



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

socalhort.org

NEWSLETTER

April 2022

OUR NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING

Thursday, April 14

Announcements at 7:10 p.m.
Plant Forum at 7:15 p.m.

Webinar at 7:30 p.m.



Visit: www.socalhort.org
for registration info.

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Please join us and say "Hi" to:

Sandy Cook
Susan Jischke
Rachel Narins
Jeremy Ong
Connor Rudmann

We're hoping to see all of
you in person very soon!

CONNECT WITH SCHS

Please engage with us online!

YOU CAN FIND US AT:

www.socalhort.org
www.facebook.com/pg/socalhort
www.instagram.com/socalhort



All membership options
are listed on our website.

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PLEASE NOTE: In person meetings and events are being planned for 2022, in accordance with the most up-to-date L.A. County Health Dept. guidelines.

Garden Allies: An Introduction to Life in the Landscape

Our April 14 webinar will be presented by Frédérique Lavoipierre and based on her recently published book: *Garden Allies: The Insects, Birds, and Other Animals That Keep Your Garden Beautiful and Thriving*. The program will feature

Photo provided by speaker.



photography of insects and garden habitats, as well as some of Craig Latker's illustrations from the book. The author's mission is to encourage us to look at, understand and support the many living communities found in landscapes to establish balanced ecosystems therein.

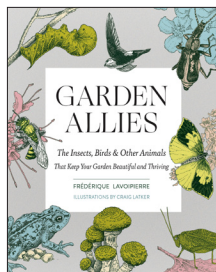
Lavoipierre holds a MSc degree in biology, with an emphasis on ecological principles of sustainable landscapes. Her research was focused on plant/insect interactions. She worked as director of education at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, where she shared her enthusiasm for native plants and insects with the public. Prior to that she was the founding director of the Sustainable Landscape Professional Certificate Program at Sonoma State University, where she established an entomology outreach program.

Currently, she lectures, teaches, and works as a consultant, while also serving on the editorial advisory group for the American Public Gardens Association magazine, *Public Gardens*. Additionally, Lavoipierre authored the ten-year series, *Garden Allies* for *Pacific Horticulture* magazine, and continues her contributions to the Pacific Horticulture Society.

Respected conservationist and ecologist Doug Tallamy (author of *Nature's Best Hope*) reviewed Lavoipierre's new *Garden Allies* book and stated that it "explains how your garden can be a thriving, balanced community that gives more to your landscape than it takes."

We are excited to learn from Lavoipierre how to make our own landscapes thrive by attending this richly illustrated webinar! She will introduce us to micro-organisms, pollinators, predators, parasites, spiders, vertebrates, the benefits of conservation biological control and much more, as well as answer questions.

Please join us for this fascinating journey into the communal life of our gardens - registration is now open at: www.socalhort.org.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

BOARD SEEKS NEW MEMBERS



With the terms of several board members coming to an end this June, the SCHS is seeking to fill at least three positions.

We would like to ask you, our members, to please consider nominating yourself or another member who might be interested in serving a two-year term.

A ballot with further instructions will be sent out to all members in May. For further information, you may reach out to any of the current board via: socalhort@gmail.com.

Thank you!



SCHS LIVE EVENTS

Please watch for dates and details on the following events being planned for 2022!

- Resumption of in-person meetings by late spring/early summer
- SCHS 2022 HOTY Awards Banquet and Silent Auction on September 17
- Destination field trip and/or more Coffee-In-The-Garden events

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

On March 10, viewers who tuned in to our webinar on growing tomatoes got plenty of information from Sylmar Charter High School agriculture teacher Steve List. He enthusiastically presented us with growing tips, lists of favorite tomato varieties and resources, all the while responding to audience questions throughout the program.

List began his program by encouraging anyone wanting to grow tomatoes to get them planted as soon as possible, because once temperatures approach 100°F on a regular basis they will stop growing. He maintains that the "70/70 theory" (when daytime and nighttime temperatures average 70°F) provides the best conditions for tomatoes to establish and grow successfully. He then

went on to describe his lasagna method of prepping the potting mix: packed layers of compost, dried organics, potting soil, more dried organics, more compost and finally topped off by a mixture of raised bed soil and Harvest Supreme. His recommendation is to plant in nothing smaller than a 2' x 2' x 2' container to accommodate the tomato's root system, putting a sturdy cage (he uses contractor's mesh) into the container and positioning to receive full sun exposure. List likes to water deeply for the first five days and then not again for three weeks! He waters again after another three weeks (and feeds the plants), thereafter allowing them to nearly dry out between subsequent waterings. He noted that over-watering is the number one problem associated with tomato-growing - contributing to low fruit yield and increasing the plant's susceptibility to contracting diseases.

