

BULLETIN
THE CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
San Francisco County Fair Building
Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way
San Francisco, California 94122

November 18, 2002

4:00 PM Botanical gardens walk with speaker at Strybing Arboretum. Parking is available behind the San Francisco Co. Fair Building and on 9th Ave.

5:30 PM NO HOST Dinner will be at Park Chow Restaurant, 1249 Ninth Ave., San Francisco. \$15.

7:30 PM Meeting will be held at Strybing Arboretum in the San Francisco County Fair Building at 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way

*****Guest fee \$5.**

Co-Sponsored with Strybing Arboretum Society

Monday, November 18, 2002

“Lamiaceae – Salvias & other horticulturally significant genera in the Mint Family”

Ernie Wasson, co-editor of *Botanica* and Nursery Manager/Garden Curator of the Cabrillo College horticultural facilities will talk about Cabrillo College's Salvia collection (which presently features over 200 different Salvias) plus other horticulturally significant genera in the Lamiaceae Family. An important part of plans for the new gardens development will be the certification as a national collection of Salvias under the guidelines of the North American Plant Collections Consortium. Ernie will show slides of several uncommon Salvia species and new cultivars plus an assortment of other horticulturally significant Lamiaceae genera including: Agastache, Colquhounia, Lavandula, Leonotis, Lepechinia, Oregano, Plectranthus, Phlomis, Sideritis, Stachys, Teuchrium, Trichostema and Westringia.

The **Plant Drawing** each month provides an important source of funds for the Grants and Scholarships Program. In November the drawing will include donations from **California Flora Nursery**, Fulton, courtesy of Sherrie Althouse and Phil Van Soelen and **Strybing Arboretum** and **Botanical Gardens**, courtesy of Dr. Don Mahoney. Our appreciation to **Grand Lake Garden Center**, Oakland, courtesy of Tom Nelson; **Sloat Garden Center**, courtesy of Dave Stoner and to **Strybing Arboretum and Botanical Gardens**, courtesy of Dr. Don Mahoney who graciously donated the beautiful specimens for the October meeting.

December 2002

There is no monthly meeting. Our very best wishes to you and yours for a happy holiday season and for a rewarding New Year filled with new plant treasures for your gardens.

Coming Programs

Co-sponsored with Strybing Arboretum Society

Monday, January 20, 2003

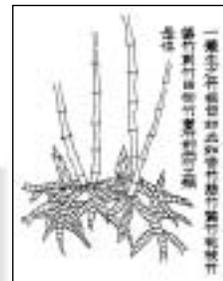
“The Building & Plants of Portland’s Classical Chinese Garden”
Introducing plants new & very old through the context of horticulture hundreds of years past.

Sean Hogan, horticulturist and a curator of the Chinese garden, describes this new garden as a place that includes both the species and forms found in the early gardens of Suzhou, in southeast China, and numerous traditional plants found nearby. Some of the exact plants or cultivars and/or forms selected by Suzhou scholars have been incorporated into the garden. Rounding out the collections are rare and unusual specimens planted for the first time in western gardens. Major collections include: Osmanthus, Camellia, Orchids, Michelia, Asarum and bamboos.

Monday, February 17, 2003

“The Once and Future New Zealand Garden”

Presented by Scot Medbury, Director of the Strybing Arboretum and The Conservatory of Flowers.



President's Letter

by Katherine Henwood

November is the ninth month of the old Roman year, which began with March. The 11th of November was held to mark the beginning of Winter. The Anglo-Saxon name for November was 'Blot-monath;' (Blood-month) the latter name probably alluding to the custom of slaughtering cattle about Martinmas for winter consumption.

-*The County Diary of an Edwardian Lady* by Edith Holden

Martinmas? Oh yes, November 11, a day we also remember as Armistice Day or Veteran's Day. Last week I decided to work over a small bed in my yard, about 3x7 feet that had been invaded by a daylily. Now I like daylilies, and this is one of my favorites, a double orange that came from my mother's garden many moons ago. However, it had come in from an adjacent bed in the spring and made rapid inroads into the available space, working through the *Dianthus*, surrounding a couple of roses and generally taking over. I realized that in order to remove it, everything else would have to go, too. The roses were no great loss, but took considerable time to remove, then it was serious digging. If you don't already know it, let me tell you that daylilies spread by underground runners, sometimes running pretty deep. I was working over the soil for the second time, when I remembered that somewhere I had read an essay on digging. I thought about it while shifting the soil some more, fishing out bits of runner and roots (you dare not leave a bit of it!), and thinking that I was practically double digging the plot. I added some composted manure and some commercial potting soil for humus and dug it again.

