

VOL. 13



GROWING &

Laguna Beach Garden Club

Weeder's Digest



OCTOBER 2017

MEMBER NEWS

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

The bright colors of summer are a distant memory as we embrace the warm hues of autumn. The fall brings gourds, fallen leaves and pumpkin spiced everything!

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

We have something for everyone this fall with the garden club. If you have never participated in a **Green Thumb** activity because "I'm not very artistic", we guarantee Elaine and Natalie's creative projects will get your artistic mind going. The pot decorating project this month will give you colorful containers for your plant babies and provide the club with some containers for our **Plant & Planter Sale in February**. So take a chance, sign up at the meeting & join in the fun!

If by chance you missed the meeting in September, we look forward to seeing you at the October 13th meeting where you can **pick your copy of the 2017-2018 Membership Book**, check out the treasures at the plant table, and re-connect with club members you haven't seen all summer.

COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting Oct. 13th

Josie Goodenow

All About Bees (see page 3)
Laguna Presbyterian Church
• 9:30 am social • 10:00 am meeting

SmartScape Expo 2016
Oct. 14th

Laguna Beach Water District

303 3rd Street Laguna Beach
8:00am - 2:00pm (see page 10)

Green Thumb Oct. 20th

Decorate a Pot



9:30 am at the home of
Elaine Davis
32562 Sea Island Dr.
Dana Point
\$15.00 (see page 5)

New Member Luncheon
Oct. 25th

12 o'clock, at the home of Karen Nelson • 885 Bluebird Canyon,
Laguna Beach 715-9250

Tours & Travel Oct. 27th

Ecology Center San Juan

Capistrano Meet at 8:45am at St. Catherine's Church on Temple Terrace. Leaving promptly at 9:00am (see page 4)

President's Message

Harvest These Opportunities This Fall

Our September raffle netted **\$395** to add to the funds for school gardens, scholarships, and our educational speaker series. Please donate any special items to add to our December raffle, creating a great opportunity for all members to purchase a chance to obtain that special Christmas gift. Contact Lynn Jax to donate. All donations are tax deductible.

The Garden Club is once again participating in the **8th annual SmartScape Water District event, October 14 from 8 AM to 2 PM**. We will give away succulent cuttings and run two **Do-It-Yourself** (DIY) classes, Planting Tubes stuffed with Succulents and Succulent-topped Mini-pumpkins. We need your cuttings, so please save and bring them to meeting. If you can't attend the meeting, you can drop them off at my house, 456 Cress St, Laguna Beach.

Green Thumb

On September 15, Natalie Harlow-Alison, our resident Green Thumb creative force, held yet another class where about 12 club members learned how to add cement to the top of rocks and embed decorations into the cement. We all agreed that dealing with cement is not easy, but we all had a fun time and came home with several decorated rocks to add to our gardens.

At the October 13 meeting you will have the opportunity to signup for two (2) Green Thumb creations.

- The first will be held **October 20** at Elaine Davis's home where you will decorate pots, one for you and one for our sale in February. Details will be forthcoming at the meeting.

- Because of the Thanksgiving Holiday our November Green Thumb will be held prior to our November 10 general meeting, thus the reason to sign up at the October 13 meeting. Jeanne Yale will instruct those who sign-up on how to create a gorgeous and ever-popular **Succulent Wreath on November 3** at her home.

Tours & Travel

On September 22, nearly 40 Garden Club members attended our excursion to the **Environmental Nature Center [ENC]** in Newport Beach. Because our group was so large, Director Bo Glover (our September speaker) and Assistant Director Lori Whalen lead the two groups on a guided tour of the multi-acre campus through its various natural gardens. It is truly an amazing place and so worth the short drive to [1601 Sixteenth Street, Newport Beach](#). If you did not have a chance to visit when we took the tour, it is open daily to the public.

Mark your calendars because our next adventure is to the **Ecology Center in San Juan Capistrano** on October 27. Dr. Meg Hiesinger, who spoke to the membership last February and was instrumental in getting the Laguna Beach School Garden team accepted to the Edible SchoolYard Academy by Alice Waters in Berkeley, is on staff at this facility. Please join us.

