

VOL. 21



GROWING & GIVING

# Laguna Beach Garden Club

## Weeder's Digest



September 2025

MEMBER NEWS

"Serve Our Community, Protect Our Planet, & Share the Love of Gardening"  
—Nancy England President

Come Join in  
the Fun

### Events This Month

#### General Meeting Sept 12

**Danielle Hahn**- "The Story of Rose Story Farm". We will learn about the beauty of this family's rose farm.  
(see page 3)



Laguna Presbyterian Church  
9:30 am- Social  
10:00 am- General meeting & guest speaker

#### Trips & Tours Sept 24

**Botanical Building in San Diego** We will be touring the iconic San Diego site.  
(see page 15 for more details)

#### Board Meeting Sept 29

#### A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

Many of our members enjoy traveling when they are not busy in their gardens. The joy of travel is discovering new places and trying the local cuisine.

The hummingbird is also a world traveler. You may have noticed these petite birds darting through your garden in recent weeks as they begin their annual migration. Hummingbirds fly by day when nectar sources such as flowers are more abundant. Research indicates a hummingbird normally can travel as many as 23 miles in one day. While some hummingbirds

begin their fall migration as early as late July, most don't start their journey south until August or September. These tiny travelers need a lot of fuel to keep their wings flapping. Click on the link below to see what plants you could include in your garden to provide much needed nectar for their flight.



[https://www.gardendesign.com/flowers/hummingbirds.html?utm\\_source=article-newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Hummingbird-Flowers-5-15-254f2de8e3c](https://www.gardendesign.com/flowers/hummingbirds.html?utm_source=article-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Hummingbird-Flowers-5-15-254f2de8e3c)

## President's Message

# Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

**G**et ready for another year of fascinating speakers covering topics from roses to mushrooms, dried flowers to fresh herbs. Also, learn about inspiring conservation projects from **Ed Almanza**, who is working to protect the Aliso Creek Estuary, and **Dr. Jana Johnson**, who nearly single-handedly saved the Palos Verde blue butterfly from the brink of extinction. And each month, you get to hear me, your president, speak passionately about how you can help save the planet by reducing, reusing, and recycling. I reused **Jeanne Yale's** president's theme. I had planned to recycle my president's messages from my first term as President in 2018, but I couldn't find them on my computer.

I grew up in Northern California in the 1970s. Recycling was a challenge: bi-metal cans had to be cleaned and flattened, glass bottles needed metal rings and labels removed, and we had to drive our collection to the next town—not for cash, but to get a gas voucher. We did it because we loved and respected the planet and its limited resources. Today, recycling is much easier, with curbside pickup in dedicated bins. You probably know other simple steps to help protect the environment: carry a reusable water bottle, use cloth bags at the grocery store, avoid

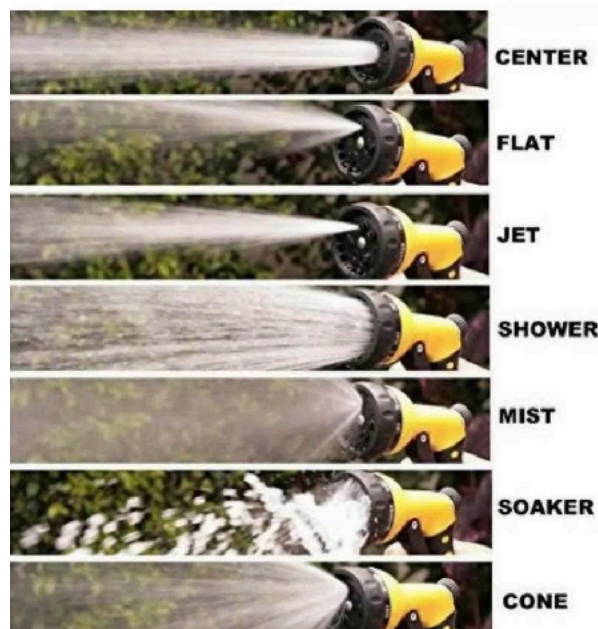
fast fashion and buy secondhand, pick recycled paper products, and squish your toilet paper roll to save space. I'm a bit obsessed with toilet paper. People use at least 57 sheets daily and 27 rolls per year, which adds up to 384 trees over a lifetime. If those trees stood, they could have absorbed carbon from nearly 10 million miles of car travel. Nationally, if each person swapped just four rolls of regular paper for recycled paper a year, we could save a million trees and 356 million gallons of freshwater annually. As you can see, small changes can make a big difference. Global warming isn't one overwhelming problem; it's a collection of many smaller issues we can address.

