

March
2009



Western Horticultural Society

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

WHS March Speaker

March 11: Jason Dewees, Palm consultant, Flora Grubb Gardens, San Francisco, CA
“Palms for Central California Gardens”

One can definitely say Jason Dewees is passionate about palms. He has been interested in them for over 12 years, when he joined the Northern California Chapter of the International Palm Society as their youngest member in 1986. Since then he has been growing palms, planting palms, consulting with gardeners, landscape architects, and designers on the use of palms, and lecturing about them where he can. His expertise in the subject has led him to consult on the palms of the Conservatory of Flowers and the San Francisco Botanical Garden. He works at Flora Grubb Gardens where he is, big surprise, their palm expert! How many landscapes have

you driven by and seen towering palm trees that look so out of place? Well, Mr. Dewees will tell us what palms grow well in our area, and how to incorporate them in an appropriate scale to our gardens for that perfect and unique specimen plant.

April 8: Rosalind Creasy, Garden and Food Writer, Photographer and Landscape Designer, Los Altos, CA
“Edible Landscaping: The New American Garden”

May 13: Rebecca Lance, Proprietor of Granite Gardens Rare Plants Nursery, Sonoma, CA
“Rock Garden Strategies for Waterwise Gardens”



Our monthly meetings feature the speakers listed above; doors open at 7pm and meetings begin at 7:30. The location is at Christ Episcopal Church, 1040 Border 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. 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 March 18th for the April newsletter. 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.



Plant Sale—Mark Your Calendars!

WHS Plant Sale Saturday April 4, 2009 at the Master Gardeners' Spring Garden Market, Kelley Park, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose.

Mark your calendars! Are your plants growing well with our late winter rains? Now is the time to call Pat Knight ((650)941-6136) with a list of the plants you are growing and how many you have of each. (Or e-mail Pat at deerproof@yahoo.com) Don't be concerned if you live in the Light Brown Apple Moth quarantine zone. We are conforming with all the rules and all our plants will be inspected before the sale. Next month you will be given the location of the assembly sites for your plants.

The plant sale is the biggest annual fundraiser for WHS and provides us with money to close the gap between our dues and our actual running expenses. With this in mind WHS asks all members to join in making this event a success. All you have to do is contribute some of your plants and then attend the sale to buy some of interesting plants from your friends. ~ Pat Knight

Hot Plant Picks

The San Francisco Flower and Garden Show is THIS MONTH, March 18-22, at the San Mateo Event Center. It has been announced that this is potentially the last year it will be held, so you don't want to miss it! WHS and Cal Hort are working together on the Hot Plant Picks exhibit (the coolest plants at the show!), and if YOU would like to volunteer to staff the exhibit for just two hours, you'll get free admission. Call quick to sign up: Nancy Schramm (408)847-2313.

“To forget how to dig the earth and to tend the soil is to forget ourselves.” ~ *Mobandas k. Gandbi*

More Western Hort Business and News...

Raffle Table

Thank you, members, for supplying the raffle table last month. This is a fun and valuable fund raiser for us. The March table will be supplied by the raffle committee, but as usual, all donations will be gratefully accepted.

CEU Credits

The 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. Also, we now offer CEUs for the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD), as well. Just sign in at the registration desk after the program.

~Nancy Schramm

28 Years Ago...

WHS met on Monday, March 8, 1981 to listen to "Dick Dunmire, Associate Editor of Sunset Magazine and Editor of the Sunset Western Garden Book, ...unravel the mysteries of writing this epic tome. Determining the proper names of plants and gathering cultural information for this popular book will be among the topics discussed by one of the founding members of WHS." (Dick has been a popular speaker at WHS meetings. Just last month—Feb 2009—he spoke about rock gardens and rock garden plants, filling in for our scheduled speaker who fell ill.) Getting back to 1981, Mabel Crittenden gave a thumbnail sketch on Castilleja, and the raffle table consisted of a silent auction of horticultural books. Plants were brought in for discussion by Richard Terrill, Allen Reid, Albert Wilson, Yerba Buena Nursery, Betsy Clebsch, and Michael Willetts.

~ Nancy Schramm

**“Gardening,
reading about
gardening,
and writing
about
Gardening are
all one;
no one can
garden alone.”**

~ Elizabeth Lawrence



Other Horticultural Events...

