



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

November 2020

OUR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING

Thursday, November 12

Plant Forum at 7:15 p.m.

Webinar at 7:30 p.m.



Visit: www.socalhort.org
for registration info.

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

*We're pleased to say "hello" to
the following new members:*

Bill Jang

Michelle Lapierre

Susan Owen

Glad to have you!

CONNECT WITH SCHS

We invite members to engage with
us online until we can meet again.

FIND US AT:

www.socalhort.org

www.facebook.com/pg/socalhort

www.instagram.com/socalhort



*All membership options
are also listed on our website.*

IN THIS ISSUE

November Program and
Membership News 1

October Program Recap
and Garden Share 2

Horticultural Happenings and
Fellowship Opportunity 3

Upcoming Programs and
SCHS Contact info. 4

*Until we are able to meet again in person, the SCHS continues to host monthly webinars and other
virtual events. Presentations are being archived on YouTube for your viewing convenience.*

Nature Restoration Landscaping

Photo courtesy of speaker.



In November, as planting season is in full swing, the SCHS will be hosting a webinar program by Dennis Mudd, a self-taught native plant enthusiast who founded the Calscape website in 2010 with the goal of enabling small scale nature restoration efforts in California. The site is primarily focused on showing which plants are likely to be native to any location in the state. It allows users to create plant lists, research nurseries and other resources to obtain specific plants, as well as providing information on how to grow them.

This evening's presentation is meant to give native plant gardeners the information they will need to recreate nature in their gardens through biomimicry plant selection, irrigation, mulching, weed control and pest control practices. It will include photos of native plants and associated wildlife, chosen to represent what can be attained through living surrounded by nature. Mudd believes that nature is the most beautiful and environmentally responsible model for landscaping in California and would like to convince traditional gardeners to give nature restoration landscaping a try. He is hopeful that homeowners restoring nature

in their gardens can slow, and one day even reverse, the loss of biodiversity being caused by widespread development in California.

In 2014, Mudd donated Calscape to the California Native Plant Society and led development of the site in partnership with CNPS and the Jepson eFlora group at UC Berkeley until 2019. Calscape is currently the largest California native plant website with over two million unique users. In addition to the website, his favorite recommendations for gardeners are: *California Native Plants for the Garden* by Carol Bornstein, David Fross and Bart O'Brien; *Bringing Nature Home* by Douglas W. Tallamy; and the international website www.iNaturalist.org.

Currently, Mudd is the codirector of the Smart Food Foundation, a non-profit that provides healthy food, cooking and nutrition education to low-income communities in San Diego. When not working in his native garden in Poway (which won the San Diego Home and Garden's Garden of the Year Award in 2012), he might be enjoying nature on his mountain bike, as he is also a member of the UC Cyclery racing team.

We are looking forward to seeing and hearing Mudd's presentation and getting new ideas to potentially inspire our own nature restoration gardening projects. Please consider tuning in for this timely and fascinating topic.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

PLANT FORUM - ONGOING

Preceding our speaker in October, the SCHS reintroduced our popular Plant Forum online. Based on feedback received, we are hoping to evolve the Plant Forum format to include and showcase more submissions from members, as well as answering submitted questions.

We are also planning to archive all virtual Plant Forums on our YouTube channel.

[Click to link to our YouTube channel here.](#)

We thank you for your responses to, and participation in, our online activities!



SCHS BOARD UPDATE

SCHS board appointments run for two-year terms from July 1 through June 30. The current board has agreed to continue in their respective positions through 2021, at which time new board positions will be voted upon. Any openings on the board will be announced to the membership in May 2021 via our various media channels.

Between now and then, members are encouraged to nominate candidates – or volunteer themselves – to fill any potential vacancies as we are always looking for fresh perspectives and input!

In October, just ahead of our prime planting season, the SCHS welcomed Florence Nishida, M.S., a Research Associate at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, who presented a remarkable program on growing Asian vegetables in Los Angeles. She not only showed us slides of which Asian vegetables home gardeners can successfully cultivate, but also provided tips on extending the growing season for these edibles. She also shared food prep ideas and simple recipes.

Since joining the Master Gardeners of Los Angeles County in 2008, Nishida has been helping L.A. residents, most notably in under-resourced communities, to



Photo courtesy of speaker.

become more self-sufficient by growing food at home. She also started the first edible/teaching garden at the Natural History Museum where she has taught Beginning Vegetable Gardening classes, and in 2010 founded the non-profit L.A. Green Grounds (www.lagreengrounds.org) to further her teaching goals. With this group, she has created many front-yard, edible gardens to demonstrate that people can improve their diets, health and physical stamina through the home growing of food. Her teaching skills were evident in her presentation, which was packed with information and was very well-organized and easy to follow.

