



Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



Education in the Garden

OCTOBER 2022

MEMBER NEWS

"Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting, and autumn a mosaic of them all." -Stanley Horowitz

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

One of my favorite flowers is the hydrangea, I don't grow them well, so I am always on the lookout for helpful tips on how to make these wonderful pom poms of floral delight prosper.

I found the article in this link to be very helpful so hopefully my scraggly twigs of plants will be bursting with bright big blue flowers next spring.

I'm so happy that fall and all that comes with it, the warm golden

colors and possibly sweater weather, comes sometime soon.

Hydrangea pruning
https://www.gardensall.com/hydrangea-pruning-guide/?fbclid=IwAR0UkedCfVIPNbvrO_UdjvX13_WhVXWlJNiWoiNz3Ohc0u



COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting
October 14

Fire Chief Niko King, Hallie Jones, & Jeremy Frimond

Keeping fire-safe gardens
Laguna Presbyterian Church (see page 3)
• 9:30 am social • 10:00 am meeting

SmartScape Expo 2022
October 15

Cancelled

Laguna Beach Water District
303 3rd Street Laguna Beach
8:00am — 2:00pm (see page 4)

New Member Luncheon
October 21

12:00 at Laguna Presbyterian Church

Trips & Tours October 28

Rainforest Nursery Torrance

And other fun stops along the way. Meet at 8:45am at St. Catherine's Church on Temple Terrace. Leaving promptly at 9:00am Sign up at the Oct. meeting.



President's Message

Planning For A Safe Future In Our Gardens

It is hard to believe that we are already in October. I find that the older I get, the faster time seems to pass by. Be that as it may, we are approaching two things: Southern California planting season and the peak of fire year. We all remember when it was fire season, but no more: it is a year round issue. 2023 will mark 30 years since the massive blaze in Laguna Beach.



So now is the time to start thinking about what to plant that will be low fire risk and need minimal irrigation: remember that we are in a mega drought and climate change is proceeding ever more rapidly. Also we need to increase our biodiversity by planting things that provide food sources and breeding grounds for our birds, butterflies, bees, etc. Last week I visited the pollinator garden that we helped support in Bluebird Park. It has only been there a few months but is

thriving, and I saw numerous different butterflies and birds: an absolute delight!

Our October meeting is all about fire mitigation and what we can do in our own gardens and I strongly urge you to attend. More details are available elsewhere in this newsletter.

To that end, Tree of Life Nursery is holding a Sage

Festival on Saturday, November 14 from 9:00am to 3:30pm. It is co-sponsored by the California Native Plant Society. Every time I go there I learn so much and this should be a wonderful event.

I look forward to seeing you all at our meeting on the 14th!

-Janet



Beautiful potted plant installation up a 374-step staircase in Liège, Belgium.

FIRE-SAFE GARDENS

Learning Strategies For Creating A Defensible Space

Fire is no stranger to **Laguna Beach**. A fire-safe garden can be a rich and colorful landscape, offering year-round interest and beauty while doubling as an important tool in the fight against wildfires. Strategies for fire-hardening your garden and creating a defensible space around your home will be presented by a three-person panel of experts, consisting of **Laguna Beach Fire Chief Niko King**, **Hallie Jones** (Executive Director of Laguna Canyon Foundation), and **Jeremy Frimond**, (assistant to the City Manager). Get your burning questions answered by the panel and leave feeling safer and more prepared for the next emergency.

Submitted by: Nancy Englund



Chief Niko King



Hallie Jones



Jeremy Frimond



Taste of Laguna A Fun Food & Wine Festival

Our Garden Club will participate for the third year in the Chamber of Commerce's signature event, **Taste of Laguna Food & Music Festival**, on Thursday, October 13 from 5 – 10 pm on the grounds of the Festival of Arts, located at 650 Laguna Canyon Road.

At least 28 participating restaurants, bakers, and food artisans will be serving up delicious culinary creations. The Garden Club will offer spa water and disseminate information about the Club and the upcoming Gate & Garden Tour.



