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Garden Talk

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™
DECEMBER 2015


**December
Savings on
Potting Soil,
Wildflower
Mix and
Fertilizers
On Page 8**



Christmas Is WAN Family Tradition

By Ken Andersen

Many varieties of fresh-cut trees are available


The holidays are always a special time of the year at Walter Andersen Nursery, but wow, how things have changed since 1928 when our business opened.

Gone are the days when we would go to the railroad yards downtown to sort through Christmas trees in boxcars for

our store. Now, all of our trees are cut and delivered fresh from the growing grounds in Washington State to our stores. Sometimes they are so fresh they still have snow in them from their home in the Cascades!

Over the years, we have found that the best trees come from Washington.

[continued p2](#)

Everything's Coming Up Roses!

By Melanie Potter

Is Blue Girl really a blue rose? How many different Drift roses are there? What's the oldest rose on the list? I have seen the 2016 rose list and am going to share a sneak peak with you.

Old favorites like Secret, Fragrant Cloud, Peace (which is the oldest rose on the list, released in 1946), and Sentimental are still around. Roses named for celebrities and artists include:

Barbra Streisand, Chihuly, Dick Clark, Doris Day, George Burns, Henry Fonda, Ingrid Bergman, Julia Child (this famous chef had a cooking show way before Food Network was ever thought of), Marilyn Monroe, Neil Diamond, (author) Peter Mayle, The McCartney Rose, and Yves Piaget (named for the famed watchmaker).

[continued p3](#)


Now that the cool season is upon us, many of the plants in the garden and in the nursery are quickly going out of bloom. Many of the flowers we enjoyed through the long, hot summer such as hibiscus, canna,

[continued p4](#)

Christmas Tradition

continued from p1



We are ready to help with your tree

Whether you like Noble, Douglas, Grand, or Fraser Fir, all of our trees are top quality. Once they arrive, they are put onto individual stands with water bowls so you can see exactly what the tree looks like. The water bowls also insure that the trees stay fresh.

Both of our stores have delivery service available if you do not want to tie your tree onto the roof of your car. Flocking and fire retardant services

are also available. Remember, any cut trees or garland in a public building need to have fire retardant or fire retardant flock applied by a licensed applicator (which we are) by mandate of the State Fire Marshal.

This year, make it your family tradition to get your Christmas tree from Walter Andersen Nursery. You will be glad that you did! •



Help Feed Those In Need This Holiday Season



When you come to either of our stores, we invite you to bring a non-perishable food item. Our Poway store is assisting the Rotary Club of Poway-Scripps in a food drive to benefit Mama's Kitchen. This non-profit provides nutrition support to men, women, and children affected by AIDS or cancer who are vulnerable. The San Diego store is also seeking non-perishable food items that will be donated to San Diego Food Bank. Both stores will have collection bins. We thank you for thinking of others, especially those in need, this holiday season. •



Create a live holiday table centerpiece

Recipe For A Holiday Table

By Melanie Potter

Here's an easy and beautiful centerpiece idea for your holiday table. From our friends at Proven Winners, comes this container recipe that can be kept small for the table or created in a larger container to fill a front door or hearth location.

You'll need poinsettias. You can use smaller ones for the dining table and make multiple arrangements or create a larger, showier centerpiece using a 6-inch poinsettia. Your fillers will come from Euphorbia 'Diamond Frost', or something similar. Use a container of your choice.

Plant the poinsettia in the center of your container (it's the thriller) and fill in with three or four Euphorbia. Place the containers where you want them and pour yourself a glass of wine to celebrate a job well done! •



Everything's Coming Up Roses! continued from p1



'Happy Trails Rainbow'



'Happy Trails Sunshine'



'Sultry Sangria'



'Polynesian Punch'

World leaders recognized with a rose named after them that made our list include: Coretta Scott King, John F. Kennedy, Mister Lincoln, Pope John Paul II, Queen Elizabeth, and Queen Mary 2.

Blue Girl is a rose that has been around since 1964. Nobody has been able to create a true blue rose so when you see this, you'll be looking at a lavender-blue color. There are three Iceberg roses (White, Brilliant Pink, and Burgundy) and four Drift roses (White is the new release and it joins Apricot, Popcorn, and Red on our list).

We have 10 2016 roses, brand new to us. Look for these new introductions:

Happy Trails Rainbow This looks like a fun and colorful groundcover rose. It grows to 2' tall and is golden yellow in the center with a rich pink color on the edges.

Happy Trails Sunshine Another groundcover rose with buttery yellow blooms.

Sultry Sangria If you were a fan of the previous year's Eyeconic series, this is from the same breeder. The purple looks so rich; it will be another I can't wait to see in bloom. Cooler weather will create a deeper, more intense color. It has a unique purple to pink color.

