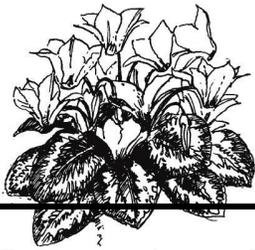


**November
2006**



Western Horticultural Society

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

WHS November Speaker

November 8: Bill (William A.) Grant

Garden writer and photographer, founder of Garden History Society of California.

"What's Wrong With My Roses?"

Bill will talk about practical issues and answers about roses. He will address how and where to buy them, how to raise them without spraying, and problems with some sources for the plants. Bill has traveled, written, photographed, collected, and spoken widely of roses, and contributed extensively to the "ultimate rose website" <http://www.rogersroses.com>. He and his collection of old roses and Australian plants live in Aptos, in the Monterey Bay region.



December 5: Betsy Fryberger

Burton and Deedee McMurtry Curator of Prints and Drawings, Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts, Stanford University.
"A Taste for Citrus"

January 10: Ron Parsons

Author, *Masdevillias, Gems of the Orchid World* (with Mary E. Gerritsen)
"The Splendor of California Wildflowers"

February 14: Paul Heiple

Geologist, Representative to Santa Clara County Weed Management Area.
"Weeds: What Horticulturalists Find in Pandora's Box"

March 14: Daisy Mah

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

April 11: Carol Bornstein

Director of Living Collections and Nursery, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden.
"Perennial Borders for California Gardens"

May 9: Bob Hornback

Our monthly meetings feature the speakers listed above; doors open at 7pm and meetings begin at 7:30. The location is Covington School, 205 Covington 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 Kerry Barrs to confirm at 650-851-7093.

The next newsletter deadline will be November 22th. Please call or email Michelle Bond (editor) at 650-363-9244 or michelle@hunzikers.org for newsletter content. For questions about the newsletter mailing party location, please contact Elizabeth Garbett at 650-948-4001 or crgarbett@sbcglobal.net. Please contact Claudia Stopp (408) 370-6936 or cjsubhi@sbcglobal.net with any changes of address.



Nurseries Accepting Plastic Nursery Pots for Reuse

Please call your local nursery if they don't appear on this list. Many nurseries will take back black rigid plastic pots and return them to growers for reuse. Each nursery listed has specifications as to what size pots they will accept. Please follow their guidelines. Pots must be empty and unbroken to be re-used. Leave pots during business hours only. Acceptable materials are subject to change.
<http://www.recycleworks.org/compost/nurseries.html> (From San Mateo Recycle Works website)

Bongard's Treescape Nursery

Half Moon Bay 650.726.4568 1-15 gallon

Carlmont Nursery

Belmont 650.591.6845 1 gallon and larger

Golden Nursery

San Mateo 650.348.5525 1 gallon and larger

Half Moon Bay Nursery

Half Moon Bay 650.726.5392 All sizes

M&M Nursery

Redwood City 650.366.4429 5 gallon and larger

Redwood City Nursery

Redwood City 650.368.0357 All sizes

Roger Reynolds Nursery

Menlo Park 650-323-5612 5-15 gallon and large flats

Wegman's Nursery

Redwood City 650.368.5908 All sizes

Yerba Buena Nursery

Woodside 650.851.1668 1-15 gallon

"I live in the garden; I just sleep in the house." ~Jim Long

More Western Hort Business and News...

Welcome New Members!

We would like to welcome the following new members who joined the WHS this fall:



Susan Bell
Lisa Bruce
Carolyn Craft
Thomas Dwyer
Sylvie Haas
Heidi Hegel
Agnes Kehoe
Catherine Smith
Carolyn Villa-Scott
Terry Wiggins

Thank you for joining our group; we appreciate your support and hope you enjoy being a part of Western Hort!

Holiday Potluck December 5th

Just a reminder—the WHS Holiday Potluck is fast approaching! This year, it will be held on Tuesday, December 5th. Also, Board Member Chris Egan is asking for donations of small succulents that can be used for living wreaths to decorate the tables. If any one has small potted succulents or cuttings, please bring them to the next meeting for Chris. Thank you!

