

The Gardeners' Club

Santa Cruz County, California

June 2014

Writer/Editor: Lise Bixler

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New Plants from Monrovia



Wild Swan™ Hybrid
Anemone



Sun Parasol® Garden
Crimson Mandevilla



Steve & his new puppy!

Monrovia's very beautiful Oregon Nursery, then worked for Monrovia in various parts of the country. He's been with Monrovia for almost 10 years and says he plans on being with them until he retires.

Founded in 1926, Monrovia growers practice environmental

Ooh, you won't want to miss this meeting—Steve Morrill of Monrovia Plants is going to tell us about exciting new plants from Monrovia. He's also going to bring a selection of these plants with them, and some lucky members of our club will get to bring them home!

Steve, born in Nebraska, studied Horticulture and Business at Utah State University. He interned at

stewardship by using beneficial insects, natural microorganisms and organic mulches. They recycle more than 95% of irrigation water. They promote conscientious water practices in home gardens through educational outreach and cooperative work with state agencies. They don't sell to big box stores, only to independent garden centers, helping them survive by offering them a good selection of backbone plants garden centers to sell—but always adding new and exciting introductions.

Get inspired, get a plant, learn more on June 12th!



Emerald Colonnade®
Holly



Sunvillea™ Pink Dwarf
Bougainvillea

*plant
savvy*

Monrovia has an excellent newsletter called "Plant Savvy"

that can arrive in your email inbox monthly. The last issue included great information on natural methods of pest and weed control in the garden. Read past issues and subscribe at www.monrovia.com/plant-savvy-newsletter/.

Thursday, June 12th - 7:00 pm

Aptos Grange, 2555 Mar Vista Drive Aptos

Refreshments will be served. Thanks to April Barclay for snack, Sim Gilber & Joanna Hall for dessert, & Dee Weybright for juice.



Raspberry
Shortcake™ Dwarf
Thornless Raspberry

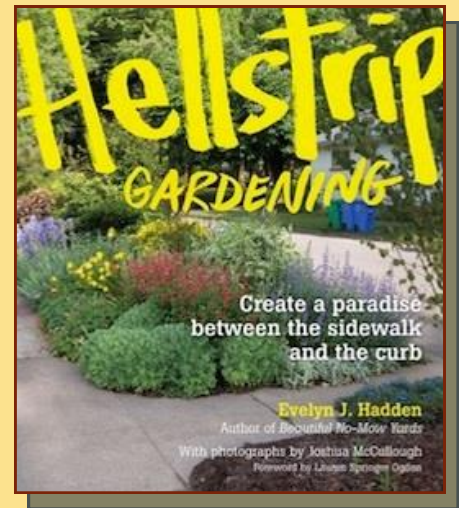


Thrive is a national charity in the United Kingdom whose aim is to enable positive change in the lives of people who are living with disabilities or ill health, are isolated or disadvantaged. The

organization does this by helping people to start or continue gardening. Thrive believes passionately in the power of gardening to change lives. In its gardens, it uses social and therapeutic horticulture, the process of using plants and gardens to improve physical and mental health, as well as communication and thinking skills. Go to www.thrive.org.uk to learn more.

One of its programs is called **Carry on Gardening**. It has its own website (www.carryongardening.org.uk/) which presents Thrive's experience and expertise in gardening with a disability, gathered over 30 years of helping disabled people to to garden. Its website has amazing resources, ranging from simple tips to printable booklets to links to more extensive information and help. Here are some of the categories for which you can find information and assistance:

- Gardening after stroke and with heart disease
- Gardening sitting down and from a wheelchair
- Gardening with a weak grip
- Gardening when you use one hand
- Gardening for blind or partially sighted people
- Gardening when you can't bend easily
- Gardening to improve your emotional wellbeing



The hellstrip — the space between a street and a public sidewalk— is finally getting the attention it deserves. Gardeners everywhere are taking advantage of the space to add curb appeal to their homes, expand the size of their gardens, and even to conserve resources.

Hellstrip Gardening by Evelyn Hadden is the first book to show you exactly how to reclaim this oft-ignored space. This comprehensive guide covers how to determine the city and home owner's association rules governing the area, choose plants that thrive in tough situations, design pathways for accessibility, and much more. Gorgeous color photographs of hellstrip gardens across the country offer inspiration and visual guidance to anyone ready to tackle this final frontier.