One action you can take this month is to join the **Coastal Cleanup on Saturday, September 20, at Main Beach, from 9 am to noon**. In one event, you can serve your community, help protect our planet, and if you visit our table, share your love of gardening.

*-Nancy Englund*



No one cares about your zodiac sign.  
What's your favorite garden hose setting?



**Remember to use Water Wisely**



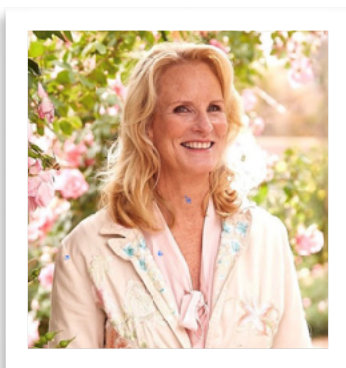
## September Speaker

# Danielle Hahn *A Rosy Story*

**D**anielle Hahn and her husband Bill started Rose Story Farm in 1998 on their fifteen-acre farm in the Carpinteria Valley in Central California. Rose Story Farm began in 1998, when they decided to try growing 1000 rose bushes on a half-acre of their lemon and avocado farm. The couple imagined an old-fashioned rose farm, with the radiant hues of European and pre-1950 American varieties in bloom across their farm. They named the farm Rose Story Farm because roses are central to some of the family's most enchanting experiences of their family-owned business.

Danielle Hahn was born in Santa Barbara and attended local schools until she entered Stanford University. She graduated with honors three years later, with a BA in psychology and a minor in Italian. Returning to Santa Barbara, she opened a series of retail establishments while at the same time being the founder and managing partner of an innovative marketing firm that designed and launched events and premiere parties for the entertainment industry.

Danielle was honored with the Great Rosarian of the World award in 2014. Rose Story Farm and Danielle have been featured



in

*Santa Barbara Magazine, Wine Country Living, Sunset Magazine, Oprah Magazine, Martha Stewart Living, Veranda, and The Wall Street Journal* just to name a few. Television coverage of Rose Story Farm has been presented on "California Heartland" (a PBS special), "The Today Show" and Martha Stewart's Living online series "American Made," which features unusual ingredients into everyday cooking and baking. Get ready to be inspired and motivated!

Please join us on Friday, September 13, 2025 from 9:30-10:00 a.m. for social time and refreshments, the meeting begins promptly at 10:00 a.m. Meetings are held at Laguna Presbyterian Church in Tankersley Hall located at 415 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach. Non-members are invited to attend for free on their first visit. For more information about the garden club:

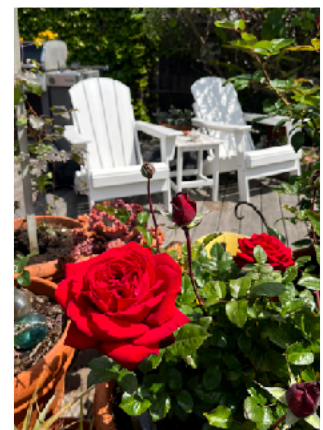
[www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org](http://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org)

## Membership Book Cover Photo Contest Results

**Linda Richardson** – Front Cover  
Swallowtail Butterfly sipping nectar from an Alstroemeria flower.



**Brian Jones** – Back Cover  
Red "Ingrid Bergman" roses with white Adirondack chairs.



I was going to do some housecleaning today but then a bumblebee buzzed, a bird sang and a flower bloomed.

So instead, I gardened.

## Our Membership Climbs to 224

**T**he Club is pleased to report that we are starting the Garden Club season of 2025-2026 with 224 members, a truly robust number. Thank you to all who renewed, rejoined and decided we were a good fit and decided to join “The Best Garden Club in OC” – just ask us.

We encourage you to invite a friend to our meetings as our guest to listen to our world-class speakers and at that point if she/he feels we are a good fit, she/he can join. Membership is open to all anytime throughout the year. No requirement to live in Laguna; in fact, 40% of our members live in other communities. Applications are available on our website and will also be available at the meetings.

The new, beautiful 2025-2026 Membership Book will be available for pick up at the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting and subsequent meetings. If you can't attend, you can designate a person to pick up yours for you. All newly joined members' name tags will also be available at the meeting. The Membership Table is located to the right of the entrance of Tankersley Hall near the French doors.

