

July 2011 Volume 78, Issue 7

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, July 18, 2011 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

Kniphofia caulescens





July 2011 Meeting Erica in South Africa (An Evolutionary Explosion) by Martin Grantham

Erica is by far the largest genus in the South African flora showing a degree of geographic concentration unmatched

by any other plant group anywhere in the world. Estimates of species number range from 650 to over 800. The stupendous diversity of *Erica* in South Africa boggles the minds of botanists and overwhelms horticulturists, yet *Erica* is easily propagated and more adaptable to California soils than many other South African plant groups. Although flowers are small, they're produced in profusion and come in every hue but blue. Join Martin Grantham in taking a look at a range of *Erica* species in the wild and in cultivation.

August 2011 Meeting

Food Forest to Urban Ecosystem Agriculture by Scott Kleinrock

From food forests to urban ecosystem agriculture, this is an introduction to gardening like a force of nature. In this talk, Scott Kleinrock, Ranch Manager at the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens, will share theory, images, and stories of his explorations of edible gardens constructed on principles of resilient ecosystems at the Huntington Ranch. Included will be plenty of how-to tips on how to establish these gardens systems at home in everything from designed edible landscapes to wild orchards.

Summer HORTICULTURAL Events by Don L. MacGregor

GET RID OF THAT BIG LAWN ALREADY!

Turf Alternatives with Grassologist, Bob Hornback
Saturday, July 9; 9:30 AM-12:30 PM
SF County Fair Bldg. Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way,
Golden Gate Park. \$45, Members \$35.

Download registration form online or phone (415)661-1316 ext. 400.
Email: kfisher@sfbg.org
www.sfbotanicalgarden.org

SALVIAS AND SHRUBS

Monthly Plant Sale
Saturday, July 9; 10 AM-1 PM
San Francisco Botanical Garden Nursery,
Ninth Avenue at Lincon Way, Golden Gate Park.
www.sfbotanicalgarden.org

QUARRYHILL PLANT SALE

Woody and Herbaceous Plants Included Saturday, July 9; 10 AM-3 PM Quarryhill Botanical Garden Nursery, 12841 Sonoma Highway in Glen Ellen. www.quarryhillbg.org

GOLDEN STATE LILY SOCIETY

Show and Sale

Saturday and Sunday, July 9 & 10; Noon-5 PM

Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue at Lake Merritt in Oakland.

www.gardensatLakeMerritt.org

SOIL FOODWEB WORKSHOP with Dr. Elaine Ingham

July 11–15
in San Rafael. \$800. Partial sign-ups OK.
Register Online at www.SweetSoil.eventbrite.com
for more information www.saypermaculture.com
or www.soilfoodweb.com or email cait_bergman@yahoo.com

GIFT OF PERSIA:

EXOTIC GARDENS FOR CALIFORNIA

Garden Design/History Seminar Friday, July 15; 8:30 AM-5:30 PM Gardens at Heather Farm, Walnut Creek. Presented by The Garden Conservancy. Registration online, \$105, \$95, \$85. www.gardenconservancy.org

17th ANNUAL SCULPTURE IN THE GARDEN

Exhibit Closes July 16; 10 AM-4 PM daily Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek. \$10, Members & Seniors \$7. www.ruthbancroftgarden.org

PONDS AND CREEKS

Tour for Kids

Saturday July 16; 11 AM-12:30 PM

UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley.

\$15 for each Adult + child, Members \$12.

Each add'l person \$3. Registration required by phone, (510)643-2755

or email garden@berkeley.edu

DESIGNING NATIVE GARDENS WITH GLENN KEATOR

Native Garden Classroom

Saturday, July 23; 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Regional Parks Botanic Garden,

Wildcat Canyon Road at South Park Drive,

Tilden Park. \$85, Members \$75.

Download registration form online

or phone (415)661-1316 ext. 400 or email kfisher@sfbg.org

www.sfbotanicalgarden.org

ROSES OF THE STORER GARDEN

Guided Tour
Saturday, July 23; 10 AM
UC Davis Arboretum.
Meet at the Gazebo on Garrod Drive.
www.arboretum.ucdavis.edu

PLANTING FOR NATIVE BEES

Talk with Celeste Ets-Holkin Saturday, July 23; Noon Lake Merritt Trials Garden, 666 Bellevue in Oakland. www.gardensatlakemerritt.org

BUTTERFLY WALK

Led by Sally Levinson
Tuesday, July 26; 3–4 PM
UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley,
200 Centennial Drive.
Free with Garden Admission. (510)643-2755
www.botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu

THE KIPPING'S TUESDAY SLIDESHOW

"The Brazilian Pantanal" with Paul Donahue

Tuesday, July 26; 7 PM

SF County Fair Building,

Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way, San Francisco.

Please bring a dish and beverage to serve eight.



