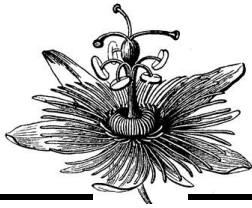


May
2007



Western Horticultural Society

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

WHS May Speaker: May 9: Bob Hornback Owner of Muchas Grasses, Occidental, CA

"Variegated Plants: Horticulture Goes Hollywood."

Whether it's streaked, striped or spotted, multicolored foliage catches the eye and lights up the garden. Come take a peek at the possibilities, as an avid collector presents his favorite variegates and shows you how to display them in the garden. Bob Hornback is a popular garden writer and lecturer who owns Muchas Grasses, which specializes in brokerage, consultation and design with ornamental grasses. He teaches horticulture at campuses throughout the Bay Area, including UC Berkeley Extension and the Santa Rosa Junior College.

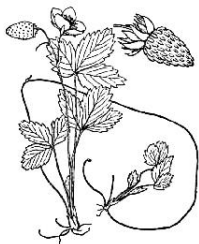
Blooming Art Sale

A huge, heartfelt thank you goes out to all the art donors and dedicated volunteers who contributed to our Blooming Art Sale. On Sunday I saw: John, Kerry, Chris, Sherry & Jonn, Claudia, Pat, Janice, Alice, Kate, and Leslie, all helping out. (I hope I haven't missed anyone--it was a busy day!) While I can't say that Sunday's sale was a huge success, I can say that Kerry's sales techniques reeled me in to purchase the Pleone he donated!

Since this is the last newsletter of the year, I'd like to slip in an idea for next year's fundraiser. Several WHS members have suggested that we have a plant sale or planted container sale that would be at a time/location open to the general public. An event like this would require more volunteers from the general WHS membership. It's definitely more than your board can do by themselves! If this sounds interesting to you, and you'd be willing to be on the planning committee, please call or email our president Chris Egan (650) 948-4614 or chegan@pacbell.net ~ Nancy Schramm

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.

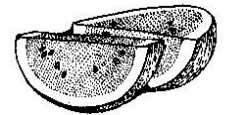
The next newsletter deadline will be in late August. Please call or email Michelle Bond (editor) at 650-363-9244 or michelle@hunzikers.org for newsletter content. Please contact Claudia Stopp at 408-370-6936 or cjsubhi@sbcglobal.net with any changes of address.



Save the Date! WHS Annual Picnic

Be sure to mark Sunday, July 1st on your calendars—it's the date for the annual Western Horticultural Society Picnic! This year's picnic will be held at the beautiful Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve at Stanford University in Palo Alto.

More details will be announced at the upcoming May meeting, so be sure to save the date!



28 Years Ago in the WHS...

The May 14, 1979 WHS meeting featured Hadley Osborn talking and showing slides on "Strybing Arboretum (now called the San Francisco Botanical Garden) and Filoli: Design Contrasts." Osborn had formerly been director of Strybing Arboretum, and at the time, was director of Filoli. A point of interest, at that time, the WHS meetings were held each Monday, not each Wednesday. I wonder when the meeting day changed? Stay tuned--I'll look it up!

Thanks were given to Gerda Isenberg (Yerba Buena Nursery) as well as Roger Reynolds and Wegman's Nurseries for their donations to the raffle table. Isn't it great that these nurseries are still in business selling quality plants. (That's probably why!)

A special event was announced for the June meeting. Landscape architect Nancy Hardesty led a walking tour of Portola Valley Ranch. "We have been invited to see the unusual effects of using native plants in the landscaping of cluster housing." A "brown bag supper party" followed the walk. I'd be interested to hear how well this landscaping has survived the past 28 years. Thank you, Karen Bartholomew, for letting me know that the Magnolia I asked about in the March '28 Years Ago' column indeed survives, and was once again putting on a floral display. ~ Nancy Schramm

"If you are not killing plants, you are not really stretching yourself as a gardener." ~J.C. Raulston

Raffle Table

Thank you, everyone, who contributed plants to the raffle table in April. What a selection! We had a huge Echeveria donated by Succulent Gardens. SG has two locations now, one in Castroville (831) 632-0482, and one in Carmel (831) 624-0426. Terra Sole Nurseries donated some lovely plants, call Sherry Hall to find out which Farmer's Markets they are attending (831) 724-0802. Carman's Nursery donated some species tulips and narcissus, call (408) 847-2313. Finally, The Lily Garden, of Vancouver WA, donated a whole box of 'Scheherazade' bulbs on behalf of Daisy Mah; see their website at www.thelilygarden.com For the final raffle table of the year, donations from everyone will be gladly accepted. Let's see how many variegated plants we can donate—to tie-in with our speaker topic!

