



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

April 2017

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, April 13

Huntington Gardens
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, CA 91108



Tour with Speaker: 5:30 pm

Meeting begins: 7:00 pm

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

*We are pleased to say
"hello" to the following:*

**Rosalie Benitez
Charles Favors
Les Hairrell
Andrey Yun**

www.socalhort.org

SHARING SECRETS

Question for the month:

*What wildlife does your garden
attract? Intentionally or not...*

We'd love to hear from you!

Share online at socalhort.org
or e-mail to:
gardensbysabine@aol.com

Respond by Monday, April 17

IN THIS ISSUE:

March Meeting Recap,
June 17 Coffee in the Garden
and Sharing Secrets 2

May 7 SCHS Garden Tour
Registration Form Insert

Horticultural Happenings . . . 3

Upcoming Programs, Board
and Contact Info. 4

PLEASE NOTE - DIFFERENT VENUE and TIMES for APRIL MEETING!

THE CALIFORNIA GARDEN AT THE HUNTINGTON: EXPLORATIONS INTO THE NEW REGIONAL PLANT PALETTE

The SCHS April meeting will be held at the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens



where Scott Kleinrock, horticulturist, landscape designer and garden educator will

walk us through the Huntington's Frances and Sidney Brody California Garden. During and after the tour, Scott will speak about the concepts, planting design and horticulture-focused construction techniques behind this 6.5 acre mediterranean climate landscape. He will explain how the new entry garden strives to provide everything one could want from a landscape, including color, habitat, shade and places for respite and celebration, composed of plants primarily from the five mediterranean climates of the world.

Scott's work is primarily focused on California native, regionally adapted and edible landscapes. He maintains that low water landscapes do not have to be about "going without." Following the tour, he will speak more about both the successes and challenges of designing, installing and establishing the California Garden, in a talk aimed at investigating models for sustainable regional horticulture.

Scott is currently the Conservation Programs Manager at the Chino Basin Water Conservation District, an agency dedicated to creating a culture of sustainable water use through demonstration and education. Previously he was the Landscape Design and Planning Coordinator at the Huntington, where he led the planting



design of the Brody California Garden, which we will be exploring in this special program.

Photos courtesy of speaker.

TIMES, LOCATIONS, and MEETING DETAILS

5:30 - TOUR BEGINS

Meet at the Entrance and Visitor Center

7:00 - SPEAKER & MEETING

To be held in the Brody Botanical Center, Ahmanson Classroom.



GENERAL MEETING INFO.

ENTRY FEES

The Huntington has generously waived their admission fees, but the SCHS fee of \$5.00 per non-member will apply.

VENDORS & PLANTS

Vendor displays, sales and plant forum will take place during the meeting, but there will be **NO PLANT RAFFLE**.

FOOD

You may bring your own food to eat **ONLY** in the Brody Center or the Entrance / Visitor Center areas. **Food is not allowed on the Huntington grounds**

See you there!

Speaking to us at the March meeting was local garden consultant and California native plant expert, Barbara Eisenstein. Her presentation paralleled the structure of her recently published book, *Wild Suburbia*, which she wrote to help gardeners who have little or no experience with California native plants. Drawing on her personal



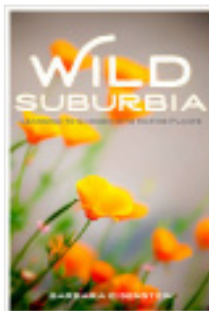
observations and experiences at her home garden in South Pasadena, as well as on her professional background as the former horticultural outreach coordinator at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, she offered practical knowledge about planting, irrigation, maintenance and even potential pitfalls to avoid.

Barbara began her talk by asking “new” gardeners in the audience to identify themselves, as her book was written with them in mind. She emphasized that she believes in a common sense approach to transitioning from a traditional to a native garden, addressing pros and cons gardeners may encounter, and encouraging them to make informed decisions appropriate to their situation, as *Wild Suburbia* is not a “how to” book, but rather a guide.

The book is broken down into chapters that take gardeners through the process of identifying characteristics of their location (climate, soil, water, etc.) so they may formulate a plan that will work for them. Grass removal techniques that are covered in the book were also presented. Without providing specific design plans, the book treats creating a garden as a process rather than a final product, allowing individual preferences to dictate choices, including how informal or tamed a garden might be.

This led to a discussion about plant selection, growth to maturity and eventual maintenance needs. Barbara choose not to include detailed plant lists in her book, instead offering her readers resources and suggestions on how to select healthy plants, when to plant, watering needs, mulching, and developing an understanding of dormancy cycles. She shared pictures illustrating some of these processes to underscore the need for new gardeners to educate themselves by learning through trial and error. She stated that she does not believe in “fail-proof” formulas, as there are too many variables, and sometimes the best way to know what will work or fail is simply to try.

