

VOL. 12



GROWING &amp; GIVING

# Laguna Beach Garden Club

## Weeder's Digest



DECEMBER 2016

MEMBER NEWS

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

Deck the halls, the trees, and the garden with holiday cheer to bring the spirit of the season inside and outside of your home.

### A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

We might dream of a white Christmas, but there is something special about the sparkling sand and the glistening blue ocean that welcomes Santa to Laguna Beach in December. The sparkling twinkle lights on the village shops invite us stroll down Forest Avenue and PCH to get into the southern California holiday spirit.

We are lucky that our weather allows us to enjoy our patios and gardens during the winter

season. So grab a cup of cocoa, a cozy sweater, curl up with a good book in your garden and enjoy Christmas in the sunshine state!



COME JOIN IN THE FUN

## Events This Month

### General Meeting Dec. 9th

#### Dan Long

*Growing Up! Using Vines and Climbers in Your Garden* (see



page 3) Laguna Presbyterian Church

- 9:30 am social
- 10:00 am meeting

### Green Thumb Dec. 2nd

#### Queen Palm Hanging Planter

at Natalie Harlow-Alison's home  
194 Acacia Dr., Laguna Beach.  
\$20.00 (see page 5)

### Tours & Travel Dec. 16th

#### Members' Holiday Tour

Join us as we visit two members' homes and gardens which have been

decorated for the holiday season. Meet

at 3pm at St. Catherine's on Temple

Terrace. (see page 4)



## President's Message

# Giving Thanks and Looking to The New Year

The holidays are in full swing. With just having tidied up after Thanksgiving, it's now time to switch to gearing up for all that the December holidays entail with celebrating with family and friends. I hope you all enjoy this special time of year.

I spent Thanksgiving in Portland, Oregon visiting my son and his wife and cooking a turkey feast for them. I love to cook and my son loves to eat, so it's a good match. Autumn going into early winter in the Pacific Northwest is the beginning of the rainy season, and we had our share, rain 8 of the 10 days giving way to glorious fall colors and greenery.

A whirlwind of activities in November for the Garden Club included a presentation of color and texture found in nature by Sean Hogan from Portland; a trip to Torrance to Rainforest Flora where many club members came home with new tillandsias and bromeliads; and the next day about 14 of us got our hands dirty by creating stepping stones with the help of Nancy Englund and Synthia Scofield. See the articles included in this newsletter for details.

December promises to hold a bevy of fun activities, starting with a Queen Palm hanging planter under the guidance of

Natalie Harlow; then our special speaker from Georgia, Dan Long, who will discuss vines, climbers, and his speciality, clematis; and our annual Holiday Members Tour of two very spectacular gardens and homes that have been decorated for the season.

As 2016 is winding down, now is a good time to think of becoming a Sponsor of LBGC by making a tax deductible donation to Laguna Beach Garden Club (Federal Tax ID# 23-7297058). My husband and I give to reputable, charitable organizations throughout the year, and with the tax year coming to a close the timing is perfect. At the next meeting, on December 9th, the Member Registration table at the entrance will have forms for you to use. We have 4 levels of Sponsorships - see page 69 of your Membership Book - your name will be listed there next year. Sponsor's names will also be listed on our website and in the Gate & Garden Tour brochure.



## A Note From the Orange County District Garden Club



The Orange County District Garden Club, of which Laguna Beach Garden Club is a member, is seeking for nominations for the 2017-2019 District Board. Positions available are: District Director, Programs, Membership, Ways & Means, Treasurer, Secretary, and Hospitality. There are only 4 meetings per year (September, February, April, and June) - see pages 61- 62 in your Membership Book for more information.

Contact Jorja Puma if you would like to put your hat in the ring.

Jorja Puma email: [paja143@me.com](mailto:paja143@me.com).



# December's Speaker Dan Long Presents: Growing Up! Using Vines & Climbers in Your Garden

**D**an Long is a horticulturist specializing in vines and climbers. He studied at the University of Delaware in the 1980's and has worked in the commercial nursery industry for over 25 years. By focusing on vines and climbers, he has gained extensive knowledge on the subject. He has cultivated relationships with growers in other countries to bring new varieties to the US market.

In 1998 he founded Brushwood Nursery in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania; a mail order nursery offering just vines and climbers. He remained salaried at a large nursery for a few years while it was building a following until 2002, when he left to pursue his dream full time. The original focus on clematis remains Brushwood's primary crop. It has since diversified to include many other plants, such as climbing roses, passion flowers, honeysuckles, and many others. The nursery ships plants to all 50 states and Puerto Rico, and enjoys a solid reputation for quality and service.



