



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

October 2016

## OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 13

Friendship Auditorium  
3201 Riverside Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90027



Socializing: 7:00 pm

Meeting begins: 7:30 pm

## SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

*There were no new members joining in September.*

*We did however celebrate as a group at our Annual Banquet... something all members can enjoy!*

[www.socalhort.org](http://www.socalhort.org)



## SHARING SECRETS

The SCHS Sharing Secrets question for October is:

*What is your favorite botanical sign that Autumn has finally arrived?*

Answer on our website at [socalhort.org](http://socalhort.org) or e-mail your response to: [gardensbysabine@aol.com](mailto:gardensbysabine@aol.com) by Friday, October 14

## IN THIS ISSUE

October Program and Sharing Secrets . . . . .	1
HOTY Banquet Recap . . . . .	2
Horticultural Happenings . . . 2 & 3	
Upcoming Programs and SCHS Contact info. . . . .	4

## DESIGNER'S PANEL: Landscapers Talk About Favorite Native Plants

Our program for October features a panel of three talented designers who specialize in creating regionally appropriate, site-sensitive and resource-conserving gardens. Although each landscaper draws on his or her varied background and experience for design inspiration, all of them will be focusing on the diverse palette of colorful, fragrant, wildlife-attracting California native plants available to local gardeners.

Carlos Flores, a graduate of Cal Poly Pomona, is a Los Angeles-based landscape architect and residential garden designer. He is also currently teaching courses at the Theodore Payne Foundation and serving as Assistant Liaison to Students at ASLA Southern California.

Amy Nettleton is a landscape architect based in South Pasadena, whose work ranges from public to commercial and private gardens. She holds a Master's degree from Cornell University in landscape architecture and established her firm, Elemental Landscapes, over 20 years ago. Visit: [elemental-landscapes.com](http://elemental-landscapes.com) to see examples of her varied designs.

Andreas Hessing is an Altadena-based landscape designer and contractor, as well as an artist with

an MA in Ceramics from Cal State Fullerton and an MFA in Sculpture from the Claremont Graduate School. He has been working locally since 1991, and often incorporates sculpture into his garden designs, including in his home garden, which has been featured on numerous native garden tours. His projects can be seen at: [scrubjaystudios.com](http://scrubjaystudios.com).

Each panelist will present a handful of their favorite native plants and show how they may be used in garden situations. Time is allotted for audience questions afterward.



A small raffle featuring native plants and seed donated by the National Park Service and the Theodore Payne Foundation will follow the presentation.

Please join us for this timely program that is sure to inspire local gardeners just as they're getting into the prime planting season for California native plants.



## SHARING SECRETS RESPONSES

*Current Board Member and monthly Hort Happenings contributor, Yvonne Savio, sent this in answer to last month's question:*

*What pests are you dealing with at summer's end? How are you coping?*

When I returned to my family home in 1994 and took over the garden, squirrels were a huge problem - especially when I discovered one neighbor was putting out nuts to attract them! I tried everything on the market, until finally, after many touted solutions had failed, I used bird netting.

For a couple of years when the trees were small, I tried to cover each entire tree with one net. It was awkward netting a whole tree without it snagging on individual branches, and left many openings for critters to sneak in. Removing the netting from early ripening to final harvest was a problem because branches and foliage had grown through. Ripping was the only way to get it off in bits and pieces, leaving some large sections with no holes. This ended up being an inspired boon to my next approach.

By this time, my pruning had resulted in distinct branching groups on each tree, which matched perfectly with the larger pieces of netting to corral the fruit and be anchored with twist-ties double-looped at the bases of the branches that the squirrels couldn't simply unravel. For access to the fruit for harvest, I chose a section on the downside of a group of branches - literally in mid-air - and ripped a hole barely large enough for my fist grasping one fruit. I figured this harvest-hole placement wouldn't allow access by squirrels from a nearby branch because their weight would drag them away from the hole. It worked!

I've been using this method for three years now, and relishing every single fig, peach, nectarine and persimmon, since I get to choose precisely when to harvest each and every one. Yay and Yum!

