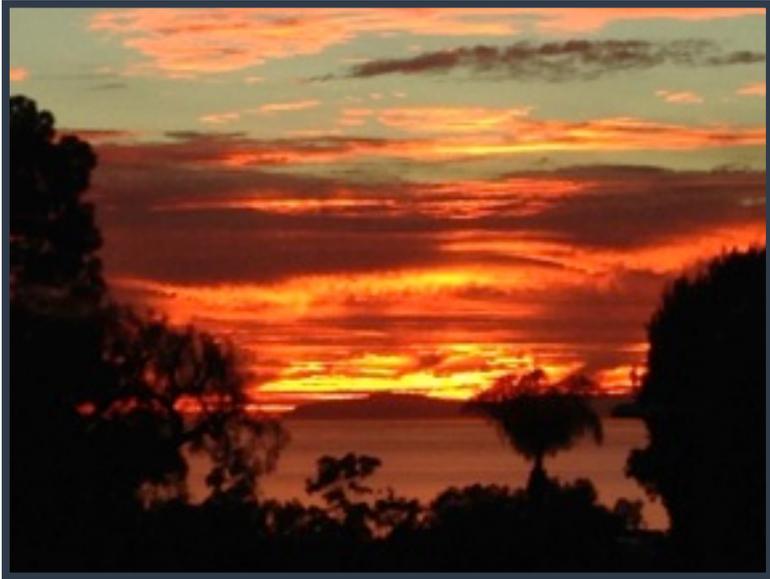




Welcome to Volume 9, Issue 5 of "Weeder's Digest"



As I reflect on the past year, I am incredibly grateful for many of the experiences I had in **2013**. Right up there, are a multitude of moments I enjoyed because of the Laguna Beach Garden Club.

From the members, to the adventures, to the incredible speakers, it has been quite a journey. I am extremely grateful to have found my way.

I believe this club of ours, is special. Special because it reflects the people and the atmosphere of Laguna, our own little piece of heaven. And besides, it's one heck of an environment for growing a garden not to mention a sunset!

So I toast you and all the memories and look forward to the voyages of **2014**.

Jorja



JUST A REMINDER THAT OUR JANUARY 10 MEETING WILL BE BACK TO IT'S REGULAR STARTING TIME OF 9:30 a.m.



JANUARY 2014

Weeder's Digest

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 5



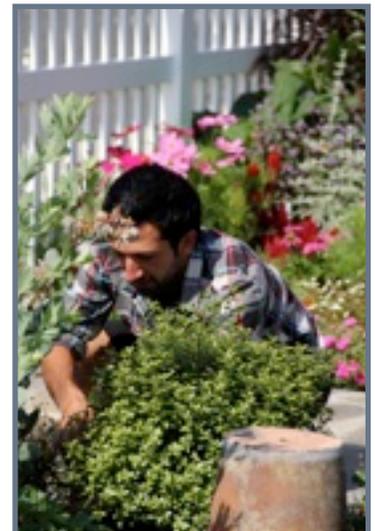
January's Speaker

COMPOSTING MADE EASY

Stephen will illuminate us on the ways vermiculture (using worms in composting) can improve your gardens, both ornamental and edible, using a holistic approach to design, installation and maintenance.

Stephen owns and operates the garden design and maintenance business, called I Garden. He couples his passion for being Earth friendly with a holistic approach to

landscape care and installation, by getting people to grow their own food in an attractive and functional landscape setting.



STEPHEN IN HIS GARDEN



BALDONADO PLANTING

When not creating edible landscapes or working in his own garden, Stephen assists Scott Daigre with "Tomatomania" events throughout California and other states.

If you would like to grow your own veggies, compost with worms or just need to update your yard, Stephen is your guy.

Check out his garden blog, <http://howigarden.blogspot.com>

MEETING

January 10, 2014
Laguna Presbyterian Church
Tankersley Hall
415 Forest Ave
Laguna Beach 92651
Social 9:30 a.m.
Meeting 10 a.m. to Noon

PLANT TABLE

PLEASE bring in more plants, cuttings, "treasures," etc. for our plant table. Our last few meetings have greatly reduced Gloria's inventory. Also, **PLEASE** bring in any extra shopping bags you might have so Gloria and her helpers can bag their sales. We are a little over half way to Gloria's goal of \$2,000 for the year. Thank you all for your contributions.

