



Welcome to Volume 9, Issue 6 of "Weeder's Digest"



GARDEN of LOVE AT CHATEAU de VILLANDRY

"In my garden there is a large place for sentiment. My garden of flowers is also my garden of thoughts and dreams. The thoughts grow as freely as the flowers, and the dreams are as beautiful."

Abram L. Urban

Because of our much anticipated Valentine Container Auction this month, we will not be having a main speaker. There are, however, some very exciting speakers presenting the following months.

March 14 "Garden: An Act of Faith" by Topher Delaney

Topher is a world-renowned landscape architect. Please see her impressive resume on our website: www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org. You will be astonished at all her accomplishments. By visiting her website: www.tdelaney.com. you will become aware of her genius. RSVP will be REQUIRED for all attending. Non-members will incur a fee of \$10. Seating will be limited. If you wish to invite non-members, tickets can be purchased on our websites PayPal account. Information on registration will be sent in the near future.

April 11 "The Drunken Botanist: The Plants that Create the World's Great Drinks" by Amy Stewart

Pre-registration for members and non members will be required. Non-members fee will be \$10.

May 16 "Why Tillandsias, Air Plants, are the Ultimate Horticultural Wonders" by Paul T. Isley, III



FEBRUARY 2014

Weeder's Digest



VOLUME 9, ISSUE 6



Our February 14th meeting is our annual...

Valentine Container Auction



The Time is Upon Us -

Time to create a living work of art that someone will give to someone they love for Valentine—or give to themselves— for Valentine's Day. Yes!

I am looking forward to the fun of having time to chat and visit with each other, ooh and aaaah at the creativity our members possess, and making that last minute check to see if our bid is high enough to win all the creations we want to take home.

Remember to be generous—our members have put in a lot of time, talent, thinking and money into their creations. They would like to see their efforts result in a big hunk of money to be used to further the pleasure of gardening in students of all ages.

If you can't be at the meeting, please consider making a monetary donation to the club, directed toward the Valentine Container Auction.

It is Valentine's Day—Come From Love

Elaine Davis



Cash, check or credit card will be accepted



9:15 a.m.

Please have your creations delivered by 9:15 a.m. so a bid sheet can be placed with your container and a starting bid can be entered.

9:30 a.m.

Eat, greet, look and BID before the meeting begins.

10:15 a.m.

Abbreviated meeting begins.

10:30 a.m.

Short program from Sharael Kolberg on El Morro Elementary Garden Programs

11:00 a.m.

15 minutes to finish Bidding

11:15 a.m.

Bidding ends. Bid sheets are collected

MEETING

February 14, 2014
Laguna Presbyterian Church
Tankersley Hall
415 Forest Ave
Laguna Beach 92651
Social 9:30 a.m.
Meeting 10 a.m. to Noon

*"Keep love in your heart. A life without it is like a sunless garden when the flowers are dead."
Oscar Wilde*

NEW MEMBERS

**Karen Alms
Margaret Arnold
Vincent Beddome
Gail Rose Lam**

BOARD MEMBER PROFILES

**LBGC
Directors
2013-2014**

Jeanne Yale
President

Lynn Jax
Vice President Programs

Sue Goldberger
Webmistress

Gail Kirkpatrick
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.**

FAY BOWMAN Recording Secretary



As a native Californian, I grew up gardening. With my family we planted vegetable gardens of corn, tomatoes, carrots, celery, squash, peppers, radishes, lettuce and onions. We had orange trees, a pomegranate bush and a kumquat bush. These bushes became trees. In our Southern California neighborhood all the homes had two back yards. The grass yard closest to our house had a brick fireplace, built in barbecue and patio dining table much like you see in catalogues today. The garden in the back of the lot had the clothesline to hang laundry (yes, I'm that old!), flowers to pick for the house and the vegetable garden.

After graduation from college, I married and taught elementary school. We have two sons and will soon celebrate our 56th wedding anniversary. We have enjoyed traveling and now are content with the joys of grandchildren and are fortunate they live nearby. Being a volunteer and fundraiser for many Orange County and local groups was fulfilling. Along the way, I planned many bus trips to museums, as my love is art. When the time worked out, I went back to school and got a Fine Arts degree in drawing and painting at the LCAD in our own town. I still paint once a week with all my painting friends. I enjoy painting people, whether on the beach or in the water, using acrylic on canvas or watercolor on paper. It's about life and space.

