

February 2006



University of California Cooperative Extension

Riverside County



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GARDEN VIEWS

A Master Gardener Newsletter



That's a Good Question— Tales from the Phone Squad

By Lucy Heyming, MG

The Master Gardener Phone Squad answered more than 70 calls in January.

A caller from Orange County asked, "What is that white snail with chocolate swirls, and how do I get rid of it?"

Theba pisana, also known as the white garden snail, is native to Mediterranean countries and Great Britain. Although it is usually found in coastal habitats, it can adapt to arid regions. It is medium sized for a snail and is usually ivory white with narrow dark-brown spiral bands. It has established itself in populations in San Diego County as a serious pest and has been found in Los Angeles and Orange counties.

Once established Theba, quickly multiplies and can be particularly destructive to ornamental plants and various types of trees. One citrus tree in California was covered with more than 3,000 Theba pisana snails. It can move 55 meters in one month. The slime from these snails can make vegetation unpalatable for livestock, inhibit flower pollination, and degrade the quality of fruits and vegetables. This snail has been shown

to assist in the dispersal of a fungus, Colletotrichum lagenarium, and serves as an intermediate host for a lungworm and other nematodes that are parasites of sheep and cattle. These snails aestivate (go dormant) during the summer by sealing themselves onto vertical objects such as fence posts and plant stems.

Management of Theba pisana is the same as for other snails and can be accomplished by using a combination of methods suggested by the UC Davis Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Web site <http://ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7427.html>.

The first step is to choose snail-proof plants including begonias, California poppy, fuchsias, geraniums, impatiens, lantana, nasturtiums, and purple robe cupflower. Other plants to consider are those with stiff leaves and highly scented foliage like lavender, rosemary, and sage, and woody plants and ornamental grasses that are not affected by snail damage. Cop-

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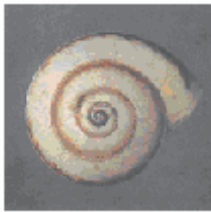
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per barriers can be useful for protecting especially susceptible plants.

Next, eliminate hiding places, such as boards, stones, debris, weedy areas around tree trunks, and leafy branches growing close to the ground. Dense groundcovers such as ivy are ideal sheltering spots.

If possible, use less water by switching from sprinkler irrigation to drip irrigation. This will reduce humidity and the amount of moist surfaces making the habitat less favorable for snails and slugs.

Use bait. Used alone, bait doesn't provide adequate control in gardens that contain plenty of shelter, food, and moisture. Several types of snail and slug bait products are available. Baits containing the active ingredient metaldehyde are most common. The downside of metaldehyde baits is that they are also poisonous to dogs and cats, and should not be used where children and pets cannot be kept away from them. A recently registered snail and slug bait, iron phosphate (available under many trade names including Sluggo and Escar-Go), has the advantage of being safe for use around domestic animals, children, birds, fish, and other wildlife, and it is a good choice for a garden IPM program. For a more thorough explanation of snail management, go to the IPM Website.



Theba pisana

The next caller had a list of questions regarding fertilization and pruning. He began with, "How should I fertilize lilies?"

From the North American Lily Society Website, www.lilies.org/care.html, I found this information about fertilization of lilies: "A big strapping plant like a lily, with an inflorescence of sometimes dozens of big flouncy blooms needs plenty of nourishment. Nitrogen is needed when the green leaves are growing rapidly, and phosphorus and potassium later for bloom and bulb production. A good all-around recipe would be to scratch in a generous helping of a complete formulation such as 10-10-10 in early spring after the shoots have emerged with smaller supplemental feedings throughout the season. Keep fertilizer from directly contacting the bulbs, and always water the fertilizer in thoroughly."

The caller questioned, "What about blackber-

ries? How should they be fertilized and how to I prune them?"

From the National Gardening Association Web site: www.garden.org/foodguide/browse/fruit/blackberry/1223, came this information:

"Fertilize early each spring with one-half to three-quarters cup of a complete fertilizer such as 5-10-10 or 8-8-8 per plant. Sprinkle it in a band 12 to 24 inches from the canes, and hoe it lightly into the soil." Additionally, I found in the *Sunset Western Gardening Book* that this amount of fertilizer could be split into three applications: before new growth starts in mid spring and mid summer.

