



## September 2015 Speaker

Wednesday, September 9, 7:30 pm. Doors open at 7.

**Speaker: Jeffrey deJong, Horticulturalist, Victoria, British Columbia**

### “Historical Influences of Gardening”

Our 2015 Louise Beck Guest Lecturer, Jeffrey deJong, will present a journey through history, touching on some of the most influential and important garden styles. The gardens may simply be beautiful, or more practical in their appearance and function, but every culture throughout history has led to the modern garden of today.

Jeff is an instructor in horticulture and has taught at Colorado State University and Olds College in Alberta, Canada. He is an award winning garden designer, garden speaker, and garden writer, and leads garden tours to New Zealand, Europe and South Africa. He was the site manager at Abkhazi Garden, a part of the The Land Conservancy in Victoria, British Columbia.



**Jeff deJong.** Photo: westernhort.org

Jeff broadcasts a weekly radio program “Gardening 101” on tunein radio – check it out! Go to <http://tunein.com> and search for “Gardening 101.” You also can find a link to this radio show on our website, <http://westernhort.org>.

## Join us for dinner with Jeff deJong on September 9!

Contact Rosalie Shepherd to RSVP and for location: [shep8283@comcast.net](mailto:shep8283@comcast.net) or 650-321-8283.

**Plant Table** Our plant table this month has an interesting selection of plants for sale. Most plants are \$5 for 1 gallons and \$3 for 4”. We also have other garden related items. The containers are especially popular. The September table is the responsibility of the Board members, but everyone is welcome to bring plants to any meeting! ~*Roberta Barnes*

**Lost e<sup>3</sup> Found at June 2015 WHS Picnic** Found: cloth napkin with artichoke print left behind at picnic. Contact Judy Wong at [jwotr@att.net](mailto:jwotr@att.net) to claim.

## Upcoming Speakers

**October 14, 2015** John Whittlesey, “Keeping Company With Flowers: Native Plants for the Garden and the Pollinators They Attract”

**November 11, 2015** Bobby Markowitz, “Strategic Planning: How to Target Net Zero Water Use for Your Garden”

**December 9, 2015** Jane Stocklin and Susan Woodman, “Gamble Garden: Landscape of Optimism”

**Transitions: Elizabeth Garbett** With great sadness we report that long-time beloved friend and WHS member Elizabeth Garbett passed away on July 3, 2015. In the October 2015 issue of this newsletter, we will be running your remembrances of Elizabeth along with those sent us by her family. Her family has generously donated \$1,000 along with Elizabeth's many garden and plant books to WHS. Please send your memories of Elizabeth Garbett to Marianne Mueller at [mrm@sonic.net](mailto:mrm@sonic.net) or 333 Kingsley Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301. ~Marianne Mueller, Editor, *Western Hort News*

**28 Years Ago** Western Hort met on September 9, 1987 to hear "Kathryn Mathewson, a landscape architect from San Francisco, on 'Garden THEMES'. She will show us how every little bit goes together for the whole AND the importance of plant combinations." An internet search shows that she is now in San Jose, still working, and has numerous commercial and residential projects to her credit.

There was a name drawn from among the paid-up new and renewing members for a free first choice at the raffle. Announcements included an October 11<sup>th</sup> field trip to Lurline Roth Coonan's garden. Mrs. Coonan (now 94) and her sister, the late Berenice Roth Spalding, were the twin daughters of the last private owners of Filoli. Mrs. Coonan's garden had been featured in *American Women's Gardens*.

