

Let's Talk Plants!

Newsletter of the San Diego Horticultural Society

July 2012, Number 214

Not Just For Show

SEE PAGE 1

INVASIVE PEST ALERT
PAGE 4

OUR FAIR GARDEN
PAGES 6-8

**NATIVE PLANTS &
NATIVE PEOPLE**
PAGE 10

**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP
WINNERS**
PAGE 13

On the Cover: Magnolia 'Rose Marie'

Hand-Painted Door for Sale



This gorgeous wooden door was painted by artist Katie Gaines (www.lovepaperpaint.com) especially for the SDHS display garden at the Fair. Wouldn't it look great in your home or garden? And you'll be buying it from SDHS, so your money will help fund our activities. Asking \$400. Call Jim Bishop ASAP at (619) 296-9215 for details.

SDHS GARDEN AT THE FAIR



Bistro corner



Interns finishing up near painted door (see photo to left)

Photos: Marilyn Guidroz

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IN THIS ISSUE...

- 2 Volunteers for July 5
- 2 Important Member Information
- 3 To Learn More...
- 3 Invasive Pest Alert: Goldspotted Oak Borer
- 3 From the Board
- 4 The Real Dirt On... Mary Vaux Walcott
- 4 Going Wild With The Natives:
Got Milkweed?
- 5 Trees, Please – Is Your Collar Dirty?
- 5 Fair Awards Given by SDHS
- 6 Fair Wrap Up – Creating a Starry Night in
Your Garden
- 7 2012 Flower & Garden Show Exhibit:
Meet our Intern Students
- 8 Fair Awards We Won
- 8 Plants In Our Fair Garden
- 10 Welcome New Members!
- 10 Discounts for Members
- 10 What's Up At San Diego Botanic Garden?
- 11 Pacific Horticulture Tours
- 12 My Life With Plants
- 13 Supporting Their Career Dreams:
2012 College Scholarship Winners
- 14 Sharing Secrets
- 16 A Day at "The Ranch"
- 17 May Plant Display
- 18 Successful Maintenance Workshop
- 19 June Night at the Fair 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.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Details on membership are on page 20 and at www.sdhortsoc.org
For questions contact 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, lending library, plant display

6:45 – 9:00 Announcements, Hot Hort Picks, door prizes, speaker

MEETINGS & EVENTS IN 2012

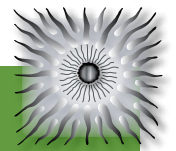
June 8 – July 4 San Diego County Fair (see pages 6 -9)

July 28 Coffee in the Garden, Fallbrook

August 13 Matthew Levesque on The Revolutionary Yardscape: Repurposing Salvaged Local Materials

August 26 Coffee in the Garden, Encinitas

September 10 Panel on Welcome to Club Med: Ideal Plants for San Diego's Mediterranean Climate



SAN DIEGO
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

COVER IMAGE: Magnolia 'Rose Marie' is just one of the exciting plants we'll hear about from the always-interesting Nick Staddon at the July 9 meeting.

www.SanDiegoHorticulturalSociety.org



Next Meeting: JULY 9, 2012, 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Topic: NICHOLAS STADDON ON "NOT JUST FOR SHOW"

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

We're happy to welcome back Nicholas Staddon. Nicholas will present "Not Just for Show," an insider's view of the business of plant exploration – who are these dedicated plant people, where in the world are they going and what are they looking for? He also will offer his picks for best new plants for our region that have become available in the last few years.

Nicholas is director of the new plants team for Monrovia, an 85-year-old innovative wholesale grower based in California. He works with the industry's top plant breeders, hybridizers and professional plant explorers to bring new creations and discoveries to home gardens. Nicholas grew up in his native England with a fascination for plants and attended Otley Agricultural College. Before joining Monrovia 25 years ago, he worked managing garden centers in New Mexico. He says of New Mexico, "It is one of the most beautiful places in the world – the vistas will move your heart and the gardening will break it." Nicholas, now a resident of Southern California, travels extensively for Monrovia in his quest for great plants for American gardeners.

He is affiliated with the Royal Horticulture Society, the California Association of Nurserymen and The American Nursery and Landscape Association. He is an Advisor to Sunset magazine, on the Board of Advisors for Mount San Antonio College, Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences Department, and the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.

To learn more visit www.monrovia.com and see page 3. ☞



SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established September 1994

BOARD MEMBERS

Patty Berg – Volunteer Coordinator

Jeff Biletnikoff – Meeting Room Coordinator

Jim Bishop – President, Membership Chair

Linda Bresler – Member at Large

Mark Collins – Finance/Budget Committee

Julian Duval – San Diego Botanic Garden Representative

Mary James – Program Committee Chair

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

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.

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☛New Email? New Street Address?

Please send all changes (so you will continue to receive the newsletter and important notices) to membership@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!

VOLUNTEERS FOR JULY 5

We need volunteer drivers (with trucks, vans or large cars) on July 5 to return plants and other garden display items that were used in our Fair garden. If you have some time and would like to be a part of the Fair Driving team, please call Susanna Pagan ASAP at (858) 342-8667.



Julie Hasi

IMPORTANT MEMBER INFORMATION

Taken at Rancho La Puerta (see page 16): members Toni Munsell, Debbie Hall and Nancy Hurlburt

Coordinate Fall Home/Garden Show Booth

We are looking for a volunteer to design, organize and install our booth at the Fall Home/Garden Show at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on Sept 14, 15, and 16th (setup is on Sept 13th). You'll be provided with previous years' documents, and materials and also have help from Patty Berg, volunteer coordinator, in staffing the booth during show. This is part of our outreach to the community and a chance to show and tell San Diegans about all the great benefits of being SDHS member. To volunteer please contact Patty Berg at PattyBerg@gmail.com or 760-815-0625.

Membership Table at Meetings

We are looking for a few friendly folks to staff our membership table at meetings from 6pm until about 6:45pm, signing up new members and helping current members renew their membership. You'd also take orders for nametags and distribute nametags at meetings. If you have an outgoing personality this is a fun opportunity. Lorie Johansen and Nancy Groves are already doing this for most months –we need a few volunteers to help them and as backups when they aren't available. To learn more or volunteer, email volunteer@sdhortsoc.org.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is looking for 2 people; one to manage our sponsorship program, and another to manage membership relations and sign up new members. If you can help a few hours a week, have good email skills, and enjoy working with people, contact Jim Bishop at president@sdhortsoc.org or 619-296-9215.

Corresponding Secretary

We are looking for a volunteer to write and send thank you letters and emails to volunteers, significant contributors, speakers, and sponsors. This job can be done in a few hours a week from home, contact Jim Bishop at president@sdhortsoc.org or 619-296-9215.

Thanks So Much!



Many thanks to Sunshine Care (see page 14) for hosting our June 16 Coffee at their beautiful Poway gardens. Look for photos on our Facebook page.

ARE YOU READING THIS IN COLOR???

Our monthly eblast has the password for the digital newsletter, featuring all color images and live links. Back issues are also on our website. To switch to the digital edition exclusively send an email saying "online only" to membership@sdhortsoc.org. ☛



TO LEARN MORE...

By Ava Torre-Bueno

New Plants

In one year of searching, scientists at The New York Botanical Garden discovered and described 81 new species of plants and fungi from around the world. Of course, these aren't new plants, but old plants newly recognized. www.sciencecodex.com/nybg_scientists_identify_81_new_plant_and_fungus_species-92776

The World Flora Project is a very ambitious effort to catalogue all plant life on earth by the year 2020. <http://inhabitat.com/leading-botanical-institutions-team-up-to-produce-online-catalog-of-all-plants-on-earth>

The World Flora Project grows out of The Plant List, which describes the taxonomic relationships of over 400,000 plants. This is a fun site to surf around in. If you're just starting to get familiar with the Linnaean, or Latin names for plants, this site will be helpful. www.theplantlist.org

But I digress... Here's Monrovia's catalogue of new plants (their new Bright Star Yucca is shown above), some of which our July speaker will be discussing: www.monrovia.com/plant-catalog/exceptional-new-plants.php

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 and visit sandiegofriendscenter.org/volunteers.htm.



INVASIVE PEST ALERT: GOLDSPOTTED OAK BORER

We have an urgent situation in San Diego County with an invasive pest affecting oak trees. While you generally find the largest population of oak trees in the east and north east portions of our county, the potential for this invasive pest to spread far and wide through firewood movement is possible. Your help in sharing this information with your friends and neighbors is a great step in the right direction towards helping control the spread of this devastating pest. Go to <http://ucanr.org/sites/gsobinfo> and click on the resources tab for printable flyers and more information.

Goldspotted oak borer (GSOB), *Agrilus coxalis*, was first detected in California (San Diego County) in 2004 during a trap survey for invasive tree pests. In 2008 this borer was linked to elevated levels of oak mortality ongoing in San Diego County since 2002. Its existence here may date back to as early as 1996, based on examinations of previously killed oaks. GSOB is native to Arizona and Mexico and was likely introduced here via infested oak firewood. It is a serious pest of coast live oak, *Quercus agrifolia*, canyon live oak, *Q. chrysolepis* and California black oak, *Q. kelloggii* in California and has killed more than 20,000 trees.

