

VOL. 12



GROWING & GIVING

# Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



SEPTEMBER 2016

MEMBER NEWS

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

Just as the Monarch Butterfly begins its long migration to Mexico, the Laguna Beach Garden Club begins a new year of learning, involvement, friendship and fun!

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR + DALYNN MALEK

Welcome to the 2016-2017 season of the Laguna Beach Garden Club. This is my first edition of the *Weeder's Digest* as the Newsletter Editor. It is my goal to provide all of you an informative, colorful and enjoyable to read newsletter that helps bring our members closer together.

As I "get the hang of formatting this newsletter" I hope to expand the coverage with articles by members who have expertise in all things gardening, landscape design, plant troubleshooting, and DIY projects, just to name a few of the

topics. Page 6 features a column for "Helpful Hints" where you can contribute that golden idea that might just answer someone else's gardening question.

Each month we offer a variety of activities & events that are sure to enrich the lives of our members. Take a few minutes to check out the offerings and mark your calendar- you won't want to miss out on the fun.

So welcome back, we can't wait to see you at the September 9th meeting.

COME JOIN IN  
THE FUN

## Events This Month

### General Meeting 9/9

#### Kathryn Aalto

*The Natural World of Winnie the Pooh*- A Walk Through the Forest That Inspired the Hundred Acre Wood. (see page 3)  
Laguna Presbyterian Church  
9:30 am social - 10:00 am meeting



### Green Thumb 9/16

#### Succulent Wreath

September 16th 9:30 am at the home of Jeanne Yale 502 Pearl St., Laguna Beach. \$15.00 (see page 6)

### Tours & Travel 9/23

#### Laguna Coast Pottery

Debi, the owner, will show us the wide variety of pottery, water features & whimsical pieces available for your garden. Meet at 9 am at St. Catherine's on Temple St. (see page 6)

### SmartScape Expo 9/24

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

303 3rd. Street Laguna Beach (see page 4 for details)

### Board Meeting 9/26

#### Kathleen Kane Hostess

777 Manzanita Dr.  
Laguna Beach 9:30 am

# Lynn Jax Becomes the 56th President of the Laguna Beach Garden Club

**“I humbly accept the Presidency of ...”** No – No – No! Wait those lines began the two political conventions this summer, and I definitely am **NOT** running for leader of this land. Let’s start again.

**I am truly thrilled** about being the new president of Laguna Beach Garden Club for 2016-2017. This year will prove to be another exciting time filled with special events, incredible world-class speakers, creative Green Thumb activities, varied choices of destinations for Tours & Travel, and our 12<sup>th</sup> year of our one-of-a-kind Gate & Garden Tour, scheduled for May 5, 2017 (Cinco de Mayo). See your new Membership Book for details, ready for you to pick up at our first meeting Friday, September 9, 2016.

**Let me tell you a bit** about myself for those of you who don’t know me that well. I taught English (mostly at the high school level) for 37 years in the Laguna Hills area. My husband and I have two children, a son who lives in Portland, OR and a daughter who teaches geometry at Aliso Niguel High School. We have lived in Laguna Beach since 1978 and in our current home since 1983. We don’t plan on moving anywhere else, as Laguna in my opinion is paradise. My husband is my travel planner and partner. Using my husband’s research, we love to travel and have done so throughout

our marriage and don’t plan on stopping anytime soon. When I retired in 2009, my dear friend, Diane Kloke, invited me to attend a Garden Club meeting. I joined at the first meeting. I was impressed at the organized quality of every planned event and with the amount of knowledge I could absorb about gardening, especially since I knew nothing about how to actually grow plants. My thumb was definitely not green. Plants looked at me and withered. It’s not the case today.

I became involved the very first year by marching in the Patriots Day Parade and helping out with Penny Pines. Then I was convinced I could be Vice President and procure speakers. I was terrified because of my lack of knowledge, but took the leap anyway and I have never regretted it. Creating lasting friendships with people I would have never met if not for Garden

Club is one of the most cherished features of being a member of this club.

**So with those thoughts in mind**, I want to encourage you to get involved. Just do one more thing each month, whether it is signing up to bring refreshments at a meeting, greeting a new member and making her/him feel welcome, creating a centerpiece for the food table, helping with any of our Hands-on gardening opportunities, opening your garden up to a member tour. The possibilities are extensive. Start small. I guarantee that you will reap the benefits of your increased participation ten-fold in positive feelings.

