



# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

June 2019

## OUR NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 13

Friendship Auditorium  
3201 Riverside Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90027



Socializing: 7:00 pm

Meeting begins: 7:30 pm

## SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

May brought us the following new friends:

Drs. Karen & Stephen Fischer  
Juan Franco Coronado  
Pia Harris  
Mary Jessup  
Carol & Charles Russell

[www.socalhort.org](http://www.socalhort.org)

## SHARING SECRETS

For June, please tell us:

*What favorite fruits and vegetables are you currently growing successfully?*

Reply at: [www.socalhort.org](http://www.socalhort.org)  
or email your response to:  
[gardensbysabine@aol.com](mailto:gardensbysabine@aol.com)

by Monday, June 17

## IN THIS ISSUE

June Speaker/Program and SCHS Announcements . . . . .	1
May Recap, Sharing Secrets . . .	2
Horticultural Happenings . . .	3
Upcoming Programs and SCHS Contact info. . . . .	4
Somis Field Trip . . . . .	Insert
SCHS Board Ballot . . . . .	Insert

## Southern California Tree Selection:

*Factors to Consider in an Era of Global Climate Change, Droughts, and Decreasing Diversity*

In June we invite you to join guest speaker Matt Ritter, botany professor and author of *A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us*, for a tour of native and exotic trees planted in Southern California. Matt will discuss patterns and trends in tree selection and considerations for helping to ensure a healthy urban forest for Southern California cities in a time of climate change and decreasing biodiversity. What should we be thinking about when we choose a tree? Carbon sequestration potential, aesthetics, water use, provenance, and culture all play a role.

Matt is a professor in the Biology Department at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, a noted expert on the genus *Eucalyptus*, editor-in-chief of *Madroño*, the quarterly journal of the California Botanical Society, and a scientific author. His publications, including his latest book, *California Plants: A Guide*

to *Our Iconic Flora*, attempt to foster a sense of appreciation for California's unique flora and reveal the natural wonders around us. As a college professor, he helps young people cultivate their curiosity and learn more about the organisms in our world.

Matt will use his beautiful photographs, insight, and humor to share tools for helping us to understand how to choose the right tree for the right place. Copies of both *A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us* as well as *California Plants: A Guide to Our Iconic Flora*, will be available to purchase, and a book signing will follow the presentation.



Photo courtesy of speaker.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS & EVENTS

### SOMIS FIELD TRIP

Registration for the SCHS all-day bus trip to three horticultural destinations in Somis on Saturday, June 15 is almost over. With only a few days left to sign up, don't miss this unique opportunity!

### DEADLINE EXTENDED

Register until Friday, June 7



### SCHS BOARD BALLOT

Annually, we ask members to vote on a slate of names to fill SCHS board vacancies as well as for incumbents. Please see enclosed ballot for voting instructions and deadlines.



### L.A. ZOO BOTANICAL TOUR

The SCHS has arranged a special morning outing to the L.A. Zoo and Botanical Gardens for Saturday, July 13. During this docent-guided tour, you can see rare and endangered specimens, Bonnie's Garden of familiar plants used in novel ways to enrich the lives of the animals, the recently installed bird gardens and other botanical features.

This trip is free to SCHS members only and will be limited to 30 guests. Details and registration information will be posted on [socalhort.org](http://socalhort.org) soon, so....

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
Saturday, July 13

Photo courtesy of speaker.



Our May meeting was an exciting visual exploration of designing with color in the waterwise garden to achieve maximum impact. Our speaker was popular garden expert and author Nan Sterman, who shared examples and tips from her new book *Hot Color, Dry Garden*. She emphasized that with prolonged periods of drought predicted in our future, we need to embrace the dry garden as the appropriate choice for our climate, but can do so without sacrificing beauty and aesthetics.

