

VOL. 12



GROWING & GIVING

# Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



MARCH 2017

MEMBER NEWS

• Get Involved  
• Make New Friends  
• Make a difference  
• Have Fun

For each petal on the Shamrock  
This brings a wish your way  
Good health, Good luck & happiness  
For today and every day

COME JOIN IN  
THE FUN

## Events This Month

### General Meeting March 10

### Valentine Container Garden Silent Auction

School Gardens presentation (see page 3) Laguna Presbyterian Church  
• 9:30 am social 10:00 am meeting

### Green Thumb March 24

### Suprise Project

Join Nancy Englund & Wendy Caufield as they lead you through the making of a creative garden project.

The actual project will be announced at the March 10th meeting.

Nancy Englund's home  
1616 Santa Cruz St. Laguna Beach  
9:30 am

### Tours & Travel March 17

### LB School Gardens

We are going to visit the campuses of Top of the World and Thurston Middle School to see their school gardens.

Meet at 9:45 am at St. Catherine's on Temple Terrace (see page 4)

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

While attending the Pacific Northwest Flower & Garden Show in Seattle last month, we also visited the Dale Chihuly Garden & Glass Museum. The forms Chihuly makes with glass are organic and often look like kelp or some kind of alien creature. The stark contrast of vivid color of the glass against the sage and deep green foliage in the garden reinforced the idea that color can be achieved from items other than flowers.

Artwork in the garden can become the "icing on the cake" to add that area of emphasis, or to

draw the eye through a space. Chihuly's gardens use art glass to do that, what can you add to your garden to get a punch of color?

<https://www.chihulygardenandglass.com>



## President's Message

# Changes Bloom as Spring Approaches

**B**elow is a Gardener's Prayer, I gleaned from attending a seminar at the 29th annual Pacific Northwest Flower and Garden Show in Seattle, February 22-26, 2017:

*"Grant me the patience to accept the things in the garden I cannot change, the money to buy all I would like to plant, and the wisdom to hire a professional."*

**F**our Laguna Beach Garden Club members ventured to Seattle to attend this fantastic five day show and display extraordinary of gardens, plants, crafts, gifts, food items, and so much more. What a fantastic time we had, and the weather cooperated until we left. Held in the Washington State Convention Center, 21 huge gardens were created using dump trucks and cranes to place huge boulders (some weighing more than a ton) and 30 foot trees, along with pizza ovens, wedding venues, Japanese gardens, and varied garden furniture. What an experience!

If you are enticed to attend a show in the USA, here are few dates:

- Philadelphia - March 11-19
- Chicago - March 18-26
- Boston - March 22-26
- San Francisco - April 5-9

I am proud to announce that both our logos (LBGC and Gate & Garden Tour) are officially Registered Trademarks. With the generous assistance from



Richard Schwartzstein, attorney and husband of Sande, Richard filed the application in September, and we have just received our official notification a few weeks ago. I want to thank Richard Schwartzstein profusely for handling all the legal work for the club. We are in your debt Richard.

Bill Atkins, who was instrumental in designing the logos, has added the ® to both logos. Bill is an extraordinary artist, and LBGC is very fortunate to have Bill as a member who lends his creative talents to the club. Bill Atkins' art is visible all over California, not only on the walls of art and poster-lovers, but on the byways and highways of our state. Many know his work, but few are aware of the talented man behind the iconic license-plate "whale-tail" image seen around California.



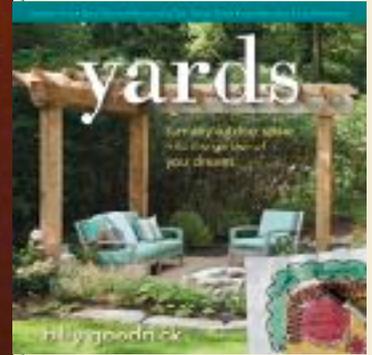
# March Speaker Billy Goodnick Has The Cure For Plant Commitment

**O**ur March 2017 Speaker is **Billy Goodnick** and his program will be, "*Do you suffer from Plant Commitment?*"

At the insistence of his parents, Brooklyn-born Billy Goodnick was transplanted to LA at age eight, studied music, and became an in-demand Hollywood studio drummer. "As fate would have it I stumbled upon the exquisite art of bonsai," he reports. "I turned my life on a dime, dropped my drumsticks, and started a journey into the world of plants."

