



Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



OCTOBER 2025

MEMBER NEWS

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

*"Each year, the Great Pumpkin rises out of the
pumpkin patch that he thinks is the most sincere."*

—Charles M. Schulz

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

It has been said that we embrace fall because we see it as a time of warmth in the home, a homecoming, a cozy time to wear sweaters, and time to gather with friends and family.

The colors of autumn are perfect for setting the tone of the season- deep russet, glowing orange, sunny yellow, and yummy brown are the perfect backdrop for the cozy time that is fall.

Our gardens are changing from the bright sunny colors of summer to the warmer tones of autumn. I wanted some new ideas for how to make my new

plantings match the warmth of the season. I found this video from Steph, of Hooked and Rooted, on YouTube. I enjoyed her video of fall container garden ideas. I hope you do too.

Happy Gardening.

<https://youtu.be/CimiBKlGsKY?si=ddizxMyJiNjfSmMN>



COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting
October 10

Greg Salmeri & Laurie
Resnick

*Holiday Decorating
With Plants*

Laguna Presbyterian
Church see page 3

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



New
Member Luncheon
October 17

Laguna Presbyterian Church

- 11:00am -1:00pm
- see page 9

Trips & Tours October 22

- Traveling to the Getty Center. Sign-ups were made at the September meeting. See page 12

Green Thumb October 24

- Succulent Wreath Making with Jeanne Yale -see page 14

Board Meeting October 27

President's Message

Sowing the Seeds of Wonder in Our Gardens

Fall is in the air!

Several liquid amber trees grow on the route of my morning dog walk, and I always take a moment to appreciate the useless beauty of the colorful, fallen leaves. While it's tempting to rake them up, one of the most valuable things you can do to support pollinators and other invertebrates is to provide them with the shelter they need to survive winter. Luckily, that's pretty simple; all you need to do is do less yard work. Remember that the best way to cut greenhouse gases and benefit your garden is to *leave the leaves!*

Leaves create a natural mulch that helps suppress weeds while fertilizing the soil as it breaks down. Mulching can protect the soil surface and help prevent erosion from rainfall. Mulch also helps moderate temperature extremes by keeping roots warmer during winter and cooler in summer, and helps retain moisture in the ground, which is especially useful during droughts.

Rake leaves off the lawn and leave them under trees and in flower beds. Choose an area to let be completely wild. For me, it is behind the cottage, which I have barricaded so my husband and gardener do not destroy crucial pollinator habitat. While

you are at it, don't deadhead native plants. Native insects and animals eat the seeds, and many native plants reseed year after year. Embrace an untidy garden!

Other club news: Mary Sanchez has stepped down from the board due to health reasons. The board has appointed Mary Jones to fill the vacancy.

-Nancy Englund



Annual Club Member Awards

Recognition Awards Recipients 2025

Member of the Year-
Mae Ho

Garden of the Year-
Wendy Caufield
Melissa Rapp

Gardeners of the Year-
Marilyn Alexander
Shirley Matthews-Jagels

Rookies of the Year-
Bonnie David
Lisa Goodlad
Toni Kellenberg
Dorothy Moss
Sharon Stephens

LAGUNA BEACH



GARDEN CLUB

GROWING & GIVING

S I N C E 1 9 2 8

October Guest Speakers

Holiday Decorating With Plants

Greg Salmeri and his partner **Laurie Resnick** have spent decades transforming indoor environments using plants, furnishings and decorative flourishes. The pair began their partnership as interior “plantscapers”, an element of their business they still maintain, along with the Associated Group, which produces large-scale holiday decorations. In 1984, a chance meeting in a Newport Beach greenhouse led to a business partnership that would shape the next four decades. Together, Greg and Laurie built one of the largest interior landscape companies on the West Coast, while also expanding into holiday décor and landscape installation.



