



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

October 2021

OUR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING

Thursday, October 14

Announcements at 7:10 p.m.

Plant Forum at 7:15 p.m.

Webinar at 7:30 p.m.



Visit: www.socalhort.org
for registration info.

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

*Happy to have the following
people join our group:*

Fran Perez

Diane Connell & Greg Stewart

Marisa Virgen

Linda Lee Worlow

CONNECT WITH SCHS

Please engage with us online!

YOU CAN FIND US AT:

www.socalhort.org
www.facebook.com/pg/socalhort
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*All membership options
are listed on our website.*

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Growing Weed in The Garden: An introduction to One of The Oldest Plants in Cultivation

From peonies to pot – Johanna Silver, former *Sunset* garden editor, will share her journey into cannabis with the SCHS on October 14. Spoiler – she's not a stoner. Her presentation

will provide a brief history of the plant, which is one of (if not *the*) oldest plants under human cultivation, including how regional

climates impacted the plant's evolution. Silver will paint a picture of the current state of the plant's genetics, unrivaled by anything else in horticulture, as it has not yet gone through modern breeding practices. Myths and misinformation when it comes to cultivation, coming from approximately a 100 years of prohibition, will be discussed and corrected.

In addition to her time at *Sunset*, Silver is a James Beard Award-winning author who writes mostly about plants and people. Her two books, *The Bold Dry Garden: Lessons from the Ruth Bancroft Garden*

(Timber Press, 2017) and *Growing Weed in the Garden: A No-Fuss, Seed-to-Stash Guide to Outdoor Cannabis Cultivation* (Abrams, 2020) are available everywhere books are sold. She is also a contributing editor at *Better Homes & Gardens*, and her work has been featured in *Martha Stewart Living* magazine, the *San Francisco Chronicle* newspaper, and *Eating Well* magazine. Previously, she spent ten years at *Sunset* magazine, beginning with a shovel in her hands and culminating as head of the garden department.

Silver lives and gardens in Berkeley, California, where she grows fruits, veggies, and, in her words, "entirely too many cut flowers." It should be noted that her approach to cannabis cultivation is outdoor-only and garden-scale. She grows for a love of the plant, not with a goal of maximizing yield. The gardening techniques she most adheres to are those that are easiest, simplest, and the most tried-and-true, and we anticipate learning more on this trending topic during her presentation. Please tune in for this one-of-a-kind program. Registration is open at: www.socalhort.org.

Photo by: Rachel Weill



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

RESUMPTION OF "LIVE" MEETINGS

While the SCHS was pleased to be able to present a hybrid meeting in August (in-person plus live-streaming), the board has voted to wait until 2022 before regularly scheduling live events. Until the emerging variants of the Coronavirus are more controlled, we will continue to have virtual programs and speakers. However, live events are already being planned, and are simply "on hold" for the time being.



SCHS SILENT AUCTION

Last month's HOTY program was a virtual program for the second year in a row. (See page 2 for recap.) The evening also marked the second time that the SCHS was unable to hold its annual fund-raising Silent Auction.

As with our monthly meetings, plans have already been made for when we will be able to resume this much-missed event and we have been actively collecting items for auction. There will be books, botanical art, pots, tools, all manner of garden-related treasures, and of course, plants.

Check back for updates as we hope to hold the auction sometime in the spring of 2022 – and begin gathering any donations you might like to contribute!

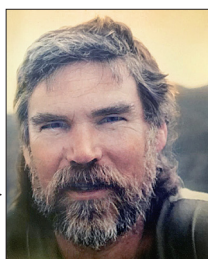


Follow SCHS online at:

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www.instagram.com/socalhort

On September 23, the SCHS presented its annual Horticulturist of the Year Award Program as a virtual event for the second year in a row, due to the pandemic. We once again elected to use this as an opportunity to present the HOTY award posthumously to three recipients that influenced horticulture throughout Southern California during their lifetimes. Following is a summary of the program honoring these deserving HOTY recipients.

Photo by: Donna Marie Baker.



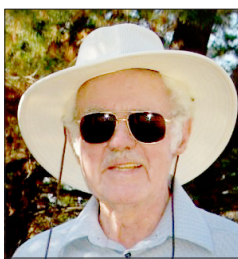
Current SCHS board member and former HOTY recipient Lili Singer spoke about honoree Bill Baker. He was well-known in Southern California horticultural circles and beyond – as a nurseryman, plant hybridizer and landscape designer.

