

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, April 15, 2013, at 7:15 pm

MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2013

Obtaining a Yield from Weeds: Surprisingly Useful Allies from the Wilderness

with Kevin Bayuk



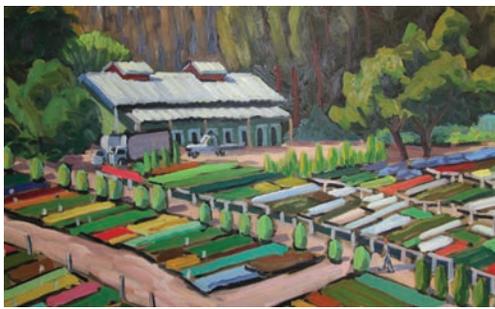
Emerson said, “What is a weed—a plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered.” Kevin Bayuk, a local urban permaculture expert, will discuss how common weeds reveal a shocking cornucopia of utility and benefit to humans and our gardens. Some weeds are nutritious and tasty food crops. Some are powerful medicines. Some feed pollinators and provide habitat and shelter for garden allies. Some weeds enhance soil fertility, while others feed our compost piles and weeds can even protect the soil.



MONDAY, MAY 20, 2013

The Deck

David Fross of Native Sons Nursery
Recipient of the 2013 Annual Award



For thirty-four years a variety of plants have been pulled from our nursery fields, organized into orders, and placed on the “deck” at Native Sons Nursery for shipment. This presentation will consider this process, reflect

on genera and friends that have influenced the plant palette, and look at the some of the resulting gardens and landscapes.

Monthly meetings are held at the San Francisco County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park.

Free parking is available behind the San Francisco County Fair Building on Lincoln Way.

4:00 PM – Botanical gardens walk with the featured speaker. Meet at the entrance to the San Francisco Botanical Garden.

5:30 PM – No-host dinner will take place at Park Chow Restaurant, located at 1240 Ninth Avenue in San Francisco.

7:15 PM – Announcements, Plant Forum, and Program Meeting will be held at the San Francisco County Fair Building.

Cal Hort members may attend for FREE. Non-members – a donation of \$5 is requested



Plant of the Month

Dichelostemma ida-maia



Early Spring HORTICULTURAL EVENTS by Judith Taylor

SPRING PLANT SALE AT MARKHAM

Saturday, April 6; 9 AM–1 PM

1202 La Vista Avenue in Concord

Markham's Spring Sale features more than 900 tomato seedlings in a multitude of varieties, including heirlooms. More vegetable starts are available, as well as unusual and drought-tolerant perennials selected especially for the for the East Bay gardener.

UC DAVIS PUBLIC PLANT SALE

Saturday, April 6; 9 AM - 1 PM

UC Davis Arboretum Nursery, UC Davis campus, Garrod Drive

This plant sale will feature 30 "Durable Delights," plants that demand little of our time but give a big return in form, color, flower and durability. You'll also find the area's largest selection of attractive, low-water, easy-care, region-appropriate plants including Arboretum All-Stars.

WALK WITH ELLEN

Wednesday, April 10; Noon

Gazebo, UC Davis Arboretum, UC Davis campus

Explore the west end gardens with the Arboretum's Director of Horticulture, Ellen Zagory. Ellen is sought-after by garden clubs and master gardener groups across California for her extensive knowledge of Arboretum All-Stars, sustainable horticulture and gardening for pollinators and other wildlife. Free one-hour parking is available along Garrod Drive during the week. Visitor lot parking costs \$7 per day midweek. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880.

37TH NATIVE PLANT SALE

Saturday, April 13, 2013; 10 AM–3 PM

The Green Point Nursery, 275 Olive Ave, Novato

Presented by the Marin chapter of the California Native Plant Society. The native plant sale includes a full day of presentations from Native Plant Gardening experts: The sale features a large variety of native plants; many grown at the CNPS nursery by members and volunteers. Native seeds are also offered; choose from more than 60 different species! Find more information about native species for sale, and a schedule of the talks and demos offered during the day at www.marinnativeplants.org. Charlotte Torgovitsky, 892-9148, or torgovitsky@comcast.net. Kristin Jakob, 388-1844, or kristinjakob@att.net

ETHNOBOTANICAL PLANT WALK AND MEDITATION

Saturday, April 13; 2 PM

Wyatt Deck, UC Davis Arboretum, UC Davis campus

Learn about traditional uses of California native plants from the Arboretum Ambassadors, and enjoy a guided meditation and tea brewed from native plants. Parking is available for free on weekends in Visitor Lot 5, at Old Davis Road and Arboretum Drive. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880.

