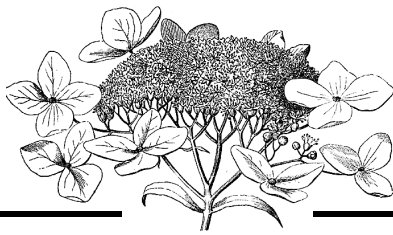


May
2009



Western Horticultural Society

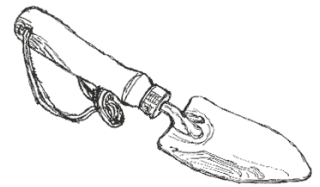
www.westernhort.org • PO Box 60507 • Palo Alto • California • 94306

WHS May Speaker

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

Does your garden suffer from blazing heat, drought, wind, voles, or gophers? Well, if it has those issues, or if you just want your garden to be water efficient and look beautiful, then Rebecca Lance’s talk will be of interest. Trying to establish a garden in her Sierra Foothills yard, Ms. Lance became frustrated with the standard fair of plants offered at local nurseries that couldn’t survive her harsh environment. So she started her own nursery, Granite Gardens Rare Plants Nursery, to support her ongoing search for tough, waterwise

plants that will thrive in a modified Mediterranean climate. She has a special fondness for eriogonums, which do well in the Foothills, and penstemons, which do not. Her website says her mission is “to inspire other gardeners to create gardens that minimize the use of precious resources such as water, while maximizing habitat and food resources for native birds, butterflies and other pollinators. Our experiences in our own private gardens have led us to encourage the use of rock gardening techniques and plants towards these ends.” Come see what other interesting plants thrive in her garden, and whether you want to give any of them a try in your own landscape.



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 in mid-August for the September 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.



Our Plant Sale was a Big Success!

Team work made the Second Spring Plant Sale a great success. We sold over \$1,100.00 of plants. This amount fills the gap between our dues and our expenses allowing us to have top speakers and to keep our dues stable for the 2009-2010 season. Thanks go to Richard Tiede, Mark McCabe, and Budge Garbett for driving the trucks and helping to set-up, to Claudia Stopp, Chris Egan, Leslie Dean, Evelyn Kmetovic and Roberta Burns for selling the plants and to Dick Clark for the printed signs. Especially thanks to all who grew the plants, which looked healthy and passed the LBAM inspection with no signs of trouble. Our customers were very happy to have our advice and to buy plants that we could recommend for this area. They look forward to returning to our booth next year!

We will soon start planning for the spring of 2010. Why don't you join this great group of plant lovers and help WHS? Just call Pat Knight at 650-941-6136. ~ Pat Knight

Our Annual Picnic & Field Trip: Sunday, June 14th

Here's the latest on the picnic/field trip combo for Sunday, June 14th: Jean Myers will open her wonderful native plant gardens at Casa Dos Rios for two guided tours at 10:00am and 2:00pm or for self-guided touring between 10-3. We are also excited to announce that Gilroy Ground Cover Nursery (only a five minute drive away) will be the location for the picnic segment of the day. They will have tables set up for us in an area shaded by large oak trees to enjoy our picnic lunches. The owners have a real plant lover's garden.

Directions and more information (including local nurseries, wineries, and places of interest) will be handed out at our May 13th meeting, as well as a sign-up sheet so we can give our hosts an idea of how many to expect. We all hope to see you all there!

Please let us know if you are coming by contacting Janice Gilmore at janicegillmore@yahoo.com or (408) 867-9428. ~ Nancy Schramm

More Western Hort Business and News...

Raffle Table

Last month's silent auction of plants from the Hot Plant Picks exhibit at the SF Flower and Garden Show was a great success, bringing in over \$500 and sending many cool plants off to new homes. Thanks everyone for your enthusiastic participation! The very best of the plants left from the WHS plant sale will be on May's raffle table. Get a great deal on many others before the meeting.