In 2001, Salmeri and Resnick purchased *Rolling Greens*, a renowned wholesale nursery in Culver City. Over the next two decades, the company evolved into a multi-faceted lifestyle brand. Today, Rolling Greens encompasses three retail stores across Los Angeles, an event space in Downtown LA, a wine bar in Studio City, as well as four contract divisions including interior-scape design and installation, landscape design and installation, holiday décor, and interior design.

Recognized nationally for excellence in landscape and interior-scape design, Rolling Greens has been featured in leading publications and continues to set the standard in creating inspired spaces. A nine-page spread in last year's *Sunset Magazine* entitled “Holiday

Decorating with Plants” was admired by many LBGC members. Under the partners leadership, the company has

grown to employ more than 120 talented individuals and serves clients across the country. In addition, Greg is an incredible friend of the Laguna Beach Garden Club and opened his magnificent Emerald Bay garden to the club for our *2019 Gate & Garden Tour*. That began the legacy of tours being sold out, thanks to his incredible generosity. Our meeting on Friday, October 10th will surely be a packed house to see these speakers show us how to decorate like they do for their celebrity clients!

Non-members are invited to attend for free on their first visit. For more information about the garden club:

www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org

-Blair Contratto



A New Gardening Opportunity

Growing & Learning

New to LBGC – Gardening 101

The Garden Club has added a new item to our very interesting and informative monthly meetings. We would like to offer a **“Gardening 101”** series. Each month after our regular meeting there will be a short (perhaps 30 - 45 minutes) talk for those members who would like to attend. For interested members, we would meet immediately after our regular meeting out on the patio. Each month would cover a different topic. These sessions would be presented by three LBGC members who are also Master Gardeners, **Ingrid Cebula, Nora Koenig, and Melissa Rapp**. There will be a presentation and a time for questions.

Our first topic will be the most basic to gardening: SOIL.

Soil is much more than just ‘dirt’ under our feet. It’s a complex, living system which we can help with good gardening practices. Good soil is the foundation of a thriving garden. It does more than anchor roots – healthy soil stores essential nutrients, it retains moisture and allows drainage, and it supports a vast community of microbes and other organisms. Though there are different types of soil (sand, silt, or clay) each has a structure, nutrient content, moisture, and biological activity that all work together to support plants. When soil is rich, loose, and balanced plants grow better.

This talk will explore how soil health can be built and maintained as well as garden practices which help improve your garden soil.

There will be a time allotted for questions and answers.

Please join us after the October 10th LBGC meeting for our first “pilot” class! No reservation is required, but we do need 10 members (or more) to participate.



UC Master Gardeners of Orange County Newsletter

Do you need help in your Garden? Do you have a bug that won’t go away? What plant is best for my sunny or shady yard? All of these questions and more can be answered by the Master Gardeners of Orange County. Here are links to their website, newsletter and most important the **HELP LINE**. You can send photos of the problem or ask questions. They’re the best. I’ve also included a plant resource for UC Davis. Sign up for the newsletter too. They have some great classes monthly in our area in person and on zoom.

<https://ucanr.edu/site/uc-master-gardeners-orange-county?newsitem=103689>

Help line Gardening questions

<https://ucanr.edu/site/uc-master-gardeners-orange-county/gardening-questions-ask-us>

