



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

February 2013 Newsletter

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 14

7:30 pm

Friendship Auditorium

3021 Riverside Drive
Los Angeles CA 90039

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

This meeting is free to SCHS members and is \$5 for non-members without a guest pass.

Bring one or more plants, flowers, seeds or fruits for display and discussion at the Plant Forum. These plants are also included in our newsletter's *Green Sheet*.

NO FEBRUARY OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

We will not have an Opportunity Drawing at our February meeting, but Matt-Dell Tufenkian of Dominus Plantarum will be there selling plants.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Anne Chomyn
Karen Cleaver
Myrna Gintel
Christie Kruse
Shirley Marneus
Michael Pickering
William Shapiro

NEXT SHARING SECRETS QUESTION

This month's question was inspired by Debra Prinzing's latest book and her upcoming program on February 27 (see page 6 for details).

The Sharing Secrets question for February is:

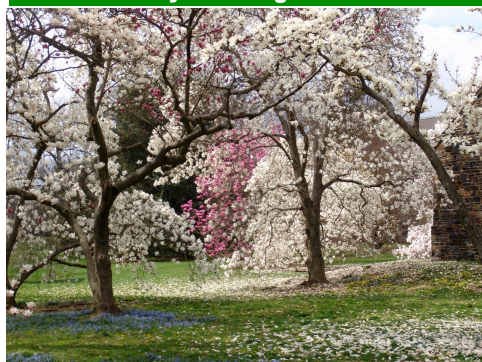
What is the most unusual thing from your garden that you use as cutting material?

You can answer on the cards we'll supply at our February 14 meeting or e-mail your response to bushweit@yahoo.com by Friday, February 15.

IN THIS ISSUE

January Meeting Recap by Steven Gerischer	2
Natural History Museum North Campus Gardens Volunteers Needed	2
Coffee in the Garden with Joan Citron, Saturday, February 23, 10:00 am-1:00 pm	2
November 2012 Green Sheet by Sula Vanderplank	3-4
Horticultural Happenings by Bettina Gatti	5
Upcoming 2013 SCHS Programs	6
Salvia Summit, March 7-9, Huntington Botanical Gardens	6

The February Meeting



Andrew Bunting:

Magnolias in the Home Garden

Our February meeting of the Southern California Horticultural Society will feature **Andrew Bunting** as our featured speaker, discussing *Magnolias for the Home Garden*.

Mr. Bunting is the curator of the Scott Arboretum, on the campus of Swarthmore College, in Pennsylvania, which holds an extensive collection of magnolias. He is also the current president of the Magnolia Society International.

His lecture will cover the many and diverse forms of magnolia suited to the home

garden. Andrew will discuss the old traditional, as well as brand new cultivars of many of the deciduous magnolias, including *M. stellata*, *M. x soulangeana*, *M. x loebneri*, *M. x kewensis* and many of the yellow magnolias.

He will also cover myriad evergreen magnolias that can be grown in Southern California, including many new, exciting species such as *Magnolia sapaensis* from Vietnam and the stunning *Magnolia insignis*. Bunting will highlight a catalog of magnolias and discuss cultural requirements, as well as how best to use them in the landscape and garden.

FEBRUARY SELECTED BOOKS

Our featured speaker, Andrew Bunting, recommends the following two books about magnolias that can be found online.

***The World of Magnolias* by Dorothy J. Callaway.**

Published by Timber Press. Hard cover, March 2005; paperback, July 2010. 308 pages, 11 x 0.6 x 8.3 inches paperback; 11.1 x 1.2 x 8.8 hard cover. New from \$45 at Amazon.com:

amazon.com/World-Magnolias-Dorothy-J-Callaway/dp/160469226X

***Magnolias: A Gardener's Guide* by Jim Gardiner.**

An illustrated, hardcover book published by Timber Press, May 2000. 300 pages, 7.4 x 0.9 x 10.4 inches. New under \$30 from Amazon.com:

amazon.com/Magnolias-Gardeners-Guide-Jim-Gardiner/dp/0881924466/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1354290615&sr=8-3&keywords=magnolias

SOCIETY NEWS

Pat Steen has joined our Membership Committee and has been helping address membership issues and functions, including some management of MemberLodge on our website. We are grateful to her for her increased involvement.

