

VOL. 13



GROWING &

Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



NOVEMBER 2017

MEMBER NEWS

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

Friends and family gather at this time of year to share a meal and create new memories to add to the collection of ones we already have. We grow the friendship & love.

COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting Nov. 10th

Linda Larson

A Traveling Gardener- Wandering, Wondering, Noticing (see page 3)
Laguna Presbyterian Church

• 9:30 am social 10:00 am meeting



A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

I am thankful for the creativity of those around me because they continually show me that there is always more than one way to see something or to solve a problem. It is our creativity that makes life more enjoyable and allows us to express our individuality.

Everyone is creative in their own way- maybe you have a wonderful garden, a unique decorating style, or you bake a killer scone, creativity comes in many forms. I always marvel at the creative reuse of everyday objects and the new life they

take on simply because someone thought outside of the box. So how can you shake it up in the next few months?



Tours & Travel Nov. 17th

The City of Laguna Niguel's Botanical Preserve

Visit these Mediterranean climates demonstration gardens & have lunch on this beautiful property (see page 6). Meet at St. Catherine's on Temple Terrace at 8:45am.



President's Message

Getting That Fall Spirit

Welcome to November and the official start of the holiday festivities and activities, except in my opinion the Halloween month has already ushered in many festivities. I offer proof of the October activities of the Garden Club beginning with presenting checks to all three school gardens, followed by the general meeting, the next day the Water District SmartScape event, then painting & decorating pots in preparation for the Valentine Plant & Planter Sale for Green Thumb, the New Member Luncheon, Tours & Travel journey to Ecology Center in San Juan Capistrano followed by a BBQ at the Bromeliad Heaven of Chris Lutz, and finally the

annual board Halloween Party following the Board meeting. Whew! October proved to be good training for the Holiday Season. Get ready everyone. Because your Garden Club has much to offer for November and December.

Highlights of November activities include: beginning with all those who signed up for Green Thumb met Friday, November 3, made their own succulent wreath under the tutelage of Jeanne Yale; next is our upcoming general meeting on November 10 where we will visit vicariously Linda Larson's (our guest speaker) travelogue to see gardens from around the world; and just before

Thanksgiving our Tours & Travel will journey to The City of Laguna Niguel's Botanical Preserve.

-Lynn Jax



Please arrive a bit early to the November 10th meeting to see the slide show. You won't want to miss it!

Seeking Donations for December Raffle

Help to celebrate the upcoming December holiday season by donating a terrific item at our December 8th meeting. So far the **Nursery Garden + Farm**, newly opened in Irvine near the Great Park, has contributed a gorgeous potted container.

Elaine Davis promised one of her Christmas gourds.

How about you? All donations are tax deductible. Help to create an great opportunity for all members to purchase a chance to obtain that special Christmas gift.

To Donate contact Lynn Jax, email: jax@cox.net or call 949-294-1500.



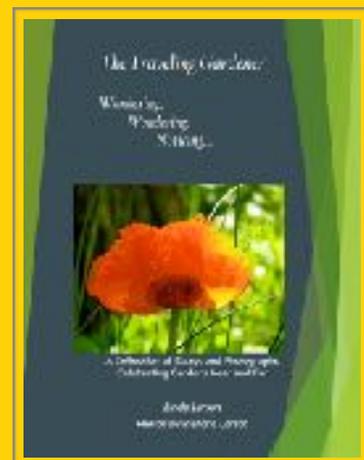
November Guest Speaker Linda Larsen Presents “A Traveling Gardener- Wandering, Wondering, Noticing”

Linda Larson is an advocate for the importance of public green space and the value of nature in our lives. A lifelong lover of flowers, Master Gardener, Faculty Emeritus of Mesa College and gardener in Mesa, Az for over 30 years. Linda writes a monthly "Traveling Gardener" column for the Maricopa County Master Gardener newsletter, Roots & Shoots and AFGC State Newsletter, Greenleaf. One of her earliest memories is of daffodils lining the winding stone path to her grandmother's door. Linda encourages audiences around the country to discover the beauty and enjoyment of public gardens at home and in their travels. In 2014 she visited 140 gardens in



the U.S., Canada and Australia.