SPEAKER INFORMATION

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE, <http://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org>
BEFORE THE JANUARY MEETING AND PRINT OUT
THE POSTED COMPANION HANDOUTS FOR STEPHEN'S SPEECH.

6 STEPS TO PREPARING YOUR GARDEN AND ONE OTHER ON COMPOSTING

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO A COMPUTER OR JUST
ACCIDENTALLY LEAVE YOUR HANDOUT AT HOME, THERE WILL BE A FEW COPIES
AVAILABLE AT JANUARY'S MEETING FOR \$1.00 EACH.

32 COMPANION PLANTING Tips

CORN
Good Neighbors: Beans, Cucumbers, Lavage, Marjoram, Melon, Parsnips, Peas, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Squash, Zucchini

ONION
Good Neighbors: Beetroot, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrot, Chard, Celery, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Lettuce, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

GARLIC
Good Neighbors: Apricot, Cherry, Mulberry, Parsnip, Peach, Raspberry, Rosemary, Sage

MELON
Good Neighbors: Radish, Sweet Corn

POTATO
Good Neighbors: Beans, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Lettuce, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

CUCUMBER
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Celery, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Lettuce, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

ZUCCHINI
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Celery, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Lettuce, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

ASPARAGUS
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Celery, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Lettuce, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

CELERY
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Lettuce, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

BEANS
Good Neighbors: Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Lettuce, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

SPINACH
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Lettuce, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

LETTUCE
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

BRASSICA
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

PEA
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

CHIVES
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

ROSEMARY
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

PARSLEY
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

BASIL
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

MINT
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

BALM
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

EGGPLANT
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

BETROOT
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Strawberry, Summer Savory, Tomato

STRAWBERRY
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

CARSCAN
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

CHILLI
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

WATERMELON
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

APRICOT
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

PUMPKIN
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

APPLE
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

SUNFLOWER
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

RADISH
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

TOMATO
Good Neighbors: Beans, Carrot, Chard, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Kale, Marjoram, Parsnip, Silverbeet, Summer Savory, Tomato

BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

LBGC Directors 2013-2014

Jeanne Yale
President

Lynn Jax
Vice President Programs

Sue Goldberger
Webmistress

Publicity

Elaine Davis
Ways and Means

Nancy Englund
Garden Tour

Polly Dix
Membership

Fay Bowman
Recording Secretary

Jorja Puma
Corresponding Secretary
Newsletter

Vernetta Lieb
Treasurer

Nancy Lawrence
Financial Secretary

Lecia Davis
Past President

Weeder's Digest is
published monthly from
September through May for
the members of
Laguna Beach Garden Club
Editor: JORJA PUMA

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

MEMBERS
Orange County District
Garden Clubs
Pacific Region and National
Garden Clubs, inc.

ELAINE DAVIS Ways and Means



The first 18 years of my life, I lived in rural Westport Connecticut on acres of land and a stream across the street. Not to name-drop but Paul Newman and his family lived just down the same street.

In the winter, my 2 sisters and I skated on ponds and in spring we put in vege gardens – mine held mostly cucumbers. In summer we canoed and swam at the private lake where my father worked and in the fall season we jumped in the leaf piles my parents had just worked hard to rake together.

I thought everyone lived with such beauties of nature in their back yards and so much fun and adventure.

When I was 18 the family moved to the San Francisco bay area and except for camping trips, my world of trees and flowers became college classrooms and hospital halls. I first earned a BA in Sociology, then because I needed to make a living, a BS and MS in nursing. Twenty-eight years later, I retired from teaching nursing in the California State University system.

Now, I have the time and my own 1/3 acre with ocean view to return to growing my own vege garden and endlessly working to keep up with the entire yard as well as the Laguna Niguel Woman's Club and the Laguna Beach Garden Club.