CEU Credits

The WHS is pleased to be able to offer Continuing Education Credits for CCN Pro's (CANGC) and for the Assn of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD). You know who you are—bring your fellow members with you and sign in at the registration desk. ~Nancy Schramm

28 Years Ago...

WHS met on May 11, 1981 to hear Michael Laurie lecture on "Garden Design by Thomas Church." A garden tour was announced, sponsored by Cal Hort and benefiting Friends of Pacific Horticulture: "Small Gardens/Urban Gems--the tour will visit some San Francisco gardens designed by Charles Grimaldi, a talented landscape artist working in the Bay Area." Mabel Crittenden gave a thumbnail sketch on *Zauschneria*. Tidbits from the plant discussion include: *Lapeirousia cruenta* "If invasive, one is inclined to let it invade" and *Papaver somniferum*, opium poppy "They must be handsome in a field where they are being grown for commerce. The poppy oil is an edible, drying oil. (The opium is derived from unripe capsules.)" To end the WHS year, the June meeting was a picnic supper on Monday June 9th from 5-9 at the Saso Herb Gardens in Saratoga. And finally, birthday congratulations were sent to Gerda Isenberg on her 80th birthday, with "thanks for all she has done for Western Hort." ~Nancy Schramm

Other Horticultural Events...

GOOD NEWS! *Pacific Horticulture* is repeating on October 3-4, 2009 our inspiring and thought-provoking weekend symposium titled *Gardening Under Mediterranean Skies: Lessons in Sustainable Gardening*. The event is sponsored in association with the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden and Mediterranean Garden Society. This second event duplicates (with a few changes) our Sept. 26-27 Santa Barbara symposium, which sold out almost immediately, so if you missed getting your reservation for September, come in October instead! Please share this information with your friends and colleagues.

To guarantee a space for the October symposium we suggest mailing registration forms ASAP.

Carol Bornstein is one of Southern California's most highly respected native plant specialists and a co-author of *California Native Plants for the Garden*. Award-winning Los Angeles landscape designer **Pamela Berstler** will speak on *Digging Deeper with Eco-Restorative Practices*. Following these talks we take motor coaches to the enchanting **Ganna Walska Lotusland** for a tour and private lunch. Saturday continues with a visit to a garden designed by **Van Atta Associates** featuring mostly California natives in a bowl-shaped setting adjacent to the first municipal "green building" in Santa Barbara. The day concludes with a tour and twilight wine reception (sponsored by Alma Rosa Winery) at the **Santa Barbara Botanic Garden**.

Sunday features visits to four excitingly different gardens for a combination tour and on-site talk by the experts who designed them. One stop will be a plant lovers' paradise by landscape designer **Lynn Woodbury** - an eclectic Montecito garden with an abundance and diversity most people only dream of: a wide variety of mostly low water succulents, palms and perennials that lend exuberant color and sculptural interest year round. A second garden, woven into the fabric of native oaks and boulders on a sloping two-acre site above Santa Barbara, is a stunning contemporary expression of color, form and texture through the collaborative efforts of **Arcadia Studio** and the owners. There will be two more gardens featuring beautiful plants and sustainable practices (details available soon).

Arrive on Friday and enjoy a bonus evening lecture and book signing by landscape architect **Owen Dell**, speaking on *Sustainable Landscaping: A Visionary Look at the Future of Gardens*. An optional Friday bus tour (limited to 45 people) will explore the Santa Barbara Wine Country and include wine tastings at three wineries, a sustainable *al fresco* lunch, and tours of two private gardens. For questions: contact Susi Torre-Bueno at medskies@sdhortsoc.org or (760) 295-2173.



Other Horticultural Events...

Cal Hort Society April Program

May 18th, Annual Meeting and Potluck; lecture to be announced.
Meetings start at 7:15pm in the County Fair Building at the San Francisco Botanical Garden. If you're not a member, there is a Guest Fee of \$5.

Open Garden at "Weltevrede" (Well at Peace)

Jeanne McFarland & Niki Muller will open their garden this year on Sunday, May 3rd between 11am and 4pm. There will be a garden tour at 2pm. This is a yearly event to see this 1 1/2 acre garden with its many pathways and "secret" places, places to sit, places to view the hills and visit with friends. Rhododendrons, roses, clematis, abutilons, perennials are among the plants expected to be flowering at this time. Light refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you all. Please remember this is a country garden. Wear safe shoes. Paths are uneven, steps can be slippery and watch for low branches, so please be careful while exploring the garden.