Although GSOB-killed oaks have only been found in San Diego County to date, it is expected that the area of infestation will continue to extend north beyond the county line and tree mortality will continue to increase due to adult flight from infested trees and new infestations initiated through beetles emerging from transported firewood. Two GSOB are shown above (on a penny).



FROM THE BOARD

By Jim Bishop

Thanks to everyone who attended the "Night at the Fair" meeting on June 11th. It was a wonderful opportunity to see the Fair gardens without the Fair crowds and socialize with SDHS members. We also honored Susi Torre-Bueno as our 2012 Horticulturist of the Year. As many of you know, Susi has been Newsletter Editor since 1996 and served as President from 2003 to 2011. She has worked tirelessly to build and promote SDHS and has become synonymous with the word horticulture in San Diego. She served as a board member of the San Diego Botanic Garden from 2000-2003 and received the "Paul Ecke Jr. Award of Excellence" in 2008. Susi also has a strong connection with the Pacific Horticulture Society, serving as a board member and organizing three Gardening Symposiums. San Diego and especially SDHS are very lucky to have such a dynamic force in helping promote local horticulture.

We are all immensely proud of our beautiful award-winning display garden at the San Diego County Fair and hope you had a chance to enjoy it firsthand. This is SDHS's largest project

each year, and it requires the contributions of many people. None of it would have been possible without the talent, creativity, skill and hard work of Garden Designer Susanna Pagan (www.spgardens.com). Susanna designed and installed the garden. Hardscape construction was done by Turner Landscape (www.turnerlandscapes.com). Garden Designer Marilyn Guidroz (www.marilynsgarden.com) coordinated the efforts of MiraCosta College Horticulture Dept. students to plant the garden and install garden features. Jake Minnick performed daily maintenance of the garden. See a complete list of contributors on page 7. Go to page 8 for details about the awards our garden won as well as the six gardens that SDHS gave awards to.

The Night at the Fair event required the efforts of many people. Thank you to Fair staff Jayna Wittevrongel, Nicola Bysouth, and Katie Phillips for helping organize the event and providing access to the gardens. SDHS Program Committee members Mary James, Carol Lane and Susan Morse planned and coordinated the event. Special thanks to: Carol Lane for organizing everyone and documenting the process, to Patty Berg for donation of the door prize from The Wishing Tree Company (www.thewishingtreecompany.com), and to Barbara Raub for photographing the event.

Thank you to our many Horticulturists of the Day who served as garden ambassadors throughout the run of the Fair, and to volunteer chair Patty Berg for coordinating. Go to page 8 for details about the awards our garden won. Page 9 has info on the six gardens that SDHS gave awards to.



Marilyn Guidroz



THE REAL DIRT ON...

By Linda Bresler

Mary Vaux Walcott



Mary Morris Vaux Walcott (1860-1940) is best known today for her watercolor wildflower illustrations, which were collected in a five-volume tome, *North American Wildflowers*, published by the Smithsonian Institution in 1925. She was also very involved with studying the mineralogy of glaciers in the Canadian Rockies, and learning the botany of that area, as well as photographing mountain landscapes and experimenting with early motion-picture cameras.

Walcott was born into a wealthy Quaker family in Philadelphia. She received her first set of watercolor paints as a child, and soon began to practice painting flowers. Her mother died when she was nineteen, and she took over the role of looking after her father and two brothers. In 1887 Walcott traveled with her family to the Canadian Rockies in Western Canada on the first of many trips to the area. Her brothers George and William were mountaineers, photographers, and scientists, primarily interested in studying the glaciers there.

The beauty of the Canadian Rockies captivated the entire family, and thereafter they spent every summer exploring the mountains. Walcott and her brothers studied the glaciers, photographing and measuring them over many years. She also began painting watercolors of rare native flowers. In 1900 she climbed Mount Stephen, a 10,496-foot peak in Field, British Columbia. This was the first major ascent by a woman of a peak that high. As a woman, she received no recognition for her drawings or photographs, with her work exhibited only under her surname.

In 1913, on a research trip to the Canadian Rockies, she met Charles Doolittle Walcott, the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. He was an eminent geologist and invertebrate paleontologist conducting his own geological research, and had been investigating a shale formation in the area of the Rockies for the past several years.

They were married the following year and continued their yearly trips to the Canadian Rockies. While he continued his geological and paleontological research, Walcott painted hundreds of watercolor studies of native flowers. Due to growing demand, her watercolors of flowers were published in a format easily available to students, scientists, and nature lovers. The limited publication contained 400 lithographic prints of her watercolors of native wildflowers, with brief descriptions for each. The five volumes of this endeavor included all of North America. Her painting of *Balsamorhiza sagittata* is shown above.

In 1908 Walcott received an extraordinary tribute. Her close friend Mary Schaffer, an artist and writer, named a 10,500-foot peak in Jasper Park, Alberta, after her.

After her husband died in 1927, Walcott continued taking trips to the Canadian Rockies every summer until 1939. In later years she became dismayed about the many tourists who began to overrun the area, not caring about the natural surroundings.

Walcott passed away in New Brunswick, Canada, in 1940. In addition to her memberships in the Alpine Club of Canada and the Photographic Society of Philadelphia, she served on the federal Board of Indian Commissioners from 1927-1933, and was elected President of the Society of Women Geographers.

Linda Bresler is a Landscape Designer living in Poway. She specializes in drought-tolerant, low maintenance designs that provide four season beauty. 🌿



GOING WILD WITH THE NATIVES

By Pat Pawlowski

Got Milkweed?

Seems that everywhere you look, there are pictures of Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*). They appear on tee-shirts, in ads, on greeting cards, etc. It's easy to get a Monarch to alight on your refrigerator; all you need do is buy a plastic one with a magnet underneath. Whoopee.

How about some real monarchs, ones that glide, drink nectar, mate, lay eggs, all in your own garden? Petunias are pretty, but that's about all.

Milkweed, on the other hand, is magic.

And just like magic, planting milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.) can make your garden a fascinating place. The Monarch butterfly (and also the Queen butterfly in some areas) will come to lay eggs on your milkweed plants. Ladies only, of course. But the gentlemen (although they don't act like it) will show up too, since they have romance on their minds or whatever you want to call it, and they want to be where the ladies are.

Here's how it should go: You plant some milkweed. Monarchs show up, several act really friendly, and the female deposits eggs on your milkweed. The eggs hatch; teeny striped caterpillars emerge, munch milkweed (they eat only milkweed, your petunias are safe); they keep eating (as shown below), and each eventually forms a pupa, or chrysalis. After roughly 8 days to 3 weeks the butterfly will emerge.

Amaze your friends! Astound your neighbors!

The more milkweed you have, the more butterflies you'll get – and not just monarchs. The funky-looking hooded flowers of milkweed contain lots of nectar for many butterfly species plus other beneficial bugs.

Bloodflower milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*) is the one you'll most likely see in nurseries. Although it's not a native of the U.S., the butterflies don't seem to care.

Some of the species native to California include Narrow-leaf milkweed (*A. fascicularis*), Showy milkweed (*A. speciosa*), and Rush milkweed (*A. subulata*). If you have trouble finding these, you can always beg/plead/threaten your local nursery and maybe they'll order some. But be aware that our native milkweeds go dormant in winter, unlike Bloodflower milkweed, which grows year-round.

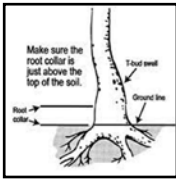
The culture of most milkweeds is pretty easy (remember it has "weed" in its common name). Pods will split and seeds may float away like tiny paratroopers and deposit themselves elsewhere in the garden but they're easy to pull out. (Pull out? Pull out? How dare you!) California native milkweeds seem to need less water and fertilizer than the introduced types. Of course, pesticides are a no-no. Aphids will like milkweed as much as you do; either wash them off with water or squirt and you won't notice them.

But you will notice the lazy, beautiful drift of the monarchs as they liven up your yard--so you know what you have to do.

Get milkweed.



Member Pat Pawlowski is a writer/lecturer/garden consultant/butterfly livestock wrangler. The small image at the top is *A. fascicularis*, photographed and © by Curtis Clark. The large image by Engeser shows monarch butterfly caterpillars feeding on *A. curassavica*. 🌿



TREES, PLEASE

By Tim Clancy

Is Your Collar Dirty?

Tree inspection involves a multifaceted process that relies on the experience and knowledge of the inspector. The crown of the tree can reveal clues as to the tree's vigor or lack thereof. The trunk also can indicate potential problems: Does it have cracks and splits? Is it "bleeding?" The area where the trunk and roots meet is the "root collar" and it is often over-looked or even neglected when performing a tree inspection.

A root collar inspection involves the careful observation of the transition zone where the roots and trunk meet. All too often the root collar is obscured by soil and/or vegetation. In the case of vegetation exposing the root collar, it is as straightforward as removing the plant material to reveal the root collar.



Obscured root crown.

If the root collar is covered with soil the exposure process is straightforward but needs to be conducted with care so as not to damage the trunk or roots. Soil can be washed away from the root collar with water or carefully removed with a shovel. I often remove as much soil as possible without touching the trunk, then finish with a whiskbroom to reveal the root collar.