Elaine



NANCY ENGLUND Garden Tour



I joined the garden club in '03 when my mermaid garden of succulents was featured on the Spring Garden Tour. After cycling through several board positions, I stepped up to chair the Gate & Garden Tour in 2006. I have continued in that position and am very proud that my legacy with LBGC will be the garden tour's reinvention as a walking tour. I have and always will welcome fresh volunteers to lead various tour committees.

I have been married since 1988 and have one spoiled dog and no kids. My husband and I moved to Laguna from LA in '91. My enthusiasm for succulents began a few years later and I am always on the look out for novel forms of Euphorbia, Sansevaria and my new love, bromeliads.

My husband and I travel for business and pleasure and I enjoy visiting botanical gardens whenever I can.

Nancy



Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix amid glass sculptures by Dale Chihuly

NEW MEMBERS

SUE FIELD
DAVID FRIEDLY
VIRGINIA KAJIKAWA
SUSAN MCGILL

PEGGY RUSHING
TINA SUTHERLAND
DEBORAH CLARK THALKEN
BARBARA STEYN

ASHLEY KING
JOY FALK
SHARON NORRIS
BARBARA STEYN
CHRIS RANABARGAR

Because the business aspect of our last 3 meetings was abbreviated, POLLY DIX'S new member interviews were presented via the Weeder's Digest instead of at our meetings. I am happy to announce that once again, Polly's interviews will be presented in person at our January meeting.

GREEN THUMB

GOURD BIRDHOUSE

HOSTESS: ELAINE DAVIS
WHEN: FRIDAY, JANUARY 17
9:30 a.m.
WHERE: 32562 SEA ISLAND, DANA POINT
COST: \$10.00 AT TIME OF SIGN UP

ALL MATERIALS NEEDED TO PRODUCE A BEAUTIFUL GOURD WILL BE PROVIDED BY ELAINE.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BRING A FAVORITE PICTURE TO COPY FROM PLEASE DO SO, OTHERWISE ELAINE WILL HAVE PLENTY FOR YOU TO CHOSE FROM.



DESIGNED AND MADE
BY ELAINE DAVIS

MEMBER'S TOUR

VIRGINIA ROBINSON'S GARDEN AND ESTATE **ATTENDANCE LIMITED**

WEDNESDAY, January 22 at 10:00 a.m.
MEET AT: ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH
1042 Temple Terrace, LB 92651

TOM HENSEL has arranged another great Member's Tour for us to enjoy. We will first have lunch at the Cheesecake Factory then delight in a docent guided tour of the department store founder's elegant home and garden's.

Both the lunch and tour are located in Beverly Hills.

There will be an entry fee of \$8 (\$6 for seniors.)

Sign up will be available at January's meeting.

GATE & GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, May 3

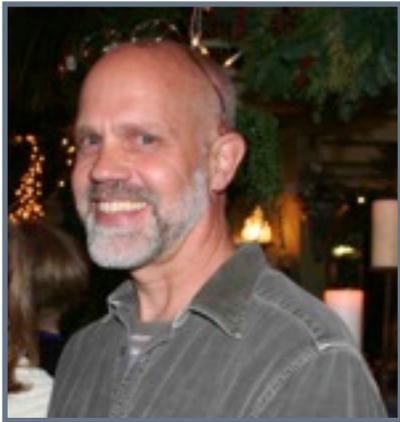
Volunteer preview tour, Wednesday, April 30

Location: Crescent Bay

Please save these dates as many volunteers will be needed to make our best fundraising event, The Gate & Garden Tour, another huge success



TONY BIELACZYE RECEPTION



Tony Bielaczye

STEPHEN ORR'S RECEPTION AT LAGUNA NURSERY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS. THE NURSERY WAS A GARDEN WONDERLAND, THE PERFECT BACKDROP FOR STEPHEN'S REMARKS, INCLUDING A BIT OF GOSSIP ABOUT MARTHA STEWART.

