



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

September 2017

## OUR NEXT MEETING

Annual Horticulturist  
of the Year Banquet  
(and Silent Auction)

**September 14**

L.A. County Arboretum

See Page 2 for details!



## SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

*We gained two new  
members last month:*

Nancy Edwards

Jane Kaylor

www.socalhort.org



## SHARING SECRETS

The SCHS Sharing Secrets  
question for September is:

*Where are your favorite  
"secret gardens" to get away  
from (or enjoy!) the heat?*

Answer on our website at  
socalhort.org

or e-mail your response to:  
gardensbysabine@aol.com  
by Monday, September 18

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# SCHS 2017 ANNUAL AWARD BANQUET

*Honoring Horticulturist of the Year Randy Baldwin*

September 14 at the L.A. County Arboretum - Details on Page 2

The Southern California Horticultural Society is pleased to honor Randy Baldwin with the 2017 Horticulturist of the Year award. Randy is perhaps best known as President and General Manager of San Marcos Growers, a wholesale nursery in Santa Barbara recognized in the landscape industry for the diversity of plants it grows and the ongoing introduction of new plants suitable for cultivation in California. However, his achievements extend far beyond the nursery as he has served the horticultural community in a wide range of capacities, including as a founding member of the Santa Barbara Horticultural Consortium; his work with PlantRight, an invasive plant prevention organization; and as a member of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Advisory Committee, to name only a few. He is also active in several plant societies, is a civic consultant on landscape water use, a published garden photographer, instructor and popular speaker for over 35 years.



Randy currently serves as a board member of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) and the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers (CANGC). He is on the Plant Collection Committee at Ganna Walska Lotusland and the Landscape Design Review Committee for the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Prior to beginning his career at San Marcos Growers in 1981, Randy completed

a B.A. in Environmental Studies with a concentration in Botany at UCSB. His early introduction to the natural world was facilitated by hiking and camping trips with his family and youth groups, and as a neighborhood for-hire gardener in South Pasadena. One notable achievement which is still appreciated today was his Eagle Scout project of building trails at the Theodore Payne Foundation.

In his spare time, Randy speaks to groups about the plants that he grows and writes the web pages for the San Marcos Growers horticultural website. Randy and his family live in a turn-of-the-century farmhouse on the nursery property, surrounded by demonstration gardens consisting of many summer-dry plants for which San Marcos Growers is known.

It is our pleasure to present Randy Baldwin with this year's award, and we invite you to join us in celebrating his numerous and diverse contributions to the horticultural world.

**LAST CALL**

**FOR SILENT AUCTION**



*If you are attending the banquet and are still finding things to donate to the Silent Auction, you may bring them with you, BUT please inform Steve Gerischer at least 2 days in advance so he is aware and can prepare a bid card for your item(s).*

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*All of your donations are appreciated, but we need the advance notice to make sure we can accommodate everything!*

You can reach Steve at: [sglarkspur@aol.com](mailto:sglarkspur@aol.com) or by phone (323)257-3629.

**Thank you!**

Our August speaker, Genevieve Arnold, presented a program entitled "Celebrating Seed Season" just as we're heading into prime planting weather, with a focus on harvesting and processing seed from the native garden. She is the Seed Program Manager at the Theodore Payne Foundation for Native Plants, and shared much useful information for those interested in trying their hand at gathering, cleaning and saving seed, as well as providing "how-to" hand-outs for home use.



Genevieve began by talking about the bounty that native seeds provide - from simple food sources for birds, animals and man, to varied uses that derive from processed seeds, such as porridge, soap, cups, bowls, and even hypoallergenic pillow stuffing. However, in order to harvest seeds for any use at all, it is imperative to know when a plant will set seed, how to determine if they are ripe, and what techniques to use for collecting and storing them. This led to the detailed part of her presentation called "Fantastic Inflorescences and Their Fun Fruits."

When collecting seed, it is important to recognize whether the inflorescences of a plant are determinate or indeterminate. In the first case, an axis will terminate in a flower and everything on the plant ripens around the same time, allowing all seed to be collected at once. Sages are an example of determinate plants. Indeterminate inflorescences ripen gradually and must be observed and collected across the season. Genevieve cited sunflowers as an example of indeterminate inflorescences, whose heads can be cut before they are completely dried out, and then allowed to ripen in a brown bag. She showed slides of both types, as well as of dehiscent seeds, which split open on their own, and indehiscent seeds, whose walls need to decay or be broken open. A selection of photos depicting seeds at various stages of ripeness were also shown.

