



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

October 2019

## OUR NEXT MEETING

**Thursday, October 10**

Friendship Auditorium  
3201 Riverside Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90027



**Socializing: 7:00 pm**

**Meeting begins: 7:30 pm**

## SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

*September brought us the  
following new members:*

**Nancy Borun & Robby Bausch**  
**Melissa Calasanz**

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

## SHARING SECRETS

For October, can you tell us:

*Are you growing anything  
rare or unusual  
in your garden this fall?*

Reply at: [www.socalhort.org](http://www.socalhort.org)  
or email your response to:

[gardensbysabine@aol.com](mailto:gardensbysabine@aol.com)

by Monday, October 15

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## Panel Discussion - True Confessions: Let's Talk About Lawn Alternatives

In October, the SCHS welcomes a panel composed of an ecologist and local landscape designers who will share their expertise on why and how to use eco-friendly lawn alternatives that thrive in our Mediterranean climate. If you're wondering what to plant in place of your traditional lawn so you will use less resources, provide valuable habitat, and have options that still function like turf, this program is for you.

Ellen Mackey, ecologist with the Metropolitan Water District, will start the conversation by citing benefits to be gained when losing your conventional lawn. Designers Cassy Aoyagi of FormLA and Joel Lichtenwalter of Grow Outdoor Design will follow and present options for walk-on and low-profile ground covers, along with installation and management tips. Wynne Wilson of Terra Design is our moderator for the program, and she will likely share a few thoughts based on her own design work.

your home. Her home native plant garden is certified by the National Wildlife Federation's Wildlife Habitat Program, and for five years has been included on the Theodore Payne Foundation's annual garden tour. She lives in the urban/wildland interface and uses companion planting, composting, and other methods to create a beautiful, productive backyard garden and orchard.

Cassy Aoyagi is president of FormLA Landscaping, a high-end, full-service landscaping firm founded in 1997 that is dedicated to saving L.A. with its own authentic beauty. A LEED and SITES accredited practitioner, Aoyagi is a board member of the L.A. chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council, and sits on the L.A. County Planning Department's Significant Ecological Areas Technical Advisory Committee. She is also the immediate past board president of the Theodore Payne Foundation and her work has been covered in *Sunset*, *Dwell* and *Form* magazines, as well as on HGTV and in the *L.A. Times*. She contributes expertise online to the *L.A. Times*' SoCal Garden Clinic and *Houzz*, and her work is frequently featured on area garden tours.

Joel Lichtenwalter is an L.A.-based landscape designer who started his firm Grow Outdoor Design in 2005 after completing the UCLA Extension Certificate Program in Horticulture. His practice is guided by the desire to create inspired, informed, and sustainable outdoor spaces. He is a former board member of SCHS as well as the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD). Lichtenwalter's

projects have appeared in *Sunset* magazine, the *L.A. Times*, *California Landscape Design* magazine, and been featured on many garden tours, including those of the APLD, the Theodore Payne Foundation, the Garden Conservancy Open Days and the Venice Garden Tour.

Wynne Wilson is the owner of the landscape design firm Terra Design, which pursues projects that promote her team's personal and professional philosophy of restoration, preservation, and education. Through her work as a garden designer using primarily California's native plants and sustainable materials, Wynne's team has created gardens of all types - from large estates to small commercial/restaurant settings, vineyards in the Central Coast, and many residential gardens.

We believe this evening's program will be informative and also perfectly timed for those considering replacing their lawns during this fall planting season. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from and talk with these local experts!

Photo by Sabine Steinmetz



In addition to Ellen Mackey's work with the MWD, she is a lecturer on native plant and backyard horticulture, creating/living in a sustainable home, and fire-hardening

## SCHS HOLIDAY PARTY Canoga Park Women's Club

Keep **Thursday, December 12** open for our annual Holiday Party, featuring a "Freebie Table" with giveaways donated by members, sweet and savory treats, a seasonal-themed program, plus lots of plants!!!

