

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, August 20, 2012 at 7:15 pm

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

Montanoa grandiflora



AUGUST 20, 2012 MEETING

THE SEARCH FOR ACER PENTAPHYLLUM

with William McNamara



William McNamara, director of Quarryhill Botanical Garden and our Annual award recipient for 2012, has spent the last fifteen years searching for a wild form of *Acer pentaphyllum* in China.

The cultivated plant was originally planted at Strybing Arboretum and was the parent of all the *Acer pentaphyllum* in cultivation. Come hear the story of how this plant was found again.



SEPTEMBER 17, 2012 MEETING

SINGAPORE, THE GARDEN CITY—

WITH A SIDE OF BORNEO

with Martin Grantham

Extraordinary plantsman and greenhouse manager for San Francisco State University, Martin Grantham is to have just returned from visiting Singapore and Borneo when he speaks to us in September. He plans on talking about how the City of Singapore has made itself a botanical garden. He will also have spent a some time trekking through Borneo searching for new plants.



Late Summer

HORTICULTURAL EVENTS by Judith Taylor

ARMCHAIR BIRDING—PLANTS IN YOUR YARD AND THE FEATHERED FRIENDS WHO VISIT

Saturday, August 4, 2012; 9 AM–10:30 AM

UC Davis Arboretum, Arboretum Terrace Garden & Lois Crowe Patio
Go birding in your own backyard! Discover where and when to be on the lookout, which plants at the Arboretum Terrace attract birds and what species you may expect to see. At this event Lois Richter will guide attendees in the skill of bird watching. All ages are welcome. Free parking is available behind the shopping center. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880 or visit www.arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

DINOSAUR PLANTS AND TERRARIUMS FOR KIDS

Saturday, August 11, 2012; 11 AM–12 NOON

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Explore “living fossils” on this garden tour and create your own terrarium! Youth must be accompanied by an adult. Advance registration required; \$15, \$12 members. Call (510) 643-2755.

GUIDED TOUR: THE REDWOOD GROVE—SO COOL!

Saturday, August 18, 2012; 9 AM–10:30 AM

UC Davis Arboretum, Wyatt Deck, Davis

Get outside AND beat the heat? It's possible in the UC Davis Arboretum T. Elliot Weir Redwood Grove. Enjoy the cathedral-like cool and quiet of the redwood grove while learning about the plants of the redwood forest in this shaded and unique campus microclimate. This event is free and all ages are welcome. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880 or visit www.arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

PALMS AND EUCALYPTUS

Saturday, August 18, 2012; 10 AM

Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek

In California we tend to overlook palms and Eucalyptus. Join Docent Dan Sekella, our local expert, to discover why Palms at the Garden are still needing a haircut, why Eucalyptus can be found here in California and which fruit are the tastiest.

BLUE CHAIR FRUIT COMPANY: SWEET SUMMER STRAWBERRIES—AN INTRODUCTION TO JAM MAKING

Sunday, August 19, 2012; 10 AM–NOON

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Located in Oakland, Blue Chair Fruit Company is an artisanal jam and marmalade company. Join Rachel Saunders, founder of Blue Chair Fruit as she brings her expertise on fruit and fruit preserving techniques back to the Garden. In this two-hour demo-style class, students will cook two different jams, one single-fruit and one mixed-fruit. Our focus will be on the preparation of the raw fruit, the cooking process, and how to safely jar your jam. Participants will receive two take-home jars of jam and a set of class notes. Advance registration required; \$85, \$80 members.

MEMBERS' WALK: FERNS

Thursday, August 23, 2012; 1 PM–2:30 PM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Chris Carmichael, the Garden's Associate Director for Collections and Horticulture, will guide you through the Garden's exceptionally rich collection of ferns. In addition to tropical species grown in the greenhouses, ferns are found in all the biogeographical collections of the Garden, including the New World Desert! From native to exotic, there are many ferns suitable for your Bay Area garden. Advance registration required; members-only; free. Call (510) 643-2755.

THE PHOTOBOTANIC WORKSHOP WITH SAXON HOLT FIND THE PHOTO: VISUALIZATION, FRAMING AND FOCAL POINTS

Saturday, August 25, 2012; 9 AM–5 PM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Award-winning photographer Saxon Holt brings his PhotoBotanic workshop to the Garden. This all-day workshop with critique will begin with “Visualization” exercises in the Garden and then concentrate on “Framing and Focal Points.” Saxon will provide follow-up critique through the Flickr group created by students attending the workshop. Advance registration required; \$95, \$90 members.

