WELCOME TO VOLUME 9, ISSUE ONE OF “WEEDER’S DIGEST”

For the past 7 years, Pam Luttrell has creatively informed us of the important issues we, as Laguna Beach Garden Club members, needed to know, as well as many we just simply enjoyed. I have the utmost respect for her. She has done an amazing job! The newsletter and her innovative ways of presenting the information were always something to look forward to, a highlight of the month. There are not enough words to express the admiration I have for her taking on this endeavor so fabulously for so many years. I know you all agree. THANK YOU, PAM!

She called one day and asked me to take over the newsletter. At first I declined, because quite honestly, I had no experience.

After some thought, I realized the challenge “could” be a positive addition to my life. So, I agreed to be the new editor of the Weeder’s Digest. I planned to continue the newsletter in the "Pam Luttrell" fashion, because I loved it so, but "technical issues" forced me to find a completely different computer program.

My amazing nephew, Craig, who is a genius, especially in graphic arts, sent me an older version of Adobe Photoshop. I am a person who could, and does, spend hours learning and playing with new software and it's potential. I was having so much fun trying to figure out the new masthead when Craig came down to help me out. He saw what I was attempting, and said, "Let me show you what I would do if this were my project.” He taught; I am learning and the Weeder's Digest has taken on a new appearance. He is a great teacher. THANK YOU, CRAIG!

As I continue to learn, I’m sure there will be many tweaks, changes and improvements in future editions.

Change is often uncomfortable, but hopefully, you will all get used to the new look. I would love opinions on what to include, as well as your contributions to the newsletter. I remember one meeting where the members attending were asked to share any gardening insights they had learned. There were many useful hints. I wish I had them all in writing, because quite honestly my memory is not what it used to be! So, I would love to include a section of “Member’s Helpful Hints,” with your cooperation, in future issues. Also, any of you who know great cyber resources, are artists or have access to art, photos or sayings you feel would enhance the newsletter, please send my way.

Thank you,
Jorja Puma paja143@me.com
530 High Drive, Laguna Beach, Ca 92651
GREAT FALL PLANTS

We are so lucky to have Birdie Fountain as our first speaker this fall. She is a Certified Landscape Designer, a plant breeder, and a national spokesperson for the Proven Winner brand. She has been with the Proven Winner family since 2001 starting out in sales & marketing. She has been working with plant selections and Research and Development for a little over eight years. She looks forward to sharing her passion for plants with the Laguna Beach Garden Club.

EuroAmerican Propagators specializes in new and innovative plants, and is a leading supplier of the number one plant brand, Proven Winners®, to commercial growers throughout North America.

John Rader and Jerry Church formed EuroAmerican Propagators, Inc. in 1992 after purchasing the business from his former employer, Weidner's Gardens, where he served as liner production manager. Rader then founded Proven Winners, an international marketing cooperative, and has been instrumental in the success that group has achieved.

EuroAmerican Propagators’ facility is housed on 47 acres of land in Bonsall, California, of which 16 acres are under cover. The property sits atop a large slope and has very good drainage and air movement. The light levels are ideal for plant production and there is a cooling effect from the direct ocean breezes that blow east throughout the day.

September 13, 2013
Laguna Presbyterian Church
Tankersley Hall
415 Forest Ave
Laguna Beach 92651
Social 9:30 a.m.
Meeting 10 a.m. to Noon

Carol Deeter
Janell Rastello
Patricia Reid
Danielle Wilson
JoAnn Deyonker
Jinx Langemak

Every month club members bring various items and cuttings or plants from their gardens and homes to be sold at our plant table.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE
(Plastic bags needed, as well)
I would like to welcome new and returning members alike to the Laguna Beach Garden Club’s 2013-2014 season. I’m looking forward to starting my second year as your President, and would like to thank the many members who have been working throughout the summer to prepare for what will be a fun and educational year.

One of the summer activities that the garden club participated in was the Green Day event at the Sawdust Festival. Visitors were able to experience environmentally friendly arts and craft projects, and the Garden Club had a booth for donating succulent cuttings. Due to the many people who participated and contributed cuttings, our booth was quite a hit! There were visitors from all over the area and several different states that enjoyed talking with us and were thrilled to receive something for free. The club also donated three floral arrangements; one for the Memorial Day event at Heisler Park, and one each to the library and the Suzi Q Community Center in observance of National Garden Week.

I’ve received thank you letters from the recipients of our scholarships, and also the volunteers that are in charge of the several school gardens that we support. Penny Dressler from Thurston Middle School described our contribution as “manna from heaven” as their school garden was in great need of funds, and ours came unsolicited. One of the highlights of our meetings is reading these letters of thanks. It confirms that the efforts that we put forth as members of this club really do make a difference in people’s lives.

