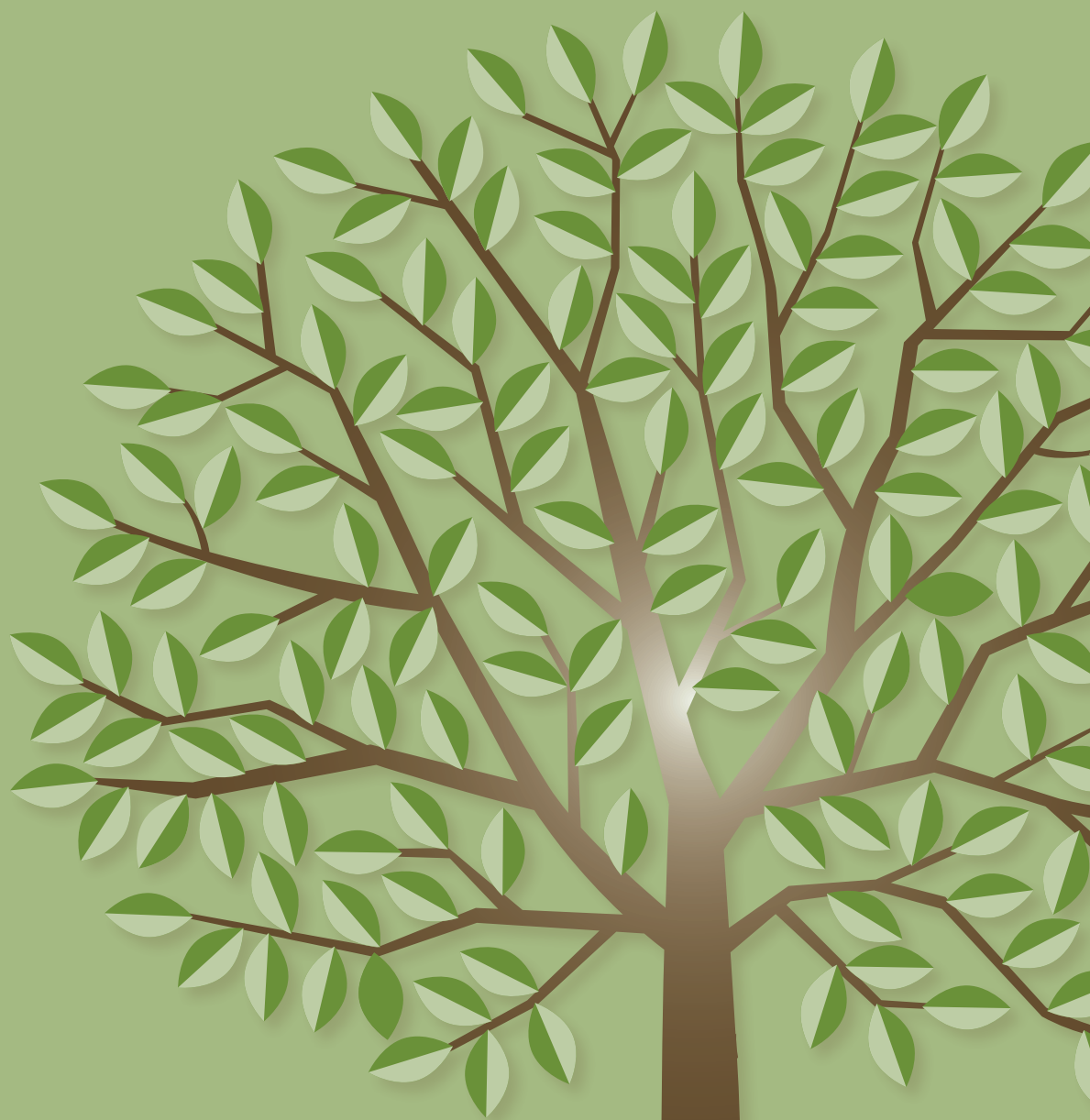


CALIFORNIA MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE

May 31–June 3, 2011 ■ Hyatt Vineyard Creek Hotel ■ Santa Rosa, California



ROOTING

FOR OUR FUTURE

More lessons in sustainability

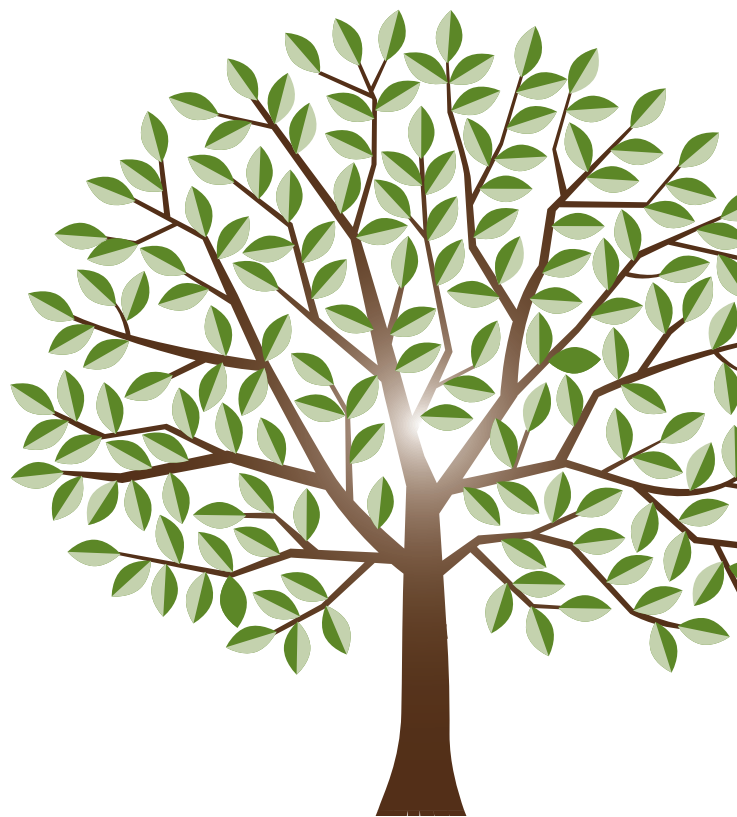
Welcome

to the 2011 California Master Gardener Conference

This year, the Master Gardener Program enters its 4th decade in a strong position with over 5,000 certified Master Gardener Volunteers providing over a quarter of a million volunteer hours annually that support the outreach efforts of the University of California and of our collaborating partners. This is equal to 172 full time employees for one year and valued at almost \$6.0 million annually to UC ANR. California Master Gardeners provide service in 44 counties in California and have donated a total of 2.8 million volunteer hours since 1981.

We are excited to begin this decade of service and education at this conference with a focus on sustainability and you, the Master Gardeners of California. We hope you learn from your classes, your colleagues and from your conference experiences. We hope that what you learn will be translated to the broader community to increase science literacy, and adoption of sustainable landscape practices that can make a difference in our futures in California.

With warmest regards,
Pam Geisel, Statewide Master Gardener Coordinator
University of California



Dear University of California Master Gardeners

I am pleased to welcome you to the University of California Master Gardener Conference. As the Master Gardener Program enters its fourth decade, you, as members of the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, are in a strong position with over 5000 certified Master Gardener volunteers. Your work is valued and it matters. It matters to you for the connections you make in your community. It matters to your community for the knowledge you share. It matters to UC because you are the direct link to University science, knowledge, and information.

I hope that your time spent at this conference is rewarding. I also hope that this conference will reinforce your connection to UC and the Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and to the focused strategic initiatives that many of our mutual extension efforts revolve around. Your efforts in extending information and knowledge in sustainable landscape management practices, sustainable food production, IPM, and other important areas helps gardeners to be better gardeners and better stewards of the environment, which ultimately helps create a healthy environment, healthy families and a healthy community. Thank you for all your efforts.

