



BULLETIN
THE CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
California Academy of Sciences
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco, California 94118

JANUARY 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 Avenue 9 Bistro, 1243 Ninth Ave., San Francisco \$15

7:30 PM Meeting will be held at St. Nicholas Church, 5200 Diamond Heights Blvd. San Francisco. Lower Floor auditorium. From Strybing Arboretum take 7th Ave. which leads into Laguna Honda-turn lt. on Woodside which becomes Portola, then turn rt. onto Diamond Heights Blvd. The church is at corner of Diamond Hghts. Blvd. & Duncan St. Guest Fee \$5.

Monday, January 21, 2002

Co-sponsored with Strybing Arboretum Society
“New Plants for Horticulture from Brazil”

Presented by **Dr. Frank Almeda**, noted botanist and explorer, of California Academy of Sciences. For several years the speaker has studied the flora of Campo Rupestre, a high plateau in central Brazil located at an elevation of 4000' - 5000'. In this prairie-grassland plant community, Dr. Almeda has discovered many new members of the Melastomaceae, some of which, like *Tibouchina cardinalis* are now being successfully propagated at Strybing Arboretum.

The **Plant Drawing** each month provides an important source of funds for the Grants and Scholarship Program. Our appreciation to *Diablo Valley College* (courtesy of Kathy Echols) & to *Strybing Arboretum & Botanical Gardens* (Dr. Don Mahoney) who graciously donated the beautiful specimens for the **November meeting**.

The drawing in **January** will include donations from ‘Seedhunt’ (*Ginny Hunt*) & *Strybing Arboretum and Botanical Gardens*, courtesy of **Dr. Don Mahoney**.

Rare seed collector’s alert! Your opportunity to acquire: *Cynara baetica*, an artichoke relative with beautiful hot pink bracts; *Mirabilis longiflora*, with white, highly fragrant 3” long floral tubes; and *Colletia spinosa rosea* to name just a few Seedhunt’s rarities that will be available. Special Strybing plants available will be *Tibouchina semidecandra* and *Monochaetum longipetala*, both beautiful Melastomaceae members.

Coming Meetings

Co-Sponsored with Strybing Arboretum Society

Monday, February 18, 2002

**“Plant Exploration in the Highlands of Northern Vietnam,
Bali & the Philippines”**

In the ongoing effort to develop Strybing’s Southeast Asian cloud Forest, Collections Manager, **Bian Tan** collected seeds and cuttings from the Bali Botanic Gardens, cloud forests in the Philippines, and the highlands of Northern Vietnam. This last expedition was in collaboration with researchers from the Missouri Botanical Gardens and Vietnamese botanists. The variety of plants encountered was amazing, and included many rare conifers, orchids, and rhododendrons. Through slides, Bian will tell us about this expedition into limestone areas that are home to rare and endangered species, and how foreign botanists are assisting with Southeast Asian plant conservation efforts.

Monday, March 18, 2002

“The Maybeck Cottage Garden: An Evolution in Garden Style”

Presented by Roger Raiche

Roger Raiche of Berkeley, California, co-founder of Planet Horticulture Garden Design, showcases his unique take on garden style. Featured in this slide show, his own personal garden—started in 1989 – evolves before your eyes in a kaleidoscopic journey. Has your garden thrilled you today?



President's Letter

by Dr. Don Mahoney

This is the start of a new season and so it is an appropriate time to change leadership in Cal Hort. At the next council meeting a new president will be elected and my term will expire. I am very grateful to all the council members and other volunteers who, through their tireless hard work, have kept Cal Hort running smoothly for the last two years. I'm sure they will continue to provide great leadership into the future.

Our meeting place for the short term is still uncertain as the Academy of Sciences schedule for re-opening Morrison Auditorium is uncertain. Be sure and watch the *Bulletin* each month to be alert to future meeting places. Another important thing to keep in mind is that our California Horticulture

Society plant sale this year is moved up to April 27th and 28th. Be sure and reserve those dates on your calendar as that is a perfect planting time. As usual it will be held at the Lakeside Garden Center in Oakland.

It has been fun and an honor to be so closely involved with Cal Hort over the last few years. I have met many wonderful people, many as crazy as I am for growing and nurturing strange and beautiful plants. Since gardening is an ongoing passion, I'm sure that I will still be buying raffle tickets and then dreaming about a bigger garden to plant my winnings in. But now that I know so many Cal Hort members, I know that I'm in the very best company of people with the same problem. ✿

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!

