Southern California Horticultural Society

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER October 2015

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 8

Friendship Auditorium 3201 Riverside Drive Los Angeles, CA 90027

63

Socializing: 7:30 pm Meeting begins: 8:00 pm

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

No new members joined in September

We would like to thank all members who attended the HOTY Banquet for their participation and support.

C3

SHARING SECRETS

We received no responses to last month's question and would like to pose it again as it is so timely & relevant:

How are you keeping your trees alive during this extended drought?

Answer on our web site at schs.memberlodge.org or e-mail your response to:

gardensbysabine@aol.com by Friday, October 9

IN THIS ISSUE

September HOTY Recap, and SCHS Book Sales 2

Horticultural Happenings by Yvonne Savio 3

Upcoming Programs & Events, Quote of the Month, Board Members and SCHS contact information4

DESIGNERS' PLANT PICKS

Panel Discussion

Our October program features three distinguished local garden designers: Christine Rosmini, Andreas Hessing and Steven Gerischer, who will be sharing a few of their favorite plants with images and insights on how to use them in the landscape. Each panelist will describe six of their most-beloved plants and discuss their culture and possible companions. There will be plenty of time for questions.

Chris Rosmini is one of the region's most respected garden designers and plantswomen. Since the late 1960s, long before sustainability was cool, her beautiful gardens set the standard for sustainable landscape practices with the use of mediterranean-climate flora, permeable paving and recycled materials (she pioneered the reuse of broken concrete). And all of her gardens include unique and interesting plants, including fabulous flowering perennials.

Her gardens have been showcased in the L.A. Times, as well as Sunset, Pacific Horticulture, Garden Design, Horticulture and House and Garden magazines. Chris has led many garden tours and is also a former SCHS board member.

Andreas Hessing of Scrub Jay Studios (scrubjaystudios.com) has been designing purely native landscapes for over 20 years. He teaches native design courses at the Theodore Payne Foundation and was a faculty member for the National Park Service program "Your Town." He has presented workshops for the City of Ventura, Pacific Horticulture Society and Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, among others.

Andreas was born, raised and educated in Southern California as a "naturalized exotic." He received an MA in Ceramics from California State University, Fullerton and an MFA in Sculpture from the Claremont Graduate School.

An NEA/NEFA grant recipient, his installations include: The New Mastodon Bookstore near the Page Museum, Arroyo Pescadero Park in Whittier, Peppertree Park in Ventura, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, and many private residences.

Steve Gerischer is an award-winning landscape designer, teacher and current president of the Southern California Horticulture and Pacific Horticulture societies. He has been gardening locally since childhood. His botanical loves include roses and drought-tolerant plants.

roses and drought-tolerant plants.

He appeared on HGTV's 'Landscaper's Challenge,' where his design was chosen and installed, and formerly worked and lectured at Smith & Hawken in Beverly Hills, and Hortus in Pasadena.

These days, Steve divides his time between creating landscapes with his company, Larkspur Garden Design, leading tours for Pacific Horticulture, and lecturing on a wide variety of topics relating to gardening in Southern California. His enduring motto: "Get rid of the lawn." He is also an accomplished birder and a talented but shy artist.

Fall is the best planting season in Southern California! Please invite your gardening friends to this special program where we celebrate three gifted designers and the wonderful plants that we all have to work with!

& Lili Singer

IN MEMORIAM



Incredited photo reprinted from past issue of the Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden Newsletter

Elizabeth Carol Schwartz

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Elizabeth Schwartz, longtime SCHS member, who died suddenly on August 12, 2015 while hiking in Arizona.

Many of us will remember Elizabeth fondly as a professor, a colleague and a friend. She obtained her J.D. from USC and practiced law in L.A. for 15 years, but upon retirement, her love of gardening led her to a new career path as a Certified Horticulturist.

Elizabeth served as Executive Director at the Theodore Payne Foundation, as Board President of the SCHS, and on the advisory board of the Mediterranean Garden Society. She taught a course on California native plants at UCLA Extension, lectured and wrote articles on native plants, and also became certified and practiced as a Holistic Health Coach.

She and her husband, Benjamin Zuckerman, astrophysicist and environmentalist, traveled worldwide and enjoyed hiking the canyons and deserts of the Southwest.

Contributions in her memory can be made to the California Native Plant Society, 2707 K St, Suite 1, Sacramento CA 95816, www.cnps.org.

