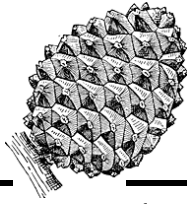


December  
2007



# Western Horticultural Society

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

## WHS December Speaker

**December 11: Helen McKenna-Ridley and Allan Ridley**  
Tour Leaders for Birding and Natural History  
“Travels on the Eighth Continent: A Natural History Adventure in Madagascar”

In September of 2006 Allan and Helen joined a group of ten people for a 15-day exploration of the principal remaining wild areas of Madagascar. Join us while they highlight the diverse habits of the island and the exciting indigenous wildlife they were fortunate to observe. Hear about the economic situation of the people of Madagascar and what Helen and Allan learned regarding the future of eco-tourism and economic aid to this country. Both Allan and Helen are retired High School biology teachers. Together they have traveled widely and have led birding and natural history trips to Costa Rica, Ecuador, New Zealand and Australia. You can also join them on the first Sunday of each month as they lead a bird walk through the San Francisco Botanical Gardens in Golden Gate Park.

**January 9: Barbara Worl**

Plantswoman, Owner of Sweetbriar Press and Photographer  
“Bits and Pieces of a Life in the Garden”

**February 13: Ernie Wasson**

Nursery and Garden Curator at Cabrillo College “Foliage Plants: The Backbones of the Garden”

**March 12: Rosemary Nightingale**

Educator, Artist, Co-founder of the Squaw Valley Herb Gardens, and author of Recipes & Remedies  
“See, Smell, Hear, Taste and Feel: Herbs, the Useful Plants”

**April 9: Patrick Worley**

Hybridizer, Webmaster and Graphic Designer for Suncrest Nurseries “Peru, a Plant Lover’s Journey”

**May 14: Jeff Rosendale**

Owner of Rosendale Nursery and Sierra Azul Nursery and Gardens, Watsonville, CA “Plants, People and Art – Putting Them all Together in a California Garden”

Our monthly meetings feature the speakers listed above; doors open at 7pm and meetings begin at 7:30. Our usual location is Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos, but please see the note on this page about the location for this month’s holiday potluck and meeting. 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. Would you like to sponsor a lecture for the WHS that is of particular interest to you? It would be much appreciated! Please call Pat Knight at (650)941-6136 if you are interested.

The next newsletter deadline will be December 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.



## Annual WHS Holiday Potluck is here!

**Tuesday, December 11th ~ 6:30 pm**

**Location: The Garden House at Shoup Park, 400 University, Los Altos**

Please join the other Western Horticultural Society members for our annual Holiday Potluck!

Featuring, in addition to our December Speakers Helen McKenna-Ridley and Allan Ridley, the WHS Founders’ Award Presentation, our delicious annual potluck, and lots of holiday cheer! Also, we will be collecting food donations for Second Harvest, so please bring canned or packaged nutritional foods (no beverages) for the collection, if you can.



Please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share, as well as your own plates and utensils. The WHS board will be supplying appetizers, cups and beverages. We ask that your dish serve a minimum of 8 people, so there is enough to go around for everyone.

This evening will be festive and a lot of fun, so please come join us!

**“The gardening season officially begins on January 1st and ends on December 31.” ~ Marie Huston**

## *More Western Hort Business and News...*

### **Raffle Table**

A big Thank You goes out to the businesses that support WHS with donations to the raffle table. Al's Nursery, in Portola Valley (650) 851-0206 and Carman's Nursery, in Gilroy (408) 847-2313. Our speaker, Tom Bressan of The Urban Farmer Store in San Francisco (415) 661-2204 was also very kind in donating several desirable items to the raffle table. Visit these folks and tell them how much you appreciate their support. And, of course, thanks to our faithful members brought in more things to make for a great selection. There is no raffle table in Dec, but if you have \$\$ burning a hole in your pocket, be sure to check out the art sale at the Holiday Potluck! Half the proceeds benefit WHS.



### **CEU Credits**

WHS offers Continuing Education Credits for the CCN Pro—a program of the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers. One CEU credit is earned per monthly WHS lecture attendance. Just sign in at the registration desk after the program. Stay tuned CLCA members! We hope to be able to offer CEU's to you, soon too!

