



*Come grow with us...*

SAN MATEO ARBORETUM SOCIETY

101 NINTH AVENUE, SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA

94401 (650) 579-0536

[www.SanMateoArboretum.org](http://www.SanMateoArboretum.org)

## MEMBER NEWSLETTER

### July - September 2021

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### *President's Message*

As our fiscal year comes to a close, we want to reflect on our accomplishments and communicate our plans for the future. Our pump-house refresh is complete. The Victorian, demonstration gardens and nursery are looking better than ever thanks to our dedicated volunteers. With restrictions easing, you will have the opportunity to view the improvements when we host the annual member party on Saturday, September 18 from 3-6 p.m. Please mark your calendars. We are hoping to welcome our members we have missed seeing in the past year.

We are not resting on our laurels. We plan to initiate a children's program this summer in an effort to reach the broader local community and enrich the lives of kids interested in gardening. Our other plans are to repair and upgrade the greenhouses so that they are more efficient and productive.

How can you help our efforts? For one, if you are signing up to renew your membership, consider the recurring option on our website. We have limited resources and managing memberships is a lot of work. It automates the process vs. processing everything manually. The other way you can support us is to volunteer in the greenhouse or join our board. Again, we have a handful of volunteers who have been working every day to keep the nursery going and SMAS open for sales. We could really use some help to alleviate the burden on a few very tired volunteers. For more information, feel free to contact us via our website, e-mail [info@sanmateoarboretum.org](mailto:info@sanmateoarboretum.org) or call 650-579-0536.

Please join us for our upcoming seminar Sunday, July 11, "Start Now to Grow a year-round Food Garden with the renowned Pam Peirce via zoom. <http://www.sanmateoarboretum.org/classes--events.html>

*Carol Callison*

[president@sanmateoarboretum.org](mailto:president@sanmateoarboretum.org)

650-579-0536

## ***NEWS from the NURSERY by Julie Thoman:***

Here we are - the pandemic is heading into a new stage but as Californians we know life is not that simple. We live in an ever-changing world. Next it seems we will have another drought. Many of us have lived through earlier ones but they tell us this will be a major one.

For our propagators and donors it means we are looking ahead to the plants that can give us beauty and still conserve water.

Lavender is happy with little water and forms wonderful drifts of color and scent. It also makes lovely hedges along walks and patios while attracting pollinators to your garden.

Geraniums in all their many forms provide wonderful color. All are drought tolerant but scented ones are especially adapted.

We have a large choice of succulents, all of which are low water users. They range from huge jades which make a statement to tiny jewel-like plants to plant close to where you can enjoy them. We think of them as green but many flower profusely. The calandrina produce waving fronds of purple flowers and the sedum can become literally covered with flowers .

We have had some new additions that will fill out the list. A wonderful collection of cactus has arrived from a lifetime collector's garden. Architectural and prickly they are quite a contrast to other plants. They have their own beauty and are startling when they bloom.

If you worry about losing some of your favorites that really need the water consider planting them in pots and placing them close to the house. We will soon be collecting water again. Remember the buckets in the shower and the dishpans in the sink? That water can go to your pots and you will still enjoy your favorites. To you new Californians - welcome to our water focused world.

Not all of our customers garden in the dirt. Many garden on balconies. We have many filled patio pots. They make an instant garden and add a nice touch to your living room view. Two large pots, a table and chair and you have a garden.

We must play detective on some of our donations so we spend a bit of time on the computer. As you think about your garden and the years ahead you might try it yourself. Start with the simple query – “drought tolerant plants” and see where it leads you.

With rules changing daily we are still open from 11 to 2 on weekends. Soon the fences should come down between the nursery and the Victorian garden. We will be back to a time when you can wander and enjoy.

We still need donations of plants, cuttings and pots. Our big donations are great but it is the daily surprises that give us our great variety. We accept donations between 10:30 and 12:30 weekdays. Please call ahead - 650-579-0536.

*Current safety protocols will be in place for the next few weeks, but since the rules are changing daily please check our website - [www.sanmateoarboretum.org](http://www.sanmateoarboretum.org) for our latest news.*

***Remember to stop by when you are in the park.  
There is always something new.***



help us...

# GROW!

Love Plants?

Join the **SAN MATEO ARBORETUM SOCIETY**  
**VOLUNTEER** to work in our garden, planting, selling, or  
marketing, or just choosing us for all your plant needs!