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!

Strybing Arboretum and Botanical Gardens

(415) 661-1316

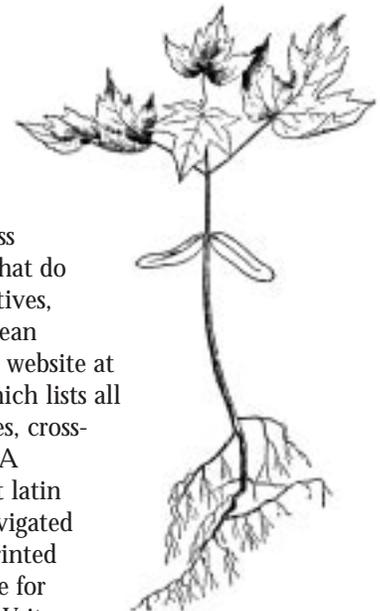
Ninth Ave at Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park, SF
www.strybing.org

Strybing's nursery propagates many truly rare and unusual plants from its gardens. They focus on material that will do well in the Bay Area but there's always a few things worth pushing the climate envelope for. Although not open daily to the public, there are monthly plant sales offering a bounty of treasures. The next sale is on Feb 9th and is a Plant Sale & Nursery Open House followed on March 9th by a general Plant Sale.

Seedhunt

Ginny Hunt
PO Box 96
Freedom, CA
95109
(831) 763-1523

Ginny maintains a mail order seed business specializing in plants that do well in CA such as natives, salvias and mediterranean plants. She has a great website at www.seedhunt.com which lists all the hundreds of choices, cross-listed into Annuals, CA Natives, Salvias or just latin name. It's an easily navigated site worth a visit. A printed catalog is also available for \$1 to cover shipping. Write to the above address. ✿



Botanical Tours

April 24 - May 8, 2002

A Springtime Medley of Gardens: Floraide & Keukenhof in Holland-Bruges; Belgium-Paris at cherry Blossom-time

Sponsored by Strybing Arboretum Society.

Info: (800) 624-6633.

May 6 - 24, 2002

Sichuan, China - A Botanical Paradise Sponsored by Quarryhill Botanical Garden and Strybing Arboretum Society with Bill Mc Namara.

May 16-June 3, 2002

Botanical and Cultural Treasures of China's Yunnan Province at the Peak of Springtime Bloom. In support of The Nature Conservancy's Yunnan Project

November Plant Forum

by Fred Coe

"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.

1. Columneax 'Fugiama'

GESNERIACEAE

Katherine Henwood, Pacifica

This was a spectacular hanging basket about two feet across and amply covered with out-facing, brilliant scarlet flowers shaped for the beak and tongue of a hummingbird. Each flower was about 2 inches long and the dark green foliage set them off beautifully. The genus is American and the plants are epiphytic in nature. They should be grown in a light mixture in 50% shade and protected from frost. Flowers last well so a blooming period of over a month can be expected in late summer or fall.

2. Plectranthus comosus variegata

LAMIACEAE

Kathy Echols, Martinez

Two or three branches about 2 feet long were brought in for us to see. This is one of the largest members of the genus, reaching 8 to 10 feet in height as a shrub under trees. The 2 to 3 inch notched oval leaves have a creamy white border and when in bloom the ends of the branches have a raceme of purple mint-like flowers. The genus is widely scattered in the southern hemisphere in a number of habitats and size of plants. Very small succulent species are found in southern Africa as well as creeping ground covers and 2 to 3 foot high shrubs. A number have aromatic foliage, some rank, others pleasant. As coleus is now considered part of this genus, foliage is often a feature. The flowers can be true blue, lavender, purple, pink or white, depending on the species. Australian species are often grown. The species shown is not listed in references I have.

3. Beallara 'Tahoma Glacier' - 'Wilma' (Miltoniopsis 'Cartagena' x Odontioda 'Alaskan Sunset')

ORCHIDACEAE

Tonie Jones, Sonoma

This is one of those multiple generic hybrids which only happen in the orchid family. Toni has been growing the plant for some time in a cool greenhouse and finally it bloomed. The plant is evergreen, with small pseudo-bulbs and had a 3 inch white, star-like flower with maroon markings. The flower was sweet scented.

