

The Gardeners' Club

Santa Cruz County, California

October 2013

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Plant Swap and Sale



Thursday— October 10th— 7:00 p.m.
Aptos Grange, 2555 Mar Vista Dr.
(See inside back cover for
more details)



Yard

Art

Bulbs
Books



Trade



Seeds
Burd
(TRY

Something
NEW)

Pots

Plants

Tools

Share



Ruthless Annie—Spring Forward in Fall!



Do you think Annie Hayes of Annie’s Annuals in Richmond keeps her riotous garden so lush and vibrant by babying her plants with tender care year-round? Nah—come the fall, it’s off with their heads. Really, the new video she made to inspire us to clean up and cut back our gardens made me cringe just a little—how can such a kind-looking woman be so ruthless with her loppers? It is a very good reminder that many plants, especially perennials, thrive with regular and vigorous pruning. This fall I’m going to be less wimpy and pretend I’m Annie, knowing it’s what the plants really want and the garden will be better for it next spring. Click here to watch the video: [Cutting Back and Cleaning Up from Annie’s Annuals & Perennials](#) .



Annie says, “Now, as you may know, here in coastal California, FALL is the best & most horticulturally correct time to put plants in the ground...If you want your perennials fat, happy & established for Spring & Summer bloom, this is the very BEST time to plant them. They’ll love the deep watering they’ll receive from the rains & grow large, vigorous root systems, not so easily achieved by hand watering or even drip irrigation. Spring blooming perennials like Campanulas, Columbines, Delphiniums & Nicotianas will be two or three times the size of those you plant in the Spring & will thrill you with far more blooms over a longer season. Grasses , too, will fill out by Spring.”

New Varieties Showcase

Each year the Farwest Gardens Trade Show in Portland, Oregon features a New Varieties Showcase. This year there were some selections that incited particular excitement and plant lust.



Taking the Best of Show Award was a stunning anemone, Anemone ‘White Swan’ by Monrovia. This hybrid is unique among herbaceous perennials with a female parent plant of rupicola, making it a larger and more vigorous plant, continuous prolific flowering from late May until mid November frosts, much longer than Japanese anemone hybrids. Elegant flowers are large with pure white face, a circle of crisp chartreuse yellow stamens, with rich lilac blue banding on the reverse of the sepals. The flowers are held well above the attractive neat green foliage, at twilight the flower closes to a nodding lilac-blue and white bell. A long lasting cut flower.



Not everyone likes hot colors in their gardens, but if you are like me and can’t get enough of them, keep an eye out for the People’s Choice Award winner, Digitalis ‘Illumination Flame’. As an intergeneric selection, this tender perennial features foxglove like flower spikes in tropical shades of yellow and soft coral. Spikes are

densely packed, and plants have multiple side shoots. Semi-evergreen with large deep green leaves. Individual flowers have a unique shape, and sterile flowers mean a long bloom time throughout the summer into fall. Illumination Flame is not biennial; it blooms the first year and is perennial where hardy.



Where will I put a red-flowering dwarf dogwood in my garden? Who knows? —I must have it! They say Red Pygmy Flowering Dogwood *Cornus florida* ‘Rednut’ is ideal for small gardens and containers, staying under 3 feet for the first five years or so and topping out at 7 feet after a decade. Full-size (3 inches or larger), deep pink-red blooms appear in late April into May. Young plants are floriferous. Dense branching with side branches gives a mounded appearance. Red Pygmy has an attractive orange and medium brown fall color; its fruit is bright red.

