

The next monthly general meeting is Monday, May 16, 2011 at 7:15 pm

Monthly meetings are held at the San Francisco County Fair Building, Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park.

Free parking is available behind the San Francisco County Fair Building on Lincoln Way.

4:00 PM – Botanical gardens walk with the featured speaker. Meet at the entrance to the San Francisco Botanical Garden.

5:30 PM – No-host dinner will take place at Park Chow Restaurant, located at 1240 Ninth Avenue in San Francisco.

7:15 PM – Announcements, Plant Forum, and Program Meeting will be held at the San Francisco County Fair Building.

Cal Hort members may attend for FREE. Non-members – a donation of \$5 is requested

DO YOU GROW THIS PLANT?

Linum grandiflorum rubrum
"Scarlet Flax"

(Almost fluorescent red flowers with petals often bordered in black. Annual, native to north Africa and southern Europe. Adaptable to many soils. Often reseeds when happy.) A member has requested seeds of Scarlet Flax, but other members have asked for many other wildflowers, natives, grasses, bulbs, and perennials.

SAVE YOUR RIPE SEED FOR
THE SEED EXCHANGE

Thanks from the Seed Exchange Committee



MAY 2011 MEETING
Randy Baldwin Honors
Plants and People

In 1972, Randy Baldwin's Eagle Scout project was building foot paths at the Theodore Payne Foundation. Founded and incorporated in 1960, the Theodore Payne Foundation promotes the understanding and preservation of California native flora. Those paths led

him down the road to a career as co-owner and manager of San Marcos Growers. He has been fortunate to establish friendships with many knowledgeable horticulturists, who in turn, introduced him to countless wonderful plants. Randy's talk will honor the people and the plants that have influenced him.

JUNE 2011 MEETING
Experiencing Horticulture on the Internet
with Patrick Albin

Patrick Albin is an internet designer who has created online experiences for major US corporations and household brand names. He is also a passionate gardener and has recently created a new online community called The Garden Geek—a place where everyone is encouraged to share their gardening knowledge. "With the advent of the internet," Patrick says, "gardeners all over the world are able to connect and share gardening information with each other online in new and dynamic ways that were never before possible." Join us on an adventure through cyberspace and learn how you can enjoy an online experience with plants and gardening.

Spring HORTICULTURAL Events by Don L. MacGregor

44th ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE

Friday, May 6; 5:00 PM–8:00 PM Members only
Saturday, May 7; 10:00 AM–2:00 PM Everyone welcome!
San Francisco Botanical Garden Society,
Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park.
www.sfbotanicalgardensociety.org

GARDEN DISCOVERY SATURDAYS:

Exploring the Garden for Children 7–9 Years Old
with Alya Davidman

Four Saturdays, May 7, 14, 21, and 28; 10:00 AM–2:00 PM
Regional Parks Botanic Garden
\$120 Fee, \$100 for Members. Please bring lunch.
Wildcat Canyon Road and South Park Drive within Tilden Park.
www.nativeplants.org

THE GARDEN CONSERVANCY'S OPEN DAYS TOUR

Menlo Park and Atherton Gardens

Saturday, May 7; 10:00 AM–4:00 PM.
\$5 per garden. Garden Conservancy toll-free 9-5/M-F, (888)842-2442.
www.OpenDaysProgram.org

AGAVES AND ALOES

Theme Tour led by Barbara McDonnell

Saturday, May 7; 11:00 AM–12:30 PM
Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek.
Free with Garden Admission. (925)944-9352
www.ruthbancroftgarden.org

A CALIFORNIAN'S GUIDE TO TREES AMONG US

Talk and book signing with Matt Ritter

Monday, May 9; 7:30 PM
UC Santa Cruz Arboretum, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz. (831)427-2998
www.arboretum.ucsc.edu

YEAR-ROUND CUT FLOWERS FROM THE GARDEN

Talk by Kristin Yanker-Hansen

Wednesday, May 11; 7:30 PM
Western Horticultural Society. The Parish Hall, Christ Episcopal Church,
1040 Border Road, Los Altos. \$5 for guests.
www.WesternHort.org