4. Ledebouria socialis (L. violacea) and form 'Zebra'

LILIACEAE

Fred Coe, Ross

This is a South African genus with a large number of species, mostly grown for the ornamental foliage. Often you find them growing in the succulent and cactus portion of nurseries. The two shown may be labeled scilla. The small bulbs are often above ground level and gradually form mats. The leaves are usually 3 to 4 inches long and

mottled green and grey with purple undersides. 'Zebra' is transversally barred and slightly more showy. The flowers resemble tiny green and purple grape hyacinths. There are showier species with purple flowers but these do not offset and require a winter drying out.

5. Ledebouria maculata

LILIACEAE

Fred Coe, Ross

This is similar to the above, but with more oval 2 inch leaves and more subtle markings.

6. Large mixed bouquet

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

Kristin went through her garden and brought what was in bloom:

Gladiolus - probably a species - autumn blooming, red with orange and yellow flowers.

Cannas - Two leaves, each with stripes of variegation in a V-shaped pattern from the center vein, one green and yellow, the other red and yellow.

"Home Depot" yellow rose - A nice fragrant yellow rose with no name. These are non-patented seedlings often sold by color alone.

Heliotropium arborescens - This was a pale lavender fragrant variety, hardy to 15°F.

Narcissus tazetta 'Paper white' - In bloom. good garden plant.

Barleria cristata - A purple-flowered autumn blooming plant for full hot sun.

Salvia greggi 'Dark Dancer' - This blooms with dark red flowers almost year round.

Hemerocallis 'Cranberry Baby' - An evergreen perennial dwarf day lily blooming over a long period with dark red flowers.

Hibiscus lavateroides - small pink flowers, needs water in summer.

Lavatera assurgentiflora - large shrub with dark pink flowers. ✨

Do you have any melastomes to exhibit or perhaps some plants from Brazil? Our January Speaker will be speaking about Brazilian plants, especially melastomes so it would be a great time to exhibit any related plants you might have. Perhaps you'll even learn some new and exciting fact about your plant!

THE PLANT FORUM is a traditional feature of our monthly meetings. Members are strongly encouraged to bring new plants or old favorites from their gardens to tell about and share. What's old hat to you might be a brand new wonder to another member. What is putting on a display in **your** garden this winter? Bring it in and share it with us!

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Cal Hort Grant Report: San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden

-From San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden News, Volume 11, Number 4, Fall 2001

Partnerships are vital to successful outcomes. The Friends of San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden have been most fortunate to have an ongoing informal partnership with the California Horticultural Society.

Barbara Hopper, member of the Grants and Scholarships Committee of California Horticultural Society, has visited the Garden, attended our annual dinners and consulted on a variety of Garden projects. Cal Hort has watched our progress with great interest and has backed up that interest with grants for a variety of projects.

A thick layer of eucalyptus



A volunteer wheeling the cart purchased with Cal Hort Grant funds

debris has been cleared and we have begun planting native trees and shrubs along the creek bank. And some native plants are reestablishing themselves on their own in the creek bed. The Society provided \$1500 in funds for those plantings. The same grant also specified purchase of a sturdy garden cart with the stipulation that a second cart be purchased with matching funds. A previous grant from the Society provided western cape natives for our spectacular South African Cape aloe garden, lovingly designed, planted, and nurtured by Gracia & Gene Bello.

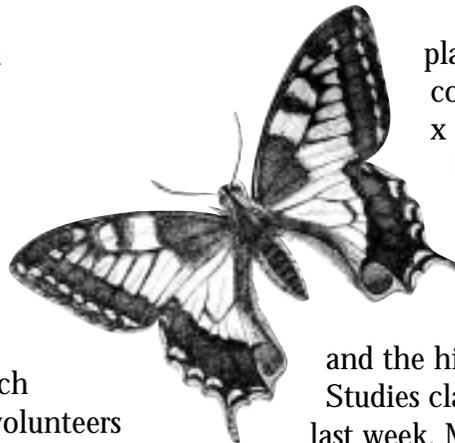
www.slobg.org

Sonoma State Butterfly Garden

The Santa Rosa Garden Club Newsletter
November 2001

News from the Butterfly Garden

The Sonoma State Butterfly Garden was fortunate to receive a \$260 grant from the California Horticultural Society for much needed plant labeling. The volunteers are busy installing one hundred metal



plant stakes in gallon cans of concrete. The stakes will hold 4" x 5" plant labels and the cans will be placed in the ground. This project will provide accurate information for many visitors and students, such as the university biology class and the high school Environmental Studies class that can through the garden last week. Many thanks to the California Horticultural Society for their support!