SEPTEMBER MEETING RECAP: ANNUAL BANQUET & HOTY AWARD

The September meeting of the Southern California Horticultural Society was the annual awards banquet celebrating our Horticulturist of the Year. We gathered at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden on September 10 to honor Kathy Musial, whom many said was long overdue as a recipient. While socializing before dinner, SCHS members, guests and friends braved the heat to bid on silent auction items displayed on the outside patio and then shared a wonderful meal in the airconditioned comfort of the Peacock Café. The staff prepared a very tasty dinner (and at Kathy's request) a chocolate dessert. Her love of chocolate (and desserts) was to be one of the recurring themes of the evening.

After dinner and the close of the silent auction, everyone headed down to the Palm Room to hear some of Kathy's friends and colleagues speak about what is was like working and traveling with her over the course of many years.

The first speaker was Jim Folsom, Kathy's "boss" at the Huntington Library and Gardens, who immediately joked that the idea of Kathy having a boss was preposterous. His comments about her natural inclination to be in charge led to a wistful musing of "What if Walt Disney were telling this story?", and his imagining Kathy as a princess from the San Fernando Valley. This notion of the event being a pseudo-coronation set the tone for the evening; less talk of horticulture and more of a gentle roast at the expense of our honoree. Anyone who has worked with Kathy Musial knows she is a forceful personality and that the awards presentation would take a backseat to personal reminiscences.

Our next speaker was James E. (Jim) Henrich, Curator of Living Collections at the Arboretum. He carried on with the Kathy-as-princess theme, speaking on her strong opinions about food, color (in and out of the garden) and their shared love of chocolate. Jim shared details about Kathy's love of all things Australian, and some of her shopping habits, both locally and abroad.

Kitty Connolly, Executive Director of the Theodore Payne Foundation, was up next, and she reflected on how and when she first met Kathy, as well as the 15 years they spent as colleagues at the Huntington. She actually chose to speak about Kathy's incredible plant knowledge and the wellearned admiration and respect that the horticultural community has for her.

Kitty was followed by Bart O'Brien, Director of the East Bay Regional Park/ Tilden Gardens, who was one of two speakers that came from Northern California specifically for this event. He had a very wry take on all things "Kathy" - from her travel habits (knowing where to shop for the most interesting stuff, etc.) to her firm sense of color, ("I don't do pink".) He also marveled at Kathy's wide ranging plant knowledge as well as her incredibly accurate memory of which books were housed in the library at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden (Bart's former place of work.)

The last speaker of the evening was Richard Turner, Editor Emeritus of Pacific Horticulture magazine, who also travelled from up north to present a Power Point slide show on the "Top 10 Things to Know When Traveling with Kathy" - from her preferences for not-so-early start times, to her unerring sense of direction and well planned use of packing space (i.e.: all of the snacks she brings along are consumed to make room for her shopping finds.) The audience, and princess Kathy, were amused by Richard's personal insights.

Afterward, it time to award the HOTY plaque to Kathy Musial and give her an opportunity to speak. In her own words, she reinforced all of what had come before - making light of her defining character traits, and then taking us on a thoughtful yet succinct journey reflecting on the people and places that had inspired and guided her. It was a touching talk and slide show, particularly for long time SCHS members, seeing some very old pictures of other distinguished members (many no longer with us), and hearing how they had helped her form a passionate career and a life-long love of travel. Kathy concluded her presentation with a visual travelogue set to music showing beautiful images of the many far flung places she has traveled to in search of remarkable plants (and chocolate, and great shopping opportunities...) This was just another reminder of how much she has contributed to the world of horticulture all over the planet, and that it was about time she was given this award.

Finally, we cannot finish this recap without thanking everyone at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden who helped us bring this evening together, especially Nicole at the Peacock Café, and Jim Henrich for the predominantly Australian flower arrangements, which he pulled together from the heat stressed grounds of the Arboretum with only last-minute notice.

Thanks also to all of the SCHS board who helped put this evening together and

made it run smoothly (particularly to Laura Bauer, who never gets to hear the presentation while she's tallying the silent auction results.) And a special thank you to all who contributed to the silent auction, especially Joan Citron for providing the bulk of the materials (including that gong!)

Much appreciation to everyone -

Steven Gerischer with Sabine Steinmetz

LAST CHANCE (Almost) FOR SCHS PUBLICATIONS

Great Holiday Gift Idea!

