

March
2007



Western Horticultural Society

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

WHS March Speaker

March 14: Daisy Mah

Supervisor, William Land Park.

"The Gardens of William Land Park, Sacramento, California"

Gardening in the interior valley of California can become a lesson in the art of plant sacrifices to Mother Nature. Daisy will discuss strategies and design to survive the challenges in public gardens in the interior valley by telling us her lessons learned during her years as Supervisor at William Land Park. Daisy studied art at San Jose State University and horticulture at American River College in Sacramento. Her goal is to create gardens that coexist with harsh Mediterranean conditions, attract wildlife, and provide beauty and awareness of nature to visitors while treading gently on the earth.



Important March Meeting Location Change Information!!

Our usual WHS monthly meeting location, Covington School, will not be available for us in March due to a Science Fair being held at the school. We will instead be having our March meeting at Oak Elementary School in their multi-purpose room. The address for Oak Elementary is 1501 Oak Avenue, Los Altos. Please see our website at www.westernhort.org for a map to the school.

April 11: Martin Grantham

Garden curator and propagator.

"Seed gathering in South Africa"

May 9: Bob Hornback

Owner of Muchas Grasses, Occidental, CA

"Variegated Plants: Horticulture Goes Hollywood."

Our monthly meetings feature the speakers listed above; doors open at 7pm and meetings begin at 7:30. The location this month is at Oak Elementary, 1501 Oak Avenue, Los Altos (for this meeting ONLY!) 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 March 21st. 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

Thank you to those who have already volunteered to help at our big fund raiser of the year. We have plenty more opportunities for members to get involved with the fun! Remember we're going to join in with the Master Gardener's big tomato and pepper sale on Sunday, April 15 at the SJ Mercury News parking lot at 750 Ridder Park Drive.

Donate Art

Please bring the wonderful plant or nature themed art you plan to donate to the **March 14th** meeting. Since we want to be able to offer this first to our faithful membership, please bring it **priced** and with a completed art donation form. (Included with last month's newsletter). Remember, art donors can receive a rebate of up to 25% of the sales price. If you need help getting donations to the March meeting, contact one of the committee members.

Volunteer to Help

We still need volunteers to set up, sell, and strike the sales booth the day of the sale. We especially need a couple of strong backs and strong arms to help handle the heavier items. We also need someone with a pickup truck to deliver the sun canopies and booth/display items in the morning, and pick up the items at the end of the day. In addition, a couple more vans or station wagons to help transport the art.

Loan Paraphernalia

We still need two (10' x 10') Farmer's Market type sunshade canopies (such as Caravan brand) with vertical (not angled) legs and removable sides (in case of bad weather). This is really important to make a pleasant and safe place to display the art. We are also interested in easels and other portable display racks that can be used to hang art. *To donate, volunteer, or loan items, 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

More Western Hort Business and News...

Raffle Table

Thanks to everyone who brought in items for the February raffle table. There will be no raffle in March. But bring your cash and check books, because all the art being turned in at the March meeting will be available for immediate sale! The art will be available for purchase at the end of the meeting, when we usually hold the raffle, after the main program is over.

CEU Credits

Remember: WHS now offers Continuing Education Credits for the CCN Pro—a program of the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers. One CEU credit for attendance at each monthly lecture. Just sign in at the registration desk after the program. Spread the word! ~Nancy Schramm

28 Years Ago in the WHS...

The March 12, 1979 WHS lecturer was landscape architect Ortha Zebroskie, speaking on "Color as a Design Element in the Garden" The newsletter featured three nice flower illustrations with instructions to color them in with specific colors. There was also a suggestion to check out a "big Magnolia soulangiana just getting ready to burst" going north on Middlefield just before the Sunset buildings. "It is worth a trip" Does anyone know if it's still there? Emily Brown's Supplement mentioned fragrant plants on the display table; a species camellia, wild currant, and, from Barbara Worl, a large branch of Viburnum x burkwoodii. This prompted a full page of information on Viburnums.