Details coming next month....

**SAVE THE DATE!**

The annual SCHS Horticulturist of the Year banquet, honoring Tree of Life Nursery founder and plantsman Mike Evans, was held September 28 in Ayres Hall at the Los Angeles County Arboretum. Mike was selected as this year's HOTY recipient for his many contributions to horticulture in the past 40+ years as a nurseryman, a designer, a conservationist, for his work in community service and as an educator. He promotes an honest approach to California horticulture, specifically in authentic garden design using native plants, and is currently passing his knowledge on to the next generations as a professor in the horticulture program at Saddleback Community College in Mission Viejo.



Before the presentation portion of the evening began, guests were able to bid on Silent Auction items donated for the event, and then treated to dinner and dessert, catered by the Peacock Cafe staff. After dinner, Steve Gerischer, SCHS Board Vice-President, introduced Richard Schulhof, the CEO of the Arboretum, who welcomed attendees before turning the mic over to Lili Singer, SCHS Board Member and former HOTY recipient.

Lili gave context to the selection of the venue by providing a brief history of Dr. Samuel Ayres, for whom the hall is named. Dr. Ayres made it his mission to see beautiful trees planted throughout Los Angeles, and was the person who found the property which is now the site of the Arboretum. (Please view video of event on the SCHS Facebook page for Lili's full description.) After concluding her talk, Lili, on behalf of the SCHS Board, presented Steve Gerischer with gifts for his past service as Board President. Steve in turn asked any past HOTY recipients in the audience to stand and be acknowledged, before inviting several people close to Mike Evans to speak about our honoree.

First at the podium was Mike's daughter, Debbie, who worked at the nursery for over 10 years, and before that, learned about plants and conservation at her father's side, even on family vacations. She spoke about Mike's work ethic, his passion for plants, and how generous he is and

always has been in giving of his time and knowledge to as many people as possible.

She was followed by Tree of Life General Manager, Laura Camp, who has worked with Mike for over 20 years. She spoke about the many organizations he has been involved with, and on behalf of herself and the nursery staff, she summed up his personal philosophy as "taking an ecological approach to horticulture and life." Laura also passed along a message from Mike's business partner, Jeff Bohn, who was unable to attend. Jeff's words about Mike were that "he makes you feel noticed, valued, cared for and loved."

The final speaker to honor Mike was his friend, Dan Songster, of the California Native Plant Society, Orange County Chapter, who has known Mike since the 1980s, when native plants were still difficult to obtain. He considers Tree of Life to be a cherished institution, and described Mike by quoting garden writer Allen Lacy, who wrote, "more loving and caring people can be found among gardeners than among any other group united by common interests."

Following these opening remarks, Steve Gerischer presented Mike with his HOTY award. Mike then had the floor and gave a presentation about how gardeners inspire one another, and how this can have a positive effect on younger generations and the future of horticulture.

Mike spoke about how we, as gardeners, can make connections with upcoming generations to foster a love of nature and horticulture. He tasked us with helping to bridge the gap between generations, and reach out to young people who might have the desire to become involved with plants but don't know where to begin. He explained that every healthy eco-system is multi-generational, and even proposed an app to inspire people by sharing stories and making horticulture cool. (Refer to online video for Mike's suggestions.) He acknowledged that with the advent of instant technology at everyone's fingertips, some among the older generations feel distanced from the tech-savvy youth. However, instead of letting this be an obstacle, he concluded his talk by specifically challenging us to inspire, and to be inspired, even through technology - thereby ultimately making lasting and positive connections for the future of the horticultural world.

