

April
2007



Western Horticultural Society

www.westernhort.org • PO Box 60507 • Palo Alto • California • 94306

WHS April Speaker

Our April 11th Speaker: Martin Grantham

Garden curator and propagator

"Exploring South Africa's Western Cape for New Plant Gems"

May 9: Bob Hornback

Owner of Muchas Grasses, Occidental, CA

"Variegated Plants: Horticulture Goes Hollywood."



WHS Field Trip to William Land Park

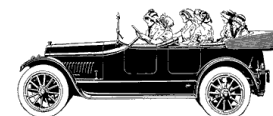
Spring should be right around the corner so come enjoy a day of garden touring with Daisy Mah. Daisy has generously volunteered to give us a personal tour of William Land Park where she creates and maintains all the gardens within the park. She has tried to create landscaping that will survive the brutal heat of the interior valley and still look great and attract wildlife. This should be a great tour where we can learn what plants survive not only the interior valley conditions but in a public park as well. Talk about hardy plants! We will have other garden possibilities to visit for the afternoon as well. Fliers with detailed meeting instructions will be at our next couple of meetings as well as sign up sheets, or contact

Leslie Dean to sign up to go on this trip. At (650)967-5408 or lesliekdean@mindspring.com

Leave me your name, phone number, email address and the number of people who will be coming with you as well as if you will be carpooling.

Date: Saturday, April 21 **Time:** 10:00 a.m. at the park. We will carpool from here leaving around 7:30 a.m.

Place: William Land Park, Sacramento ~ *Leslie Dean*



Our monthly meetings feature the speakers listed above; doors open at 7pm and meetings begin at 7:30. The location is Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos. Please also join our speaker for dinner prior to the meeting at Chef Chu's at 5:30pm at the corner of El Camino Real and San Antonio Avenue. This is a terrific opportunity for our members to get to know each other better, and to get to chat with our speakers. Please call Pat Knight to confirm at 650-941-6136.

The next newsletter deadline will be April 18th. Please call or email Michelle Bond (editor) at 650-363-9244 or michelle@hunzikers.org for newsletter content. Please contact Claudia Stopp at 408-370-6936 or cjsubhi@sbcglobal.net with any changes of address.



Blooming Art Sale

What fun it was last month to see how talented and generous our WHS artists are! But don't despair, it's not too late to include **your** art in our big fund raiser. There's still time to volunteer and join in the fun, too.

Donate Art

We are fortunate to have John Hammerschmidt storing the art for us. If you have some plant or nature themed art you'd like to donate (remember--art donors can receive a rebate of up to 25% of the sales price) please bring it to our April 11 meeting, take it to John's house or call one of the art committee members for help. We'd love to have a few more garden sculpture/outdoor art items. They seem to be the big sellers right now.

Volunteer to Help

All our efforts are now focused on the big day, **Sunday April 15th**, when we will be joining in with the Master Gardener's big tomato and pepper sale at the **SJ Mercury News** parking lot at **750 Ridder Park Drive**. Come out and help or come out and buy that piece of art that you had your eye on at the March meeting!

To donate art or volunteer to help, contact:

Janice Gillmore (408)867-9428 janicegillmore@yahoo.com, Sherry Hall (831)724-0822 john.sherry@charter.net, Nancy Schramm (408)847-2313 edgreenthumb@att.net ~*Nancy Schramm*



"If it's rare, we want it. If it's tiny and impossible to grow, we've got to have it. If it's brown, looks dead, and has black flowers, we'll kill for it." ~*Ken Druse*

More Western Hort Business and News...

Raffle Table

The April raffle table will be a joint effort, supplied by the Raffle Table Committee and by the Board. And let's start planning ahead to our last raffle table of the year. For our May table, everyone bring in something variegated to celebrate our speaker, Bob Hornback's topic: Variegated Plants.

28 Years Ago in the WHS...

The April 1979 WHS speaker was Richard Heib of Jenner, CA. Heib's talk was titled "Exotic Trees and Shrubs in a Sonoma Coast Garden" He showed some slides and many specimens of plants in the Proteaceae Family. His collection included plants from Australia, South Africa, The Canary Islands, and Chile.

The newsletter announced an event to be held the first weekend of May 1979. It featured "tours of Barbara Worl's two acre garden" and (across the street) many floral displays "with a special one in the Flemish style done by Emily Brown and Barbara Barlow". A quick look at the Board Meeting minutes for March mentions the May weekend as a series of "field trips" which also included "tours of the Betsy Clebsch garden, the Union Cemetery at Redwood City, possibly two East Bay gardens, and a plant sale & speakers".

