



"The Sustainer"

April 2007 Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Master Gardeners

Paul McCollum - editor

Changes! Changes! And more changes!

This is just a short note to let everyone know that the monthly calendar is now the monthly newsletter along with the calendar and hotline news thrown in for good measure. People tell me that I am the editor so I will try and live up to their expectations. We will include all the garden information sent in each month from you so please be on the lookout for suitable items of interest to the Monterey Bay Master Gardeners and send them to me no later than the 22nd of each month. I am trying to limit the size to two or four pages printed front and back so please do not be too upset if some of the information does not get published. Generally our website and forum will include everything that is happening or is of interest. Your constructive ideas for improvement are always welcome. Email for Paul is pulpitpaul@razzolink.com. Phone (831)726-1319

Upcoming Meetings

Board Meeting at UCCE - April 21 at 9:00 a.m. - all members welcome.

Advanced Training

Ecology Action Events Calendar

Free Hands-on Wormshop

Date 21 April 2007

Time 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Where Wilder Ranch State Park, (\$6 parking fee), two miles north of Santa Cruz on Hwy 1

Contact and reservations:

Karin Grobe: 831-426-5925

Learn how worms can eat your food scraps and make beautiful vermicompost for your garden.

The County of Santa Cruz makes it easy for you to learn how and get started. Attend a Wormshop, where Master Composters will teach you everything you need to know and help you set up your own worm bin.

OPTIONAL: If you wish, you may set up a worm bin to take home after the workshop (\$20 materials fee for worms and bin or \$10 for worms only). Call or e-mail Santa Cruz County's Worm Doctor to RESERVE MATERIALS, (831) 427-3452.

Free Backyard Composting Workshop

Date 21 April 2007

Time 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Where Live Oak Grange Compost Demonstration Site, 1900 17th Ave., Santa Cruz

Contact Sherry Lee Bryan: 831-426-5925, sherry@ecoact.org
Master Composters will teach you the art and science of turning your kitchen and yard waste into an organic fertilizer. The workshop provides a general overview of backyard composting, including what should and shouldn't be composted, what makes composting happen, different techniques for making compost, how to use compost, and composting with worms.

Unincorporated County of Santa Cruz residents and residents of the City of Scotts Valley who pre-register for the workshop are eligible to receive a \$20 discount on an Earth Machine compost bin! The total cost of the compost bin with the discount is \$26.35 (Waste Management customers) or \$46.95 (non-Waste Management customers). To pre-register, call the Rotline at (831) 423-HEAP.

(see page 5 for more)

Volunteer Opportunities

Beach Cleanup

Date 05 May 2007

Time 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Where Scott Creek Santa Cruz County

Contact Laura Kasa:

lkasa@saveourshores.org, (831) 462-5660

The Cleaner Beaches Coalition invites you to help keep Santa Cruz County beaches and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary clean all year long! Simply show up to the beach at 11 AM, or contact Laura Kasa with Save Our Shores for more details. Trash bags, recycling bags, and latex gloves will be provided. The Cleaner Beaches Coalition member organizations are Save Our Shores, Surfrider Foundation, Pack Your Trash, and Ecology Action.

Cooper Adobe Garden Workdays: We will meet from 10:00-noon on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month. Contact Marcia Smullen if you are interested in this project. (cont'd p.2)

April 2007

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2 Hot Line	3	4 Hot Line Mimi Rahal	5	6 Hot Line Paul McCollum	7
8	9 Hot Line	10	11 Hot Line Mimi Rahal	12	13 Hot Line	14
15	16 Hot Line	17	18 Hot Line Mimi Rahal	19	20 Hot Line	21
22	23 Hot Line Peter Quintanilla	24	25 Hot Line Dianne Yost	26	27 Hot Line Paul McCollum	28
29	30 Hot Line					

To schedule Hotline - email martyel@prodigy.net or call (831) 633-6435

Volunteer opportunities cont'd
(831-626-3519) If there are other hours you can work, let her know as well.