I was particularly charmed by several of Elizabeth Garbett's comments from the plant notes; on Marjorie Branagh's *Pardancanda norrissii*: (despite) "Park Seed Co's more effulgent bursts of catalog hype, in this writer's garden they did not 'flower freely from July to fall and produce a kaleidoscope of color', but snails came from miles around to feast on them" and "Lyn Dearborn can find orchids anywhere, even in the wilds of Stanislaus County where she discovered rattlesnake plantain, *Goodyera oblongifolia*" and a description of the inflorescence of Betsy Clebsch's eastern Mediterranean gathered *Origanum rotundifolium* seed, grown by Ed Carman, "as plump and dense as Shirley Temple curls". Ahh, Elizabeth, we do miss you. ~Nancy Schramm

**May 2015 Speaker Notes** Anyone who left early on summer vacation and skipped the May WHS meeting missed out on one of the most informative meetings of the year. Our very own Katie Wong presented the talk "Upgrade Your Garden—Download Rare Fruits". Katie began by tempting us with photos of some delicious-looking tropical fruit: durian, jack fruit, mangosteen, wax jambu, papayas, mangos, and pineapple, then warned us that she would not be talking about any of these plants because we cannot grow them here without supplemental heat. Instead, Katie took us on a 'round-the-world exploration of hardy and subtropical rare fruits that can grow in most of our gardens here in the Bay Area.

Katie was kind enough to give us a handout listing the plants she has selected for "their landscape qualities, suitability for container growing, ease of maintenance and adaptability to our climate." On the list, plants are grouped by continent of origin, and helpful information includes common and botanical names, size, water needs and minimum temperature.

In the hands of a less knowledgeable or skillful speaker, a talk like this can quickly descend into a tedious series of pictures accompanied by one plant name after another. Not so with Katie! You could tell that these plants are her friends the way she spoke about them with fondness, with authority and with humor. She was able to talk about each plant she showed without referring to notes, sharing tips about cultivation and fascinating bits of trivia, like the fact that *Ugni molinae* was one of Queen Victoria's favorite fruits, che (*Cudriana tricuspidata*) tastes like sweet watermelon, *Eleagnus umbellata* (aki-gumi) has 17x the lycopene of tomatoes, and the ice cream bean (*Igna edulis*) pods taste like cotton candy. She even supplied us with some delicious fruit from her garden for our own tasting pleasure: white sapote and juneberry.

Katie's talk certainly encouraged us all to expand our edible plant palette to include fruits from far away places and exotic cultures. Growing rare fruits in our own gardens is like going on vacation with every bite! ~Nancy Schramm

**Mark Your Calendar!** Don't go up on Wednesday, September 9 as you don't want to miss the WHS meeting, but you may be interested in this year's National Heirloom Exposition in Santa Rosa, September 8-10, 11 am-8 pm, in the Sonoma County Fairgrounds. Description: "Come and tour the aisles at the event dubbed 'The World's Pure Food Fair!', a massive assembly of pure food enthusiasts, talented home gardeners, farmers, school groups and leaders in the food industry. This is a not-for-profit event, and all funds above cost will be donated to school gardening education and other sustainable food programs." See <http://theheirloomexpo.com>.

### **It's that time of year—renew your WHS membership today!!!**

Our membership year is September 1 – August 31. It is important to renew without delay to ensure the smooth continuation of your subscription to Pacific Horticulture magazine and to keep our coffer in the black.

Renewal applications with pre-addressed envelopes were mailed in August; we urge you to send in your dues now if you haven't already. **If you will be renewing at the WHS meeting, please bring your pre-printed form—this saves time as you won't need to fill out a form.** You can also print out the membership form found online at [http://westernhort.org/membership\\_form.pdf](http://westernhort.org/membership_form.pdf).

Prompt renewal helps those who coordinate with Pacific Horticulture and the volunteers who put together the information for the roster, labels for mailing the newsletter, etc. We look forward to your participation in the activities we have planned for you this coming year. Please see the box to the right for complete details on membership rates and where to send the form. If you have any questions, please contact our membership guru at [grew@pacbell.net](mailto:grew@pacbell.net) or 650-851-5162. **Thank you.**



## **Western Horticultural Society**

### **Officers and Board Members**

President: Richard Tiede  
Vice President: Judy Wong  
Recording Secretary: Liz Calhoon  
Corresponding Secretary: Rosalie Shepherd  
Treasurer: Daxin Liu

Other Board Members: Roberta Barnes, Liz Calhoon, Chris Egan, Patricia Larenas, Carrie Parker, and Katie Wong.

