



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

July 2012 Newsletter

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, July 12
7:30 pm

Friendship Auditorium
3021 Riverside Drive
Los Angeles

*We meet the second Thursday
of each month at 7:30 pm*

It is free to SCHS members and
\$5 for non-members without a
guest pass, which is found on
the front of your member card.

Bring one or more plants,
flowers, seeds or fruit to
display at the Plant Forum and
receive a free Exhibitor's Ticket
for the Opportunity Drawing.

JULY OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

Matilija Nursery of Moorpark
will provide a selection of
tempting California native
plants for the Opportunity
Drawing.

Also, SCHS members **Matt-
Dell Tufenkian** of **Dominus
Plantarum** and **John Schoustra**
of **Greenwood Daylily
Gardens** will be selling plants.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Gail Cottman
Guy Hernandez
Kathleen Irvine
Hannah Nendick-Mason
Suzanna Wood

NEXT SHARING SECRETS QUESTION

We want to know about the
beautiful gardens in America,
and beyond our borders, that
you have admired.

The Sharing Secrets question
for July is:

*What is the most
inspirational public or
private garden
you've ever visited?*

You can answer on the cards
we'll supply at our July 12
meeting or e-mail your
response to bushweit@yahoo.com
by Friday, July 13.

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The July Meeting



Sam Watters: *Promoting Beautiful Gardens in America: Frances Benjamin Johnston and Garden Photography in the US*

Our July meeting of the Southern California
Horticultural Society will feature author and
historian, **Sam Watters**, discussing his new
book, *Gardens for a Beautiful America*.

With hand colored slides not seen since the
1930s, this lecture presents the story of
Frances Benjamin Johnston (1864-1952) who
pioneered garden photography as gardeners
embraced professional landscape
architecture as a fine art necessary for a rich
and civilized nation.

From California to New York, from
Massachusetts to Virginia, Johnston
photographed gardens from coast to coast
and promoted a greener and more beautiful
America through illustrated lantern slide
presentation

This talk is coordinated with the release of
Gardens for a Beautiful America, 1895-1935,
photographs by Frances Benjamin Johnston,
written by Sam Watters and published by
Acanthus Press in coordination with the
Library of Congress that preserves the
Johnston archive.

In May the library launched Watters' on-line
catalog of the Johnston slide collection,
comprised of over 1100 of gardens, plants
and garden-related images. The book
features 250 selected slides from the
collection and the full range of slides can be
viewed at: loc.gov/pictures/collection/fbj/.

Sam Watters is an independent historian and
author, educated at Yale University,
University of Marseilles and at the Royal
Herbarium at Kew, and has written

numerous books and articles ranging from
the gardens of the White House to cactus
thrift in the Mojave Desert. Readers of the
Los Angeles Times will be familiar with his
column, *Lost LA*.

JULY SELECTED BOOK

Gardens for a Beautiful America, 1895-1935,



was written
by our July
speaker, **Sam
Watters**, with
photographs
by Frances
Benjamin
Johnston.

A limited
number of

this recently-released book will be for sale at
our meeting.

Published by Acanthus Press, in
Collaboration with the Library of Congress;
April 2012.

11 X 9.25 inches, 376 pages
Clothbound, dust jacket
300 illustrations, including 250 plates

Member price: \$63.00; List price: \$79.00

acanthuspress.com/ps-70-2-gardens-for-a-beautiful-america.aspx

June Meeting Recap

The June meeting of the Southern California Horticultural Society took place at the **Los Angeles Zoo** in Witherbee Auditorium. Long



time SCHS member and celebrated garden designer, **Chris Rosmini** spoke about influential gardens she has seen and learned from.

While most of the gardens we were shown were English or European, the elements of design that made these

harmonious landscapes are universal, and the basic principles could be translated to a drier, more Mediterranean climate such as ours.

The ideas and mechanics behind good design are often rooted in the past, and represent more formal, classical styles, which a modern designer adapts and adds to with a knowledge of plants and materials appropriate for one's specific area.



Chris showed us some of her own designs as well, and clued us in to the workings of the creative process and the insights gained by study, travel and a love of gardens everywhere.

Chris is known for her use of textures and the creation of "tapestries" of plants and in her slides of gardens, particularly the English gardens created in the later half of the 20th century, the origins of that style were clearly shown.

She told us that, "No one does it better than the English."

Of course, Chris makes these ideas completely her own by combining the wealth of plant material available to the gardener in Southern California in new and remarkable ways.



The pictures of her own garden in Highland Park were of particular interest. We would like to thank Chris Rosmini for giving us an enjoyable overview of what goes into the making of one of her gardens.