Arrive early (social time is 9:30 to 10am) to enjoy a treat, have a coffee, peruse the Plant Table on the patio for great bargains, check out the new items at the Gift Shop, and sign up for Trips & Tours, if you are interested. Please do not park in the church parking lot as our meeting starting and ending times coincide with Pre-school pick-up and drop off.

Reminder to all: wear your name tag to each meeting to receive a ticket for a chance to win a prize. Be sure to receive your ticket. Perry Stampfel will be handing them out.

Keep your name tag in a safe place (albeit hopefully a place you can remember). If anyone wants to order a replacement or spare name tag for \$10 (payment can be made at the meeting), please contact Lynn Jax at Email: [lynnmjax@icloud.com](mailto:lynnmjax@icloud.com).

I'm looking forward to seeing you all in September.

*-Lynn Jax, Director of Membership*

Perry and I at Spirit Lake in Jasper National Park, Canadian Rockies





## A Bee's Spiritual Journey

**T**he beehive is often seen as a model for a well-functioning society where everyone works together harmoniously. Spiritually, this symbol encourages us to reflect on our own communities and how we contribute to the greater good. The hive reminds us that, just like bees, we can achieve great things when we cooperate and support one another.

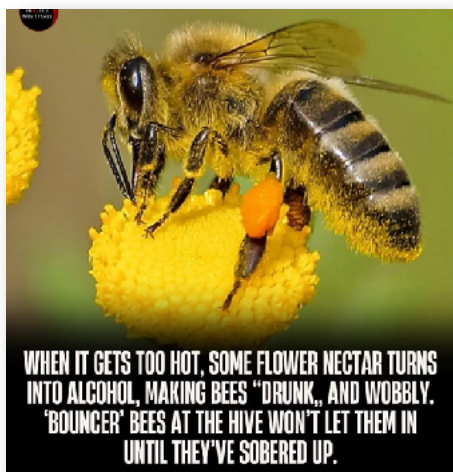


In ancient Egypt, bees were symbols of the soul and immortality. The Greeks and Romans also worshiped bees, associating them with wisdom, fertility and the afterlife. In Celtic culture, bees were considered symbols of wisdom, community and the cycle of life. Bees were often seen as harbingers of important news or omens, and their presence was thought to bring good fortune. It is thought that if a bee flew close to you, it was seen as a sign of an upcoming change or important messages. The prophetic meaning of bees often revolved around productivity and the promise of abundance. Native Americans believed that bees could guide one's path towards success and prosperity. That has certainly been true for our Club.

As the Laguna Beach Garden Club enters its 98<sup>th</sup> year there is much for this hive to be proud of and to look forward to as well. The incredible Board of Directors has been working diligently all summer to bring together a packed year of wonderful speakers, Trips and Tours, fun events and so much more for everyone to enjoy. In addition, preparations have been ongoing throughout the summer for a series of Centennial events scheduled for 2027/2028.

As we start 2025/2026, I encourage you to join the Club's many opportunities for all members. If you joined to make friends, step out of your comfort zone and participate. Volunteer for one of the many volunteer opportunities, attend a green thumb event and get to know some members on a one-on-one basis, that is how real friendships are formed.

If a bee from our hive visits you, some interpret this as a sign that continued perseverance may lead to rewards. Or it just might be that they want to include you on some club activity! I invite you to lean into these vibrations and have an incredible year with the Laguna Beach Garden Club.



WHEN IT GETS TOO HOT, SOME FLOWER NECTAR TURNS INTO ALCOHOL, MAKING BEES "DRUNK," AND WOBBLY. 'BOUNCER' BEES AT THE HIVE WON'T LET THEM IN UNTIL THEY'VE SOBERED UP.