For pruning of blackberries, the National Gardening Association Web site suggests: "Each year blackberry plants produce new canes from the crown just below the soil surface and from roots that extend some distance out. Each cane lives for two years. The first year a cane produces only leaves, the second year it bears fruit. It will not fruit again, so old canes should be pruned out as soon as possible after the harvest to prevent disease from attacking the plant. Pruning reduces stress on the plants. Keep enough fruiting canes to have a good crop and remove the rest along with undesired root suckers each year. There are two different types of blackberries, upright and trailing, and each requires a different pruning method. The upright ones produce arching canes that can support themselves. Included in this group are the semi-uprights, which flop a bit but can be treated like the uprights. The trailing types sprawl and must be supported on wires. The two groups also bear their fruit differently: upright kinds have fruit at the tips of the canes, trailing kinds have berries all along their length. The trailing types tend to be less hardy than the uprights, but they are usually more productive. Your choice depends on where you live, how much space you have, and the variety of fruit you prefer."

Finally, he asked, "How and when do I fertilize grapes?" The *California Master Gardener Handbook* specifies three important nutrients for grapes: nitrogen, zinc, and potassium. It is important to apply these at the right time and in the right amount. Over fertilizing with nitrogen can contribute to excess vegetation and reduce the fruit set, quality, or both.

The book suggests one-half pound of nitrogen in the form of ammonium sulfate, or three-eighths pound of ammonium nitrate at the berry set stage or following the bloom. Zinc can be applied two weeks before bloom or at full bloom with a spray

on the foliage at one pound per gallon. For a potassium deficiency, apply potassium sulfate six inches into the soil, 18 inches from the trunk.

Heritage House Helpers Get Big Thank You

A big thank you goes out to the eight dedicated MGs-in-training, and the one other veteran MG who showed up in force on Saturday, November 12. We planted bulbs and boxwoods and weeded the rose beds. If you would like to be notified of our next Heritage House workday (though they are sometimes planned with only a short notice), please call Cindy McCabe at 951.737.4224, or email at cynthiamccabe@comcast.net.

Island Bush Snapdragon

By Donna Claypool, MG

I love any plant that attracts hummingbirds, and they love red, tubular flowers. The graceful stems of the Island Bush snapdragon are full of red blossoms from spring through summer. Flowering is heaviest in spring. It is a nice mounding shrub with long bright green stems and leaves. *Galvezia speciosa*, a member of the *Scrophulariaceae* or figwort family, is evergreen. Both the leaves and flowers are one inch long. It is six to eight feet high and eight to 12 feet across. It grows in *Sunset* zones 14 to 24.

The figwort family is full of beautiful flowers, such as snapdragon, foxglove, nemesia, and penstemon. Most have flowers with four or five lobes often arranged as two lips. *Scrofulae* is from Latin and means swellings of the neck.

Since the Island Snapdragon is from the California coastal islands, it needs partial shade and additional moisture in our inland valleys. Like many native Californian plants, it needs excellent drainage. It gets the drainage it needs on banks, where it is often used for erosion control. The long stems can be trained as a vine. There is a smaller variety, 'Firecracker,' which grows two to three feet high and as wide.



Galvezia speciosa
'Firecracker'

Vegetable Gardening in Small Spaces

By Phil Hasson, MG-in-Training

It's getting close to that time of year when we begin to think about this spring's vegetable garden. Most of us have a limited space in which to plant our vegetables and often don't use that space as effectively as possible. I'm sure most of us have had veggie gardens for years, but as you read through this article, hopefully you will get one or two new ideas you can use to set up your garden this year.

Whether you start your seeds in a greenhouse, purchase seedlings from a nursery, or sow them directly, there is a lot we can do with the garden layout to maximize our variety and yields in the area we have to work with. Today, I am fortunate to have a large area for gardening, but because small gardens are easy to care for and save water and the realization that I can only use so much of a given vegetable during harvest time, I still employ small space techniques.

Did you know you could easily fit 16 carrots, radishes, or onions in one square foot? Many times when using traditional rows and mound-type gardening, we lose a tremendous amount of usable space, but we also tend to waste water on the unused areas while creating weed problems that will need constant attention. I don't know about you but my least enjoyable garden activity is pulling weeds throughout the growing season. Anything I can do to minimize this is well worth the time spent laying out an efficient garden design. In four-square feet, you can leave two tomato plants to spread as they please or everything from more than 100 plants, ranging from beans to zucchini including two tomato plants maintained in their space.

