

*The next monthly general meeting is Monday, August 18, 2014, 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**

*Loropetalum chinense* ‘Rubrum’



Photo © 2014 Ted Kipping

**MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2014**

**Logee’s Past and Present:  
122 Years of Greenhouse Horticulture**

By Byron Martin



Byron Martin, third generation owner of Logee’s greenhouses, will talk about the history, as well as the present challenges, of running a mail order plant nursery. As a mail order and cataloguer of plants since the 1930s, Logee’s has often been referred to as the grandfather of the mail order plant business. As an added dividend, Byron will be bringing a few selections from the Logee’s catalogue.



**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014**

**Ethnobotanical Botanizing  
in Transcaucasia**

By Joseph Simcox

To the south of the Caucasus, Europe’s highest mountains, are the republics of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. This region is a hotspot of biodiversity, with some 6400 species of higher plants, of which a quarter are endemic. It was a cradle of plant domestication. Grapes, for example, were domesticated in what is now Georgia 4000 or even as much as 8000 years ago. The forests of the region hold the progenitors of many of our favorite orchard and bush fruits, as well as a vast array of unique edibles. World food plant ecologist and botanical explorer Joseph Simcox will take us on a photographic tour of this botanical region. He will discuss the horticultural and culinary opportunities for the gardeners who grow marvels from Transcaucasia.

## Mid Summer HORTICULTURAL EVENTS

### HABITAT FOR A LAZY GARDENER

*Saturday, August 9; 10 AM–11 AM*  
Markham Nature Park Garden Center  
1202 La Vista, Concord

Organic gardener and bat habitation specialist Alicia Ledbetter of *Houses for Bats* will give us the rundown on our nocturnal friends. She'll teach us about site location and the type of houses to best ensure that these super helpful creatures are "hanging about" in our yards. Join us to find out how to make your gardening life easier. One way that we can reduce our use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides is to work with the creatures that have evolved to do those jobs for us. Bats, for instance, are very effective pollinators. As a wonderful bonus, they also provide insect control for our edible crops. Some of them can even take their weight in mosquitoes every night, and provide free fertilizer! The Markham Garden Talks series is open to the public and the talks are free. Of course, donations are always welcome! This program is free, but please RSVP to [info@markhamarboretum.org](mailto:info@markhamarboretum.org) to help us plan for seating.

### BANCROFT GARDEN SUMMER PLANT SALE

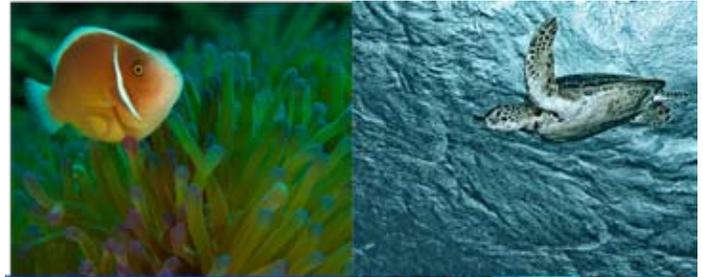
*Friday–Sunday, August 8–10; 10 AM–4 PM*  
1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek

All regularly priced plants will be 20% off all weekend. For all you members, this is in addition to the 10% discount you get with membership! This sale might be a good time to think about becoming a member to get that extra 10% off all of the plants you need to buy during this great sale.

THE KIPPINGS INVITE YOU  
TO POTLUCK\*/SLIDE SHOWS  
County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way,  
Golden Gate Park, Fireplace Room

*Tuesday, August 26; 7 PM*  
BEAUTIES FROM TROPICAL REEFS  
with Ed Kelly

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



In response to the message in last month's Bulletin, republished below, two members, Lynn Chan and Holly Sauer have stepped forward, respectively, to work on the Cal Hort web site and to fill the position of Recording Secretary. Thus encouraged, your council had determined to continue through 2015. However, more participation will be needed from you, our members, for Cal Hort to persist as an organization.

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## CAL HORT NEEDS MEMBERS TO STEP UP TO LEADERSHIP IF IT IS TO CONTINUE TO REMAIN A VIABLE ORGANIZATION

Cal Hort, like all volunteer organizations, depends on its members to initiate, organize, and carry out its activities. Many of you have noticed, over the last several years, that Cal Hort has curtailed or even dropped some of the activities that had previously been part of our calendar. We are now pretty much down to the essential minimum, and these remaining core functions have become the burden of standing chairs without the continuing support of an assisting committee.