In September, the SCHS held its annual Horticulturist of the Year banquet at the Los Angeles Arboretum. This year's honoree was Carol Bornstein, chosen for her many years of dedicated work as a horticulturist, garden designer and award-winning author in educating the public about sustainable landscaping. The evening was memorable not only for the award presentation, but also for the dinner and silent auction which preceded the HOTY ceremony.

Early arrivals were able to socialize in a relaxed atmosphere and preview the large variety of items members graciously donated for the silent auction. The temperate weather, cocktail bar and lovely setting of the Arboretum's Peacock Café, may have contributed to the competitive bidding on some choice items, but ultimately, it was the generosity of the guests that resulted in a very successful auction. While the auction tables were still open, guests were treated to a very enjoyable dinner and dessert prepared by the Peacock Café staff, promoting many to return for "seconds" (or more). As the auction and meal drew to a close, everyone was directed to the Palm Room for the HOTY award presentation.

SCHS President Steve Gerischer began the ceremony, by giving a brief summary of Carol Bronstein's career highlights, including his memorable rhyming of the honoree's last name with "beer stein." He then introduced Randy Baldwin, of San Marcos Growers, as the first of the evening's speakers to share their experiences with Carol during her horticultural journey.

Randy reflected on their shared history beginning in 1981, when he began working at San Marcos and she at Santa Barbara Botanic Garden (SBBG). Early on, they learned much about California's native plants from SBBG's renowned horticulturist Dara Emery, and eventually their joint efforts led to a number of plant introductions over the years, including the new *Encelia californica* 'Paleo Yellow' which Carol will introduce through San Marcos in 2017.

The next speaker to talk about his experiences with Carol, was Bart O'Brien, current director of Tilden Regional Park in Northern California, and Carol's co-author, (along with David Fross), of both *California Native Plants for the Garden* and *Reimagining the California Lawn*, who has known Carol for over 25 years. Bart recalled how she was his first speaker when he was Director of Special Projects at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. In addition to their book collaborations, Bart also spoke about shared travels and Carol's talents as a garden designer.

Once Bart finished speaking, Steve Gerischer presented Carol with her award plaque and turned the floor over to the honoree. She reminisced about her many friends and experiences in the world of horticulture, beginning with her early experiences at SBBG, where she spent 28 years, eventually serving as Director of Horticulture.



Photo credit: Yoav Paskowitz

Carol's first position at SBBG was as a plant propagator under then-director Ralph Philbrick, who was also in attendance, as well as learning under the late Dara Emery. She then shared anecdotes and slides about some of her plant introductions, including her first, *Lessingia* 'Silver Carpet', which she found growing on the cliffs at Big Sur. Other California native plant introductions that Carol shared were: *Ceanothus* 'Pt. Sal', *Verbena lilacina* 'De La Mina', and her personal favorite *Eriophyllum* 'Canyon Silver', which she said is doing well at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, where she is currently serving as Director of the Nature Gardens. Carol also thanked Karen Weiss for encouraging her to come to Los Angeles, where she now has the opportunity to continue fulfilling her mission of "helping urbanites learn about living with nature, and heightening awareness through the gardens."

After the award presentation, auction-winning guests collected their purchases from SCHS Board members Laura Bauer, Lili Singer and Carol Aaronson, bringing this year's banquet festivities to an end.

Additionally, we would like to express our appreciation to the entire SCHS board for their help in planning the evening, for setting up and cleaning up, and to all of the SCHS members who contributed (and bid on) silent auction items. Special thanks to the LA County Natural History Museum, Potted, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and San Marcos Growers for the auction items they generously donated. And finally, we are very grateful to the Arboretum, and for the assistance provided during the evening, especially by Nicole's crew at the Peacock Café, who stayed latest of all and still kept on smiling. Thanks everyone!

☞ Sabine Steinmetz

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

Events are free with admission unless otherwise indicated.

Locations are listed by Zip Code.

**NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF L.A.**  
900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles 90007  
**213.763.3466** [nhm.org](http://nhm.org)

Sundays, 10/16 & 10/23, 12noon-4pm. Grow Your Own Vegetables! Create an edible garden for fresh, organic produce by learning what, how, and when to plant; how often to add compost and water; how to manage pests, increase yield and add variety. Cost for 3 class series: \$100 members, \$120 non-members.



**SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN**  
26300 Crenshaw, PV Peninsula 90274  
**310.544.1948** [southcoastbotanicgarden.org](http://southcoastbotanicgarden.org)

Fridays, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21 (also 11/4), 2-4pm. Grow Series with UC Master Gardeners. 10/7: Irrigation for a Changing Climate. 10/14: Soil Remediation for Urban Landscapes. 10/21: Intro to Integrated Pest Management. Cost per class: \$12 members, \$15 non-members. Registration required at: <http://southcoastbotanicgarden.org/event/new-grow-series/2016-09-23/> or by calling Guest Services.

Saturday & Sunday, 10/8 & 10/9, 9am-2pm, Cornish Courtyard. Fall Plant Sale, including unusual plants not generally offered for sale. Discounted horticultural books will also be available. 10% discount on plants for members. No registration required.

Saturday, 10/15, 1-4pm. Garden Lecture Series: California Native Plants: The Big Picture with Lisa Novick. An illustrated lecture on the importance of California native plants for conserving water and energy, supporting biodiversity, ecosystems and our natural heritage. Lisa is Theodore Payne Foundation's Director of Outreach and K-12 Education.



**EL DORADO NATURE CENTER**  
7550 E. Spring St., Long Beach 90815  
**562-570-1745**

Saturday, 10/8, 9:30am-2pm. Friends of El Dorado Nature Center Native Plant Sale. Drought-tolerant plants, plus unusual succulents from around the globe will be for sale. All proceeds support the Nature Center's habitat enhancement programs. Parking fee waived for plant sale customers. For more info, contact Donnie Haigh at 562-570-1750.



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM**  
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007  
**626.821.4623** [arboretum.org](http://arboretum.org)

Saturday, 10/8, 10am -12noon. Landscaping With Rare Fruits. Instructor Rosalind Creasy, landscape designer and member of California Rare Fruit Growers, will present numerous ways these trees and shrubs can enhance your landscape. She will also cover culinary uses of fruits like loquats, heirloom apples, pink pomegranates and jujubes. \$25 members / \$35 non-members. Call to register, or pay at class.

Cont'd on Page 3



*Continued from Page 2*

## L.A. COUNTY ARBORETUM (cont'd.)

Saturday, 10/8, 10:30-11:30 am. How did the California landscape affect the life and work of M.F.K. Fisher (1908-1992), the great prose stylist most widely recognized as a food writer? She lived in many California locales, and writer Paula Panich will discuss the author's Hemet years (1940-1942), her home there and other California landscapes reflected in Fisher's writings. This talk commemorates the publication by the Los Angeles Review of an extended essay by Panich on Fisher, California, and pawing through M.F.K.'s buried trash midden on a ridge overlooking Hemet. \$15 members; \$25 non-members

Saturday, 10/15, 9am-5pm. Hipster Horticulture: Botany Boot Camp with Frank McDonough. This one-day immersive training camp teaches skills for identifying the 10 most important plant families at the Arboretum, resulting in a better understanding of plants that inhabit our landscapes. \$60 members / \$70 non-members. Call 626.821.4623 to register or pay at the class.

Saturday, 10/15, 2-3pm. What should I plant? A slideshow introduction to California native plants with Barbara Eisenstein, just in time for upcoming native plant sales and fall planting! \$15 members, \$20 non-members.

Saturday, 10/22, 10am-12noon. Hipster Horticulture: Low Carbon Footprint Trees with Frank McDonough. Learn what trees can you plant here that require little if any additional water and fertilizer in order to establish and grow, and fit into our low-water paradigm. \$25 members / \$35 non-members Call 626.821.4623 to register, or pay at the class.

Saturday, 10/22, 10am. CRESCENT FARM SERIES: Composting. Instructors-Crescent Farm Staff. Reduce your water bill by using compost in your garden. Discover simple ways to correctly make compost in your own home and how it can improve your soil's water holding capacity.



## DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011  
818.949.7980 descansogardens.org

Saturday & Sunday, 10/15&16, 9am-5pm. Japanese Garden Festival. Many activities, including 10am Sunday only Japanese Garden Walk with Dr. Kendall Brown, professor of Asian art history and author of *Quiet Beauty: The Japanese Gardens of North America*.



HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS  
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108  
626.405.2100 huntington.org

Thursday, 10/13, 2:30pm, Ahmanson Room, Brody Botanical Center. Garden Talk & Sale: Chilean Plants. Paul Mills, assistant curator of the collections at Ganna Walska Lotusland in Santa Barbara, will discuss Chilean plants suitable for Southern California's climate. Plant sale follows.

Friday-Sunday, 10/21, 12noon-4:30pm & 10/22 & 23, 10:30am-4:30pm, Brody Botanical Center. Int'l. Orchid Show and Sale, celebrating over 22,000 species in 880 genera in the orchid family. Hundreds of exotic blooms compete for honors, and experts will talk on care and culture, while vendors will offer plants and related merchandise for sale.

Friday-Sunday, 10/28, 12noon-4:30pm & 10/29 & 30, 10:30am-4:30pm, Plant Sale Nursery. Fall Plant Sale. Home gardeners will find a wide selection of California native plants as well as water-wise Australian plants, as well as herbs, bulbs, grasses, shrubs, cacti, succulents, and more.



THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION  
10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352  
818.768.1802 theodorepayne.org

Saturday, 10/8, 10am-noon. Look, Ma, No Lawn! with Steve Gerischer. We'll explain how to take out your lawn and offer low-care native alternatives that need no fertilizer and use a fraction of the water required for turf. \$25 members, \$35 non-members.

Saturday, 10/8, 2-3pm. Sustainable Slopes with Joshua Link. Fundamentals of gardening on uneven ground using native plants and light-on-the-land construction methods for stabilization and erosion control. Josh is a landscape architect, urban designer, graphic artist, writer and founding principal of Ecotone Studios, www.ecotonestudios.com. \$15 members, \$20 non-members.

Saturday, 10/22, 9-11:30am. Four Seasons of Color with California Natives with Lili Singer. Make your native garden a seasonal showcase of flowers, seed, fruit and foliage, using trees, shrubs, perennials and grasses for year-round interest. \$25 members, \$35 non-members.

Saturday, 10/22, 1:30-3:30pm. Prickly Pear Party with Kat High. Learn how to grow our native *Opuntia* - including nopales (the pads) and tunas (the fruit). Lecture, demo, hands-on workshop and edible experience! \$15 TPF members, \$20 non-members.

Saturday, 10/22, 1:30-3:30pm. Wild by Nature: Sowing Seeds for Spring Wildflowers with Genevieve Arnold. Fall is the time for sowing wildflower seed in Southern California gardens. These annuals perform well in many garden spaces, and this class offers tips on soil prep and sowing techniques. \$20 TPF members, \$30 non-members.

Thursday, Friday & Saturday 10/27, 10/28 & 10/29, 8:30am-4:30pm. Fall Plant Sale. Biggest sale of the year - with discounts on all three days - 15% off plants, seed and TPF wear for members; 10% off after 11am for non-members. Not yet a member? Join at the door!



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS)  
L.A. / Sta Monica Mtns Chapter / Sepulveda Garden Ctr  
16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino 91436  
818-782-9346 www.lacnps.org

Saturday-Sunday, 10/22-23, 10am-3pm. California Native Plant Sale along with gardening/natural history books. Native plant gardening lectures at noon each day.



RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN  
1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711  
909.625.8767 rsabg.org

Saturday, 10/15, 10am-12:30pm. Intro. to Horticulture. Learn how to start gardening with native plants including: proper care, mulching, pruning, watering and more. \$30 members, \$35 non-members. Space is limited. Register at: <http://rsabg.org/community-education/>



SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN  
230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024  
760-436-3036 sdbgarden.org

Saturday-Monday, 10/15 & 16, 10am-4pm main sale, 10/17 9am-1pm - remaining plants ½ price. 34th Annual Fall Plant Sale. Select from drought-tolerant plants, California natives, fruit trees, bromeliads, succulents, houseplants and more, donated by 100+ local growers, wholesalers, nurseries and individuals. Garden-related items, used books, and home-baked goods also for sale. Free with paid admission or membership.

Saturday-Sunday, 10/22, 9am-5pm, 10/23, 10am-3pm. Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale, sponsored by the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society. Plants and pottery will be available for purchase. Free with paid admission or membership.



