



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

August 2017

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, August 10

Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90027



Socializing: 7:00 pm

Meeting begins: 7:30 pm

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

*Please say "hello" to our
newest member:*

Teresa O'Rourke-Shapiro

*Use your Member's Guest
Pass and invite a friend
to check out a meeting...*

www.socalhort.org

SHARING SECRETS

*Thank you for your feedback
re: continuing Sharing Secrets -
this month's question:*

**What plant do you *love* or
hate more than any other?**

Reply online at socalhort.org
or e-mail to:
gardensbysabine@aol.com

Respond by Monday, August 14

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CELEBRATING SEED SEASON!

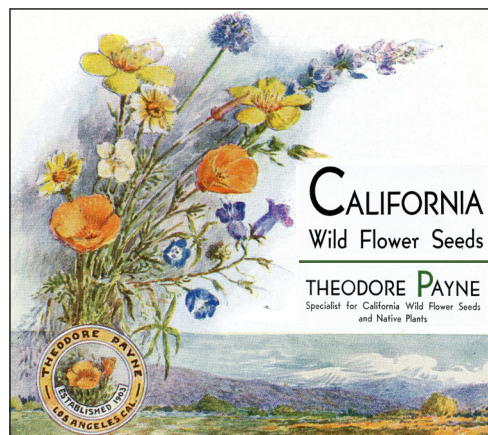
HARVESTING AND PROCESSING SEED FROM THE NATIVE GARDEN

What time of year does my plant set seed? How will I know when it is ripe? Is there a technique to collecting the seed? How long will it last in storage? These questions and more will be answered during our August presentation by speaker Genevieve Arnold, Seed Program Manager at the Theodore Payne Foundation for Native Plants. She will guide us through the rewarding experience of gathering, cleaning and saving seed from our native plant gardens.

In addition to her experiences at Theodore Payne, Genevieve has personally been working with California native seeds for more than a decade. She enjoys studying native plants in their habitats in our local natural areas, and appreciates the unique beauty of the native garden in all its phases - including the intricate and fascinating stages of fruit and seed development! In addition to explaining the proper methods for harvesting and processing seeds,

Genevieve will have hand-outs for the audience and share examples of fruit, seed and seed-processing tools. She will also be available for a question and answer session after her presentation.

Please join us as we welcome Genevieve at our August meeting!



New-found knowledge gleaned from this presentation could inspire previously hesitant novice seed-sowers (and expert gardeners) to try their hand at "growing from seed." Just ahead of fall planting season and to get everyone off to a good start - a tempting selection of native annual wild flower seeds from the Theodore Payne Foundation will be offered for sale after the talk.

HOTY BANQUET

TICKETS AVAILABLE On-Line or By Mail

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

at the L.A. Arboretum

honoring Randy Baldwin

Reservation Form enclosed

CALL FOR SILENT AUCTION

Time to mark your calendars for our annual SCHS Horticulturist of the Year Award Banquet! This year's honoree will be respected plantsman and president of San Marcos Nursery, Randy Baldwin.

The auction is a major fund-raiser for the SCHS, as well as a great opportunity for members to donate garden-related items they are ready to part with so that banquet guests can bid on these treasures! It's a popular event and we are always excited to see what variety of items come up for auction... Bring donations to the August meeting, or contact Steve Gerischer at sglarkspur@aol.com or (323) 257-3629, to coordinate a pick-up. If given advance notice, he can prepare a bid card for anything you wish to drop off the evening of the event. Thank you for participating!

 **Steve Gerischer**

PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME: Silent Auction bidding will close at 7:00, BEFORE dinner begins.

Interest in urban farming has grown tremendously in recent years, and our July speaker, Lara Hermanson, of Farmscape, shared her experiences as a successful entrepreneur in the field, with examples from home gardens to major residential developments, restaurants, and corporate campuses. Currently the largest urban farming company in America, Farmscape is run by



Photo courtesy of speaker.

Hermanson and three other principals, with their mission being to connect city dwellers with fresh, organic produce through a network of urban farms, while creating economically viable opportunities for the new generation of farmers. With offices in Oakland and Los Angeles, they presently employ 35 full-time staffers and manage over 700 urban farms, with plans for expansion into San Jose and Sacramento.

