



Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



APRIL 2020
MEMBER NEWS

*Celebrating Art &
Science in the Garden*

"There is no place like home"
-Dorothy Gale

COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting April 12

The April and May general meetings have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 situation.

Our April Speaker **Anna Maria Despris**, was going to make a presentation about about *Garden Pollinators- Native & Honey Bees*. Check out her website to find out more about her and her programs. She has a blog that is available at the site.

<http://www.thehoneybeehub.com/>

Trips & Tours April 26

Take us to your garden, patio or porch. Many of you have been spending extra time in your gardens dusting off winter and planting for spring. Send me a picture of your latest Covid-19 isolation project so I can publish it in the May edition of *Weeder's Digest*. No project is too small, share your planting creativity or garden inspirations. Send me photos and a brief description of your project by May 1st for publication.

dalynnmalek@gmail.com

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

Spending time at home, lots of time at home, has sparked the tackling lots of long put off projects around the house. I completely cleaned the cabinet under my kitchen sink, including trash can and cleaning bottles. The kitchen junk drawer is next on my hit parade, hopefully I can throw away some of the 25 Allen wrenches I have saved in a plastic baggie. Then I moved outside to get away from



the refrigerator. Prior to the rain, I dismantled my rotting potting bench and replaced it with a new one that has a metal bench top. It took me the better part of an afternoon to put it together and I am thrilled with the prospect of spending sunny days filling pots with herbs and flowers. So what have you been up to? Send me some pictures of your garden projects so we can share in our garden triumphs.

President's Message

Heed The wisdom of the Bear

Tend your gardens! Tend your literal gardens, your spiritual gardens, and the soothing garden that is your circle of family and friends. Take time to reflect and draw inward, not to disengage with the world, but to rest and recharge, and to stay safe.

Bears hibernate not only so that limited resources remain available, but also to protect the health of their community, and prevent the spread of disease when immune systems are lowered.



Heed the wisdom of the bear. And when we come out of this, it will be a different world. We will come out stronger, cleaner, more organized (you should see my potting shed!), more connected, and greener! We may have a greater appreciation for stillness, more concern for our neighbors, more gratitude for the things we hold dear and if you plant them now, tomatoes!

Even though general meetings, Trips & Tours, Open Garden Happy Hours, Green Thumb crafts and the Gate & Garden Tour have been canceled for the remainder of this garden year, there are still plenty of ways to stay connected

to members of the garden club. If there is a Green Day at the Sawdust Festival this summer, the garden club intends to participate. We will continue publishing a Weeders' Digest newsletter through the summer. We are extending memberships until September and will publish the member book late. We will be sending out more emails, including opportunities to vote on next year's budget, next year's slate of officers and changes to the by-laws. We will also be sending out surveys so that your thoughts about the role and direction of the garden club can be heard.

The board is taking seriously this opportunity the health and structure of the club, to nourish and prune, to reorganize and recalculate to bring you a more vital and engaging club.

Remember, the photo contest is on now! A photo of your garden, or your windowsill or the worms in your bin could win and be featured on the cover on next year's member book. See page 8 for info.

See you in September!
-Nancy Englund



We are happy to announce the slate of nominees for the
2020-2021 LBGC Board of Directors

Please VOTE when you receive the email from Diane Lannon via Constant Contact.

President
Mariann Keenan

Co-Vice Presidents
Lynn Jax
& Jorja Puma

Recording Secretary
Jackie Knauer

Treasurer
Patty Gaffney

Financial Secretary
Jorja Puma

Co-Directors of Membership
Cookie Lee
& Grace Balen

Director of Ways & Means
Nancy Englund

Director of Gate & Garden Tour
Susan Denton

Director of Media Publicity
Blythe Wheaton

Director of Website
Kari Nies

Past President
Nancy Englund

Gate & Garden Tour Succumbs to Covid-19

The decision to cancel our main fundraiser, the **Gate & Garden Tour**, was both easy and heartbreaking.