If you would like to attend, tickets are going fast (VIP tickets are sold out). General Admission tickets are \$85 and available at www.TasteofLaguna.org, or call 949-494-1018.

This is a really fun event with music, food, wine and great people. Stop by to see our booth.

Submitted by
Lynn Jax



Membership News New & Returning

Welcome to October! We are pleased to announce that we now have **199** members as of September 26, 2022.

If you have not picked up your 2022-2023 Membership Book yet, tables with the books will be located inside Tankersley Hall for your convenience.



Name tags — a reminder to wear yours to receive a ticket to be eligible to win a great prize as a reward for wearing it. If you joined the Club in September, your new name tag will be ready for pick up at the October meeting. If you ordered a replacement or spare name tag, it will also be ready for pick up.

If you joined the Club anytime after November of 2021, you will receive an invitation to attend the **New Member Luncheon on Friday, October 21 from noon to 1:30pm**. It's your opportunity to learn more about this fabulous club and meet the Board face to face.

If you have a friend, neighbor, or colleague who might be interested in our Speaker Series, please invite them to attend a meeting to see if we are a good fit. The first meeting is free and we accept members at any time.



Susan South- September name tag wearer winner with Lynn Jax

Please feel free to contact me at any time via email: jax@cox.net or cell: 949-294-1500.
-Lynn Jax, Director of Membership

Gate & Garden Tour

For the Good of the Laguna Beach Garden Club Hive

I was so moved by Matt Willey, our September general meeting speaker! His soft and gentle message of being part of the hive and caring for one another being as important and key to survival as caring for one's own self, truly resonated with me in an incredibly moving way. Matt spoke of the way that the bees do not spend any of their energy focusing on their differences, but place their focus on their altruistic and selfless endeavors to promote the good of the hive, therefore maintaining its existence.

The Laguna Beach Garden Club has a huge opportunity to be a part of the change in so many ways. What drew me to this club was how inclusive it is! From one of my first meetings when I met our own Nancy Englund and she calmed me down about feeling intimidated because I knew "Diddly Squat" about plants. She spoke so kindly and said, "that is why you are here, to learn and I'm sure you have other skills." Just like that, a few kind words and I felt like I belonged and decided to become part of this beautiful hive!

The *Gate and Garden Tour* is an integral part of our "hive" in that it creates the "honey"

which allows us to donate to projects throughout our city and provide scholarships to our students that will create the change that we are all working towards. The endeavor is truly a community effort with many needing to be involved for success to be achieved. Although Susan and I are titled with "Co-Tour Director's", the entire event would fall flat without the collective hive doing each and every critical part of the tour tasks. No bee is more important than any other bee!

That being said, we are in need of two key committee chairs for the 2023 Gate & Garden Tour. We need a person to be the tour day **Site Manager**, a job that Mariann has done beautifully for years. Mariann has graciously offered to take on the job of volunteer coordinator, but she will be happy to provide complete instruction to whoever signs on for the task. We also need a person to be the committee chair to run the entire **Margarita Bar** for the day of the event. This includes procurement of all bar supplies, obtaining the liquor license and bar set up. Once again, there will be plenty of help and instruction for the

person who takes on this task. Both jobs require a great deal of organizational skills and great follow through.

So your hive is calling you to help and if you think you don't have the proper skills remember Matt Willey's wise words, "A miracle is just a change of perception".

Please contact either Susan Denton or Karen Nelson for more information.

Nelsonkaren353@gmail or cnnpinca@yahoo.com



**Gate & Garden Tour Co-Chairs
Karen Nelson & Swan Denton**



Hortense Miller Garden Needs Volunteers

It's a fun group of men and women that tend to the 1958 Historic Mid-Century Modern home and 2.5 acre hillside wild garden. If you haven't visited yet, book a tour to check it out at www.LagunaBeachCity.net

This hidden gem of Laguna needs our help. There are many ways to volunteer either at the garden or in your home office:

- 1 or 2 hours a week weeding and trimming in the garden
- become a docent for one 90 minute tour a month
- help with special events & workshops
- write up publicity for publications and website
- we are always looking for potential board members