WICKED PLANTS: BOTANICAL ROGUES & ASSASINS

Exhibit Now through October 30
Conservatory of Flowers, JF Kennedy Drive, Golden Gate Park.
\$7/\$5 Adults/SF residents
\$5/\$3 12-17, Seniors, College Students. (415)831-2090
www.ConservatoryofFlowers.org

A WALK THROUGH THE GARDEN OF OLD ROSES, with Peter Klement

Saturday, May 14; 10:00 AM–12:00 PM
UC Botanical Garden, Centennial Drive in Berkeley.
\$15/\$10 members. (510) 643-2755
Registration required; e-mail garden@berkeley.edu.
www.BotanicalGarden.Berkeley.edu

GARDEN MYTHS

Workshop with Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott

Saturday, May 14; 1:00 PM–3:00 PM
UC Botanical Garden, Centennial Drive in Berkeley.
\$25/\$20 members. (510)643-2755
Registration required; e-mail garden@berkeley.edu.
www.BotanicalGarden.Berkeley.edu

DOWN THE GARDEN PATH Self-led Garden Tour

Sunday, May 15; 10:00 AM–4:00 PM
UC Master Gardeners of Napa County. \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door.
(707)253-4147
[www.UCANR.org/sites/ucmgnapa/
Master_Gardener_Programs/GardenTour_254](http://www.UCANR.org/sites/ucmgnapa/Master_Gardener_Programs/GardenTour_254)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CENTRAL COAST, Talk by Director Brett Hall

Tuesday, May 17; 6:00 PM Potluck, 7:00 PM talk
UC Santa Cruz Arboretum Native Plant Program.
1156 High Street. (831)427-2998.
www.Arboretum.UCSC.edu

THE NOVEL GARDEN English Garden Mystery Series with author Anthony Eglin

Thursday, May 19; 5:30 PM–7:00 PM
Quarryhill Botanic Garden HortiCulture Series, Glen Ellen.
www.quarryhillbg.org

WICKED PLANTS: AN EVENING WITH AMY STEWART Slideshow and Lecture

Wednesday, June 1; 6:30 PM
Conservatory of Flowers, JF Kennedy Drive,
Golden Gate Park. \$10/\$7 COF members. (415)831-2090
www.ConservatoryofFlowers.org

QUARRYHILL ANNUAL SPRING CELEBRATION Lecture, Auction, and Plant Sale

June 4, 2011; 10:00 AM–3:00 PM
Plant sale continues on Sunday June 5, 2011; 10:00 AM–3:00 PM
Sara Oldfield of Botanic Gardens Conservation International
will speak about the role botanical gardens play as modern-day arks.
Enjoy local food and wine under circus tents, as well as a plant sale.
\$55/45 Members. Registration required; 707-996-3166.
Quarryhill Botanic Garden, 12841 Sonoma Highway,
Glen Ellen, CA, 95442. www.quarryhillbg.org

Plant of the Month by Josh Schechtel

Butia capitata

Wine Palm, Jelly Palm or Pindo Palm-

Family: ARECACEAE

Scattered among the gray, cold, windy weather lately, there have been a few warm and sunny days to remind us of the warmer weather to come. When I think warm weather, I think about palms. On the west coast we have a variety of palms that will thrive, even in some not-so-warm microclimates. *Butia capitata* is a beautiful palm tree that is very appropriate for the modern garden. The trunk rarely gets more than 15 feet tall, which keeps it in scale for smaller gardens. It is slow growing, so it is easy to maintain. And, as its common names imply, the fruit can be used to make jelly or wine. The leaf color is fairly variable, ranging from blue-green to a wonderful silvery blue. The leaves curve downward in a beautiful arching manner, creating a graceful crown at the top of the trunk.

Give this palm a spot in your garden with reasonable drainage and full sun, and give it a reasonable amount of water for the first year or two. Once it is

established, it will need only a rare summer watering.

The pindo palm is very hardy, and can take salt spray. It will reward you at some point with clusters of orange fruit. These fibrous fruits can be eaten fresh, but they are even better when made into a wonderful jelly.

