



Floral Design Is Not Brain Surgery...

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



Bring lots of plants, pots, and misc. items to sell on this first Plant Table Sale of the year!

Welcome



New Members
Joyce Ireland
Jackie Knauer
Jeanne Takahashi
& Welcome back
Janet Corey

No . . . but sometimes the surgical suite might be preferable to that vase that LOOMS before you—naked—demanding that it be clothed in the latest of floral fashions.

Now, we know we're talking to an elite group here, who is savvy in the ways of floral and floribunda. But, come on. Don't you sometimes just feel inept or worse out of creative juices?

Well, Michael Merritt to the rescue! Our own Michael Merritt, who helped us win first place in the Patriot's

Day Parade last year by decorating our VW Bug in the most exquisite of floral and garden hose. Yes, he used garden hose and rakes, hoes, flags, and ribbon!

If you come to September's meeting, you'll understand what we're raving about. Mike takes the most ordinary of objects and incorporates them into floral arrangements—leftover cuttings, branches, thickened stems—giving them focus and importance in the vase or as a base.

To hear Michael tell it, he started out as a delivery boy for a local florist, with no floral experience or ambition to be in the business.

However, in driving faster than was wise, he toppled the orders right and left. Forced to deliver the flowers a bit "rearranged" to his customers, word got back to him that everybody was wild about

the arrangements. Putting two and two together, he figured he might possibly have some talent in the field.

Uh, huh. We'd have to agree. But, just to be sure, take a look at his website—

www.MichaelMerritt.com. You'll see "his powerhouse of artistic expression through his varied styles of design." And, best of all, he is willing to give away most of his trade secrets! So, don't miss this first meeting of our new gardening year, our Membership Coffee get-together, our chance to meet and say hello to new and old friends! Come at 9:30 AM for "Greet and Eat," with a short business meeting at 10:00, and our program to follow. Who knows . . . you might finally find a use for that broken shovel that you've kept for ten years!

See the raffle article on page 2, you could win one of Michael's arrangements



LBGC

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Green Thumb—A Succulent Bonanza

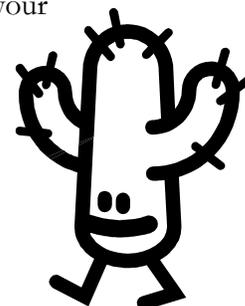


On Friday, September 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. will be our Green Thumb program led by Nancy Englund. We had such fun last year that we are again this year offering our members an opportunity to create a succulent planter at the Laguna Canyon Cactus & Succulent Nursery.

Choose your old favorite, new or unusual succulent & cactus plants and purchase from Dan's huge inventory. You may bring your own container or purchase one of the

many offered there. Available also will be the plastic shell planters, focal points and top dressings to purchase for those who wish to plant mermaid gardens. We will meet at **Laguna Canyon Cactus and Succulents**, 21065 Raquel Rd. just off Laguna Canyon Rd. at 9:30 am

Don't forget your checkbook!



Win A Beautiful Flower Arrangement



One of Michael Merritt's wonderful and creative arrangements will be raffled off at the end of this month's program. Some of the arrangements will be with the container included and some will be with the liner only. Raffle tickets will be sold before the program at a price of 3 for \$5.00.



Created by Michael Merritt, AIFD

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

Membership Coffee

The annual Membership coffee is a time when we look forward with plans for the new year, bring our friends who are prospective new members and catch up with old friends over coffee and brunch fare. The Board members will be providing the refreshments.



2008—2009
Laguna Beach Garden Club
Membership Book

2008—2009 Membership Books

The new Yearbooks for 2008-2009 will be available at the membership table, so don't forget to pick yours up!
Kudos to Sandy Smith for the beautiful job!

Of Interest to Gardeners

Roger's Gardens

2301 San Joaquin Hills Rd
Corona del Mar, California 92625
949-640-5800

09/13/2008 9:00 am - Cristin Fusano "Shady Gardens"

Learn about the many wonderful plants for "Shady Gardens", including ground covers, seasonal color, showy perennials, bulbs, flowering shrubs and backbone greenery.

Fullerton Arboretum

1900 Associated Rd
Fullerton, CA 92831

9/6/08 Salvia Spectacular Plant Sale

The fall Salvia Spectacular Plant Sale returns to The Potting Shed on Saturday and Sunday, September 6 & 7, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Admission free. Hundreds of salvia varieties and plants on sale.



Tour historic Doheny guest house garden...



Madeleine Visca has done it again—Our tour this month will be at the guest house of the Doheny summer home and the spectacular gardens therein. Now owned by the proprietors of *Whim*, a local shop and service for the décor of the home, this tour will also give you a fair view of the stunning interior decoration of both the original guest house, and the additional structures. This garden is spectacular, as you can see by the photos above. You don't want to miss this tour, it is a beauty! Bring a sack lunch—we will be dining in the garden. Further details regarding car pooling, etc. will be discussed at the September 12 meeting

Club and District Dates to Remember in September

- ◆ **Friday, September 12, 9:30 a.m.**—LBGC Membership Coffee & monthly meeting, at Neighborhood Congregational Church, St. Ann's Drive & Glenneyre, Laguna Beach. Michael Merritt speaker—see page 1 for more details.
- ◆ **Friday, September 19, 9:30 a.m.**—Green Thumb Succulent Planter Event, meet at *Laguna Canyon Cactus & Succulents*, 21065 Raquel Road at Laguna Canyon Road.
- ◆ **Monday, September 22, 9:30 a.m.**—LBGC Board meeting, Hostess Shirley Forden (carpool if possible) Committee Chairs welcome.
- ◆ **Friday, September 26, 9:30 a.m.**—Tour historic Doheny Garden and Guest House. Bring sack lunch. Further details will be forthcoming at the Sept. 12 meeting or you may call Madeleine Visca at 494-7307.