Remember! The garden club is only as great as its members. Boost our greatness and enlarge your friendship base. **My goal as president is for all members to enjoy themselves and have fun.**



**Lynn’s theme for her Presidency is:**

- **Get Involved**
- **Make a difference**
- **Make New Friends**
- **Have Fun**

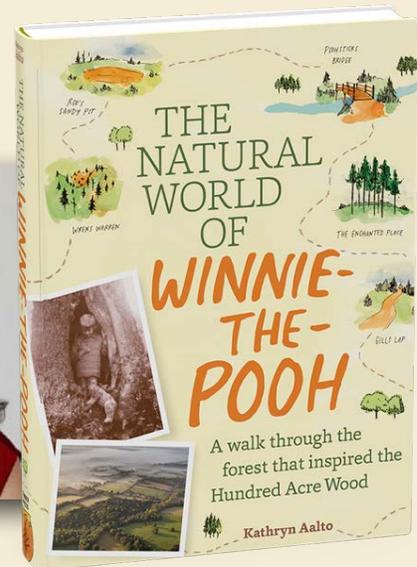
# Kathryn Aalto Takes Us on a Walk Through the Forest That Inspired the Hundred Acre Wood at the September Meeting

**O**n Friday, September 9th, Kathryn Aalto will present “*The Natural World of Winnie the Pooh: A Walk Through the Forest that Inspired the Hundred Acre Wood*,” a visually-rich journey through the natural and literary landscape of the world’s most beloved children’s book. This is especially wonderful since the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Winnie-the-Pooh is in October. We will be selling her book, and she will be signing them for us.



**Kathryn is a writer, designer, historian and lecturer.** For the past 25 years, her focus has been on places where nature and culture intersect: teaching literature of nature and place, designing gardens, and writing about the natural world. She grew up in California’s San Joaquin Valley surrounded by peach, walnut and almond orchards. She was educated at the University of California Berkeley, Western Washington University, the London College of Garden Design and the University of Bristol. Kathryn is working on her third book and contributes articles to *Devon Life* on gardening and natural history. She lives in Devon, England with her family.

**Her work explores historic horticultural themes** with a contemporary twist. With interests in the arts and sciences, she has taught biology, critical thinking and American Literature of Nature and Place at a range of places including U.C. Berkeley’s Lawrence Hall of Science, the Huxley College of the Environment at Western Washington University, the English



Signed copies of Kathryn Aalto’s book *The Natural World of Winnie*

*The Pooh* will be available for purchase for \$27 including author signing. Bookplates will be available with more signatures should we run out of

books and need to order more.

Department at Western Washington University, and Everett Community College. In 2015, she was appointed Adjunct Lecturer at Exeter College where she teaches “Your Place in the World” and other writing courses.

**As a landscape historian** and parent to three children, the changing nature of childhood and children’s freedom in the natural world has been a focus. How cultural perceptions and designed landscapes, both urban and rural, invite or discourage our sense of comfort as parents is a theme in her writing. She has written for *The Children and Nature Network* as well as *The Wild Network* on these issues.

**As a garden designer**, Kathryn’s projects are diverse. She designs classic to contemporary gardens with a strong

background in Italian and English garden history informing her work. In the public realm, she has special interest in designing natural playgrounds for children and therapeutic gardens for hospices and hospitals.

**We are both lucky and excited** to have Kathryn as our first speaker of our 2016-2017 season.



# SmartScape 2016 Focuses on Landscaping With Water Conservation in Mind

Laguna Beach County Water District is once again sponsoring SmartScape Expo for one day



only- this year on Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 8am to 3pm at the Water District office, located at 306 Third Street. The focus of this event is landscaping, water efficiency, educational



engagement, planting and new ways of transforming landscapes.

This year LBGC will participate in several ways in this community outreach event. First, we will be designing a succulent-themed raised planter bed with the assistance of the Saddleback Horticultural Club. Saddleback College will assist the club with our design, and give us a list of plants and materials needed. Club members will do the actual planting Friday, September 23. Volunteers who enjoy Hands-On Gardening are needed. We will also have a booth where we will offer free succulent cuttings, distribute literature about LBGC, and collect names of people interested in more information about our Gate & Garden Tour 2017. At our booth we will also

sell raffle tickets for a chance to win a Jeanne Yale succulent wreath. And lastly Jeanne Yale will conduct several workshops on planting “enclosed soil tubes” (provided by the Water District).



At the September 9 general meeting, Jeanne Yale will pass a volunteer list on a clipboard. We need:

- Succulent cuttings – so start saving all your cuttings for the September 24 event.
- Hands-on gardeners on Friday, September 23 at the Water District.
- Volunteers to work a 3-hour shift on the day of the event.



