



LAGUNA BEACH GARDEN CLUB

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

Weeder's Digest

April 2016 Volume 11 Issue 8

Editor's Note

It is a busy time of year for our Laguna Beach Garden Club. Not only are we running full speed ahead getting ready for our Gate and Garden Tour; which happens on Friday, May 6, but we are also working hard and planning for next year with membership in full swing and getting board positions filled. All this while still making sure the regular monthly activities keep flowing smoothly.

This is a great time to reflect on your own experience with the club this year. Have you taken advantage of all we have to offer you? Take some time to look through your membership book, or get onto our website and really see all of the wonderful things that the LBGC has for you to do, and see all that it does for our community.

If you haven't tried a Green Thumb project or gone on one of our Tours and Travel adventures, you are missing out on some great fun and learning experiences! The Gate and Garden Tour is a huge undertaking, and the pride of our club. It is an event that each and every member should be putting some of their time into. You will be greatly rewarded by the smiles

Editor's Note Continued

from the faces of the happy people you are helping from their start at Arabela and all through the beautiful gardens, by getting to tour the gardens yourself, and by the great feeling you get from knowing you are a part of something special. The money we raise at this tour is used for support of our school gardens, scholarships, local educational and civic beautification projects.

The Sister City, Hortense Miller, Pocket and Library Gardens all need more people to help keep them looking their best, so if some hands-on gardening is what you love, some work in one of these gardens is for you!

The Patriot's Day Parade is a great way to show your pride in our club and in your city. The people you see on the route are genuinely happy and excited to see our club in the parade. This was my first year to walk in it and I am hooked!

We also have our wonderful school gardens at El Morro and Top of the World Elementary Schools and at Thurston Middle School that can use help. The booth at Water Works and Green Day at the Sawdust Festival are great ways to help the club out too.

Out of all these wonderful activities and more that we do, there has to be a few that sound fun and interesting to you. Make it a point next year to try a couple of new activities, and to give back to your club in some way each month.

You will find that you will learn much, you will grow as a person, you will meet new friends, and our garden club will benefit greatly from it.

The Laguna Beach Garden Club needs all of it's members help to keep it a successful club.

Join in, have fun = be happy!!

April General Meeting

Friday, April 8

Laguna Presbyterian Church, 415 Forest Ave., Laguna Beach

9:30 am Social - 10 am Meeting



April Speaker

Kirk Brown - April 8, 2016

“John Bartram, the King’s Botanist”



Kirk Brown will appear in costume and take on the persona of “John Bartram, the father of American Botany”. Bartram traveled extensively in the eastern American colonies and was instrumental in sending seeds from the New World to European gardeners, especially King Charles III, which is how he became known as the “King’s Botanist”. It is also how many North American trees and flowers were introduced into cultivation in Europe. His close friends included Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and many Native Americans during the 1700s.

Those of you who were fortunate to hear Kirk Brown as Frederick Law Olmsted in October know how terrific his presentation and performance can be. As the current President of the Garden Writers Association, he travels the United States and is one of the most popular speakers at flower shows in Philadelphia, Seattle, Oklahoma, Ohio, and many more. The Laguna Beach Garden Club members are most fortunate that Kirk Brown will appear locally for our benefit.



Please invite your friends and neighbors because you don’t want to miss this unique and interesting speaker. Mark your calendars, all guests are most welcome!

More Kirk Brown Photos



Upcoming Events

Green Thumb - Botanical Paintings

Friday, April 15, 9:30 am Cost: \$10 - Elaine Davis home, see directory for address

This is a change for the April Green Thumb project. Elaine has had toe surgery and has also been having trouble with her back, so she has been unable to get the mosaic project together. This botanical painting project will be great fun, you don't have to worry about the drawing, it will be done for you!! Just have fun with a paintbrush! The pictures below show how botanicals show all parts of the plant. Instructions and supplies are included. Please sign up at the Green Thumb table at our General Meeting. Hope to see you there!



Tours and Travel

Friday, April 22 @ 11:00 @ Heisler Park

Join us for a wonderful Spring Potluck picnic at beautiful Heisler Park. We will be meeting at Heisler Park at 11:00 am. Bring your favorite dish to share. Don't bring fruit (all will be revealed). We will explore the Sister Cities Garden area and the Memorial Rose Garden. Please R.S.V.P. at our April meeting. We are looking forward to your company and hope to see you there!!