Now that you've chosen your seeds, how would you like to help pack them? We're not yet sure when or where, but we're going to need a group of busy hands to sit around a table, chat, socialize, and, of course, fill the seeds orders. It's not hard work and you'll get to see how the whole Seed Exchange works not to mention fellow Cal Hort members. Also, any left-over seeds will be up for grabs.....

Look for the place and date to be published in next month's *Bulletin* or email seeds@calhortsociety.org to get a reminder sent to you. ✿

Horticultural Calendar

January 20

Plant Travels in South America: Highlights from the floras of Ecuador, Chile & Argentina—travel to S. America with Bay Area plantsman Martin Grantham in a slide show accompanied by a plant sale. Mirov Room, UC Bot. Directions: <http://www.bampfa.berkeley.edu/geninfo/campusmuseums.html> 7 PM sale, 8 PM slideshow. (510) 525-9648

January 22

Landscape Artist Topher Delaney Presents Ten Landscapes—in her San Francisco studio at 156 South Park, a discussion and slide show highlighting projects from her recently published book. The \$5 admission benefits New Langton Arts, 6:30 PM.

January 25-27

Arctostaphylos Weekend Workshop—with Tom Parker and Mike Vasey at UC Hastings Reserve, Central Valley. By Jepson Herbarium. <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/jepwkshp.html> or (510) 643-7008.

February 22-23

Eighth Xeriscape Conference—by The Xeriscape Council of NM at the Albuquerque Convention Center. Conference details and registration info: <http://www.xeriscapenm.com>.



Host a Speaker

Please let us know if you would be willing to host a monthly speaker. Many of our speakers live out of town or the state and would greatly appreciate an opportunity to stay for one night with one of our members and perhaps enjoy their garden or another if time is available. Please contact Barbara Hopper (707) 833-2078 or Bruce Peters (415) 824-1833, bruce@calhortsociety.org.

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

November 20

Peonies for the Bay Area—Slide illustrated talk with Kelly Dodson, November's Cal Hort speaker. Many peonies come from the northern rim of the Mediterranean Sea, including species well suited to Bay Area growing conditions. 7-9PM, SAS trailer, Co-sponsored with Cal Hort, SAS/Cal Hort members \$8, non-members \$10.

January 12

Botanical Art Studio—4-session studio, 11AM-3PM, SAS trailer

January 16

Taxonomy for Gardeners—7-session certificate course, 6:30-9PM, SAS trailer

January 18

Pro Pruning Intensive—2-Friday workshop, 8AM-4:45PM, SAS trailer

January 19

Pruning No. 1: Roses—workshop, 9AM-2PM, SAS trailer

January 22

California Climate, Soil & Geography—6-session course, 6:30-9PM, SAS trailer

February 1

Hardscape in Stone—Strybing Design Seminar, 8am-5pm, Fort Mason Center

February 2

Stone in the Garden—*Horticulture* Symposium, 8am-5pm, Fort Mason Center

Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens
1500 North College Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711
(909) 625 8767 x224

January 26

Pruning Techniques for Native Plants: Making Them Look Their Best—Ramona Ferriera. 10:00 AM-1:00 PM \$20 (\$24 nonmembers) Limit 15 participants

February 2

Care and Maintenance of a Native Plant Garden—Susan Jett, Nursery Manager, and John Dolan, Horticulturalist. 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, \$62 (\$70 non-member) Limit: 12 participants

February 10

Organic Gardening and Integrated Pest Management—Tony Zile, co-owner, Plantlife Wholistic Landscaping, Inc. 1:00 -3:00 PM. \$5 (\$7 nonmembers)

■ We are pleased to announce your plant sales and special events in our monthly *Bulletin*, **however**, we must receive the information **no later** than the 15th of the month preceding your event in order to put it into the *Bulletin* in time. Thank you.

Inside this issue:



Seed List



Grant News



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Leanna Beeman-Sims
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Second Term
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Katherine Henwood

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 Bruce at the above address. Faxes and postal submissions also accepted.

Membership year begins January 1. Dues are \$40 individual, \$50 joint household, \$25 Student (w/ 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.

ADVERTISING: Rates: \$60 for a business card size (3 3/4" w x 2" h), \$75 for 1/8 page (3 3/4" w x 2 1/2" h), \$150 for 1/4 page (3 3/4" w x 5" h). Submit ads or questions to *Bulletin* Editor at above postal or email address.

California Horticultural Society

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San Francisco, CA 94118

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