Nan's has been well known as a garden expert, designer, author, botanist, and award-winning journalist. She also hosts and co-produces the public TV show, *A Growing Passion*, which connects plants, people, and the planet. She is dedicated to transforming planted

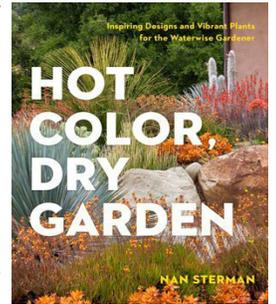
landscapes from overly thirsty and resource-intensive to climate appropriate and sustainable. In her program Nan shared ways of introducing color into dry climate gardens – from plants to architecture, and accessories to details. She talked about ways to combine colors, where to find inspiration for palettes, and uncommon combinations that work beautifully in the garden.

Her slide presentation illustrated advice on using design principles including: setting the scene with color by looking at the style and color of the house; being aware of the surroundings and knowing the client's preferences; gardening with "color schemes" by using contrasting colors, or several bold colors together; or creating a monochromatic tone-on-tone effect with different intensities of the same color; and incorporating accessories to bring in color, such as containers, furniture, painted surfaces, or garden art.

Of course, the most important elements in the garden that

determine the color scheme are the plants themselves, and Nan shared some of her drought-tolerant favorites. Among them were: *Agave 'Blue Flame'*, *Leucadendron 'Jester'*, various South African bulbs, and *Grevillea juniperina*. She showed photos from garden designers who used plants with low water needs in unexpected combinations with beautiful results. Texture, shape and size were elements that also helped bring the disparate plants together into a cohesive design.

After her presentation, Nan answered audience questions and signed copies of her book which was available to purchase. For information on Nan, and to see more garden design ideas, you can visit her website at: [waterwisegardener.com](http://waterwisegardener.com).



✂ Sabine Steinmetz

## SHARING SECRETS

In May we asked you:

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



A Moroccan garden with a mosaic pool.

- Karen Fischer

Wandering pathways, a stream and a pond...

- Diane Connell

A Japanese garden designed by Hoichi Kurisu – and all the bonsai trees and staff to care for them!

- Jessica Carlson

A Jeffrey Bale pebble mosaic and anything else he felt like doing for me! Also: a glass bottle sculpture by Randy Lawrence (Randyland, Echo Park); anything I could think to commission Brent "Shrine" Spears to do for me; and a Moroccan tiled fountain by Diana Mausser (Native Tile) like the one she did for that Berkeley garden.

- Kathy Musial



*Everyone has such big dreams, including our secret gardeners -*

A giant squirrel- and thrips-proof barrier! It would keep out all sharpshooters and psyllids so I wouldn't have to lose my grapevines and citrus to disease.

- Anonymous

A 10' high waterfall...

- Anonymous

Oh, to have a nice garden railway, with a live steam train going around mountains (mounds) and California native plants everywhere!

- Anonymous

A simple water fountain or birdbath.

- Anonymous

I've always wanted a koi pond. And the funds to hire someone to take care of it.

- Anonymous



*Thanks for sharing!  
Hope your gardening wishes  
come true for you...*

## SCHS "RETURN TO SOMIS" FIELD TRIP - EXTENDED DEADLINE !

We are pleased to be able to keep the registration window for this trip open a few days longer, for those members and friends who have not had a chance to register for this unique bus-trip to Somis.

**New deadline: Friday, June 7 – CLICK to REGISTER HERE or see enclosed flyer.**

# JUNE 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.

## NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF L.A.

900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles 90007  
213.763.3466 [nhm.org](http://nhm.org)

Friday, 6/28, 5-9pm. Summer Nights in the Garden. Sip garden-infused cocktails, check out science and nature experiences, enjoy take-home activities and live music performances. More info. on website.



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007  
626.821.4623 [arboretum.org](http://arboretum.org)

Saturday & Sunday, 6/8 & 6/9, 9am-4pm. Los Angeles Int'l. Fern Society Show & Sale. The LAIFS presents displays of ferns and other exotic plants, plus informative lectures and "opportunity" drawings throughout each day. For questions, call 626.821.3222.