# Celebrating Green Day at the Sawdust Festival

**O**n Sunday July 17, for the third consecutive year Laguna Beach Garden Club participated in



“Green Day” by special invitation from the Sawdust Festival. From 10 am to 2 pm, six club members hosted a booth located next to the clock tower below the main stage. With perfect summer Laguna Beach weather, we offered free succulent cuttings, distributed literature about LBGC, and collected more than twenty names of people interested in more



information about our 2017 Gate & Garden Tour.

Nearly a hundred Sawdust Festival visitors, along with many booth exhibitors and Festival workers, took advantage of our club’s generous offers of free succulent cuttings. Drawn to our table by the enormous variety of cuttings, many people asked, “How

much are these?” Our answer was always, “No cost; they’re free. But we totally accept donations if you wish.” To that end, we collected \$324.00 in donations.

I want to send out a huge THANK YOU to all members who donated the succulent cuttings. Also I send out a special note of gratitude to Shelby Rigg and Virginia Templeton (new members), Synthia Scofield and Lisa Fecteau (our resident plant experts), and Janet Smith who helped Lynn Jax tout the Club’s activities. Past presidents Jeanne Yale and Jorja Puma assisted with setting up the booth.

I applaud Laguna Beach Garden Club efforts of a successful community outreach. Our club is only as strong as its members, and the involvement of those who helped out with succulent cuttings donations and “manning” the booth are just examples of how involvement promotes success and fun times.

-Lynn Jax



Lisa Fecteau, Lynn Jax, Shelby Rigg, Virginia Templeton, Synthia Scofield and Janet Smith having fun at Green Day.

## *Darth “Dee” Koski*

November 13, 1929 - July 18, 2016



It is with great sadness that I must inform you that Dee Koski passed away in mid-July. She was a member since 2002 and our Sunshine Gal ever since I’ve been a member. She was always ready with a smile, hug, and to send cards with get well wishes and hope to all members.

Her memorial service was July 27 at Laguna Presbyterian Church at 2 PM with a small reception following, and several Garden Club members attended.

From her husband and daughters, I learned that Dee was the consummate hostess and well-skilled chef who loved to decorate her house extensively for every family holiday get-together. She loved the Garden Club and often shared with her family what fabulous speakers we had for our monthly programs. The Board chose to honor Dee by purchasing 4 plantations in her name in our Penny Pines program. Additionally, because Karl shared with me that she also loved roses, LBGC has purchased a rose bush, which Karl will plant in their front yard.

For those of you who would like to send a card to her family and husband, the address is:

Karl Koski  
356 Myrtle Street  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

- Lynn Jax, President

## CLUB NEWS

### Green Thumb • Sept 16th Succulent Wreath

You probably have lots of succulents that are in need of a good trim. Repurpose them in a beautiful wreath. Join in the fun at 9:30 am at the home of Jeanne Yale 502 Pearl Street, Laguna Beach. You never know how creative you can be- get involved! \$15.00



### Tours & Travel • Sept 23rd Laguna Coast Pottery

Debi, the owner, will show us the wide variety of pottery, water features & whimsical pieces available for your garden. Time to get some new containers for your garden. Meet at 9 am at St. Catherine's on Temple Street to carpool. Bring a friend



### Penny Pines Plantation

Each meeting baskets are passed to collect "loose change" to support the Penny Pines Project in the Cleveland National Forest. The Penny Pines Project is unique to California, and the donations



have helped to maintain the state's National Forests. For every \$68 we collect we buy a plantation. In 2015 we purchased eleven plantations in the name of Sue Goldberg, Tom Hensel & Synthia Scofield. In 2016 we purchased 12 plantations honoring Dee Koski, Polly Dix, Jorja Puma & Jeanne Yale.

In May, we honored four long time and hard working members who have given so much to make LBGC such a fantastic club. Synthia Scofield, Jeanne Yale, Nancy Lawrence and Vernetta Lieb were given Life-Time membership as a small token of our thanks for the many, many hours of dedicated service to the club and the community on behalf of the club. Thank you so much ladies for all you do!



## SHARING WITH EACH OTHER

# Helpful Ideas

This dedicated column is a place for gardening tips and ideas. Email me at [dalynnmalek@gmail.com](mailto:dalynnmalek@gmail.com) if you have an idea to share. Tips can be gardening, waterwise ideas, farm-to-table (LB style), DIY or anything else you think our members would like to see.