Learning to identify when a seed is at its peak of ripeness will increase chances for favorable results if you are collecting to plant. Genevieve recommended the *Complete Guide to Saving Seeds* by Robert Gough as a resource, and presented tools for the audience to handle which are used for harvesting seeds in different ways, including threshing, sifting and winnowing. She also mentioned that unplanted seeds can be stored for indefinite periods and remain viable, as long as they are kept in a temperate, air-tight and dark place.

In addition to explaining the proper methods for harvesting and processing seeds, Genevieve answered audience questions before concluding her informative program.

✿ Sabine Steinmetz

## SHARING SECRETS

Thank you to everyone who responded to last month's question:

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

### ✿ LOVE ✿

*Michelia spp.* - ALL !

- Keith Peabody

*Acalypha hispida*, aka Chenille - I absolutely LOVE the fuzzy blooms! It's the coolest plant ever (next to Shrimp Plant).

- Denice Vasquez

*Brugmansia*, for its weird exoticism.

- Ron Lanyi

*Agapanthus*, all sizes and all sorts! Wonderfully easy and neat and BLUE - especially nice under Jacaranda!

- Shirley Marneus

### ✿ HATE ✿

*Salsola kali*

- Anonymous

*Bougainvillea* received 2 negative cards, citing the thorns, the glaring color and the messy bracts!

- Anonymous

### ✿ MIXED ✿

Chinese mimosa tree (*Albizia julibrissin*) I hate it for the mess it drops on my roof every quarter, but my wife calls it a "beauty"....

- Charles Ortiz

See page 1 for this month's question!

Thanks to all of you for sharing...

## Southern California Horticultural Society 2017 Annual Award Banquet Thursday, September 14, 2017

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

Social hour & silent auction. Dinner & presentation begin at 7pm. **Silent Auction bidding ends at 7 pm**  
(Reminder: We are unable to accept credit cards at the auction. Cash and checks only please.)

### STILL NEED A TICKET?

On-line registration closes Sept. 12, but you may call Laura Bauer at (626) 437-9459 to check for availability.



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## GREEN SHEET

### PLANT FORUM SELECTIONS • JULY 2017

*The Plant Forum is a display of plants grown by members & exhibited at our monthly general meeting.*

#### PLANTS SHOWN at JULY 13, 2017 MEETING



***Stenotaphrum secundatum***  
**'Variegatum'** (Poaceae)

Variegated St. Augustine grass, shown by Aprille Curtis. Occurs naturally on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean, including the southeastern United States and Central America. This variegated form of St. Augustine grass is spectacular in pots, trailing over the edge. Can be used for small scale lawns but

may look slightly peculiar. Best in part shade.

#### ***Constancea nevinii*** (Asteraceae)

Shown by Carol Bornstein, from the gardens at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. California native with beautiful silver foliage and small yellow blooms. Summer dry adapted.

#### ***Solidago californica*** (Asteraceae)

Shown by Carol Bornstein, from the Natural History Museum garden. California native. Gold/yellow blooms. Summer dry adapted.

#### ***Duranta erecta*** 'Variegata' (Verbenaceae)

Variegated Sky Flower, shown by Eric and Ann Brooks. A fast-growing shrub to 25' with variegated shiny foliage and many small, pendulous clusters of blue flowers. Full sun. Moderate water.



#### ***Leymus condensatus*** 'Canyon Prince' (Poaceae)

Wild Rye shown by Jacky Surber. California native grass with beautiful silvery gray foliage. Low water needs.

#### ***Encyclia* sp.** (Orchidaceae)

Shown by Steven Gerischer. Range is from Central America to Florida. Grown outdoors year round in frost-free areas. Part sun. Moderate water needs. Flowers are green and cream colored.

#### ***Russelia equisetiformis*** (Plantaginaceae)

Coral Fountain, shown by Eric and Ann Brooks. Nearly continuous flowering of tubular coral red blooms on draping stems with narrow foliage. Species name refers to resemblance to horsetail rushes. Favorite of hummingbirds.



**Also shown  
but not pictured:**

#### ***Juglans californica***

(Juglandaceae)  
no name given for exhibitor.

#### ***Ceanothus*** 'Yankee Point' (Rhamnaceae)

No name given for exhibitor.

#### ***Platanus racemosa*** (Platanaceae)

Sycamore, California native. No name given for exhibitor.

#### ***Salvia clevelandii*** (Lamiaceae)

California native sage. No name given for exhibitor.

#### ***Hymenocallis narcissiflora*** (Amaryllidaceae)

Shown by Eric and Ann Brooks.

