



# North Coast Journal

CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

## TWO AUGUST EVENTS COMING RIGHT UP!



### ~ August Dinner Meeting ~

**Tuesday August 13th**

**Social Event @ the Sonoma Horticultural Gardens**

**& Nursery in Sebastopol: 5:45 – 8:00 PM**

*3970 Azalea Lane, Sebastopol*

**TACOS & “Hen House” CRAFT BEERS (2 Types)**

**\$ 30 per person**

- ~ 7 ½ Acres of Botanical Gardens
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- ~ History of the Gardens
- ~ Long Lived Edibles
- ~ Large Growth of Dawn Redwoods
- ~ A Chinese Cypress (candidate for rarest in America)

### ~ Further Irrigation Training ~

**SATURDAY AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>**

*Saturday Class Includes:*

**Trencher**

**Valve Repair & Head Adjustment**

**Mainline, Backflow & Equipment**

**Application of Water**



*(Application is inside)*

**Sign-up deadline is August 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Call Connie for more info (707) 217-2139**



## NORTH COAST CHAPTER EVENTS

**August 13<sup>th</sup> .....Chapter Social Event – Sonoma Horticultural Nursery & Gardens – Sebastopol**

**August 17<sup>th</sup> .....Irrigation Training @ Buckeye Ranch (See application inside)**



## 2019 North Coast



The **Installation Sweepstakes** went to **JKT Associates** and Chris McNairy presented the Award from Hunter /FX

## THE WINNERS



**Dibble Landscaping** won the **Maintenance Sweepstakes**. Pictured above are Jeff Dibble, Lou Penning & Jim Dibble

## Achievement Awards



The **Judges Award** went to **Creative Environments**. Sweet Lane Nursery sponsored. They also won 4 First Place Awards.



**Landesign** accepting one of two Firsts won that night in Maintenance & Installation



**Garden of Ease** won 3 Firsts and a recognition. Here with Eddy Baca from Watersavers.



**Coast Landscape** receives a First from CLCA Insurance Solutions. They won 2 Firsts & 2 Recognitions.



Lisa from LCIS with Luis Lua from Cagwin & Dorward and his First Place



**Francisco Prado** from **Prado Landscaping** won a First & a Recognition in Maintenance.



Larry Kaiser of SiteOne presents **Prado Landscaping** a 1<sup>st</sup> for Large Residential Maintenance



## 2019 North Coast

THE  
WINNERS

## Achievement Awards



Doug & Brian from the Urban Farmer Store presents **Garden of Ease** with another First Place Award this time for Custom Residential Installation



Ashell Cunningham of **Dibble Landscaping** here with chapter president Lou Penning, accepts one of 3 First Place Awards.



**Pacific Landscape** won a First Place in the Small Commercial Maintenance category for Washington Square.



The Recognition Award for Medium Design Build went to **Equinox Landscape**



**Suma Landscaping** won the Recognition Award for Small Residential Maintenance



Rodney from **Autumn Skies** took home a Recognition Award in the Renovation category.



Eduardo Vigil from Horizon presents a Recognition Award to **Coast Landscape**

Every year in the end of May, I have the distinct pleasure to ride for 2 days all around Sonoma, Marin and Napa counties with the Achievement Awards judges (& Chris McNairy). The caliber of the projects that this chapter produces is so incredibly stellar that I have to say, it makes for some really rough judging decisions!!!

I want to congratulate all those companies who entered their beautiful work this year and thank you for entering, because this allows me to comprehensively wander around and appreciate some of the most beautiful landscapes in the North Coast. I look forward to seeing what amazing projects will be on our judging routes for next year!!!!

Thanks again to our driver, **Chris McNairy** from Hunter and our judges; **Gil Gonzalez, Thomas Raeth & Eric Santos!** I love and am SO proud of this chapter ~**Connie Salinas**

## North Coast Chapter Board - Directors, Chairs & Members

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## Our "Star Wars" Awards Banquet @ The Flamingo



New member, Richard Sandifer & new nurseryman, Mike Boss



One of our esteemed 2019 judges, Thomas Raeth, of Lafayette Tree & Garden



The Force was with Landesign & their 2 Firsts!



Connie Salinas & Rodney Rose from Autumn Skies



Kelly Hadley with Lou Penning and his wife Julie



Luis Lua & his date from Cagwin & Dorward



Darcy McNairy with Colin Close & Deb Lane from City of Santa Rosa Water Department



Brian Murphy from Urban Farmer Store with Darryl Orr of Pacific Landscapes & President Lou Penning



Chris Stewart from Bertotti Landscaping & Eduardo from Horizon





**Jedi Master** (and State CLCA Director), **Sandra Giarde**, lent an official, otherworldly presence as our "Master" of Ceremonies. We had over a hundred attendees and almost everyone went home with a light saber. Thanks again to **SBI** for the table wines and **Landscapes Unlimited** for the appetizers!!!



