

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, June 18, 2012 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.



From the Bulletin of 50 years ago. Cartoon found in the Domoto/Calhort archives and kindly restored to the Society by Lucy Tolmach when she was clearing her files at Filoli upon her retirement.

JUNE 18, 2012 MEETING

WHERE DO THESE PLANTS COME FROM?

with Dr. Rick Schoellhorn



Dr. Rick Schoellhorn, Director of New Products for Proven Winners, will discuss the process of finding new plants. Proven Winners searches the world to find and select plants which are clearly superior to others of their type. Join Rick on a trip around the world searching for plant breeders and the plants that will eventually end up in your garden.



JULY 16, 2012 MEETING

EXPLORING FOR PLANTS IN ARMENIA

with Joseph Simcox

Joseph Simcox, a botanical explorer and a world food plant ecologist, has led expeditions to more than 70 countries to study the world's plant resources. His work has taken him from steaming jungles to high desert plateaus. Joseph spends most of his time on expeditions and is presently working on a television series to introduce the thrills of plant exploring. He will talk about both food and other plants he has found on recent explorations to Armenia.

Early Summer HORTICULTURAL EVENTS by Judith Taylor

NATIVE ORCHIDS OF CALIFORNIA

with Ron Parsons

Thursday, June 7, 2012; 7:30 PM

Sponsored by Yerba Buena Chapter of the California Native Plant Society Recreation Room, San Francisco County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park.

WALK WITH WARREN

Wednesday, June 13, Noon

Arboretum Gazebo, Garrod Drive, UC Davis

Join Arboretum Superintendent Emeritus Warren Roberts for a lunchtime stroll in the UC Davis Arboretum on Wednesday, June 13. Meet at noon at the Arboretum Gazebo, on Garrod Drive on the UC Davis campus. There is no charge for the tour. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880 or visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

LIFE AFTER LAWN: TOWARD A NEW AMERICAN FRONT YARD

Friday, June 15, 2012; 10 AM–Noon

University of California Botanical Garden

Learn about exciting and regionally appropriate lawn alternatives. Join Anthony Garza, Supervisor of Horticulture & Grounds, for this presentation and discussion about how to get started, planning for success, using great grasses and grass-like plants in different settings, and tackling maintenance. Advance registration required; \$12, \$8 members. Call (510) 643-2755 x 03 for event registration or to purchase/renew a membership.

18TH ANNUAL SCULPTURE IN THE GARDEN

A One-of-a-Kind Art Event in the East Bay

June 15 – July 14, 2012: 7 days a week, 10 AM–4 PM

Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
The Ruth Bancroft Garden's famous collection of rare and beautiful succulents features sculptures by artists from all over the West Coast. Don't miss the opportunity to see the region's largest juried outdoor sculpture exhibit! The show opens June 15, and the art remains on display through July 14. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (925) 944-9352 or email info@ruthbancroftgarden.org.

MARKHAM MONTHLY PLANT SALE

June 16, 2012; 9 AM–Noon

1202 La Vista Avenue, Concord

Sponsored by Markham Regional Arboretum Society
Markham features California native plants and unusual perennials especially suited to the inland climate of the Diablo Valley. There is also a growing assortment of interesting plants from Australia and New Zealand. For more information, call 925-681-2968 or visit www.markhamarboretum.org.

MEMBERS' WALK: CROPS OF THE WORLD GARDEN

Tuesday, June 26, 2012; 1–2:30 PM

University of California Botanical Garden

Join Horticulturist Colin Baxter on an exploration of the Crops of the World Garden. Colin will discuss the origins of most common "homegrown" vegetables, soil, composting, watering, seed sowing, seed saving and insect management. Advance registration required; members only; free.

EXPLORING TAJIKSTAN

with Segrid Selle

Tuesday, June 26, 2012; 7 PM

County Fair Bldg, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park.
The Kippings invite you to Potluck*/Slideshows
Bring a dish for eight to share. Fireplace Room.