 Compiled by Steven Gerischer

**August "Green Sheet" on reverse**



# GREEN SHEET

## PLANT FORUM SELECTIONS • AUGUST 2017

*The Plant Forum is a display of plants grown by members & exhibited at our monthly general meeting.*

### PLANTS SHOWN at AUGUST 10, 2017 MEETING



***Ipomoea carnea***  
(Convolvulaceae)

Morning Glory Tree, shown by Eric and Ann Brooks. From the American Tropics. A tall, lanky shrub that can grow to 6'-8' in height. Blooms all year with pink morning glory flowers.



***Barleria rotundifolia***  
(Acanthaceae)

Shown by Eric and Ann Brooks. Evergreen shrub from South Africa. Spiny stems with yellow flowers that bloom for several months. Grows 3'-4' and makes a good barrier hedge. Full sun. Allow to dry between waterings.



***Hamelia patens***  
(Rubiaceae)

Firebush, shown by Eric and Ann Brooks. Range is from Mexico to Florida to Bolivia. A fast-growing perennial shrub that can grow to 15' but is typically



kept shorter in cultivation. The masses of tubular orange-red flowers attract hummingbirds. Full sun and low water needs. Originally from San Marcos Growers.

 Compiled by Steven Gerischer

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**NOTE:** There was no Plant Forum in June as the general meeting was held at the L.A. Zoo.

## SEPTEMBER 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.**

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007

626.821.4623 [arboretum.org](http://arboretum.org)

Thursday, 9/14, 9:30am-Noon. What's Happening in Gardening: Garden Rocks with Nancy Bird. Collect rocks for free on Bureau of Land Management property - our land! Handouts of rules, maps, and resources included, and a variety of rocks will be displayed. What's Happening in Gardening is hosted by Matt-Dell & Rebecca Tufenkian on 8 Thursdays. \$140 series or \$25 per class. Pre-reserve or pay at door. For more info.: 626-821-4623 or [ted.tegart@arboretum.org](mailto:ted.tegart@arboretum.org).

Saturday, 9/16, 10am-Noon. Plant Combinations for Pots with Laramee Haynes of Haynes Landscape Design discusses the art of combining plants and which plants really last in pots. \$25 Arboretum members, \$35 non-members Register at: 626-821-4623 or pay at the class.

Thursday, 9/21, 9:30am-Noon. What's Happening in Gardening: Beekeeping - A Symbiotic Relationship, presented by Erika WainDecker, co-owner of Klausbees, will relate her experiences being a "Guardian of the Bee." *See 9/14 "What's Happening in Gardening" listing (above) for registration details.*

Thursday, 9/28, 9:30am-Noon. What's Happening in Gardening: Gardening for Your Dining Table with Christine Anthony, a UCCE Master Gardener. Learn about fall plant and fruit tree choices, and practical tips for garden and kitchen. Be prepared to share recipes and gardening tips! *See 9/14 "What's Happening in Gardening" listing (above) for registration details.*

Saturday, 9/30, 12-2pm. Creating Your Own Butterfly Hub with Arboretum Gardener Bryan Burks. Tour butterfly and plant partnerships, and learn about plant species and techniques to foster your own butterfly communities. \$25 Arboretum members, \$35 non-members Register at: 626-821-4623 or pay at the class.



### DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011

818.949.7980 [descansogardens.org](http://descansogardens.org)

Saturday, 9/23, 9am-3pm. Wet & Wonderful: Celebrating Our Precious Water. Get inspired to plan your water-wise garden through fun and educational family programming, pick up a rain barrel (advance purchase recommended: [www.rainbarrelsintl.com](http://www.rainbarrelsintl.com)), enjoy a musical performance of "H2O, Where Did You Go?" or just get tips from experts. All activities free with admission. For more info. visit: [www.descansogardens.org/event/wet-wonderful](http://www.descansogardens.org/event/wet-wonderful)



### EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER

1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107

626.398.5420 [ecnc.org](http://ecnc.org)

Saturday, 9/16, 9am-Noon, Nature Patio. Conservation Work Day. Help with weeding invasive plants. Gloves, tools and snack provided. Please bring your own drinking water. Wear clothing, footwear and sun protection appropriate for outdoor work. Volunteers aged 18 & under must bring along an adult. RSVP to [eatoncanyon.conservations@gmail.com](mailto:eatoncanyon.conservations@gmail.com).



### HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108

626.405.2100 [huntington.org](http://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.

Thursday, 9/14, 2:30pm, Ahmanson Room, Brody Botanical Center. Garden Talk & Sale: The Have-It-All, Low-Water Landscape with Scott Kleinrock, conservation programs manager at the Chino Basin Water Conservation District. Learn how to envision spaces that provide color, habitat, and shade - while using less water. Plant selection and design basics are covered, as well as the CBWCD's Garden Planner website.

