

American Fuchsia Society



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'Gartenmeister Bonstedt'

American Fuchsia Society Bulletin

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Sebastopol Branch



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*The work of a garden
bears visible fruits - in a
world where most of our
labours seem suspiciously
meaningless.*

Pam Brown, b. 1928



Bulletin Deadlines

Oct-Dec - 1 August

Send bulletin information to
Janis Bergquist, 819 Carolina
St., Vallejo, CA 94590 or e-mail
<JBERGQ@PACBELL.NET>

ON THE Cover-Tid Bits 'Gartenmeister Bonstedt'

*(Translates from German to
English as Garden Master)*

*by Carlyss Van Ness
Sebastopol Branch*

This unusually striking fuchsia was introduced by Carl Bonstedt during the time he was director of the botanical gardens at Gottingen, Germany in 1902. It is a triphyllate, single with long orange brick red tubes and foliage that is dark bronzy green. Growth is upright and very vigorous.

Bonstedt also introduced several other fuchsias that our society grows. Among them are 'Mary', 'Thalia' and 'Corella' ('Korella').

It will tolerate sun and heat and will continue to bloom into early winter in my zone 9 garden. Because of its long flowering season and strong erect behavior, it makes a superb, featured plant for an ornamental pot in a warm sunny location.

The photographer was JoAn Lambert. (1931 to 2024) JoAn was an AFS member of The Santa Clara Valley Branch from 1998 to 2024, a total of 27 years. For many years she

- Continued on page 4



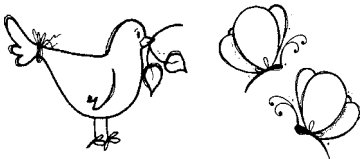
- From page 3

assisted Michael Breneman with his “Michael’s Fuchsias Galore Catalogs”. JoAn an award-winning member of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club and AFS was honored with her AFS Photography Contest entries. This photo of ‘Gartenmeister Bonstedt’ is an example of her style. Photo was entered in the 2017 contest Class C and won first place.*



Quote: “I am spending delightful afternoons in my garden, watching everything living around me. As I grow older, I feel everything departing, and I love everything with more passion”

Emile Zola (1840-1902)



WHAT CAN FUCHSIAS DO FOR YOU?

Barbara Schneider

Have you ever thought about your fuchsias in this way, about what your fuchsias can do for you? Mine does a lot for me. At the beginning, they kept me from being bored. Who has time to be bored when there are plants to water, to pinch, to shape, to fertilize, to admire? Then as the months passed and my interest grew, my fuchsias gave me new friends and a whole new life. Think back – what was your life like before you became involved with fuchsias? Mine was pretty quiet and, I suppose, dull – though my husband would change that description to sensible and sane. Now I travel all over the state visiting fuchsia nurseries and fuchsia friends I have me at various American Fuchsia Society branch fuchsia activities. If that sounds dull to you, try driving 380 miles in pounding rain sometime.

The fuchsia has changed the way I shop, also. I can’t go into a store these days without looking for some kind of fuchsia lore – a greeting card, a calendar, a piece of yardage.



Do you know the thrill of finding something you've never seen the likes of before? Then there is the plant collecting. I have the terrible problem of wanting every plant I see, of not being able to find the one I want. That can be very addictive – and expensive, too. Then when you get your new plants home it can be pretty exciting trying to figure out a way to get them all in your lath house. If you are like me, you never have a big enough lath house. I fill lath houses as fast as my husband can build them – and he is a fast builder, too.

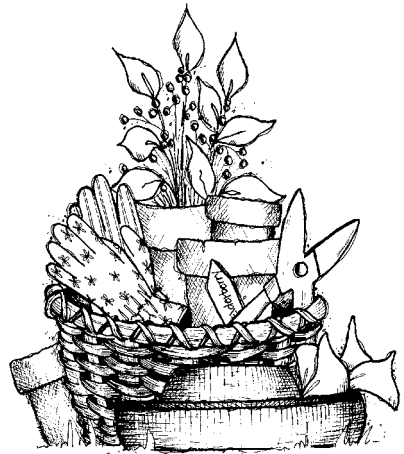
Then there's the competition. Competition with other branches, other flower societies, other individuals. No one can say it's not a great delight to win a ribbon, possibly even a blue ribbon, or a trophy. Of course the competition and the ritual of caring for your plants means work and lots of it. Work for your branch, your society, and yourself. I even like all that! And when I'm ready for a break, I can always relax by sitting down with one of my fuchsia books for awhile. I can spend many delightful hours this way, and

learn while I enjoy.

