

February  
2008



# Western Horticultural Society

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

## WHS February Speaker

**February 13: Ernie Wasson**

Nursery and Garden Curator at Cabrillo College  
**“Foliage Plants: The Backbones of the Garden”**

Really good gardeners and designers know there are a few very important keys to a successful landscape. Flowers can come and go but it is the foliage plants that hold the whole thing together through all four seasons. Learn how to use foliage plants for texture and color, create outdoor garden rooms and private spaces, create shade for lower light plants, accent garden art or hide an unsightly view. Having gardened on both coasts, Ernie Wasson’s resume is extensive, including student at the Graduate program at Longwood Gardens, professor of horticulture classes at Cabrillo College and College of the Redwoods, author of an internet column called “All Plants Considered”, coeditor of The Plant Encyclopedia Botanica and currently Nursery and Garden Curator at Cabrillo College.

**March 12: Rosemary Nightingale**

Educator, Artist, Co-founder of the Squaw Valley Herb Gardens, and author of Recipes & Remedies  
“See, Smell, Hear, Taste and Feel: Herbs, the Useful Plants”

**April 9: Patrick Worley**

Hybridizer, Webmaster and Graphic Designer for Sun-crest Nurseries “Peru, a Plant Lover’s Journey”

**May 14: Jeff Rosendale**

Owner of Rosendale Nursery and Sierra Azul Nursery and Gardens, Watsonville, CA  
“Plants, People and Art – Putting Them all Together in a California Garden”



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 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 20th. 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.



## Update on Western Hort Spring Plant Sale

Co-chairmen Chris Egan and Elizabeth Garbett are asking for volunteers to serve on a planning committee for the spring plant sale. If you would like to help, please call or e-mail either of us. We would like to begin collecting information on the kinds, numbers and container sizes of plants now being propagated for the sale so that we can estimate the amount of space we will need. If you growers would e-mail Elizabeth at crgarbett@sbcglobal.net with this information, it would be much appreciated. The Spring Garden Market, where we plan to have our sale, will be Saturday, April 12 from 9am-3pm at History San Jose. Chris Egan’s email is chegan@pacbell.net. Thanks to our members for all your help and support!

## Update: Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM)

The WHS would like to remind you that if you live in a quarantined zone, please remember not to bring any plants for the plant discussion or raffle table. Nancy Schramm let us know that The University of California Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program has produced a publication to answer the public’s questions regarding the LBAM. To download a free copy of “Light Brown Apple Moth: Quarantine, Management, and Potential Impacts”, go to [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu).

**“To be overcome by the fragrance of flowers is a delectable form of defeat.”** ~ Beverley Nichols

## *More Western Hort Business and News...*

### **We Miss You Bill!**

WHS sends our very best wishes to Bill Kurtz for a speedy recovery. Bill suffered a broken hip in a recent fall. Our plant discussion won't be the same without you - so get back on your feet, soon. Anyone wishing to send Bill a few words of encouragement should address their cards or notes to: 1700 Jeffery Ct., Santa Clara, CA 95051-2904.

### **Raffle Table**

Thank you, board members, for the great plants and other items on our Jan raffle table. Kudos to the creative compliance with LBAM regulations. Thanks also to Barbara Worl for such a generous donation of her beautiful photographic note cards. The Feb raffle table is the responsibility of the general membership. We greatly appreciate the donation of wonderful plants, or (if you live in an LBAM quarantine area) plant related items.

### **CEU Credits**

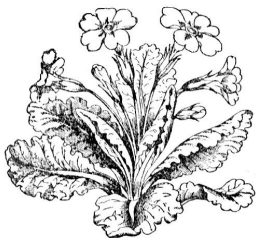
WHS offers Continuing Education Credits for the CCN Pro—a program of the California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers. One CEU credit is earned per monthly WHS lecture attendance. Just sign in at the registration desk after the program. Stay tuned CLCA members! We hope to be able to offer CEU's to you, soon too! ~Nancy Schramm

### **Beautiful Salvia at the Welcome Table**

Everyone was gasping at the salvia that Liz Calhoon brought as our floral focal point in January. Since I don't think it will be in the plant notes and everyone was curious, I decided to "interview" Liz. She said it has the name *Salvia gesneriiflora* 'Tequila.' *Sunset* gives information in their garden book. Liz started it from a cutting and it is now 6 feet tall! She has very little problems with it. Liz's success story should be a great confidence builder for all of us to carry on with those cuttings for the plant sale! ~Janice Gilmore