Hermanson provided a brief overview of Farmscape's business model consisting of design consultation, site selection, crop guides and farm business plans. She then moved on to talk about their services, which include hands-on soil management, irrigation installation, planting, harvesting and on-going maintenance. Farmscape

installs custom-designed, raised-bed vegetable gardens with their own tested organic soil blend and drip irrigation, tailored to meet the needs of each client's site, whether large or small. This segued into Hermanson's slide presentation of various installations with their challenges and solutions, including the following.

"The Farm" at L.A.'s Jonathan Club

Installed in 2011 in tubs laid out on the club's rooftop, early challenges included having to hand-pollinate vegetables until insects found their way to the garden, as well as convincing members that the produce was safe to eat. In 2017, the gardens are attracting natural pollinators and the restaurant downstairs marks their daily menu with selections that are "home grown" on site.

Swagelok industrial park in Fremont

Using the grounds surrounding all four sides of the industrial park, food grown on-site is made available at a weekly "Farmer's Market" to employees of the park. Typical of larger Farmscape installations, this project also includes a year-round orchard that yields a variety of crops monthly. Hermanson also noted that the business across the street liked the project enough to "mirror" it on their own property.

"Faithful Farm" - Levi's Stadium in S.F.

At 9 stories high, and containing 6,000 square feet of production space, this corporate project had many unusual parameters. The food and cut flowers are grown on this rooftop in a special soil mix that incorporates BioChar (incinerated plant matter) because it is lightweight and utilizes less soil,

water and fertilizers. Everything that is harvested is used by the community in the stadium below (on-site personnel, press box, security and visiting school kids) - all the responsibility of one full-time gardener, who maintains, harvests and does on-going research.

Hermanson showed several other Farmscape projects, but closed with the company's goals for the future with their "Agrihood" platform for urban farming. The concept involves new and refurbished developments electing to install urban farms in place of traditional landscaping and pools or tennis courts, to be able to offer healthy food to a greater diversity of socio-economic groups. She also offered some solutions for home gardeners and answered a variety of questions from the audience. For more information on Hermanson and Farmscape's activities, please visit their website at: www.farmscapedesign.com.

✿ Sabine Steinmetz

SCHS 2017 INTERN REPORT

SCHS recently received a written report on the latest horticulture internship we sponsored. Intern Andrey Yun worked at the Virginia Robinson Gardens in Beverly Hills during the spring of 2017. He propagated plants from cuttings and replanted several areas in the garden, and learned proper pruning techniques for roses and camellias.

We are pleased to report that he must have done a great job, because his internship lead to his acquiring a full time gardening position at Virginia Robinson Gardens. Way to go, Andrey!

✿ Laura Bauer

SHARING SECRETS

Last month we asked members whether we should continue with this feature, as participation has dropped significantly during the last year.

Here is what we have learned from your responses, plus our answers:

- Members want to keep this feature, but there is some uncertainty about how, where and when to submit responses, and where to find the question for the month.

- The question is always posted in the monthly newsletter on Page 1, in the contents section below the SCHS banner, both in the print and on-line versions.

- The deadline is posted in the same section, and has been extended to be the Monday following the general meeting.

- Answers of any length may be shared by e-mail at: gardensbysabine@aol.com OR on-line at: www.schs.org, where a drop-down menu at the top includes a Sharing Secrets tab.

- Beginning with the August meeting, we will also pass out 3" x 5" cards with the current question, so members may answer that evening, or take cards home as a reminder if they wish to have time to respond over the following weekend.

We look forward to reading your responses to this month's question:

What plant do you love or hate more than any other?

✿ Thank you! Sabine Steinmetz

AUGUST HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

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

Fridays, 8/11 and 8/25, 5-9pm. Summer nights in the Garden. Unwind under the stars with music, garden-inspired cocktails, hands-on garden and science projects, botanical tours, food trucks, and more! For info, and reservations, go to www.nhm.org/summernights



J PAUL GETTY MUSEUM - GETTY CENTER

1200 Getty Center Dr., Los Angeles 90049
310-440-7300 www.getty.edu/museum

Daily, 11:30am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm, 3:30pm, 45-minute Garden Tours. Meet at bench outside entrance to tour the Central Garden, designed by artist Robert Irwin - an evolving work of art, with tree-lined walkways through extraordinary sights, sounds, and scents.