Polynesian Punch Described as a kaleidoscope of color from orange to pink to yellow. This rose will do best in the dry climate of the West Coast. I can't wait to see it in bloom.

Gold Struck Warm and rich, orangey yellow blooms with great disease resistance.

White Drift Bright white, double blooms that are shaped like a miniature rose.

Watercolors Home Run Yellow gold with a pink blush that appears to be 'painted'. Blooms start out yellow with a pink blush and mature to rich pink.

Apricots n' Cream A hybrid tea with ivory to apricot colored blooms; very disease resistant.

Smokin Hot Smokey red blooms with a white reverse. Intrigued??

Miss Congeniality This rose is white with a pink picotee edge. If you are a fan of Double Delight, this rose may need a second look.

Copies of the 2016 rose list are available at both stores, or look online, which includes photos, at www.walterandersen.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/2016roselist.pdf. •



'Gold Struck'



'White Drift'



'Watercolors Run'



'Apricots n' Cream'

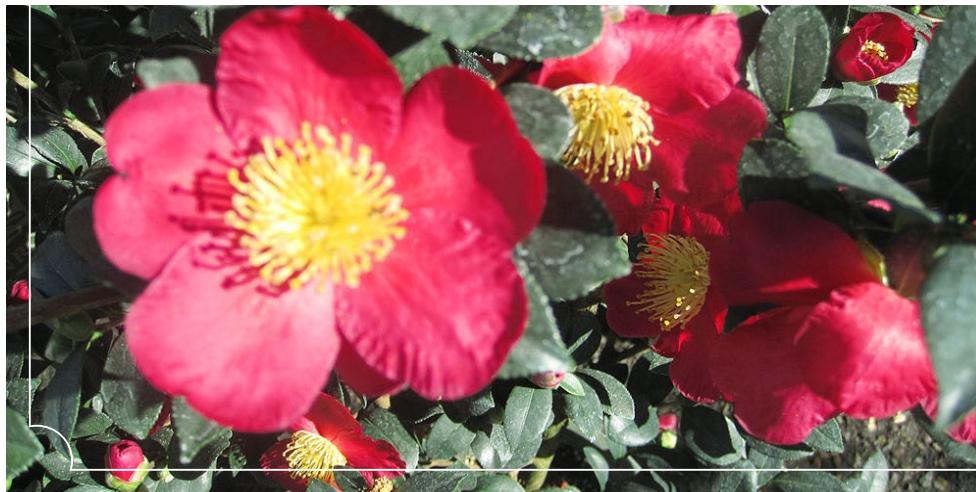


'Smokin Hot'



'Miss Congeniality'

Camellias: The Hot Ticket continued from p1



'Yuletide'

plumeria, and countless other warm-season plants are beginning to rest for the winter. However, the shortening days and cooler temperatures create ideal conditions for plants that bloom in the winter. One of these just happens to be one of my favorite plants in the world; the mighty Camellia. It creates one of the boldest displays of bloom of any plant this time of year, and also happens to be a practical, easy-to-grow shrub in any climate zone in San Diego county.

Camellias are woody shrubs that generally grow between six and 15 feet high by four to 10 feet wide without pruning, depending on the variety. They can easily be pruned to stay three to four feet tall and wide, and they make great container plants.

There are two main species of camellia: Japonica and Sasanqua. Camellia Japonica has larger leaves and larger, fuller flowers and blooms from late November until March-April. Camellia Sasanqua has smaller leaves and smaller, often single flowers, and they bloom from September through January. One of the most important differences between the two from a practical standpoint is that Sasanquas tolerate more sun than Japonicas. Sasanquas can take full sun on the coast and light shade inland, while Japonicas need light shade on the

coast and at least half a day shade inland.

As lush and colorful as these plants are, one would think they need copious water, but that is not the case. They are drought tolerant plants, one of the relatively few we can offer for shady areas. When first planted, they should be watered about twice a week, but after one to two years in the ground, they can get by with a soaking every seven to 10 days.

Being native to Eastern China and Japan where the soil is more acidic than ours, Camellias do need to be planted in an acidic mix and regularly fed with an acid fertilizer. One of the best ways to provide an acid soil is to use Sunshine soil amendments. As long as they are mixed in heavily with our native dirt, the plants should be happy. One of the best types of fertilizer that you can use is Gro-Power which contains humic acid and acts as both a soil acidifier and a catalyst for chelating available nutrients in the soil. However, many other fertilizers do a great job as well such as Dr. Earth or FoxFarm.

