



Sacramento Perennial Plant Club NEWSLETTER

Founded 1988

www.sacramentoperennialplantclub.com

March / April 2011

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March Program Speaker

Your Soil Is A Living Thing---It Is Not Dirt

Professor Stephen Andrews

Shepherd Garden and Arts Center

Thursday, March 24, 2011 at 7:00 PM

Remember March has 5 Thursday; meeting is the 4th Thursday

Stephen Andrews, also known as 'Dirt Dude', is a soil scientist and professor of environmental earth science at U.C. Berkeley. Professor Andrews exudes excitement about soil and his talks are informative and fun. He will answer questions about your garden soil and as he says 'there are no bad soils; only soil that have had bad things done to them'. Learn about soil testing, saving money on fertilizers, how compost builds soil structure, helps maintain soil temperature, and feeds plants and soil organisms. He will make believers of us on the benefits of mulch, and compost. Stephen Andrews will make this a very enjoyable evening.



April Program Speaker

Gardens Of England

Anita Clevenger

Shepard Garden and Arts Center

Thursday, April 28, 2011 at 7:00 PM

Anita Clevenger, Perennial Plant Club member, director of the Historic Rose Garden and Master Gardener will talk about her (13 days, 35 gardens) trip to England with friend, Janelle Michel. As Anita said "We weren't going there for the usual tourist sights, but to look at gardens and to talk with gardeners. We wanted to see all kinds of gardens, not just the big and famous ones." Jon Dodson, gardener at Mottisfont Abby, took them on a tour of the famous walled rose garden, created by the great Rosarian Graham Stuart Thomas, and Mr. Dodson answered all their questions about roses; from growing, training and pruning to planting perennials with roses. He also took them to his own garden and other private gardens. Anita's photos of the large gardens, private gardens and community gardens she visited are beautiful. She came home inspired and will share her photos and stories with us.



Walled Rose Garden at
Mottisfont Abby

The next two Perennial Plant club Board of Directors meetings will be held March 8th at Madeleine Mullins (455-7815), and April 12th at Janice Sutherland (481-2137). As always, board meetings are open to all members. These meetings are a great chance to see how the club is run and where you might like to help. We also get a chance to tour the wonderful gardens of our members before dinner. Friends, gardens, food, and club business. Can't beat that! Meetings begin at 5 PM and start with a potluck dinner – informative *and* delicious.

Perennial Plant Club

Annual Spring Plant Sale

Shepard Garden and Art Center

March 26, 2011 Saturday 10:00AM – 4:00 PM

March 27, 2011 Sunday 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Please donate plants and garden related items. Labels with pictures of the plants are helpful. Bring plants and items to Center on Friday, March 25th. We have a large selection of plants ready for spring planting. Many of the flats of perennials have been propagated by club member Emma Ahart. We need **volunteers** to pick up the flats Friday morning and transport them to the center and help set up. **Volunteers are needed to man our tables and clean up.** This is a good way to get to know other members of the club and it is fun to work at the sale. For information call Madeleine Mullins at 455-7815.

We are looking for some members to each take care of a few of the plants that do not sell at the spring sale and care for them until the fall sale. Each person would take only a few plants. Please volunteer so that one person does not have to do all the work.

Membership list and Newsletter

Please check that your name has been listed correctly in the membership roster. If there are any corrections or if you want to be removed from the list please call Jeanne Christopherson, 916-283-6999. **Check the mailing label on this newsletter to see if your membership dues are paid.** If you have any questions about the information in the newsletters or you are not receiving your copy of the newsletters; please call Janice Sutherland 481-2137.

New Members

Welcome to the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club Colleen Barnett, Ellie Longanecker, Lou and Jeanie Campbell, Merlyn Lenear and Debbie Rogenmoser.

