



The Perennial Post

Newsletter of the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club ❄️ Jan/Feb 2019

President's Message

Lorraine Van Kekerix

We have lots of interesting activities planned for 2019. See the schedules on pages 3 and 5 for information on upcoming programs and field trips. Many thanks to **Daisy Mah** for obtaining such a wide variety of speakers. Many thanks to **Sharon Patrician** and the field trip team for organizing trips throughout the year.

Saul Wiseman Grant applications are due on January 15, 2019. **Jane Thompson** and the grants team will review the applications and grants will be awarded in February.

We are looking for more volunteers at Hamilton Square Garden in the Old City Cemetery. Please consider spending a few hours keeping this demonstration garden tended.

Just a reminder, the Perennial Plant Club is a tax exempt organization, but donations are not deductible on your taxes.

Hope to see you at a meeting, trip or other activity this year!

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

Anamaria Pasquiers

A Vision of Paradise

SHEPARD GARDEN AND ARTS CENTER
THURSDAY—JANUARY 24, 2019 • 7:00 PM

For many gardeners, perennial or not, our gardens provide a living haven that nurtures the soul and serves as our personal vision of paradise. We overlook the challenges, for it is a place that speaks to all the senses whether it is the soft and furry texture of lamb's ears, the intoxicating perfume of winter daphne, or the song and flight of birds and bees. Anamaria Pasquiers has strong and fond memories of growing up in a village in Mexico. Instead of toys, she amused and occupied herself with vines, flowers and the harvesting of fruit. But by age three she lost her vision, it did not stymie her affection or curiosity for lessons learned from the natural world. Educated at UC Berkeley and Cal Poly in Botany and Ornamental Horticulture, she has worked as a landscape and irrigation design consultant. Presently she co-teaches at the Renaissance Society, plays the Baroque recorder and harp and is a fan of alleyway gardens. Anamaria will share the wisdom that gives shape to her vision of paradise.

February Program Speaker

Anita Clevenger

Plant Adventures in South Africa

SHEPARD GARDEN AND ARTS CENTER
THURSDAY—FEBRUARY 28, 2019 • 7:00 PM

When Anita was 22 months old, her mother made an entry into her baby book, "Anita loves flowers." Clearly, it was a prescient clue to someone who would become an avid gardener and world-renowned rosarian. Being a native Ohioan, the transition to gardening in Sacramento's mediterranean climate proved frustrating and daunting. She struggled to unlearn some of the lessons that were no longer applicable that she had absorbed from her farmer mom. But she adapted, much to the credit of a neighbor who provided garden mentorship and plant divisions. After retiring in 2001, Anita went on to become a Lifetime (Platinum Level) Master Gardener, a Perennial Plant Club member, author of a monthly gardening column for Inside Publications, and most famously, a volunteer at the Old City Cemetery rose garden where she is now the curator and manager. Her presentation will showcase the desert blooms and interesting plants she witnessed in the Western Cape, a go-to destination for plant lovers from throughout the world.

WWW.SACRAMENTOPERENNIALPLANTCLUB.ORG



Sacramento Perennial Plant Club

OFFICERS

President: Lorraine Van Kekerix
Vice-President: Beverly Shilling
Secretary: Bobby Frieze
Treasurer: Pat McKnight

CONTACTS

E-Mail: Kirsten Salomon
Grant Program: Jane Thompson
Hamilton Square: Vacant
Membership: Carol Meininger
Newsletter: Cheryl McDonald
Plant Sales: Deborah Renfrew
Publicity/Website: Linda Hax
SG&AC Rep: Noelle Anderson
Speakers: Daisy Mah
Tour Coordinator: Sharon Patrician
Vendor Sale: Lili Ann Metzger
WPA Garden: Daisy Mah

Send questions or comments to:
pres.sppc@gmail.com

BOARD MEETINGS

All SPPC members are invited to attend monthly board meetings. Begins at 4 p.m. at a board member's home.