Sunday, 6/30, 3-5pm. California's Iconic Flora Walk & Talk with Matt Ritter, botany professor and author, for a visual tour and celebration of California's iconic native flora. Talk & Book Signing = \$10 members, \$15 non-members. Walk = \$25 members, \$35 non-members. Register online or call the Education Dept.



## DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011  
818.949.7980 [descansogardens.org](http://descansogardens.org)

Saturday, 6/15, 9am-5pm. Descanso Bonsai Society in Van de Kamp Hall and Birch Room.

Saturdays, 6/15, 6/22 & 6/29, 11am-noon. Weekend walks led by docents highlight points of seasonal interest. Meet at Center Circle. Free with paid admission, no reservations necessary.



## CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY (CNPS)

San Gabriel Mtns Chapter / Eaton Canyon Center  
1750 No. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107  
818-398-5420 [cnps-sgm.org](http://cnps-sgm.org)

Thursday, 6/26, 7:30pm. Rare plants of Orange County, Native and Otherwise, with Ron Vanderhoff. Learn about regionally rare plants, with small populations in this 2-part program. Take a tour beginning with rare native species, emphasizing their rare habitats. Part 2 will highlight some of the newest and most destructive non-native weeds that have recently arrived in Orange County and threaten habitats and our native flora. Orange County CNPS has become a leader in the early detection and Ron is a local native plant expert and a member of the chapter's Rare Plant Committee and Chair of their Invasive Plant Committee.



## EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER

1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107  
626.398.5420 [ecnc.org](http://ecnc.org)

Saturday, 6/15, 9am-12noon, Nature Patio. Conservation Work Day. Help with weeding invasive plants to conserve habitat for the native species. Gloves, tools and a snack will be provided. Please bring your own drinking water. Wear clothing, footwear and sun protection appropriate for outdoor work. Volunteers under the age of 18 need to bring along an adult. RSVP to [eatoncanyon.conservaion@gmail.com](mailto:eatoncanyon.conservaion@gmail.com)



## HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108  
626.405.2100 [huntington.org](http://huntington.org)

Every Saturday, 10am-1pm. Ranch Open House. Stop by this urban agriculture site (open weekly) and pick up fresh ideas for sustainable gardening.

Saturdays & Sundays, 6/8, 6/9, 6/15, 6/16, 10am-4pm. Bonsai Academy Series with Bonsai master Ted Matson. An intensive 4-session gakkō, or school, in the art of bonsai geared to beginners. Explore history of bonsai, basic tree botany, design concepts, training techniques, and display. \$120 members, \$135 non-members. All supplies and tools provided, including demo trees for classroom practice. Register at [huntington.org/calendar](http://huntington.org/calendar).

Monday, 6/10, 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.

Thursday, 6/13, 2:30pm, Ahmanson Classroom, Brody Botanical Center. Garden Talk & Plant Sale: The Serious and Funny Business of Plants with John Schoustra, owner of Greenwood Daylily Gardens. Learn about the world of breeding, propagating, growing, and designing with plants. Plant sale follows talk.

Saturday, 6/29, 9:30-11:30am. Children's Workshop: Craft-a-Cactus. Ages 7+. Explore cactus and other succulents in the Desert Garden then make your own needle felted creations. \$35 members, \$45 non-members. Fee includes 1 child and 1 accompanying adult. Register at [huntington.org/calendar](http://huntington.org/calendar).



## THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352  
818.768.1802 [theodorepayne.org](http://theodorepayne.org)

Saturday, 6/8, 1:30-4:30pm. Native Plant Dye Workshop with Trudy Barnes, Trudy Barnes Studio. Learn how to forage local plants responsibly as well as how to broaden your color palette using modifiers and go home with a selection of botanically-dyed samples as well as a finished textile and instructions on how to repeat the process at home. Limited to 15 students. \$40 members, \$50 non-members. All materials provided. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/native-plant-dye-workshop-with-trudy-barnes-tickets-58320461069>

Friday, 6/14, 9-10am. Native Plant Maintenance Basics, a Walk and Talk with Steve Singer, TPF Horticulturist. A quick overview of maintenance practices for the California native garden – held outdoors on TPF grounds. Wear comfortable shoes, and bring a hat and water bottle. Limited to 15 students. \$15 members, \$20 non-members. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/native-plant-maintenance-basics-a-walk-and-talk-with-steve-singer-tickets-58339564207>

Saturday, 6/15, 1:30-3:30pm. Look, Ma, No Lawn! with Steve Gerischer, landscape designer, Larkspur Garden Design. Are you ready to lose the lawn? Have you applied for a turf removal rebate? Learn how to take it out and what alternatives to plant – specifically low-care natives that need no fertilizer and use minimal water. \$25 members, \$35 non-members. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/look-ma-no-lawn-with-steve-gerischer-registration-59642384979>

Saturday, 6/22, 1:30-3:30pm. Four Seasons of Color with California Natives with Lili Singer, TPF's Director of Special Projects. Turn your California native garden into a seasonal showcase of flowers, seed, fruit and foliage. Through images and a detailed plant list, this program reveals a variety of trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, groundcovers and grasses for year-round interest and color. \$20 members, \$30 non-members. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/four-seasons-of-color-with-california-natives-with-lili-singer-tickets-58459797829>



## SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024  
760.436.3036 [sdbgarden.org](http://sdbgarden.org)

Sunday, 6/16, 9am-12noon. Living Wall/Vertical Garden with Mary Lou Morgan. Learn the basics of vertical gardening by planting your own 10" x 20" wall with a variety of succulents, in various colors, textures and sizes. \$30 members, \$36 non-members. Additional \$80 per student materials fee to be paid directly to the instructor at the class. Register at <http://www.sdbgarden.org/classes.htm>



## SANTA BARBARA HORT. SOCIETY

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
909 N. La Cumbre Road, Santa Barbara 93110  
805-687-2885 [sbchs.org](http://sbchs.org)

Wednesday, 6/5, 7pm. Begonias: Novel Grown and New Introductions from Australia with begonia expert Mike Flaherty. Learn novel ways of growing begonias, see new Australian begonia hybrids that he has introduced to the United States, and other interesting specimens. Mike is currently the President of the Rudolph Ziesenhenn branch of the American Begonia Society of Santa Barbara and the national MC for the American Begonia Society. Mike has three begonias named after him, including 'O'Flaherty's Folly'. Call for more information.

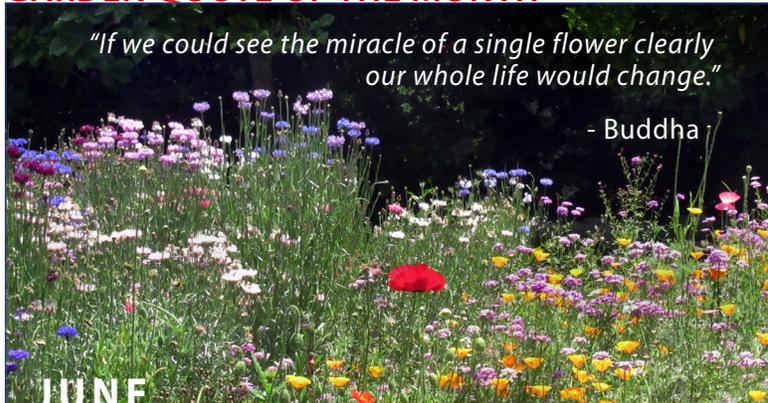
 Yvonne Savio

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

-  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*
-  Sept. 28 - SCHS Annual Horticulturist of the Year Award Banquet and Silent Auction, honoring Mike Evans

**VENUE CHANGE - HOTY banquet will be at L.A. Arboretum**

## 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: Matt Ritter, Yvonne Savio

**Next deadline: Monday, June 17** (for July newsletter)  
 Please contribute an article or information of interest.



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