S. F. Flower and Garden Show

There are a few seats left for the bus trip to the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show on Wednesday March 23rd . The cost is \$50.00 and leaves at 7:30 AM. For information ; call Bobby Frieze at: 916-383-8054



Garden Tour

Garden and Vernal Pools at
George and Judy Waegell's Ranch

7700 Eagles Nest Road Sacramento, 95830

Saturday April 2, 2011 10:00 AM

Sauntering in any direction, my feet would brush about a hundred flowers with every step... as if I were wading in liquid gold-- John Muir describing the Central Valley of California in the spring of 1868

Vernal pools are seasonally flooded depressions found on ancient soils with an impermeable layer such as a hardpan, claypan, or volcanic basalt. The impermeable layer allows the pools to retain water much longer than the surrounding uplands; nonetheless, the pools are shallow enough to dry up each season. Vernal pools often fill and empty several times during the rainy season. Only plants and animals that are adapted to this cycle of wetting and drying can survive in vernal pools over time.

These specialized plants and animals are what make vernal pools unique. As winter rains fill the pools, freshwater invertebrates, crustaceans, and amphibians emerge. Vernal pool plants sprout underwater, some using special floating leaves and air-filled stems to stay afloat. Some of these plants even flower underwater! Birds arrive to feed on the vernal pool plants and animals.

In spring, flowering plants produce the brightly-colored concentric rings of flowers that vernal pools are famous for. Native bees nest in vernal pools and pollinate pool flowers. Insects and crustaceans produce cysts and eggs, and plants produce seeds that are buried in the muddy pool bottom. The mud protects cysts, eggs, and seeds from the hot, dry Central Valley summer. By late summer, amphibians have dug deep into the soils and gone dormant, awaiting the next rainy season. Vernal pools have completely dried out and most of the plant and animal species have either disappeared into the soils or set seed and died. In this phase, vernal pools are really "banks" full of resting seeds, cysts, and eggs that can survive through summer, and even extended droughts, until the onset of the rains begin the life cycle anew. *Information: San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District Photo: VernalPool.org*



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George and Judy live in the farmhouse where George was born and raised. The farm-ranch is still in operation with the next generation working the land. The Waegell family including, SPPC members, Margaret, Ellen, and Marilyn have been good stewards of the land. George spends many days planting oak trees. We will tour Judy's garden and then walk to the vernal pools. If walking is difficult for you, you may drive and park close to the pools. Judy has a country gardens without boundaries. When you are in her garden your view is looking out across the fields toward the Sierra Mountains. Having the space, Judy is able to grow many California native shrubs and let them reach their natural size. Many of them have clematis growing thru them. The garden is filled with trees, perennials and bulbs. Directions: Take Jackson Highway to Eagle Nest Road turn south and continue on passed Florin Road. Judy's home is on the right. Eagle Nest Road is off Jackson Hwy between Sunrise Blvd. and Excelsior Rd.



Garden Tour Land Park Area Saturday April 16, 2011 Tour Starts At 9:30

This will be a day for gardens, both private and public. Our tour will start at Judi's garden, 1356 San Clemente Way Sacramento, 95831, off South Land Park Dr. (maps will be handed out, at her home, for directions to the other gardens) After we visit the three gardens we will then tour the gardens in the cemetery. We will be in the same area.

Garden # 1: Judi O'Toole's Garden. Judi has a good sense of design and she has turned her small garden into a charming space shaded by a large tree. Judi loves stepping stones and has used them in both the front and back garden. She has mixed brick and stone using both materials in different ways. She has planted different groundcovers in her front garden and has almost eliminated weeding. Judi is always on the look out for a new plant she must try and will find a space to squeeze it in, or remove an old plant to make room for her new treasure. The latest addition to the garden is a metal Egret she and her husband bought in Mendocino, made by an artist from Texas.

Garden # 2: Virginia Schnitt's Garden. Virginia's husband loves to grow vegetables and has designed a great vegetable garden. He thinks you should only grow plants you can eat; she thinks you should only grow plants that flowers. Slowly Virginia's flowers have entered his gar-

den. Last year they grew sunflowers and cosmos which gave a little shade to some of the vegetables, like cucumbers, that like a little shade. The birds also liked the seeds. Virginia loves plants but does not buy plants at nurseries. She takes home cutting and propagates them. She brings home plants that people throw away and nurses them back to health. She loves winter pruning, neighbors give her arm full of cuttings to propagate and add to her garden. She says her garden is mix of plants she loves.

