



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

September 2018

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 11

Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90027



Socializing: 7:00 pm

Meeting begins: 7:30 pm

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

We're pleased the following people have joined our group:

Glenn Reece
Rose Weinstein
Wynne Wilson

www.socalhort.org

SHARING SECRETS

For October, please tell us:

Tell us about your favorite garden designers or gardens that you love...

Reply at: www.socalhort.org or e-mail your response to: gardensbysabine@aol.com

by Monday, October 15

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DESIGNER INSIGHTS:

Artfully Blending Natives & Exotics in the Garden

Just in time for fall planting season, the SCHS welcomes landscape designers Shawn Maestretti and Wynne Wilson to speak at our October meeting. They will explore a thoughtful approach to blending California's native flora with other beautiful and beneficial plants from around the world.

Shawn is a designer, plantsman, certified arborist, educator, and licensed landscape contractor. He has been creating artfully designed gardens throughout Los Angeles since 2006. His method is highly collaborative, with strong attention to detail and problem-solving. He helps his clients realize outdoor living spaces they will connect with for many years. Shawn combines his horticultural experience with strong composition skills and environmentally sensible practices, using a varied palette of interesting California-friendly plants to breathe new life and a sense of place into every garden. His system of matching a plant palette to a space and properly hydrozoning has proven to be a successful process for creating gardens that benefit wildlife.



Photo courtesy of speaker.

Wynne Wilson grew up in Southern California, surrounded by citrus and avocado groves that were planted where extensive stands of coastal sage scrub had once flourished. The successful preservation and restoration of habitat have been a major part of her work as a garden designer, using primarily California's native plant palette and sustainable materials. Wynne has degrees in Environmental Design and Fine Art from The Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, where she also taught design for over a decade. Her award winning landscape design firm Terra Design consists of a collaborative and creative team that pursues projects which promote the personal and professional philosophy of restoration, preservation and education. They have created gardens from large estates to small commercial/restaurant settings, vineyards on the Central Coast, as well as many residential gardens.



Photo by: Sabine Steinmetz

We invite you to join us for this inspiring program.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS & EVENTS

COFFEE IN THE GARDEN (Registration Form enclosed.)

The SCHS has arranged for a special autumn visit to designer Wynne Wilson's home garden in Altadena on Sunday, October 14. We will see first-hand how her garden uses a "blended" plant palette (see speaker article at left), and she will give us a private tour. A "must see" whether you've never been there before, or it's a repeat visit to a favorite place.

GREEN SHEETS

Due to venue changes and our annual HOTY Banquet, we have had inconsistent Plant Forums during the last few months. Beginning with the November newsletter, we will resume printing what you have exhibited, so be sure to bring even more plants in the coming months!

2018 HOLIDAY MEETING NEW VENUE !!!

Mark your calendars to attend our Holiday Party on **Thursday, December 13**, featuring a guest speaker; members' seasonal treats; our traditional "Freebie Table" of garden-themed donations being passed along by members; and of course, plants! This year we will be meeting at the Canoga Park Women's Club - a large and lovely space that we hope to fill with members ready to begin their holiday partying! Stay tuned for details coming next month....

In September, the SCHS gathered at the Los Angeles County Arboretum for the annual Horticulturist of the Year banquet and award presentation. This year's honoree was John Schoustra in recognition of his accomplishments in the field of horticulture, both as owner of Greenwood Daylily Gardens in Somis, and his continuing work with numerous organizations. John has served on the boards of many plant societies, as well as being a current and long term board member of the SCHS and the Nursery Growers Association (NGA). During his career he has also served as Chief Horticulturist at Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Site and Gardens, taught classes at the L.A. Arboretum and South Coast Botanic Gardens, and lectured extensively both nationally and internationally.

Before the award ceremony, guests perused and bid on a wide selection of Silent Auction



donations, then socialized and enjoyed an alfresco meal catered by the Peacock Café staff, at tables decorated

with centerpieces provided by John's nursery. Following dinner, the award ceremonies began with SCHS president Steve Gerischer acknowledging past Horticulturist of the Year recipients in the audience, and giving a brief introduction to John. He then turned the floor over to Carol Bornstein (speaking for Janet Brown Becker) and Richard Baron, who talked about their personal relationships with John and lauded his many achievements.

Carol read a letter sent by Janet Becker, the historic gardens expert at Rancho Los Alamitos Gardens, where she first came to know John when he worked there for five years in the early 1990s as the Head of Horticulture. Together they helped craft the garden's Master Plan. Janet cited John's further influence on the garden through his insistence on preserving historic plantings from installed under the first owner, Susan Bixby, as well as updating the irrigation system to meet the needs of specific plants, and working with students. She wrote of John's generosity and work ethic, stating the Rancho would not have today's botanical collections without his guidance over 20 years ago.

