



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Where passionate gardeners meet to share knowledge and learn from each other.

socalhort.org

November 2013 Newsletter

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 14

Friendship Auditorium

3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles CA 90027

7pm. Social Hour

Meeting begins at @ 8pm.

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Shannon Ahern

Sanford Davidson

Anne Haque

Roberta Kato and Joachin Arias

June Scott

Robert van de Hoek

Leon Van Der Holst

SHARING SECRETS QUESTION

In anticipation of our December meeting, the Sharing Secrets question for November is: *"What is the best garden related gift you have ever received?"* You can answer on our MemberLodge website or e-mail your response to: sglarkspur@aol.com by Friday, November 15.

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The November Meeting

Bernard Trainor: *Landprints*

Thursday, November 14, 2013



The November meeting of the Southern California Horticultural Society will feature internationally renowned landscape architect Bernard Trainor, who will present a range of his current projects in addition to those featured in the recently published monograph, *Landprints: The Landscape Designs of Bernard Trainor*, authored by Susan Heeger. Bernard will also explore how his inspiration from natural design patterns, plants, and sense of place is interpreted and translated into the modern details of his work, forming a connection between people and the identity of the land. As Bernard describes his methodology, "I spend time observing locations before I begin the creative process. With this information the ultimate goal is to then tap into natural systems and enrich the built landscape in an abstracted way. By observing the fabric that

exists, we can then add these layers to the design."

Raised on the Mornington Peninsula along Australia's rugged southeastern coast below Melbourne, Bernard developed a lasting awareness and appreciation of native landscapes. Following an apprenticeship in horticulture and design studies, he was awarded a scholarship that allowed him to study in England under the famed plantswoman and garden designer Beth Chatto. Her regionally appropriate approach further developed Bernard's design philosophy. In the years that followed Bernard completed a Diploma of Landscape Design while studying at the Chelsea Physic Garden. He arrived in Northern California in 1995 and fell in love with the region. Drawing on thirty years of passionate commitment to the study and practice of landscape design, Bernard is the founding principal and design director of Bernard Trainor + Associates, based in Monterey. The studio's award-winning projects range from town-scaled gardens to extensive rural properties, and have been featured in numerous books and publications, including *The New York Times*, *Vogue Living* and *Garden Design*.



CHAVEZ RAVINE/ELYSIAN PARK FIELD TRIP: THE EUCALEPTY

On a beautiful Sunday morning in early October, over thirty members and friends of the Southern California Horticultural Society met in Elysian Park for the third installment of The Trees of the Chavez Ravine Arboretum. Our focus was the many varieties of eucalyptus planted there. Our guides, as with the previous two excursions in the park, were our tree experts, James E. Henrich, Bart O'Brien and Matt Ritter.

The original idea on the first visit was to walk around this arboretum/public park, and discuss the many different trees represented there. We did not even cover a third of the park on our first visit as there is so much fascinating information to take in from three different expert viewpoints, and then the many questions that brings up from the participants. Our second visit was more focused, looking specifically at the palm trees planted there. With this third installment we concentrated on the eucalypti. Our guides gave us an overview of the genus (and its closely related kin, complete with the botanical confusion brought on by renaming familiar trees). We also discussed the first uses of eucalyptus in California and the accumulation of misinformation and downright myth that followed the trees into our landscapes. (I was interested to know that lumber from trees that normally are good timber trees in Australia is considered poor here is that the tree are logged at a far younger age.)

(Continued on page 2, column 1.)

Modena Asbell's List

- * *Calliandra californica* – red fairy duster; Baja fairy duster. 4-6 ft. x 4-6 ft. Blooms year round with mimosa-like red flowers.
- * *Asclepias fascicularis* – narrow-leaf milkweed. The ONLY host plant for Monarchs. 3 ft. x 2 ft.; very upright in sun; sprawling in shade with fewer flowers.
- * *Linanthus (Leptodactylon) californicus* – prickly phlox. A challenge for the gardener; requires no summer water once established.
- * *Clinopodium (Satureja) mimuloides* – monkeyflower savory. Fragrant foliage and orange-red flowers in summer/fall.
- * *Aristida purpurea* – purple three awn. Fine texture moves gracefully in the breeze.
- * *Verbena gooddingii* – southwestern mock vervain. Lavender flowers age to blue. Attracts many butterflies and is host for the Grey Hairstreak.
- * *Eriogonum arborescens* – Santa Cruz Island wild buckwheat. Tough and beautiful buckwheat, compact and easy to grow.
- * *Atriplex canescens* – four-wing saltbush. Extremely salt and drought tolerant.
- * *Ceanothus 'Concha'* Flowers are dark blue with yellow anthers.
- * *Arctostaphylos 'Ian Bush.'* Tolerates heavy soil and garden water. Grows quickly to 4 ft.; tops out around 5 ft.