But, I love to garden too. Forty-five years ago, the gardens in our South Laguna home were designed by a local landscape architect Fred Lang. Fred considered the sense of space in harmony with the structure of our home to its surroundings which include our neighbor's gardens. He used indigenous and drought tolerant plants. I learned a lot from Fred when he was deciding what would be right for the different areas of our yard, which makes us alert to possible changes we might make to our garden.

The garden club meetings always teach me something new.

JORJA PUMA Newsletter



I met my soul mate, Robb, on February 1, 1964. We have been together for 50 years and I consider myself to be the luckiest girl in the world. Cliché I know, but very true. Two years later, we had our first son, Paul, and three and a half years after Paul, Anthony was born. I loved being a mother to those two boys and sharing the journey of family life with Robb; but, I must say, I love our life today even more. Our family now is blessed with the addition of two incredible daughters-in-law and 5 of the most precious grandchildren you could ever imagine.

Throughout my life, I have dabbled in and ventured into a multitude of creative curiosities. Gardening became a passion with our current home. The back yard consisted of a few fruit trees, an endless amount of dirt with overgrown weeds and a breathtaking view of the ocean. It begged to be a garden.

For many years, my family and I worked endlessly to transform dirt into pathways and weeds into plants. When I entered the "empty nest" phase of life, I dedicated myself to the garden, full time. I did that for a few years and then became part time with gardeners.

At the end of summer 2010, Robb bought me a Marlo Bartels tete de tete bench. The garden had lapsed into an unworthy location for the art piece, so we hired landscape designer Ruben Flores to give our garden a facelift. It is through his botanical brilliance and creative talent that our garden became the gorgeous setting it is today.



GATE & GARDEN TOUR

TOUR: SATURDAY, MAY 3
VOLUNTEER PREVIEW TOUR: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

WANTED

Creative, organized self starter to lead the Cookie team. Your mission is to beautify the registration area and procure, present and serve delicious goodies.

Contact tour chair, Nancy Englund, n.englund@cox.net, for details.

VOLUNTEERS

A volunteer sign up sheet for the Gate & Garden tour will be passed around at both the February and March meetings. All members are expected to participate in our best fundraiser of the year.



MEMBER'S TOUR

LOCAL NURSERY SAFARI

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

9:00 a.m.

**MEET AT SAINT CATHERINE OF
SIENA PARISH**

1042 Temple Terrace, LB 92651

This month's tour will include a number of local nurseries, but not the usual suspects! TOM HENSEL will have the locations at February meeting. As always, these tours are educational and a great way to mingle with fellow club members.



GREEN THUMB

There will be no Green Thumb project this month

PROJECT FOR APRIL

I am going to change the April project to a glass sculpture design. I am letting you know this early because you will need time to find and/or purchase the pieces you want to use. Go to garage sales, swap meets, thrift shops, your own attic for items you can use.

ELAINE



PENNY PINES

\$93 was collected at our
January Meeting
Our Total for the year is \$588

PLANT TABLE and GLOVE SALES

Unfortunately, you will have to
wait another month to purchase
our fabulous garden gloves and
items at our plant table

SHORT PROGRAM



Friday, February 14, Master Gardener Sharael Kolberg will be presenting an update on the progress of the El Morro Elementary School garden program that is funded, in part, by the Laguna Beach Garden Club. She has been volunteering in the garden for nearly four years and will share photos of the recent renovations that have allowed the garden to be used not only as an after school club, but also as an outdoor classroom for nearly a dozen teachers.

Sharael Kolberg
949-395-7116

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

OFFICER AND CHAIR POSITIONS

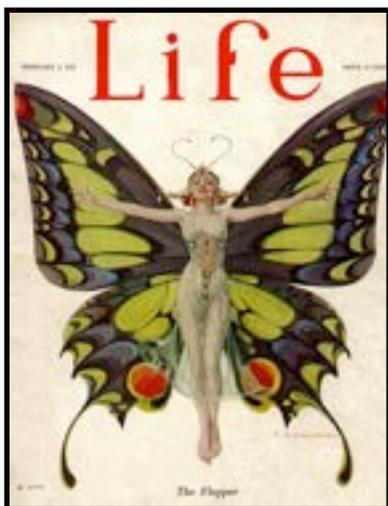
Your skills and interest are needed by the garden club as new officer and chair positions open up for 2014-2015.