Finally, very tired and thirsty, I retired to the house and looked in the bookcase. Ah Ha! Yes, in *The Pacific Horticulture Book of Western Gardening*, edited by George Waters and Nora Harlow, I found the essay, *The Gentle Art of Digging*, by our own George Waters. I won't try to quote the whole thing, but one bit I would like to share with you.

"In addition to the benefits from digging already mentioned,

there are others less tangible, but important to the gardener's well being. It allows him opportunities to study the soil and become familiar with some of its occupants, and it gives time for peaceful contemplation of plans and reflection on successes and failures. Meditation requires yoga no more than a durable heart depends on jogging."

It is true, you know. When tired, you can lean on the shovel and look off into the distance, and any observer will think you are thinking deep thoughts. Meanwhile, you catch your breath while you decide just how much more of this there is to do! I will plant this bed with a *Salvia chamaelaeagnea* (light blue), *Brachysema praemorsa* (from a plant drawing, it will drape over a brick retaining wall), *Chorizema* "Bush Flame" (orange and pink flowers from the Sept. plant drawing); white and yellow Pacific Coast hybrid iris, a blue bearded iris, *Narcissus* 'Geranium,' and *Daffodil* 'Ice Follies.' I'm sure there will be volunteer Johnny-Jump-Ups and white Sweet Alyssum, not to mention whatever weeds are hidden in the compost!

I was so taken with the above-mentioned book, that I took time to look through it again. If you can, by all means, do look for it. There are four parts, the first dealing with "Gardening in the West," the second dealing with specific "Western Gardens," the third with "Plants for Western Gardens," and the fourth with "The Gardener's Craft." It is a lovely book and well worth your time.

Our November program will, as usual, be preceded by The Walk in the Arboretum, followed by a no-host dinner at Park Chow restaurant (notice the change of location!). Park Chow is located across 9th Avenue from our previous dinner place, which has closed. Then back to the S.F. County Fair Building for our excellent program on LAMIACEAE. I look forward to seeing you there! ✿



relaxing country feel. Originally a native plant nursery but now specializing in all Mediterranean climate plants, mostly in 4" & 1g. sizes. This nursery gets very high marks from those in the know!

Strybing Arboretum and Botanical Gardens

(415) 661-1316

Ninth Ave at Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park, SF

www.strybing.org

Strybing's nursery propagates many truly rare and unusual plants from its gardens, focusing on material which does well in the Bay Area. However, there are always a few things worth pushing the climate envelope for. Although not open daily to the public, the nursery has monthly plant sales offering a bounty of treasures. The next sales are the November 9th End of Season Sale and the December 14 Holiday Greens & Plant Sale. See Hort Calendar on Page 4 for details. ✿

Notable Nurseries

Every month, various nurseries donate well-grown and wonderful plants for our Plant Raffle at the meetings. The raffle being a raffle and all, you don't always get that mega-cool plant you've been dying for, even if you put all of your tickets in one cup (as I well know).

To make it easier on you plantaholics, here is the contact information so you can find, visit and patronize these great nurseries. **Be sure to let them know you found them through Cal Hort!**

California Flora Nursery

(707) 528-8813

Corner of Somers & D Street in Fulton, CA, Just north of Santa Rosa.

Oct-March, 10 to 4, M-F, but call ahead to be safe.

April-Sept, 9 to 5 M-F; Sat & Sun 10-4

Started 21 years ago, Cal Flora is a true jewel of a nursery, nestled amongst old valley oaks in Sonoma County, giving it a

September Plant Forum by Don Mahoney

"A picture is a worth a thousand words." Fully believing the old adage, color photos of the following plant are available on our website at www.calhortsociety.org in the 'Plant Forum' section.



Clematis ternifolia

1. Buddleia lindeyana

LOGANIACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

This shrub from China grows to 12 feet and is yet another of the butterfly bushes that is great for the Bay Area. It blooms for a long season, especially if dead-headed after flowering. It's purple-violet flowers are held upright. It takes full sun, is somewhat drought tolerant and tolerates moderate frost.

