

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, July 15, 2013, 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
Glaucium flavum



Photo © 2013 Ted Kipping

MONDAY, JULY 15, 2013

**Behind the Scenes
in the Huntington's Tropical Collections**

Dylan Hannon, Curator



The plants that make up the living collections at the Huntington's Rose Hills Foundation Conservatory are mostly hidden from public view. Where these plants come from, what the conservatory does with them and where they end up will be discussed. The extraordinary plant life in the Chocó region of Colombia, will be highlighted both as a resource and an inspiration for this spectacular modern conservatory.



MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2013

Looking at Old Irises

Gesine Lohr

Growing up in New Jersey, Gesine Lohr loved the old irises, but didn't know any of their names. It wasn't until 1999 that she found the first name, 'Indian Chief' (Ayres 1929) identified by Mary Hess at Bluebird Haven Iris Garden. She is now editor of "Roots," the journal of the Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS), and will share the evolution of the old Irises.



Summer HORTICULTURAL EVENTS by Judith Taylor



SCULPTURE IN THE GARDEN

June 14-July 13

1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek

For one month every year, The Ruth Bancroft Garden transforms into an outdoor art gallery. The Garden's world-class collection of succulent and drought-tolerant plants provides a spectacular backdrop for artists to display their works. Follow the meandering pathways to discover art that ranges from classical to irreverent, spiritual to functional. (925) 944-9352.

REDWOODS IN THE VALLEY

Saturday, July 13; 9:30 AM

Wyatt Deck, UC Davis Arboretum

Learn all about these amazing trees, including the pros and cons of growing redwoods in the hot Central Valley. The event is free; parking is free on campus on the weekends. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880 or visit <http://arboretum75th.ucdavis.edu/redwoods-in-the-valley>.

DIGGING DOG NURSERY'S DOG-GONE SUPER SUMMER PLANT SALE

July 12, 13 and 14 (Fri., Sat. & Sun.); 10:00 AM-5:00 PM

31101 Middle Ridge Rd., Albion

Stroll Digging Dog Nursery's splendid gardens with horticulturist Deborah Whigham on Saturday, and save 20% to 40% on a wide array of easy-to-grow garden plants in this 3-day super plant sale. Many rare beauties and water-wise toughies available. Digging Dog Nursery, in the redwood forest near the Mendocino coast, has been featured in "Martha Stewart Living," "House and Garden" and other publications. FREE admission. FREE refreshments and tour on Saturday (2:00 p.m.) (707) 937-1130 www.diggingdog.com

HOW TO REPLACE YOUR LAWN

Saturday, July 27, 2013; 9:10 AM-12 NOON

Austin Science Center #176, 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.

ORCHIDS 101

WITH BRIAN THE ORCHID GUY

Saturday, July 27, 2013; 10-11:30 AM |

UC Botanical Garden, Berkeley

Orchids are for everyone! Join the Garden and Henry's Garden TV personality Brian Petraska ("the orchid guy") for an orchid growing basics workshop and demonstration. Brian will share his orchid knowledge and inside secrets to getting orchids to bloom year after year. Students are encouraged to bring in their orchids or orchid images from their home garden. Please cover plants brought into the Garden. Brian's Orchid Growing Basics DVD will be available for purchase. Registration required: \$25, \$20 members.

Brian has been a featured speaker for the San Francisco Pacific Orchid Exposition, the largest orchid show in California, as well as the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, The Judge's Council, The Master Gardeners Association of Alameda County, The Bay Ocean District of Garden Clubs and many other local orchid and garden societies of the San Francisco Bay Area. As Brian says, "We don't pick the orchid, the orchid picks us".

Orchids started picking Brian back in 1994. He is still growing his first orchid, a big, beautiful pink cymbidium, and currently raises over 800 orchids in his greenhouses and outdoor gardens at his home in the Oakland Hills of California. Registration required: \$25, \$20 members. Registration info: Register online, or by calling (510) 642-7082, or by emailing garden-programs@berkeley.edu.

IN MEMORIAM: CARLA REITER

Long-time member of the California Horticultural Society, Carla Reiter passed away on May 29, 2013. She was 90. She and her husband, founding member Victor Reiter Jr. (1903-1986), had been deeply involved with the management of the Society for many years and organized many field trips. They produced the monthly bulletin, were involved in the Journal and the expansion to the Pacific Horticultural Foundation. She was a gracious hostess of meetings and to all who visited The Reiter Garden. Their three children are planning a memorial gathering in September.

Plant of the Month

by Josh Schechtel

Glaucium flavum, the Horned Poppy

Family: PAPAVERACEAE

I am fortunate to have a wonderful community garden just a few blocks from my house. It is full of sunshine, and I can enjoy many plants there that I cannot grow in my shady garden at home. In full bloom right now are several horned poppies of the orange cultivar. The wild-type plant produces golden yellow flowers that are equally attractive. Even when it is not in bloom, this is an appealing plant, with slightly furry, gray green, deeply cut, wavy-edged leaves. The flowers from June to August just add to its appeal.

Native to coastal areas of northern and Mediterranean Europe and north Africa, the horned poppy is a short-lived perennial that thrives under low water conditions. It is not particular about soil type, as long as the soil is reasonably well draining. Unfortunately for me and my shady garden, the horned poppy enjoys full sun.

Like many members of the Papaveraceae, *Glaucium* sap contains an alkaloid. Known as glaucine, it is considered toxic. In small doses, extracts from this plant have been used for their sedative and hallucinogenic properties. It is probably best not to attempt grazing or adding this plant to your salads...

The flowers give way to seed pods up to 6 inches long, their shape giving the plant its common name of horn poppy. Although it is considered an invasive plant in New England, and has been reported as naturalized in a few counties of California, I'm not familiar with any problems with this plant in the Bay Area. Despite the numerous seed pods, it certainly hasn't been a problem in our community garden.



Photos © 2013 Ted Kipping



Glaucium flavum

The name for the genus comes from Latin word 'glaucus' which comes from the Greek word 'glaukos' meaning 'gray-green'. This is in reference to the color of the foliage. The species name 'flavum' comes from the Latin word 'flavus' meaning 'yellow' or 'blonde' in reference to the flower color.



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 June, Mike Craib from Suncrest brought in a wonderful selection of unusual roses. Members Kristin Yanker-Hansen and Andy Stone also brought some unusual plants. Thank you all who donated. Every month we ask our members to donate plants. Remember, there are always new plants to find at the drawing.

Plant Display and Discussion

Each month there is a lively discussion about plants conducted by the venerable Ernest Wertheim, and 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.

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

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