Now that I've shared some technical information, I am going to tease you with a few varieties. The colors available are generally shades of red, pink to pink/purple, and white. One of the most popular camellias we sell

is a Sasanqua called Yuletide, which has bright red flowers on a full, compact plant that eventually grows to six feet tall. There are some white Sasanquas such as Setsugekka and White Doves, and pinks such as Apple Blossom, Hana Jiman, and Shishi Gashira. As far as Japonica, some of my favorites are Kramer's Supreme (pinkish red), Nuccio's Gem (white), Debutante (light pink), and Bob Hope (bright deep red). There are hundreds of varieties; some of which are rather rare collectors' items (some of which we sell), each with a slightly different flower form, color, or mix of colors. Right now, both stores have an impressive collection of camellias. If you would like to learn more about them, come on in!

***Editor's Note:** Andrew (Andy) Shearer can be found at our Poway store where he helps purchase green goods and provides customer service. •*



'Pink A Boo'



Old Ben: Why Birds Build Nests

By Old Ben



Just as houses have different styles to meet residents' needs, birds use different types of nests to best suit their needs. No matter what construction a bird uses, all nests serve the same purpose. Nests protect the eggs and hatchlings. There are many ways to do this, including:

Cushioning Some nests are lined with soft plant fibers, animal fur, fine grasses, moss, and similar materials that provide cushioning for the eggs, protecting them even when an adult may be sitting or moving around on top of the nest.

Shelter Nests help shade and protect eggs and chicks from poor weather. Some birds do this by building nests under roofs or overhangs, but more often the nest is positioned in a sheltered location out of the wind and protected from hot summer sun or drenching rains.

Camouflage Eggs and chicks are vulnerable, and most nests are constructed to help keep the birds and eggs hidden from predators. Birds may do this by building their nest in a hidden location or by using materials to help conceal the nest.

Cup A cup shaped nest is the most familiar and most common type. The overall size, dimensions and depth of the cup may differ, and some birds build distinct inner and outer layers of the cup. Cups are usually positioned along tree branches or in tree forks, or may be nestled on ledges or in any number of places.

Scrape A scrape is a shallow depression on the ground without much

nesting material. The scrape may have a light lining of down, pebbles, weeds or other debris.

Burrow A burrow is dug into the ground, and may be a shallow cave or have a long tunnel leading to a nesting chamber. The inner nesting chamber may be lined with some material or could be bare. Birds may dig their own burrows or use suitable burrows from other animals.

Mound A mound nest is built on the ground, but is a relatively large accumulation of nesting material in a tall cone or bell shape. The eggs may be buried in the nest, which helps provide additional protection and insulation.

Cavity Cavity nesting birds are common. They will either dig their own nesting cavities or use natural cavities in trees, cacti, telephone poles or even nestle in gaps in houses or will easily use bird houses. The interior may be bare or could be lined with a variety of materials.

Platform A platform nest is large and bulky, often built of larger twigs or sticks. The surface is typically flat or may have a shallow depression. Many birds reuse platform nests for many years, often adding material to the nest each year.

Pendant Pendant nests are woven sacks that dangle from branches, giving birds in the nest great protection from predators. Some are not suspended very far from the branches while others may hang several feet down. Birds enter the nest through an entrance on the side.

Old Ben's Specials

Valid December 1-31, 2015

Nest Boxes, Feeders & Seed Make Great Christmas Presents!

Old Ben's Hummingbird & Oriole Kits

Everything you need in one package: feeder, food, ant barrier & cleaning brush.

\$19.97 Reg. \$29.99

Old Ben's No Mess Wild Bird Seed

The No Mess Advantage: Seed is hulled, will not sprout, birds can eat all the seed which attracts fewer feeder pests.

20lb. \$24.97 Reg. \$42.99

Old Ben's Classic Wild Bird Seed

Classic mix that attracts wide variety of wild birds. No fillers in Old Ben's.

20lb. \$15.97 Reg. \$31.99

Old Ben's Nyger Seed

The staple food for goldfinches and many other small birds.

25lb. \$39.97 Reg. \$59.99

Need a SMALLER bag of bird seed? See our NEW seed section with all your favorites in one place!

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

Sphere A sphere or dome nest is almost completely enclosed and provides great protection and camouflage. The trade off is that these nests are often on the ground or in low areas and are more easily attacked by predators. The nest entrance is on the side so it provides protection from rain.

Birds nests are amazing and come in a wide range of sizes and styles. Understanding why and how birds build their nest gives you insights into their amazing lives. •



WALTER ANDERSEN

Poway

NURSERY™

San Diego

5

DECEMBER
5:30-7pm

Saturday

12

DECEMBER
11am-1pm

(Poway store closes at 5pm and reopens at 5:30pm)



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!



FREE Photo
with
Santa!