Benefit for Native Revival Nursery



The Poppy Farm Fair & Bluegrass Jubilee! November 2nd, 2013 – 10 am-5 pm Native Revival Nursery 2600 Mar Vista Dr., Aptos

A craft and artisan fair offering unique, local handcrafted gifts. Stroll through the native plant garden while sampling tasty local food to the sound of a variety of local bluegrass music. Pet the goats, smell the flowers and enjoy a beautiful fall day on the coast. Partnering with The Northern California Bluegrass Society (www.scbs.org), performers will include Bluegrass Jubilee, Bean Creek, Beer Wine & Turpentine, Jean Butterfield and Jayme Kelly Curtis. Tickets are \$5. You will receive a \$5 off coupon for purchases at Native Revival Nursery. (Coupon not valid day of fair.)

Love the California poppy and coastline print above? The Seattle artist who designed it is Amy Helmick. You can view her website at <http://cargocollective.com/achelmick>. Contact her at achelmick@mac.com if you would like to inquire about prints for sale.

Arboretum at UC Santa Cruz and California Native Plant Society FALL PLANT SALE

Saturday, October 12th
Arboretum Eucalyptus Grove

**10am – 4pm for Arboretum and California Native
Plant Society Members**
Noon – 4pm for the general public

Not a member of the Arboretum or CNPS and want to get in early? Memberships for both organizations will be available at the gate.



This sale is a wonderful opportunity to take home some of the astounding color of the Arboretum, expand your collection of California native plants and

Workshop: Choosing & Using Cover Crops



Illus. courtesy of Mother Earth News

Fall-planted cover crops are one of the most effective tools for protecting and improving your soils. As the last of our summer crops are harvested and the garden beds are cleared, the fall weather is still warm enough to sow over-winter "cover crops", which restore fertility and humus and enrich the soil for planting next spring. Cover crops such as fall rye, crimson clover, buckwheat and others are easy to grow. When they are digested by soil microorganisms they restore organic matter and nutrient levels in the soil.

There will be a workshop on **Choosing and Using Cover Crops in the Home Garden and**

Orchard on Saturday, Oct. 12th, from 10 am to 1 pm at the Alan Chadwick Garden, UC Santa Cruz.

Learn how to select, plant, and harvest/incorporate cover crops in the home garden and orchard at this lecture/demonstration workshop led by Chadwick Garden manager Orin Martin. Cost is \$20 for Friends of the Farm & Garden, \$30 general admission. Register online at <http://casfs.ucsc.edu/choosing-and-using-cover-crops-in-the-home-garden-and-orchard> or pay at the door with cash or check. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a snack. Heavy rain cancels.

New Varieties—Renee's Garden



SET THE TABLE FROM YOUR GARDEN

Coming in October, "Scatter Gardens" from Renee's, including these:



Cover Crop Scatter Garden

Protect and Fertilize



Pollinators Flowers Scatter Garden

Flower Power for Nature's Pollinators

Renee's 2014 seed introductions are available now. Here are a few of them:



For more, go to <http://www.reneesgarden.com> for an online catalog and many informative articles and recipes.

Got figs? Got beans?



Lucky you! Try this recipe:

Haricot Vert & Fig Salad

- 1 pound fresh green beans, trimmed
- 1/8 cup balsamic vinegar
- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon grainy mustard
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 6 fresh figs, cut in half
- 1/4 cup chopped toasted walnuts (optional)

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add the green beans and cook about 5 minutes, or until fork-tender. Meanwhile, make the dressing: combine the vinegar, olive oil and salt and pepper in a small bowl and whisk to combine. Drain the beans and transfer them to a serving bowl. Toss them with the dressing and gently toss in the figs and walnuts. Add a cracking of fresh pepper and serve. (Serve immediately and don't try to make it ahead; it's best eaten within a few hours of preparing it.)