Does this seem like an over-involvement, an exaggeration, to be so centered on fuchsias? Believe me, this is a true story, taken from real life. My life was completely changed when I found my first fuchsia, and I'll never be without fuchsias again.

Why don't you give fuchsias a try and see what they can do for you?*

From AFS Bulletin of June 1978



Funny Quotes:

"Life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer you get to the end, the faster it goes"

2024 AFS Photography Contest Rules

NOTE Change: Entry Deadline is September 6th

All American Fuchsia Society members are eligible to enter the AFS Photography Contest. Entrants grant the AFS a non-exclusive license to use their entries for educational and reference purposes. Some photographs will be published on the covers of AFS Bulletins. Contestants should make duplicate copies to keep for their personal use.

AMERICAN FUCHSIA SOCIETY 2024 PHOTO COMPETITION RULES

CLASS A: Open FUCHSIA BLOOMS single or multiple, may have buds and foliage. **Fuchsia blooms must be dominant.**

CLASS B: A well-grown fuchsia plant in a container, or in the ground

CLASS C: Novelty – fuchsia pictured with accessories or living things. **Fuchsia must be dominant.**

CLASS F: Fuchsia Fantasy – prints must have been manipulated or altered digitally using photo editing software to produce special effects.

Prints should be prepared as follows:

Only submit (1) printed photo as an entry. Photos are no longer required to be mounted.

Submit one (4x6) inch print for each entry. Do not write on the photo print. On a separate piece of paper, put the name of the cultivar, photographer, and class to be entered. **Also include AFS Branch name or Member at Large.** Tape the information on the back of each printed photo entered.

1. Individuals may enter a maximum amount of 6 prints in each class.

2. Contest Entry DEADLINE: September 6th, 2024.



Judging Categories for A, B, C, are below. Class F will only be judged on Artistry.

- 1. Composition:** A good layout keeps the main object clear and uncluttered and uses lighting to the best effect.
- 2. Format:** The format must be appropriate for the subject, i.e. landscape (horizontal), portrait (vertical).
- 3. Artistry:** The picture should have artistic appeal; i.e. good arrangement, focal point.
- 4. Technical Merit:** The entry must do justice to the cultivar or species i.e. blossom perfection, good leaf structure, absence of pests, etc.

Judging for each category is on a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being the best. The contest is judged by photography club judges who are not affiliated with the American Fuchsia Society.

A complete list of winners will be in published in the January 2025 AFS Bulletin.

Note: Usually AFS Bulletin covers photo's are selected from contest entries.

All winning prints will be enlarged to 5x7 and mounted in 8 x10 mats with labels identifying cultivar, place, class, AFS, and photographer's name.

Rules revised: May 10, 2018

Send all entries to:

AFS Photography Chairperson
By September 6th, 2024

Judy Bligh
P.O. Box 515
Clearlake Oaks, CA. 95423



What Happened on 18 May, 1930?

*American Fuchsia Society, Historian
Janis Bergquist*

Ninety-Five Years Ago!

