



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

**MARCH 18 2002**

4:00 PM Botanical gardens walk with speaker at Strybing Arboretum. Parking is available behind the San Francisco Co. Fair Building and on 9<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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, March 18, 2002**

Co-sponsored with Strybing Arboretum Society

**“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?

The **Plant Drawing** each month provides an important source of funds for the Grants and Scholarship Program. The drawing in **March** will include donations from **Empire Nursery, Santa Rosa (Marshall Deleon) & from Strybing Arboretum and Botanical Gardens**, courtesy of **Dr. Don Mahoney**. Our appreciation to ‘Lone Pine Gardens,’ Sebastopol (Steve Price) & to Strybing Arboretum & Botanical Gardens (Dr. Don Mahoney) who graciously donated the beautiful specimens for the February meeting.

**Coming Meetings**

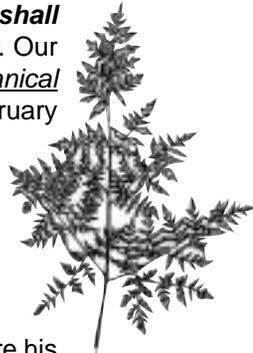
Co-Sponsored with Strybing Arboretum Society

**Monday, April 15, 2002**

**“Horticultural Passions:**

**Beautiful & Intriguing Plants from My Past, Present, & Future”**

**Martin Grantham**, Greenhouse Manager for San Francisco State’s Biology Department, will share his photographs and growing experience with any number of his more accessible (and a few of his more obscure) plant obsessions from cheilantheid ferns to conifers, magnolia to *Rhododendron*, *Lapageria* to evergreen climbing *Hydrangea* and restios. When possible, habitat will be contrasted with horticultural tolerances. Propagation and growing tips as well as some initial hybridization results will be given.



**SAVE THESE DATES**  
**California Horticultural Society**  
**8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL PLANT SALE**  
**April 27-28**

**LAKESIDE GARDEN CENTER, OAKLAND**  
**Rare and Wonderful Plants!!!**

**For information call Jana: 510 486-0481 To volunteer call Diana: 650 593-2350.**

**Monday, May 20, 2002**

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**“Observations of a Traveling Plantsman”**

Presented by Richard Turner, Recipient of the 2002 Annual Award

The program will include many areas of the world—a bit of Mexico, Australia, Chile and South Africa. It will be mostly of plants in the wild and may include a few gardens. Dick has traveled to every continent but Asia to study plants in the wild and in the garden, and will present a few of his observations from those travels.

# President's Letter

by Katherine Henwood

Our program with Bian Tan as the speaker was great. Pictures of the cloud forests are so mysterious! Mysterious also in that it is estimated that there are many, many species of flora and fauna hidden in their heights that have yet to be discovered. Truly, the diversity of our planet is awesome!

On a closer note, spring is around the corner and its heralds are appearing: the early flowering trees, the crocus making a sudden appearance, the oxalis making a splendid show on the hillside (but NOT in my backyard, please!) and the ever cheerful daffodil. Time to finish cutting back the perennials, finish cleaning up the day lilies, bait for the snails, and...and...and.

Let me tell you about some of your Council members. Leana Sims is the Vice President, gardens in Sebastopol, and has a nursery that specializes in plants that attract butterflies and birds. Diana Ross, co-chair of Hospitality, gardens in

Belmont. Keitha DeMara lives in Orinda and gardens in her own and several of her children's garden. You will usually find her selling the raffle tickets. Jana Olson-Drobinsky lives and gardens in a canyon in the Berkeley Hills, a real challenge. Jana heads the plant Sale Committee, say yes when she calls! Ann DeRosa lives and gardens in El Cerrito, and types up the Plant Forum notes for the Newsletter. I will introduce more of your Council at the next meeting and in the following *Bulletin*.

Again, I remind you that while the various activities of Cal Hort are done "by committee," they can only function if members participate. Don't hesitate to volunteer to help out, or say YES when called. You meet more interesting plant people that way!