A sincere **thank you to those of you who responded to our year-end appeal letter** by sending a monetary donation. We received a total of \$1045.00 from members either for specified needs or for general use to pay costs related to the running of our Society that our membership fees do not cover.

Responses to January's Sharing Secrets question can be found on our website's MemberLodge Sharing Secrets forum page: schs.memberlodge.org.

January Meeting Recap

Our January meeting of the Southern California Horticultural Society kicked off the new year by celebrating roses. During a particularly cold, windy evening we gathered for a panel discussion of what has long been called the “favorite American garden flower.”

This is the time of year we must devote some attention to our roses, whether we are pruning established plants or considering new bare root selections.

The introduction to the discussion was a short presentation of images from my own garden and a few thoughts about rose care from my experience. I showed some of my favorites and spoke about how little I “fuss” over my roses, focusing instead on the types of roses I find easiest to grow.

We then turned the meeting over to our guest speakers, **Ping Lim** and **Tom Carruth**. Our expert panelists, both renowned rose breeders and accomplished rosarians, answered questions from the audience. The main goal of the evening was to help debunk the myth of that roses are in any way difficult to grow – and, in fact, show that roses can thrive with so much less than many other common garden plants.

Questions ranged far and wide over a number of different topics related to rose breeding, growth and care. One of my favorite moments was when the panelists were asked by John Schoustra to name their favorite roses the other panelist had bred.

Tom and Ping were generous and full of great information and wisdom about growing roses, the direction they each see rose breeding taking and how we can improve our own experience growing these rewarding flowers. Special thanks to Tom and Ping!

After the talk, each member of the audience got to take home a new, bare root introduction from **Weeks Roses** called ‘Yabba Dabba Doo’. It is a medium-sized shrub rose that will bloom with masses of single, deep pink flowers with yellow centers.

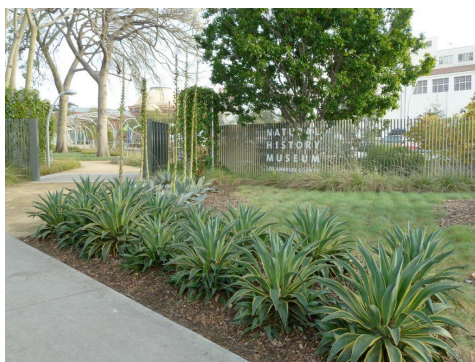
Thanks to **John Schoustra** for arranging this rose give-away for our members and paying guests. John also brought our Opportunity Drawing plants, including some roses and plants that grow well in combination with roses. Thanks, John.

Thanks as well to **Al Steen** for providing us with extra microphones and for recording

the proceedings! Thanks to **Lili Singer** for getting this talk together without much lead time! And, as always, thanks to everyone who pitched in to help (especially the rose baggers!), set up, run and clean up afterwards. You are all wonderfully helpful.

- By Steven Gerischer

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM NORTH CAMPUS GARDENS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



As many of you know, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County will be opening its new, 3.5-acre North Campus gardens this coming June (more information is available at: nhm.org/site/about-our-museums/nhm-next/north-campus).

We’re in the process of developing a volunteer corps to support this endeavor, and to that end, we will be holding a series of “Garden Days” to meet prospective new volunteers and to provide initial orientation.

There will be opportunities to get involved in the coming months, and those opportunities will likely expand once the North Campus opens to the public.

The next “Garden Days” are scheduled for **January 26, February 23 and March 16**. Each session will be held from **9:00 am–12:00 pm** and will involve an orientation session, some light paperwork and also some time to work in the garden with our gardeners.

You only need to attend one session, and we encourage you to bring along any friends or colleagues who may also be interested in joining our team.

