OUR NEXT MEETING
Thursday, April 13
Huntington Gardens
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, CA 91108

Tour with Speaker: 5:30 pm
Meeting begins: 7:00 pm

SCHS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS
We are pleased to say “hello” to the following:
Rosalie Benitez
Charles Favors
Les Hairrell
Andrey Yun

SHARING SECRETS
Question for the month:
What wildlife does your garden attract? Intentionally or not...
We’d love to hear from you!
Share online at socalthort.org
or e-mail to:
gardensbysabine@aol.com
Respond by Monday, April 17

THE CALIFORNIA GARDEN AT THE HUNTINGTON:
EXPLORATIONS INTO THE NEW REGIONAL PLANT PALETTE

The SCHS April meeting will be held at the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens where Scott Kleinrock, horticulturist, landscape designer and garden educator will walk us through the Huntington’s Frances and Sidney Brody California Garden. During and after the tour, Scott will speak about the concepts, planting design and horticulture-focused construction techniques behind this 6.5 acre mediterranean climate landscape. He will explain how the new entry garden strives to provide everything one could want from a landscape, including color, habitat, shade and places for respite and celebration, composed of plants primarily from the five mediterranean climates of the world.

Scott’s work is primarily focused on California native, regionally adapted and edible landscapes. He maintains that low water landscapes do not have to be about “going without.” Following the tour, he will speak more about both the successes and challenges of designing, installing and establishing the California Garden, in a talk aimed at investigating models for sustainable regional horticulture.

Scott is currently the Conservation Programs Manager at the Chino Basin Water Conservation District, an agency dedicated to creating a culture of sustainable water use through demonstration and education. Previously he was the Landscape Design and Planning Coordinator at the Huntington, where he led the planting design of the Brody California Garden, which we will be exploring in this special program.

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PLEASE NOTE - DIFFERENT VENUE and TIMES for APRIL MEETING!

TIMES, LOCATIONS, and MEETING DETAILS

5:30 - TOUR BEGINS
Meet at the Entrance and Visitor Center

7:00 - SPEAKER & MEETING
To be held in the Brody Botanical Center, Ahmanson Classroom.

GENERAL MEETING INFO.
ENTRY FEES
The Huntington has generously waived their admission fees, but the SCHS fee of $5.00 per non-member will apply.

VENDORS & PLANTS
Vendor displays, sales and plant forum will take place during the meeting, but there will be NO PLANT RAFFLE.

FOOD
You may bring your own food to eat ONLY in the Brody Center or the Entrance / Visitor Center areas. Food is not allowed on the Huntington grounds.

See you there!
Speaking to us at the March meeting was local garden consultant and California native plant expert, Barbara Eisenstein. Her presentation paralleled the structure of her recently published book, *Wild Suburbia*, which she wrote to help gardeners who have little or no experience with California native plants. Drawing on her personal observations and experiences at her home garden in South Pasadena, as well as on her professional background as the former horticultural outreach coordinator at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, she offered practical knowledge about planting, irrigation, maintenance and even potential pitfalls to avoid.

Barbara began her talk by asking “new” gardeners in the audience to identify themselves, as her book was written with them in mind. She emphasized that she believes in a common sense approach to transitioning from a traditional to a native garden, addressing pros and cons gardeners may encounter, and encouraging them to make informed decisions appropriate to their situation, as *Wild Suburbia* is not a “how to” book, but rather a guide.

The book is broken down into chapters that take gardeners through the process of identifying characteristics of their location (climate, soil, water, etc.) so they may formulate a plan that will work for them. Grass removal techniques that are covered in the book were also presented. Without providing specific design plans, the book treats creating a garden as a process rather than a final product, allowing individual preferences to dictate choices, including how informal or tamed a garden might be.

This led to a discussion about plant selection, growth to maturity and eventual maintenance needs. Barbara choose not to include detailed plant lists in her book, instead offering her readers resources and suggestions on how to select healthy plants, when to plant, watering needs, mulching, and developing an understanding of dormancy cycles. She shared pictures illustrating some of these processes to underscore the need for new gardeners to educate themselves by learning through trial and error. She stated that she does not believe in “fail-proof” formulas, as there are too many variables, and sometimes the best way to know what will work or fail is simply to try.