Once the collar is exposed, the inspection process begins by looking for any signs of decay. The careful inspector may use an ice pick to probe selected locations if decay is suspected. The presence of fungus fruiting bodies may indicate root rot, but they may be from a harmless fungus. It is important to know which fungus is present, as this may determine if further investigation is necessary to document the extent of the decay.

Root collar inspections may also reveal a girdling root that grows around the trunk and may restrict water and nutrient movement within the tree. Girdling roots often start during the growing process in a nursery setting. Roots grow outward from the trunk and come into contact with the container in which the tree is growing. This causes the root to change direction and begin to circle the container. As the tree is repotted these circling roots go unnoticed and continue growing in a circling fashion. At planting time the tree is removed from its container and may appear to be fine. As time goes on and the trunk increases in circumference, contact with the girdling root occurs. Left uncorrected this situation can lead to an unstable tree. In some cases it is possible to remove the girdling root without causing extensive damage to the tree. Sometimes the root(s) have grown large and are clearly embedded in the trunk at the root collar. In such cases a more complete hazard inspection may be called for to determine if the tree poses any risk to people or property.

If you're not sure that your tree's root collar is exposed enough for a proper inspection, a quick check is to look for the root flare. This is the area where the trunk begins to widen prominently as it meets the root system. If your tree goes straight into the ground like a telephone pole, it's time to clean your collar.

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.



FAIR AWARDS GIVEN BY SDHS

The San Diego Horticultural Society is proud to have given six Excellence in Horticulture awards to display gardens at the Fair – photos of the gardens are on the inside front cover and on our Facebook page. These awards recognize the exceptional efforts of the many people who design and install the demonstration landscapes that are a highlight of the Fair. Each award includes a cash prize (\$100 for the first five, and \$500 for the Most Outstanding Exhibit) and a one-year membership in SDHS. Our very thoughtful judges this year were: Kristi Beach (www.AkanaDesign.com), who won our award for Nomenclature Accuracy in 2010; Lynlee Austell-Slayter, who taught our May workshop on Sustainable Garden Maintenance; landscape architect Chris Drayer (www.ChrisDrayer.com), who designed the xeriscape gardens at the Rancho La Puerta spa in Tecate, Mexico and led our tour there this spring; Sergio Regalado (www.plantplaynursery.com), who owns Plant Play nursery in Carlsbad and designed the award-winning SDHS Fair garden in 2009; and newsletter editor Susi Torre-Bueno. We thank them for the hours they spent judging all the display gardens. Congratulations to these six winning gardens, which we hope you got a chance to enjoy during the Fair.

The Nomenclature Accuracy award for 100% perfect nomenclature went to **Seasons in the Garden**. Hats off everyone involved. Their colorful and fun garden had a selection of edibles, many with names



Judges are (L to R) Susi, Sergio, Chris, Kristi and Lynlee.



Seasons in the Garden

Continued on page 9



FAIR WRAP UP – CREATING A STARRY NIGHT IN YOUR GARDEN

By Susana Pagan, Designer of this year's SDHS award winning garden

Now that the dust has settled and the finishing touches have been placed on the SDHS garden display, I've had a chance to step back and reflect on the creation of our award-winning garden! I thought members would like to know about the process that is rarely seen by those not actually working on the display garden. During the installation of the garden I had many successes, plus challenges. Helped by contractors from Turner Landscapes, Jim Bishop, Marilyn Guidroz and the students from MiraCosta College, I worked through the problems and turned them into triumphs! The final version of the implemented design came about after the following installation steps and challenges.

One of the first obstacles I faced came just six days before installation was set to begin. The Fair staff told us that our installation could not begin as scheduled on May 21 due to work being performed in our exhibit space by SDG&E, which would not be completed until May 24. I scrambled to reroute all plant and material deliveries, reschedule our contractor, and come up with a new installation game plan. Ultimately we were able to pull everything together and begin installation on Memorial Day, one week after all the other exhibits began installation. Marilyn was able to rework the student schedule so they would begin assisting me after the majority of the heavy contractor work was completed on Tuesday, May 29. One of the advantages of our delay was that the Garden Show area was nearly empty on Memorial Day and we were able to accomplish so much work in one day's time!



I couldn't believe what Turner Landscapes was able to accomplish in 1.5 days! They installed a clean contemporary cinderblock wall perimeter for the exhibit, with curving portions at the front and sides. No other exhibitor created custom perimeter walls. They also erected the 8' curving wall of plywood

and wood framing, which is the focal point green wall in our exhibit. Hand-staked circular planters on either side of the entry pathway were also created in the first day. Load after load of dirt was delivered and shoveled into the exhibit to support the walls they were building. I was very happy with their accomplishments.

The next day the horticulture students from MiraCosta College arrived. They were enthusiastic and ready to help us meet our fast-approaching deadline. The students began bringing in more dirt to fill the exhibit while the contractors finished up installing the two smaller walls that would later be painted blue, the curved edible garden wall with planting pop outs, and stuccoing our amazing curving walls. The underlying theme in this year's garden installation was "We need more dirt!" In the end, over 80 yards of dirt were brought into the exhibit with the help of the Fair staff, the landscape contractors, and the students.

Painting the curving exhibit walls was the next big task accomplished by the end of the third day of installation. When the Moon Glow Green paint had covered the large focal point curved wall, it was shocking at first: it truly glowed. Some doubted that it would work

in the garden. However, as the plants and accents were added, the wall really worked in tying the garden together. It became a great backdrop for the upper patio: the *Cordyline australis* 'Red Star' in pots (shown here) and the *Bougainvillea* 'Imperial Delight' at the end of the mosaic pathway really shined with the Moon Glow Green.



As the plants went in we came across challenges that all exhibitors are faced with, like hiding items such as the green or lattice covered poles scattered throughout the exhibits or the electrical boxes the Fair Staff must be able to access. The beautiful blue green color of our *Podocarpus monnial* 'Icee Blue' completely camouflaged the homely green pole behind it. I decided that we should paint the electrical box in one of the colors in our palette, which made it seem like a planned object rather than an alien... no cosmic theme pun intended!

By the weekend before judging we had made great progress. Jim and I stayed until sunset most nights working on getting all the plants in and arranging them just so. Installing a display garden at the Fair, said Jim, "Is more like designing a float," and I fully agree with his assessment! We really put so much more effort into the perfect placement, angle of the plants, color combinations and finishing touches than a typical residential landscape installation would entail.

The students created pebble mosaics on cardboard based on a template I created in Adobe Illustrator earlier in the week, so that we could set them in the garden when we were ready. Saturday evening Jim and I placed the beautiful mosaics at the end of a gravel pathway, covered them with sand, and brushed them off. Wow! To see my vision installed was so thrilling! Earlier in the day Katie Gaines of Love Paper Paint had placed her door at the end of this pathway. Together, the pebble mosaics and the artistically painted repurposed door really worked! In a lovely coincidence, the blue marbles incorporated in the mosaic matched the little blue berries hand painted in the glass of the door panels.

The final days of installation were filled with tasks such as placing the beautiful artwork by Rachel Harper of Beauty from Ashes on the bistro patio (shown below), dusting off plants, tucking succulents into the bricks on the entry pathway, and placing gravel and the perennial mulch from Agri Service, Inc. I couldn't believe how dusty everything became on a daily basis! The deep purple *Aeonium* 'Zwartkop' really showed the dust. Lots of effort was spent by the students and Marilyn, dusting off the succulents with paint brushes and even using tweezers to remove small rocks without damaging the leaves.

All of that effort really paid off. By the end of judging day we had received eight awards for our garden... more awards than we had ever won for our garden and more than any other exhibitor this year! It was really a pleasure to have my design come to life and have my vision resonate with the judges. I have also received feedback that our garden has been attracting a crowd around it in the first days of the Fair opening and many Fair attendees stopped to ask questions about our exhibit, including questions about our wine bottle-lined pathway and color palette. The garden has points of interest at every angle to lure in passers-by. It was a truly great experience through all of the challenges and successes! Thank you for allowing me to share my vision and garden installation stories with you! 🌿





2012 FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW EXHIBIT: MEET OUR INTERN STUDENTS

By Marilyn Guidroz, APLD

The MiraCosta College Horticulture Department produces some fine students that are well prepared to go on to a University or move out into the Landscape Industry. The one thing that these students need is hands-on experience, and the SDHS Fair Exhibit is a perfect fit. In a concentrated week these students witness the transformation of an asphalt parking lot into beautiful garden spaces that enchant the imagination.

The students show up on the first day of the internship program right after taking their final exams. They don't have much time to learn the ropes as we jump right into the process. We give them an introduction to the Fair layout, the idea of the garden exhibits, the rules of safety on the job, and the overall vision of our garden design.

They are assigned specific tasks and given instruction by our lead Designer, Susanna Pagan. She must oversee the development of the exhibit from concept to finish details. The students get down and dirty with the plants, the soil, the mulch and the gravel. At the end of the week they are tired but proud of an accomplishment that is living art at its highest level.

The exhibit is a temporary installation and must be removed entirely at the end of the Fair. This means that we need to plan for this from the beginning. We borrow most of the materials, including the plant material, and must return them to the suppliers in good shape. One trick that we learn is to bury the plants in their containers and cover up the rim of the plastic pot with mulch so it looks planted. The judges mark you down if they see these rims. It is a challenge for the students to find the right height to install the plants with this in mind. We spent a lot of time "planting" and rearranging and "planting" again. We had to get it just right. This takes patience, willingness to try new ideas, and perseverance to see it through to the end.

