

The Gardeners' Club

Santa Cruz County, California

May 2013

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Plant and Sale Swap



Got plants ready to divide, or ones you want to replace? Been sowing so enthusiastically that you've got seedlings to share? Pots you don't need any more? Garden art that needs a new home? Looking for free or low-cost treasures for your garden?

Clean out your tool shed, thin your perennial beds, make space on your bookshelf, finish your garden crafts...and bring your goodies to our amazing annual spring event.

Our members offer a limitless variety of bulbs, annuals, perennials, shrubs, seeds, small trees, tools, planters, knick-knacks and anything/everything garden. You'll find plants you've never heard of and plants you've always wanted to try.

See the inside back cover for more information. If you don't have plants to trade, bring cash or check to buy at bargain prices. Don't miss out—see you there!



Thursday, May 9th, 7:00 p.m.
Aptos Grange, 2555 Mar Vista Dr., Aptos

SYMPHONY OF THE SOIL Makes Its Santa Cruz Premiere MAY 11th

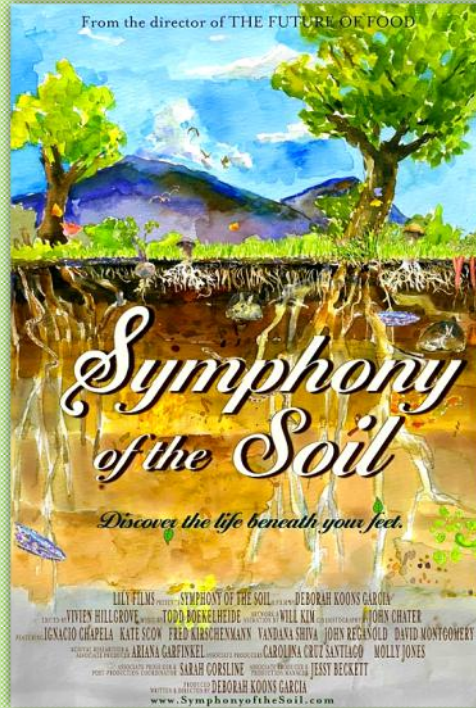
A thin layer of soil supports all of us — but too often we treat the soil like dirt.

“Symphony of the Soil,” the latest film from Lily Films, artfully depicts the complex and dynamic nature of this precious resource, and why it’s critical that we work to preserve it. This full-length feature film will have its Santa Cruz premiere on Saturday, May 11th, 2013, starting at 11 am at the Nickelodeon Theater.

Tickets are \$10.00, with proceeds supporting scholarships in the Apprenticeship in Ecological Horticulture, the organic farming and gardening training program at UC Santa Cruz. Tickets are available online at <http://symphonyofthesoil.bpt.me> or at the door.

Jessy Beckett, a graduate of the Apprenticeship and one of the film’s producers, will introduce the film and answer questions following the showing.

“Symphony of the Soil” is the newest feature-length work by director Deborah Koons Garcia, best known for the 2004 film “The Future of Food,” which was selected by the Oscar Documentary Screening Committee as one



of the best documentaries of the year. “The Future of Food” brought the issues of genetically modified crops and the corporate control of our food supply to the world stage and helped kick start the local/good/fair food movement in the US.

“Symphony of the Soil” harnesses the energy and enthusiasm behind the food movement in the US to bring attention to soil, the life structure that supports all of us. Filmed on four continents and sharing the voices of some of the world’s most esteemed soil scientists, farmers, and activists, the film portrays soil as a protagonist of our planetary story. In a skillful mix of art and science, soil is revealed to be a living organism, the foundation of life on earth. The film inspires the understanding that treating the soil right can help solve some of our most pressing environmental problems, from

climate change, to dead zones, to feeding an ever-increasing world population.

The Santa Cruz premiere of Symphony of the Soil is sponsored by the Friends of the UCSC Farm & Garden and the UCSC Center for Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems. For more information contact Jessy Beckett, jessy@lilyfilms.com, or Amy Bolton, 831.459-3240 or casfs@ucsc.edu. The Nickelodeon Theater is located at 210 Lincoln Street in downtown Santa Cruz. To learn more about “Symphony of the Soil,” please see www.symphonyofthesoil.com.

Cabrillo College
35th Annual Mother's Day Weekend
Plant Sale
May 10, 11 & 12

New this year
 Increased selection of perennial edible crops
 Food on Friday provided by Cabrillo Culinary Arts
 Jewelry for sale created by Cabrillo Art students

Follow the signs to the Horticulture Center "Top of Campus" Cabrillo College 6500 Soquel Dr. Apts

Plant Inventory: <http://www.cabrillo.edu/academics/horticulture/plantsale.html>

For email notifications: www.cabrillo.edu/academics/horticulture/maillinglist.html



This is a great month to plant clematis. Clematis Montana is the hardiest and easiest to grow, covered generously with pink to white flowers. We even have a native clematis, Clematis ligusticifolia, a climbing, spreading vine with showy white flowers, also known as Virgin’s Bower.

Scatter lots of cosmos seeds in your garden. They are easy to grow and make for many happy butterflies. Give them sun and minimal water, and they’ll bloom all summer and fall and then set seed for you for next year.