Email address

ucceocmghotline@ucanr.edu

UC Davis Plant Database Great resource

<https://arboretum.ucdavis.edu/arboretum-all-stars>



Renewing the Soil Through Regenerative Agriculture

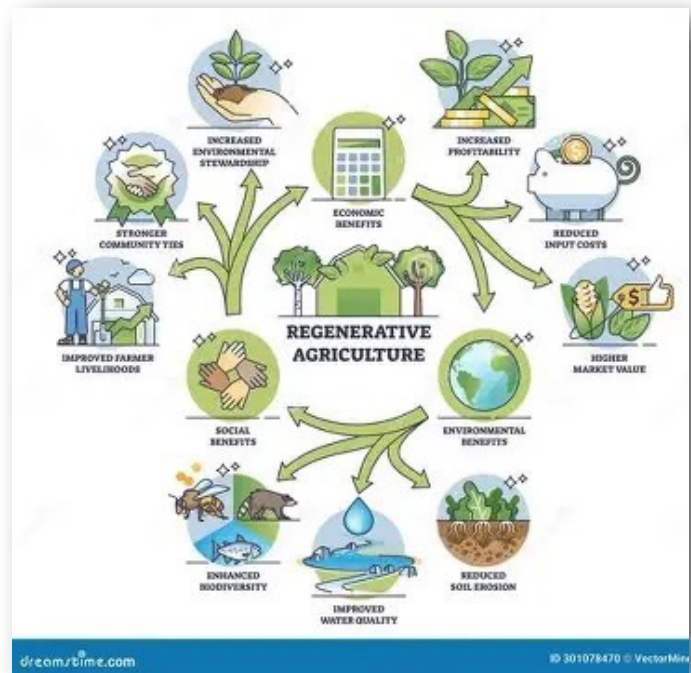
Renewing our soil is one method to address climate change, using an approach called regenerative agriculture. The goal is to enhance the soil health and increase its capacity to store carbon, manage water, and restore ecosystem health with practices such as no-till farming (to minimize soil disturbance), rotating crops, planting cover crops, integrating livestock into farming the farming system, and reducing reliance on synthetic additives. These steps help reintroduce rich nutrients into the soil and keep them there.

The farms with animals such a cattle and sheep nourish the soil by planting a rotation crop in specific areas and then grazing the animals in those areas. Animals benefit from this diet, while naturally stirring and fertilizing the soils as they feed. Larger ranches are following similar approaches by having their cattle graze in rotating plots.

Why is healthy soil important? It's all about the soil microbiomes – the bacteria, fungi, earthworms, and more that provide nutrients, carbon, and water to plants. Healthy soil is good for the crops we eat, and it sequesters carbon by absorbing greenhouse gases.

Introducing these practices can present challenges for some farmers and ranchers. New systems require financial investments, education, new materials, and transitional time. Because soil is a limited, nonrenewable resource and susceptible to erosion, many farmers are beginning to explore these practices the challenges. Healthy soil can be a significant carbon sink and play the same roles as forests do by capturing carbon and releasing oxygen. (taken from *Costco Connection* by Sheri Flies, April 2024)

Submitted by: *Lynn Jax*



6 Core Principles of REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE



New Members Get to Know & Enjoy the Perks of Your Membership

The Garden Club GROW Committee met to brainstorm how to engage our new members to meet more members and become more involved in the club activities which will lead to forming new and lasting friendships. The GROW Committee consists of many new members who wish to share their recent positive experiences by joining the Garden Club.

In addition to all member's expected participation in the *Gate & Garden Tour* on Saturday May 2 and signing up to bring meeting refreshments in Fall and Spring, the following activities are recommended:

1. Attend the New Member Luncheon Friday, October 17. Invitations will be sent out shortly via Evite email.
2. Attend the Holiday Member Tour on Friday, December 12, held a few hours after the meeting, where members are invited to share the Holiday Cheer at other members homes.
3. Donate a decorative container garden to the Valentine silent auction.
4. March with the Garden Club in the Laguna Beach Patriots Day Parade on Saturday March 14.
5. Participate in a Green Thumb Activity - various Fridays. Check the Monthly Calendar in the Membership Book for dates.
6. Attend a Trips & Tours Activity – various Wednesdays. Check the Monthly Calendar in the Membership Book for dates.
7. Donate a raffle item, held in September, December, February, and May.
8. Attend Open Garden Visits when offered, where members open their gardens when in bloom for an impromptu visit. Informational details sent out via Constant Contact.
8. Join a committee.
9. Participate in the gardening opportunities at the Rose Garden, Pocket Park, and possibly the refurbishment of the Historical Society Garden.
10. Volunteer to help at the Plant Table, Arbor Day, Beach Clean-Up Day, Love Laguna Day, or Green Day at the Sawdust Festival – such a variety from which to choose.

