



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

May 2019

OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 9

Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90027



Socializing: 7:00 pm

Meeting begins: 7:30 pm

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Please say "hi" at our next meeting to:

Peggy Brutsche

And invite your friends to come check us out too!

www.socalhort.org

SHARING SECRETS

For May, please tell us:

If you had unlimited funds, what feature(s) would you include in your dream garden?

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

by Monday, May 13

IN THIS ISSUE

May Program and
SCHS Announcements 1
April Program Recap, June Field
Trip Details, Sharing Secrets . . . 2
Horticultural Happenings . . . 3
Upcoming Programs and
SCHS Contact info. 4

Hot Color, Dry Garden - Creating Color-filled Waterwise Gardens

The SCHS is pleased to welcome popular garden expert and author Nan Sterman, who will show us how designing with color can be exciting without being intimidating. Referencing her new book *Hot Color, Dry Garden*, she will show us how a drought tolerant garden can be colorful and beautiful while using a waterwise plant palette.

Nan is a garden expert, designer, author, botanist, and an award-winning journalist. She holds a botany degree, a master's in biology, and a master's in instructional design. Before delving into the professional gardening world, Nan created curricula, training programs, and educational materials for Fortune 500 companies, zoos, aquaria, and not-for-profit organizations. Nan also hosts and co-produces the award-winning public TV show, *A Growing Passion*, which connects plants, people, and the planet.

Nan is dedicated to transforming planted landscapes from overly

thirsty and resource-intensive to climate appropriate and sustainable. She specializes in the use of low water plants, sustainable practices and edible gardening, combining age-old techniques with modern technologies. She seeks out new plants, proven methods, and science-based technologies that ensure these gardens are water-efficient, low maintenance, productive, and beautiful.

In her program Nan will demonstrate ways of introducing color into dry climate gardens – from plants to architecture and accessories to details. She will talk about colors best suited to different climates (because colors are dependent on the quality of light), ways to combine colors, where to find inspiration for color palettes, and uncommon color combinations that work beautifully in the garden. These concepts will be illustrated in the accompanying slide show based on her book *Hot Color, Dry Garden*, which will be available for sale after the presentation.

For more information on Nan, please visit her website at: www.waterwisegardener.com.

Photo courtesy of speaker.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS & EVENTS

SCHS LIVE!

The April meeting was the first time the SCHS live-streamed a speaker's program, and based on positive feedback, we are planning to do this more frequently. It is a great way to make meetings accessible to members who are unable to attend, as well as promoting the organization to the general public and encouraging new membership for our future.

THANK YOU to COFFEE HELPERS

We would like to thank long-time members Eric and Ann Brooks who have been setting up coffee and goodies at our monthly meetings. Without the help of volunteers, organizations such as ours are unable to run smoothly and without interruption.

In May, the Brooks will be away, and board member Carol Aronson along with SCHS supporter Jessica Carlson have offered to fill in so we can still enjoy refreshments... in March we were not so lucky, and had to go without!

Thank you to everyone who is able to volunteer their time - many hands make light work! We appreciate all your help.

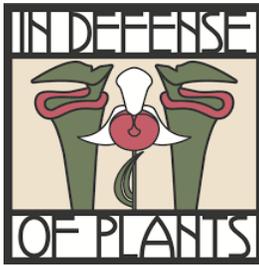
SAVE THE DATE!

**SCHS all-day bus trip to Somis
Saturday, June 15**

SEE PAGE 2 for DETAILS...

The SCHS ventured outside of California to book our April speaker, Matt Candeias, author of the popular blog and podcast *In Defense of Plants*. Although Matt lives in Illinois, his interest in plants and their preservation resonates with gardeners everywhere. He believes preservation efforts need to occur globally in order to mitigate the rapid changes happening to our environment. His presentation illustrated risks to plant populations and the resulting effects on ecosystems worldwide, and ways that home gardeners can play an important role in providing valuable habitat as surrounding landscapes change.

Matt began his *In Defense of Plants* blog in 2014 with the goal of fostering a love, appreciation and sense of wonder for the botanical world with a focus on plants as organisms rather than as tools at our disposal. He explained that the general population typically just sees the utilitarian aspects of plants, focusing only on how plants benefit them (e.g.: as food or medicine, for their flowers, etc.), without consciously understanding their value to a world facing a future defined by climatic extremes. While many plant species will not be able to survive massive ecosystem upheavals – because their only option is to adapt “in place” or risk extinction – it is Matt’s belief that gardeners are in a unique position to assist in protecting some species that might otherwise be lost.



Matt believes that gardeners can make a real impact because they understand the relationships between plants, soil, water and climate – and can pass this knowledge along directly by teaching, or indirectly by example. Amending less and composting more, planting climate-appropriate landscapes, expanding our palettes to include a greater diversity of plants suitable to our conditions, and not wasting water, are some of the ways we can help “garden for resilience.” Changes we have already made will be felt for 1,000s of years, and by increasing the footprint of urban and suburban green spaces, we can make these areas into centers for biodiversity while it is disappearing in other areas outside of our control. As many gardeners are already in the habit of “sharing the wealth,” either through their expertise or literally by giving away plants, Matt suggested that we encourage this behavior in others to increase the resilience of our landscapes for the future.