Along with her anecdotes and practical advice, Barbara also spoke about the many reference charts found in her book. She concluded her talk with a Q and A session, and by again emphasizing the need for people to inform themselves; mentioning a number of reputable resources, including books, websites and nurseries. She understands that new gardeners may find a lot of conflicting information on the Internet and become discouraged, but offered encouragement for the hesitant. Barbara stated that one of her personal goals is to reach out to the “reluctant” gardener, which she is attempting to do with her book (copies of which were available for purchase) as well as in her current position as horticultural chair of the San Gabriel Mountains chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

**Sabine Steinmetz**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Saturday, June 17**

**“Coffee In the Garden”**

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Los Angeles County Arboretum Library

hosted by

Head Librarian Susan Eubank

Susan will give a short talk about the revamped library and its resources at 2:00 p.m.

The Arboretum is generously waiving its admission fees for SCHS attendees. You are also welcome to wander around the grounds before, during and after the event until closing time at 5:00 p.m. And, as always, the SCHS will provide light refreshments during the event.

**MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN NEXT MONTH’S ISSUE...**
**APRIL 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  

- **Friday, 4/14**, 9:30-11am.  Grow Series: Gardening for a Changing Climate: In My Backyard with UC Master Gardener Liza Go.  Students will learn to analyze their own soil to determine a sustainable design and comprehensive maintenance plan.  Single Class: $12 Members, $15 Non-Members.  Registration required.  

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM**  
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia 91007  
626.821.4623 arboretum.org  

- **Thursday, 4/13**, 9:30am-12noon.  What’s Happening In Gardening - Designing with Natives and Near Natives.  Garden designer, Laura Bauer shares her experience using water-wise plants from California and beyond.  $25 (includes admission).  Register with Education Dept. at 626.821.4623 or pay at the class.  
- **Thursday, 4/20**, 9:30am-12noon.  What’s Happening In Gardening - Plant Propagation with Laramee Haynes.  Learn about cuttings, divisions and planting seeds.  Class covers basic techniques you can do, and a handout with a list of easy-to-propagate plants will be provided.  $25 (includes admission).  Register with Education Dept. at 626.821.4623 or pay at the class.  
- **Thursday, 4/27**, 9:30am-12noon.  What’s Happening In Gardening - Water Harvesting Design with Leigh Adams, interpretive horticulturist and creator of the Crescent Garden, who will present an overview of water harvesting techniques applied in private gardens.  $25 (includes admission).  Register with Education Dept. at 626.821.4623 or pay at the class.  
- **Saturday, 4/29**, 12noon-1:30pm, Education House.  Essential Edible Gardens with Kyra Saegusa.  This class will lay the foundation for using wholistic practices in your garden to help create a sustainable, verdant, food-producing space.  $25 Members / $35 Non-Members (includes admission).  Register with Education Dept. at 626.821.4623 or pay at the class.  

**DESCANSO GARDENS**  
1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada 91011  
818.949.7980 descansogardens.org  

- **Saturday & Sunday, 4/22 & 4/23**, 9am-4pm.  Earth Day & Botanic Bling.  Celebrate Spring with programs focusing on flowers, garden plants, and earth-friendly Bling!  

**HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino 91108  
626.405.2100 huntington.org  

- **Thursday, 4/13**, 2:30pm, Ahmanson Room, Brody Botanical Center.  Garden Talk & Sale: Australian Plants for the American Garden.  Horticulturist Paul D. Chambers, founder of Australian Outback Plants in Arizona, discusses various Australian native plants that are well suited to Southern California, many of which can be found at The Huntington.  Plant sale follows the talk.  

**THEODORE PAYNE FOUNDATION**  
10459 Tuxford St., Sun Valley 91352  
818.768.1802 theodorepayne.org  

- **Saturday, 4/15**, 8:30am-12:30pm.  California Native Horticulture with Lilli Singer.  Basics of gardening with California flora, including: plant communities, planting techniques, irrigation, pruning and maintenance.  For beginners; prerequisite to 3-Part California Native Plant Garden Design course.  $45 Members, $55 Non-Members.  

**RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN**  
1500 N. College Ave., Claremont 91711  
909.625.8767 rsabg.org  

- **Saturday, 4/22**, 10-11am.  Sage is the Rage!  Grow Native Nursery shares native sage-infused foods to sample in celebration of Earth Day and offers a wide selection of native sages for sale.  

**SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN**  
230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas 92024  
760.436.3036 sdbgarden.org  

- **Friday, 4/21**, 10am-3pm.  Mosaic Birdhouse (Ages 18+) with Candy Sharda.  Decorate a wooden birdhouse with outdoor paint and embellish with glass tiles, beads and more.  $40 Members, $48 Non-Members; plus $25 per student materials fee paid directly to instructor.  