Kathy Musial was recognized for her many years of service to the board of SCHS as well as *Pacific Horticulture* as she steps down from both boards this year. There will be more about Kathy's years of service in the near future – she won't get away that easily!

Thank to **Sandy Masuo**, and the staff and volunteers at the Los Angeles Zoo, for making this change of venue possible. Thanks also to those tireless SCHS members who helped set-up, run and clean up after the meeting.

- By Steven Gerischer

- Photographs by Debra Bushweit Galliani

Photographs: top to bottom, attendees gathering and shopping for plants outside the auditorium before the meeting; **Chris Rosmini** giving her talk; sign-in table hosted by **Lili Singer** and **Lisa Ceazan** standing on left; a busy night for **Laura Bauer** and **Joel Lichtenwalter**, seated on right, renewing memberships.

SHARING SECRETS

In June, we posed the question, "What is your favorite mail order source of plants (or bulbs) and why." There is a clear favorite bulb source, as you will read.

I was introduced to Easy to Grow Bulbs when writing a newsletter article for photographer Gene Sasse, genesasse.com/stories_squill.htm.

Based in Southern California, Easy to Grow Bulbs stocks bulbs, achimenes through zephyranthes, and everything in between.

Their website easytogrowbulbs.com is easy to navigate and loaded with full color pictures accompanying accurate text. Any questions?

Call - You will be answered by a real person.

Order - Your shipment of fat and happy bulbs is rocketed over to you at a price that will satisfy all but the miserly.

Plant as directed - Easy to Grow Bulbs are appropriate to our climate. They make even a novice gardener look like an accomplished horticulturist for seasons to come.

- Lydia Plunk

Easy To Grow Bulbs has a giant selection for Southern California.

- Laura Bauer

SECRET CONTRIBUTORS

Morgan Seed.

Easytogrowbulbs.com.

Goodwin Creek Gardens, in Oregon. Unusual variety, lots of butterfly and hummingbird plants.

Add your response to this question on our **Facebook** page discussion board or on our MemberLodge website page.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE

Most SCHS memberships expired on June 30 and we thank those of you have already renewed for another year. It is easier than ever to renew your SCHS membership through our website (socalhort.org) or go directly to the Member Lodge page (schs.memberlodge.org). Select "Membership" then "Member Application." Fill out the application and pay with a credit card through PayPal.

We ask that you consider upgrading your membership level or making an additional donation. You can order gift memberships through Member Lodge, too.

PASSING OF BARBARA JOE HOSHIZAKI



We extend our deep sympathy to **Takashi Hoshizaki** and his family with the passing of our beloved member **Barbara Joe Hoshizaki**. She served as our Society's president, was named the SCHS Horticulturist of the Year in 1982 and has continued to be an active member along with her husband, Takashi. We are reprinting her obituary to share highlights of her life with fellow SCHS members and friends.

Barbara Joe Hoshizaki, born June 14, 1928, in Oakland, CA, died at age 83, May 30, 2012 in Los Angeles, CA. Barbara attended public schools in Los Angeles and received her BS from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1951.

There she met Mildred Mathias, a botany professor, who became Barbara's mentor and encouraged her to study ferns. Her MS was awarded by UCLA in 1954. Barbara was professor of biology and taught 28 years at Los Angeles City College. She was also Curator of Ferns at the UCLA Herbarium.

Barbara traveled widely. Early in her career she spent three months in Costa Rica studying ferns with the Organization for Tropical Studies. She continually worked with and developed close relationships with her academic colleagues and also with amateur and professional growers around the world.

She introduced many fern species into cultivation and wrote numerous scientific and popular papers on ferns. An avid

taxonomist, she corrected scientific names of misidentified ferns through extensive research.

Barbara was president of the American Fern Society, the Southern California Horticultural Institute, the Los Angeles International Fern Society and vice-president of the Pacific Horticultural Foundation. She served on the boards of many horticultural and botanical organizations.

She was an honorary member of the American Fern Society, the Los Angeles International Fern Society, and the Tropical Fern and Exotic Plant Society, Inc.

She is well known for *The Fern Grower's Manual*, published in 1975. This seminal work established a bench mark for ferns in cultivation in the United States. A revised and expanded second edition with co-author Robbin C. Moran of the NY Botanical Garden was published in 2001.

Barbara was an academic who didn't confine her work to the herbarium; she was a gardener who actually grew the ferns she wrote about. Her garden, many years in the making, was her research library.

The hands-on experience informed her work and made her an in-demand speaker for professional meetings and for amateur groups. It was a fabulous garden that was both a pleasure and a privilege to visit. Barbara was a good friend who shared her knowledge, expertise, and plants from her garden. We will miss her generosity and kindness.