SYDNEY MITCHELL IRIS SOCIETY SALE

Collector's Sale Wednesday, July 27; 7:30 PM Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue at Lake Merritt in Oakland. www.gardensatlakemerritt.org

13th ANNUAL BOTANICAL ART EXHIBIT

National Juried Show
Through July 30 only; 10 AM-3;30 PM
The Gallery at FILOLI, Visitor Education Center,
Free with Admission;
\$15, \$12 Seniors, \$5 Students.
FILOLI House & Gardens, Canada Road, Woodside.
www.filoli.org

Plant of the Month by Josh Schechtel

Kniphofia caulescens,

Blue-leaved, Red Hot Poker

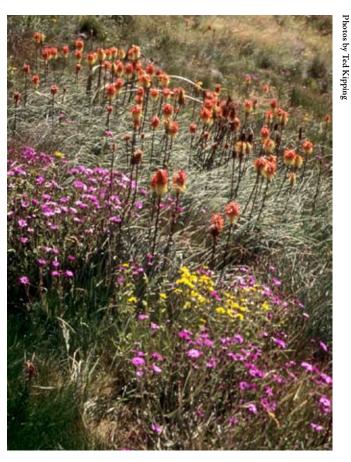
Family: Asphodelaceae

Many of the spring blooming plants have finished their show during our dry summers, which is why I love Kniphofia caulescens. During the rest of the year, it is a beautiful, glaucous rosette of wide pointy leaves, resembling some sort of spineless agave, but come July and August it erupts with wonderful spikes of tubular flowers in a rich terra cotta red on top and light yellow below. Hailing from the high slopes of the Drakensberg Mountains in southern Africa, this plant can take some winter chill and bounce back fine in the spring. In fact, while the kniphofias were brought to England in the early 1700s, they were kept as greenhouse plants for over 100 years, until they were planted outdoors in the mid-1800s. Sunbirds are the most likely pollinator of this plant in the wild. In our gardens, hummingbirds are drawn to the flowers like magnets to my refrigerator.

Like most of my favorite plants, *Kniphofia* caulescens likes lots of sun and rich, well-drained soil. In winter, cold, poorly drained soil can cause the roots to rot.

The blue-green color of the leaves combines well with many other plants.

The Kniphofias were named after Johann Hieronymus Kniphof, a German physician and botanist who practiced in the 1700s.



Kniphofia caulescens

GROWING NATIVES: INSPIRING AND ENDURING GARDENS—A TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM

Saturday, September 17 and Sunday, September 18

Presented by: California Native Plant Society, Friends of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden and Pacific Horticulture (including Cal Hort). Featuring: The expertise of Bay Area and California professionals in native plant horticulture.

Saturday's program at Lafayette Community Center, 500 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette. Garden Design with Carol Bornstein, Director of Horticulture, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden; Site Prep with Deva Luna, Horticulturist and Designer; Sourcing Native Plants with Michael Craib, Suncrest Nurseries; Lessons from a 55-Year-Old Native Plant Garden with Luke Hass, Horticulturist and Designer; Maintenance Tips with David Fross, nurseryman and author.

The speakers will join in a panel discussion and Q&A session. Continental breakfast and lunch is included, and a selection of books will be on sale.

Sunday's program at Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Wildcat Canyon Road at South Park Drive, Berkeley. Registration covers two of five morning workshops: Container Gardening with Pete Veilleux; Wildlife Gardening with Don Mahoney; Plants for Dry Shade with Katherine Greenberg; Rockeries in Native Plant Gardens with Steve Edwards; Aesthetic Pruning with Jocelyn Cohen.

Participants are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch and stay for afternoon docent led tours of the gardens and plant sales at adjoining Native Here Nursery, 101 Golf Course Road. www.gns.cnps-scv.org

Registration: Saturday; \$170. Members \$150. Register before 31 July and save \$20. Sunday; \$65. Members \$55. Register before 31 July and save \$10. Register Online or at www.PacificHorticulture.org or call (510)849-1627.



California Horticultural Society

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

www.calhortsociety.org

The image below of royal mosque tiles with plant motif, Isfahan, Safavid period, is from Patrick Hunt's talk at the Garden Conservancy's garden history seminar, "Gift of Persia: Exotic Gardens for California" on Friday, July 15 from 8:30 AM until 5:30 PM. Register online at www.gardenconservancy.org.



Monthly Plant Drawing News

Thanks once again go to Don Mahoney of Strybing Arboretum for a fabulous selection of plants from the Arboretum. This month in addition to the plant drawing, Martin well be bringing a selection of plants from SF State Greenhouses for sale. This will be a very unusual selection of plants, since Martin doesn't do much that is usual. We encourage our members to bringplants for our silent auction each month.

To join the California Horticultural Society, or for 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 2008-2010 (Second Term) Jim Budke

2009-2011 (First Term) Demi Bowles Lathrop

2010-2012 (First Term) Michael Craib, Don MacGregor

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

2011-2013 (First Term) Patrick Albin, Judith Taylor, Mary TeSelle

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