



The Perennial Post

Newsletter of the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club ❄️ Jan/Feb 2015

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The Sacramento Perennial Plant Club provides educational opportunities for Sacramento area gardeners and horticulturalists to learn about perennials appropriate to our climate and water limitations.

Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month (except July, Aug, Nov and Dec) at 7 pm at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center in McKinley Park, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento. Meetings are free and open to the public.

January Program Speaker

Ernesto Sandoval

Growing and Propagating South African Bulbs

SHEPARD GARDEN AND ARTS CENTER
THURSDAY—JANUARY 22, 2015 • 7:00 PM

Ernesto Sandoval has a degree from UC Davis in botany and has been the Director of Botany for 23 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory. Ernesto has been wondering and seeking answers as to why plants look the way that they do since he was a child. Now he explains and interprets the world of plants to a variety of ages and experiences from K-12 to professionals and master gardeners. He regularly lectures to garden clubs throughout the year and particularly to succulent clubs throughout the state and elsewhere. Within his overall passion for plants, he has a particular fascination with succulents. He describes himself as a “Jose” of all plants and a master of none. Ernesto thoroughly enjoys helping others, gardeners in particular, to understand why plants do what they do. Ernesto will talk about South African bulbs that grow in our area. He will give us information on the propagation, cultivation and habitat of these beautiful bulbs. These plants are also in line with low-water gardening.

February Program Speaker

Dustin Locks

FoxFarm Soil & Fertilizer Company

SHEPARD GARDEN AND ARTS CENTER
THURSDAY—FEBRUARY 26, 2015 • 7:00 PM

FoxFarm is owned and operated by the Willy Winer family in Humboldt County, California. They are dedicated to producing fine quality garden products. Organic ingredients play a large role in their company and all formulas are handcrafted in small batches. They offer custom-blended soil mixes, natural and organic fertilizers, as well as a large selection of organic-based products. As you are getting your garden ready for spring, this talk will be helpful. Dustin Locks works for FoxFarm and will talk about some of their products and give us ideas for helping our soil and growing stronger and healthier plants. FoxFarm is also known for its colorful product packaging.

WWW.SACRAMENTOPERENNIALPLANTCLUB.ORG

Calendar

January 14

SPPC Board Meeting
Bobby Frieze (916-383-8054)
5 p.m.

January 22

SPPC General Meeting
Ernesto Sandoval
*Growing and Propagating
South African Bulbs*
7 p.m.

Pruning Workshops at the Old City Cemetery Historic Rose Garden

Workshops are scheduled for the following four Saturdays at 9 a.m.

January 17—Climbing roses

January 24—Hybrid Teas, Floribundas and Hybrid Perpetuals

January 31—Once-blooming Old Garden Roses

February 7—Teas and Chinas

You'll be shown how to prune these classes of roses and then be given a chance to practice during the morning.

February 11

SPPC Board Meeting
Location to be announced
5 p.m.

February 26

SPPC General Meeting
Dustin Locks
FoxFarm Soil & Fertilizer Company
7 p.m.

March 18

SF Flower and Garden Show
Bus leaves SG&AC at 7:30 a.m.

March 21-22

SG&AC Annual Spring Plant Sale
10 a.m.–4 p.m.

March 28

SPPC 14th Annual Plant & Garden Vendor Sale at SG&AC
9 a.m.–3 p.m.



The Perennial Post

The Perennial Post is published bimonthly except for July and August. Contact the editor, Cheryl McDonald,

at mcdonald4214@sbcglobal.net or call (916-524-5943) with any questions or suggestions. Garden-related articles are welcomed. A color version of this issue of *The Perennial*

President's Message

Saul Wiseman

In an earlier President's Message, I wrote that I had three goals. Looking back, two of my three have been accomplished: new name for the Newsletter and establishing a grants program. The third goal is not fulfilled, getting more members to become involved in club's varied activities.

One of those activities is garden tours. Yes, we do the annual bus trip to the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show in March. But we need to do more tours.

I think most members like to go on garden tours, whether it is a local tour of a Sacramento garden or a trip to some distant gardens. What the club needs now is someone or a group of members to plan and organize garden tours for 2015. We can provide help. I'm hoping to see the club do garden tours in the coming year.

In March, the club will have the 14th Annual Plant & Garden Vendor Sale. This year the event will be on Saturday, March 28 at the Shepard Garden & Arts Center in McKinley Park. Each year we have a guest speaker at noon. This year our speaker will be Superintendent Emeritus of the UC Davis Arboretum, Warren Roberts. Both a famous storyteller and punster, Warren's topic is "Trees and Plants That Have Changed the Sacramento Valley Area."