Seaside Green Team Project:

Every 3rd Saturday 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. contact Mary Wilson, 393-0193, bluespud@pacbell.net and ask to be placed on her e-mail reminder list.

Youth Garden

Meets at 8:00 on April 14 & 28 Please come and help plant the spring garden and help young people learn the joys of gardening. Thank you Candice for all you do!

Other Events

2ND ANNUAL BOUQUETS TO HISTORY AND ART
PUBLICITY CONTACT: Wendy Brickman (831) 633-4444 or

brickman@redshift.net

TO BE HELD APRIL 12-15, 2007
January 2, 2007, Monterey, CA -- At the 2ND ANNUAL BOUQUETS TO HISTORY AND ART event, forty of the Monterey Bay area's premier florists and designers will share their talent and ideas in a unique exhibition of creativity to be held at the Monterey History and Art's Maritime and History Museum, 5 Custom House Plaza, Monterey, California. The not-to-be-missed exhibit will be held from Thursday, April 12 through Sunday, April 15, 2007, from 10 AM to 5 PM.

Through creative floral designs, many florists and designers, both professional and amateur, will interpret the art and artifacts of the Maritime and History Museum. Last year's popular exhibit included floral

interpretations of sardine cannery factory workers, ship's wheel, canon, a World War II Japanese Naval Officer's sword, vintage sardine cans, Indian baskets, tule fishing boat, the 2-story Fresnel lighthouse lens, a map of California, and more. New this year will be interpretations of several Plein Art Paintings from the upcoming exhibit, "Monterey Bay Plein Art Painters: The Legacy Continues" which begins on March 17th There will also be several special lectures and presentations in the Museum's History Theater on a variety of subjects, and artists will be on site painting at easels during the event. The cost is \$10 per person which will include the special lectures. A special al fresco "Fisherman's Calamari Lunch" will be held on Saturday,

(cont'd p.3)

(cont'd from p.2

April 14th and a Pre-Opening Champagne Gala "Stravaganza" will be held Thursday, April 11th from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM with a fee of \$75 per person.

"Bouquets to History & Art" Opening Reception -- April 12th -- 5-8 pm

"Bouquets to History & Art" Exhibition Open -- April 13,14,15th -- 10 am -5 pm

To purchase tickets to the Opening Reception or Presentations, call Kimberly @ (831) 372-2608 x 13 Note: 300 dpi jpeg photos are available upon request.

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
P.O. Box 22636, San Francisco,
CA 94122, (415) 566-2976.

www.ikebana.org

CONTACT: NANCY LOCKE,
650 340 9647

Ikebana Artists Present "Treasures of the Monterey Bay" on Friday, April 20

Mar. 13, 2007. San Francisco, CA – A team of ikebana artists from the Monterey Peninsula will feature plant materials from the Monterey forest along with seasonal flowers from their famous coastal locale in their demonstration on April 20th in Golden Gate Park. This one-hour program on the Japanese art of flower arranging, sponsored by the local chapter of Ikebana International, begins at 12:00 PM in the County Fair Building at 9th Ave and Lincoln Way. It is open to the general public; there is a \$5 fee for guests.

Demonstrators Carol Marchette and Joanne Nishi, friends for nearly 20 years, will create a variety of arrangements illustrat-

ing the contrasting ikebana styles of the Sogetsu School and Ohara School, respectively. They will use containers found, made or purchased in the Monterey Peninsula area to complement the plant materials collected from that locale.

Ms. Marchette and Ms. Nishi are founding members of the Monterey chapter of Ikebana International. Ms. Nishi, who holds a First Term Master Degree from the Ohara School of Ikebana, teaches monthly classes at the Buddhist temple in Seaside, Calif. Ms. Marchette has a Second Sanyo Degree from the Sogetsu School of Ikebana. Both artists also have backgrounds in Ikenobo ikebana.

Ample parking is available in the new de Young Museum parking garage, within easy walking distance from the County Fair Building.

For more information, visit www.ikebana.org or phone (415) 566-2976.

