



October 2011

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The next monthly general meeting is Monday, October 17, 2011 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

Helianthus maximiliani



OCTOBER 17, 2011 MEETING
Around the World in Eighty Oaks

with Emily Griswold



Just in time for acorn season, fall is the perfect time to celebrate the wide world of oaks. With around 500 species growing in habitats across the northern hemisphere, oaks have much to offer northern California gardeners. Emily Griswold, Assistant Director of Horticulture at the UC Davis Arboretum, manages Shields Oak Grove, the largest collection of mature oaks in the southwestern U.S. She will share stories about her work to improve the grove and her travels to Mexico, Texas, and other locales to see oaks in their native habitats. She will also bring a broad variety of acorns to the meeting to share with fellow oak enthusiasts.

NOVEMBER 21, 2011 MEETING
From Sculpting Stone to Landscapes

with Peter Hanson

A fascination with form and beauty led Peter on a journey from carving stone into sculptures, fountains and furniture, to designing the garden spaces they inhabit. This evolved into an awareness of the potential for a garden space to be experienced as a sculpture “in itself,” not merely as a visual object, but as a space to live in and move through. Garden elements such as plants, walls, paths, and trellises can transcend their functional roles to become sculptural forms that participate in the overarching sculptural gestures of the space. In this way, garden design is elevated to the level of “art” while remaining grounded in the needs and aspirations of outdoor living.

Early Fall HORTICULTURAL EVENTS by Judith Taylor

FOODS OF THE AMERICAS EXHIBITION

October 5–21; 10 AM–3 PM

Family Day: Sunday, October 16, 10 AM–3 PM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

“Foods of the Americas” is an educational exhibit ‘marketplace’ filled with the foods originally domesticated by ancient farmers, including the Incas, Mayas, and Aztecs. The exhibit is open and free with Garden admission during normal Garden hours. Family Day is free with Garden admission; see program description for details. Call 510-643-2755 ext. 03 for event registration or to purchase or renew a membership.

PLANT SALE: GROWING A GREEN FUTURE

Sunday, October 9; 9 AM–1 PM

Arboretum Teaching Nursery, Garrod Drive, UC Davis

The sale will feature hundreds of varieties of great plants for sustainable Central Valley gardens, including Arboretum All-Stars (the Arboretum experts’ top recommended plants) and a great selection of native plants. The Arboretum is celebrating its 75th anniversary, and the sale will feature 75 favorite plants of Arboretum staff, members, and volunteers. Free parking is available in Visitor Lot 5 across from the nursery. Anyone may join or renew at the gate for a 10% member discount. New members get a free plant. For more information, directions, and a plant list, call 530-752-4880 or visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

SCIENCE CAFÉ: MEDICINES FROM NATURE: DRUGS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

with Ted Molinski

Wednesday, October 12; 5:15 PM

Wyatt Deck, Old Davis Road, UC Davis Arboretum

The UC Davis Arboretum invites everyone interested in current scientific research to a talk by Professor Ted Molinski of the Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry at UC San Diego and Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Prof. Molinski will provide an overview of the development of medicines from plants and other natural sources. He will discuss the historical impact of this research and several recent breakthroughs that have helped lead to cures for diseases. After the talk, enjoy light refreshments and a chance to chat with Prof. Molinski. Parking is available for \$6 in Visitor Lot 5, at Old Davis Road and A Street. For more information, please call 530-752-4880 or visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

“QUEEN OF THE SUN: WHAT ARE THE BEES TELLING US?”

Film Screening

Wednesday, October 12; 6–8 PM

UC Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Berkeley

This film is a profound, alternative look at the global bee crisis—an unusual and dramatic story of the heartfelt struggles of beekeepers, scientists and philosophers from around the world including Michael Pollan, Gunther Hawk and Vandana Shiva. Registration required; \$12, \$10 members. Call 510-643-2755 ext. 03 to register.

GUTS OF THE GARDEN

A One Day Tune-up for Gardeners and Designers

Friday, October 14; 9 AM–5:30 PM

Sponsored by the Ruth Bancroft Garden,
Pacific Horticulture and The Garden Conservancy
The Gardens at Heather Farm, 1540 Marchbanks Drive,
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

In design language, we often talk about the bones of the garden. Digging deeper, this seminar will talk about the underpinnings, the guts that make a well-designed garden. Call Karen Armstrong at 415-441-4300 or visit gardenconservancy.org.