January 10

RSVP to Linda Hax (916-481-9707)

February 13

RSVP to Deborah Renfrew (916-966-3580)

NEWSLETTER

The due date to submit a garden-related article for the **Mar/Apr 2019** issue is **February 15**. Please send your article to Cheryl McDonald: (mcdonald4214@sbcglobal.net).

The Perennial Post is published bimonthly except for July and August. Archived newsletters can be viewed on the club's website.

Plant Catalogs Wanted

Members:

Do you have plant catalogs you no longer want? Please bring them to the January meeting.

Thank you.

★ SPPC Grant Applications Due January 15

Applications for the *Saul Wiseman Grants* are available on the SPPC website. Applications will be accepted until January 15, 2019. Submit your grant application either by sending an electronic version to: sppcgrants@gmail.com, or by mailing a paper version to: SPPC Grants, 1108 3rd Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95818

★ Vendor Sale Update

On Saturday, March 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., SPPC's popular Vendor Sale returns. Organizer, Lili Metzger, has been busy recruiting new and returning vendors. Contact Lili if you have suggestions for additional vendors (lili@abqhomeandgardenshow.com). The featured speaker will be **Debbie Arrington**. Volunteers for a variety of tasks are needed with set-up on Friday and for help on Saturday. A sign-up list with tasks will be available at the January meeting. Also, before you purge your old garden books and magazines, consider donating them to the Club's fundraiser at the Vendor Sale. Details regarding delivery will be in the March/April newsletter.

★ Share Your Gardening Aha! Moments

Garden tips and insights shared by **Stan Logan**, via our web site's GARDEN BLOG menu, have been enjoyed by many members. Blogs are listed by both date and topic to assist in finding a posting you may want to revisit. Even though Stan enjoys the moniker, "Stan The Blog Man," you, too, are invited to submit copy for our Garden Blog through **Cheryl McDonald** (mcdonald4214@sbcglobal.net). Blog posts do not adhere to a publication schedule, new blogs appear when new content is submitted and when the webmaster has time to add it.



Our Annual Holiday Potluck held on December 12th was a festive evening enjoyed by everyone who attended. Many thanks to co-chairs **Deborah Renfrew** and **Marcia Leddy** for organizing the event. Thanks to the many members for their talents in setting up and decorating our holiday tables so beautifully. Thanks to everyone for bringing a variety of delicious salads, hot side dishes and wonderful desserts to accompany the turkey and ham entrees. **Beverly Shilling** and **Marcia Leddy** selected various garden-related gifts for our door prize drawing. The grand finale to our lovely evening came as we sang Christmas carols and songs of the season accompanied by our pianists **Noelle Anderson** and **Robin Aurelius**.

2019 Membership Information

Dues must be received by **March 31, 2019**, in order to be listed in the upcoming membership roster and be sent the newsletter.

The membership application for 2019 is on page 7 and on our website. Be sure to fill out the membership form completely and include it with your dues. **Please consider signing up for one of the many ways you can help the club.**

SPPC Speakers & Events—2019

All meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.
Shepard Garden & Arts Center (SG&AC)
3330 McKinley Boulevard, Sacramento
Meetings are free and open to the public.

January 24—7 p.m.

Anamaria Pasquiers—*A Vision of Paradise*

February 28—7 p.m.

Anita Clevenger—*Plant Adventures in South Africa*

March 10—9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SG&AC Annual Clean-Up

March 16-17—10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Spring Plant Sale at SG&AC

March 23—9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

15th Annual Vendor Sale at SG&AC

Speaker: Debbie Arrington

April 25—7 p.m.

Roxie Jones—*All About Sunflowers*

May 23—7 p.m.

Jan Goering—*Designing with Wood and Branches*

June 27—7 p.m.

Jim Thompson—*Storing Fruits and Vegetables for Better Taste*

July & August

No general meeting

August 3—8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Harvest Day at the Fair Oaks Horticulture Center

September 26—7 p.m.

Karen Loro—*Grow Native!*

October 5-6—10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Fall Plant Sale at SG&AC

October 24—7 p.m.

