

Welcome to the January Cal Hort Meeting!





Gardens and Alpines of New Zealand

At 7:00 PM we will have our featured presentation with

Mark Akimoff

owner of Illahe Rare Plants



Plant Forum

Thank you

- Beryl Golden
- Jeff Harter
- Mary Engle
- Charlotte Masson
- Kristin Yanker-Hansen
- Mark Akimoff
- Janet Hoffman

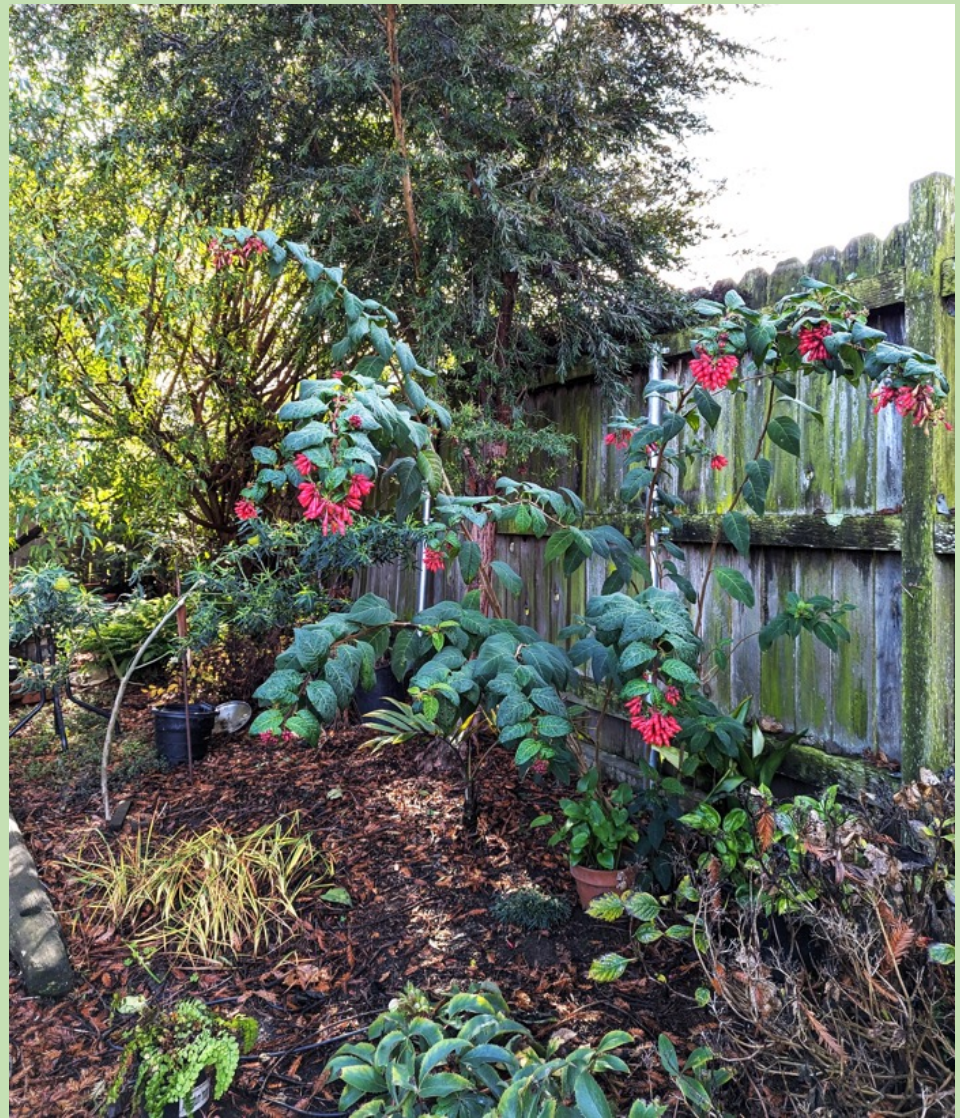
Thank you for sharing your gardens, your special plants, your gardening experiences, your questions and your advice at this month's Plant Forum. We love seeing what is happening in everyone's gardens and in that way we can learn from each other!

And everyone who added
to the conversation tonight!

Cestrum newellii



"I have two of these. One is shaded by a fence in winter. The other is exposed to sun. The one with sun exposure began to bloom a couple of weeks before the one in the shade. This photo is of flowers on the shaded shrub."



