



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

March 2022

## OUR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING

**Thursday, March 10**

Announcements at 7:10 p.m.

Plant Forum at 7:15 p.m.

**Webinar at 7:30 p.m.**



Visit: [www.socalhort.org](http://www.socalhort.org)  
for registration info.

## SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

*We are looking forward to seeing members  
in person soon, which now include:*

Dan Baer & Marco Servetti	Ellen & Mickey Jannol Sandy Keaton & Jim Roth
Louise Bahar Jody Donnelly	Kelly Mitchell Gina Richmond
Faline England & David Miller	Gay & Gary Robbins Rebecca Schultz
Alfred Hockenmaier Kari Huinker	Valeria Serna



Visit website for all membership options.

## CONNECT WITH SCHS ONLINE

YOU CAN FIND US AT:

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

[facebook.com/pg/  
socalhort](https://facebook.com/pg/socalhort)

[instagram.com/  
socalhort](https://instagram.com/socalhort)

## IN THIS ISSUE

March Program and  
Membership News ..... 1

February RBLS Recap, SCHS Live  
Events and Garden Share ..... 2

Horticultural Happenings,  
and SCHS Call for Support .... 3

Upcoming Programs and  
SCHS Contact info. .... 4

**PLEASE NOTE:** In person meetings and events are being planned for 2022, in accordance with the most up-to-date L.A. County Health Dept. guidelines.

## GROWING YOUR BEST TOMATOES... ...AND OTHER SPRING / SUMMER VEGETABLES!!!

On March 10, we will be entertained and educated on growing tomatoes (and other warm season veggies) by Sylmar Charter High School agriculture teacher Steve List. Throughout this program he will be encouraging a u d i e n c e questions, as his main focus is on sharing knowledge to help us all grow the best veggies we are capable of. He would like webinar attendees to “bring their toughest questions” so he can tailor the program to address our needs, instead of focusing on just the basics.

First and foremost, List is a teacher, but he is also a landscaper and an Urban Garden Lecturer for the City of L.A. and is a popular personality on YouTube. (Links to some videos featuring List follow at end of this article.) For the past 15 years, he has been cultivating high school horticulturists – teaching his students about urban agriculture, nutrition, edible landscaping and more.

Since taking over the Sylmar Charter’s neglected two-acre Agriculture Center,

List and his students have launched a green revolution of flowers, fruits and vegetables across the northeast San Fernando Valley. To date, he and his young horticulturists have designed, built and given away 500-plus raised-bed gardens for families without fresh fruits and veggies, ensuring that a lot of Angelenos are able to benefit from growing and eating freshly picked produce.

List freely proclaims, “This is my dream, my calling”. We are looking forward to benefitting from his dedication as an educator and learning something new about cultivating healthy, home-grown produce. Prepare your questions now and please join us for this seasonally-appropriate webinar that will ready us for spring vegetable planting! Registration is now open at: [www.socalhort.org](http://www.socalhort.org).

Learn more about Steve List on his Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/steve.asklist](https://www.facebook.com/steve.asklist), or visit his “Ask Mr. List” YouTube channel (follow link below). We have also included a couple of the many YouTube videos that he is featured in.

**CLICK ON TITLE TO LINK TO VIDEO**

“Ask Mr. List” YouTube Channel  
Garden Q&A with Steve List  
Tour Steve List’s Nursery



Photo provided by speaker.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### SAVE THESE DATES!



### COFFEE IN THE GARDEN AT PIERCE COLLEGE

Our first Coffee in The Garden of 2022 will be held at Pierce College, where Keith Peabody of the Horticulture Department has arranged for guided tours of their Arboretum and the Mark Taper Garden.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 26**  
**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**



### HORTICULTURAL YARD SALE #2

Our next Horticultural Yard Sale is scheduled for April 2 at Baker’s Acres Nursery in Tarzana. In addition to offering plants and other garden-related items for sale, as an added incentive to stop by **Steve List is donating 6-packs of tomatoes to be given out for FREE – until supplies run out – to anyone who attended his March 10 webinar!**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 2**  
**10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**



See Page 2 for details  
about both events.

## FEBRUARY MEETING RECAP • SCHS LIVE EVENTS • MONTHLY GARDEN SHARE

On February 10 the SCHS hosted Suzanne Simard, Professor of Forest Ecology at the University of British Columbia and the leader of The Mother Tree Project, as our speaker in this year's installment of the Ruth Borun Lecture Series. The evening's presentation was drawn from the research that led to the publication of her latest book, *Finding the Mother Tree*, which explores the ways in which trees communicate, learn and adapt their behaviors with a sophistication typically ascribed to humans.

Dr. Simard grew up, and currently works in, heavily-forested areas of British Columbia, where her early experiences with standard forestry industry practices set her on the path culminating in her ground-breaking research. Over 30 years ago, she – and others – recognized that clear-cutting sections of forests to plant tree monocultures was destroying biodiversity and creating “holes” in the

environment, inviting in pathogens, destructive insects, weeds, etc. Simard then began to question what might be happening to soil structures as well, leading to her extensive research on mycorrhizal fungi networks.

She cited David Reed's lab work in Britain, showing how trees can be linked by mycorrhiza and pass carbon between them, as an early inspiration into her work on tree communication. Despite publishing her research since the 1990s (over 170 scientific articles in journals to date), it wasn't until Dr. Simard began mapping sections of old-growth forests and did DNA testing on the fungal links among roots that her work became more widely recognized and accepted.