Along with her anecdotes and practical advice, Barbara also spoke about the many reference charts found in her book. She concluded her talk with a Q and A session, and by again emphasizing the need for people to inform themselves; mentioning a number of reputable resources, including books, websites and nurseries. She understands that new gardeners may find a lot of conflicting information on the Internet and become discouraged, but offered encouragement for the hesitant. Barbara stated that one of her personal goals is to reach out to the “reluctant” gardener, which she is attempting to do with her book (copies of which were available for purchase) as well as in her current position as horticultural chair of the San Gabriel Mountains chapter of the California Native Plant Society.



✎ Sabine Steinmetz

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, June 17

SCHS is pleased to offer
a special
“Coffee In the Garden”

Saturday, June 17

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Los Angeles County

Arboretum Library

hosted by

Head Librarian Susan Eubank

Susan will give a short talk
about the revamped library and
its resources at 2:00 p.m.

The Arboretum is generously waiving its admission fees for SCHS attendees. You are also welcome to wander around the grounds before, during and after the event until closing time at 5:00 p.m. And, as always, the SCHS will provide light refreshments during the event.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW
IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE...

SHARING SECRETS RESPONSES

*What is your favorite
spring bloomer and why?*

Spring appears to have sprung in earnest with warmer temperatures setting off blooms all over Southern California. I can almost see the blossoms opening on my neighbor's peach

tree. There are so many plants to choose from, but I always find myself looking forward to the first sweet peas, with their amazing scent.

- Anonymous

I can't say that I have a single favorite spring bloomer, but one certainly has to be my nectarine tree, the white variety 'Arctic Star'. Most of us are probably familiar with the

image: hundreds (thousands?) of pale pink blossoms displayed at once, interspersed with the green of tiny emerging leaves, being visited by many willing honeybees. Depending on the weather, the display comes between mid-February and early March, so strictly speaking, the tree is a winter bloomer....but surely a harbinger of spring.

- Yoav Paskowitz

APRIL 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.

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes 90274

310.544.1948 southcoastbotanicgarden.org

Friday, 4/14, 9:30-11am. Grow Series: Gardening for a Changing Climate: In My Backyard with UC Master Gardener Liza Go. Students will learn to analyze their own soil to determine a sustainable design and comprehensive maintenance plan. Single Class: \$12 Members, \$15 Non-Members. Registration required.

Friday, 4/21, 9:30-11am. Grow Series: Gardening for a Changing Climate: Sustainable Garden Maintenance with UC Master Gardener Liza Go. Students will learn gardening 'hacks' for minimal effort and maximum enjoyment, and how to identify and treat popular pest problems that plague gardens. Single Class: \$12 Members, \$15 Non-Members. Registration required.

Sunday, 4/30, 2-3:30pm. Grow Workshop: Backyard Composting with UC Master Gardener Liza Go. Students will learn how to use food waste in a sustainable way to help plants thrive, plus recipes for composting, things to watch out for and how to get started. \$10 Members, \$20 Non-Members. Registration required.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007

626.821.4623 arboretum.org

Thursday, 4/13, 9:30am-12noon. What's Happening In Gardening - Designing with Natives and Near Natives. Garden designer, Laura Bauer shares her experience using water-wise plants from California and beyond. \$25 (includes admission). Register with Education Dept. at 626.821.4623 or pay at the class.

Thursday, 4/20, 9:30am-12noon. What's Happening In Gardening - Plant Propagation with Laramee Haynes. Learn about cuttings, divisions and planting seeds. Class covers basic techniques you can do, and a handout with a list of easy-to-propagate plants will be provided. \$25 (includes admission). Register with Education Dept. at 626.821.4623 or pay at the class.

Thursday, 4/27, 9:30am-12noon. What's Happening In Gardening - Water Harvesting Design with Leigh Adams, interpretive horticulturalist and creator of the Crescent Garden, who will present an overview of water harvesting techniques applied in private gardens. \$25 (includes admission). Register with Education Dept. at 626.821.4623 or pay at the class.

Saturday, 4/29, 12noon-1:30pm, Education House. Essential Edible Gardens with Kyra Saegusa. This class will lay the foundation for using wholistic practices in your garden to help create a sustainable, verdant, food-producing space. \$25 Members / \$35 Non-Members (includes admission). Register with Education Dept. at 626.821.4623 or pay at the class.

DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011

818.949.7980 descansogardens.org

Saturday & Sunday, 4/22 & 4/23, 9am-4pm. Earth Day & Botanic Bling. Celebrate Spring with programs focusing on flowers, garden plants, and earth-friendly Bling!



HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108

626.405.2100 huntington.org

Thursday, 4/13, 2:30pm, Ahmanson Room, Brody Botanical Center. Garden Talk & Sale: Australian Plants for the American Garden. Horticulturist Paul D. Chambers, founder of Australian Outback Plants in Arizona, discusses various Australian native plants that are well suited to Southern California, many of which can be found at The Huntington. Plant sale follows the talk.