Photo provided by speaker.



After describing the different types of tomatoes (determinate, indeterminate, hybrid and heirloom), List offered some growing tips, including: choose determinate varieties if you have limited space; stake the rambling indeterminate varieties and "don't prune" them; select hybrids for higher yields and disease-resistance; and try heirloom varieties for traits that appeal to you. He also shared a list of his favorite tomatoes of all types, citing his top four as Momotaro, Sun Gold Cherry, Green Zebra and Lemon Boy and recommended taking good notes during the growing season for you to reference when selecting varieties for your site in the future.

As an educator, List has been cultivating high school horticulturists for the past 15 years at Sylmar Charter's two-acre Agriculture Center - teaching his students about urban agriculture, nutrition, edible landscaping and more. At various times during his presentation, he invited viewers to drop by Sylmar High to check out the gardens - citing weekends as a good time to just drop by. You can reach out via phone, text, email or social media.

For more tips, click here to find Steve List on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/steve.asklist, or for instructional videos, check out his "Ask Mr. List" YouTube channel.

To view the entire webinar, including Q&A, click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kn9hJ36qr14>

We also wanted to extend our thanks to Mr. List for contributing free plants to our April 2 Horticultural Yard Sale - the tomatoes, strawberries and ghost peppers were much-appreciated!

BART O'BRIEN HONORED BY AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Photo credit: RPBG website.



It is always a pleasure to print good news, and even more so when it concerns someone we are all familiar with. On this occasion the SCHS is pleased to report that Bart O'Brien, current

Director of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden in Berkeley and president of the California Horticultural Society, is this year's recipient of the prestigious American Horticultural Society's highest honor, the Liberty Hyde Bailey Award. This honor is described by the AHS as one awarded "to an individual who has made significant lifetime contributions to at least three of the following horticultural fields: teaching,

research, communications, plant exploration, administration, art, business, and leadership." As O'Brien's career in horticulture has encompassed almost all of these areas, not merely three, he is a uniquely-qualified recipient.

He is probably best known in Southern California for his nearly 20-year tenure at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden (now California Botanic Garden). There he was director of horticulture and of special projects, plant introductions and sales, before heading up north to RPBG in 2013.

The SCHS also appreciates O'Brien as a friend, long-time member and our 2005 Horticulturist of the Year honoree. We are very pleased to see his many achievements in horticulture recognized by the AHS with their highest of honors.

Congratulations Bart!

A SPECIAL "THANK YOU" TO PIERCE COLLEGE



On March 26, the SCHS hosted our first Coffee-In-The-Garden event of 2022 at Pierce College, where we were treated to a tour of two of their horticultural gems - their 25-acre Arboretum and the Mark Taper Garden. Keith Peabody of the Horticulture Department led us on guided tours through both, explaining a bit of their history as well as plans for the future.

It was a perfect day to begin the spring season as we viewed amazing plant specimens, student projects, the arboretum's Braille Trail and more. Plus, Pierce generously provided catered lunch boxes for all the attendees of this free event! We're ready to go back anytime -

Thank you!



Photo credits: Sabine Steinmetz

SCHS MONTHLY GARDEN SHARE

Here are some April garden tasks to do - when you're not going on a garden tour!

- Prune and feed your camellias and azaleas after flowering has finished.
- Continue your feeding schedule for roses, fruit trees and ornamentals.
- Thin immature fruits on your trees.
- Consider adding some seasonal color with warm season annuals.
- This is also a good time to plant new succulents or divide existing ones.

 Sabine Steinmetz

APRIL HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS • SCHS 2022 HOTY

Venues open at press time are marked  and  for those that are online only.

Organizations are offering events, both online and in person, but may have updated protocols in place.
Please continue to check with your favorites for current info if you are planning a visit.

ARLINGTON GARDEN

275 Arlington Drive, Pasadena 91105
626-578-5434
www.arlingtongardenpasadena.com

CALIFORNIA BOTANIC GARDEN (formerly RANCHO SANTA ANA)

1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711
909.625.8767 www.calbg.org

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS CHAPTER

1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena 91107
818.398.5420 www.cnps-sgm.org

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

L.A. / Sta Monica Mtns Chapter / Sepulveda Garden Ctr
16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino 91436
818-782-9346 www.lasmmcnps.org

DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011
818.949.7980 www.descansogardens.org

EATON CANYON NATURE CENTER

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

FULLERTON ARBORETUM

1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831
657.278.3407 www.fullertonarboretum.org

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108
626.405.2100 www.huntington.org

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM

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

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF L.A.