To learn how to **VOLUNTEER** visit our website:

*[www.SanMateoArboretum.org](http://www.SanMateoArboretum.org). Click **SUPPORT US** in top menu  
to reach the volunteer information.*



San Mateo Arboretum Society, Inc  
*Come Grow With Us!*

101 9th Avenue, San Mateo, CA, 94401 • Located in San Mateo Central Park • 650.579.0536  
[www.SanMateoArboretum.org](http://www.SanMateoArboretum.org) • Non Profit 501 (C3)

## **PENINSULA ROSE SOCIETY**

<http://peninsularosesociety.org>

### **JUNE - DECEMBER ROSE CARE**

After the spring bloom fades, deadheading, pruning and fertilizing gets you ready for the next set of blooms. Check out this video on Summer Rose Care on the Peninsula Rose Society YouTube Channel: <https://youtu.be/3uvdldrZkQY>. Stu Dalton is an American Rose Society Consulting Rosarian with the Peninsula Rose Society and a University of California Master Gardener in the San Mateo and San Francisco District. He grows over 250 roses of many types in his Menlo Park Garden.

#### **JUNE**

- Fertilize
- Spray only as needed
- Remove spent blooms (deadhead) to encourage new growth, cutting down to 2nd or 3rd 5-leafed leaflet that is pointing outwards. Cut at a 45 degree angle, about 1/4" above the leaflet.

#### **JULY**

- Fertilize
- Spray only as needed
- Deadhead
- Watch for spider mites as hotter weather arrives. Spider mites are on the underside of leaves and looks like a sprinkling of salt and pepper, with some webbing in the advanced stages. Leaves look "gray" and underfed; leaves drop. Zapping the underside of leaves with a high pressure water works fine, twice weekly if possibly. Water wands or a good fogging nozzle works well (Fogg-It Watering Mist Nozzle - 2 GPM).

#### **AUGUST**

- Fertilize
- Spray only as needed
- Deadhead
- Good time to replenish mulch: 2 to 3" well composted redwood or fir bark, etc.

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- Last month to fertilize and spray. Stop deadheading after this month

#### **OCTOBER**

#### **NOVEMBER**

#### **DECEMBER**

- Decrease watering. Plan new rose additions for next year!

[www.peninsularosesociety.org](http://www.peninsularosesociety.org)

revised 1-20 by Stu Dalton - [studalton@gmail.com](mailto:studalton@gmail.com)

# When is it Time to Replace Your Rose Pruning Gloves?

Edited from the February 2021 *Florosia*, newsletter of East Bay Rose Society,  
Martine LaBelle, Editor.

You need to protect yourself when you are pruning - those rose prickles can be wicked - and there are usually various germs and fungus particles on the prickles and canes and in the soil. Check the condition of your gloves. Replace them especially if they have holes in the fingers You do NOT want to get infected. What's the worse that can happen? Besides the pain of cutting yourself, or having a prickle poke you - this could happen:

- **Tetanus** (also called "lock jaw")

Tetanus causes painful muscle contractions, particularly in the jaw and neck. It can interfere with the ability to breathe, eventually causing death.

People may experience:

Whole body: fever, high blood pressure, nervous system dysfunction, or sweating.

Muscular: muscle spasms, facial muscle spasms, or stiff muscles

Respiratory: episodes of no breathing or shortness of breath

Also common: lockjaw, difficulty swallow- ing, drooling, fast heart rate, irritability, spasm with arched back and neck, or stiff neck.

## Get medical help ASAP

- **Sporotrichosis**

Sporotrichosis is a fungal infection that is caused by *Sporothrix schenckii*. Sporotrichosis is called rose gardener's disease. This infection is transmitted through contact with the *Sporothrix* fungus spores, usually through cuts in the skin. These spores typically live in plant matter and the soil and can be in rose bushes, sphagnum moss, and hay.

**Go to the doctor and tell them you are a rose gardener.**

- **Flesh-eating Bacteria** (also called: Necrotizing fasciitis)

The condition spreads quickly. Symptoms include blisters, fever, fatigue, and pain worse than a person would expect based on the wound's appearance. Fever, chills, fatigue, or low blood pressure, skin discoloration, redness, blisters, or crackling sensation under the skin.

Also common: swelling at the infection site, kidney failure, nausea, black spots on the skin, changes in the color of the skin, pus or oozing from the infected area.

**Get medical help ASAP**

**Thoroughly wash all cuts and scrapes with soap and water. If redness or swelling occurs - see a Doctor.**

# California Native Garden Foundation

*In March Alrie Middlebrook, CNGF Executive Director, was the featured speaker for our Sunday Garden Seminar. As a result of that meeting, we are hoping to collaborate on projects starting with children's programs. Let us know if you are interested in participating by emailing us at [info@sanmateoarboretum.org](mailto:info@sanmateoarboretum.org) or calling 650-574-0536.*

For the past 20 years, the California Native Garden Foundation (<https://cngf.org/>) has been a curated oasis of California wilderness in the center of San Jose. We started out as a nursery where we propagate and sell native plants, and a design/build studio for creating native gardens in our neighborhood. In our goal to serve as an “eco-hub” for our community, we began to host a variety of activities for neighbors and children, including after school programs, art classes, mindful aging classes, preschool classes, summer camps (<https://cngf.org/nature-camp-2021/>), corporate events, art talks, a farmer’s market stand, and more.