This was the first meeting of the American Fuchsia Society. It was held at 3 o'clock at the home of the Vice President



Mrs. Selden C. Smith in Berkeley. Eleven members and five guests attended this meeting. Many of the members had brought cuttings and specimen blossoms of their fuchsias. Additional proof of the known confusion in fuchsia nomenclature was evident in the spirited arguments which occurred over 'Arabella' and other doubtful characters. At that time fuchsias bought from different nurseries under the same name bore little resemblance to each other except that both were fuchsias, which were identical in blossom and leaf structure but had been sold under different names. In addition to the renaming of fuchsias, there were fuchsias from other countries where names

were replaced with a name of their choosing. It was decided to request members send their specimens of all varieties to one place, The Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. There the collection could develop an accurate and complete list of fuchsia descriptions. They developed a list of 125 fuchsias species and cultivars. By the end of that year their list was published in the American Fuchsia Society Bulletin. ***(It wasn't until 1954 that the American Fuchsia Registration Service was established.)***

"Many cuttings and much garden gossip were exchanged, and time pleasantly wasted in enjoying the beauties of Mrs. Smith's hillside garden instead of transacting formal business; but no one worried over this as the business end of the society is very simple and it has always been the intention of the directors to transact it largely by mail knowing the scattered nature of the membership." (Today's meetings are much the same, as some include a garden tour. A major change is that some meetings are by group phone calls or Zoom meetings.



We are still a scattered fuchsia society with a lot of distance between branches and individual members.)*

Poem Collection of

Mark MacDougall

Plant A Garden

Plant four rows of PEAS:

- Patience
- Persistence
- Politeness
- Peace



Plant four rows of SQUASH:

- Squash gossip
- Squash criticism
- Squash violence
- Squash indifference

Plant four rows of LETTUCE:

- Let us be happy
- Let us obey rules
- Let us be loyal
- Let us be neighborly

Plant four rows of TURNIPS:

- Turn up with new ideas
- Turn up with enthusiasm
- Turn up with gratitude
- Turn up with a smile



2024 AFS Board Meeting Schedule

When meetings are scheduled, board members will be notified.

The next AFS Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for

Place: Crescent City - 23 August 2024 Time: TBD

PROTECTION FOR THE LONG HOT SUMMER

Author unknown

The success or failure of growing fuchsias in the warmer areas depends entirely on the attention given to ***maintaining the proper moisture content within the plant itself and to maintaining the proper humidity in the plant's environment.*** If the moisture content of the plant is not maintained at all times, the plant will be lost, but if proper care is given to maintaining the plant moisture content, high temperatures alone will not prevent successful growing of beautiful fuchsias.

There is no substitute for a tough, hardy, healthy plant. To survive warm weather, the plant must be a vigorous grower and not a weakling. Don't waste your time on a weak plants. Some hybrids are naturally delicate growers, whereas others are naturally hardy growers. Plants to be grown in warm areas should not be heavily fertilized with a lot of nitrogen during the spring. A high nitrogen fertilizer encourages a lot of green top

growth without encouraging corresponding root growth. A plant with too much green top for its root system will suffer more from high temperatures by its unbalanced structure and poor moisture circulation. Fertilizers with a good supply of phosphate and potash will encourage more vigorous stem structure and root growth rather than green leaves. With less nitrogen in the fertilizer the plants may not grow as big, but the growth that you do get will stand the heat better and will produce more blooms in the long run.

You must provide proper protection from the direct sun by keeping the plants either on the shaded side of the house or under lath protection. Light is essential and must not be too severely restricted as the digestion of fertilizer by the leaves on the plant requires light for the photo-synthetic process, but direct burning sun will dry out the leaves and stems rapidly. Equal protection must be given against dry winds. ***The sun and wind are the chief enemies against which adequate protection must be***



maintained at all times.

Atmospheric humidity goes down as temperatures rise, causing the plant to lose more moisture by evaporation from the surfaces of the leaves and stems. This can be offset by increasing atmospheric humidity in several ways. The ideal way is to install fog nozzles with an overhead sprinkling system. Low-capacity fog nozzles using one or two gallons per hour per nozzle will consume very little water but will materially increase the humidity of the atmosphere. An automatic timer which turns the nozzles on and off at intervals is ideal and is inexpensive. Keep the ground damp by frequent watering and spraying the area surrounding the structure, walls, walkways, and the leaves will help plants to recuperate during the night.

