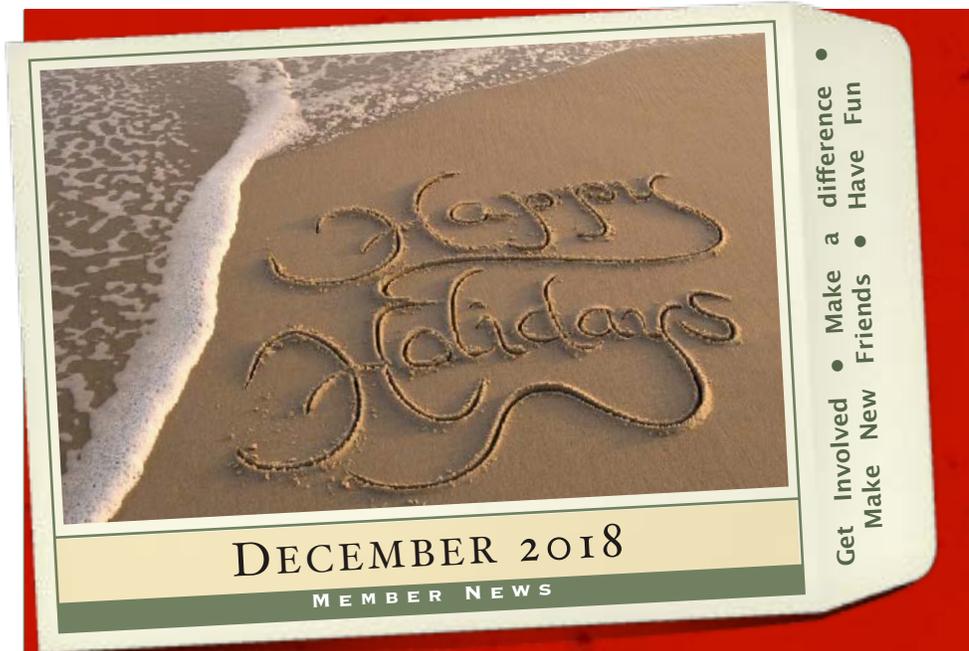




# Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



*Deck the halls, the trees, and the garden with holiday cheer to bring the spirit of the season inside and outside of your home*

COME JOIN IN THE FUN

## Events This Month

**General Meeting Dec. 14**

### Larry Bourguet

*Growing Tillandsias* (see page 3)  
Laguna Presbyterian Church



- 9:30 am social
- 10:00 am meeting

**Trips & Tours Dec. 14**

### Members' Homes Holiday Tour

Join us as we visit some members' homes that have been decorated for the holiday season. Meet at 3pm at St. Catherine's on Temple Terrace; **carpooling is a MUST!**



### A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

The rainy days that we have been blessed with these past few days have washed all of the dust away from our long, dry summer and fall. Hopefully the sudden downpours go easy on the burn scarred landscape in Malibu and Paradise.

Recent early morning cloudy skies have treated us to some fantastic sunrises, a perfect way to start the day. So as all of us pack our calendars in the next few weeks, make sure to take some time to enjoy a sky that is filled with vibrant reds, vivid oranges and

deep navy blue, whether it is an early morning sunrise or a sunset after a long hectic day. *Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year ahead!*



## President's Message

# Cultivate Your Garden & Also Your Spirit

I love winter in California – I love the angle of the light and wearing shorts in the rain, (you know, so your cuffs don't get wet). In most of the country, winter is the time to look out through the window at a sleeping garden while perusing seed catalogs and waiting for spring. But not in southern California! Winter means rain so it's the best time for planting! What you put in the ground now will have time to establish deep, healthy roots to withstand the challenges of our hot, dry summer. Take advantage of the cool air and Nature's sprinklers to give your garden a boost.



This is a great time of year to cultivate not only your garden but also your spirit-to plant seeds and intentions for a healthy and productive year ahead, to weed out bad habits, practice patience and be kind to yourself.

Whatever is beautiful, whatever is meaningful, whatever brings happiness and connection, may it be yours this holiday season and throughout the coming year.