New members choose 2 of the 10 activities in which to participate. There are so many opportunities I'm sure you can find several to interest you. The more you participate the more you will enjoy being part of our HIVE.

-Lynn Jax Director of Membership

More photos of activities on next page



Holiday Member Tour



Valentine Container Auction



Patriots Day Parade float



Arbor Day Tree Planting



Trips & Tours Activity



Beach Clean Up Day



Green Day Celebration at the Sawdust Festival



Pocket Park & Rose Garden Beautification



Green Thumb Craft

Membership Update

Welcome to October! I am pleased to announce that we now have 235 members as of September 15, 2025.

Our next meeting is October 10, with social time beginning at 9:30 am and the business meeting starting promptly at 10 am, with another fabulous presenter as part of our Speaker Series.

If you have not picked up your 2025-2026 Membership Book yet, tables will be located inside for your convenience.

Name tags – 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. If you ordered a replacement or spare name tag, it will also be ready for pick up.

If you joined the Club any time after November of 2024, you will receive an invitation from me via Evite to attend the New Member Luncheon on Friday, October 17 from 11am to 1:00 pm. Save the Date! This is 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.

Please feel free to contact me at any time via email: lynnmjax@icloud.com or cell: 949-294-1500.

-Lynn Jax, Director of Membership Photos by Pam Bisson



LAGUNA BEACH



GARDEN CLUB

GROWING & GIVING

S I N C E 1 9 2 8

Members new to the Club are invited to the
NEW MEMBER LUNCHEON
Friday, October 17 - 11am to 1pm
Tankersley Hall
415 Forest Ave, Laguna Beach

A Sensory Trips & Tours Day

On a beautiful day, we took an easy drive to the Balboa Park in San Diego to explore a little further afield for our first Trips & Tours (T&T) of the garden club year. Our highlight destination was the newly renovated, historic Botanical Building in Balboa Park. Built for the 1915-16 Exposition, along with the adjacent Lily Pond and Lagoon, the historic building is one of the largest lath structures in the world. The Botanical Building plantings include more than 2,100 permanent plants, featuring collections of cycads, ferns, orchids, other tropical plants, and palms including bromeliads enthusiastically putting forth long, eye-catching bloom spikes.

After more than a century of weather and wear, the historic Botanical Building has been carefully revitalized, bringing it back to its 1915 grandeur while incorporating cutting-edge updates. According to the Forever Balboa Park website, the once deteriorating structure, with its graceful arcades, Palladian windows, and long-missing romantic pergola, now stands proudly, enhanced with modern features. For the first time in its history, the building includes interior misters, state-of-the-art lighting, and new water features, creating an immersive and dynamic space for visitors.

Down the road, we whisked through the desert garden to bask in the colorful fragrance of the adjacent Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden. While not the peak of rose blooming season, we still feasted on a stunning display of approximately 1,600 roses, including more than 130 varieties. The display was in theme with the tactile and scented experience that Danielle Dall'Armi Hahn of Rose Story Farm brought to our general meeting. Brand new member **Cheryl Garbett** shared that her favorite rose is the fragrant hybrid pink tea rose, Gemini, a lovely blend of cream and coral.

This garden is recognized as outstanding by several renowned organizations: Outstanding Rose Garden in the U.S.A. by All-America Rose Selections in 1978; Award of Excellence in 2003



from the World Federation of Rose Societies, and in 2014, named in the Great Rosarians of the World Hall of Fame.

For a literal feast, we lunched at Artifact in the Mingei museum. Our menu choices ran the gamut from artfully plated plant-based meals to spicy shrimp dumplings and an envy-inspiring burger plate. Yum!

We topped off the day with a visit to the family-owned Walter Anderson Nursery where we ogled gigantic mounted Stag horn ferns and a balloon plant milkweed, *Gomphocarpus physocarpus*. This nursery offered so many options, and our happy purchases included a variety of scented native plants, uniquely shaped succulents plus the fall color of pretty purple salvia, vibrant yellow daisy like flowers and decorative kale. More yum!