"Bee present in every moment"

*-Submitted by Karen Nelson*



# Laguna Beach Garden Club 2025-2026

## *Monthly Calendar*

### September

- September 3 – Board Meeting
- September 12 – General Meeting & Raffle – Danielle Dall’ Armi Hahn “The Color of Roses”
- September 24 – Trips & Tours
- September 29 – Board Meeting

### October

- October 2 – Taste of Laguna
- October 4 – Love Laguna
- October 10 – General Meeting – Greg Salmeri & Laurie Resnick “Holiday Decorating with Plants”
- October 17 – New Member Luncheon
- October 22 – Trips & Tours
- October 24 – Green Thumb
- October 27 – Board Meeting

### November

- November 14 – General Meeting – Hannah Muller “Designing with Dried Flowers”

### December

- December 1 – Board Meeting
- December 12 – General Meeting & Raffle– [4<sup>th</sup> Annual “Good of the Hive®] Jane Johnson “Fluttering on the Brink: Saving the Endangered Palos Verdes Butterfly”
- December 12 - Annual Holiday Member Tour

### January

- January 9 – General Meeting – Ari Novy, Ph.D. “Plants Are (Almost) Everything”
- January 16 – Green Thumb
- January 21 – Trips & Tours
- January 26 – Board Meeting

### February

- February 13 – General Meeting & Raffle: Valentine Plant & Planter Sale Open House & Boutique
- February 25 – Trips & Tours
- February 23 – Board Meeting

### March

- March 13 – General Meeting – Ashley Irene “Edible Eden: The Art of an Heirloom Potager”
- March 14 – Patriots Day Parade
- March 20 – Green Thumb
- March 23 – Board Meeting
- March 25 – Trips & Tours

### April

- April 10 – General Meeting – Ed Almanza “Bringing Laguna Back to Laguna”
- April 17 – Recognition Award Deadline
- April 17 – Photo Contest Deadline
- April 22 – Trips & Tours
- April 27 – Board Meeting

### May

- May 2 – Gate & Garden Tour and Laguna Beach Bee Day
- May 15 – General Meeting – Dennis Desjardin. Ph.D. “The Wonder of Mushrooms”
- May 25 – Memorial Day Ceremony
- May 27 – Board Meeting



(updated 6/15/25)



**W**elcome back, everyone! I hope you all had a fabulous summer.

Doesn't it feel just like the first day back at school when you were a kid? It sure does feel like that to me! I can't wait to wear my new back-to-school outfit and bring my new lunch pail to our first meeting on September 12.

Please remember to bring all the empty egg cartons you've saved up over the summer so we can fill up my little red wagon. It's empty and ready to deliver your egg cartons to the Food Pantry to give them a second life and save \$0.45 for the Pantry for each carton we deliver.

Remember to stack them and bring only cartons with lids, plastic or paper are both welcome. Food donations are always welcome, too. And if you are so inclined I will make sure to pass along any checks made out to the Laguna Food Pantry from you.

See you in September!

*-Jane Leary*



## Coastal Cleanup on Saturday, September 20

The Laguna Ocean Foundation, City of Laguna Beach Police Department, and Laguna Beach Chamber of Commerce are co-hosting a Coastal Clean Up on **Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>** at Main Beach from 9 am – 12 pm. The Garden Club will have a booth with information and activities for the kiddies. Please come down to support the event!

City of Laguna Beach

# CALIFORNIA COASTAL CLEAN-UP DAY

Hosted by:



HELP US KEEP THE  
BEACHES FREE OF TRASH.

LIVE MUSIC - EXHIBITORS - CLEAN UP

SEPTEMBER 20, 2025 | 9AM-12PM

at the Cobblestones of Main Beach

[www.lagunaoceanfoundation.org/events](http://www.lagunaoceanfoundation.org/events)

## **GIFT SHOP SALES TABLE OPENING DAY SEPTEMBER 12**

**Don't miss our new and exciting 2025 merchandise**

Featuring very cute floral caps with our name embroidered on the front and our logo placed on the back.....\$40.00 each

Also our very own LBGC 8oz coffee cup ..... \$20.00 each

Special decorative pins with our name and logo ..... \$5.00 each

All other items such as latex gloves in S-M-L, colored Scala hats, embroidered colored visors, tote bags, note cards and notebooks will remain at last year's pricing.

Come by and see us in the courtyard during the social time and at the back of the room during and after the meeting.

*-Susan South and Staff- Director Ways and Means Committee*





# Join the Fun – Volunteer for the Gate & Garden Tour!

Each spring, the Laguna Beach Garden Club hosts its beloved *Gate & Garden Tour*—a celebration of our community's creativity, beauty, and love of nature. This cherished event not only delights visitors with access to some of Laguna's most stunning private gardens, but it also serves as the club's biggest fundraiser, supporting scholarships, school gardens, civic beautification projects, and community education.

Volunteers are the heart of the Tour. From greeting guests and guiding them through gardens, to assisting with check-in, the hat contest, raffle sales, or hospitality, every helping hand makes a difference. Volunteering is also a wonderful way to connect with fellow members, meet new friends, and experience the Tour from the inside out.