Thursday, 4/27, 4:30-5:30pm, Botanical Auditorium, Brody Botanical Center. Botany Bay Series: Plant Science for Gardeners & Citizen Scientists. Jim Folsom leads a discussion-style lecture plus lab time with plant specimens.



THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352

818.768.1802 theodorepayne.org

Saturday, 4/15, 8:30am-12:30pm. California Native Plant Horticulture with Lili Singer. Basics of gardening with California flora, including: plant communities, planting techniques, irrigation, pruning and maintenance. For beginners; prerequisite to 3-Part California Native Plant Garden Design course. \$45 Members, \$55 Non-Members.

Saturday, 4/15, 9am-noon. Propagating California Native Plants with Propagation Manager Jordan Isken. Learn basics of vegetative propagation by cuttings or divisions in this hands-on session, and leave with a flat of starts. Limit: 10 participants. \$50 Members, \$60 Non-Members.

Fridays, 4/21, 5/5 and 5/19, 11:30am-3:30pm, with Orchid Black. 3-Part California Native Garden Design. A comprehensive course for home gardeners offering a foundation in design, sustainability and how to model a garden after patterns in nature. Prerequisite: TPF's California Native Plant Horticulture class. \$225 TPF Members, \$275 Non-Members; \$285 TPF Member couples, \$335 Non-Member couples.

Saturdays, 4/22, 5/6 and 5/20, 9am-1pm, with Steve Gerischer. 3-Part California Native Garden Design. A comprehensive course for home gardeners offering a foundation in design, sustainability and how to model a garden after patterns in nature. Prerequisite: TPF's California Native Plant Horticulture class. \$225 TPF Members, \$275 Non-Members; \$285 TPF Member couples, \$335 Non-Member couples.

Saturday, 4/22, 9am-12:30pm. Native Plant Garden Maintenance with Lili Singer & Steve Singer. Class covers watering, fertilizing (or not), grooming, mulching, pest management and more. Part of class will be outdoors; bring a hat & water bottle. \$40 Members, \$50 Non-Members.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY - L.A. / SANTA MONICA CHAPTER

16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino 91436

818.782.9346 lacnps.org

Saturday, 4/15, 9am-4pm. Native Plant Week Wildflower Show, Symposium and Plant & Book Sale. Features speakers all day: 10-11:30 Carol Bornstein presents "Welcoming Wildlife Into Our Gardens"; noon-1:30pm Genevieve Arnold presents "Aromatic Plants for the Garden"; 2:00-3:30 Bryn Potter presents "Native Plants in Southern California Basketry." We welcome California native wildflower cuttings from your home garden to show - contact Snowdy Dodson via email: snowdy.dodson@csun.edu or phone: 818-782-9346 for details or go to www.lacnps.org.



RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711

909.625.8767 rsabg.org

Saturday, 4/22, 10-11am. Sage is the Rage! Grow Native Nursery shares native sage-infused foods to sample in celebration of Earth Day and offers a wide selection of native sages for sale.

Saturday, Sunday, Monday, 4/22, 4/23, 4/24, 10am-4pm. California Wildflower Show. Experience the Garden in full bloom and enjoy family-friendly activities.

Monday, 4/24, 10am-4pm. Wildflower Senior Day. Guests 65 and over receive free admission to the Garden and California Wildflower Show.



SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024

706.436.3036 sdbgarden.org

Friday, 4/21, 10am-3pm. Mosaic Birdhouse (Ages 18+) with Candy Sharda. Decorate a wooden birdhouse with outdoor paint and embellish with glass tiles, beads and more. \$40 Members, \$48 Non-Members; plus \$25 per student materials fee paid directly to instructor.

Saturday, 4/22, 9am-12noon. Living Wall / Vertical Garden (Ages 18+) with Mary Lou Morgan. Plant a 10"x20" wall with succulents combining colors, textures and sizes. REGISTER EARLY! These classes sell out! \$30 Members, \$36 Non-Members; plus \$80 per student materials fee paid directly to the instructor.



FULLERTON ARBORETUM


1900 Associated Rd., Fullerton 92831


657.278.3407 fullertonarboretum.org


Saturday 4/22 & Sunday 4/23, 10am-4pm. Green Scene Plant & Garden Expo. Green Scene features over 80 exhibitors with unique plants directly from growers; handcrafted custom garden art and pottery; demonstrations and education sessions; plus Food Court and Beer Garden offering a variety of food and beverages. \$8 General Admission, Free for Members.

 Yvonne Savio

Meetings regularly held at Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles CA 90027, unless otherwise noted.