One common problem particularly for those new to gardening is to plant too much of something at the same time. When designing and planting a garden, it's important to consider how much of what will be ready to harvest at a given time and what you can actually use. How many times has someone planted all his or her radish or lettuce seeds at once only to have it all ready to harvest at once? If you enjoy giving away your hard-earned booty to friends, neighbors, and co-workers, that's fine; but remember you'll be without a couple weeks later. The solution to this is to plan your anticipated needs and stagger planting as much as possible to lengthen your harvest. I'm sure, given the choice, we would all rather have six to 10 radishes a week rather than 50 all at once. Stagger

MOVING?

Please let us know when you change your address, phone number or email. Contact **Buck Hemenway**, Membership Coordinator, at a meeting or call him at 951-360-8802. He will make sure the information gets changed on the membership roster so you will not miss out on newsletters and emails. Thanks!

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July 2005 - June 2006**

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Garden Views

The *Garden Views* newsletter is published monthly, September through June, by the U.C. Master Gardeners, Cooperative Extension, University of California, Riverside County. All reporters are Master Gardeners or Master Gardeners-in-training.

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To simplify information, trade names have been used. No endorsements of name products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.

your planting accordingly; plant two to four heads of lettuce a week, and maybe a dozen radishes every week or two. Turn your garden into a production line that meets your real use demands.

Keep those plants close. When you shoe-horn in your vegetables you eliminate spaces for unwanted plants and lessen the time needed for weeding. Give your plants their space, but no more. If you have tomatoes in your garden, don't let them take over the space of their neighbors. Keep them trimmed, trained, and under control.

Finally, remember your plants do not need to be all in one place. If you have a small spot available that's only big enough to plant one or two tomatoes and another spot where you can fit in peas or beans, use them. You'll stumble across it again and be rewarded with homegrown produce from an area otherwise not used.

It's all about the enjoyment of gardening and a large part of that enjoyment is harvesting the fruit. With a little planning, you can maximize what you get out of your space and more importantly, keep the harvest closer to what you can use. A recommended reference book to aid in design is Mel Bartholomew's *Square Foot Gardening*.

Hort Shorts

Compiled by **Nancy Sappington, MG**

Another Pest Threatens California's Vineyards

Vineyard mealybugs decrease crop quality by excreting honeydew, which promotes sooty molds, and by infesting grape bunches. The vine mealybug was accidentally introduced into the Coachella Valley in the early 1990s. This invasive pest quickly spread to grape-growing regions in the San Joaquin Valley, Central Coast, North Coast, Sacramento Valley, Sierra foothills, and Monterey area. As of fall 2005, the vine mealybug had been found in 17 California counties, and it is likely that more infestations have not been detected.

The vine mealybug has biological characteristics that make it more damaging than other vineyard mealybugs. It has a high reproductive rate and produces abundant honeydew. In addition, this pest has a wide host range including common weeds, which could potentially increase the residential population outside the vineyard. Finally, like other vineyard mealybugs, the vine mealybug

can transmit grapevine viral diseases.

Researchers are investigating new control tools to use in combination with or as an alternative to standard organophosphate insecticide controls. Insect growth regulators and nicotine-based insecticides provide good alternative pesticides for use in some vineyards. Ongoing studies on augmenting controls with the release of natural enemies and mating disruption also show promise, but commercial products are not yet available to growers.

—*California Agriculture, January–March 2006.*

The Not So Regal Crown Gall

By **Cindy McCabe, MG**

As spring approaches, bare-root rose season will give way to the purchase of potted specimens. One problem to look out for, especially with bargain roses is crown gall. If left unchecked, this scourge can invade your garden soil, and subsequently affect other plants that are susceptible to crown gall. A bacterium causes this disease, which enters the plant through open wounds; afflicted specimens can exhibit stunted growth and yellowed leaves. This bacterium can invade your garden soil via diseased nursery stock, and is spread by the use of contaminated pruning tools.

The culprit in this scenario is *Agrobacterium*, which stimulates abnormal cell growth, and forms galls primarily at the plant crowns. However, galls may also appear in the roots or on the canes. The galls are lumpy growths that may initially be soft and whitish, but then subsequently turn hard and brown with age. The soil around a crown gall-afflicted rose may remain tainted for several years. Solarizing the infected soil after removal of the diseased plants (Note: use the trash, NOT the compost bin!) can help alleviate this contagious bacterium.

Another helpful tip is to clean your cutting tools with a 10 percent bleach solution before and after each use. This practice will help to avoid spreading *Agrobacterium*.