Extra Important This Month!!! - Sister City Garden Maintenance

Every month we ask for help at our Sister City Gardens in Heisler Park. It is always something that we hope our members will participate in at one time or another, and there is no time more than now that we need your help!

We are getting ready to show off our Sister City Gardens with a drive-by of our buses on our Gate and Garden Tour. The regulars who are continually giving of their time to keep these gardens looking beautiful could really use some help as they are wearing many other hats on the Gate and Garden Tour. Please join us on Monday, April 4th and Monday, April 18th @ 10:00 am at the Sister City Garden in Heisler Park. Bring your own gardening tools, some water and your favorite gardening gloves. The cross streets are Jasmine Street at Cliff Drive. Please see your directory for more information.

Let's make sure that these gardens are in the best shape ever for our Gate & Garden Tour guests!

Gate and Garden Tour



There is still time to sign up and be a part of our Gate and Garden tour!
Please contact Nancy Englund for more information.

Space available for half-page ads in our Gate and Garden Tour Brochure, and we are still accepting donations for our raffle. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested donating to the raffle, please contact Lisa Mahar. For placing an ad, please contact Carolyn Bent.

Please let your friends, neighbors and relatives know about our biggest fundraiser of the year, and how it benefits the Laguna Beach Community. If you are interested in purchasing tickets for the tour, you can do so on our website: www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org.

Other Civic Beautification Projects

The Sister City Gardens in Heisler Park are not the only gardens that our LBGC helps to maintain. Here are some of the others. The Forest Avenue Pocket Garden, the Hortense Miller Garden and the Library Garden are all areas that we have volunteers working at on a regular basis.

For more information, please contact the following people:

Forest Avenue Pocket Garden: Jeanne Yale

Hortense Miller Garden: Gayle Whitaker

Library Garden: Nancy Englund

Annual Photo Contest

Our members submit photographs from their gardens in our annual Photography Contest. The first and second place entries are featured on the front and back covers of our membership directory.

Photo Contest Rules

1. Photo entries are due to the contest committee chair, Laura McCants by April 1.
2. Only one entry per garden club member is allowed.
3. The entry can be either vertical or horizontal, but vertical is preferred.
4. If entered via U.S. mail, no identifying information (regarding the submitter) should be written on the back of the photo.
5. The entry must be a recent photo of some part of the member's garden.
6. By submitting the entry, the member declares that he/she owns the right to the photo.
7. Entries will be judged at the April 25th board meeting.
8. The winner's photo will be featured on the front cover of the 2016-2017 membership book, and the second place winner will be featured on the back cover.

For more information contact:

Laura McCants

144 Westport

Newport Beach

lauramccants@cox.net

910-0411

CGCI Orange County District Meeting

Monday April 4th at Irvine Regional Park

9:30 Refreshments—10 Business Meeting—10:30 Botanical Watercolor Painting

Dalynn Malek will provide an already drawn canvas and all painting supplies and give painting instructions.

Fruit, breakfast breads and juice will be served by your District Board. Please bring your own coffee.

After painting, you may like to stay in the park so bring a brown bag lunch and drink. I will have a cooler with ice.

There are hiking trails, a train ride, and a lake to enjoy.

The meeting is free. There is a \$3/car entry to the park.

Please register with Elaine Davis at edavis1@cox.net or 949-493-8404 by March 30th.

Irvine Regional Park
1 Irvine Park Road
Orange, CA 92869
(714) 973-6835 or (714) 973-3173
irvinepark@ocparks.com