Garden # 3: The Iva Shepard Garden. In her day, Iva Shepard was an influential and eccentric member of the local gardening scene. Her contribution was honored with the naming of the Garden and Arts Center. Her husband designed gardenscapes and flower displays at the old State Fair Grounds on Stockton Boulevard. Together they collaborated their talents and resourcefulness into their Land Park garden. The garden rooms created a sense of intimacy and mystery. They utilized the outdoor space for entertaining which included a striking brick barbecue oven which was featured in an early copy of Sunset Magazine. When the home came up for sale, the house had become overrun with cats and suffered from neglect. but Jane and Robert Graham were not deterred by the challenge. The English country home built by Squeaky Williams has been restored to its original glory. The garden includes fruit trees, perennials, a rustic cottage nestled in the woodland, sculpture, vintage tile, furniture and urns.

Spring Garden Tour Sacramento Historic City Cemetery Hamilton Square and The Heritage Rose Garden April 16, 2011 Saturday, 9:30AM-2:00 PM 10th and Broadway Parking is across from the main entrance on Broadway



Hamilton Square, sponsored by the Perennial Plant Club as one of its community projects and managed by Sharon Patrician, long-time club member, is a wonderful garden

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in the midst of Sacramento's history. Sharon and many volunteers have planted the half-acre site with many species of aster, buddleia, cistus, Echinacea, lavender, shrub roses, penstemon, salvia and bulbs. Sharon will guide visitors thru the garden on Saturday. Club member Anita Clevenger, is the manager of the award winning **Historic Rose Garden** in the cemetery. The beautiful rose garden will be in full bloom and there will be free tours of the garden. (Check out how they support and grow some of the climbing and shrub roses.) The sale of rooted rose cuttings and other items, and a silent action will raise funds for the maintenance of the rose garden. We have many club members who volunteer many hours to maintain these wonderful gardens. If you have not been to the Open Garden Day put the date on your calendar. The roses are beautiful and the fragrance is heavenly. The perennial gardens in Hamilton garden are beautiful and full of ideas for your own garden. The historic roses will be featured at the front of the cemetery, then stroll south to Hamilton Square to view what's blooming. Stroll to the east and visit the **California Native Plant Garden**.



white birch trees planted in front. This contemporary garden was designed by Landscape Designer Gary Orr and Loretta. You can definitely see Loretta's artistic eye in this garden, the way she has added a touch of whimsy and color to this wonderful garden. Loretta's home and garden have been featured in Sunset magazine.



Photo: Loretta's Garden

Garden # 2: Garden of Bruce and Peggy Kennedy. Bruce and Peggy are Master Gardeners and world travelers. Their home and garden show both of these interests. Bruce and Peggy have surrounded themselves with things they love and their garden has a peaceful and tranquil feeling. The garden has a good design. It has large trees and shrubs and paths that take you thru the garden past the beautiful water feature and the large rock they had shipped back from China. Hummingbirds and other birds are attracted to feed or build nests in their garden. This is a garden you would like to spend some quiet time setting on a bench.

Garden # 3: Garden of Emma Ahart. Emma is an amazing gardener; everything in her garden grows large and healthy. Farming is in her blood. When she started her garden many years ago she hauled in river soil from the family farm, and has amended it each year with compost and manure. Emma believes that to have a bountiful garden you have to have good soil. Emma's garden surrounds her home and people walk or drive by each month of the year to see what is in bloom. Emma has a vegetable garden and fruit trees that feeds neighbors and friends and donates food to Senior Gleaners. Her flower beds are overflowing with shrubs, perennials, annuals, and bulbs that are colorful year round. Once you have seen her garden you will want to come back later in the spring, summer and fall to see what is blooming. Emma enjoys having people come by to see her flowers and maybe you will see some of the plants she propagated and you bought at our plant sales.