J PAUL GETTY MUSEUM - GETTY VILLA

17985 Pacific Coast Hwy., Pacific Palisades 90272
310-440-7300 www.getty.edu/museum

Thursdays & Saturdays, 10:30am, 11:30am, 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 3:30pm, 40-minute Garden Tours meet outside the entrance. Discover rich mythological and cultural connections of four ancient Roman gardens.



RANCHO LOS CERRITOS

4600 Virginia Road, Long Beach 90807
562-206-2040 rancholoscerritos.org

Every Saturday & Sunday, 1-5pm. Free Garden Tours. Gardens on the property today include trees dating to the mid-1800s, as well as landscaping designed in the 1930s by landscape architect Ralph Cornell. For details: www.rancholoscerritos.org/things-to-do-hub/tours/



LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007
626.821.4623 arboretum.org

Saturday, 8/19; 10am-12:30pm. New California Landscape with Jill Morganelli. Learn about responsible landscape stewardship for Southern California using water-saving plants and techniques to create a thriving home garden. \$25 members, \$35 non-members. To register, call or pay at the class.

Saturday, 8/26, 10am-12noon. Hypertufa Pot Workshop with Steve Gerischer. Make a planting pot out of hypertufa, a mixture of cement, peat moss and perlite molded to resemble tufa, a crumbling granite material. Wear comfortable clothes, a hat and bring water. \$30 members, \$40 non-members. To register, call or pay at the class.

EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER

1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
626.398.5420 ecnc.org

Every Wednesday & 2nd Sunday, 10am. Eaton Canyon Gardening Group. Volunteers maintain the garden.

Saturday, 8/19, 9am-12noon, Nature Patio. Conservation Work Day. Help with weeding invasive plants to conserve habitat for the native species. Gloves, tools and a snack will be provided. Please bring your own drinking water. Wear clothing, footwear and sun protection appropriate for outdoor work. Volunteers under the age of 18 need to bring along an adult. RSVP to eatoncanyon.conservation@gmail.com.



HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108
626.405.2100 huntington.org

Saturdays, 10am-1pm. Ranch Open House. Get ideas for sustainable gardening at our urban agriculture site. Experts from the University of California L.A. County Master Gardener program will be on hand to answer questions and offer seasonal tips.

Saturday, 9/2, 9-5 pm, Ahmanson Room, Brody Botanical Center. (Listed in August since preregistration is required). 34th Succulent Plants Symposium. Succulent experts from across the United States will discuss topics ranging from time-lapse photography of cactus blooms to botanizing in South Africa. One of the program's highlights will be a presentation by famed plant anatomist James Mauseth on some unexpected adaptations in desert plants. \$85, preregistration is required - call 626-405-3504.



GLENDALE COMMUNITY SERVICES & PARKS DEUKMEJIAN WILDERNESS PARK

3429 Markridge Rd., La Crescenta 91214
818-548-3795 glendaleca.gov

Saturday, 8/19, 8am-12noon. Wilderness Workday. Join us for a morning of tree-watering and removing invasive species. Wear long pants, bring sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat. We provide tools, drinks, and snacks. All participants must sign a liability waiver and minors must provide a waiver signed by a parent or guardian.



THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352
818.768.1802 theodorepayne.org

Saturday, 8/12, 1:30-3:30pm. Right Plant, Right Place with Lili Singer. Knowing native habitats can help you choose the right plants for your place. Learn about local plant communities and how to assess the conditions of your garden site, including climate, soil, sunlight and space. Valuable for beginners and the prerequisite for our Three-Part Native Garden Design Course. \$25 members, \$35 non-members.

