

# *Sacramento Garden Notes*

*April 2015*

*Written & Published*

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**April Garden Notes** – Spring is sprung and this year has an unusual mix of some plants on schedule and others that normally would be blooming now long gone past in the unusual warm dry weather.

Spring blooming shrubs that are done blooming, such as Forsythia, Quince, Wisteria (a vine), Witch Hazel, early azaleas, etc can be pruned now, allowing for new growth that will bloom next year.

This issue is late.. between my having teeth out on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March, the PPC sale on the 28<sup>th</sup>, the death of one of the special needs boys we watch after (Colt from Kansas for those that have met him) and then rushing room mate David to SF for a kidney transplant on the night of the 30<sup>th</sup> and not getting back till 5 am (he's doing well with the new kidney), the last week was sort of lost.

With the drought and only being able to water twice a week, the rule is deeper watering to make sure soil is moist down below so roots will go deeper seeking moisture between waterings.

Also, with less water, you may want to cut back some of feeding. Fast lush growth is pretty, but also increases water demands.

While my hardy Hibiscus in pots are up, not all of the ones in the ground are.. it is only April 1<sup>st</sup> after all, though seems much later with the warm winter we've had.

Speaking of Hardy Hibiscus, while I have a few pots left from last year, I will NOT be getting in any of the tall, named hybrids this year. I simply don't have the space for large pots like they need.



**Annual Plant Yard Sale!**

**Saturday, Sunday and**

**Monday**

**April 11,12,13**

**9 am to 4 pm daily**

**1689 Vallarta Circle**

**South Natomas off of**

**Truxel, just south of the**

**I-80 Truxel exit and just**

**north of San Juan Blvd,**

**across from the High**

**School.**

**Perennials, Begonias,**

**Misc. Plants. New lower**

prices (\$3 each) on  
many perennials!

## **Begonia Society Bus Trip -**

Please join us on the Sacramento Branch American  
Begonia Society spring nursery bus tour.

**Yes this is the Sat of my sale, so I won't be going, but thought some of  
you might want to, so here is the info: Bob**

**When: Saturday, April 11, 2015**

**Where: Meet at Olive Garden, 1780 Challenge Way (at Arden Way)  
Sacramento (back parking lot). Do not park next to Olive Garden in  
their parking lot.**

**Time: 8:00 AM**

**Return: 6:30 PM**

**Cost: \$45**

**Nurseries to be visited:**

**Annie's Annuals in San Pablo (It's her spring party!)**

**Sloat Garden Center at the beach in San Francisco**

**Flora Grubb Gardens in San Francisco**

**Berkeley Horticultural Nursery in Berkeley**

**Bag lunches are available for purchase for an additional \$11 (choice of  
roast beef, turkey, or ham) or pack your own. We will make a stop in  
Golden Gate Park for a quick picnic lunch.**

**Places on the bus are on a first-come, first-served basis. But the  
absolute deadline will be April 6. Indicate your lunch choice on your  
check (\$45 for trip only and \$56 for trip and box lunch payable to  
Sacramento ABS) and send it to:**

**Bruce Oliver, Treasurer**

**9124 Buckskin Court**

**Elk Grove, CA 95624.**

**We hope you'll join us for this FUN event!**

P.S. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a box  
with your name on it to identify it to keep  
your purchased plants in.



Above, *Verbena bonariensis* 'Little One' is a dwarf form of this normally tall growing species, only reaching 12-16 inches tall compared to the 5-7 foot of the common form. It is drought resistant, attracts pollinators and butterflies and opens use of this plant to a range of front of border or container uses. I only have a limited number of these, they are \$3 each.. so if you want to reserve some, let me know.



*Schizostylis coccineus* is a wonderful South African plant for sun or part shade. It blooms fall through spring, and produces a clump of thin Iris like leaves.

I'm cutting the newsletter at 3 pages to get it out, since it is already late. I hope to see many of you next weekend (April 11-13) here are the house for the annual yard sale.

Bob



*Perovskia*, or "Russian Sage" is a sun loving drought resistant perennial. It can reach 3 ft tall in bloom.



*Stylophorus* or Wood Poppy is a spring blooming woodlander for shade or dappled sun. My 7 year old plant is in a location it only gets touches of sunlight at sunrise and sunset, otherwise is just bright light. Like most woodlanders, this plant want regular water and dislikes dry conditions.



New Hollyhock "Halo Mix" - a true perennial Hollyhock from Thompson & Morgan in England