The following speaker was John's friend and neighbor, Richard Baron, co-founder of Baron Brothers Nursery in Camarillo, who has known him since the 1970s. He told of how he was introduced to the Nursery Grower's Association by John, and how his 40-acre property in Somis has twice been a tour destination for the SCHS, after John made the suggestion to him in 2009. He congratulated John on the award he felt was well-earned, and then turned the floor over to the honoree.

John began his reminiscences by telling the audience how happy he was when he joined the SCHS because he was in the company of other "plant nerds" as well as well-known horticulturists of the time such as Gary Hammer. He then spoke about his own history in a presentation titled

"Horticultural Heroes and Highlights," sharing personal inspirations and influences of the past 30 years – from his days at the University of California at Berkeley, through his professional career and up to the present.

He began by speaking of his long-time association with the L.A. Arboretum, where he helped install the Kallam Perennial Garden in the early 1990s, as well as planting the trees around the Peacock Café. He expressed his appreciation of Richard Schulhof, the Arboretum's current CEO, for giving hope to new generations for the future of landscaping in Southern California, and thanked his parents Jack and Hermine Schoustra for introducing him to a love of plants and life-long learning, as well as his wife Cynthia, who is also his professional partner in running the nursery operations at Greenwood.

John spoke of how, by the 1980s, the diversity of available landscape plant selections was only about 5% of what existed in the early 1990s. However, a renaissance in horticulture was about to begin – coinciding with the start of John's own career. Upon graduating from U.C. Berkeley, he cofounded a landscape company that for 10 years designed, built and maintained a variety of projects, before establishing Greenwood Daylily Gardens in 1989, and continuing his work with other SoCal organizations. While employed at Rancho Los Alamitos, his former Berkeley professor and mentor, Russ Beatty, was a consultant there. When he read Beatty's article for Pacific Horticulture Society on "The Browning of the Greensward," John was influenced to continually amend his landscaping practices in consideration of their environmental impact.



Photos by: Sabine Steinmetz

John's slide show continued with his recollections of teachers, volunteers, colleagues and friends who shaped his personal history, including: Dan Wheeler, who taught a Regional Occupation Program for the LAUSD; John Kabashima, Ben Faber and Jim Boethke from UC Cooperative Extension; plant breeder Jack Roberson and his wife Jo, who helped John begin breeding his daylilies; landscape architects Regula and Doug Campbell and also Calvin Abe, who were clients and then became friends; garden writers Susan Heeger and Sharon Cohoon; and landscape patrons such as hotelier Steve Wynn, developer Rick Caruso, Donald Bren of the Irvine Company, David Murdock of the Sherwood Country Club and Anton Segerstrom of South Coast Plaza, all who create horticultural jobs and opportunities. Last, but not least, John mentioned a few of

the "plant fanatics" that have enriched his life, including: Jay Kapac, Keith Zary, Mike Boss, Peter McCrohan, Steve Ball, and the multi-generational Acosta Family of urban farmers.

After John finished his presentation, Steve Gerischer presented him with the plaque for the Horticulturist of the Year award, and guests returned to the auction room to gather their many winnings — a satisfying and rewarding conclusion to a very enjoyable event.

✂ Sabine Steinmetz

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This year's Silent Auction was a big success, thanks to the huge selection of donated plants, objects and incredible gift certificates – resulting in generous bids by members and guests who participated so enthusiastically!

*We appreciate everyone, and would like to go on record to thank all of our donors.
(listed in alphabetical order)*

Businesses: Agri-Turf, Bellefontaine Nursery, Dominus Plantarum/Los Angeles Cycad Source, Fig Earth Supply, Greenwood Daylily Gardens, Potted, Matilija Nursery, Mountain States Wholesale Nursery, Anton Segerstrom/South Coast Plaza and Somis Succulent Specialties

Individuals: Laura Bauer, Eric & Ann Brooks, Joan Citron, Steven Gerischer, Sherry Heyman, Willard Huyck, Sandy Masuo, Shirley Marneus, Yoav Paskowitz, Pat Steen, Sabine Steinmetz, Dave Verity and Royce D. Wood

As always, we are grateful to the Arboretum staff for providing invaluable assistance all evening, and Nicole's crew at the Peacock Café for catering another delicious meal for us, and assisting with clean up afterward.

Last, we appreciate the SCHS board for their efforts in planning the event, prepping and cleaning up, with special thanks going to Laura Bauer, who missed the dinner and presentation while tallying our many, many auction bids...

*Thank you so very much -
to everyone!*

SHARING SECRETS RESPONSES

What are your favorite annuals for transitioning your garden into autumn?



I love Calendulas. They're so bright and easy. They don't die like Pansies, and unlike Snapdragons, they bloom a long time. And the petals feel like bird feathers.... But, very few of my clients let me plant orange in their yard.

