Designs*

A new book by Carol Bornstein,  
David Fross, & Bart O'Brien

Available online for a 20% discount at  
[www.cachumapress.com](http://www.cachumapress.com).



SDHS members...

**SAVE \$10 on**  
*Pacific Horticulture*

**Only \$18/year brings you a  
beautiful full-color magazine  
all about West Coast gardening!**

*Each fascinating issue has articles  
on places to visit, unique gardens,  
plant info, and lots more.*

**To receive to this exceptional  
publication send \$18 with your dues**



## THANK YOU

To these generous donors for our October  
Opportunity Drawing:

Oasis Water Efficient Gardens  
Evergreen Nursery (see page 2)  
and to

Laird Plumleigh for a ceramic art tile  
([www.lairdplumleigh.com](http://www.lairdplumleigh.com))

Thank you to Grangetto's  
(see page 21) for donating door prizes.

## YOUR MONTHLY MEMBER EMAIL

Two weeks after our monthly meeting we send all members an email with important information. If you haven't been getting this it means we don't have a current email address for you, so please send that address to [membership@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:membership@sdhortsoc.org). We never share your email address with anyone!

The email always has these items of interest:

- Password for the digital newsletter (changes every month)
- Invitation to Coffee-in-the-Garden events (register ASAP – they usually fill up in under 24 hours!)
- Details about the talk at the next meeting
- Description of volunteer opportunities

# RENEW NOW

(or share with a friend)

Please complete the form below.  
Make check payable to SDHS and mail to:  
San Diego Horticultural Society  
Attn: Membership  
P.O. Box 231869, Encinitas, CA 92023-1869

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip +4: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ OR Credit Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Tell us who suggested you join, and we'll send them a Hort Buck worth \$5.00. \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMBERSHIP TYPE

	ONLINE NEWSLETTER	PRINTED NEWSLETTER
Individual 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$42
Individual 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$74
Individual 5 years (includes free Plant Forum CD)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180
Family 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$47
Family 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$84
Family 5 years (includes free Plant Forum CD)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200
Group or Business 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$62
Student 1 year (Proof of enrollment is required)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$16	<input type="checkbox"/> \$28
Contributing 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90	<input type="checkbox"/> \$102
Life Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$700	<input type="checkbox"/> \$700

36% off Pacific Horticulture membership & magazine:  
☐ \$18 / 1 year ☐ \$36 / 2 years ☐ \$90 / 5 years

Join online at: [sdhortsoc.org](http://sdhortsoc.org)



## THE PLANT MAN

Specializing in Rare & Unusual Succulents & Cacti, Tropicals, Tillandsias, Crested & Variegated Plants, Caudiciform Succulents and other Abnormalities of the Plant World. Unique Handbuilt Ceramics, Vintage Pottery, Great Rocks & Garden Art.

2615 Congress Street  
Old Town - San Diego

Hours: Noon to 6 pm, Wednesday thru Sunday

(619) 297-0077

10% off for all S.D. Horticultural Society Members

## LIVING WALLS

Edibles, Succulents and Interiors

Your one source for design, installation and maintenance of green roofs, living walls and rain harvesting systems!

Call for a FREE estimate 858.430.0575

[www.GreenScapedBuildings.com](http://www.GreenScapedBuildings.com)



25 Years Experience in So. California



Daniel F. E. Cannou  
Consulting Horticulturist

Sunset Horticultural Services  
(760) 726-3276

Professional solutions to problems  
with plants, soil and irrigation

Landscape renovation  
Complete landscape care





# Weidners

*Not just another nursery*

**POINSETTIAS**  
**CYCLAMEN PANSIES**  
**Blooming Gift Arrangements!**

**East of I-5 between  
Leucadia & La Costa exits**

**Mid-Winter Season through Dec. 22**  
**Open 9:00 to 4:30, closed Tuesdays**

**(760) 436-2194**

**www.weidners.com**

**f Now on Facebook**



[www.grangetto.com](http://www.grangetto.com)

*Quality Products • Expert Advice • Friendly Service*  
**Organic Products and Water Saving Devices!**

- Plant Food & Nutrients
- Amendments & Mulch
- Seed & Sod
- Veggie & Flower Packs
- Garden Tools
- Water Storage
- Irrigation Supplies
- Pest & Disease Control
- Rodent Control
- Bird Food & Feeders
- Vineyard Supplies

**15% OFF**

**YOUR NEXT PURCHASE**

**VALID November 1 - 30, 2011**

**Helping Your Garden Grow**



VALLEY CENTER  
29219 Juba Road  
760-749-1828

ESCONDIDO  
1105 W. Mission Ave  
760-745-4671

FALLBROOK  
530 E. Alvarado St.  
760-728-6127

ENCINITAS  
189 S. Rancho Santa Fe  
760-944-5777

Not valid with any other sale items, discounts, coupons or promotions. Not valid for gift card purchase. Offer excludes Sod, Power Equipment & specials. Must present coupon. Limit 1 coupon per household/order. Not valid for Custom Price Plans.