Easy because the health and safety of the community must come first, but heartbreaking because we all love the tour. I love exploring gardens and neighborhoods, producing a joyful event for the community, learning the

history of place names, and plant names. Frankly I love showing off the quirky and unexpected beauty of Laguna. So, I am sad we will miss all that this year. The tour is also important to the financial health of the club. On one hand we are not raising funds that the club relies upon, on the other we are saving money we would have spent hiring buses and printing the brochure. The board maintains an emergency reserve fund to keep the club afloat,

and will need that to pay for the boring club expenses like rent and insurance and also fund the sexy stuff like scholarships and school gardens. The club is still sound and we depend on you to stay that way. **Our commitment to supporting our community remains the same. We will need to make some adjustments, but we will get through this & grow.**
-Nancy Englund & Karen Nelson



Patriots Day Parade Pageantry

“And a good time was had by all!” We marched, we smiled, we waved, and we entertained the crowds who clapped and cheered! We won a beautiful Participation Medallion (see picture), but most importantly, we drew attention to the value of the Garden Club in the community.

Thank you to the 27 members, spouses, grandchildren and dogs who participated in our ensemble. A special thank you to the lovely Rakettes who arrived an hour early to learn the crowd pleasing routine. Our group picture featured colorful hats, aprons, lady bugs, flower baskets, and a wagon of fresh flowers that comprised our entry. Kudos to all!! -Diane Klope



Tomato Mania Time

Brad's atomic grape,
Green Zebra,
Pink Berkley Tie dye,
Thai pink egg

The Orange County Organic Gardening Club grew about 650 tomatoes, 28 varieties, mostly heirlooms with irresistible names. They planned to sell the plants at the Craft Fair in Yorba Linda in mid-March until that event was canceled.

*Big Rainbow,
Sun Gold Hybrid,
Indigo Apple,
Vintage Wine*

That's when the emails started flying. Our club was invited to place orders. I drove to Costa Mesa to pick up about 150 plants from Kathy Roberts' gorgeous vegetable garden. Kathy is on the tomato team who grow the plants from seed starting in early February.

*Black Krim,
Green Doctors,
Pandorino, Mortgage Lifter,
White Cherry,
Cour di bue*

I planted my six in two big tubs and eagerly await the fruits of my labor! - Nancy England



Below is an article from **StuNewsLaguna** that describes the beautiful garden we missed by having to cancel our *Open Garden Happy Hour* at Pam Hagen's home.

We hope to resume our Garden Club activities sooner than later, but in the meantime, stay safe and enjoy our southern California quarantine. There are worse places to "shelter in place!"

Pam hopes we can reschedule and says, "I think what I would like to say about the article is it was fun preparing for it and I got a lot done! Now for its re-release I would like to say,"grab a glass of wine and welcome to my virtual happy hour. Enjoy!" ;.) Pam Hagen

An early California Mission style homestead and expansive garden combine for spectacular beauty

Written by SUZIE HARRISON Photos by Mary Hurlbut

Recently I enjoyed the authentic look and feel of a captivating early California Mission style home with a natural aesthetic, a warm inviting setting, lots of windows beaming with sunlight, spectacular views, and expansive gardens and grounds — so much so that it feels like its own world — truly a petite private paradise tucked away in Bluebird Canyon.

It's the lifestyle Pam Hagen and her husband Dave have created over 57 years: so beautiful, it's beyond imagination. "We started with the back of the house first," Pam Hagen said of their 1936 adobe-style abode. Originally 800 square feet, it's been expanded to 2,100 over seven phases.



Growing up in San Juan Capistrano and attending the Mission School were important influences in Hagen's life

At the same moment I was about to ask Pam if she's an artist, she said, "I paint. I do it for my own pleasure, to give as gifts for friends, and I have sold a few. But I do it because I love it." Hagen said that she's inspired by Joseph Kleitsch, one of Laguna's founding artists.

"This painting is by Joseph Kleitsch, called 'Evening Shadows,'" Hagen said, pointing it out. During the Bluebird Canyon landslide, her husband helped the neighbors and was also able to rescue the million-dollar painting. "It was meant to be because I was steeped in Mission School. And Father O'Sullivan, who was born on my birthday, which is Swallows Day, built Mission School," Hagen explained.

"Joseph Kleitsch was a friend of Father O'Sullivan and the portrait he painted of him is at the Mission. At some point you realize that your life does have a thread."

