



Association of
Professional
Landscape
Designers
California Chapter

California Landscape Design

Fall into Gardens, Learning, & Time with Friends

"Designing today's gardens for tomorrow's California"



Photo by Martin Carrion Van Rijn

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The President's Message

by APLD CA President - Martin G. Carrion van Rijn



Greetings,

I hope this message finds you all well. I am aware this message may be repeating some of my points from previous publications. Nevertheless, the message is repeated because I believe some points need further consideration.

Volunteering is at the heart of everything we do. It is through volunteering that we can truly harness our collective power and bring about positive change.

In California, it is of utmost importance that we continue to advocate for the right to practice our profession. If we want Landscape designers to be recognized as qualified and valuable professionals in the state, we must continuously make our voices heard in our areas of expertise.

We are currently looking for someone to step up and take the APLD CA Chapter Advocacy chair position for 2024. As Cheryl Buckwalter steps down from this position, I want to thank her for her outstanding dedication and commitment to Advocacy.

There are also other numerous ways to get involved at the chapter and district levels, from getting involved with the Advocacy committee, the right to practice, following bills, writing articles for the California Landscape Design Newsletter, helping organize educational events, and participating in community outreach projects. Whether you're a seasoned professional or new to the field, your contribution is valued and needed.

Let us remember that APLD is only as strong as its members. Your dedication, passion, and commitment elevate and enable us to achieve many wonderful things.

Please continue to read on to learn more about the wonderful times we had during the APLD CA Chapter Board Conference and learning event.

Martin G. Carrion van Rijn
APLD CA President 2023



APLD 2023

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Photo by Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn

APLD CA Chapter October 23 Event

by Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn, APLD CA President



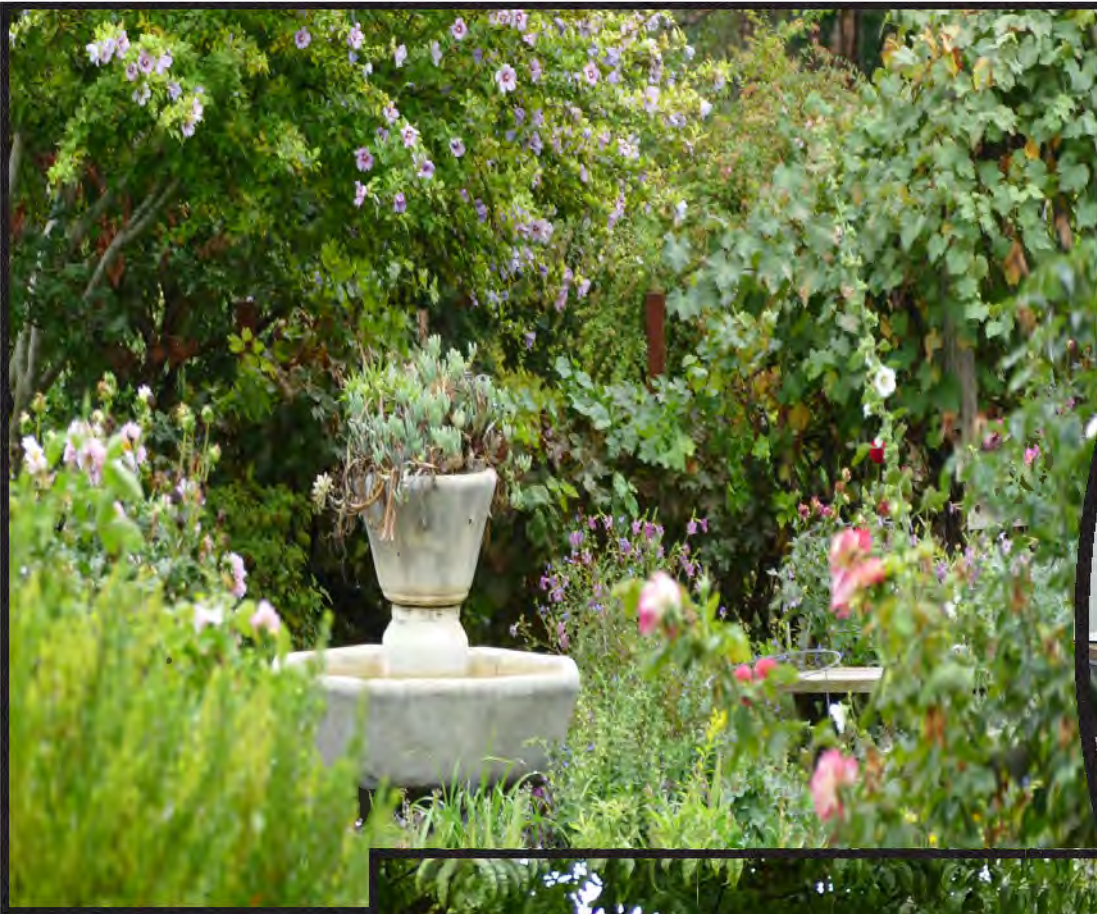
On October 22, the APLD CA Chapter board invited the Bay area and Sacramento districts to join us on a day of learning activities. I want to thank everyone who was able to join us for the event to learn about and tour the SmartLandscape.

