



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

September 2013 Newsletter

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 12
6 pm social hour/7pm
awards dinner.

Los Angeles County
Arboretum and
Botanic Garden
301 N Baldwin
Ave. Arcadia, CA 91007

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Jay Kapac

Denise Maher

Cecelia Valentine and Edwin
Salazar

SHARING SECRETS QUESTION

In anticipation of our October meeting, the Sharing Secrets question for September is: *"What is your favorite California native plant in the garden, and why?"* You can answer on our MemberLodge website or e-mail your response to: sglarkspur@aol.com by Friday, October 11.

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The September Meeting

Horticulturist of the Year: Dave Lannom



Professor Dave Lannom, of Mt. San Antonio College, has been chosen for our 2013 Horticulturist of the Year. Professor Dave is an example of what a huge influence a truly great teacher can have on an entire industry.

Dave himself was a student in Ornamental Horticulture at Mt. SAC college. After completing coursework there, he transferred to Cal Poly Pomona and received a Bachelors Degree in Ornamental Horticulture. He worked as their first Greenhouse Manager/Technician while he completed a Masters Degree. He also began his teaching career at Cal Poly and rose to the level of Assistant Professor.

Dave took a short detour into nursery management at La Costa Nursery in Encinitas, and then Deigaard Nurseries in Santa Barbara, where his love of palm trees really took root. (To this day, his truck license plate is "Palm Man.") But he soon realized that his passion lay in teaching. When a faculty position

opened up at Mt. SAC in 1985, he headed back into academia. He taught a wide variety of classes and eventually became the Department Chairperson for Agriculture.

In his own words, he has been "corrupting the youth of America" for over 30 years and the youth have responded. He received the Mt. SAC Outstanding Faculty Member Award in 1996 and the Faculty of Distinction Award in 2005. His teaching style of mixing facts with stories from his long and legendary career have created fiercely loyal students. Many of his students have gone on to run nurseries, supervise parks departments or earn PhDs.

He is also a well-known member of the California Association of Nurserymen and Garden Centers, and the International Plant Propagators Society. As if teaching college kids wasn't enough, he has taught through the Master Gardener Program and often gives horticulture talks to groups around Southern California. It seems like everyone in horticulture in Southern California has at least heard of Professor Dave!

Please join us to celebrate the life and work of Dave Lannom, with our **awards banquet** at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden.

If you have any questions regarding the banquet, **please do not call the Arboretum!** Call, or e-mail, Steven Gerischer at (323) 257-3629, or sglarkspur@aol.com.

Sign up online at: socalhort.org.

AWARDS BANQUET TIMELINE

We will begin with a social hour from **6pm to 7pm**, to mingle and peruse the silent auction tables.

At **7:00pm** dinner will be served.

At **8pm** the silent auction will close followed by dessert and coffee at **8:15pm**.

At **8:30pm** the Horticulturist of the Year Award is presented, followed by a short acceptance speech. There will be a few remarks from friends and colleagues about Professor Dave.

At **9pm** winning bids for the silent auction will be announced.

Winning bids can be paid by cash or check- all purchased items must be taken the night of the event.

SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS

Donations for the silent auction to raise money for the Southern California Horticultural Society will be accepted up to the night of the Awards Banquet. If you will be bringing auction items to the dinner, please call me or e-mail so I have a description and can prepare a bid card beforehand.

This year's auction will feature a number of choice plants, as well as garden items, artwork and selected books. We are seeking donations of garden related items or items that anyone would enjoy. If you are considering donating an item, please contact Steven Gerischer at (323) 257-3629 or e-mail: sglarkspur@aol.com

August Meeting Recap

The August meeting of the Southern California Horticultural Society was a talk given by our own Board Member, Lili Singer. Lili graciously stepped in when our scheduled speaker had to cancel. Lili's talk, "Beneficial Bugs in the Garden" illustrated the many beneficial insects and arthropods that prey upon the pests that routinely invade our gardens. While many of the beneficials shown were familiar, such as the larvae of lady beetles and lacewings, many were less familiar or easily overlooked, like the tiny wasps that prey on aphids and their eggs, or minute mites that eat other mites. We learned that for every organism we label a "pest" there is another organism ready to eat it, or use it as a host for its eggs and growing larvae.

