

*The next monthly general meeting is Monday, October 15, 2012 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

*Agapetes serpens*



### OCTOBER 15, 2012 MEETING

#### DESIGNING GARDENS FOR THE HOLLYWOOD ELITE

with Dan Bifano



Dan Bifano was raised in Santa Barbara, where he has grown roses for more than 50 years. His gardens go from Santa Barbara south to Malibu and Bel Air. Known as the “Rose Gardener to the Stars,” his celebrity clients include Barbara Streisand and Ivan Reitman, as well as Oprah, who calls him “Dan the Rose Man”.

### NOVEMBER 18, 2012 MEETING

#### THE TREES AMONG US

with Dr. Matt Ritter

So much of the world’s plant diversity is represented in California’s neighborhood parks, gardens, and streets. Dr. Ritter’s presentation will be a photographic review of the lives and stories of some of the fascinating urban trees featured in his new book *A Californian’s Guide to the Trees among Us* and in his recent series in *Pacific Horticulture*. Dr. Ritter will share stories, cultivation and identification tips, and natural history of some of his favorite trees.

## Late Summer

### HORTICULTURAL EVENTS by Judith Taylor

#### BRINGING BACK THE NATIVES GARDEN TOUR

Sunday, October 7; 10 AM–4 PM

Shop at eight different locations for those hard-to-find natives at the right time of year to plant them. Natives will be sold in Berkeley, Concord, Moraga, Oakland, Orinda, Richmond, San Lorenzo, and San Pablo. While attendance is free, registration is required. For more information, call Kathy Kramer at (510) 236-9558 or visit [www.bringingbackthenatives.net](http://www.bringingbackthenatives.net) for a complete list of events and venues.

#### BRINGING NATURE BACK HOME: GROWING A WILDLIFE HABITAT GARDEN

Monday, October 8; 7:30 PM

The Redwoods Retirement Home, 40 Camino Alto, Mill Valley  
At this meeting of the Marin Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, guest speaker Nancy Bauer takes a look at San Francisco Bay Area habitat gardens and their plants, including water features and ponds, and some of the wildlife species these gardens attract. Nancy Bauer is a wildlife habitat gardener, garden writer, and author of *The Habitat Garden Book: Wildlife Landscaping for the San Francisco Bay Region*.

#### DIGGING DOG NURSERY'S DOG-GONE SUPER FALL PLANT SALE LAST CHANCE FREE SATURDAY TOURS

October 12, 13 and 14; 10 AM–5 PM

October 22; 2 PM

31101 Middle Ridge Road, Albion (Wheelchair accessible)  
Visitors can also enjoy this season's last free guided tours, with garden consultation and light refreshments, led by horticulturist Deborah Whigham. The Nursery is set amidst the redwood forest in Albion, on the Mendocino coast. Web site (with full catalog): [www.diggingdog.com](http://www.diggingdog.com). For further information call (707) 937-1130.

#### MARKHAM PLANT SALE

October 13; 9–12 Noon

1202 LaVista Avenue, Concord

Get 50% off all available California Natives and drought tolerant perennials.

#### TRANSFERRING ARBORETUM STYLE TO YOUR LANDSCAPE

Sunday, October 14, 2012; 9 AM–1 PM

UC Davis Arboretum Teaching Nursery, Garrod Drive off LaRue Road  
Don't miss our second and final plant sale of the Fall 2012 season! This public sale will invite customers to utilize planting plans and ideas from the Arboretum, and to be inspired by Arboretum collections. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880 or visit [arboretum.ucdavis.edu](http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu).

#### DIGGING DEEPER: REVITALIZING THE URBAN GARDEN

October 20; 8:30 AM–3 PM.

Garden Center @ Lake Merritt, 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland  
Sponsored by Alameda County Master Gardeners, select three classes from twelve timely topics, presented by Bay area experts. \$45; Mixing Bowl box lunch optional, \$10.50. Information at [acmg.ucdavis.edu](http://acmg.ucdavis.edu). Speakers: Fred Bove, Phil Van Soelen, "Greywater guerilla" Christina Berteau, Pam Peirce, Jennifer Radtke, Blacksmith Grant Marcoux. Leslie Bennett & Stefani Bittner's beautiful edible gardens will be open. For more information, contact Sandra Gassner Stoops at (510) 525-5098.

#### GUIDED PUBLIC TOUR: ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

Saturday, October 20; 10–11:30 AM

UC Davis Arboretum West End Gardens

Come observe ornamental grasses in their finest season of the year, and learn more about the design and habitat contributions they make to the perennial landscape. All ages are welcome. This public tour is free, as is campus parking on the weekends. Participants should meet at Nature's Gallery Court. For more information, please call (530) 752-4880 or visit [arboretum.ucdavis.edu](http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu).

#### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE

Saturday, October 20; 10 AM–3 PM

Hidden Villa Ranch, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills

Choose from scores of species of hard-to-find native plants, including a multitude of *Mimulus*, *Ceanothus*, *Salvia*, *Iris*, grasses, shrubs and many more. Free class on "Success with Native Plants for Beginners" by Kevin Bryant from 1–2 PM. Free parking. Come early for the best selection; bring boxes to carry your purchases home. Free admission; for more information go to [www.cnps-scv.org](http://www.cnps-scv.org) or email: [cnps\\_scv@yahoo.com](mailto:cnps_scv@yahoo.com) or call: (650) 260-3450.