Held on December 17, the SPPC Annual Holiday Potluck was a delightful evening filled with lots of wonderful dishes, many gifts as door prizes and great music. Many thanks to **Janice Sutherland, Madeleine Mullins, Jeanne Christopherson, Tamalon Littlefield, Mae Ferral, Deborah Renfrew and Barbara Lane-Piert** for organizing the event and decorating the tables. Thank you to **Beverly Shilling** and **Jane Thompson** for purchasing and wrapping the many garden-related gifts. Also, thank you to **Noelle Anderson** for playing the piano and to **Beverly Shilling** for accompanying her with bells and triangle while we sang carols.

For those of you who requested the celery salad recipe, it can be found on the Simply Recipes web site. The link is http://www.simplyrecipes.com/recipes/celery_blue_cheese_and_hazelnut_salad/



Sacramento Perennial Plant Club Calendar—2015



JANUARY

January 22, Thursday, 7 pm, SG&AC
Ernesto Sandoval, Director, UC Davis Botanical Conservatory
Growing and Propagating South African Bulbs

January or February

Propagation Workshops (weather permitting; dates and places to be announced)

FEBRUARY

February 26, Thursday, 7 pm, SG&AC
Dustin Locks
FoxFarm Soil & Fertilizer Company

MARCH

No general meeting

March 18, Wednesday, bus leaves SG&AC at 7:30 am
Bus Trip to San Francisco Flower and Garden Show
(open to nonmembers)

March 21–22, Saturday and Sunday, SG&AC
Annual Spring Plant Sale (set-up on Friday, March 20)

March 28, Saturday, 9 am to 3 pm, SG&AC
14th Annual Plant & Garden Vendor Sale
Speaker: Warren Roberts, Superintendent Emeritus,
UC Davis Arboretum

APRIL

April 11, Saturday, Broadway Cemetery, 9:30 am – 2 pm
Spring Garden Tour of Sacramento Historic City Cemetery—
Hamilton Square, Heritage Rose Garden, Native Plant
Garden

April 23, Thursday, 7 pm, SG&AC (Remember April has five
Thursdays, we meet on the fourth Thursday)
Pam Myczek
Veld, Vlei and Roses—Springtime in South Africa

April or May, Saturday (details to be announced)
Art Workshops and garden/nursery tours

MAY

May 28, Thursday, 7 pm, SG&AC
John Whittlesey, Landscape Designer and Author
The Plant Lover's Guide to Salvias

JUNE

June 25, Thursday, 7 pm, SG&AC
Daisy Mah
Plants That Attract Beneficial Insects to Your Garden

JULY

No general meeting

July 25, Saturday (details to be announced)
Garden Tour: Lake of the Sky Garden Club—North Lake Tahoe
(<http://lakesky.homestead.com/>)

AUGUST

No general meeting

SEPTEMBER

September 24, Thursday
Potluck Picnic
(Time and details in newsletter)

OCTOBER

October 3–4, Saturday and Sunday, SG&AC
Annual Fall Plant Sale
Benefit for the Shepard Garden and Art Center
October 22, Thursday, 7 pm, SG&AC
Brian Fikes and Greg Howes, One Flew Over the Coop
Chickens in the Backyard

NOVEMBER

No general meeting—Happy Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

No general meeting

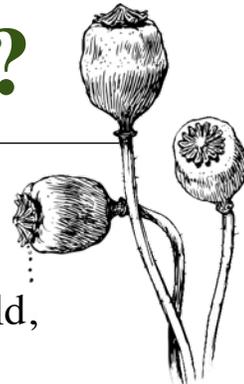
December (date to be announced), 7 pm, SG&AC
Holiday Potluck Dinner

**Additional garden tour and workshop
information will be included on our web site
www.sacramentoperennialplantclub.org
and in future newsletters.**

The Sacramento Perennial Plant Club meets the fourth Thursday of the month at the Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. (off Business 80/Capitol Freeway/northeast corner of McKinley Park). Non-members are welcome to attend our evening lecture meetings; however, garden tours are open only to SPPC members. SPPC Web site and bi-monthly newsletters will provide details regarding lectures and direction to tours.

Propagation: Fun? No Fun?

by Barbara Lane-Piert



I am trying, really trying, to make propagation fun but until today have had little success. Too dry, too wet, incorrect cutting, too cold, too hot, wrong soil, difficult plants? You name it, I have done it.

I usually lose track of what I am trying to propagate so success comes only when weed seeds manage to make their way into my pots and they thrive. I am *sooo* excited when I see my success until that sad day when I realize the cuttings are long gone and instead I am growing a plant that is a weed and most likely an aggressive one. Some I like, and my garden is filled with invasive ground covers seeded by either me or the birds. In 2015 somehow, someway, I plan success. My piggy bank is screaming “don’t buy another plant.” I know I am helping our nurseries and the local ones know me by name but enough is enough and I must put on the blinders and pass all those garden elves beckoning me in.