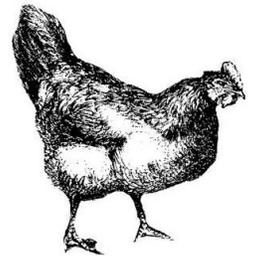
“There can be no other occupation like gardening in which, if you were to creep up behind someone at their work, you would find them smiling.”

~Mirabel Osler



Gardening with Chickens

Chickens in the suburbs? Actually, this isn't as crazy as it sounds. I have a small flock of hens in my garden for pleasure and also to help keep garden pests at bay. They provide many benefits to the garden in addition to fresh eggs. First, they absolutely adore slugs and other garden pests. When let out to roam the back yard in the mornings, they devour any slugs they find still out in the morning dew (in the spring and early summer - that's a lot of slugs!). Also, all I have to do is to tip up my pots and any slugs or earwigs hiding underneath are quickly devoured. Another delicacy on the chicken's menu is dandelions. These seem to be some of their favorite greens, and the hens love to pick at them while they are out or wait for me to toss them into their run. Of course, you do need to keep the hens out of your vegetable bed if you don't want them to help themselves, but I find a short fence of chicken wire does the job well.



People may not think of it immediately, but one of the best benefits of owning chickens is 'black gold' - their aged droppings make for absolutely one of the best fertilizers you can find. I add the droppings from their hen house to my compost pile along with spent hay from their nests, and always have a supply of rich, fertile compost for the garden.

All in all, keeping chickens in your backyard can be a move towards a more fertile, organic, and pesticide-free garden, in addition to the liveliness they add to the scene. Please be sure to check with your city about whether it is legal to keep chickens in your area first, and remember your neighbors—you don't need a rooster to have a group of happy, productive hens! ~Michelle Bond

Raffle Table

Thank you everyone for all the wonderful plants donated for the October raffle table. Our membership deserves a big hand of appreciation. The November table will be supplied by the Board, but as usual, we always welcome donations of those rare, exciting, or simply well-grown extra plants you'd like to share.

Art Sale

The WHS 'Blooming Art' sale is gathering steam with some of our very own members offering to donate art and volunteering to help. Don't get left out! If you are an artist (or know of someone we should contact) whose art is plant or nature related, we'd love to hear from you. We plan on joining in with an established plant event in the spring to sell the art. So if you're a photographer or illustrator, or if you make jewelry or tee-shirts, or if you create art for gardens, here's your chance to share your art and help WHS in the process. Contact any of the 'Blooming Art' committee with questions or artwork donations.

Janice Gillmore (408) 867-9428 janicegillmore@yahoo.com
Sherry Hall (831) 724-0822 john.sherry@charter.net
Patricia Knight (650) 941-6136 deerproof@yahoo.com
Nancy Schramm (408) 847-2313 edgreenthumb@att.net

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!

Other Horticultural Events...

Gamble Garden, Palo Alto - November Classes



Got Curb Appeal? With Fran Adams

Wednesday, November 8, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Fee: \$20 members, \$25 non-members. Class limit: 45

Location: Carriage House

If you can't answer this question with "Yes!", then this class is for you. Fran will explain the principles of design for a picture-perfect front yard, with special emphasis on an inviting front entry.

Garden Demonstration: Wisteria Pruning with Merrill Jensen

Thursday, November 16, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Fee: \$8 members, \$10 non-members. Class limit: 15 Location: The Garden

Tame that winding Wisteria! Find out the proper way to prune and train Wisteria from Gamble's horticulturist, Merrill Jensen. In a short, hands-on demonstration in the garden, Merrill will show the tools and techniques used, at just the right time for annual winter pruning.

A Springtime Walk in Southwest France

A Pacific Horticulture-sponsored trip to southwestern France, May 2-10th, 2007. Mary Kaye will be escorting the group and they will be walking each day, looking at wildflowers, staying in a chateau, a 16th century hotel, and a Quercy manor house. Please call Mary Kaye at 650-941-1332 for more information.