**“Each spring...a gardening instinct, sure as the sap rising in the trees, stirs within us. We look about and decide to tame another little bit of ground.”**

~Lewis Gantt



### *28 Years Ago...*

The February 11th WHS meeting in 1980 featured Stephen Tollefson discussing 'The Care and Feeding of House Plants, New and Old'. In honor of the topic, an assortment of unusual house plants were brought in for display by Ellie Wood. The description of a miniature *Begonia* herbacea caught my fancy. It bears tiny male and female flowers, separately, on the same plant. (Is this typical of *Begonias*?) She also brought a *Ficus pumila* 'Quercifolia' growing on driftwood. (I killed my small one in last January's freeze...) Also on display were glorious blooms of several *Magnolias* and *Camellias*. The raffle table was generously supplied with natives by Nevin Smith (his former nursery--Wintergreen). Mention was made of a bus trip to be hosted by SHF on April 10th to the Sonoma Nursery and Western Hills Nursery. Western Hills is open again, with new owners, and is still a wonderful garden to visit. ~Nancy Schramm



### *A Note from Our January Speaker...*

Your January speaker, who said she had talked enough, failed to state two facts that are very important to the story of Western Hort. She mentioned the connection of Branner Newsom and Vivian Hawkins to the garden she had the fun of making at Cowper Street. However, she forgot to say that Branner was the treasurer of the society in its early days. It was also he who straightened out our accounts and first had us put some of our money into an interest bearing fund that would give Western Hort a solid foundation for the future. Also at a Christmas in the early 1970's, he gave the gift memberships in the society to both Vivian and Barbara—for which we both thanked him by rejoining each year! ~Barbara Worl

### *Something New...*

Bring your business cards to the meeting. We are going to initiate a drawing of all members' business cards at each meeting and the one drawn will have the business's name, address and a brief description of their business appear in the next WHS newsletter. You must be in attendance at the meeting. Advertisement for our members could help your business and your participation is always welcome. ~Claudia Stopp

## Other Horticultural Events...

### Cal Hort Society February Program

February 18, 2008 'Plants & Wildflowers of Central Mexico'  
Presented by Ron Parsons, noted flower photographer, lecturer, horticulturist and author of many publications, each beautifully illustrated. Ron is considered by many to be one of the finest flower photographers in the United States  
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.



### The Arboretum at University of California Santa Cruz

Thursday, February 7, 7pm 'Garden Art'

Join our lively lecturer Bill Grant for an illustrated tour of art in gardens around the world. Pot luck supper precedes the lecture, at 6 pm.

Free! (But donations gratefully accepted.) For more information call (831)427-2998 or email [arboretum@cats.ucsc.edu](mailto:arboretum@cats.ucsc.edu).

### 2nd Annual Marin Mushroom Mania

Saturday, February 9, 9:30am-4pm at the Marin Art & Garden Center, 30 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard in Ross

**Is it deadly or delicious?** Come see, touch, and taste all things 'shroom at the Marin Art & Garden Center's 2nd Annual Mushroom Mania. Co-sponsored with the Mycological Society of San Francisco ([mssf.org](http://mssf.org)) and Marin Master



Gardeners, this well-loved event includes forays, lectures, displays, slide shows, identification, and cooking demonstrations. Participants learn about the habitat and ecology of fungi. Free refreshments, lunch available for purchase. \$25 fee. Space is limited. Call 455-5260 to pre-register.

### Gamble Gardens, Palo Alto

Become a member and receive your membership discount as well as advance notice of future classes in your semi-monthly newsletter. Call (650) 329-1356 weekdays from 9am-noon.

#### Roses in a Mixed Border with Carole Kraft

Wednesday, February 6, 9:30 to 11:30AM

Fee: \$20 members, \$25 non-members; class limit 25 Location: Carriage House

#### Unity in Landscape Design with Susie Wells

Wednesday, February 20, 1:00 to 3:00PM

Fee: \$20 members, \$25 non-members; class limit 25 Location: Carriage House

#### Dromantine in Bloom with Pamela J.

Sunday, March 2, 1:00 to 3:00PM

Fee: \$20 members, \$25 non-members; class limit 30 Location: Carriage House

### 6th Annual Going Native Garden Tour

Sunday, April 20, 2007, 10am-4pm. A free, self-guided tour of home gardens that are water-wise, low maintenance, low on chemical use, bird and butterfly friendly, and attractive. A variety of home gardens landscaped with California native plants will be open to the public. Locations throughout Santa Clara Valley and Peninsula. Free admission; registration required at <http://www.GoingNativeGardenTour.org> before April 19, 12 noon, or until the tour reaches capacity, whichever comes first. Space is limited; register early to ensure a place. Volunteers receive invitations to visit native gardens throughout the year.