From coast to coast, overlooked landscapes languish in parking strips and alongside driveways and alleys. These semi-public spaces don't often support healthy lawns, but they can host thriving gardens that add beauty and provide ecological services, dramatically improving their surroundings. Though curbside gardens present many challenges, their potential rewards can tempt you to give that leftover a make-over. Create the paradise you want in the most unexpected of places.

This comprehensive guide helps you gracefully tackle the challenges, including car, foot, and paw traffic; utility and maintenance equipment; restricted root zones; contaminated soil; neighborhood covenants and city regulations; and more! It also includes a dictionary of over 100 curbside-worthy plants and in-depth features on a dozen inspiring curbside gardens from around the United States.

(Timber Press)

Minimize mosquito-friendly habitats.

Empty water from unused garden pots and other objects.

Store containers upside down or cover or dispose of them, so so mosquitoes can't lay eggs.

Change water in pet dishes, watering troughs, and bird baths at least weekly.

Avoid overwatering, which can lead to standing water.

Keep litter and garden debris out of street gutters. Clean rain gutters and downspouts at least once a year to remove debris.

Seal rain barrels, so mosquitoes can't breed in them. Keep all filters and prefilters clean and free of moisture-retaining debris and inspect regularly for leaks.

For ponds, remove excess vegetation, stock with fish, or use *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) products such as Mosquito Dunks, Plunks, or Bits, which contain a bacterial agent that kills mosquito larvae but doesn't affect people, other animals, or plants.

For more information and resources, go to the source of these tips:

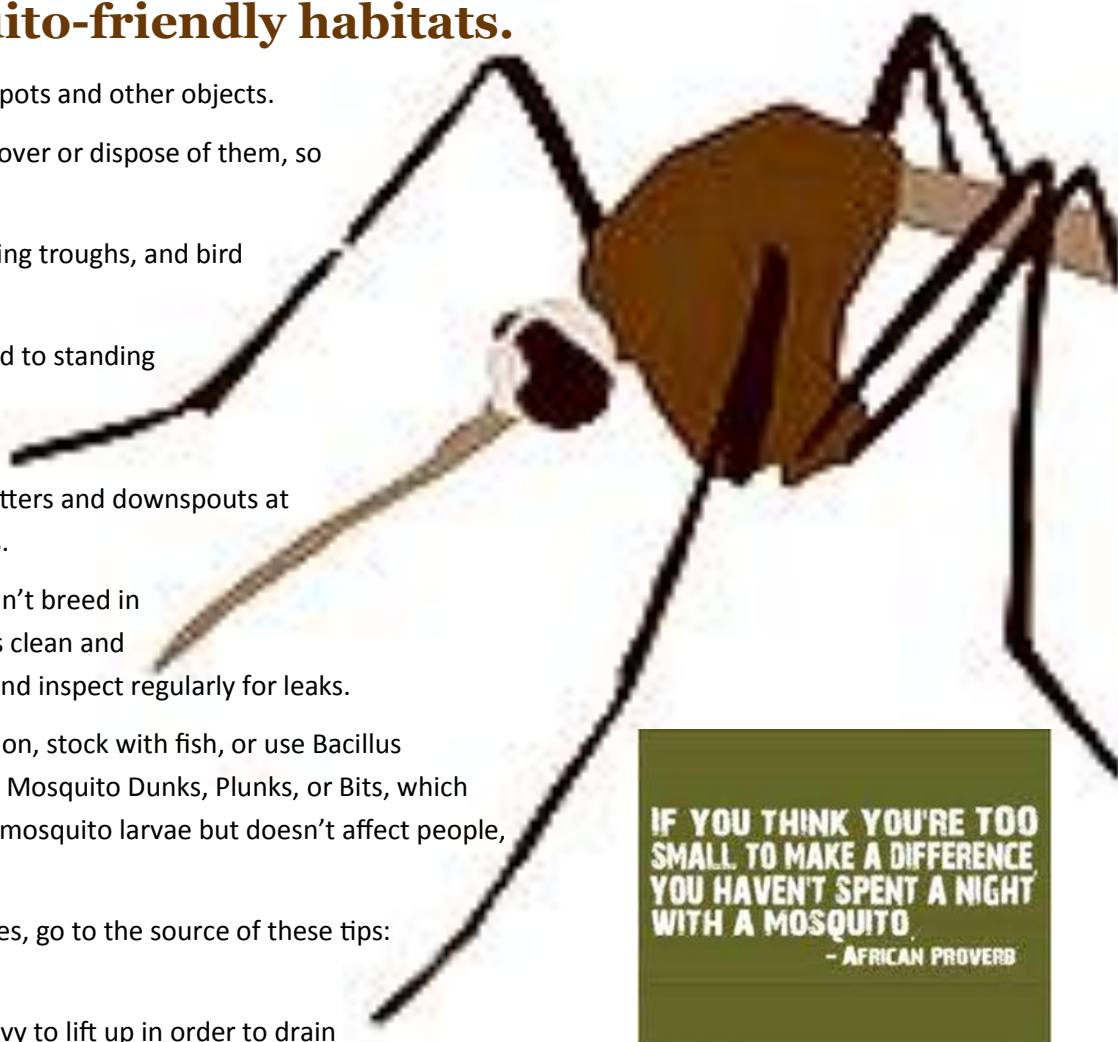
<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.e>