I ran across a copy of the May 1973 minutes (yep—34 years ago) and discovered that the plant raffle was initiated at the Feb 1973 meeting. (Previous to that, they had a plant sale each month) One line from the minutes made me laugh out loud.

"Charles Burr suggested that an aggressive salesman type, such as Ed Carman, be appointed to handle the plant raffle" (Background note for newer members--Charlie was known for his quick wit, and Ed's customers sometimes had to talk him into selling particular plants) Ed wasn't at that meeting--I'll bet the board members had a good laugh, too!

Also in the minutes "Barbara Barlow again suggested that Western Hort keep a record of plant discussion material" From that suggestion came our treasured Plant Notes! ~Nancy Schramm

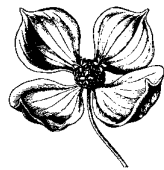
"The unmulched garden looks to me like some naked thing which for one reason or another would be better off with a few clothes on."

~ Ruth Stout, *The Ruth Stout No-Work Garden Book*



Other Horticultural Events...

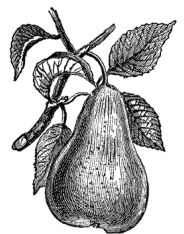
WHS and the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show



The folks at Pacific Horticulture Magazine have generously offered to share some space with WHS at their booth at the Landscape Garden Show at the Cow Palace March 21-25. If we can place a member at that booth during the show, we can hand out information about WHS to many potential members! If you have plans to attend the show, and expect to have some time to spare, please contact Nancy Schramm.

California Rare Fruit Growers

The local chapter of CRFG will be featuring a green budwood exchange at their April 14th meeting. They meet at Prusch Farm Park, 647 South King Road, San Jose. Doors open at noon for fruit tasting, meeting is from 1-3:30. For more information contact Nancy Garrison at nancyg2@aol.com.



Classes by the Santa Clara County Master Gardeners

Grow Your Plants from Seeds March 10, 2007

9 to 11am at Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverly Street, Palo Alto

Grafting Fruit Trees and Propagation by Layering Saturday March 17, 2007

2 to 4pm at the MetroED World Garden at Erikson School

4849 Pearl Avenue, San Jose; Southwestern edge of campus in Room 18

Growing Tomatoes from Seed Wednesday, March 21, 2007

7 to 9pm at the Sunnyvale Teaching and Demonstration Garden Program Room, Sunnyvale Public Library at Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale

For more information about Santa Clara County Master Gardener events, classes or workshops, call their hotline (408-282-3105) between 9:30am & 12:30pm, Monday-Friday.

Other Horticultural Events...

The Arboretum at University of California Santa Cruz

Gardening With Succulents Sunday, March 4, 1:30 pm

Patrick Anderson of San Diego, whose gardens have been featured in *Sunset Magazine*, will give an illustrated talk on designing gardens around succulent plants. \$15 general public, \$10 for Arboretum Members

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

Cal Hort Society March Program

March 19, 2007 **Cycads**—Presented by Maurice Levin of Jurassic Garden at A&A Cycads. Maurice will discuss the great diversity of Cycads including many threatened and unusual species; many specimens will be on display.

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.

The University of California Botanical Garden

The University of California, Berkeley

Art in the Garden

Develop simple pen and ink skills to capture the flora and fauna of your travels and hikes. East Bay artist Karen LeGault, will share her unique East-West fusion style of painting and offer a lesson in "drawing on the run."

Saturday March 10, 2007 1-4pm \$35, \$25 Members

Learn the Art of Organic Home Farming*

with Margaret Lloyd, Bay Area Vegetable Gardener
Bed Preparation and Transplanting with demonstration; Harvesting Techniques for maximum production; Summer Care.

Sunday March 11, 2007 12-3:30pm \$120, \$100 Members for all three classes*, \$40 each individual workshop.



