

October 2009

Volume 5, Issue 2

Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc. .



The Truth About Dirt - by Gary Matsuoka

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



**Plant Sales
 last month
 were really
 fantastic
 \$352.48
 Encore!
 Encore!**

Welcome



New Members

- Ann Farris
- Pamela Hewitt
- Lynn Jax
- Terri Johnson
- Kathleen Kane
- Sally Lombardo
- Katherine McArthur
- Laura McCants
- Carol Nagy

Our Speaker this meeting, Gary Matsuoka, is a second generation nurseryman and the president of Laguna Hills Nursery, a garden center in Lake Forest . Although quite knowledgeable in matters concerning roses, fruit, ornamental trees and shrubs his current passion is centered upon soils and growing techniques.



Gary will discuss the soil that an orchard farmer desires, what it's composed of, and how it works. He will compare this with hot house (hydroponic) soils, and explain why each is different, but ideal for its

particular application. He will also give us the dirt about how nutrition, irrigation and root health are all bound together to create healthy, vibrant plants. He might also rant a bit about some of the current soil mediums (florist quality by his standards) in which wholesale container growers are trying to grow permanent plants, and give you his technique for changing the soil on potted plants.

Gary says, "Since about 1980 it has been horti-

cultural dogma that incorporation of generous amounts of organic matter into the garden's soil adds nutrients and creates better soil. In 1998 I made a decision to commit heresy and deviate from this theory. We no longer recommend incorporation of compost into any soil in which we intend to grow plants. What we do recommend is covering the *surface* of the soil with a 2-3 inch thick layer of organic matter."

Join us on October 9, beginning with Greet and Eat at 9:30 AM, followed by a brief business meeting, and then our program with Gary Matsuoka



Refreshments

Due to a scheduled remodel of the church kitchen, we will not have access to the kitchen until completion of the remodel.

Members bringing refreshments please bring your item ready to serve and with proper serving utensil.

REMEMBER—Coffee is now being purchased from Laguna Coffee, the charge is \$1 per cup.

Thank you for your cooperation. Bon Appetit!

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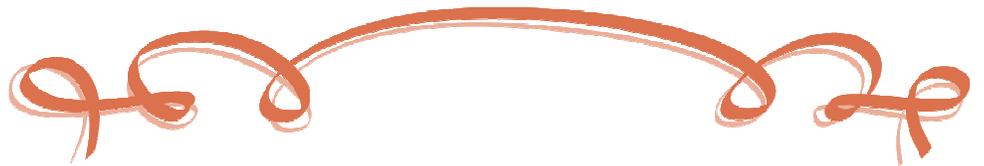
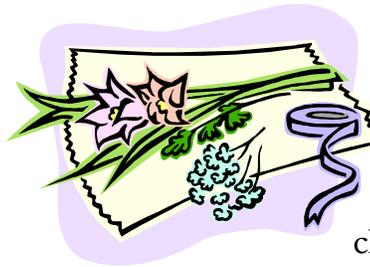
Gayle Whitaker
 Past President

Green Thumb—Floral Arranging Friday October 16th



Come join us at 9:30 am for floral arranging at “de la ROSE” 380 Glennerlyre St.

We will be watching their “in-house” designers create several arrangements and then each participant will be able to choose their own container and flowers to create their own design on site. The cost is \$40 (check made payable to “de la ROSE”). Sign ups will be at the next meeting. Unfortunately space is limited to **15** persons so come prepared with check in hand.



The Green Thumb for September was a great success, fun for all! Thank you Lecia Davis for the use of your beautiful home.



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

Pam Luttrell, Editor

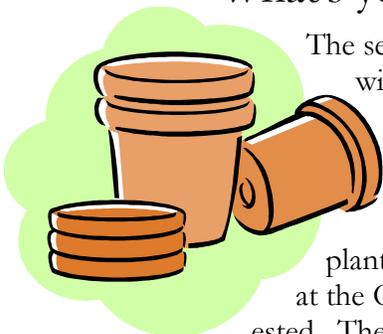
Additional information about club activities is available at our web site www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org



What's your style?