Luanne Leineke—*Winter Pruning Tips*

November & December

No general meeting

December (date to be announced)

Holiday Potluck Dinner, 7 p.m. at SG&AC



Hamilton Square Garden-Workdays

Tuesdays—January 8 & February 5
9 a.m.—Noon

Start the new year off right by joining fellow club members at Hamilton Square Garden workdays. Come when you can and stay as long as you like.

For questions, contact

Beverly Shilling

(b_shilling@sbcglobal.net;

or 916-452-4762)

Rose Pruning Classes

Saturday, January 12, 2019

9:00 a.m. & 1 p.m.

The Historic Rose Garden will again host **Stephen Scanniello**, a Great Rosarian of the World, president of the Heritage Rose Foundation and curator of the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden, for two pruning workshops. This is a chance to learn from an expert and to be regaled with many entertaining tales of roses and the people who grow them. The first, at 9 a.m., will focus on pruning climbing roses. The second, at 1 p.m., will show techniques for pruning and rehabilitating mature plants. While our workshops are usually free, we would appreciate a minimum of \$10 donation to be shared between the Heritage Rose Foundation and for expenses in the Historic Rose Garden.

Parking is limited within the cemetery, but available on surrounding surface streets. For more information, call 916-448-0811.

Building a Rain Barrel

By Stan Logan

Now here's a device that you may wish to consider. I've been using rain barrels for almost 40 years—originally not because I was trying to conserve water—but because Davis city water was so terrible. You've probably heard that Davis, UCD, and Woodland spent millions of dollars on a river water project to improve water quality.

So if Davis water is no longer tainted, why do we still use our rain barrels? Two reasons: First, several of the house downspouts empty into an area where we don't want excess water accumulating. That water needs to be diverted elsewhere. Second, we have several potted plants that we value so much that we would rather use rain water so there will be very little mineral accumulation.

Now why would you want a rain barrel? Are you going to carry rainwater into the house to flush the toilets? Probably not. But do you have trees on your property that are suffering from the drought that will only get worse? It would be beneficial if you could really soak tree areas during the winter when we do get some rain. Also, if you have planting areas that are shielded from rainfall, a rain barrel could be used to water these areas.

If you have an older house, you may be able to create a rain barrel system like I did:

1. Remove a straight down spout. Measure down 18" from the top and cut it off. Slip the short section back into place.
2. Purchase a thin plastic down spout extender. I bought mine at Ace Hardware. They are also available at Amazon Prime (Frost King DE 200 Away Downspout Extender).
3. Attach the end of the flexible tube not containing holes to the 18" section.
4. Measure down another 18" on the original downspout and cut it off. Attach this piece to the end of the plastic tube that is hanging down. The piece of downspout that you just attached



will simply serve as a weight to keep the plastic tube in whatever barrel or container you place it. You may wish to cut off a section of the plastic tube. My downspout extender does not reach the ground.

Don't worry about the little holes punched in the side of the plastic tube—water loss will be minimal.

5. Now you have a down spout extender that can be moved from barrel to barrel or to a wheelbarrow.
6. Drill a hole in the bottom of the side of your barrel or garbage can and buy PVC fittings that creates an attachment for a hose. Now you can lead the rain water where ever you want. By adding a section of tubing like an old soaker hose with holes drilled in it, you can disperse the water along a planting bed protected by an eave, or where trees need to be deep watered.
7. Consider plugging the other down spouts that are on that same gutter (a rolled up sock works well). Make sure that your gutter can bear the weight of being full.
8. If you're going to store water in your barrel, have some kind of cover to keep the mosquitos out. We use an extra large leaf bag.
9. Elevation is also a consideration. Gravity feed will not lead water to higher levels of your landscape, but a sump pump would. You may want to elevate your barrel.

Well, that's the system I've used. If you're interested in setting up your own system and would like advice, give me a call (530-756-5881). For instance, it's a little tricky drilling a hole in the side of a barrel or garbage can with a spade bit, and I could do that for you.