ALL WERE IN AWE OF THE NURSERY, EACH ROOM PRESENTED A CHARMING AND UNIQUE SCENE OF TREASURES AND PLANTS



AS WE WALKED ABOUT ADMIRING IT ALL, ENJOYING THE DELICIOUS TIDBITS PREPARED BY NAYA JOHNSON, OWNER OF "AN ANGEL IN YOUR KITCHEN," RUBEN FLORES, OWNER OF LAGUNA NURSERY, HANDED EASH WOMEN A BEAUTIFUL LONG STEMED, WHITE ROSE. NICE TOUCH, RUBEN.



Ruben Flores

IT WAS A GREAT SOCIAL EVENING AND THE PERFECT ENVIRONMENT TO ENGAGE IN CONVERSATION WITH STEPHEN AND THE OTHER GUESTS.



Faye Jacobs Vernetta Leib Sue Goldberger



Michael Yale Perry Jax



Jeanne Yale Tony Bielaczye Lynn Jax

SPEAKER TONY BIELACZYE



TONY DID NOT DISAPPOINT US! WE LEARNED HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF PLANT COMBINATIONS AT OUR DECEMBER MEETING. HE WAS WITTY AND INFORMATIVE AS HE RELATED SOME OF HIS JOURNEYS IN THE CREATIVE FIELD OF GARDENING.



SPEAKER SERIES

Thank you for your help with the Speaker Series.

Attendance at the October meeting was 200, at the November meeting 223 and at the December meeting 195 members & guests.

The Speaker Series did shake things up a bit in the club because of double the attendance numbers at the meetings and the limitations in the 3rd St parking lot.

The Greeter/Parking volunteers Sherry Stephens, Ginney Herbert, JoAnn Deyonker, Jan Kain and Wendy Caufield were gracious but firm in directing members and guests over to the Lumberyard \$3 all day parking lot even though there were some grumbles.

Mary Williams and Lynette Laroche sold a total of 170 pairs of gloves and 11 parasols.

Gloria Manders had a high volume of sales at the plant table.

Jackie Knauer collected the most Penny Pines money in the history of the club.

Ruth Robertson and Dixie Henry with their helpers Gilda Marshall, Pat Acree, Pam Luttrell, Brigitte Freund, Synthia Scofield put out refreshments for over 600 hungry members and guests.

The "Out of Town Community Liaisons, Gloria Potocki, Debbie Sugg, and Pam Filley marketed the Speaker Series to clubs outside of the Laguna community.

Thank you Linda Humes for donating the lodging for the speaker's stay in Laguna at the Tides Inn Motel.

Brooke Taylor and Nancy Kirsche checked in hundreds of guests who did not know what to do.

Jeanne Yale, Nancy Englund and Jorja Puma helped to sell books at the Debra Lee Baldwin and Stephen Orr programs.

Vernetta Lieb

REFRESHMENT TABLE

THE FOLLOWING SIGNED UP TO BRING
FOOD TO THE JANUARY MEETING

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Madeleine Visca | Jeanne Yale |
| Faye Jacobs | Maggie Siegel |
| Dana Victorson | Synthia Scofield |
| Gilda Marshall | Nancy Kirschke |
| Lecia Davis | Jorja Puma |

CENTERPIECE



PAM HAGEN
CREATOR OF DECEMBER'S
SPECTACULAR CENTERPIECE

THIS MONTH'S
CENTERPIECE
WILL BE CREATED BY
JANE JOHNSON

MEMBER'S TOUR



RUBEN FLORE'S HOME

Madeleine Visca, once again, put together a wonderful Holiday Tour.

The adventure began with a last minute, surprise addition to Ruben Flores' spectacular home and garden. The tour continued to Natalie Harlow's where her beautiful and intricate art pieces enhanced both her home and garden.

From there the member's enjoyed the holiday spirit at the home and garden of Jorja Puma and then on to Mary William's exquisite home and spectacular patio where she so graciously served refreshments and beverages. Thank you to all who donated their homes and contributed food and drinks to make this years tour a great success.



MARY WILLIAMS SERVING REFRESHMENTS



Since there was no **GREEN THUMB** event in January...