Upcoming Events:

Saturday – Oct. 22 – Jim Olarte's Macrame in the Aviary Gallery
Featuring his stunning *Kelp 005* Exhibit

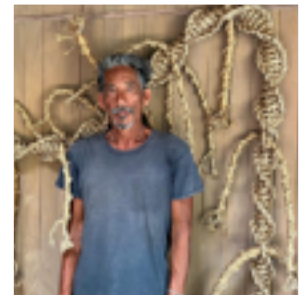
Tuesday, Nov. 1 - HMG Craft Day at 9:30am in VISTA, CA at Marsha Bode's Home to make Garden Art and Container Gardens to sell at the LB Farmer's Market to support the Hortense Miller Garden. Lunch is provided. We will carpool from Target on Alicia & the I-5 at 8:15am.

It's always lots of fun making art at Marsha's treasure trove of antiques and plants.

Friday, Nov. 18 – Birding and Wildlife Tour at 9:00am starting at Riddle Field with Debbie and Ralph Sugg followed by a tour of the Mid-Century modern home. Reserve at www.LagunaBeachCity.net Classes or call 949-464-6645 <https://secure.rec1.com/CA/city-of-laguna-beach/catalog/index/794e9b78b9d1537fbd465a3bbc4b145d?filter=c2VhcmNoPSZsb2NhdGlvbiU1QjU4MzIlNUQ9MQ==>

Saturday, Nov. 19 – Laguna Beach Farmer's Market Booth
8am – 12:00 selling garden art, paper white bulbs, container gardens, and promoting the weekly house and garden tours.

For more info on any of the events or to reserve a spot at the Craft Day event in Vista - contact Diane Lannon at HortenseMillerFriends@gmail.com or text or call 949-374-2696



September Trips & Tours

We went on our first Trips & Tours of the year! There were about 15 hardy souls who faced the heat in inland north San Diego County. We stopped at **Oasis Water Efficient Gardens**, which is a major hybridizer of succulents and cacti. They supply many nurseries, including our second stop, **Waterwise Botanicals**. Both places forced us to buy plants with abandon. Well, maybe not quite forced, but how were we to resist with such beautiful and unusual specimens?

Then, **Nancy Englund** found us a phenomenal hole-in-the-wall restaurant: **Craft & Taco Lounge** in Escondido. We all highly recommend it!

-Synthia Scofield & Tom Hnsel

<https://www.oasis-plants.com>

<https://www.waterwisebotanicals.com/>

<https://www.craftandtaco.com/>



Volunteer of the Month

The Garden Club is only as strong as the dedication of its members. September's Volunteer of the Month was evidence of that dedication.

Sandy Smith was honored for her efforts on behalf of the club. Although she was not available for a photo, **President Janet Chance** and **Vice President Jane Leary** displayed Sandy's prize, a lovely butterfly tea towel, to the members.



Growing & Giving

Bluebird Park Pollinator Gardens



Janet Chance, Club President, presented a check to Laura and Michael Ford of the Pollinator Protection Fund on September 22, 2022, at Bluebird Park for their second pollinator garden in Bluebird Park. The park will eventually have three separate pollinator gardens. The first garden is located near the rocket ship. Using funds received from the Club, the Fords cleared and installed plants. A third garden is planned for Bluebird Park in an additional space further back in the park. Additionally, the Club funded the Ford's first pollinator garden in Heisler Park a little more than year ago. The Club is proud to partner with the Pollinator Protection Fund to protect the pollinators in fulfillment of our mission statement, *"a service organization committed to the advancement of gardening, horticulture, ecology, and conservation through education and participation in related community projects."*

The Pollinator Protection Fund is a 501(c)(3) California Public Benefit organization whose mission is to establish, protect, maintain and develop pollinator habitat and breeding grounds in the coastal communities of Southern California. One of their primary objectives is to support the resurrection of the Western Monarch Butterfly population and their habitats in our area by re-establishing and creating new areas to add to their habitat and breeding grounds.

It was a lovely day at Bluebird. While we were looking at the garden & taking photos, the butterflies & hummingbirds were everywhere.