Serves 6

Recipe from Laura Holmes Haddad

<http://gourmetgrrl.com/?p=1625>

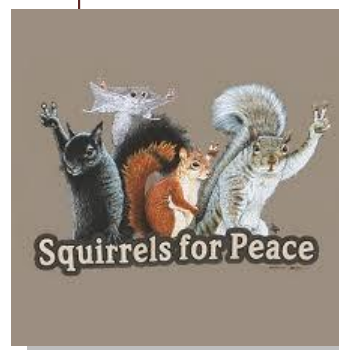


Protecting Bulbs from Squirrels

It can be frustrating to come outdoors the morning after you've planted spring bulbs to find them strewn above ground, with bite marks. Squirrels, seeing disturbed earth, may have thought there was another critter's stash of acorns there, foraged, and then, disappointed, left the bulbs. Kevin Lee Jacobs at A Garden for A House (www.agardenforthehouse.com) has a few suggestions:

1. After you've planted, cover the area with a layer of shredded leaves, camouflage for your planting bed.
2. Plant large bulbs deeply, at least 8 inches. Squirrels only dig a few inches.
3. Use chicken wire in one of two ways. Either lay it directly atop the bulbs, and then cover bulbs and wire with soil; OR, cover the bulbs first with soil, and then with the wire, pegging it in place with rocks or bricks.

Now you can learn to like squirrels again, unless they are stealing all of your birdseed, and relax until your bulbs come up in spring. You might even shop for a squirrels for peace t-shirt.



Get Your Family's Garden Growing

Fall is a great time to get outside with kids and enjoy the garden. A free guide titled [“Get Your Family's Garden Growing”](#) produced by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) shows just how easy and fun it can be to garden with kids. The guide is part of NWF's Be Out There movement.*

This is a simple 6 step how-to guide that provides the basics for even the most novice gardeners to start planting. “Whether you are new to gardening or a seasoned professional, this guide has great ideas for planting in large and small spaces alike,” says Lindsay Legendre, manager of Be Out There. “It also includes fun gardening projects and ways to get kids involved, like planting a pizza garden, growing your initials, growing and eating a rainbow, and more.”

Download the full guide at http://online.nwf.org/site/DocServer/BOT-Garden-Guide-2013_small.pdf?docID=15281&AddInterest=1722. and get more tips and advice.

Studies show that children who spend more time outside are more likely to live an active lifestyle, maintain a healthier body weight, are less likely to be near-



Growing initials. Photo from www.puttisworld.com (“simple, fun, creative activities for kids” blog)

sighted, have higher vitamin D levels, display more empathy and less stress, have better mental health and have increased attention spans and improved critical thinking skills. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends 1 hour of outside play per day.

“I LET MY GRAND-DAUGHTERS PAINT MY POTS ON THE PORCH, HOWEVER THEY WANT TO. JUST GIVE THEM PAINT, BRUSH AND SMOCK AND LET THEM PAINT AWAY!” - MARIE ZEAMER CHITTESTER, FROM THE GUIDE.

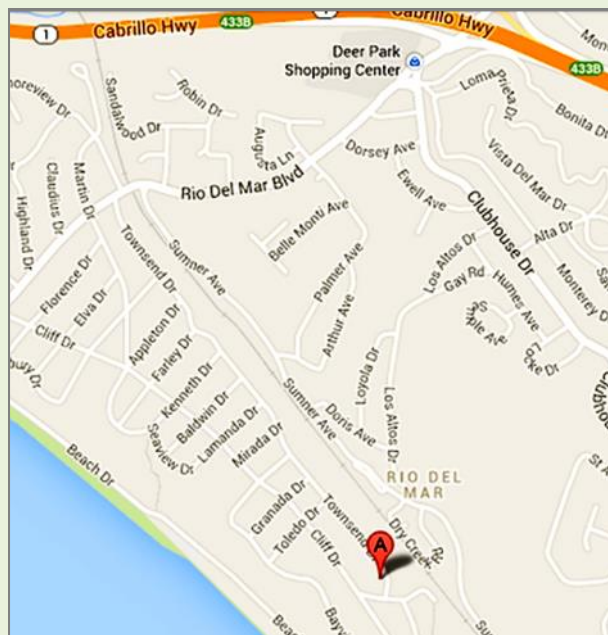
*Be Out There™ is NWF's movement to reconnect families with the outdoors. Kids today spend twice as much time indoors as their parents did, missing out on the simple pleasures and lasting mental and physical health benefits of daily outdoor time. NWF's practical tools and information help make being outside a fun, healthy and automatic part of everyday life for American families. For other helpful resources and to learn more about NWF's goal to get 10 million more kids spending regular time in the great outdoors, visit: www.BeOutThere.org.

