



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

June 2018

## OUR NEXT MEETING

**Thursday, June 14**

Witherbee Auditorium  
(at the Los Angeles Zoo)  
5333 Zoo Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90027



**Socializing: 7:00 pm**

**Meeting begins: 7:30 pm**

## SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

*No one joined last month, but  
visitors are always welcome.*

Members: bring a friend for  
free by using 1 of your 2 annual  
Guest Passes OR spread  
the word that a Non-Member  
Admission is only \$5.00.

**www.socalhort.org**

## SHARING SECRETS

The SCHS Sharing Secrets  
question for June is:

*What is your favorite  
summer-blooming plant  
and why? Do you have any  
growing tips to share?*

Respond by Monday, June 18

Online at [socalhort.org](http://socalhort.org) OR send  
e-mail to [gardensbysabine@aol.com](mailto:gardensbysabine@aol.com)

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## THINK LIKE A CAMERA with SAXON HOLT

### NOTE - DIFFERENT VENUE & NO PLANT FORUM

The SCHS will be meeting at the Los Angeles Zoo's Witherbee Auditorium in June, where well-known garden photographer Saxon Holt will present



his "Think Like A Camera" slide show program for us. Holt is an award-winning photographer of over 20 books, serves on the Board of Pacific Horticulture Society, and is a Fellow of the Garden Writers Association.

Holt lives and gardens in Northern California where his work as a photojournalist is increasingly focusing on the relationship between gardens and the land, seeking a sustainable aesthetic that can enhance both gardener and the earth. An advocate for authentic photos that inform viewers of realistic garden practices, he urges his students to tell their own stories with pictures, to think like a gardener. He said the following about the presentation we will be hearing this evening:

"We are all garden photographers, and by taking better garden photographs we help gardeners understand what a successful garden looks like. Whether you have a big megapixel SLR camera or just a smart phone, your pictures will improve as soon as you think about what the camera is seeing—versus what you are seeing. Use the camera frame to fill your photograph with only those elements that tell your story."

We are looking forward to what we can learn from Holt and this evening's presentation. For those who will be wanting more, they may find it at Holt's PhotoBotanic website, a garden picture resource for photos, prints and photography workshops. "Think Like A Camera" is just one part of his Garden Photography Workshop series and is available at [www.photobotanic.com](http://www.photobotanic.com).



*Photos courtesy of [photobotanic.com](http://photobotanic.com)*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS & CHANGES

### ANNUAL DUES

The SCHS Board has voted to **REDUCE** annual Membership Dues for basic levels, effective June 1, 2018. In the past, a portion of the dues allowed SCHS to purchase a subscription to Pacific Horticulture Society's print magazine for every member. The PHS recently announced that, effective with their Fall 2018 issue, the magazine will only be sent to affiliate organizations electronically. (A print copy will still be available with a separate paid PHS membership. Please see: [www.pacifichorticulture.org](http://www.pacifichorticulture.org) for details.)

#### SCHS DUES IMPACTED AS FOLLOWS:-

Individual - reduced from \$40 to \$30  
Household - reduced from \$50 to \$40  
Students - reduced from \$25 to \$15  
Planter, Cultivator and Benefactor level dues will not change.

### SCHS NEWSLETTER

Due to rising costs, a printed copy of the SCHS newsletter will no longer be available for members to receive via USPS, effective with the August 2018 issue. We will continue to email a printable electronic version monthly and provide access to current and past issues on our website at [www.socalhort.org](http://www.socalhort.org).

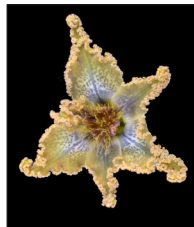
Attendees at the May SCHS meeting were treated to an in-depth look at bulbs from the Old World that are suited to Southern California gardens, as presented by local expert, Tom Glavich, a long-time grower of bulbs and succulents. He is currently serving as vice president of the Southern California Daylily and Bulb Society (SCHAS) and is on the Board of Directors of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA). He is the author of the *Beginner's Guide to Gasteria, Haworthia, Agave and other Succulent Monocots*, which includes several genera of bulbous plants. His presentation included many pictures of bulbs he personally grew in his Altadena home, along with information about their cultural needs, growing and propagation tips, and which ones are the best suited for our environment.

Glavich's presentation was a non-stop show filled with beautiful pictures of bulbs ranging from the common and readily available like *Urginea maritima* which can be found at Home Depot and requires little care, to several very rare *Lachenalia* that are only available through mail order from speciality growers, and just about everything in-between. Although he shared pictures of many other bulbs, he concentrated his talk on bulbs known to do well in Southern California gardens, with a focus on those originating in the Cape Province of South Africa and the Mediterranean basin itself. The majority of his pictures were of species, most in cultivation, but some in habitat.