For 22 years, he was the City Landscape Architect for Santa Barbara. His horticultural career also includes nursery sales, as well as garden maintenance and landscape construction. He continues to provide customized residential design coaching along the Central Coast. He was the winner of 2005 Santa Barbara Beautiful Awards for both residential and park projects, and has received awards from both the California State Architects Office and the American Society of Landscape Architects. This diverse career path has contributed to the deep body of knowledge he now shares with gardeners across the country.

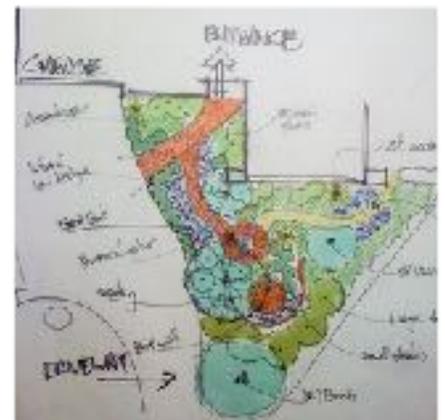
*Fine Gardening Magazine* features his column



While enjoying a successful career as a musician, Billy Goodnick discovered the world of plants via bonsai and Japanese gardens. His studies in ornamental horticulture led to work in nursery sales, landscape installation and maintenance, and design.

"Design Workshop" and his blog "Cool Green Gardens." He also writes bi-weekly for SoCal-centric, posts for Edhat.com, and contributes to 805 *Living Magazine*, while freelancing for other publications such as *Sunset Magazine*. Billy co-hosts *Garden Wise Guys*, a regional sustainable landscaping show that aspires, he says "to the sophistication of the Three Stooges," and is a founding member of the Lawn Reform Coalition, a national group helping gardeners rethink the siren song of the "perfect" lawn. He is currently an Adjunct Professor at Santa Barbara City College.

As an award-winning designer who worked his way up from swinging a pick to landscape architect, his presentations are enriched by years of professional design practice and animated by his earlier life as an entertainer.



## February's Tours & Travel Fallbrook Frolic

We headed down to Fallbrook for this month's Tours & Travel. First, we stopped at the quaint **Myrtle Creek Botanical Gardens and Nursery**. It covers several acres and boasts a gift shop and a cafe.

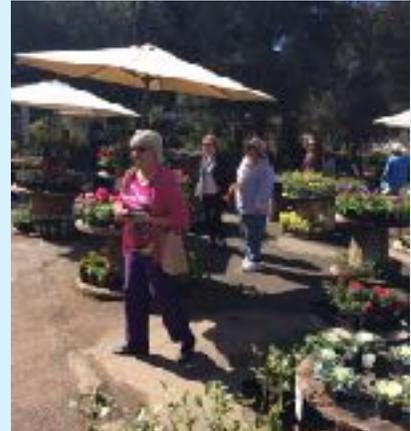
Next, we went to **M&J Nursery** which is a small family-run nursery with about a zillion plants for purchase (and we purchased!). The owner, Daniel, was very congenial and helpful.

Lunch was at the Thai Thai restaurant where we all had way too much to eat. Great food!

Our next stop was at **Serra Gardens Landscape Succulents**. This nursery features succulents that strike the fancy of the owner. He had some very unusual plants available. The skinny upright plants you see in the picture are eight feet tall and over! Again, we purchased!

If you get a chance, I recommend that you try and visit each one of these places.

-Synthia Scofield



## March Tours & Travel Takes Us To Visit the Launa Beach School Gardens

Tours & Travel - March 17 - 9:45 AM

Meet at St. Catherine's Catholic Church  
Tours of Top of the World and Thurston Middle School

Tour begins at 10 AM at Top of the World Elementary School Garden then will proceed to Thurston Middle School Garden & mosaic gardens.

