



# Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest

COME JOIN IN  
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting Nov. 8

**Robin Stockwell**

*Robin's history of Succulents* (see page 3)

Laguna Presbyterian Church

• 9:30 am social • 10:00 am meeting



**Trips & Tours Thursday,  
November 14**

**Rainforest Flora Inc., Tropical  
Nursery**

Meet at 8:45am at St. Catherine's Church  
on Temple Terrace. Leaving promptly at  
9:00am (see page 4)



**No Green Thumb Craft this month-  
see you in January!**



NOVEMBERS 2019

MEMBER NEWS

*Thanksgiving is a time of togetherness  
and gratitude.*

—Nigel Hamilton

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

I know it's autumn when my liquid amber trees begin to change color. The ground underneath has a rich collection of leaves in fall hues—rust, red, yellow and orange. But my favorite trees that change color are my Japanese Maples. They are very sculptural, delicate trees that spend the winter with bare branches, bud out in the spring, are flashy green all summer and then provide a spectacular color show in the fall. The following article is from *Garden Design Magazine* and outlines the growing and caring of

these terrific trees. I hope you enjoy reading about them.

[https://www.gardendesign.com/japanese-maple/?utm\\_source=article-](https://www.gardendesign.com/japanese-maple/?utm_source=article-)



## President's Message

# The Art of Picking Up Leaves

**P**ick up leaves!

I'm a native Californian so I'm most familiar with fall in California, or "fire season" as we call it. Liquid amber trees turn lovely colors, of course, and so do several other varieties. Several years ago I "leaf peeped" from Boston, Massachusetts to Stowe, Vermont. Wow! Now I understand what all the hoopla is about. We've all seen photos, but seeing the colors with your own eyes is astonishing.



**First of all, it's the light.** The natural world, adapted to absorb and reflect the complete spectrum of sunshine, including those wavelengths of color intended for other eyes, insect eyes, bird eyes, is relentlessly stimulating. Take a moment to really look at changing leaves. Since childhood I have loved making bouquets of fallen leaves. Amy Stewart (Wicked Bugs writer and LBGC speaker) said it best:

"If you live in a place with fall colors, I am hereby ordering you to go outside and **PICK UP SOME LEAVES.** Doesn't matter why.

Doesn't matter what you do with them. Just walk around and pick up every single damn leaf that appeals to you. Don't worry if you already have one like that. Don't worry if you're not sure that's the very best leaf.



Don't worry that you have too many.



They're leaves! They're just out there, on the ground. **That's the art. Picking up the leaves is the art."**

- Nancy Englund  
President

***"Celebrating Art & Science in the Garden"***



*This year and moving forward, kindly note each member is to be in charge of their own name tag. Please take yours home and return wearing it to each meeting and every LBGC event.*

*If you need to pick up your name tag, you never received a name tag or you need to order a new one, please contact Barbara Balossi at:*

[barbara@BarbaraBalossi.com](mailto:barbara@BarbaraBalossi.com)

*Thank you!*

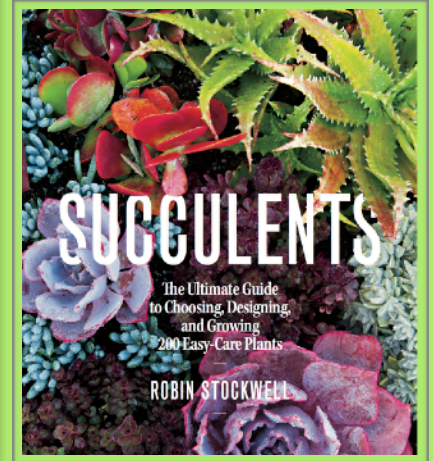


# Robin Stockwell is the Succulent Guy

## Our November Guest Speaker

**R**obin Stockwell has been growing succulents professionally since 1972 and through the years developed an expertise in their functional use. When the waves were good he took advantage of their waterwise, low maintenance qualities, knowing they would not miss him as he dropped everything to surf. He has dedicated his life to encouraging the use of these plants and worked with plant professionals and the general public to better understand them.

As a grower he created small “living pictures” in the early 1970s and later huge vertical gardens. Check out his succulent



Globe, using as many as 30,000 plants. As an innovator, writer, and speaker, he has inspired audiences

in the joy of gardening with succulent plants.





## Trips & Tours

# Tree of Life Nursery - A Fall Feast for the Eyes

A small, but intrepid, group of club members made the trip out to Tree of Life Nursery on the very hot Thursday, October 24.



We wandered about on our own for a bit enjoying the plants and the sights. We were then led on a tour of the grounds by one of the nursery's longtime employees. She explained how the nursery was started, told us about their goals as a nursery, and talked about the native plants that we were seeing.

