

February
2009



Western Horticultural Society

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

WHS February Speaker

February 11: Robert Kourik, Publisher, Author, Freelance Writer and Landscape Designer, Occidental, CA

“Roots Demystified, Change Your Gardening Habits to Help Roots Thrive”

Most of us look at a plant and see its beauty in the leaves and flowers. Robert Kourik sees a whole other world of beauty below the surface of the soil. He knows that in order to have that beauty above ground you have to take care of the root system below ground. In the late 1970's he wrote the now classic *Designing and Maintaining Your Edible Landscape* which, as his website states, “defined the genera of gardening now known as edible landscaping.” He has worked in the landscape construction, design, consultation, and education fields since the mid-1970's and written numerous books and

articles. He is an authority on the use of graywater in the landscape and drip irrigation systems, and wrote the graywater ordinance for the City of Malibu, CA. Mr. Kouric continues to learn by doing, and states “I'm still trying to graduate from the school of hard knocks.”

March 11: Jason Dewees, Palm consultant, Flora Grubb Gardens, San Francisco, CA

“Palms for Central California Gardens”

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 (see the note below for changes to this month's location) 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 February 18th for the March 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—We have The Date!

Mark your Calendars! The Western Hort 2nd Annual Plant sale will be held on Saturday April 4, 2009 at the Master Gardeners' Tomato Plant Sale in Kelley Park, San Jose. Kelley Park is located at 1650 Senter Road, San Jose.

We have been growing lots of interesting perennials for sun and shade. We had a fun morning with Elizabeth Garbett arranging pots of mixed succulents and they do look good! We are still looking for more plants, so please call me even if you only have one or two to share! Please phone Pat Knight 650-941-6136 or e-mail retire2dig@yahoo.com for more information. ~ Pat Knight



Don't Forget About your Membership Card!

We hope you have picked up your new WHS membership cards at our last few meetings, but in case you haven't, and are unable to pick up your card in person, please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to us so we can mail you your card. This way you can use it for the nursery discounts it now provides (in addition to showing you are a proud member of Western Hort!)

Speakers' Dinner Location Change this Month

Due to a scheduling conflict, we cannot use our usual restaurant, Chef Chu's, for our Speaker Dinner on February 11. Please call me at 650-941-6163 to find the location of the restaurant for the WHS dinner with our February Speaker, Robert Kourik. Many Thanks, Pat Knight.

More Western Hort Business and News...

Raffle Table

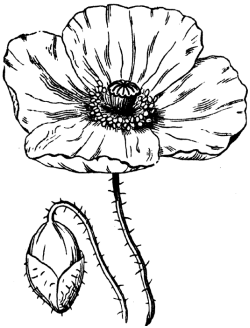
Thank you board members (as well as a few other contributors!) for generously supplying the January raffle table. The Feb table is the responsibility of the general membership. We greatly appreciate the donation of wonderful plants or plant related items.

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.

The Speaker Committee

Thank You from your WHS speaker committee for all the surveys returned. Be assured, we are looking at all of them to help us plan the very most interesting speakers ever for our '09-'10 season.



28 Years Ago...

WHS met on February 9, 1981 to hear Nevin Smith (at that time co-owner of Wintergreen Nursery) speak on "California Natives: Recent Introductions." He also supplied the plants for the raffle table, along with contributions from Saratoga Hort Foundation. On February 15, there was a field trip to the UC Santa Cruz Botanic Garden for a "docent led tour of the Australian-African plant sections". Plants on the discussion table included blooming samples of *Acacia baileyana*, *Eucalyptus caesia* and *E. preissiana*, *Grevillea lavandulacea*, *Buddleia asiatica*, Iceland poppies and Snowdrops. Mabel Crittenden gave a "thumbnail sketch on *Mimulus*". And minutes from the board meeting reveal that our WHS P.O. Box was first rented in 1981 upon recommendation of President Keith Bickford. ~ *Nancy Schramm*

“All through the long winter, I dream of my garden. On the first day of spring, I dig my fingers deep into the soft earth. I can feel its energy, and my spirits soar.” ~ *Helen Hayes*



2009 San Francisco Flower and Garden Show

Plans are well in hand for the 'Hot Plant Picks' display. The WHS is collaborating with Cal Hort to find the Newest and the Coolest plants to exhibit. We are looking for volunteers to attend the exhibit for a two hour shift--in return you get a free ticket to the show. If you can help at the show, or at set-up or break down of the exhibit, call Nancy Schramm at 408-847-2313 or Sherry Hall at 831-724-0822. The show runs from Wednesday, March 18th through Sunday, March 22nd, from 10am-8pm daily (till 6pm Sunday) at the San Mateo Event Center, 2495 South Delaware Street, San Mateo. ~ *Nancy Schramm*

Home Needed for a PA System

Western Hort is looking to donate our old PA system to a good home. If you know of a school or other non-profit that would welcome the donation of the system, please contact WHS member Steve Staiger at 650-851-2248 to arrange pickup, or for further information. The system consists of an amp, two speakers, two microphones and appropriate cables. ~ *Steve Staiger*

Plant Discussion

Plant Discussion is one of the highlights of our meetings. We hope that members will share their interesting specimens with all of us. Because of our limited meeting length, however, we would like to ask that only three plants from each person be discussed during the Plant Discussion period; any additional plants brought in will be displayed on the table with a card from the contributor, describing them. This way, people can read about them and ask questions about them after the evening's Speaker Presentation. Thank you! ~ *Chris Egan*



Other Horticultural Events...