- Aprille Curtis

I like to display feathery "florist" celosia in autumn colors on my front porch - yellow, orange, and red - and I like the mini peppers too, same colors, plus sometimes purple!

- Anonymous

OCTOBER HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

Please contact location(s) to confirm listed events, and for a full schedule.

Events are free with admission unless otherwise indicated.

Locations are listed by Zip Code.

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS)

L.A./Santa Monica Mtns Chapter / 1st Utd. Methodist
1008 11th Street, Santa Monica 90403
818-782-9346 lacnps.org

Saturday & Sunday, 10/13 & 10/14, 10am-3pm. Native Plant Sale featuring plant species that can survive in our hot and dry climate. Wildflower seeds available for purchase along with books, field guides, and posters. Free admission and Refreshments available for purchase.



DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011
818.949.7980 descansogardens.org

Saturday & Sunday, 10/13 & 10/14. Japanese Garden Celebration, featuring Japanese art and culture, family-friendly activities, a garden tour, Ikebana displays, taiko drum performances and crafting inspired by the Japanese Garden. Free with admission.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007
626.821.4623 arboretum.org

Thursday, 10/11, 9:30am-12noon. What's Happening in Gardening: Horticultural Therapy with Rebecca Tufenkian, who will present an overview of this philosophy and what different types of therapeutic gardens might look like. \$140 for the 8-week series / \$25 per class (incls. admission), Call Education Dept. or pay at the class.

Thursday, 10/18, 9:30am-12noon. What's Happening in Gardening: Palm Problems & Solutions with David Bleistein, past President and present Treasurer of the Palm Society of Southern California, who will talk about the special needs and nuisances of palms. \$140 for the 8-week series / \$25 per class (incls. admission), Call Education Dept. or pay at the class.

Thursday, 10/25, 9:30am-12noon. What's Happening in Gardening: History of Brown's Geraniums with Steve Brown. Hear how Steve's family's business innovated production to meet the demand for geraniums. \$140 for the 8-week series / \$25 per class (incls. admission), Call Education Dept. or pay at the class

Saturday, 10/27, 10am-12noon. Success with Succulents. Workshop covers combining, arranging, maintaining, and propagating succulents. Bring your own pot or select from used pots available for sale. Soil and plant cuttings will be provided. \$25 Arboretum members / \$35 non-members. Register at <https://campscui.active.com/orgs/LosAngelesArboretumFoundation?season=2470605&session=39674502>



EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER

1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
626.398.5420 ecnca.org

Every Wednesday & 2nd Sunday, 10am. Eaton Canyon Gardening Group. Volunteers maintain the garden.

Saturday, 10/20, 9am-12noon, Nature Patio. Conservation Work Day. Help weed out invasive plants to conserve habitat for native species. Gloves, tools and a snack provided. Bring your own drinking water, and wear clothing, footwear and sun protection for outdoor work. Volunteers under age of 18 should bring along an adult. RSVP to eatoncanyon.conservations@gmail.com. Repeats third Saturdays.



HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108
626.405.2100 huntington.org

Thursday, 10/11, 2:30pm, Brody Botanical Center. Garden Designing a Firewise Landscape with Cassy Aoyagi, president of FormLA Landscaping. Learn to protect your home by incorporating low-ignition plants such as California fescue grass, manzanita, agave, aloe, and others into your landscape.

Friday-Sunday, 10/19-21, 10am-5pm, Brody Botanical Center. 4th Annual International Orchid Show & Sale. Celebrate the diversity of orchids as 100s of blooms compete for honors. Lush displays by orchid societies and growers will be featured, and a wide range of plants and merchandise will be offered for sale.

Friday-Sunday, 10/26-28, 10am-5pm, Fall Nursery Plant Sale. Autumn is the perfect time to plant California natives, including manzanita, salvia, buckwheat, ceanothus, and more. Or choose from other water-wise plants such as Texas ranger, grevillea, callistemon, succulents, bulbs and various firewise grasses, shrubs, and groundcovers.



THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352
818.768.1802 theodorepayne.org

Saturday 10/13 10:00-11:30am. Wild Suburbia: Learning to Garden with Native Plants with author and educator Barbara Eisenstein. Learn how to transform a landscape into a habitat garden filled with native plants and wildlife -- with guidelines for selecting best horticultural practices for your garden conditions. \$20 members, \$30 non-members.

Saturday 10/13 10:00-11:30am. Wild by Nature: Sowing Seeds for Spring Wild Flowers with TPF's Seed Program Manager Genevieve Arnold. Gather tips and tricks on soil preparation, design concepts and sowing techniques, watering and cultivation, just in time for our prime seed sowing season. \$20 members, \$30 non-members.

