



Weeder's Digest

Welcome to a New Year! Come Hear Bob Borthwick Speak About *Unwelcome* Migrants in Gardens and Wilderness

Monthly Meeting
2nd Friday of month
Neighborhood
Congregational Church
340 St. Ann's Dr.,
Laguna Beach
Social 9:30 a.m.
Meeting: 10 a.m.—Noon.

* Many thanks to *
* Dorothy Goldberg *
* and her itty bitty *
* fairy garden plant- *
* ers for helping the *
* plant table to bring *
* in a respectable *
* \$147 this month! *
* *
* *
* *



Ever looked out your window and suddenly become aware of a huge pampas grass growing on your hillside? Or how about thistle?—perhaps not the correct name for that plant that looks like an artichoke but isn't. Ever seen those plants that are here today but were not there yesterday and will be around forever unless you do something about them? Why do we want to be rid of them? They're pretty handsome devils . . .

Bob Borthwick, landscape architect and resident of Laguna Beach, will tell you why—on January 9th, at our first meeting of the new year. Bob's company, Borthwick Guy Bettenhausen, Inc., a planning, urban design, and landscape architecture firm nationally and internationally known, has worked on

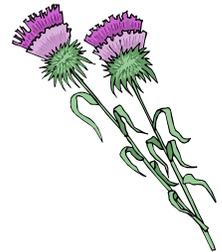
Laguna's Heisler and Main Beach parks as well as providing input on the Laguna Beach Village Entrance project. Bob is an expert on native plants and knows fully well the dangers of allowing aggressive non-natives free reign of your yard. Two major hints: fire and drought.

We all are aware that as residents of Southern California we must always be on the alert for fires during Santa Ana season—one loose match, one field of brush and whoosh! Well, a lot of that brush is non-native variety that grows too fast, gets too dry, and takes over a plot of land. Bob will give ways to avoid having unscheduled bonfires.

And, how about that water bill you get monthly or bi-monthly—want to get the numbers down and pay less for water usage? Bob will

show us what to plant to avoid watering everyday and using up what is fast becoming our most precious commodity. As we all have started to figure out, some of us later than others, water will only be getting more scarce, and the better we are at conserving it, the better our lives will be.

So, join us on Friday, January 9th, beginning at 9:30 AM, for Greet and Eat, followed by a short business meeting, and then our program: "Unwelcome Migrants in Gardens and Wilderness."



Welcome our new members:

- Gloria Barton
- Shahin Fazil
- Patricia Gerrard
- John Hoover
- Betsy Jenkins
- Elizabeth Kramer
- Diane Lannon
- Cheryl Moeller



Container Contest!

Contestants: remember to bring your planted container to the January meeting to be auctioned off. Containers will be judged in three categories: Best Use of Container, Most Original or Interesting, and Most Popular.

Members: Remember to bring your checkbook for the silent auction!



LBGC

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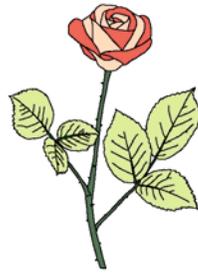
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Amateur Rose Show

Another in a series of articles to help you prepare your roses to show.

In January, Bea Grow, an Orange County garden legend who lives in San Clemente, vigorously prunes all her roses and removes all foliage. They bloom better on new growth.” She conditions the soil with 1 tablespoon of iron and 1 tablespoon of Epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) per rose, sprinkling the dry ingredients on top of the soil. Bea never disturbs the soil around her roses by digging around them. She tops off her soil conditioner with 3-inches of homemade compost. Then she waters everything. It is important not to fertilize your roses until there is 3 inches of new growth.

If you do not have homemade compost, you can use mulch. Use mulch that has been treated to kill weed seeds. There will always be some weeds in mulch - compost, if it cooks correctly should not have weeds.

Betsy Bredau, garden club member who grows Iceberg roses in Laguna Beach, has good luck using Serrano Creek Soil Amendments. Their amendment is or-

ganic- just wood shavings from lumber mills and horse manure and straw. Serrano Creek’s compost blend is heated to over 150° for an extended period of time, thus ensuring that all weed seeds are destroyed. This means that you are applying a soil amendment that is virtually weed free. It’s sold in bulk so you’ll need a pickup truck! <http://serranocreeksoils.com>

Along the coast, we need to spray the pruned roses with a dormant spray such as lime sulfur and/or horticulture oil to prevent disease and pests on the new growth. When applying dormant sprays, make sure the canes are completely covered with spray. Also cover the ground around the bases of the plants.

Need a new rose? It’s bare root rose season. Roses are rated in size by “grade.” Stick with Grade 1 or 1.5, as they will have the best cane size.

When selecting a new rose, you might consider the Orange County Rose Society 2008 winners. Hybrid Teas and Grandiflora’s: O’Rilla, Signature, Crystalline, Gemini, Dream Come True, Falling in Love, Moonstone, and St Patrick.

If you are considering a

new miniature, at that same rose show, miniature rose winners were Dancing Flame, Heather Sproul, Marie Jeanette, Lipstick & Lace, Nancy Jean, Kristin, and Amber Star.

When entering your beautiful rose stem in the garden club’s first “Amateur Rose Show” on May 8, 2009, you will be required to correctly identify, by name, your rose on a label provided by the garden club.