**Dan says,**  
"Whether you are planning an expansive suburban landscape or looking for that special patio plant, there's a place for vines in your garden."

In 2010, Dan and his wife, Becky, moved the family and the nursery to Athens, Georgia where the sun is stronger and the season is longer.

Dan's presentations are full of ideas, techniques and beautiful images designed to inform and inspire his audiences. For over a decade he has spoken to groups both large and small and brings a new level of understanding and enjoyment to a typically under-appreciated class of landscape plants.

The Clematis vine comes in many colors and are among the most popular and attractive flowering vines grown in the home landscape. Dan will tell us about these and other vines we can include in our gardens.





# Rainforest Tropicals Nursery was the destination of the November Tours & Travel Adventure

Once again, we had a great Tours & Travel trip. On November 17th we went to Rainforest Flora in Torrance. Paul Isley and Jerrold Robinson operate the oldest tillandsia nursery in North America and have the biggest collection of tillandsias and bromeliads in the

country, and quite possibly the world! They ship worldwide to wholesale and retail outlets. We had the pleasure of meeting Jerry and listening about the business, the plants, and the amazing variety that they carry. And, of course, we all spent too much money. We had our usual number of 15 or so

members attend. Afterward, Jeanne Yale's husband, Michael, found us a terrific hole-in-the-wall Greek/Mediterranean restaurant that served portions that were way too large and definitely delicious! Thank you, Michael! - Synthia Scofield



## Tours & Travel • Dec. 16th Members' Homes Holiday Tour



We will visit the homes of **Karen Nelson** and **Lecia Davis** to see their lovely houses and gardens all decorated for Christmas. Join us to get in the holiday spirit with some food and beverage as part of the tour.

Meet at 3pm at St. Catherine's on Temple Street to carpool. Bring a friend- it's free!

## GREEN THUMB

### December 2nd Queen Palm Hanging Planter



Natalie Harlow-Alison will guide participants in the creation of a beautiful hanging planter made from a Queen Palm frond.

The workshop begins at 9:30am at Natalie's home 194 Acacia Drive, Laguna Beach

The cost for this fun workshop is just \$20.00

### Top of the World School Garden Gains a New Friend

At the November 11th general meeting, Kelly Osborne, the garden coordinator of Top of the World school garden, made a plea for a club member with knowledge of edible gardens to help with the school's two vast gardens.

I am pleased to announce **Monette Weiss** stepped up to the plate and will be helping Kelly two Mondays a month from 10am to noon. Some of the time she will spend training parent volunteers and other times she will spend weeding. Monette gave Kelly many ideas for the program. And the two of them met at one of Laguna Woods Village Garden Centers to introduce Kelly to a variety of methods to keep critters out of the garden and see different planting schemes.

Monette joined LBGC last Spring. She shared with me, "I'm thrilled; it's just the kind of help with kids gardening venture I've been looking for since I moved here one year ago. It's a perfect fit for me too! I'm very happy to have this opportunity."

Thank you Monette; you epitomize the this year's theme of "Get Involved, Make a Difference, Make New Friends, and Have Fun". I am so proud to have you as a member.

- Lynn Jax

SHARING WITH  
EACH OTHER

## Helpful Ideas

### Intoxicating Paperwhites

This is an easy to follow plan using alcohol to keep Paperwhite plants short and compact.

Ethanol alcohol, the alcohol found in most "hard liquors" (vodka, rum, gin, tequila) is an excellent growth regulator to keep paperwhite plants short & compact during indoor forcing.

A 4-5% solution of Ethanol will do the trick, here's how:

- Plant paperwhite bulbs in stones, rock, gravel, marbles or glass beads as usual.
- Water as you normally would for 7-10 days.
- When you observe roots and 2-3" of green shoots, replace the water with the 4-5% alcohol solution.
- Making the solution: 1 part booze to 9 parts = 4% solution. 1 part booze to 7 parts water = 5% solution.
- Use this solution for further watering of the paperwhites.
- The result is plants that are about 1/3 more compact, with flowers just as large, long lasting and fragrant as usual, and they are really happy!





# November Green Thumb Workshop

## Cast Members' Creativity in Stone

November's Green Thumb workshop was held at Nancy Englund's home with about 20 people attending. We put together stepping stones using rock, pretty glass bits, and things that were brought from home. Everyone was quite creative, and the results show-stopping! There are always good times to be had at Green Thumb events!



Nancy Englund lead a fun-filled morning of creativity making stepping stones with hard working club members. The ladies loved the end results!





