

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Celebrating plants since 1880

NOVEMBER 2018

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Upcoming Speakers

December

• *Heritage Mission-Era Plants of La Huerta Gardens* Jerry Sortomme

January

- Potluck Supper
- Bouquet of the Year Award
- California Natives: Nuanced or Needy?
 Ben Miller, S&S Seeds

February

• *The Permaculture Garden at SBCC* Jackson Hayes

November Garden Tour

Saturday, November 10, 10 a.m.



Jeff Chemnick's fabulous garden and nursery, Aloes in Wonderland, see pg 2

More News Inside

- Roundup of Our Fall Plant Sale
- Time for Renewal
- Open Positions
- We're Hiring!
- Watering Trees During the Drought
- Horticultural Events Around Town

November General Meeting - November 7, 2018, 7 p.m. Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, corner of Foothill and La Cumbre Roads

Combating Hunger with Agroecology: A Case Study of Palabek Refugee Settlement in Northern Uganda

This talk by Thomas Cole will showcase efforts to help South Sudanese refugees in Northern Uganda develop resilient strategies to grow and produce more food.

Building on the permaculture design framework and biointensive growing techniques, the presentation will outline



Thomas's permagarden approach that is helping rethink the food aid paradigm so prevalent in refugee settings.

Thomas has spent more than 25 years in sustainable agriculture, livelihoods, community development and humanitarian response work. Presently based in Santa Barbara, he has many years of field experience across Sub-Saharan Africa, with significant time in Mozambique, Uganda and Ethiopia. His focal areas are in urban agriculture, food production system design, post-conflict recovery, organic horticulture, agricultural extension, permaculture, natural resource management and food security.

He spends much of his spare time in these countries climbing the odd mountain and researching succulent plants, primarily aloe, euphorbia and sansevieria.

In Santa Barbara, Thomas is co-owner and operator of Cold Spring Aloes, a small botanic garden, succulent plant nursery and award-winning garden design business. He received the Bouquet of the Year Award in 2017 from the Horticultural Society and is a multiple-time winner of the Santa Barbara Beautiful Award. In the last 5 years he has described three new species and one subspecies of aloe from Uganda (*Aloe wanalensis, Aloe butiabana, Aloe lukeana* and Aaloe labworana ssp. longifolia) and is a coauthor of Field Guide to the Aloes of Uganda.

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Garden Tour, from pg 1

is a must-see. Jeff says an especially impressive male Welwitschia is coning, about 100 cycads are coning, and a number of cactus and a tall Pachypodium lamerei (Madagascar palm) are blooming as well.

While cycads and aloes predominate, Jeff grows scores of other plants -- most with radial symmetry -- such as



agaves, palms, cactus, bromeliads, beaucarneas, yuccas and more. If you miss the tour, take a look at the gallery on his website, AloesinWonderland.com. Address: 114 Conejo Road, Santa Barbara. Parking is abundant along the street.

Pg 1: Aloe marlothii. Top: Jeff Chemnick beneath a Brachychiton rupestris. Above left: Aloe rubroviolacea.

Meet Your Board & Committee Heads

- *Co-Presidents & Secretary:* Debby Lipp and Ernie Pfadenhauer
- Vice President: Carol Terry
- Treasurer: Gretchen Ingmanson
- *Directors*: Diane Dunhill, Carolyn Koegler, Duke McPherson, Dorothy Warnock
- Committee Heads: Garden Tours-Helen Wong, Membership-Duke McPherson, Newsletter Editor-Joan S. Bolton, Newsletter Distribution-Larry Disharoon, Plant Sale-Carol Terry, Plant Sale Assistant-Open, Programs-Open, Publicity-Alan Scholl, Refreshments-Elisa Reich, Scholarships-Dorothy Warnock.

General inquiries: sbcountyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com Newsletter: joan_hortsociety@santabarbaragardens.com

Horticultural Events Around Town

Friday, November 2

Soft Succulents - Jeff Moore Santa Barbara Cactus & Succulent Society.

Jeff calls these succulents, which include aeoniums, echeverias, dudleyas, crassulas, sedums and kalanchoes, "plants that you can roll in" and "they don't bite." His focus will be plants in cultivation rather than habitat, and he will



provide cultural tips and insights as a nursery owner with more than 25 years of experience. Jeff will have for sale plants from his nursery, Solana Succulents; copies of his newest book, *Soft Succulents*; and copies of his previous two books, *Aloes and Agaves in Cultivation*, and *Under the Spell of Succulents*. Doors open at 6:45 p.m., Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. Free.

Friday, November 2

Pollinator Friendly Gardening - Christy Wilhelmi The Fund for Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, Fairview Gardens and Beekeepers Guild of Santa Barbara.

