

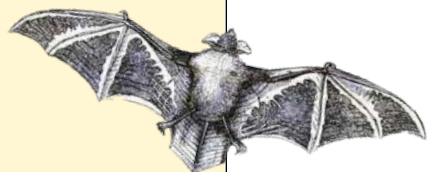


The Perennial Post

Newsletter of the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club ❄ Jan/Feb 2016

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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

Green Lawns to Beautiful Dry Gardens

SHEPARD GARDEN AND ARTS CENTER
THURSDAY—JANUARY 28, 2016 • 7:00 PM

Ernesto Sandoval's first introduction to plants began through assisting in his father's yard care service. Though his appreciation and curiosity about plants was aroused, the questions he developed about what, why and when were not explained to his satisfaction. What he did gain was the value of hard work. Undeterred he went on to study botany at UC Davis and never left. He is now the Director of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory where he has worked over 22 years.

Though Ernesto is well-versed in scientific concepts, he is also a horticultural ambassador who enjoys sharing, in an understandable fashion, his deep passion with all levels starting from K-12 on up. Widely sought after as an enthusiastic and knowledgeable speaker on a variety of topics, his expertise takes him throughout the state and luckily to Sacramento for the Perennial Plant Club.

Ernesto will discuss converting typical green landscapes to those requiring less water without sacrificing beauty and serenity, especially now as we have undergone four years of drought.

February Program Speaker

JoEllen Arnold

Why Should I Care About Bats?

SHEPARD GARDEN AND ARTS CENTER
THURSDAY—FEBRUARY 25, 2016 • 7:00 PM

JoEllen Arnold taught for 30 years with a particular passion for introducing her students to the natural world. She met her first bat face-to-face in 1997 at a workshop about bats in Yosemite. Since that life-changing encounter, JoEllen has become a "missionary for bats," taking courses in bat conservation in the Sierra Nevada and Arizona, and traveling to meet more species in Texas, Africa, Central America, and Europe. Her mission is to open people's hearts and minds to these beneficial creatures that are in grave danger of extinction in many parts of the world, including the United States. Three live local bat ambassadors will be shared at this presentation that covers the incredible diversity of bats worldwide.

WWW.SACRAMENTOPERENNIALPLANTCLUB.ORG

Calendar

January 13

SPPC Board Meeting
Carol Meininger (916-967-1018)
Potluck Dinner
5 p.m.

January 15

2016 SPPC Grant Applications due

January 28

SPPC General Meeting
Ernesto Sandoval
Great Lawns to Beautiful Dry Gardens
7 p.m.

February 10

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

February 25

SPPC General Meeting
JoEllen Arnold
Why Should I Care About Bats?
7 p.m.

Tours and Workshops at the Historic City Cemetery

1000 Broadway
Sacramento, CA 95818
See page 4 for details.

Gardening Events at the Fair Oaks Horticulture Center

11549 Fair Oaks Boulevard
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

January 16—9 a.m.–Noon

Workshop Watch demonstrations on winter pruning deciduous fruit trees, blueberries, cane berries and grape vines. Learn tips for proper bare root fruit tree planting and care.

February 20—9 a.m.–Noon

Open Garden Talk with Master Gardeners as they demonstrate techniques for pruning fruit trees, grapes, and berries. See proper ways to prune ornamental grasses and shrubs. Learn basics of planting late winter and early spring vegetables.



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 Post* along with archived newsletters can be viewed at: www.sacramentoperennialplantclub.org

President's Message

Saul Wiseman

As previously indicated, I will not continue being president after my term expires in June 2016. The by-laws in Article 8 Nomination and Election/Term of Office states the procedure for the election of club officers. It reads as follows:

All Board members, including officers, shall serve unpaid two-year terms running from July to June. The nominating committee shall be appointed by the President no later than February of the second year and shall report in March in order to publish the ballot in the March/April newsletter and website. Elections of Board members shall be held no later than May 31 with members taking office on July 1. Nominations from the membership shall be presented in writing or email to the secretary by the March general meeting. In the event of a vacancy in any office, the unexpired terms shall be filled through election by the Board of Directors.

2016 Membership Information

Dues must be received by **March 31, 2016**, in order to be listed in the upcoming membership roster and be sent the newsletter. Additionally, paid members will save \$10 on the March 16 bus trip to the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show.

The roster will be mailed with the May/June *Perennial Post*. The membership application for 2016 is on page 7 and on our web site www.sacramentoperennialplantclub.org. 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.

No Strings Attached. Beginning in January you will no longer arrive home from SPPC meetings, look in the mirror, and realize that isn't a new necklace you're wearing, it is your SPPC name tag you forgot to return to the membership table. (We've all done that at least once!) No more tangles of string at the membership table as you check in for your name tag. Instead we will have SPPC adhesive-backed name tags available for you to write your name on and then discard later.

SPPC Grant Applications Due January 15

Due to a highly successful first year, our Grants Program will continue for another year. Applications are available on the SPPC website. Applications will be accepted until January 15, 2016. 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.

