

*The next monthly general meeting is Monday, July 21, 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**

*Chilopsis linearis*



Photo © 2014 Ted Kipping

**MONDAY, JULY 21, 2014**

**Making Every Drop Count**

By Tom Brassen

Tom Brassen of the Urban Farmer Store will give a short history of Store and a list of the best practices for water conservation in the garden. “The drought makes us think more about the things that we should have been doing all along.”



**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 cataloger of plants since the 1930s Logee’s has often been referred to as the grandfather of the mail order plant business.

## Summer

### HORTICULTURAL EVENTS by Judith Taylor

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

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 11–13; 10 AM to 5 PM  
31101 Middle Ridge Road, Albion, CA

Digging Dog Nursery's Dog-Gone Super Summer Plant Sale features savings of up to 20% on a diverse array of easy-to-grow plants, including many water-wise toughies. On Saturday, visitors can join horticulturist Deborah Whigham for a stroll of the Nursery's colorful border gardens, lemonade and free garden consultations. The tour starts at 2 PM. For further details and full mail order catalog, go to: [www.diggingdog.com](http://www.diggingdog.com). Call the Nursery at (707) 937-1130.

#### PLANTING WITH NATIVES

Sunday, July 20; 10 AM

Buehler Alumni Center, UC Davis campus

Native plants make beautiful and water-conserving additions to home gardens. Get ideas of what natives to add to your landscape, along with tips on when and how to plant them, on this walking tour of the Mary Wattis Brown Garden of California Native Plants. The event is free. Free parking is available in nearby Gateway District Parking Lot. For more information or directions, please call (530) 752-4880.

#### THE KIPPINGS INVITE YOU TO POTLUCK\*/SLIDE SHOWS

County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way,  
Golden Gate Park, Fireplace Room

Tuesday, July 22; 7 PM

#### A LIFE DEVOTED TO BEAUTY

with Jack Halpern and Ted Kipping

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

#### SUCCULENT CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Saturday, July 26; 10:30 AM–NOON

The Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek

Many people fall in love with succulent plants for their beautiful shapes, colors, and ease of care. However, common misunderstanding of their sun and water needs lead to bedraggled plants that are elongated, discolored, or withering. Come out to The Ruth Bancroft Garden to learn the basics of succulent care and maintenance in order to keep your garden or container plantings thriving. The choice of soil, watering schedules, or location can have a huge impact on the health and wellness of your plants. Common succulent pests and diseases will be discussed along with their remedies. Learn when to propagate, how to groom, and keep these plants looking their best. Bring pictures of your unpleasant-looking succulents to discuss with the instructors and other participants. \$20 General Admission, \$12 Members

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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 Josh Schechtel

*Chilopsis linearis*, the Desert Willow

Family: BIGNONIACEAE

Recently I was lucky enough to visit the Sacramento Historic City Cemetery, which is beautifully planted with a collection of over 400 plant species. Enjoying the warm sunshine, I came across a desert willow in bloom. Clearly, the native pollinators had discovered it also. Found in desert washes from California through Texas, this graceful plant enjoys summer heat, so it would not be happy in my San Francisco garden.

However, for gardeners even slightly inland, where summer temperatures climb, this is a wonderful large shrub or small tree. Usually growing to 15 feet or so, *Chilopsis* has long, narrow leaves, and resembles a willow. However, the wonderful flowers demonstrate its true identity as a member of the Bignoniaceae, along with *Catalpa*, *Tecoma* and *Campsis*.

Clusters of trumpet-shaped flowers grow in terminal clusters. Various cultivars bloom in shades ranging from white to pink and lavender. Each flower has contrasting lines and dots in the throat, and many have a bright yellow spot in the throat as well. There are some cultivars that do not produce seed pods. The other cultivars produce small pods in the autumn, which remain on the branches after the leaves have fallen for the season.

*Chilopsis* prefers full sun and excellent drainage. Deep waterings during the first summer help it establish a good root system, and once established it is quite drought resistant. It will tolerate temperatures at least 10 degrees below freezing, so it is worth trying if your winters



Photo © 2014 Ted Kipping



Photo © 2014 Diane Goldsmith

*Chilopsis linearis* in a garden setting

are not too severe. Like other members of the Bignoniaceae, it is a fairly rapid grower.

A hybrid between *Chilopsis linearis* and *Catalpa bignonioides* is known as the Chitalpa tree. This plant combines the larger flowers of the *Catalpa* with the narrow leaves and flower color of the *Chilopsis*.



**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 Lynn Chang and Kristin Yanker-Hansen for bringing plants in for our drawing. At every meeting we have a plant drawing. Please bring in unusual plants from your garden to share with the members. This is also a great opportunity for our members to obtain new plants for their collections.

**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), 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](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.

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.

**COUNCIL**

2013-2015 (First Term) Mark Delepine,  
 Ellen Edelson, Dave Hermeyer, Charlotte Masson  
 2013-2015 (Second Term) Mike Craib

**OFFICERS**

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Vice President	Open
Past President	Ellen Frank
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