"Several fine specimens of flowering shrubs and perennials were brought for display." Some mentioned were *Prostranthera rotundifolia*, *Corokia cotoneaster*, *Lasthenia macrantha* (related to our native 'Goldfields'), *Disporum sessile* (related to our native 'Fairy Bells'). Ed Carman brought in a "delightful display of dwarfs" (eat your heart out, Kerry Barrs!). ~ *Nancy Schramm*

This Year's WHS Founder's Award

Long-time member, Elizabeth Garbett was presented with the third Founder's Award at our meeting on February 14, which was very appropriate as Elizabeth has been a very special member for many, many years. After some years of serving on the Board, Elizabeth began writing the plant notes in 1990 and she has been putting them together for us every month since then.

Bill Kurtz entertained us with some of her humor and wit when he read for us some of her past notes published in our newsletter. Elizabeth has captured our fancies through the years with her most descriptive and enlightening comments therein.

Elizabeth has always been a very active member in our society. She and her husband "Budge" helped with some of our exhibits in the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show and she has been instrumental in getting our newsletters mailed each month for quite some time.

Some favorite memories for a number of our members are the get-togethers Elizabeth held at her lovely home. Her gardens were always appealing and everyone enjoyed the miniature train which runs all the way around the lower garden.

Elizabeth has those attributes every organization needs to survive and flourish. We have been and continue to be honored with her involvement in the Western Horticultural Society. ~ *Claudia Stopp*



“Compost is best aged a little like a fine wine.

I mean, would you prefer to drink a nice ‘97, or something that was made last Thursday?”

~*David Hobson*

Other Horticultural Events...

Joy of Gardening—Santa Clara County Master Gardeners

Mediterranean Gardening: Dry summer, Wet winter

April 24th- May 29th 2007, Tuesday nights 6:30-9:00 p.m. Six classes, 2 ½ hours each:

1. April 24th. Bay Area gardening climates - Niki Muller
2. May 1st Watering for Mediterranean climates - Sue Evanicky
3. May 8th Container gardening, Mediterranean style - Bette Lloyd
4. May 15th Vegetable gardening for the Bay Area - Sue Zaslav
5. May 22nd Plants for Mediterranean Climates - Bracey Tiede
6. May 29th Mediterranean garden design - Roberta Barnes

The classes will be taught by Master Gardeners from the University of California Cooperative Extension. For information and registration, call Campbell Community Center (408) 866-2105, <http://rec.cityofcampbell.com/registrationmain.dsi>. For any gardening questions call the Santa Clara County Master Gardener Hotline at (408) 282-3105, 9:30am-12:30pm Mon-Fri.. Alternatively, visit us on the web <http://www.mastergardeners.org>.



Other Horticultural Events...

5th Annual Going Native Garden Tour

Visit home gardens that are water-wise, low maintenance, low on chemical use, bird and butterfly friendly, and attractive. A variety of home gardens landscaped with California native plants will be open to the public.

Sunday, April 29, 2007, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Locations throughout Santa Clara Valley and Peninsula. Free admission; registration required at www.GoingNative-GardenTour.org before April 28, 12 noon, or until the tour reaches capacity, whichever comes first. Space is limited; register early to ensure a place. For more information, email info@GoingNativeGardenTour.org.

The Arboretum at University of California Santa Cruz

Sunday April 1, 1:30 pm **Days of Wine and Proteas**

Karrie Reid will give a presentation focusing on human impacts, through agriculture and settlement, on the delicate fynbos biome of the Cape Floral Kingdom, including current uses (sustainable and otherwise), problems, and conservation efforts. \$15 general public, \$10 for Arboretum Members



Saturday April 14, 9am-4pm **Controlling Gophers & Moles**

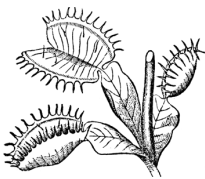
Without Poisons \$35 for general public. \$25 for Arboretum Members.

For more information call (831) 427-2998 or email arboretum@cats.ucsc.edu.

Generation Connection - Literacy in the Garden

This program brings elementary school students (grades K-3) into the Mountain View Senior Center Garden on Tuesday afternoons from 12:30-2:30pm each fall and spring for 8 weeks. If you enjoy working with children, seeing the plants and bugs through their eyes and sharing your enthusiasm for life in the garden, please consider participating in this 8 week project! Contact Linda McCrary at lmccrary@mylaae.net or 650.940.6024 to volunteer or for more information.

Cal Hort Society April Program



April 17, 2006 **The Savage Garden—Growing Carnivorous Plants** Presented by Peter D'Amato, Co-owner of California Carnivores and internationally noted authority and author on carnivorous plants. Meetings start at 7:15 p.m. in the County Fair Building at The San Francisco Botanical Gardens. If you're not a member, there is a Guest Fee of \$5.