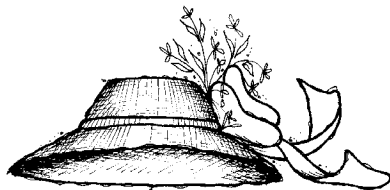
One of the greatest errors is over watering the plant during the hot weather. A plant can only absorb a limited quantity of water through its root system, regardless of how much moisture is taken out of its leaves by a dry atmosphere. If a plant is overwatered, the soil can become excessively soggy

and root rot may set in. Check your drainage and don't over water. If the soil is damp, you can do no more. This is particularly necessary in heavy adobe soils which does not drain properly. Learn to test the moisture in potted plants by their weight. A pot with damp soil will be much heavier than one with dry soil. Plants in the ground can be protected by mulch. The mulch will hold the moisture in the soil and prevent evaporation.

If your plants do get into trouble during hot weather, move them to a cool shaded area, then leave them alone and let nature take its course. Do not fertilize until new green growth starts to show.

A steady insect spray program is also essential. Aphids and red spider mites will be quick to attack in warm dry conditions.*

*Note: Edited by AFS, Bulletin
Editors to fit available space.
From: AFS Bulletin of July 1, 1966.*



Fuchsia Problem Solving

Good, strong growing plants are less susceptible to diseases, pests, and weather conditions. Keep plants positioned to avoid the shock of sudden cold or hot weather. Keep plants separated for air circulation, water adequately, but don't over-water and fertilize regularly (weekly) with a one quarter strength balanced fertilizer. **Do not substitute fertilizing for watering, never fertilize a dry plant.** Watch your plants for problems such as:

- **Flower Drop** – Your plant has had a shock. Often this is caused by inadequate light or the plant has dried out too rapidly due to dry weather or wind.

- **Leaf Drop** – Something has caused the plant to shed leaves to survive a shock. It could be inadequate light, drying out or even over-watering. Leaf drops are especially likely in hot weather.

- **Scorch Marks** – Marks on leaf tops or tips may be caused by salt damage: chemicals/fertilizers being

used incorrectly or by extremely hot weather. Do not over-feed and try to minimize the effects of extreme heat by placing plants in as cool a place as possible. Be careful in selecting a previously used spray bottle for your fuchsia applications: rinse out the previous contents thoroughly, or risk poisoning the plant.

- **Leaf Redness** – this symptom usually shows up when plants are exposed to low temperatures, especially a rapid change. This redness usually causes little problems, except in plant appearance.

- **Grey Mold** – Most common in cold wet damp weather. Control Watering. Improve air circulation around plants. Remove and destroy all dead or damaged leaves.

- **Yellowing Leaves** – Progressive yellowing of the oldest leaves on your plants tells you they need feeding.*

*From: British Columbia Fuchsia and Begonia Society of August 2015
Edited by AFS, bulletin editors to fit available space.*

I ♥ Gardening



Your Bulletin Editors Need a Little Help

By Rodney Bergquist

Each bulletin reflects what we have received from our members. **Janis Bergquist said it best, our Bulletin should reflect current**



ment American Fuchsia Society membership involvement in our society. If the current bulletin seems like it has interesting articles, repeated from past bulletins, it indicates we did not receive any current articles or input.

Do you have a favorite fuchsia you would like to write about? Do you have a favorite fuchsia article you think we should reprint? Do you have a favorite poem or quote you think our members would enjoy? How about sharing one of your garden-related learning experiences, good or bad, we have all made mistakes and hopefully we can laugh about it now. Write about someone in your branch who deserves to be recognized for their special contribution to your

learning experience, your branch, or our society.

We want your bulletin to be fresh and interesting. If you can, help us put together an interesting bulletin. We would appreciate your contribution. Thank you in advance. Please send your bulletin input to co-editor, Janis Bergquist, 819 Carolina St, Vallejo, CA. 94590. Email: JBERGQ@pacbell.net*



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Branch Directory

Crescent City: 3rd Wednesday,
Potluck at 6:00 p.m. before every meeting, Del Norte County Fairgrounds Dining Room, Hwy 1, Crescent City, CA. Mailing Address: Crescent City, Fuchsia and Epiphyllum Society 1730 S Bethesda Way Crescent City, CA 95531 (562) 533-4810 <delfiedanner@yahoo.com>

Sacramento: 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m.
Shepherd Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95824 (916) 743-4028 norahaley65@yahoo.com