900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles 90007
213.763.3466 www.nhm.org

RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS

6400 E. Bixby Hill Rd., Long Beach 90815
562.431.3541 www.rancholosalamitos.org

RANCHO LOS CERRITOS

4600 Virginia Road, Long Beach 90807
562.206.2040 www.rancholoscerritos.org

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

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

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

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

THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION

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

UC RIVERSIDE BOTANIC GARDENS

900 University Ave., Riverside 92521
951-784-6962 www.gardens.ucr.edu

 Yvonne Savio

See more events as they're posted at:
www.gardeninginla.net/submit-your-garden-events.

LINKS TO UPCOMING EVENTS & WEBINARS

Please check with individual organizations for class fees & details

California Native Plant Society Los Angeles/ Santa Monica Mountains Chapter

Garden-Worthy Grasses and Grass-like Plants for the Garden

presented by Carol Bornstein

- FREE Zoom Webinar -

Tuesday, April 12 from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Information for logging onto Zoom will be posted at
www.lasmmcnps.org 24 hours ahead of the event.

Visit website for more info. & details at:
www.lasmmcnps.org

Claremont Garden Club hosts

Claremont Eclectic A Tour of 6 Local Gardens - LIVE Event / Cost: \$20. -

Sunday, April 24 from 1:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Fee includes admission to California Botanic Garden
on same day, as well as one additional day in May.

For more info. and purchase tickets online, visit:

www.claremontgardenclub.org

or contact Beth Benjamin at
benjamin@cruzio.com





SAVE THE DATE FOR 2022 SCHS HOTY LIVE EVENT!

The SCHS is excited to announce that the 2022 Horticulturist of the Year awards event is being planned as an in-person this year at the Huntington Botanic Garden!

Evening of: **Saturday, September 17**

So, **SAVE THE DATE** and stay tuned for details about the honoree, program, banquet and Silent Auction which will be appearing in upcoming issues of the newsletter and across our social media platforms.

Meetings are online unless otherwise noted. Live meetings are held at: Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles CA 90027. (Hybrids will be shown simultaneously online via Zoom and Facebook Live.)

-  April 14 WEBINAR - Frédérique Lavoipierre, formerly of SBBG and PHS, will be talking about her book *Garden Allies*
-  May 12 WEBINAR - Bart O'Brien, director of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden speaks on "What Are Cultivars?"
-  June, July & August TBA - Programs being finalized with details coming soon
-  Sept. 17 LIVE EVENT - 2022 Horticulturist of the Year Banquet and Silent Auction at Huntington Botanic Gardens

GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH



Southern California
Horticultural Society
P.O. Box 94476
Pasadena CA 91109-4476

NEWSLETTER April 2022

John Schoustra - President, Field-Trip and Finance Committees, Plant Raffle, Plant Sales (at meetings) and RBLs Chair

Steven Gerischer - Vice President, Oral History Committee, Marketing, PR & Publicity and Silent Auction

Laura Bauer - Treasurer, Finance Committee, Website Chair, HOTY Event Committee, Voicemail and RBLs Committee

Pat Steen - Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, Coffee-in-the-Garden Committee, Greeter

Carol Aronson - Field Trip, Coffee-in-the-Garden, Program, HOTY and RBLs Committees

Carol Bornstein - Program, HOTY and RBLs Committees

Aprille Curtis - Social Media Committee, Plant Forum supplies

Fleur Nooyen - Program and RBLs Committee

Steven Ormenyi - Finance Committee, Voice Mail Recording

Yoav Paskowitz - Finance, Oral History and Website Committees, Newsletter Copy Editor

Yvonne Savio - Coffee-in-the-Garden Committee, Horticultural Happenings Events Contributor (Newsletter)

Lili Singer - HOTY and Social Media Chair, Marketing, Board Nomination, PR & Publicity and RBLs Committees, Archives

Sabine Steinmetz - Newsletter Editor, Garden Share, Graphic Design

Jill Vig - Oral History Committee Chair, Coffee-in-the-Garden Committee, Special Projects

Connect with us at: 818-567-1496 • socalhort.org • facebook.com/socalhort • instagram.com/socalhort

Newsletter Editor: Sabine Steinmetz
Contributors: Yvonne Savio

Next deadline: Monday, April 18 (for May newsletter)
Please contribute an article or information of interest.