Crown gall on
Euonymus

Dwarf Coyote Brush

by **Donna Claypool, MG**

It is strange that a plant in the daisy family (*Asteraceae*) is not grown for its flowers, but dwarf coyote brush is such a plant. It is one of the best native ground cover on large banks and slopes and tolerates many adverse conditions of poor soil and wind. Along the coast, it takes heat. Inland, it should have supplemental water and will tolerate watering year-round. It grows in *Sunset* zones 5 to 11 and 14-24.

Dwarf coyote brush is an evergreen plant. Remove any upright branches if you want a neat looking ground cover. Older stems can look woody if left on the plant; prune back in the winter. It will form a bright green mat from three to six feet across and from one to two feet high. The flowers have a light scent; they occur in summer, but are inconspicuous.

The botanical name is *Baccharis pilularis*. In addition to Dwarf Coyote Brush, it is also known as Dwarf Chaparral Broom or Prostrate Coyote-Brush. Nine species of *Baccharis* are native to California, but only *Baccharis pilularis* has been cultivated.

The two most common varieties are 'Twin Peaks' and 'Pigeon Point.' They have good bright green leaf color and attract butterflies with their fragrance. They are fire retardant and, reportedly, are not attractive to deer. 'Twin Peaks' has smaller leaves and a low branching habit. 'Pigeon Point' grows faster and can get up to three feet high. It has a mounding growth habit. Space them at least three to four feet apart.

Male and female flowers are borne on different plants; because the female flowers result in a messy seed head, most plants in nurseries come from cuttings of male plants. You can easily grow the plant from seeds, take tip cuttings from the male plants in late fall or early spring, root these in sand, and propagate all the male plants that you require.



Baccharis pilularis
'Twin Peaks'

MGs Invited to Tour School Garden

There will be a tour of the Emmerson Elementary School Garden on February 4. The school is located at 4660 Ottawa Street in Riverside. Meet in the school parking lot at 10 am. The tour will last approximately 30 minutes.

The garden was rehabilitated in 2003 on a one-acre site on school property. Children were introduced to gardening by planting a pumpkin patch. Since then, they cultivated a large strawberry patch, and approximately 40 percent of the classrooms now have separate plots that they tend. The garden contributes to the salad bar lunch program that allows students to choose a fresh salad instead of a hot lunch. The garden contributes lettuce and cabbage. An apple orchard has been planted on campus and fruit trees will be planted around the perimeter of the school property later this year.

Lupe Vacquez, a volunteer mom who frequently works with the children in the garden, will lead the tour. Master Gardeners are also invited to volunteer at the garden and reap the rewards of helping children learn. You can sign up online at <http://groups.ucanr.org/rivermg>. For additional information, call Shelley Wardrop at 951.788.8197 or 951.334.8602 or e-mail at mastergardener@earthlink.net.

Volunteers for Graduation Committee Sought

Need some volunteer hours? Join the Graduation Ceremony committee. The first meeting will be February 1 at 6:15 pm just before the Master Gardener class. For more information, call Shelly Wardrop at 951.788.8197.

Exotic Shell Ginger

By Cindy McCabe, MG

Although members of the genus *Hedychium* are the most commonly grown representatives of the plants known as gingers, the genus *Alpinia* comes in as a close second in the gardens of Southern California. The former has fewer species and more hybrids than the latter. In fact, with more than 230 species, *Alpinia* is the largest genus in the family *Zingiberaceae*.

The genus *Alpinia* was created in 1810 by

William Roxburgh, and was named in honor of the 16th century botanist Prospero Alpinio. Most *Alpinia* species are tender tropical plants, but a few are hardy enough for cultivation in temperate climate. The common name for *Alpinia* specimens is shell ginger, because the waxy buds open to form a shell-like shape. The lower lip (labellum) of the *Alpinia* bloom is showy; it is almost always brightly colored and lined with a darker, contrasting color that acts as a guide for pollinators. The flowers of many *Alpinia* species resemble some orchid species, most notably *Serapias*, the tongue orchids.

Alpinia zerumbet is the species most often encountered at local nurseries, and with a typical height of 79 inches is the largest of the root-hardy *Alpinias*. Each inflorescence takes the form of a drooping panicle, up to a foot in length, which cascades from the leafy tip of the stem.