She helped us buy the right plants for our yards and even



offered us coffee and cookies! Because of the heat, we decided to forego lunching at the nursery and vamoosed for home.

Please join us on our next adventure which will be to the always special **Rainforest Flora** in Torrance to tour the wonderful Tillandsia and Bromeliad nursery.



## November 14 ~ Thursday • Trips & Tours takes us to Rainforest Flora Inc. Tropical Nursery

Meet at 8:45 at St Catherine's Church on Temple Terrace to carpool





## *A Centerpiece Perfect for the Season and A Gardner in the Park Shine This Month*



### ***October Centerpiece***

The delightful Dia de los Muertos centerpiece for the October meeting was made by **Linda Humes**. The cherry skull was full of dried and live flora in a variety of colors and textures.

Thank you Linda for your creative centerpiece!

### ***Volunteer of the Month***

Our October Volunteer of the Month was **Marilyn Ghere**. Marilyn spends many sunny hours during month working in the Sister Cities Garden. Her efforts help to make these gardens located in Heisler Park really shine.

Thank you Marilyn  
for all you do for our club  
& the community!



# SmartScape

Garden Club members pass out succulents, facilitate a fun craft project and keep the crowd well hydrated at the fun day



On October 12, 2019, approximately 20 members of the Club volunteered throughout the day to “man” our booth at the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SmartScape, sponsored by the Laguna Beach County Water District. Our huge designated area included three activities. We offered the abundant supply of succulent cuttings generously donated by our Club members to those interested in

learning more about drought tolerant plants. Our resident “Plant Experts” shared their knowledge on plant identification,

where to plant, and how much water and sun the newly

adopted plants would need. Another activity was Our DIY (Do It Yourself) craft painting leaves and printing them on notecard paper. Children, teenagers, and adults like enjoyed using their creative talents to create with paint, leaves, and brayers.

And the final popular part of our presence was dispensing three types of infused Botanical Water. We offered three

types from which to choose:

Refresh (a mint & lemon balm infusion),

Rejuvenate (a blend of blood orange, lemon, and lime infusion), and

Recharge (a cucumber and basil infusion). Our

fun on Saturday makes us look forward to

participating again next

year and for more club members to join us

at this family community event.





## October Speaker Jan Bills Delighted Our Members With Her Gardening Presentation



Our meetings run like well oiled machines thanks to the hard working Special Administrators and Volunteers.



## December Raffle Items Needed

A special Christmas raffle will be held at the December 13 meeting. I am seeking your special items as donations. So far, the items include:

- Gift Card from Green Thumb Nursery
- Starbucks Gift Basket
- Christmas Gnome Doormat
- Christmas Gourd

Last year some of our raffle items included a Christmas Gourd, a basket with Gingerbread house & other German Christmas items, gift card from Green Thumb Nursery, handcrafted wooden goblets by Roger Taft, Gift Card + Orchid Arrangement from Plant Depot, and others.

If you would like to add some special to the raffle, I'd love to hear from you.

Contact Lynn Jax (E: [jax@cox.net](mailto:jax@cox.net) or Cell 949-294-1500).



**OCTOBER'S RAFFLE WINNERS  
LYNN JAX, SANDY GRAHAM, JORJA PUMA  
& DANA VICTORSON**

I have created a Raffle Donation Request letter for any of you who would like to approach merchants you patronize. I will bring some copies to the meeting in November. Also, I can send a PDF version that you could print on your own.

# New Member Luncheon Grows New Friends

The annual new member luncheon was held on October 23 at the home of **Diane Lamboley**. The warm fall day was perfect for dining on the patio and learning about all that LBGC has to offer. The hit of the buffet table was President Nancy Englund's scary deviled eggs!

Our club is 177 members strong. We can all be proud: "We Grow Gardeners!"

The Membership Co-Directors are looking for volunteers to serve on a Welcome Committee as Kindness Ambassadors? Duties are light and varied. Please contact **Barbara Balossi** at

[Barbara@BarbaraBalossi.com](mailto:Barbara@BarbaraBalossi.com) if you'd like to serve as a Kindness Ambassador for the Club.

The new members are:

Minnette Carter	Jeannie Layman
Darlene Chapman	Beate Loomis
Harriet Craig-Neghabat	Rosemary McDonald
Pat Crosby	Leslie Parks
Terry Davenport	Joe Smisko
Jonee Earl	Petra Vorenkamp
Lori Frigillana	Donna Welling
Sandy Graham	Georgia Weichel
Colleen Jenkins	Amy Walker
Connie Rae Knapp	





## Having fun at the October General Meeting



P.O. Box 362

Laguna Beach, CA 92652

[www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org](http://www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org)  
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For additional pictures of Laguna Beach Garden Club activities and information, go to our wonderful web site produced by **Linda Homscheid**

[https://  
www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org/  
events/club-albums/](https://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org/events/club-albums/)