We have a wonderful propagator who furnishes us with plants for our sales each year. I just don’t know how she does it but I think the fairies and elves come out at night to help. That is the only possible answer. Her green fingers/thumb is evident but I need to be a “fly on the wall” to catch the “little people” seen only by those who believe (like me).

I am trying, really trying, again. This time with the easy (so I have heard) plants to propagate. If I have success you will notice in the coming years that my garden space is filled with begonia, pelargonium and fuchsia. I did have success with a fuchsia (one). Visiting in Manhattan Beach at a friend’s house, I noticed a huge climber, so being a good and valuable friend I decided to prune it. Home went the cuttings because I didn’t want to fill her garden waste can (sure). Today it is huge and climbing over the bed frames in the garden. Frequented by the hummingbirds, it is a delight to see. (I do have bed frames for climbers and clingers since I believe in recycling).

I am hopeful that 2015 will be the year that I learn how to be frugal by propagating cuttings and planting seeds that I gather. If your New Year plans are to join me in this resolution then advice is here for you. Avoiding the garden police everywhere, be sure to carry scateurs

with you at all times. Knives might be misunderstood so should be avoided. Your own garden should have favorites so trim, trim, trim. Your garden friends surely will let you prune a couple of favorites and if roses are loved visit the McKinley Rose Garden in January at their pruning time and gather all the cuttings you want. Sunday afternoon car trips could be planned with plants at the top of your list. Small towns that only open their stores during tourist season have unpruned plants for you to take advantage of. Half Moon Bay and Pacific Grove have lots of needy plants in tubs that will welcome you trimming or gathering seeds. I just remembered: I tried *sooo* many times to grow Matilija poppies after seeing those fried eggs at the Barnyard in Carmel. *Sooo* expensive and they never thrived. Two years ago I saw one by the coast, so took an abundance of seeds and today I have a huge one growing from those tiny seeds that I am sure were not missed.

My Christmas tree this past year was birds and bird-houses. A reminder of how helpful birds can be in planting a large space. Although I spend many moments pulling weeds that the birds have planted, I also have several lovely plants they gave me for free. A wild barberry that started as a small plant that froze each year to the ground is now 12 feet high and separates us from our neighbors. A free screen...wonderful. A wild grape, with its fabulous leaves and tiny grapes attracts more birds and covers another bed frame. Wild strawberries are a groundcover that shades out other weeds I may not like. My birdfeeders are now out (I only feed in winter when insects are hiding out). I *sooo* enjoy watching them flutter around, taking baths and taking turns at the feeders. With luck they may reward me. In summer they may keep the mosquito population down by having a healthy meal.

The new year has plans for me I am sure, and for you too...stay tuned. I hope you enjoyed your holidays. Ate, drank and made merry for tomorrow plant and seed hunting begins.—*Barbara*

SACRAMENTO PERENNIAL PLANT CLUB'S 17TH ANNUAL
SPONSORED BUS TRIP TO THE

San Francisco Flower and Garden Show

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015

BUS LEAVES AT 7:30 AM • LEAVES SHOW AT 4 PM

COST: \$55.00 PER PERSON

Thousands of flowers and plants, inspiring gardens, free seminars for all gardening levels, shopping from greenhouses to garden tools, bulbs to botanical arts, outdoor living, Bonsai, orchids, Ikebana displays, and much more.

Bus will depart from the Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento (Rear entrance on Park Avenue)

Snack will be provided. We should arrive with plenty of time to browse before the first seminar starts. Show opens at 10 a.m. You can pack a lunch or buy it there.

The \$55.00 fee includes the ticket to the show, a few snacks, and delivery right to the entrance. THERE'S PLENTY OF ROOM FOR PURCHASES TO BE CARRIED HOME.

This bus tour is open to everyone, so tell your friends and invite them along! Friends and relaxed conversation on the bus, no driving or parking concerns, and **ample room to bring home garden goodies!**

FOR SHOW INFORMATION, INCLUDING SEMINARS & EXHIBITORS, VISIT THEIR WEB SITE
<http://www.sfgardenshow.com>

CUT ALONG LINE AND SEND WITH **CHECK MADE OUT TO: PERENNIAL PLANT CLUB**

Mail to: Linda Hax, 4413 The Court, Sacramento, CA 95821 • Phone: 916-481-9707



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015

SAN FRANCISCO FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW, SAN MATEO CONVENTION CENTER

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL _____

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL _____

TOTAL ATTENDING _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Blooming Bits

Welcome to the following new member:
Kirk Fujikawa

GRANT PROPOSALS

Announcement of Requests for Grant Proposals is now on the SPPC web site. The purpose of the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club Grant is to promote gardening within the County of Sacramento. Non-profit groups with gardening-related activities may apply. Three (3) grants in the amount of up to \$500 will be awarded annually.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Perennial Post Writers and Photographers

If you are interested in submitting a garden-related article to the *Perennial Post*, contact **Cheryl McDonald** at 916-524-5943 or e-mail mcdonald4214@sbcglobal.net. Photos of your garden or those of others are welcome. Submissions are due by the 15th of these months: February, April, August, October and December

Program and Tours Committee Members

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Program and Tours Committee, contact **Saul Wiseman** at 530-885-9248 or email swiseman368@sbcglobal.net.