Garden Tour Gardens of Sierra Oaks Saturday, April 30, 2011

Tour Starts at 9:30: Maps at 1st garden

Garden #1: Loretta Landers Garden, 2841 Latham Dr. Sacramento 95864 off Fair Oaks Blvd: Loretta has a beautiful garden; it is the type of garden that draws you around a corner or to look behind a shrub for another surprise. There is a Koi pond tucked behind a stone garden wall. Loretta is a sculptor and has placed art pieces made by her and other artist through out the garden. A striking feature of the garden is a fence painted blue with a row of

Garden Tour

**Bus Trip to Robin Parer's Greenhouse and Garden
Plus Stop at Annie's Annuals Nursery
Saturday, May 21, 2011**

**Bus leaves Shepard Garden & Art Center
at 8:00 AM– home about 5:30 PM**



G. sanguineum 'Vision' Photo By: Donn Reiners

Robin Parer started the small nursery called Geraniaceae at her home in Marin County in 1983. This nursery specialized in plants of the Geranium family. The mail order nursery has grown and she now has greenhouses in Richmond. Robin has spoken to garden clubs, garden shows and symposiums around the world. She has been featured in Martha Stewart Living, Sunset, New York Times, House and Garden, Horticulture Magazine and has written articles for many newspapers and magazines and has been a guest on television garden shows. Robin is always spreading the word and teaching about these wonderful plants. We will start our day with a stop at her Greenhouse Nursery in Richmond. She will give us a tour of this propagating and growing site. We will then head to her home in Kentfield. Her hillside garden is an acre in size. The lower garden was begun in 1975, and the upper garden was redone in 1994. Her garden has beautiful spring and summer blooming shrubs, herbaceous perennials, many old roses and among these plants she has planted over 300 species forms of the Genus Geraniums, many forms of Erodium and hundreds of Scented leaf, Angel and Pansy Face Pelargoniums. Robin will be serving us lunch in her garden. The lunch will be a main item, with salad, desert and drinks. We haven't been to Robin's garden since 1997, I loved it last time and look forward to this return visit. I know you will also enjoy the day. On our way home, we will stop at Annie's Annuals Nursery in Richmond. Specializing in rare and unusual annual and perennial plants, including cottage garden heirlooms and hard to find California native wildflowers. The cost for the bus trip which will include lunch is \$40.00. Robin will have plants for sale at her home. To sign up for this trip please call: Bruce or Elizabeth Jones 916-488-8465

Redbud

By Trey Pitsenberger, co-owner Golden Gecko

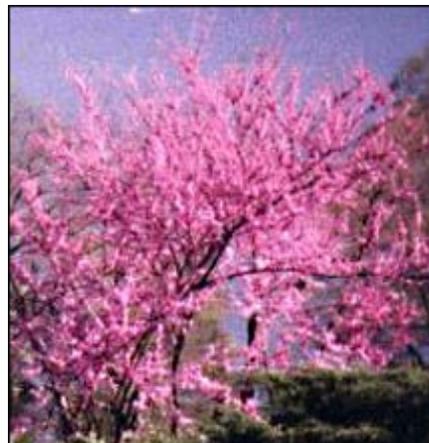


Have you seen the Redbuds in bloom? Driving where the native foliage has been undisturbed look for a shrub that is leafless, with colorful sweet pea shaped, magenta flowers growing on the branches and even on the trunk. These are the Redbuds (*Cercis occidentalis*). They are native to the west slopes of the Sierra Nevada below 4000'.

During the summer they are inconspicuous among the other native plants. They usually grow about 8 to 18 feet tall. Most grow several trunks from the base. Leaves are bluish green about 3" on diameter. In the fall the leaves turn a light yellow or red.

They are useful in low water use landscapes. Use them on a dry bank or hill for interest. Try planting trailing manzanita (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), or 'Canadian Creeper' (*Cotoneaster*) underneath, to help with erosion, or add a carpet of green. The shrub *Ceanothus* or mountain lilac is great with redbud as it blooms at the same time as redbud. *Ceanothus* has bright blue flowers that look great with the magenta flowers of redbud.

Don't try to transplant them from the wild. Like so many native shrubs they dislike being moved from their original home. They are not always easy to find in the garden centers either. Redbuds 'help bridge' the gap between the early flowering trees, like ornamental plums, and the later blooming flowering cherries and crabapples.



There is another type of Redbud that is sold more frequently. The Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) is native to the eastern U.S. It is the largest and fastest growing Redbud. They can grow 25-35 feet tall. They are usually a tree shaped plant with a single trunk, unlike

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the native's multiple trunks form. It has horizontally tiered branches that form a round head. The flowers are rose colored rather than magenta. The leaves are larger growing from 3 to 6 inches.

