

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, September 18, 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

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Plant of the Month
Epilobium



Photo by Ted Kipping

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SEPTEMBER 2011 MEETING

Plants for Winter Bloom

by Annie Hayes and David Feix



A wealth of bloom during the winter months? Yes! Here in the Bay Area, it's easy to achieve. Annie Hayes (Annie's Annuals & Perennials) and garden designer David Feix will showcase some of their favorite cool season Mediterranean basin, South African, and cloud forest plants. Lots of exciting ideas for jazzing up your winter garden.



OCTOBER 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.

Late Summer HORTICULTURAL EVENTS

Editor for Horticultural Events Section Needed

Our calendar editor, Don MacGregor, is no longer able to continue in this job. With thanks for all his hard work and painstaking attention to detail, we are looking for someone in the organization to take his place. If you can help, contact Steve Morse for more information and a job description at s.j.morse@sbcglobal.net.

BOTANISING NORTHERN BAJA

Potluck*/Slideshow with Brian Kemble

Tuesday, September 27; 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.*

Photo below from EXPLORING BURMA

Potluck*/Slideshow with Richard Wigen
on August 23, 2011



PREVIEW NOVEMBER 2011 MEETING



From Sculpting Stone to Landscapes with Peter Hanson

Listen to artist Peter Hanson describe a sculptor's journey in discovering the power that gardens have to transform our lives through a deep appreciation of beauty.

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.

Although water and stone appear to be opposites, they are indeed a metaphor for all opposites. Moving and still, ancient and new, hard and soft. In their symbiotic relationship they enhance and vivify each other, revealing an endless dance of beauty. Water reveals the many textures and colors of stone as it runs across its varied surfaces, while stone equally reveals many qualities of water. It can appear to run down surfaces at different rates of speed depending on the stone texture and the way light hits it.

It can billow up in a fountain basin and break apart in patterns similar to viscous oil, or disappear into a stone as it clings to it as in the “omphalos” and “three-tiered” fountains. Peter Hanson's fountains explore the subtle and remarkable qualities of water through the medium of stone.

Plant of the Month by Josh Schechtel

Epilobium

California Fuschia

Family: MYRTACEAE

Some of my friends work a non-traditional work week, where Wednesday is their Friday. For *Epilobiums*, summer is their spring. These plants hit their flowering peak in July, August and September, and often keep going into October. Their small, orange to orange-red flowers shine against their gray foliage, acting as electromagnets for hummingbirds and butterflies.

On the downside, *Epilobiums* can get pretty rangy without a good shearing in the winter. They can also be somewhat invasive, spreading by the roots and by self-seeding, but I've always found them fairly easy to control. Different cultivars have different growth profiles—some spread and stay low, while others grow upright to several feet tall.

Unlike many other native plants, *Epilobiums* can tolerate heavy clay soil, as long as they are given minimal watering in the summer. Full sun to partial shade will keep them happy and blooming.

Despite all of their charms, *Epilobiums* are probably most famous for the fighting that they have caused over their name. Depending on the reference you use, they may also be called *Zauschnerias*. The genus name, depending on the one you want to use, is either in honor of Johann Baptista Josef Zauschner, a Czech botanist of the 1700s, or from the two Greek words *epi* "upon" and *lobos* "a pod or capsule," as the flower and capsule appear together, the corolla being borne on the end of the ovary. Until the dust settles, I suggest calling this plant 'Hummingbird Flower' or 'California Fuschia.'



Photos by Ted Kipping

Epilobium

Monthly Plant Drawing News

Each month various nurseries and individual members donate plants for the plant drawing. For the August meeting Don Mahoney provided some unusual plants from the Strybing Nursery. Kristin Yanker-Hansen brought a few extras from her garden. Thank you all for your generosity. Please do not hesitate to bring in unusual plants from your garden to share with the members. Also remember the meeting is an excellent place to find plants for your garden that you have never seen before.

GONE TO SEED?

It's time to visit your garden and check on the seeds you'll find there.

Are they ripe? Or not quite yet?

Note on the calendar, so you don't forget.

Once fully ripe they should be collected and labeled with as much information as you care to share: botanical name, common name, growing conditions, germination hints—whatever you send in will be appreciated. Images, too, add a lot to the descriptions in the Seed Exchange Listing for 2012. Your colleagues are counting on you!

(Dave Tivol is our 2012 Seed Exchange Chair.)



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

www.calhortsociety.org

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 Paltos 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.

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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