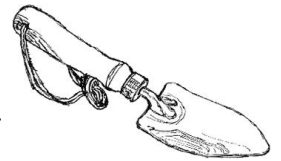
### **Art at the Potluck**

Don't forget! WHS artists are invited to bring and sell their art at the Holiday Potluck—50% of sales to benefit WHS.

~Nancy Schramm

### *Update on Western Hort Spring Plant Sale*

We are encouraged to learn that many of you are busy propagating plants for the sale. If anyone needs plastic containers, gallon or smaller, contact me, I have lots of extras. We would like to get planters for the sale and we know there are many talented members out there. It is important to start early to have nice full planters at the time of the sale. Also, Nancy Schramm asked her local Ag inspector about the WHS having a plant sale in the spring, and she said it should be fine, that the ag dept will be glad to come out and inspect the plants so we can sell them. That would be even if the plants are grown in a quarantine area, which is great news for us. ~Elizabeth Garbett



### *Propagation Workshop a Success!!*

Our first propagation workshop was a big success. In spite of the rain, approximately 250 cuttings were potted up. We will be having more workshops in the future—Niki Muller will set the dates. It was so much fun, so please plan on joining us. Just e-mail Niki at docpdm@earthlink.net to inform her of your interest in being part of the next workshop. ~Chris Egan

**“All gardeners need to know when to accept something wonderful and unexpected, taking no credit except for letting it be.”** ~ Allen Lacy



### *Bulb Food*

Janice Gilmore called Barbara Worl to ask about the care and feeding of the Scilla bulbs she gave away at our November meeting. Barbara said that she uses a special bulb food that is so good that she uses it on almost everything. It used to be called “Cricket Crap” but it is now called ‘Brent and Becky's Bulb Supplement’ Their address is: 7900 Daffodil Lane, Gloucester VA 23061 Phone: 804-693-3966 Barbara buys the supplement in 35lb sacks, so perhaps if other members are interested in purchasing some, they could get together and share an order if 35lbs seems like a bit too much for one person.

### *28 Years (and One Month) Ago in the WHS...*

The November 1979 WHS meeting had not one but three speakers, and I'm sure any one of the three could have easily filled the program individually. First to speak was Chuck Anderson of Sunset Magazine. He told about the (Nancy Hardesty designed) landscaping he and his wife, Karen had accomplished in the previous two years. (I asked Karen for an update on that landscape. She told me that the landscape had matured nicely, eventually adapting gracefully to losses from oak root fungus. She and her husband Claude are having Leslie Dean work on a landscape plan for their current home.) Next, Lucy Erickson (now Tolmach) from Filoli had a slide presentation to “tell us how a new border comes into being” (I wonder how many more new borders she's created since then?) And finally, Judith Lowry (Larner Seeds), who was at that time working at Yerba Buena Nursery, gave “a brief glimpse into what is required to collect, store, and package seeds from the wild.” Your speaker committee hopes to have Judith return for a whole evening. She now has a seed business, 20 year old demo garden, and books and essays to talk about. ~Nancy Schramm

## *A Request to Our Members*

We all still love to garden and learn all there is to know about plants. But due to changing lifestyles and work commitments, fewer of us than ever before have time to give those few extra hours to help keep organizations like Western Hort running. This puts an even greater burden on our current board and we need assistance. If even 3-4 of you can join the board for the next year or two and give just four hours a month, you'll help us get through this crunch time. Former board members and long time members, please consider helping us out. Our finances are in good shape, our speaker program is excellent, but doing all those tasks required of nonprofit organizations just takes time. Please consider helping us out. Thank you! ~ *The WHS Board*

## *Other Horticultural Events...*

### **Guadalupe River Park & Gardens**



**Holiday Wreath Workshop** Saturday, December 8  
1:30-3:30pm

\$15/members, \$20/non-members Instructor: Milli Wright

Make your holidays festive by creating a wreath to decorate your home. Join us as we use greenery and other natural materials to create a personal gift for your home. No experience necessary and all materials will be provided to assemble your wreath. For more information please contact our Education Department at [education@grpg.org](mailto:education@grpg.org) or 408-298-7657.