Saturday, 8/12, 9-10:30am. Family Paint-A-Native Workshop with Margaret Boseroy and Diana Sherwood. This family event for adults and children (6 and up) includes an exploration on TPF grounds to observe California native plants and a workshop to paint your favorite in tempera on paper. Learn to look closely at the plant parts, and how to compose your painting and mix colors. Limit: 10 adult/child pairs. \$20 member adult/child pair, \$25 non-member adult/child pairs.

Saturday, 8/19, 2-3pm. Family Seed Physiology Workshop with Genevieve Arnold and Kelsey Thurov. Discover the wonders of how seeds "work" in this hands-on workshop for adults and children (6-12). Includes a short illustrated talk, microscope work and seed planting, and each participant will leave with a pot of planted seed for their home native plant garden. Limit: 10 adult/child pairs. \$15 member adult/child pair, \$20 non-member adult/child pair.

Three Saturdays, 8/26 and 9/9 and 9/23, 9am-1pm. Three-Part California Native Garden Design with Shawn Maestretti. This comprehensive 3-session course for home gardeners offers a sound foundation in design styles and process, the importance of sustainability and how to model a garden after patterns in nature. Required course prerequisite is TPF's Right Plant, Right Place class. \$225 members, \$275 non-members; \$285 member couples, \$335 non-member couples.



RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711
909.625.8767 rsabg.org

Saturday, 8/12, 9am-12noon. Teacher Open House. Free admission for school teachers, administrators and their immediate family members. Preview school tours and programs and explore outdoor experiences we offer to students. Book a 2017-18 field trip before reservations are opened to all teachers. To reserve your spot at the Open House, please email registrar@rsabg.org.

Saturday, 8/19, 8-10am. Seven Plant Secrets that You'll Always Remember. Learn about seven plant secrets from Executive Director Lucinda McDade as she leads you through a botanical journey at California's Native Garden. \$20 members, \$25 non-members.

Saturday, 8/19, 8-9:30am. Free Family Bird Walk. Join Chris Verma of Wild Birds Unlimited for this family-friendly bird walk through the Garden. To register, please go to <http://www.rsabg.org/bird-walks>.



COASTKEEPER GARDEN

1560 E. Santiago Cyn. Rd., Orange 92869
714.850.1965 coastkeeper.org

Saturday, 8/12, 9:30am. Monthly Garden Share. Attendees bring garden-related items such as plants, cuttings, pots, tools, produce, etc., to trade. This is a great way to obtain new plants and meet like-minded plant lovers. For more information, go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CoastkeeperGardenShare>. Repeats second Saturdays.

 Yvonne Savio

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are regularly held at Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles, 90027

OR August 10 - Genevieve Arnold, Theodore Payne's Seed Program Manager on Collecting, Cleaning & Storing Seeds

OR September 14 - Horticulturist of the Year Annual Banquet, honoring Randy Baldwin
VENUE: Los Angeles County Arboretum

OR October 12 - Lili Singer, horticulturist and garden consultant speaking about "Good Bugs in the Garden"

GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH



Steven Gerischer - President, Oral History Committee, PR, Pacific Horticulture representative, Tech Support for meetings
Laura Bauer - Treasurer, Finance Committee, Website Committee
Pat Steen - Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, Coffee-in-the-Garden, Greeter
Carol Bornstein - Program Committee
Yoav Paskowitz - Finance Committee, Oral History Committee, Website Committee
Yvonne Savio - Horticultural Happenings, Coffee-in-the-Garden, PR
John Schoustra - Vice President, Field Trips, Finance Committee, Plant Raffle, Plant Sales at meetings
Lili Singer - Book of the Month, Nomination Committee, Program Committee, PR, Archives
Jill Vig - Coffee-in-the-Garden, Oral History Committee, Pacific Horticulture representative, Special Projects
Sabine Steinmetz - Newsletter, Sharing Secrets
Steven Ormenyi - Finance Committee
Marilee Kuhlmann - Hospitality Committee, Program Committee
Carol Aronson
Aprille Curtis - Plant Forum supplies
Fleur Nooyen
818-567-1496 / socalhort.org / Join us on Facebook
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Next deadline: August 14 (for September newsletter)
Please contribute an article or information of interest.



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