Seems like it is going to be quite a year for aphids! Use a strong spray from the hose to wash them away. Be persistent until predators arrive to help.

Prune rhodies as soon as they flower, before the plant creates next year’s flower buds. Plant out summer bulbs and vegetables. Compost generously, mulch liberally. Take time notice what’s happening in your garden; enjoy!

Symphony League of Santa Cruz County Fundraiser
A Garden Tour of the Richard Klevins & Gaye Nichols Gardens



THE SYMPHONY LEAGUE OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY INVITES YOU TO A TOUR OF

Music In The Garden

STROLL THROUGH BEAUTIFUL GARDENS, ENJOY THE SPECTACULAR KOI POND, MUSIC IN THE GARDEN, REFRESHMENTS AND A GLASS OF WINE.

SATURDAY, MAY 11 1 PM TO 5 PM

TICKETS \$25

TICKETS INCLUDE LIGHT REFRESHMENTS, A COMPLIMENTARY GLASS OF WINE, AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY CLASSICAL MUSIC IN THE GARDENS. ORDER TICKETS ONLINE AT <http://www.slsc.org/garden.htm> OR CALL CLYDE OR SHEILA VAAUGHN AT (831) 662-8908.

Board News



At the May 9th meeting, our annual three garden club 2013 scholarships will be awarded to the following Cabrillo College Horticulture students, as selected by Ernie Wasson and Kathy Navarez. They will be present at 7 p.m. receive their framed paper proclamations and their \$300 checks.

The awardees are :

- David Apple (Ernie Wasson scholarship)
- Jolene Guth (Virginia Saso scholarship)
- Max Laddon (Virginia Saso scholarship)

Honorees were chosen for

the following: classroom excellence, practical application, performing generously with enthusiasm and skill, social conduct, engendering friendships and support to fellow students and Interest in furthering education toward work in horticulture.

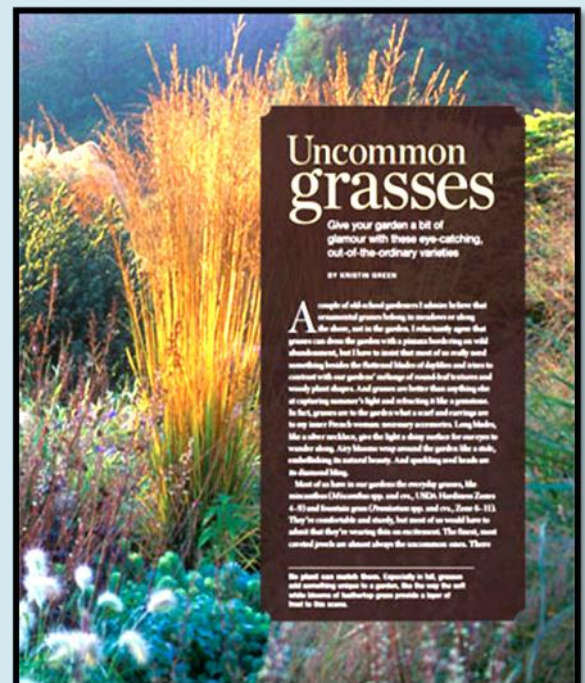
Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held at the home of Lise Bixler, 91 Country Estates Drive, Bonny Doon, at 6 p.m. on May 27th (Memorial Day Eve). Come enjoy a tour of her garden and sculptures, and a picnic supper. You don't have to be a Board Member to attend; all are welcome. If you need directions, email Lise at lisebixler@sbcglobal.net or call 457-2089.

The Monterey Bay Iris Society will present their annual iris show on May 4, 2013 and May 5th at the Loudon Nelson Community Center, 301 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA. The show is open to the public from noon until 6 on Saturday and 10 am until 5 pm on Sunday. Admission is free.

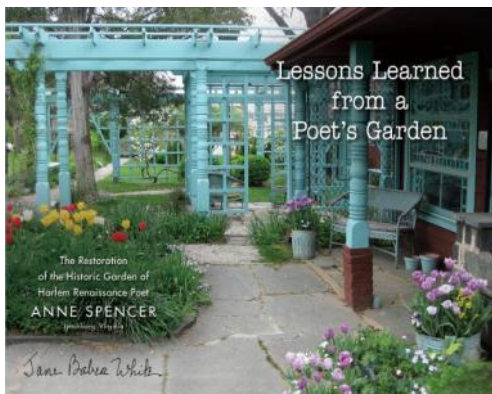


Fine Gardening Magazine says, "You may be thinking of nothing but tulips and daffodils right now, but remember to get your grasses in the ground too! See the best selections in this free article download sponsored by Santa Rosa Gardens. All you need to do is sign up with an email address. Go to http://www.finegardening.com/downloads/uncommon-grasses-pdf-download?utm_source=email&utm_medium=eletter&utm_content=fg_eletter&utm_campaign=fine-gardening-eletter. It is very inspiring—lots of fresh ideas.