Per **Devil Mountain Wholesale Nursery:**

"An arching, perennial, evergreen shrub with velvety, gray green leaves. Ornamental berries follow the blossoms that bloom from spring through fall. Flowers are crimson red, long, tubular, and tightly clustered. Beneficial for butterflies and hummingbirds. Light Needs: Full Sun, Filtered Sun, Partial Sun, Partial Shade, Shade; Water Needs: Regular"

**Beryl Golden
Gardens in Richmond**

Guerrilla gardening



The cleaned up entrance and landscaping today



After clean up
- Notice
Ivy stumps on
the fence



Pedestrian ramp connecting Ulloa with Portola



[Watch the Plant Forum video on our YouTube Channel <https://youtu.be/1wF5j1SKQyY> for Jeff's explanation of this project.]

Jeff Harter
Gardens in San Francisco

Guerrilla Ramp Garden



Overgrown, 2019, from Portola
→



Before – 2019 from Portola



After removing English ivy

[Watch the Plant Forum video on our YouTube Channel

<https://youtu.be/1wF5j1SKQyY>

for Jeff's explanation of this project.]

Jeff Harter

Guerrilla garden, Fully excavated!



The Ramp, notice the ivy stumps intertwined in the cyclone fence.



Debris pile, and lower end of the bed

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Jeff Harter

Guerrilla garden



Looking up from below

[Watch the
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be/1wF5j1SK
QyY](https://youtu.be/1wF5j1SKQyY)
for Jeff's
explanation of
this project.]

Jeff Harter

Garden projects



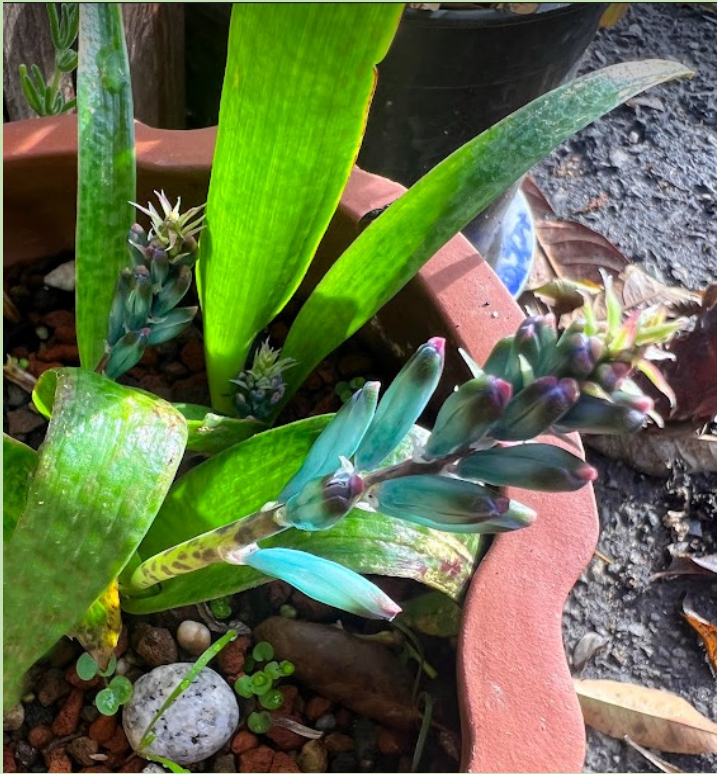
Different project: Bonus garden: rocks removed from yard, piled on concrete:



Corylus avellana 'Contorta' one season after hard pruning:

Jeff Harter

Lachenalias



Lachenalia viridifolia with turquoise flowers

Lachenalias are showy bulbous plants that are usually native to Namibia and South Africa. They are dormant in the summer and active in the cool, wet season.



Lachenalia alioides
'Quadricolor'
(yellow/orange/green flowers)



Mary Engle
Gardens in Berkeley

Adenium obesum

Desert Rose

Adenium is native to dry desert areas of Africa, Asia and Tanzania.

This plant survives drought with a thick caudex where it stores moisture and nutrients.

Related to Oleanders, also in the Apocynaceae, it shares similar flowers and its poisonous properties. Give it plenty of sun and good drainage and enjoy its interesting form and flowers.



Evergreen, winter blooming, Clematis

This Clematis is from Kristin Yanker-Hansen

We found on Gardenia.net what looks like the plant:
Clematis cirrhosa var.
purpurascens 'Freckles'.
Evergreen clematis with
fragrant creamy white bell-
shaped flowers, spotted
with dark red spots and
streaks.



Mary Engle

Lapageria

“I purchased this lapageria in 2021 at Peacock nursery with no flowers in bloom and no confirmation of flower color.”



“Finally, a bloom to maturity!”



Lapageria at Mendocino Botanic Gardens, getting tall into the shrubs



Charlotte Masson gardens in San Francisco



Phlox drummondii



Native to Texas and it is considered an annual. Named after Thomas Drummond a Scottish Botanist that brought seeds back to Britain in 1833-1835



“Phlox drummondii is sold as a Spring and Autumn blooming plant. I have tried to convince the retail Nurseries that they should ask for it to be made available for the winter, but they feel they do not have the ability to influence the growers. It is a consistent winter bloomer for me having survived frosts down to 24° F.”