Submitted by:
Mary Jones



The Good of the Hive

I want to thank the Laguna Beach Garden Club again for inviting me to share my story with the bees. Much like a garden, **The Good of the Hive** is a labor of love and it makes it all worth it when this project (and idea) is received with such warmth, openness and enthusiasm. I am actively seeking donations toward the making of a film about my journey with the bees. If you feel moved to support, this film will help carry the message of The Good of the Hive far beyond the end of my paintbrush. I encourage everyone to follow along as this piece of art unfolds. There are a lot of exciting things happening this year that I wouldn't want you to miss.

Here are some links to easily follow along, or simply check in from time to time:

TheGoodoftheHive.com (scroll to the bottom of the Home Page to sign up for the newsletter)

To donate: <https://www.thegoodofthehive.com/the-film>

Instagram @thegoodofthehive

Facebook @thegoodofthehive

Twitter @goodofthehive

-Matt Willey

**A note from Nancy England- Members of LBGC already donated \$3,500 toward his documentary!
Let's keep the ball rolling.**



September Raffle

Lucky Winners Help Fund Club Projects

The lucky winners of the September Raffle were:

Cheryl Czyz – Succulent Wreath

Nora Koenig – Gardening Books

JoAnn DeYonker – 2 Gift Cards Laguna Coast Pottery

Patty Gaffney – 2 Gift Cards Laguna Coast Pottery

Janet Chance – Wine Basket

Jennifer Henerlau – Double winner – Metal Garden Art & Wooden Shelf

John Holcombe – Halloween Basket

Stay tuned for the December Raffle.

We are looking for any Christmas-oriented items or cute gift items.

To donate please contact Lynn Jax email: jax@cox.net

The Merchant Raffle Request letter is available for you to use when approaching your favorite shop when asking for donations of raffle items. They will be available at the October & November meetings.



Sawdust Native Habitat Pollinator Project

Your Garden Club is making a difference ecologically by donating funds to ensure that pollinators have habitats to do their thing. Early last Spring the Sawdust Festival dedicated an area in their space to create a habitat for pollinators by using native plants. The Club partnered with five other community organizations to make this a reality. Partners include Laguna Canyon Foundation, Laguna Beach Garden Club, Laguna Canyon Conservancy, Sawdust Festival, CANDO (Canyon Alliance of Neighborhoods Defense Organization), and Laguna Greenbelt, Inc. Non-native plants were removed in April; during the festival months the poster was displayed for all attendees to see. During September through December removal of non-native plants will be completed; January through March next year irrigation and plants will be installed with April to June 2023 to complete final checks. The Native Habitat Pollinator Project will make its debut at next summer's Sawdust Festival.

Submitted by: Jackie Gallagher, Lynn Jax and Mariann Keenan



SmartScape Expo 2022

The Water District has cancelled this year's SmartScape event, that was scheduled for October 15, 2022, which means if you have been harvesting succulent cuttings to donate, you can now either create a succulent wreath or replant them elsewhere. Some cuttings can be donated to the Plant Table at the October 14 meeting.

Below is an excerpt from the email we received from the Water District:

I'm reaching out with some unfortunate news. The Water District has reached the difficult decision to cancel the 2022 SmartScape Expo.

The decision was not an easy one. The Water District has proudly hosted the Expo since 2010 and we are disappointed to have to cancel this year's event. The lingering effects of the pandemic have made it difficult for irrigation and landscape professionals to attend and some vendors are still in the process of recovering. The SmartScape Expo relies on vendor participation to offset costs and to help spread the message of conservation and efficient water use. With the lack of irrigation and landscape vendor participation, the Water District decided it was time to take a step back, re-evaluate the event, and investigate new opportunities to share our message of water use efficiency.

Thank for your
continued support.
Lynn Jax



P.O. Box 362
Laguna Beach, CA 92652

www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org
501(c)(3) Charitable Organization

For additional pictures of Laguna Beach Garden Club activities and information, go to our wonderful web site produced by Kari Nies

<https://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org/events/club-albums/>