Gamble Garden, Palo Alto—April Classes

Success With Citrus with Don Dillon

Sunday, April 1, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Fee: \$20 members, \$25 non-members. Class limit: 45 Location: Carriage House

Don Dillon will chart a trophy-winning course for planting and maintaining citrus in containers and in the ground. He will tell us how to plant, prune, and fertilize citrus of all kinds.

Cabrillo College Mother's Day Weekend Plant Sale

Friday May 11th: Friends of the Garden Pre-Sale and Silent Auction

Saturday & Sunday May 12th & 13th: Public Sale

Friday 3-7pm; Saturday 9am-5pm; Sunday 9am-3pm

Place: Cabrillo College Environmental Horticulture Center, "Top of Campus" 6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos

Fee: Friday: \$25 memberships available at the gate; Saturday and Sunday: FREE and open to the general public. For more information contact: (831)479-5762.

Western Horticultural Society Officers and Board Members

President: Chris Egan

Vice President: Steve Staiger

Recording Secretary: Jackie Doda

Treasurer: Claudia Stopp

Other Board Members: Kerry Barrs, Michelle Bond, Janice Gillmore, Sherry Hall, Merrill Jensen, Patricia Knight, Bill Kurtz, Niki Muller, Nancy Schramm

To contact us, please email us at: info@westernhort.org

Membership in Western Hort

To join, send in your name, address, phone number and a check made out to:

**Western Horticultural Society
PO Box 60507 Palo Alto, CA, 94306**

Membership rates:

A 1 year membership (Sept-Aug) of \$35 includes 4 issues of Pacific Horticulture magazine; Sustaining is \$45; Contributing is \$60 and Plant Lover is \$100+. We have also added a family membership rate of \$50 for two or more members of the same household.

Please visit our web site at www.westernhort.org for a membership form.

April Classes at Common Grounds, Palo Alto

Starting Your Spring Garden

Drew Harwell Saturday, April 7

10:30am-12:30pm, \$24

Second class, 2:00-4:00pm, \$24

Plant an Earth Day Herb Garden

Jody Main Saturday, April 21

10:30 - 12:30, \$24, 0.5 CEU

Kid and Pet Safe Gardens

Palo Alto Recycling

Program: Saturday,

April 28. Free registra-

tion by calling (650)

496-5910.

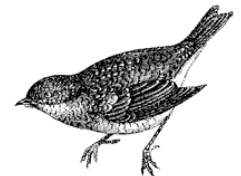
10:30am-Noon **Safe**

Pest Control

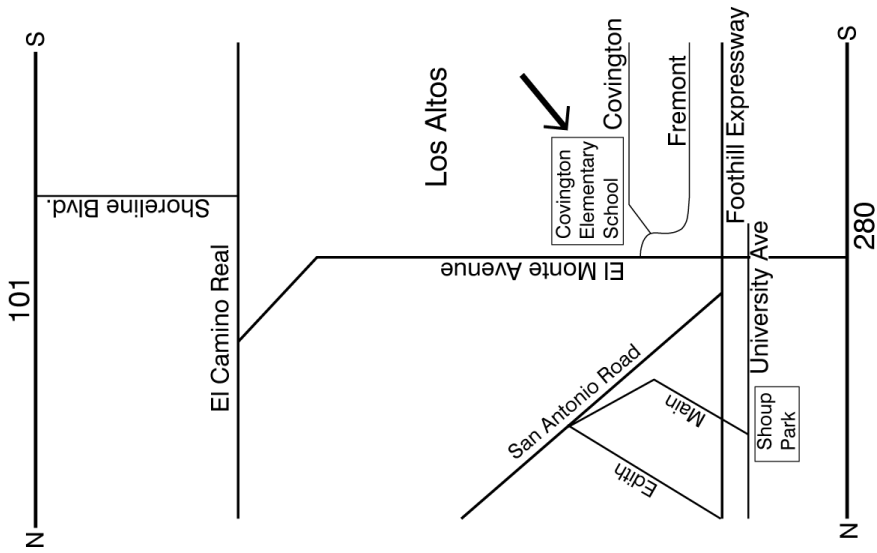
Learn how to prevent garden pests and disease and how to use less toxic pest control products that really work.

1:00-2:30pm **Home Composting**

Improve the health of your garden's soil.



First Class Mail



Western Horticultural Society
Monthly Meeting
Covington School
205 Covington Road, Los Altos



PO Box 60507

Palo Alto, California

First Class Mail