The intern students are graded on many aspects of the job during their time with the program. The objective is to give them a supervised workplace experience that will help them develop their personal and professional abilities. They are required to sign a training agreement, complete 60 hours of work, write an essay setting goals, and then write a final reflection on the whole experience. The student evaluation includes a list of competencies such as teamwork, problem solving, leadership, self-direction, work ethic and creativity.

We were very fortunate to be able to accommodate nine intern students and two volunteer students this year. They may have known each other from some of their previous classes, but came to be a real team by the end of the installation. They had to learn to cooperate with each other and with Susanna, Jim Bishop and myself. The stress of the work, the attention to detail, and the short time available to finish the job before judging day brought out the best efforts in everyone. It paid off with the eight awards that our exhibit won as well as the satisfaction of a job well done.

Congratulations to our wonderful designer, Susanna Pagan, herself a former MiraCosta student. Her vision never wavered, even in the face of unexpected challenges.

Congratulations to our amazing student interns! We could not have done this without you! Three cheers for our newest members of the San Diego Horticultural Society, listed here with their majors:

Dayton Donovan, Communications
William (Ben) Hart, Landscape Architecture, Architecture



Marilyn Guidroz (right) with student interns

Melissa Johnson, Landscape Architecture
Johnny Keeler, Architecture
Sarah Leslie, Landscape Architecture
Lorenzo Lopez-Rocha, Agri-Business
Jake Minnick, graduate Landscape Architecture
Julia Swanson, graduate Nursery Management & Production
Arielle Weisgrau, Horticulture
Adrian Zenteno, Business Administration
Edgar Zorilla, Landscape Architecture

We also want to congratulate two other MiraCosta Landscape Architecture students who took up the task of installing their own award winning exhibits at the Fair. Way to go Kimberly Alexander (who won our award for Most Outstanding exhibit, see page 9) and Gigi Lopatriello!

Marilyn Guidroz is a member of the San Diego Horticultural Society, Associate Faculty member of the MiraCosta Community College, Certified member of the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD), owner of her own residential landscape design business, Marilyn's Garden Design (www.marilynsgarden.com) and lives in Valley Center with her husband and son. 🌿

Many thanks to these supporters who generously assisted us with plants, materials, and furnishings:

- AgriService, Inc. (www.AgriServiceInc.com)
- Chicweed (www.chicweed.com)
- Evergreen Nursery (www.EvergreenNursery.com)
- Green Thumb Nursery (www.supergarden.com)
- Love Paper Paint (www.lovepaperpaint.com)
- Beauty from Ashes (www.beautyfromashesartwork.com)
- Madd Potter (www.maddpotter.com)
- MiraCosta College Horticulture Dept. (www.miracosta.edu/instruction/horticulture/index.html)
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- Village Nurseries (www.villagenurseries.com)
- Waterwise Botanicals (www.waterwisebotanicals.com)

FAIR AWARDS WE WON

We're tremendously proud of our display garden at the County Fair Flower & Garden Show; read all about it elsewhere in this newsletter. Many thanks to everyone who made this fabulous temporary landscape possible – supporter contact info is on page 7. First and foremost we thank our tirelessly enthusiastic designer **Susanna Pagan** (see page 6). Hats off to our tremendously capable and creative installation team: SDHS President **Jim Bishop**, garden designer **Marilyn Guidroz** and the hard-working students from the MiraCosta College Horticulture Department (see page 7), and **Turner Landscapes. Scott Borden** and **EdThielicke** get a big thumbs up for the cheerful installation help they provided. Our awards also brought us \$4950 for our treasury.

Our garden won these EIGHT important awards, the most we've ever won, and it is very gratifying that the judges thought so highly of our design. We thank the award sponsors for their generosity.

Agri Service, Inc., El Corazon Compost Facility Award donated by Agri Service, Inc. (see page 14). It is for "Best use of locally recycled mulch in a landscape setting. Award is to promote and educate the garden public on the use of mulch as a water reduction tool and as key to healthy soil and healthy plants." It includes \$500.

Award Of Merit from the San Diego County Fair. The garden was judged on the "quality of plant material, practicality of design, visual appeal of design, educational value (including labeling), and appropriateness of lighting." Our \$2200 award is based on the size of the garden, and at 1000 square feet ours is among the largest.

Dee Bennett Rose Award is "For the exhibit which best demonstrates the use of roses in a garden setting." It is donated by Jadey's, Inc. and includes \$100.

Don Diego Award from the Fair for "the display by a non-commercial exhibitor with the best design, aesthetic appeal and plant quality." It includes \$400.

Environmental Award from the Fair is "presented to landscapes that benefit the environment (i.e. water conservation, use of organic practices, and sustainability etc.)." We won 2nd Place, which includes \$150.

Evergreen Nursery Green Leaf Award is "presented for best use of plants in a home garden setting." Donated by Evergreen Nursery, it includes a perpetual trophy, plaque and \$1000. We also won this in 2011.

San Diego County Award from the Fair is for "the best display representing the diversity of San Diego landscape," and includes \$400.

Unique Landscape Award from the Fair is "presented to the most unique display of flowering or foliage plants in a landscape setting," and includes \$200.

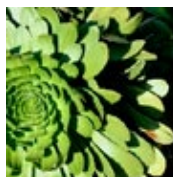
At the end of the Fair, we hope to also win the **Bill Teague Well-Maintained Gardens Award**, which is given to "Each garden that is as well maintained on the last day as on opening day is eligible." It includes \$100, and we have won it every year.



Barbara Raub

Bistro corner

PLANTS IN OUR FAIR GARDEN



BOTANICAL NAME

Aeonium arborescens 'Cabernet'
Aeonium arboreum 'Zwartkop'
Aeonium urbicum 'Salad Bowl'
Aeonium urbicum 'Side Salad'
Agave americana
Agave bovicornuta 'Reggae Time'[™]
Agave parryi
Agave potatorum
Bougainvillea 'Imperial Delight'
Calandrinia grandiflora
Convolvulus cneorum
Cordyline australis 'Red Star'
Cosmos bipinnatus 'White'
Dudleya greenei
Echeveria 'Afterglow'
Echeveria 'Blue Curls'
Echeveria sp.
Echeveria lilacina
Gaura lindheimeri
Helictotrichon sempervirens
Ipomoea batatas 'Bronze'
Ipomoea batatas 'Margarita'
Lavandula heterophylla
Leptospermum laevigatum
Leucophyllum frutescens 'White Cloud'
Mariana sedifolia
Melaleuca linariifolia
Podocarpus elongatus 'Monmal'
Pilosocereus pachycladus
Rosa 'Iceberg'
Sempervivum 'Kalinda'
Sedum spathulifolium 'Cape Blanco'
Senecio radicans
Tilandsia sp.
Verbena lilacina 'De La Mina'
Westringia 'Wynyabbie Gem'
 Rosemary
Zinnia 'Profusion White'

COMMON NAME

Cabernet Aeonium
 Zwartkop Aeonium
 Salad Bowl Aeonium
 Side Salad Aeonium
 Century Plant
 Reggae Time[™] Agave
 Parry's Agave
 Butterfly Agave
 Imperial Delight Bougainvillea
 Rock Purslane
 Bush Morning Glory
 Red Star Cabbage Palm
 White Cosmos
 Greene's Dudleya
 Afterglow Echeveria
 Blue Curls Echeveria
 Hen and Chicks
 Ghost Echeveria
 White Gaura
 Blue Oat Grass
 Bronze Sweet Potato Vine
 Margarita Sweet Potato Vine
 Sweet Lavender
 Australian Tea Tree
 White Cloud Texas Sage
 Pearl Bluebush
 Snow in Summer
 Icee Blue[®] Yellow-Wood
 Blue Columnar Cactus
 Iceberg Rose
 Kalinda Hen and Chicks
 Cape Blanco Stonecrop
 String of Bananas
 Air Plant
 Cedros Island Verbena
 Wynyabbie Gem Coast
 Profusion White Zinnia

EDIBLES

Fragaria X ananassa
Lycopersicon esculentum 'Boxcar Willie'
Lycopersicon esculentum 'Black Krim'
Lycopersicon esculentum 'Brandywine Red'
Lycopersicon esculentum 'La Roma'
Lycopersicon esculentum 'Napa Grape'
Lycopersicon esculentum 'San Diego Red'
Ocimum basilicum 'Italian Purple'
Ocimum basilicum
Physalis philadelphica
Thymus X citridorus 'Lime'

Common Strawberry
 Boxcar Willie Tomato
 Black Krim Tomato
 Brandywine Red Tomato
 La Roma Tomato
 Napa Grape Tomato
 San Diego Red Tomato
 Italian Purple Basil
 Sweet Basil
 Tomatillo
 Lime Thyme

Small photo at top of *Aeonium urbicum* 'Salad Bowl' is courtesy of Waterwise Botanicals, www.waterwisebotanicals.com.

■ **Awards Given** Continued from page 5

matched to this year's Fair theme of Cosmic Spaces. We especially liked how user-friendly and easy to find their plant nametags were.

