



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Where passionate gardeners meet to share knowledge and learn from each other.

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

November 2023

OUR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING

Thursday, November 9

Announcements at 7:10 p.m.

Plant Forum at 7:15 p.m.

Program at 7:30



Visit: www.socalhort.org
for more information

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Recently joining us are:

MaryJo Brown

Ruth Gallardo

*Glad to have you
as a part of the group!*



Find membership options at:
www.socalhort.org/join

CONNECT WITH SCHS

Please engage with us online.

YOU CAN FIND US AT:

www.socalhort.org

www.facebook.com/pg/socalhort

www.instagram.com/socalhort



All membership options
are listed on our website.

IN THIS ISSUE

November Program and
Member News 1

HOTY Banquet Recap & Photos,
and Acknowledgements 2

Horticultural Happenings 3

Upcoming Programs and
SCHS Contact info. 4

Rooted in History: Stories from The Huntington

Have you ever wondered about the history behind the myriad plant collections showcased in your favorite botanical gardens? On Thursday, November 9, Sandy Masuo, the senior writer in The Huntington's Office of Communications and Marketing will enlighten us with her program *Rooted in History: Stories from the Huntington*. She will take us for a stroll through the pages of noteworthy books from the Huntington Library's collections that will make the gardens bloom anew.

Complementing the living history that fills the physical gardens are scientific works from the Huntington's collections that chronicle the evolution of botany and horticulture, as well as the natural and cultural histories of

the plants that surround visitors to The Huntington Gardens. Masuo will share the stories that these plant collections are rooted in – sagas of inspired plant collectors, of agriculture and agronomy, of the deft manipulation of plant DNA over centuries, of strange and wondrous evolutionary adaptations, and plants employed as elements in time-honored landscape narratives.

In addition to digging deep into the topic for this presentation, Masuo has shared the remarkable tales of many a plant as a contributor to Huntington's weekly blog, Verso. She is also a popular presenter and has given talks for various plant societies and garden clubs, and is an active member of the SCHS.

Please join us online for this intriguing program that will have you looking at your favorite plants in a new light the next time you pay them a visit at the Huntington! Zoom registration is required and open at: www.socalhort.org.



Photo courtesy of speaker.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

SCHS HOLIDAY MEETING'S COMING UP!

The SCHS is planning our festive December holiday meeting which will feature a live speaker as well as other fun activities!

We always look forward to this annual event as a chance to socialize with friends and other members – and would especially like to extend an open invitation to new members who may not yet have come to any live meetings!

In addition to the featured program, we will have refreshments AND of course, our always popular "Freebie Table" of give-aways... don't miss it!

DETAILS COMING SOON ONLINE & IN THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



*In the meantime,
everyone is invited to:*

**SAVE THE DATE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14**

at Friendship Auditorium

This program will be online only and recorded. The entire presentation will be archived and subsequently made available for viewing on our YouTube channel.

2023 HOTY RECAP • EVENT PHOTOS • ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On October 21, the SCHS hosted our annual Horticulturist of the Year (HOTY) banquet in Ayres Hall at the Los Angeles County Arboretum, where we presented 2023 honoree Richard Schulhof with this year's award in recognition of his distinguished career and work in Southern California horticulture. The evening was a tribute not only to his leadership role as CEO of the Los Angeles County Arboretum, a position he held from 2009 until his recent retirement last spring, but also to the interpersonal connections he has made which have allowed his influence to reach beyond local geographic boundaries and impact multiple generations.

To begin the evening's main event, SCHS Vice-President and Secretary, Lili Singer (also a personal friend of Schulhof's), introduced four individuals who have known and worked with Schulhof for many years to reminisce and share some accolades. Margaret Page, a member of the Arboretum's Los Voluntarios since the 1970s, talked about working with Schulhof when she and her husband Dennis wanted to donate "a garden where visitors could reflect on quotes of nature and wisdom in a beautiful and contemplative space" within the Arboretum, resulting in the Garden of Quiet Reflection which opened in 2021. Page was followed by Schulhof's longtime work colleagues Gilbert Resendez, currently an Arboretum Honorary Trustee and formerly of Monrovia Nursery; Brad King, formerly president of the Southern

California Camellia Society; and Robin Sease, Director of Visitor Experience at the Arboretum, who has worked with Schulhof since his days at Descanso. They all spoke of him as a friend, leader, teacher and mentor, who values the people that make

up the teams which ultimately keep public gardens running. Following these speakers, Schulhof took the podium to a standing ovation and was presented with the 2023 HOTY award by SCHS President Laura Bauer. Thereafter he gave a presentation on "Adventures and Hijinks in Horticulture" reflecting on his 50-year career in horticulture.