Following is a listing of some of the bulbs he mentioned as being easiest to obtain and cultivate, either potted up or growing in the ground:

*Bellevia paradoxa*  
*Boophane disticha*  
*Colchicum graecum*

*Crinum moorei*  
*Drimiopsis kirkii*  
*Eucomis comosa*  
*Ferraria divaricata* (pictured at right)  
*Gladiolus carneus*  
*Haemanthus albiflos*  
*Hyacinthoides orientalis*  
*Moraea tripetala* & *M. thomsonii*  
*Nerine flexuosa* & *N. gracilis*  
*Pancratium maritimum*  
*Scadoxus multiflorus*  
*Scilla hyacinthoides* & *S. peruviana*



Photos provided by speaker.

Glavich wrapped up his presentation by providing a recipe for his personal potting mix, as well as a resource list (see below for both), and answering audience questions. Recommendations for reading material include *Bulbs* by John E. Bryan, and *Color Encyclopedia of Cape Bulbs* by John Manning, Peter Goldblatt and Dee Snijmans. Also *Buried Treasures* by Janis Ruksans, and *Steppes* published by the Denver Botanic Garden. Additionally, a visit to Glavich's website: Skyviewsucculents.com will provide even more insights since he posts there both as a grower and a photographer.

The evening's activities concluded with a plant sale from Glavich, an SCHS pottery raffle courtesy of Joan Citron's donations, and a plant forum showcasing members' exhibits. A bit of something for everyone in attendance...

✂ Sabine Steinmetz

### POTTING MIX RECIPE

- Screened, washed pumice, no organics
- Pot in very deep pots
- Water with pH controlled to about 6
- Fertilize regularly with "Grow More" or "Miracle Grow" (weekly when in growth)

### SOURCES for RARE BULBS

- Pacific Bulb Society - online
- Southern California Daylily & Bulb Society (SCHAS) meets at Arboretum
- San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Society (2 shows per year @ Arboretum)
- Telos Rare Bulbs (N. California) - online
- Odyssey Bulbs (Massachusetts) - online

## SHARING SECRETS RESPONSES

*What horticultural topics would you like to hear about from future speakers or as program presentations?*



I recommend a program featuring a plant community landscape, as described by Thomas Rainer and Claudia West in "Planting in a Post-Wild World," adapted to SoCal appropriate plants.

- Mary Harrison

How about a talk by an experienced grower of Asian vegetables and plants? Ex: edible ginger, taro, water lily "roots", bitter melon, pickling gourd/melon, okra (beloved by Indians and Asian cooks), yard-long beans, yuzu, colt's foot, various varieties of shiso (Perilla). Info about ease of growing, temperature and moisture requirements, whether they can be grown in containers, etc. would be very useful.

- Florence Nishida

I have a list of things I'd like to hear, many (altered) repeats from years ago that might be interesting to members.

- Fruit trees for a changing climate in L.A. The Dave Wilson guy used to come every year. He was wildly popular.
- Tomatoes and growing suggestions
- Hedges & screens: selecting and maintaining them, planting techniques
- Mike Evans. I have not heard another person speak with his depth, breadth and passion for California native plants. Now in his early 60s, he is fabulous and exposing a new generation to him is not a bad idea.
- What about a build-your-own-garden talk? How to do a proper gravel patio, design a decent irrigation system, etc.
- Apples for Southern California.
- Dan Cooper & Miguel Ordenana follow the flora, fauna and avifauna of Griffith Park, - why don't we invite them in?
- Dan Lewis, the curator of science at the Huntington, might be able to give us a special evening program showcasing his fabulous botanical texts in his library.

- Catherine Pannell

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Thanks to all for the suggestions, and especially to Catherine, whose list we edited due to space limitations, but passed on to the Board in its entirety.



# JUNE 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

2nd Saturdays through July. Meet at North Ticket Booth for Saturday Strolls in the Nature Gardens with Carol Bornstein, director of the NHMLA Nature Gardens. Are you overwhelmed by the incredible variety of plants in local nurseries? Talk about which plants are tough or fussy, how much to water, and what plants will attract wildlife to your home garden.



## 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 walks 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.



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

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

Saturday, 6/16, 10-12noon, Crescent Farm. Preparing the Landscape for a Hot Summer. Hands-on learning about water conservation and sustainable gardening techniques you can apply at home. The Crescent Farm is a reclaimed landscape which explores new and ancient horticulture techniques for water conservation and food production. Bring gloves and drinking water, wear closed-toe shoes and a hat. Call for details.



## DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011  
818.949.7980 descansogardens.org

Saturday, 6/30, 8-10:30am. Community Service Day. Get hands-on experience and help care for our camellias. Instruction provided, and work supervised by Descanso horticulture staff. All experience levels welcome for ages 16+. Bring gardening gloves. Limited space available. RSVP to volunteer@descansogardens.org by Wednesday June 27.

## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS)

L.A./Santa Monica Mtns Chapter / 1st Utd. Methodist  
1008 11th Street, Santa Monica 90403  
818-782-9346 lacnps.org

Tuesday, 6/12, 7:30pm. Help A Forest Grow. Brianna Demerci, Watershed Steward Project member, presents a slide show with updates on restoration efforts of lower Topanga State Park.



## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS)

San Gabriel Mtns Chapter / Eaton Canyon Center  
1750 No. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107  
818-398-5420 cnps-sgm.org

Thursday, 6/28, 7:30 pm. Talks by two of our chapter award recipients. Sophie Winitsky will discuss vascular flora of the Adobe Valley and surrounding hills in Mono County. Dylan Cohen will discuss decrypting phylogenetic placement and specific level relationships from a recent radiation for the CNPS listed rare plant *Mentzelia polita* (Loasaceae).



## HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108  
626.405.2100 huntington.org

Every Saturday, 10am-1pm. Ranch Open House. Stop by this urban agriculture site (open weekly) and pick up fresh ideas for sustainable gardening.

Thursday, 6/14, 2:30pm, Ahmanson Room, Brody Botanical Center. The 4D Garden: Landscape Design Using Form, Color, Texture, and Time lecture with head gardener Seth Baker. Learn about concepts and approaches used in the low-water landscapes of The Huntington's entry gardens, and explore how a time-based narrative enhances the cohesiveness of the design. A plant sale will follow the talk.

Thursday, 6/28, 4:30-5:30pm, Brody Botanical Center Auditorium. Botany Bay Series: Plant Science for Gardeners and Citizen Scientists with Jim Folsom, the Telleen/Jorgensen Director of the Botanical Gardens. Explore the plant world through discussion and hands-on lab time in this monthly series.

Friday, 6/29-Sunday, 7/1, 10am-5pm, Brody Center. Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale. Friday: Plant Sale only. Saturday & Sunday: Show & Sale. See 100s of intriguing plants on view at this annual event. A must for anyone wanting to learn more about these diverse and visually striking plants.



## THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

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

Thursday, 6/7, 8-10am. First Thursday Bird Walk with passionate local birder Ken Gilliland. Take an easy morning ramble on TPF grounds, where more than 50 different bird species have been seen. Bring binoculars, hat and water.

Saturday, 6/23, 10-11:30am. The Botany of Intoxication with Nick Jensen and Sandy Namoff. Many seeds, leaves, roots, and stems contain chemical compounds that may help plants avoid being eaten by animals, including humans. This unique new class explores plants as intoxicants from two perspectives: how past and present-day humans have used them and what

role this use plays in our society; and why plants produce these chemicals, and what roles these compounds play in their evolutionary history. \$20 members, \$30 non-members.



## RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

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

Saturday, 6/23, 4-8pm. Brew Wild Beer Festival - a celebration of California's native plant and beer species! At this inaugural event, award-winning local breweries will showcase beer made with native plants harvested responsibly at RSABG. This inaugural festival will also feature food trucks, California artisans, and native plants for sale. Guests can also learn responsible ways to use California native plants in their own kitchen and sample edibles made from regional plants. \$45 general admission.



## SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024  
760-436-3036 sdbgarden.org

Saturday, 6/16, 10am-2pm. Lavender Wreath Making Class with instructor Diana Burke. Make a lovely 10"-12" wreath, using fragrant, fresh Provence lavender. They will dry beautifully and last many years. Herbs and other flowers will be available to add in, as well as ribbons. \$30 members, \$36 non-members. Additional \$50 materials fee payable directly to instructor. Register by June 8. (Members Only Coupon Code = Lavender16)



## FULLERTON ARBORETUM

1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831  
657.278.3407 fullertonarboretum.org

Saturdays, 6/9 & 6/23, 10am. Public Nature Tour. Meet at Nature Center where a knowledgeable docent will guide you on a garden tour. Repeats 2nd & 4th Saturdays.

Saturday, 6/10, 9am. Medicinal and Edible Plants of Southern California with herbalist William Broen. Explore the Arboretum and learn about the many uses, both past and present, of California native plants, including elderberry, white sage, manzanita and live oak, among others. \$35/member; \$40/non-member.

Yvonne Savio

# SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for


## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

### SCHS Horticulturist of the Year Award Banquet


*honoring John Schoustra*


Check up-coming newsletters and  
www.socalhort.org for more details.

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

-  June 14 - Saxon Holt, garden photographer & author, presents a slide program on garden photography

**VENUE CHANGE** *This event will be held at the L.A. Zoo.*

-  July 12 - Philip Rundel, biology professor and director of the Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden at UCLA, speaking on the Cape Flora and Namaqualand

-  June 14 - Kelly Comras, landscape architect and author presents a program on Ruth Shellhorn

## 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, Social Media Committee  
 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 - Coffee-in-the-Garden  
 Aprille Curtis - Social Media Committee, Plant Forum supplies  
 Fleur Nooyen  
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**Next deadline: Monday, June 18** (for July newsletter)

Please contribute an article or information of interest.



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**NEWSLETTER June 2018**