Understanding the way these tiny creatures work in harmony with natural cycles in the garden helps us to be more patient when obvious signs of pest insects are present. It used to be accepted practice to apply pesticides at the first sign of a problem—liberally dosing an area or an entire crop to head off infestations. The knowledge that there is probably something already at work destroying the vast majority of the offending insects or their eggs gives one pause. Is a spraying needed? Could it end up causing more harm than good? (It was pointed out that many predatory insects rebound at a much slower rate than the pests they prey upon.) A balanced approach to pest control was stressed, allowing nature to do the work and asking us to accept a few blemishes in the meantime.

Lili's talk was divided into two parts, focusing first on predators (like the lady beetle larvae) followed by the parasites and parasitoids (such as the wasps that lay their eggs inside aphids). It is interesting to note that in many cases the adult insects do not prey upon pests, and that we can encourage more of these beneficials in our gardens by planting certain flowers. Lili also showed us that in many cases, exotic pests introduced to the United States by accident have been controlled with careful release of predatory insects or arthropods from their native habitat.

We would like to thank Lili Singer for giving us a fun and informative talk on the benefits of beneficials. The images were wonderful, and only someone as enthused by bugs as Lili is would describe beetle larvae as "cute."

The raffle plants were provided by the Fern Factory (thanks to John Schoustra for arranging this).

Thank you to everyone who helped set up before the meeting. Thanks to all who help run the meeting. And thanks as well to all who stay after and help us clean up afterwards.

See you at the Awards Banquet on September 12.

-Steven Gerischer

A NOTE FROM THE SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of our founder, Don Walker, in Arizona on July 20, 2013. Don and his wife, Dorothy, were two of our founders in 1994. In a few years, through lots of hard work and a very friendly and sharing attitude, they grew the organization to hundreds of members and set a high standard for our meetings, speakers and events. Don was the photographer for our book, *Ornamental Trees for Mediterranean Gardens: The Trees of San Diego*. He was a generous friend to many, a welcoming presence, and a fine gardener, and he will be greatly missed.

There will be a memorial service to honor Don Walker at 11AM on Saturday, September 14 at the Walled Garden of the San Diego Botanic Garden. I hope you can attend, as it would mean so much to Dorothy to see her friends there.

Pat Hammer and I are organizing an open house after the memorial service. We're asking Don's friends to help by bringing brunch-type finger food. If you can do this, please let me know what you can bring by Aug. 20th. The Garden will provide beverages.

I can't think of a more fitting place to remember Don. As you may recall, Don volunteered for many years at SDBG when it was known as Quail Gardens, and it was an important part of his life.

-Susi Torre Bueno

EXCERPT FROM BIO OF DON WALKER

I was born in Los Angeles and that's where I lived most of my life. When I was growing up, Los Angeles was a paradise. Driving from West L.A. to Gardena there were miles of open grassland. It was a haven for the birds. I enjoyed the sound of the meadowlarks that nested on the ground.

Curlews and other shore birds would nest in the fields closer to the ocean. One of my older friends used to go duck hunting in the marsh where LAX is now. The landscape was full of sand dunes covered with desert verbena just west of the airport; it was truly beautiful.

I remember driving east to Lake Arrowhead as a boy. In 1948 we could drive there faster on surface streets than we could today using the freeways. We would make our way on the Arroyo Seco, now known as the Pasadena Freeway, out to Foothill Boulevard, then Route 66, through Rancho Cucamonga, Azusa and Fontana. There were miles of grape vineyards and citrus groves, with fruit stands every so often. It was always such a heady experience whenever the orange trees were in bloom, and I can still remember it to this day. When I was in the second grade we lived in Anaheim for a year. We had to drive through miles of orange orchards to get there. In those days they would announce the "dew point" on the radio every night. I remember during that winter they used smudge pots to ward off the frost.

READ THE FULL BIO AT:

<https://sdhort.wildapricot.org/Hort-of-the-Year?mode=PostView&bmi=999974#comments>

SHARING SECRETS

In August, we asked you to answer "Do you encourage beneficial insects in your garden, and if so, how?" and here are some of your responses. Read more on our SCHS MemberLodge website, schs.memberlodge.org.