Understanding how “mother trees” nurture younger plants by processing the greatest amount of nutrients, sunlight, water, etc. and then distribute these for the communal good via their extensive root systems, has global ecological implications. Wide dissemination of this knowledge can aid, not only in efforts to regenerate (and sustain) forest ecosystems, but also to protect against fires and to sequester carbon.

If you would like to learn more, you can read about Dr. Simard at her website: [www.suzannesimard.com](http://www.suzannesimard.com), or click here for a link to purchase her book.

✂ Sabine Steinmetz

Photo credit: Diana Markosian



### SCHS MONTHLY GARDEN SHARE

*Now is the time to get growing!*

- Begin planting tomatoes and other veggies (Come to our March webinar!)
- Perennials will begin active growth, so watch for and manage pests.
- Put ornamentals, fruit trees and shrubs on your feeding schedule.
- Add mulch to newly planted areas and refresh throughout all beds.
- Watch your wildflowers bloom and visit native gardens for their best seasonal displays!

✂ Sabine Steinmetz

## FIRST SCHS IN-PERSON EVENTS OF 2022! MARCH 26 • CITG AT PIERCE and APRIL 2 • HORT YARD SALE

*The SCHS will be hosting a Coffee In The Garden event at Pierce College in Woodland Hills on Saturday, March 26.*

Keith Peabody of the Horticulture Dept. has arranged for guided tours of the Arboretum and the Mark Taper Garden, although self-guided tours are also permissible.

**Event runs from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**



### Guided Tours of Arboretum and Mark Taper Garden

First Tour at 11:00 a.m.  
Repeat Tour at 1:00 p.m.

#### PIERCE COLLEGE

6201 Winnetka Ave. • Woodland Hills

**Admission and parking are free.**

(Registration is requested at [www.socalhort.org](http://www.socalhort.org).)

**Refreshments will be provided too!**

*Our spring Horticultural Yard Sale will be on Saturday, April 2 with some new vendors and returning favorites.*

This FREE event is open to members and non-members alike, and we hope you will stop by to check out all of the garden-related items being offered for sale, including:



- Plants ● Decorative Pots ● Succulents ● Books
- Seedlings ● Botanical Art ● AND MORE PLANTS!

#### BAKER'S ACRES

18552 Erwin Street • Tarzana

Shop 'til you drop from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
- or just drop by for a visit and say “hello” -

**NOTE: Only street parking is available.**

***We are looking forward to seeing everyone again and hope you will be able to attend one or both of these events to usher in spring with us!***

***Learn more about SCHS and check us out online at:***

***[www.facebook.com/pg/socalhort](https://www.facebook.com/pg/socalhort) • [www.instagram.com/socalhort](https://www.instagram.com/socalhort) • [www.socalhort.org](http://www.socalhort.org)***

## MARCH HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS • SCHS CALL FOR SUPPORT

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

Organizations are offering events, both online and in person, but may have updated protocols in place.  
Please continue to check with your favorites for current 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

See more events as they're posted at:  
www.gardeninginla.net/submit-your-garden-events.

## LINKS TO UPCOMING EVENTS & WEBINARS

Please check with individual organizations for class fees & details

### Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment's Watershed Protection Program

#### Rain Barrel Maintenance

- FREE Zoom Webinar -

Saturday, March 5 from 10:30-11:45 am

Learn about the benefits of rainwater harvesting with rain barrels, and how to properly maintain them.

Register at:

<https://march5rainbarrelwebinar.eventbrite.com>

### City of Beverly Hills Greystone Demonstration Garden

#### Seed Saving, Propagation and Cloning

- LIVE Event / Cost: \$15. -

Sunday, March 6 from 10-11:30 am

George Pessin will teach you best practices to save your own heirloom varieties or collect new additions from friends.

For more info. or to register visit:

<https://beverlyhills.org/>






## SCHS ENCOURAGES SUPPORT OF LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

SCHS members have far-reaching connections to the horticultural community throughout Southern California and beyond, including the organizations listed above. As such, we offer support when the need arises and would like to encourage members to provide assistance - financial or otherwise - if they are able.

During the strong winds of late January, California Botanic Garden experienced severe damage, including the loss of 70 mature trees. They were closed for a month and just reopened February 26. If you would like to contribute to their rebuilding efforts you can find more information at: [www.calbg.org/support/donate](http://www.calbg.org/support/donate).



When we are able to resume in-person meetings they will be held at Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles CA 90027. (Hybrids will be shown simultaneously online via Zoom and Facebook Live.)

-  March 10 - Steve List, agriculture teacher and garden guru of Sylmar Charter High School talks tomatoes!  
WEBINAR
-  March 26 - Coffee In The Garden - 2 campus garden tours at Pierce College (Details on Page 2)  
LIVE EVENT
-  April 2 - Horticultural Yard Sale, Part 2 - at Baker's Acres from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Details on Page 2)  
LIVE EVENT
-  April 14 - Frédérique Lavoipierre, formerly of SBBG and PHS, will be talking about her book *Garden Allies*  
WEBINAR
-  May 12 - TBA - PROGRAM DETAILS BEING FINALIZED

## GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH



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

NEWSLETTER March 2022

**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](http://socalhort.org) • [facebook.com/socalhort](https://facebook.com/socalhort) • [instagram.com/socalhort](https://instagram.com/socalhort)

Newsletter Editor: Sabine Steinmetz  
Contributors: Yvonne Savio

Next deadline: Monday, March 14 (for April newsletter)  
Please contribute an article or information of interest.