



December 2017

Website: www.sbchs.org

Contact: sbcountyhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com

The Santa Barbara County
Horticultural Society

December General Meeting

will be held on December 6th, 7:00pm
at the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
on the corner of Foothill and La Cumbre Rd

**Inviting California to Dinner: Bringing
California native plant foods into your life and
the future of native plant agriculture**

Antonio Sanchez

Locally grown foods and low-water landscaping are all the rage right now, but a quick trip to farmers market or a local nursery will showcase almost no California native plants. What if, among the more than 6,000 plants native to California, hundreds



were not only edible, easy to use and delicious, but extremely low-water as well? This one of a kind presentation, led by native food enthusiast Antonio Sanchez, discusses the ancient and emerging field of California native foods and their cultivation. With an eye on the past and the many living traditions that have been passed down by local indigenous peoples, this unique lecture

explores how old ways can combine with new ways to find a place in local gardens and kitchens.

Among the dozens of native food plants discussed

will be: Low-water salad greens and native grains such as Saltbush (*Atriplex* spp., Chenopodiaceae) and Tepary Beans (*Phaseolus* spp., Fabaceae), local fruits like Native Goji Berries (*Lycium* spp., Solanaceae) and Huckleberries (*Vaccinium ovatum*) and many others that can be introduced to local diets.

This workshop includes tastings of native sage pesto made with *Salvia clevelandii* (Cleveland sage, Lamiaceae) and *Allium unifolium* (single-leaf onion, Alliaceae), Mesquite cookies made with mesquite powder (*Prosopis glandulosa*) and Agave Syrup blended with local Hummingbird Sage leaves (*Salvia spathacea*).

Antonio Sanchez has been working with California native plants and native foods for over a decade, and was one of the lead organizers for the 2015 California Native Food Symposium in Claremont. Antonio has worked at various native plant institutions across the state, including Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, The Theodore Payne Foundation for Native Plants, Cal Flora Nursery, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, and was co-founder of Nopalito Native Plant Nursery in Ventura.

Picture Credit: Antonio Sanchez by Carmen Smyth, Special to the Ventura County Star.

Upcoming Meetings

January	Paul Mills Cuba
February	Joan Bolton
April	Mike Tully

Open Society Positions: We are taking nominations for Board Members and looking for someone to help with *Programs, and Committee Head for the Plant Sale.*

Dues for 2017 are payable in December: \$20/year for a family membership can be paid at the meeting or sent to the address on the back of this newsletter (POB 31029, Santa Barbara) for one year or multiple years.

Other Plant Society meetings and events:

Santa Barbara Cactus & Succulent Society meets the first Friday of the Month at 7:00pm for a 7:30 start at the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

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.

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

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.

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

Holiday Plant & Gift Sale

Sunday, December 3, 2017 11:00 to 3:00

Succulents, air plants, pottery and animal/nature related items.

Diane Dunhill Garden

3673 San Gabriel Lane, SB

Access from Ontare Road or Mc Caw Ave. from Las Positas near State St. Bring friends. Cash or check please. Rain or shine.

We note the passing of two of our society members:

Carolyn Margaret Allbright was born in Chicago on Dec. 4, 1936, to Lincoln and Dorothy Klassert. She died on July 5, 2017.

Living with her mother, Carolyn grew up in the Redondo Beach area. After graduating high school, she moved to Santa Barbara and attended UCSB, graduating with a degree in teaching. She then began teaching in the Goleta Union School District.

After graduation, met and married her husband of 57 years, Robert "Bob." They traveled all over the United States camping with their dogs until 1971 when Carolyn quit teaching so they could adopt two girls.

Always the gardener, she became a master gardener and enjoyed supporting the Santa Barbara Horticultural Society, the Rose Society, and was a docent at the Botanic Gardens. She participated for many years in the Earl Warren Flower Show.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens, the Santa Barbara Humane Society or to the nonprofit of your choice.

Source: Gloria Wise, Noozhawk

Glenn Fisher family and Dan Fisher family came to the Mission's La Huerta Gardens to celebrate the memory of their father and grandfather, **Bob Fisher** (1919-2014). A metal plate was affixed onto the specially donated White Cedar patio table, in memory of Bob's wonderful garden service and his enduring, jolly friendship, before ill health and then his passing. The family brought remembrance pictures that will be added to the Huerta scrapbook and the Tribute Board album.

A chemist, Bob specialized in yeast and was a pioneer in the fermentation and commercial development of *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt--discovered by others) a bacterium that naturally controls pest caterpillars and mosquito larvae.

Among other things, Bob was a member of the California Rare Fruit Growers group and also a community volunteer at the Santa Barbara City College's Lifescape Garden and Chumash Preserve.

Source: Jerry Sortomme, Huerta Happenings and Glenn Fisher

Miscellaneous Musings

By Susan Chamberlin

Upon reading last month's column on "Plants and Fire" California native plant expert, Carol Bornstein, pointed out that the native ornamental grass, *Muhlenbergia rigens* (while it is highly flammable) would survive a wildfire (unless it was so hot the clumps were killed.)

The iconic coral trees (*Erythrina* sp.) at the corner of State and Micheltorena Streets are threatened because the owner of the property wants to remove them.

My husband and I camped in Big Bend National Park in Texas in November. The entire desert in the surrounding area was grey with the foliage of Texas ranger (*Leucophyllum frutescens*), which blanketed the earth much as creosote does in our Mojave desert. Texas ranger in both the grey and green forms is popular here as a drought tolerant ornamental shrub with mauve-pink flowers. I saw an example of Texas ranger with white flowers in a garden in Austin, which would appeal to anyone not fond of mauve.



A white cultivar of Texas ranger (*Leucophyllum frutescens*) in an Austin, Texas garden.

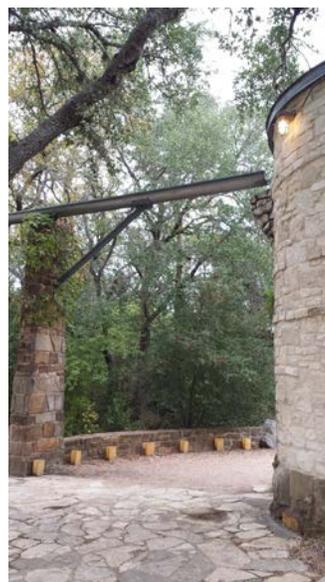


Yellow bells (*Tecoma stans*, also native to Texas and the southern U.S.) was in bloom in November and looked stunning, both in the wild and in cultivated gardens. It has pure, bright yellow flowers in large clusters. This shrub is drought tolerant and evergreen in our climate.

Yellow bells (*Tecoma stans*) along a Texas highway in November.

The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin Texas was inspirational for its vision, plants, architecture and water catchment system, which directed rainwater from both the roofs and paving to cisterns. Its design as a park, not as a collection of individual specimens, owes its inspiration to the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, founded along these principles in 1926.

Water catchment systems at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas.



All photos S. Chamberlin



**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

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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