Continually exploring gardens everywhere she goes, she entertains readers and audiences as she shares her insight and



Lisa's book is a collection of illuminating essays and dazzling photographs taking you on a virtual tour of gardens...some grand and famous and some surprising jewels hidden away from the mainstream.

discoveries. Her inviting website offers readers the opportunity to be whisked away on a mini vacation through her colorful narratives and lush photography.

She has released her first collection of essays pulled from her series, *A Traveling Gardener*. Based in Phoenix's desert valley, Larson brings readers along on her travels both home and abroad, with a gentle directive that you too, can slow down, notice and enjoy nature's beauty no matter where you travel.

The Traveling Gardener, Wandering, Wondering, Noticing...is available on Amazon. It features a collection of illuminating essays and dazzling photographs that take you on a virtual tour of gardens, some grand and famous, and some surprising jewels hidden away from the mainstream. Part travelogue, part assurance, the essays spotlight the dedication, inspiration, whimsy, healing and discovery involved in cultivating a living, ever changing garden visit.

Luncheon Welcomes New Members to the Garden Club

The New Member Luncheon was held on Wednesday, October 25th at noon at the home of Karen Nelson in Laguna Beach. The very warm day made the outdoor garden party a perfect venue for 15 new members to mix and mingle with 9 LBGC Board members. Mimosas were flowing at the lovely buffet style luncheon that made sharing a meal all about making new friends. Each new member gave a brief introduction and explained how they had been introduced to the LBGC. Many new members have lived on the same street, had never met before, and were delighted to have a new platform for friendships. Many new members revealed their many talents, both in the garden and out, as well as their passions for other hobbies. The afternoon was truly a pleasure

in its ease and camaraderie for all that attended.

Our goal for these intimate luncheons is that our new members will find commonality with other new and existing members to make their garden club experience richer. Our hope is that “Out of gardens grow fleeting flowers but lasting friendships.”

-Karen Nelson



Meet Our Newest Members

Norman Powell:

Norman Powell has been associated with Laguna Beach in one way or another since he moved here in 1968. After he retired from a career in the petroleum industry he turned his attention to charity, philanthropy, and environmental issues. He devotes a considerable amount of time to his 3800 sq. ft. garden of succulents, native plants, and other drought-tolerant flora at his home in North Laguna. He attended a few meetings as a guest of Elizabeth Chapel and saw that the Garden Club is a strong, well-organized, civic-minded, hard-working collection of friendly people who have a common interest in gardens and community affairs; so he therefore decided to join us.” Norman grows Nasturtiums, collects the seeds, and makes them available to others. His Nasturtium seeds are now outside on our plant table.

Nadine Nordstrom:

Nadine is a mother of 4 children, grandmother of 7. Nadine has retired from a long career in the medical industry. She began as an OR nurse, then got a PhD in Psychology and is currently retired from her career as a therapist. Nadine spends her summer showing pottery and ceramics at the Sawdust Festival. Her husband Jim is a photographer whose work can be seen at the Festival of the Arts. Nadine formerly lead hikes for several organizations, but has started taking it a bit easier.

Debbie Lewis:

Debbie has been a resident of Laguna Beach for 7 years. She lives at Moss Point in a historic home that has been in her family since 1960, purchased from the family that built it in 1927. Debbie is a retired business owner, she was formerly in publishing, meeting planning and trade show development and production. As a retiree she has travelled a great deal. Our active new member enjoys skiing, scuba diving, and biking. Debbie is also involved in the community by serving for the Heritage committee for the last 6 years and is currently taking the CERT class for community emergency response. She loves gardening and currently has an organic vegetable garden that she gets some assistance with maintenance of from Harvest to Home.

Cheryl Moeller:

Cheryl Moeller, a past member of the Laguna Beach Garden Club, is rejoining us from Irvine where she has lived for the past 38 years. Cheryl is retired from Lockheed Martin as an Information Technology contributor. Her hobbies include volunteering as a Board Member for the Assistance League Irvine; greeting card creation; a book club, needlepoint, and most important as a grandson caregiver. She has a married son in Orange and a daughter in Costa Mesa.

Cheryl has friends in the Garden Club and enjoys the presentations, events, and camaraderie.