Though our core group is small, our garden is filled with volunteers, interns, and college students from throughout the state and around the world. Increasingly, our mission has evolved to educate the next generation in ways to restore our local ecology using native plants; grow food in the city using regenerative organic agriculture, and create outdoor classrooms where children can play in healthy soil, learn about the water cycle, and come to understand and protect the relationship between humans, food, plants, and animals.

To support this mission, we have created the Build 25 Initiative (<https://cngf.org/build-25/>). We are reaching out to local schools, churches, non-profits, corporations and other stakeholders to create a network of 25 Regenerative Organic Urban Farms and Teaching Gardens, modeled on ELSEE (Environmental Laboratory for Sustainability and Ecological Education <https://cngf.org/elsee/>), our flagship site at 76 Race St in San Jose. Institutional and private stakeholders provide the land, and the San Jose Evergreen Community College District - Workforce Institute is partnering with us to create an array of ecological certification programs. Program participants will learn, hands-on, how to design, build, use, and maintain our farms and gardens. Each acre of urban regenerative farmland can grow enough produce to feed hundreds of neighbors. Graduates of our programs will be employed to maintain some of the new Build 25 sites, and to help train future generations of students. Through our Build 25 initiative, we hope to work together with SMAS to create a consortium of ecological nonprofits throughout our region who can inspire our youth and transform urban land use to build a more verdant and resilient future.



# San Mateo Arboretum Society

## Seminars, Workshop, Nursery, & More

**NOTE:** Due to social distancing requirements and space constraints in the Pumphouse, *all events will be web-based using Zoom. The Pumphouse will not be open. To attend via Zoom you will need to preregister. All our Zoom workshops/seminars will be recorded and viewable by all those registered even if you miss the actual live presentation.*

### **START NOW TO GROW A YEAR-ROUND FOOD GARDEN with Pam Pierce! Via Zoom. FREE!**

**Sunday, July 11, 1 - 2:30 pm**

**Registration Required:** [www.sanmateoarboretum.org/classes--events.html](http://www.sanmateoarboretum.org/classes--events.html) or call

**650-579-0536 x3.** Need a nudge to get your kitchen garden producing all year? Let Pam Peirce, renowned local author and plantswoman guide you with her talk and inspiring visual presentation as you prepare for bountiful harvests in fall, winter, and spring. July is the perfect time to start. [www.pampeirce.com](http://www.pampeirce.com).

### **GARDENING FOR BUTTERFLIES. California Native Plant Society. Via ZOOM. FREE!**

**Sunday, Aug 1, 1 - 2:30 pm**

**Registration Required:** [www.sanmateoarboretum.org/classes--events.html](http://www.sanmateoarboretum.org/classes--events.html) or call

**650-579-0536 x3.** The bay area is home to many butterflies. Butterfly babies (caterpillars) evolved with and depend on eating local native plant leaves. Susan Karasoff will discuss growing a butterfly buffet for baby and adult butterflies, including plants that thrive in containers.

### **LET'S GROW HERBS AND RADISHES! Children's Workshop. Via Zoom.**

**Sunday, Sept 12, 1 - 2pm**

**Fee: SMAS members \$10 for members; \$15 nonmembers**

**Children, ages 6 and older. Reservations are required. Register online at:**

**[www.sanmateoarboretum.org/classes--events.html](http://www.sanmateoarboretum.org/classes--events.html) or call 650-579-0536 x3.**

Join volunteer Virginia for a creative learning and design experience. We will start growing from seeds and will learn about herb and radish growth. Also we will create animal and flower designs from vegetables and fruit.

### **NURSERY PLANT SALES. Open 11 AM to 2 PM on Saturday & Sunday.**

Enter the north gate & wear a mask. Payment is by credit or debit card & Apple Pay. No cash is accepted. Current safety protocols will continue for the next few weeks, but since the rules are changing daily please check our website for our latest news. [www.sanmateoarboretum.org](http://www.sanmateoarboretum.org) or call 579-0536 x2.

### **THE ZOETIC TAPESTRY PROJECT. Open 10am - 3pm Friday, Saturday & Sunday.**

**John Sutti is back with new art work incorporating plants.**

Location: outdoors in the San Mateo Arboretum Society garden.

**San Mateo Central Park,  
101 Ninth Ave, San Mateo. Enter at Ninth Ave. & Palm Ave.  
[www.SanMateoArboretum.org](http://www.SanMateoArboretum.org); (650) 579-0536**



SAN MATEO ARBORETUM SOCIETY  
101 Ninth Avenue  
San Mateo, CA 94401

FIRST CLASS



*SAVE THE DATE*  
*for*  
*our annual meeting and member party*  
*Saturday, September 18, 3 - 6 p.m*

*Come grow with us...*

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While any advice or article in this newsletter is believed to be true and accurate, neither the authors or editor can accept any responsibility for errors or omissions that may have been made.

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