### HUGE THANKS!

To: Sweet Lane Nursery

Every year, **Jim Dreer** & his hard working crew come and embellish the Flamingo banquet hall utilizing the perfect plant material to fit our theme for that year. Jim does the most amazing job of staging the ballroom. And that "Twisty Baby" (left) is such a fabulous specimen!





# MANY THANKS TO OUR 2019 NORTH COAST PARTNERS !!



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## Greetings from Bamboo Sourcing!

First off, we hope this e-mail finds you (and your bamboo!) flourishing. Secondly, don't worry about your e-mail address being shared with anyone. I've bcc'd the entire list (of our dedicated Marin County customers).



We thought you might like to know that the Mill Valley City Council has already passed bamboo planting restrictions as part of their local vegetation ordinances, but now they are proposing to ban it entirely! This is based on the erroneous idea that bamboo is highly flammable (which it is not). While we support efforts to reduce fire danger in our region, this potential bamboo ban is terribly misguided. If properly maintained, bamboo is less flammable than many other common landscape plants. See letter inserted below for details.

### **Important: If passed, the Mill Valley proposal would require you to remove all the bamboo planted on your property by May 2021.**

<http://www.cityofmillvalley.org/news/displaynews.htm?NewsID=2058&TargetID=1>

If you are a Mill Valley resident, we urge you to speak up! Come to the **City Council meeting on Monday, August 5th at 6:30pm**. It will take place at the **Mill Valley City Hall at 26 Corte Madera Avenue**. We will be there representing bamboo and advocating for proper bamboo maintenance, which should be evaluated on a case by case basis. We will stand and speak up for our entire Marin County client base! If you can't attend, please submit a comment to City Clerk, Kelsey Rogers.

Even if you don't live in Mill Valley, note that if this law goes into effect, other towns and cities in Marin could easily follow suit. Let's not risk bamboo becoming outlawed!

### **Please see our letter written to Fire Chiefs, Tom Welch and Scott Barnes:**

*Tom Welch, Scott Barnes, and City Council Officials:*

*We would like to take this opportunity to professionally support our client [name omitted]. He is correct in stating that live, well-maintained bamboo is NOT the problem. As experts in our field, we would like to clarify that live bamboo is not a fire hazard. The fire risk is caused by the accumulation of dead canes, leaves, and culm sheaths if they are not cleaned out annually. There is a lot of misinformation being spread about the flammability of bamboo, and we would like to dispel the myth that bamboo is a fire hazard.*

*Live bamboo canes are made up of cellulose, unusually high amounts of silica, and water. In addition, bamboo contains very few volatile oils. In fact, live bamboo is very hard to ignite, even with direct flame. It is instead improper maintenance, not the plant itself, that can contribute to the spread of fire. Proper maintenance consists of removing dead canes, clearing out dead leaves and culm sheaths, and properly watering so that bamboo doesn't dry out and die. Where appropriate, another safety precaution is pruning bamboo so that it does not become a "fire ladder". The branches can be easily pruned six feet or more from ground level, as is recommended for any tree in a fire-prone area. Among*



*other uses, bamboo provides homeowners a natural, living approach to privacy screening, unlike a wood fence, which will ignite quickly in a natural fire disaster. Contrarily, live bamboo, which lacks volatile oils and has a high silica and water content, is much harder to ignite.*

*We are aware that San Rafael and Mill Valley have passed local ordinances that include planting restrictions of bamboo. This is unfortunate and not based on fact or science. It comes from the erroneous idea that bamboo is highly flammable. It is even more unfortunate and misguided that the most recent Mill Valley proposal requires the removal of all bamboo entirely. While we greatly appreciate and want to support your efforts to limit fire danger in our region, bamboo should not be directly blamed or placed on any pyrophytic plant "hit list". Rather than bans, regulations regarding the maintenance and placement of all landscaping plants (particularly ones high in volatile oils) should be considered. Bamboo on each property should be maintained and evaluated on a case by case basis.*

*Again, the key to bamboo fire safety is proper maintenance, and it takes a minimal amount of work once per year, to mitigate bamboo fire danger. Not only that, but bamboo sequesters carbon from the atmosphere and produces 35% more oxygen and consumes 4 times more carbon than an equivalent stand of trees. It is highly effective for erosion control and can be used to quickly replenish damaged landscapes after fire, flood, and other disasters. Bamboo is very effective at removing excess nitrogen, heavy metals, and other toxic substances from soils and water. In short, besides from being a sustainable material, bamboo has many benefits in our landscape that shouldn't be overlooked.*