### **The University of California Botanical Garden**

Sunday, December 2 2-4pm Join chocolatier John Scharffenberger to discuss the flavor profiles of cacao. Refine your palate by tasting varieties of artisanal chocolate and discuss the principal flavor components. \$15, \$12 members. Presenter: John Scharffenberger

Wednesday, December 12 7-9pm Learn the secrets of making herbal gifts from your very own garden with herbalist Annabella DeMattei. Create an infused oil, bathing and culinary salts and a winter tea mixture to take home as gifts for someone special or yourself! \$30, \$25 members, price includes all materials.

### **Filoli Holiday Traditions: Winter Woods**

Friday, November 23 through Saturday, December 1

Celebrate the magic of the holiday season at beautiful Filoli! Experience the festive spirit by strolling through the grand mansion decorated with swags of evergreen garland, patterned ribbon, and exquisite floral displays. Discover the wintergreen and gold-leaved ballroom adorned with picturesque holiday trees, intricately designed ornaments, and sparkling lights. And enjoy shopping for that special present while listening to the wondrous melodies of live musical performances. Tickets are available by contacting the Filoli Ticket Office at 650 364-8300, extension 508, Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., or by downloading, filling out, and faxing in the event registration form. Tickets sell out quickly, so early purchase is strongly recommended.

### **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, Patricia Knight, Bill Kurtz, Niki Muller, Nancy Schramm**

**To contact us, please email us at: [info@westernhort.org](mailto: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](http://www.westernhort.org) for a membership form.**

### **December Classes at Common Grounds, Palo Alto**

Celebrate the Season, Celebrate Life!  
Linda Lenore Saturday, December 1  
2:30-4:30pm Fee: \$35

### **The Arboretum at University of California Santa Cruz**

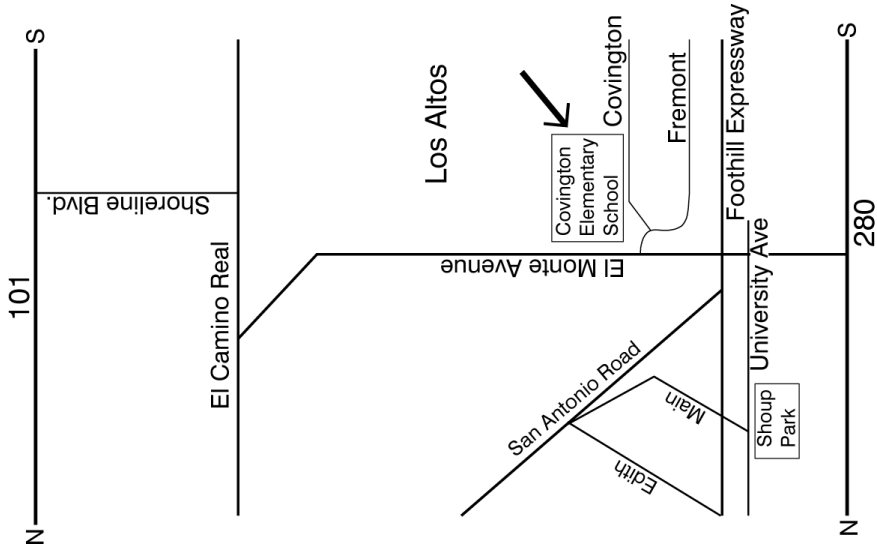
Saturday, December 1, 11 am  
First Saturday Monthly Tour of the Arboretum

Join our dedicated staff and docents for a tour what in bloom around the garden this month. \$3 for the General Public. Free for Arboretum members.



**“Flowers in a city are like lipstick on a woman - it just makes you look better to have a little color.” ~ Lady Bird Johnson**

First Class Mail



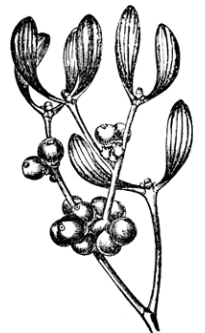
Western Horticultural Society  
Monthly Meeting  
Covington School  
205 Covington Road, Los Altos



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