Good-To-Know

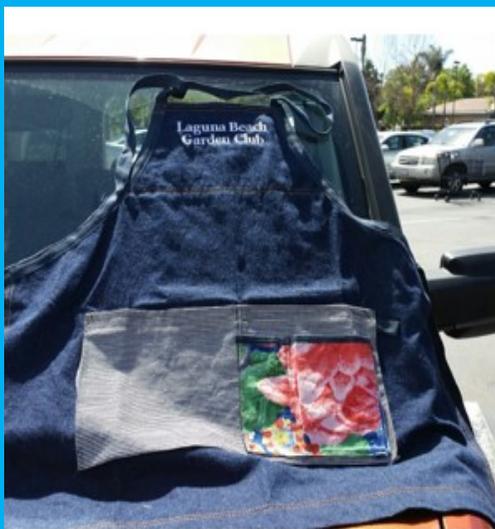
Aprons and Tote Bags

From Elaine Davis

After many months and many planning meetings, our club's sewing committee is expecting to have our new clubs aprons available for sale at the April meeting at the cost of \$30. Members are expected to wear these aprons at club functions at which they are volunteering, such as the Gate & Garden Tour, Green Thumb at the Sawdust Festival day, working in the gardens we care for, and the Patriot Parade. If you have one of our "retired" green aprons you may wear that if you prefer not to purchase one of the new ones. If you volunteer at an event and you do not have either of the aprons, one of the green ones will be available to you to borrow. Of course, you may also wear your new apron while tending your own garden! I think you will really love our new creation!

Our new aprons will be offered for sale to the public at the Gate & Garden Tour at the cost of \$45.

Tote Bags - We have 17 more of the hand-painted tote bags to sell at the April meeting. These sell for \$25. Any that have not sold by the Gate & Garden Tour will be offered for sale to the public for \$35.



Upcoming Garden Events Around Orange County

April 14 - Woman's Club of Orange Annual Spring Flower Show

You can see flowers and plants, have lunch at the Garden Café from 12-2 pm, browse and buy at boutique shops. There will be a plant booth and a sweet shop. Noon-4pm., free. 121 S. Center St., Orange.

www.womanscluboforange.org or 714-538-2226

April 16 - Sherman Gardens Private Garden Tour

Gardens in Corona del Mar and Newport Beach will show how water-wise gardens can be attractive and practical. 11-4, \$50, 2647 E. Coast Hwy., Corona del Mar. www.slgardens.org or 949-673-2261

April 16-June 19 - Bonsai Exhibit at the Fullerton Arboretum

Participants will include members of the Orange Empire Bonsai Society, the OC Bonsai Kai and Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai. 10-4 Saturdays-Sundays, 1900 Associated Road. No charge for bonsai exhibit. The arboretum requests a donation. Contact Paul T. Minerich, 714-972-3596 or [www.paul@paulminerichlaw.com](mailto:paul@paulminerichlaw.com)

April 23 - California in My Garden

The California Native Plant Society Orange County Chapter Tour will include 15 native-plant gardens throughout the county. Online ticket purchase includes detailed descriptions and directions to all the gardens. 10-4, \$10,

www.occnps.org

Orange County Coastkeeper Garden SmartScape Tour

Orange County's largest nonprofit water-wise garden will show how to turn your yard into an environmentally friendly, water-saving work of art. Features a Q&A on topics such as maintenance, irrigation and installation.

11am & 12:30 pm, free 1560 E. Santiago Canyon Rd., Orange, www.coastkeeper.org/coastkeeper-garden

April 24 - Fullerton Beautiful Open Gardens Tour

The tour will include a bonsai garden, an Asian-inspired retreat, a vegetable and flower garden, a giraffe and cat garden, an entertainment garden and a seeds, clippings and roadside discovery garden. 11-4, \$15 for map to featured gardens. Map may be purchased at Fullerton College horticultural department, north side of campus, east of Lemon St. (enter from Berkeley Avenue) www.fullertonbeautiful.org

April 30-May 1 - Mary Lou Heard Memorial Garden Tour

More than 30 gardens from Long Beach to Capistrano Beach will be open 10-5, rain or shine, donation requested. Net proceeds go to The Sheepfold; www.heardsgardentour.com or 714-475-9188

May 1 - Steel Magnolia Long Beach Home Design Tour

You can explore the interiors and gardens of four distinct estates that showcase beautiful and innovative design. Live art, entertainment, gourmet treats and other surprises will pop up along the way. 11-3, \$45. Buy or pick up tickets on the day of the event at Coldwell Banker Coastal Alliance, 1650 Ximeno Ave., Long Beach;

www.thesteelmagnolias.org

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Continued Upcoming Garden Events in Orange County

May 6 - Laguna Beach Garden Club Gate & Garden Tour

Nine private gardens and secret sanctuaries, including nearly an acre of magnificent grounds at a historic home, are included on this 1-mile walking tour in Laguna's charming Village neighborhood. 11-4, \$45 in advance, \$50 day of tour. Arabella Laguna, 506 N. Coast Hwy., Laguna Beach; www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org