✿ Sabine Steinmetz

View video of award ceremony here: [www.facebook.com/socalhort](http://www.facebook.com/socalhort)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*This year's Silent Auction offered a beautiful selection of plants, pots, gift certificates and a variety of other donations for our guests to peruse and bid on most generously!*

*Many thanks to the following:*

**Businesses:** Asian Ceramics, Brandt Ceramics, El Nativio Growers, Glaze Fire, Go Get Em Tiger, Green Thumb Nursery, Jellybean Pottery, Los Angeles Natural History Museum, Matilija Nursery, Mildred E. Mathias Botanical Garden, Potted, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Roger's Gardens, Rolling Greens, Theodore Payne Foundation, Tree of Life Nursery, and Wild Wings Backyard Nature Store.

**Individuals:** Donna Marie Baker, Joan Citron, Shirley Marneus, Sandy Masuo, Greg Rubin & Lucy Warren, Lili Singer, Pat & Allen Steen and Dave Verity (via Debra Galliani & Laurel Woodley), as well as our other generous donors.

*We are grateful for every donation and all the participation, but unfortunately were unable to list every individual contribution.*

*Additionally, we would like to thank Nadia Balaz from the Arboretum Events Office and the Arboretum staff for their assistance, and Nicole's crew at the Peacock Café for catering another scrumptious dinner and dessert.*

*Finally, we appreciate the efforts of the SCHS board, with assistance from Erin Castillo who helped coordinate and document the event. Laura Bauer also deserves special recognition for the extra efforts she always puts into making the Silent Auction run smoothly. It takes many hours and much effort to plan, prep and put on the banquet each year, and we appreciate the many hands that worked hard to make it a success.*

*Thank you!*

## SHARING SECRETS

*In September we asked you about your favorite mulches, but we did not receive **any** responses!*

Since we did not have a regular monthly meeting at which to hand out cards, we offer you the option of answering **either** our question from September:

***What mulch(es) do you prefer using, and why?***

***or October's query:***

***Are you growing anything rare or unusual in your garden this fall?***

Since we're at the beginning of planting season, and/or readying to do a fall clean-up, your answers to either could be most useful for our members... ✿



*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)

Daily, 3:30pm, Nature Walk. Meet outside the Nature Lab (under the bridge) for a walk in the Nature Gardens to explore the diversity of life that calls L.A. home.

Every Saturday and Sunday, 11am, Nature Gardens Exploration. Meet outside the Nature Lab (under the bridge) for a hands-on activity in our Nature Gardens.



## SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes 90274  
310.544.1948 [southcoastbotanicgarden.org](http://southcoastbotanicgarden.org)

Saturday, 10/26, 9am-1pm. Master Gardener Series. Our foods are only as nutritious and healthy as we grow them. Master Gardener Liza Go will show how to rebuild and prepare soil, which veggies to plant and when, and how to maintain a healthy environment for your garden and community. Having a garden helps improve health, save on grocery bills and ensure fresh food on the table. This class will be held outdoors, rain or shine. Wear gardening clothes and hats appropriate for the weather. \$60 members, \$75 non-members.



## RANCHO LOS CERRITOS

4600 Virginia Road, Long Beach 90807  
562.206.2040 [rancholoscerritos.org](http://rancholoscerritos.org)

Thursday, 10/10, 8-9:30am, meet in lower parking lot for a Bird Walk on the grounds and watch resident birds and seasonal migrants. We'll also listen to calls and songs. Wear closed-toe shoes, a hat and bring binoculars. Rain cancels. More details online at <https://www.rancholoscerritos.org/upcoming-event/bird-walk-october-2019/>



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007  
626.821.4623 [arboretum.org](http://arboretum.org)

Saturday, 10/12, 10am-4pm. Botany Bootcamp. This comprehensive and compacted session will introduce the terminology, concepts and structures needed to identify plants by introducing you to the 7 most common plant families at the Arboretum. This 1-day class requires certain texts and a 10-20X illuminated hand loupe magnifier (available on Amazon.com). Please see <http://laarboretumplantid.blogspot.com/> for more info. \$65 members, \$75 non-members. Register online at [www.arboretum.org/calendar](http://www.arboretum.org/calendar). For questions, call the Education Dept. at 626-821-4623.

