



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™

Garden Talk

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

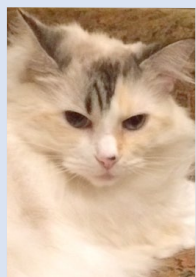
San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

DECEMBER 2014

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This Season Help Us Help Pets

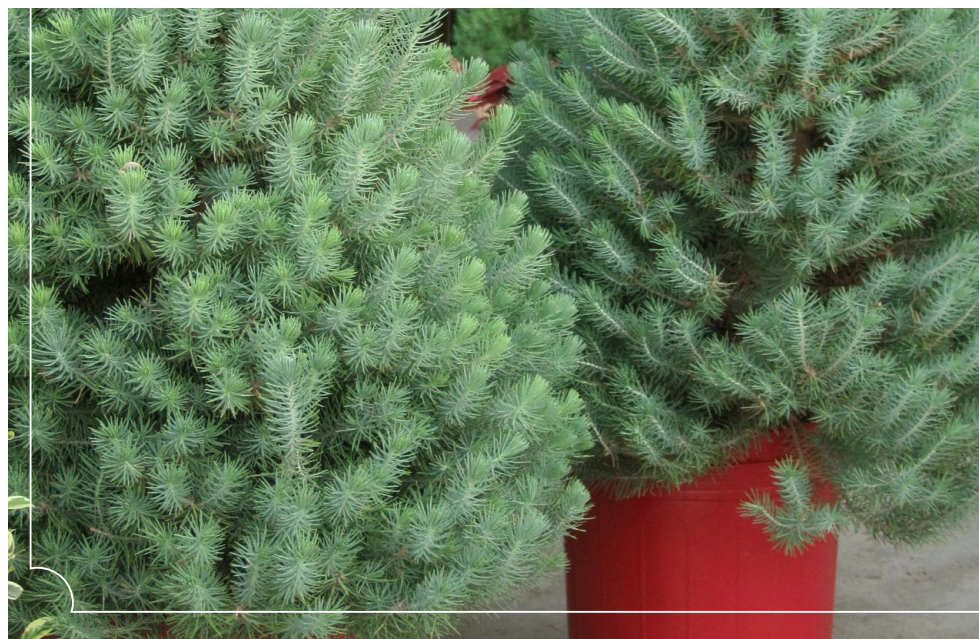


If you come to our stores, you know we're a fan of pets. This holiday season the nursery will partner with the Rotary Club of Poway-Scripps to secure donations

for the San Diego Humane Society and PAWS. Drop off your donations to either store and, like Santa, we'll deliver them. A forever home is what every pet wants, but until then, no sheltered animal will turn their noses up at these suggested gifts: Scoopable cat litter, wet dog food, dog treats, canned chicken, Cheeze Whiz, meat flavored baby food, cat & kitten toys, cat scratchers, chew toys, dog & puppy toys, and gently used blankets and towels. ●

Choosing A Holiday Tree To Last A Season

By David Ross



Success with cut Christmas trees can be fairly attainable if you know the secrets to success. The most important is the tree itself. At Walter Andersen Nursery, a few years ago we discovered that the best trees seem to come from Washington. The best grower we have found is a small grower in Mossyrock, who grows the

finest trees anywhere. Mossyrock. Even the name just SOUNDS like the right location for Christmas trees to grow up!

Because they come from a small grower, cutting can be done later, closer to shipping time, assuring a fresher tree from the beginning.

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Your Rose Review

By Melanie Potter

It's nearing the end of the year and I'm not thinking about holidays, resolutions, or 2015. That's because we've put together the 2015 rose list and I've seen photos of the new 2015 introductions that our stores will have available.

We'll have at least 23 AARS winners; some old favorites, and some that we've ordered after not stocking them for a few years. Among them are **French**



Peachy Keen



Pretty In Pink Eden

Lace, Double Delight, Gemini, Julia Child, Memorial Day, Mister Lincoln, Scentimental, and Secret.

