



Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



FEBRUARY 2019

MEMBER NEWS

*Celebrating Art &
Science in the Garden*

The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just on the body, but the soul. -Alfred Austin

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

The rainy days not only water our gardens and the hillsides in our neighborhoods, but also fill up your rain barrels. This might seem like a crazy idea in our drought-stricken southern California climate, but collecting rainwater when it is available is easy to do and it's legal.

Departing from western states' long-standing tradition of making it illegal to capture and use rainwater based on the prior appropriation doctrine, the California Legislature enacted and Governor Brown signed the

"Rainwater Capture Act of 2012." The barrels are available at the Laguna Beach Water District, your local big box hardware store or online from several sites. Happy collecting!



COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting Feb. 8

Container Garden Auction

Bring your floral donation and/or bid on other members' creations. Any size, any theme is perfect! Laguna Presbyterian Church • 9:30 am social, 10:00 am meeting (see page 3).



Trips & Tours Feb. 22

Nurseries in Orange

We will visit four speciality nurseries within four miles of each other. Our last stop will be a guided tour of the Village Nursery complex in Orange.

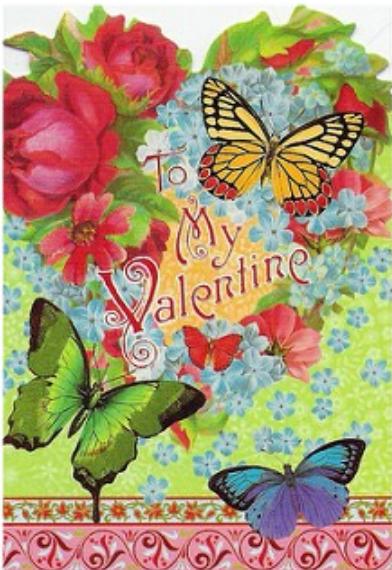
Meet at 8:45 am at St. Catherine's on Temple Terrace to carpool. We leave promptly at 9:00 am.



President's Message

Showing Your Love for Mother Earth

When growing up, one of my great joys was making Valentines around the kitchen table with my mom and my sister.



At that age, they were not about romantic love. They were fun and pretty and homemade. We used pinking shears to cut hearts out of wallpaper sample books, added doilies and glued them to gold paper. I still love making Valentines and now I've learned that handmade cards out of repurposed materials are a thing. Buying one of the billion commercially-produced Valentine cards that are enjoyed briefly and discarded is out, and hand-crafted is in.

Here are some other tips for a Valentine's Day that also shows your love for Mother Earth.

Did you know that chocolate and flower growers are among the biggest users of pesticides?

Opt for living plants like herbs which will spice up a home-cooked meal.



Seeking out your partner's favorite childhood candy will be more meaningful than a heart-shaped box of chocolates, and easier on the planet.



Instead of investing in blood diamonds and cyanide-laced gold, think about vintage or estate jewelry.

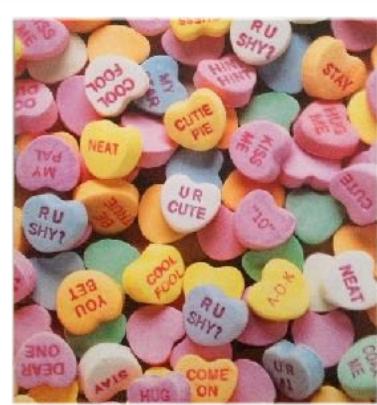
Easiest of all, saying the simple words "**I love you**" has no negative impact on the environment at all. Happy Valentine's Day!

-Nancy Englund

See you at the February 8 meeting



Laguna Food Pantry always welcomes your donations of canned or dry goods and produce. Please bring them to our February meeting.



The Container Garden Auction will be the Highlight of Our February Meeting



The highlight of our February meeting is the annual **Container Garden Silent Auction Fundraiser**. Put your creativity to work and turn an everyday container into a visual delight. We look forward to seeing all of the wonderful planter works of art. **This will be the only fundraiser in February since the Plant & Planter Boutique has been cancelled.**

Money raised at this event supports the school gardens at three local schools and scholarships for Laguna Beach students. Bring your credit card or checkbook!

For more information contact:

Lynette LaRoche (714)345-8877
lynnette1021@gmail.com



Valentine Raffle Items Needed

A special **Valentine raffle** will be held at the **February 8** meeting. We are seeking your special items as donations. So far, the items we have include:

- Large Staghorn Fern
- Orchid Arrangement
- Jeff Moore Agave Book
- One-of-a-Kind Photo Book of 2018 Tour
- Heart-Shaped Succulent Wreath

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 or Cell 949-294-1500).



CLUB NEWS

The Hortense Miller Gardens overlook Catalina and Boat Canyon and is host to several ***"Art in the Garden"*** workshops throughout the year. The Friends of the Hortense Miller Garden are looking for volunteers to help coordinate these workshops with the FHMG Art Committee.