Bart O'Brien's List

- * *Agave 'Blue Flame'* Blooms in seven years at Rancho Santa Ana.
- * *Eriogonum crocatum* – conejo buckwheat. White foliage; acid-yellow flowers.
- * *Eriogonum umbellatum* var. *polyanthum* 'Shasta Sulphur'. American River sulphur flower. Unlike many buckwheats, the flowers on this one drop cleanly.
- * *Heuchera 'Rosada'*. This and 'Wendy' are among the most durable of the heucheras.
- * *Hosackia crassifolia* var. *otayensis* Otay Mountain hosackia. Red and white flowers. Deer don't like it.
- * *Perityle incana* – Guadalupe Island rock daisy. White dissected foliage. Cut back by one-third each year to maintain a compact shape.
- * *Phylla nodiflora* (*Lippia repens*). Foot-tolerant ground cover; handles trampling by children and dogs.
- * *Pycnanthemum californicum* – mountain mint. A native mint; can use in cooking.
- * *Salvia clevelandii* 'Winifred Gilman'. A true *S. clevelandii*, unlike many of the hybrids; has the true, smaller *clevelandii* leaves. Very blue, very fragrant flowers.
- * *Salvia pachyphylla*.
- * *Salvia spathacea* 'Confetti'
- * *Vaccinium ovatum* – huckleberry.



After the walk we had a picnic lunch of chicken and beef tacos with wonderful salads and desserts provided by our members. Special thanks to Laura Bauer, Jill Vig, and Al and Pat Steen for arranging the picnic particulars and main course-and to everyone who brought such delicious food to share. Thank you to all who helped make this fun and informative outing possible.

-Steven Gerischer

October Meeting Recap

The October meeting of the Southern California Horticultural Society was a panel discussion called Native Plant Growers and featured a trio of panelists representing the Theodore Payne Foundation, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and Matilija Nursery. Each panelist was asked to speak about ten different native plants for the garden, whether it be a favorite of theirs, or just wonderfully suited to growing in our area. Our speaker / experts were; Modena Asbell, from the Theodore Payne Foundation, Bart O'Brien, from Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and Bob Sussman, from Matilija Nursery. Each presented the plants they had chosen, which became the raffle plants for the evening. The lists are included below.

Bob Sussman's List

- * *Abutilon palmeri* – Indian mallow. Flowers from early spring through fall.
- * *Galvezia juncea* 'Gran Canyon' – Gran Canyon Baja bush snapdragon; Cedros Island snapdragon. Red flowers early spring through late fall. Hummingbird and bee favorite.
- * *Iris 'Spinning Sarah.'* A fairly durable Pacific Coast iris; a cross of 'Canyon Snow' x 'With this Ring'.
- * *Malva assurgentiflora* – island mallow. Rose to lavender flowers early spring into late fall.
- * *Lilium pardalinum* - leopard lily. Large orange flowers with maroon spots. Woodland species, often found near streams. Keep soil uniformly moist during the growing season.
- * *Rosa californica* – California wild rose. One of our California native roses. Can flower spring through fall with fragrant, pink flowers.
- * *Salvia 'Bon Bon'*. Hybrid between *Salvia clevelandii* and *S. leucophylla*; open bee cross. Blue/purple flowers.
- * *Salvia spathacea* – California hummingbird sage. Low-growing, spreading ground cover for shaded areas. Flowers are generally magenta (not always) that occur in spring, and can occur again in fall.
- * *Sphaeralcea ambigua* – desert globemallow. Orange flowers from early spring through late fall. Very good for bees too.
- * *Verbena lilacina* 'De La Mina' Cedros Island verbena. Will flower from early spring through early winter.

We would like to thank our speakers for a fun and informative evening learning about some of our useful native plants. Thank you as well to all who helped organize and set up this meeting, as well as those who always help run the meeting and clean up afterwards.

See you at Friendship Hall for our November meeting, Bernard Trainor: Landprints.

-Steven Gerischer

SHARING SECRETS

In October, we asked you to answer "What is the best piece of garden design advice you have ever heard or read?" and here are some of your responses. Read more on our SCHS MemberLodge website, schs.memberlodge.org.

I know mine is to space plants according to their eventual full size... no matter how much your client wants them to be packed in. The plants-and the client-will thank you later!