Stephen Crawford:

Stephen Crawford was born in LA and attended schools in the Tustin School District. He and his wife Jamie have lived in Laguna Beach for 45 years and he is retired from being in the Landscape Industry for 50+ years. His background includes Director of Landscaping at La Costa Resort and Spa and Grounds Management for Marriott and Laguna Woods. He came out of retirement to work part time as the Garden Manager of the Hortense Miller Garden. He is so honored to be a part of the team that maintains the house and garden to help fulfill Hortense Miller's vision for the property. Stephen enjoys working on maintaining his and Jamie's historic home on St. Ann's Drive . He is a big sports fan, and has been a LA Laker season ticket holder for over 30 years.

October Tours & Travel Adventure found us at The Ecology Center in San Juan Capistrano

It was a gorgeous day for a field trip! We started at **The Ecology Center** on Alipaz Street in San Juan Capistrano.

The entire grounds are a teaching center, which you wander through while reading signs and learning tidbits of information. For instance, you are shown ways to cut your water use through better decisions, not only at the tap, but also through what you buy, eat, keep, or throw away. They grow vegetables and fruit, keep chickens for eggs and fertilizer, have a worm culture section, and compost darned near

everything. There are classes for adults and kids that merit attention. They will be holding a handmade market on 11 November; try to attend! The center sells various items in a distinctly interesting gift shop to help offset costs; several of us helped them out. I bought three kinds of jam, myself. We highly recommend taking the kids and grandkids!

Next door to the center is a wonderful organic fruit and vegetable market, which is well worth the drive. Several of us plan

to go back for more of the excellent produce.

From there we drove to **Chris Lutz's home for a potluck.** Everyone brought wonderful dishes and Chris, again, provided a turkey. There was far too much to eat, but we all did our best! The gardens were beautiful and abundant. I still don't know how he manages to keep all those bromeliads looking so magnificent and stunning. A big "Thank You" to Chris for opening his home and fabulous gardens to the Garden Club.

- Synthia Scofield



Tours & Travel • November 17th *Visit The City of Laguna Niguel's Botanical Preserve*

Visit these Mediterranean climates demonstration gardens & have lunch on this beautiful property.
Bring a sack lunch.

We meet at St. Catherine's on Temple Terrace at 8:45 am and leave promptly at 9 am. See you there!

CLUB NEWS

Getting Ready for February's Two Big Events



On October 20th five club members met at Elaine Davis' home to decorate pots and other containers in preparation for the **Valentine Silent Auction and the Plant & Planter Sale**.

Thanks to Elaine, along with Lynn Jax, Diane Lannon, Lynette LaRoche and ?????? for all of their creative efforts.,

Lisa Fecteau **Volunteer of the Month**

Lisa Fecteau drew her own name from the *Volunteer of the Month* bucket in October (we promise it was all on the up and up). She received a Starbucks gift card and a new Laguna Beach Garden Club pen for her efforts on behalf of the club.

Thank you Lisa!



GETTING TO KNOW LBGC

Involvement

This is a partial list of activities showing the the scope of Laguna Beach Garden Club's community involvement. **Page numbers in parenthesis refer to Membership Book page numbers.**

Contributions: School Gardens

- Thurston Middle School
- Top of the World Elementary
- El Morro Elementary
- Laguna Presbyterian Pre-School
- Anneliese (SEEDS)
- Sent four representatives to attend the Alice teacher Waters Edible School Yard Academy five day workshop (June 2016)

Maintenance & Planting in the Community

- Forest Ave Pocket Park
- Laguna Library Planters
- Milkweed for Monarch Butterflies
- Heisler Park:
- Monument Park Rose Garden
- Plants around Melaleuca tree
- Sister City Garden

Community Participation

- Patriots Day Parade (page 9)
- Green Day at Sawdust Festival (page 9)
- Water District's SmartScape Expo (page 12)
- Memorial Day Plant Presentation (page 9)
- Plants for library & community center for National Garden Week (page 63)

Support of Community Organizations

- Laguna Canyon Foundation
- South Laguna Community Garden
- Hortense Miller Garden
- Laguna Beach Girl Scout Garden
- Blue Bell Monarch Butterfly Garden
- Penny Pines