I look forward to meeting with you on March 18 as we explore "The Maybeck Cottage Garden" with Roger Raiche. Keep Spring in your heart and step, and good growing to you. ✨

## 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!

### Empire Nursery

Marshall Deleon

3747 Guerneville Rd., Santa Rosa

(707) 546-1113

Open 7 days, 8:30 AM-5 PM, ("No rest for the wicked" as Marshall says!)

Retail only

Located in Santa Rosa, California, in the middle of the

beautiful Sonoma wine region, Empire Nursery brings you rare and unusual plants from around the world, sumptuous and creative hanging baskets and pots, an exquisite collection of distinctive fountains and statuary, and free, informative seminars on a variety of topics. Check out the great website!

### Strybing Arboretum and Botanical Gardens

(415) 661-1316

Ninth Ave at Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park, SF

[www.strybing.org](http://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 sales are an April 6th General Sale with Spring Bloomers and the perennial favorite, the Annual Sale on May 3 & 4. Be sure to get in line early for that one! ✨

## Botanical Tours

April 24 - May 8

**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

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

May 16-June 3

**Botanical and Cultural Treasures of China's Yunnan Province** at the Peak of Springtime Bloom. In support of

The Nature Conservancy's Yunnan Project. SOLD OUT - waiting list only. Same tour also set Sept. 13, see below.

August 20-September 7

**Namaqualand & the Cape Floral Kingdom** Sponsored by UC Santa Cruz Arboretum. Tour host: Brett Hall. Leader: Dr. John Manning

September 4-15

**Italian Mannerist Gardens** Sponsored by Strybing Arboretum Society and lead by Suzanne Biaggi

September 13-30

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

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# January 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](http://www.calhortsociety.org) in the 'Plant Forum' section.

## 1. *Garrya elliptica*

GARRYACEAE

Jana Olson-Drobrinsky, Berkeley

This native 6' to 10' bush is usually offered in nurseries as the 'James Roof form' which has very long 'silk tassels'. The staminate plants are the showy ones in winter and Jana brought a large branch well furnished in flowers. It is closely related to the dogwood family and the leaves contain quinine. The early settlers used them as a substitute for the imported drug.

## 2. *Narcissus tazetta*

AMARYLLIDACEAE

Wayne Roderick, Orinda

Wayne brought in some more of these winter blooming narcissi. These were dwarf, dark-yellow forms.

## 3. *Leucojum vernum* (?)

AMARYLLIDACEAE

Wayne Roderick, Orinda

One flower stalk was brought in. Usually this species is not seen in our relatively mild climate. The taller growing *L. aestivum* is the commoner plant and has more than one flower to a stalk.

## 4. *Tibouchina granulosa*

MELASTOMATACEAE

David Feix, Berkeley

Although the common name is Glory Bush for the usual cultivar the South American name is Lent tree, for the usual time of bloom in those countries. Most species are Brazilian, and with about 350 in different sizes, flowers of violet or purple there is quite a choice. This species has smaller leaves and flowers than *T. heteromalla*.

## 5. *Tibouchina heteromalla*

MELASTOMATACEAE

David Feix, Berkeley

This is a 5 to 7 ft. bush with the velvety leaves and large (1-3 inch) purple flowers. In Hawaii and South Africa it has become a weed species.

## 6. *Heterocentron muricatum*

MELASTOMATACEAE

David Feix, Berkeley

For those of us who cannot grow the showier Glory Bush, this may be a substitute. It is an arching, low growing (2.5-4 ft) bush which can take temperatures in the low 20's. The leaves will turn red in the upper 20's, finely dropping if it gets colder. The 0.75 inch flowers are a faded purple. This is a Central American plant, probably from mountain peaks.

## 7. *Centratenia grandifolia*

MELASTOMATACEAE

David Feix, Berkeley

A species from Mexico grown for its beautiful leaves. This is a 2 foot shrub with 3 to 6 inch velvety leaves, bright red beneath. It bears 0.75 inch light rose flowers in a many-flowered cyme.