2009 San Francisco Flower and Garden Show

Fun activities, inspiring beauty, innovative ideas and products, industry experts and helpful tips for do-it-yourselfers await everyone at one of the world's largest and most celebrated spring garden festivals: The San Francisco Flower & Garden Show, March 18-22 at a new location—the San Mateo Event Center. This year's theme is "Sustainable Spaces. Beautiful Places." There is plenty for garden lovers at all levels and ages to do, see and experience—full-size show gardens, free talks and practical workshops led by gardening experts, educational exhibits, as well as shopping for the finest plants, garden art, tools and specialty items that are difficult to find anywhere else.

The show runs from Wednesday, March 18 through Sunday, March 22 at the San Mateo Event Center, 2495 South Delaware Street, San Mateo. The show is open from 10am-8pm Wednesday through Saturday. Sunday, the show is open from 10am-6pm. A one-day adult ticket purchased at the door is \$20. Those who purchase a one-day advance adult ticket online (printable at home), by phone or at Bay Area nurseries through March 17 pay only \$16. For more information call (800)569-2832 or (415)771-6909, or visit www.gardenshow.com to print your own ticket.

A POD in the Garden: Capturing and creating your own personal outdoor dwelling

Thursday, March 5, 5:30pm A talk by Debra Prinzing, author of *Stylish Sheds & Elegant Hideaways*. Part of the 2009 Garden Design Talks at Flora Grubb Gardens series. Wine and hors d'oeuvres at 5:30pm. Design Talk and book signing at 6:15pm. Admission: \$25 per person, advance reservation until 2/27; \$30 per person, after 2/27 and at door. Location: Flora Grubb Gardens: 1634 Jerrold Avenue, San Francisco. Register online, or call (415) 561-7895 or email wcprog@gardenconservancy.org

Cactus and Succulent Society of San Jose's Annual Show and Sale

Saturday April 4th from 9am-5pm and Sunday April 5th from 10am-4pm at the Buchser Middle School, at 1111 Bellomy Street, Santa Clara. Free Admission & parking. Please call Bill Kurtz at (408)243-3695 if you need more information.

Other Horticultural Events...

Cal Hort Society March Program

March 16th: **The Protea Family** presented by Brett Hall, Director of Living Collections and Native Plant Programs, USSC Arboretum, Santa Cruz, California. Meetings start at 7:15 p.m. in the County Fair Building at the San Francisco Botanical Garden. If you're not a member, there is a Guest Fee of \$5.

The Influence of China on West Coast Gardens: connecting to a strong cultural heritage

April 3rd-4th at The Presidio, San Francisco, CA Cosponsored by *Pacific Horticulture*, Garden Design Magazine and Monrovia Growers.

Capturing the idea of the Influence of China on West Coast Gardens: A subtle richness of design that reflects China often pops up in gardens made on the West Coast. Spatial arrangement (scale, perspective, and connection to the greater landscape), architecture, fence and gate detail, rock alignment, ponds, paving patterns, choice of plantings and their sequence, and the ideas behind a "contemplative garden" borrow from Chinese and other Asian aesthetics. This program is not about China and its historic gardens, so much as the subtle influence of China and its culture on people with other cultural backgrounds.

Seminar: Friday, April 3, 2009, 8:30 am to 6 pm Golden Gate Club, The Presidio, San Francisco

Study Tour: Saturday, April 4, 8 am to 6 pm (includes bus/lunch/wine reception)

Registration

Fee for both Seminar & Study Tour (includes lunches/tour bus):

Register early to assure your seat on the bus! \$270 Garden Conservancy members, \$285 Pacific Horticulture subscribers, \$300 general admission; Tickets for Seminar Only (includes lunch): (Subject to availability) \$135 Garden Conservancy members, \$145 Pacific Horticulture subscribers, \$155 general admission Register Online at <https://www.gardenconservancy.org> or call (415)441-4300, or email wcprog@gardenconservancy.org.

Sudden Oak Death Preventative Treatment

Wednesday March 11th, 1-3pm

A training session for professionals and property owners; free but registration is required. Sponsored by the California Oak Task Force: Sudden Oak Death Preventative Treatment Workshop, Two-hour field session covering basic SOD info, integrated pest management approaches and preventative treatment application. Rain or shine. Outside Tolman Hall at the oak tree, Hearst Ave. at Arch/Le Conte, UC Berkeley campus. To register, email SODtreatment@nature.berkeley.edu with name, phone and date of workshop. For details call Katie at (510)847-5482.