This is not sustainable. Over the last several years, calls have been made for standing volunteers. Those few who have responded, though their help has been valued and appreciated, have volunteered ad hoc rather than permanently. Cal Hort has now reached the point at which this must change. The way forward is not at all clear but may even mean disbandment of Cal Hort.

To continue, Cal Hort needs your help, your time, your energy, and your commitment—starting right now.

Please consider seriously whether you can assist with our core activities of programs, membership administration, or communications. Maybe you'd prefer to restore plant sales or a schedule of field trips or the dispensation of grants, scholarships, or awards. You might enjoy helping to bring our web site up to date or bring to Cal Hort the benefits of social networking. Or you've got a great idea of your own for something new that you'd like to see become part of Cal Hort's activities.

The time to volunteer is now. Our council members, listed in the box on page four, will be delighted to have you contact them to tell what you'd like to do and then help you to get started. Cal Hort will be what our members volunteer to make it.

## Plant of the Month

by Kristin Yanker-Hansen

*Loropetalum chinense*, Fringe Flower

Family: HAMAMELIDACEAE

*Loropetalum chinense* hails from the Chinese Himalayas as well as Japan and southeast Asia. Normally maintained as hedges or small shrubs, many cultivars of this plant can reach heights of up to 15 feet. It comes from the witch hazel family, *Hamamelidaceae*, and varies in both flower color and foliage from white to pink and green to burgundy. It survives both our cool coastal and dry hot inland climates equally well, withstanding full sun or partial shade.

The white-flowered green-leafed form has been around in California for decades, but rather more recently the pink-flowered and red-leafed forms have made a big hit in general landscaping. Unfortunately, due to the maintenance protocols developed over the years, they are often sheared into three to four foot balls in the landscape. Most gardeners think of this plant as a shrub, but once established it can grow into a wonderful small tree, and should be considered as such for our increasingly smaller gardens.

The natural form of *Loropetalum chinense* is quite lovely, its graceful, full, soft branches presenting flowers once our cool weather begins. If our winters are mild enough in the colder inland areas, flowers will persist throughout the season. The blooming branches also make fabulous cut flowers lasting up to two weeks in a vase.

Although this plant comes from an area of the world with much more rain than our own climate, it adapts well to our much dryer climate,



*Loropetalum chinense* in tree form



*Loropetalum chinense*

and is certainly a welcome addition to the California landscape. Its evergreen foliage, especially the various reds to near black, make for year round interest in the garden and a terrific blooming plant for a challenging time of the year.



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

[www.calhortsociety.org](http://www.calhortsociety.org)

**Monthly Plant Drawing News**

Thank you to Kristin Yanker-Hansen and Andy Stone for bringing plants in for our drawing. This month our guest speaker, Byron Martin, will be bringing a selection of plants from Logee's. Please bring unusual plants from your gardens for sharing. It is also an opportunity for our members to obtain unusual plants.

**Monthly Plant Display and Discussion**

Each month there is a lively discussion about plants brought in by our members. It may be a well-grown specimen or an unusual discovery, or a plant that has attributes that are not known by the mainstream. If you are interested in participating, bring in a plant to show to the group. You can also donate this plant afterwards to the plant drawing.

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](http://www.calhortsociety.org).

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](mailto: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.

**COUNCIL**

2013-2015 (First Term) Ellen Edelson,  
 Dave Hermeyer, Charlotte Masson,  
 Kristin Yanker-Hansen

2013-2015 (Second Term) Mike Craib

**OFFICERS**

President	Open
Vice President	Open
Past President	Ellen Frank
Recording Secretary	Holly Sauer
Treasurer	Carl Meier
Parliamentarian	Open
Membership	Charlotte Masson

**ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Steve Morse, Andy Stone, Dave Tivol

**BULLETIN EDITOR**

[editor@calhortsociety.org](mailto:editor@calhortsociety.org)

**CALENDAR EDITOR**

[calendar@calhortsociety.org](mailto:calendar@calhortsociety.org)

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.