• San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™ • www.walterandersen.com •

Solar Lights Bring Pops Of Brightness To The Dark

By Melanie Potter

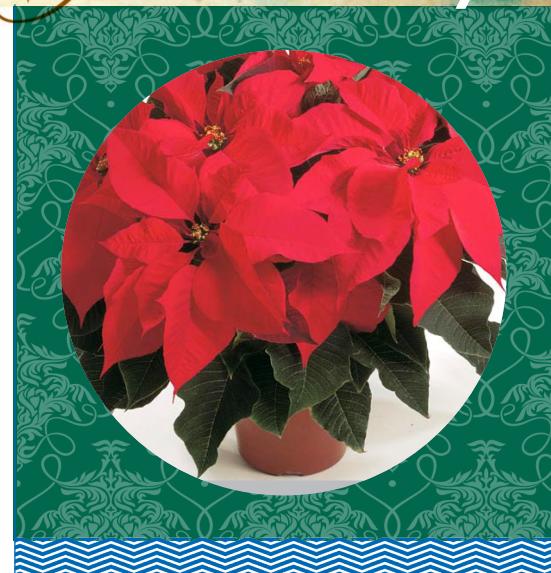
Daylight savings is gone and now that we have fallen back an hour, there has been time to get used to darkness making an early appearance. This is the time of year when I really appreciate the decorative solar lights that are hung outside. They brighten up areas of the back yard and give us something to look at. Best of all, once they are strung, you do nothing. The sun we get in the day will power most of these lights through the night.

I am a big fan of the flamingo solar mobile that hangs from my patio. The colors slowly change and if you aren't a fan of flamingoes, the store has hummingbirds, flying pigs, and bees. At home, we've added some solar stakes and strands of dragonflies. Some twinkle on and off, some have clear colored lights, some are bright colors and despite the hodge podge assortment, they all offer a charming

pop of brightness in the dark. By the way, these make thoughtful holiday gifts, too. •



Selection varies by store



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 many 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. An El Nino winter makes this especially important. •

Large Order? No Problem!

By Ken Andersen

Our stores have always been known as more than a "Top 40" nursery. Our extensive inventory and network of growers allows us to have the most diverse plant selection in San Diego. When it comes to your landscape and garden, why settle for ordinary when you can have extraordinary? From small do-it-yourself projects, to major landscaping jobs, we can provide the plants you need to finish the job. Our buyers have the ability to track down the hard-to-find plants which create incredible landscapes. This service is available to homeowners and contractors alike and there is no extra charge for it.

On large orders, we do require pre-payment, but that is not charged until we find the plants and confirm the order with you. We can also arrange delivery to your home or job site.

For large jobs, we can coordinate the delivery so you have the plants on the job site when you need them which keeps work flowing. Canceled or returned special orders may be subject to a 25% restocking fee.

So if you have a project coming up or are thinking about one, you can send us a list of what you are looking for with the quantity and container size specified and we would be happy to provide a quote for retail quality plants.

San Diego Store Orders

In our San Diego store, **Marco** handles plant orders and can be reached at 619-224-8271 or by fax at 619-224-0123.

Poway Store Orders

In Poway, you can speak to **Andy** at 858-513-4900 or fax 858-513-4790. •

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

- 12/5**
Pruning Roses
- 12/12**
Pruning Stone Fruits
- 12/19**
Pruning Apples & Cherries
- 12/26**
No Class

POWAY | 9:30AM

- 12/5**
Holiday Wreath Making with Carol Fuller
- 12/12**
Rose Pruning with David Ross
- 12/19**
Fruit Tree Pruning with Richard Wright
- 12/26**
No Class

DECEMBER In-Store Specials!

Valid December 1-31, 2015

20% OFF Stover Wildflower Mixes

Just in time for fall and winter rains! Choose from an assortment of mixes in 17oz. & 18oz canisters.

50% OFF Dr. Earth 24oz. Liquid Fertilizer

Assorted formulations.
While supplies last!
Limit 2.

Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer. Hedge Fund\$ points are redeemable.

Foxfarm Potting Soil Buy 2, Get 1 FREE

1.5 CuFt Ocean Forest Potting Soil or 2 CuFt Happy Frog Potting Soil.
Mix or match.

50% OFF Old Truck Organics Fertilizers

With Mykos Mycorizae.
Assorted formulations.
While supplies last! Limit 2.

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

December 5 | 5:30pm-7pm

Holiday Open House

At our Poway store. Santa will be here!

December 12 | 11am-1pm

Holiday Open House

At our San Diego store. Santa will be here too!

December 24

Christmas Eve

Poway and San Diego stores close early at 2pm.



December 25

Christmas

Both stores closed for the holiday.

December 31

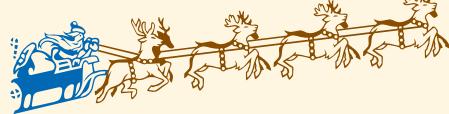
New Year's Eve

Poway and San Diego stores close early at 2pm.

January 1

New Year's Day

Both stores closed for the holiday.



**WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™**

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™



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