Scholarship Presentations

- Laguna Beach High School
- Saddleback College
- Laguna College of Art and Design (LCAD)

Professional Speakers (from September to May) educational presentations on garden-related topics (page 12 – 20)

Water District SmartScape Event

The 8th annual SmartScape Water District event was held Saturday, October 14th. Fifteen club members volunteered for the day and conducted two Do-It-Yourself projects. Using the donated succulent cuttings, club members guided the participants to create nearly 50 Planting Tubes stuffed with the succulents and all 100 Succulent-topped Mini-Pumpkins. The succulent wreath raffle winner was our very own **Mary Jones**, who has tried many times to win of **Jeanne Yale's** creations. The raffle netted us \$105 and we received \$90 in donations.

-Lynn Jax



Green Thumb Workshops Cultivate Members' Creativity

On November 3rd nine members attended the succulent wreath workshop held at the home of Jeanne Yale. Jeanne has been leading this Green Thumb activity for five years as it continues to be a popular event. Each wreath had its own unique look and they all turned out beautifully. Attending the wreath workshop were Elizabeth Chapel, Diane Kloke, Jackie Knauer, Lynette LaRoche and ???????



The Queen of Succulent Wreaths, Jeanne Yale helps Elizabeth Chappel and ?????? design their perfect plantings.



Laguna Beach Garden Club Presents \$4500 to Local School Gardens

On **Thursday, October 9**, Lynn Jax, President of the Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc. presented each of three Laguna Beach Schools with a check for \$1500.00 for their school gardens.

Thurston Middle School's Canyon View Learning Garden is ready for fall planting. Looking ahead, Health and Home Economics classes will be planting fall crops in the five raised planters. Thurston's Ecology Club will be creating landscape design for a butterfly garden to be proposed for the Marquis planter in front of the school. The continued financial support of the Laguna Beach Garden Club has allowed Thurston to grow and irrigate their edibles garden, provide funding for tools and seed, help maintain garden fencing, create a rock mosaic surrounding one of the native/succulent gardens, and now will contribute to the creating of the butterfly garden.

El Morro Elementary School's Learning Garden engages students in all aspects of gardening and nutrition with hands-on activities in the garden from planting, weeding, general maintenance to harvesting and enjoying the fruits of their labor. Garden-themed lesson plans are used to enhance the students' understanding of math, science, nutrition, reading and writing. The Learning Garden is a place to inspire a love of learning.

Top of the World Elementary School has promoted their grade level projects creating gardeners at all ages. Kindergarteners experiment with plants that get no water and reduced sunlight. First and second graders will be introduced to the concept of square foot gardening by using garden twine to divide the plants. Third graders will learn about saving seeds as they harvest tomatoes and pumpkins. Fourth graders explore *California Grows!*, learning about the crops of California, from desert dates and coastal grapes to the central valley almonds. Then they'll plant artichokes! Fifth graders will start the yearlong process of growing and caring for a colonial garden, planting many varieties from Thomas Jefferson's Monticello Plantation including English Peas and crookneck squash.

Laguna students benefit from the opportunity to work the earth and learn conservation and healthy habits via these outstanding school programs, excellent teachers and parent volunteers. The Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc. steadfastly supports these programs helping them to grow and thrive.



October Table Decoration Gathers The Fall Colors

The colorful fall centerpiece for the treat table at the October general meeting was made by new member **Becky Martin.**

Thank you Becky for getting involved with the club!



FRIENDS OF HORTENSE MILLER GARDEN

Farmers Market Garden Décor & Plant Sale • November 18th

The Friends of the Hortense Miller Garden will offer unique garden décor and wonderful plants from the Hortense Miller Garden to raise funds and awareness of this hidden jewel in Laguna Beach. The Friends of the Hortense Miller Garden maintain and improve the garden and have restored the Mid-Century Modern house built in 1958.

The Laguna Beach Farmers Market is located at Forest and Ocean in Laguna and is open Saturday from 8am - Noon.

Friends of Hortense Miller Garden
Information:

www.HortenseMillerGarden.org



P.O. Box 362 • Laguna Beach, CA 92652

www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org

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