The Bill Teague Memorial Award for Creative Use of Unusual Plant Material was given to **Solana Succulents**, who also won this award in 2011 and 2010 (and several previous years as well). Designer Jeff Moore, a longtime SDHS member and sponsor (see page 17), created an alien invader-themed low-water garden ("attack of the euphorbians") showcasing the fascinating foliage and form of succulent plants (many sprouting from custom-made creature containers, or sporting googly eyes).

Our award for Best Youth Garden went to **El Capitan FFA**, whose lush jungle garden was designed to remind us of the planet Pandora from the movie *Avatar*. They won this award in 2011, too!

Surfrider Foundation won the award for Best Expression of Garden Education with their handsome display of California native and water-thrifty plants and sustainable garden features. There was a dry streambed, permeable paving, rainwater capture, etc.

The Best Planted Container award winner was **Chris Manion**, who had an especially large and interesting garden on display with the San Diego Hon Non Bo Association. This style of tray garden originated in Vietnam and Chris' entry included water features, very interesting plants, and much to capture the imagination.

Our Don & Dorothy Walker Award for Most Outstanding Exhibit went to **Alleé Landscape Design** and SDHS member Kimberly Alexander for her outstanding modern garden, which was an exceptionally beautiful interpretation of the Fair theme. It featured outstanding hardscape, including a very large stucco wall with cut out shapes and a very handsome recycled glass rill; and water-thrifty plants in a formal design that was a striking example of creative thinking. This is all the more impressive knowing that it was Kimberly's first Fair garden entry. Bravo! 🌿



Solana Succulents



El Capitan FFA



Chris Manion's Hon Non Bo landscape



Alleé Landscape Design



Surfrider Foundation

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 **The Worms' Way** as our newest sponsor;
find them on Facebook.

Peggy Bradley	Tony Gumoe	Leticia Macias
Kristin Brown & Neil Joyce	Christine Harrison	Donovan Mcatumney
Penelope Genoviese	Kristie Hildebrandt	Virginia Ruehl
Steven Gerischer	Cari Johnson	Lynn Schiff
Maggie Gonzales-Robin	Libby Levine	Eriko Yagi

HORT BUCKS ARE GREAT!

Kudos to these members whose friends joined in 2012; 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.

Lynlee Austell (2)	Pat McDougal (1)	Patty Sliney (1)
Linda Bresler (1)	Kay & Vince McGrath (1)	Nan Sterman (1)
Jim Bishop (2)	Gabriel Mitchell (1)	Marcia Van Loy (1)
Patricia Bockstahler (1)	Susan Morse (1)	Janet Wanerka (1)
Kay Harry (1)	Karin Norberg (1)	Dick & Gail Wheaton (1)
Julie Hasl (1)	Diane Norman (1)	Roy Wilburn,
Joan Herskowitz (1)	Gary Payne (1)	Sunshine Care (1)
Jeannine & John Le Strada (1)	Katie Pelisek (1)	
Shirley Littler (1)	San Diego Floral Assoc. (1)	



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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 Torre-Bueno (2012)

& Jose Torre-Bueno

*Don Walker (2005) &

Dorothy Walker

Lucy Warren

*Evelyn Weidner (2001)

*Pat Welsh (2003)

Betty Wheeler

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

Philip Tackill & Janet Wanerka

DISCOUNTS FOR MEMBERS

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

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

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

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What's Up at

San Diego BOTANIC GARDEN

Native Plants and Native People Trail

By Jane Mygatt

The San Diego Botanic Garden is located within a mile of the ocean and contains two natural areas containing highly threatened coastal sage scrub and southern maritime chaparral plant communities. Our newly renovated **Native Plants and Native People Trail** leads through the southernmost of these natural areas and highlights botanical features and Native American uses of plants with new educational signs and a new brochure. On July 21st there will be a celebration to showcase our natural habitats and the local Kumeyaay way of life.

Coastal sage scrub is characterized by low growing, aromatic, and drought-deciduous shrubs adapted to the arid Mediterranean climate of coastal California and northern Baja. Many species have soft, drought-deciduous leaves, such as California sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), and California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*). **Southern maritime chaparral** occurs mainly along coastal sandstone bluffs of San Diego County. Chaparral plants have small leathery evergreen leaves, adaptations to conserve water and reduce moisture loss. Local species include wart-stemmed ceanothus (*Ceanothus verrucosus*), Del Mar manzanita (*Arctostaphylos glandulosa* ssp. *crassifolia*), and yerba santa (*Eriodictyon crassifolium* var. *crassifolium*).

The ancestors of the Kumeyaay were present at the time of European contact. The ideal conditions of southern California provided an abundance of foods, raw materials, and other resources. The Kumeyaay lived in harmony with their environment and individual plant species held multiple uses in their daily lives. In addition to hunting and fishing, native plants provided the majority of calories in the form of fruits, seeds, nuts, and legumes. The following species touch on some of the ways that plants were used by Native Americans. The Kumeyaay plant name is included after the scientific name.

Chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*)
Epsii This evergreen shrub is the most

Continued on page 11

San Diego Horticultural Society

widespread chaparral plant. Drought tolerant and fire-adapted, flammable oils in the leaves burn easily but the plant recovers quickly after wildfires. Chamise held a variety of uses for the Kumeyaay. The wood was used to make arrows and a decoction of leaves and branches was used against infections.



Harvey Bernstein

Black Sage (*Salvia mellifera*) Peltaay This highly aromatic, evergreen shrub is the most common California sage. The Kumeyaay valued the distinctive nectar produced from the flowers. The leaves were used to season food, and the seeds were parched and ground into a nutritious mush.

Del Mar Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos glandulosa* ssp. *crassifolia*) Hesill This rare and federally listed endangered species grows only on the sandy coastal mesas and bluffs from North County to Baja California. The Kumeyaay used manzanita for food, medicine, firewood and housing material. The fruit and seeds were ground into a meal, beverages and jelly were made from the fruit, and an infusion of leaves used for the kidneys.

The Native Plants and Native People Trail is an excellent place to appreciate the beauty and resilience of our native flora, learn about plant adaptations to drought and fire, as well as find out how the Kumeyaay utilized native plants in their daily lives.

For more information about the gardens visit www.sdbgarden.org



PACIFIC HORTICULTURE TOURS

By Scott Borden

San Diego Horticultural Society is one of six west coast societies providing support for the Pacific Horticulture Society. Producers of the highly respected *Pacific Horticulture* magazine, PacHort also offers a series of small group tours each year designed to educate and inspire plant enthusiasts everywhere.

Oahu and Kauai are on tap for Nov 9-17, 2012. Exclusive visits to Doris Duke's Shangri-la and May Moir's Lipolani are included, as are top private gardens. Guests will also visit Foster's, Lyon Arboretum, Limahuli, Na'Aina Kai, and McBryde along with Robert Allerton's Beach, Plantation, and Lawai Valley gardens. Explore Waimea Canyon and Maha'ulepu Coastal Reserve. Stay in Diamond Head view rooms in Waikiki and enjoy the lovely Sheraton Kauai. Tropical garden enthusiasts and fans of movie "The Descendants" won't want to miss this tour, which is limited to just 20 guests and is filling up quickly.

Morocco and Andalusia: Islamic Gardens & Architecture is now open for reservations. Departing April 4, 2013 the tour includes visits to Marrakech, Fes, Meknes, Tangier, Granada, Cordoba and Sevilla (the Alcazar is shown here). Stay at charming, well-located hotels, tour top private gardens & estates and enjoy the finest cuisine. Limited to 20 guests.



In the works are 2013 tours to Scotland and Philadelphia. For more information and reservations, visit www.pacifichorticulture.org/tours or call 800-976-9497 or email info@sterlingtourstld.com.

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MY LIFE WITH PLANTS

By Jim Bishop

This is a continuing series of articles that chronicle Jim Bishop's experiences with plants and the effect they have had on his life

Gardening Mentors

By my sophomore year in high school, the lawn and garden of our Houston home had become my domain. My father, besides never doing yard work after my brothers and I were tall enough to push a lawn mower, worked long hours and travelled frequently. My mother poured herself into golfing, bowling, painting and volunteer work. My older brother left for college and my younger brother disappeared into a haze of hard rock, beer and weed. This often left me home alone and I spent hours working in the garden. I started reading all of the garden books in the house and the weekly garden section in the newspaper. I remember one thick Reader's Digest book that had designs for different types of home gardens. I became obsessed with a drawing of a New Orleans courtyard garden with its moss-draped live oak encircled by brick paths, azaleas and caladiums. I couldn't understand why, since we had the same weather, there weren't gardens like this in Houston.

About the same time I met my earliest garden mentors. The first was Steve Millard. He was a year older than me. His family had moved

to Houston shortly before we did and he lived at the end of the dead end street across the ditch and open field behind our house. Steve wasn't much of a gardener. He said it was too hot to garden in Houston, but he knew a lot about plants and was the first person I knew who used Latin plant names. He had worked in greenhouses in the Chicago area and was knowledgeable about propagation and cultivation. He had an *Archontophoenix alexandrae* palm, that he called Alex, growing in his bedroom. His windowsill was a jungle of assorted exotic plants. Steve and I would occasionally walk home from school together and he would point out unusual plants and tell me about them.