You can also google "rain barrels" and you will find a tremendous variety of products that are available.

—Stan, *The Tool Man*



SPPC Garden Tours—2019



Luther Burbank's Home and Garden

Mark your calendars for any or all of these tours and watch your emails and upcoming newsletters for directions, times, fees/costs, level of physical activity and carpool arrangements. Typically, we don't have garden tours in July and August, but we are open to suggestions for a coastal or mountain tour. Contact **Sharon Patrician** at patricianone@att.net for information.

Saturday, February 23

Jensen Botanical Garden, Fair Oaks

A fine example of a garden devoted to blooming trees and shrubs. The early azaleas and rhododendrons are spectacular.

CARPOOL

<http://www.carmichaelpark.com/jensen-botanical-garden>

Saturday, March 30

Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden, Benicia Morningsun Herb Farm, Vacaville

Overlooking the scenic Carquinez Strait is a volunteer-maintained 3-1/2 acre native plant garden. On Saturday mornings, there are docent-led tours of the many California species. Picnic sack-lunch on the grounds, followed by a visit to Morningsun on the way home. **CARPOOL**

www.bsragarden.org

www.morningsunherbfarm.com

Saturday, April 6

Berkeley Botanical Garden, Berkeley Annie's Annuals, Richmond

A world-class botanical garden connected to the University, the garden is divided into geographic zones. Dependent on member interest, docent-led tours can be booked for an additional cost. **CARPOOL**

<https://botanicalgarden.berkeley.edu>

www.anniesannuals.com

Saturday, April 13

Open Garden at the Historic City Cemetery, Sacramento

Begun originally as a way to publicize the historic rose garden in the cemetery, the tour also includes the Hamilton Square Perennial Garden and the Native Plant Demonstration Garden. This is a particularly beautiful month for the cemetery gardens. **CARPOOL**

Tuesday, April 16

Wildflower Walk

Led by member Lee Perrone, you will see California wildflowers which are scarce and beautiful. **CARPOOL**

Wednesday, April 24

Stan and LaVille Logan's Iris Garden, Davis Patricia Carpenter's Native Plant Garden, Davis

This is the first time the Logans have opened their iris garden to the Club. After a stroll through the many varieties they have

cultivated, we will go to Patricia Carpenter's large garden with an enormous variety of native plants and other species. We will have lunch here. **CARPOOL**

LaVille@sbcglobal.net

<https://www.cnps.org/gardening/patricia-carpenters-davis-garden-2-12725>

Saturday, May 4

Luther Burbank's Home and Garden, Santa Rosa

This is the home where Luther Burbank did much of his hybridizing which has positively impacted California's agricultural industry. The tour includes the historic Burbank house, gardens and greenhouse. Picnic sack-lunch on the grounds, followed by a tour of Emerisa wholesale nursery in Santa Rosa—including time to shop for plants. **BUS TOUR**

www.lutherburbank.org

www.emerisa.com

June 4-9 (date to be determined)

Bouquets to Art, San Francisco

Popular exhibit at the DeYoung Museum, San Francisco

<https://deyoung.famsf.org/bouquets-to-art>

Sunday, June 9

Keyla Meadows Sculpture Garden, Albany

Ms. Meadows is a well-known artist who also has a talented hand with plants. Her garden is open to the public on the 1st and 2nd Sundays in spring and summer.

CARPOOL

www.keeylameadows.net

June 28-30

Hardy Plant Society of Oregon Study Weekend Portland, Oregon

If you have attended one of these weekends, you know what a garden program can be. Excellent speakers, splendid private gardens and wonderful vendors—can't say enough! More details as to cost, accommodations, etc. will be forthcoming.

www.hardyplantsociety.org/study-weekend

Wednesday, September 18

Vineyard Garden Tour

Details in the works, probably will be in the Napa/Sonoma area.

What's Happening on the Fruit Fly Front?

By Diana Morris



Why is the produce at many local farmers' markets draped with mesh material over wire hoops or clear plastic?