2. Clematis ternifolia

RANUNCULACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

This deciduous vine has moderate size open-faced white flowers that are reported to be very fragrant. It is a moderate vine that will make a good fence covering or cover for a bank. It blooms for a few weeks in the fall, likes partial shade and needs regular water.

3. Clerodendron ugandense

VERBENACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

A recent introduction, this blue flowered shrub has arching stems to 10' and a somewhat open, airy appearance. It prefers hot sunny locations with regular water. It doesn't like frost, but will stump-sprout after being frozen to the ground. Its rich flower color makes it worth figuring out how to grow it well. As it's name implies, it hails from Africa.

4. Gossypium thurberi

MALVACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

Desert cotton is the common name of this plant, although it is one member of the cotton genus that doesn't produce cotton. This deciduous shrub can get 4 or 5 feet tall and has pale pink flowers like medium sized hollyhocks. It is native to the deserts of Arizona but does well as a garden plant in the warmer parts of the Bay Area. It is a graceful, airy plant and does best in full sun with some water.

5. Justicia brandegeana

ACANTHACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

The red flowered form of the common shrimp plant is actually a dark rose flower almost hidden by rusty red bracts that look like shrimp tails. From South America, the plant needs regular water, bright light and protection from hot midday sun in hotter areas. It does best in warm weather and is likely to be lost in really cold weather.

7. Eryngium maritimum

APIACEAE

Jana Olson Dobrinsky, Berkeley

Eryngiums are often grown for their metallic blue flowers and this one is no exception. The flowers are somewhat small but are produced in abundance. The leaves are also very attractive as they are silver colored, large, and holly-shaped. They bloom all summer, are 2' to 3' tall, need moderate water and hail from Europe.

8. Epilobium cana - collection

ONAGRACEAE

Kathy Echols, Martinez

California fuchsia, formerly in the genus Zauschneria, are some of the brightest flowering California natives. This collection, all with orange-red flowers and gray leaves, come from a number of local areas. Numerous collections have been given cultivar names and are available in the trade. They all are drought tolerant, require well-drained, sunny locations and are best pruned back as new growth begins in the spring.

Plants Continued on following page ➡

Salvia collection

LAMIACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

The following salvias were all displayed as blooming cut stems. The table below gives flower color, height/width, hardy to degree, & location preference.

azurea grandiflora	sky blue	3'x3'	10°	sun deciduous
canariensis	white/lavender	6'x5'	20°	sun evergreen
chamaedryoides	blue	2'x2'	10°	sun evergreen
chamaelaeagnea	blue/white	4'x4'	25°	sun evergreen
coccinea	red	2'x2'	25°	sun annual
darcyi	orange/red	3'x4'	10°	sun deciduous
elegans	red	5'x5'	25°	sun evergreen
elegans honey melon	red	2'x4'	30°	sun evergreen
forskaohlei	white/purple	4'x4'	30°	sun evergreen
greggii indigo spires	red/purple	3'x3'	20°	sun evergreen
leucantha	purple	3'x3'	20°	sun evergreen
mexicana	blue	4'x5'	25°	sun evergreen
microphylla 'Rosita'	pink	2'x3'	20°	sun evergreen
muelleri	purple/violet	2'x2'	25°	sun evergreen
regla 'huntington'	red	6'x5'	20°	sun deciduous

Horticultural Calendar

November 18

Lamiaceae – Salvias & other horticulturally significant genera in the Mint Family—Ernie Wasson, Cal Hort lecture, 7:30 PM, County Fair Bldg, Strybing. See cover.

November 16

Garden Basics 101 - Part 1, Soil Prep & Planting—Aerin Moore, Magic Gardens owner. 2121 San Joaquin St, Richmond. (510) 528 5587 or visit magicgardens.com

November 21

Spring-fed Wetland Structure and Function in California Oak Savannas—Randy Jackson, Ecosystem Sciences Division, UC Berkeley. CA Botanical Society. 7:30 PM. 2063 Valley Life Sciences Bldg, UC Berkeley. Info: (510) 643-7008 or www.calbotsoc.org.

November 21

Challenges in Pest/Plant Management—a panel discussion. SF Professional Gardeners' Association. 7–9 PM, Env. Hort Dept., SF City College. (415) 558-8036 phone & fax.