Whether you can give a few hours or the full day, your support ensures this event continues to flourish. Plus, volunteers often say it's one of the most rewarding—and fun—experiences of the year!

If you haven't volunteered before, this is the perfect year to jump in. If you're a returning volunteer, we can't wait to see you again. Together, let's make the *Laguna Beach Gate & Garden Tour* bloom brighter than ever.

Find **Susan Denton**, *Gate & Garden Tour Director* and introduce yourself and find out how to volunteer for the *2026 Gate & Garden Tour*. **Sign up today and be part of this treasured tradition!**  
-Susan Denton

## Gate & Garden Tour Committees:

Director - Susan Denton  
Sponsorships - Susan Denton  
Ads - Susan Denton  
Ticket Sales - Susan Denton  
Media - Karen Nelson  
Gardens & Route - Nancy Englund & Susan Denton  
Graphic Design - Carolyn Bent  
Tour Brochure - Kari Nies & Carolyn Bent  
Venue Logistics - Blair Contratto  
Garden Docents | Safety & Flow - Jeanne Yale  
Registration - Melissa Rapp  
Raffle - Lynn Jax  
Bar - Vicky Adams-Cuccia  
Hat Contest - Alexandra Cook (non-member)

Finances & Cashiers - Jeff Whittiker, Brian Jones, Mary Jones, John Holcomb  
Artists - Toni Kellenberg & Dalynn Malek  
Refreshments - Trudy Josephson & Vicki Borthwick  
Shuttles - Nancy Englund  
Security - Susan Denton  
Gift Shop - Susan South  
Route Logistics - Sherry Stephens & Diane Lannon  
Plant ID - Ingrid Cebula  
Food Vendor - Karen Nelson  
Route Ambassador - Jane Leary & Greg Frock  
Photographers - Carolyn Bent, Perry Stampfel & Laura McCants

## Green Day at the Sawdust Festival



On Sunday, July 13, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., LBGC volunteers gathered at the Sawdust grounds, their arms full of succulent cuttings generously donated by Club members. The team arranged tables with care, creating an eye-catching display beside the pond. By the time the festival gates opened at 11:00, a vibrant tapestry of textures and colors greeted visitors.

Festival guests delighted in “shopping” at the tables, each leaving with a bag of handpicked cuttings—free of charge, to their astonishment.

Members of the Laguna Beach Garden Club engaged warmly with guests, offering advice on rooting techniques, discussing ideal planting spots, and sharing stories about the wide world of succulents.

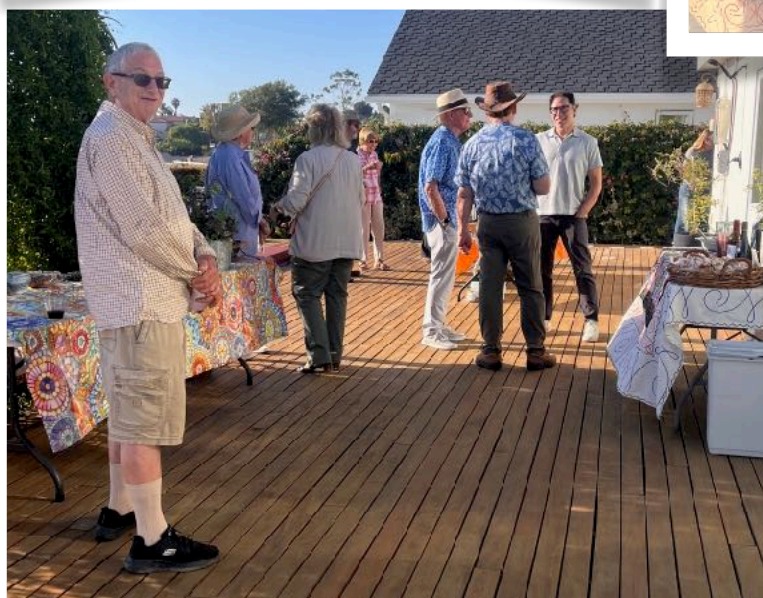
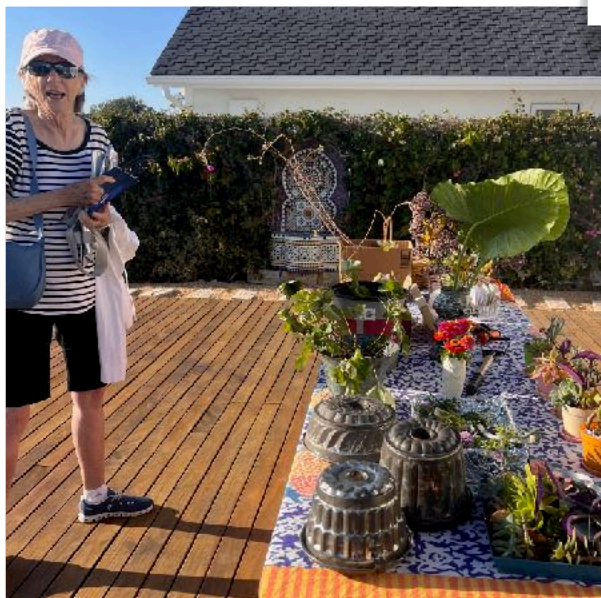
The club’s spirit of community and horticultural passion was on full display. Curious visitors not only left with living mementos but also with a better understanding of the LBGC’s mission and activities. The Green Day event was a resounding success.