## 23 Knock-Out Native Plants



Incorporating plants native to our climate means less water, less maintenance, and more wildlife. Here are *Sunset*

*Magazine's* top picks for plants in our climate. Just click on the link below.

<http://www.sunset.com/garden/earth-friendly/backyard-wildlife-sanctuary/view-all>

## How to Repot a Citrus Tree

Is that dwarf lemon or cute key lime tree on your patio or deck in need of some TLC? Just click on the link below to watch a video from *Sunset Magazine* on caring for that citrus tree.



<http://www.sunset.com/garden/fruits-veggies/citrus-tree-care>

# Welcome Ambassadors Will Make New Members Feel Right at Home at LBGC

**T**he garden club is about to embark on its 88th season! In an effort to connect with our members on a deeper level, we are starting a new path to get new members connected to all that the LBGC has to offer. It is our goal to be known as the friendliest and most gracious of garden clubs in Southern California!

At your first meeting you will receive a badge with a “new member” ribbon attached to it. One of our new **Welcome Ambassadors** will give you an orientation to our membership book, explain volunteer opportunities, and then stop at the Way & Means table to show what the club has to offer- the Tours and Travel guru will give you an opportunity to sign up for wonderful “field trips.” Then it’s on to Green Thumb to explore crafts dealing with plants, planters or creating wonderful garden related items. Outside on the patio we will also tour the Plant Table, where members donate garden-related items for other member to make a “donation” and take home with them. Last but not least is the treats table that will have light refreshments at our meetings.



All new members will be assigned a “**Big Sister/Brother**” that will help them quickly feel like part of our group! The Big Sister/Brother will contact their new member prior to meetings to remind them of upcoming events and to invite them to join in on tours, etc. These outings are so much more fun when you are part of a group. At subsequent meetings we ask that the “Big Sister/Brother” seek out their new friend and invite them to sit with them and



New members are introduced at their first meeting and receive a plant. Last spring, President Jorja Puma welcomed Linda Homscheid and Colleen O'Connor, along with Director of Membership Polly Dix (left to right).

introduce them to members that they know. This will enhance everyone’s garden club experience.

We will be welcoming all **new** members who came on board at the April and May 2016 meetings and at our September meeting at a New Members Tea on Thursday Oct. 20 at Karen Nelson’s home. Another tea for new members will be held on February 27 and another on April 19.

If you are currently a member, we would love for you to become a “**Big Sister/Brother**” to a new member. Please feel free to contact either **Connie Maxsenti** ([cmaxsenti@aol.com](mailto:cmaxsenti@aol.com)) or **Karen Nelson** ([karennelson@cox.net](mailto:karennelson@cox.net)) and let us know that you would like to help out.

We will also be publishing a small bio of each new member in the newsletter with photos to help us all

get to know and love our new members. Remember, it only takes one person to make another feel welcome and special.

**Make a Difference!**



Polly Dix, past Director of Membership greeted every new member with a smile and warm welcome.

# Two Laguna Beach High School Seniors Receive Scholarships from the Garden Club

**L**aguna Beach Garden Club awarded two scholarships of \$2500 to outstanding seniors, Christine Eidt and Mason Pitz, from Laguna Beach High School.

Caring for the environment has been an interest and goal of Christine Eidt since as a seven year old she spoke at a City Council meeting to preserve San Mateo Campground at San Onofre State Beach from the toll road extension. She spoke about her memorable family camping trips at the park. She caught the advocacy bug and attended Coastal Commission meetings with her father, asking for preservation of Trestles Beach and San Clemente State Park. She has volunteered with the Laguna Canyon Foundation as a docent educating visitors about wilderness areas, wildlife and restoration projects. Those outreach experiences and a project for habitat restoration in the Laguna Coast Wilderness Park earned her the Girl Scouts highest honor, the Gold Award. She hopes to earn a degree in Environmental Studies, International Relations or Economics to show how protecting the environment is good for the earth as well as the economy.



**Despite a challenging family situation** and the eventual loss of his father to illness, Mason Pitz persevered to earn many distinguished awards: AP Scholar of Distinction, academic excellence in Honors Chemistry, Honors Pre-Calculus, and Honors English; attaining the rank of fourth in his graduating class. In addition, he was a triple varsity athlete who was awarded the MVP/Legacy award as the most influential leader on the team. While serving as ASB Vice President and branch President of the National Honor Society, Mason led team efforts



Heading for their future with help from the Garden Club, Mason Pitz and Christine Eidt receive the LBGC scholarships from Board Member Jeanne Yale.

to benefit our community in recycling, beach cleanups and tutoring.