Please respond to our Volunteer Coordinator (Liz Andres, eandres@nhm.org) with the date that works best for you so we can keep a headcount for each session. Please feel free to contact Liz with any questions.

Thank you for your interest in NHM!

- By Carol Bornstein

COFFEE IN THE GARDEN WITH JOAN CITRON

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

10:00 am–1:00 pm

If you don't know Joan Citron personally, you may recognize her from her frequent plant sales at the back table during meetings. (Or as the person who calls the numbers for the Opportunity Drawing.) She was also the editor in charge of *Selected Plants for Southern California Gardens*, our compendium of practical knowledge gathered from SCHS members.

Joan's large garden was designed in a formal style for meditation and also to provide seasonal color throughout the year. However, Joan does not coddle her plants – her garden is composed of things that survive in her native soil and climate (with temperature ranges from 23° – 120°F) with very little supplemental water.

You will have a chance to hear her back stories on the development of her unique garden with its collection of plants from the very common to the very specialized.

Please join us for an informal tour with coffee and light refreshments on Saturday, February 23 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.



This tour is **free to SCHS members**, but a \$5.00 entry fee will apply to guests (guest passes can be used). Joan's garden is located in Reseda, in the San Fernando Valley. Once you sign up, we will contact you with directions.

To register, contact **Joel Lichtenwalter** at 310-908-5036 or socalhortsociety@gmail.com.

- By Laura Bauer

- Photograph by Yvonne Savio



socalhort.org

GREEN SHEET

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2012 PLANT FORUM NOTES

Compiled by Sula Vanderplank

Photographs by Paul Martin

Thank you to all who brought plants to the November 2012 meeting. Everyone is encouraged to bring in plants to share with the group. Remember that you do get one free Exhibitor's Ticket for the Opportunity Drawing if you bring in one or more plants for discussion at the Plant Forum table.

In addition to the plants discussed below, the following plants, described or listed in the Society's *Selected Plants for Southern California Gardens* (2000) or previously written up for a *Green Sheet*, were shown. [Family names in accordance with the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group II (<http://www.mobot.org/mobot/research/apweb/>) are included for your reference.]

Artemisia californica, California sagebush (Asteraceae), exhibited by Tom Haydut and Karen Cleaver.

Barleria obtusa, bush violet (Acanthaceae), exhibited by Eric and Ann Brooks, grown in the Baldwin Hills.

Pelargonium cotyledonis, old father live for ever (Geraniaceae), exhibited by Matt-Dell Tufenkian, grown in Altadena.

Plants that could not be fully identified:

Aloe deltoideodonta v. *candicans* (Xanthorrhoeaceae), exhibited by Matt-Dell Tufenkian, grown in Altadena.

Barbarea orthoceras, winter cress (Brassicaceae), exhibited by Tom Haydut and Karen Cleaver.

Pelargonium acraeum (Geraniaceae), exhibited by Matt-Dell Tufenkian, grown in Altadena.



Photograph: *Aloe deltoideodonta* v. *candicans*.

Information in this compilation was gleaned and condensed from the Plant Forum exhibit cards, my personal library, and a suite of various internet sites. Special thanks to Joan Citron for her assistance.

Aloe vaombe, Malagasy tree aloe (Xanthorrhoeaceae), exhibited by Matt-Dell Tufenkian, grown in Altadena.

This large succulent comes from the dry thorn scrub of Southern Madagascar and its name (vaombe) refers to its indigenous name there "vahombre." It is reported to reach 12 feet in height and often has colorful leaves as well as showy red flowers. It should be planted in full sun and will need little to no water once established. Frost tolerance is still being evaluated but it appears to be fairly cold-resistant. Available from San Marcos Growers and Tufenkian notes that it is also available from him.

Barleria repens [syn. *B. r.* 'Rosea'], coral creeper (Acanthaceae), exhibited by Ann Brooks, grown in the Baldwin Hills.

