

*The next monthly general meeting is Monday, May 20, 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**

*Chionanthus retusus*



**MONDAY, MAY 20, 2013**

**The Deck**

David Fross of Native Sons Nursery  
*Recipient of the 2013 Annual Award*



For thirty-four years a variety of plants have been pulled from our nursery fields, organized into orders, and placed on the “deck” at Native Sons Nursery for shipment. This presentation will

consider this process, reflect on genera and friends that have influenced the plant palette, and look at the some of the resulting gardens and landscapes.

**MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2013**

**The History of Roses**

Marlea Graham

Plants have a human history. The Rose has one of the most amazing stories to tell, including roles by Napoleon and Josephine. Marlea Graham, a retired Oakland firefighter, a lifelong gardener, and a collector of heritage roses, is an avid garden history detective. Joining the Heritage Roses Group in 1987 and editing their quarterly journal for ten years, Marlea spent another 12 years as a founding member and editor for the California Garden and Landscape History Society’s journal.

# Spring HORTICULTURAL EVENTS by Judith Taylor

## FLOWER ESSENCE WALK WITH KATHLEEN ASPENNS

*Saturday, May 4; 10:30 AM–Noon*

Quarryhill Botanical Garden, 12841 Sonoma Highway, Glen Ellen  
Join us on as Certified Flower Essence Practitioner Kathleen Aspenns leads a walk through Quarryhill Botanical Garden to introduce her series of flower essences developed from plants at Quarryhill. Kathleen will discuss the basics of flower essences and their everyday uses. Her informative tour will highlight many of the specific flowers that inspired her new “Flora of Asia” line. Space is limited, so call (707) 996-3166 today to reserve your spot. Only \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. We ask that everyone meet at the Visitor Center.

## NINTH ANNUAL BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES GARDEN TOUR AND NATIVE PLANT SALE EXTRAVAGANZA

*Sunday, May 5; 10 AM–5 PM*

This free, award-winning tour features forty Alameda and Contra Costa county gardens that are pesticide-free, conserve water, provide habitat for wildlife, and contain 60% or more native plants. For more information, contact [Kathy@KathyKramerConsulting.net](mailto:Kathy@KathyKramerConsulting.net) or call (510) 236-9558 between 9 AM and 9 PM.

## BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES PLANT SALE AT MARKHAM NURSERY

*Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5; 10 AM–4 PM*

1202 La Vista Avenue, Concord

Featuring a fine selection of CA native plants both days and garden talks on Saturday. “Top 10 Plants for a Native Plant Garden” 5/4 at 11 AM and 2 PM by Marshall Garden Design. Become a Markham Member and receive 20% off all plant purchases. (925) 681-2968.

## STORYTIME THROUGH THE SEASONS: LOS COLORES DE PRIMAVERA (THE COLORS OF SPRING)

*Sunday, May 5; 1–3 PM*

UC Davis Arboretum Wyatt Deck, Arboretum Drive, UC Davis  
Discover Latin American culture and the colors of spring in the Arboretum in this outdoor reading event for children and families. Join us for traditional stories, games, crafts, and more. Sponsored by UC Davis Arboretum Ambassadors and Target. 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/the-colors-of-spring>.

## WALK WITH WARREN: WEST END GARDENS

*Wednesday, May 8; Noon*

UC Davis Arboretum Gazebo, UC Davis campus

Join Warren Roberts, the Superintendent Emeritus of the Arboretum, famous storyteller and punster for an always engaging noontime exploration of our the Arboretum's west end gardens. Free one-hour parking is available along Garrod Drive during the week. Visitor lot parking costs \$7 per day midweek. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880 or visit: <http://arboretum75th.ucdavis.edu/walk-with-warren-west-end-gardens>.

## WATER-WISE...AND COLORFUL!

*Saturday, May 11; 2-3 PM*

Ruth Risdon Storer Garden, UC Davis Arboretum

A water-conserving garden can be full of flair. See what colors are popping in the Ruth Risdon Storer garden this spring. 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/water-wise-and-colorful>.

## THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS OF KASHMIR

*Thursday, May 16; 6:45 PM–8:45 PM*

San Francisco County Fair Building,

Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park

Light snacks will be followed by the lecture at 7:30 PM in the Auditorium. Free parking is available behind the San Francisco County Fair Building on Lincoln Way. The North American Rock Garden Society, Western Chapter, and The Bay Area Horticultural Society (The Hortisexuals) are pleased to sponsor a lecture by Chris Chadwell, a world famous plant explorer, Himalayan consultant, first class photographer and proprietor of Chadwell Seeds. He has organized expeditions in the Himalayas every year for the past 27 years and last visited Kashmir in 2012. He has a highly informative website at [www.chadwellseeds.co.uk](http://www.chadwellseeds.co.uk) Join us for a fascinating evening. There is a suggested \$5 donation. For more information call Robin Parer (415) 461-4168 <[geraniac@pacbell.net](mailto:geraniac@pacbell.net)> [www.geraniaceae.com](http://www.geraniaceae.com)