Afterward **Chris Lutz** has invited all attendees to his house in Dana Point (very nearby) for a **BBQed Turkey lunch**. Members are asked to bring a side dish to share. Chris has offered his hospitality several times to club members; his collection of more than 6,000 Bromeliads is not to be missed. Sign-up to attend and bring a dish at the October 13 meeting.

Please do yourself a favor and take advantage of these travel opportunities to see what is in your backyard, join in making new friends, and have a fun time.

You won't regret it.



October Speaker Josie Goodenow Gives Us the Buzz About Bees

Josie Goodenow has been gardening since she was in the second grade when her father retired from the Air Force and settled in Napa County. She has lived in the Georgetown area of California since 1985, and enjoys being in a Zone 7 growing area, where many plants require a definite winter chill.

With several creeks and ponds on her property and a good well to keep the water table up, she enjoys growing water-thirsty lilacs, peonies, cherry trees (both fruiting and ornamental) asparagus, and strawberries.

As with most gardeners, she also loves to try to grow plants that are hardy outside her growing zone, never really satisfied to follow general gardening rules. **She pushes her plants to thrive** where they are not acclimated, sometimes successful, and other times learning something new while doing.

When Josie retired in 2008, she joined the **California Garden Club**, and became **President in 2009**, then District Director of Golden Foothills District in 2011. She accepted the Bee Chairman position with the CGCI and Pacific Region in 2014, and has given bee programs in several areas of our state.



Did you know that the honey bee isn't a very good pollinator? The native bees found in California do a much better job of pollinating. This program will tell you more about the differences between the European honey bee and our native bees, specifically the Blue Orchard Mason Bee. As gardeners, we can raise these gentle solitary bees, increase the bee population, and improve the health of our own yards at the same time!

Josie's program for the Laguna Beach Garden Club will cover the differences between our native bees (specifically the Blue Orchard Mason Bee) and the

European honey bee, how to increase the bee populations and improve the health of our own yards.

You will want to bee there!



Tours & Travel

The Environmental Nature Center in Newport Beach Was Our September Tours & Travel Adventure

On September 22nd nearly forty Garden Club members toured the Environmental Nature Center in Newport Beach. We were divided into two groups and were given a

tour of the of the multi-acre campus through its various natural gardens. Pictured below, one of the groups walks beside the natural spring that flows through the

center. We were introduced to one of the residents of the preserve and then walked through their butterfly habitat.



Tours & Travel • October 27th Ecology Center in San Juan Capistrano

We will visit the Ecology Center in San Juan Capistrano for a docent-guided tour. There is an organic grocery next door with phenomenal produce, so bring your bags! Our next stop will be the home of Chris Lutz for lunch in his extraordinary “Bromeliadified” (Tom’s word!) garden paradise.

Meet at St. Catherine’s Church on Temple Terrace
at 8:45am.

We will leave promptly at 9am.

Green Thumb • October 20th • Decorated Pots



Decorate terra cotta pots with mosaic, painting, & decoupage. Make one for yourself and one for the Valentine Event. Bring any doo-dads, paints, tiles you might have.

9:30am • Cost: \$15.00

At home of Elaine Davis • 32562 Sea Island Dr. Dana Point

Bulb Lasagna- A Recipe For Beautiful Spring Blooms

The layering of multiple bulbs in containers in order to increase the length of flowering time is a Dutch tradition known as bulb lasagna or sandwiching. Planting bulbs in this manner allows the early bloomers to push through to the top, the mid-spring bloomers to follow after, & the late-spring bloomers to provide you with a constant flow of months of color. Do not worry that they can't make it to the top – bulbs are sturdy and also rather narcissistic so they will do what they need to do to pop to the top and show off their colors.

You can do two-layer planting, but three-layer planting will give you a longer display. Start with really big containers for the most spectacular splendor; a 10-inch-deep container will hold two layers while a 14 inch deep container will hold three. You will want to crowd the bulbs for this method of planting, unlike

spacing them when planting directly into the earth. Drainage is of vital importance, so make sure there is a hole in the bottom of your container, with a layer of gravel across the bottom. Then apply a 2 to 3 inch layer of potting soil, with a handful of bone meal sprinkled on top. That is the “sauce” of your lasagna and should be at least 11 inches below the rim. The first layer of “pasta” will be the bulbs that bloom latest in the season, large-sized bulbs such as Daffodil, Allium, Lilies, or Tulipa ‘Giuseppe Verdi’. Parrot and fringed tulips will be the first to go into the container, with mid-season Narcissus and mid-season Tulips, Hyacinth, and Galanthus in the center; the top layer will contain the earliest bloomers such as Snowdrops, Crocus, and Muscari.