Executive Director Dave Fujino's team Emily Finch, Haven Kiers, Anthony La, Jarred Sisneroz, and Don Franklin, presented the very important work they have been doing on the SmartLandscape program. They showcased their actual water use findings with different irrigation methods and low-water plant materials in a very lively, clear way.

It was interesting to see the difference between all the methods. It was surprising to see how some of those methods would comply with MWELO water budgets or not, with the same or similar plant material and circumstances. Above all, I believe it was important to see how all these studies take place and how they can and will affect MWELO and WUCOLS in the future, and perhaps even more so, legislation, as they show actual water use vs. estimated water use of plant materials, using very highly developed methods of irrigation. We also saw the demonstration gardens firsthand and the green roofs and fields.



Photos by Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn



*All photos for the APLD CA
October 23 Event
photographer and courtesy
of
APLD CA President 2023
Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn*



Continue ... APLD CA October 23 Event



Next, we visited Patrica Carpenter's Garden, recipient of a professional award from Pacific Horticulture. We were all delighted to hear about her journey and passion for gardening. As well as her experimentation with plant communities using low-watering practices.

Walking with her around the garden was wonderful and also hearing her stories about design and her approach to watering was most intriguing. Much of the garden is watered with overhead irrigation. However, the native garden hedgerow and verge planting need no extra water. It only gets water when plants are being established. In that area she had California natives and Mediterranean plants.

Patricia also does garden rambles with CNPS at different times of the year, inviting people to see what the garden looks like during every season. She says seeing a garden's different stages during the year is important. She definitely designs for all year-round interests. Seeing how much Patrica grows and develops her Garden by connecting to the community was inspiring. She and a dedicated group of volunteers maintain and develop the garden.

In the late afternoon, we attended a presentation by Alicia Funk. She shared with us her extensive knowledge of native plants in the landscape and how many were used for culinary or practical uses besides landscape plants. She shared some of her bounties, like ciders, manzanita flower spices, and Toyon cider. I found her presentation very inspiring, making me want to connect more with our native plants and harvest some of their abundant gifts. I highly recommend her book, "Living Wild".

We completed the day with a delicious dinner at a seafood restaurant.



Photos by Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn



Overall, this was an incredible day, even though we had intermittent rains during and between activities. I enjoyed learning about very technical watering practices, exploring a garden with other designers, and learning more about the culinary uses of native plants. Above all, it was delightful just to be together with our leaders from throughout the state as well as some of our members and sponsors. Seeing smiling faces, and connecting with one another in our beautiful surroundings was priceless. To experience timeless moments, surrounded by beauty and friends.

Best,

Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn
APLD CA President 2023



Photos by Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn



Hanging with the Designers

by Matt Foggiato, Sales Manager



Gold Sponsor



Photos by Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn



I was given the opportunity to attend the APLD event at UC Davis on October 22. I often find myself eager to get out of the office and meet with my customers in their element, and this was a perfect opportunity.

Upon arrival, I was greeted with such welcome arms by many people whom I have only communicated with in emails and phone calls. There was no shortage of smiling faces and positive vibes. The collection of designers and professionals was quite a sight to see. I felt privileged to be in attendance.

The demonstration given by the UC Davis crew was top-notch. The presentation was very enjoyable. Their charismatic way of delivering detailed information in a way that makes sense to individuals who may not completely speak their lingo was much appreciated.

After the SmartLandscape demonstration, we saw the beautiful wonder of Patricia Carpenter's Garden. This was such an amazing experience. The Garden showcased a wonderful variety of plants, and I really enjoyed the amount of detail and the processes that Patricia uses in both her traditional and native garden.

For someone like me who enjoys plant identification, this place sure had my attention from the moment I stepped out of my truck.

I can tell you that all the designers are truly creative individuals who put their hearts into what they do. They blend art and science into everyday spaces. Such a diverse group who come from all types of backgrounds with this common love for design, something I can relate to myself.

