



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Celebrating plants since 1880

SBCHS.ORG

FEBRUARY 2019

Upcoming Speakers

March

- *Heritage Mission-Era Plants of La Huerta Gardens*
Jerry Sortomme
(This is not a repeat. At the last minute, Jerry was unable to give his talk in December.)

April

- *Pelargoniums Out of Africa*
John Schoustra

May

- *Fire-Retardant Australian Plants*
Jo O'Connell

Bouquet of the Year



This year's honor goes to Steven Timbrook, director emeritus of Ganna Walska Lotusland... *see pg 2*

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February General Meeting - February 6, 2019, 7 p.m.
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church,
corner of Foothill and La Cumbre Roads

The Permaculture Project at SBCC:

The Effects of Community Gardens in Higher Education Regarding Sustainability, Equity and Education

Please join us to hear Jackson Hayes discuss the Permaculture Garden at Santa Barbara City College and its benefits beyond aesthetics, diving into the science and philosophy behind permaculture and its positive effects on the environment, education and equity.

The SBCC Permaculture Garden is a 1-acre garden planted in 2015 to replace unused strips of lawn with food-producing, wildlife-friendly and educational landscaping. Since then, the garden has partnered with the SBCC food pantry to provide fresh produce to SBCC students at no cost.



Topics covered will include a brief history of the project, a discussion of the nexus between environmental sustainability and social justice with a focus on food security, and how institutional food gardens can bridge the two together.

Jackson is a Santa Barbara City College alumni and current UCSB student who has spent the past three years working on environmental sustainability projects both on and off campus.

Those projects include managing the SBCC Permaculture Garden, founding the SBCC Sustainability Committee and working with the UCSB Greenhouse & Garden Project. Outside of the educational realm, Jackson runs a seasonal nursery, offers landscape design services/consulting and is an avid fisherman and diver.

Bouquet of the Year Honors, from page 1



Steven Timbrook received the Bouquet of the Year at the January general meeting. Former awardee Randy Baldwin, general manager and president of San Marcos Growers, contributed the following:

The Santa Barbara County Horticultural Society is one of the longest running horticultural societies in America, having been established on April 12, 1880 and The Bouquet of the Year is the highest honor that the society gives. It was established to honor a person who has advanced horticulture in the Santa Barbara area and is determined by a committee of the past recipients.

The award presentation went really well. I gave a short talk about the award and listed the past recipients with particular mention of two, Ozzie Da Ros and Virginia Hayes, who sadly passed last year. I next introduced Lotusland curator Paul Mills and Lotusland cycad advisor Jeff Chemnick who both said a few words about Steve and then invited Gwen Stauffer, Lotusland's current director, up to say a few words. After this the award was presented to Steve, who talked a bit about his time at Lotusland and graciously noted that his accomplishments at Lotusland were a team effort and commended the staff.

2019 Budget Report & Proposal

Please review the following budget numbers. Members will vote on the 2019 proposed budget at the February general meeting.

Income	2018 Proposed	2018 Actual	2019 Proposed
Membership	\$ 1400.00	\$ 1,935.00	\$ 1600.00
Meetings	500.00	385.00	400.00
Plant Sale	8400.00	7,479.14	7500.00
Donations	150.00	49.39	150.00
Miscellaneous	800.00	0.00	1600.00
Totals	\$ 11,250.00	\$ 9,848.53	\$ 11,250.00
Disbursements			
Meetings	\$ 2500.00	\$ 2,893.71	\$ 2600.00
Plant Sale	3600.00	3,349.74	3500.00
Awards, Donations	2100.00	2,395.21	2100.00
Taxes, License & Insurance	2200.00	3,561.48	2300.00
Miscellaneous	850.00	708.63	750.00
Totals	\$ 11,250.00	\$ 12,908.77	\$ 11,250.00

Horticultural Events Around Town

Friday, February 1

Bolivia: A Journey Through the Altiplano
Santa Barbara Cactus & Succulent Society.