14th Annual Vendor Sale

Volunteers will be needed for the upcoming Vendor Sale in March. Contact **Janice Sutherland** at 916-481-2137



FOR SALE—Redwood potting bench, 2' x 5', with sink (for hose attachment); has lower shelf. \$75 OBO. Call SPPC member, Roberta Hopkins, at 916-443-8837.



Propagating Workshops

We will be holding propagating workshops throughout the year. If you are interested in propagating different types of plants from cuttings or seeds and want to share plants with other members of the club; mark “Interested in Propagating” on your membership renewal form. For information contact: **Barbara Lane-Piert, Janice Sutherland, or Elizabeth Jones.**

Note from Janice: When I walk around my garden I am reminded of many friends when I look at the plants that were propagated from their cuttings. I think of **Barbara Lane-Piert** with the many plants that came to me from her. Barbara does not go on a trip without coming home with a few little cuttings. I think of **Saul and Julie Wiseman** when I smell the fragrance of the daphne plant that Saul propagated. I think of **Jeanne Christopherson, Madeleine Mullins, Beverly Shilling, Mae Ferral, Peggy Gerick, Emma Ahart, Daisy Mah** and many others when I am out in the garden. One of my favorite plants is a rose named ‘Lyda Rose.’ I propagated the rose bush at a workshop a few years ago. The cuttings came from **Pam Myczek** and along with help from Pam and **Therese Ruth**, I now

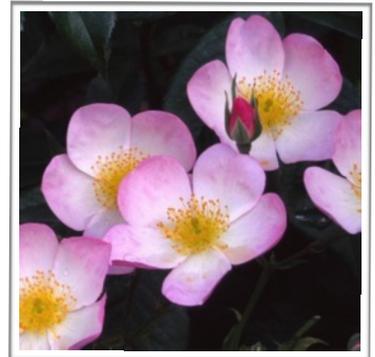


Photo of ‘Lyda Rose’ courtesy of “Heirloom Roses” www.heirloomroses.com

have a lovely ‘Lyda Rose’ next to the chair where I sit on a summer afternoon. There is nothing like the excitement of seeing little white roots coming out of the bottom of a stick. For gardeners, it is the little things that give us pleasure and teach us patience.

Sacramento Perennial Plant Club Membership–2015

Carol Meininger, Membership Chair

ALL MEMBERS—PLEASE FILL OUT THE ADDRESS FORM COMPLETELY

NAME(S) _____ DATE _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE (____) _____ - _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY

STATE

ZIP

- You will be included in our yearly roster unless you notify us otherwise. YES___ NO___
- Indicate how you would like the club newsletter sent to you: E-MAIL___ MAIL___

Yearly Dues _____ \$20 Individual Membership
 _____ \$25 Joint Membership

Cash_____ Check_____ Make checks out to PERENNIAL PLANT CLUB.

Send to: Perennial Plant Club, 4928 Forrestal Street, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Phone (916) 967-1018, E-mail: sacppc@sbcglobal.net

Dear SPPC member,

Please consider involving yourself more this coming year to make sure all of the interesting and fun tours, talks, and activities continue. Many of these tasks can be shared—the more the merrier and less time consuming for all. Please take the time to add any suggestions you have for your club.

Indicate your interest in helping in one or two of the following ways:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership/Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Work with the Vendor Sale planning group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shepard Garden and Arts Center
plant sales Spring ___ Fall___ | <input type="checkbox"/> Bring in monthly meeting goodies
(Deborah Renfrew – 916-966-3580) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer skills (specify)
_____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer at Hamilton Square Garden
(Sharon Patrician – 916-455-8166) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Write articles for the newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in making garden projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work with garden tour planning group | <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in learning to propagate plants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work with bus trips | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work with speaker and program planning
group | Other skills or interests: _____
_____ |

Club activities I most enjoy: _____

Suggestions for speakers, tours, gardens to visit, etc. _____



The Perennial Post

SPPC Newsletter
2743 San Luis Court
Sacramento, CA 95818



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Aloe arborescens blooming in the WPA Rock Garden

CHERYL McDONALD