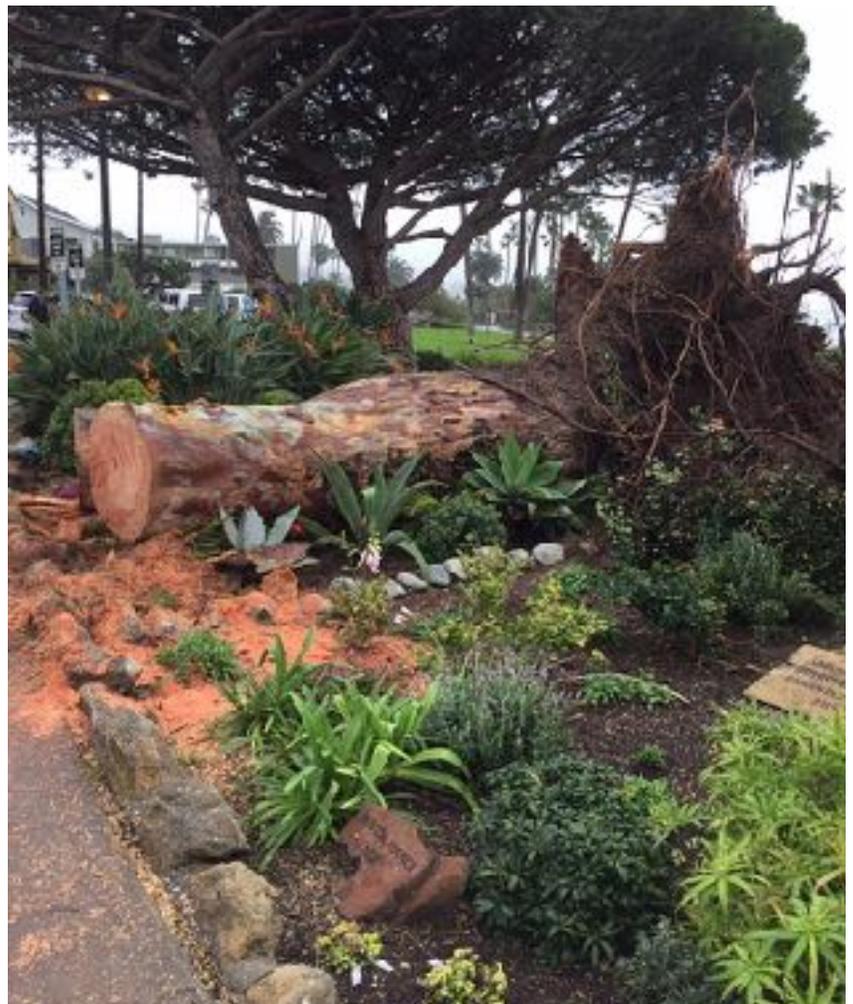
# Huge Storm in February Topples a Eucalyptus Tree in the Sister City Garden

**H**eavy winds battered the coast of Laguna Beach for much of the month February. The Sister Cities Garden sustained significant damage when the winds toppled a large eucalyptus tree, causing it to land in the garden. The damage has mostly been to the Cabo San Lucas, Mexico garden with a small back corner of the Menton, France garden also taking some damage.

Synthia Scofield dug out several plants to try and salvage them. They are stored at Laguna Nursery. The tree left a hole about 5' deep x 10' wide. Sprinkler lines were also damaged.

**Laguna Beach Garden Club will coordinate all donations to restore these beautiful gardens.**

Please make send your tax deductible donation to:  
Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 362  
Laguna Beach, CA 92652  
Payable to: Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc.  
Federal Tax ID# 23-7297058



**The power of the wind took its toll on the eucalyptus tree that was a major part of the Sister Cities Garden.**

## CLUB NEWS

### February Centerpiece Was a Cheery & Cherry Filled

**Monette Weiss** designed the lovely red and white centerpiece that graced the treats table at the February meeting. The clear vase she used revealed that the stems of the roses and lillies were held in place with huge red cherries. Thank you Monette!