**Gaining experience working** in the family business, local restaurant Dizz's As Is, Mason plans to pursue a degree in either business or economics with a desire to serve in the conservation effort. In his senior year at LBHS, Mason worked with a team to create a solar powered water disinfection system for undeveloped countries. The prototype for the Irradiation of Peroxide System, called SIPS, took a year to design and build. Mason says, "It has been particularly eye-opening because for the first time I had the opportunity to use my knowledge and skills from the classroom in a real world conservation effort, a key focus for my future."

**The Laguna Beach Garden Club** is proud to provide both of these extraordinary students with the



Jeanne Yale joined Scholarship Administrator for Laguna Beach High School, Diane Kloke at the June awards night to present the Garden Club's two scholarships.



## 2016-2017 SPECIAL ADMINISTRATORS

Our meetings, events, community gardening and scholarships are all made possible by this energetic group of members:

Audio Visual co-chair	Susan Heinz & Kathy Leary
A-V Assistant (Sound board)	Chris Lutz & Nancy Lawrence
Auditor	Joyce Hill
Constant Contact	_____?
Email Communication	Jorja Puma
Graphic Arts Design	Carolyn Bent
Green Day Event (Sawdust)	Jeanne Yale
Green Thumb	Natalie Harlow-Alison

### Hands-on Gardening Opportunities:

Hortense Miller Garden	Gayle Whitaker
Library Planters	Synthia Scofield
Pocket Park	Jeanne Yale
Sister Cities Garden	Sandy Desmond
Hospitality	Elizabeth Chapel
Hospitality Assistant	Lynn Pries
Lifetime Membership	Polly Dix
Membership Assistants	Connie Lawson & Sally Pack
Nominating Chair	Jorja Puma
Nominating Assistant	Mary Williams
Membership Book	Dalynn Malek
Parliamentarian	Jorja Puma
Patriots Day Parade	Diane Kloke
Penny Pines	Cathy Bosko
Penny Pines Assistant	Chris Ranabargar
Photo Contest	Laura McCants
Plant Table	Debbie Sugg
Plant Table Assistants	Mariann Keenan & Cheryl Bartetzko
Programs Assistants	Carla Beddome, Pam Bisson, & Sue Field

### Scholarships:

LBHS	Diane Kloke
Saddleback College	Tom Hensel
LCAD	Nancy Lawrence
School Gardens Liaison	Dee Perry
SmartScape Expo (Water District)	Jeanne Yale
Social Media	Joyce Hill
Sunshine	Polly Dix
Table Centerpieces	Linda Humes
Tours & Travel	Tom Hensel
Tours & Travel Assistant	Synthia Scofield
Ways & Means Assistant	Mary Williams
Welcome Ambassadors Co-Chairs	Karen Nelson & Dee Perry
Welcome Ambassadors	Shelby Rigg, Monette Weiss, Polly Dix, & Jorja Puma



2016-2017

## Board of Directors

*President*

*Lynn Jax*

*Vice President- Programs*

*Lisa Fecteau*

*Recording Secretary*

*Jackie Knauer*

*Treasurer*

*Kathleen Kane*

*Financial Secretary*

*Jeanne Yale*

*Director of Ways & Means*

*Lynette LaRoche*

*Director of Membership*

*Connie Maxsenti*

*Director of Website*

*Elaine Davis*

*Director of Newsletter*

*Dalynn Malek*

*Director of Publicity*

*Diane Lannon*

*Director of Gate & Garden Tour*

*Nancy Englund*

*Past President*

*Jorja Puma*

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## THE SAGA OF THE NEW GARDEN CLUB APRON

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It took a couple of years of thinking, planning and shopping to come up with the design for our new club apron. In January 2016, a group of 5 members met many times, for many hours, to nail down the design details. Our ideas were presented to the board members each month so we could gain even more input.

We set a deadline for having 50 aprons made by the 2016 Gate & Garden Tour. In the final weeks, Cheryl Bartetzko, Wendy Caufield, Elaine Davis, Diane Lannon and Jeanne Yale met several times at the LBGC sweatshop (Elaine Davis' home), setting up our sewing machines over three long tables and putting in 6 hour days. Our manager was Sharky the Wonder Dog (Wendy's furry baby). We were pleased that all 50 aprons were sold by the day of the tour and everyone looked oh so chic. We have been working through the summer to complete another 50 which will give us some inventory for new members to purchase in the months to come. It was lots of work and lots of fun!



Aprons are on sale at the general meetings for \$35.00



P.O. Box 362

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

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