We will be discontinuing the sale of our three SCHS publications at the end of December. If you would like a copy for your library, you can purchase them with a downloadable mail-order form through our website (see the Publications page) or contact Joan Citron directly at: jobie.garden@yahoo.com



Selected Plants for Southern California Gardens

Editor: Joan Citron Illustrator: Leslie Walker Aka "The Opus", this brings together collected wisdom of SCHS members from Plant Forums and personal

observations covering 50 years. An encyclopedia of over 2700 native and exotic plants grown in Southern California. A very useful reference! (Published in 2000; 416 pages) Members price: \$25.00 (Regular: \$34.95) + CA Sales Tax

Reference Lists of Ornamental Plants for So. California Gardens

By: Philip E. Chandler Editor: Kathy Musial Can't think of what to plant in that shady location with sandy soil? This collection of reference lists is great for the



landscape designer as well as the backyard gardener. (Published in 1993, 1998; 330 pages) Members price: \$15.95 (Regular: \$19.95) + CA Sales Tax



Outdoor Growing Orchids for the Greater L.A. Area

Editor: Joan Citron
Illustrator: Leslie Walker
This booklet gives basic
information on size, culture,
blooms and fragrance for
over 250 orchids that will do
well in Southern California.

(Published in 1997, 2003; 28 pages) Members price: \$5.00 (Regular: \$6.00) + CA Sales Tax

HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

Please contact location(s) to confirm listed events, and for a full schedule.

Events are free with admission unless otherwise indicated.

ALTA LOMA 91701 Beverly's Garden - Maloof Fdtn. 5131 Carnelian St., Alta Loma 91701

(for directions, use Rancho Cucamonga for GPS)

909.980.0412 malooffoundation.org

Saturday, 10/17, 8:30-11:30am. Gardeners of all experience levels are invited to assist with planting and pruning to take advantage of hands-on learning opportunities at the Foundation's water-wise Discovery Garden. Volunteers are encouraged to bring tools such as clippers, trowels, loppers, and/or shovels. For info, call or email info@malooffoundation.org.

 ω

ARCADIA 91007

Los Angeles County Arboretum 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007 **626.821.4623** arboretum.org

Thursday Garden Talks, 9:30am-Noon, Palm Room 10/8 - People Waste Water...Not Plants!!! with Dennis Pittenger. Practical ideas and advice from University of California environmental horticulturist and editor of the new California Master Gardener Handbook, 2nd Edition. Book signing follows.

10/15 - How to Attract Wild Birds into your Garden with Scott Logan of Wild Wings Backyard Nature Store. Birds add beauty, color and song to our yards as well as provide some of the best organic pest control. Learn how to attract a variety to your personal space. 10/22 - Field Trip to Winnetka Farms (Runs til 12:30) Visit a suburban, sustainable organic farm in the west San Fernando Valley with animals, fruit trees and heirloom edibles! Pre-registration required to receive address.

10/29 - Water Harvesting in Dry Times with Marilee Kuhlmann. Discover time-tested and new solutions for harvesting rain, plus current legal uses for collected water, from an acclaimed local garden designer.

\$20 per class (includes Arboretum admission). Call to register, or pay at the class.

(Except Field Trip, which requires advance registration.)

Friday & Saturday, 10/16 & 17, 9am-4:30pm **Plant Sale!** Beautiful Fall selections for water wise gardens!

63

LA CANADA/FLINTRIDGE 91011

Descanso Gardens

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011 818.949.7980 descansogardens.org

Thursday, 10/8, 8am-4pm. Mt. San Antonio College **Plant Sale.** Students from MSAC horticulture program will be selling a variety of potted plants for your home garden. Free with admission.

Saturday & Sunday, 10/17&18, 9am-5pm. Autumn Festival. Activities free to members unless noted, including: costume parade, harvest barbecue, autumn crafts for kids. Saturday only, 12-2pm, jack o'lantern carving demo - learn how to carve like an expert from professional Rise of the Jack O'Lanterns carver!

(3)

SAN MARINO 91108 Huntington Botanical Gardens 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108 626.405.2100 huntington.org

Friday, 10/23 Noon-4:30 pm **Fall Plant Sale!** Saturday, 10/24 & Sunday, 10/25 10:30am-4:30pm

Fall is prime time for planting California natives, and home gardeners will find a wide selection of them... Expand your options with water-wise Australian plants, and don't miss the great selection of herbs, bulbs, trees, shrubs, cacti, succulents, and more. General admission. Plant Sale Nursery.

Saturday, 10/24, 10:30am-1pm. Ranch Open House. Self-tour the Huntington Ranch site and take home some fresh ideas for sustainable gardening. General admission. (Cancelled in the event of rain.)

Sunday, 10/25, 2pm. The Whole Garden: The Hidden World Above and Below Ground. "Good gardens begin with good soil" is a truism among gardeners. Mycologist Florence Nishida explores how fungi in particular play unique roles in building soil, providing nutrients, and gathering, storing, and distributing water to plants. General admission. Brody Botanical Center.