From fruits, vegetables, herbs and native flowering plants, it all begins in the soil. Learn how to support our pollinators from the ground up, and to create useful landscapes and beautiful sanctuaries for all of our pollinators.

7 p.m., Unity of Santa Barbara, 227 E. Arrellaga St., Santa Barbara. Free, donations accepted.

Thursday, November 8

Growing Organic Roses for Floral Designers Santa Barbara Rose Society.

Gracie Prescott of Grace Rose Farm in Santa Ynez, and Susan Lyell Young, Restoration Rose in Nashville and Curator of the Nursery at Grace Rose Farm, will share the joys and challenges of farming organic cut roses



for floral designers, and running a specialty nursery that offers 5,000 rare and old garden roses... see pg 4

Above Right: Gracie Prescott

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Annual Fall Plant Sale

The annual plant sale took place on Saturday, September 22, 2018. It was our fourth year at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church and we seem to be settling in nicely.

"The most special thing I can think of is that members went over the top to raise plants for the sale," said Carol Terry, chair of the Plant Sale committee. "Many more plants were donated of better quality than previous years. The tables were full of great choices."

Carol added, "Some special plants were donated by nurseries such as Lotusland, San Marcos Growers and 7-Day Nursery. We had a variety of donations to the raffle table from merchants, vintners and non-profits... Everyone was very willing to fill in where needed on Friday for setup and on sale day, so things went smoothly."

The business side was positive as well. Total income, at \$7,511, was



about \$570 less than 2017. But due to lower costs, the net, at \$3,745, was about \$350 more than 2017.

Proceeds of the sale help to fund the society's Scholarship Program and support other local horticultural non-profit organizations.

A huge thank you goes to all of our volunteers, starting at the top with Carol Terry, who spends countless hours coordinating and managing the sale, and including Master Gardeners who were on hand to answer questions about the plants.

Top, left to right: Our intrepid board members, Carolyn Koegler (Director), Gretchen Ingmanson (Treasurer), Carol Terry (Plant Sale Chair), Duke McPherson (Director), Debby Lipp (Co-President and Secretary). Above, left: Master Gardeners Willie Smith, Sandy Dietz, Jan VanEpps.

Watering Trees During the Drought

For those of you who missed Consulting Arborist Bill Spiewak's talk last month, check out tips for maintaining your trees during the drought on his Treemendous Blog at santabarbaraarborist.com.

Member News

Renew Your Dues

Renew now and your annual membership will be good through December 2019.

- Choose your category:
- Active Member, \$20 Whether for an individual or a family.
- Associate Member, \$15 For currently enrolled students.
- Honorary Member Designated by the Society.
- Life Member

No dues are required for members who have reached their 80th birthday.

Membership runs on the calendar year. But join in September or later and your membership will continue to the end of the following year. Pay via check, cash or credit card during our monthly meetings (look for Duke McPherson at the back table) or mail a check, payable to the Santa Barbara County Horticultural Society, to:

PO Box 31029, Santa Barbara, CA 93130-1029.

Open Board Positions

- Secretary
- Committee Head for Programs
- Plant Sale Assistant

Also, much thanks to Alan Scholl for stepping up at the October meeting to take on publicity for programs and the annual plant sale.

We're Hiring!

We are seeking someone to reliably set up and take down audio-visual equipment for our monthly meetings, and set up and take down chairs and tables. Meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month of the year, except July. Hours are 6 to 9 p.m. Pay is \$50/meeting. To apply, contact Gretchen Ingmanson at tikiinga@gmail.com or 805-452-0407.

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Events, from pg 2



They will also talk about the many varieties of roses that they handgrow, and how they use a very different approach than conventional large growers. 7 p.m., Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. Free.

Above: Susan Lyell Young

Saturday and Sunday, November 17 and 18

Orchid Safari - Fall Show & Sale Santa Barbara Orchid Society Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Hours and Ticket Information: orchidsb.org

Santa Barbara Garden Club

(Formerly the Men's Garden Club of Santa Barbara) Fourth Thursday of the month, 11:30 a.m., University Club, 1332 Santa Barbara St. Cost is \$20 for lunch and the presentation; the presentation is free to members who opt to skip the lunch.

Display Table Information

Botanic Name:

Common Name:

Exhibitor:

Details:

Cut out this label to use with plants for the display table.

Freebies Area

- Bring clean, viable plant material contained in bags or boxes (please, no dirt!).
- Label your plants.
- Gather and take home leftovers as there's no dumpster on site.
- Please help keep the area clean.



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY P.O. BOX 31029 SANTA BARBARA, CA 93130-1029