Having grown up in small towns, the couple likes the old, natural, feeling of early California, which reflected in every nuance of their home and gardens. "We tried to recreate that here because the house to me looks like an adobe [dwelling]. The tile roof is from Guadalajara," Hagen said.

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It's exciting to take in the myriad attractions of the 6,500-Ft grounds

"When you look across the canyon it's pretty and open. On clear days, you have a view of Catalina, a hiking trail, and the farm in the middle, so it's a balanced view which I enjoy," Hagen added. She pointed out the different areas on the grounds.

"Our property boundary goes over to that tin roof," Hagen said. "It's 6,500 square feet, the lot, and I pretty much use every square inch. "There's a little fountain over there that's from Mexico that my husband and I put together. We drove across the border to Rosarito 20 years ago. It had the look of the house."

She showed me a piece she created as part of the Garden Club. "It was a project mosaic of the Virgin of Guadalupe, wood face, wood hands, and a little angel underneath. See the angel?" she asked with a big smile. "I am always creating something or another either with plants or with my house." As we rounded the corner, Hagen noted, "This is our sunny patio where we eat out in the summer time," she said, wind chimes pleasantly singing in the background.



With such unparalleled views galore, it's so exciting to explore, explore, explore

Her interest in gardening bloomed when she was young, a shared passion with her mother, who herself was a gardener. "I think it's part of your artistic expression," she explained.

"I like philodendrons — one of my mother's favorite plants. Here's one in bloom right now. I think that is an offshoot of my mother's old plant that I've saved all these years," Hagen said. "Every time I see it blossom I see her, and she's been gone a long time. That's a palm that she gave me, and now it's at least 50 feet tall."

Boasting myriad outdoor levels, spaces, and places, there's so much to experience in this garden. "This is my little painting place, my little gardening place. It's a place to paint or garden or whatever, I try to keep my tools handy in here," Hagen said, continuing our lovely tour. "We call that the stable, and I call this my studio, the shed."

The rich gorgeous proliferation of plant life and fruit trees delight the senses, as do the sculptures, wind chimes, and fountains. Leading me down another path, she showed me a small bungalow, where houseguests stay. Wherever you go, you are accompanied by the soothing sounds of the three fountains, so tranquil.

Punctuated by a perfection of plant life, delightful pathways take you on an exciting experience of the senses

"If you stand right here, you can hear *all* the fountains," Hagen said. "You feel like you have water completely surrounding you." People ask Hagen why she enjoys sharing her private sanctuary with so many others.

"I say well, because it is private and it is a sanctuary, so I want to share," Hagen said.

Indeed — a sanctuary for mind, body, and soul, right here in Laguna.

Getting Involved

Annual Member Photo Contest

Members can submit photographs from their gardens in our annual photography contest. The first entry will be featured on the front cover of our 2020-21 membership directory. The winner of last year's thirteenth annual contest was **Nancy Englund's** tropical photo of her koi pond. **Lynn Jax's** pretty lavender flowers was selected for the back cover as the second place photograph.

2020 Photo Contest Rules

Photo entries are due to the contest committee chair, **Becky Martin**, by **April 17, 2020**.

Only one entry per garden club member is allowed.

The entry can be either vertical or horizontal format, but vertical is preferred.

Entries can be submitted via email or US mail.

If entered via US mail, no identifying information (regarding the submitter) should be written on the back of the printed photo.

The entry must be a recent photo of some part of the member's garden.

By submitting the entry, the member declares that he/she owns the right to the photo.

Entries will be judged at the April 22 Board meeting.

The winner's photo will be featured on the front cover of the 2020-21 membership book.

For information contact:

Becky Martin

23641 Trinidad Lane

Laguna Niguel 92677

444-8519

beckymartin123@yahoo.com



Member Recognition Awards

LAGUNA BEACH



GARDEN CLUB

GROWING & GIVING

S I N C E 1 9 2 8

Recognition Award 2020 Nomination Form

Check the category:

_____ Club Member of the Year

_____ Gardener of the Year

_____ Garden of the Year

_____ Rookie of the Year (AKA: New Member)

*** Use a separate form for each Nomination.**

*** DEADLINE: April 17, 2020**

Recognizing each other's efforts shows our appreciation towards our own; and to those are acknowledged by their fellow club members for their spirit of volunteerism, it makes this award of distinguished merit mean so much more.