As a young man, Baker worked at West Valley Nursery in Tarzana, and eventually opened California Gardens Nursery on land he acquired in 1972. According to his catalog, the nursery specialized in “bulbs, bromeliads, epiphytic cactus and succulents”, but Baker’s plant interests were much more diversified. He travelled and explored Baja California and mainland Mexico, as well as Central and South America, hunting and collecting unusual flora.

Baker was an active member of the San Fernando Valley Bromeliad Society and was well-known for his many hybrids, including *Dyckia* ‘Brittle Star’ and *D.* ‘Tarzana.’ His plants were featured at Huntington plant sales and offered through their International Succulent Introductions program, and his *Dyckia* ‘Ruby Snow’ was offered in this year’s ISI catalog.

A number of plants have been named for him, including *Echeveria bakeri*, *Pachyphytum* ‘Bill Baker’ and *Pachyveria* ‘Bill Baker.’ He is missed, and his contributions to horticulture continue to be recognized worldwide.

Photo courtesy of Mike Evans.



Presenting on our second honoree, John Dourley, was 2019 HOTY recipient Mike Evans, the owner of Tree of Life Nursery in San Juan Capistrano.

Dourley came to America from Scotland in 1952, and by 1967 he had settled in Claremont and began working at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden with almost no prior knowledge of California native plants. He soon became a recognized expert, making new horticultural contributions at RSABG where he served as the Director of Horticulture until 1987.

During his tenure at RSABG – and continuing after his retirement – he was active in Claremont and the surrounding communities, often as a horticultural consultant – particularly regarding trees. In 1981 he coauthored the book *California Native Trees and Shrubs*, with Dr. Lee Lenz. Dourley was an influence on many California native plant experts including Carol Bornstein and Bart O’Brien, as well as Evans. He cited Dourley as a mentor when Tree of Life nursery was being established.

In honor of his many personal horticultural contributions, Tree of Life introduced the *Arctostaphylos* cultivar ‘John Dourley’ in 1990, and it remains one of the most reliable and popular mid-sized manzanitas for California native gardens to this day.

Photo courtesy of Paul Mills.



Our final honoree, Virginia Hayes, was Curator of the Living Collection at Lotusland garden in Montecito for 25 years until her retirement in 2017. The current curator, Paul Mills, spoke about her impact on the gardens there and on the greater horticultural community.

Early on, Hayes worked for Santa Barbara Water Gardens, eventually buying its maintenance division. During this time, she became a world-renowned expert on *Nelumbo nucifera* and was a founding member of the International Lotus Society. In 1982 she began working for Lotusland and was soon promoted to Curator of Living Collections. Her accomplishments included expanding the plant collections, cataloging the library, photos, and Ganna Walska’s personal documents, and updating the plant records database. She trained the docents and mentored many others, including Mills. Hayes’ extensive work did much to bring Lotusland into the national and international limelight.

A prolific writer, Hayes wrote columns for the *Santa Barbara Independent* newspaper and authored the book *The Gourmet Gardener*. She served on the board of the American Public Garden Association, was a reviewer for their Plant Collections Network, and cofounded the Horticulture Consortium of Santa Barbara. Her influence and contributions are felt daily at Lotusland as well as far beyond its borders.

✂ Sabine Steinmetz

✂ SCHS MONTHLY GARDEN SHARE ✂

Fall has finally arrived and with it the following chores:

- Begin annual “fall clean-up”...
 - Prune perennials and shrubs
 - Clear fallen fruit and other debris from the ground
 - Harvest and spread compost, then begin refilling bin with fall garden trimmings
 - Replenish mulch all around
- Continue (or start!) dividing perennials and replant.
- Keep dead-heading roses to get blooms through November.
- Plant, plant, plant!
 - California natives
 - Cool season veggies
 - Seasonal annuals & bulbs
 - Wildflower seeds
 and almost anything else!
- Once cool weather stabilizes, cut back on irrigation, but stay aware of weather events.

✂ Sabine Steinmetz

Click on link to view program:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQvQ_V6qxb0

SCHS 2021 INTERN

On October 14, in conjunction with our monthly webinar, the SCHS will hear a short presentation by Bridget Lee, our 2021 horticultural internship recipient.

Lee will be scheduled ahead of the evening’s scheduled program and speak briefly about her recent time interning at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens.