On a personal note, I’ve had great success in my own vegetable garden. After years of being disheartened about the mediocre results with my tomatoes and even zucchini, I decided that the problem was likely the soil. The wood box that contained my old vegetable garden had been deteriorating for years, and my husband offered to build a new one. The old soil was removed and replaced with new, and this year I didn’t have to look with envy at my neighbor’s gardens, as my tomato plants reached six feet tall. I also had a bumper crop of spaghetti squash and am now in the position of having to figure out what to do with it all. I will be able to store them for several months, but don’t be surprised if you see a few offered at the plant table this fall!

I’m looking forward to seeing you at the September meeting and working together to serve our community and celebrate the joy of gardening.

JEANNE
We are moving the Gate & Garden Tour from Friday to **Saturday**, May 3, 2014. Please mark your calendars. Also, there will be a preview tour for volunteers on Wednesday, April 30. We hope volunteers will take advantage of this opportunity to familiarize themselves with the gardens and the route before tour day. There will be several new jobs, a new logo, a spiffy new banner hanging downtown.

As ever, we hope every club member will volunteer to help out on the tour, our main club fund-raiser.

Thanks, Nancy Englund, Tour Chair

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**MEMBER’S TOUR**

**SEPTEMBER 27, 9:00 A.M.**

Tom Hensel has arranged for us to visit **PLUG CONNECTION**, a large wholesale nursery in Vista that specializes in developing new plant varieties through tissue culture and hybridization. Attendance will be limited!

Sign up as well as the location for those who will be car pooling will be available at the September 13 LBGC meeting.

![PLUG CONNECTION](http://www.plugconnection.com)

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**GREEN THUMB**

**HANGING FLOWER BAG**

**HOSTESS**: NATAALIE HARLOW  
**WHEN**: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 AT 9:30 a.m.  
**WHERE**: 194 ACACIA DRIVE, LAGUNA BEACH  
**COST**: $10.00 AT TIME OF SIGN UP

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**REFRESHMENT TABLE**

**THIS MONTH’S REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED BY YOUR BOARD MEMBERS.**

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**CENTERPIECE**

**THIS MONTH’S CENTERPIECE WILL BE CREATED BY LINDA HUMES**
Hello Laguna Beach Garden Club Member,

It was announced last March that our garden club received a $5,000 grant from the Laguna Beach Community Foundation in partnership with the Massen Foundation to spend on our speakers at our monthly meeting. The grant was given to us so that we might increase garden club member attendance and to attract guests from outside Laguna Beach to our monthly member’s meeting. By attracting guests to attend our meeting, we hope that they will stay in Laguna after our meeting and have lunch at Laguna restaurants and visit Laguna’s lovely stores.

Lynn Jax, Program Chairperson, has contracted with three exceptional speakers. Debra Lee Baldwin is scheduled for October 11, Stephen Orr for November 8 and Tony Bielaczyc for December 13.

The reason that the 3 events are free to garden club members as well as guests is because of the grant money. Everyone must RSVP. Please RSVP by email to lagunabeachgardenclub@gmail.com and then close to the October 11 date, you will receive tickets for the 3 events. If you cannot RSVP by email, you can also RSVP at the September 13 member’s meeting and get your tickets.

The reason that we need you to RSVP is that we are expecting more people than usual for the Speaker Series and we need to know how to plan and to set up adequate seating.

October 11 – **Debra Lee Baldwin**--is the “Succulent Queen”, who has a passion for the beautiful succulent plants that drink responsibly. Debra specializes in showing how top floral and garden designers use dynamic, sculptural succulents in a wide variety of eye-catching applications. Her own garden, which has been featured in *Sunset* and *Better Homes & Gardens*, is in the foothills northeast of San Diego, where temps range from below freezing to upwards of 100 degrees. Debra will speak about the best succulents for gardens and containers. She will explain how to grow them and will give step-by-step methods for using.

November 8 – **Stephen Orr** – “I want to do the right thing for the environment within the realm of economic circumstances,” Orr said, previous editorial director for gardening at *Martha Stewart Living*. “But at the same time, I want things to be beautiful.” In his new book, *Tomorrow’s Garden: Design and Inspiration for a New Age of Sustainable Gardening*, the key word for many readers will be “design”. The book is proof that gardeners can take so many different paths in making thoughtful choices about plants, hardscape, and water use.

December 13 – **Tony Bielaczyc** is a former garden editor at *Martha Stewart Living*, where he produced garden stories for the flagship *Living* magazine and segments for the Emmy award-winning *Martha Stewart* TV show. His stories about his time at *Martha Stewart Living* are entertaining. He will speak about “How to Make the Most of Plant Combinations”. Come to be inspired and learn simple tips about color and plant combinations for container planting. *And Please join us in a reception for Tony on Thursday, December 12.