If your containers become too heavy to lift up in order to drain the saucer, try using a turkey baster to suck up the excess water. This will keep your plants happy and healthy, and do the same for you—by avoiding potential injury as a result of lifting that hefty container! (Tip from Horticulture Magazine.)

Mosquito-repelling plants.

Certain plants are easy to grow and have some effect in repelling mosquitoes from areas of your home and garden.

Citronella (*Cymbopogon nardus* or *Citronella winterianus*), a perennial clumping grass which can grow to 5-6', has a strong aroma which masks other attractants to mosquitoes, making it harder for them to find you. It can be planted in the ground or in a container. Horsemint, also known as Beebalm, is an adaptable perennial plant which repels mosquitoes much the same as citronella by giving off a strong incense-like odor which confuses mosquitoes by masking the smell of its usual hosts. Marigolds are hardy annuals which have a distinctive smell which mosquitoes find particularly offensive. Marigolds contain Pyrethrum, a compound used in many insect repellents. The annual *Ageratum*, also known as Flossflowers, secretes coumarin, also used in commercial mosquito repellents, and smells awful to mosquitos. Catnip, *Nepeta cataria*, is very easy to grow. This perennial herb is related to mint, and grows readily both as a weed and a commercially cultivated plant in most areas of the US. It is a natural insect repellent, said to be 10X more effective than Deet.



IF YOU THINK YOU'RE TOO SMALL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE YOU HAVEN'T SPENT A NIGHT WITH A MOSQUITO
- AFRICAN PROVERB



Ageratum



Citronella



Want to prevent black spot on your roses? Try spraying weekly with the Cornell University formula: 3 tsp. baking soda, 2½ tbs. summer-weight horticultural oil, mixed with 1 gallon of water.



Great Gardens Wanted!



The Monterey Bay Master Gardeners will be holding their annual garden tour in the Aptos to Aromas area this year on Saturday September 6. They are looking for great gardens in Aptos, Corralitos, Watsonville, Aromas, Prunedale, and Royal Oaks to consider and would appreciate any recommendations or offers from Garden Club members!

Master Gardeners put on a great tour each year, showcasing a variety of gardens that provide inspiration for every gardener. To create a balanced variety, they must start by considering a wide range of gardens, differing in size, style, plants, etc. So if you think your garden might be a good addition, or know of another garden you would recommend, they would love to hear from you. They will arrange a "risk-free" visit, where you can learn what's involved before making any commitments. Please call Tour Coordinator, Trink Praxel at 831-420-1224 or by email at trinkpraxel@gmail.com. Thanks!



**JUNE 14TH
11 - 1 PM**

**CLASS:
THE LAWN IS GONE, NOW WHAT?**

Experienced landscape designer Deva Luna will walk you through the steps of replacing a lawn with beautiful drought tolerant natives, everything from design decisions to a simple sheet-mulching installation! EarthCare Landscaping has successfully replaced hundreds of lawns, and Deva's tips have helped hundreds of others to feel confident to Do It Yourself!

TAUGHT BY: DEVA LUNA OF
EARTHCARE LANDSCAPING

**NATIVE REVIVAL
NURSERY**

2600 Mar Vista Drive, Aptos, Ca 95003
www.nativerivall.com 831-684-1811



Only \$25. You don't need a lawn to take this class. Deva's design tips and low maintenance/drought tolerant landscape ideas can be applied to any garden!! With our current drought situation, your water bill will thank you. If you live within the Soquel Water District, you are eligible to get money back as part of their rebate program.