UC RIVERSIDE BOTANICAL GARDEN  
900 University Ave., Riverside 92521  
951-784-6962 gardens.ucr.edu

Saturday-Sunday, 10/22, 11am-4pm & 10/23, 9am-3pm. 34th Annual Friends of UCR Botanic Gardens Fall Plant Sale! Nearly 10,000 plants and over 500 varieties of California native and regionally appropriate plants offered. A Plant Sale List will be available the week before the sale, showing the number of plants we expect to have available of each type. UC. Master Gardeners, expert Gardens Staff, and Volunteers will be available to answer your questions.



DESERT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY  
OF COACHELLA VALLEY

75080 Frank Sinatra Dr., Palm Desert 92211  
760-902-0797 deserthorticulturalsociety.org

Saturday, 10/15, 8:30am-1pm. 11th Annual Desert Garden Community Day. Learn how to create and maintain a lush, low-water garden. Classes and demos, plus exhibits from local businesses, water agencies and garden clubs. Sunset garden editor Johanna Silver will discuss her new book, *The Bold Dry Garden: Lessons from the Ruth Bancroft Garden*.






FULLERTON ARBORETUM  
1900 Associated Rd., Fullerton 92831  
657-278-3407 fullertonarboretum.org

Saturday, 10/15, 10-11:30am. Composting II: Improving Your Skills. Learn how to speed up the process of turning yard clippings and food scraps into soil by using advanced techniques. Suitable for composting beginners.

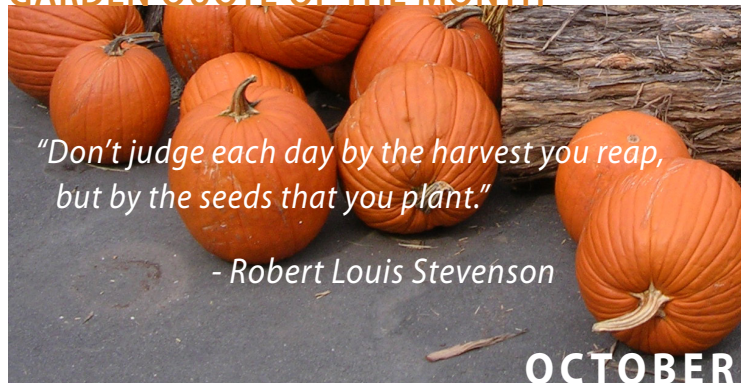
Saturday, 10/22, 10am. Rose Gardening with Steve Gerischer. Learn how to use less water with your roses as well as organic techniques to take care of your plants.

Saturday, 10/22, 10am. Designing Native-Plant Gardens. Steve Gerischer teaches how to match native plants that will bloom in succession.

Meetings regularly held at Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles CA 90027, unless otherwise noted.

-  October 13 - Landscape Designers Panel: Favorite Native Plants  
Andreas Hessing, Carlos Flores & Amy Nettleton
-  November 10 - Sasha Duerr, author of "Natural Color"  
and "The Handbook of Natural Plant Dyes"
-  December 8 - **Holiday Party** featuring: Madagascar slide show  
presented by Steve Gerischer & Kathy Musial,  
members' Cookie Raffle,

**GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH**



- Steven Gerischer - *President, Pacific Horticulture Board, PR*
- Laura Bauer - *Treasurer & Finance, Web Liaison*
- Pat Steen - *Secretary, Membership, Internship Coordinator*
- Carol Bornstein - *Program Committee*
- Yoav Paskowitz - *Finance*
- Yvonne Savio - *Hort Happenings, Coffee in the Garden, PR*
- John Schoustra - *VP, Finance, Field Trips, Plant Raffle & Sales*
- Lili Singer - *Nomination & Program Committees, Archives*
- Jill Vig - *Pacific Horticulture Board, Special Projects*
- Sabine Steinmetz - *Newsletter*
- Steven Ormenyi - *Finance, Coffee in the Garden*
- Marilee Kuhlmann, *Program Committee*
- Carol Aronson, *Hospitality*
- Aprille Curtis
- Steve Singer, *Hospitality*

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 Newsletter Editor: Sabine Steinmetz

Contributors to this issue: Yvonne Savio

**Next deadline: Friday, October 14** (for November newsletter)  
 Please contribute an article or information of interest.



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

**NEWSLETTER October 2016**