Learn more about SCHS and check us out online at:
www.facebook.com/pg/socalhort • www.instagram.com/socalhort • www.socalhort.org

OCTOBER HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

COVID-19 UPDATES FOR LOCAL GARDEN VENUES

Venues open at press time are marked  and  for those that are online only.

Organizations and venues are offering more events and classes, both online and in person, while maintaining safety protocols, limited attendance and hours.

Please continue to check with your favorites for updated info if you are planning a visit.

ARLINGTON GARDEN

275 Arlington Drive, Pasadena 91105
626-578-5434
www.arlingtongardenpasadena.com

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-sgm.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

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

To see more events as they're posted,
check: www.gardeninginla.net/submit-your-garden-events.

LINKS TO UPCOMING EVENTS & WEBINARS

Please check with individual organizations for class fees & details

Department of Public Works Los Angeles County

- FREE Upcoming Zoom Classes -

(Webinars repeat throughout October & November)

- Intro to Composting
- Waterwise Gardening
- Organic Gardening
- Small Space Gardening

<https://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/sg/webinars.cfm>

California Garden & Landscape History Society

- Upcoming Zoom Lecture -

Apples & Ciders & Trees

<https://cglhs.org/upcoming-events>

Waterwise Community Center, Chino Basin Water Conservation District

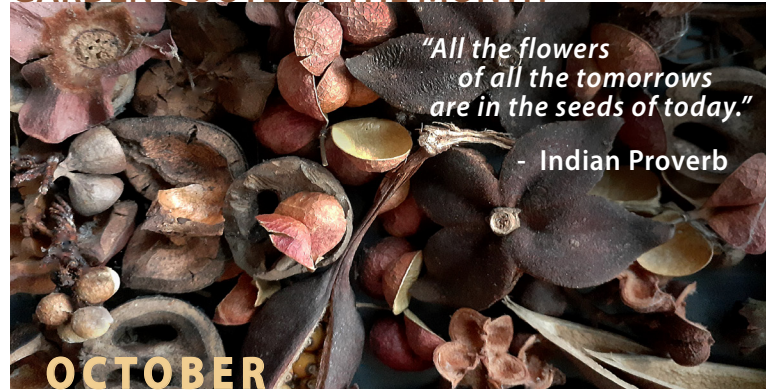
- Upcoming Zoom Gardening Workshops -

<https://www.cbwcd.org/354/Free-Workshops>

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

-  October 14 - Johanna Silver, former *Sunset* editor and author will talk about Growing Weed in The Garden
WEBINAR - Plus: SCHS Intern, Bridget Lee, will speak briefly on her studies at the Huntington
-  November 11 - Matty Williams, landscaper and urban planner presents a program on "A Brief History of African American Landscape Architects"
WEBINAR
-  December 9 - "California in A Vase" flower arranging demo by Lucinda McDade and Linda Prendergast of California Botanic Garden
WEBINAR

GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH



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

NEWSLETTER October 2021

John Schoustra - President, Field-Trip and Finance Committees, Plant Raffle, Plant Sales (at meetings) and RBLS Chair
Steven Gerischer - Vice President, Oral History Committee, Marketing, PR & Publicity and Silent Auction
Laura Bauer - Treasurer, Finance Committee, Website Chair, HOTY Event Committee, Voicemail and RBLS Committee
Pat Steen - Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, Coffee-in-the-Garden Committee, Greeter
Carol Aronson - Field Trip, Coffee-in-the-Garden, Program, HOTY and RBLS Committees
Carol Bornstein - Program, HOTY and RBLS Committees
Aprille Curtis - Social Media Committee, Plant Forum supplies
Fleur Nooyen - Program and RBLS Committee
Steven Ormenyi - Finance Committee, Voice Mail Recording
Yoav Paskowitz - Finance, Oral History and Website Committees, Newsletter Copy Editor
Yvonne Savio - Coffee-in-the-Garden Committee, Horticultural Happenings Events Contributor (Newsletter)
Lili Singer - HOTY and Social Media Chair, Marketing, Board Nomination, PR & Publicity and RBLS Committees, Archives
Sabine Steinmetz - Newsletter Editor, Garden Share, Graphic Design
Jill Vig - Oral History Committee Chair, Coffee-in-the-Garden Committee, Special Projects

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

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Contributors: Yvonne Savio, Johanna Silver

Next deadline: Monday, October 18 (for November newsletter)

Please contribute an article or information of interest.