She is survived by her husband, Takashi, two children, Carol (George Brooks) and Jon (Madeleine Takii), a grandson, Daniel, a sister, Sylvia Louie, and a brother, Curtis Joe (Virginia Shing), and numerous nieces and nephews. Services will be private. Family requests that donations be made to the Organization for Tropical Studies, Box 90630, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708-0630, "OTS in Memory of Barbara Hoshizaki."

- Photograph by Jorge Ochoa on May 6, 2012

OTHER PASSINGS OF NOTE

It is with sadness that we report the passing of two people who were connected with our Society.

Helaine Dunmire, May 25, the wife of SCHS 2001 Horticulturist of the Year and editor of *Sunset Western Garden Book*, Dick Dunmire.

Frances Ching, May 28, retired director of the Los Angeles County Arboretum.

PACIFIC HORTICULTURE SOCIETY TOURS

The Pacific Horticulture Society tours are selling out, but two new tours have been announced – to Hawaii and to Morocco. Go to the Pacific Horticulture Society website for more information.

**From Shangri-la to Bali Hai:
The Hawaiian Islands of Oahu and Kauai**

Escorted by Josh Schechtel,
PHS Board Member
November 2012

Oahu, the Gathering Place, is home to world-famous Waikiki and an extraordinary collection of public and private tropical gardens. Kauai, the Garden Island, has lush rain forests, emerald valleys, spectacular beaches and Waimea.

pacifichorticulture.org/tours/from-shangri-la-to-bali-hai/

**Morocco & Andalucia:
Islamic Gardens and Architecture**

Co-sponsored by
San Diego Horticultural Society
Escorted by Katherine Greenberg,
Past President, Pacific Horticulture Society
April 4-15, 2013

Our tour will take us from the Imperial Cities of Marrakech, Fez and Meknes to Tangier and across the Straits of Gibraltar to the Moorish Kingdoms of Granada, Cordoba and Seville. We will explore some of the ancient medinas and fabulous palaces that have enchanted travelers for centuries.

pacifichorticulture.org/tours/morocco-andalucia-islamic-gardens-and-architecture/

HANNAH JAPANESE GARDEN

The Coalition to Save the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden has mounted a campaign to stop UCLA from selling the garden that was donated to the university in 1964. The group is seeking community support and the following describes their position.

UCLA has listed the Hannah Carter Japanese Garden for sale despite receiving over 2500 letters, emails and phone calls from concerned supporters across the country.

UCLA's decision to move forward with the sale breaks their promise to the Carter family and the public to maintain the garden in perpetuity. Their actions now threaten this cultural landmark.

For more information, visit:
HannahCarterJapaneseGarden.com.



NEW SCHS BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION: CAROL BORNSTEIN

Article and Photographs by Lisa Ceazan

SCHS offers a big welcome to our new board member, **Carol Bornstein**. Most everyone knows Carol, who has degrees in Botany and Horticulture, as the former Director of Horticulture and Director of Nursery and Horticulture Outreach at Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and co-author of *California Native Plants for the Garden* and *Reimagining the California Lawn*. Lucky for us, Carol now resides in Los Angeles and is the director of the new North Campus Gardens (NCG) at the **Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**. We're pleased to introduce Carol and the NCG in this month's newsletter.

The NCG is a collection of discrete gardens with the unifying purpose of allowing Museum scientists to document biodiversity in the urban landscape. It is also intended to encourage the public to get their "nature eyes on," to learn how to identify creatures they see in their own backyards.

The NCG started after renovations to the Museum building began a few years ago. The new Metro Expo Line stopping on Exposition Boulevard between the Museum and USC presented an opportunity to enhance the Museum's north entrance, which was previously rather sterile and unwelcoming. Seizing upon the idea of taking science and education outdoors, the idea for the gardens was born.

The gardens were designed by Mia Lehrer and Associates in collaboration with Museum staff scientists. Installation began in 2011 and all the plants were selected to attract wildlife for scientific study and for visitors to observe (e.g., insects, birds, mammals, etc.).

Here is a list of the gardens on the North Campus:

Transition Garden: Demonstrates the history of agriculture and gardening in Los Angeles and is entered from the parking structure. It draws attention to the concept of "altered nature" within the urban environment.

The Living Wall: A visually stunning wall made of vertically stacked argillite stone, this "rock garden" was designed to attract spiders, lizards and other creatures that seek out rock crevices.



Urban Wilderness Garden: Designed as a metaphor of the Los Angeles River, this area is planted primarily with California native plants. Consists of representations of headwaters, an arroyo and the city (symbolized by the carved stone seat walls and water feature).