GUIDED TOUR: KNOWING OUR NATIVE PLANTS

Saturday, October 15; 10 AM

Wyatt Deck, Old Davis Road, UC Davis, Old Davis Road

Free parking is available in Visitor Lot 5, at Old Davis Road and A Street. Enjoy the diversity, adaptability, and beauty of California native plants during a free public tour of the UC Davis Arboretum. Call 530-752-4880 or visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

HOW TO SAVE YOUR OWN SEEDS with Carol Cox

Saturday, October 15; 10:30 AM–12:30 AM

Common Ground, 559 College Avenue, Palo Alto

With just a little more time and effort, you can have the satisfaction of saving seeds from your own garden and planting them next year or donating them to the CalHort Seed Exchange. Learn a few basic principles and how they apply to crops commonly grown in backyard gardens; \$31. Call 650-493-6072 or visit commongroundinpaloalto.org to register.

PLANNING YOUR GARDEN WITH MASTER CHARTS

with Carol Cox

Saturday, October 15; 2:00 PM–4:00 PM

Common Ground, 559 College Avenue, Palo Alto

This class will show you how to calculate the amount of seed to sow for the space you designate, the number of flats you will need, when to sow and transplant, and more; \$31. Call 650-493-6072 or visit commongroundinpaloalto.org to register.

BOTANISING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Potluck*/Slideshow with Ted Kipping

Tuesday, October 25; 7 PM

San Francisco County Fair Building,
Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park.

*Please bring a dish or a beverage to serve eight.

CLOUD FORESTS OF EASTERN ECUADOR

Potluck*/Slideshow with Ronn Patterson

Tuesday, November 22; 7 PM

San Francisco County Fair Building,
Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park.

*Please bring a dish or a beverage to serve eight.

Plant of the Month

by Kristin Yanker-Hansen

Helianthus maximiliani

Maxmillian Sunflower

Family: ASTERACEAE

Helianthus maximiliani is a late September–early October bloomer in the greater Bay area. It was named for Prince Maximilian of Wied-Neuwied, Germany, who explored the Midwestern prairies in the mid 1830s.

This perennial sunflower is a robust grower. It can reach ten feet in height although generally grows in the five to six foot range. Flowers can get up to 5 inches across.

After having seen it in the front yard gardens of desert New Mexico, I successfully grow it without summer water in my Danville garden, and have found that it thrives in cooler Orinda as well.

It can be an aggressive runner over time in richer soils. It also reseeds in both dry and wet areas, although not aggressively. It is considered to be a good forage plant for many animals. Its early fall blooming time makes it a wonderful candidate for fresh bloom in a perennial garden.



Helianthus maximiliani

Apologies . . .

The Council, and our printer/mailer, were embarrassed to find that pages 2 and 3 were repeated from the June Bulletin in the printed and mailed version of the July, August, and September Bulletins due to printer error. The printer and Council apologize for the error and any confusion it may have caused. The printer has implemented better internal quality controls. The email and on-line versions on our web site were always correct and, if you wish, they can be accessed by clicking on “Bulletin On-Line” on the left column at www.calhortsociety.org.

Council Membership Bylaw Changes Being Considered

The Council is considering a Bylaw change to reduce the Council membership to seven, but with each Council member still sitting for three year overlapping terms. The rationale for the change is partly due to fewer members willing to sit on the Council, reduced overall membership, and to enable the Council to consistently have a quorum at our bi-monthly business meetings. The Bylaw amendments are expected to be minor if implemented. After some further discussion at the next Council meeting and probable approval of proposed draft Bylaw amendments, they will be circulated via the web for possible vote at the February or March General Meeting. If you have comments now on the proposal, you can address them to Steve Morse at calhortinfo@sbcglobal.net. Your comments on the possible proposal made before the next Council meeting November 14th would be appreciated.

THE TIME HAS COME . . .

. . . for you to gather the ripe seeds from your garden and bring them to the October or November meeting or mail your seed donations to:

Dave Tivol
130 Locksunart Way #4
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

All seeds are welcome additions to the 2012 Seed Exchange List. Cal Hort members have especially asked for Cyclamen, Gomphrena, and Lilies (*L. rubrum* in particular), along with woodland plants, conifers, fruits and vegetables, and summer-dry natives of California, South Africa, Australia, and northern Mexico.

Please get your donation to Dave by the end of November in order to allow enough time to prepare the Seed List for our January Bulletin.



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

www.calhortsociety.org

Monthly Plant Drawing News

At our September drawing there was a fabulous selection of plants donated by Annie's Annuals and David Feix, as well as Strybing Arboretum. There were so many plants that nearly everyone who bought a ticket won a plant. We strongly recommend that our members bring plants for the drawing to every meeting since this makes for a fun ending to a fun evening.

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.

It's membership renewal time. Current members will soon be receiving your annual notice of renewal due January 1st. Look for it in your mail within the next month.

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
 2008-2010 (Second Term) Jim Budke
 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

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

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