*We urge you to reconsider these proposals. We will continue to advocate for bamboo fire safety education in the greater Bay Area, with scientific backings, American Bamboo Society support, and video demonstrations. We plan to attend the City Council meeting held this coming Monday night and will be available for further discussion at that time. See you there!*

*Thank you for your time,*

*Joe Ruffatto and Jennifer York  
Owners*



### Inspirational Quotes....

**"Whether you think you can or think you can't, you're right." ~ Henry Ford**

**"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." ~ C.S. Lewis**





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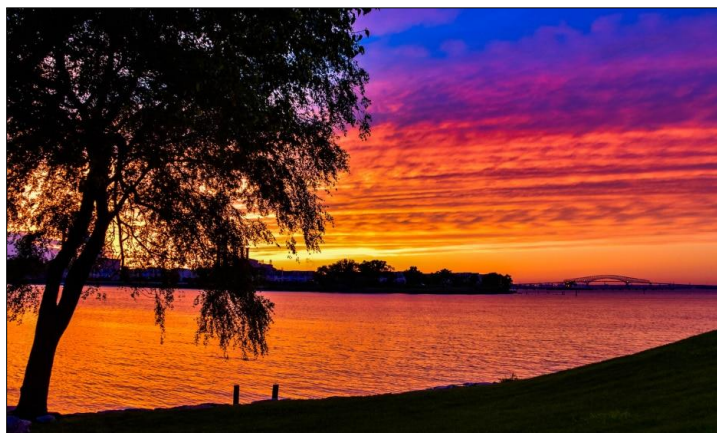
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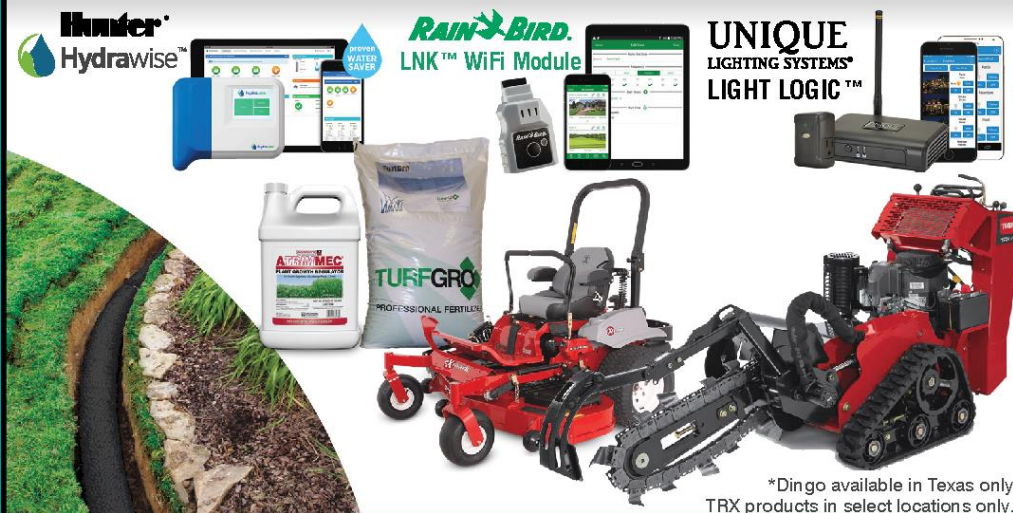
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# SUMMER *Training*



## MAINTENANCE TRAINING 2019

Students & trainers enjoy a delicious taco lunch at Buckeye Ranch.



Henry Buder welcomes Watersaver's Josette Romero to maintenance training.



Andrew Johnson of Johnson's Tree and Garden Service teaches students proper pruning techniques and fire safety practices.



John Buchholz of Buchholz Landscape Construction and Salvador Ledesma of Gardenworks, Inc. teach proper controller programming.



A J de Lopez of de Lopez Landscaping and Dennis Donlan of Johnson's Tree and Garden Service teach fertilizer & pesticide.



Alberto Hernandez of Special Gardens in San Mateo teaches big mowers & maintenance equipment.

The *North Coast Chapter* is the only chapter in the entire state that offers an annual training program. We are so fortunate to have so many members who volunteer their time and energy to teach these classes every summer!!! We also couldn't accomplish this without the use of Tony & Kim Bertotti's Buckeye Ranch and the never-ceasing enthusiasm & drive of Henry Buder.