Shadow Garden: Across from the Urban Wilderness, this wooded area will feature a wildlife viewing platform.



1913 Garden: One of two pollinator gardens. It is arranged by color and is situated next to the original and beautiful Beaux Arts style building. A second, unbuilt pollinator garden will eventually surround a new Butterfly Pavilion.

Home Garden: Includes edible plants that also attract pollinators. Jimmy Williams, renowned vegetable garden designer and recent SCHS speaker, planted and is currently maintaining this garden. Carol envisions other local edible garden designers contributing their expertise to the Home Garden through the seasons.

The Strampitheater: A popular destination for visitors and staff during the lunch hour, as it has become an outdoor extension of the café while their dining patio is under construction.



The official opening of the North Campus Gardens will be June, 2013. Limited programming is underway in the 1913 Garden and the Home Garden.

Photographs: Page 4, left, Carol Bornstein next to the Living Wall; column 2, top, the Urban Wilderness Garden, bottom, the 1913 Garden. Page 5, top left, the *Baccharis* 'Centennial' in the 1913 Garden; bottom left, the entrance to the Home Garden; and, top right, the vegetable garden in the Home Garden.

SEEKING HEAD GARDENER AT THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County is seeking a Head Gardener for the North Campus Gardens. Reporting to the Director, North Campus Gardens, the Head Gardener leads a

team responsible for maintenance of the living displays, insuring high-quality care using sustainable landscape practices.

This is a creative position which has the primary responsibility for all gardening activities, setting a welcoming tone for our visitors and providing service in the public areas of the Museum with a focus on the Museum's mission and visitor experience.

Reclaimed largely from hardscape, the 3.5-acre North Campus Gardens were designed to create habitat for urban wildlife and to encourage visitors of all ages and interest levels to engage in and appreciate nature.

Through hands-on activities in the gardens and adjacent Nature Lab, visitors will be invited to assist museum scientists in studying and documenting wildlife in Los Angeles.

If interested, see the following link for more details:
home.eease.com/recruit2/?id=1529541&t=1

UPCOMING SCHS PROGRAMS

August 9 – Matthew Levesque will discuss *The Revolutionary Yardscape*. Book sale and signing.

September 13 – CHANGE OF PROGRAM AND LOCATION:

Scott Kleinrock will tell us about *The Huntington Ranch Project* at the Huntington Botanical Gardens. At 4:30 pm, Scott will also host a tour of The Ranch. **THIS TOUR AND MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS.**

October 11 – CHANGE OF PROGRAM:

Annual Award Banquet honoring **Dick Turner** as our 2012 SCHS Horticulturist of the Year. He recently retired as longtime editor of *Pacific Horticulture* magazine and we are changing the date to match his schedule. The dinner and silent auction will be held at the Huntington Botanical Gardens.

November 8 – Helen Popper, author of the forthcoming *California Native Gardening: A Month-by-Month Guide*, will discuss her book.

December 13 – Annual Members' Night (aka, Cookie Night). We will also have a DVD showing of *No Work Gardening* by **Ruth Stouts**.

2013 PROGRAMS

January 10 – To be announced.

February 14 – Andrew Bunting, curator of Scott Arboretum at Swarthmore College in Philadelphia since 1993 and president of Magnolia Society International will speak.

Board of Directors

Steven Gerischer, *President & Pacific Horticulture Board*

Jim Henrich, *Vice President & Membership*

Bettina Gatti, *Secretary & Internship Coordinator*

Laura Bauer, *Treasurer & Finance*

Joel Lichtenwalter, *Membership Secretary & Field Trips*

Debra Bushweit Galliani, *Newsletter & Membership*

Carol Bornstein

Lisa Ceazan, *Website*

Sabine Hoppner

Sandy Masuo, *Facebook*

Bart O'Brien, *Programs*

John Schoustra, *Plant Sales & Opportunity Drawings*

Lili Singer, *Selected Book Sales & Newsletter Calendar*

Sula Vanderplank, *Green Sheet*

Jill Vig, *Pacific Horticulture Board*

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Associate Editor: Joe Galliani

Contributors to this issue:

Carol Bornstein, Lisa Ceazan, Steven Gerischer, Takashi Hoshizaki, Joel Lichtenwalter, Kathy Musial, Jorge Ochoa, John Schoustra and all Sharing Secrets contributors.

Next deadline: Friday, July 13 (for August newsletter).

It is the Friday following our monthly membership meeting.

Please contribute an article or information of interest.

Southern California
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NEWSLETTER
JULY 2012