Wednesday, 10/17, 9:30-11:00am. Building Resilience with Native Plants: Right Plant, Your Place with Lili Singer, TPF's Director of Special Projects and Adult Education. Learn how to assess climate, soil, sunlight, and space conditions at your site, and address the irrigation needs of native plants. NOTE: Free talk will be at LA Metro Headquarters, 1 Gateway Plaza, Union Station, L.A. 90012



RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN

1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711
909.625.8767 rsabg.org

Saturday, 10/27, 9am-4:30pm. Fall Plant Sale at our Grow Native Nursery, plus free admission to the Garden. Get great deals on California native plants and inspiration as you explore the largest botanical garden dedicated to California flora. RSABG members are permitted early access at 8 am.

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024
760.436.3036 sdbgarden.org

Saturday & Sunday, 10/20 & 10/21, 10am-4pm. Annual Fall Plant Sale. Choose from 1,000s of unique, exotic, unusual and drought-tolerant plants, donated by over 100 generous local growers, wholesalers, retail nurseries and individuals. Selections include California natives, cacti, succulents, fruit trees, bromeliads, sub-tropicals and house plants.

Monday, 10/22, 9am-12noon. All remaining plants from the fall plant sale are half-price.

Saturday, 10/27, 9am-5pm and Sunday 10/28, 10am-4pm. Annual Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale. Spectacular succulent specimens from around the world. Great variety of plants for the novice or collector, as well as handmade ceramic pots, driftwood planters, etc.



DESERT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY

75080 Frank Sinatra Dr, Palm Desert, CA 92211
deserthorticulturalsociety.org

Saturday, 10/27, 8am-2:30pm. 13th Annual Desert Garden Community Day featuring free programs, info booths, speakers, food, author talks, book signings, master gardeners' plant sale, kids' activities. More info at: www.deserthorticulturalsociety.org, www.palmdesert.ucr.edu and www.ucanr.edu/sites/RiversideMG.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SOUTH COAST RESEARCH & EXTENSION CENTER

7601 Irvine Boulevard, Irvine 92618
949-653-1810 screc.ucanr.edu

Saturday, 10/27, 8:45am-12noon. Practical Composting in Small Spaces. Learn compost and vermiculture basics from UCCE Orange County Master Gardeners. Hands-on activities of practical applications, and all participants will create their own worm bin to take home. \$50.00 (material fees included). Pre-Registration by 10/25 is required with space limited to 40. For details, go to: <http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=22601>



FULLERTON ARBORETUM

1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831
657.278.3407 fullertonarboretum.org

Saturday, 10/13, 10am. Composting with Worms! Learn how to introduce and maintain worms in a home composting system. Worm composting gives you rich "fluffy" soil that is beneficial to your garden. \$7 members; \$10 non-members.

Sunday, 10/14, 1 pm. Fall & Winter Gardening with expert gardener Yvonne Savio, who will provide tips and techniques for growing edible and ornamental plants in your garden during our cool season. \$20 members; \$25 non-members.

Yvonne Savio

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are regularly held at Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles, 90027

-  October 11 - Designers Wynne Wilson & Shawn Maestretti on blending native & Mediterranean plants in gardens
-  November 8 - Betsy Collins, Director of Horticulture at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden speaking on Channel Island Plants
-  December 13 - SCHS Holiday Party, featuring Jo O'Connell of Australian Plant Nursery in Casitas Springs, speaking about Australian plant selections

VENUE CHANGE This event will be at Canoga Park Women's Club

GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Autumn...
the year's last,
loveliest smile."

- William Cullen Bryant

OCTOBER

Steven Gerischer - President, Oral History Committee, PR
John Schoustra - Vice President, Field-Trip Committee, Finance Committee, Plant Raffle, Plant Sales at meetings
Laura Bauer - Treasurer, Finance Committee, Website Committee, HOTY Event Committee, Voicemail
Pat Steen - Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, Field Trip and Coffee-in-the-Garden Committees, Greeter
Carol Aronson - Field Trip and Coffee-in-the-Garden Committees, Program Committee
Carol Bornstein - Program Committee
Aprille Curtis - Social Media Committee, Plant Forum supplies
Fleur Nooyen - Program Committee
Steven Ormenyi - Finance Committee, Program Committee
Yoav Paskowitz - Finance Committee, Oral History Committee, Website Committee, Newsletter Copy Editor
Yvonne Savio - Horticultural Happenings, PR, Field Trip and Coffee-in-the-Garden Committees
Lili Singer - Board Nomination Committee, PR, Archives, Social Media Committee
Sabine Steinmetz - Newsletter Editor, Sharing Secrets
Jill Vig - Coffee-in-the-Garden Committee, Oral History Committee, Special Projects

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Contributors to this issue: Yvonne Savio

Next deadline: Monday, October 15 (for November newsletter)
 Please contribute an article or information of interest.



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