The SCHS ushered in the fall planting season by hosting a panel of local designers for the October program. Amy Nettleton, Carlos Flores and Andreas Hessing all specialize in creating resource-conserving, regionally appropriate gardens, without sacrificing aesthetic appeal. After an introduction by Lili Singer, each landscaper spoke about favorite California native plants, with accompanying slide shows. The SCHS also provided a print-out of the plants being discussed.

Amy Nettleton of South Pasadena is a landscape architect who chose to showcase plants that are readily available in the trade and support wildlife. She shared pictures of various projects, including a succulent wall that elicited an enthusiastic audience response, and she also explained the practical applications of her choices, which included:

- *Lyonothamnus floribundus* subsp. *asplenifolius* - Santa Cruz ironwood - a fast-growing, 20’ evergreen tree - narrow & upright / can be espaliered - attractive foliage, flowers & bark
- *Dudleya hassei* - 3’ h & w, grown for its “copper” color - natural form looks best, but Andreas is remarks that the sample shown was planted on a mound of soil amended with DG to improve drainage
- *Eriogonum giganteum* - St. Catherine’s lace - a bee-magnet buckwheat when in flower - and winter food source for birds - use for cut flowers or dry arrangements

Q & A: should not be walked on regularly, but will recover / regenerate if damaged

- *Heuchera ‘Wendy’* - Wendy coral bells - 2’ h & w, it will spread to form a mat - good in low light, but also adaptable
- *Prunus ilicifolia* - holly-leaved cherry - 10’ x 15’ w, evergreen tree - slow-grover, drought-tolerant, adaptable - cherries are a food source for birds
- *Salvia apiana* - white sage - 3’-5’ x 4’-6’ w with chalky foliage - tall flower stalks attract bumblebees

By 10:30 am, the panel was over and the audience was asked to ask questions, and after the presentations, audience members were given the opportunity to purchase tickets for the plant raffle which followed. The raffle was composed of selections featured in the program, as well as seed packets donated by the Theodore Payne Foundation, and it provided a fitting conclusion to the evening’s program.

**SCHS ACTIVITIES & NEWS LINKS**

OCTOBER PROGRAM RECAP

**SCHS COMMUNITY EVENT**

On October 2, the SCHS participated in the annual One Chicken Fest, “a planet-based community festival” that is about making small, positive changes in our lives and in the community to help the planet and ourselves”, according to the mission statement on its website.

Board members Carol Aronson and Pat Steen represented the SCHS at a booth that had hand-outs of Green Sheets and newsletters, as well as displays with photos of field trips, Coffee in the Garden, and other events. They also fielded questions about the SCHS and had membership forms available.

Although the 10 am - 2 pm event was not very well-attended this year, it does represent the type of outreach the SCHS is trying to become more involved with. We would like to increase awareness of our organization as active members of the community, and to help promote the SCHS for current and future generations of gardeners.

We appreciate Carol and Pat giving of their time for the day and thank the other board members who participated behind the scenes in preparing for the event. Read more about the festival at: onechickenfest.org

**IS YOUR LAWN HARMING YOUR CAT?**

Contributed by: Leigh Marcos

How many gardeners have tried natural, organic steps for growing plants and creating the perfect lawn and wondered, there must be an easier way to do this? Many of us may have looked to fertilizers and pesticides to take an easier route to success.

Unfortunately, I was not aware until too late what effects using chemicals in the pursuit of perfection could have on my cat, Mr. Spot. Eventually, with some advice, we realized they had made him irreversibly ill. I miss Mr. Spot, and he inspired me to write about how, while we work to achieve the perfect landscape, we should not forget the impact on our cats too.

Link to complete article: www.shieldmypet.com/are-your-lawn-care-products-harming-your-cat

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**SCHS Usher in the Fall Planting Season with Panel of Local Designers**

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