About Ikebana International - Ikebana International is a worldwide nonprofit cultural organization that perpetuates the exquisite art of Japanese flower arranging and related Japanese cultural arts. Headquartered in Tokyo, it has more than 160 chapters in nearly 60 countries and its members represent dozens of ikebana schools. The San Francisco Bay Area chapter, with almost 300 members, is one of the largest and most active chapters. Each month, the local chapter sponsors inspirational demonstrations by local and visiting ikebana artists in the picturesque setting of Golden Gate Park. The public

is welcome at all monthly demonstrations that are held the 3rd Friday of each month, September through May, in the County Fair Building at 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way, adjacent to the entrance to Strybing Arboretum.

The Monterey chapter, supported by the San Francisco and Sacramento chapters, will host a conference for all North American chapters of Ikebana International on May 11/15, 2008, in Monterey. The conference features numerous demonstrations and workshops lead by the headmaster of the Wafu School of Ikebana, as well as by master artists representing Ikenobo and Sogetsu ikebana schools. For information, see www.ikebanamontereybay.org or phone (831) 373-4691.

Garden Tours

Aromas Country Garden Tour- Saturday, May 12- featuring Artists in the Gardens-Spring comes early this year as the Aromas Country Garden Tour moves to a new day of the week and a new month- Saturday, May 12. The Saturday of Mothers' Day Weekend treat yourself (and maybe your Mom) to the country gardens of Aromas. The tour features artists from the Aromas Hills Artisans showing and demonstrating their work in a variety of media in selected gardens. Tickets are \$10.00 per person. Tickets and maps are available at the Aromas Grange, located at the corner of Rose Ave. and Bardue Ave. Aromas 4H will have plants, jam, jelly, and honey for sale. See a preview of the gardens at : www.aromashillsartisans.com Beautiful Gardens-Interesting people-Wonderful Art

Heritage Rose Group

Spring Garden Tour

Saturday May 5, 2007, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Plans are progressing for a tour of Paul McCollum's garden in Aromas, and a self-guided tour of roses in San Juan Bautista. Other gardens may be added.

Rose Show

Monterey Bay Rose Society

Our Annual Rose Show will be May 5th at Aladdin Nursery on Freedom Blvd, Watsonville. More news to follow,

Other Garden News

1. The CNPS-Monterey lists many events or April. Here's the link:

<http://www.chuckhaugenconservationfund.org/calendar/month.php?year=2007&month=04>

2. The CNPS-Santa Cruz also has many events for April. I've attached a listing, and here's the link:<http://www.cruzcnps.org/events2.html#item2>

3. Marina Tree and Garden Club (<http://marinatreeandgarden.org/calendar.html>):

April 14 - 10:00-3:00

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District Earth Day Celebrations, Locke Paddon Park

April 22 - 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Cutting Day Exchange, Marina Farmer's Market - 213 Reservation Rd.

April 28 - 2:00-4:00 General Meeting, Speakers to be announced

May 6 - 10:00 am-3:00 pm Marina Garden Tour and Plant Sale, Begins at the Public Well Site Reservation & Salinas in Marina

May 19 - 9:00 am-1:00 pm, Cooper Historic Garden Plant Sale, Corner of Polk & Munras, downtown Monterey

Attached is more info on the Club's Garden Tour and Plant Sale on 5/6:

4. UCSC Arboretum (<http://arboretum.ucsc.edu/calendar.html>)

A P R I L - 2 0 0 7

Sunday, April 1, 1:30 pm

Days of Wine and Proteas

Kerrie Reid, former UCSC Student and current researcher on

South Africa at UC Davis, will

give a presentation focusing on

human impacts, through agriculture and settlement, on the

delicate fynbos biome of the Cape

Floral Kingdom, including current

uses (sustainable and otherwise),

problems, and conservation efforts.

Also included will be refreshments typical of that region.

\$15 general public, \$10 for Arboretum Members*

Saturday, April 7, 11 am

Monthly Tour of the Arboretum

Join our staff and docents for a

guided tour of the collections.