PLANT FORUM WITH STEW WINCHESTER

Saturday, August 25, 2012; 10 AM

Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek

Discover new plants for a Mediterranean climate landscape, the perfect supplement to your garden! Mr. Stew Winchester, a local horticultural professor, has gathered an exciting plant selection from continental areas, mountainous climates or dry Mediterranean environments. Each of these plant species will thrive with our local weather patterns and seasonality and will be in top form to display the full glory of each plant. Attend this forum to get inspired ideas for your garden and landscape. Cost: \$20 General Admission, \$12 Members.

DESIGNING WITH ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

with Rosemary McCreary

Saturday, August 25, 2012; 10:30 AM–12 NOON

Quarryhill Botanical Garden, 12841 Sonoma Highway, Glen Ellen

Master Gardener, long-time garden writer, and Press Democrat garden columnist Rosemary McCreary will discuss how to use ornamental grasses in the garden at a free workshop. Home gardeners and landscape designers are planting ornamental grasses now more than ever as lawn substitutes, in perennial borders and rock gardens. Rosemary will present pros and cons and cultural tips for a range of grass species and cultivars. She'll encourage you to look outside the box for undiscovered but superior grasses and grass-like plants that call for little water and low maintenance. For more information: (707) 996-3166, info@quarryhillbg.org, www.quarryhillbg.org.

THE KIPPINGS INVITE YOU TO POTLUCK*/SLIDESHOWS

Fourth Tuesday of the month
San Francisco County Fair Building,
Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way,
Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
For information call (415) 753-7090.

**Please bring a dish & beverage to serve eight people*

HIKING THE INCA TRAIL TO MACCHU PICHU

with Ron Breuch

Tuesday, August 28, 2012; 7:00 PM

Plant of the Month

by Josh Schechtel

Montanoa grandiflora, Daisy Tree

Family: ASTERACEAE

If it is August, then autumn will be here soon. In addition to being the best time of year to place new plants in the garden, it is also the season for *Montanoa grandiflora* to flower. This composite-on-steroids lives up to its name, covering itself in bunches of yellow-centered white daisies. Through spring and summer this plant sends out large, deeply lobed green leaves which give the garden a slightly tropical look. It can easily reach twelve feet tall and grow just as wide, so make sure that you give it plenty of room. The wonderful blooms follow in the autumn, and you can decide if their scent reminds you of chocolate, vanilla or cupcakes. Various gardeners have sworn to all of the above descriptions. If this wasn't enough to convince you to try this plant, after blooming it develops wonderful pale green seed heads, which are a beautiful addition to cut flowers. In late winter or early spring you can chop the whole plant back and let it start all over again.

Montanoa comes to us from Central America, and is named after an eighteenth century amateur



Montanoa grandiflora

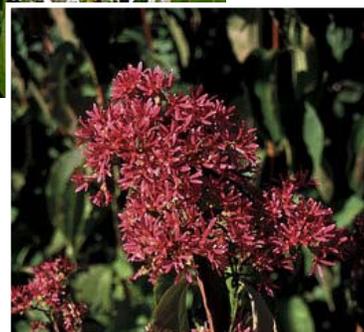
botanist, Luis Montana, who was also a politician. Can you imagine any of our current politicians having an interest in botany? And admitting it in public?

Keep the daisy tree happy with full sun to light shade, regular watering until established, and regular feeding with compost and mulch. Frost will probably kill it to the ground, but it will resprout in the spring.

Looking through the old minutes of Cal Hort meetings given to me by Bobbi Feyerabend, I found that Victor Reiter, Jr. presented this plant to the society in 1940. With minimal care it will reward you with four seasons of beauty.

The July Program Because our speaker for July was unable to attend, the board came up with an alternate program that was so much fun. Our July program became a plant display and discussion program. Don Mahoney brought lots of rare gems from the Strybing nursery and donated them all to the drawing table. Mike Craib from Suncrest brought a selection of over 25 unusual plants, which he discussed and then donated to the plant drawing. Bobbie Feyerabend introduced us to a new summer blooming tree that is related to the honeysuckle, *Heptacodium miconioides*, which not only blooms sweet fragrant flowers in July, but produces red calyxes afterward which persist quite a while. Since there were just 22 people in attendance, the drawing was amazing. Everyone went home with a lot of plants. We decided this was such a fun program, that we would do it every year—probably next August.

Heptacodium miconioides





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. For the July meeting, Proven Winners, Strybing Arboretum and Suncrest Nurseries donated a large number of plants. Please do not hesitate to bring in unusual plants from your garden to share with the members.
- Also remember the meeting is an excellent place to find new and exciting 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

2010-2012 (First Term) Mike Craib

2010-2012 (Second Term) Steve Morse, Andy Stone, Dave Tivol

2011-2013 (First Term) Judith Taylor

2012-2014 (Second Term) Demi Bowles Lathrop

COUNCIL

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

BULLETIN EDITOR
editor@calhortsociety.org

CALENDAR EDITOR
calendar@calhortsociety.org