Number one way is by staying organic. Number two, if I must intervene due to an intensive invasion of harmful insects in order to protect a plant, I only spray the affected areas and not carpet bomb the whole garden using a pyrethrin or appropriate organic intervention. I try to be very aware of all potential impacts of sprays-pyrethrins can kill fish so I am very careful around the koi.

-Lynn Hoopinger

Most recently I let my large potted red chard plant go to flower when the weather heated up instead of replacing it with another crop plant. While meant to attract beneficial insects to other nearby edibles in the garden, the large display was also very ornamental.

-Yoav Paskowitz



socalhort.org

GREEN SHEET

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

JUNE 2013
PLANT FORUM NOTES

Compiled by James E. Henrich

Thank you to all who brought plants to the June, 2013 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 Plant Raffle if you bring in one or more plants for discussion at the Plant Forum table (if there is a Plant Raffle that night).

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.]

Information in this compilation was gleaned and condensed from the Plant Forum exhibit cards, my personal library, and a suite of various internet sites.

Lilium pardalinum, leopard lily (Liliaceae), by James E. Henrich, Azusa. [SPSC, pg. 226]

Pyrrosia polydactyla, five-fingered tongue fern (Polypodiaceae), by Jim Jaeger, Santa Monica. [SPSC, pg. 301]

Rhodophiala advena (syn. *Hippeastrum advenum*), ananuca amarilla (Amaryllidaceae), by Sheldon Lisker, Temecula. [SPSC, pg. 188]

Plants that could not be fully identified:

Brassica oleracea, purple kale (Brassicaceae), by Gary Kamisher, West Los Angeles.

Cynara cardunculus var. *cardunculus*, artichoke (Asteraceae), unidentified exhibitor.

Hemerocallis, daylily (Xanthorrhoeaceae), by Joan Seidel, Hollywood Hills.

Leucophyllum, barometer bush (Scrophulariaceae), by Joan Seidel, Hollywood Hills.

Agapanthus 'Hinag' PP10,866, lily-of-the-Nile (Amaryllidaceae), by Patricia McGrath, Silver Lake. Variegated strap-like leaves have gray-green mid-leaf and creamy yellow margins. Light to medium blue flowers are borne on 12-18" stems. It performs well in the ground or in a pot, with abundant water during the growing season.

Brassavola nodosa, lady-of-the-night (Orchidaceae), by James E. Henrich, Azusa. W. Indies, Central America, Colombia, Venezuela, Surinam. Sympodial growth habit accentuates its terete leaves. Common name refers to nighttime citrus and gardenia-like fragrance. The flowers bear greenish sepals and petals with cream-white lip and are pollinated by moths. Plants generally occur below 500 feet elevation growing on trees, rocks or cliffs. Grow in warm temperatures with abundant water during growth phase and drier during dormant winter months. Plants perform best in bright light.

Calceolaria mexicana, gold purse (Calceolariaceae), by Sheldon Lisker, Temecula. Mexico. This annual performs best in bright shade with average watering, growing to 12-18 inches tall. Pouched or slipper-like flowers are lemon yellow. Plants reseed readily.

Hazardia squarrosa, saw-toothed goldenbush (Asteraceae), by Gary Kamisher, West Los Angeles. Southwestern California to northern Baja California. Species occurs in canyons of coastal sage scrub, chaparral and foothill woodland communities from sea level to 4,200 feet. This shrub grows to six feet tall that bears red-tinged yellow disk flowers. The genus is named for Barclay Hazard, a 19th Century California botanist.

Hymenocallis harrisiana, Mexican spider lily (Amaryllidaceae), by James E. Henrich, Azusa. Mexico. Geophyte from high light and swampy to arid areas. Strap-shaped gray-green leaves are glaucous. Spidery flowers are white and last just one day. Seeds are irregularly shaped and fleshy; just toss at base of plant or bury slightly in soil where they will germinate the next growing season. Withhold water once leaves begin to yellow and keep dry until growth resumes the following spring.