-Joel Lichtenwalter



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GREEN SHEET

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

AUGUST 2013
PLANT FORUM NOTES

*Compiled by James E. Henrich
Photographs by Paul Martin*

Thank you to all who brought plants the August, 2013 meeting. Everyone is encouraged to bring in plants to share with the group. Remember that you do get one free Exhibitor's Ticket for the Plant Raffle if you bring one or more plants for discussion at the Plant Forum table (if there is a Plant Raffle that night).

Information in this compilation was gleaned and condensed from Plant Forum exhibit cards, numerous library references and a suite of various internet sites.

In addition to the plants discussed below, the following plants, described or listed in the Society's Selected Plants for Southern California Gardens (2000) or previously written up for a Green Sheet, were shown. [Family names in accordance with the Angiosperm Phylogeny Group II (<http://www.mobot.org/mobot/research/apweb/>) are included for your reference.]

Agapanthus 'Ellamae', lily-of-the-Nile (Amaryllidaceae), by Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino. [SPSC, pg. 15]
Combretum coccineum, flame vine (Combretaceae), by Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia. [SPSC, pg. 99]
Combretum fruticosum, chameleon vine (Combretaceae), by Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia. [SPSC, pg. 99]
Cyrtanthus elatus, Scarborough lily (Amaryllidaceae), by Sheldon Lisker, Sun City. [SPSC, pg. 112]
Csapodya splendens (syn. *Deppea splendens*), golden fuchsia (Rubiaceae), by Ann Brooks, Baldwin Hills. [SPSC, pg. 116]
Duranta erecta, sky flower (Verbenaceae), by Joan Seidel, Hollywood Hills. [SPSC, pg. 125]
Duranta erecta var. *alba*, sky flower (family), by Joan Seidel, Hollywood Hills. [SPSC, pg. 125]
Hymenocallis 'Sulfur Queen', spider lily (family), by Sheldon Lisker, Sun City. [SPSC, pg. 193]
Iochroma cyaneum, violet churcu (Solanaceae), by Eric Brooks, Baldwin Hills. [SPSC, pg. 199]
Leucadendron 'Jester', cone bush (Proteaceae), by Gary Kamisher, West Los Angeles. [GS, March 2011]
Lycoris aurea, golden spider lily (Amaryllidaceae), by Sheldon Lisker, Sun City. [SPSC, pg. 234]
Urginea maritima, sea onion (Asparagaceae), by John Schoustra, Somis. [SPSC, pg. 357]

Information in this compilation was gleaned and condensed from Plant Forum exhibit cards, numerous library references and a suite of various internet sites.

Agapanthus 'Elaine' PP7,703, lily-of-the-Nile (Amaryllidaceae), by Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino. South Africa. This phenomenally vigorous evergreen perennial makes a fast growing 3-foot-tall clump of green strap-like leaves, topped in midsummer with dark blue-violet 8-inch-wide pompon heads of flowers on 50-inch-tall stems. This plant is shorter with darker violet flowers in smaller clusters and has smaller paler green leaves than *Agapanthus 'Ellamae'*. 'Elaine' is a sister seedling to *Agapanthus 'Ellamae'* (Los Angeles County Arboretum introduction in 1985); both hybrids were developed by Archie A. Amate from Huntington Beach in 1978.

Agapanthus 'Walter Doty', lily-of-the-Nile (Amaryllidaceae), by Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino. South Africa. This selection is an outstanding selection noted for its vigor, fine blue-purple flower color, long duration of bloom and rapid multiplication. The flowers are larger than average and are clustered into a moderate-sized head on a strong stalk. It is useful in massed plantings, as an accent plant and as a container plant. Los Angeles County Arboretum introduced this cultivar in 1981.

Asystasia gangetica 'Variegata', variegated Ganges primrose (Acanthaceae), by Ann Brooks, Baldwin Hills. India. This ground-cover perennial has cream and green variegated foliage with lavender flowers. It tolerates full sun to partial shade in well-drained soil with moderate irrigation. Growth habit is 1 to 2 feet tall and 3 to 4 feet in width.

Crinum 'Menehune' Purple Dream™, river lily (Amaryllidaceae), by Eric Brooks, Baldwin Hills. Hawaiian Islands. Dwarf plant from 12 to 20 inches tall with narrow purple foliage that appears nearly black in full sun. The dark leaves contrast very nicely with deep pink flowers. This cultivar tolerates low to average watering, as well as, being submerged in water to 6 inches above the crown. The cultivar commemorates an elusive, forest-dwelling dark-skinned race of Hawaiian Island natives.