Guillermo Rivera will focus on cactaceae (Lobivia, Rebutia, Sulcorebutia, Trichocereus, etc.), highlight other interesting flora and fauna, and



explore some of the "islands" within the largest salt flats in the world (visible from the moon): Uyuni Salt Flats. Rivera was born in Argentina and owns and operates Plant Expeditions, formerly South America Nature Tours.

Doors open at 6:45 p.m., Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Thursday, February 14

Romance in the Garden - A Free Rosy Valentine's Day Party!

Santa Barbara Rose Society.



Kim Rupert, local rose hybridizer of well-loved roses like 'Annie Laurie McDowell,' 'Lauren' and 'Lynnie' will help us understand how new roses are created through

the romance between the male pollen of one rose and the female pistil of another – via bees or the hybridizer's tiny paint brush – to create seeds of brand new roses that hopefully offer the best features of both parents.

7 p.m., Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. Free.

Saturday, March 14

Become a Certified UC Master Food Preserver!
UC Cooperative Extension.

Are you passionate about local produce, preserving goods, educating others and meeting your neighbors? Become a UC Master Food Preserver, and serve as an agent of UCCE to answer food preservation questions, teach public classes and participate in other community events. Ten-week volunteer certification training begins March 14 in Los Alamos. Contact: Dayna Ravalin, Program Coordinator (805) 781-5944 or dravalin@ucanr.edu.

Above Right: Photo by Guillermo Rivera.

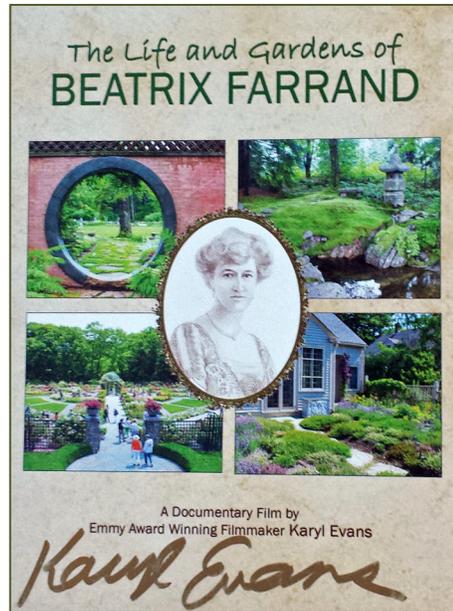
Above Left: 'Lynnie' rose, photo contributed by Linda Buzzell.

Beatrix Farrand Baloney

by Susan Chamberlin

There is no question that Beatrix Farrand is one of America's most important landscape architects and horticulturists.

Unable to attend Harvard (one of the few colleges that taught landscape design classes but only open to male students), in 1893 she began studying privately with Charles Sprague Sargent, the director of Harvard's Arnold Arboretum. This was possible because of Farrand's social connections. Born Beatrix Jones, rich, privileged, and the niece of the great writer and gardener, Edith Wharton, her family friends included Mariana Van Rensselaer, author of the landscape manifesto *Art Out-of-Doors*.



Most of Farrand's practice was in the Eastern states. Before she was thirty, she co-founded the American Society of Landscape Architects—needless to say, the only woman in the group of 11 founders. Jones married Max Farrand, a Yale history professor in 1913 when she was 41, and they moved to San Marino, California in 1926, so he could become the director of the Huntington Library. However, she commuted to the East regularly to maintain her practice there.

Beatrix Farrand is the subject of several books and numerous articles, and now there is a documentary film by Karyl Evans devoted to her. Evans gives Farrand credit for the concept of the native plant focus and the design of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. This is absurd. Farrand wasn't involved with the Botanic Garden until 12 years after it was founded.

The otherwise fine film doesn't mention the Botanic Garden's true innovators: Dr. Frederic Clements, a plant ecologist and the Garden's first director who pursued the novel idea of a botanical garden devoted to native plants; Ervanna Bowen Bissell, the Garden's first designer and later an Associate Director; and Lockwood de Forest III (Jr.), the noted Santa Barbara landscape architect who was involved with the Botanic Garden virtually from the beginning collaborating with Mrs. Bissell and designing various projects and plans.