Zaluzianskya capensis, night phlox (Scrophulariaceae), by Laura Bauer, Ventura. South Africa. Perennial in USDA zones 9 and warmer. White flowers comprised of five bifid white petals open at night with an intoxicating sweet fragrance of candied talcum powder. Plants grow to about one foot tall and benefit from being cut back to four inches after the first floral flush to encourage reblooming. They perform best in sun with average amounts of water. Genus is named for Adam Zaluziansky von Zalusian (1558-1613); he was a physician in Prague and author of *Methodus Herbariae*, 1592.



Southern California Horticultural Society

**THE TREES OF THE CHAVEZ RAVINE ARBORETUM
PART THREE: THE EUCALYPTI**



**GUIDED TOUR AND PICNIC
Sunday, October 13, 2013**

Join SCHS as we return once more to Chavez Ravine Arboretum to discover the wonderful trees in this Los Angeles "hidden gem." SCHS tree experts **Bart O'Brien** (Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden) and **Jim Henrich** (Los Angeles County Arboretum) will be joined again by **Matt Ritter** (author of *A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us*). Although we already covered many significant trees on the previous two trips, we'll start with the Eucalypti on this visit, and see where we end up. There are so many varieties of Eucalyptus grown in California, this will be a great chance for you to sort them out with our experts.

Park near the Grace E. Simons Lodge at 1025 Elysian Park Dr., Los Angeles 90012. A map will be given with confirmation. The tour will begin at 10:00 am. We will picnic on the grounds at 1:00 p.m. Bring something to eat and share (desserts are always appreciated!). We will provide sodas, water and utensils. Bring good walking shoes and a hat and sunscreen if the weather is sunny!

Tour tickets are \$5.00 for SCHS Members, \$10.00 for non-members. To secure your reservation, please sign up online through MemberLodge, or complete and send in the form below, along with your check. If you have any questions, contact Laura Bauer at: lbauer@ehuffy.com or by phone 626-437-9459.

SCHS CHAVEZ RAVINE ARBORETUM PART III FIELD TRIP – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2013
PLEASE RESPOND NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9.

Yes, please reserve: _____ Member Reservation at \$5 each

_____ Non-member Tickets at \$10 each = \$_____ Total

Member's Name(s) _____

Non-Member Name(s) _____

Contact Phone _____ E-mail _____

Make your check payable to SCHS. Mail to: P.O. Box 94476, Pasadena, CA 91109
SCHS Phone: 818/567-1496 Website: www.socalhort.org

Contact each listing below to confirm the event, for details and for a full schedule.

☎=Registration requested or required.

ARCADIA 91007

L.A. COUNTY ARBORETUM & BOTANIC GARDEN

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

Thursdays, September 12, 19 & 26

9:30am-12:00pm

Thursday Talks with Lili Singer.

Includes *Fall Veggie Garden Planning with Chisty Wilhelmi, 9/12; Field Trip to a Wonderful Wildlife Oasis in Beverly Hills, 9/19; The World of Roses: Past, Present and Future with Dani Hahn, 9/26.* Fee ☎
Classes may be taken separately.

Saturday, September 14

12:00-4:00pm

Organic Fruit and Vegetable Gardening. Jill Morganelli instructor. Fee ☎

Sunday, September 22

5:00-9:00pm

The Feast at Baldwin Ranch! Come and enjoy the first outdoor farm-to-table feast. A fundraiser for youth education programs at the Arboretum. Contact Brittany Fabeck at (626) 821-3227 to purchase tickets.

CLAREMONT 91711

RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

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

Sunday, September 1

8:00am

Beginning Bird Walk. Join the Pomona Valley Audubon society for a free guided walk.

Monday, September 9

8:00am-5:00pm

Free Garden Admission Day.

Saturday, September 14

9:00am-12:00pm

Propagating Native Plants. Sow seed, take cuttings and prepare division of popular native plants. Fee ☎

Saturday, September 21

10:am-1:00pm

Medicinal Plants of California Herb Walk. Join experienced herbalist 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, September 21

9:00-10:00am

Salvia Pre-Sale Tour. Fee ☎

Sunday, September 22

10:00am-4:00pm

Salvia Spectacular Sale. 70 different varieties will be available to choose from. Free

LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE 91011

DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive
818-949-7980; descansogardens.org

Monday, September 2

10:00 am

Rediscover the California Garden. Walk led by Horticulturist Layla Valenzuela. Free with garden admission.

