



# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Post Office Box 31029  
Santa Barbara, CA 93130-1029

February 2017

Website: [www.sbchs.org](http://www.sbchs.org)

Contact: [sbcountyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sbcountyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com)

The Santa Barbara County Horticultural Society February General Meeting will be held on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00pm at the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church on the corner of Foothill and La Cumbre Road

### Speaker: Mauricio Gomez

*Restoring habitat for the endangered steelhead trout in Santa Barbara and Ventura watersheds*

Mauricio Gomez is the Director of South Coast Habitat Restoration, a local non-profit organization based in Carpinteria. He graduated with a degree in Aquatic Biology from UCSB many years ago and has been working in the environmental restoration field for the past 15 years. He is on the Board of the Society for Ecological Restoration California and the Citizens for the Carpinteria Bluffs. Mauricio enjoys spending time

with his family exploring the natural beauty Santa Barbara and Ventura have to offer.



Before 100' of concrete streambed and undersized bridge



After streamwork complete and new bridge installed

Example of project completed in 2016 along Carpinteria Creek.



Click here to read their [Latest Newsletter](#)

Mike Tully (L) pictured here with Randy Baldwin was recognized at the January monthly meeting with The Bouquet of the Year. Mike was presented this award as a distinguished member of our community for his



contributions to the advancement of horticulture in the Santa Barbara area. He was appreciated for his willingness to share his vast knowledge at society plant forums

and commended for generous donations of wonderful plants for sales and meeting raffles. His work on the Horticulture Committee at Ganna Walska Lotusland has helped it continue to be the incredible botanic garden it is today. Through his enthusiastic love of plants and incredible nursery, Terra Sol Garden Center, he has taught and inspired gardeners and plant lovers for many years

### Upcoming Meetings

March	Kyra Rude from Rincon-Vitova Insectaries: Biocontrol
April	Linda Chalker-Scott: Author "How Gardens Work"
May	Madeline Ward, SB City Water Conservation Supervisor, and Tyrone La Fay, SB County Water Conservation Coordinator
June	Gwen Stauffer: Plans for the Lotusland Japanese Garden
July	No Meeting
August	Frédérique Lavoipierre Director of Education Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

**Dues for 2017 are payable:** \$20/year for a family membership can be paid at the meeting or sent to Post Office Box 31029, 93130-1029, Santa Barbara, for one year or multiple years.

**Corey Welles' resource information** is available on our website on the links page. [www.sbchs.org](http://www.sbchs.org)

Other Plant Society meetings and events:

**9th Annual Santa Barbara Community Seed Swap** Sunday, January 29, 2017 11-3pm, Free. Santa Barbara Public Library, Faulkner Gallery

**SBC Rose Society** meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month (except July, August and December) at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. Refreshments and display begin at 7:00pm. The meeting and program begin at 7:30pm and are free and open to the public.

**The Santa Barbara Little Gardens Club** meets at the Community of Christ Church, 4675 Via Los Santos, Santa Barbara 93111, at 2:00pm on the third Tuesday of the month.

**Orchid Society of Santa Barbara** meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church at 7:30pm.

**Santa Barbara/Ventura Chapter of the California Rare Fruit Growers** - Anyone can be added to an email list and notified of upcoming meetings by sending their email address to [lindabuzzell@gmail.com](mailto:lindabuzzell@gmail.com)

**Santa Barbara Cactus & Succulent Society** meets the first Friday of the month at the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church at 7:30pm.

**72nd Annual Santa Barbara International Orchid Show** Earl Warren Showgrounds: March 17th, 18th, 19th; 9am to 5pm. [SBOrchidShow.com](http://SBOrchidShow.com)

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## Plants For Our New Normal By Susan Chamberlin

After he received his Bouquet of the Year award at the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, **Mike Tully** made a few remarks and challenged the audience to look for things to plant in their gardens that would survive in our new normal, low water conditions.

I called Mike at Terra Sol Garden Center for some specific suggestions. He was busy helping customers, but came up with several things off the top of his head. (I have added information for all plants below, so any errors are mine.)

*Leucospermum* 'Sunrise'—This shrub is a hybrid of South African species with striking, dark salmon-colored "pincushion" flowers in winter.

*Portulacaria afra*—Commonly known as elephant's food, this succulent is useful as a hedge replacement or informal screen.

*Portulacaria afra* 'Prostrata' or 'Prostrate Form'—Dwarf elephant's food is a great groundcover, and it looks good spilling from hanging baskets.

*Calandrinia (Cistanthe) grandiflora*—This popular succulent has the look of a traditional perennial with bright magenta-colored flowers over a long period.