-Nancy England



## December RAFFLE

A special Holiday raffle will be held at the **December 14** meeting. I am seeking your special items as donations. So far, the items include:

- A Gift Card from Green Thumb Nursery
- A Christmas Gourd
- A Gift Card + Orchid Arrangement from Plant Depot
- Handcrafted wooden goblets by Roger Taft

We could use some more Holiday-themed items.

If you would like to add something special to the raffle, I'd love to hear from you.

Contact Lynn Jax

Email: [jax@cox.net](mailto:jax@cox.net) or

Cell 949-294-1500.



# Tillandsias Will Tickle Our Interest at the December Meeting

The featured speaker at our December 14 meeting is **Larry Bourget**, who will make a presentation on *“Growing Tillandsias.”* Also known as “air plants,” tillandsia is the largest genus in the Bromeliad family.

Mr. Bourget and his wife, Belen, are passionate about tillandsias and how to display them in the best possible way. We’ll hear about many varieties of tillandsias and how to grow and care for them. Mr. Bourget will also share ideas about how to display them on driftwood, Cholla and cedar roots. He will also sell plants and wood products that at the meeting.



Larry and Belen Bourget and one of their beautiful driftwood tillandsia creations



# November Trips & Tours Was a Treat With Three Nurseries in North San Diego County & a Delicious Lunch

Another terrific day for a tour! We started at [Jeff Moore's Solana Succulents](#) in Solana Beach. He had an amazing assortment of succulents; some rare, some common.



There were also some truly odd pots shaped like strange creatures! I

believe that we all found something we had to have. From there we did a lightening trip to the [Cedros Avenue Shopping District](#) for spending of a different sort. If you get a chance, this district is highly recommended. It has some wonderfully unique shops. Next? Lunch! We went up the street to [Claire's on Cedros](#). Again, highly recommended! The food is tasty and different and the personnel are all very friendly.



Once replete with food, we headed over to Encinitas to visit [Barrels&Branches](#), a garden club favorite. The nursery is beautiful (even after a bit of a flooding disaster).

B&B is logically set up with gorgeous and uncommon plants. The staff knows its



stuff and is very willing to take the time to talk about plants. Don't miss their mascot, a beautiful black cat. A number of the club members



went over to [Gardens by the Sea in Leucadia](#). It is another lovely nursery. Get there soon; they may be closing!

Please do join us on our next excursion which will be touring members' homes & gardens decorated for the Holidays. It will be on December 14 and we will meet at St. Catherine's on Temple Terrace at 3pm. Hope I see you there!

- Synthia Schofield



# Local School Gardens Receive \$1,500 Checks From The Garden Club

Letter from El Morro Elementary School PTA:

Thank you to the Laguna Beach Garden Club for your continuous support of the El Morro Learning Garden. Your support helps to fund the outdoor classroom in so many ways. This year our major purchases are soil to replenish our planting beds, new trowels for the kids along with new magnifying glasses, binoculars, spray bottles and of course plants and seeds. This coming year hopes to be an exciting one with the expansion of the garden space due to a generous donation to the Learning Garden by a wonderful family. We are hoping this to be completed and ready for fall 2019 school year. Thank you again for all your support and come visit us in the Learning Garden for some learning fun.

Smiles,  
Anessia Raymond



LBGC President Nancy Englund played Santa a bit early for El Morro and Top of the World Elementary Schools and Thurston Intermediate School when she presented \$1,500 checks to the schools' PTA groups to help their gardens grow.

*Letter from Top of the World Elementary School PTA:*

October 8, 2018

Re: 2018-2018 School Gardens Grant Request

Dear Mrs. Englund,

I am writing to update you on the annual Laguna Beach Garden Club funding request. I am pleased to share additional details regarding how Top of the World Elementary School will use such funding. This funding provides for annual supplies used each year:

- Organic soil and seed starting mix bulk ingredients-vermiculite, coco coir and compost;
- Seeds and starters — cool- and warm-season high quality & fresh seed, and veggie starters;
- Natural pest control - Sluggo, flashing, gopher wire, horticultural oil and spray bottles;
- Project materials — concrete, forms for new signs and clear sealant to protect garden signs;

TOW Elementary has 30 raised beds and 25 fruit trees on campus, spread out over 3 gardens and 1/2 acre. As a result, annual projects such as amending the soil and making seed starter mix; naturally protecting the gardens against pests such as insects, rats, rabbits, gophers; and planting the raised beds with students in fall, winter and spring require a significant amount of consumable materials.