Saturday, 9/16, 9-10am, Ahmanson Room, Brody Botanical Center. Master Gardener Clinic: Compost 101, led by L.A. County Master Gardener Randy Thomson, who will explain best practices for turning kitchen scraps and yard trimmings into rich compost.



### THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352

818.768.1802 [theodorepayne.org](http://theodorepayne.org)

Fridays, 9/15, 9/29, & 10/13, 11:30am-3:30pm. Three-Part California Native Garden Design with Laura Bauer. 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.

Saturdays, 9/16, 9/30 & 10/14, 9am-1pm. Three-Part California Native Garden Design with Andreas Hensing. 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. *See 9/15 listing (above) for registration details.*

Saturday, 9/16, 1:30-3:00pm. All About Oaks: Selection, Care and Laws with Jan Scow. Learn which native oaks work where? What are their watering and establishment needs? How do laws affect oaks on your property? How do you properly prune and protect oaks? \$20 TPF members, \$30 non-members.

Saturday, 9/23, 1-3:30pm. Irrigation Practices for Native Plant Gardens with Carol Armour Aronson. Class covers irrigation principles, techniques and equipment best suited for native plant landscapes - with practical examples, a demo of TPF's irrigation system and time for questions. \$30 TPF members, \$40 non-members.

Saturday, 9/23, 1:30-3:30pm. Groovy Grasses with Carol Bornstein. This class reveals garden-worthy California grasses for use as low-care lawn alternatives, as wildlife habitat, and to add movement and texture to the landscape. Includes an exploration in TPF's demo gardens. \$25 TPF members, \$35 non-members.

Saturday, 9/30, 2-3:00pm. Sustainable Slopes with Joshua Link offers the fundamentals of gardening on uneven ground using native plants and light-on-the-land construction methods for stabilization and erosion control. \$15 TPF members, \$20 non-members.



### RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711

909.625.8767 [rsabg.org](http://rsabg.org)

Saturday & Sunday, 9/23 and 9/24, 9am-5pm. Botany 101. In this 2-day class, learn plants physiology from roots to shoots, and explore concepts of biological evolution, taxonomy, and ecology. Gain an overview of the diversity of plants around us and get equipped with a set of plant ID skills. \$125 members, \$150 non-members. To register, contact: [dnightingale@rsabg.org](mailto:dnightingale@rsabg.org).



### FULLERTON ARBORETUM

1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831

657.278.3407 [fullertonarboretum.org](http://fullertonarboretum.org)

Sunday, 9/10, 1-4pm. Nature Photography. Class includes tips, tricks and techniques to help you advance your photography skills, beginning with basic photo concepts, through step-by-step sequences illustrating practical approaches for effective photos. Over 500 examples show what to do and what to avoid. \$35 members, \$40 non-members.

Saturday, 9/16, 1-4pm. Basics of Home Composting with Arboretum's Education Program Manager Miguel Macias, who teach you what to add in and keep out of the pile. \$7 members, \$10 non-members.



### SANTA BARBARA HORT. SOCIETY

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

909 N. La Cumbre Rd., Santa Barbara 93110

805.684.5725 [www.sbchs.org](http://www.sbchs.org)

Saturday, 9/24, 10am-3pm. Annual Plant Sale. Specialty vendors attending and hundreds of member-grown plant varieties and related items - including exotics, natives, bromeliads, succulents, annuals, perennials, grasses, and cacti. Raffle table of specimen plants and other items. All proceeds benefit the SBCHS Scholarship Program. For more info. go to: [www.sbchs.org](http://www.sbchs.org).

Yvonne Savio



## 6 UPCOMING SCHS PROGRAMS

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

🌿 September 14 - Horticulturist of the Year Annual Banquet, honoring Randy Baldwin

**VENUE: Los Angeles County Arboretum**

🌿 October 12 - Lili Singer, horticulturist and educator, speaking about "Good Bugs in the Garden"

🌿 November 9 - 'Aloes and Agaves in Cultivation' presented by Jeff Moore, owner of Solano Succulents

🌿 December 14 - SCHS Holiday Party - program TBA

## GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"For man, Autumn  
is a time of harvest...  
for nature, it is a time of sowing..."

- Edwin Way Teale



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

**NEWSLETTER September 2017**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Newsletter Editor: Sabine Steinmetz**

Contributors: Laura Bauer, Carol Bornstein, Yvonne Savio

**Next deadline: September 18** (for October newsletter)

Please contribute an article or information of interest.