THE ADVOCACY CORNER

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & A CALL TO ACTION

by Cheryl Buckwalter, APLD CA & Sacramento District, Advocacy Chair



Advocacy accomplishments in 2023. First and foremost, I wish to thank the APLD CA Board for your support and our Executive Committee for your tremendous contributions and leadership: President Martin Carrion van Rijn, Immediate Past President Francesca Corra, Treasurer Tina Roushall, and Secretary Marcia Scott. Especially since we had limited member participation, the following would not have been possible without you!

Slow the Burn Symposium Follow-up - As planned, an educational video was created by Sarah Sutton, an APLD Educator Member, in follow-up to the Slow the Burn Symposium. View the presentation [here](#).

- A recent groups.io conversation suggested scheduling a statewide webinar with CalFire and representatives from local agencies to discuss the rollout of anticipated standards and regulations, especially related to Zone Zero, the ember-resistant zone. While we are learning about some local jurisdictions creating their own regulations and plant lists, we need to continue to remain informed and engaged.
- **Call to Action-Form a Working Group** - If there is consensus, I suggest that members from each district, district Boards, and Program Chairs form a working group to discuss and organize this webinar and coordinate it with Chapter leaders.

Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELO) Training and Roundtable Discussion

This training for our members took place on May 17. The recording is available to members on the APLD CA Vimeo platform.

- **Department of Water Resources (DWR) MWELO Update and Landscape Statewide Advisory Group (LSAG)** – Led by Francesca and as a Co-lead, we attended six virtual meetings. We had some member participation as well. The EC and I submitted comments and edits, including the request to use “Designer of Record” instead of “...bear the signature of a licensed landscape architect, licensed landscape contractor, or any other person authorized to design a landscape” for the Landscape Design Plan and Irrigation Design Plan documentation. It is unknown at this time whether this edit that DWR staff included in the proposed edits to MWELO will continue to be included during the next steps in this process so, once again, it is critical that we remain involved in this process.
- DWR did not convene another LSAG meeting as we had been informed would be the case. Instead, a Public Hearing has been scheduled on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, and a Comment Period is open until January 16, 2024.

- **Call to Action** - Since we do not have an Advocacy Chair for 2024, Francesca Corra has agreed to take point on this on a temporary basis and is forming a MWELO Committee to review and comment on the current version and to monitor happenings in the months ahead. **Those of you willing to participate on this Committee please contact Francesca directly at fcorra@aol.com.**

Please see the complete Rulemaking information on the DWR website, [click here](#).

Additional information about MWELO can be found by [clicking here](#).

- **AB 1573, Assembly Member Friedman, Co-Author Senator Stern. Water conservation: landscape design: model ordinance. Sponsored by CNPS** – The Chapter’s EC and I actively participated throughout the legislative process to support our rights, go on record with our positions, and submit proposed edits. Senator Stern ordered The bill to inactive file for the 2023 session.

- **Advocacy Training** – [The recording](#) of this in-person training in 2021 remains timely and was added to the apldca.org website and our YouTube channel.

- **California Architects Board (CAB) and Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC)** - Marcia Scott monitored CAB & LATC agendas and proposed regulatory changes. She and I attended virtual LATC meetings throughout the year, and a number of members and the EC attended the last meeting on November 17, in which the LATC discussed the 2022-2024 Strategic Plan Objectives to work with the ASLA and Other License Advocates to Address Concerns Regarding Licensed Versus Unlicensed Professionals to Educate and Protect Consumers.

- **Our Rights as Professional Landscape Designers - Resources** were added to Legislation section of Advocacy on apldca.org, including: Permitted Practices in California, Business & Professions Code, & MWELO.

- **APLD National Sustainability Committee** - Marcia Scott was actively involved and represented APLD CA Advocacy. She contributed to development of the new Sustainability section on apld.org website and wrote articles for the Design Online publication.

- **Healthy Pots Healthy Planet (HPHP) Initiative** – Advocacy representative Karen Hunt continued to

participate and work with Toni Bailey at the national level. With the support of the Chapter’s Board, the Advocacy contributed funds for the development of the [HPHP Website](#).

- **California Landscape Design Advocacy Corner** – We have continued to write articles and keep members apprised of Advocacy training, events, and actions. [Click here](#) to view the Summer 2023 issue.

Looking forward to 2024 - As APLD CA Chapter President Martin Carrion van Rijn recently stated, “Our right to practice is something we need to keep an eye on continuously. It is one of the most important reasons why we need to have active board and committee members tracking all of what is going on and be able to take action.”

My role as the APLD CA Advocacy Chair is coming to an end, so, I’ll say it once again: Since efforts to recruit a new Chair and Advocacy Committee members have been unsuccessful, it will be even more important for us as individual members and districts to stay abreast of issues that protect and support our work as professional landscape designers. While the Chapter’s Executive Committee (EC) is committed to advocating for our rights, it’s important to understand that they have many other responsibilities.