The Eastern Red Bud is one of my favorite small patio trees. They have an easy care habit, and a pleasing appearance. There are various varieties of the Eastern Redbud that have been developed. 'Forest Pansy' is a variety of Eastern Redbird that deserves special mention. While it has flowers just like the Species, 'Forest Pansy' has beautiful purple leaves. 'Oklahoma' is probably the most widely sold variety. It comes with flowers that are wine red. 'Texas White' has white flowers instead of red or magenta. Redbud is a great patio tree, or for anywhere a twenty-foot tall tree would be nice. 'Avondale' is a dwarf variety that grows to about ten feet tall and eight feet wide. Flower color is deep magenta.



Photo: Path made by Flora Young Spalding

Garden Paths

By Consulting Rosarian...Barbara Lane-Piert

February Garden chores completed, cutting back, pruning, etc. I sat meditating, drinking a glass of well-earned wine. The resident animals (dogs & cats) decided they needed their daily back rubs and came to greet me. Instead of bounding across the lawn they carefully walked up the garden path...like following "the yellow brick road". I thought about how they, like me, think that a garden path is a "must have" for a comfortable walk, when the grass or blooms are damp, and for its beauty. My path isn't a beautiful one, made up of "dump day" round stepping stones,

but it curves sweetly through the lawn to the pergola which in spring is covered with wisteria.

Curved paths usually are the most desirable because they are a thing of beauty in itself. However, if you have a formal garden, a straight path to the front door or to a beloved garden article could easily be made beautiful. Arches covered in vines can be used. Boxwood, raised beds, could all surround that straight and formal pathway. When planned, and planted, paths become one of the most interesting features of the garden. The materials used are, or can be, diverse. Stepping stones curving through the garden, surrounded by beloved plants, can be your joy. My stepping stones had no formal planning. They were placed on top of the grass in Rosemount's clay and hardpan where they remain today...still on top.

If your soil needs preparation a mix of garden soil and sand will do the job...just don't make it hard work. Surrounding the stepping stones or pavers you might add some fertilizer, manure etc because unless lawn will be grown around the steps you will want to add some creeping plants that will flourish and gladden your heart.

There are many creeping plants to make you happy. Scotch Moss, *Arenaria balerica*, is often used. Baby Tears, *Helxine*, is good in a shady path. *Linaria aquitri-loba* is similar to ivy but has smaller leaves and precious blooms of violet and orange. Once along your garden path you will have it forever...lucky you. Creeping Thyme is a great and lovely choice. *Thymus serpyllum Albus* with its little flowers excels between your stones. A well-known favorite for the garden path is Woolly Thyme with its grey leaves. Sedums are great with low water needs *Sedum alberti* with white flowers and *Sedum dasyphyllum* with its pinkish grey leaves will serve you well. *Mentha requieni* is a tiny member of the mint family and most fragrant. It likes moist, shady places. *Veronica repens* likes sun or shade.

The outer edges of a path are easy if indeed you want outer edges. Low growing bulbs, *Oxalis*, *Muscari*, *Scilla*, *Iris* all so easy. Cover the bulbs with your favorite perennials...maybe seeds or small plants of your choice. Visit the nurseries and ask for help...they are sooo needy right now. Annuals make a lovely splash all summer and can be only in your favorite colors. I can see your paths now...whether brick or stone, narrow or wide when planted with low-growing favorite plants in crevices or along the edges it will be a thing of beauty. Just remember...paths must go somewhere...don't let them suddenly

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end without an ending. A large pot, a pergola, a shed, a front door, back gate or even better a reading space...an old, but comfy chair (wicker maybe) a log of wood for a table or if modernity is your choice a shiny, iron chair in a compatible color complementing the plantings of the path...wonderful. Maybe you could visit one of our projects classes and learn to mosaic...from fabulous mosaic steps to a bright and beautiful mosaic table and of course you're reading, or listening to music, seat...Enjoy, I'll be thinking of you...



Don't Dawdle with Giant Dodder

By Diana Morris, Yolo County Master Gardener

Author's note: This article ran in the spring issue of the Yolo Gardener, a publication of the Yolo County Master Gardeners. Because giant dodder has been found in Sacramento County, the information is also pertinent to members of the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club. Should you believe you have found an infestation of giant dodder, please contact the Sacramento County Agricultural office before taking any action.