**FULLERTON ARBORETUM**  
1900 Associated Rd., Fullerton 92831  
657.278.3407 fullertonarboretum.org  

- **Saturday & Sunday, 4/22 & 4/23**, 10am-4pm.  Green Scene Plant & Garden Expo. Green Scene features over 80 exhibitors with unique plants directly from growers; handcrafted custom garden art and pottery; demonstrations and education sessions; plus Food Court and Beer Garden offering a variety of food and beverages.  $8 General Admission, Free for Members.  

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Yvonne Savio
“When you have seen one ant, one bird, one tree, you have not seen them all.”

- E.O. Wilson

UPCOMING SCHS PROGRAMS

APRIL 13    - Scott Kleinrock, designer of the new California Garden at the Huntington Botanical Gardens - tour & talk

VENUE:  The Huntington  TOUR BEGINS:  5:30

APRIL 13    - Scott Kleinrock, designer of the new California Garden at the Huntington Botanical Gardens

May 11    - Rebecca Latta, horticultural consultant, speaking about TLC for your trees

VENUE:  Los Angeles Zoo

May 11    - Rebecca Latta, horticultural consultant, speaking about TLC for your trees

June 8    - Bart O’Brien, Director of Tilden Regional Parks Botanic Garden speaks on 2016 Salvia Summit

VENUE:  Los Angeles Zoo

GARDEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“When you have seen one ant, one bird, one tree, you have not seen them all.”

- E.O. Wilson

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

NEWSLETTER  April 2017

818-567-1496 / socalthort.org / Join us on Facebook

Newsletter Editor:  Sabine Steinmetz

Please contribute an article or information of interest.

Next deadline:  Monday, April 17 (for May newsletter)
FROM TURFGRASS TO TREASURE

The Southern California Horticultural Society is delighted to offer this tour of a remarkable garden.

High in the Hollywood Hills, the private garden of landscape designer Johanna Woollcott showcases her love of nature along with her desire to create gardens that are boldly colorful and surprising. For the past three years, she and her husband Eugene McCarthy have been transforming their steep, terraced hillside from a conventional mix of turfgrass, ficus, and ivy to a dynamic tapestry of plants native to California and other Mediterranean climate regions, generously augmented by succulents.

The original concrete retaining walls are now softened by inspired combinations of drought-tolerant plants. A curved path invites exploration up or down the slope, the effort rewarded by intimate seating areas or sweeping views of the garden and Bronson Canyon along the way. Many recycled materials and art objects are playfully repurposed as water features, gabion walls, grape arbor, fireplace, or rusted steel fencing.

In addition to indulging her creativity at home, Johanna owns and operates Wild Gardens L.A. and is a member of APLD (Association of Professional Landscape Designers). She looks forward to sharing her garden with SCHS.

Sunday, May 7  Garden Tour • 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

NOTE: Due to the steepness of the site, ADA garden viewing is only available from the upper gate, at no charge, but you will still need to register. Please contact SCHS for further information.

Please sign up at the April meeting, online at SCHS website (www.socalhort.org), by mailing in this flyer, or by emailing socalhort@gmail.com. Once you sign up, you’ll be provided with the address and directions.

Deadline to receive paid registration is Friday, May 5.

☐ Yes, please reserve: _____ Member Reservation(s) at $15. each = ________

_____ Guest Reservation(s) at $20. each = ________ TOTAL $ ________

Member’s Name(s) __________________________________________________________

Guest Name(s) ____________________________________________________________

Contact Phone (____)________________ E-mail ________________________________

Make your check payable to SCHS. Mail to: P.O. Box 94476, Pasadena, CA 91109
SCHS Phone: 818/567-1496 Website: www.socalhort.org
DESCRIPTION OF THE GARDEN

“Garden in transition: 1940 concrete walls terrace this hillside property, planted with native California and Mediterranean specimens. The space includes many recycled elements and playful details which have been repurposed for this vibrant garden. A new wide curved stair replaces the previous warren of small stair connections. Bold cactus and succulents draw your eyes up to the hill. Planting with an eye toward habitat, it is definitely a private wild kingdom.”

Read more on Johanna’s web-site:  wildgardensla.com

Photos courtesy of Johanna Woolcott.

Don’t foget to mark your calendars for our next event on Saturday, June 17, when SCHS hosts “Coffee in the Garden” at the L.A. County Arboretum!