Few hardy *Alpinia* hybrids have been developed, and only one, "Strawberries and Cream" is available in the United States. *Alpinia zerumbet* is naturalized in Hawaii and Florida, and has long been cultivated as an ornamental in Southeast Asia. This species, while hardy to 0° F (-32° C), is best grown in a warm, sheltered, and sunny spot. Plentiful water and fertilizer during active growth produces vigorous stems with well-displayed blooms.



Alpinia zerumbet
'Strawberries and Cream'

2006 Master Gardener Calendars For Sale!

The year is fresh, and many people are still in need a 2006 calendar. The 2006 Master Gardener calendars are still available, and they make great gifts. Get them at the Master Gardener meetings or the UC Extension office or call Shelly Wardrop at 951.788.8197. The calendars are \$7. (Check or cash only)

Some New Selections for Your Wardrobe of Plants

By Nancy Sappington, MG

I have found it a curiosity that plants oftentimes appear as fads in the same way that clothing styles trend in the fashion world. Some plants are described as "old-fashioned" while others are "hot items" in nursery circles. Thanks to hybridizers, plant explorers, and seed companies we are assured that there will never be a shortage of must-have new introductions. An article in the January/February 2006 edition of *The American Gardener* sizes up the market for those of us looking for something new to try out. The range of new plants is broad from annuals to perennials to trees, shrubs, and vines. There is something to satisfy all of your plant passions. Here is a sampling of them.

'Lemon Leigh' lavender (*Lavandula stoechas*) has soft, pale yellow to chartreuse floral spikes above its blue-gray foliage. Monrovia Nursery (www.monrovia.com) has introduced this easy-care Spanish lavender with a heady scent and a dense, mounding form that reaches two feet high and spreads nearly three feet. For the traditional colored lavender blossoms, Renee's Garden Seeds (www.reneesgarden.com) is selling seed for *Lavandula multifida* 'Fernleaf,' with deeply lobed, silvery foliage and blue-violet flowers.

Also from Monrovia comes Roman Beauty rosemary, *Rosmarinus officinalis* 'Roman Beauty,' for cooking, potpourri, and cut flower arrangements. It has deep gray-green foliage that will cascade from a container or over a low wall.

A few years ago *Canna* 'Tropicanna' was all the rage. Now, Anthony Tesselaar International (www.tesselaar.com) is offering C. 'Tropicanna Black' with glossy, deep black leaves that are fuller, extra rounded, and darker than other cannas. It can reach six feet tall with its dense

habit and produces striking large tangerine flowers from spring to fall.

Heronswood Nursery (www.heronswood.com) has a new spring-to-summer bloomer for

partly shaded gardens. *Primula* 'Kingston Twilight' has bright green foliage that contrasts well with its deep blue-violet flowers.

For heuchera lovers, Terra Nova Nurseries (www.terranova.com) has introduced some new varieties to its line. *Heuchera* 'Fantasia' has silvery leaves over bright red reverse sides and masses of pink flowers.

Terra Nova also has added to its coreopsis. *Coreopsis* 'Cherry Lemonade' has bright green foliage and coral-red flowers during its long blooming season. C. 'Autumn Blush' has peachy yellow blooms and red centers. When the cool days of autumn come, the flowers take on a rosy tint.

In the vine category, Monrovia has three award winners—*Clematis* 'Barbara' (bright purplish-pink flowers), C. 'Julka' (velvety violet flowers), and C. 'Hania' (purple-red petals and light pink margins).

Breeder, Raymond Evison is introducing three new Patio Clematis in 2006 including 'Bourbon' (red-and-purple flowers), 'Angelique,' (large, pale lilac-blue flowers), and 'Parisienne' (large, mauve blooms). The Patio Clematis are distributed through Hines Horticulture (www.hineshort.com).

Michael Dirr at the University of Georgia has bred some new dwarf crape myrtles (*Lagerstroemia*) for small garden spaces or containers. The five Razzle Dazzle crape myrtles come in cherry, pink, raspberry, ruby, and snow blossoms.



Clematis 'Bourbon'



Clematis 'Parisienne'



Clematis 'Angelique'

 **MASTER GARDENER CALENDAR** 

Save That Date !

CLASSES

All classes will be held from 7–9 pm at the Izaak Walton Building in Fairmont Park until construction is completed at Stewart's Boathouse.