The second annual "CREATIVE CONTAINER" event will give you a chance to show off your design flair! Here's how it works—The club will supply ten identical containers, ten club members (that's you) will take a container home from the October meeting, and bring them back to the November meeting planted in any style you wish. A clipboard will be passed at the October meeting for you to signup if you are interested. Then ten names will be drawn from a basket before our program begins and those lucky ten will take home a container.

At the November meeting a silent auction will be held to sell the "Creative Containers" giving us all a chance to take some of your inspiration home! The money the event brings in will go towards our scholarship fund.



Nursery Hopper's Tour: Hortense Miller Garden

When: Friday, October 23, 2009

Where: Meet at the Church Parking lot

How: Car Pool, to 225511 Allview Terrace

What: Tour Hortense Miller Garden, more information at meeting or call Madeleine Visca 494-7307



You Signed Up to bring



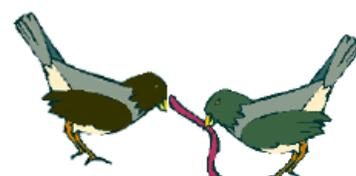
food for the refreshment table on October 9th

- Ronald Kaufman
- Gilda Marshall
- Carol Nagy
- Pat Randel
- Synthia Scofield
- Laura Parker
- Brigitte Meltvedt
- Gayle Whitaker
- Mary Graves
- Jane Cutting
- Suzanne Smith



Centerpiece for Table
Nancy Kirschke

Please arrive by 9:15 am with your goodies.
Thank you





So . . . What DOES one do with that huge gift basket from Dana Point Nursery?

Every year since it's inception, our Gate and Garden Tour has been generously given its biggest door prize from Dana Point Nursery. When we say big, we mean BIG, both in physical size and in monetary value. Take last year's prize, for instance . . . a gift card to the Hotel Bel-Air for \$4,000; a gift card to Cecconi's Italian Restaurant on West Hollywood for \$250; a garden fountain; a \$500 gift card for Dana Point Nursery; plus blooming plants and greenery to fill a basket the size of a small bathtub!

Well, we never really hear how all of it is enjoyed each year because we never know the person who wins it—until last year, when one of our own got lucky! Gloria Manders

won it with one (uno, single, lonely but lovely) raffle ticket! Here is a brief rundown of how it's going—but we warn you, it's not easy using up that much money.

First, Gloria did not want to spend any nights in LA. She has a cat. She also couldn't think of anybody she'd want to share a night or two with. So, she did something even better—she planned luncheons with all of her best friends. So far, she's made two trips there and entertained twelve of her friends to a lunch with no price tag. Order whatever your little heart desires, my pet . . . we can hear her say.

What had attracted Gloria to the gift basket in the first place was the fountain—her patio needed one, she thought. But that item didn't work so it was returned to Lowe's for store credit (\$214.00). She's used most of that up buying soil and tools. She's still using her gift card for the nursery to buy the plants.

Now she's still got the gift card to Cecconi's for \$250. So, maybe, if you play YOUR cards right, you'll become one of her best friends, and who knows . . . you might be murmuring "Thatsa good!" over a plate of pricey meatballs.



Club and District Dates to Remember in October

- ◆ **Friday, October 9, 9:30 a.m.**—LBGC Membership Coffee & monthly meeting, at Neighborhood Congregational Church, St. Ann's Drive & Glenneyre, Laguna Beach. Gary Matsuoka speaker. See page one.
- ◆ **Friday, October 16, 9:30 a.m.**—Green Thumb - *Floral* Arranging at *de la Rose*, meet at the shop at 380 Glenneyre St., Laguna Beach. See page 3 for further details.
- ◆ **Friday, October 23, 9:30 a.m.**—Hortense Miller Garden Tour. (see page 2) Further details will be forthcoming at the October 9 meeting or you may call Madeleine Visca at 494-7307.
- ◆ **Monday, October 26, 9:30 a.m.**—LBGC Board meeting, Hostess Dixie Henry. Committee Chairs welcome. 404 Blumont St., Laguna Beach. 494-6526
- ◆ **Wednesdays, October, 9:30 a.m.—12 p.m.**—Weeding at Hortense Miller Garden every Wednesday, come join the gang and get your hands dirty for a good cause!