Nishida began her program with her list of reasons why Asian vegetables should warrant a spot in L.A.'s home gardens, including that they are easy to grow in our climate and typically have long fruiting/harvesting seasons. She also mentioned that some are perennials which can find a permanent place in the landscape, and many are suited for small space gardens or container planting. These vegetables are also nutritious and quick-cooking with abundant recipes available for their use.

She then presented information about the vegetables, organized in categories, beginning with legumes (peas and beans). This group "fixes" nitrogen in the soil, which helps them – and their neighboring

plants – to grow without needing a lot of supplemental fertilizers. Nishida encouraged us to try eating the shoots of snow and snap peas, as well as the pods; planting the legume seeds next to other vegetables that would be finishing their season when the legume shoots would be coming up; and experimenting with yard-long beans (available at farmer's markets).

From there, Nishida went on to brassicas – the cabbage family – which features many Asian food staples including bok choy, tatsoi, 'Green Glaze' heirloom collard, mizuna (which has a long harvest and is drought-tolerant), Osaka purple mustard, amaranth (Chinese spinach), Malabar spinach, and the well-known Japanese cucumber. She also provided planting tips and images of easy-to-prepare dishes for many of these plants.

Members of the gourd family were shown next (Kabocha pumpkins and melons); then Solanum (Shishito pepper and Japanese eggplant – a perennial), followed by roots and tubers (Daikon radish, Japanese turnip 'Mikado', Japanese sweet potato ('Murasaki' and 'Satsuma' varieties) and Japanese taro, or Sato-imo – another perennial, and finally herbs (lemon grass, Thai basil – a perennial bee-magnet, Shungiku (edible chrysanthemum) and Shiso from the mint family).

For all of her plant categories, Nishida also provided advice on the proper spacing for planting various vegetables, how to build appropriate supports, when and how to harvest the different edible parts of specific veggies, gave suggestions for irrigation and reminded us about the importance of continuously harvesting the edible portions of these plants to prolong their production season. She wrapped up the slide portion by sharing some Asian seasonings that would enhance the flavors of these edibles, including sweet rice wine, soy sauce, sesame oil, oyster sauce, chile oil, Chinese and Japanese all-spice combinations and fresh ginger. All of the vegetables and seasonings should be readily available for purchase in the greater Los Angeles area.

The webinar concluded with our monthly give-away and a Q&A session with Nishida, providing those who stayed on with even more information on

fertilizing, pest control, the L.A. Green Grounds program, and even offering seeds she has collected to our audience! As we all get ready to refresh our gardens this fall, we now have a whole new palette of edible plants with unusual shapes, textures, scents and colors to choose from for planting. As many of us are spending more time at home these days, we might choose to expand upon what vegetables we grow at home, and become better "farmers" and cooks as we experiment in our gardens and kitchens!

✂ Sabine Steinmetz

To watch this presentation on SCHS's YouTube channel, click on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8tco9QCGqCM>

SCHS MONTHLY GARDEN SHARE

Enjoy your gardens this month – whether or not you do any planting!

- Do an overall clean-up
- Leave some of your leaf mold to decompose & feed plants
- Finish pruning perennials
- Refresh your mulch as needed
- BEGIN YOUR PLANTING!
 - cool season vegetables
 - California natives
 - new perennial shrubs
 - seasonal favorites/annuals
- Put in bulbs for the spring and divide older ones

HAVE A SAFE and HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

✂ Sabine Steinmetz

Find more on SCHS on the following online outlets:


www.facebook.com/pg/socalhort • www.instagram.com/socalhort • www.socalhort.org

COVID-19 UPDATES FOR LOCAL GARDEN VENUES

Organizations below that have reopened as of press time are marked  Those with only an online presence, or holding virtual meetings, are marked 

Please support your local favorites, but check with individual venues for updated info if you are planning a visit. And don't forget, your local nurseries need support too!