Sincerely,

Barbara Allen-Diaz, Associate Vice President
Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives
Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Welcome Reception and Dinner

All are invited! Please join us on Thursday evening, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., for a joyful reception and a hosted group dinner. Dinner will be followed by a special presentation with Amy Stewart, author of the new book *Wicked Bugs*. No-host cocktails will be available and this will also be the time to place your bids at the Silent Auction. You'll mingle with Master Gardeners from other counties, speakers and guests; shop at the MarketPlace and Vendor Mall, bid on the Silent Auction items, have speakers autograph their books, and review the unique Master Gardener projects from around the state on their Search for Excellence posters! The conference planners look forward to seeing you there. Reception will be located in the Sonoma Valley Courtyard followed by dinner in the Alexander Valley Ballroom.



Speakers



Barbara Allen-Diaz

OPENING SPEAKER

Barbara Allen-Diaz was named Associate Vice President for Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives for the University of California's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) on October 1, 2009.

As Associate Vice President Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives, Allen-Diaz is the programmatic leader for ANR and responsible for guiding all ANR academic programs at the statewide level. Barbara also serves as the state-wide administrative leader for county-based Cooperative Extension programs and is the director for the research and extension centers. ANR's four program leaders, three regional directors, and the directors for the nine research and extension centers report to her.

barbara.allen-diaz@ucop.edu



Rose Hayden-Smith

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Hayden-Smith is Cooperative Extension county community development advisor for Ventura County. Recently she served as a Kellogg Food and Society Policy Fellow. She is also the chair of the Sustainable Food Systems Strategic Initiative for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

rmhaydensmith@ucdavis.edu

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: Master Gardeners Making it Matter!



