



Bulletin of the  
**California Horticultural Society**  
*Cultivating Friendship, gardens and fun for over 75 years*

**Next Monthly General Meeting is April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 7:15 pm**

**April 2010**

**Volume 77, Issue 4**

Monthly meetings are held at the San Francisco County Fair Building and are co-sponsored by the SF Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum, 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park. Parking is available behind the SF Co. Fair Building on Lincoln Way.

4:00 PM Botanical gardens walk with the speaker. Meet at the entrance

5:30 PM NO HOST Dinner will be at Park Chow Restaurant, 1240 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. San Francisco.

7:15 PM Announcements, Plant Forum, and Program Meeting will be held at the SF Botanical Garden in the SF County Fair Building at 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Lincoln Way; San Francisco.

\*\*\*Members free

\*\*\*Non-members – A donation of \$5 is requested.

**April Program:**

**April 19, 2010**

**From Trash to Treasure: One Man's Garbage Is Another Man's Art**

Mary Te Selle is the award-winning garden designer of Quite Contrary Garden Designs. Her work has been featured as a Golden Trowel winner in Garden Design Magazine and she frequently exhibits in the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show. Her ever-developing growing garden, lectures on a variety of garden topics and busy design practice help feed her passion for design and the interplay of organic materials in the garden.



**May meeting and Annual Dinner May 17, 2010**

**“Deep Flora: further explorations of South Africa’s Cape Floral Kingdom and adventures at home bringing new species from this region into cultivation and trialing them in a new fynbos test garden at SFSU”**

Martin Grantham, Greenhouse Manager at S.F. State University and this year’s Annual Award Recipient, will draw on his experiences from twelve trips to the Western Cape in treating and germinating seed, pot and garden cultures of woody irids, restios and others.

# California Horticultural Society

## Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner

Monday, May 17, 2010

SF Botanical Garden Hall of Flowers, 9th Ave. at Lincoln Way, San Francisco

Program Presented by

## Martin Grantham

Greenhouse Manager, S.F. State University

Recipient of the 2010 Annual Award

- ◆ 6:30 pm Socializing
- ◆ 7:00 pm Potluck. If you can assist with set-up please come any time after 5:00 pm. We will make flower arrangements from the Arboretum, set up plant displays, etc.

Advance reservations must be made with Kristin Yanker-Hansen no later than Friday, May 14th.

- ◆ A \$5.00 donation is requested to cover cost of materials, supplies and beverages.

Dinner ticket and name tags will be held at the door.

I / We will be attending the Annual Dinner

Monday, May 17th, 2010

Name(s)(Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check payable to The California Horticultural Society for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(\$5.00 each, includes cups, plates, coffee, tea, spring water)

Mail checks to Kristin Yanker-Hansen,  
569 Contada Circle, Danville, CA 94526

What to Bring:

- ◆ Your favorite dish (enough to serve 8)
- ◆ A serving utensil
- ◆ Your own silverware & plate
- ◆ Unusual and choice plants for the Silent Auction

## April Horticultural Calendar

### April 16, Friday, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

The U.C. Davis Extension offers Practical Pruning: A Workshop for Arborists and Landscapers. A thorough review of tree biology, pruning principles and techniques for landscape trees. Cost is \$190 including course material and lunch (enroll in section 094AGR100). Call (800) 752-0881 or see [extension.ucdavis.edu/agriculture](http://extension.ucdavis.edu/agriculture).

### May 2, Sunday, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

The Garden Conservancy's Open Days Program features a self-guided tour of four private gardens in Los Gatos, Monte Sereno and Saratoga. Lecture at 1 pm by Betsy Fryberger, "The Italianate Garden Arrives in California". No reservations required. Tour is \$5 per garden, children under 12 free, lecture is free. See [www.opendaysprogram.org](http://www.opendaysprogram.org).

### May 9, Sunday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

The Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Rd., Walnut Creek is hosting a Mother's Day Tour, Plant Sale and Garden workshop. [www.ruthbancroftgarden.org](http://www.ruthbancroftgarden.org)

REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN

(510) 528-0526 • <http://www.nativeplants.org>

### April 17, Saturday, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

The garden's annual Native Plant Sale will showcase a wide variety of native perennials, shrubs and vines for your garden. Experts will be on hand to answer your questions

U.C. BOTANICAL GARDEN AT BERKELEY

(510) 643-2755 • [www.botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu](http://www.botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu)

### May 2, Sunday afternoon, 12:00 PM & 2:00 PM

Bringing Back the Natives. Come celebrate natives with two special tour offerings. At noon join docents to learn about California Natives – Plants and People on an ethnobotanical tour. At 2 pm join Garden Horticulturalist Ken Bates as he leads you through the collection. noon and 2 PM, free with garden admission.

