

SAN LUIS OBISPO BOTANICAL GARDEN

CELEBRATING SPRING

Volume 69 | April - June 2016

Blooms, Birds, Botany and Baking.

A season of enjoying the wonders of spring

AUDUBON BIRD WALKS

WITH MORRO COAST AUDUBON SOCIETY

EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

WITH LIVE MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT AND MORE

SUCCULENT WREATH CLASS

WITH JAYNE DEVENCENZI

BRUNCH COOKING CLASS

WITH MARY ANN RUTSHAW

PALM TREE IDENTIFICATION

WITH JENN YOST, PH.D.

FLOWERS OF THE PECHO COAST

WITH KELLY KEPHART



SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

EARTH DAY - APRIL 24, 10 AM - 5 PM

Earth Day is celebrating its 26th anniversary at El Chorro Regional Park. Enjoy a FREE festival filled with vendors, music, local food and beverages, while mingling with your favorite Earth-lovers. Lots of family friendly activities and music by Mama Tumba, Cocktail Shorty, Erin English, Mr. Eco and many more. Come say “hi” at our festival booth and see what’s happening in the children’s garden.



NATIONAL PUBLIC GARDENS DAY

FIRE-SAFE GARDEN RIBBON CUTTING - MAY 6, 3 PM

After years of hard work, battling budget, bunnies, weeds and weather come celebrate the new garden and completed Gazebo with snacks and beverages!



MONTHLY GARDEN TOURS WITH EVE

Our Garden Founder, Eve Vigil, leads monthly tours through the garden on the first Tuesday of the month (unless otherwise noted on slobg.org/founder-walk).



THE GARDEN THANKS GLENN BURDETTE

by Debra Hoover, Operations Director

It’s tax season and what better time is there to thank our Platinum Business Sponsor Glenn Burdette? Glen Burdette has donated its professional services to prepare the Garden’s 990 Tax Form and Business Property Statements since 2010. This generous donation has saved the Garden thousands of dollars over the years. Two Glenn Burdette Principals, Morgen Houllis, CPA and Fred Bogart, CPA served as Treasurer on the Garden’s Board of Directors.

Fred Glenn opened the doors of what would become Glenn Burdette in March 1965. Last year, Glenn Burdette celebrated its 50th anniversary. The Garden is fortunate to be supported by such a prestigious accounting firm with a long history in San Luis Obispo County.

Thank you Glenn Burdette for all you do for the Garden!

EVENTS

April 2 at 9 AM
& May 7 at 9 AM



SPRING AUDUBON BIRD WALKS with Kaaren Perry, Eric Wier & Jay Carroll

Enjoy birding and a beautiful walk through the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden and the surrounding environs including El Chorro Regional Park, Dairy Creek, the Bluebird Trail, and the grassy hillsides. The terrain is gentle, over a variety of surfaces. People of any birding skill level are welcome. We’ll expect to see dozens of species in a variety of habitats. If you have binoculars please bring them; if not, loaners will be available. **Walk will begin near the Garden’s purple entrance bridge.**

Bird walks are \$5 for members/\$10 non-members. Limited class size.

For more information visit slobg.org/bird and slobg.org/birding

KAAREN PERRY is an avid birder and for the past 20 years she has enjoyed leading local field trips and field classes. She enthusiastically shares her love for watching and learning about birds.



JAY CARROLL’S interest in birds began with shorebird censuses in Elkhorn Slough in the 1970s and later expanded during trips to southeast Alaska, the Galapagos Islands, and Australia.

ERIC WIER has been birding since his teen years, and has enjoyed searching out birds from arctic Alaska to Costa Rica.

May 3 from 10 AM - 1 PM

SUCCULENT WREATH WORKSHOP
with designer, Jayne Devencenzi



A wonderful class just in time for Mother's Day! Make your own living wreath this year and with care, it will last for years. You can hang it or use it as a centerpiece. Succulents are low maintenance, easy to grow, and beautiful. All materials are provided for this hands-on class where you will learn how to make your own succulent wreath.

Workshop is \$60 for members/\$70 non-members.

Limited space available. Register online or call 805.541.1400x305

For more information visit slobg.org/wreath

JAYNE DEVENCENZI first began gardening with her father 60+ years ago. She couldn't wait to have her own piece land so she could begin growing her own vegetables and flowers. When she and her husband moved to SLO over 40 years ago, they bought bare land just outside the city limits. They soon realized they had quite the growing challenge fending off wildlife! Decades later, they continue to learn how to grow plants in their drought tolerant, succulent filled landscape.