Botanical gardens can only do so much to aid with plant conservation, and gardeners have already been keeping many species alive that no longer exist in their native habitats, so Matt offered specific suggestions for things we can do to help offset global habitat destruction. These include: learning how to germinate plants and teaching this knowledge to others; sharing plants and seeds; encouraging others to show and share; documenting personal knowledge, especially successes; and serving as an early warning system for potential plant invaders in the wild.

Matt concluded his presentation by reminding us that connectivity is key to

plants’ survival and our own, and that with more plants in cultivation, wild populations will be under less pressure in the future. For more information and food for thought, visit Matt’s website at:

www.indefenseofplants.com

✂ Sabine Steinmetz

SHARING SECRETS

In April we asked you:

What “Spring Cleaning” garden chores are you looking forward to (or dreading)?



It is my least favorite spring chore: grass patrol. The weedy kind, not weed. Giant bunches appear seemingly overnight after any amount of rain. On the bright side, the bunchy ones always look worse than they are. When you get down to the roots they are always fewer in number and easier to pull than, say, milk thistle.

- Sandy Masuo

All that rain! All that African Veldt Grass...

- Kathy Musial

I’m happy to report that my front garden has been in full bloom for about 6 weeks (with minimal weeds) – so my biggest chore is weekly dead-heading.

I also have to remember to take lots of pictures and make bouquets!

- Sabine Steinmetz

SCHS FIELD TRIP: RETURN TO SOMIS - SAVE THE DATE - JUNE 15 !

Due to the popularity of SCHS field trips to Somis in 2009 and 2015, members have requested another visit to the area to see more horticultural gems – and we are happy to be able to accommodate them!

This year we will travel to these locations:

1. Berylwood Tree Farm - Our visit to this wholesale grower of large specimen trees will be a first-time behind-the-scenes-tour made available exclusively to the SCHS.



Photo credit: John Schous-

2. Greenwood Daylily Gardens - A perennial favorite destination to enjoy a catered lunch, learn about selections being bred, and to shop for specialty plants grown for California gardens!

3. Private Estate Tour - Our final stop will be to the 40+ acre property of Richard Baron, president of Baron Bros. Nursery, which has been further developed and includes many new “surprises”...

Trip Registration Form will be emailed to members soon, then be available online as well as included in the June newsletter.

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS SOON!

\$60. for members / \$65. for non-members
(fee includes tour bus & lunch)

MAY 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.

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes 90274
310.544.1948 southcoastbotanicgarden.org

Sunday, 5/5, 9am-4pm. Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale. Although short-lived, the colorful flowers of the hybrid epiphytic cacti are spectacular. Society members will be on hand to answer your questions. Plants and cuttings will be available to purchase.



RANCHO LOS CERRITOS

4600 Virginia Road, Long Beach 90807
562.206.2040 rancholoscerritos.org

Saturdays & Sundays, 1-5pm. 1-Hour Garden Tours. Rancho Los Cerritos offers free 1-hour garden tours for visitors. For details about all of our tours: <https://www.rancholoscerritos.org/things-to-do-hub/tours/>.

Saturday, 5/18, 10am-12noon. Victorian Language of Flowers Workshop with Horticulturist Marie Barnidge-McIntyre. Learn meanings of various flowers and herbs, and arrange a small tussie-mussie bouquet to bring home. \$45 registration fee includes materials, wine, and cheese. Register at <https://www.rancholoscerritos.org/upcoming-event/workshop-victorian-flower-arranging/>. For more info., contact Marie Barnidge-McIntyre at 562-206-2040.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

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

Saturday and Sunday, 5/11 and 5/12, 9am-4pm. The International Geranium Society, L.A. branch, presents their wonderful annual Show and Sale of geraniums.

Sunday 5/19, 10am-4pm. Epiphyllum Show & Sale. presented by the Epiphyllum Society of America.

Saturday, 5/25, 10am-12noon. Aesthetics of Ecology – Trees: Architecture of Beauty. Learn about communication received from trees as a framework for replacing our traditional relationship with them. \$25 members, \$35 non-members. Register online at arboretum.org/calendar. For questions, call Education Dept. at 626.821.4623.

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, 5/25, 5/26 and 5/27, 9am-5pm. Santa Anita Bonsai Society Annual Show presents trees up to four feet, including maples, junipers and pines, trained to look like miniature forest giants.



DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011
818.949.7980 descansogardens.org

Saturday, 5/25, 8-10:30am. Community Service Day. Get hands-on gardening experience with this volunteer

opportunity. Instruction will be provided by staff. Ages 16 or older. Wear comfortable clothes, closed-toe shoes and a hat. Bring gardening gloves and water. Limited space. RSVP required to volunteer@descansogardens.org by Wed., May 22. Additional instructions will follow.



CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS)

San Gabriel Mtns Chapter / Eaton Canyon Center
1750 No. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
818-398-5420 cnps-sgm.org

Thursday, 5/23, 7:30pm. La Tuna Canyon Regeneration with Kitty Connolly, Executive Director of Theodore Payne Foundation. Following the Sept. 1, 2017 fire in La Tuna Canyon, TPF launched La Tuna Canyon Regeneration on Sept. 16. Their series of free lectures and classes about fire ecology and fire-wise landscaping help raise community awareness about natural post-fire regeneration and direct the impulse to replant into a public project. Since 2014 Kitty has led TPF through construction, strategic planning, and program expansion so that the Foundation's impact is now felt across L.A. County. She holds a B.S. in environmental zoology from Ohio University and a M.A. in geography from UCLA.



HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108
626.405.2100 huntington.org

Sunday, 5/12, 10am-5pm. Mother's Day at The Huntington. Celebrate with an elegant brunch or afternoon tea (reservations required), stroll among spring blooms, and visit the galleries to give Mom a day to remember. Details at huntington.org/mothers-day

Monday, 5/13, 11:30am-3:30pm at 20-minute intervals. Japanese Teahouse Tours. Learn about the history of the Japanese Garden's ceremonial teahouse and the traditions behind its use. Repeats second Mondays.



THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

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

Saturday, 5/11, 1:30-4pm. Right Plant, Right Place with Lili Singer, TPF's Director of Special Projects. Learn about local plant communities and their conditions, to help you choose the right plants, as well as how to assess the garden conditions, including climate, soil, sunlight and space. Valuable for beginners and the prerequisite for TPF's 3-Part California Native Garden Design Course. \$25 members, \$35 non-members. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/right-plant-right-place-with-lili-singer-registration-52067170308>

Wednesday, 5/15, 9-10am. Irrigation Basics for the Native Garden, with Tim Becker, TPF's Director of Horticulture. This walk on TPF grounds covers how, when and where to irrigate, as well as the benefits and drawbacks for overhead, drip and hand-watering equipment. Bring hat and water bottle. Limit: 15. \$15 members, \$20 non-members. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/irrigation-basics-for-the-native-garden-a-walk-and-talk-with-tim-becker-tickets-57040029263>

Saturday, 5/25, 1:30-4pm. Native Plant Garden Maintenance with Steve Singer, TPF Horticulturist. Topics include watering, fertilizing (or not), mulching, pest management and other aspects of garden care. Discover how native plants respond to pruning cuts (good and bad), what we trigger with our gardening activities, and how to develop good maintenance goals. \$25 members, \$35 non-members. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/native-plant-garden-maintenance-with-steve-singer-tickets-58339624387>



SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

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

Tuesday, 5/14, 9am-3pm. Spring Succulent 10' Wreath Workshop. Design and create your own succulent wreath using over 350 cuttings from our big, beautiful Garden. Proudly display your new wreath on any wall or table indoors or out. \$65 members, \$78 non-members. Fee includes materials. Bring your own small clippers to class. Please register by May 7 at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/sandiegobotanicgarden/Home>

Sunday, 5/19, 10am-12noon. Kokedama Workshop with Kodema Forest. In this hands-on workshop, learn how to make Two Kokedama House Plants using this traditional Japanese living art form where moss is used as a plant container! \$15 members, \$18 non-members, plus \$33 materials fee payable to instructor at class. Register online by May 12 at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/sandiegobotanicgarden/Home>

Saturday, 5/25, 9am-3pm. Palm, Cycad, Bamboo and Tropical Plant Sale co-hosted by the Palm Society of Southern California. Features rare and exotic species provided by exceptional SoCal nurseries. For more information, call Phil Bergman at 619-291-4605.



FULLERTON ARBORETUM

1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831
657.278.3407 fullertonarboretum.org

Tuesday, 5/14, 1 pm. Expert gardener Yvonne Savio will discuss walking through a garden using repurposed items for every task, showing examples from the U.S., Canada and Europe. \$20/member; \$25/non-member.



SANTA BARBARA BOTANIC GARDEN

1212 Mission Canyon Rd., Santa Barbara 93105
805-682-4726 sbbg.org

Daily through 5/5, 9am-6pm, Garden Nursery. Spring Native Plant Sale. Santa Barbara Botanic Garden offers the largest selection of native plants on the Central Coast with over 6,000 plants and 400 different varieties. Note that Garden admission is not required to visit the sale. For more information, visit sbbg.org/spring-sale, or contact nursery manager, Patrick Wiley at 805-682-4726 ext. 127.

 Yvonne Savio

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

-  May 9 - Garden expert and author, Nan Sterman, will present a program based on her landscape design book, *Hot Color, Dry Garden*
-  June 13 - Botany professor & author, Matt Ritter, will speak on "Tree Selection: Keeping Our Urban Forests Healthy"
-  July 11 - Presentation by educator Robert Allen, the co-author of *Wildflowers of Orange County and the Santa Ana Mountains*
-  August 8 - Anthropologist Michael Wilken speaking on his book, *Kumeyaay Ethnobotany: Shared Heritage of the Californias*

GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH



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 & 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

818-567-1496 / socalhort.org / Join us on Facebook
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Contributors to this issue: Yvonne Savio, Nan Sterman

Next deadline: Monday, May 13 (for June newsletter)
 Please contribute an article or information of interest.



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