63

CLAREMONT 91711 Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden 1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711 **909.625.8767** rsabg.org

Monday, 10/12, 8am-4pm. Free admission for seniors 65+ and veterans (ID required).

Saturday, 10/17, 1-4pm. New to gardening with California native plants? Antonio Sanchez will explain ins and outs of watering, pruning, mulching, fertilizing, and more. \$36 members, \$45 non-members. Link to register: https://11213.blackbaudhosting.com/11213/Introduction-to-Gardening-with-Native-Plants

63

SUN VALLEY 91352 Theodore Payne Foundation 10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352 818.768.1802 theodorepayne.org

Friday & Saturday 10/9 & 10, 8:30am-4:30pm

Members' Fall Plant Sale! 15% off plants, seeds & bulbs Friday & Saturday 10/16 & 17, 8:30am-4:30pm **Public Fall Plant Sale!** Discounts on plants, seeds & bulbs: Members get 15% off / Non-members 10% Saturday, 10/24, 1-3:30pm. Four Seasons of Color with California Natives with Llli Singer. Your native plant garden can be a seasonal showcase of flowers, seed, fruit and foliage. This program covers trees, shrubs, vines, perennials and grasses that ensure year-round color. \$25 members, \$35 non-members.

Saturday, October 30, 8:30am-12:30pm. California Native Plant Horticulture with Lili Singer. Basics of California flora: value of natives, plant communities, planting techniques, irrigation, pruning and maintenance. Recommended for beginners; prerequisite to 3-Part California Native Plant Garden Design course. \$45 members, \$55 non-members.

Saturday, 10/31, 9-10:30am. Beyond the Barrel: Practical Rainwater Harvesting with Andreas Hessing. This class offers sound advice on harvesting and using rainwater, including reservoir types, system requirements and how much you're likely to catch, with helpful suggestions on what to water and why. \$25 members, \$35 non-members.

63

ENCINO 90274 California Native Plant Society L.A. & Santa Monica Mtns. Chapter 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino 90274 818.782.9346 lacnps.org

Saturday & Sunday 10/24 & 25, 10am - 3pm Fall Plant Sale! Members get in at 9:30 on Saturday only, receive 10% off plants and books both days. FREE Native Plant Gardening talks on both days at Noon: featuring Orchid Black on Saturday and Lisa Novick on Sunday.

63

PALOS VERDES 91436 South Coast Botanic Garden 26300 Crenshaw, PV Peninsula 90274 310.544.1948 southcoastbotanicgarden.org

Saturday, 10/17, 9am-Noon, Classroom A Navigating our California Drought Workshop – California-Friendly Landscape Training. Basic design, an overview of California-friendly plants, Efficiency Irrigation Systems, soils, fertilizers and watering practices. Pre-registration required only by calling. (Not available online).

Thursdays, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12 (series), 3-5pm, Classroom B - Planting and Managing Your California Native Garden. This class will lead you from planning to site preparation, installation and planting, maintenance, watering schedules, weed and pest control. Sessions focus on topics of interest to participants. Bring pictures of your gardens to first class along with questions. For details, go to http://mother-natures-backyard.blogspot.com. Pre-registration required. \$85 members, \$100 non-members.

CR Yvonne Savio

4

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

Oct. 8 - Panel Discussion on Landscape Design

Nov. 12 - Plant Breeding talk with John Schoustra

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

Q Jan. 14 - TBA

GARDENING QUOTE OF THE MONTH

OCTOBER

"The greatest service which can be rendered to any country is to add a useful plant to its culture."

- Thomas Jefferson

Steven Gerischer, President, Pacific Horticulture Board
Laura Bauer, Treasurer & Finance
Pat Steen, Secretary, Membership
Carol Bornstein, Programs
Yoav Paskowitz, Finance
Yvonne Savio, Horticultural Happenings
John Schoustra, Plant Raffle & Plant Sales
Lili Singer, Selected Book Sales & Programs

Jill Vig, Pacific Horticulture Board Rachel Young, Finance

Sabine Steinmetz, Newsletter
Steven Ormenyi, Coffee in the Garden
Marilee Kuhlmann, Programs

818-567-1496 / socalhort.org / Join us on Facebook

Newsletter Editor: Sabine Steinmetz

Contributors to this issue: Laura Bauer, Steven Gerischer, Sandy Masuo & Yvonne Savio

Next deadline: Friday, October 9 (for Nov. newsletter) Please contribute an article or information of interest.



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

NEWSLETTER October 2015