*÷ My garden is my
most beautiful
masterpiece.
Claude Monet*

[monet garden photos](#)



PENNY PINES

JACKIE KNAUER reports:

SHE COLLECTED \$144.00

AT OUR DECEMBER MEETING



GLOVE SALES

ELAINE DAVIS reports:

**60 PAIR OF GLOVES AND
11 PARASOLS**

WERE SOLD
AT OUR DECEMBER MEETING

FUTURE EVENTS

While cleaning up after the Dorothy Goldberg plant sale, I found a totally deteriorated garden settee with no actual seat, loose legs and spindle joints, and multiple coats of chipped paint. I took it home and refurbished and reinvented it. It is now a plant container with 3 openings on the wooden seat for the pots. Paint, glue, screws and support plates have transformed the piece into a sturdy and lovely addition for any garden.

Gayle Whitaker has kindly agreed to be our auctioneer so you know this will be a fun part of our regular monthly meeting. Proceeds will be put towards our projects in the community. Cash, check or credit card will be accepted.

Elaine Davis
Ways & Means Officer



January 10, 2014
Live Auction
At our General Meeting
Of
This fully refurbished settee
From the yard of member
Dorothy Goldberg.



Valentine's Container Auction

February 14th

During our General Meeting
Donate your planted container—for out-doors,
for tabletop, to hang on a wall
or from overhead.

Bid generously on your favorite containers.

Non-members may attend the meeting & participate in the Silent Auction



PATRIOT'S DAY PARADE

READY, SET, MARCH! Mark your calendar for this year's Laguna Beach Patriot's Day Parade and join us Saturday, March 1st. The parade is an easy downhill and flat walk from the high school to city hall. We are encouraging as many members as possible to participate in this year's entry, because after all, "the more the merrier"! Members should dress in jeans, white shirt, green Garden Club aprons, and a flowered wide brim hat. The parade begins at 11am at the Laguna Beach High School parking lot. Clipboards will be passed at the Jan. and Feb. meetings with categories for sign-ups.



The "Rake-etts", a precision marching drill team, will also be making a return appearance this year! For drill team questions please contact Diane Kloke at kloke@cox.net or 497-1866 (before Jan. 12, or after Feb. 15 as Diane is out of town in between those dates). The drill team will be meeting on parade day at 9:30 at Dixie Henry's at 404 Blumont, to learn the easy repeating routine.

We are also looking for a vehicle to decorate and a driver as this is a very special part of our entry each year. Carolyn Bent has agreed again to organize and conduct the vehicle decoration.

Sign ups will start at the January meeting, or if you miss the meeting you can call Gayle Whitaker at 494-4544, or email gayle_whitaker@hotmail.com.

More specific information will be available at the January and February meetings. Sign up, you won't be sorry, this is always a fun event!!!

HERITAGE MUSEUM-SANTA ANA: 7th ANNUAL ROSE PRUNING WORKSHOP

Date: January 25, 2014

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Contact: Sharon Stolen 714 708-1647

Sponsor: UCCE Master Gardeners of Orange County, CA

Location: Heritage Museum of Orange County <http://heritagemuseumoc.org/>

EVENT DETAILS:

Annie Hall, a teacher, speaker and landscape designer in Orange County for over 24 years, has degrees in Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design. Her work has been featured in Better Homes and Gardens, Sunset Magazine, the Orange County Register and the Los Angeles Times. She has also been a commentator on DIY Network's "Weekend Landscaping."

This event is FREE to the public. The lecture will be followed by a free drawing as well as a pruning demonstration and hands-on workshop in the museum's rose garden.

Attendees are invited to bring their own pruning equipment and join in! If your pruning tools need sharpening, the blacksmiths can do it for you.

Other Exhibits Include:

- Victorian Tea Society • Orange County Herb Society
- Orange County Blacksmith Guild • Kellogg's Representative

January Tips: Southern California

Planting Bare-Root Trees, Shrubs and Roses -- Now is the time to plant bare-root trees and shrubs as well as bare-root roses.

[Planting a Bare-Root Rose](#)

When to Plant Trees and Shrubs -- Plant container-grown trees and shrubs. Wait to plant more delicate perennial herbs, perennial flowers, and ground covers until your region's last average frost date, or check with your local garden center to find out the best planting time.