Schulhof credits his grandfather with teaching him that hard work produces results, from when he was a teen assisting in his garden. This lesson led to a life-long love of working with plants. He holds a degree in landscape architecture from UC Berkeley where early influences included Garrett Eckbo, Russ Beatty and Wayne Roderick. He worked in L.A. area nurseries and completed internships at the Huntington Botanical Gardens and the Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden at UCLA, and was a fellow at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania and the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard, where he was writing grants when the opportunity arose to return to Southern California in 1996 to accept the position as executive director of Descanso Gardens. He stayed there until he was offered the position of CEO at the LA Arboretum in 2009.

During his tenure at the Arboretum, Schulhof worked with exceptional teams to create new gardens and programs, especially those that involve garden-based education, and he stated that "the Arboretum has never looked better." He thanked all of the workers and volunteers, but in particular cited the contributions of Tim Phillips, Jim Henrich, Leigh Adams, John Lasko and Frank McDonough.

With an eye to the future, Schulhof is looking forward to continuing "work" during his retirement, and plans to volunteer for organizations that are focused on native ecosystems, habitat preservation and particularly those that work to preserve outliers of biodiversity.

 Sabine Steinmetz

Please note: Our honoree requested that the presentation not be aired publicly as it was specifically tailored for the evening's audience. However, for those who could not attend, we are including some photos of the event to accompany our recap.



Photo by: John Schoustra

L-R: SCHS board members Lili Singer, Layla Valenzuela & Mardi Caruso. Bouquet courtesy of board member Aprille Curtis.



L-R: Former and current HOTY recipients Kathy Musial (2015), Lili Singer (1997), John Schoustra (2018), Richard Schulhof (2023) and Gilbert Resendez (2011).

Just desserts!



Unless otherwise credited, all photos are courtesy of SCHS member Alexiz Gomez.



California Camellia Society; and Robin Sease, Director of Visitor Experience at the Arboretum, who has worked with Schulhof since his days at Descanso. They all spoke of him as a friend, leader, teacher and mentor, who values the people that make

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & SPECIAL THANKS

The SCHS would like to acknowledge the hard work and planning that went into making this evening possible, particularly by the SCHS board. We would also like to thank the staff at the Arboretum for their assistance, and Jim Henrich for creating the incredible centerpieces using plant materials found on the Arboretum grounds. And the evening would not have been complete without our Silent Auction comprised of items donated by SCHS members and community supporters. At press time, we were still tabulating the results of the auction and will be thanking our donors in the December newsletter.



Photo by: Jill Vig

Jim Henrich's centerpiece with "icebreaker" fruits to get table conversations started...

List of plant materials follows.

Centerpiece floral arrangements:

Caryota mitis – fishtail palm, green inflorescences
Ceiba speciosa – pink floss silk tree flowers
Chamaerops humilis – Mediterranean fan palm leaves
Pistacia chinensis Sarah's Radiance® – Chinese pistache

Icebreaker fruits:

Brachychiton acerifolius – flame tree
Brachychiton rupestris – Queensland bottle tree
Firmiana simplex – Chinese parasol tree
Proboscidea louisianica – devil's claw
Uncaria decaryi – mousetrap tree

NOVEMBER HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

Venues open at press time are marked  or  for those that are online only.

Organizations are offering events, both online and in person, but may have updated protocols in place.
Please continue to check with your favorites for current info if you are planning a visit.

ARLINGTON GARDEN

275 Arlington Drive, Pasadena 91105
626-578-5434
www.arlingtongardenpasadena.com

CALIFORNIA BOTANIC GARDEN

(formerly RANCHO SANTA ANA)
1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711
909.625.8767 www.calbg.org

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS CHAPTER
1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
818.398.5420 www.cnps-sgm.org

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

L.A. / Sta Monica Mtns Chapter / Sepulveda Garden Ctr
16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino 91436
818-782-9346 www.lasmmcnps.org

DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011
818.949.7980 www.descansogardens.org

EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER

1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
626.398.5420 www.ecnca.org

FULLERTON ARBORETUM

1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831
657.278.3407 www.fullertonarboretum.org

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108
626.405.2100 www.huntington.org

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007
626.821.4623 www.arboretum.org

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF L.A.

900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles 90007
213.763.3466 www.nhm.org

RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS

6400 E. Bixby Hill Rd., Long Beach 90815
562.431.3541 www.rancholosalamitos.org

RANCHO LOS CERRITOS

4600 Virginia Road, Long Beach 90807
562.206.2040 www.rancholoscerritos.org

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024
760.436.3036 www.sdbgarden.org

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes 90274
310.544.1948
www.southcoastbotanicgarden.org

THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352
818.768.1802 www.theodorepayne.org

UC RIVERSIDE BOTANIC GARDENS

900 University Ave., Riverside 92521
951-784-6962 www.gardens.ucr.edu

 Yvonne Savio

See more events at: www.gardeninginla.net/submit-your-garden-events.