The next two workshops are Saturday, Feb. 16 and Saturday, April 13 from 9:30-1pm at the garden. There will also be an Open House at the garden on Saturday, March 30 from 10am — 4pm and the FHMG Event Committee can always use volunteers to help for a shift as well.

Please contact Diane Lannon at
HortenseMillerWorkshops@gmail.com or
diane.lannon@gmail.com if you are interested in either opportunity!

Membership at the Friends of Hortense Miller Garden is only \$30/year for your many benefits.



www.HortenseMillerGarden.org



In The Community

Rose Garden Cleanup, January 24 Memorial Rose Garden Heisler Park

We gathered at the Memorial Rose Garden to do some badly needed pruning, weeding and general clean-up of the rose bed. The group consisted of **Synthia Scofield, Dale Palas, Mary Bartok, Patricia Weier, Nancy Englund, Gabriella Rice, and Wendy Caulfield**. We worked our tushes off for a little over two hours and got it all done (approximately 50 bushes). Synthia managed to get poked by thorns only six times, a vast improvement over previous records. We enjoyed the camaraderie and the beautiful weather!

Dale, who is also a member of the Rose Society of Saddleback Mountain, instructed us to cut the roses back to knee height and remove any branches that were dead, dying, diseased or damaged. We discovered five dead roses which LBG has elected to replace since now is the right time of year to plant roses.

We fed each plant epsom salt and all-purpose fertilizer and hope to be rewarded with thriving plants and beautiful blooms in late spring.

-Synthia Scofield



The First LBGC Open Gardens Happy Hour

On January 25, Laguna Beach Garden Club had its first **Open Gardens Happy Hour**. Four gardens were open for three hours. The social event was attended by about 40 club members and spouses and a good time was had by all. **Dana Victorson, Ingrid Martinez & Nancy Skjerven** opened their gardens to us and **Bill and Elizabeth Kramer** invited us to visit Casta del Sol's Community Garden and heritage fruit orchard. The gardens reflected the unique tastes and personalities of the owners. Members enjoyed delicious treats and beverages in each of the

gardens. Thank you Dana, Bill, Elizabeth, Ingrid and Nancy for sharing your gorgeous gardens with us!

Our next Open Gardens Happy Hour will take place somewhere in Laguna Beach after our meeting on March 8. Details to follow. If you are interested in opening your garden to this event, please contact Shelby Rigg at shelby.rigg@cox.net or call or text her at (949) 510-5946



2019 Gate & Garden Tour

An Exclusive Neighborhood is the Location of Our Annual Fundraiser

This year's Gate & Garden Tour is slated for Friday, May 3, 2019, **9am-2pm**, and will take place in a private gated community of Laguna Beach, never before accessed in the 14 years that the tour has existed. The walking tour will lead us behind the gates through portions of this beautiful community with lush and spectacular vistas contained within its walls.

In the spirit of the Gate & Garden Tour, we will visit gardens that are large and magnificent, quaint and charming, spectacular and contemporary and everything in between! We will visit the incredible gardens of a landscape designer's home on a magnificent double-lot that will truly take your breath away!

The Laguna Beach Garden Club is privileged and honored to have access to show these gardens in a guided, docent-led tour through portions of this private community. The tour will leave the private gates and continue along a walking route to several other unique and magnificent gardens. The tour will highlight why Laguna Beach was chosen as one of the most "Instagrammable" locations in the US (2018) and in the top 20 most charming towns in California (Travel Mag 2017)!

Tour day fun begins in the gorgeous garden of Arabella Laguna Historic Cottages in north Laguna, where Cinco de Mayo festivities will dominate the excitement of the day! Our tour's reputation for warmth and hospitality

includes free homemade cookies and complimentary refreshments, as well as delicious Mexican fare that can be purchased to accompany your margarita. Our raffle, which never disappoints, has some of the most magnificent prizes and awaits your participation.

The Gate & Garden Tour is our club's major fundraiser that enables us to serve our community through financial assistance to our Laguna Beach school gardens, scholarships and community projects.

Due to the very exclusive nature of the location of this year's tour, we will be limited to a specific number of tickets that we are allowed to sell. Once we have reached that number, we will be officially sold out, so purchase your tickets early! \$50 in advance and \$60 after April 26 (if any spots are available). You can purchase advance tickets starting in February at our monthly meeting. We will accept cash, checks and credit cards (for which there is a small handling charge).

Contact Karen Nelson for information:
Karen@LagunaBeachGardenClub.org.



Introducing Our Newest Members

Carol Cuoco - Carol has lived in California her entire life and was previously a master gardener. She recently retired from her career as a landscape designer, a job that she really loved, but left it to help care for her four grandchildren.