[Planting Trees and Shrubs](#)

[Last Average Frost Date](#)

- If you haven't already, fill in bare spots with cool-season annuals, such as pansies, snapdragons, calendulas, foxgloves, Iceland poppies, linaria, and stock, as long as temperatures are seldom lower than 35 and seldom higher than 80 or 85 F.
- Plant bare-root fruits and vegetables such as artichokes, strawberries, and rhubarb as they become available in nurseries.
- Plant pre-chilled tulips, crocuses, and hyacinths for spring bloom.

Pruning Roses -- Prune deciduous fruit trees and also prune roses. (In the very hottest regions, you may need to prune your roses back to just 6 to 8 inches to stimulate new growth.) Also spray your roses with horticultural oil to prevent insect problems later.

[Pruning Roses](#)

Pruning Trees and Shrubs -- Prune trees and prune shrubs. Be careful with flowering trees and shrubs -- you don't want to trim off developing buds! Wait to trim off frost damage until all danger of frost is passed.

[Pruning Trees](#)

[Pruning Shrubs](#)

- Otherwise, do trim late-summer or fall-blooming trees and shrubs, including abelia, mimosa, cassia, oleander, crape myrtle, princess flower (also called tibouchina), and golden rain tree. Otherwise, as a rule of thumb, prune flowering shrubs and trees within a month after they stop blooming.
- Now is an ideal time to prune evergreens.
- Deadhead camellia blossoms and pick up fallen blossoms to prevent disease problems.

Start Seeds Indoors -- In low desert areas and other places where you're six to eight weeks away from the last average frost date, start seeds indoors for warm-season annuals, such as tomatoes, marigolds, peppers, cosmos, zucchini, impatiens, salvia, basil, and others. Otherwise, wait until all chance of freezing temperatures has passed and buy established seedlings at the garden center.

[Start Seeds Indoors](#)

- Keep up with weeding and watering as needed, especially new plantings.

Lawn Fertilizer -- Fertilize cool-season lawns, that is, lawns planted with ryegrass, bluegrass, and fescue. Apply crabgrass preventer to all lawns now. And try our handy lawn fertilizer calculator so you know exactly how much to buy and apply.

[Fertilizer Calculator](#)

- Take the lawn mower in for a tune-up and blade-sharpening or do it yourself, being sure to change the oil and clean or change the filter as needed. A great tip is to buy an extra mower blade. Blades need to be sharpened three or four times during the growing season, so you can always have one on hand while the other is at the shop -- or on your workbench -- getting sharpened.
- Resolve to mow your lawn regularly and at the right height. It's the best thing you can do to control weeds and keep grass thick and healthy. Now, during cool weather, mow cool-season lawns such as bluegrass, ryegrasses, or fescues at 2 inches or so. (Raise the mower to 3 inches once the temperatures start hitting the 90s F.) Mow warm-season grasses such as Bermuda, St. Augustine, and zoysia at 2 inches all growing season long.
- Keep up with the harvest of cool-season crops, such as peas, lettuces, and spinach. It will encourage more production.

Garden Journals -- If you haven't already, start a garden journal or file. Tuck into it names of plants you like, magazine pictures, plant labels and seeds, and anything else that suits your fancy. If you're feeling crafty, make your own journal.

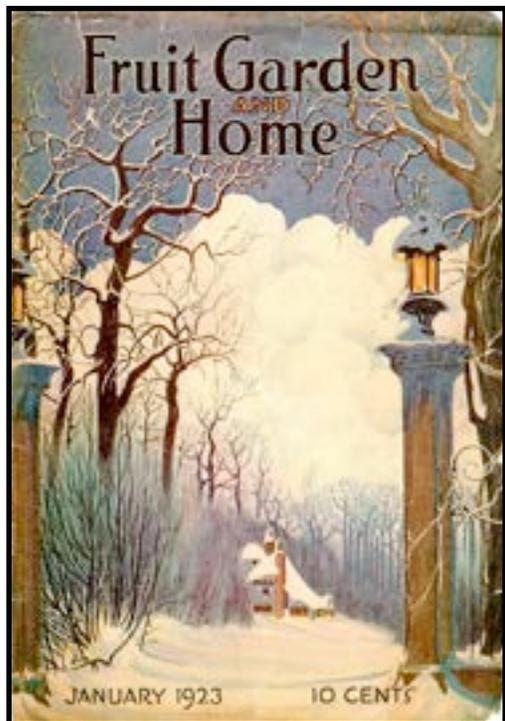
Landscaping and More -- While you're doing your garden planning, check out the entire section on garden planning and landscaping at BHG.com. It covers everything from assessing your landscape needs to putting it down on paper to choosing the best plants for you.