2 LIVE EVENTS ON 1ST SATURDAY IN NOVEMBER!

PIERCE COLLEGE'S 1ST ANNUAL HORTICULTURE DAY & PLANT SALE

- FREE Event & FREE Parking in Lot 1 -

Saturday, November 4, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The Arboretum at Pierce College

6201 Winnetka Ave., Woodland Hills 91371

Learn about classes in Pierce's Horticulture and Agriculture departments, and check out other participants, including:

- Community vendors plus plant & nursery growers who will demonstrate their products
- Representatives from horticultural organizations and San Fernando Valley high schools **SCHS will be there!**
 - Experts on mulching and composting
- Family-friendly petting zoo with Pierce College farm animals
 - Plant sales & food vendors!

For more info visit:

www.eventbrite.com/e/los-angeles-pierce-colleges-1st-annual-horticulture-day-plant-sale-tickets-741127360887

SEEDS & THEIR PEOPLE: A PANEL DISCUSSION/CELEBRATION ON SEED & LIFE

featuring Jennifer Jewell, Cris Sarabia, Studio Tutto, Genevieve Arnold, and David Godshall

- FREE Event -

*followed by a FREE Benefit Concert
on behalf of No Canyon Hills*

Saturday, November 4, 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Plant Material Nursery - Silver Lake

3024 La Paz Drive, Los Angeles 90039

Listen to a panel of horticultural experts, browse the native plants at the nursery, and enjoy a free concert!

For more info call: 323.486.7072 or visit:

<https://plant-material.com/pages/no-canyon-hills-music-benefit-11-4-plant-benefit-11-5>

In-person monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month in the evening, **unless otherwise noted**. Address for live meetings is:

Friendship Auditorium

3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles CA 90027

NOTE: Online meetings are either recorded for YouTube or live-streamed for Zoom viewing (with pre-registration.)

Please visit www.socalhort.org for monthly schedule.

SCHS EVENTS CALENDAR

🌀 November 9 ONLINE

Sandy Masuo, a senior writer with the Huntington, will present *Rooted in History: Stories from The Huntington*, a look at the histories of plants culled from scientific works found in the Huntington Library collections.

🌀 December 14 IN PERSON

ANNUAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION featuring: Eric Focht of UC Riverside will be presenting a talk on avocados, and members will have time to socialize, enjoy holiday snacks and look for treasures on our "freebie" table of garden give-aways! **JOIN US FOR THE FUN!**

🌀 January 11 IN PERSON

Writer and journalist Naomi Hirahara speaking to us about the history of Japanese-American influences on the gardens of Los Angeles.

GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH



SCHS BOARD & COMMITTEES

Laura Bauer - President, HOTY Committee, Finance Committee, RBLs Committee, Website Committee (Chair), Voicemail and Communications

Lili Singer - Vice President and Secretary, Fundraising Committee, HOTY Committee, Plant Forum Committee, RBLs Committee and Archives

Yoav Paskowitz - Treasurer, Finance Committee (Chair), Newsletter Copy Editor, Oral History Committee and Website Committee

Carol Aronson - Fundraising Committee, Program Committee, RBLs Committee and Special Events Committee

Carol Bornstein - RBLs Committee and Program Committee (Chair)

Mardi Caruso - Special Events Committee and Event Greeter

Aprille Curtis - Plant Forum Committee, Social Media Committee and Special Events Committee

Steven Gerischer - Fundraising Committee, HOTY Committee & Silent Auction Coordinator, Plant Forum Committee and Oral History Committee

Elizabeth Mendoza - Social Media Committee

Steven Ormenyi - Finance Committee and Internships

John Schoustra - Special Events Committee

Sabine Steinmetz - Garden Share, Graphic Design, Newsletter Editor and Website Committee

Layla Valenzuela - Fundraising Committee and Membership Coordinator

Jill Vig - Oral History Committee (Chair) and Special Events Committee



Southern California
Horticultural Society
P.O. Box 94476
Pasadena CA 91109-4476

Contact us via mail, phone or social media:

818-567-1496 • www.socalhort.org
www.facebook.com/socalhort
www.instagram.com/socalhort

SUBMISSIONS TO NEWSLETTER

You may contribute an article of interest or information to be considered for publication in future issues.

Next deadline (for December newsletter): Monday, November 13

Newsletter Editor: Sabine Steinmetz • Contributors to this issue: Yvonne Savio