**To contact us**, please send email to [info@westernhort.org](mailto:info@westernhort.org), or contact Chris Egan at 650-948-4614, or send mail to Western Horticultural Society, PO Box 60507, Palo Alto, CA, 94306.

### **About membership in Western Hort:**

To join or renew, send your name, address, phone number and a check made out to "Western Horticultural Society" to PO Box 620673, Woodside, CA 94062-0673.

Membership Rates: A one-year membership (Sep-Aug) includes four issues of Pacific Horticulture magazine. Regular membership is \$35, Sustaining is \$45, Contributing is \$60 and Plant Lover is \$100+. We have also added a Family membership of \$50 for two or more members at the same address, and a Student rate of \$20.

Please visit our website at [westernhort.org](http://westernhort.org) for a membership form.

### **Newsletter Submissions and Address Changes**

Please send info for the October 2015 newsletter by September 18 to Marianne Mueller, [mrm@sonic.net](mailto:mrm@sonic.net) or 333 Kingsley Avenue, Palo Alto 94301.

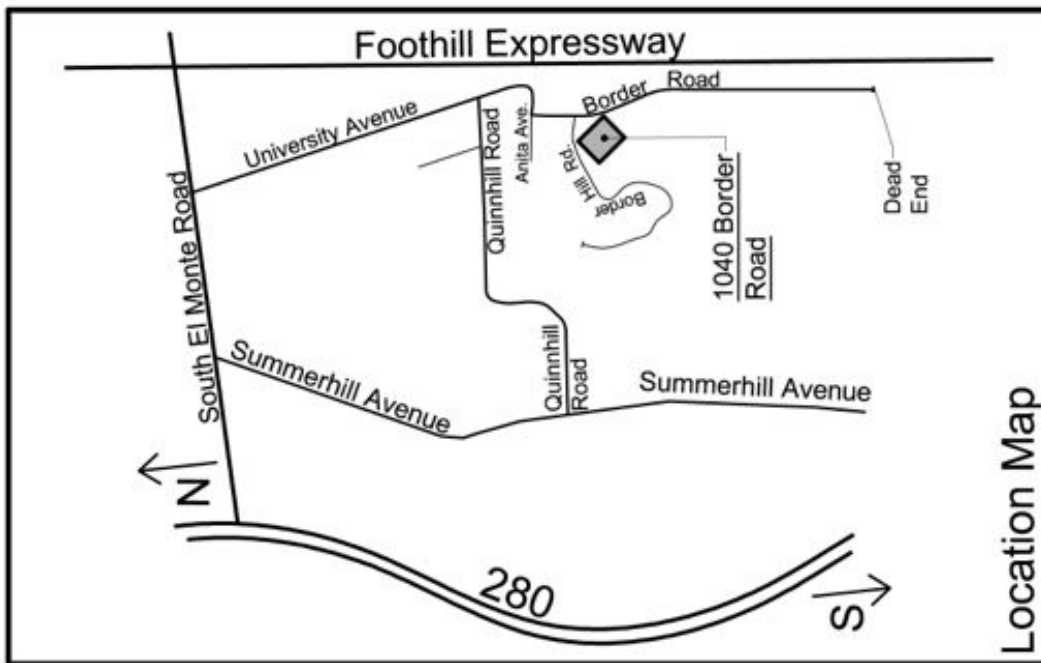
Please send address changes to [grew@pacbell.net](mailto:grew@pacbell.net) or 650-851-5162.



PO Box 60507  
Palo Alto, CA 94306

First Class Mail

VISIT US AT WESTERNHORT.ORG



Western Horticultural Society  
Monthly Meetings  
Christ Episcopal Church  
Parish Hall  
1040 Border Road, Los Altos

**MEETING LOCATION**

Christ Episcopal Church, Parish Hall, 1040 Border Road, Los Altos  
Doors open at 7:00 pm. and meetings begin at 7:30 pm.

Would you like to **sponsor a lecture** for the WHS that is of particular interest to you? It would be much appreciated! Please call Pat Knight at 650-941-6136.