Saturday & Sunday, 10/12 & 10/13, 9am-5pm. Ikenoba Ikebana Exhibit. For questions, call 626-821-3222.

Saturday, 10/19, 10am-12pm. Meadow Planting. Learn how to grow a meadow using native and compatible flowers from seed. Everyone will make and launch see balls! Free, but please register online at [www.arboretum.org/calendar](http://www.arboretum.org/calendar).

Saturday, 10/26, 10am-12noon. Succulent Wreath Workshop. In this hands-on class, you'll make a wreath, which will grow into to a lush centerpiece for any table. Limited space. \$45 members, \$55 non-members. Register online at [www.arboretum.org/calendar](http://www.arboretum.org/calendar).



## HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108  
626.405.2100 [huntington.org](http://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. Cancelled in event of rain.

Thursday, 10/10, 2:30pm, Ahmanson Classroom, Brody Botanical Center. Super Natural: Plants Behaving Weirdly. Sandy Masuo, associate editor at the L.A. Zoo and Botanical Garden, will give a talk about wonderfully weird botanical "rebels" that survive by manipulating animals (and humans) for their own purposes. A plant sale follows.

Friday-Sunday, 10/18-10/20, 10am-5pm, Brody Botanical Center. 5th Annual Int'l. Orchid Show and Sale. View 100s of diverse blooms compete for honors. Enjoy displays by orchid societies and growers; browse orchid plants for sale.

Saturday, 10/19, 10am-12noon. Flower Arranging: Succulent Pumpkins Workshop with Flower Duet. Top a white pumpkin with succulents, pods, and nuts to create a centerpiece or gift. It will last for months, and the succulents can then be planted. \$85 members, \$100 non-members. Registration: [www.huntington.org/calendar](http://www.huntington.org/calendar).

Saturday, 10/19, 1-2:30pm. Succulent Mini-Pumpkins Children's Workshop with Flower Duet. Kids can learn to make fun holiday décor by topping miniature pumpkins with succulent plants. Ages 7+. \$35 members, \$45 non-members (Fee incl. 1 child & 1 accompanying adult.) Registration: [www.huntington.org/calendar](http://www.huntington.org/calendar).

Sunday, 10/20, 2:30pm, Rothenberg Hall. Life and Times of Ethnobotanist Richard Schultes in the Amazon. Schultes (1915-2001) is renowned for his work in the Amazon studying indigenous peoples' medicinal, ritual, and practical uses of plants. Ethnobotanist Mark Plotkin and cartographer Brian Hettler of the Amazon Conservation Team will share their interactive map, based on the Schultes' journals, that tracks his travels and offers insights into his role in the development of ethnobotany in the U.S.



## THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352  
818.768.1802 [theodorepayne.org](http://theodorepayne.org)

Wednesday, 10/23, 12:30-4:30pm. Fall Preview Sale. Early access to the widest array of plants for members at the Contributor level and above. Join at the door!

Thursday-Saturday, 10/24-10/26, 8:30am-4:30pm. Fall Plant Sale. Region's largest selection of California flora. 100s of easy-to-grow plants and collector's items, plus expert advice from TPF staff and volunteers. Many plants in large sizes, plus a wide array of native seed, bulbs, and TPF gear. Discounts for all on all three days.

## RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711  
909.625.8767 [rsabg.org](http://rsabg.org)

Saturday & Sunday, 10/19 & 10/20, 10am-4:30pm Saturday and 9am-4:30pm Sunday. Fall Plant Sale. Celebrate the seasonal opening of Grow Native Nursery! Thousands of unusual and hard-to-find native and California-friendly plants will be available. Preliminary plant list will be posted 2 weeks before sale, and be updated frequently, so check online inventory often at <https://www.rsabg.org/grow-native-nursery/inventory>! On Saturday, 10/19, RSABG members are permitted to enter the sale at 8 am, and members of the Chino Basin Water Conservation District are permitted to enter at 9 am. Sponsored by the Chino Basin Water Conservation District.



## SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024  
760.436.3036 [sdbgarden.org](http://sdbgarden.org)

Saturday & Sunday, 10/19 & 10/20, 10am-4pm; also Monday, 10/21, 9am-12noon. 37th Annual Fall Plant Sale. Incredible deals on California natives, cacti, succulents, bromeliads, fruit trees and sub-tropical plants. Visit Botanic Attic for garden-related vintage items, and check out homemade goodies. Plant donations from local growers, wholesalers, retail nurseries and individuals make this one of the most diverse plant sales in all of San Diego County!

Saturday & Sunday, 10/26 & 10/27, 9am-5pm Saturday and 10am-3pm Sunday. Annual Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale. See specimens from around the world – and add them to your collection! Check out award-winning show plants that both the novice and the collector will enjoy, as well as handmade ceramic pots, driftwood planters, and more unique items for sale.



## U.C. RIVERSIDE BOTANIC GARDEN

900 University Ave., Riverside 92521  
951-784-6962 [gardens.ucr.edu](http://gardens.ucr.edu)

Saturday, 10/19, 10am-4pm. Fall Garden Market & Plant Sale. Shop our vendors for water-wise plants, vegetables, herbs and much more. Complimentary parking in UCR Lot 13 with shuttles between Lot 13 and the Gardens.



## FULLERTON ARBORETUM




1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831  
657.278.3407 [fullertonarboretum.org](http://fullertonarboretum.org)

Saturday, 10/12, 10am. Public Nature Tour. Meet at the Nature Center and join one of our knowledgeable docents as they guide you on a tour through the beautiful garden. \$5 donation. Repeats on Saturday 10/26.

Saturday, 10/19, 10 am. Composting with Worms! Learn how to introduce and maintain worms in your home composting system. \$7 members, \$10 non-members.

Yvonne Savio

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

-  Oct. 10 - Lawn Alternatives Panel with Cassy Aoyagi, Ellen Mackey, Joel Lichtenwalter and moderator Wynne Wilson
-  Nov. 14 - Travis Longcore speaking on Nighttime Ecology, Lighting, and Landscape Design
-  Dec. 12 - Marie Barnidge-McIntyre will speak on decorating with holiday greens at our Annual Holiday Party. Enjoy seasonal treats, our Give-Away Table and more!

**NOTE: VENUE CHANGE - Canoga Park Women's Club**

## GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Every leaf speaks bliss to me,  
fluttering from the autumn tree."

- Emily Bronte

**OCTOBER**



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

**NEWSLETTER October 2019**

**John Schoustra** - President, Field-Trip Committee, Finance Committee, Plant Raffle, Plant Sales at meetings

**Steven Gerischer** - Vice President, Oral History Committee, PR

**Laura Bauer** - Treasurer, Finance Committee, Website Committee, HOTY Event Committee, Voicemail

**Pat Steen** - Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, Field Trip and Coffee-in-the-Garden Committees, Greeter

**Carol Aronson** - Field Trip & Coffee-in-the-Garden Committees, Program Committee

**Carol Bornstein** - Program Committee

**Aprille Curtis** - Social Media Committee, Plant Forum supplies

**Fleur Nooyen** - Program Committee

**Steven Ormenyi** - Finance Committee

**Yoav Paskowitz** - Finance Committee, Oral History Committee, Website Committee, Newsletter Copy Editor

**Yvonne Savio** - Horticultural Happenings, Field Trip and Coffee-in-the-Garden Committees

**Lili Singer** - Board Nomination Committee, PR, Archives, Social Media Committee

**Sabine Steinmetz** - Newsletter Editor, Sharing Secrets, Graphic Design

**Jill Vig** - Coffee-in-the-Garden Committee, Oral History Committee, Special Projects

**818-567-1496 / socalhort.org / Join us on Facebook**  
Newsletter Editor: Sabine Steinmetz

Contributors to this issue: Yvonne Savio

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