Please consider letting us know if you have interests in organizing the food for the social time before our monthly meeting, article writing, editing the Newsletter, Ways & Means, computer skills, graphic design, website updating, Excel database input, the plant table, garden theme crafts, social media, publicity, speaker research and assisting the Programs officer or if you just want to get more involved in the club. We really want your help with suggesting high level horticulture theme speakers for our programs. We would like to support California speakers.

Please let Vernetta Lieb 310-750-6857 vernetta2@cox.net know where you would like to help.

On a personal note, please let Vernetta know if you are involved in Transitions Laguna, if you garden with raised planters, if you can suggest a program speaker and/or if you are interested in bluebirds.

VERNETTA



*The breeze, the trees, the
honey bees...
All volunteers!
Juliet Carinreap*

REFRESHMENT TABLE

THE FOLLOWING SIGNED UP TO BRING FOOD TO THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Wendy Caufiled	Kristina Dendinger
Pennie Levers	Bobbie Smith
Synthia Scofield	Stephanie Irving
Maggie Owens	Carolyn Bent
Birgitta Schoen	Mary Williams



JANE JOHNSON
CREATOR OF JANUARY'S
BEAUTIFUL CENTERPIECE

THIS MONTH'S
CENTERPIECE
WILL BE CREATED BY
NANCY BOONE

CENTERPIECE

LETTER TO GARDEN CLUB

Dear Garden Club Board and members,

It is with mixed emotions that I write to tell you that my husband and I and little Phoebe have decided to relocate back to my hometown of Baltimore, Maryland to be closer to my family. We are most certainly sad to leave such a beautiful place, but we take so many memories with us and we are looking forward to a new adventure!

I thought I was quietly joining the Garden Club a few years ago, only to find myself swept up and in the publicity seat before I knew what I had said yes to! It has been such a pleasure to be a part of the membership and the board. I would like to thank you all for the many lovely memories that I have of the past few years ~ the wonderful members, excellent speakers, the Gate & Garden Tours, the Patriot's Day Parade, and the Hortense Miller Garden. I only wish that I had more time to get more involved!

A thank you is also long overdue for the adorable "Very Busy Spider" book you sent to Phoebe. She absolutely loves the illustrations and I just can't wait for her to start reading it to me! (Maybe in a few years...) The book and gift card were such kind and thoughtful gifts!

Thank you all for making me feel so welcome. I will keep myself in the loop on Facebook and look forward to watching the club continue to blossom!

With love,

Poppy McClellan

BUDGET COMMITTEE

**ON JANUARY 27, 2014, THE BOARD APPROVED THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS
TO BE ON THE BUDGET COMMITTEE:**

JEANNE YALE
LYNN JAX

VERNETTA LIEB
NANCY ENGLUND

NANCY KIRSCHKE
LYNETTE LAROCHE

JORJA PUMA
GAIL KIRKPATRICK

THANK YOU



Elaine Davis beautifully refurbished Dorothy Goldberg's garden seat and Gayle Whitaker auctioned it off at our January 10 meeting.

Mary Williams was the highest bidder and the new owner of this lovely bench. Well, actually, that's not quite true as she gave it to me for a birthday present.

So, not only does our club want to give a genuine thank you to these women for their generosity and contributions, but I especially want to offer an immense THANK YOU to each of them.

Jorja

VIRGINIA ROBINSON'S GARDEN AND ESTATE



Again, a big thank you to Tom Hensel for arranging another exceptional Member's Tour. On January 22, we ventured up to Beverly Hills for lunch and a fascinating visit of the Robinson Estate; the first luxury estate built in Beverly Hills. The property contains multiple gardens, the main house and pool pavilion.

The estate was built in 1911 and became well known for entertaining some of the most opulent celebrity parties in Los Angeles. Notable stars included Charlie Chaplin (whom she played her last tennis game with at age 85), Mae West, Marlene Dietrich, Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire, just to mention a few.



Among the many events, Virginia hosted was the Hollywood Bowl Patronesses Benefit. Every year, after the opening of the Hollywood Bowl season, the orchestra would replicate their concert on the estate's Great Lawn.



LBGC in Australian King Palm Forest

Virginia Robinson died just two months shy of her 100th birthday and 45 years after the death of her husband, Joseph Winchester Robinson, who was chairman of the J.W. Robinson's retail stores.



<http://www.robinsongardens.org>

GOURD BIRDHOUSE EVENT AT ELAINE DAVIS'



So, a little bird told me a lot of creativity went into the decorating of these gourd birdhouses. Cooperative weather provided all with a great ocean view which they enjoyed from their workstation in the garage.