SKU: SDHS15

**Grangetto's**

**Let Us Help You Take Your Next Garden Project From Start to Finish!**



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

**Change Service Requested**

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

# Bromeliad Bash

## November 12 and 13

### 9 AM - 5 PM

Sponsored by the  
San Diego Bromeliad Society  
and San Diego Botanic Garden

Join us for the 1st Annual Bromeliad Bash at San Diego Botanic Garden featuring some of the best plants to grow in Southern California—bromeliads! Enjoy presentations, demonstrations, plant sales, and book sales all weekend long.

Special exhibition showcases 37 original 19th century botanical color illustrations of bromeliads from the collection of Jack Kramer, prolific author and collector. These one-of-a-kind original works come with documented sources—they are rare in the trade and are for sale.

Cost: Free with general admission. Free parking.



San Diego Botanic Garden  
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024  
760/ 436-3036  
[www.SDBGarden.org](http://www.SDBGarden.org)



One featured book will be the newly released *Bromeliads for Home and Garden* by prolific author (and collector), Jack Kramer.



# What's Happening? for November 2011

The SDHS is happy to publicize items of horticultural interest. See other side for resources & ongoing events.

Send calendar listings by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month before the event to Neal King at [calendar@sdhortsoc.org](mailto:calendar@sdhortsoc.org).

## ▼ SDHS Sponsor

### Anderson's La Costa Nursery & Garden Design Center

- ♦ Full Service Nursery & Garden Design Center
- ♦ Over 200 Running Fountains
- ♦ Trees, Shrubs, Vines, Succulents
- ♦ Huge Greenhouse For Indoor Plants
- ♦ Large Selection of Pottery & Statuary
- ♦ Benches & Trellises
- ♦ Professionals to Answer Your Questions
- ♦ Exquisite New Gift Shop

.....Expect the Unusual



Open 7 Days a Week  
8AM to 5PM  
400 La Costa Avenue  
Encinitas, CA 92024  
(760) 753-3153

[www.AndersonsLacostaNursery.com](http://www.AndersonsLacostaNursery.com)

## Hello to all and welcome to our November garden tips update.

November can bring us glorious weather for gardening in the San Diego area. Warm but mild days and cool nights are ideal growing conditions for cool-season plants. November is a particularly good time to add trees, shrubs and ground covers to your landscape. November can deliver some much-needed rain here – you may want to prune dense trees and make sure young trees are well-staked now before the winter arrives.

- ❖ Plenty of loose Paperwhite bulbs. Remember to plant Paperwhites every two weeks now for a long display in December and January.
- ❖ The Cyclamen are very full now and 6" Mums for inside and out. Holiday Cactus are very full of buds, they are fabulous when in full bloom.
- ❖ Ceanothus is a great California native and this is a great time to plant them and your other California natives.
- ❖ Also in the Secret Garden, a fabulous selection of Veggies and Herbs. This is the time to plant your fall and winter vegetable garden.
- ❖ We have a great selection of lettuce greens and winter tomatoes, we have several varieties.
- ❖ What else?...how about Broccoli, Cauliflower, Kale and Beets mmm yummy!
- ❖ ...and with all your vegetable plantings – use lots of organic compost and worm castings.
- ❖ Many of our Grevilleas are blooming now, and will continue thru the winter. These Australian natives flower best in sunny, dry locations although they will also grow in light shade. Plant in well-draining soil and do not fertilize (they are very sensitive to Phosphorus – it can be fatal!). Regular pruning after flowering is recommended to enhance and rejuvenate flowering and plant growth. Most varieties are drought tolerant, as well as frost hardy down to 20 ° F.

The bedding annuals and perennials look enticing.

- ❖ Nemesis, Arctotus and Osteospermum, Bacopa – both Lilac & White, Sanvitalia tequila, Iceland Poppies, many Violas, Pansies, Snapdragons, Sweet Peas and much, much more.

Continued on other side



We're on Facebook! "Like" us for info and news as it happens. You'll find us under Andersons La Costa Nursery.

## Alta Vista Gardens

See <http://www.AltavistaGardens.org> for upcoming events.

## San Diego Botanic Garden

See page 10 for more upcoming events

Details/registration at [www.sdbgarden.org](http://www.sdbgarden.org) or (760) 436-3036

Nov. 12 & 13, 9am-5pm, Bromeliad Bash: presentations, demonstrations, plant sales, and book sales. Free with Garden admission or membership.