This past fall giant dodder, also known as Japanese dodder, was found growing on a wild elderberry shrub along the banks of the Sacramento River in Yolo County. This highly invasive, parasitic plant attacks and grows over ornamental shrubs and fruit trees, with a preference for citrus. It can also parasitize annuals, perennials, and native trees such as oaks and willows. Giant dodder can cover and kill most large shrubs and small trees. If it doesn't kill them outright, the weakened state of infected plants makes them predisposed to diseases and insect and nematode invasions.



Giant dodder vines resemble thick spaghetti with leafless, twining threads that wrap around host stems forming a dense mat. Easily spotted because of its pale green to yellow or bright orange color, giant dodder stands out against the

green foliage of the host plant.

"Giant dodder has been found at several hundred sites in many California counties, starting in Yolo County in 2005-2006. We found three sites in West Sacramento, two resi-

dential and one commercial property. The latest find was on River Road in the West Sacramento area and is the first wild site," said Bill Lyon, biologist for Yolo County Agriculture.

Not to be confused with the seed-producing, common native dodder, giant dodder primarily spreads through the dissemination of small pieces of stems that are distributed by birds and other animals or through pruning, composting, and the improper disposal of infested plant material. (One of the Sacramento giant dodder finds, however, had produced viable seed pods, which Lyon said, "can make eradication very difficult if that becomes common.")

As dodder plants grow, they continually reattach to the host. When other hosts are nearby, dodder shoots spread from plant to plant, forming a striking and easily recognizable blanket of intertwined stems that are capable of growing up to 6 inches per day. Coming upon a plant covered in giant dodder is almost other worldly -- resembling something from a horror film.



Should you come upon giant dodder, **do not try to control it yourself.** According to Lyon, "Any suspects should be reported to our office. We can take samples to the lab..." for confirmation. "If in doubt, call it in. Do not chop up dodder and use as green-waste or compost. Small fragments can reproduce if they contact green plant material."

This weed is under an eradication program in California and has spread to more than a dozen California counties including Alameda, Butte, Contra Costa, Fresno, Los Angeles, Merced, Sacramento, Shasta, Solano, Sutter, Tulare, Yolo, and Yuba. It has also been a major problem in Texas.

Of the early sightings mentioned above, "The first three sites were eradicated by spraying and killing the host plants at one site, a large tree and shrub removal at another site, and the third site was killed simply by cutting the ivy host to the base where it was climbing into a cedar tree," according to Lyon.

The latest find in the fall of 2010, "...has been cut out, partially removed, the remainder to be burned with follow-up Round-up spraying to prevent re-growth from fragments surviving on the ground. The standard removal involves total removal or chemical killing of all host plants,"

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said Lyon. Costs for past and current eradications have been paid for out of Federal and State funds. To date, costs have amounted to about \$10,000. However, as a result of recent budget developments, according to Lyon, the Federal and State authorities may not continue funding future eradications of this pest.

Lyon continues, "The fear is that this parasite will escape into wild lands and be impossible to eradicate. It will literally smother host plants and can kill them over time. One name for the plant is strangeweed.... It is burned back by a freeze but seems to survive to grow back the following year. "

Garden Art & Plant Propagation Workshops

We have had many members check off that they would be interested in the garden art projects and plant propagating activities. We would like to form a Garden Arts group and a Propagating group that would meet during the day-time as often and regularly as these groups would want. The Program and Tours Committee needs volunteers to contact the members who are interested in these two groups and report back to the committee. We have members interested in leading workshops. If interested please call: Janice Sutherland 916-481-2137, Peggy Weseloh 916-486-8387, or Barbara Lane-Piert 916-362-5337



What's Blooming In March and April



Viburnum plicatum V. tomentosum Mariesii

A deciduous 8-15ft. shrub that grows in a lovely horizontal habit with white lace cap flower heads lined up in rows on the branches. In the evening the flowers seem to be floating in air. Takes sun to part shade. Has attractive deeply veined foliage.