If you plant this rose, your neighbors may be green with envy. That's

[continued p4](#)

Choosing A Holiday Tree continued from p1



There are four primary types of trees available each year. They are:

Noble Fir

These are our most popular selling tree, with evenly spaced, nicely layered branches that allow ornaments to hang freely. Because they have relatively fewer, heavier needles, these stay the freshest.

Fraser Fir

This tree is short needled, and is sometimes called a "silverback" because of the silver color of the underside of its needles. It is compact and upright, and stays fresh a long time as well.

Grand Fir

This tree has a pungent, distinct aroma, and looks like a Douglas fir on steroids. The needles are a little larger and of more substance, but this tree usually does not stay as fresh as long as the two above mentioned trees.

Douglas Fir

A very full, dense, fine needled tree. Because of this, they dry out the quickest.

Selecting a Tree

When selecting a tree, look for trees that are dark green and appear fresh. Ones with firm needles that snap when folded, only drop old, dead, needles from the center when stood and shaken. Not only is freshness paramount, but size matters also. Know the height of the ceiling in the room where you'll display your tree and buy at least one foot shorter so you have plenty of room for the crowning ornament. Bear in mind the area the tree will take up and the foot traffic around it to help you decide your tree's width. If you are tight on room, the Fraser Fir may make a good selection as they tend to be the 'thinnest' of holiday trees.

Tree Care

To care for your tree, always use a stand that holds ample water. A fresh cut tree drinks a lot of water initially. Once a suitable tree has been selected, put a fresh 2" (approx) cut on the bottom to allow water to flow up into the tree. I also put a few vertical slices into the base of the trunk to allow additional water flow up the trunk. When the tree stops drinking, carefully re-slice up the sides of the trunk to allow water to flow again, taking care not to puncture the basin.

Add a commercial tree preservative, get the tree into water immediately, and keep your water bowl filled with a water/preservative at all times. ●

TO DO LIST: December



PLANT

Last chance for fall bulbs. Plant conifers, junipers, evergreens, California natives and drought-tolerant plants. Don't miss Pansies, Violas, Stocks, and Calendulas. This is the time to plant potatoes, onions, garlic, broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, beets, and carrots. Force Paperwhites now for Christmas blooms. Roses.

LOOK FOR

Sasanqua and Japonica Camellias, Azaleas, Pyracantha, Holly, Living Christmas Trees, Poinsettias, Christmas Cactus, Cyclamen, and Photinia.

Bare root roses & fruit trees! It's the time of year when some of the things you plant don't look like a plant. You'll have to root through damp shavings to find much of the edibles you want to grow and when you find them they will likely be a brown root that lacks stems or leaves. Don't worry, plant these ASAP and watch them leaf out in the new year.

You'll also find bare root asparagus, artichokes, strawberries, blackberries, boysenberries, youngberries, and blueberries.

CONTROL

Dormant spray for diseases and over wintering pests. Use Liqui-Cop for disease control and Year-Round Oil Spray or Volck Oil for insects and their eggs. ●



Garden Charm With Whimsical Worms

Yes, worms and they are whimsical. These garden accessories, for indoor or outdoor use, are made by Huntington Beach artists Eric and Theresa Jensen. Their company is family owned and produces these worms that are 10" long, in 40 varieties of colors and 15 different shapes and designs. They are durable, water resistant, and ideal for all types of climates. We think these personality filled little wriggly charmers will make a fun stocking stuffer. Or, how about pairing one with a bottle of tequila to kick an adult gift up a notch!! Whimsical Worms are available in both stores. ●

Thinking Of Birds In Need This Holiday Season

By Old Ben



Coastal Cactus Wren

Least Tern

Editor's Note: This month, Old Ben wants to share information from the San Diego Audubon Society (SDAS) about its efforts to help birds which are struggling to survive. Information is provided by the San Diego Audubon Society.

The San Diego Audubon Society utilizes a combination of habitat restoration, citizen science, advocacy, education, and community outreach activities to support the recovery of target species within the metropolitan San Diego area. The following species are just some of the birds that the organization is helping to protect.

California Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*)

The California Least Tern is an endangered migratory shorebird that nests on our beaches from northern Baja California to San Francisco Bay. The Least Tern needs cleared, sandy areas for nesting and depends on estuaries, lagoons, and other open water areas for hunting small fish. Terns nest in colonies which helps them work together to defend nests and chicks from predators such as American Crows, Gulls, cats, and snakes. San Diego County supports 60% of the breeding population of this bird at 12 sites including the Tijuana Estuary, the Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, Mission Bay, and our coastal lagoons.

Fun Fact: Least Terns defend their nesting colony against a predator by flying up, calling loudly, and pooping on their target! Yep, a fun fact!!!

How We're Helping: SDAS is working in Mission Bay and San Diego Bay to

restore Least Tern nesting habitat. We currently have active projects at the D Street Fill in the Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge and at Mariner's Point in Mission Bay. This year, we plan to focus our conservation efforts on additional nesting sites in Mission Bay through habitat restoration and citizen science projects.

The Coastal Cactus Wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus Sandiegensis*)

This non-migratory subspecies of Cactus Wren is listed as a species of special concern. Habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation are the most critical management issues facing this species. Their decline was exacerbated by the 2007 wildfires which burned much of the cactus scrub they depend on. The wren's nest in stands of prickly pear or cholla cactus throughout coastal San Diego County, with concentrations in southern Camp Pendleton/Fallbrook Naval Weapons Station, Lake Hodges/San Pasqual, Lake Jennings, and Sweetwater/Otay.

Fun Fact: Coastal Cactus Wrens are home bodies, maintaining their nests in stands of prickly pear or cholla cactus year-round.

How We're Helping: SDAS is coordinating volunteers to assist with cactus wren habitat assessments in the San Dieguito River Valley and other locations throughout the County. These assessments will support the prioritization of cactus scrub restoration and a USGS study that will examine dispersal of cactus wrens.

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Old Ben's Specials

Valid December 1-31, 2014

**Old Ben's Nest Boxes,
Feeders & Seed Make
Great Christmas Presents!**

**All Feeders On Sale!
Save Up To \$15.00**
See store for selection.

Barn Owl Nest Box
\$74.88 Reg. \$104.99

25lb. Nyger Seed
\$29.88 Reg. \$46.99

5lb. Nyger Seed
\$8.88 Reg. \$12.99

**20lb. Old Ben's Classic
Bird Seed**
\$16.88 Reg. \$31.99

20lb. No Mess Seed
\$24.88 Reg. \$42.99

**Hummingbird/Cage
Nesting Material**
\$6.99 Reg. \$11.99

All specials limited to stock on hand.
No special orders. Cannot be combined with
any other discount or offer.

An Old Ben Workshop



Build a window birdfeeder on Dec. 6 in Poway with Old Ben. The workshop begins at 9:30 and is limited to 10 people. The workshop will be held at Walter Andersen Nursery in Poway, 12755 Danielson Ct. There is a \$25 materials fee for this class. Participants should bring a hammer and a medium size Phillips screwdriver. RSVP for the class by calling 858-513-4900.

Rose Review continued from p1

because it is a green tinted rose! Look for **Green Romantica**—a hybrid tea florist rose bred for its green hues. It will do best in cool, sunny climates where the color will be more intense. It's a good cutting rose but will require special attention for best results.



Best Kept Secret

Best Kept Secret

With its strong citrus scent and exhibition-quality blooms that are pink and white, this secret will be out before long.



Icecap

Icecap

A shrub rose that will be laden with white flowers; these are touted as not turning pink as they fade and resists mildew.



Neil Diamond

Neil Diamond

I'm a sucker for striped roses, and this is one I'll be looking to see open as enthusiastically as when I was a kid waiting for Christmas. It has pink and white striped blooms that elicit an intense, sweet, classic rose fragrance. We'll also have it in a 36' tree rose.

Peachy Keen

Sports pink blooms with yellow centers.

Take it Easy

If you are a fan of red roses but are disappointed as to how the aging blooms fade, this might be the rose for you. The red coloration doesn't go too pink or blue as the petals are

falling away. A touch of lighter pink reverse lights up the show of this blooming 'machine'.