Now add more “sauce” by topping off the first layer of bulbs with 3 inches of soil; sprinkle on more bone meal. The second layer of “pasta” should be bulbs planted about 6 inches below the surface of your container such as Dutch Hyacinth or Jonquil Narcissus. Cover with a good inch of soil and yet another handful of bone meal. For your top layer, you will want to plant Crocus, Scilla, Ixia, Freesia and Grape Hyacinth. Top this with 5 inches of soil, and then add the “cheese” for your lasagna, the mulch. Water deeply at time of planting, and regularly thereafter, then sit back and enjoy the show.



Green Thumb Workshops

Cultivate Members' Creativity



Natalie Harlow-Alison, our resident Green Thumb creative force, taught about 12 club members how to make a decorative garden accents by placing cement on the top of rocks and embedding decorations into the cement. We all agreed that dealing with cement was not easy, but we all had a fun time and came home with several decorated rocks to add to our gardens.

Pictured at left, Natalie mixes the cement for the creative ladies. The beautiful results are pictured below.



Creative Centerpieces Will Grace The Refreshment Table This Year



The fall colored centerpiece for the September meeting was made by **Linda Humes**, our Table Centerpiece Administrator

We look forward to seeing what each month will bring from these ladies with their centerpiece designs.

October: Becky Martin (new member).

November: Diane Lannon.

December: Sue Goldberger.

January: Lecia Davis.

February: Valentine Auction

March: Maggie Owens.

April: Emille Villa. & Nancy Skjerven.

May: Monette Weiss.

Do your spring cleaning early & donate any objects or containers that could be used as a planter for our ***Valentine Plant & Planter Sale***. The items don't need to have a drainage hole in them, we will take care of that. Bring your no longer needed treasures to the next three meetings.



Join us for a magical evening of discovery, as we seek to inform, inspire and challenge a new generation of world changers.

OCEAN AWARENESS CHALLENGE

NOVEMBER 4, 2017
FESTIVAL OF ARTS
LAGUNA BEACH, CA

REGISTER NOW

Registration is tax deductible

- Help us send under-privileged kids to Marine Science Camp on Catalina Island
- Enjoy happy hour, dinner, live music and the award-winning IMAX film "Humpback Whales"
- Learn about the current plight of our oceans and what you can do to help turn the tide

Hear OAC scholarship recipients tell their stories.



LEARN MORE about Ocean Awareness Challenge.

OUR PARTNERS



Accelerating Nonprofit Success



September Raffle Winner



The lucky winner of the first LBGC raffle was Marcy Horenstein. She was busy working at the plant table when her name was called, but she was excited to hear that that she had won a gift basket from Bushards Pharmacy that included \$50 gift card as well as several beauty products and a scarf. Also in the package was a \$100 gift card to Rogers Gardens. Marcy will have a lot of fun with her prize basket to be sure. The raffle made almost \$400 for the club.

For SoCal Veggie Gardeners, Fall's Warm Soil Makes This a Fabulous Time to Plant

Fall is prime planting time in

Southern California. The bugs are fewer, water demands lighter and the plants happier, if they're the cool-clime varieties that prefer mild SoCal winters. Choose a spot with at least eight hours of sun. Clean up any garden debris that could harbor disease or pests and amend the soil with compost or aged manure. If you're using pots, start with fresh soil. (Put the old soil in your compost pile.) Don't over water because that leads to rot in cool temperatures. Push your finger about an inch into the soil, and water only if it feels dry.

Here are 10 cool-weather vegetables to plant now.

1. BEETS

Beets grow well from seed, so try a mix of colors planted in monthly intervals to stagger your harvest.

Thin to 3 inches apart, but it's easier to just space the seeds when you plant to get full formed beets



because you

know you won't get out there to thin.

2. BROCCOLI

These are prolific producers and easy to grow from nursery starts. They're the vegetable that keeps on giving, producing in maybe six months. Plant broccoli deep — beyond the second row of leaves — so their stems grow straight and sturdy.