Manuel J. Jimenez

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Jimenez has been working as a Small Farms Advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension in Tulare and Kings County since 1980. He also led the Woodlake PRIDE Coalition which exemplifies engaging ones community and creating abundance.

mjjimenez@ucdavis.edu

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: Building Community While Growing a Garden

BREAKOUT SESSION PRESENTATION: Bravo Lake Botanical Garden, a California Cornucopia



Nicholas Staddon

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Staddon is the director of the New Plants Team and has been a Monrovia Craftsman for 20 years.

nstaddon@monrovia.com

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: Sustainable trends in the nursery industry from a global perspective.

BREAKOUT SESSION PRESENTATION: Creating the Buzz about New Plants



Amy Stewart

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Stewart is an award-winning author of four books on the perils and pleasures of the natural world.

amy@amystewart.com

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: Information and readings from her new book, *Wicked Bugs*

BREAKOUT SESSION PRESENTATION: Garden Blogging/Online Communications

C. Darren Butler

darren@pobox.com.
Grow Soil, Not Plants

Janet Cangemi

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Demonstration Gardens,
Do They Deliver?

Emma Connery

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Insects Beyond the Naked Eye

Larry Costello

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Abiotic Plant Disorders

Kelly Coyne and Erik Knutzen

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The Self-Reliant Household:
What Works, What Doesn't

R. Michael Davis

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How to Identify Mushrooms in
Landscapes

Karen Detwiler

banjosmom33@hotmail.com
Building Community Within Your
Master Gardener Program

Joe DiTomaso

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Plants Can Be Pests Too ...
Invasive Plants

Nikki Duncan and Janet Miller

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Janet.miller99@gmail.com
Biointensive Edible Gardening

Mary Lou Flint

mlflint@ucdavis.edu
California's Worst Garden Insect
Pests and How to Manage Them

Jim Folsom

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Botany of Fruits and Vegetables

Kate Frey

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The Contemporary Garden Today:
A Manifestation of our Desires,
or a Participant in the Larger Eco-
system; Its Perils and Possibilities

Pam Geisel

pmelam@ucdavis.edu
Teaching Adult Learners
Is it Fund Raising or is it Cost
Recovery?

Beth Grafton-Cardwell

bethgc@uckac.edu
New Pests in Citrus: Asian Citrus
Psyllid and HLB

**Marcy Hachman and
James Sigala**

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jsigala@ucdavis.edu
VMS and Sitebuilder 3.0 Training
for Programs

Janet Hartin

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Obesity, Nutrition and Psychological
Benefits of a School Garden

Chuck Ingels

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Budding and Grafting Demystified
Mining the Soil: Understanding
Roots for Healthier Plants

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Succulents for every California
Garden

David King

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Edible Landscaping

Cynthia Kintigh

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Cultivating Connections that Make
Your Program Visible

Herb Machleder

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Advanced Techniques for Small-
Space Orchards

Milli Macen-Moore

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Feeding Your Neighborhood —
Milagro Allegro Community Garden

Sara Malone

sara@circleoakequine.com
Design I: Form and Foliage

Kevin Marini

kmarini@ucdavis.edu
Compost Tea, A Sensible Synopsis
Demonstration Gardens,
Do They Deliver?

Hot Line Power Hour**Judy McClure**

jmmclure@ucdavis.edu
Demonstration Gardens,
Do They Deliver?

Rosemary McCreary

Mccreary@aol.com
Design II: Designing with
Ornamental Grasses

William C. McNamara

wmcmnamara@quarryhillbg.org
The Edge of the World Revisted

Sandy Metzger

sbaker@sonic.net
So Long, Lawn!

Sue Mosbacher

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Demonstration Gardens,
Do They Deliver?

Eric Mussen and Neal Williams

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Attracting and Maintaining Native Bees
for Garden Pollination and
Self-Integration of Honey Bees into the
Environment

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Elders as Master Gardener Volunteers
Gardening for Healthy Aging

Toby O'Geen

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Strategies to Diagnose and Understand
Problem Soils

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Family, Genus, Species ...
What? Plant Identification

Ellie Rilla

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Building Community Within Your
Master Gardener Program

Yvonne Savio

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Recycling Household Throwaways
into New Garden Tools

Candace Simpson

Demonstration Gardens,
Do They Deliver?

Julie Strnad

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Growing Vegetables in Containers

Beth Teviotdale and Carolyn Unruh

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unrulies@sbcglobal.net
Hands On: Disease, Insect and
Problem Solving ID

Robert Timm

rmtimm@ucdavis.edu
Ahh, But They are so Cute ... Humanely
Managing Vertebrate Pests

Richard G. Turner Jr.

editurner@mac.com
Art and Architecture in the Garden,
When Flowers are Not Enough



Conference Committee

UCCE staff and master gardener volunteers worked tirelessly to plan, organize and implement this event for the wonderful Master Gardeners of California. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped plan and implement the conference. The conference committee could not have done so much without your help! You are too, too many to list here, but you know who you are. Thank you to our Sonoma County Master Gardeners for hosting the 2011 conference and for your outstanding contributions. Your support was consistently above and beyond!