My other mentors were the Pruitts, a couple who lived up the street. I would walk by on the way to school and notice that their garden had more interesting plants and flowers than just about any in the neighborhood. The Pruitts were often in their yard and always willing to talk about their garden. They would teach me about annuals and perennials, mulching, and candling young pines to make them grow denser and shorter. They grew the most impressive pansies, sweet peas, rudbeckias, petunias, verbenas, yarrow and geraniums, and frequently gave me cuttings and plants to try.

Each spring, I attended the *Azalea Trail* (www.riveroaksgardenclub.org/AzaleaTrail.cfm) hosted by the River Oaks Garden Club. The Azalea Trail started in 1935 to raise money and promote the use of azaleas in home gardens. Unfortunately, it was too successful, and by the 70's most Houston gardeners had adopted the Azalea Standard and planted their entire gardens for the short peak bloom period of azaleas. The tour of estate gardens in the River Oaks neighborhood was a great opportunity to see how the wealthy lived and gardened.

Continued on page 15

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SUPPORTING THEIR CAREER DREAMS: 2012 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

By Al Myrick

Every year your society awards \$1000 scholarships and 1-year SDHS memberships to students with horticulture-related majors at three of our local community colleges. The Fred B. Meyer Memorial Scholarship is awarded at MiraCosta College; the award given at Cuyamaca College is the Don and Dorothy Walker Scholarship; and that for Southwestern College is named in memory of Bill Teague. Each of the colleges selects an outstanding student whom they feel would best benefit from the financial award.

In thanking our Society for its award through the Bill Teague Memorial Scholarship, Donovan McAtamney says: "I currently have a business that I partner in called Cut-N-Edge. I have been attending Southwestern Community College since 2007... I plan to continue... to further my knowledge of the horticulture field and to pursue a degree from a four-year university, perhaps U.C. Davis. I am determined to achieve my goal because I am passionate about this field."

Cari Johnson is our Society's award winner at Cuyamaca College through the Don and Dorothy Walker Scholarship. She single-handedly runs an organic teaching farm with 150 animals including, milking goats, turkeys, ducks, chickens ...and more (www.whitemountainsranch.org). A busy person, Cari volunteers at the Cuyamaca College Horticulture Department, interns at its nursery, and is an Assistant on its Botanical Society Board. Her leisure time is spent in activities of the San Diego Edible Garden Society, San Diego Beekeeping Society, San Diego Urban Homesteaders, and a Native Plant School Garden Program. She plans to complete her AA degree over the next year and to study for a degree in Agricultural sciences at a four-year university. Her ultimate aims are to expand the farm and to hold workshops for the public on home-growing food and food-based urban landscapes. Whew!

Our Fred B. Meyer Scholar at Mira Costa College, Anthony "Tony" Gurnoe, exclaims "The more I learn, the more I am sure that I want to be a part of the research behind the breakthroughs like disease-resistant root-stocks, improved new varieties of the foods we love, and methods controlling our most devastating plant pests. I figure that if I work hard enough it won't be long until you'll find me somewhere like the Citrus Experiment Station in Riverside." For Tony, our award means "the world to me and my family." He assures us that he will be at "any and every meeting...unless I have class."

What great people! What great dreams! And SDHS has helped!



THANK YOU FROM A STUDENT

We received the following thank you letter from Erica Barrett, the 7th grade student who won our Science Fair award this year (see page 9 of your May newsletter for details about her fascinating project). She wrote: "Thank you so much for the science fair recognition. I am looking forward to presenting my project for you in August. Also, thank you for the magazine subscription. Thank you for the \$100 check. I donated some of my science fair winnings back to the science program at my school. I am also using my winning for a canoeing trip in Minnesota this summer."

Be sure to go see the Science Fair displays at our August meeting and talk to the students who worked so hard on them. 🌿

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SHARING SECRETS

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

The question for this month was:
What tricks do you have for maintaining your water features? (Thanks to Tita Heimpel of Courtyard Pottery for inspiring this topic.)

Tita Heimpel from Courtyard Pottery, Solana Beach, said: "I got a great tip from one of my customers, an engineer for NASA. He told me to add copper to all my fountains in the store and it would help reduce the algae and calcium deposits. The trick is figuring out how much copper to add. I buy 1/4" copper tubing and I either roll it into a ball or create decorative rings to lay in the fountains levels. I used to clean my fountains every two week, now I go three to four months."

Carol Bratton wrote: "I wanted a fountain to sit outside my new garden window in 2009 and just couldn't find the right thing in my price range. Then a year and a half ago I saw a 'stone' fountain at Lowe's, - fiberglass but realistic. The price was right, about \$250, and I could get it out of my car and put it together myself! I had my handyman build a hexagonal planter of 2 X 12s, fill it with dirt, set the fountain in the middle and surround it with dark gray river rocks. I already had had the pump switch put in the wall when the window was installed, so I can turn it on from the inside. Now it's the first thing I do when I get up in the morning around 5:30. As soon as the water bubbles out of the artichoke on top the hummers come and take a bath. Then goldfinches, towhees, sparrows, doves, mockingbirds, thrashers, orioles, tanagers and grosbeaks take their turn. They fly up into the Coast Live Oak overhead and flutter their wings and preen. Of all the yard purchases I have made this tops the list! What entertainment as I have breakfast every morning! How do I maintain it? I dip most of the water out once a week, scrub, rinse and refill it. Then I add a couple of teaspoons of household bleach. My pond/spa guy says that small amount of bleach won't hurt the birds. I scoop out the oak leaves in between. That's it!"

Sue Martin told us: "Though the water feature on our dining patio is fairly small, about 30 gallons, periodically it needs to be emptied and cleaned. The onerous chore is easier with a hand bilge pump. My husband uses a large trash can with a hose attached to a faucet down low. The bilge pump transfers the water to the trash can and the nasty water runs out the hose to irrigate trees in the yard. The hand bilge pump is available at marine supply stores for about \$25. Certainly beats filling, carrying and dumping big buckets of water."

Carol Costarakis has a very large koi pond she maintains with "regular cleaning (every 2nd or 3rd week) of pumps and removal of dead plant matter. Professionally drain and clean the bog area annually and the whole pond every 24 to 36 months."

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Lorie Johansen said "this suggestion spurned a dreaded all day project that I haven't done for at least three years: It was time to clean the water lilies in the holding pond which is a large round horse trough. There is no easy way about it when water lilies escape their pots. After 7 hours of cleaning, dividing, repotting, every bone aches and I still smell like pond scum after a thorough shower. BUT the trick is I worked off all the excess calories I inhaled yesterday at a party and am settling for vodka and tangerine juice for dinner (high in Vitamin C)."

Amelia Lima suggested: "1 teaspoon of chlorine once a week to keep the water clean for the birds to drink."

Sue Ann Scheck said, "I use rocks to maintain the look of a water feature without actually having one!"

Jim Mumford wrote "We have several fountains and because of the water restrictions, capture rain water from our roof to refill them. It's amazing how much water can be harvested from a storm: 0.6 gallons per inch of rain per square foot of roof. We have an array of holding tanks from 50 gallons to 500 gallons and utilize a 'first flush' system and 'leaf eaters' to keep the stored water relatively clean."

The question for next month is:

Ceramic pots make great planters, but so do lots of other things. What unusual or repurposed objects are you using as plant containers? Send your reply by July 5 to newsletter@sdhortsoc.org.

■ **My Life** Continued from page 12



The Trail always includes a visit to *Bayou Bend* (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bayou_Bend_Collection_and_Gardens), the home of wealthy oil heiress, philanthropist, collector, and garden enthusiast, the never married Miss Ima Hogg. (Her father, "Big Jim" Hogg, must have had a wicked sense of humor, since he also named a son Will C. Hogg. Alas, it is only an urban legend that there was a sister named Ura.) *Bayou Bend* (shown here) features eight classical gardens on the 14 acres adjacent to Buffalo Bayou. The gardens use huge azalea and camellia hedges to create garden rooms. Several of the garden rooms feature classical statues surrounded by formal gardens with boxwood hedges. It was unlike the suburban gardens I knew. At the end of the tour on the back portico of the Bayou Bend Estate, overlooking the large lawn that sloped down to buffalo bayou, I met Ima Hogg, then in her 90's. You can learn more about the eccentric Ima at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ima_Hogg.

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

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A DAY AT “THE RANCH”

By Barbara Strona



Bruce Nutz

The San Diego Horticultural Society had a bus trip in late April to the famous Rancho La Puerta spa in Tecate, Mexico. After coffee, tea, or juice and muffins, we heard a lecture on the history of the ranch, which was founded by Edmond and Deborah Szekely (who just turned 90); she has run it since Edmond died long ago.

Chris Drayer, the landscape architect, lived there from when I first stayed there, late in 1979, for 30 years. Now he lives in the States (and is a SDHS member), but he still goes down to tweak the landscape on occasion. He changed the entire area to a more cohesive design, preserving the natural landscape as much as possible and creating winding walkways to prevent people from going directly from their house to the dining room to their class to their house, without varying the walk and never seeing anything not on their route. His paths lead to spectacular vistas and seemingly endless lawns that end just past the crest of a hill to create the idea of an infinity landscape.

After the lecture we had a choice of two walking tours. Pat Harrison led one including places one normally never sees: where Deborah's husband and son, Alex, are buried; their first house; their second house; special gardens and brooks; and special buildings and nooks and crannies. We saw unusual grottos, a labyrinth, and a specially created river to deal with the occasional floods.