### Volunteer of the Month

**Susan Neal** was the winner of the Volunteer of the Month drawing in January. She was presented this pothos plant from President **Lynn Jax** and Vice President **Lisa Fecteau**.

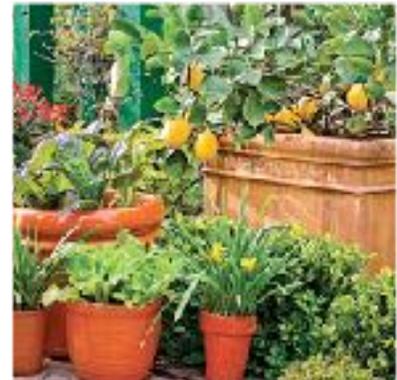


## Helpful Ideas

### **Veggie Gardening in Containers**

Click on the URL below to see a video that can give you a start on this growing project:

[http://  
www.greenthumbintnews  
.com/news/march/videos/  
video2017wki.html](http://www.greenthumbintnews.com/news/march/videos/video2017wki.html)



# 2017 Gate & Garden Tour Will Be a Fiesta of Fabulous Garden Finds

**I**n the yard of her Oak Street home, Lyn Schucking finalized plans with Nancy Englund (left), chair of the Laguna Beach Garden Club “Gate & Garden Tour,” to open her gardens to the club’s event on **Cinco de Mayo (May 5)**. Fun is in the air as this year’s fundraiser will feature a fiesta of fabulous gardens – including a half acre of magnificent grounds. Festivities will include margaritas, tacos and agave plants for sale, plus free homemade cookies, complimentary refreshments and a raffle.

The self-guided walking tour is the club's major fundraiser with proceeds going to scholarships, school gardens and community projects. **Tickets are \$45 in advance and are available at Laguna Beach Books, Laguna Drug, Laguna Nursery and Dana Point Nursery.**

Go to [www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org](http://www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org) for more information."



**GATE & GARDEN  
T O U R**

## Valentine Container Auction Showcases Members' Creativity and Raises Money For Scholarships

Over 60 creative container gardens were made by our members for the annual silent auction. This event raises money to help fund several of the scholarships given annually by the garden club. Over \$600 in raffle tickets were also sold for three amazing garden arrangements. The total amount raised was **\$2,757.00**.



Winners of the raffle drawings were Linda Homscheid- Jeanne Yale's succulent wreath, Carla Beddome- Elaine Davis' white iron rose basket and Nancy Englund- mini fairy gardens in antique cans made by Jorja Puma. Lucky Ladies!

## Five LBGC Members Attend the Northwest Flower & Garden Show

If you enjoy walking through huge installations of plants, flowers and beautiful fountains, then the *Northwest Flower & Garden Show* in Seattle is for you. **Lynn Jax, Jackie Knauer, Dana Victorson, Beate Loomis and Dalynn Malek** ventured north to check out this annual show.

The event took place February 22-26 in the downtown Convention Center, but most of the time it felt as if we were in a tropical paradise, at a Japanese picnic, or attending an orchid themed wedding party. There were DIY lectures and a series of presenters who spoke on a wide variety of garden related topics. We learned a lot!

We also spent one morning at the Kubota Garden, a 20-acre Japanese garden in the Rainier Beach neighborhood of Seattle, Washington. A public park since 1987, it was started in 1927 by Fujitaro Kubota, a Japanese emigrant. We rounded out the afternoon with a visit to the Chihuly Garden & Glass Museum, a visual delight of art and nature. It was a great 5 days!



## Stu's News Article Highlights LBGC Member Bill Atkins and His Colorful Artwork

**Bill Atkins' art is visible all over California,** not only on the walls of art and poster lovers, but on the byways and highways of our state. Many know his work, but few are aware of the talented man behind the iconic license plate "whale tail" image seen around California.

This achievement came about because the California Coastal Commission chose Atkins to design the license plate graphic after he won the CCC design competition in 2011. He was delighted to be able to work on a project promoting our oceans and sea creatures, a cause dear to his heart.