## ARBORETUM PLANT CLEARANCE SALE

*Saturday, May 18; 9 AM–1 PM*

UC Davis Arboretum Teaching Nursery,

UC Davis campus, Garrod Drive (across from Vet Med)

The last spring plant sale of the season is also our clearance sale! Customers will find the area's largest selection of attractive, low-water, easy-care, region-appropriate plants including Arboretum All-Stars. This plant sale will also showcase 30 “Durable Delights,” plants that demand little of our time but give a big return in form, color, flower and durability.

## BUGTOPIA 2.0: DISCOVER EVERYDAY INSECTS

*Sunday, May 19; 1 PM–3 PM*

UC Davis Arboretum Gazebo, UC Davis campus

Learn about the hidden insect wonders of the Arboretum from Arboretum Ambassadors Melissa Cruz and Mira Parekh. Tour the collections and learn insect names, trapping methods, and ecology. 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/bugtopia-2-0-discover-everyday-insects>

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

County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way,  
Golden Gate Park, Fireplace Room. (415) 753-7090

## EXPLORING BOTSWANA & NAMIBIA

*Tuesday, May 28, 2013; 7 PM*

with Gerald Corsi

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

## Plant of the Month

by Josh Schechtel

*Chionanthus retusus* / Chinese Fringe Tree

Family: OLEACEAE

Former Cal Hort president Bobbi Feyerabend just sent me wonderful photos of her 21 year old *Chionanthus retusus*. She reports that the tree is so beautiful when in flower that it stops traffic and has its own Facebook fans! The US Forest Service Fact Sheets are not exactly warm and fuzzy, so I was surprised to see the following sentence in their description of the Chinese fringe tree: "It is hard to think of a more beautiful, small, 20-foot-tall tree than the Chinese fringe tree when it is in full bloom." Native to China, Korea and Japan, the Chinese fringe tree seems ideal for California. It does well in sun or part shade, doesn't care in what type of soil it is planted, is moderately drought tolerant when established (but can also thrive in moist soils), and is frost hardy. Most importantly, it has a beautiful growth habit, forming a graceful single- or multi-trunk tree. I always admire this tree in a friend's Seattle garden whenever I visit, no matter what time of year. The growth habit is wonderful whether the tree is in leaf or not.

Although many references state that this tree flowers from May to June, Bobbi's tree proves



Photo © 2013 Bobbi Feyerabend

### *Chionanthus retusus*

that this isn't always the case (her tree is blooming in mid April). The fragrant white flowers practically blanket the tree. This tree is usually dioecious (having separate male and female plants), the male flowers being slightly showier. If fertilized, female flowers produce clusters of dark blue olive-like fruits which are appreciated by birds. Linnaeus gave the genus its name, based on specimens of the American fringe tree (*C. virginicus*) from the Greek words *chion* meaning 'snow' and *anthos* meaning flower. *Retusus* means rounded with a shallow notch at the apex, referring to the shape of the leaves. The American fringe tree, *Chionanthus virginicus*, is another option if you insist on using only native plants, although the Arnold Arboretum describes it as the straggly cousin of the Chinese fringe tree.

## Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner

MONDAY, MAY 20, 2013

Program Presented by David Fross of Native Sons Nursery

Recipient of the 2013 Annual Award

- ♦ **6:30 PM Socializing**
- ♦ **7:00 PM Potluck.** Advance Reservations must be made with Chris Codding no later than Friday, May 19th.

### What to Bring:

- ♦ Your favorite dish (enough to serve 8), wine if you like
- ♦ A serving utensil, your own silverware and plate
- ♦ Unusual and choice plants for the Silent Auction
- ♦ A \$5.00 donation is requested to cover costs of materials, supplies and beverages. Tickets and name tags will be held at the door.

We will be attending the Annual Dinner Monday, May 20, 2013

Name(s) (Please print)

Enclosed is a check made payable to The California Horticultural Society for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$5.00 each, to cover expenses for cups, coffee, tea, spring water.)

**Make checks out to the : California Horticultural Society 94553 and mail to: Chris Codding, PO Box 1306, Martinez, CA 94533. Phone (925) 229-9358 / Email: christine.codding@gmail.com Deadline: May 19. (Visit the web site for more information.)**

Event to be held at: County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way, in Golden Gate Park.



**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**

The month of May is our annual dinner. Instead of our usual drawing, we are asking members to bring in special plants they have propagated for a Silent Auction. We will also have plants that were displayed at the San Francisco Flower and Garden show as part of the Auction.

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 Palms 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.

**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**

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Membership	Charlotte Masson

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