May 7 - Tustin Area Historical Society's 20th Annual Promenade Home & Garden Tour

Featuring Old Town Tustin-area homes and gardens, a horse-drawn trolley, maypole performances, a quilt show, vintage car displays, a guided tree walk, craft vendors, opportunity prizes, musical entertainment. Opening ceremonies at 9:30 am; homes and gardens open 10-3. \$20 in advance, \$25 day of tour. Cash or check only (will-call at Tustin Presbyterian Church, Main at C Street) www.tustinhistory.com or 714-731-5701

Rose Society of Saddleback Mountain's Elegant and Enchanting Garden Tour

Featuring four south Orange County gardens, including a California ranch, a quaint artist's cottage garden, a drought-tolerant garden and an East Coast-inspired garden with a movie theater and stables. Proceeds fun plants sciences/horticulture scholarships at California colleges and universities. 10-4, \$25 in advance \$30 day of tour. 3 Marcap, San Clemente; www.rosesrosesroses.org or 949-837-2141

Lake Forest Garden Club Annual Plant Sale and Garden Boutique

You can buy Mom a cut-flower arrangement, potted plant or succulent basket, or find plants for your garden or yard, garden art and boutique treasures. 8-1, free 22921 Ridge Route Drive, Lake Forest, www.lakeforestgardenclub.net

May 14 - Paws in the Garden

You can stroll through local gardens in support of The Ark of San Juan's mission of saving lost and abandoned companion animals. 10-2, \$25. www.arkofsanjuan.org or 949-388-0034

Open Garden Day

The neighborhoods of West Floral Park and Jack Fisher Park in north Santa Ana feature gardens to tour, a water-wise sidewalk tour, garden expert talks and demonstrations, vintage cars, vendors and food trucks. 10-4, \$15 www.opengardenday.com or 714-836-9777

May 15 - Rossmoor Woman's Club Annual Outdoor Living and Garden Tour

A self-guided tour leads to gardens in Rossmoor plus an Outdoor Store (including vendors and food trucks) in Rush Park. 10-4, \$10 3021 Blume Drive, Los Alamitos; www.rossmoorwomansclub.com or 562-810-7139

Village Laguna's 44th Annual Charm House Tour

This tour, which supports protecting the village atmosphere of Laguna Beach, will showcase 6 homes portraying the diverse character, size and personality of Laguna architecture. 12-5, \$50 in advance, \$60 day of tour. Festival of Arts, Laguna Canyon Road, Laguna Beach; www.villagelaguna.org or 949-472-7503

June 12 - Orange Park Acres Women's League Home Tour

You can tour four or five homes, gardens and barns in beautiful Orange Park Acres. Homegrown food and wine will be available for purchase afterwards. 11-3, \$40 www.opawomen.org or 714-639-8686

This information was borrowed from the OC Register, phodgins@ocregister.com - writer



You are Invited

A Private 2-Day Package for Garden Lovers

Arrive Friday, June 10 at 11:30am

Stay at the Ojai Valley Inn and Spa

Attend concerts of the Ojai Music Festival
in the outdoor Libbey Bowl

Visit private gardens by renowned designers

Sample Ojai's local foods and wines

Depart Sunday, June 12

Space is limited for this private group.
Call Gina Gutierrez at 805 646 2181
Visit <http://bit.ly/1QcNJ8f>



A Very Special Opportunity!

Carolyn Bennett, speaker at the March 11 meeting, sent this invitation to anyone in Laguna Beach Garden Club who might want to take a road trip to Ojai and partake of their Private 2-day Package for Garden Lovers. The package includes a stay at the Ojai Valley Inn, open-air concerts, and a tour of private gardens. She was very impressed with how many things our Garden Club does. Space is limited, so if interested, check out the website or call Gina Gutierrez at [805-646-2181](tel:805-646-2181).

Tips to Keep Container Plants Happy *

No plant is truly drought-tolerant in a container – with the exception of succulents.

• **The Container:** Glazed ceramic, metal, thick clay and plastic pots retain much more water than traditional terra cotta and require less water. Terra cotta pots are excellent because they allow plants to “breathe” and help prevent overwatering. Avoid dark colored or metal pots that heat up and damage roots.

• **Soil:** Choose a potting mix that is friable and drains quickly, such as “cactus mix”. Avoid using your own garden soil to add to packaged soil mix. Make sure the mix has at least 25-30% perlite to aid in drainage.