Take it Easy

On our 2015 rose list are 15 David Austin roses and climbers. New to the climbers assortment is:



Above All

Above All

Salmon-orange blooms with a fruity scent.

Pretty in Pink Eden

Exhibits all the same great qualities of the Eden® Rose, but is deep pink in color, blooms with slightly more petals than Eden® and is more fragrant.



Top of the World Miniature Climber

Top of the World Miniature Climber

Mini orange and yellow bicolor blooms on a bush that grows to 8' tall.

For a **complete list** of the 2015 rose selection, visit our website, or follow this link: www.walterandersen.com/pdf/2015roselista.pdf •

Old Ben: Birds

continued from p3



Light-footed Clapper Rail

The Light-footed Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*)

These birds are year-round residents of San Diego County's coastal salt marshes. As a result of the loss of over 90% of southern California's coastal wetlands, this species has been listed as federally-endangered for over 40 years. Clapper Rails prefer to nest in tidal marshes dominated by cordgrass. There are an estimated 100 pairs in San Diego County with breeding populations scattered throughout coastal lagoons and estuaries. The Tijuana River estuary is an especially critical site, supporting a record 80 pairs in 1999.

Fun Fact: The Clapper Rail's nest is constructed from hollow cordgrass stems which are woven around upright cordgrass stems—this allows the nest to float, while secured in place, with the changing tides.

How We're Helping: SDAS has collaborated with the UC Natural Reserve System and the Ocean Discovery Institute to carry out an invasive mangrove removal project at the Northern Wildlife Preserve in Mission Bay. This invasive plant posed a threat to the Clapper Rail by displacing native cordgrass and negatively impacting the quality of the salt marsh habitat. SDAS has also partnered with the Tijuana National Estuarine Research Reserve, California State Parks, and the US Fish & Wildlife Service to carry out a vegetation monitoring program that established baseline data to evaluate changes in habitat, including salt marsh, to assist future management actions. •

Words From Walter

By Walter Andersen, Jr.

Camellias—Easy To Grow In San Diego



During winter when many other plants are dormant and leafless, Camellias shine. There are many different types of camellias, but **Camellia japonica** is by far, the most popular type. They can grow fairly large. Some varieties can grow 8-10 feet or more, but can easily be kept much smaller by pruning them after they have finished blooming, and once or twice more during their growing season. Once flower buds begin to form (late summer), stop pruning until the plants finish blooming. Most varieties of *Camellia japonica* begin blooming from December to February, and continue blooming for about three months.

The plants have beautiful, medium sized, dark green, glossy foliage about 3-4 inches long. Blooms are 3-5 inches in diameter and are large, showy, and great for floating bowls. They make great container plants (use a larger, 16-20 inch pots), and do quite well in the ground as well. When planting in the ground, use a mix high in peat moss or other organic matter such as Sunshine Azalea Camellia mix. When planting in containers, use Edna's Best potting soil, or the Sunshine All Purpose in the green bag.

Camellias like to be kept moist, but not soggy wet. During winter, water camellias in the ground about once

every 7-10 days. Camellias in containers will need to be watered about once or twice per week. During summer or hot, dry periods, water more frequently.

Fertilize with an 'Acid Food' or camellia and Azalea fertilizer. Stop fertilizing early September or once buds begin to form. Feeding after that may cause the buds to drop off.

Camellia japonica prefers shade, morning sun or filtered sun but will tolerate more sun in the coastal areas. Generally darker flowering varieties are more sun tolerant.

Below is a brief description of some popular varieties. Hundreds of others are not mentioned!

Bob Hope

Large, deep red with yellow stamens in the center.

Blood of China

Another large red with yellow stamens.

Colonel Fiery

Older, tried, true flat red flower.

Debutante

Medium to large peony formed, light pink flowers, heavy bloomer, takes some sun.

Kramers Supreme

Very large, red, peony formed blooms.

Magnoliaflora

Medium-sized, pale pink flowers with yellow stamens in the center.

Mrs. Tingley

One of the favorites with large, flat, pink blooms.

Nuccios Gem

Large, flat, perfectly formed white.