SF BOTANICAL GARDEN SOCIETY

(415) 661-1316 • [www.sfbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.sfbotanicalgarden.org)

### April 28, Wednesday evening, 7:30 PM

Enjoy the first full moon walk of 2010, sharing traditions of Japanese moon viewing on the shores of the garden's Moon Viewing Pond. Meet 15 minutes before the start of the walk at the Main Gate, near 9th Ave. and Lincoln Way. Bring a flashlight and dress warmly, limited to 30 guests.

***Triteleia laxa*, or Ithuriel's spear**  
**Family: Themidaceae**



When I see the beautiful flowers of *Triteleia laxa* in the spring, I wonder how such a cute plant can be so confusing to so many people. Formerly known as *Brodiaea laxa*, this little California native has been classified in the Asparagaceae, Themidaceae, Alliaceae and Liliaceae families! Botanists have recognized much variation in flower size, differences in chromosome number and size of the anthers for different populations, which means that this is probably a complex of very closely related species. Remember, nobody ever said that evolution is neat and tidy.

Whatever you want to call it, this is a hardy plant that helps welcome the end of winter. Unlike many of our native plants, *Triteleia* isn't totally finicky about drainage and can even grow in adobe clay in its native habitat. However, the heavier the soil, the more important that this plant gets no summer water. It will go dormant during dry months, resting in preparation for next year's big show and slowly spreading by cormlets underground.



Also known as nut grass or deer potato, the corms of *Triteleia* were eaten, baked or boiled, by many native populations in California. Besides people, native animals such as bear, deer and gophers also eat the corms, so if you live in an area with these animals, you may want to keep this plant out of harm's way in a pot on your deck or windowsill.

The word triteleia is from the Greek words 'tri' for three and 'teleios' for perfect, a reference to the floral parts being in threes. Laxa refers to a loose form of growth, probably a reference to the thin, floppy leaves that are barely noticed in the garden. Tuck some of these charmers in among your other dry summer plants for a great springtime welcome.

**Monthly Plant Drawing**

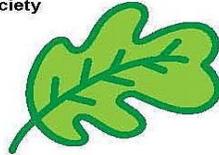
The plant drawing is an ongoing program for the Society's benefit. Nurseries and individual members donate plants each month, many of which are rare in the trade.

This month's contributions will be made by **Emerisa Gardens** and **The San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum**. We encourage members to donate overstocks of their own plants.

**Please patronize these corporate supporters of CalHort!**



**The California Horticultural Society**  
 San Francisco County Fair Building  
 9TH Avenue & Lincoln Way  
 San Francisco, CA 94122  
[www.calhortsociety.org](http://www.calhortsociety.org)

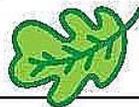


**CalHort Needs Volunteers**

We are moving forward to essentially an all volunteer Society where all of the tasks that make the Society run smoothly will be performed by members. However, it has also become obvious that the same few members are doing most of these jobs (sometimes multiple jobs) and have been doing them for many years. We have been without a President and Vice President for all of this year. Our Treasurer has been on the job for 14 years. Some of the assignments can be shared among members if we have enough volunteers.

Our Society has maintained its quality programs because of the dedication of the volunteer officers, chairs and members. The future of the Society depends upon its member volunteers! The Board asks that you consider volunteering for these positions to keep CalHort the organization we all want it to be. Contact any Board member for further information, either by email, phone or at next Monday's meeting, and especially Ted Kipping, the Nominating Committee Chair. We need you! The Membership Roster provides Board Member telephone numbers and email addresses.

To join, or for a full range of membership levels, please visit our web site at [www.calhortsociety.org](http://www.calhortsociety.org), or contact Kristin Yanker-Hansen at 925-831-9499



Deadline for publication is the third Monday of each month for the following month's Bulletin, with the exception of December. Events during the first ten days of the month should be submitted two months ahead

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<b><u>President</u></b> Open - shared by all council	<u>Executive Council</u>
<b><u>Vice President</u></b> Open	<u>2007 - 2009</u> First Term Steve Morse Andy Stone David Tivol
<b><u>Past President</u></b> Ellen Frank	Second Term Dan Carlson Don Gerimonte
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<b><u>Parliamentarian</u></b> Jan Hamby	
<b><u>Membership</u></b> Cindy O'Donnell <a href="mailto:Membership@calhortsociety.org">Membership@calhortsociety.org</a>	