Volunteers

Janet Cangemi

Master Gardener Volunteer
UCCE, Fresno County

Gail Fulbeck

Master Gardener Volunteer
UCCE, El Dorado County

Debbie Hillel

Master Gardener Volunteer
UCCE, El Dorado County

Sandy Metzger

Master Gardener Volunteer
UCCE, Sonoma County

Alicia Molina

Master Gardener Volunteer
UCCE, Monterey Bay

Marcia Rosenberg

Master Gardener Volunteer
UCCE, Fresno County

Robin Stanley

Master Gardener Volunteer
UCCE, El Dorado County

Simon Stapleton

Master Gardener Volunteer
UCCE, Monterey Bay

Special thanks to:

Sherry Cooper

Program Support Unit
Davis, CA

Jody Samons

Administrative Support
University of California
Cooperative Extension
Glenn County

Staff

Pamela Geisel

Conference Chair
Director, UC Statewide
Master Gardener Program

James Sigala

Program Representative
UC Statewide Master Gardener Program

Deborah Curle

Master Gardener County Coordinator
UCCE, Sonoma County

Marcy Hachman

Master Gardener County Coordinator
UCCE, San Joaquin County

Judy McClure

Master Gardener County Coordinator
UCCE, Sacramento County

Yvonne Savio

Master Gardener County Coordinator
UCCE, Los Angeles County

Tours

For a full year, the Sonoma County Master Gardener Tour Team, chaired by Pauline Haro, has worked to design and coordinate tours to all corners of the county. The destinations had to be unique, educational, beautiful, and ones that Master Gardeners would likely not see in their own counties. They did it! Congratulations and many thanks to Pauline and her team: Cynthia Adam, Gayle Bergmann, Gene Gallock, Sandy Heft, Steven Hightower, Lynn Richardson, and Pat Rhoades.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, MAY 31–FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2011 ■ HYATT VINEYARD CREEK

Tuesday, May 31

PRE-CONFERENCE TOURS

TOUR ONE Asian Gardens, Organic Farm & Insectary

TOUR TWO Formal/Farm Gardens of Contrast

~~TOUR THREE "Black Gold" and Roses~~ This tour has been composted

TOUR FOUR Stroll and Savor the Tastes of Santa Rosa

2:30–7:30 pm Conference registration in the Sonoma Mountain/Chalk Hill ballroom foyer

Wednesday, June 1

PRE-CONFERENCE TOURS

TOUR FIVE Demo Gardens Galore Jail Industries Nursery and MG-JI Demo Gardens, Kendall-Jackson Wine Center

TOUR SIX Lynmar Estate & Habitat Gardens

10 am–12:45 pm	Conference Registration — Sonoma Mountain/Chalk Hill ballroom foyer
11 am	MarketPlace opens—Sonoma Mountain ballroom (11 am-1 pm; 5–6:30 pm)
11 am	Vendor Mall opens — Alexander Valley Foyer (11 am–6:30 pm)
11 am	Search for Excellence poster display — Alexander Valley ballroom (11 am–5 pm)
1–5 pm	Silent auction viewing — Chalk Hill ballroom
1–1:10 pm	Welcome, Pam Geisel, Statewide Director, UC Master Gardener Program — Alexander Valley ballroom
1:10–1:15 pm	Stephanie Larson, UCCE County Director, Sonoma County
1:15–1:35 pm	Barbara Allen-Diaz, Associate Vice President, Academic Programs and Strategic Initiatives Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources
1:35–2:15 pm	Keynote Speaker: Rose Hayden-Smith, UCCE county director and youth, family and community development advisor for Ventura County, and Chair of the Sustainable Food Systems Strategic Initiative for Agriculture and Natural Resources
2:15–2:30 pm	Search for Excellence Presentation, Marin County
2:30–3 pm	Break — refreshments in Alexander Valley foyer
3–4:30 pm	Keynote Speaker: Nicholas Staddon, Director of New Plants Team, Monrovia Nursery
4:30–4:45 pm	Search for Excellence Presentation, Orange County
4:45–5 pm	Search for Excellence Presentation, San Joaquin County
5 pm	Hotel and conference registration (Conference registration 5–6 pm) Explore the Downtown Farmer's Market. Dinner on your own. Adopt a fellow Master Gardener.