Nuccios Pearl

Similar to Nuccios Gem, tinged pink at the edge.

Tom Knudsen

Old favorite deep red with rose formed blooms.

Silver Waves

Large, White semi-double with yellow stamens at center on upright plant.

Camellia sasanqua

The second most popular variety, generally have smaller leaves and smaller, but more plentiful blooms. They tend to begin blooming a little earlier, usually starting in October or November. *Camellia sasanqua* tolerate more sun, but usually do better with some afternoon shade away from the coast. There are two primary growth habits to *Camellia sasanqua*. Some varieties grow low and wide, other types are more compact and upright.

Sasanquas also make excellent container plants. Some of the low growers can be used as hanging plants! Care for sasanquas is very similar to japonicas. Since *sasanqua* camellias are a little different and many people are unfamiliar with them, many people miss out on a very showy plant. Be sure to give them a try! •

**Get Double
HedgeFund\$™ Points!**



Get double HedgeFund\$ Points all day long December 6th in Poway and December 13th in San Diego. See our **Holiday Open House Flyer** on page 6 for details.

Join in the Holiday FUN!



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY

You're Invited

To Our Annual Holiday Open Houses!

POWAY

Saturday, Dec. 6th from 5pm-7pm

Poway store will close at 4:30pm and reopen at 5pm.

SAN DIEGO

Saturday, Dec. 13th from 11am-1pm

*Shop with us, get your **FREE** photo with Santa and enjoy food and beverages. Select your tree, holiday plants, ornaments and décor, as well as gifts for friends and family. As always, it's family and pet friendly.*



Special Offer!

Get Double HedgeFund\$™ Points on the day of each open house! On December 6, purchases made at the Poway store will earn double HedgeFund\$ points. On December 13, purchases made at the San Diego store will earn double points. Subject to HedgeFund\$ rules, some exclusions may apply.

www.walterandersen.com

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

WAN FUN!

Garden Classes

DECEMBER

Saturday classes are **FREE** and last about an hour. Complimentary coffee is served. During inclement weather, classes are held indoors in San Diego and on the covered, heated patio in Poway. Topics are subject to change. See the full schedule at www.walterandersen.com/calendar/.

SAN DIEGO | 9:00AM**12/6**

Pruning Roses &
New Rose Varieties

12/13

Pruning Stone Fruits &
Introduction of New Varieties

12/20

Pruning Apples/Cherries &
Introduction of New Varieties

12/27

No Class

POWAY | 9:30AM**12/6**

Window Bird Feeder Workshop
with Old Ben, Prepaid,
Call for Reservations

12/13

Rose Pruning with David Ross

12/20

Fruit Tree Pruning
with Richard Wright

12/27

No Class



Unique Gifts Made From Plant Roots

We thought this was a clever gift idea that uses these great looking plant stands that a vendor from Mexico brings us. These are beautifully crafted from plant roots. There are different shapes and sizes to choose from, the one shown is a cactus, and a hot seller is the palm tree. Some have baskets that you can stand plants in. Just in time for the holiday is a selection of deer; and all look festive strung with lights. •

December Special

Valid December 1–31, 2014

Mini Living Christmas Trees

Dwarf Alberta Spruce \$4.99

While supplies last! Limited to stock on hand.

Visit Our 2 Locations

SAN DIEGO

3642 Enterprise Street
San Diego, California 92110
{619} 224-8271

POWAY

12755 Danielson Court
Poway, California 92064
{858} 513-4900

Dates To Remember



Saturday, December 6

Poway Open House

The store will close at 4:30pm and reopen from 5-7pm for the festivities and Santa, of course!

Saturday, December 13

San Diego Open House

The San Diego's will be 11am-1pm. Stop in—Santa will be in attendance as well!

Get Double HedgeFund\$™ Points all day long December 6 in Poway and December 13 in San Diego.

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve

The Poway store closes at 2pm.

Dec. 25: Christmas

Both stores will be closed.

Dec. 31: New Year's Eve

The Poway store closes at 2pm.

Jan. 1: New Year's Day

Both stores will be closed.



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