## 8. *Acmena smithii*

Lilly Pilly

MYRTACEAE

David Feix, Berkeley

A small to medium tree with dark green, shiny 4-inch, pointed leaves. The small, green-tinted flowers are produced in profusion and are followed by 0.5 inch berries which may be white, pink or purple. Widespread in Australia. There is a bushy form (var. *minor*) as well.

## 9. *Ageratum corymbosum* (*Bartlettina sordida*)

COMPOSITAE

David Feix, Berkeley

This is a Mexican bushy ageratum which the taxonomists have not completely decided on between *Ageratum*, *Eupatorium* or *Bartlettina*. It was named for a botanist from Ann Arbor, Michigan and is a handsome shrub with young growth covered in dense golden-red wool. The leaves are large and evergreen, often dark purple beneath. As might be expected, it has large terminal clusters of violet-purple flowers which are very fragrant.

## 10. *Lavatera maritima bicolor*

MALVACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

The genus has a wide distribution in Europe, Asia, Australia and North America. This species is Mediterranean, growing to about 5 feet with grey 2.5-inch leaves on a shrub which bears 2-inch flowers, each petal marked with stripes from base tapering to the tips. The usual form is pale lavender with dark maroon stripes. The central column is dark. In the bicolor form the petals are white, contrasting markedly with the stripes. This form appears to be a 'mule' as it has never set seeds.

## 11. *Justicia vizzinii*

ACANTHACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

This is a plant from Brazil. It is a 1 to 2 ft. shrub, much branched and rounded in shape bearing nodding clusters of 0.75 inch long scarlet flowers with yellow lips.

## 12. *Aechmea disticantha*

BROMELIACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

From southern Brazil this species is plant hardy to the low 20's, but the flowering spike won't take this much cold. This plant is made up of 1.5 to 2 ft. long leaves in a dense rosette with an essentially pink inflorescence with purple or blue petals.

## 13. *Aechmea recurvata* hyb.

BROMELIACEAE

Kristin Yanker-Hansen, Danville

Brought in under the species name it was identified as a hybrid by David Feix. A large number of hybrids are available in this genus; many have spectacular and long-lasting flowers. The species has blue and red conspicuous in the sheaths and bracts while the flowers are rather inconspicuous and purple. It has a wide range from S. Brazil through Paraguay and Uruguay. ❁

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## Horticultural Calendar

### March 10

**Alpine Gardening Talk**—by John Tsutukawa at Potrero Gardens, 1201 17th St. at Texas, San Francisco. 1 PM. (415) 861-8220 or [www.potrergardens.com](http://www.potrergardens.com).

### March 16

**Diablo Valley College Plant Sale**—your opportunity for many choice plants! 9AM–1PM, 321 Golf Club Rd Pleasant Hill.

### March 16 & 17

**Plant Morphology for Beginners**—Elizabeth Zacharias Valley Life Sciences Building, UC Berkeley through Friends of the Jepson Herbarium. (510) 643-7008 <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/wwout.html#101>

### March 17

**Open Garden**—Wayne Roderick's garden featuring 365 days of color with no watering. 166 Cañon Drive, Orinda (510) 254-0912. Take Hwy 24 to Orinda exit, go left under ramp, At third stoplight, go left. About 2 blocks later, hidden by a huge oak tree, is Cañon Drive. 9 AM to 4 PM.

### March 20-24

**San Francisco Flower & Garden Show**—at the Cow Palace. Visit Cal Hort's popular New Plant Exhibit showcasing all the latest and greatest in the horticultural world. For tickets and info: <http://www.gardenshow.com/> or (415) 771-6909.

### March 26

**Mountains and Maquis: The Flowers of Corsica**—a talk by Loren Russell, sponsored by the Western Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society, [http://www.nargs.org/meet/chap\\_west.html](http://www.nargs.org/meet/chap_west.html), at The Randall Museum, Buckley Room. 7:00 PM: Potluck Dinner & Plant Sale, 8:00 PM: Slideshow. For directions, visit: <http://www.randallmuseum.org/planvisit.cfm>

### April 5-7

**Vernal Pool Ecosystems**—in Eastern Merced County by UC faculty and staff. Workshop through Friends of the Jepson Herbarium. (510) 643-7008 or <http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/jepwkshp.html>

### April 6

**Dahlia Tuber Sale**—by the Dahlia Society of California. Tubers only 12 for \$20! Come **early** for best selection. 9 AM – NOON **New Location!** Sunset Recreation Center, 28th Ave & Lawton St., San Francisco. Info: 415 566-5222.