*This is a very special chapter!!!*





*North Coast Chapter* CLCA

# APPLICATION FOR TRAINING

### Third Training of the Year

## August 17, 2019.....Irrigation Training

**8:00 AM – 3:00 PM** (*Check-in is at 7:00 AM*)

The North Coast Chapter CLCA education committee is proud to be offering more valuable training again this year. Thanks to Kim & Tony Bertotti for allowing us to use Buckeye Ranch for these hands-on classes.

▶ **APPLICATION DEADLINE** for IRRIGATION is **August 10, 2019**

This is an all-day event and attendees are required to **arrive 7:00 AM** the day of the training to sign in. They should also have with them work clothes and the hand tools they use in their every workday practice.

These hands-on field Seminars will be held at Bertotti Landscaping in Petaluma:

♦ Buckeye Ranch - 2425 Adobe Road - Petaluma on the following Saturday♦

***This Saturday Class Includes:***

## Trencher

## Valve Repair & Head Adjustment

## Mainline, Backflow & Equipment

### Application of Water

**August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

## Irrigation

**(INCLUDES LUNCH)**

Company Name

Employee Name(s)

**\$85.00 Per Person**

2

5

2

5

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## Discounts

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$**

1. Companies enrolling candidates in any three seminars need only pay \$75 (can't be used in addition to trainer discount). **The other trainings will be: Construction on 9-14-19 and Low Voltage Lighting (date TBD)**
2. If your company supplies a trainer on any of these days, then you receive a 25% discount on final total. **If you are interested in volunteering as a trainer, please contact Henry Buder @ (415) 686-9228**



*Please send completed application and check made out to  
CLCA North Coast Chapter ... P.O. Box 1621 Sebastopol, CA 95473 (707) 217-2139*



## Saying Goodbye to The Landscape Industry Certified Technician Program.

2019 saw the last of the testing for certification. The last written test took place this month on Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> in San Marcos. And back in April the **last Hands-on Test** took place at Cuyamaca College. So many North Coast members volunteered over the years and Henry Buder who was almost always there chronicles the final days in pictures below. Thanks to Henry and all the chapter members who donated their time to this program year after year..



Local Chairman  
extraordinaire!  
Jorge Sanchez was the  
best local chair we have  
ever had



Youngest to oldest Certification leaders  
Jorge Sanchez, Henry Buder, Sir Charles  
Nunley



4 CLCA North Coast Giants  
Henry Buder, Salvador Ledesma,  
Lester Saquelares, Chris Stewart



Applicant working on paver problem



Brad Monroe, Cuyamaca  
College professor of  
horticulture, has supported  
CLCA certification test for at  
least the last 12 years



This applicant had worked since  
8:15 in the morning, trying to  
finish up 4 modules, which  
would make him certified in all  
5 modules. Very inspirational!



Our sweet administrator, Allison LoDolce,  
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##### **Winter**

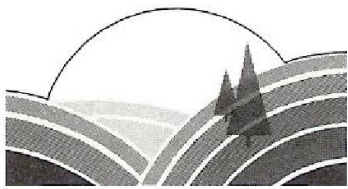
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### Airline Anecdotes

**Occasionally, airline attendants make an effort to make the “inflight safety lecture” and their other announcements a bit more entertaining. Here are a few of their comments:**

Pilot: “Folks, we have reached our cruising altitude now, so I am going to switch the seat belt sign off. Feel free to move about as you wish, but please stay inside the plane till we land. It’s a bit cold outside, and if you walk on the wings it affects the flight pattern.”

As the plane landed and was coming to a stop, a lone voice came over the loudspeaker: “Whoa, big fella, Whoa!”

“Your seat cushions can be used for flotation. In the event of an emergency water landing, please take them with our compliments.”

“As you exit the plane, please make sure to gather all of your belongings. Anything left behind will be distributed evenly among the flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses.”

“Last one off the plane must clean it.”

From the pilot during his welcome message: “We are pleased to have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight.”

The pilot had hammered his plane into the runway really hard and the airline had a policy which required the first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and give them a “Thanks for flying with us.” He said that in light of the bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye thinking that someone would have a smart comment. Finally, everyone had gotten off except for this little old lady walking with a cane. She said, “Sonny, did we land or were we shot down?”

After landing: “Thank you for flying Delta. We hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride.”



**Landscapes Unlimited** is a wholesale nursery located 3 miles west of downtown Petaluma, California. We offer over 800 varieties of landscaping plants in 1 *through* 15 gallon sizes. If we don’t have what you need, we will special order it for you.

**Landscapes Unlimited** has been in business since 1981 and has a reputation of supplying beautiful and healthy plants. Our staff has an average of almost 20 years of experience in the industry and is very knowledgeable about plants and the climates they tolerate.