Nominate a club member who you know has done an extraordinary and/or consistent job for the club.

Name of Nominee: _____
(Please Print clearly)

Please write 2 to 3 sentences of explanation or description of this nominee's efforts for the category for which you nominated.

Please return to Lynn Jax via: email: jax@cox.net

or mail to: 456 Cress Street, Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Name of person nominating: _____

Email or phone number: _____

Making Lemonade Out of Lemons



You've heard of the adage of "making lemonade out of lemons"? Well, that is not exactly what I have been doing, but I will be using lemons, trying to keep with the garden theme. As we all have been faced with a less than desirable situation by social distancing, I decided to use my shelter in place time to accomplish a long-neglected task of sorting through my collection of recipes. Each summer I promise myself I will tackle this project but then we travel or I find much better things to do. It took 12 days (don't worry it was not every single minute), lots of space to spread out, and a collection of office supplies before completing this challenge.

My inspiration was that I wanted to use some of the abundant fruit from my dwarf Meyer lemon tree to make recipes. But the mound of paper was overwhelming so I had to attack that first. Then more obstacles presented themselves. Good thing we all have guardian angels. First, I wanted to make a lemon tart, but unfortunately a few years

ago I threw away my pan with a removable bottom because it was rusty. Thank you, Amazon as it arrived within days instead of weeks. Then I realized I needed flour to bake, and the remainder of 1 lb. bag I had wasn't enough to dust the bottom of a pan let alone bake with. Once again to the rescue, my daughter, a true angel in my eyes, shopped for me and included was a 5 lb. bag from Trader Joe's. I felt like a kid at Christmas opening that long-asked for gift.

So now I am able to make that lemon tart and lemon cookies. I am including the cookie recipe because I've never made a lemon tart before and I can't be assured it will turn out. But the cookies are terrific.

-Lynn Jax



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Glazed Lemon Cookies

Ingredients:

- 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ C flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking soda
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt
- 1 Tablespoon lemon zest (about 1 small lemon)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ C sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 Tablespoons lemon juice

Glaze:

- 2 C powdered sugar
- 2 Tablespoons lemon zest
- 2 Tablespoons lemon juice
- $\frac{1}{3}$ C lemon juice

Instructions:

1. Prepare a cookie sheet with non-stick spray or parchment paper (easier clean-up), set aside.
2. In medium bowl, whisk flour, baking soda, salt, & lemon zest.

3. In large bowl, beat the butter for a few seconds, add sugar & mix until light & fluffy.

4. Add in egg, vanilla, & lemon juice. Mix until fully combined.

5. Continue mixing while you add in the dry ingredients. Mix until thoroughly combined.

6. Drop cookie dough by spoonful onto prepared cookie sheet. Bake until light golden brown – 12-14 minutes. Remove from oven, let cool on cookie sheet about 5 minutes, and then remove to continue cooling on a wire rack.

7. Once cooled, prepare the glaze by whisking powdered sugar, lemon juice & lemon zest together until well combined. Spoon on top of cookies. Allow to sit & dry; glaze will harden.

8. Store cookies in airtight container at room temperature. Yield 24 cookies (approximately).





Laguna Beach Garden Club 2020 - 2021 Membership Renewal Form

* Complete this form and attach a check for \$65, made payable to **Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc.**
Bring to the April or May meeting or mail to:

Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc. ~ P.O. Box 362 ~ Laguna Beach, CA 92652

* Membership can be renewed on our website: LagunaBeachGardenClub.org.

* All dues paid by Credit Card will be \$70.

* Consider adding a donation. All donations are tax deductible and much appreciated. Donations of \$25 or more will be recognized in our newsletter, membership book and website as an official sponsor.

* **Membership MUST be renewed by June 1, 2019 to be in the Membership Book.**

Please Print neatly!

Note any changes from last year

☐

Check here if your contact information has not changed

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

THIS AREA MUST BE FILLED OUT

NAME _____ DATE _____

Your application is considered a photo release, giving the club permission to use any photos taken at club functions for publicity and in social media

Signature _____

Total Amount Paid _____ Dues _____ Donation _____

Cash Check Check Number _____ Credit Card

I can help LBGC with: _____



PO Box 362, Laguna Beach, CA 92652

www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org

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