

January Meeting Recap

The January meeting of the Southern California Horticultural Society was a presentation by Brian Kemble (my apologies for spelling his name incorrectly in last month's newsletter--SG). His talk focused on the many species of *Aloe* hailing from the winter rainfall areas of South Africa. A number of these aloes are the parents of garden hybrids we are all familiar with, and some of the species went directly from the wild and into our gardens.

The images were beautiful and showed how varied a single species can be when growing in different terrain and with differing rainfall amounts. Also of great interest was seeing how winter rainfall and summer rainfall areas overlap, and how that affects the plants growing in those areas. Many of the bloom spikes of these aloes seen in the talk displayed a bi-color pattern of flowering starting red in bud and opening to various shades of yellow or orange--reminiscent of red hot pokers, or *Kniphofia* (also from South Africa).

Thanks to Brian for sharing this wonderful overview of aloes in Africa. Seeing how and where they grow is helpful in understanding how we might grow them in our own gardens.

Thanks to Matt-Dell Tufenkian, of *Dominus Plantarum* for bringing in a multitude of aloes for sale, and his generous stocking of the raffle table with aloes, aloes, aloes!

Thanks to all who helped set up and run the meeting as well as those who stayed after and helped clean up!

See you on February 13, for a program presented by Joe Clements on: *Designing with Succulents and other Drought-tolerant Plants*. Come and learn how to incorporate drought-tolerant plants into your landscape.

-Steven Gerischer

SHARING SECRETS

In January, we asked you to answer "What is your favorite Aloe?" and here are some of your responses. Read more on our SCHS MemberLodge website, schs.memberlodge.org.

What's **NOT** my favorite aloe? I love the majestic *A. bainesii* though.

-Curt Klebaum

This is *Aloe marlothii*. It is the STAR of my garden and my favorite Aloe!



Aloe marlothii

-Cheryl Lerner

AMERICAN PENSTEMON SOCIETY APPLICATIONS SOUGHT FOR SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS



The purpose of the APS Special Projects Program is to stimulate activities that promote knowledge and appreciation of penstemons. The Society is particularly interested in funding projects that:

- 1) Promote conservation of *Penstemon* species in the wild, especially rare or sensitive ones, through understanding of factors that affect their survival, and
- 2) Promote appreciation for the diversity and beauty of penstemons in wild and domestic landscapes, through horticultural research, dissemination of information of interest to gardeners, or the construction or enhancement of educational display gardens.

More information about the American Penstemon Society can be found at: www.apsdev.org.

All applicants must be current members of APS, and may join APS for the purpose of submitting a proposal. Maximum award amount is \$1000; in the past three years, awards have ranged from \$100 to \$1000. Awards are not intended to pay wages or travel to meetings. The number of successful awards in any year will be determined by the number of high-quality proposals, value of the awards and the annual budget. Awardees are required to submit a final project report, due one year after the award is made, and provide either an article for the newsletter or an oral presentation at an annual meeting.

Proposal Format

Proposals should not exceed five pages and must follow this format:

1. Project name.
 2. Name and contact information of submitter.
 3. Requested funding amount.
 4. Objective of the project.
 5. Background and rationale.
 6. Proposed methods and timeline.
 7. Itemized budget.
 8. Description of submitter's qualifications.
- Submit proposals to Dorothy Tuthill via: e-mail (dtuthill@uwyo.edu) or mail (Berry Biodiversity Conservation Center, Dept. 4304, University of Wyoming, 1000 E. University Ave., Laramie, WY 82071) no later than March 31, 2014. Receipt of proposals will be acknowledged by e-mail, and successful awardees will be notified no later than April 30, with disbursements made in early May.