Please call and pre-pay to reserve your space in the class—684-1811.



Mountain Feed in Ben Lomond is offering classes to help you preserve your harvest. The location is the Alba School House, 12070 Alba Road. Preregistration is necessary: call

Preserving the Harvest: Early Summer Jams & Preserves Saturday, June 14th, 12pm-2 pm Cost: \$35

Methods of Preservation: Basics of Waterbath Canning Saturday, June 14th, 10am-11:30am Cost: \$15

Ever wondered how to preserve homemade jams, jellies, preserves, marmalades, applesauce, whole fruits, juices, fruit butters, sour & sweet pickles, dilly beans, jardiniere, relishes, hot sauces, ketchup, mustards, barbecue sauce, chow-chow, or chutney? Well this is the class for you! They will cover every aspect of water bath canning.

- Equipment selection and uses
- Jars!
- Appropriate foods & recipes
- Step by step procedures
- Processing times
- Explaining canners jargon (headspace, bubble freer, finger tight, etc.)
- Basic food safety & ensuring highest quality foods
- Storage & "best by" ages
- Tips & tricks for success!

If you are interested in making jams & preserves and putting your newfound knowledge of canning to work, register for Preserving the Harvest: Early Summer Jams & Preserves that follows this class for a combined class discount of \$5.

Gather the berries! Harvest the apricots! The beginning of summer is upon us, and what better way to celebrate than to preserve these delectable flavors for year-round enjoyment! This class will cover the ins & outs of jam and preserve making.

- Fruit selection: types, varieties, where, when & how to acquire the best
- Jar sizes & options
- Recipes: Pectin added, no pectin & no or low sugar
- Sugar selection & alternative sweeteners
- Texture and setting
- Troubleshooting & avoiding common mistakes
- Tips & tricks for success
- Preservation overview
- Storage and "best by" ages

You will sample recipes made in class, and attendants will take home a small jar of jam or preserves.

Board Meeting

Come join us at our next meeting at the home of Debbie Kindle, 3320 Putter Drive, Soquel . You don't have to be a Board member—all are welcome. Come socialize, admire Debbie's garden, share your ideas and give suggestions . Meetings are great fun and a way to get more involved with our wonderful Club. Garden tour begins at 6 p.m.



Pajaro Valley Arts Council presents

Sculpture IS 2014

Jamie Abbott
Susana Arias
Jeffrey Arnett
Tamar Assaf
Nessy Barzilay
Jeff Caplan
Claudel Casseus
Heidi Cramer
Kathleen Crocetti
Carole DePalma
Sally Diggory
Carol Gaab
Dimitry Grudsky
Jennifer Hennig

William T. Huffman
Susan Kirk
Marilyn Kuksht
Linda A. Levy
Ingrid Marianne
LMNO Arts
Richard McLaughlin
Kirk McNeil
David Mudgett
Delwyn Pezzoni
Racine Polycarpe
Jane Reyes
Chris Sawyer
Michael Seymour

Stephanie Schriver
Peggy Snider
Anthony Teixeira
Aaron Vanderkerckhove
Adon Valenziano
Penny Waller
Jenni Ward
Lea de Wit
Watsonville/Aptos
Adult Education

June 1 - October 31

Sierra Azul Nursery & Gardens
2660 East Lake Avenue • Watsonville

Opening reception: June 12, 5:00-7:00PM

Free poetry reading and music at UCSC's Alan Chadwick Garden June 23



The historic Alan Chadwick Garden at UC Santa Cruz will ring out with poetry and music on Sunday, June 23, from 12 noon until 2 p.m., when a bevy of award-winning poets will read their work. Richard Somers will add his mandolin talents to the mix at this free public event.

Featured poets this year are Beth Benjamin, Michael Hannon, Danusha Laméris, Stephen Meadows, Zachiah Murray and Lee Perron. The Chadwick Garden Anthology of Poets, with works from thirty of the poets who have read at this annual gathering, will be available at Sunday's event.

The main entrance to the Alan Chadwick Garden is located on McLaughlin Drive adjacent to Merrill College, where free parking will be available in the Merrill College parking lot. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the UCSC Farm & Garden, and the UCSC Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems. For more information or questions about access, call (831) 459-3240, email casfs@ucsc.edu, or see <http://casfs.ucsc.edu>.