Cal Hort Society November Program

November 20, 2006



"The Effect of Global Climate Change on California Horticulture"

Presented by Dr. Michael Loik, Dept. Environmental Studies, UC Santa Cruz. 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.

Chaparral Native Plants for the Garden, a talk by Pat Pizzo

Thursday, November 2, 2006 - tell a friend

7:00 pm at Peninsula Conservation Center

Learn which plants from the chaparral plant community are suited to the home garden. Many are drought tolerant and of great beauty.

Planting Techniques, Pruning, Deadheading, & Making Gopher Baskets

Saturday, November 11, 2006 - tell a friend

10:00 am at Yerba Buena Nursery

We will demonstrate transplanting, pruning and deadheading techniques to care for your California Native Plants, and more! Call to reserve your spot.

The University of California Botanical Garden

The University of California, Berkeley

November 5: Autumn in Asia, a guided tour and discussion with Elaine Sedlack, 11 am to noon, UC Botanical Garden. Fee \$12; pre-registration required.

November 12: Orchid identification & Culture, a class with Jerry Parsons, 11 am to noon, UC Botanical Garden. Fee \$12; pre-registration required.

Western Horticultural Society Officers and Board Members

President: Janice Gillmore

Vice President: Steve Staiger

Recording Secretary: Jackie Doda

Treasurer: Claudia Stopp

Other Board Members: Kerry Barrs, Michelle Bond, Chris Egan, 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.

The Arboretum at University of California Santa Cruz

Sunday, November 5, 1:30 pm

Vertical Gardening

Bill Grant, world traveller, Arboretum stalwart, and speaker of wide renown, will give a slide lecture on vines, trailers, espaliers, and of course roses of every stripe.

\$15 general public, \$10 for Arboretum Members

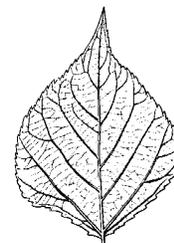
November Classes at Common Grounds, Palo Alto

Japanese Influence in California Native Gardening

Mark Bourne

Saturday, November 11

10:30 - 12:00pm—\$21



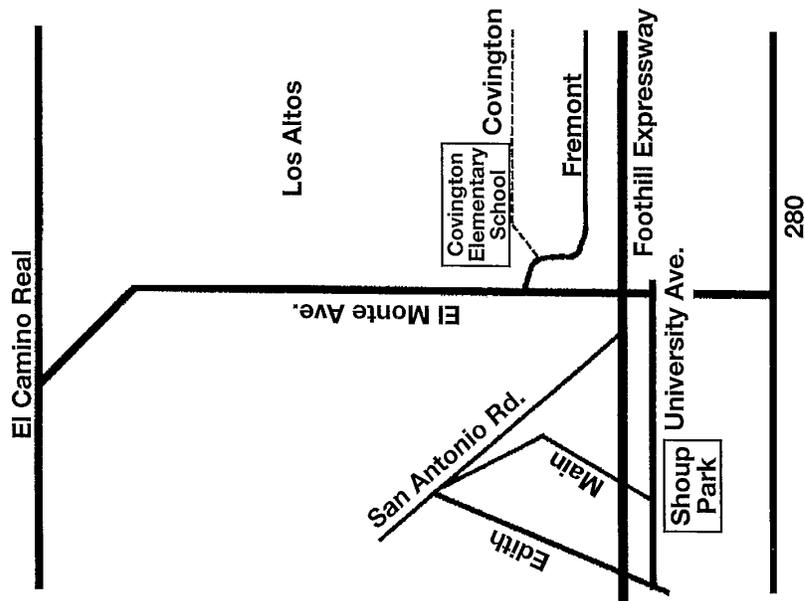
Designing Sustainable Landscapes

Frank Niccoli & Jessie Berg

Saturday, November 18

10:30 - 3:30pm—\$45

First Class Mail



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



PO Box 60507
Palo Alto, California
First Class Mail