MEMBERS' WALK: CHINESE MEDICINAL HERB GARDEN

June 28, 2012; 1–2:30 PM

University of California Botanical Garden

Celebrate the launch of the Garden's new Chinese Medicinal Herb Garden brochure by taking a tour of this special collection with Horticulturist Elaine Sedlack. This collection features over 100 herbs used in the practice of traditional Chinese medicine. Medicinal herb gardens are common at medical colleges in China, but this collection is the only medicinal garden arranged by function group in the U.S. Advance registration required; members only; free.

COLUMBIA ADVENTURE IN THE ANDES

with Allan Ridley and Helen McKenna

Tuesday, July 24, 2012; 7 PM

County Fair Bldg, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park.
The Kippings invite you to Potluck*/Slideshows
Bring a dish for eight to share. Fireplace Room.

Plant of the Month

by Josh Schechtel

Prostanthera rotundifolia, the Australian Bush Mint

Family: LAMIACEAE

Bobbi Feyerabend, a former president of the Society, recently gave me a packet of old newsletters dating from the very early years of the California Horticultural Society. It was fascinating to see how our taste in plants and our horticultural methods have changed since the 1930's. Many of the plants favored back then would be much too fussy and require too much water and maintenance for today's gardeners. The Executive Council began giving awards of merit for plants that were "...believed to be outstanding additions to California gardens" in 1936. Among the honored plants were some, such as *Cytisus* and *Rosa* cultivars, which have fallen by the wayside over the years. However, right in the middle of the list was *Prostanthera rotundifolia*, the Australian bush mint. An attractive shrub, up to six feet tall and five feet wide, it was introduced to the Society by none other than Victor Reiter, Jr., one of the most well-known plant growers of the Bay area. He described the foliage as pleasingly aromatic, and the quantity of small blue-purple flowers in spring give the bush "an appearance of a rich purple cloud."



Prostanthera rotundifolia

His advice about cultivation is still true today: "Full sun with occasional summer watering, pinch back in the spring after flowering is finished." I can add that this plant wants very good drainage in order to thrive, and when happy it is a fast grower. When rubbed or crushed, the leaves are very fragrant, and it is fun to think about all the other plant lovers over the years who have enjoyed this same wonderful scent in their own gardens.

COUNCIL RECOMMENDS BYLAW REVISION

At its May meeting, the Council reviewed and recommended revisions to the CalHort Bylaws to reduce the size of the Council from from twelve to seven with a quorum of four. The Bylaw revisions will be considered for approval at the membership meeting of July 16, 2012.

The rationale for the recommended revision is to downsize the Council to better fit the membership size (about half of what it was when the Bylaws were adopted in 1998) and also fit the Society's ability to recruit and sustain members to serve on the Council.

The proposed revisions to the Bylaws are posted on CalHort's web site at <http://www.calhortsociety.org/>

[downloads/Draft_Bylaws120530.pdf](#) and a link can also be found on the CalHort web site's home page (www.calhortsociety.org).

Comments and/or recommendations on the revisions should be addressed to: Steve Morse, 2265 Shasta Ct, Martinez, CA 94553-4944 or by email (preferred) s.j.morse@sbcglobal.net. Submittal of your comments by July 8 is desired so that they may be reviewed by the Council at its July 9 meeting.

If you do not have web access and wish a copy to be mailed, please contact Steve Morse at 925-330-6527. Steve can also answer your questions on the proposed revisions.



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. The Annual Dinner had a special selection of plants which were used for the "Hot Plant Picks" exhibit at the Flower and Garden Show. For June, our speaker Rick Schoellhorn will be providing a selection of new plants from Proven Winners. Please do not hesitate to bring in unusual plants from your garden to share with the members. Also remember the meeting is an excellent place to find plants for your garden that you have never seen before!

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

2010-2012 (First Term) Mike Craib

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

2011-2013 (First Term) Judith Taylor

2012-2014 (Second Term) Demi Bowles Lathrop

COUNCIL

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Vice President	Open
Past President	Ellen Frank
Recording Secretary	Judith Taylor
Treasurer	Carl Meier
Parliamentarian	Open
Membership	Charlotte Masson

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