Saturdays, September 14-October 5

10:00am

Painting Nature. This series of watercolor classes is led by local artist Jay R. Ewing. Fee ☎

Saturday, September 28

11:00am-12:00pm

Fall Organic Vegetable Gardening. Free with garden admission.

LOS ANGELES 90007

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

900 Exposition Blvd.
(213) 763-3466; nhm.org

Sunday, September 8

9:30am

Nature Gardens at the Natural History Museum. This is a Mediterranean Garden Society Event. Private MGS Tour with Carol Bornstein includes museum admission. Pay at the MGS entrance table.

PALOS VERDES PENINSULA 90274

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

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

Saturday, September 14

8:00-10:00am (members only)

10:00am-4:00pm

Fall Plant Sale. Shop early for best selection. Admission to sale is free!

Saturday, September 28

10:00am-12:00pm

Creating Your Fall Edible Garden. This course is taught by Judith Gerber. Fee ☎

SAN MARINO 91108

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Rd.
626-405-2128; huntington.org

Thursday, September 12

2:30pm

Garden Talk and Plant Sale: Ledebouria and the World of Botanical Research. Cody Howard shares his knowledge of the bulb *Ledebouria* and his Namibian adventures. Free.

Saturday, September 21

9:00am-3:00pm

Botany for Gardeners. This lab-based class is led by Jim Folsom, Director of the Botanical Gardens. Fee ☎

SUN VALLEY 91352

THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

10459 Tuxford Street
(818) 768-1802; theodorepayne.org

Saturday, September 7

1:30-3:30pm

The Small Native Garden: Creating Cozy Outdoor Spaces. Learn how to create a pocket-sized oasis with instructor Steven Gerischer. Fee ☎

Saturday, September 14

9:00am-1:00pm

California Native Horticulture. The basics on gardening with California flora with instructor Lili Singer. Fee ☎

Saturday, September 14

9:00-11:30am

Native Seed Starting Workshop. Learn the ins and outs of propagating native plants from seeds with instructors Madena Asbell and Genevieve Arnold. Fee ☎

Saturday, September 21

1:30-3:30pm

Four Seasons of Color. Come learn with Lili Singer how to create a native garden showcasing seasonal flowers, seeds, fruit and foliage. Fee ☎

Saturday, September 28

9:00am-1:00pm

Native Plant Garden Maintenance Learn about all aspects of garden maintenance with instructor Antonio Sanchez. Fee ☎

Saturday, September 28

1:30-3:30pm

Gardening with California Native Bulbs. Learn which are best for different situations with instructor John Wickham. Fee ☎

The San Diego Horticultural Society

meets Monday, September 9 at 6:00pm at the Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds. Greg Richardson to speak on *The Right Plant for the Right Place.* Fee for non-members. Information: 619-296-9215, sdhort.org.

- Compiled by Bettina Gatti

Send notices to bettina0203@hotmail.com.

UPCOMING 2013 SCHS PROGRAMS

At Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles CA 90027, starting at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted.

October 10 - Native Plant Growers Panel.

November 14 - Bernard Trainor: *Landprints*.

December 12- Member Night (Details TBA)

**We are saddened to hear of the passing of nurseryman,
Joe Sperling.**



Joe

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

NEWSLETTER
September 2013

Board of Directors

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

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Laura Bauer, *Treasurer & Finance*

Joel Lichtenwalter, *Membership Secretary*

Pat Steen, *Secretary, Membership*

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Tom Carruth

Sandy Masuo, *Facebook & Field Trips & Volunteer Coordinator*
Yoav Paskowitz

Yvonne Savio, *Programs & Field Trips*

John Schoustra, *Plant Raffle & Plant Sales*

Lili Singer, *Selected Book Sales & Programs*

Jill Vig, *Pacific Horticulture Board*

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Newsletter Editor: Steven Gerischer

Contributors to this issue: Bettina Gatti, Steven Gerischer,
James E. Henrich, and all Sharing Secrets contributors.

Next deadline: Friday, September 13 (for October newsletter).
It is the Friday following our monthly membership meeting.
Please contribute an article or information of interest.