This large showy evergreen shrub is native to South Africa where it grows in the woodlands and forests from KwaZulu-Natal northwards to tropical Africa. Its native name is bosviooltjie and it has showy red flowers. It is fast growing and easy to grow, being particularly drought tolerant; Ann notes that it likes a rich soil and winter moisture, but warns that this plant will reseed itself. The coral creeper does very well in containers but should always be pruned hard after flowering or it will become leggy.

Brickellia californica, brickellbush (Asteraceae), exhibited by Tom Haydut and Karen Cleaver.

This tall, erect, slender shrub is one of our California natives, in fact, it is native all the way east to Oklahoma and south to Baja California. Leaves are triangular, flowers are small and not showy, but this species is a great addition to a habitat garden for native birds and insects. Brickellbush is intolerant of shade, and is also a national upland wetland indicator species for the USDA. This plant was used as a ceremonial emetic following clan incest by the Navajo people and was sometimes used to treat coughs and fevers. It is reported to be a larval food plant for the tiger moth, *Dysschema howardi*.

Corethrogyne filaginifolia [syn. *Lessingia filaginifolia*], sand aster (Asteraceae), exhibited by Tom Haydut and Karen Cleaver.

A staple member of the native flora of our California Floristic Province, this perennial herb is found from Oregon to Baja California in the coastal scrub, chaparral and up into our pine forests. Purple flowers are held above the woolly grey leaves all through the summer. This is an attractive addition to a native garden that will provide habitat for various native insects and butterflies.

× *Gasteraloe* 'Green Ice' [syn. × *Gastrolea*] (Xanthorrhoeaceae), exhibited by Matt-Dell Tufenkian, grown in Altadena.

This succulent plant is a hybrid between a gasteria and an aloe. It has tight, erect rosettes of pointed leaves that are beautifully variegated (green and white). Flowers are also cream with green stripes and have a tubular shape. Needs frost protection, should not be overwatered and likes a well-drained, porous soil. Will tolerate full sun to semi-shade conditions. Makes a good windowsill plant.

Leucadendron salignum 'Blush', willow-cone bush (Proteaceae), exhibited by Gary Kamisher, grown in Mar Vista.

This large, attractive shrub is native to South Africa and reaches 3 to 5 feet tall and 3 to 6 feet wide when grown in favorable conditions. It needs full sun and a well-drained soil and is reported to be hardy to 20°F. The foliage is particularly colorful, with the young shoots being bright red. This plant has separate male and female flowers, and the foliage and flower heads are great for floral arrangements.

Nerine humilis (Amaryllidaceae), exhibited by Jim Henrich, grown in Azusa.

This diminutive bulb is native to the mountain fynbos of the Western Cape Province in South Africa. This monocotyledonous genus is more closely related to asparagus than lilies, and these plants are naturally fire adapted. This species comes from the winter-rainfall region and is, therefore, well-suited to California gardens. This dwarf species has pale-pink flowers from autumn onwards. Needs a well-drained soil and is particularly well-suited to pots. May take 3 to 4 years to flower from seed.

Tibouchina lepidota [syn. *Lasiandra*], glory tree (Melastomataceae), exhibited by Jim Jaeger.

This tropical evergreen shrub or small tree is common in many parts of Australia. The glory tree is laden with showy purple flowers through summer and fall but will need regular water in a Southern California garden.

Photographs:

Leucadendron salignum 'Blush' (left),

Nerine humilis (top right),

Tibouchina lepidota (bottom right).



Contact individual locations to confirm events and for more details; some may require a facility entry fee.

☞ = Registration requested or required.

ARCADIA 91007

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM & BOTANIC GARDEN

301 N. Baldwin Ave.
626-821-4623; arboretum.org

Saturday, February 2
9:00 am–5:00 pm

Pacific Rose Society Annual Auction. Over 100 unique and beautiful roses available at the auction. Free with garden admission.

Thursdays, February 7–28

9:30 am–12:00 noon (except as noted)

Thursday Garden Talks with Lili Singer, includes *Living Well in a Limited World* with Isabelle C. Greene, 2/7; *Introduction to Greywater Systems* with Leigh Jerrard, 2/14; *Field Trip – Huntington Rose Garden*, hosted by curator Tom Carruth, 2/21, 10:00 am–12:30 pm; *Great Garden Plants, an Admiration and Arboretum Exploration* with Lili Singer, 2/28. Fee. Classes may be taken separately.