Viburnum carlesii Korean Spicebush

A deciduous 6ftx5ft shrub that blooms in early spring with deep pink buds that open into white blossom with a Daphne like fragrance. Has velvety green foliage and does best with some shade.



Heuchera maxima hybrid 'Rosada'

This medium sized California native is one of the best flowering perennials for dry shade. Pink flowers attract hummingbirds and beneficial insects. Part shade to shade. Introduced to the nursery trade by UC Davis Arboretum.



Iris sibirica x I. sanguineae 'Ceasar's Brother'

Form large clumps of narrow grass like deciduous leaf that after bloom stand erect and green through the growing season. Grows 3 ft tall. Water liberally while developing new growth. Light shade.

Sacramento Perennial Plant Club

Sacramento Perennial Plant Club Membership - 2011

Jeanne Christopherson, Membership Chair

ALL MEMBERS - PLEASE FILL OUT THE ADDRESS FORM COMPLETELY

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Phone Number (____) _____ - _____ E-mail Address _____

Mailing Address _____

City

State

Zip

You will be included in our yearly roster unless you notify us otherwise. Yes ___ No ___

Yearly Dues _____ \$20 Individual Membership
_____ \$25 Joint Membership

Cash _____ Check _____ Make checks out to PERENNIAL PLANT CLUB.

Send to: Jeanne Christopherson, 3231 Chenu Avenue, Sacramento, 95821-6113
Phone (916) 283-6999, E-mail: iamjc7@surewest.net

Dear PPC member,

Please consider involving yourself more this coming year to make sure interesting and fun tours, talks, and activities continue. Many of these tasks can be shared - the more the merrier and less time consuming for all. Please take the time to add any suggestions you have for your club.

Please indicate your interest in helping in one or two of the following ways:

____ Membership – Hospitality - Jeanne Christopherson, Noelle Anderson, Beverly Shelling _____

____ Garden and Arts Center Sales Spring ___ & Fall ___ - Madeleine Mullin _____

____ Interested in writing articles for the newsletter - Janice Sutherland _____

____ Interested in writing Book reviews on gardening for the Newsletter-Janice Sutherland _____

____ Computer skills (specify) _____

____ Work with garden tour planning group _____

____ Work with bus trips _____

____ Work with speaker and program planning group _____

____ General meeting goodies (coordinate with our food chair, Madeleine Mullins) _____

____ Volunteer Hamilton Square Garden– Sharon Patrician – 455-8166 _____

____ Volunteer Land Park WPA Rock Garden – Daisy Mah – 446-1768 _____

____ Work with the vendor sale planning group _____

____ Interested in learning to make garden projects _____

____ Interested in learning to propagate plants _____

____ Club activities I most enjoy: _____

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

Perennial Plant Club

President's Message - Saul Wiseman

Non-club members who I meet ask me about who belongs to the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club. I tell them that the members have different gardening interests, some Rosarians, some garden professionals, and all just enjoying having gardening friends. Almost all of the 160 members live in the Greater Sacramento area which including the five surrounding counties. One of our members lives in Wyoming and another in Nevada.

Depending on the speaker, member attendance at the monthly general meeting varies usually around 40 to 50 members.

For those who are a member but do not come to the meetings, here is what you are missing.

Each meeting begins with a greeting and introduction of guests and new members. What follows are brief announcements, about events or activities. In March we have a busy month, the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show bus trip, followed by the March general meeting, and the weekend Shepard Garden and Art Center Spring Sale on March 26 and March 27.

At each meeting, Daisy Mah, one of the original members and a past president, does her what's blooming at the WPA Rock Garden in Land Park in Sacramento. For many, this question and answer part of the meeting is always a treat.

After Daisy, we take a short break for socializing and refreshments and sell raffle tickets. The money raised from the sale of raffle tickets goes to pay the rent for the general meeting. \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00

After the break, we have the guest speaker. following the speaker, we have the raffle drawing.

If you came to the last meeting in February, you got a card from Village Nursery in Sacramento giving you a 15% discount on plants until December of 2011. The same nursery donated the plants for the raffle. Each month we have plants for the raffle donated by different nurseries in the Greater Sacramento area.

We hope to see more members coming to the general meetings.



Janice Sutherland
Newsletter Editor
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