Wednesday evening at the Hyatt: Silent Auction Viewing — Chalk Hill ballroom ■ Search for Excellence Posters — Alexander Valley ballroom ■ Master Gardener MarketPlace— Sonoma Mountain ballroom ■ Vendor Mall — Alexander Valley foyer ■ Book signing — Sonoma Valley Courtyard

MarketPlace open
 7:30–8:45 am
 Noon–1 pm
 5–6:15 pm
 Sonoma Mountain ballroom

6:45 am Movin' in the Morning (free) Tai Chi and Thrive or early morning walk, 45 minutes each. Meet at the Sonoma Valley Garden

7–8:30 am Conference registration — Sonoma Mountain/Chalk Hill ballroom foyer

7:45–8:45 am Breakfast — Alexander Valley foyer. Seating in ballroom and Knights Valley Garden.

Forty-two dynamic breakout sessions. Don't forget to bid at the s

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

	HORTICULTURE . . . BEYOND THE BASICS	GARDENS GONE BAD	TAKING IT TO THE STREETS
SESSION A 9–10:30 am	1.A Budding and Grafting Demystified Chuck Ingels, Farm Advisor, UCCE, Sacramento County Alexander Valley III	2.A Hands On: Disease, Insect and Problem Solving ID Beth Teviotdale, Emeritus Plant Pathologist, UCCE / Carolyn Unruh, Fresno County Master Gardener Alexander Valley I	3.A Demonstration Gardens, Do they Deliver? Panel discussion: Janet Cangemi / Judy McClure / Kevin Marini / Sue Mosbacher, and Candace Simpson Dry Creek Valley I
BREAK 10:30–10:45 am Refreshments Alexander Valley foyer			
SESSION B 10:45–11:45 am	1.B Compost Tea: A Sensible Synopsis Kevin Marini, Program Representative, UCCE, Placer-Nevada Counties Alexander Valley 1	2.B Plants Can Be Pests Too . . . Invasive Plants Joe DiTomaso, Weed Specialist, UCCE Dry Creek Valley I	3.B Creating the Buzz about New Plants Nicholas Staddon, Director of New Plants Team, Monrovia Nursery Alexander Valley IV
LUNCH noon–1 pm Alexander Valley foyer. Seating in Sonoma and Knights Valley Gardens.			
SESSION C 1–1:50 pm	1.C Family, Genus, Species... What? Plant Identification Scott Oneto, Farm Advisor and County Director, UCCE / James Sigala, Program Representative, UC Master Gardener Program Russian River Valley ballroom	2.C California's Worst Garden Insect Pests and How to Manage Them Dr. Mary Lou Flint, Associate Director, Urban and Community IPM and Extension Entomologist, UC Davis Alexander Valley IV	3.C Garden Blogging/Online Communications Amy Stewart, author and avid garden blogger Alexander Valley III
Silent Auction bidding begins 2–7 pm			
SESSION D 2–2:50 pm	1.D Mining the Soil: Understanding Roots for Healthier Plants Chuck Ingels, Farm Advisor, UCCE, Sacramento County Alexander Valley I	2.D Ahh, But They are so Cute . . . Humanely Managing Vertebrate Pests Robert Timm, Center Director and Extension Wildlife Specialist, UCCE Alexander Valley III	3.D Gardening for Healthy Aging Angela O'Callaghan, Area Extension Specialist, Social Horticulture, University of Nevada Alexander Valley IV
BREAK 2:50–3:10 pm Refreshments Alexander Valley foyer			
SESSION E 3:10–4 pm	1.E Fungi How to Identify Mushrooms in Landscapes R. Michael Davis, Plant Pathologist, UCCE Alexander Valley IV	2.E New Pests in Citrus: Asian Citrus Psyllid and HLB Beth Grafton-Cardwell, Director, Lindcove Research and Extension Center and Extension Specialist, UCCE Dry Creek Valley II	3.E Bravo Lake Botanical Garden, a California Cornucopia Manuel Jimenez, Farm Advisor, UCCE, Tulare County Alexander Valley III
SESSION F 4:10–5 pm	1.F Insects Beyond the Naked Eye Emma Connery, Master Gardener Coordinator, Contra Costa County Alexander Valley III	2.F Abiotic Plant Disorders Larry Costello, Horticulture Advisor, UCCE, SF and San Mateo Counties Alexander Valley IV	3.F Obesity, Nutrition and Psychological Benefits of a School Garden Janet Hartin, Horticulture Advisor, UCCE, San Bernardino and LA Counties Dry Creek Valley I

4–7 pm Final hours to shop at Vendor Mall and MarketPlace

5:30–7 pm Reception, Sonoma Valley Courtyard

7–9:30 pm Dinner, Alexander Valley ballroom, presentation by Amy Stewart, author of *Wicked Bugs*

7:30 am–7 pm Vendor mall opens — Alexander Valley Foyer

7:30 am–9:30 pm Search for Excellence poster display — Alexander Valley ballroom

8 am–6 pm Booksignings — Sonoma Valley Courtyard

2–7 pm Silent Auction bidding begins — Chalk Hill ballroom

**Badges checked
for sessions that
are full to confirm
registration.**

Silent auction — please pick up your winning items by 9:30 pm.