Kristin Yanker-Hansen
Gardens in Danville

Bromeliads in the Garden



“These two Bromeliads are generally sold as house plants. The left one is a Vriesia. Last Spring I decided to reduce the number of protected plants due to lack of space. Rather than throwing them out, I decided to try them in the garden and see if they would winter over. So far they continue to bloom and are doing well.”

Kristin Yanker-Hansen

Bromeliads in the Garden continued



“This Aechmea, *Aechmea recurvata* is always an early bloomer for me. It has survived much colder temps than we have now. At least 20° F. They are in a water garden and are multiplying a lot. I can never remember the name.”

Kristin Yanker-Hansen

Bromeliads in the Garden continued



“ I initially saw this *Billbergia vittata* cultivar in the home of Jack Halpern. It was a winter blooming one, and he gave me a piece. It has done extremely well surviving much colder temps than we are having now.”

Kristin Yanker-Hansen

Aloes in the Garden

“ I have many different Aloes, but since they rarely bloom, I didn't bother maintaining their tags. The first one is *Aloe ferox* for sure. I found out from Jason Samson years ago when he was here that it is the best Aloe for healing This is the first time it has bloomed. Don't know the names of the other two. I assume that they are blooming because we are having an exceptionally mild winter this year, with the lowest temp being 27° F. “



Aloe ferox



Kristin Yanker-Hansen

An Unusual Acanthus

“*Acanthus sennii* is a good winter bloomer for me. I think I need to find a place to give it more sun. I tried to plant it in a dry location last year during the rainy season, but it did not survive.”

Native to the highlands of Ethiopia, where the rainy season is mid-June to Mid- September so it evidently does like some summer water and decent drainage. This unusual Acanthus has interesting textural quality with a distinctive silver vein down the middle of each armed leaf and red flowers. The Secret Garden Grower’s website describes this plant as “A great selection for beneath your teenage daughter’s window”. This shrub grows about 3-5 feet tall.