Spring Native Plant Sale

Scores of species of native plants, seeds, and bulbs suitable for California gardens will be for sale. Speak to experts about lawn alternatives such as native perennials, wildflowers, and grasses. You can also purchase native plant books, posters, and note cards. Organized by the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the California Native Plant Society. Saturday, April 4, 2009, 10am-3pm, Hidden Villa Ranch, CNPS Nursery, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. 2 miles west of I-280. Free parking. Come early for the best selection; bring boxes to carry your purchases home. Cash or check only. For more information, visit www.cnps-scvc.org, email cnps_scvc@yahoo.com, or call (650)941-1068.

Western Horticultural Society Officers and Board Members

President: Chris Egan

Vice President: TBD

Recording Secretary: Judy Mulenberg

Treasurer: Claudia Stopp

Other Board Members: Kerry Barrs, Christine Bate, Michelle Bond, Janice Gillmore, Sherry Hall, Patricia Knight, Mark McCabe, Niki Muller, Nancy Schramm, Richard Tiede, Katie Wong

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, and a Student rate of \$20.

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

March Classes at Common Grounds, Palo Alto

Roots Demystified or Get Down and Dirty with Your Roots Robert Kourik, Saturday, March 7, 2-4pm \$28,

Using the Master Charts in How to Grow More Vegetables Carol Cox, Saturday, March 14 10:30-12:30pm \$28

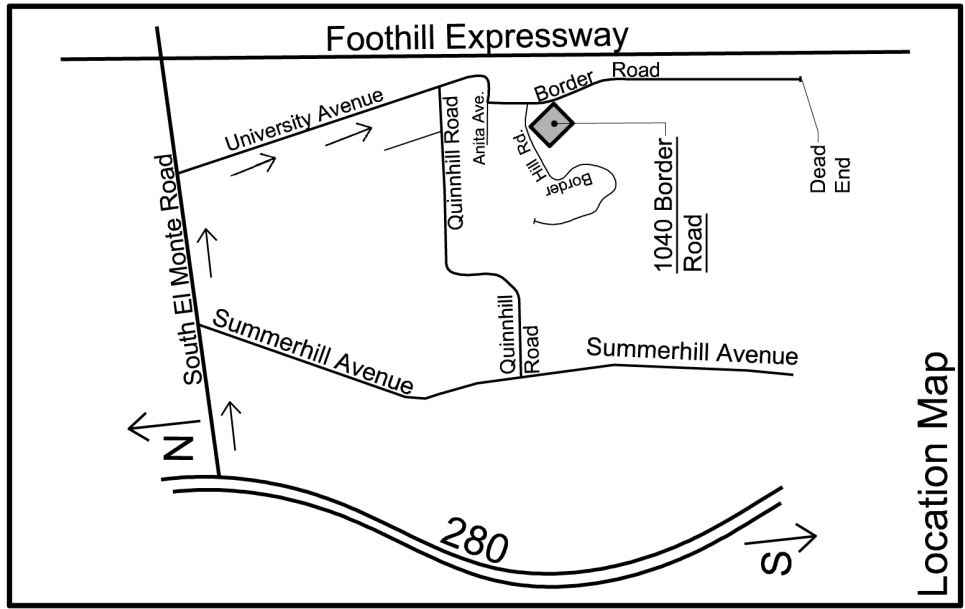
Double-Digging and Garden Bed Preparation Carol Cox, Saturday, March 14, 2-4pm \$28

Growing A Salad Garden Jody Main, Saturday, March 21 10:30-12:30pm \$28

Growing Great Tomatoes Nancy Garrison, Saturday, March 28 10:30-12:30+ \$28

Yoga for Gardeners and Stiff People Patricia Becker, Sunday, Mar 29th 248 Hamilton Ave., 10-12:00 \$30

To register for classes call (650)493-6072.



Western Horticultural Society
 Monthly Meeting
 Christ Episcopal Church
 1040 Border Road, Los Altos

VISIT US AT WWW.WESTERNHORT.ORG


 Western Horticultural Society
 PO Box 60507
 Palo Alto, California
 First Class Mail