Join the Be Out There movement



Board Meeting

The next meeting of The Gardeners' Club Board will be at the home of Anne Sherwood, 632 Townsend Drive, Aptos. You don't have to be a member of the Board; come join us to tour Anne's garden on Monday, October 28th, at 6:00 p.m.



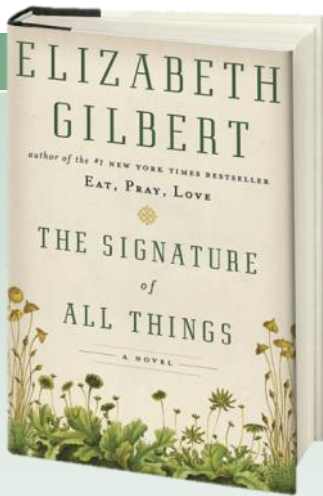
JOIN Out of the Blue

Perennial gardening advice, tips and how-tos from the pros. Over 13,000 delighted readers since 1999.

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<http://www.perennials.com/subscribe.html>

Read



I haven't read this yet because it is hot off the presses, being released October 1st, so all of the descriptions below are from press releases. But I can't wait to get a copy!

The Signature of All Things by Elizabeth Gilbert (the author of Eat, Pray, Love), is an extraordinary story of botany,

exploration and desire spanning much of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This novel follows the fortunes of the extraordinary Whittaker family as led by the enterprising Henry Whittaker—a poor-born Englishman who makes a great fortune in the South American quinine trade, eventually becoming the richest man in Philadelphia. He is a bold and charismatic botanical explorer whose vast fortune belies his lowly beginnings as a vagrant in Kew Gardens. Alma's mother, a strict woman from an esteemed Dutch family, is conversant in five living languages (and two dead ones) and her knowledge of botany is equal to any man's. Born in 1800, Henry's brilliant daughter, Alma, an independent girl who inherits her father's money, intelligence and thirst for knowledge, comes into her own within the world of plants and science, and ultimately becomes a botanist of considerable gifts.

As Alma's careful research studies of moss take her deeper into the mysteries of evolution, she falls in love with a man named Ambrose Pike who makes incomparable paintings of orchids and who draws her in the exact opposite direction—into the realm of the spiritual, the divine, and the magical. Alma is a clear-minded scientist; Ambrose a utopian artist—but what unites this unlikely couple is a desperate need to understand the workings of this world and the mechanisms behind all life.

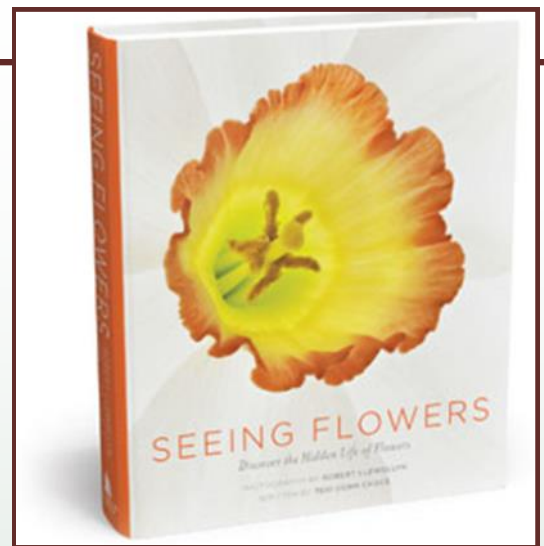
Exquisitely researched and told at a galloping pace, The Signature of All Things soars across the globe—from London to Peru to Philadelphia to Tahiti to Amsterdam, and beyond. Along the way, the story is peopled with unforgettable characters: missionaries, abolitionists, adventurers, astronomers, sea captains, geniuses, and the quite mad. But most memorable of all, it is the story of Alma Whittaker, who—born in the Age of Enlightenment, but living well into the Industrial Revolution—bears witness to that extraordinary moment in human history when all the old assumptions about science, religion, commerce, and class were exploding into dangerous new ideas. Written in the bold, questing spirit of that singular time, Gilbert's wise, deep, and spellbinding tale is certain to capture the hearts and minds of readers.