Once the world was young
 For I was twenty and very old
 And you and I knew all the answers
 What the day was, how the hours would
 turn
 One dial was there to see
 Now the world is old and I am still young
 For the young know nothing, nothing

—Anne Bethel Spencer
 Poet, Gardener, Wife and
 Mother, Librarian, Teacher,
 Civil Rights Activist



A perfect Mother's Day gift this year might be the book Lessons Learned from a Poet's Garden by Jane Baber White.

The Anne Spencer House and Garden Museum (www.annespencermuseum) provides much information on her life and the restoration of her historical garden. The biographical information below is gleaned from that site.

Anne Spencer was an important figure of the black literary and cultural movement of the 1920s—the Harlem Renaissance. More than thirty of her poems were published during her lifetime. Their themes were biblical and mythological as well as those of her garden and nature. Spencer shared intellectual respect and repartee with such notables as James Weldon Johnson, Langston Hughes, W.E.B. DuBois, Countee Cullen, Sterling A. Brown, Marian Anderson, Paul Robeson, Thurgood Marshall, Zora Neal Hurston, Mary McLeod Bethune, Adam Clayton Powell, Claude McKay, George Washington Carver, H.L. Mencken, Amaza Lee Meredith, Gwendolyn Brooks, and the Rev. Martin Luther King. In addition to her writing, she was also the librarian at the all

-black Dunbar High School, a position she held for 20 years. Here she supplemented the original three books by bringing others from her own collection at home, as well as those provided by her employer, the all-white Jones Memorial Library. She spent much of her time writing and serving on local committees to improve the legal, social, and economic aspects of African Americans' lives.

Amidst the troubled, segregated times in which she lived, Anne Spencer sought refuge in her garden and in the cottage, Edankraal, which her husband Edward built for her in the garden behind their home. The name Edankraal combines *Edward* and *Anne* and *kraal*, the Afrikaans word for enclosure or corral. Here she lost herself in her flowers and creativity. The results of Spencer's contemplative time in her garden and cottage gave her inspiration, and garnered her literary success as well as regard from the intellectual community of the 1920s. The Spencer home on Pierce Street became a salon for many intellectuals who visited regularly, and for African American travelers, who found hospitality at the Spencer home when laws of segregation barred them from hotels.



The Spencers with friends in their garden



Anne Spencer in her garden, in front of Edankraal, 1947



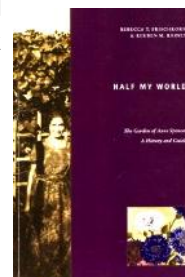
[Earth, I thank you]

Earth, I thank you
 for the pleasure of your language
 You've had a hard time
 bringing it to me
 from the ground
 to grunt thru the noun
 To all the way
 feeling seeing smelling touching
 —awareness
 I am here!



Anne Spencer With Husband & Grandchildren

The 28-year-long story of the restoration and maintenance of the historic garden (a nationally recognized rehabilitation effort) is documented and lavishly illustrated in Lessons Learned from a Poet's Garden (2011). The book includes poetry and writings of Anne Spencer never-before published and stunning photography, some of it vintage, most of it modern day, documenting both Spencer's creation and the community based restoration and preservation effort which restored it. The award-winning book, Half My World: The Garden of Anne Spencer, a History and Guide(2003) by Rebecca Frischkorn and Reuben Rainey, explores the history and design of the garden and its influence on her work as a poet. Both books are highly recommended, and can be found at www.annespencermuseum.



Tally Sheet & Instructions for Plant Sale & Swap

You can take plants home by either paying bargain prices in cash, 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.

You may bring plants, seeds, bulbs, harvest bounty, books, tools and any other miscellaneous items of use or interest to gardeners. 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

Plant etiquette: 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: _____

Mother's Day Party



Extravaganza—May 11 & 12

There's no place like **ANNIE'S**
 Open 7 days a week, 9 - 5* 740 Market Ave. in Richmond, CA



If you've never made the drive with friends or family to Annie's Annuals Garden in Richmond for one of their wild parties, you don't know what you are missing. Voluptuous plants, wild colors, games (musical chairs, anyone?), hoopla, prizes, gifts, contests, food, speakers, a lot of whooping and oohs and ahs and pure plant joy. Go to the website for directions and details:

<http://www.anniesannuals.com/info/ohouse/>



www.thegardenersclub.org

- Members-at-Large**
 Pat McVeigh, 475-9357 pmcveigh@baymoon.com
 Joanna Hall, 662-8821 jhall@sbcgloball.net
- Plant Table**
 Patty Connoie, 335-4134 pattyconnoier@aol.com
 Lupe Allen, 24702705 lupaa@ucsc.edu
- 3rd position - vacant**
 Refreschments
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- Website**
 Joe Thompson
 Computer Frustration Special-ist
joehomemtech.com
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 Suzanne Mercado, 609-6230 Suzannebottomline@gmail.com
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- Newsletter Writer/Editor**
 Debbie Kindle, 462-6296 poppy-54@live.com
- Lise Bixler, 457-2089**
lisebixler@sbcgloball.net

The Gardeners' Club

P.O. Box 3025, Ben Lomond CA 95005

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 Hall, 2555 Mar Vista Dr., Aptos. *Printed on 100% recycled paper*