EDIBLE SPACES	SUSTAINABLE PLACES	THE BUZZ ABOUT GARDENS, ART, AND DESIGN	PROGRAM MANAGEMENT
<p>4.A Botany of Fruits and Vegetables Jim Folsom, Curator, Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA Russian River Valley ballroom</p>	<p>5.A Grow Soil, Not Plants C. Darren Butler, Los Angeles County Master Gardener Alexander Valley II</p>	<p>6.A Attracting and Maintaining Native Bees for Garden Pollination and Self Integration of Honey Bees into the Environment Neal Williams, Asst. Prof. Entomology / Dr. Eric Mussen, Apiculturist, UC Davis Alexander Valley IV</p>	<p>7.A Building Community Within Your Master Gardener Program Ellie Rilla, Community Development Advisor, UCCE, Marin County / Karen Detwiler, Marin County Master Gardener Dry Creek Valley II</p>
<p>4.B Feeding your Neighborhood Milli Macen-Moore, Los Angeles County Master Gardener Alexander Valley III</p>	<p>5.B The Contemporary Garden Today: A Manifestation of our Desires, or A Participant in the Larger Eco-system; Its Perils and Possibilities Kate Frey, Director, Sustainable Landscape Program, Sonoma State University Alexander Valley II</p>	<p>6.B Art and Architecture in the Garden, When Flowers are Not Enough Richard Turner, Editor, Pacific Horticulture Russian River Valley ballroom</p>	<p>7.B Elders as Master Gardener Volunteers Angela O'Callaghan, Area Extension Specialist, Social Horticulture, University of Nevada Dry Creek Valley II</p>
<p>4.C Growing Vegetables in Containers Julie Strnad, Los Angeles County Master Gardener Alexander Valley II</p>	<p>5.C The Self-Reliant Household: What Works, What Doesn't Kelly Coyne / Erik Knutzen, authors of <i>The Urban Homestead</i> and the upcoming <i>Making It: Radical Home Economics for a Post Consumer World</i> Dry Creek Valley I</p>	<p>6.C Design I: Form and Foliage Sara Malone, Sonoma County Master Gardener Alexander Valley I</p>	<p>7.C Teaching Adult Learners Pam Geisel, Statewide Coordinator, UC Master Gardener Program Dry Creek Valley II</p>
<p>4.D Advanced Techniques for Small-Space Orchards Herb Machleder, Los Angeles County Master Gardener Alexander Valley II</p>	<p>5.D Recycling Household Throwaways Into New Garden Tools Yvonne Savio, Master Gardener Coordinator, UCCE, Los Angeles County Dry Creek Valley I</p>	<p>6.D Design II: Designing with Ornamental Grasses Rosemary McCreary, Sonoma County Master Gardener Russian River Valley ballroom</p>	<p>7.D Is it Fund Raising or is it Cost Recovery? Pam Geisel, Statewide Coordinator, UC Master Gardener Program Dry Creek Valley II</p>
<p>4.E Edible Landscaping David King, LA County Master Gardener Russian River Valley ballroom</p>	<p>5.E So Long, Lawn! Sandy Metzger, Sonoma County Master Gardener Alexander Valley II</p>	<p>6.E Succulents for Every CA Garden Brian Kemble, Curator / Ruth Bancroft Garden, Walnut Creek, CA Alexander Valley I</p>	<p>7.E Cultivating Connections that Make Your Program Visible Cynthia Kintigh, Marketing Director, UC Communication Services Dry Creek Valley I</p>
<p>4.F Biointensive Edible Gardening Nikki Duncan / Janet Miller, Master Gardeners from Placer and Contra Costa Counties Alexander Valley II</p>	<p>5.F Strategies to Diagnose and Understand Problem Soils Toby O'Geen, Ph.D., Assistant Soil Resource Specialist, UCCE Alexander Valley I</p>	<p>6.F The Edge of the World Revisited William C. McNamara, Executive Director, Quarryhill Botanical Garden, Sonoma County Russian River Valley ballroom</p>	<p>7.F VMS and Sitebuilder 3.0 Training for Programs James Sigala, Program Representative, UC Master Gardener Program / Marcy Hachman, Master Gardener Coordinator, UCCE, San Joaquin County Dry Creek Valley II</p>

Friday, June 3

6:15 am	Movin' in the Morning (FREE) Tai Chi and Thrive or early morning walk, 45 minutes each. Meet at the Sonoma Valley Garden.
7-8 am	Breakfast — Alexander Valley foyer. Seating in ballroom and Knights Valley Garden.
7-11 am	Search for Excellence poster display — Alexander Valley ballroom
7:30-8:30 am	MarketPlace opens — Sonoma Mountain ballroom
7:30-8:30 am	Hot Line Power Hour (seating limited; arrive early) Come share your hot line experience with other Master Gardeners — Russian River Valley ballroom
8:30-8:35 am	Announcements — Alexander Valley ballroom
8:35-9:15 am	Four SFE presentations — Sacramento, Marin, Contra Costa, and Fresno
9:15-10:45 am	Keynote Speaker: Manuel J. Jimenez, Farm Advisor, UCCE, Tulare County
10:45-11 am	Closing Remarks
11 am	Adjourn and safe travels, or join us for a post-conference tour, see below