### April 20 and 21

**Merritt College Spring Plant Sale**—at the Horticulture Facility. Featured will be unusual perennials, an enormous selection of gourmet vegetables, good food, live music, colorful annuals and free garden advice. Bring a box to fill with treasures. 9AM–3PM, 12500 Campus Dr. Oakland.

Strybing Arboretum Society  
(415) 661-1316 • [www.strybing.org](http://www.strybing.org)

### March 12

**Fundamentals of Landscape Design (5002)**, 6-session course, 6:30–9pm, SAS trailer

### March 13

**Don Mahoney on Plants from Chile**—Member Forum talk, 7PM, HCR Library

### March 15

**Early Spring Skies**—night walk in Gardens, 6:45–9PM, Main Gate

### March 21

NPR's **Ketzel Levine** chats about her book, *Plant This!*, 6–7:30pm, Mechanics' Institute Library, 57 Post Street, SF

UC Davis Arboretum  
(530) 752-4880

### March 10

**Great Garden Perennials**—A free public tour of the Storer Garden led by docent Sally Moore. 2:00 PM at the Gazebo, off Garrod Drive

### March 12

**Daisy Mah speaks on Park Garden Renovation**—Since 1988, Daisy has gradually created a sophisticated, four-season garden using muted hues and striking architectural forms and will discuss the renovation process and show slides of some of the unusual plants she has brought into the garden. 7:00 PM in the Club Room at the Veterans Memorial Center, 203 E.14th St., Davis.

### March 13

**Lunchtime Walk in the Arboretum**—Join Superintendent Warren Roberts for a lunchtime stroll at noon from the Gazebo. Free.

Magic Gardens Nursery  
(510) 528-5540 • [www.magicgardens.com](http://www.magicgardens.com)  
Classes are free and start at 10 AM

Magic Gardens has moved to a new 3-acre location! Call or visit website for directions and more info.

### March 9

**Sustainability in the Garden**—Deb McKay. Learn how to create a healthier, more spirited garden through the specific maintenance practices of a professional.

### March 16

**Early Spring blooming perennials and shrubs** - Aerin Moore, owner and president.

### HORT NOTES:

■ **GREAT SEED STARTING WEBSITE!** Not sure how to grow some of the plants from the seed exchange? Log on to <http://uk.internations.net/maryfry/index.html> to get info for more than 800 species, along with photos of the actual seed pods, seeds and seedlings! Eminently helpful!

## 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](mailto:bruce@calhortsociety.org).

# What's going on with the Conservatory of Flowers?

Want to know the latest about the restoration of the Conservatory of Flowers? Then log on to [www.conservatoryofflowers.org](http://www.conservatoryofflowers.org) This brand new web site covers everything from the details of the amazing restoration process to upcoming events as the countdown begins to its re-opening in 2003.

Uncover the fascinating history of this Victorian greenhouse. Learn about the diverse plant collections it contains. Discover the exciting plans for the new Conservatory's interior. See beautiful photos documenting the remarkable restoration of the 1878 building. Shop for gifts with proceeds going toward the Conservatory's

restoration. Even make a donation online.

Friends of Recreation & Parks is leading the Campaign to Restore the Conservatory of Flowers, and has raised over \$21 million to date. Friends is grateful to SF Station for generously donating a portion of their services to the web site development.

Friends of Recreation & Parks is a nonprofit organization committed to protecting and enhancing San Francisco's parks, recreation and open spaces. From Golden Gate Park to small neighborhood parks, Friends helps ensure a vibrant future for over 4,000 acres of parkland throughout the City.