Salem Area: 2nd Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.
13th St. Nursery
1298 13th St. SE, Salem, OR. 97302
Mailing address: 4543 Brock Loops, Salem, OR 97302 (503) 584-1786 <knighten_g@yahoo.com>

San Mateo: First Sat, every other month, 10:00 a.m.
Presbyterian Church, 1500 Easton dr. Burlingame, CA (650) 875-1938 <oscarcolin@sbcglobal.net>

Santa Clara Valley: 1st Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
323 Pine Lane A-302,
Los Altos, CA 94022 (650) 793-7447 <egspack@yahoo.com>

Sebastopol: 4th Friday, 11:00 a.m.
(Potlucks TBA)
Wischemann Hall.,
465 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
locations occasionally change,
contact (707) 838-9429 for location <berrydelight80@yahoo.com>

Affiliated Society

Eugene Fuchsia & Begonia Society
2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Eugene Garden Club, 645 High St., Eugene, OR
(541) 935-2482 <sfuchsia@gmail.com>



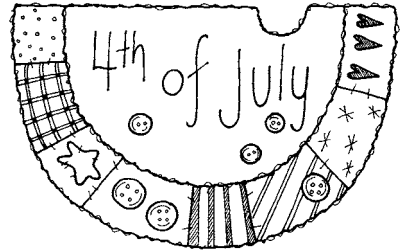
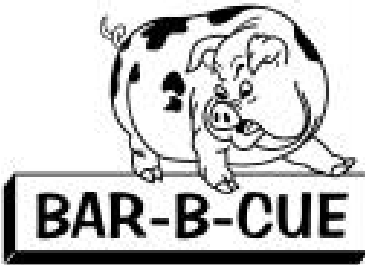
AFS INSURANCE
State Farm Insurance
Ask for Marcedes
Montenegro
1075 Old County Rd.
Suite A
Belmont CA 94002
(650) 598-0394
FAX: (650) 593-8286
**Contact State Farm
Insurance directly**

If there is a problem,
contact AFS President



2024 Branch Programs

- Jul 17 Crescent City-Meet @ 6:00 pm - Pre-Fair entry review
Jul 28 Crescent City- (Sunday 11:00 am - 1:00 pm) Fair Set up
Jul 31 Crescent City- (Wednesday 11-6) Submit plants you want judged by the public
Aug 21 Crescent City-Recap Fair Happenings
Sep 18 Crescent City-Meet @ 6:00 pm - Possible speaker
Oct 16 Crescent City-Meet @ 5:00 pm -Putting plants to sleep
Nov 20 Crescent City-Meet @ 5:00 pm - Thanksgiving Feast
Dec 11 Crescent City-Meet @ 500 pm - Christmas Celebration



Mark your Calendar - Special Events

- Jul 27 Sebastopol-Annual Plant Sale 9 am - 12 noon or sold out
Aug 1-4 Crescent City Fair (Thursday-Sunday)
Aug 23 Crescent City - AFS Board meeting, location & time TBD
Aug 24 Crescent City-Garden Tour 9:15 am, meet @ Fair Parking lot.

WANT MORE FUCHSIA CULTURE INFORMATION?

Contact AFS Fuchsia Consultant
Janis Bergquist by e-mail or phone.
Contact info is on page 2 of every AFS Bulletin.

AFS has a Facebook page. Within Facebook search American Fuchsia Society. AFS members can post branch activities, photos, plant sales etc. The Sebastopol Branch also has a Facebook page called Sebastopol Fuchsia Friends.

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MEMBERSHIP

AMERICAN FUCHSIA SOCIETY

Membership is \$19 plus \$3 for each additional family member (outside U.S. foreign airmail \$25) for 12 month's membership, which includes a subscription to our quarterly American Fuchsia Society BULLETIN. Checks or drafts must be drawn on a U.S. Bank in U.S. dollars. U.S. Postal money orders are also accepted.

Send to Membership Secretary: New Member Renewal

Judy Bligh, P.O. Box 515, Clearlake Oaks, 95423

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone () _____

(Nine digit, please)

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