The Daytrippers had a lovely, full sensory day, and the T&T duo looks forward to seeing more of you in the future.

-Patty Gaffney & Synthia Scofield



October Trips & Tours

For our next Trips & Tours, we have rescheduled the **Getty Center** excursion, originally planned for February, for **October 22nd**. **Due to logistical coordination with the Getty, we will took sign-ups for this trip at our September meeting.** We needed 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.

Currently the tour is completely full, but if a docent cannot take the group on a tour, there will be more spots available. Look for a Constant Contact communicate for more information.



Raffle Winners

Thank you to all who participated in the September Raffle to make it a great success.

The lucky winners are:	Item Won:	Donated By:
Carolyn Muzyka	Halloween Basket	May Ho
John Hoover	Wine and Dine Basket	Polly Parkey
Kathy Walz	Fall Basket	Barbara Grimes
Ken Kanslick	Succulent Wreath	Jeanne Yale
Lisa Goodlad	Just Beachy Basket	Spear America & Laura Jane Boutique
Lisa Goodlad	Bee Dinnerware Basket	Linda Richardson
Marilyn Alexander	Vintage Japanese Tea Set	Mae Ho
Nora Koenig	Laguna Coast Pottery	Laguna Coast Pottery & Mary Lewis
	Gift card & Movie Night-In	

Our next Raffle offering will be at our December meeting (12/12/25), so come ready to shop! Donations are greatly appreciated. Do you have Holiday themed or cute gift items, restaurant gift cards, wine, etc., to donate? If so, please contact **Vicky Adams-Cuccia** at seevic@icloud.com for a Merchant Raffle Request letter that you can use to approach your favorite shop. Copies of the letter will be available at the October & November meetings as well.



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.

John Holcombe our Co-Financial Secretary was honored by **Vice President Blair Contratto** for his efforts on behalf of the club.



Name Tag Wearer

Members getting to know each other is a goal of Membership Director **Lynn Jax**. **Lorna Paugh**, member since 2022, wore her name tag and her name was drawn as *September's Name Tag Wearer*.

Mary Jones presented Lorna with her prize, a lovely potted succulent.



October Green Thumb

Succulent Wreath Making With Jeanne Yale

Date: Friday October 24th

Time: 9:30 AM

Location: Jeanne Yale's House - 502 Pearl St. Laguna Beach

Cost: \$20.00 - Limited to 12 participants

Payable: When you sign up at the October 10th Meeting

Bring: Clippers and succulent cuttings for yourself and to share

We will be making a 12 inch wreath and all material will be provided except for the succulent cuttings. Each wreath requires about 50 cuttings with stems that are 1 - 2 inches long and no wider than about ½ inch.

I will contact participants before the event with a reminder and more details.

Questions: Contact Jeanne Yale

Jeanne.m.yale@gmail.com

949-246-5777



Karen Nelson

GIVE Committee Members Have Been Very Busy Bees!

Blair Contratto gave a huge boost to our club by organizing our future efforts into 4 strategic pillars for us to focus on for the future. I have the honor of heading up the GIVE committee.

This is a wonderful way for me to lend my skills assisting the club in finding projects to fund that align with our mission statement and goals for our club. Some of the projects that are put before this committee are brought to us by members of the community that see an unmet need. For example, the school gardens or the Pollinator Protection fund seeking funding for projects. At other times we are tapped for our presence and participation, for example the Laguna Beach Water District's Open House to celebrate their Centennial on Saturday October 11th from 10:00 AM to 1:00PM.



The **Laguna Beach Museum of Art** invited the club to collaborate with them on the *2025 Art & Nature Series* featuring Conrad Buff, Painter of the American Southwest. Buff was considered one of the most important artists working in Southern California, forging a unique vision during a transformative and often turbulent time in American art. His large-scale paintings of the National Parks brought much attention to what national treasures these areas of our country are for the public's enjoyment. The beautiful landscape paintings of these National parks are a reminder of the beauty of the landscapes throughout our country and why our efforts toward ecologically sound policy and open land conservation are so important.