RSVP for our special speakers using this email address: lagunabeachgardenclub@gmail.com. There is no cost, but you must have your “ticket” with you to be admitted.
Indicate the names and email addresses of those who will be attending each of the three events.
You will receive a return email for you to print which will serve as your “TICKET”. It would include directions to our Laguna Beach location and maps for low-cost parking as well as other information.
Dear Laguna Beach Garden Club Board,

Thank you for your past support of the El Morro Elementary school garden. I'm writing to request a $500 grant to continue to provide students with the after school Garden Club program. Without your funding, the program would not be possible.

In addition to the after school program, we now have about 10 classrooms that are also participating in the school garden during class time. That means that we have gone from 20 students to about 240 students utilizing the garden to enhance their science curriculum with hands-on learning in the garden.

Thanks to your donation last year, we were able to install new garden boxes and put rabbit-proof fencing around each garden box. It has made a huge difference! This year we will be using your grant funding to pay for seedlings for each of the 10 classes to be able to plant in the garden. We also hope to look into purchasing a shade structure. A more detailed budget can be provided and receipts will be submitted for purchases made using grant funding.

You can find out more about the garden program at http://elmorrogarden.blogspot.com.

Thank you for continued support. It is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

Sharael Kolberg
"Equal dark, equal light
Flow in Circle, deep insight
Blessed Be, Blessed Be
The transformation of energy!
So it flows, out it goes
Three-fold back it shall be
Blessed Be, Blessed Be
The transformation of energy!"
-Night An'Fey, *Transformation of Energy*

September marks the beginning of the fall planting season -- a busy time of year for lucky warm-climate gardeners.

**September Tips: Southern California**

- **Pre-chill hyacinth bulbs in the refrigerator to simulate winter.**
  - For best selection, buy bulbs as soon as they appear at the garden center. Most spring-blooming bulbs, such as tulips, hyacinths, and crocuses, will need to be pre-chilled in the fridge for 6-8 weeks to "fake" winter before planting outdoors.
  - Plant *beds* with cool-season flowers, such as pansies, calendula, candytuft, foxgloves, snapdragons, stock, and sweet alyssum.
  - Also plant cool-season veggies, such as broccoli, carrots, cauliflowers, lettuces and greens, potatoes, radishes, and peas.

**Dividing and Planting Perennials** -- Divide or plant perennials now that bloom in spring or early and mid-summer.

- **Dividing Perennials**
  - Keep up with watering chores. Weather stays warm this month, so keep up with watering all plants in the ground deeply but infrequently.
  - Established natives will need water only once a month or so. If you know Santa Ana winds are coming, if you can, water thoroughly before they arrive.
  - Dusty leaves are a haven for mites and other sucking insects. Hose down your plants every so often to remove dust and dirt.

- **Planting Perennials**
  - Continue to fertilize containers containing annuals and perennials.
  - Continue to keep up with watering chores. Soak plants in containers well. If you can't keep up or they're wilting anyway, move them to a shadier spot. Also give your compost heap an occasional dousing to promote necessary decomposition; and consider shading the heap to keep it moister longer.

**Feeding Roses** -- Fertilize roses to encourage *fall* bloom.

- This month continue to fertilize warm-season lawns, such as Bermuda-grass, but halt fertilizing of cool-season lawns, such as bluegrass.
- Fertilize any acid-loving plants and any that may be showing an iron deficiency; for example, young leaves appear yellow-green with dark green leaves. Acid-loving plants include azaleas, gardenias, blueberries, and camellias.

**Fertilizing Plants** -- Continue to fertilize *containers* containing annuals and perennials.
Starting a few months ago our garden has been a breeding ground for Monarch butterflies. My family and I have been in awe of the miracle of this beautiful species and all of its many life cycles. Next month, I will be sharing some stories, some photos, and some information on the Monarch Butterfly and its life in our garden. I will also be bringing some milkweed seeds for October’s plant table in hopes that many of you will plant the seeds and know first hand the pleasure of having Monarchs in your garden.
USEFUL WEBSITES

Below are links to LBGC webpage, and both of our Facebook pages. Also, I have put in some links to some useful web pages for gardening. Please email me at Paja143@me.com with any additional sites that might contribute to our newsletter. I will put this page in every newsletter and together we will establish a great resource page.

http://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org

GATE & GARDEN TOUR FACEBOOK PAGE
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gate-Garden-Tour/141121552603253

LBGC FACEBOOK PAGE
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Laguna-Beach-Garden-Club/122398214486940

http://californiagardenclubs.com
www.lagunanursery.net

http://www.slgardens.org

http://www.houzz.com/gardening

http://patwelsh.comhttp://www.ocdistrict.org

http://www.gardenclub.org
http://www.uccemg.com

http://rogersgardens.com
http://www.digitalseed.com

http://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org
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