3. CABBAGE

Slow growers that take up a lot of space (about 2 feet square)

They need to be well spaced too.



Unlike other vegetables, cabbages will wait a bit to be harvested, unless it turns hot.

4. CARROTS

Carrots need a loose, stone-free soil to thrive. Stick to shorter varieties if you can't provide 12" of the ideal soil or you want to grow in containers. Carrots also grow best from seed. Expect to thin unless you space when you plant. (See beets.)

5. KALE

This leafy *brassica* is both tasty and attractive, a perfect pick for edible landscapes. Kale gets big, so make sure containers are 10 inches deep, one plant per pot.

6. LEAFY GREENS

Lettuces, spinach, arugula, chard, mustard and other tasty salad fixings all thrive in cooler temperatures. Warning: Do not to plant too many seeds at once....make successive plantings every few weeks, and expect your first harvest within a month.

7. ONIONS/GARLIC

Onions require a specific amount of daily sunlight to make a bulb. Any variety works for bunching onions, known as scallions. "Candy" variety is recommended. Plant

garlic cloves pointy end up. Cut off the "scapes" (leafless flower stalks)

to create larger heads, and use them



for cooking. Harvest around June.

8. PEAS

Peas germinate slowly, so don't give up. Provide a trellis or cage so they can climb. Peas do well in containers at least six to eight inches deep and 16-18 inches wide.

9. POTATOES

Cut seed potatoes into chunks with two eyes each and let them dry for two days before you plant. Make sure tubers are always covered with soil. (Sun exposure makes the skins green and toxic). Harvest new potatoes when the sprawling plant blooms, mature potatoes when the plants die down. "Yukon Gold" is a versatile favorite.

10. RADISH

Add color and snap to winter with spicy, quick-growing radishes. Plant in intervals for a continuous crop. Easy to grow in pots 16" wide and at least 4" deep.

Pick radishes as soon as they



mature;

left too

long in the ground they turn woody, "overly pungent."

PLEASE JOIN US

LEARN ABOUT CA LANDSCAPES AND WAYS
TO MAXIMIZE YOUR WATER SAVINGS AT OUR

8TH ANNUAL 8AM TO 2PM

Smart Scape

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2017 **EXPO**

HELP YOUR LANDSCAPE BOUNCE BACK
FROM THE DROUGHT. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF
FREE LANDSCAPE CONSULTATIONS, NATIVE
PLANT SALES, DIY PLANTING WORKSHOPS,
IRRIGATION ALTERNATIVES, AND MORE!

For more information, visit lbcwd.org/smartscape or call (949) 494-1041.



LAGUNA BEACH COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Save ^{THE} Date

8TH ANNUAL

Smart Scape Expo

OCT. 14th 2017

306 THIRD STREET, LAGUNA BEACH

At this FREE family fun event, attendees can
take advantage of free landscape consultations,
meet with local landscape professionals, purchase
CA Friendly plants, learn about available rebates
on water efficient devices, and much more.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

Laguna Beach County Water District
306 Third Street
P.O. Box 987
Laguna Beach CA 92652

We Welcome Our Newest Members

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.

Becky Martin:

Becky comes to us through an invitation from one of our board members, Lisa Fecteau. Becky is married and has 2 sons at home and a daughter that was married this last spring. Becky lives in Laguna Niguel and is an avid gardener, having just spent the last year creating a native garden in her yard. Her husband is an electrical contractor and Becky provides home office support for him. Becky has relatives that live in South Laguna so she gets to visit them often and has begun exploring all the charm that Laguna has to offer.

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.

Joanie Rowe:

Joanie Rowe is a resident of Laguna Beach for over 50 years. Joanie holds a very special place in the Laguna Beach Garden Club for allowing herself to be charmed by our own Nancy Englund to allow us to show her beautiful Tropical Paradise (Garden 10) on our Gate & Garden Tour in May 2017. Joanie is a mother to two daughters and a son and a grandmother to 7 children. Prior to retiring Joanie worked at Top of the World school and also helped her husband develop a coffee farm. Joanie is a passionate gardener who helped her late husband create the lush wonderland that exists in her back yard.



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www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org

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