## Summer Garden Bounty Exchange

The event was great! About 20 people with lots of interesting products to trade, met in the garden of **Sharon Singer**. Partners and husbands came along which made the evening very festive. Thanks for all of the garden bounty and for a very fun afternoon.







**Succulent Workshop with Diane Lannon**  
**Saturday, October 4, 2025**  
**9:45 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Hortense Miller Garden**

Create your own beautiful succulent log or pumpkin for fall! In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn how to design a lasting arrangement of succulents on a cork tree log or a pumpkin—perfect for seasonal décor.



**What to bring:**

- Hat, garden gloves, clippers, water bottle
- Any small garden art items to personalize your piece
- At least 20 succulent cuttings (from your garden or a friend's!)
  - Stems: 1.5–2 inches long
  - Diameter: 2–3 inches

The wreath/log and other supplies will be provided.

**Cost:** Free — donations welcome.

**Reservations required.**

Email: [diane.lannon@gmail.com](mailto:diane.lannon@gmail.com)

Call: (949) 374-2696



*Last year's workshop*





# September Raffle & Silent Auction

**W**e have an exciting Raffle event planned to welcome you back to the Garden Club's first general meeting of the year on Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Tickets for the raffle will be available during social hour, so come prepared with cash, check or credit card for your chance to bring home one or more of these fabulous prizes. A big thank you to all who donated items to this raffle. I can't wait to put my tickets in! There's a Halloween Basket (by **Mae Ho**), the ever sought after succulent wreath (by **Jeanne Yale**), gorgeous silk wrap from Duet, Mask/Snorkel/Beach Set and so much more!

Look for **Polly Parkey**, **Judy Flanders**, **Vicky Adams-Cuccia**, or myself to purchase tickets with cash or check. Credit card sales are accepted at Treasurer's table near the back of Tankersley Hall. Ticket prices are: 1 Ticket for \$5. or 7 tickets for \$20. Good luck to each of you!

*Linda Richardson*, September Raffle Administrator



We can't wait to welcome you back to our first meeting of the year with an all new, **monthly Silent Auction offering!** Planning on entertaining the weekend of our Garden Club meetings? Be sure to **bid on the Hostess Table Centerpiece!**

Each month, a unique theme will be lovingly designed, created and donated by one of our talented and generous Garden Club Members. Minimum bids will start at \$25.00 and bid up at \$5.00 increments.

A giant Thank You to the following Hostess Table Floral designers and generous donators:

September: **Polly Parkey**

October: **Lorna Paugh**

November: **Kim Allen**

December: **Carolyn Bent** (no auction this month)

January: **Michelle Highberg**

February: **Christina Kim and**

**Teresa Gossard** (2 centerpieces to bid on in Feb)

March: **Carolyn Muzyka**

April: **Bonnie David**

May: **Sharon Singer**



## May Meeting

The 2024-2025 **Member Recognition Awards** were announced at the May General Meeting. The success of the club is because we have so many fantastic members. Co-President **Nancy England** presented certificates to the winners. Pictured clockwise from left to right are: **Mae Ho**- Club Member of the Year, **Patricia Weier**- Garden of the Year, **Dorothy Moss**- Rookie of the Year, **Melissa Rapp**- Gardener of the Year, and **Bonnie David**- Rookie of the Year. Congratulations to one and all!



