

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, March 19, 2012 at 7:15 pm

This month's meeting is at a special location: San Francisco City College, 50 Phelan Avenue. Go to the following website to see the map: <http://www.ccsf.edu/Info/Map/> There will be free parking at the multi-use building. Parking permits will be necessary. To get a parking permit, email Kristin Yanker-Hansen at yankerbansen@sbcglobal.net and she will send one to you. There will also be hard copy permits available at 4:00 PM before the walk, and 7:00 PM before the meeting.

4:00 PM - Garden walk with Horticulture Chair Steven Brown and the speaker. We will be meeting at the parking lot at 50 Phelan Avenue and walking to the horticultural area and back.

5:30 PM Dinner with the speaker will be served at the student restaurant for a fixed price of \$32. Money must be paid on or before March 15th. Make checks payable to the California Horticultural Society, and send them to Kristin Yanker-Hansen, 569 Contada Circle, Danville, CA 94526. Please indicate whether you want chicken or vegetarian dinner.

7:15 PM Announcements, Plant Forum, and Program Meeting will be held in the Multi-use Building on 50 Phelan Avenue. As this is being co-sponsored by SF City College admission will be free for all guests.

MARCH 19, 2012 MEETING
STEPPE CLIMATES OF THE WORLD

by Panayoti Kelaidis



Steppe climates occur to the east of all the major Mediterranean climates on earth, sharing great similarities of flora and fauna despite their far more extreme weather patterns and cold. Panayoti Kelaidis will be doing a quick tour of the four principal Steppe regions on earth: the Mediterranean and its steppe-sister, the Irano-Turanian floristic region; South Africa's Fynbos and neighboring Karoo; the Patagonian steppe across the Andes from the Chilean littoral, and California itself, nestled against the Great Basin, Colorado Plateau and

interior steppe of Western America. The Steppe sisters encompass collectively an enormous percentage of the world's plant species, and a great deal of the lore and history that have sustained humans in their evolution.



APRIL 16, 2012 MEETING
THE STORY OF CLIVIAS

by Marilyn Paskert

Marilyn Paskert is an avid breeder and collector of the genus *Clivia*. She plans to talk about *Clivia*'s arrival in the horticultural world beginning in the 1800s when they moved to Europe, Japan, China, Australia, New Zealand and the US, and the breeding characteristics that each culture concentrated on. She will discuss current breeding trends, and show a visual feast of hybrids that are currently being developed.

Early Spring HORTICULTURAL EVENTS by Judith Taylor

USING NATIVE PLANTS

Saturday, March 3, 2012; 10:30 AM–12:00 PM

Common Ground at 559 College Avenue, Palo Alto

Explore using California native plants in the garden for their beauty and appropriateness in our Mediterranean climate, while gaining a deeper respect for nature and our place in it. Delmar McComb will give descriptions and cultural information on natives that work well in the Bay Area along with specific uses and innovative design ideas. Delmar McComb has served as horticulturist and designer for both public and private gardens throughout the state for 25 years. \$31. For more information and to register call 650-493-6072 or email to info@commongroundinpaloalto.org.

WALK WITH WARREN

Wednesday, March 14, 2012; 12 PM

Arboretum Headquarters, LaRue Road, UC Davis

Join Arboretum Superintendent Emeritus Warren Roberts for a lunchtime stroll in the UC Davis Arboretum. Parking is available for \$7 in Visitor Lot 47. For more information, please call 530-752-4880 or visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

CHINESE MEDICINAL HERB FARM, CULTIVATE TO CONSERVE:

Issues Surrounding the Trade of Chinese Medicinal Plants

March 15, 2012; 5:30–7:00 PM

Peg Schafer, Owner

Quarryhill Botanical Garden, PO Box 232, 12841 Sonoma Hwy, Glen Ellen, CA 95442 For more information, call 707-996-3166 or email to info@quarryhillbg.org. www.quarryhillbg.org

MARKHAM NURSERY SATURDAY PLANT SALE

Saturday, March 17, 2012; 9:00 AM–1:00 PM

Sponsored by Markham Regional Arboretum Society

This sale will feature a wide selection of unusual perennials and California native plants, as well as plants from outside vendors. This sale's vendors include: Geraniaceae Nursery (www.geraniaceae.com), offering Pelargoniums, Geraniums, and Erodiums; and Gondwana Flora (www.gondwanafloora.com) offering drought-tolerant plants from Australia and New Zealand. 1202 La Vista Avenue in Concord. For more information, call (925) 681-2968 or email to info@markhamarboretum.org.

www.markhamarboretum.org

GUIDED TOUR:

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANTS SPRING TO LIFE

Saturday, March 17, 2012; 2 PM

Buehler Alumni & Visitors Center, Old Davis Road, UC Davis Standouts in the spring native plant garden will be the focus of a tour of the Mary Wattis Brown Garden of California Native Plants at the UC Davis Arboretum. Parking is available in Visitor Lots 1 and 2 and the Mondavi Center parking structure. For more information, please call 530-752-4880 or visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

WATER MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

sponsored by

The California Landscape Contractors Association

March 22, 2012 in Roseville

April 12, 2012 in Los Altos Hills

There will be two Northern California workshops and test opportunities in 2012. The March 22, workshop and test will take place at the Roseville Utility Exploration Center, 1501 Pleasant Grove Blvd, in Roseville. For more information or to register for an upcoming test, please contact David Silva at 916-830-2780 or email at davidsilva@clca.org. For more information about the Water Management Certification Program please go to: <http://clca.us/water/>.

HORTICULTURE LECTURE SERIES

Explore the Nature of Our Connection to Plants

Dr. Peter Fritsch,

Curator, California Academy of Sciences,

The California Academy of Sciences in China

April 19, 2012; 5:30–7:00 PM

Quarryhill Botanical Garden, PO Box 232, 12841 Sonoma Hwy, Glen Ellen, CA 95442 For more information, call 707-996-3166 or email to info@quarryhillbg.org. www.quarryhillbg.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW

The Western Horticultural Society is once again in charge of the Hot Plant Picks exhibit at the SF Flower & Garden Show, March 21-25 at the San Mateo Event Center. Cal Hort members are welcome to participate: sign up for a two-hour shift and get a free pass for that whole day of the show. Several time slots are still available each day of the show. This is a chance to hang out with some of the coolest new plants on the block, as well as to help promote Cal Hort. Call or email Dave Tivol (408-732-2743; dtivol@yahoo.com) to arrange a convenient shift.

Pacific Horticulture is looking for volunteers to work four-hour shifts in the seminar rooms. Volunteers are needed to open and close the doors at the beginning and end of each seminar, tidy up between seminars, and sit at the Pac Hort table at the back of the room. Volunteers will get free admission to the show, and get to see the seminars during their shift. Please contact Josh Schectel (josh@picton.com) if you would like more information or would like to sign up as a volunteer.

Plant of the Month

by Josh Schechtel

Clematis armandii, the evergreen clematis

Family: RANUNCULACEAE

One of the earliest harbingers of spring in my garden is the evergreen clematis. Just as I begin to worry that spring will never arrive, and the dismal short gray days of February and March will be here forever, this wonderful vine fills the air with the delightful scent of its flowers. Although it is common in horticulture, care should be taken when deciding where to place this plant. Its vining stems can shoot up a tree or other support before you can stop it, and you will want it to stay low enough to prune it regularly. Without pruning, older plants gather a lot of unsightly (and flammable) thatch. Also, as it ages, this plant drops many of its lower leaves and becomes a large, bare woody vine with all of its leaves and flowers at the top, which can sometimes be too high up to appreciate. Luckily, it takes very well to pruning, and if this is done as soon as the flowering finishes, evergreen clematis will bloom every year. The new growth is an attractive bronze color, changing to dark, shiny green as it matures. The flowers are white (or pink in the cultivar 'Apple Blossom'), held in graceful sprays, and wonderfully scented. Light shade to full sun and fairly fertile soil are all it asks. Once established, it needs only a rare summer watering.



Clematis armandii

This plant was named after Pere Jean Pierre Armand David, a French Catholic priest who was sent to China as a missionary in the 1860s. He was an amazing naturalist, with training in geology, ornithology, zoology and botany. Many species, including a deer, a pine tree and a warbler were named in his honor.

The Kippings invite you to Potluck*/Slideshows

Fourth Tuesday of the Month—7:00 PM

ANCIENT TREES OF ENGLAND AND WALES

March 27, 2012, with Alma Hecht and Jocelyn Cohen

EXPLORING SE COASTAL ALASKA

April 24, 2012, with John Kipping

*Bring a dish for eight to share. Fireplace Room. County Fair Bldg, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park.



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

www.calhortsociety.org

Monthly Plant Drawing News

Thank you to Don Mahoney of Strybing Arboretum and Ernesto Sandoval from UC Davis for plants for the plant drawing. For the month of March, the Ruth Bancroft Garden will be donating plants in keeping with the theme of our talk. We encourage our membership to bring in unusual plants from their collections to share with our other members. This month desert plants will be most welcome.

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

- 2009-2011 (First Term) Demi Bowles Lathrop
- 2010-2012 (First Term) Mike Craib
- 2010-2012 (Second Term) Steve Morse, Andy Stone, Dave Tivol
- 2011-2013 (First Term) Judith Taylor, Mary TeSelle

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