Nov. 29, 9am-2pm, Succulent Wreath Class: Take home a beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself. Members \$55, non-members \$65. Please register by Nov. 28.

## The Water Conservation Garden

Details/registration at [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org) or (619) 660-0614

Nov. 5, 9am-4pm, Fall Garden & Home Festival: vendors selling drought-tolerant plants, "Ask the Experts", Master Composters, Ms. Smarty Plants Kidz Zone, and more. \$3, Members and kids under 12. FREE.

Nov. 6, noon, Ask The Horticulturist Tour: Enjoy an informative walk through the Garden. Free.

Nov. 8, 6:30-8:30pm, Secrets Of The Best Landscape Designers: Learn the secrets of professional landscape design with local Landscape Designer. Members: \$15 Non-Members \$25. Please register early.

Nov. 20, 9:30am, Special Access Tour: Special tour is offered monthly for individuals who may have difficulty navigating the terrain of the Garden. Explore the Garden from the comfort of a Shuttle. FREE. Reservations required, call (619) 660-6841.

## Cedros Gardens, Saturday 10am FREE classes:

Details at [www.cedrosgardens.com](http://www.cedrosgardens.com); address in ad on page 17.

## City Farmers Nursery FREE Classes

Nov. 6: Solar Cooking

Nov. 13: Pizzas, Flatbreads, Crackers \* Sourdough Starters

Nov. 20: Chickens – Friends, Food and Fun

See [www.cityfarmersnursery.com](http://www.cityfarmersnursery.com) or call (619) 284-6358

## Evergreen Nursery FREE Seminars

Nov. 5, 10am – Citrus & Avocado Varieties & Care

Carmel Valley and Oceanside Nurseries (see map on page 2)

Details at [www.evergreennursery.com/seminar-schedule-2011](http://www.evergreennursery.com/seminar-schedule-2011)

## Grangetto's Farm & Garden Supply FREE Workshop

Details at [www.grangettos.com](http://www.grangettos.com); see ad on page 21.

## Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes:

**Point Loma, 9am**

**Poway, 9:30am**

Nov. 4 Winter Color for your Yard

Decorating for the Holidays

Nov. 12 Rose Pruning

Bonsai for Beginners

Nov. 19 Poinsettias

Fruit Trees

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

## Nov. 3, 5:30-7:30pm, Integrating CA Native Plants into Urban

Landscapes: Workshop on the best native plants for use in sustainable urban gardens. This class will discuss the best cultivars of native trees, shrubs, perennials and ground covers. FREE. 8690 Balboa Ave., Ste 100, San Diego. Register at [www.energycenter.org/forestry](http://www.energycenter.org/forestry). For info contact Robin at (858) 244-1177 or [events@energycenter.org](mailto:events@energycenter.org).

Nov. 5, 10am – 3pm, Plant Sale by SDHS Member: Ferns, staghorns, cycads, anthuriums, and more! Cash only. At 465 Deer Path, Leucadia, 92024. Contact Regina at (760) 436-5017 or (619) 245-9935.

Nov. 5, 12 and 19, Preserve Calavera: Three-day workshop on Native Plants at the Anstine Reserve in Vista. FREE. For info contact [beckywilbanks@cox.net](mailto:beckywilbanks@cox.net).

Nov. 5, 9am-4pm, Lake Hodges Native Plant Club Plant Sale: California natives as well as many other varieties. Find unusuals not sold in garden centers. In front of Von's, Rancho Bernardo Plaza Shopping Center. For info call (858) 679 7383.

Nov. 8, 10m-noon, Dos Valles Garden Club: The Future of San Diego County Agriculture and How It Affects Small Rural Communities. FREE. 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center.

Nov. 9, 10am, Point Loma Garden Club: The Lighter Side of Succulents: An "off the beaten path" approach to succulent design as well as companion planting. 2818 Avenida de Portugal. See [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org).

Nov. 10, 10 am, Poway Valley Garden Club: program on "Holiday Floral Designs." \$10. 12578 Oaks North Drive. For info call Sharon (858) 672-2593 or see [www.powayvalleygardenclub.org](http://www.powayvalleygardenclub.org).

**Nov. 13, 1:30pm. American Begonia Society:** Begonia Growing. 423 Ranch Santa Fe Road, Encinitas. For info call (760) 815-7914.

**Prune to shape evergreens** such as arborvitae, juniper, magnolia, pines, pittosporum, and spruce. This is a great way to get trimmings for holiday decorations while manicuring the plants. But don't let your zeal for snipping spread to pruning spring-blooming shrubs or you'll cut off the blooms (they form on new wood); instead, prune after blooming is done.