## Volunteer of the Month

**Perry Stampfel** was selected as the May Volunteer of Month. A member since 2017, Perry insures that name tag wearers get a prize drawing ticket every month and he is one of the photographers for the Gate & Garden Tour. He also coordinates the Membership Book Cover Photo Contest.

## Name Tag Wearer

Members getting to know each other is a goal of Membership Director **Lynn Jax**. **Diane Lannon**, a member since 2009 and a Lifetime member, wore her name tag and her name was drawn as *May's Name Tag Wearer*. Diane not only volunteers her time to the Garden Club, she is also works tirelessly at the Hortense Miller Home and Garden as a Board member and docent.





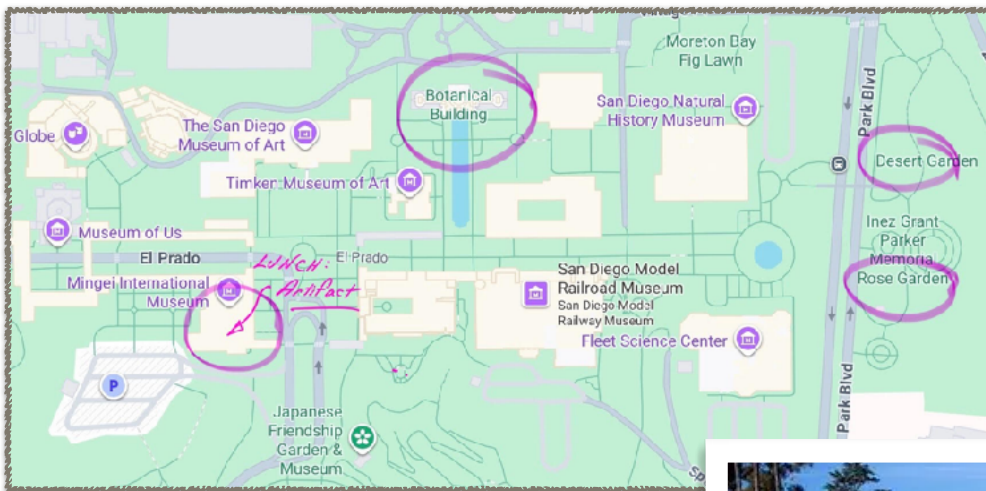
# Sign-Up for September & October Trips & Tours at the September Meeting

**W**elcome back Daytrippers to another fun and friendly Garden Club year! For our first T&T, **September 24th**, our highlight destination is the newly renovated historic **Botanical Building in San Diego**, with lunch at Artifact in the Mingei Museum which is in the Michelin Guide for San Diego restaurants. The full line-up and details are below, and you will see reminders and updates at the general meeting on September 12th and in Constant Contact emails.

As usual, we will gather at St. Catherine of Siena Parish for carpools at 8:45 a.m., leaving promptly at 9:00 a.m. Parking is free; address is: 1042 Temple Terrace, Laguna Beach. We appreciate drivers!

## September 24 T&T Line-Up

1. Botanical Building, 1549 El Prado (Balboa Park), San Diego; admission is free
2. Walk to the Desert Garden, and Rose Garden off of Park Blvd
3. Walk to lunch at the Artifact in the Mingei Museum; see map of Balboa Park below
4. Walter Anderson Nursery, 3642 Enterprise Street, San Diego



Continued on the next page



**F**or our October trip, we have rescheduled the Getty Center excursion, originally planned for February, for **October 22nd**. Due to logistical coordination with the Getty, we will be taking sign-ups for this trip at the same time as our September T&T with a sign-up deadline of **October 5th**. We need to submit to the Getty Center, a tally of people and cars: we strongly recommend that you carpool. While admission is free, parking is \$25/car to be split amongst carpool members. There will be a group tour, and there are options for lunch at the Getty Center. The exact departure time will be communicated closer to the date. Afterwards, there is an option to stop and shop at Rainforest Flora on the way home

### October 22 T&T Line-Up

1. The Getty Center, 1200 Getty Center Drive, Los Angeles
2. Rainforest Flora, 19121 Hawthorne Blvd, Torrance

***Sign-up for September & October Trips & Tours at the September 12th meeting or contact Patty Gaffney, Synthia Scofield via text or email.***

The T&T duo look forward to touring with you!!

*-Patty Gaffney & Synthia Scofield Trips & Tours*



PO Box 362 Laguna Beach, CA 92652

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

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