

Growing Natives Symposium: speakers and workshop leaders

Saturday, March 28: Lafayette Community Center

Glenn Keator is a free-lance botanist, teacher, and writer living in Berkeley. He teaches a variety of botany-based courses about native plants, at Merritt College, College of Marin, San Francisco Botanical Garden, and the Regional Parks Botanic Garden. A major focus in his work is relating native ecosystems and plants to drought-tolerant gardens. Glenn's latest two books are *Designing California Native Gardens* and *Trees and Shrubs of Mt. Diablo*. Glenn also leads field trips all over California and beyond

Carol Bornstein is the Director of Nursery and Horticultural Outreach at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, which is devoted to the study, display, and conservation of California's native flora. In her work with native plants, she has experimented with innovative design applications, introduced new cultivars, and provided a strong voice for regionally appropriate landscaping through her writing and teaching. She is co-author of the award-winning book, *California Native Plants for the Garden*.

Phil Van Soelen is co-owner of California Flora Nursery, opened in 1981 as a California native plant nursery. He is past-president of the Milo Baker (Sonoma County) Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and serves on the board of the Hallberg Butterfly Garden. Phil was awarded the 2002 Annual Award from the California Horticultural Society for contributions to horticulture in California. He is a published author and teaches classes on gardening with native plants. Phil's garden in Sebastopol was featured in *Pacific Horticulture*, October 2003.

Roger Raiche was hired in 1980 by the U.C. Botanical Garden in Berkeley to renew the California collection. His extensive field botany and plant collecting brought in several thousand plants, and he introduced two dozen selections of native as cultivars. Roger also discovered three plants, now named in his honor. He was a major contributor to the horticulture treatment for the *Jepson Manual* and a primary writer for *Gardening with California Monocots*. In 1997 Roger and his partner founded Planet Horticulture, a design/build firm. Their land, The Cedars, in Sonoma County is being acquired by the Sonoma Land Trust for a new biological reserve.

David Amme has been a leader in the research and development of California native grasses for over twenty years and a collector of many native plant cultivars. He is one of the founding members and the current president of the California Native Grasslands Association. David is a part-time lecturer, writer,

and consultant specializing in native grass horticulture, grassland restoration, stewardship grazing, and integrated roadside vegetation management. Currently David is the Wildlands Vegetation Program Manager for the East Bay Regional Park District.

Mike Evans established Tree of Life Nursery in 1976. The nursery specializes in native California plants and promoted the concept of appropriate landscaping. With his experience in native plant production, design, landscaping, and ecological restoration, Mike advocates a present-day California that deserves to look like the true “California”. He is president of the nursery, which was honored to receive the Horticultural Award from the California Native Plant Society in 2007 and the California Glory Award presented by the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. Tree of Life Nursery is the largest native plant supplier in California.

Sunday, March 29: Regional Parks Botanic Garden and Native Here Nursery

Steve Edwards has been director of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden since 1983, and has worked for the East Bay Regional Parks District since 1970, most of that time at the botanic garden. He is the garden’s third director. He worked for the first two, James Roof and Wayne Roderick, and was inspired by both. Steve became a capable field botanist under the tutelage of Walter Knight. He learned his horticulture from Roof, Roderick, Al Seneres, and an unending series of experiments that began in childhood in his home garden. He holds a doctorate in paleobotany from U.C. Berkeley, but he especially values what he has learned through working with his elders, fellow garden staff, and volunteers at the botanic garden.

Jocelyn Cohen brings the eye of an ecologist, artist, and passionate advocate for trees to her pruning practice. She teaches Arboriculture at Merritt College and a variety of workshops at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden on pruning California native trees and shrubs. Her own business, Poetree Landscapes & Arboriculture, combines tree care and preservation with aesthetic pruning, garden design, and landscape restoration. She serves on the Urban Forest Council for the City of San Francisco, writes for the *Manzanita*, and leads community projects through the Aesthetic Pruning Club at Merritt College.

Mike Uhler has worked in gardening and landscaping since 1985. He has been a licensed landscape contractor since 1994 and an ISA certified arborist since 1999. For the last four years, Mike has worked at the Regional Parks Botanic Garden where he is responsible for several sections of the garden.

Sarah Wikander has a degree in horticulture from Merritt College and has specialized in irrigation design for the last 25 years. She has taught classes on irrigation installation and has lectured on water conservation. For 20 years she has been affiliated with Irrigation Equipment Company in Berkeley, currently as manager of the business.

Charli Danielsen founded Native Here Nursery and built it from 2003-2004, and she has managed it for the East Bay Chapter of California Native Plant Society since then. Charli is a Fellow of CNPS (2005) and a past president and chapter president, as well as holding many different portfolios over the years at the state and chapter levels. She has been a board member of Save Mount Diablo, California Native Grasslands Association, and DAWN (Design Associates Working with Nature). In the 1980's she was a volunteer growing plants for the East Bay Regional Parks Botanic Garden's annual plant sale. She is senior author of *A Vegetation Management Almanac for the East Bay Hills* and a mentor to Janice Bray in authoring the compact disk *East Bay Native Plants*.