

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, November 17, 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

Lewisia cotyledon



Photo © 2014 Ted Kipping

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2014

Using Native Plants in Pots



Join Pete Veilleux, the founder of East Bay Wilds and a notable native plant designer and nurseryman, for a short course in growing California natives in containers. You'll learn about the most suitable containers to use, soil and soil mixes, and of course the plants that work best in such circumstances. His astounding work with descriptions of

maintenance and care will be very enlightening. He will have some plants available for sale as well.



MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 2015

So Much Beauty with So Little Water

Join Wendy Proud of Mountain States Nursery as she shares a unique mix of plants native to the southwest that adapt and perform while using far less resources and time to maintain. Desert adapted plants can offer the perfect solution to difficult landscape situations, while at the same time bringing amazing beauty and wildlife to the garden.



Autumn HORTICULTURAL EVENTS

THINKING LIKE A CAMERA: HOW TO USE ANY CAMERA TO CAPTURE WHAT YOU SEE

Tuesday, November 11; 7:30 AM–3 PM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Saxon Holt has just launched his new on-line workshops and e-book series *The PhotoBotanic Garden Photography Workshop*. UCBG is pleased to have Saxon present a hands-on workshop “Composition and Balance” taken from the first book. The class is intended for serious photographers to arrive early with camera and tripods to work with Saxon as he tours the garden. After the morning shoot we will have a presentation from the on-line Workshops, download the morning’s work and spend the afternoon in critique. Enrollment fee includes a copy of the e-book. Registration: \$90, \$75 members. Register online, or by calling 510-642-7082, or by emailing gardenprograms@berkeley.edu.

WEDNESDAY WALKS WITH WARREN

Wednesday, November 12; Noon

Arboretum Gazebo, Arboretum Teaching Nursery, UC Davis Arboretum
Join our Superintendent Emeritus Warren Roberts, famous storyteller and punster, for an always engaging noontime exploration of the UC Davis Arboretum’s West-end gardens.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BATS: DEMISTIFYING AND DISCOVERING THESE AMAZING ANIMALS

Saturday, November 15; 10 AM–Noon

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Come learn about the local bats with Director of NorCal Bats, Corky Quirk. In her presentation you will learn about bats and discuss the harmful myths that surround these animals. You’ll also learn the importance of bats in our environment. Live bats will be presented for viewing and discussion. Registration: \$15, \$10 members, \$5 youth 3–17. Event Contact: gardenprograms@berkeley.edu, 510-643-2755.

PINE NEEDLE BASKETRY

Sunday, November 16; 10 AM–3 PM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Judith Thomas, weaver and Waldorf handwork teacher will instruct students how to source materials and craft a pine needle basket. Learn how to work with pine needles to create a small coiled basket, using a needle and waxed linen to bind the bundles of needles together. A perfect activity for the fall. Pack a lunch to enjoy in the beautiful Garden setting during the break. All levels welcome. Registration required: \$85, \$75 members. Register online, or by calling 510-643-2755, or by emailing gardenprograms@berkeley.edu.

SUCCULENT WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

Wednesday, November 19; 6–8 PM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Create a gorgeous succulent wreath to enjoy all year round. You’ll select among a variety of succulents and be guided on how to plant and care for your wreaths. All materials provided. Registration required: \$90 / \$80 members. Register online, or by calling 510-643-2755, or by emailing gardenprograms@berkeley.edu. Event Contact: gardenprograms@berkeley.edu, 510-643-2755.

SUCCULENT CENTERPIECES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Saturday, November 22; 11 AM to 12:30 PM

Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek

Join us at The Ruth Bancroft Garden or some holiday cheer! We are excited to welcome back Charlotte Bloom for this fun and inspiring class. This demonstration-based course will show you how to incorporate succulents and garden cuttings into centerpieces which can be enjoyed for the duration of the winter season. Learn important design concepts and what materials to use for a long-lasting arrangement. A selection of materials from the garden will be used in the demonstrations and will also be available for purchase after class so make sure to allow time to shop our marketplace. \$25, \$20 members. Space is limited, pre-registration is highly recommended.



FOLLOWING IN THE BARTRAMS' FOOTSTEPS: CONTEMPORARY BOTANICAL ARTISTS EXPLORE THE BARTRAMS' LEGACY

December 15, 2014 – February 15, 2015

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

This major art exhibition includes forty-four original artworks based on the native plant discoveries made by John and William Bartram in their renowned and influential travels throughout the eastern wilderness between the 1730s and 1790s. The UC Botanical Garden will be the only West Coast showing of the exhibition.

Franklinia alatamaha
Franklinia Watercolor ©
Karen Kluglein



Plant of the Month

by Josh Schechtel

Lewisia cotyledon, the Cliff Maid

Family: PORTULACACEAE

While many of us are loath to admit it, we like plants that look great with minimal care. In fact, I tend to love plants that thrive on neglect, since this is often all I can offer them. I prefer to think of it as something more deliberate. Maybe I should call it *laissez-faire* gardening. This has an exotic ring to it—like French intensive gardening without the intensive part. I get tired just hearing about double digging.

In honor of our speaker for this month's presentation, I would encourage you to explore the world of *Lewisia cotyledon*, our native Cliff Maid. Besides having an amazingly cute common name, this plant offers beautiful flowers and interesting textures while asking for little in return. Hailing from high elevations in northern California and southern Oregon, where it grows in granitic outcrops, this plant shows very wide local variation in size, flower color and bloom time. Thanks to intraspecific hybridization, there are many strains available for the garden, with flower colors ranging from white to yellow, apricot, tangerine, hot pink and cherry.

Lewisias will thrive only with excellent drainage, so they are perfect for rock gardens, rock walls and containers, including hypertufa troughs and old-fashioned ceramic pots. Plant them in a soil like that for succulents, with some extra gravel or granite shards added to the mix. Plant the crown high, and mulch with more gravel to keep the leaves off of damp soil. Full morning sun is ideal, with some afternoon shade inland (these plants don't like that much heat) and water occasionally. A feeding with dilute fertilizer every now and then (in other words, when I remember to do it) is all they require.

Depending on the strain of *Lewisia*, blooming will begin in April or May, and can continue for

a month or even throughout the summer. When not in bloom, the rosette of leaves provides an interesting pattern and texture. Combining them in a large pot with other natives, like *Sedum spathulifolium* 'Cape Blanco', can produce a wonderful miniature rock garden.

Named after Meriwether Lewis, the famous American explorer, our little Lewisias have done well in the world. They are a favorite rock garden plant in the United Kingdom, and have won awards from the Royal Horticultural Society. Selective propagation has produced many different strains, including the popular 'Sunset Strain', which have many variations in leaf shape and size as well as flower color, size and bloom time. I invite you to explore the world of Lewisias and find favorites of your own.



Lewisia cotyledon



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 Mike Craib of Suncrest Nursery for bringing plants in for our drawing as well as for our program. This month UC Berkeley Bot Garden will be donating a selection of plants for our drawing table. Please bring unusual plants from your gardens for sharing. It is also an opportunity for our members to obtain unusual plants.

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.

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.

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.

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