Blame the very unpopular Oriental fruit fly—an invasive pest with the potential to cause losses in over 200 California fruit, nut and vegetable crops and damage plants in natural areas. Federal, state, and local agricultural officials adopt quarantine and eradication procedures when localized infestations of this pest are found. The recently quarantined area of Sacramento has caused local farmers who sell at the markets a considerable inconvenience. Those bringing produce from outside the quarantine area must cover their fruits and vegetables in order to keep the Oriental fruit fly from hitchhiking out of the area and spreading when vendors return home. Gardeners within the quarantine area are not allowed to move their produce from their gardens and must consume or properly dispose of all produce onsite (see below “How can you help?”).

Oriental fruit flies are in a group of fruit flies that include Mediterranean and Mexican fruit flies. Oriental fruit flies are especially harmful because they attack a wide range of fruits, vegetables and plants; they breed quickly and are strong flyers. So their area of infestation can range and spread easily over wide swathes.

In summer 2018, an infestation of the Oriental fruit flies was found in the southern area of Sacramento city and caused the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to establish an eradication project to prevent environmental and economic damage. A portion of Sacramento County and a very small portion of Yolo County were placed under quarantine. The current quarantine area measures 123 square miles, and is generally bordered on the north by El Camino Avenue, south by Laguna Blvd., west by the Sacramento River and east by Bradshaw Road.

According to a 2013 UCD study, James Carey, a professor of entomology, said “It’s clear there are at least low-level populations of Medfly nearby and in the county, . . . And in Sacramento there’s certain Oriental fruit flies that have been confirmed to be established there.” Despite more than 30 years of state-sponsored programs, these foreign pests are now permanently residing in California.

The UCD study says in addition to “damage to crops in California, there could be economic damage to the state’s agricultural industry if trade embargoes are imposed. Recipients of the state’s exports could fear an introduction of the pests into their farms and thus impose embargoes on produce trading.”

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) states “. . . fruit flies and other invasive species that threaten California’s crops and natural environment are sometimes detected in agricultural areas, the vast majority are found in urban and suburban communities. The most common pathway for these pests to enter the state is by hitching in fruits and vegetables brought back illegally by travelers when they return from infested regions of the world or ship infested produce through the mail.” CDFA says “Don’t pack a pest.”

Treatment

CDFA approaches the infestations by trapping and extermination programs to temporarily curb the pest’s population numbers. CDFA primarily uses the “male attractant” technique to eradicate this pest. Trained workers squirt a small patch of fly attractant mixed with a very small dose of pesticide (small gel-like “bait stations”) approximately 10 feet off the ground on street trees and utility poles; male fruit flies are attracted to the mixture and perish after consuming it. Most treatment

programs are completed after a 2-3 month period, but those beginning in the fall may extend into the following spring. Following one or two life cycles of treatment, supplemental fruit fly traps are monitored for an additional life cycle. If no additional fruit flies are trapped, the infestation is declared eradicated.

How can you help?

- Allow state and county workers to install and monitor insect traps and to inspect fruit. (Traps are bright yellow, sticky sheets or triangular traps that are hooked on tree branches.)
- Cooperate with quarantine laws.
- Do not transport fruit or soil out of the quarantined area.
- Place homegrown produce from quarantine areas in double-bagged garbage bags before disposal.
- If you see a fly or maggot resembling any fruit fly (find images of fruit flies on the CDFA web site), report it to your local county agriculture extension department.

See the CDFA web site at: https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pdep/treatment/oriental_ff.html

See how you can help at: https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/factsheets/orientalff_broc.pdf

Note: Information gleaned from articles on the internet from The Sacramento Bee, Capradio.org, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Davis Enterprise.

Sacramento Perennial Plant Club Membership—2019

**ALL MEMBERS—PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM COMPLETELY
AND INCLUDE WITH YOUR DUES**

NAME(S) _____ DATE _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE (____) _____ - _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY

STATE

ZIP

1. YEARLY DUES: ____ \$20 Individual ____ \$25 Joint ____ \$5 Student

2. PAYMENT: ____ Cash ____ Check (Make checks out to PERENNIAL PLANT CLUB)
Credit card transactions will be available at the general meetings.