*Olea europaea* 'Little Ollie'—A dwarf and fruitless form (but may fruit occasionally) of the classic olive with wide applications for formal or informal uses. It can be sheared into a hedge or used as a small patio tree.

**Carol Bornstein**, the Director of the Nature Gardens at the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum (who gave such an interesting presentation at the January 4<sup>th</sup> meeting), responded to my query via email. She reminded me that "right plant, right place" should always be the guiding principle to ensure plants will be sustainable. Her suggestions provide high wildlife habitat value.

*Heteromeles arbutifolia*—Best known as toyon, this large evergreen shrub has bright red berries that develop around the holidays and attract birds.

*Abutilon palmeri*—Indian mallow is a small evergreen shrub with velvety leaves and pretty marmalade-colored flowers. Despite its desert origin, it looks lush.

*Eriogonum giganteum*—St. Catherine’s lace is a shrubby, perennial buckwheat with a long bloom period. The faded flowers are also attractive.

*Achillea millefolium*—There are numerous, colorful cultivars of this old garden perennial (known as common yarrow) including varieties developed from California natives. It is useful as a lawn substitute that can take light traffic.

*Verbena lilacina* ‘De La Mina’ --Carol didn’t mention her own introductions to the trade, but in my experience, this perennial with purple flowers is a winner.

I was lucky to catch landscape architect and author **Billy Goodnick** on the phone as he drove away from a job. The ever effervescent Billy had many suggestions and many projects in the works. Instead of individual plants, he suggested some “killer combos”:

Big swaths of both *Senecio mandraliscae* (blue chalk fingers) and *Senecio cylindricus* (narrow-leaf chalksticks) as a colorful drought-tolerant groundcover that looks tropical;

*Lomandra longifolia* ‘Breeze’ (dwarf mat rush) paired with *Acacia cognata* ‘Cousin Itt’ for dry, light shade where these vivid greens will contrast with the dark greens typical in shady spots;



*Carex flacca* ‘Blue Zinger’ along with *Cerastium tomentosum* (snow-in-summer) to create a silvery meadow. (Not a walkable lawn substitute but good where lawns are replaced because nobody uses them.)

For more inspiration, take Billy’s Adult Ed class, “Smart Garden Design for Dry Times” in March ([www.thecll.org](http://www.thecll.org)) or visit his project gallery noted in the photo caption credit.

*Carex flacca* 'Blue Zinger' and white flowering snow-in-summer (*Cerastium tomentosum*) create a silvery meadow that requires less water than the lawn it replaced. *Euphorbia* 'Copton Ash' in the foreground. Design and photo by Billy Goodnick, <http://www.houzz.com/projects/614168/silver-meadow-lawn-replacement> used with permission

Below is our proposed budget for approval by the membership.

2017 Annual Budget Report & Proposal				
Income		2016 Proposed	2016 Actual	2017 Proposed
Membership		1400.00	1,780.00	1800.00
Meetings		600.00	480.75	600.00
Plant Sale		8000.00	6,812.79	7200.00
Donations		200.00	261.00	200.00
Miscellaneous		650.00	2399.50	800.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>10,850.00</b>	<b>11,734.04</b>	<b>10,600.00</b>
Disbursements				
Meetings		1800.00	2,381.39	2100.00
Plant Sale		4000.00	3,118.95	3150.00
Awards, Donations		2000.00	2,000.00	2000.00
Taxes, License & Insurance		2250.00	2,450.86	2500.00
Miscellaneous		800.00	927.24	850.00
<b>Totals</b>		<b>10,850.00</b>	<b>10,878.44</b>	<b>10,600.00</b>



**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

PO BOX 31029  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93130-1029

**Officers:**

Co-Presidents and Secretary:

Debby Lipp

Ernie Pfadenhauer

Vice President: Carol Terry

(805) 684-5725

Treasurer: Gretchen Ingmanson

**Directors:**

Donna Blakemore

Diane Dunhill

Marian Kauffman

Carolyn Koegler

Dorothy Warnock

**Committee Heads:**

Garden Tours: Helen Wong

Newsletter: Ernie Pfadenhauer

Bulletin Distribution: Larry Disharoon

Plant Sale: Carol Terry

Refreshments: Elisa Reich

Scholarships: Dorothy Warnock

Membership: Duke McPherson

Programs: Open

A word on the "Freebies Area":

People who bring plant materials or pots, etc. to share please remember to:

1. Bring clean, viable plant material contained in bags or boxes (please no dirt)
2. Label plants if possible
3. Please gather and take your leftovers home after the meeting; there is no dumpster at the site.
4. Help keep the porch area clean

Botanic Name:

Common Name:

Exhibitor:

Additional Details:

THANK YOU

This sheet to be cut out or copied for Plant Display Information