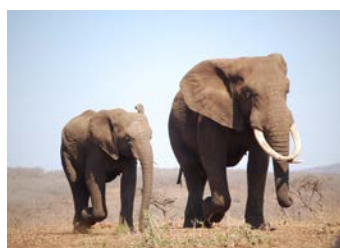
## *South Africa Safari - Deadline December 9th*

- December 9th is the last day to purchase this exciting trip at the next Laguna Beach Garden Club meeting.
- \$1,000 of the \$2,000 cost goes to the garden club as a donation and is tax deductible.
- **NOTE** - you have 2 years to use the certificate, so it gives you time to schedule your adventure.
- Payment Methods include: • Check payable to: Laguna Beach Garden Club • Credit Card + \$60 transaction fee

### **EXPERIENCE AN AFRICAN SAFARI AT ZULU NYALA PRIVATE GAME PRESERVE**

WARM HOSPITALITY MEETS OLD COLONIAL GRACE

EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF AFRICA



For additional  
information contact

Lynn Jax at:  
[jax@cox.net](mailto:jax@cox.net)



### **Enjoy a 6-day all inclusive safari package for 2 people for \$2,000**

Located 3 hours by car north of Durban, South Africa, the Zulu Nyala Game Preserve offers a wide variety of interesting & exciting activities including cultural villages, wildlife interaction, and twice daily game drives to view the preserve's animals up close.

- Package includes six days in an elegant stone & thatched lodge that is perched on a hill top inside the Zulu Nyala Private Game Preserve.
- All game drives and meals are included. Airfare is **not** included in this package.
- Accommodations feature panoramic views from many common areas & fully air-conditioned, luxurious ethnic styled suites.
- The grounds feature a library, pool, jacuzzi, tennis courts and a game room with pool tables. There is also a shop featuring local native arts & crafts in the lobby area.
- Three delicious meals a day are included from the expansive buffet in the dining room.
- Enjoy a cocktail as you watch the African sunset from the lodge's balcony overlooking the game preserve in the valley below.
- Animals that freely roam the game preserve are: elephants, white & black rhino, nyala, zebra, wilde beest, giraffe, wart hog, hippos, buffalo & cheetah.
- \$1,000 of the trip cost is tax deductible
- Laguna Beach Garden Club is a 501(c)(3) Charitable Organization Federal Tax ID #23-7297058

# Members' Efforts Support the Miller Home & Garden

**O**n Saturday, November 19th at the Laguna Beach Farmers Market, the Friends of the Hortense Miller Garden offered unique garden décor and wonderful plants from the Hortense Miller Garden to raise funds and awareness of this hidden jewel in Laguna Beach. The event was a great success as many Laguna residents were not aware of the nearby garden. The Friends of the Hortense Miller Garden maintain and improve the garden and have restored the Mid-Century Modern house built in 1958. Tours are offered the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>

Thursday of each month.  
(Holidays excluded)  
For more information on the garden or to book a tour go to [www.HortenseMillerGarden.org](http://www.HortenseMillerGarden.org)

-Diane Lannon



The fantastic fall colored centerpiece for the November meeting was made by  
**Marsha Yuri**



**JoAnn De Yonker's** name was drawn as volunteer of the month and she received a beautiful orchid plant for her work making succulent wreaths for the Holiday Galleria.





## WHERE HAVE YOU TAKEN LBGC?

Sporting her Laguna Beach Garden Club baseball cap, past president **Jeanne Yale** found it was a great way to keep the sun out of her eyes as she cruised the seas whale watching off Dana Point in November.



Baseball caps and our new aprons are on sale at every general meeting.



## Sawdust Art Festival's 26th Annual Winter Fantasy

Sawdust Art Festival's 26th Annual Winter Fantasy  
Five Weekends: November 19 through December 18, 2016  
open 10am-6pm

November 19, 20, 25, 26, 27 from 10am-6pm  
December 3, 4, 10, 11, 17 & 18 from 10am-6pm

The festival grounds is transformed into a winter wonderland where 175 artists create, display and sell original creations over the course of five weekends. The Winter Fantasy offers the most unique holiday shopping in Southern California. Art media includes jewelry, clothing, fused and blown glass, ceramics, woodwork, forged metals, painting, photography, sculpture, clothing and textiles.

Experience unique artwork, live holiday entertainment, great outdoor cafes, art classes and demonstrations, petting zoo, Santa and much, much more! With amazing art gifts, thousands of holiday decorations and picture-perfect moments, the Sawdust's Winter Fantasy will become your family's holiday tradition.



P.O. Box 362 • Laguna Beach, CA 92652

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

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