Chris led the other tour, which dealt with the architecture and landscape architecture. He gave us some of the rationale behind what we were seeing. Both tours were fascinating and informative.

Between tours, the 45 of us who attended had lunch in a private dining room. Our meal was spectacular – several different salads with various combinations of fresh vegetables, fruits, nuts or grains, homemade soup, and incredibly delicious quesadillas with tiny shrimp. (I had seven; they were small.)

After our second walking tour, we boarded a bus for the farm/cooking school which supplies Rancho La Puerta with their magnificent produce. The owner/farmer cut huge heads of lettuce and cabbages; he dug up beautiful beets of myriad colors; gave us tastes of salsify, sorrel, garlic, onions and whatever else was ripe and ready. He encouraged us to sample everything. The cabbage tasted like a dessert. I ate everything, including the super spicy special garlic. I only skipped the fennel as I loathe licorice and can't even bear the odor. I have never tasted such marvelous vegetables in my life. The farmer gave us soil to hold; it was like holding velvet and left your hands clean when you put it back on the ground.

The final attraction was the kitchen, where we learned to make guacamole using avocados and well-cooked (not al dente, so it will puree) broccoli, tomatoes (sans skin and seeds), jalapeno pepper, salt, pepper, and the juice of a lemon. We also had a choice of pomegranate water or sorrel water sweetened with agave syrup and lime juice. Delicious! They had coffee and tea as well. It was a great day. ☘



MAY PLANT DISPLAY

By Pat Pawlowski and Susi Torre-Bueno

What is the Plant Display?

Each month members bring in plants, cuttings or flowers and put them in blue bottles on our display tables. What a great way to see what plants grow well in our area. EVERYONE is invited to participate. Each month the display highlights one type of plant, and an expert talks informally about the plants and answers questions. All plants are welcome, but we hope you'll try to bring plants in the categories shown here. Write descriptions similar to those below, and put them with your plant(s).

Join the fun and bring RARE OR UNUSUAL PLANTS to the July 9 meeting.

Members Wanda Mallen and Dave Ehrlinger (Director of Horticulture, San Diego Botanic Garden) will be on hand to answer your questions. We thank Phil Tackill for being our expert on bonsai at the May meeting and bringing three special figs he's been training for many years (see below).

Allium cepa RED ONION (Alliaceae)

Coast of California and Oregon

Red onions have a milder taste than regular yellow onions, and are often used raw in recipes. I purchased a bag of onion sets (small bulbs) and planted them in a raised bed in December. Although they grew well in full sun with plenty of water, they never formed bulbs but became what looked like enormous scallions. I should have followed the advice in Pat Welsh's excellent book, *Pat Welsh's Southern California Organic Gardening* (see ad on page 15). Pat (a SDHS Life Member who was our Horticulturist of the Year in 2003) discusses different types of onions and notes "Onions are photothermoperiodic – that is, they're sensitive to temperature and also to day length. An onion is stimulated to stop making leafy growth and to start making a bulb not so much by temperature as by the lengthening of days, as the sun moves north in spring and summer. ... Long-day varieties, grown in northern states and in Canada, need fourteen to fifteen hours of daylight to make a bulb. ... No long-day varieties can possibly receive enough hours of daylight in Southern California to make a bulb. ... yet... almost all onion sets are of long-day types." Next time I'll plant one of the onions that Pat recommends for our area. Although my onions didn't form bulbs, we've been eating them for four months and they're delicious. (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 5/12) – S.T.B.

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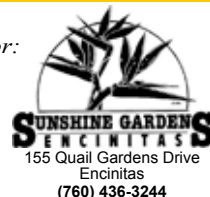
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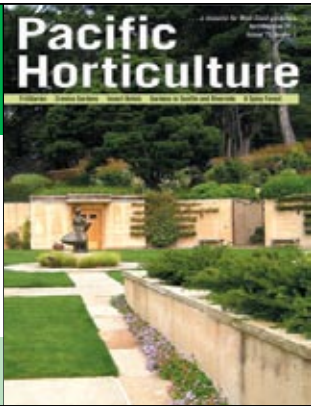
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Ficus burtt-davyi (bonsai form) VELD FIG (Moraceae)
 South Africa, Mozambique

In the wild, according to www.figweb.org this slow-growing plant is found in "Coastal forest (strangler growth form), coastal dunes (on sand, exhibiting salt tolerance), or thicket & savanna (where the species is usually associated with rocky outcrops or cliffs, often a 'rock-splitter,' growing as a shrub or small tree)". There are about 755 fig species, and this one is popular for bonsai. Phil Tacktil displayed three different beautifully potted specimens; one had been in training for 45 years, the other two for 30 years each. One of these diminutive trees even had figs on it, though they were far too small to taste. (Phil Tacktil, Solana Beach, 5/12) – S.T-B.

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

What's that in front of the plant name? Plants marked **3** are fully described in the *Plant Forum Compilation*. See www.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 May newsletter was *Rhus integriflora* ORANGEADE BERRY.

- 3** *Clarkia unguiculata* ELEGANT CLARKIA (Lucy Warren, San Diego, 5/12)
- 3** *Clarkia ungorgeous* HOMELY CLARKIA (Garden Lover, San Diego, 5/12)
- 3** *Galvezia speciosa* 'Firecracker' ISLAND BUSH SNAPDRAGON (Susi Torre-Bueno, Vista, 5/12) 🌿

SUCCESSFUL MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP

By Susi Torre-Bueno

In May we held our first workshop on Sustainable Garden Maintenance, taught by sustainable landscape expert Lynlee Austell-Slayer. It was designed for homeowners (and the gardeners they employ) to get training in sustainable maintenance. A bi-lingual professional gardener, Armando Torres, assisted and translated.



Dannie McLaughlin

The 25 people who attended this sold-out workshop learned from AgriService's Sharon May about different kinds of mulch and soil amendments, and got to see and handle them, too. Lynlee gave an illustrated talk about the whys and hows of sustainable garden maintenance, plus a fascinating (and slightly damp) demo of different kinds and brands of irrigation components (as seen here). Armando, with help from SDHS member Cindy Sparks, showed how to prune overgrown shrubs to remove dead growth and improve both form and air circulation. There were also very useful handouts, free seeds, and a hearty lunch. We thank the following sponsors for their support: MiraCosta College, AgriService (see page 14), Hydro-Scape, Rain Bird, and the San Dieguito Water District.

If you would like to attend a similar workshop in the future, please contact Lynlee ASAP at laustell@cox.net. 🌿




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JUNE NIGHT AT THE FAIR REPORT

By Patty Berg

Our 2nd Annual Night at the Fair was a special night indeed for the hundreds of members in attendance. Besides the opportunity to wander through the entire display gardens area without the usual hustle and bustle of fair crowds, attendees also got a chance to honor the achievements and dedicated service of Susi Torre-Bueno as 2012 Horticulturist of the Year.

President Jim Bishop kicked off the evening's festivities by introducing the team of horticulture students from MiraCosta College (see page 7) who were instrumental in the creation of our splendid 2012 entry, "A Starry Night in Your Garden." Mentored by Marilyn Guidroz, the student team provided plenty of energy along with Jim Bishop, Turner Landscapes and garden designer Susanna Pagan. The challenge of building something fabulous from nothing was especially daunting this year since the SDHS space was not available for the first week of installation (see page 6). Not to worry! Susanna rallied the team, generous sponsors supplied plants, hardscape and garden accents and the result speaks for itself: a sustainable, celestial and inspired garden. The judges agreed, and Jim proudly reported on the eight awards the garden won this year – the most ever! Among the awards (see page 8) was the prestigious Don Diego Award for best display by a non-commercial exhibitor – bravo!

Jim also reviewed the six awards that were given by SDHS to worthy display gardens this year (see page 5). Then it was time for the main event.

After introducing the Torre-Bueno family members in attendance, Jim mentioned some of the highlights of Susi Torre-Bueno's contributions to the San Diego gardening community and SDHS. As President for the past nine years, Susi worked tirelessly to help grow membership to the 1300+ we are today. She edited (and continues to edit) *Let's Talk Plants!*, arguably one of the finest horticultural newsletters around. This alone is a Herculean feat month after month. She has never stopped beating the drum for the gardening community, bringing together countless people who share this passion, and all of this long before there was FaceBook.

To rousing applause, Susi took the stage and accepted the plaque awarded to her as SDHS 2012 Horticulturist of the Year. In keeping with the Society's tradition, Susi also received a shiny new Felco #2 pruner.

To the surprise of many in the crowd, Susi recalled growing up in New York City in a family of zero gardeners. She discovered her passion for plants in grade school, and she and Jose moved west nearly thirty years ago. An early retirement allowed her the good fortune to do lots of volunteer work and allowed SDHS the multiple benefits of her generosity. Susi recapped



Jim Bishop and Susi Torre-Bueno

Barbara Raub

many of the SDHS milestones achieved during the eighteen years she's been a member, and expressed deep gratitude for all the friends she has made along the way. She urged everyone in attendance to share their love of gardening by becoming volunteers as well.