She is excited to be able to have more time now to tend to her own garden and to relax and enjoy it.

Carol had attended a couple of our club meetings in the past, but never had the time to join. Now, being retired, she thinks it is a great way to stay connected with real gardeners and what she loves to do.

Melissa Rapp - Melissa's love of gardens and plants began when she moved from Texas to South Pasadena when she was 12. Their house had no landscaping, which was a dream to her parents who had to design and plant their own garden. She had the opportunity to go to many different nurseries and learn about many different types of plants and to take weekly walks in Descanso and Huntington Gardens. Her mother especially loved any plant that was unusual, and Melissa does too.

During college, Melissa's sister owned a flower shop, so she had the opportunity to learn

about many different types of flowers. She says that it didn't really hit her that she had an unusual interest in plants until she was in Hawaii 22 years ago, and she begged her husband to go to a Protea farm instead of Haleakala Crater. Her husband, to this day, cannot believe that they spent

"bird nerd" for going on journeys to spot obscure birds. Jeff Moore was the speaker at the first meeting Melissa came to. He described taking an extended journey to see "one" plant living on an obscure island. She thought that was exciting, and it was exciting to be in a room filled with people



their last day in Maui looking at Protea plants.

Melissa's friend gave her a fantastic succulent wreath for Christmas in 2017. She was absolutely thrilled about it, and found out her friend learned how to make it at a LBGC event. Her friend told her about our club and all of our activities and suggested she come to a meeting. Melissa thought it was fate because our meetings and Green Thumb activities are on Fridays - the only day she doesn't work. Melissa's daughter is a birder, and sometimes gets called a

that were passionate about plants and the environment. At the end of that meeting, she immediately joined the club.

Diane Olson - Diane has lived in California her entire life and comes into us from her home in Laguna Niguel.

She has known Karen Nelson for over 25 years, and that is how she found out about our club. Karen asked her to help her out with the Gate & Garden Tour, but told her she would have to join the club and become a member to do so!

Getting Involved

Patriots Day Parade

Calling all Garden Club members for the lifetime experience of marching in our Patriots Day Parade and showing off what a force we are for the community of Laguna Beach. Remember, marching with our club is camaraderie, fun, and all downhill!

Check your calendars and sign up at the Feb. meeting.

When? Sat. Mar. 2

Where? Laguna Beach High School Parking lot on Park Ave.

Time? 10 am arrival. Please be prompt as we are # 34. Parade starts at 11am.

Dress? Comfy shoes, blue jeans, white top, Garden Club apron, decorated hat with flowers

Comfort? Water, sunblock, tissue, phone if desired, lipstick with color, sun glasses.

Parking? Park in a neighborhood to avoid meter money. The parade ends at city hall.

Jobs? Garden Club banner (2 people)
Garden Tour banner (2 people)

“Rakettes” carrying signs (10 people)
Ladybug spinners (5 people)
LBGC signboard carriers (7)

Lots more members to pass out our Garden Tour postcards

Everybody come!!!! The more the merrier!!!

Let's show our community all that we do and all our spirit!!!

For questions, contact Diane Kloke:
kloke@cox.net, 949-497-1866, cell 949-280-4568



Volunteer of the Month & January Centerpiece

Lecia Davis was the star of the January meeting because she not only made the stunning winter wonderland centerpiece, but also was selected as the *Volunteer of the Month*. Lecia has been a member since 2007 and was LBGC President from 2010-2012. Thank you Lecia for your years of dedication to our club!





Recognition Award 2019 Nomination Form
Check the category:

- Club Member of the Year
 Gardener of the Year
 Garden of the Year
 Rookie of the Year (AKA: New Member)

*** Use a separate form for each Nomination.**

DEADLINE: April 19, 2019

Recognizing each other's efforts shows our appreciation towards our own; and to those are acknowledged by their fellow club members for their spirit of volunteerism, it makes this award of distinguished merit mean so much more.

Nominate a club member who you know has done an extraordinary and/or consistent job for the club.

Name of Nominee: _____
(Please Print clearly)

Please write 2 to 3 sentences of explanation or description of this nominee's efforts for the category for which you nominated.

Please return to Lynn Jax via:

- E: jax@cox.net
- or mail to: 456 Cress Street, Laguna Beach, CA 92651
- or deliver in person at the April 12 meeting

Name of person nominating: _____

Email or phone number: _____



#SCHOOLGARDENSROCK

GREEN THUMB MORNING

WED. FEB 6 8-9:30

JOIN US THE 1ST WEDNESDAY MONTHLY
FOR CONVERSATION AND CASUAL
GARDEN MAINTENANCE

MEET IN LARGE GARDEN- TOP OF THE WORLD ELEMENTARY



PO Box 362, Laguna Beach, CA 92652

www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org

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