It is abundantly clear to me that we all have a lot on our plates, and our families and well-being are premier priorities. With that said, I’m hopeful that our advocacy work will continue, even though it is unclear what the shape, form, and function will be in 2024. I have appreciated seeing how active members voice their opinions, share their experiences. Hopefully, this will result in increased participation with their districts and the chapter. As expressed before, we are all in this together.

I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season with family, friends, colleagues.



Cheryl Buckwalter
APLD CA & Sacramento District
Advocacy Chair
advocacy@apldca.org

WUCOLS IV UPDATE

Seeking Volunteers for Regional Committees

As reported in the California Landscape Design [Summer 2023](#) newsletter, the Water Use Classifications of Landscape Species (WUCOLS IV) database is being updated. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has partnered with the California Center for Urban Horticulture (CCUH) to add up to 1,700 low and very low water-use taxa to WUCOLS under the leadership of CCUH Executive Director David W. Fujino, Ph.D.

The CCUH is now recruiting volunteer representatives from different California climate zones to form Regional Committees to ensure that the same plant growing in multiple regions will be assigned a water-use plant factor that accounts for climatic differences. (The Model Water efficient Landscape Ordinance [MWELo] requires the use of WUCOLS as a resource for plant factors used in water budget calculations.) Online technology, such as ZOOM or Microsoft Teams, will be utilized for meetings. **The target timeline for Committees to commence is the end of January/early February 2024.**

Committees will represent these regions: North-Central Coastal, Central Valley, South Coastal, South Inland, High/Intermediate, and Low Desert, as described in the [WUCOLS IV User Manual](#). A new region for the Northern-Sierra part of the state is under consideration.

Regional Committees will be comprised of representatives from the horticultural industry, academia, government agencies, and NGOs (non-government organizations).

Criteria for Regional Committee Selection:

1. Twenty+ years of experience in the landscape industry
2. Knowledgeable about native and non-native plants
3. Experience with a large number of species in the respective region
4. Experience with plant performance in urban residential, commercial, and non-residential landscapes
5. Experience with landscape irrigation systems (subsurface and surface)
6. The Working knowledge of MWELo and WUCOLS database, including an understanding of the WUCOLS User Manual
7. Effective collaborator in an online platform for Committee meetings
8. Ability to be objective, respectful of others' opinions, and utilize active listening skills.

Do you or someone you know meet this criteria?

Please contact Cheryl Buckwalter at cbuckwalter@ucdavis.edu or Dave Fujino at dwfujino@ucdavis.edu to express your interest in participating on a Regional Committee and/or to recommend someone.

Also, please provide contact information.



Photo by Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn

Water Use Classification of Landscape Species

WUCOLS IV 2014

L. R. Costello

Environmental Horticulture Advisor Emeritus
University of California Cooperative Extension

K. S. Jones

Environmental Horticulture Associate
University of California Cooperative Extension

January 2014

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APLD CA Sacramento District September 30 Event
A Visit to The Baracco Family Private Garden





Photos by Soleil Tranquilli, Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn, & Traci Carr



Photos by Martin G. Carr



ion Van Rijn, & Traci Carr





Photos by Traci Carr

Apple Hill, Winery, & Sherwood Gardens

Photos Continue to Tell the Story

APLD Sacramento District September 30 Event





Photos of Baracco Family Garden by Martin



G. Carrion Van Rijn & Traci Carr





Photo of Sherwood Gardens by Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn

Photo courtesy of Cheryl Buckwalter, APLD CA Chapter President 2023



Meet the New Members



Joslyn Amato, Qualified Professional, Senior Landscape Designer

How did you learn about APLD and what led you to join?

I came across the APLD website while searching for professional organizations.

What do you hope to gain through your membership with APLD?

There are many networking opportunities and resources available to members.

What environmentally sustainable concepts do you apply to your landscape practice?

As a SITES AP, sustainability is very important to me. I use climate-appropriate materials and recycled content and recyclable materials whenever possible, support our core values and construction team operations.

What is your favorite landscape design style and why?

My favorite design aesthetic blends clean, modern lines with natural materials. A modern outdoor space can still feel like it fits seamlessly into the surrounding environment.

Do you have a favorite landscape design book or website you would like to recommend?

I'm always inspired by the work of Ground Studio Landscape Architecture, and other designers who want to gain a complete understanding of what sustainability means in landscape design.

Landwell Design + Build Co., O: 805.439.3747 | C: 805.674.0812 | W. www.landwell.com



Karen Panico, Student, Bay Area

How did you learn about APLD and what led you to join?