Sculpture is: 2014 is the eighth sculpture show partnering Sierra Azul Nursery and Gardens and the Pajaro Valley Arts Council. Visit the stunning two-acre demonstration garden and enjoy over 100 sculptures created by more than 35 California artists and collaborators. Relax under the umbrellas, bring your picnic lunch and spend an afternoon enjoying the exhibit, nursery (which specializes in plantings for our Mediterranean climate) and garden.

Sierra Azul Nursery & Gardens

2260 East Lake Ave., Watsonville

(Highway 152 across from the fairgrounds)

Hours: Daily 9:00 a.m.—5:30 p.m.

Phone: 728-2532 www.sierraazul.com

An Opening Reception will be held on June 12th from 5-7 p.m.

<http://fine-foliage.com/author/personalgardencoach/>

Home Gardening Boot Camp

A Day of Gardening Education ~ Seminar Style



UCCE Master Gardeners of the Monterey Bay Invite You to Our 4th Annual Boot Camp!

Saturday, June 21, 2014, 8:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Cabrillo College Horticulture Center
6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos CA**

\$40 for the entire day



Mark your calendar to attend the 4th Annual UCCE Master Gardeners of Monterey Bay Home Gardening Boot Camp. Join us at Cabrillo College Horticulture Center for a full day of fun and informative gardening instruction at an affordable price. The Home Gardening Boot Camp is a whole day of seminar-style education for the basic and advanced home gardener taught by experts in horticulture. For 2014, classes have a special focus on water conservation, plus water-smart, sustainable gardening practices.

To honor requests for more in-depth coverage of topics, 2014 Boot Camp will consist of three 90-minute class sessions, plus a lunch break, Cabrillo plant sale, and an end-of-day fun raffle and silent auction to benefit the programs funded by your local Master Garden non-profit organization and the Cabrillo Horticulture Department. This year the focus of Boot Camp will be "Coping with Drought," as we will feature several classes on water conservation, plus xeriscaping, succulents, salvias, and California natives. Many popular and essential classes and instructors from previous years will return, including irrigation, soils, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), propagation, pruning, composting, and more. Joe Schultz (of India Joze restaurant) returns for another fun cooking class.

Scroll down for the 2014 class schedule; see the Details Page for full descriptions of the classes (<http://mbmg.org/participate/mbmg-boot-camp/mbmg-boot-camp-details-2014/>).

(Please note: Several classes are held outdoors in areas that have uneven terrain, and some classes require walking either to the class venue or around the grounds of the Cabrillo College Horticulture facility. We suggest wearing a hat, layered clothing, and comfortable shoes. Individuals who may have any mobility impairment should read the full class descriptions before registering. Thank you.)

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By popular demand, the Cruz N Gourmet catering truck will return this year with their yummy gourmet comfort food from around the world. Cabrillo Horticulture holds a plant sale during the lunch break, and there will be live music in the courtyard. After the last class, stick around for the silent auction and raffle with loads of garden items, plants, gift cards and more.

The Sunflowers *by Mary Oliver*

Come with me
into the field of sunflowers.
Their faces are burnished
disks,
their dry spines
creak like ship masts,
their green leaves,
so heavy and many,
fill all day with the
sticky sugars
of the sun.
Come with me
to visit the sunflowers,
they are shy
but want to be friends;

they have **wonderful**
stories of when they
were young -
the important weather,
the wandering crows.
Don't be afraid
to ask them questions!
Their bright faces,
which follow the sun,
will listen, and all
those rows of seeds -
each one a new life!
hope for a deeper
acquaintance;

each of them, though it
stands in a crowd of many,
like a separate universe, is
lonely, **the long work**
of turning their lives
into a celebration
is not easy.
Come and let us talk with
those modest faces,
the simple garments of
leaves, the coarse roots in
the earth so uprightly
burning.

The Gardeners' Club

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Lupe Allen, 24702705
lupea@ucsc.edu

3rd position - vacant

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DEENART@aol.com

Website

Joe Thompson
Computer Frustration
Specialist

www.thegardenersclub.org

It's easy-peasy to join our club! Dues are \$12 per calendar year.



Make check to "The Gardeners' Club" and mail to P.O. Box 3025., Ben Lomond, CA 95005. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Aptos Grange , 2555 Mar Vista Dr., Aptos.
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