Please park on the road, as there are only 6 or 7 spaces for parking at the house for the handicapped parking. If disabled, please use the top parking or have someone drive you to the top level and have them repark on the road. Please carpool if possible.

Directions: Address 161 Sausal Dr. Portola Valley Ca 94028, From 280, and Alpine overpass proceed, SW along Alpine to 2nd Golden Oak on right. Turn right heading NW for 0.2 miles, bear left on to Sausal Drive heading W. 0.3 miles to # 161 Sausal drive, on the left. Park on road and walk up the long, long driveway.

Please let us know if you are coming, how many, (for the refreshments) If you have any questions call, (650) 851-4097 or email Niki at docpdm@earthlink.net.

The Late Show Gardens

How about a casual field trip in September? The Late Show Gardens (postponed from Sept 2008) is scheduled for Sept 18-20th at Cornerstone Somona. The theme? Shake it up! It looks to be like no garden show ever before. Admission is \$20, but if at least ten WHS members want to go, we can get a group discount (\$5 off). In addition, each group that attends get a chance at a \$500 thank you donation to their society. For more information, visit www.thelateshowgardens.org or call (415)721-1550. If you plan on going, contact Nancy Schramm (408) 847-2313 or edgreenthumb@att.net and I'll arrange for our discount, if possible.
~ Nancy Schramm

Fruit Tasting this Summer

Go for a little drive to Andy Mariani's in Morgan Hill to taste fruit with real flavor. Fruit tastings start June 14th with cherries and continue into August when there will be peaches, nectarines, plums and pluots. For details see www.andysorchard.com or call (408)782-7600.



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 Gilmore, 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.

May Classes at Common Grounds, Palo Alto

Growing Cut Flowers

Nancy Garrison Saturday, May 2
10:30 - 12:30 \$29

Drip Irrigation

Frank Niccoli Saturday, May 9,
2:00 - 4:00 \$29,

Starting Your Summer Garden

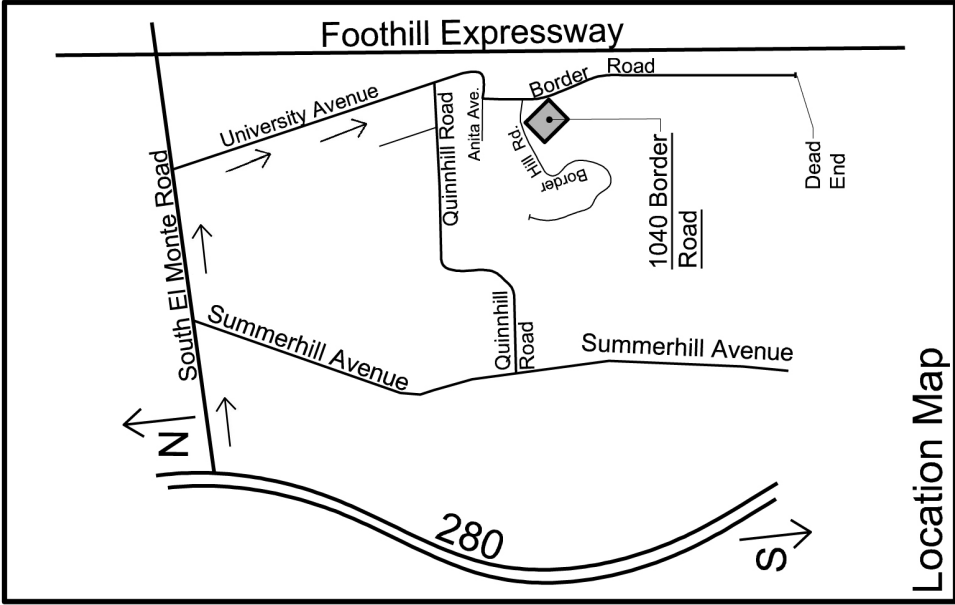
Drew Harwell Saturday, May 16
10:30 - 12:30 \$29

Gardening is for the Birds

Jim Howard Saturday, May 23,
10:30 - 12:30 \$29

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

"I suppose that for most people one of the darker joys of gardening is that once you've got started it's not at all hard to find someone who knows a little bit less than you." ~ Allen Lacy



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

