**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**
WHS November Speaker

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**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

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"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!

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

“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
**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 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.

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**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 & Jessy Berg  
*Saturday, November 18*  
10:30 - 3:30pm—$45
Western Horticultural Society
Monthly Meeting
Covington School
205 Covington Road, Los Altos