I learned about APLD through the Ruth Bancroft Dry Garden Certificate Program and learned about the extensive community and resources. I talked with several members and was inspired to join.

What do you hope to gain through your membership with APLD?

There's so much to learn about landscape design; it's endless. I hope APLD will provide me with the resources and community I need to grow as a professional.

What environmentally sustainable concepts do you apply to your landscape practice?

Lawn conversion and drought-tolerant design are the core tenets of my 'practice' and my love for our native ecosystem. When you see it in pictures over time it's really impactful for them and us.

What is your favorite landscape design style and why?

My design style is modern. I studied architecture and worked at a modern design firm, which influenced my modern landscape design style.

Do you have a favorite landscape design book or website you would like to recommend?

Ruth Bancroft has influenced my modern aesthetic and love for proteas. Here's a link to her website: www.ruthbancroft.com

by Debbie Seracini, APLD CA New Membership

er, SITES AP

s aligning with my sustainability passion. The APLD clearly does, which ultimately led me to join.

s and I am looking forward to exploring APLD CA. I plan to apply for my CPLD certification in the coming months!

ape design

e and regionally grown plants, different types of permeable paving, sustainably produced and sourced stormwater retention features, and more. I am currently helping our design-build company embed sustainability into

s and site-appropriate planting with various textures, forms, and foliage colors. I love how a well-planned landscape.

to share?

d I browse their website often! The Sustainable SITES Initiative website also has some amazing resources for really means in our industry.

[dwellinc.com](http://www.dwellinc.com), 233 Granada Drive Ste. B, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

am, which I completed in October 2023. After attending an APLD event at Ruth Bancroft Garden, I joined several experienced designers who recommended APLD for new designers.

ll offer a network and guidance to focus my continued learning.

ape design practice?

ice.' I am influenced by a lecture I attended on the evolution of landscape design and the deviation from traditional. And I have kept bees for over a decade and have grown to understand the importance of the landscape for

design firm, so it's ingrained in me. The melding of my background and the need to support our ecosystem translates

to share?

s a great Northern California resource for proteas <https://www.waltzingmatilija.com>



ROCSANA SADDIGH
LANDSCAPE DESIGNER
WILDERNEST STUDIO
www.wildernestgardens.com

Rocsana Saddigh, Emerging Professional

How did you learn about APLD and what led you to join?

I noticed the APLD logo on The Landscape Library website (a fantastic resource to connect with plant people, and joining APLD aligned with my interests.

What do you hope to gain through your membership with APLD?

To learn from professional designers and over time, become a helpful resource

What environmentally sustainable concepts do you apply to your landscape practice?

Sustainability is crucial, especially in Los Angeles, and there are worthwhile rebates for native and climate-appropriate plants to create a beautiful, and plentiful pollinator garden with minimal water run-off. I do not feature artificial turf in my designs, and work to educate

What is your favorite landscape design style and why?

I love whimsical naturalistic gardens that pop with color - "rewilding" is an apt word for everyone! Gardens are best when they serve an ecosystem of humans, bene

Do you have a favorite landscape design book or website you would like to

recommend? Dan Pearson's work is inspiring (digdelve.com, Home Ground: Sanctuary in the



Meet the New Members, *continued*

for learning AutoCAD) and was curious to find out more. I enjoy taking classes to expand my knowledge and

to emerging professionals like myself.

the design

ates that most prospective clients are not aware of, like the statewide turf replacement program. I incorporate
tor paradise. Carbon-sequestering, low-maintenance plants, instead of lawns, help mitigate soil erosion and
prospective clients on its dangers to our health and the environment.

word. My garden is a retreat that allows me to connect with the natural world, and that's what I want
official insects, fungi, birds and other wildlife.

to share?

(City). And Planting in a Post-Wild World by Thomas Rainer and Claudia West.



Photos of Baracco Family Garden, by Martin G. Carrion Van Rijn

Contributors

From Articles to Photos, Access to Private Gardens, & Presentations

Martin G. Carrion van Rijn,

Cheryl Buckwalter & California Center of Urban Horticulture UC Davis,

Soleil Tranquilli & The Baracco Family, Patricia Carpenter, Alicia Funk, Debbie Seracini,

Sherwood Gardens & Traci Carr

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Gold Sponsor - Devil Mountain Wholesale Nursery, Matt Foggiato

Thank you!



Photo of Sherwood Gardens by Traci Carr, Managing Editor & Managing Content Publisher

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Photos of Baracco Family Garden, by Traci Carr

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California Landscape Design



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The Next Issue: *Winter*