We've all seen red roses, blue irises, and yellow daffodils. But when we really look closely at a flower, whole new worlds of beauty and intricacy emerge.

Seeing Flowers: Discover the Hidden Life of Flowers is a visual feast that gloriously highlights 343 popular garden flowers. Using a unique photo process that includes stitching together large macro photographs, Robert Llewellyn reveals details that few have ever seen: the amazing architecture of stamens and pistils; the subtle shadings on a petal; the secret recesses of nectar tubes. Teri Dunn Chace's lyrical and illuminating essays complement these images and offer insights on each flower, by exploring their distinguishing characteristics and sharing fascinating tidbits, tales, and lore. Together, Llewellyn and

Chace give the reader a deeper appreciation of how and why flowers have become so deeply embedded in human culture.

Whether you're a nature lover, a gardener, a photography buff, or someone who simply responds to the timeless beauty and variety of the floral world, Seeing Flowers will be a source of enduring delight.



“Presents 343 blooms in such extraordinary detail that you feel you're glimpsing the garden from an insect's perspective.”

Sunset

-Timber Press

Instructions & Tally Sheet for Plant Swap and Sale

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to get free and bargain-priced plants and paraphernalia for your garden. Come choose from a limitless variety of plants, bulbs, perennials, shrubs, seeds, small trees, tools, pots, vases, planters, books, magazines, surplus harvest, knick-knacks and anything/everything garden. If you don't have plants to trade, you can buy stuff at ridiculously low prices. You are sure to discover something new to try.

You can take plants home by either by paying cash with cash or check, or by bringing plants and other items for trade tickets to use instead of cash. Fill out this form before the meeting if you are going to trade. This is what you'll get for what you bring:

- 2", 3" & 4" pots: 1 ticket each
- 6" pot or 6-pack: 1.5 ticket each
- 1 gallon pot: 2 tickets each
- 2 gallon pot: 3 tickets each

Miscellaneous items are priced at the meeting.

Label your plants with their common or botanical names, and put your name

on them in case purchasers have questions.

Please don't bring loose, dirty plants that would make a mess, or plants you wouldn't be proud to put your name on.

We appreciate all of you who come early to help set up – it's a lot of work! And if you can, plan on staying to help with clean-up.

We'll start accepting plants at 6:40 p.m. The purchase prices are:

- 2", 3", or 4" pots: 2 tickets or \$1 each
- 6" pot or 6-pack: 3 tickets, or \$1.50 each
- 1 gallon pot: 4 tickets or \$2.00 each
- 2 gallon pot: 6 ticket or \$3.00 each

When there are multiples of the same plant available, please take only one until other members have had a chance to buy one. If there are multiples left over, then you can grab them! Plants that don't get sold or given away go home with the person who brought them.

Good luck, and have fun!



Please complete this form at home and bring it with you to the meeting.

Number of 2, 3 or 4" pots: _____ X 1 = _____ tickets

Number of 6" pots or 6-packs: _____ X 1.5 = _____ tickets (round up to whole number)

Number of 1-gal. pots: _____ X 2 = _____ tickets

Number of 2-gal. pots: _____ X 3 = _____ tickets

Miscellaneous items (to be priced at meeting): _____ tickets

TOTAL TICKETS: _____





The Gardeners' Club

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