Gamble Garden, Palo Alto—March Classes

A Garden Can Be Anywhere.....with Karen Froniewski

Wednesday, March 14, 9:30-11:30am, \$20 members, \$25 non-members Class limit: 20 Location: Carriage House

Learn the art and the craft of creating and maintaining gardens indoors. Bring your own container. Gamble will provide the potting medium.

A Garden Photography Workshop with Margareta Mitchell

Saturday, March 24, 9am-5pm & Sunday, March 25, 10am-3pm.

\$150 members, \$165 non-members Class limit: 15 Location: Carriage House, Gamble Gardens, and a private garden.

Saratoga Horticultural Research Foundation News

The trustees of the Saratoga Horticultural Research Foundation (SHRF) are pleased to announce the establishment of the SHRF Endowment. The Endowment, which will be administered by the University of California, Davis was formally instituted on December 11, 2006. The fund will provide funding for research that will foster the introduction of new and improved plants appropriate for California landscapes. An Advisory Committee comprising researchers, educators, landscape professionals and amateur gardeners will solicit proposals annually from California institutions of higher education and other California organizations and individuals. UC Davis will develop a website for receiving proposals, and the Advisory Committee will evaluate requests for their adherence to the mission of the SHRF. The results of funded studies will be reported on the SHRF website, and in appropriate scientific and popular venues.

(Thanks to Carol Coate for this information)

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, Chris Egan, 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.

March Classes at Common Grounds, Palo Alto

Double-Digging and Bed Preparation
Dan Royer-Miller, Saturday, March 10
10:30am-12:30pm, \$24, 1 CEU

Seed Propagation
Margo Royer-Miller, Saturday, March 10
2:00-4:00pm \$24

Growing Terrific Tomatoes
Nancy Garrison, Saturday, March 17
10:30am-12:30pm, \$24, 1 CEU

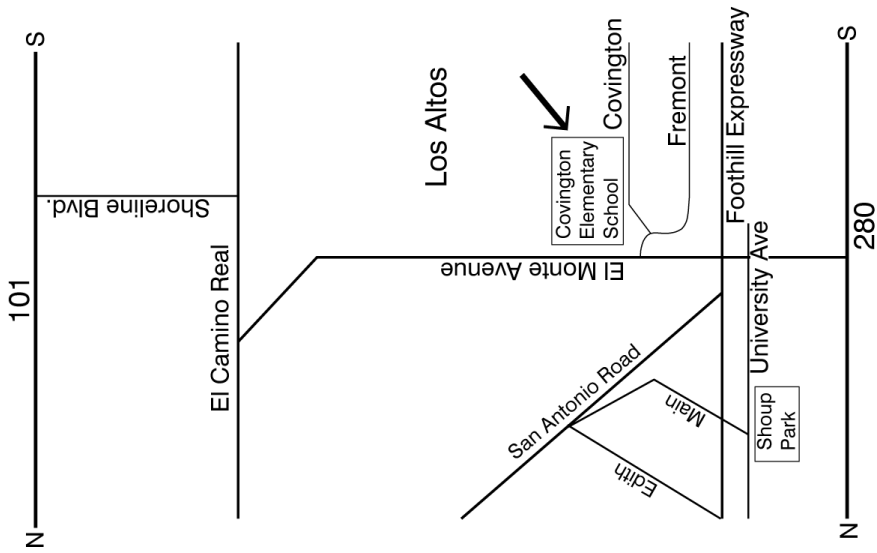
Blueberries and Raspberries
Nancy Garrison, Saturday, March 17
2:00-4:00pm, \$24, 1 CEU.

Propagation Basics
James Kern, Saturday, March 24
1:30-3:30pm \$24

Homegrown Organic Salads
Jody Main, Saturday,
March 31
10:30am-12:30pm \$26



First Class Mail



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



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Palo Alto, California

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