Cal Hort Society February Program

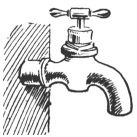
February 16, 2008 "Flora of South Africa's Cape Region –noted for its fynbos vegetation" Presented by Ernesto Sandoval, Curator, College of Biological Sciences Greenhouses, University of California, Davis, California
Meetings start at 7:15 p.m. in the County Fair Building at the San Francisco Botanical Garden. If you're not a member, there is a Guest Fee of \$5.

Annual Camellia Show & Plant Sale

Saturday February 14, 1-5pm
San Francisco Peninsula Camellia Society
Location: Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Avenue, Redwood City. Call 650-728-5600 for more information.



All About Irrigation: When and How to Water



Tuesday February 24, 7:30-8:30pm A lecture with Tina Dinitz. By the UCCE Master Gardeners of Santa Clara County. Location: Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 408-282-3105 for more information.

The New Planting Design: Putting Plants First

Saturday February 7, 9am-4pm
A Horticulture symposium with Craig Bergmann, Lauren Springer, Scot Ogden, and Thomas Fischer; contact Horticulture Magazine to register.
Location: San Francisco Botanical Garden Society at Strybing Arboretum 9th Ave./Lincoln Way, San Francisco. Call 877-436-7764 for more information.

Growing Natives: Celebrating California's Beauty in Dry Times

March 28, 2009 – Lafayette Community Center, Lafayette
March 29, 2009 – Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Berkeley



Creating beautiful waterwise gardens with California native plants will be the theme of this two-day symposium. The first day will include presentations on the flora of California (by botanist and author Glenn Keator), garden design (by author Carol Bornstein), the structure of the garden (by Phil van Soelen, from Cal Flora Nursery), herbaceous perennials and bulbs (by plantsman Roger Raiche), creating a native meadow (by

David Amme), and connecting with the garden (by Mike Evans, from Tree of Life Nursery). The program will include a continental breakfast, lunch, and a wine reception.

The program at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden will begin with an inspiring talk by Director Steve Edwards, followed by a choice of workshops on plants for dry gardens, aesthetic pruning, principles of irrigation, and gardening practices. After lunch in the garden, the program will continue at Native Here Nursery with a presentation by Charli Danielsen and an opportunity to purchase plants. The day will end with an invitation to visit two private gardens: the Fleming garden in Berkeley and the Greenberg garden in Lafayette. Members and subscribers of the sponsoring organizations will receive a discount on registration fees. To register visit www.nativeplants.org or call 510-849-1627 to request a registration form. Early registration is recommended because space is limited.

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.

February Classes at Common Grounds, Palo Alto

Fruit Tree Pruning

Kevin Raftery Saturday, February 7, 10:30-2pm \$41

Fruit Tree Varieties

Nancy Garrison Saturday, February 14, 10:30am-12:30pm \$28

Complete Mini-Diet Farming

John Jeavons Saturday, February 21, 10:30am-12:30pm \$28

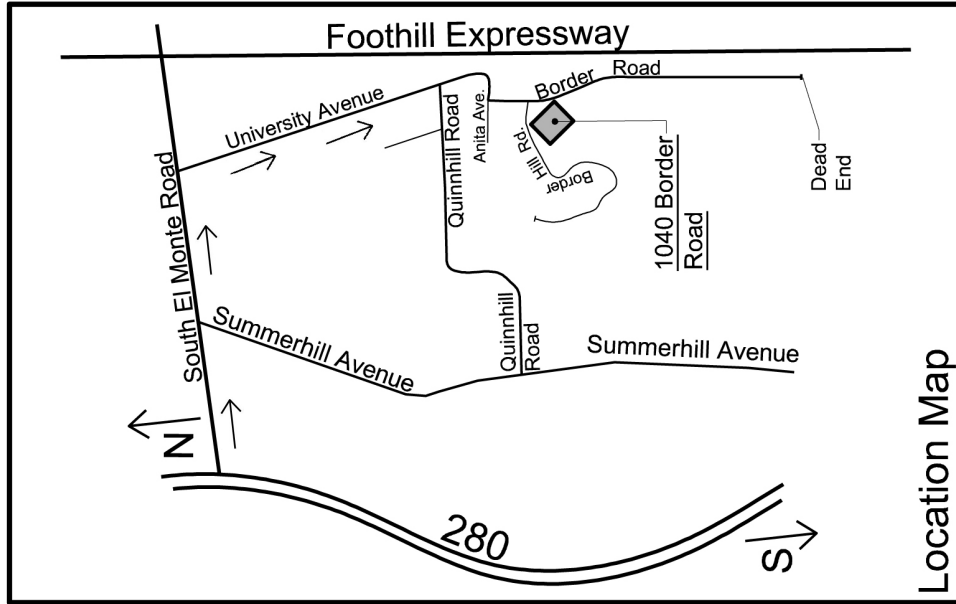
Economic Mini-Farming

John Jeavons Saturday, February 21, 2:30-4:30pm \$28

School Garden Basics

Susan Stansbury, Jody Main, Margaret MacNiven Saturday, February 28 10:30am-1:30pm \$37

To register for classes call 650-493-6072.



Location Map

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