Dimorphorchis lowii (Orchidaceae), by Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia. North Borneo. This strange and elegant orchid bears two differently shapes flowers. The pubescent flower stem consists of 2-3 basal flowers that are typically flattened like Vanda, golden and highly fragrant, followed by a gap and then numerous that have more relief and are maroon blotched with no fragrance. All are borne on a

long, pubescent, flexible inflorescence to 9.5 feet from a substantial epiphytic plant that looks like a Vanda. All flowers are perfect and fertile. The genus name references the two differently shaped flowers and the species name commemorates Sir Hugh Low who discovered the plant in 1845-1846. Basal fragrant flowers are thought to be attractants for the nonfragrant flowers. I suspect the mottled flowers might attract pollinators in their own right, resembling rotting flesh as they sway in the breeze. I also suspect the hairy inflorescence collects moisture from the humid air to supply water to the succulent inflorescence that might otherwise be difficult to receive from the somewhat "woody" plant.

Eucomis zambesiaca 'Tiny Piny', pineapple lily (Asparagaceae), by Steve Gerischer, Eagle Rock. South Africa. The novelty of this cultivar series lies solely in their shorter stature, less than 1 foot tall. They have been selected from *Eucomis zambesiaca* hybrids and are suitable for garden and smaller containers. 4 cultivars are available: Tiny Piny Coral, Tiny Piny Opal, Tiny Piny Ruby and Tiny Piny Sweetie. Cover the bulbs with 1 inch of soil and keep on the dry side until growth begins, then move into bright light and begin watering regularly; keep soil moist but not soggy, replace planting mix annually, excess nitrogen tends to rot the bulbs.

Sinningia 'Shelby', hardy pink gloxinia (Gloxiniaceae), by James E. Henrich, Azusa. South America. This vigorous plant produces foliage to 18 inches and flower stems 2 feet or more in length. The drooping light rose pink tubular flowers appear from summer to fall. It performs well in sun to light shade; water moderately to sparingly as it is drought tolerant. Foliage dies back in winter when the tubers go dormant. It is most likely a hybrid between *Sinningia tubiflora* and *S. sellovii*, very similar to *Sinningia* 'Invasion Force', vigorous.



Top row, left to right: *Iochroma* 'Wine Red'; *Iochroma* cyaneum; and *Dimorphorchis* lowii.

Middle row, left to right; *Eucomis zambesiaca* 'Tiny Piny' hybrids; *Agapanthus* selections; and *Cyrtanthus elatus*.

Bottom row, *Combretum coccinum*.



5 H O R T I C U L T U R A L H A P P E N I N G S

Contact each listing below to confirm the event, for details and for a full schedule.

=Registration requested or required.

ARCADIA 91007

L.A. COUNTY ARBORETUM & BOTANIC GARDEN

301 N. Baldwin Ave.
626-821-4623; arboretum.org

Saturday & Sunday, November 2 & 3

9:00am-5:00pm

Winter Cactus Show and Sale. Put on by the San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society. Free with general admission.

Saturday, November 9

10:00am-12:00pm

What Tree is That? (New Trees!). Lecture by Dr. Jerryld Turney will cover 15+ tree species, followed by a walk in the Arboretum. Fee 

Saturday, November 16

10:00-11:30am

Fall Leaf Color Tour. Join Frank McDonough on an informative tour that will take you to the least known but most brilliant fall color trees. Free with general admission.

CLAREMONT 91711

RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

1500 N. College Ave
909-625-8767 x224; rsabg.org

Saturday, November 2

10:00am-1:00pm

Free Native Plant Clinic. Get native plant gardening questions answered by RSABG gardening experts. Garden admission not necessary to attend.

Saturday, November 16

10:00-11:30am

California Native Food Plants Workshop. Join Antonio Sanchez for a cornucopia of great information, including the basics of native edible plant gardening. Fee 

Saturday & Sunday, November 16 & 17

11:00am-3:00pm

Acorn Festival. Celebrate our connections with California native plants with Native American dancers, singers, artisans and tribal leaders. Free with general admission.

Saturday, November 23

9:00am-12:00pm

Propagating California Native Plants Workshop. Learn the basics of California native plant propagation with hands-on instruction from Antonio Sanchez. Fee 

LOS ANGELES 90049

GROW NATIVE NURSERY

100 Davis Avenue
424- 234-0481

Saturday, November 2

10:00-11:00am

Seed Saving for the Home Garden and Conservation. Join Evan Meyer for this informative talk on seed saving. Free.