 April 13 - Scott Kleinrock, designer of the new California Garden at the Huntington Botanical Gardens - tour & talk
VENUE: The Huntington TOUR BEGINS: 5:30

 May 11 - Rebecca Latta, horticultural consultant, speaking about TLC for your trees

 June 8 - Bart O'Brien, Director of Tilden Regional Parks Botanic Garden speaks on 2016 Salvia Summit
VENUE: Los Angeles Zoo

GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"When you have seen
one ant,
one bird,
one tree,
you have not seen them all."*
- E.O. Wilson



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
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
Aprille Curtis - Plant Forum supplies

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

Contributors to this issue:

Yvonne Savio

Next deadline: Monday, April 17 (for May newsletter)
Please contribute an article or information of interest.



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

NEWSLETTER April 2017



FROM TURFGRASS TO TREASURE

The Southern California Horticultural Society is delighted to offer this tour of a remarkable garden.



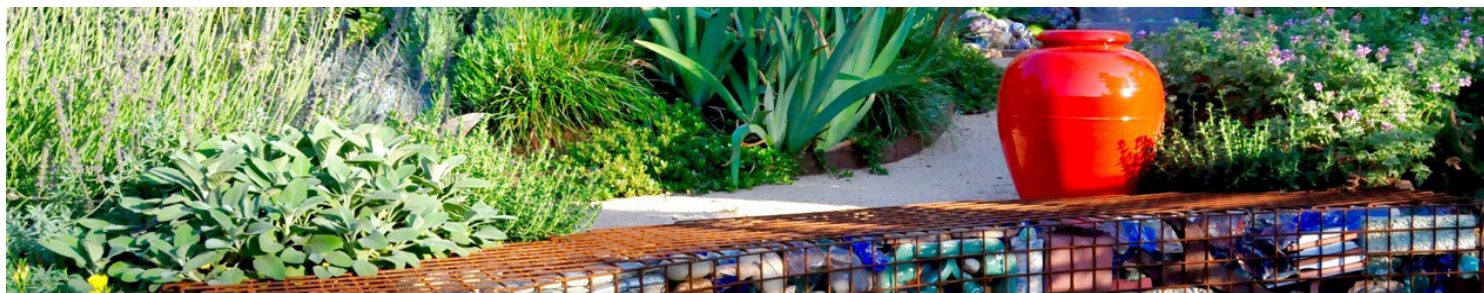
High in the Hollywood Hills, the private garden of landscape designer Johanna Woolcott showcases her love of nature along with her desire to create gardens that are boldly colorful and surprising. For the past three years, she and her husband Eugene McCarthy have been transforming their steep, terraced hillside from a conventional mix of turfgrass, ficus, and ivy to a dynamic tapestry of plants native to California and other mediterranean climate regions, generously augmented by succulents.

The original concrete retaining walls are now softened by inspired combinations of drought-tolerant plants. A curved path invites exploration up or down the slope, the effort rewarded by intimate seating areas or sweeping views of the garden and Bronson Canyon along the way. Many recycled materials and art objects are playfully repurposed as water features,

gabion walls, grape arbor, fireplace, or rusted steel fencing.



In addition to indulging her creativity at home, Johanna owns and operates Wild Gardens L.A. and is a member of APLD (Association of Professional Landscape Designers). She looks forward to sharing her garden with SCHS.



Sunday, May 7 Garden Tour • 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

NOTE: Due to the steepness of the site, ADA garden viewing is only available from the upper gate, at no charge. but you will still need to register. Please contact SCHS for further information.

Please sign up at the April meeting, online at SCHS website (www.socalhort.org), by mailing in this flyer, or by emailing socalhort@gmail.com. Once you sign up, you'll be provided with the address and directions.

Deadline to receive paid registration is Friday, May 5.

PLEASE MAIL NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

☐ Yes, please reserve: _____ Member Reservation(s) at \$15. each = _____
 _____ Guest Reservation(s) at \$20. each = _____ TOTAL \$ _____

Member's Name(s) _____

Guest Name(s) _____

Contact Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Make your check payable to SCHS. Mail to: P.O. Box 94476, Pasadena, CA 91109

SCHS Phone: 818/567-1496 Website: www.socalhort.org

DESCRIPTION OF THE GARDEN

“Garden in transition: 1940 concrete walls terrace this hillside property, planted with native California and Mediterranean specimens. The space includes many recycled elements and playful details which have been repurposed for this vibrant garden. A new wide curved stair replaces the previous warren of small stair connections. Bold cactus and succulents draw your eyes up to the hill. Planting with an eye toward habitat, it is definitely a private wild kingdom.”

Read more on Johanna's web-site: wildgardensla.com

Photos courtesy of Johanna Woolcott.



Don't forget to mark your calendars for our next event on Saturday, June 17, when SCHS hosts “Coffee in the Garden” at the L.A. County Arboretum!