To be quite clear, Atkins is quick to point out, "I won the contest itself, but along with another artist, Elizabeth Tyndall, from Northern California, who was also then chosen to contribute to the license plate. She did not help in the design, but I included a portion of her painting in the ocean background layer." The plate is the newest and among the most popular choices for drivers who are proud of our state and who care about the health of its oceans. (Profits are donated to the Commission's education program.)

Bill Atkins contributes his time and talents to many nonprofits. These images are among his favorites, especially as they helped win a grant from the **City for the Sister Cities** nonprofit, which, as he mentions, "brings an international flavor to our town." He's an active member of Sister Cities as well as many other Laguna organizations, including the **Garden Club**, the Beautification Council and, more recently, helps with Susi Q's Gallery Q. He's donated his time and talent to graphic arts campaigns benefiting the Art Museum, AIDS Services Foundation and the Human Rights Campaign. His generosity and warm spirit are legendary among those in the know. Atkins' love for his work, Laguna Beach, and the outdoors, is evident to me as I chat to him on the deck of his apartment, surrounded by greenery, including native plants and succulents and a plate of fruit that looks ready to be turned into a still-life.

Atkins has wanted to be an artist since he was a young boy. "My father was fine with that, as long as I had a career like a friend of his, a commercial artist who made money – 'not the other kind,' my dad said," he laughs. "Posters are history, they're cultural icons," he says. "People need posters. They always will. They fill eyeballs!"

And by extension, the public needs artists who create posters, and plaques, and banners, and who are uniquely sensitive to creating meaningful, beautiful synergy between the written word and images.

Especially artists as talented, generous and sweet-natured as Laguna's Bill Atkins.

*Stu's News Article has been edited for our publication.*





North American Clivia Society  
**2017 International  
Clivia Show and Sale**  
at  
The Huntington  
**Saturday March 18  
and Sunday March 19**  
with speakers **Kevin Akins,  
Helen Marriott, Paul Kloeck,  
and John Van der Linde**  
Clivia habitat photos presented  
by Heidi Nerurkar  
3-D Clivia Show presented  
by James Comstock

# A Beautiful Photo of Your Garden Could Make You Famous

**All members are invited** to submit photographs from their gardens for our annual Photography Contest. The first and second place entries will be featured on the front and back covers of the 2017-2018 membership directory. The winner of the eleventh annual contest was Nancy Englund's photo of a beautiful cymbidium orchid that brings a spark of color to her beautiful garden. Kathleen Kane's Japanese maple took center stage in the second place photograph.

## Photo Contest Rules

Photo entries are due to the contest committee chair, Laura McCants by **March 31, 2017**.

Only one entry per garden club member is allowed.

The entry can be either vertical or horizontal format, but vertical is preferred.

If entered via U.S. mail, no identifying information (regarding the submitter) should be written in the back of the photo.

The entry must be a recent photo of some part of the member's garden.

By submitting the entry, the member declares that he/she owns the right to the photo.

Entries will be judged at the April 24th Board meeting.

The winner's photo will be featured on the front cover of the 2017-18 membership book, and the second place winner will be featured on the back cover.

**For information contact:**  
**Laura McCants**  
[lauramccants@cox.net](mailto:lauramccants@cox.net)



The best way to garden is to put on a wide-brimmed straw hat and some old clothes. And with a hoe in one hand and a cold drink in the other, tell somebody else where to dig.



## Recognition Awards

We are creating four new awards to recognize club members and their tremendous efforts that support the club. All members are encouraged to nominate a fellow club member to take notice of their activities and volunteer efforts in which they participate.

Nominations will be accepted at the **April 14, 2017** general meeting. Forms will be forthcoming. Be prepared to write a short explanation for your nominee. The winners will be awarded at the **May 12, 2017** general meeting.

Categories are:

1. Club Member of the Year
2. Rookie Member of the Year
3. Gardener of the Year
4. Garden of the Year



P.O. Box 362 Laguna Beach, CA 92652

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

501(c)(3) Charitable Organization Federal Tax ID #23-7297058