Meet at Norrie's Gift Shop.

\$3 general public, Free for Arboretum Members*

Saturday April 21, 12 to 4 pm

Arboretum Spring Plant Sale

Held in the Eucalyptus Grove

Wildflower Show: Two-day expo

showcases the beauty and diversity of wildflowers in San Mateo

and Santa Clara counties. More

than 400 species will be displayed

and classes on native plant identification, growing wildflowers,

gardening with native plants and

guided tours of Mission College

native plant landscaping will be

part of the event. It takes place 10

a.m.-4 p.m. April 14-15 at Mission

College, 300 Mission College

Bldv. in Santa Clara. Details:

www.cnps-scv.org or 650-941-

1068.

Smart Gardening Faire:

Progress Highlights

Thomas Karwin, MG99 & Sheryl McEwan, MG03

Predictions: all the garden society

exhibitors of 2006 will return,

other groups will participate for

the first time, and attendance will

grow to 2,000.

The 2007 Faire will have three

venues for presenters:

- City of Scotts Valley's community room (capacity about 40),

- Scotts Valley Senior Center (capacity about 100), and

- tent for gardening demonstrations (capacity about 75).

Sheryl McEwan lining up demonstrations for the big tent, booking

musicians and arranging garden-related

activities for children.

Cynthia Jordan is recruiting top-notch

speakers.

Randa Solick and Rina Weingold

are adding to the 2006 list of food

vendors, for a larger turnout.

Simon Stapleton is preparing

logistical plans for Faire Day.

Betsy Shea is developing the promotional

campaign and contacting prospective

sponsors.

Tom Karwin is generating proposals

for grants.

Click on smartgardening.org to

see the updated Faire website,

designed by Christina Kriedt,

including photos from the 2006

Faire.

Visit the Members Only section

of the MBMG website <http://montereybaymastergardeners.org/>

(also designed by Christina) for

the full progress report.

Watch the MBMG's Yahoo!

Group for ways you can help put

on this enjoyable event.

Common Ground in Palo Alto

Dear Friends:

Our Spring newsletter contains a great offering of classes and news of many great collaborations. Find it online at <http://www.commongroundinpaloalto.org/pdfs/CG2007Spring.pdf>.

Be sure to look at next weekend's classes in the previous WINTER/SPRING newsletter. They are GROWING TERRIFIC TOMATOES in the morning and BLUEBERRIES AND RASPBERRIES in the afternoon -- both taught by the knowledgeable Nancy Garrison who draws from her years of research with the University of California Cooperative Extension.

We have a limited quantity of Jersey Knight and Sweet Purple bare root asparagus on hand. Spring vegetable starts are arriving now! We are fully stocked with soil amendments and the weather is right for preparing your gardens for Spring planting!

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

--Margaret Mead

Patricia Becker -Center Manager
Common Ground Organic Garden
Supply & Education Center
559 College Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94303
650.493.6072

OPEN- Tuesday - Friday 10am-5:30
Saturday and Sunday 10-5
www.commongroundinpaloalto.org

Common Ground is a 501(c)(3) non-profit project of Ecology Action

Garden Club Meetings

Orchid Lovers: Carmel Orchid Society meets at 7:30 pm on the first Monday of each month, except May, September and December at: First Presbyterian Church of Monterey, 501 El Dorado Street, Monterey, CA. **Santa Cruz Orchid Society** has a monthly meeting at Live Oak Grange at 1900 17th Avenue in Santa Cruz at 8:00 PM on the first Friday of each month. Orchid show and sale is in early February each year.

Monterey Bay Dahlia Society: Meets second Friday of every month 7:00 pm Potluck Dinner 7:30 pm meeting. Simpkins Swim Center, Community Room 979 - 17th Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA

Monterey Bay Rhododendron Society: The group usually meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Live Oak Senior Center, 1777 Capitola Road, Santa Cruz. The next meeting will be held at 7 p.m. March 20. Tom Kirwin of the Monterey Bay Master Gardeners will give a program on the upcoming Smart Gardening Faire, and how to remedy garden problems such as correcting soil deficiency. Call 685-2915 for details.