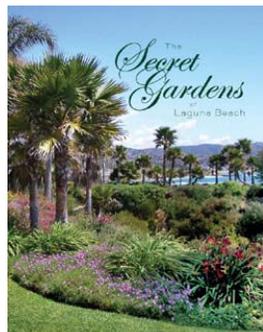
If you do not know the name of your rose, you can find it on the metal tag on your rosebush or you might take a bloom into your local nursery for identification.

We anticipate that some of our members will want to exhibit a rose for which they do not know the name. We are looking for three garden club members who are good at identifying roses to help when an exhibitor does not know her rose’s name. We will not need “Luther Burbank” expertise. We are also in need of volunteers to match up the exhibitors rose stem with water and a bud vase. Please call or email Vernetta Crandall if you want to volunteer or have ideas for the Amateur Rose Show, 949-366-6049, vernetta2@cox.net.

Weeder's Digest is published monthly from September through May for the members of the Laguna Beach Garden Club.

Pam Luttrell, Editor

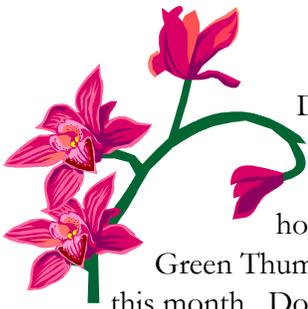
Additional information about club activities is available at our web site www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org



The Secret Gardens of Laguna Beach, (the book created for our club and sold by us as a fund raiser) will be available for purchase at the January meeting—so those who are interested remember to bring your checkbook!



Green Thumb Forum on Orchids



Dorothy Goldberg will be hosting the Green Thumb forum this month. Dorothy is our very own Orchid specialist, having won many honors and awards for her orchids.

Don't miss out on this opportunity

to get personal instruction from a professional. Dorothy will be demonstrating how to divide, re-plant and fertilize our orchids.

Sign up at the monthly meeting, and show up with your orchid at **9:30 a.m., Friday, January 16th at Dorothy's house—224 Viejo, Laguna Beach.**



Valentine Planters for Silent Auction



Just a reminder that our February 13 meeting will be our annual Valentine's Day Basket Silent Auction. Members are asked to donate living plant arrangements in baskets or other containers for a silent auction. This fund raising event is always a fun time to appreciate member's interests and talents, and support the club's various projects.

You Signed up

to bring food for the refreshment table on January 9, 2009



- Synthia Scofield
- Vernetta Crandall
- Elaine Haythorn
- Marcia Tweedie
- Janice Kern
- Nancy Englund
- Laura Parker
- Brigitte Freund
- Tyra Demateis
- Pam Lask

Please arrive by 9:15 a.m. with your goodies.

Centerpiece:
Debbie Fraise
Thank you!

Nursery Hopping Tour



Our first Nursery Hopping Tour of the New Year will be Friday, January 23rd. We will meet at the church at 9:30 a.m., and carpool to Encinitas. For lunch we will dine out at a nearby restaurant after touring Quail Botanical Gardens, Cal Pacific Orchid Farm and Weidner's Gardens. Madeleine Visca has planned a fun tour in the Encinitas area, so be sure to sign up at the January 9th meeting.



Hup! One, Two, Three!

That's what we'll be chanting come March 7th, when we all will march through Laguna Beach proper, showing off our bright green aprons and handing out Garden Tour bookmarks, right? What is March 7th, you ask? Why, it is the annual Patriot's Day Parade! We dress up a Volkswagen in spring flowers, wear flower-bedecked hats and tout our upcoming Spring Garden Tour. It's a lot of fun, we only march downhill, and afterwards, we share a luncheon with Assistance League members at their chapter house. Husbands, significant others, dogs, cats—bring 'em on!—everybody has a great time!



Thank you!

If you missed the Christmas members tour, I'm sorry! The lovely decorated homes, the yummy refreshments and the delightful hospitality was just wonderful. To our members, who so graciously opened their homes to us, we say thank you, thank you, thank you!



Club Dates to Remember in January

- Friday, January 9, 9:30 a.m.—LBGC monthly meeting. Neighborhood Congregational Church, St. Ann's Drive & Glenneyre, Laguna Beach—Speaker Bob Borthwick presents Unwelcome Migrants in Gardens and the Wilderness. *See page 1.* Also, the Container Competition—don't forget your check book!
- Friday, January 16, 9:30 am.—Green Thumb, Orchids—Care and feeding of orchids at Dorothy Goldberg's, 224 Viejo, Laguna Beach, 376-9898
- Friday, January 23, 9:30 am.—Nursery Hoppers Tour to Cal Pacific Orchid Farm, Weidner's Gardens and Quail Botanical Gardens. Further information at January 9 meeting, questions call Madeleine Visca 494-7307.
- Monday, January 26, 9:30 am.—LBGC Board meeting, Hostess Nancy Englund, 1616 Santa Cruz St., Laguna Beach, 497-9086. Committee Chairs welcome.
- Monday, February 2, 10:00 a.m.—District Meeting, Huntington Harbor Yacht Club, 3821 Warner Ave., Huntington Beach. Speaker Leslie Gilson—"Monarch Butterflies". All members welcome.