Wednesday, **February 1**, Vegetable Gardening by Jose Aguiar

Wednesday, **February 15**, Citrus and Sub-tropicals by Tom Shea

Wednesday, **March 1**, Plant Propagation by Tom Shea and Mike Henry (**Call the extension office for the meeting location, 951-683-6491.**)

MEETINGS

The Advisory Board meets once per month, on the second Wednesday at 6:30 pm at the UC Cooperative Extension Riverside County office, 21150 Box Springs Road, Moreno Valley. The next meeting will be **February 8**, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Garden Views Staff Meeting -- The February meeting of the *Garden Views* staff will take place at the home of Lucy Heyming, 3555 Crowell Avenue, Riverside on **February 6** at 7 pm. If you want to contribute to the newsletter, but cannot attend the meeting call Lucy at 951-353-0119.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Phone Squad: Mondays through Fridays from 9 am–12 noon. Call Phone Squad Coordinator Barbara Lauck to volunteer, 951-849-6265.

February 8–March 15 (eight consecutive Wednesdays), 9 am–noon, Docent Training for UCR Botanic Gardens, Botanic Gardens Conference Room. Call 951-784-6269. \$15 materials fee.

February 11, 9–11 am, Victoria Avenue Forever clean-up in Dr. Lewis Garden. Meet at Jane Street and Victoria Avenue. Bring rakes and pointed-tip shovels. Contact Jenny Humphreys at 951-275-1990.

February 25, 9am–1pm, Tree Planting Bootcamp (training team leaders for Riverside Celebrates Trees Event on March 11), McAuliffe Elementary School, 10365 Keller Avenue, Riverside. For information call 951-683-7100.

March 11, 9 am, 9th Annual Riverside Celebrates Trees Event, tree planting and horticultural fair, Magnolia Square, 10471 Magnolia Avenue, La Sierra. Contact event coordinator Frank Heyming to sign up at 951-353-0119.

March 18, 9–11 am, Victoria Avenue Forever, tree planting. Meet at the corner of Jackson and Vistoria. Bring gloves and pointed-tip shovels. Contact Jenny Humphreys at 951-275-1990.

Mondays through Thursdays, 8am–5pm, Grooming, pruning, propagating, and potting at the UCR Botanic Gardens. Call Steve Morgan at 951-784-6269.

GARDEN EVENTS

Saturday Backyard Composting Programs by Riverside County Waste Management

February 4, 10 am, Temecula Public Library, 41000 County Center Drive, Temecula.

February 25, 9 am, Riverside County Waste Management Department, 14310 Frederick Street, Moreno Valley.

March 4, 10 am, Todd Park, 465 North Broadway, (front of Senior Center), Blythe.

Gardening Seminars and Workshops

February 11, 9:30 am–noon, Gardening Basics II: The Garden As A Living Space, UCR Botanic Gardens, Botanic Gardens Conference Room, by Nan Simonsen. \$30 Friends of UCRBG Members; \$35 non-members. Fee may be paid at the door, or you may pre-register by sending your check to Garden Class, Botanic Gardens, University of California, Riverside, 92521-0124. Please make checks payable to Nan Simonsen. For information call 951-788-5996, or email NanAtWoodcreek@aol.com.

February 11, 9 am–noon, Waterwise Technologies for Any Yard: Part II by Susan Frommer. Free workshop at Western Municipal Water District headquarters, 450 Alessandro Boulevard, Riverside. Reservations needed; call 951-789-5080.

February 11-12, 10 am–noon, Garden Walk: Focus on Conifers. Visitors walk through the Garden to learn about the conifers at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens, 1500 North College Avenue, Claremont. Call 909-625-8767; \$5/day, members; \$7/day non-members.

February 13, 6:30 pm, Landscape Preservation (Filoli National Trust Property), by Lucy Tolmach. San Diego Horticultural Society, Surfside Race Place at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Call 760-730-3268. Free

February 18, California Cherimoya Association Annual Meeting, Grove Tour, and Cherimoya Plant Sale at the University of California South Coast Research Station in Irvine. For meeting announcement and registration form, contact Mike Henry, 951-683-6491 or mjhenry@ucdavis.edu. To reserve a lunch (Hawaiian barbeque) and/or register for the 2006 Budwood Program, please register before February 8. Registration with lunch, \$20; without lunch, \$5; Budwood program, \$5.

February 22–23, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Landscape Design Study Program, Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Riverside. Call Buck Hemenway for registration/course outline, 951-360-8802. Fee: \$50 two days, \$25 one day.