CEU Credits

Remember: WHS 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

Other Horticultural Events...

Gardening Under Mediterranean Skies V: Lessons In Our Gardens

Pacific Horticulture magazine will be sponsoring a Symposium *Gardening Under Mediterranean Skies V: Lessons In Our Gardens* to take place September 29-30, 2007 in San Diego, California. Lectures will be held at Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas with a series of classes held in the home gardens of the presenters where you will enjoy the added benefit of both a tour and training! This will be a unique opportunity to see some of San Diego's beautiful gardens up close and hear from those that create those spaces. If you are interested in this symposium, please call or email Leslie Dean 650 967-5408 or lesliedean@mindspring.com and she will mail you a brochure when they are available. Registration for Western Horticultural Society members is offered at the discount rate of \$129, and includes two lunches. The standard fee is \$155. After Sept. 1 fees go up by \$30. To register go to www.sdhortsoc.org (after July 1) or call (760) 295-7089.

“When your garden is finished I hope it will be more beautiful than you anticipated, require less care than you expected, and have cost only a little more than you had planned.”

~Thomas D. Church



Fruit Tastings

Andy Mariani spoke eloquently about fruit with flavor at our October 2006 WHS meeting. To taste some of these wonderful ripe cherries, apricots, peaches (the list goes on) check out his summer event schedule starting in June at www.andysorchard.com.

Open Gardens in July

The South County Garden Railroaders invite you to the 13th annual **Garden Layout Tour** to benefit the St. Josephs & Community Pantry Food Banks on July 22, 2007 from 9am-3pm. Visit 10 model railroads running through some of the most unusual backyard gardens in Morgan Hill, Gilroy and Hollister as well as the masterfully done San Juan Pacific Club layout at Bolado Park. Please bring canned goods to donate and pick up a guide book at the All Aboard Junction train store at 8355 Monterey Street, Gilroy (behind Cottage Floors) call Pat at (408) 846-8841 for more information.

The California Rare Fruit Growers

The California Rare Fruit Growers meet every other month at Emma Prusch Park at the corner of Story and King in San Jose. The meetings are the second Saturday of the even numbered months, doors opening with fruit tastings at noon, meetings run from 1:00 to 4:00. Next meeting will be June 9th. For more information call or email Nancy Garrison (408) 298-5828 or nancyg2@aol.com

Perfect Gift for Mother's Day

Adopt a rose in the Heritage Rose Garden and present your mom with a very attractive gift package that contains potpourri made from rose petals from the Heritage Rose Garden, a chocolate truffle from Schurra's, and a handmade bar of bee's wax soap. We'll package these items for you, along with a card announcing the rose adoption, in an eye-catching gift box with a festive ribbon. This special gift package is available for \$50.00, inclusive of the rose adoption, which consists of a plaque with your personal message for mom installed by her rose for a full year. To order your rose package, visit our website at www.grpg.org and look for the Mother's Day icon. Or, you can order online or call Phil Cornish, Program Manager, at 408-298-7657 with questions or to place an order. Gift packages will be available for pick up Monday-Friday at the Visitor and Education Center at 438 Coleman Avenue.

Other Horticultural Events...



Down The Garden Path Garden Tour

Six private gardens in the Napa Valley cities of St. Helena and Calistoga will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, June 3, 2007. These unique gardens are owned and tended by Napa County Master Gardeners.

The self-guided tour of country gardens and smaller city gardens features several spectacular rose gardens, perennial borders, shade gardens, potagers and orchards, as well as many great design ideas for gardening in our Mediterranean climate. Tickets are \$20 in advance, or \$25 day of the event. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the tour at the Napa Valley College, Upper Valley Campus, 1088 College Avenue, off Silverado Trail and Pope Street in St. Helena. For information and tickets, call (707) 253-4147. Visit our Website for information and print-out ticket form: <http://cenapa.ucdavis.edu> (click on Master Gardener).

The Arboretum at University of California Santa Cruz

Plant Endemism in the Andes Thursday, May 3, 4pm

Lou Jost, plant researcher working in Ecuador, will give an illustrated lecture on the plants in the South American mountain ecosystem that are challenged by development, and how they might be preserved. Free.