SUCCULENT PROPAGATION WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 20, 2013; 10 AM–11:30 AM

The Ruth Bancroft Garden; 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek

Propagation is one of the first techniques to learn as you explore your love for succulent water-conserving plants. Whether you want to use your plants in crafts and décor or just have an abundant collection in your garden, we will teach you the most successful and easiest methods of increasing your collection. These activities produce quick results and utilize the natural tendency of the plant in a very effective way. Learn which types of plants thrive

with which practices, see demonstrations of some of the more unique activities and participate in some hands-on practice of the common routines that you will use frequently in your garden. Admission: \$20 General Admission; \$12 Members. For more information and to register: Please visit The Ruth Bancroft Garden or call 925 944 9352.

HOW TO REPLACE YOUR LAWN

Saturday, April 20, 2013; 9:10 AM–12 NOON

Science Center #133, College of Marin, 835 College Ave., Kentfield

Learn to use alternative grasses and grass-like plants to create beautiful "lawns" that are low care and water-conserving in a one-day class presented by Bob Hornback (of Muchas Grasses). You will be guided, step-by-step, through the entire lawn-replacement process: from initial considerations of cost and difficulty, through selecting the right plants for your site, to soil preparation and planting, and finally, to the required maintenance. Course #35036 \$48 Register at: www.marin.edu/CommunityEducation Further info at: (415) 485-9305

WHAT'S NEW IN THE NATIVE PLANT GARDEN?

Saturday, April 27; 2 PM

Buehler Alumni & Visitors Center, UC Davis campus

Tour the recently renovated pathways and plantings in the Mary Watis Brown Garden of California Native Plants for examples of native plants that work well in home landscapes. Parking is available for free on weekends in the South District Parking Structure near the Mondavi Center for Performing Arts, at Old Davis Road and Hilgard Lane. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880.

UC DAVIS PUBLIC PLANT SALE

Sunday, April 28; 9 AM–1 PM

UC Davis Arboretum Teaching Nursery, UC Davis campus, Garrod Drive. This plant sale will feature 30 "Durable Delights," plants that demand little of our time but give a big return in form, color, flower and durability. You'll also find the area's largest selection of attractive, low-water, easy-care, region-appropriate plants including Arboretum All-Stars.

TURTLE TALK & TOUR

Sunday, April 28; 1–3 PM

Wyatt Deck, UC Davis Arboretum, UC Davis Campus

UCD students Jennifer McKenzie & Robyn Screen will discuss the history of turtles in the Arboretum and present their recent research on the effect of invasive, introduced turtles on the native turtles. A tour will follow on the "turtle hot spots" in the Arboretum waterway. Parking is available for free on weekends in Visitor Lot 5, at Old Davis Road and Arboretum Drive. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880.

THE KIPPINGS INVITE YOU TO POTLUCK*/SLIDE SHOWS

County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way,
Golden Gate Park, Fireplace Room. (415) 753-7090

STUNNING INTRICACIES OF CLASSIC ARABIC ARCHITECTURE

Tuesday, April 23, 2013; 7 PM

with Sa'id Nuseibeh

EXPLORING BOTSWANA & NAMIBIA

Tuesday, May 28, 2013; 7 PM

with Gerald Corsi

**Bring a dish and beverage for eight to share,
as well as your own plates and silverware.*

Plant of the Month

by Josh Schechtel

Dichelostemma ida-maia / Firecracker Flower

Family: THEMIDACEAE

Two years ago, I wrote about the confusing taxonomy of *Triteleia*, and it has taken me those two years to work up the courage to tackle this crazy taxonomy again. The firecracker flower is so wonderful that it is worth the effort.