 **CALIFORNIA BOTANIC GARDEN**
(formerly RANCHO SANTA ANA)
1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711
909.625.8767 www.calbg.org

 **CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**
SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS CHAPTER
1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
818.398.5420 www.cnps-smg.org

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

 **COASTKEEPER GARDEN**
1560 E. Santiago Cyn. Rd., Orange 92869
714.850.1965 www.coastkeeper.org

 **DESCANSO GARDENS**
1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011
818.949.7980 www.descansogardens.org

 **EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER**
1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
626.398.5420 www.ecnca.org

 **FULLERTON ARBORETUM**
1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831
657.278.3407 www.fullertonarboretum.org

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

 **LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM**
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007
626.821.4623 www.arboretum.org

 **NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF L.A.**
900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles 90007
213.763.3466 www.nhm.org


 **RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS**
6400 E. Bixby Hill Rd., Long Beach 90815
562.431.3541 www.rancholosalamitos.org

 **RANCHO LOS CERRITOS**
4600 Virginia Road, Long Beach 90807
562.206.2040 www.rancholoscerritos.org

 **SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN**
230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024
760.436.3036 www.sdbgarden.org

 **SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN**
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes 90274
310.544.1948 www.southcoastbotanicgarden.org

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

 **UC RIVERSIDE BOTANIC GARDENS**
900 University Ave., Riverside 92521
951-784-6962 www.gardens.ucr.edu

 **Yvonne Savio**
www.gardeninginla.net/blog

LOS ANGELES BIODIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM 2020

This event is for 5 days from Monday, November 16 through Friday, November 20, 3:00-5:00 pm daily.

The Association of Professional Landscape Designers Greater Los Angeles (APLD) and LA Sanitation & Environment (LASAN) are presenting this deep dive into issues surrounding biodiversity, to which the future of our ecosystem, health, economy and environmental function are all integrally linked. Los Angeles is one of only 36 Biodiversity Hotspots on the planet, however signals of extinctions and loss are building. A diverse group of experts has been assembled for this symposium to inform and educate on this subject. Garden by garden, park by park, steps can be taken to change the narrative of environmental degradation and preserve biodiversity.

For more information, contact Johanna Woollcott, Wild Gardens, 310-592-6120. Tickets range from \$10 - \$60. To register and purchase tickets, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/apld-and-lasan-biodiversitysymposium-tickets-119025353035>.

STUDENT FELLOWSHIP/GRANT OPPORTUNITY

SCHS is sharing this information with our student members and supporters, as an opportunity to further their careers in horticulture.

The Garden Club of America 2021 Hope Goddard Iselin Fellowship is offered in partnership with the American Public Gardens Association. This

fellowship in Public Horticulture awards up to a \$5,000 grant to a student enrolled in a graduate-level university program to study public horticulture through experiential learning that takes place at a recognized public garden, botanic garden, arboretum, or other closely aligned public horticulture institution.



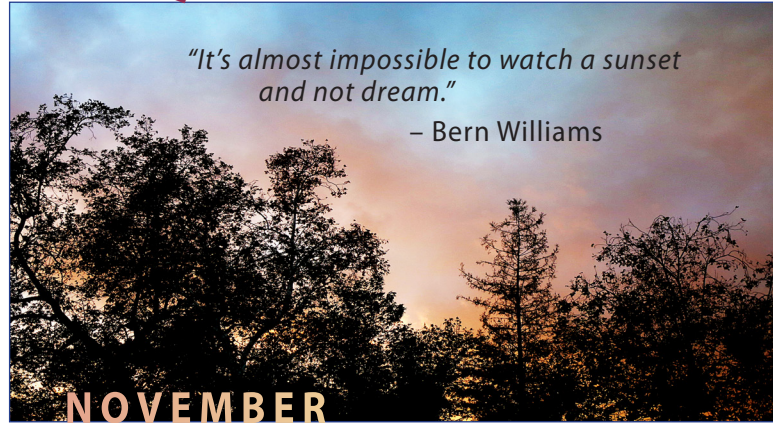
**American
Public Gardens
Association**

Link to:
Application/Nomination
Deadline: February 1, 2021

Until we are able to meet again in person, monthly programs will continue to be scheduled as online webinars.

-  November 12 - Dennis Mudd, creator of Calscape, speaking about Native Restoration Landscaping
 WEBINAR
-  December 10 - Steve Gerischer, Owner of Larkspur Garden Design, presents "Mission Possible: Growing Roses Organically"
 WEBINAR
-  January 14 - Stay tuned for new programs in the new year!
 TBA

GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH



*"It's almost impossible to watch a sunset
and not dream."*

– Bern Williams

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

Connect with us at: 818-567-1496 • socalhort.org • facebook.com/socalhort • instagram.com/socalhort

Newsletter Editor: Sabine Steinmetz

Contributors to this issue: Dennis Mudd, Yvonne Savio

Next deadline: Monday, November 16 (for December newsletter)
Please contribute an article or information of interest.



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

NEWSLETTER November 2020