Of course, it can also be used to make wine, although I haven't actually done this myself....



Photo © 2011 Gary Cragg

(Above) *Butia capitata*; (Top right) Ripe fruits of the Pindo Palm; (Bottom right) Hulls from fruit.

Photos by Ted Kipping

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**BOTANICAL ODYSSEY TO THE KLAMATH
MOUNTAINS OF NORTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA**
July 1–4 / A tour with Joe Dahl and Glenn Keator
to benefit the Regional Parks Botanic Garden

Nowhere in California do more elements from more habitats and geographical regions converge than in the rugged Klamath Mountains. Coastal forests, foothill plants of the interior, and mountain plants from the Sierra Nevada and Cascade Mountains all meet and mix. The tour features Cedar Lake, home to *Chamaecyparis lawsonii* and more. Conifers, ferns, lily and heather allies, orchids, lewisias, buckwheats and more will be seen in different forms throughout the area.

For details visit www.nativeplants.org/klamath

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UC Santa Cruz Arboretum
and Baroque Festival Present

**MUSIC
IN THE GARDENS:
FLOWERS AND MUSIC
OF THE WORLD**

Sunday, May 29, 1:00–5:00 PM

Five Musical Acts—Five Different Musical Genres

Tour from one garden venue to the next, enjoying wine and food from Santa Cruz area restaurants.

\$40, \$30/Members and Baroque Festival subscribers, \$20/18 and under. Tickets available at UCSC Box Office:

www.tickets.ucsc.edu/order.shtml, (831)459-2159,

or Civic Center Box Office (831)420-5260

www.Arboretum.UCSC.edu



The California Horticultural Society
 San Francisco County Fair Building
 Ninth Avenue and Lincoln Way
 San Francisco, CA 94122

www.calhortsociety.org

You are cordially invited to attend the
2011 California Horticultural Society
Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner
Monday, May 16, 2011 at 6:30 PM

Hall of Flowers, San Francisco County Fair Building,
 Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way, San Francisco.
 Program Presented by Randy Baldwin,
 Manager of San Marcos Growers and
 Recipient of the 2011 Annual Award.

See the CalHort web site for more information.
 Sign up today!

Monthly Plant Drawing News

Once again thanks go to Don Mahoney for some fine selections for our plant drawing for April. We encourage all our members to contribute to our monthly drawing. For May, Randy Baldwin will be bringing some selections for our silent auction which will have a different format than our usual monthly drawings. Members will be bidding on plants. If you have an unusual specimen that you would like to contribute to this event by all means bring it!

To join the California Horticultural Society, or for a full range of membership levels, please visit our web site at www.calhortsociety.org, or contact Kristin Yanker-Hansen at 925-831-9499.

It's membership renewal time. Dues are due in January of 2011. Notices have been sent. Questions? Please address them to the new Cal Hort membership chair, Charlotte Masson, 579 Los Pinos Drive, San Francisco, CA 94127-2209 (gardengurus@gmail.com).

The California Horticultural Society has maintained its quality programs because of the dedication of the volunteer officers, chairs, and members. The future of the Society depends upon its member volunteers to provide leadership. The Board asks that members volunteer for positions to keep Cal Hort the best organization it can be.

Please contact Ted Kipping, the Nominating Committee Chair, for more information about serving on the Council. You can also chat with Council members, either by e-mail, by phone, or at any Cal Hort meeting.

Deadline for publication in this Bulletin is the third Monday of each month for the following month's Bulletin, with the exception of December. Events during the first ten days of the month should be submitted two months ahead.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 2008-2010 (Second Term) Jim Budke
- 2009-2011 (First Term) Demi Bowles Lathrop
- 2010-2012 (First Term) Michael Craib,
Don MacGregor, Caren Magreblan
- 2010-2012 (Second Term) Steve Morse,
Andy Stone, Dave Tivol
- 2011-2013 (First Term) Patrick Albin,
Judith Taylor

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|-------------------------|------------------|
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| Treasurer | Carl Meier |
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| Membership | Charlotte Masson |

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