During 2018-2019 school year, we have the following enhancements planned to our school gardens, and would use funding from LBGC to help accomplish these:

- Medicinal garden — plants and irrigation for a planned new medicinal, perennial sunny terrace area. This concept is part of the 5 year master plan developed by a local landscape architect
- Plant signage — new rigid, aluminum, engraved plant tags identifying the plants in our fire safe, native, and California themed perennial gardens. These tags will be interactive with QR codes (see [plantsmap.com](http://plantsmap.com)).

Please accept our sincere thank you for your continued support of the TOW Outdoor Classroom. Should you desire any further details about the great outdoor learning in math, science and more that your organization is supporting, please do not hesitate to contact us! Each month, all K-5 classes (600 students) visit the gardens for hands-on learning, making great gardeners of tomorrow!

Warm regards,

Kelly L. Osborne

/s/Kelly Osborne Outdoor Classroom Chair

## TRIPS & TOURS

Reprinted by popular demand

## Helpful Ideas

### Intoxicating Paperwhites



### Members' Homes Holiday Tour

We will visit the homes of **Linda Humes, Lynn Jax & Jorja Puma** to see their lovely gardens, homes, and delightful Christmas decor. Join us to get in the holiday spirit with some food & beverages as part of the tour.

Meet at 3pm at St. Catherine's on Temple Street; **carpooling is a must as parking is very limited.**

**Linda Humes**

1280 Bluebird Cyn., LB

**Lynn Jax**

456 Cress St., LB

**Jorja Puma**

530 High Dr., LB



This is an easy to follow plan using alcohol to keep Paperwhite plants short and compact.

Ethanol alcohol, the alcohol found in most "hard liquors" (vodka, rum, gin, tequila) is an excellent growth regulator to keep paperwhite plants short & compact during indoor forcing.

A 4-5% solution of Ethanol will do the trick, here's how:

- Plant paperwhite bulbs in stones, rock, gravel, marbles or glass beads as usual.
- Water as you normally would for 7-10 days.
- When you observe roots and 2-3" of green shoots, replace the water with the 4-5% alcohol solution.
- Making the solution: 1 part booze to 9 parts = 4% solution. 1 part booze to 7 parts water = 5% solution.
- Use this solution for further watering of the paperwhites.
- The result is plants that are about 1/3 more compact, with flowers just as large, long lasting and fragrant as usual, and they are really happy!

November speaker Jeff Moore from Solana Succulents relit our interest in these water wise plants. For more information, visit our website: [www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org](http://www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org)



# Making Our November Meeting Special



## Volunteer of the Month

**Pam Bisson's** name was drawn as the November volunteer of the month. She received a Nordstrom's gift certificate from Vice President Mariann Keenan for her tireless efforts as *Program Assistant*.

Pam arrives at the church at 8:30am the morning of our monthly meetings to set up the displays on the tables, hang the covers on the windows and make sure that everything is ready for the members to enjoy the meeting. She stays after to take it all down and pack up all of the items so they are ready for the next meeting.

Thank you Pam; you make our club all the more special!



## November Table Decor Was an Abstract Delight

**Becky Martin's** abstract bird, balancing two cups of colorful succulents, was a visually interesting addition to the treat table at the November meeting. Camera shy Becky let her plant arrangement take center stage and we appreciate her creative efforts.



**LAGUNA BEACH**



**GARDEN CLUB**

**GROWING & GIVING**  
S I N C E 1 9 2 8

PO Box 362 • Laguna Beach, CA 92652

*[www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org](http://www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org)*

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