Founded in 1926, the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden was revolutionary and visionary. Native plants were situated in a park-

Above: A new film by Karyl Evans erroneously attributes the native plant concept and the design of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden to Beatrix Farrand.

Member News

Please Renew Your Dues

Stay current with the society and renew now. Your 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*, \$0
Designated by the Society.
- *Life Member*, \$0
No dues are required for members who have reached their 80th birthday.

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.

**Note: If you wish to receive the monthly newsletter via US mail, rather than e-mail, please add \$10 to your membership to defray the cost. Each newsletter costs approximately \$2 in printing and postage. As such, 12 monthly mailings cost \$24/year, which is more than the annual dues.*

We're Hiring!

We are seeking one or more reliable persons to set up and take down the audio-visual equipment -- and assist with setting up and taking down tables and chairs -- at our monthly meetings, 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.

Beatrice Farrand Baloney, from pg 3

like setting--not as stiff individual specimens--to display their beauty and adaptability for home gardens.

Another goal was demonstrating how native plants might “conserve the state’s water supply” according to the Annual Report written by Mrs. Bissell in 1930 and quoted in Mary Carroll’s excellent

history, “A Garden for All Time: The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, 1926-2005” (*Noticias*, Winter 2004/Spring 2005, 14).

In 1938 Farrand became a member of the Botanic Garden’s Advisory Committee thanks to her client, Mildred Bliss, who was the daughter of the Garden’s original patron (the late Anna Dorinda Blaksley Bliss) and the owner of one of Farrand’s greatest gardens, Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, DC.

A year later Farrand began to collaborate with de Forest. They clashed on some issues, agreed on others, and together reshaped the Meadow at the Garden into an oval framed by trees and planted with California wildflowers, which leads the eye to La Cumbre Peak in the background. The film attributes this triumph of American landscape design to Farrand alone. Baloney!

Top: The design of the Meadow at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden was a collaboration between Lockwood de Forest III (Jr.) and Beatrice Farrand. This photo was taken in 1988 before the diseased coast live oak tree in the distance on the left, which helped frame the space, was removed and precast concrete pavers replaced the original dirt paths.

Photo credit: Susan Chamberlin. Originally published in “Beatrice Farrand in Santa Barbara, 1925-1959” (Eden: The Journal of the California Garden & Landscape History Society, Spring 2011, 17).

Garden Tours

Our garden tours are on hiatus and will resume in spring. Tours are typically on the first Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. If you have a favorite garden that can accommodate 25 to 40 avid horticulturists, please contact Helen Wong or Debby Lipp.

Display, Raffle & Freebie Plants Etiquette

Plants for the Display and Raffle Tables should be fun, unusual, in tip-top condition and bear labels. (Fill out an ID form for display plants from the stack on the Display Table.)

For the Freebies Area outside the main doors:

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

Please do not bring invasive plants for the Raffle Table or the Freebies Area. If they're fabulous, it's okay to bring invasives for the Display Table.

Meet Your Board, Plus a Few Openings

We are still seeking several new Board members, along with a few Committee Chairs. Please volunteer for one (or more) of the open positions listed below. It's a great way to support our society and get to know more members.

Board Members

- *President:* Debby Lipp
- *Vice President:* OPEN
- *Secretary:* OPEN
- *Treasurer:* Gretchen Ingmanson
- *Director:* Diane Dunhill, Carolyn Koegler, Duke McPherson, Dorothy Warnock
- *Director:* OPEN

We'd welcome a few more directors to attend board meetings and weigh in on the society's direction and decisions.

Committee Chairs

- *Garden Tours:* Helen Wong
- *Membership:* Duke McPherson
- *Newsletter Editor:* Joan S. Bolton
- *Newsletter Distribution:* Larry Disharoon
- *Plant Sale:* OPEN
- *Plant Sale Assistant:* OPEN
- *Programs:* Debby Lipp
- *Programs Assistant:* Duke McPherson
- *Publicity:* Janet Hunter
- *Refreshments:* Elisa Reich
- *Scholarships:* Dorothy Warnock.

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