"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."

Sacramento Perennial Plant Club

Speakers—2016

All meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7 p.m.

Shepard Garden & Arts Center
3330 McKinley Boulevard, Sacramento

Nonmembers are welcome to attend our evening lecture meetings; however, garden tours are open only to SPPC members. SPPC website (www.sacramentoperennialplantclub.org) and bi-monthly newsletters will provide details regarding lectures and direction to tours.

JANUARY

January 28

Ernesto Sandoval
Green Lawns to Beautiful Dry Gardens

FEBRUARY

February 25

JoEllen Arnold
Why Should I Care About Bats?

MARCH

March 24

To be determined
(March has five Thursdays, we meet on the fourth Thursday)

APRIL

April 28

Sue Fitz
Unusual and Distinctive Annuals

MAY

May 26

Bob Tadlock
Healthy Soil, Healthy Plants

JUNE

June 23

(Farmer) Fred Hoffman
Bee Hotel
(June has five Thursdays, we meet on the fourth Thursday)

JULY

No general meeting

AUGUST

No general meeting

SEPTEMBER

September 22

Suzanne Leslie O'Brien
Slow Flower Movement

(September has five Thursdays, we meet on the fourth Thursday)

OCTOBER

October 27

Greg Gayton
Trends in the Nursery

NOVEMBER

No general meeting—Happy Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

No general meeting

December (date to be announced)
Holiday Potluck Dinner, 7 p.m. at SG&AC

Plant sales, garden tours, and workshop information will be included on our website www.sacramentoperennialplantclub.org and in future newsletters.



Historic Rose Garden

by Anita Clevenger

We will be having our “invitation only” pruning party on **January 9** from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. All SPPC members are invited, of course! Please RSVP to me so that we can plan lunch—we provide it for our volunteers. My cell is **916-715-7294**.

On **January 16**, we will be hosting **Stephen Scanniello**, a Great Rosarian of the World and curator of the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden, for two workshops on pruning climbing roses. One will be at 9 a.m. the other at 1 p.m. They are free although donations are welcome.

On **January 23 and 30**, we will be holding two pruning classes starting at 9 a.m. On the 23rd, we will focus on repeat-blooming roses. On the 30th, once-blooming roses will be the topic.

The *Open Garden* will be **April 9**, from 9:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Once again, we will be selling many different heritage and unusual roses, all of them well-suited for a drought-tolerant garden.

Finally, on **April 16**, at 6 p.m., we will be having our *Romance & Roses* tour. Cost is \$10 (free to cemetery members). Costumed actors and docents will tell tales of love lost and found in pioneer days, and will also tell stories about the roses and the people for whom they are named.

Hamilton Square Garden

by Leslie Hurlburt

Rose pruning will also be needed in Hamilton Square on **January 9** from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. See above for details.

The always popular *What's Blooming Tour* happens on **March 26**.

Thank You

Held on December 16, the SPPC Annual Holiday Potluck was a festive evening filled with lots of wonderful dishes, numerous gifts and great music. Many thanks to **Janice Sutherland** and **Jeanne Christopherson** for organizing the event. Thanks to **Sally and Shelly Berlant**, **Mae Ferral**, **Tamalon Littlefield**, **Deborah Renfrew**, **Lorraine Van Kekerix**, and **Peggy Weseloh** for setting up and decorating the tables. The much appreciated apple cider was made by **Madeleine Mullins** and her daughter, **Caitlin**. Thank you to **Alice Bowles** and **Bobby Frieze** for purchasing and wrapping the many garden-related gifts. Also, special recognition to **Noelle Anderson** for playing the piano and to accordion player **Robin Aurelius**.

Last, but not least, many thanks for all delicious salads, sides and desserts brought in by members. One of the more popular desserts was a gingerbread bundt cake made by **Marcia Leddy**. She has graciously shared the recipe that belonged to her husband's grandmother.

Josie's Gingerbread

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1 egg
- 1 cup molasses

• In a large mixing bowl whisk butter and sugar until creamy, then add egg and molasses and mix until well incorporated.

- 2 1/2 cups unbleached flour, sift before measuring
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp cloves
- 1/2 tsp salt

- 1 cup hot water (microwave at high power for 2 minutes)
- 1 1/2 tsp baking soda

• In a separate bowl mix dry ingredients then add 1/2 of mixture to molasses mix and stir. Alternate adding the water/soda mix and dry ingredients until all is added, then stir until smooth.

• Line the bottom of an 8 × 8 baking dish with wax paper and pour the gingerbread mixture into the dish. Bake at 350° for 30-40 mins.

• For 8-cup Bundt pan, butter it well then pour in batter. Bake at 350° for 40 mins. Let it cool upright on cooling rack, then invert onto cake plate.

• Serve plain, with whipped cream, ice cream or fruit—whatever you like!



Join the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club's 18th Annual sponsored bus trip
to the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

Cost: \$55.00 / 2016 SPPC members
\$65.00 / nonmembers

Membership form available in the Jan/Feb newsletter and
online at www.sacramentoperennialplantclub.org

Bus leaves at 7:30 a.m.

Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd.
Sacramento (rear entrance on Park Avenue)
Leaves show at 4 p.m.

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

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 lunch at the show. The \$55/\$65 cost includes show ticket, snacks, delivery to the show entrance, **and ample room to bring home any garden goodies you purchase.**

Invite your friends—relaxed conversation with friends on the bus, no driving or parking concerns, cargo space for your purchases. Life is good!

For detailed show information, including exhibitors and seminars, visit their website www.sfgardenshow.com

Cut along dotted 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 16, 2016 • SAN FRANCISCO FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

NAME _____ MEMBER? _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____

NAME _____ MEMBER? _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____

NAME _____ MEMBER? _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____

Gardening in January

by Bob Hamm

Roses and many other items are pruned now, including deciduous fruit trees (such as apple, pear, peach, plum, etc.) and other fruiting plants such as grapes, raspberry and blackberry. Flowering shrubs such as buddleja (except *B. asiatica*) can be trimmed now, as can summer and fall bloomers. Clematis are already starting to swell buds and those varieties that are cut back each year should be cut back **NOW!** This is mostly the single-flowered forms that bloom on new growth. Ornamental and shade trees (except those noted below) should be pruned. Please note that grapes and most maples bleed sap badly if pruned too late, so prune those **NOW**.

Perennials that benefit from a good pruning back each spring to control sprawl include hybrid penstemon, Russian sage and large salvias. Epimediums can have old foliage trimmed off later this month, which will show off their flowers and new foliage as it emerges (an early bloomer). Remember however, to wait on frost tender items.

Early spring bloomers such as azalea, japonica camellias, lilac, flowering quince, forsythia, deciduous magnolia, most species roses, dogwood, pieris, rhododendron, and the flowering forms of fruit trees (flowering peach, pear, cherry etc., grown for flowers not fruit) have their buds already formed, so hard pruning will decrease or eliminate blooming this season. For these plants the rule is "Prune immediately after blooming."

Do not prune frost tender plants yet!

January and February are the months we are most likely to get frost and freeze damage. Do not prune or even clean up frost damage on tender plants until after March 1. Even frosted stems provide some protection to the growth underneath them, helping prevent further damage. Do not rush to throw out damaged plants, you will be surprised at how many will recover with warm weather.

Bare root and dormant plant material is coming into local nurseries this month and it is a good time to get many items into the ground and save a bit on them over potted plants later. **HOWEVER** some warnings are in order—bare root material should not be dried out or sprouting into early growth—a major problem with packaged material. Get in **EARLY** for best selection and quality.



Many Hands Make Light Work

by Linda Hax

Perennial Plant Club members share with all gardeners a deep appreciation of the 14th century proverb's truth, "Many hands make light work." To put it more candidly, SPPC needs you!

Become part of a planning group for one of our activities. Join in the camaraderie of creating a plant sale, garden tour, propagation or garden art project. It doesn't involve a lot of time; often only one or two meetings.

Your helping hands are needed:

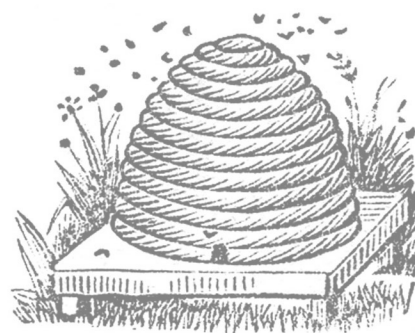
- Setting up and taking down plant sale displays
- Propagating plants
- Labeling plants
- Transporting plants

Your ideas are needed:

- Scheduling volunteers
- Assisting plant sale customers with plant selection
- Concocting garden art projects
- Identifying stimulating topics and speakers
- Mapping out garden tour logistics
- Researching garden tour sites

As you complete your 2016 Membership Form, think about where your interests coincide with the Perennial Plant Club's mission to provide opportunities for Sacramento area gardeners to learn about perennials appropriate to our climate and water. We're all learning together.

Got a helping hand?



Sacramento Perennial Plant Club Membership–2016

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

NAME(S) _____ DATE _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE (____) _____ - _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

GO GREEN! I'd like the club newsletter sent by e-mail _____

No thanks, I prefer regular 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

Inclusion in our yearly roster? YES ___ NO ___

VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION

Please volunteer for one or more of the following activities:

<i>Event/Activity</i>	<i>Yes, I Can Help!</i>
Plant sales	
Garden tours	
Bus trips	
Newsletter article writing	
Hamilton Square Garden maintenance	
WPA Rock Garden maintenance	
Speakers and programs	
Special events	
Membership maintenance	
Refreshments	
DIY garden art projects	
Plant propagation workshop	

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

► For questions, contact Carol Meininger at 916-967-1018 or e-mail: sacppc@sbcglobal.net



The Perennial Post

SPPC Newsletter
2743 San Luis Court
Sacramento, CA 95818



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Calendula officinalis in WPA Rock Garden

DUANE GOOSEN