Photos by Amy McKay and Jayne Devencenzi

May 6 at 11 AM

BRUNCH COOKING CLASS
with Mary Ann Rutshaw



Looking to add new flavors and beautiful presentation to your brunch menu? Mary Ann Rutshaw has a wonderful (and delicious) solution for you! Join us in the spacious Oak Glen Pavilion for a cooking lesson that allows you to have your brunch, and eat it too. Mary Ann will help demystify "puff pastry" and give you several options for working this savory/sweet treat into your special meals. Nibble, sip, learn and enjoy with fabulous foodie, Mary Ann Rutshaw.

Sit back and enjoy the demonstration while Mary Ann whips up a beautiful and tasty Mothers' Day treat.

Class is \$15 for members/\$20 non-members.

Limited space available. Register by calling 805.541.1400x305

For more information visit slobg.org/brunch

~ MENU ~

Smoked Salmon puff-pastry squares topped with a dressing of sour cream, lemon juice, capers, honey and olive oil. Then layers of smoked salmon, micro greens, poached eggs, and shaved Parmesan cheese. Topped with deep fried leek rings.

Apple Roses in puff pastry with cinnamon and jam.



Photos by Mary Ann Rutshaw

May 14 at 1 PM



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR PALMS with botanist, Jenn Yost, PhD

Palms are icons of tropical leisure, but they are not all tropical. Do all palms look the same to you! Are palms a tree or a grass? If you'd like to know more about the diversity of palms that share our planet, join us for an engaging lecture designed to give you an introduction to plant morphology, systematics, anatomy, ecology, and conservation of palms in a botanical garden setting. We will cover basic palm biology, including vegetative and reproductive form and function, the global diversity of palms, and their relationships. Finally, we will learn how to recognize the most widely planted palms in California!

Presentation is \$5 for members/\$10 non-members.

Followed at 2 PM by a free docent-led tour of the Garden.

No preregistration required.

For more information visit slobg.org/palm



DR. JENN YOST is a botany professor at Cal Poly in the biology department. She is the Director of the Hoover Herbarium. She is an evolutionary biologist who tries to understand how new species are generated. Jenn received her PhD from UC Santa Cruz where she studied cryptic species on serpentine outcrops in California.

Photos by Jenn Yost

June 11 at 1 PM



FLOWERS OF THE PECHO COAST with biologist, Kelly Kephart

Discover the flora along a protected strip of the central coast! Take a rare glimpse of the common and not so common plants that make up the beautiful lands surrounding Diablo Canyon area. Learn how the public can see some of the plants, and how these landscapes are managed by the Diablo Canyon Land Stewardship Program.

Presentation is \$5 for members/\$10 non-members.

Followed at 2 PM by a free docent-led tour of the Garden.

No preregistration required.

For more information visit slobg.org/Pecho



KELLY KEPHART is a Terrestrial Biologist with PG&E. She supports the Land Stewardship program at Diablo Canyon, which manages over 12,000 acres and 14 miles of coastline. She is a graduate of the Forestry and Natural Resources Program at Cal Poly and has been working on the central coast for the last 10 years.

The Wildflowers of SLO is NOW available in the Garden Gift Shop. Learn your wildflowers while supporting the Garden and California Native Plant Society!



Photos by Kelly Kephart, book cover by Gaia Graphics

HAVE YOU WALKED THE DISCOVERY TRAIL?

by Ken Levine, Volunteer

I walked the trail on March 25th, and the wildflowers were wonderful. I saw Checker Mallow, Yellow Johnny-Jump-Ups, Fiddleneck, Sticky Monkey Flower, Black Sage, Lupines, and Blue Dicks.

You can begin the trail at the entrance of the Fire-Safe Garden and follow the path up to the Sun Dial and Weather Vane, which connects to the rest of the Discovery Trail.

The Wild Oats are wonderfully tall this year, neatly edging the trail. The trail weaves through several plant communities, and ends at the new Children's Sage Meadow.



Interpretative signs are spaced along the trail. Ron Kindig, with the assistance of the Interpretation Committee, developed the information. Ron then produced and installed the signs. The signs cover many subjects along the trail; some examples include Birds of Prey, Reptiles, Wildflowers, Trees, and Lichens.

When you reach the high point of the trail you will find two large signs. One shows the various plant communities you can see along the trail and the typical plants found in them, and the other is a panoramic view identifying the volcanic plugs along the valley. In addition, you will find a newly placed, comfortable bench. From here you can see all the way to Morro Rock.

We could use more benches along the Discovery Trail and Fire Safe Landscape. If you are interested in donating a bench, please contact Debbie Hoover at the Garden at 805.541-1400x300 or [email info@slobg.org](mailto:info@slobg.org).

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