POST-CONFERENCE TOUR

TOUR SEVEN Japanese maples, sculpture and estate tour

Search for Excellence

As Master Gardeners, we are all doing great things. Search for Excellence (SFE) gives us an opportunity to celebrate and share our accomplishments, by showcasing the tremendous talent of Master Gardeners throughout the state in creating innovative teaching programs. Their projects reflect the time and effort that is spent developing and implementing these educational tools. They are the essence of our mission as Master Gardeners to educate the public, and we salute them for a job well done! Although each submission had its own unique qualities, the judges chose the following counties and their projects for special recognition and awards. You will find the poster display of 2011 SFE entries in the Alexander Valley Ballroom.

1st Place: Marin County Water Walks

The Bay-Friendly Garden Walks program is a partnership between Marin Master Gardeners and the Marin Municipal Water District. Started in 2007, the program provides home visits by specially trained Master Gardener teams to improve their gardens, conserve water, and save money by evaluating irrigation equipment, watering techniques, plant placement, and lawn use and maintenance. Homeowners receive a written summary of the evaluation, with suggestions for improvement.

2nd Place: Orange County Farm and Food Lab at the OC Great Park

Both inspiring and educational, this one-acre demonstration garden in Irvine consisting of twelve themed garden beds; espaliered fruit tree orchard; blueberry orchard; compost, vermicomposting, and seasonal exhibits; and an outdoor classroom. The public learn agriculture history, nutrition basics, and origins of food. Designed, planted, and maintained by Master Gardeners who demonstrate best practices and sustainable home gardening techniques through workshops, special events, school and group tours.

3rd Place: San Joaquin County Garden Notes

With little success convincing local newspapers to publish a column by Master Gardeners, the Writers Group developed Garden Notes, a quarterly electronic newsletter, distributed through an ever-growing email list (currently at 1,200 residents). This tool provides the widest dissemination of sustainable gardening information for the least cost, broadening our reach and influence, leading to a more informed gardening community, and hopefully, greater acceptance of earth-friendly practices.

First Runner-up: Sacramento County 2011 Gardening Guide Calendar

Sacramento County Master Gardeners create an annual calendar that blends research, members' experience and UC resources to address a broad spectrum of gardening issues and problems.

Second runner-up (Three way tie):

Marin County 2010 Fair Demonstration Garden

Marin County Master Gardeners have created a demonstration garden that is the backdrop for a sustainability lecture series at their county fair. In 2010, they reached over 7000 people.

Contra Costa County Our Garden

Contra Costa Master Gardeners have partnered with the Contra Costa Times to create a large edible demonstration garden, where they hold seasonal weekly classes and maintain a help desk. All produce is donated to the local food bank.

Fresno County Smart Gardening Conference

Fresno County Master Gardeners have created a full day conference, held every two years, that helps gardeners see the value of making sustainable choices through presentations featuring best practices and current research-based gardening trends.

Our Judges

Thank you to our judges, who evaluated all the entries with great expertise and interest:

DAN DESMOND ■ UCCE Advisor Emeritus, Food & Society Policy Fellow

Desmond's career focused on garden-based learning and agricultural literacy, as well as an agritourism facility on his farm where he raises organic walnuts and grass-fed beef.

GLENN FINKBINER ■ Monrovia Nursery

Finkbiner began his career with Monrovia Growers in 1987 and later moved to Azusa, California to serve the San Joaquin Valley sales territory. Finkbiner was a 2008 Search for Excellence judge.

GAIL FULBECK ■ UCCE Master Gardener, El Dorado County

Fulbeck has 12 years experience as a Master Gardener where she has served many positions in the UCCE El Dorado program as well as the California Advisory and Conference Committees.

VINCE LAZANEO ■ Urban Horticulture Advisor, UCCE San Diego County

Lazaneo joined UCCE in 1977 and initiated a Master Gardener program in San Diego county in 1983 that supports 250 active volunteers. He has also been a garden columnist for the San Diego Union Tribune since 1983.

LANCE WALHEIM ■ Garden Expert — Bayer Advanced Lawn & Garden Products

A former staff editor at Sunset magazine from 1985-1990, Walheim is a free-lance writer and a contributing editor for Sunset Western Garden Book. He has authored or contributed to over 30 gardening books and appears regularly on local and national TV and radio shows.

Thank you to our Search for Excellence sponsors — Master Gardener Association of Santa Cruz/San Benito/Monterey, Fresno, and San Diego counties.