[Garden Planning and Landscaping](#)



JANUARY CALENDAR

The shortest day of the year has past; the sun is ascending from the horizon. Each day lengthens until suddenly, we realize we've gained another half hour of daylight. As we slowly say good-bye to the sparkly waters and phenomenal sunsets, we look forward to gardening at 7 PM.



GET DIRTY ON WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Hortense Miller Garden in North Laguna.
Bring your own tools, water and lunch

FEBRUARY 14
GENERAL MEETING
9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
VALENTINE
SILENT AUCTION

FEBRUARY 21
GREEN THUMB
Hostess
ELAINE DAVIS
9:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 24
BOARD MEETING
NEW MEMBER TEA
HOSTESS
POLLY DIX
9:00 a.m.

FEBRUARY 28
MEMBER'S TOUR
LOCAR NURSERY
SAFARI
9:00 a.m.

Cream of Turkey & Wild Rice Soup

http://www.eatingwell.com/recipes/cream_of_turkey_wild_rice_soup.html

4 servings, about 1 3/4 cups each | Active Time: 35 minutes | Total Time: 35 minutes

Ingredients

- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 cups sliced mushrooms, (about 4 ounces)
- 3/4 cup chopped celery
- 3/4 cup chopped carrots
- 1/4 cup chopped shallots
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
- 4 cups reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1 cup quick-cooking or instant wild rice, (see Ingredient Note)
- 3 cups shredded cooked chicken, or turkey (12 ounces; see Tip)
- 1/2 cup reduced-fat sour cream
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

Preparation

1. Heat oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add mushrooms, celery, carrots and shallots and cook, stirring, until softened, about 5 minutes. Add flour, salt and pepper and cook, stirring, for 2 minutes more.
2. Add broth and bring to a boil, scraping up any browned bits. Add rice and reduce heat to a simmer. Cover and cook until the rice is tender, 5 to 7 minutes. Stir in turkey (or chicken), sour cream and parsley and cook until heated through, about 2 minutes more.
- saucepan. Add lightly salted water to cover and bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat to low and simmer gently until chicken is cooked through and no longer pink in the middle, 10 to 12 minutes.



This is a healthier twist on a classic creamy turkey and wild rice soup that hails from Minnesota. Serve with a crisp romaine salad and whole-grain bread

WEBSITES

PLEASE visit our Facebook pages, GATE & GARDEN TOUR and LBGC. Both are accessible from the first listings I have posted below. We would LOVE for you to "like" our pages and also request that you ask your friends to visit and "like" our pages as well. Our goal is to promote the Garden Club and the Gate & Garden Tour as much as possible via Facebook. It is a valuable vehicle with which we can promote sales for our upcoming Garden Tour.

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://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org>



National Garden Clubs

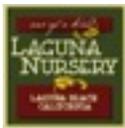
<http://www.gardenclub.org>



<http://californiagardenclubs.com>



<http://southcoastcss.org>



www.lagunanursery.net



<http://www.slgardens.org>



<http://www.houzz.com/gardening>



<http://patwelsh.com>
<http://www.ocdistrict.org>

NEW WEBSITES

For those of you who have not seen the Dubai firework display from New Year's Eve, it's a must see

<http://www.businessinsider.com/dubai-fireworks-video-2014-1>

Check out the garden's as well as other subjects on this website. Spectacular!

<http://www.topdreamer.com>

A couple of gardening sites for your enjoyment

<http://socalvegetablegardener.wordpress.com>

<http://www.rosalindcreasy.com>



<http://www.uccemg.com>



<http://rogersgardens.com>



<http://www.digitalseed.com>



<http://www.themulch.com>