#### LAKESHORE AVENUE PLANT EXCHANGE

Saturday, October 20, 2012; Noon–4 PM

3811 Lakeshore Avenue, Oakland

Free; easy parking. See [www.plantexchange.wordpress.com](http://www.plantexchange.wordpress.com) or email [plantexchange510@gmail.com](mailto:plantexchange510@gmail.com) or call (510) 866-8482

#### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY YERBA BUENA CHAPTER 18TH ANNUAL NATIVE PLANT SALE

Saturday, October 20; 1–5 PM

Miraloma Park Improvement Clubhouse

O'Shaughnessey Boulevard at Del Vale, San Francisco

The sale features beautiful, hard-to-find, garden-worthy plants native to SF and northern San Mateo Counties. These plants are great for attracting native bees, birds, butterflies and other local fauna. Free admission, Cash or check only. Information at [www.cnps-yerbabuena.org/gardens/plant\\_sales.html](http://www.cnps-yerbabuena.org/gardens/plant_sales.html) or (415) 531-2140.

#### SPECIAL EVENT FOR CAL HORT MEMBERS MUG & NAG'S ENGLISH GARDEN TOUR SLIDESHOW

Friday, Nov 9; 7–8:30 PM

The Recreation Room, San Francisco County Fair Building,  
Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

In May, 2012, Michael Collins and Frank Eddy traveled for three weeks to London for the Chelsea Flower Show and visited 27 English gardens. They endured poor plumbing, countless English breakfasts, weak drinks and youth hostels. From their 4000 photos, they will share their favorites with you. Please join them for a slideshow on English Gardens. You can park on garden side of the building. Doors will open at 6:45 p.m. Bring a potluck for eight. We will provide plates, glasses, and knife, fork and spoon. Please send Robin Parer an email and let her know if you are interested. [geraniac@pacbell.net](mailto:geraniac@pacbell.net)

## Plant of the Month

by Josh Schechtel

*Agapetes serpens*

Family: ERICACEAE

In Greek, “agapetos” means “beloved”, and that summarizes my relationship with this plant. Actually, for many years, it was “beloved from afar”, since I had trouble finding one for sale. It is now more available, especially at botanical garden plant sales. “Serpens” is from the Latin for snake or serpent. This probably refers to the creeping growth habit of this plant in the wild, snaking along the branches of trees. Growing naturally as an epiphyte in Nepal, Bhutan and India at elevations from 1500–3000 meters, *Agapetes* can withstand some cold, and even light frosts. *Agapetes* produces reddish new stems and leaves from a large, caudex-like base. The leaves get greener in shaded locations, but will stay reddish with more sunlight. Be careful though. It can burn in full inland sun. The branches form long arches up to five feet long, creating a very architectural presence. *Agapetes* looks especially good in a container at eye level, with its branches cascading down. The lantern-like flowers start to appear in February or March, and last through the spring. They are fairly small, and



Photo © Ted Kipping 2012

*Agapetes serpens*

have a beautiful chevron pattern on them. A raised container makes them easier to see and appreciate. In thinking about the cultural requirements for *Agapetes*, it helps to remember that it is in the Erica family, so it likes slightly acidic soil with moderate watering and reasonable drainage. In return, it will brighten your late winter garden with wonderful mini-lanterns of color.

### THE KIPPINGS INVITE YOU TO POTLUCK\*/SLIDESHOWS

Fourth Tuesday of the month  
San Francisco County Fair Building,  
Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way,  
Golden Gate Park, San Francisco  
For information call (415) 753-7090.

*\*Please bring a dish & beverage to serve eight people*

### A MEDITERRANEAN ROCK GARDEN

with Ted Kipping  
Tuesday, October 23; 7:00 PM



*Mediterranean Rock Garden by Victor Reiter, Jr.*





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**

Each month various nurseries and individual members donate plants for the plant drawing. Thank you Don Mahoney from Strybing Arboretum for donations to our August meeting. Martin Grantham and Bill Welch, the "Bulb Baron," also brought in wonderful plants for sale. Please do not hesitate to bring in unusual plants from your garden to share with the members. Remember the meeting is an excellent place to find plants for your garden that you have never seen before.

**2013 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND UPDATE**

This week we have mailed to all members information on membership renewals for 2013. For Members, the fees remain the same and we ask that you respond with your fees and updated membership information not later than January 31, 2013, so that we can update and mail the 2013 roster by early Spring. For Life Members we are asking that you verify your address and contact information by January 31 so that we can assure your continued delivery of the *Bulletin* and *Pacific Horticulture*. For both, please fill out the form completely and don't assume we have the correct information. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Masson, Membership Chair, by email at [gardengurus@gmail.com](mailto:gardengurus@gmail.com) or telephone at (415) 337-0694. As a final note, it is becoming increasingly clear that the increasing costs of production and mailing are moving Cal Hort to increase the use of email and your continued support on this is appreciated.

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 Palmos 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**

2010-2012 (First Term) Mike Craib

2010-2012 (Second Term) Steve Morse, Andy Stone, Dave Tivol

2011-2013 (First Term) Judith Taylor

2012-2014 (Second Term) Demi Bowles Lathrop

**COUNCIL**

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Vice President	Open
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Recording Secretary	Judith Taylor
Treasurer	Carl Meier
Parliamentarian	Open
Membership	Charlotte Masson

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