Saturday, November 9

10:00-11:00am

An Intro to California Native Bees. Join Naturalist Hartmut Wisch for this illustrated talk exploring the great diversity of bees that have co-evolved with California's native flora. Free.

Saturday, November 16

10:00-11:30am

Creating Your Own Urban Meadow. Join garden designer and plantsman Dustin Gimbel for a look at how you can create a native meadow in your own yard. Free.

Sunday, November 24

10:00am-12:30pm

Organic Pest Control and Fall Care for the Urban Orchard Workshop. Master Gardener Herb Machleder will teach you about orchard pests and give you the tools to keep them in check. Free

PALOS VERDES PENINSULA 90274

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
310-544-1948

southcoastbotanicgarden.org

Sunday, November 3

10:00am-12:30pm

California Native Plant Volunteer Workday: Pruning, Trimming and Shaping CA Native Plants. All workdays meet at the Cornish Courtyard. RSVP required. Contact Vicky Huynh at vhuynh@parks.lacounty.gov Free.

Sunday, November 3

(Repeats Wednesday, November 20)

8:00am-12:00pm

Audubon Bird Walks. Local Audubon members guide this walk. Free.

Saturdays, November 16

10:00am-12:00pm

Creating a Garden for Health and Healing. Instructor Judith Gerber will discuss the medicinal powers of herbs vegetables and fruits and show you how to grow the plants. Fee 

SAN MARINO 91108

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Rd.
626-405-2128; huntington.org

Monday, November 11

12:30-4:00pm

Japanese Teahouse Tour. Take a peek inside the ceremonial teahouse and learn

the tradition behind its use. Informal tours are offered at hourly intervals. No reservations required. Free with general admission.

Thursday, November 14

2:30pm

Garden Talk and Plant Sale: Food Fit for a Dinosaur with paleobotanist Carole T. Gee. Plant sale follows the talk. Free.

Saturday, November 23

9:30am-12:30pm

Family Cooking Class: Early California Cuisine. Step back in time with chef Ernest Miller to cook some authentic dishes from the days of the California missions. Ages 7-12, includes one accompanying adult. Fee 

Saturday, November 23

10:00am-12:00pm

Flower Arranging with Succulents. Fee 

Saturday, November 23

10:30am-1:00pm

Ranch Open House. Self-tour this urban agriculture site and take home some fresh ideas for sustainable gardening. Free with general admission.

SUN VALLEY 91352

THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

10459 Tuxford Street
818-768-1802; theodorepayne.org

Saturday, November 2

9:00am-1:00pm

California Native Garden Design, Part I with Andreas Hessing. Course takes place at the instructor's studio in Altadena. Address provided upon registration. Fee 

Saturday, November 16

1:30-3:30pm

Native Plant Holiday Card Workshop with Flora Ito. A fun class for adults or adult/child pairs. Fee 

Saturday, November 16

9:00am-1:00pm

California Native Garden Design, Part II with Andreas Hessing. Course takes place at the instructor's studio in Altadena. Address provided upon registration. Fee 

Saturday, November 30

9:00am-1:00pm

California Native Garden Design, Part I with Steven Gerischer. Fee 

- Compiled by Bettina Gatti

Send notices to bettina0203@hotmail.com.

UPCOMING 2013 SCHS PROGRAMS

At Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles CA 90027, starting at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted.

December 12- Member Night (Details TBA)

GET OUT THE OLD FAMILY RECIPES!

Our Member Night meeting is coming in December. Time once again to start baking, cooking and creating tasty things for the holiday season. Our holiday meeting is a time for getting together, sharing and enjoying the sweetness of the season. Remember that we will also have a sharing table for all of those odd garden and gift related things that need a home. Come and celebrate with your Southern California Horticultural Society friends!



Happy
Holidays!

Southern California
Horticultural Society
PO Box 94476
Pasadena CA 91109-4476

NEWSLETTER
November 2013

Board of Directors

Steven Gerischer, President, *Pacific Horticulture Board, Programs & Newsletter*

James E. Henrich, Vice President, *Green Sheet & Membership*

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John Schoustra, *Plant Raffle & Plant Sales*

Lili Singer, *Selected Book Sales & Programs*

Jill Vig, *Pacific Horticulture Board*

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Newsletter Editor: Steven Gerischer

Contributors to this issue: Bettina Gatti, Steven Gerischer
James E. Henrich, Paul Martin and Sharing Secrets
contributors.

Next deadline: Friday, November 15 (for December newsletter).
It is the Friday following our monthly membership meeting.
Please contribute an article or information of interest.