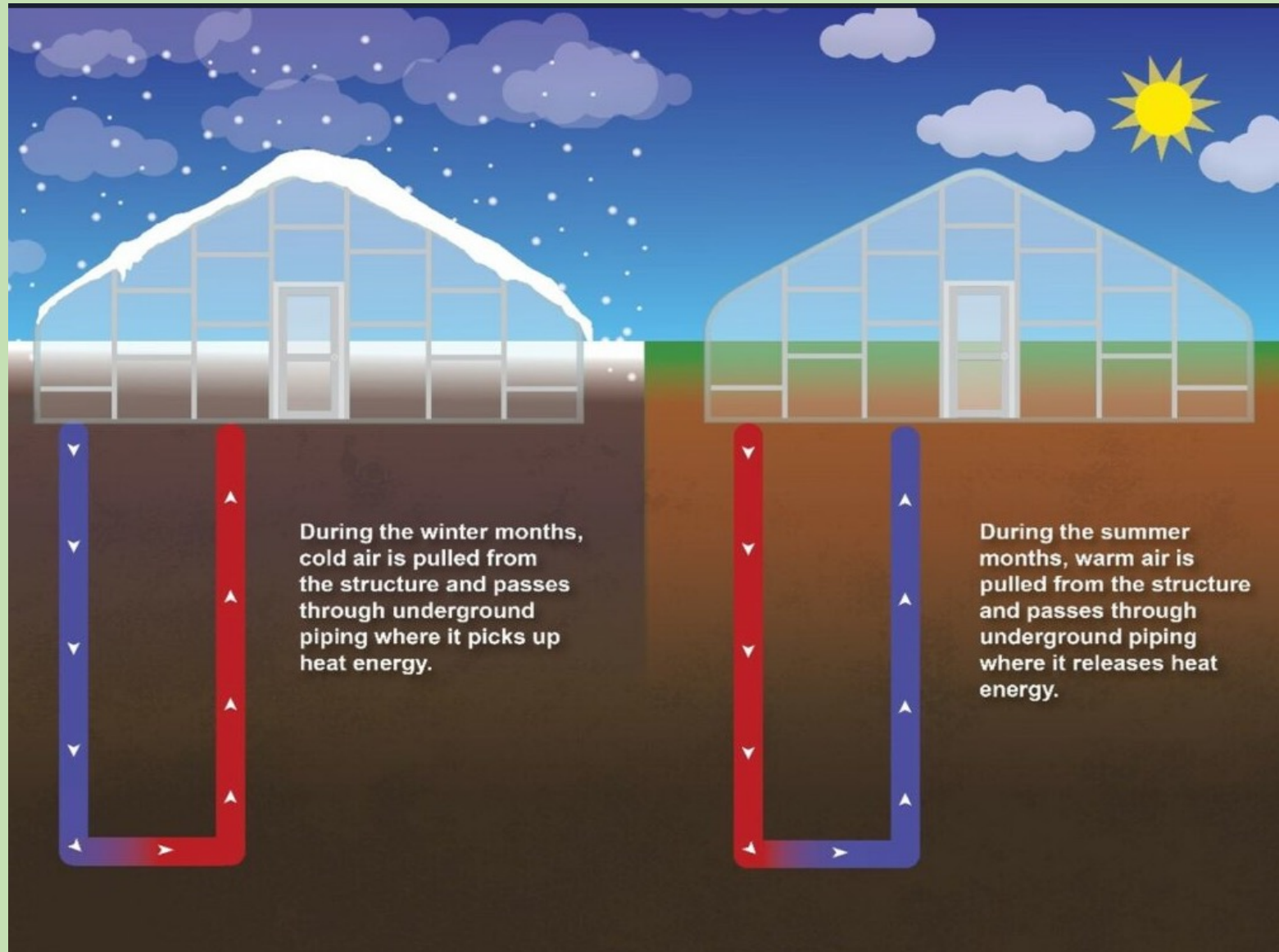


Acanthus sennii

Kristin Yanker-Hansen



Geothermal Greenhouse Project – Illahe Rare Plants



Mark Akimoff
Illaha Rare Plants
Salem, OR

[Watch the Plant Forum video on our
YouTube Channel
<https://youtu.be/1wF5j1SKQyY>
For Mark's explanation of this project.]

Geothermal Greenhouse Project – Illahe Rare Plants



Excavating to lay tubing for geothermal heating project. Hits water table at about 4'.

Mark Akimoff
Illaha Rare Plants
Salem, OR

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Illahe Rare Plants
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Geothermal Greenhouse Project – Illahe Rare Plants



Standpipe connected to the buried 6” pipe ready for the greenhouse to be erected over it.

Mark Akimoff
Illahe Rare Plants
Salem, OR

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Natives are responding to the rains



Arctostaphylos densiflora 'Sentinal'



Arctostaphylos
'Austin
Griffiths' (just
starting bloom),

Janet Hoffman
gardens in Cupertino

Some natives coming alive with the rains



“*Peritoma arborea* (bladderpod which blooms pretty much year-round. There was a hummingbird on the bladderpod, but it flew off when I approached to take a photo.”



Ribes malvaceum
'Christy Ridge'



Epilobium etteri
(just finishing bloom)

Janet Hoffman

Seeds of Connection – Community Day at the Ruth Bancroft Garden

Bring your family and friends

Date: Saturday, February 3rd

Time: 10 AM to 2 PM

Join us at the Garden to meet fellow plant-lovers! Don't miss this opportunity to connect with plant enthusiasts and learn how you can continue fostering your connection through bay area-based garden clubs, plant societies and other plant-centric groups. Representatives from each organization will be on hand to answer any questions about upcoming events and other opportunities.

This community day is free to the general public in the Great Room. Garden admission will be required at the kiosk if you wish to visit the Garden.



Participating Organizations:

- Bromeliad Society of SF
- California Horticultural Society
- California Native Plant Society
- SF Orchid Society
- Clayton Valley Garden Club
- Pleasant Hill Garden Study Club
- Mt. Diablo Iris Society
- Contra Costa Succulent Garden Club
- SF Succulent and Cactus Society
- Bay Area Basket Makers
- Ruth Bancroft Volunteer Opportunities
- Orchid Society of California
- The Northern California Unit
of the Herb Society of America



Let us know if you want to volunteer for
a few hours – calhortsociety@gmail.com

Host a Coffee in the Garden event...

Cal Hort brings the coffee and tea
Potluck on the morning snacks

If anyone would like to share their garden
and host a Coffee in the Garden on a
Sunday or Saturday morning with
members, please let us know.
calhortinfo@gmail.com

It doesn't have to be fancy, It doesn't have
to be perfect, we are all gardeners and
know gardens are dynamic and always
changing – growing, dying, flowering and
ever fluid.



February meeting:



Plant Diversity in Oaxaca, Mexico *with Troy Stevens, plant grower, collector, and enthusiast*

Date: Monday, February 19th Via Zoom – 6:30 plant forum, 7 pm featured presentation

There isn't another place in North America with a higher rate of biodiversity and density of ecotypes than Oaxaca, Mexico. Oaxaca is full of almost any kind of plant you can imagine; from palms and cycads, to ferns and aroids, and of course cacti and succulents.