

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, November 16, 2015; 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

Gilia capitata



Photo © 2015 Ted Kipping

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015

“So Many Plants, So Little Time!”

We had a great time last year, and we plan to do it again this year, a full meeting of plant display and discussion only one month later in the season. It is amazing how much our members know about plants, and how many plants out there we know very little about. So if you have a special plant or a few that you would like to discuss with the group come to our October meeting and bring it along. It could be a cutting or a beautifully grown specimen, or something you are having trouble growing. This is a meeting for everyone to learn.



MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2016

Orchids at The Huntington

by Dylan Hannon

This lecture will focus on the living collections of orchids at The Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino, CA. This plant family is well represented at The Huntington by awarded hybrids and “botanical” species alike and constitutes one of the most significant orchid collections in the United States. With hundreds of varieties and several thousand individual plants, orchids are the best represented plant family in The Huntington’s tropical collections. Notably, most of the accessions have been obtained within the last 15 years. Groups of particular interest include *Paphiopedilum*, *Stanhopea*, *Pleurothallis*, *Anguloa*, *Acineta* and *Dresslerella*. Sources, maintenance and utilization of these orchids will be highlighted, with photographs of many unusual species and genera. The role of botanic gardens in conserving such collections, and what “conservation” means in this regard, will also be discussed.

Autumn HORTICULTURAL EVENTS

PLEIN AIR BLITZ: EXHIBITION, DEMONSTRATION AND SALE

Wednesday, November 11; 10 AM–4 PM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Come view live painting demonstrations in the Garden by members of the Glover Group, a group of dedicated plein air artists and students of the late and renowned artist Pam Glover. There will be painting demonstrations throughout the Garden and a special one-day exhibition of work along with an associated sale with proceeds benefiting the UC Botanical Garden's education programs. Registration not required; free with Garden admission. Register online or contact gardenprograms@berkeley.edu or call 510-664-9841.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GARDEN'S COLLECTION

Thursday, November 12; 10–11 AM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Join Director Paul Licht to learn more about the Garden's 125-year history, and the significance of the collection as a modern living museum. Registration required; free with Garden admission. Register online or contact gardenprograms@berkeley.edu or call 510-664-9841.

SUCCULENT WREATHS

Wednesday, November 18; 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 contact gardenprograms@berkeley.edu or call 510-664-9841.

THE KIPPINGS INVITE YOU TO POTLUCK*/SLIDE SHOWS

County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way,
Golden Gate Park, Fireplace Room

Wednesday, November 18; 7 PM

EVOLUTION OF OUR GARDEN

with Ted Kipping

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

SAVING THE LAST OF THE LAST

Thursday, November 19; 10–10:50 AM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

Garden Curator Holly Forbes will describe plant endangered species projects on-going at the Garden and in the field. Most of these are for Californian species, and most are in the immediate Bay Area. Learn more about what threats our rare plants are facing and what we are trying to do to save them from extinction. Registration required; free with Garden admission. Register online or contact: kcorriveau@berkeley.edu or call 510-664-7969.

RARE AND ENDANGERED PLANTS OF THE GARDEN TOUR

Thursday, November 19; 11 AM–12:30 PM

UC Berkeley Extension (Golden Bear Center) Clark Kerr Campus Bldg 25, Berkeley, Join Chris Carmichael, Associate Director of Collections and Horticulture, on a tour of the Garden's rare and endangered plants. Registration required; free with Garden admission. Register online or contact: kcorriveau@berkeley.edu or call 510-664-7969.

MAKERS SERIES: SUCCULENT POTS AND PLANTS

Sunday, November 22 and Saturday, December 5

Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek

Join Walnut Creek Civic Arts and The Ruth Bancroft Garden for this class! Make your own succulent planter out of clay. You'll create the planter at the Ceramics studio in Civic Park, choose a glaze for the planter, and then meet again at The Ruth Bancroft Garden to plant your succulents. Learn more and register through the Civic Arts registration system or by calling Civic Arts at (925)943-5846.

DO YOU THINK EL NIÑO IS ON THE WAY?

If you do, you should be out gathering seeds from your favorite flowers, shrubs and trees in your garden right now! This is the perfect time—before these promised rains come—to find maturing seeds that hold promise for the next year. If you have enjoyed growing the plant, others will as well.