I understand they were having so much fun that there was a request that champagne be poured in celebration, but it was denied, only because Elaine didn't have any on hand.

SPEAKER: STEPHEN BALDONADO



Thanks to Stephen Baldonado, we all know a lot more about composting and vermicomposting. Again, a great speaker engaged by Lynn Jax. For those of you who have not printed the handouts Lynn put together, please visit our website, <http://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org>, and go to the handout section listed at the top of our homepage. Lynn did a exceptional job putting together a lot of information for those of us composting or contemplating engaging in the practice.



LYNN JAX STEPHEN BALDONADO JEANNE YALE

FUTURE EVENTS

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.

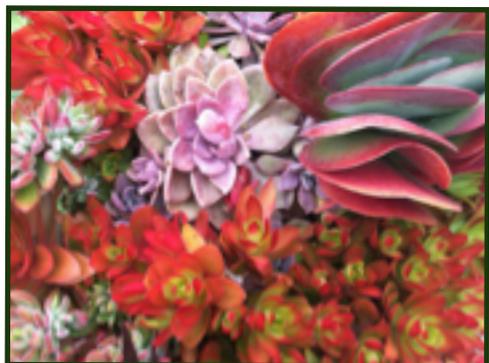
The "Rake-etts," a precision marching drill team, will also be making a return appearance this year! For drill team questions, please contact Diane Kloke at kloke@cox.net or 497-1866 (before Jan. 12, or after Feb. 15 as Diane is out of town in between those dates). The drill team will be meeting on parade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

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!!!



FUTURE EVENTS



SAN DIEGO CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY - WINTER SHOW

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
CASA del PRADO BUILDING
BALBOA PARK
<http://www.balboapark.org>
1549 El Prado
San Diego 92101

Strange and exotic plants from the far corners of the world gathered together for your viewing amazement.

Sale of choice specimen plants for the novice and collector as well as handmade stoneware planters and pots.



WORLD CLASS SWEET PEAS **with STEVE HAMPSON**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
ROGERS GARDEN
<http://rogersgardens.com>
2301 San Joaquin Hills Rd.
Corona Del Mar 92625

Well-known horticulturist, Steve Hampson has been growing and trailing sweet pea varieties for 10 years and has gained insight into ones that are exceptional. Many modern varieties have been bred for large, ruffled, fragrant blooms that are great for cutting. Steve will cover topics such as seed sowing, soil preparation, insect and disease control, support systems and growing in containers. Learn how to grow and care for these wonderful cool-season plants you can pick arm fulls of this favorite flower to enjoy in your home.



DISTRICT QUARTERLY MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17
9 a.m. - Noon
Casa Romantica Culture Center and
Gardens
<http://casaromantica.org>
415 Avenida Grande
San Clemente 92672
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY FEBRUARY 5

For those of you who would like to attend, please send a check for \$5 to Elaine Davis, 949-493-8404 or edavis1@cox.net

February Tips: Southern California

As temperatures start warming up, get going with a little cleanup and planting.

Planting Trees and Shrubs -- Plant container-grown trees, shrubs, perennial herbs, ground covers, and perennial flowers.

[Planting Trees and Shrubs](#)

Planting Nursery Plants -- Plant warm-season annual flowers and vegetables (tomatoes, peppers, marigolds, petunias and the like) after all danger of frost has passed but in enough time for them to beat the summer heat. In hot desert areas, for example, that means no later than mid-February. If in doubt, give a quick call to the garden center nearest you. Microclimates and growing conditions can vary radically within just a few miles of each other and in places like Southern California, within just a few blocks of each other.

[Planting Nursery Plants](#)

- Once the soil has warmed to 60 degrees F, plant seeds for corn, green beans, cucumbers, squashes, and other heat-lovers. You'll know the soil is warm enough once you can walk on it comfortably barefoot. Or wait until two weeks after your region's last average frost date.



Plant ground covers like this colorful catmint.

Fertilizers -- Fertilize roses and fertilize perennials at the end of the month and keep them watered. You can use chemical fertilizers (follow package directions on amount and frequency) or organic fertilizers, such as compost, fish emulsion, and others.