The poor *Dichelostemma* has been classified at various times in the Amaryllidaceae, the Alliaceae, the Liliaceae and even the Asparagaceae. It has also been considered part of the genus *Brodiaea*. Well, this plant finally has its own, brand new family—Themidaceae. This family encompasses several other genera, including *Brodiaea* and *Triteleia*. I assume this name was selected after a long discussion that ended with “and what about all them plants that we haven’t figured out what to do with?” Hence the name Themidaceae.

Whatever the taxonomy, *Dichelostemma ida-maia* is a delightful bulb with two native populations. One is on the north coast, ranging inland to low mountain ranges and north into Oregon. The second population is way to the south, in the Klamath range. According to



Photo © 2013 Ted Kipping

Dichelostemma ida-maia

Calflora, this plant grows up to 6500 feet elevations, so it should be able to take frost without problems.

Along the coast the firecracker flower can grow in full sun, otherwise light shade is preferred. Most importantly, like many of our nicest natives, this plant wants absolutely no summer water. It will go dormant in the summer, and by ignoring it, you will be rewarded with an amazing display of miniature red and green fireworks in the spring. Unlike many of our bulbs, hummingbirds pollinate this species, so they will appreciate your efforts also.

According to our friends at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, the species is named after the niece of a stagecoach driver who showed the plant to an early plant collector.

Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner

MONDAY, MAY 20, 2013

Program Presented by David Fross of Native Sons Nursery

Recipient of the 2013 Annual Award

- ♦ 6:30 PM Socializing
- ♦ 7:00 PM Potluck. Advance Reservations must be made with Chris Codding no later than Friday, May 19th.

What to Bring:

- ♦ Your favorite dish (enough to serve 8), wine if you like
- ♦ A serving utensil, your own silverware and plate
- ♦ Unusual and choice plants for the Silent Auction
- ♦ A \$5.00 donation is requested to cover costs of materials, supplies and beverages. Tickets and name tags will be held at the door.

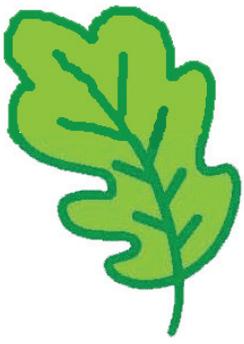
We will be attending the Annual Dinner Monday, May 20, 2013

Name(s) (Please print)

Enclosed is a check made payable to The California Horticultural Society for \$ _____ (\$5.00 each, to cover expenses for cups, coffee, tea, spring water.)

Make checks out to the : California Horticultural Society and mail to: Chris Codding, PO Box 1306, Martinez, CA 94553 (Deadline May 19th... Visit the web site for more information.)

Event to be held at: County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way, in Golden Gate Park.



California Horticultural Society
 San Francisco County Fair Building
 Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way
 San Francisco, CA 94122

www.calhortsociety.org

Monthly Plant Drawing News

Each month various nurseries and individual members donate plants for the plant drawing. Thank you, Don Mahoney from Strybing Arboretum, and Dan Heims for the very cool Begonia. Please do not hesitate to bring in unusual plants from your garden to share with the members. Remember the meeting is an excellent place to find unusual plants for your garden.

To join the California Horticultural Society or to find out about a full range of membership levels, please visit our web site at www.calhortsociety.org, or contact Kristin Yanker-Hansen at 925-831-9499.

Questions from members about your membership? Please address them to the Cal Hort membership chair, Charlotte Masson, 579 Los Palmos Drive, San Francisco, CA 94127-2209 (gardengurus@gmail.com).

The California Horticultural 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 to provide leadership. The Board asks that members volunteer for positions to keep Cal Hort the best organization it can be.

Please contact Ted Kipping, the Nominating Committee Chair, for more information about serving on the Council. You can also chat with Council members, either by e-mail, by phone or at any Cal Hort meeting.

Deadline for publication in this Bulletin 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.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

2013-2015 (First Term) Mark Delepine, Ellen Edelson, Dave Hermeyer, Charlotte Masson

2013-2015 (Second Term) Mike Craib

2011-2013 (First Term) Judith Taylor

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Past President	Ellen Frank
Recording Secretary	Judith Taylor
Treasurer	Carl Meier
Parliamentarian	Open
Membership	Charlotte Masson

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