Seed collecting is not a hard job—just put your seeds in some sort of envelope and label the outside with the name of the plant. We can help with cleaning seeds, if necessary, and with plant nomenclature. If you do not know the botanical name, use the common name with a word or two of description that can help identify the seeds. Any advice you can offer from your experience in growing the plant will be welcome as well.

Just bring your seeds to the next Cal Hort meeting or, if more convenient, send them to:

Dave Tivol
130 Locksunart Way #2
Sunnyvale, CA 94087-4666

With gratitude to Josh Schechtel
for contributing his insights
for many years,
readers of our Bulletin will miss
his delightful and informative
“Plant of the Month” column,
which appears for the last time
with this issue.

Plant of the Month

by Josh Schechtel

Gilia capitata, Blue Thimble Flower

Family: POLEMONIACEAE

I am always on the lookout for tough, drought-tolerant (or better yet, drought-loving) plants, and this search often introduces me to California native plants. After all, what plants could be better adapted to our climate than the ones that grow here naturally?

Gilia capitata is an annual that naturally ranges throughout much of California and the west coast to British Columbia. The lacy green foliage is topped with spherical inflorescences that range from almost white to a medium blue. Most of the plants sold for gardens are the subspecies *chamissonis* and bloom in the blue range. The individual flowers are tiny, and up to one hundred of them compose each inflorescence. Also known as the globe gilia, these plants rarely grow higher than one to two feet, and spread about the same width. Although small in size, they add a wonderful punch of color to the spring and summer garden, and are amazingly popular with our native pollinators.

Gilia capitata grows best in full sun, but it can tolerate part shade. It is not particularly fussy about soil type, but tends to do better in a location with good drainage. Even in a small garden, it can be grown easily from seed sown directly in

the ground, combining very well with other native annuals and perennials (like *Camissonia*, *Eschscholzia*, and *Nemesia*) to create a beautiful springtime native meadow. The Blue Thimble Flower self sows and also does well in containers. The flowers are great for cutting, as long as you leave enough on the plant to keep the bees happy!



Photo © 2015 Ted Kipping

Gilia capitata

Membership Renewal Time!

It's annual membership renewal and update time for 2016. Letters with Society membership information, the renewal form, and a pre-addressed envelope were mailed first class to all members and friends in late October. You should have received them by now. Please contact the Membership Chair (see below) if you have not received them.

Please return your renewals by January 2, 2016. The membership fee remains the same as last year.

Details about the Society's benefits, programs, and fees can be found on the web at <http://calhortsociety.org/Pages/membership.htm>

We are especially interested in updating our roster with your address and email so please don't just write "same as last year" on your renewal—as we don't always have your latest address or email. This is very important for our Life Members to assure mailings and/or emails are delivered.

If you have further questions, please contact the Membership Chair at gardengurus@gmail.com.



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

www.calhortsociety.org

Monthly Plant Drawing News

For our November meeting, if you have a well-grown specimen, an unusual discovery, a plant with attributes not known by others, or on the other hand, a plant about which you have questions—identification, habit, problems—bring your plants to display and discuss as well.

The usual monthly plant drawing will not take place at the end of this meeting. If you have plants to donate, please bring them to our January meeting. If you want to bring plants to display and discuss but not to bring back home, you may choose to leave them and donate these as door prizes.

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.

Officers of the California Horticulture Society Are Needed

The California Horticulture Society is reaching out to our membership for new Executive Council members and as well as President, Vice President and Treasurer. We are also seeking members for the Officer Nominating Committee. If you are interested or would like to nominate someone for any of these roles, please contact Ellen Edleson (e.edelson@sbcglobal.net). Thank you and I hope you and your colleagues want to become more involved with CalHort.

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 Pamos Drive, San Francisco, CA 94127-2209.

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; no Bulletin is published in December. Events during the first ten days of the month should be submitted two months ahead.

COUNCIL

2013-2015 (First Term) Ellen Edelson,
 Charlotte Masson, Kristin Yanker-Hansen
 2013-2015 (Second Term) Mike Craib
 2015-2017 (First Term) Mark Delepine, Steve
 Morse, Andy Stone

OFFICERS

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

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