Sunday, February 10
9:00 am–5:00 pm

Wild Mushroom Fair includes mushroom growing and cooking demonstrations. Bring found mushrooms for identification. Free with garden admission.

Tuesdays, February 26–June 11
5:30–10:00 pm

Landscape Design (a Mt. San Antonio College class). Field trips and off-campus assignments required. For information, call Mt. SAC at 909.594.5611, x4540. Fee. ☞

BEVERLY HILLS 90210

TREEPEOPLE

12601 Mulholland Dr.
818-753-4600; treepeople.org

Sunday, February 3 & 10
9:00 am–1:00 pm

Fruit Tree Grafting Workshop with Steve Hofvendahl and Herb Machleder. Hands on experience; take grafted fruit tree home to plant (if attended both sessions). Free. ☞

CLAREMONT 91711

RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

1500 N. College Ave.
909-625-8767 x200; rsabg.org

Sunday, February 2
10:00 am–1:00 pm

Free Native Plant Clinic. Experts answer native plant gardening questions. Garden admission is not necessary to attend.

Sunday, February 17
10:00 am–3:00 pm

Family Bird Fest. Participate in the “Great Backyard Bird Count” and learn about the bird life there. Free with garden admission.

Sunday, February 24
10:00 am–1:00 pm

Medicinal Plants of California Herb Walk. Join William Broen for a Garden walk and presentation featuring medicinal and edible plants native to California. Fee. ☞

FULLERTON 92831

FULLERTON ARBORETUM

1900 Associated Rd. at Jamboree
657-278-3407
fullertonarboretum.org

Saturday, February 9
9:00 am–1:00 pm

Plant Identification I with Bob Allen. Fee. ☞

LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE 91011

DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Dr.
818-949-4200; descansogardens.org

Saturday, February 2
10:00 am

Backyard Chickens and Bees with John Lyons on the basics of raising chickens and beekeeping in an urban setting. Fee. ☞

Saturday–Sunday, February 9–10
9:30 am–3:00 pm

Camellia Festival. Wen Wang will discuss their Camellia Collection at 1:30 pm. Free with garden admission.

Sunday, February 19
2:00 pm

Creating a Bird Friendly Garden. Learn how plantings can attract feathered friends to your green space. Free with garden admission.

Saturday–Sunday, February 23–24
9:00 am–5:00 pm

Southern California Camellia Council Show. Free with garden admission.

PALOS VERDES PENINSULA 90274

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
310-544-1948
southcoastbotanicgarden.org

Fridays, February 1–22
10:00–11:30 am

Creating a Spring Edible Garden, a four week course with Judith Gerber. Fee. ☞

Thursdays, February 7–March 7
10:00 am–12:00 noon

Successful Gardens class with Sharon Ratterree, to help you create your own garden. Fee. ☞

Saturday, February 23
2:00–3:30 pm

Garden Lecture: The History of Palos Verdes and the South Coast Botanic Garden. Free with garden admission.

SAN MARINO 91108

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Rd.
626-405-2100; huntington.org

Saturday, February 2
1:00–5:00 pm

Great Rosarians of the World Lecture honoring Malcom Manners and Walter H. Lewis. A reception will follow the program. Fee. ☞

Saturday–Sunday, February 9–10
1:00–4:00 pm (2/9)
10:30 am–4:30 pm (2/10)

41st Annual Camellia Show includes camellia plants available for purchase. Free admission to the show and sale areas.

Thursday, February 14
2:30 pm

Garden Talk: Magnolias For the Home Garden with Andrew Bunting. Plant sale follows. Free.

Saturday–Sunday, February 23–24
10:30 am–4:30 pm

Bonsai-a-Thon includes exhibits, demonstrations, prize drawings, a “bonsai bazaar” and a live auction at 3:00 pm each day. Free with garden admission.