3. INCLUSION IN OUR YEARLY ROSTER? YES ____ NO ____

4. SEND completed form to: Perennial Plant Club, 4928 Forrestal Street, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

The *Perennial Post* will be e-mailed to members. However, if you wish to receive the newsletter by regular mail, please check here ____.

Volunteer Sign-Ups

Please sign-up to help with one or more of the following activities:

EVENT/ACTIVITY	YES, I CAN HELP!
Plant sales	
Speakers and programs	
Membership and greeters	
Publicity	
Website	
Organize garden tours	
Organize bus trips	
Organize special events	

EVENT/ACTIVITY	YES, I CAN HELP!
Organize DIY garden art projects	
Organize propagation workshops	
Write articles for newsletter	
Bring refreshments for meetings	
Hamilton Square Garden maintenance	
WPA Rock Garden maintenance	

► For questions, contact Carol Meininger at 916-765-8390 or e-mail: carolmeininger@gmail.com



The Perennial Post

SPPC Newsletter
2743 San Luis Court
Sacramento, CA 95818



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and February**

Speakers & Events–2019

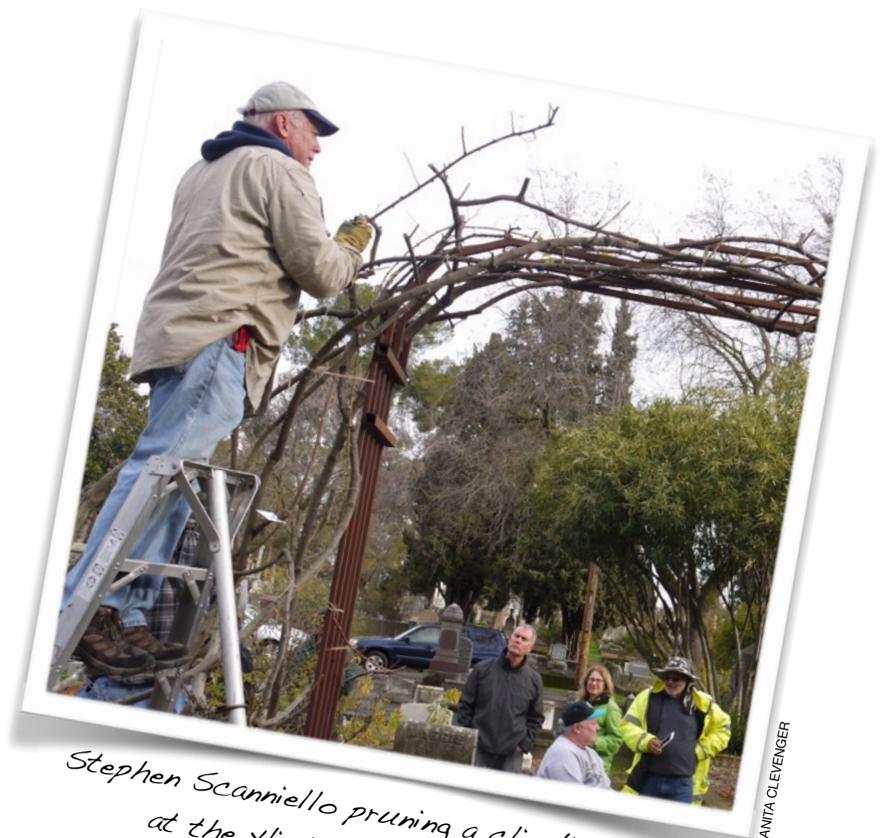
**Historic City Cemetery
Garden Events**

Building a Rain Barrel

Garden Tours–2019

**What's Happening
on the Fruit Fly Front?**

**SPPC Membership
Form–2019**



*Stephen Scanniello pruning a climbing rose
at the Historic City Cemetery*

AMITA CLEVENGER