• **Water:** Container plants grow best when they are watered regularly. Keep the soil barely to slightly moist at all times, allowing the top 1-2 inches dry out between waterings. Never allow the soil to dry out entirely. If soil becomes desiccated and compact, break up the surface with a fork or cultivator, then soak the plants in a bucket of water until the soil is thoroughly moistened.

• **Pruning:** The best time to root-prune is before active growth resumes, generally in the fall. If you want to keep plants in the same container, you will need to prune the plant's roots. When root-pruning an evergreen, make sure to prune the stems and leaves as well to compensate for water loss.

• **Fertilizing:** Many potting soils have almost no nutrients and must be supplemented. In spring fertilize sparingly as growth begins. Do not fertilize during dormancy or immediately after transplanting. Make sure the fertilizer is complete and has chelated iron.

* Taken from *LA Times*, 5 March 2016, F-8 (Source: Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers and Native Plants).

Plant Table and Penny Pines

Our plant table sales for the month of March were \$180.75. A special thanks go out to Jeanne Yale and Shirley Forden for bringing for the many interesting items they brought to sell, and for Synthia Scofield for donating the very unique tillandsia. All of these items helped to raise the amount raised this month!

Penny Pines donations totaled \$129.00. That is almost enough for two plantings! Thank you to all who donated last month, let's see if we can beat this total at our April meeting!!

LBGC Board

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Ways and Means

Nancy Lawrence

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Gate & Garden Tour

Lisa Fecteau

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Publicity

Jeanne Yale

Past President

Welcome New Member

Rebecca Azera

(Becky)

Refreshment Table Centerpiece provided by:

terpiece provided by:

Nancy Lawrence

April Refreshments Provided by:

Elizabeth Kramer, Synthia Scofield, Myrna Silverman, Jackie Souadian, Linda Humes, Connie Maxsenti, Monette Weiss, Sally Peck, Connie Lawson, Lisa Fecteau, and Janet M.

It's not too late to lend a hand! Bring something with you on Friday, April 8th if you didn't have a chance to sign up at the March meeting. We are expecting to have a large crowd with Kirk Brown returning to speak, so more snacks would be greatly appreciated!!

Thank you to everyone helping us out!!

We Need CORKS!!!!

Our LBGC is putting on workshops during the California Garden Club, Inc. 2016 Convention being held at the Hotel Irvine May 18-22. One of the workshops will involve corks, and we are in need of many more. If you have any that you have collected over time and can part with, please contact Elaine Davis. You can find her information in your membership booklet. Thank you in advance for your help!

Our Club is a Member Of:

National Garden Club, Inc. - www.gardenclub.org

Pacific Region - www.pacificregiongardenclubs.com

Orange County District - www.ocdistrict.org

Plant Table

Don't forget to bring your unwanted garden items or plants to sell at our plant table and boutique!

Don't forget to check it out either, you just may be surprised at what you find!

Weeder's Digest is published monthly September through May for the members of the Laguna Beach Garden Club, Lisa Fecteau, Editor. Additional information about the Club can be found at:

www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org



April 4 & 18 - Sister City Garden Maintenance @ Jasmine St. @ Cliff Dr.

April 8 - General Meeting, 9:30 social, 10:00 meeting. Speaker: Kirk Brown: John Bartram, The "King's Botanist", at Laguna Presbyterian Church

April 15 - Green Thumb - Botanical Painting at Elaine Davis home, 9:30 am, cost \$10

April 22 - Tours and Travel - Spring Fling Potluck at Heisler Park, 11:00 am

Plant a Garden - Edgar Guest

If your purse no longer bulges and you've lost your golden treasure,
If times you think you're lonely and have hungry grown for pleasure,
Don't sit by your hearth and grumble, don't let mind and spirit harden.

If it's thrills of you joy wish for, get to work and plant a garden!

If it's comradeship you sight for, learn the fellowship for daisies,
You will come to know your neighbor by the blossoms that he raises;

If you'd get away from boredom and find new delights to look for,
Learn the joy of budding pansies which you've kept a special nook for.

If it's drama that you sigh for, plant a garden and you'll get it

You will know the thrill of battle fighting foes that will beset it

If you long for entertainment and for pageantry most glowing,

Plant a garden and this summer spend your time with green things
growing!