A door prize drawing for a special tree, to be planted for the lucky winner, concluded the presentation. Then it was cake for everyone and time to enjoy the dozens of gorgeous display gardens until dusk set in. There was also a short training for the volunteers who signed up to be Horticulturists of the Day at our display garden throughout the Fair. Tours of all the displays were led by garden designers Susanna Pagan and Marilyn Guidroz, who pointed out the unusual and unique features of each. ☺

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- Irrigation Supplies
- Pest & Disease Control
- Rodent Control
- Bird Food & Feeders
- Vineyard Supplies



GRANGETTO'S WORKSHOPS

JULY - AUGUST

FRUIT TREE PRUNING WORKSHOP
Saturday from 10 - 2

- VALLEY CENTER - JULY 21
- ESCONDIDO - JULY 28
- ENCINITAS - AUGUST 4
- FALLBROOK - AUGUST 11



Mark it on Your Calendar

Registration IS NOT Required. Just show up and Enjoy!

LEARN MORE AT WWW.GRANGETTOS.COM

Helping You Grow for 60 Years



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

Change Service Requested



OUR AWARD-WINNING GARDEN AT THE FAIR (SEE PAGES 6-8)



Susanna Pagan

Top patio area



Marilyn Guidroz

Curved wall of stacked stone provides great drainage



Marilyn Guidroz

This bright corner of the garden has high impact with a limited plant palette



Marilyn Guidroz

Succulents and edibles in raised beds and planting pockets in a block wall

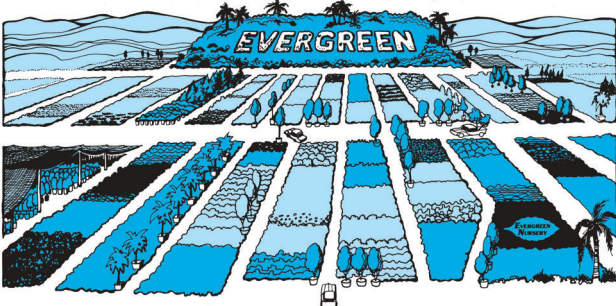
What's Happening? for July 2012

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

Send calendar listings by the 10th of the month before the event to Neal King at calendar@sdhortsoc.org.

▼ SDHS Sponsor

DISCOVER EVERGREEN NURSERY



Landscaping? Relandscaping?
Just Sprucing Up Your Yard?

WHY PAY MORE?

BUY DIRECT FROM THE GROWER AND SAVE!

ONE STOP SHOPPING

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

DRIVE THRU SHOPPING

Use your car as a shopping cart!!!



UNBEATABLE VALUE

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

Come on out and see for yourself!

- 1 gallon plants starting at \$2.90
- 5 gallon plants starting at \$9.00
- 15 gallon plants starting at \$35.00

PROMPT DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 7:30-5:00

Fri. & Sat. 7:30 - 6:00 Sun. 9:00 - 5:00

FREE MONTHLY SEMINAR

*First Saturday of every month
Starting at 10am at both locations*

July 7 - Ornamental Trees for San Diego

A special guest speaker will talk about
the many different kinds of trees that do
well in San Diego.

Seminars are free; refreshments will be provided.

All participants will get a coupon good towards your
purchase for that day only.

For more details or to view our entire seminar
schedule, visit us at

www.evergreennursery.com

Send questions and comments to:
info@evergreennursery.com

Two Convenient Locations:

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

OCEANSIDE
3231 Oceanside Blvd.
(760) 754-0340

Events at Public Gardens

❖ **Alta Vista Gardens** contact info on other side
July 4, Dinner & Fireworks in the Garden. Reservations required.

❖ **San Diego Botanic Garden** contact info on other side
To September 3, Blue Star Museums program: Active duty military and their families (card carrier + 5) will have free admission to the Garden.
July 28, 29am, 1pm, Build Your Own Hydroponic Summer Garden: Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method. Members/\$75, non-members/\$95 (by July 25).

❖ The Water Conservation Garden

contact info on other side

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

Free Events by SDHS Sponsors:

Please thank them for supporting SDHS!

❖ **Cedros Gardens, Saturday and Sunday FREE morning classes.** Details at www.cedrosgardens.com; address in ad on page 17.
July 7, 10am and July 8, 11am -- Attracting Hummingbirds and Butterflies to your Garden.

❖ City Farmers Nursery FREE Classes

July 15, 1-3pm, Canning and preserving your harvests.
July 22, 1-2:30pm, Hydroponics, aquaculture, and aquaponics.
See www.cityfarmersnursery.com or call (619) 284-6358

❖ Evergreen Nursery FREE Workshop on July 7

See column at left for details.

❖ Grangetto's FREE Workshops

Summer Fruit Tree Pruning, 10am to noon

July 21, 29219 Juba Rd, Valley Center.

July 28, 1105 W. Mission Avenue, Escondido.

See www.grangettos.com or contact Jennifer at (760) 745-4671x215 or e-mail events@grangettos.com.

❖ Sunshine Care FREE Workshop on July 21

10:30am, Goji Berries and Pomegranates. Doorprizes and refreshments.
Address in ad on page 14. Info: (858) 752-8197 or www.sunshinecare.com.

❖ Walter Andersen Nursery FREE Saturday Classes

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

	Point Loma, 9am	Poway, 9:30am
July 7	Grafting Plumeria	Butterflies in the Garden
July 14	Growing with Fox Farm Soils	Summer Fruit Tree Pruning
July 21	Hanging Plants, Container Plants	Summer Rose Care
July 21 (1pm)	Grow with a Pro	no afternoon class
July 28	Introduction to Gardening	Plumeria Grafting & Care

❖ Weidners' Gardens Classes & Workshops

Address in ad on page 21. Info: www.weidners.com or (760) 436-2194.
July 28, 10:30-2pm, Garden Treasures Recycled: Gather up those wonderful (old yet still useful) garden pots, baskets, stands, etc and bring them in to Weidner's. You price them and when they sell, we will give you half the selling price to use toward Weidner's Plants. You can be sure of going home with some great treasures from someone else's garden.

Next SDHS Meeting:

July 9 - 6:00 pm

Not Just For Show

See page 1 for details

**See other side for details about
events by garden clubs, etc.**

Other Garden-Related Events:

Check with hosts to confirm dates & details

◆ **July 1, 9am-noon, California Native Plant Society:** Learn plant lore in Tecolote Canyon. Tecolote Canyon Plant Walk. Tecolote Nature Center (Thomas Guide 1268 E2). Free. Info: www.cnpssd.org or call (619) 282-8687.

◆ **July 8, 1:00pm, American Begonia Society:** Getting ready for convention in August. 423 Rancho Santa Fe Road, Encinitas. For info call (760) 815-7914 or marla.keith@cox.net.

◆ **July 8, 1:00pm, Southern California Plumeria Society:** Ted Higgins, SCPS charter member and past president, along with the Herzogs, will present the history of SCPS. Free. Balboa Park, War Memorial Building. Info: www.socalplumeriasociety.com.

◆ **July 14, 1-4pm, Cactus & Succulent Society: Geometrical Geophytes by Tom Knapik,** Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 101. Info: www.sdcss.net.

◆ **July 17, 7pm, California Native Plant Society: Speaker TBA.** Mystery plants identified, 7pm. Free. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 101 or 104. Info: www.cnpssd.org or call (619) 282-8687.

JULY 28

Coffee in the Garden in Fallbrook

Your invitation was emailed to
you in the last few days.

◆ **July 23, 6:30pm, San Diego Edible Garden Society:** TBA. FREE. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, room 104. Info: www.sdedible.org.

◆ **July 27 (9am - 5pm) and 28 (11am-4pm), Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale:** 1000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim. Info: www.sdcss.net or (714) 267-4329.

San Diego County Farmers Markets

www.sdfarmbureau.org/BuyLocal/Farmers-Markets.php

MONDAY:

Escondido - Welk Village

TUESDAY:

Coronado
Escondido
Mira Mesa
Morena District
Otay Ranch
Pacific Beach
UCSD/La Jolla

WEDNESDAY:

Carlsbad
Encinitas
Mission Hills - San Diego
North San Diego
Ocean Beach
San Marcos
Santee

THURSDAY:

Chula Vista
Horton Square
Linda Vista
North Park
Oceanside CFM
Oceanside Sunset
Pacific Highlands
Poway - Alliant University
San Carlos
UTC

FRIDAY:

Borrego Springs
Fallbrook
Imperial Beach
Kearny Mesa
La Mesa
Rancho Bernardo
Southeast San Diego

SATURDAY:

Carlsbad
City Heights
Del Mar
Golden Hill
Little Italy
Pacific Beach
Poway
Ramona
Rancho San Diego
Scripps Ranch
Vista

SUNDAY:

North San Diego
Gaslamp District
Hillcrest
Julian
La Jolla
Leucadia/Encinitas
Point Loma
Rancho Santa Fe
San Marcos
Solana Beach

For an extensive list of
garden club meetings and
events, visit the San Diego
Floral Association website:
www.sdfloal.org/calendar.htm

Resources & Ongoing Events

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

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

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

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

MASTER GARDENER HOTLINE: Gardening questions answered by trained volunteers Mon.-Fri., 9-3, (858) 694-2860, www.mastergardenerssandiego.org.

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

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

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

BALBOA PARK:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Garden TV and Radio Shows:

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

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