[Fertilizers](#)

- In the low desert and other hot areas, feed citrus, avocado, and deciduous trees now. In cooler coastal or higher zones, wait until next month.
- Late this month or early next, if desired, apply a pre-emergent weed killer to beds and borders. It will greatly reduce weeds later on. However, it works by preventing seeds from germinating, so don't apply anywhere you're planting seeds.
- Cut back woody and overgrown perennials. If in doubt, look at the base of the plant. If it is sending up fresh growth there, you can safely cut off the dead or old plant material now.
- Cut back old foliage from ornamental grasses, liriope (monkey grass) and mondo grass to just a few inches high. (Tip: If you or your neighbor have a power hedge clipper, it will make short work of tough-stalked ornamental grasses.)
- You can prune evergreens this month, but avoid pruning them later on this spring and summer.
- Keep up with the harvest of cool-season crops, such as peas, lettuces, and spinach. It will encourage more production. Continue to plant successions of these fast-growers for production over the next several weeks.

What To Plant -- Plant bare-root artichokes, rhubarb, and strawberries now.

[Planting Strawberries](#)

- Clear out debris and muck from the bottom of the water garden, if you have one, and add it to your compost heap.
- Mulch your garden with 2-3 inches of mulch.
- Control snails with an organic or chemical bait.



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FEBRUARY CALENDAR

"Kind hearts are the garden, kind thoughts are the root, kind words are the blossoms, kind deeds are the fruit."

Michael Garofalo

February 10

CHILDREN'S GARDENING WORKSHOP

Flower Power

WHERE: ORANGE COUNTY GREAT PARK
SAND CANYON & MARINE DRIVE, IRVINE, CA 92650

TIME: Every 30 minutes from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

ADMISSION: FREE

Besides being beautiful, flowers are a necessary component in fruit and vegetable production. Go and find out why flowers are so important and then press some to make the perfect valentine for someone special.

[2013 Children's Gardening Workshop Series](#)

GET DIRTY ON WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 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

THERE WILL BE

NO

GREEN THUMB

THIS MONTH

FEBRUARY 24

BOARD MEETING

9:00 a.m.

NEW MEMBER TEA

11:00 a.m.

HOSTESS POLLY DIX

FEBRUARY 28
MEMBER'S TOUR
LOCAL NURSERY

SAFARI
9:00 a.m.

MAGAZINES

ELAINE DAVIS recommended that I share some of the best magazines available to gardeners. So, I will begin this month by presenting a few of them, in no particular order. Let me know if you have a favorite you want to share. If there is an online issue as well, I will include a link.

FINE GARDENING MAGAZINE

"Fine Gardening magazine brings you breathtaking design ideas, helpful techniques, and the know-how to get great results in your own garden."

THE ENGLISH GARDEN MAGAZINE <http://www.theenglishgarden.co.uk/home>

"Inspirational ideas and expert advice on gardening, plants and design for everyone who loves beautiful gardens."

GARDEN, DECK and LANDSCAPE MAGAZINE

"In every inspiration-packed issue of Garden, Deck & Landscape, you'll discover dramatic before and after landscape makeovers ... time-and money-saving building how-to's ... live plants you can order and tips for using them in your yard ... and so much more!"

WEBSITES

PLEASE visit our Facebook pages, GATE & GARDEN TOUR and LBGC. 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. You can go to our website and simply go to Facebook.

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>

LAGUNA BEACH GARDEN CLUB

<http://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org>



[Dirt Du Jour](#)



NEW WEBSITES

This month I am adding two new websites:

Dirt Du Jour, a free daily gardening e-mail newsletter full of great gardening information, plus so much more. Once you sign up, you will receive it daily and can enjoy with your morning coffee.

Dave's Garden, where you can find the largest plant database in the world, huge bug, bird and butterfly files, and many other extras.

<http://davesgarden.com>

ORANGE COUNTY DISTRICT

<http://ocdistrict.org>

ORANGE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

<http://www.uccemg.com>

CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS

<http://californiagardenclubs.com>

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS

<http://www.gardenclub.org>

LAGUNA NURSERY

<http://www.lagunanursery.net>

ROGER'S GARDENS

<http://rogersgardens.com>

SHERMAN LIBRARY AND GARDENS

<http://www.slgardens.org>

PAT WELCH GARDEN EXPRESSIONS OC

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

HOUZZ

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

THE MULCH

<http://www.themulch.com>

DIRT DU JOUR

[Dirt Du Jour](#)

DAVE'S GARDEN

<http://davesgarden.com>

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

<http://southcoastcss.org>