SUN VALLEY 91352

THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION FOR WILDFLOWERS & NATIVE PLANTS

10459 Tuxford St.
818-768-1802; theodorepayne.org

Saturday, February 2
1:30–3:30 pm

Reimagining the California Lawn with Bart O'Brien. Fee. ☞

Saturdays, February 9, 23 & March 9
9:00 am–1:00 pm

Native Garden Design with Amy Nettleton. Fee. ☞

Saturday, February 9
1:30–3:30 pm

Backyard Birds in Los Angeles: Who They Are and How You Can Attract More of Them with Kimball Garrett. Fee. ☞

Saturday, February 16
1:30–3:30 pm

The Wacky World of Pollination: Native Plants and the Critters that Love Them with Bob Allen. Fee. ☞

Saturday, February 23
1:30–3:30 pm

Four Seasons of Color with California Natives with Lili Singer. Fee. ☞

The **San Diego Horticultural Society** meets Monday, February 11, 6:00–9:00 pm, at Del Mar Fairgrounds.

Activities include a talk, *The Future of Roses in Today's Gardens* with Tom Carruth. Information: 619-296-9215, sdhort.org. Fee.

- Compiled by Bettina Gatti

Send notices to bettina0203@hotmail.com.

UPCOMING 2013 SCHS PROGRAMS

At Friendship Auditorium, 3021 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles CA 90039, starting at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted.

February 23 – *Coffee In The Garden With Joan Citron*, in the San Fernando Valley, 10:00 am–1:00 pm. Free admission to SCHS members and non-members with a guest pass; \$5 to non-members (see page 2 for details).

February 27 – A special SCHS program in conjunction with the Garden Conservancy, 6:30 pm check-in, 7:00–8:30pm lecture and floral design demonstration at Friendship Auditorium.

Debra Prinzing, will discuss her new book *Slow Flowers: Four Seasons of Locally Grown Bouquets from the Garden, Meadow and Farm*. \$30 admission to SCHS & GC members; \$35 admission to non-members (see gardenconservancy.org for details.)

March 14 – A panel discussion on salvias, with guest speakers joining us from the recent Salvia Summit II held at the Huntington Botanical Gardens (see related article below).

April 11 – **Billy Goodnick** will present *Crimes Against Horticulture*.

SALVIA SUMMIT

March 7–9 / Huntington Botanical Gardens

The Second International Salvia Summit will be held at the Huntington Botanical Gardens from Thursday, March 7 through Saturday, March 9, with field trips on Sunday, March 10. For registration and more information see: seedhunt.com/salviasummit2013.html.

Southern California
Horticultural Society
PO Box 94476
Pasadena CA 91109-4476

NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2013

Board of Directors

Steven Gerischer, *President, Pacific Horticulture Board, & Programs*

Jim Henrich, *Vice President & Membership*
Bettina Gatti, *Secretary & Internship Coordinator*

Laura Bauer, *Treasurer & Finance*

Joel Lichtenwalter, *Membership Secretary*

Carol Bornstein

Debra Bushweit Galliani, *Newsletter & Membership*

Lisa Ceazan, *Programs & Field Trips*

Sandy Masuo, *Facebook & Field Trips*

Bart O'Brien

Yvonne Savio

John Schoustra, *Opportunity Drawings & Plant Sales*

Lili Singer, *Selected Book Sales & Programs*

Sula Vanderplank, *Green Sheet*

Jill Vig, *Pacific Horticulture Board*

818-567-1496 / socalhort.org / [Join us on Facebook](#)

Newsletter Editor: Debra Bushweit Galliani, bushweit@yahoo.com
Associate Editor: Joe Galliani

Contributors to this issue:

Laura Bauer, Carol Bornstein, Bettina Gatti, Steven Gerischer, Paul Martin, Yvonne Savio and Sula Vanderplank.

Next deadline: Friday, February 15 (for March newsletter).

It is the Friday following our monthly membership meeting.

Please contribute an article or information of interest.