November 23

Art in the Garden—call nursery for details (510) 528 5587 or visit magicgardens.com

January 4 & 5, 2003

Orchid Addiction—show and sale by the Peninsula Orchid Society at the Community Activities Bldg. 1400 Roosevelt Ave, Redwood City (one mile east of El Camino). \$5 adults, \$3 Seniors, disabled and children over 12.

January 18, 2003

Annual Scion Exchange—Golden Gate Chapter, California Rare Fruit Growers. Includes grafting wood and cuttings for rooting & a grafting demonstration at 1 PM. NOON to 3:00 PM. Multi-Use Room, 1700 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill. \$2 donation is requested to help defray costs; plant materials are free. www.crfg.org/chapters/golden_gate/index.html or (510) 843-1657.

Strybing Arboretum Society
(415) 661-1316 • www.strybing.org

November 9

- **Plant Clinic**—12 to 3PM, Main Gate, free
- **Restios, workshop**, 9:30am to 3:30pm, County Fair Bldg.
- **Plant Sale**, 10 AM to 1 PM, Strybing Nursery

November 16

Caring for California—natural studies forum, 9 AM to 4 PM, County Fair Bldg.

November 17

Strybing Travel Expo—slide presentations of upcoming trips, free, 3 to 5 PM, County Fair Bldg.

November 21

- **Natural Perfume**—talk & book signing, 7 to 9 PM, CFB.
- **Natural Perfume workshop**—10 AM to 1 PM, CFB.

November 23

Hardscape Construction seminar—9 AM to 4 PM, CFB.

December 7

Country Garden Wreaths—workshop, 10 AM to 4 PM, Sebastopol

December 13

Wreath Workshop—12 to 4 PM, County Fair Bldg.

December 14

Holiday Greens & Plant Sale, 10 AM to 2 PM, CFB. Main Gate

UC Davis Arboretum
(530) 752-4880

November. 10

Birds in Our Gardens—Free guided tour with Docent Lois Richter. 2:00 PM, Arboretum Headquarters.

November 12

Liquid Landscapes—Michael Glassman will speak about different uses for water in the garden, and sign copies of his new book, *Water Works*. 7 PM in the Club Room at the Veteran's Memorial Center, 203 E. 14th Street, Davis.

November 13

Lunchtime Walk with Superintendent Warren Roberts. NOON at Arboretum Headquarters, on LaRue Road on the U.C. Davis campus.

November 17

Traditional Uses of Native Plants—with Docent Christy Dewees. 2:00 PM, Arboretum Headquarters.

November 24

Lovely Trees in Winter—Guided tour with docents Shirley Maus & Dean Wheeler. 2:00 PM at the Alumni and Visitor Center, just east of the new Mondavi Center on the UC Davis campus. ❁

Plants Continued from following page

9. *Coleus* 'Fairway'

LAMIACEAE

Kathy Echols, Martinez

This charming, large hanging basket was a combination of two color forms of the fairway red velvet coleus. Like all coleus, these are grown for their very colorful leaves. These small leaved coleus are much better and longer lived house plants than the big-leaved chain-store varieties. The particular pairing of rose and ruby leaved forms was particularly attractive. They are best grown in bright light

with regular water and no cold temperatures. Coleus originated in Africa.

10. *Dicliptera suberecta*

ACANTHACEAE

Richard Starkeson, Berkeley

A subshrub or herbaceous perennial, this plant will form a 2 to 3 foot high many-stemmed clump over the years. The flowers are apricot-orange, tubular in shape, and are produced over a long period. It is somewhat drought tolerant in shade but needs water in sun. It is hardy to frost. ❁

Botanical Tours

January 22–February 4, 2003

Drakensbergs-a floral treasure—South Africa in Summer. In support of The Botanical Society or South Africa for flora conservation.

May 16–June 3, 2003

Botanical & Cultural Treasures of China's Sichuan & Yunnan Provinces. In support of Strybing Arboretum Society

August–September, 2003

Namaqualand and the Cape Floral Kingdom
Sponsored by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles.

September 2003

Wildflowers of Western Australia with Rodger Elliot & Dick Turner. In support of *Pacific Horticulture*.

For information please call (800) 624-6633 or visit www.geostartravel.com.