Sponsors and Vendors

We would like to acknowledge the sponsors that helped make this conference possible. Please support their products and programs whenever possible.

- **Cagwin & Dorward** | www.cagwin.com
- **Sonoma County Water Agency** | www.scwa.ca.gov

Visit the Vendor Mall and learn about new gardening technology, horticultural organizations, and purchase gardening-related products. The Vendor Mall is located in the Alexander Valley Foyer and will be open Wednesday, June 1 from 11–6:30 P.M. and on Thursday, June 2 from 7:30 am–7 pm. Cash and checks are welcome. Minimal credit card services will be available.

- Citrus Research Board | www.citrusresearch.org
- Cranford, Inc. | www.cranfordinc.com
- Cobrahead Garden Tools | www.cobrahead.com
- Deep Drip Watering Stakes | www.deepdrip.com
- Dripworks | www.dripworks.com
- DriWater | www.driwater.com
- Growing Solutions, Inc. | www.growingsolutions.com
- PlantRight | www.plantright.org
- Matt Ritter, Ph.D. Author, *Trees Among Us*, HeyDay Press
- Sonoma Valley Worm Farm | www.sonomavalleywormfarm.com
- UC ANR Communication Services | www.anrcs.ucdavis.edu
- Warren Designs

Remember to pick up your BLACKOUT BINGO card! As you visit each vendor have them mark an X over their name. Complete the information on the card and return it to the registration desk to enter a drawing to receive a prize donated by our vendors! Winners announced Friday.

Special recognition also goes to our UC IPM Program, specifically Scott Parker and Cheryl Wilen for the UC IPM Pest Wheels and to Renee’s Garden for their donation of seeds to our conference speakers and attendees.

Silent Auction

The silent auction is an exciting opportunity to purchase some wonderful goodies from participating county Master Gardener programs. Baskets of local goods and special items from the far reaches of California will be on display in the Chalk Hill Ballroom beginning Wednesday, June 1 from 1 to 5 p.m. Bidding begins Thursday, June 2 from 2 to 7 p.m. — bid high and bid often. Payment must be made by cash or check and items must be picked up by 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 2. All items not picked up by 9:30 p.m. will be forfeited.

Special thanks to the following Master Gardener county programs for their generous donations and support:

Alameda	Mariposa	San Luis Obispo
Amador	Monterey/San Benito/	San Mateo
Butte	Santa Cruz	Santa Barbara
Calaveras	Napa	Santa Clara
Colusa	Nevada	Shasta, Tehama and Trinity
Contra Costa	Orange	Solano
El Dorado	Placer	Sonoma
Fresno	Riverside	Sutter and Yuba
Kings/Tulare	Sacramento	Tuolumne
Lake	San Diego	Ventura
Madera	San Francisco	Yolo
Marin	San Joaquin	

MarketPlace

The Master Gardener MarketPlace is the “GO TO” spot during the conference. You will find unique garden-related items such as aprons, mosaics, note cards, photo art, birdhouses, shirts, gloves, and jewelry. Here is your chance to purchase one-of-a-kind, handcrafted gifts for yourself, a friend, or a Master Gardener who couldn't make the conference.

The MarketPlace is located in the Sonoma Mountain ballroom, just to your left when you enter the Lucy lobby of the Hyatt.

MarketPlace hours are: Wednesday, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.; 5–6:30 p.m. and Thursday, 7:30–8:45 a.m.; 12–1 p.m., and 5–6:15 p.m.; Friday, 7:30–8:30 a.m.

Cash and checks are welcome. Credit/debit card service is not available.

Sacramento County is proud to host your Master Gardener MarketPlace. Stop by to see what Master Gardener programs from throughout the state are offering for sale. Funds raised are returned to the respective programs. We look forward to meeting you during your visit to the MarketPlace.

General Information

Look for conference volunteers wearing red vests. If you need directions to your classroom, assistance with transportation or information about the conference — ask them. There is also a Master Gardener tour and information table in the Lucy lobby. Look for the forest green Master Gardener shirts and umbrella.

Lost and Found and Message Board

Lose your sunglasses? Find a hat? Post a message on the Master Gardener Message Board located in the Lucy lobby.

Photographs

Photographs may be taken of activities during the conference for use on various county web sites, news articles, PowerPoint presentations and other marketing materials. The conference committee cannot control this activity. Should you NOT wish to be photographed, kindly tell the individual photographers that you do not want your photo used or published.

Conference Evaluation

How did we do? In approximately one week following our conference, you will receive an electronic evaluation. We hope you will provide us with your feedback to let us know about your conference experience. Your participation will help us improve future conferences.

Thank you to Kathy Wuori, graphic designer, for design and production of our conference material. She is an avid gardener with a special fondness for California native plants.

Live Long — Garden Daily — Travel Safely