#### Western Horticultural Society Officers and Board Members

**President:** Chris Egan

**Vice President:** Steve Staiger

**Recording Secretary:** Judy Mulenberg

**Treasurer:** Claudia Stopp

**Other Board Members:** Kerry Barrs, Christine Bate, Michelle Bond, Janice Gilmore, Sherry Hall, Patricia Knight, Niki Muller, David Sarasua, Nancy Schramm

To contact us, please email us at: [info@westernhort.org](mailto: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](http://www.westernhort.org) for a membership form.

### February Classes at Common Grounds, Palo Alto

#### Fruit Tree Varieties

Nancy Garrison Saturday, February 2, 10:30am-12:30 \$25

#### Using Native Plants in the Garden - A Deeper Perspective

Del McComb Saturday, February 9, 2008 10:30am-12:30+ \$25

#### Seed Propagation

Jennifer Ungemach Saturday, February 16, 10:30am-12:30 \$25

#### Double-Digging and Bed Preparation

Jennifer Ungemach Saturday, February 16, 2-4pm \$25

#### Compost Crops and Rotations

John Jeavons Saturday, February 23, 10:30am-12:30+ \$25

#### Insect Life for a Healthier Garden

John Jeavons Saturday, February 23, 2-4pm+ \$25

#### Fruit Tree Pruning

Kevin Raftery Saturday, February 23, 11:30am-3:00pm, \$39

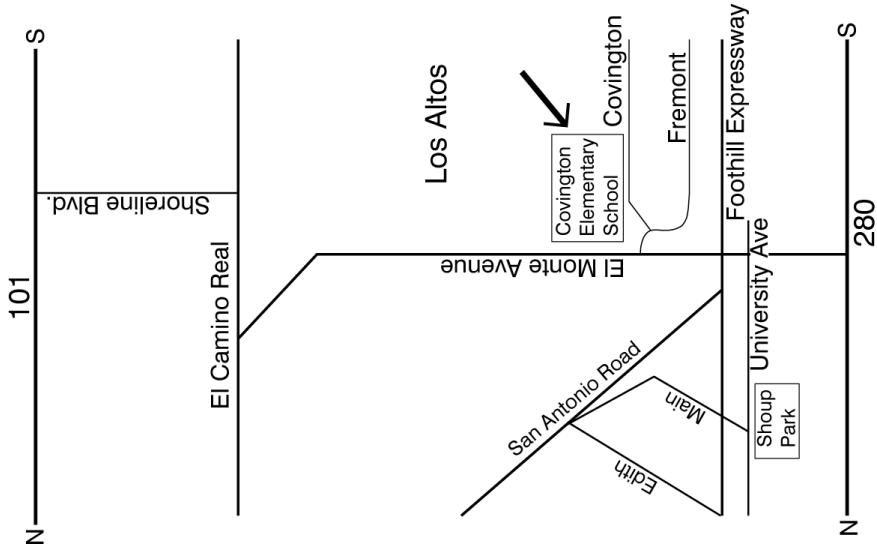


PO Box 60507

Palo Alto, California

First Class Mail

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

Business Card from our January drawing:  
“Todo es posible” is my company name or  
“Anything is possible” in English.

- Horticultural Landscape ‘Maintenance’ Consultant; I help maintenance gardeners, designers, contractors, architects, and homeowners answer horticultural questions and solve maintenance problems. I have lived and gardened in Woodside and Atherton for 20 years.
  - Garden Coaching available; Flexible services, one visit to the site then, once a season, once a year, or simply meet you at a local nursery to help you make appropriate plant choices.
  - I also lead a ‘free’ 1 and 1/2 hour interpretive walk the first Sunday of every month at 1:30 PM starting at the bookstore of SFBG at Strybing Arboretum (9th and Lincoln Way, in Golden Gate Park)
- Kerry Barrs phone (650)851-7093 home/office (650)339-1789 PO Box 620484, Woodside CA, 94062