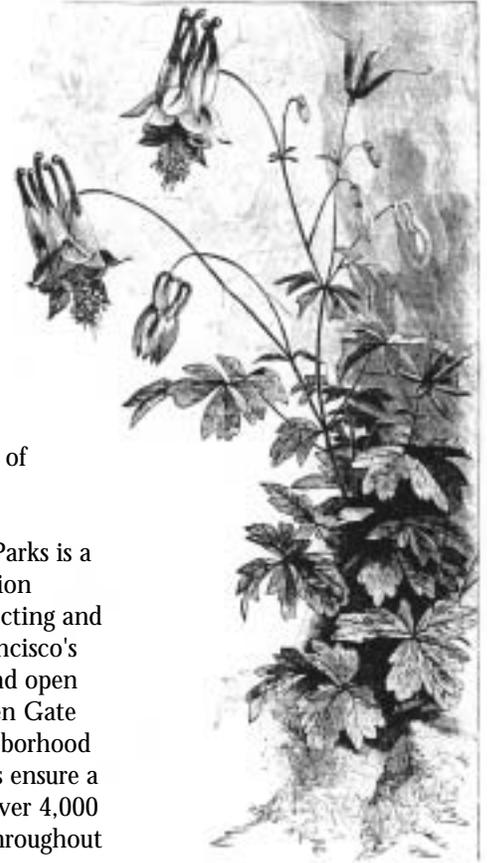


Photo by Kevin J. Frest

## A Springtime Medley of Private Gardens In Marin, Napa & Sonoma Counties

Limited to 45 participants • Saturday, April 20, 2002

Leaders: Barbara and John Hopper, long-time Cal Hort members volunteers and garden tour leaders.

Tour includes: Gourmet box lunch, drinks, morning and afternoon refreshments.

What to bring: A hat, good walking shoes, water, a wrap for morning and evening

**Participants must be capable of walking considerable distances, on uneven surfaces and hillsides.**

The bus will depart promptly at 8AM from the Greenbrae Shopping Center and return at approximately 6PM.

Our day begins in Greenbrae with a visit to the garden of a great plantsman Dr. Herb Weber. "An eclectic group of plants chosen only because they captured my imagination in terms of form, texture, color or the joy they provide me."

Next is a visit to Quarryhill Botanical Garden which is dedicated to the conservation, study, and cultivation of the temperate flora of Asia.

The afternoon will be spent at the private five acre Tiffany garden nestled in the Santa Rosa foothills. Eclectic and personal, this very California garden keeps growing to accommodate the owner's passionate interest in new color combinations, old-fashioned and off-beat plants—in short everything that grows!

The grand finale of the day will be a visit to Emerisa Gardens where owner and long-time supporter of Cal Hort, Muchtar Salzmann has invited us for a guided tour of the demonstration gardens, wholesale and retail nurseries. Two plants for you are included. Additional plants may be purchased in the retail nursery at a 20% discount.

Reservations needed: Price \$56 Cal Hort members; \$60 non-members. Make checks payable to: **California Horticultural Society**. Deadline for payment March 15, 2002. Confirmed reservations will be based on the date payment is received. For Cancellations after this date, a refund will be made only if a replacement is found. A wait list will be available when the trip fills. **Directions to pick-up point will be sent with your confirmation.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to : Mr. and Mrs. John Hopper

P.O. Box 783

Kenwood CA 95452

Ph: 707-833-2078 email [jbhopper@sonic.net](mailto:jbhopper@sonic.net)

### **Meal Request**

Regular

Vegetarian



Last Call for 2002 Dues: Deadline for the 2002 Roster of Membership is **March 10th**. If you do not have a *green 2002 membership card* you dues are due now. Please use return envelope and from from the November 2001 *Bulletin* or your mailed notice. Send to Elsie Mueller, 1847 34th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122-4109. If in doubt of your status, please call Elsie at (800) 884-0009.



### Officers

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waywardg@sonic.net

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### Executive Council

**2000-2002**  
**First Term**  
Ann DeRosa  
Leana Sims  
waywardg@sonic.net  
**Second Term**  
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](http://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**  
California Academy of Sciences  
San Francisco, CA 94118

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