Please welcome the following new members to the California Horticultural Society:

Lorraine Edel	Virginia Gundred
Karen Ellingboe	Daniel Harder
Ellen Frank	Amy Hiss
Ilie Gaceu	Jamie Kitz
Susan Gaylord & Ronnie Remigio	Stacey Parker
Bus Goldberg	Debra Morris
Patty Goss	Charlotte Yates

Correction

The Cal Hort Grants report last month contained incorrect grant amounts. The actual grants given are as follows:

Quarryhill Botanical Garden - \$1000

Diablo Valley College - \$500

Leaning Pine Arboretum - \$1700

We regret any confusion this error may have caused.

Dues for 2003 are now due and payable. Members are requested to use the dues form for remittance. A return envelope to Elsie Mueller, 1847 34th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122 is enclosed for your convenience. Those interested in providing additional funds to expand the work of the society are invited to do so by choosing special categories of membership. Endowment

and Grant funds are tax-deductible. If you wish your *Bulletin* to be mailed to you first class for speedier delivery, please add \$3.00 to your membership remittance. For those who wish to have their membership card mailed to them, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Other membership cards will be available at the desk at the monthly meeting.

Board action requires that student members are enrolled in a full-time accredited horticultural program and that they may be classified in the student membership status category for a maximum of five years.

Be sure to pick up your 2003 membership card promptly so you will not be delayed in presenting it for admission to the monthly meetings.

Please detach at dotted line and mail in enclosed envelope to: Elsie Mueller, Secy., 1847 34th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122-4109

Membership Dues

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00 Single Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional contribution to Grants/Scholarship Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 Joint Membership
(two in same household or corporation) | <input type="checkbox"/> Add \$3 if you wish 1st Class mailing for Bulletin. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00 International | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 Sustaining Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 Student Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00 Supporting Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$75.00 Horticultural Business (per location, 2 cards,
additional separate entry in directory) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$400.00 Life Membership, Individual |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$600.00 Life Membership, Joint |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000.00 Endowment (Including Life Membership) |

Make checks and money orders payable to: **California Horticultural Society**

Kindly return this statement with your remittance - your current name and address appears on the back. If it does not, or if it's changed, please fill out the following form. Mark any fields below (☐) you would NOT like printed in our biennial roster.

☐ Name: _____ ☐ Zip + 4: _____

☐ Phone: _____ ☐ Fax: _____ ☐ E-mail: _____

Do your Holiday Shopping Now!

A California Horticultural Society gift membership is ideal for a gardening friend or family member. Eleven informative plant lectures, seed exchange, field trips, a subscription to Pacific Horticulture, monthly arboretum walks and more—a gift that continues all year long!

Just send the recipient's name, address and phone number with your check and 2003 renewal. A holiday card/gift note will be sent to that person after December 10th. Deadline is December 10th.

Seed Exchange reminder

Seeds for the Seed Exchange need to be in Dave's hands by Thanksgiving. Remember to bring them to the November meeting or send them directly to:

Dave Tivol
130 Locksunart Way #4
Sunnyvale CA 94087

Officers

President
Katherine Henwood
president@calhortsociety.org

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Recording Secretary
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jbhopper@sonic.net

Treasurer
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Secretary

Elsie Mueller
1847 34th Avenue
San Francisco, CA
94122-4109
(415) 566-5222
(800) 884-0009

Bulletin Editor

Bruce Peters
25 Chattanooga Street
San Francisco, CA
94114-3024
(415) 824-1833
editor@calhortsociety.org

Executive Council

2000-2002
First Term
Ann DeRosa

Second Term
Katherine Henwood
Bruce Peters (temporary)

2001-2003
First Term
Diana Ross

Second Term
Jana Olson Drobinsky
Elise Lew
Don Mahoney

2002-2004
First Term
Michael Craib
Renee Fittinghoff
Second Term
Richard Starkeson
Keitha DeMara

Deadline for publication is the third Monday of each month for the following month's *Bulletin*. Events during the first ten days of the month should be remitted *two* months ahead. Please give any information to Elsie at the meeting or, preferably, email to the Editor at the above address. Faxes and postal submissions also accepted.

Membership year begins January 1. Dues are \$40 individual, \$50 joint household, \$25 Student (with proof of enrollment). To join, or for full range of membership levels, please visit our website at www.calhortsociety.org or call the Office secretary at the number above.

California Horticultural Society

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San Francisco, CA 94122

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www.calhortsociety.org