Santa Cruz Garden Club: The Garden Club meets the first Thursday of each month to hear speakers, visit gardens or discuss trends or travails. Dues are \$20 per year. Details: 438-0278.

Gardeners' Club: The Gardeners' Club meets 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of

the month at Aptos Grange Hall, 2555 Mar Vista Drive, Aptos. Matthew Sutton of Orchardkeepers will speak on Spring Fruit Tree Care. Topdressing, irrigation, finger pruning, pest and disease management, thinning and training will be covered. Call 476-2296.

Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai: Meets at 9 a.m. on the third Saturday of the month at Live Oak Grange, 1900 17th Ave., Santa Cruz. Call 761-3531.

Free Organic Materials

Organic materials exchange: An organic materials exchange Web site, www.ome.sccrcd.org, has been launched to share resources of reusable organic materials. A partnership with the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District and Ecology Action is working to list such items as horse manure that was previously taken to the landfill. So far, listings include compost, wood chips and coffee grinds. Some materials have a delivery charge but most are free. Details 464-2950, Ext. 22, or ome@sccrcd.org.

More Advanced Training

Citrus Workshop
Alladin Nursery hosts a citrus workshop April 14 featuring Aaron Dillon from Four Winds Citrus Growers. Learn about the proper types of citrus for your garden and how to take care of freeze-damaged plants. 10 a.m. tasting; 11 a.m. Q&A session April 14 at Alladin Nursery, 2905 Freedom Blvd., 724-7517.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
1432 FREEDOM BLVD.
WATSONVILLE, CA 95076-2741

IMPORTANT MBMG
Newsletter & Calendar Enclosed
PLEASE READ!!

The University of California prohibits discrimination against or harassment of any person employed by or seeking employment with the University on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (special disabled veteran, Vietnam-era veterans or any other veteran who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized).

UCCE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
MONTEREY BAY MASTER GARDENERS

Important Announcement

We're pleased to announce that Leora Worthington, MG '03, has accepted the appointment as the Volunteer Coordinator effectively immediately. She will be replacing Alicia Molina who has held the position since 2004. Please send your quarterly hours reporting forms to Leora Worthington at 18410 Meadow Ridge Road, Salinas, CA 93907 or email your report to her at lee2.otterby@worldnet.att.net.

Also, if you have not yet turned in your 2006 hours, please do so no later than APRIL 30. Your hours must be recorded in order to receive your recertification and member card from UCCE.

Santa Cruz Makes Compost!

Santa Cruz County Compost Demonstration Project

By Karin Grobe

Santa Cruz County Master Gardeners who would like a truckload of compost to experiment with are being sought for the Compost Demonstration Project, a joint project of the County of Santa Cruz Public Works Department Recycling and Solid Waste Services, Vision Recycling and Waste Management. The objective of the project is to demonstrate the practical application of compost in gardening, landscaping, erosion control and agriculture.

The compost product to be used is produced by Vision Recycling in cooperation with the County of Santa Cruz. Feedstocks include food scraps, food-soiled paper, yard trimmings and horse manure. The compost is processed aerobically in an enclosed system for three months, then cured to achieve a mature and stable product. The product is tested

in accordance with the U.S. Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance and analysis is available on request.

Project participants will be provided with compost at no cost, but hauling and application will be the responsibility of the user. In return for the free compost, Master Gardeners must agree to provide the County with information on the compost application and performance. Information will be collected from Master Gardeners by County representatives via interview, photos and video footage with a goal of sharing information on compost use with landscape, horticulture and agriculture professionals as well as residents of Santa Cruz County.

The compost is suitable for incorporation into soil prior to planting or use as a topdressing. For more information: Dan deGrassi, County of Santa Cruz Public Works, 831-454-3102, or Karin Grobe, 831-427-3452