Controlling Gophers and Moles Without Poisons Saturday, May 5, 9am-4pm
\$35 general public. \$25 for Arboretum Members. Limited to 40.

Footprints in the Sky Sunday, May 6, 1:30pm

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

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



Cal Hort Society May Program

Madagascar's Unique Succulent Flora May 21, 2007

Inge Hoffmann, Internationally recognized horticulturist. Recipient of the 2007 Award for her contributions to the knowledge, discovery and introduction of palms.

Silent Auction of Rare Plants Call Elsie Mueller at 800-884-0009 for reservations. Fee is \$5 per person to cover event costs. Reservations must be made by Friday, May 18th. Your dinner ticket & name tags will be held for you at the door. Bring your favorite dish, enough for 8; your table setting & own silverware; plants for sale. The Society will provide ham and turkey. Meetings start at 7:15 p.m. in the County Fair Building at The San Francisco Botanical Gardens.

Gamble Garden, Palo Alto

California Creative – Spring Tour 2007

Friday May 4 and Saturday May 5: 10am—4pm

You will have the opportunity to view five private Palo Alto gardens, which have never been open to the public. At Gamble Garden, the days will be filled with activities that make our Tour unique, including plant sale, boutique, catered luncheon, garden experts, and self-guided tour of historic Gamble Garden.

Plant Sale: The Gamble Garden Plant Sale is always an anticipated feature of the Garden Tour. Many plants propagated by Gamble Garden volunteers from our own stock will be available for sale, plus unusual and hard-to-find specimens, drought tolerant plants, flowers and herbs from specialty nurseries.

Advance Ticket Sales: Visitors with tickets can begin their tour at any one of the five gardens or at Gamble Garden. Tickets are available by mail or can be purchased at Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301. In advance, they are \$25 for members of Gamble Garden, \$30 for non-members (this would be a good time to join Gamble!). All tickets purchased on the day of the tour will be \$35, for members and non-members alike.



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, Janice Gillmore, Sherry Hall, 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.

May Classes at Common Grounds, Palo Alto

Starting A Summer Vegetable Garden

Jody Main Saturday, May 5 10:30am-12:30pm, \$24, 0.5 CEU

California Native Plants

Frank Niccoli & Dee Wong Saturday, May 12 2-4pm, \$24, 0.5 CEU

Solar Ovens: Cooking, Building, Buying

Don Larson Saturday, May 19 10:30am-12:30pm, \$24

Drip Irrigation

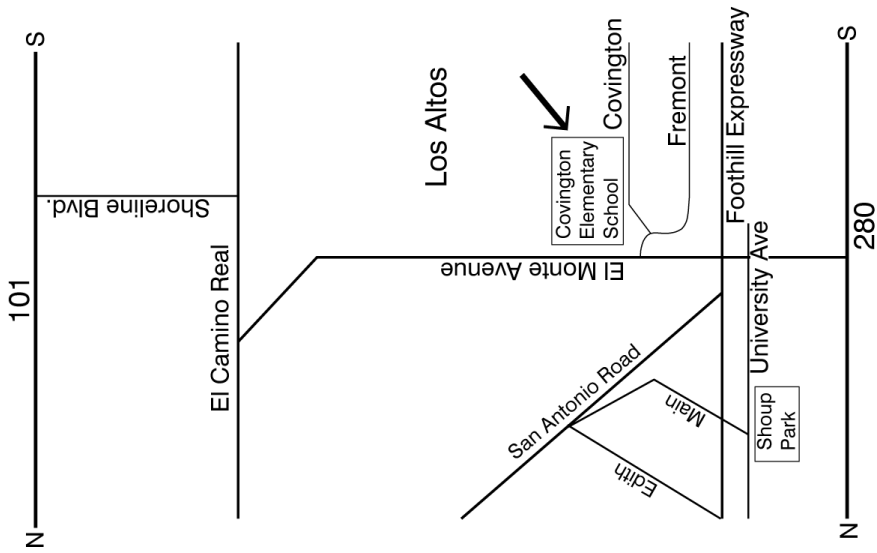
Frank Niccoli Saturday, May 19 2-4pm, \$24, 1 CEU

Connecting Home and Garden

Linda Lenore Saturday, May 26 10:30am-12:30pm, \$24



First Class Mail



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



PO Box 60507

Palo Alto, California

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