The Laguna Beach Garden Club has also been included in a lucky group of Laguna Beach non-profits whose mission statement will be represented at an Upcycled Fashion Show that will take place on November 1st. This will be an extraordinary evening where fashion and sustainability unite in a dazzling display of creativity and environmental consciousness. This exclusive event will showcase innovative designs crafted from reclaimed and repurposed materials, transforming everyday objects into stunning, wearable art. Our designer this year is Natalya Solenko, an incredibly talented Ukrainian designer whose design will be a nod to our past and embody the glamour of the 1920's.

The Laguna Canyon Foundation has requested funding for a seed library that they would like to produce that would be a resource for native plant seed and container plants for community and will do so by creating a Laguna Canyon Seed Library as well as holding public events to give away plants. These efforts line up perfectly with our goal of encouraging native plant use for both water conservation and a more fire-safe environment in our area of constant high fire danger.

These are just a few of the projects that your GIVE committee has been working on in addition to some very exciting plans for the clubs 2027-2028 Centennial celebration. So if you are interested in jumping in and being a part of assisting, please reach out to me as we always need more people to accomplish the lofty goals set forth for our organization!

Growing & Giving

Each year the Garden Club presents the Laguna Beach schools with a check to help support the school gardens at each site. LBGC President **Nancy Englund** presented a \$4,500.00 check at our September meeting to El Morro Elementary, Top of the World Elementary, and Thurston Middle School to help with their growing efforts.



Centerpiece Silent Auctions

Our first meeting of the year started with an all new, **monthly Silent Auction offering!** You can now **bid on the Hostess Table Centerpiece!** Are you planning on entertaining the weekend of our Garden Club meeting? Each month, a unique theme will be lovingly designed, created and donated by one of our talented and generous Garden Club Members. A silent auction bid sheet will be next to the centerpiece. Minimum bids start at \$25.00 and bid up at \$5.00 increments. Bidding will close at the start of the general session meeting (10am).

A giant **Thank you to Polly Parkey** for creating our fabulous Hostess Table Centerpiece for September and **Congratulations to Lisa Goodlad** for placing the winning bid! Next month's Hostess Table Centerpiece will be lovingly designed and donated for silent-auction by **Lorna Paugh**. Thank you, Lorna!



SILENT AUCTION			
FLORAL CENTERPIECE BID SHEET			
Bidding closes at Start of Meeting			
Starting Bid: \$25.00		Minimum Bid Increment: \$5.00	
Bidder Name	Bid Amount	Bidder's Mark	
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Submitted by: *Linda Richardson*

Something Spooky is Sprouting... *Gate & Garden Tour 2026!*

The leaves are turning, pumpkins are popping up on porches, and while you're picking out your Halloween costume, the **Laguna Beach Garden Club** is already brewing up something magical—our ***Gate & Garden Tour 2026!*** It may still be months away, but the planning cauldron is bubbling.

✨ Tickets – A Treat, Not a Trick!

Tickets are already on sale through **Eventbrite**, but here's a *sweet deal*: at our **February 13th Club meeting**, you can snag **discounted tickets** (cash or check only).

- **\$50 General Timed Entry** 
- **\$70 VIP Ticket**  (includes 1 food ticket + 1 drink ticket to keep you fueled for all that garden haunting—I mean, strolling!)









✨ Committee Chairs – We Need Some Brave Souls!

Dare to lead? We're looking for spirited members to chair key committees:

- **Sponsorships**: Scare up some support (\$25–\$3,000).
- **Brochure Ads**: Encourage local businesses to creep into our brochure (\$100–\$500).
- **Marketing**: Cast your spell through social media and local news.
- **Security**: Keep our ghouls—er, guests—safe and organized.

Plenty of Volunteer Tricks & Treats!

Not ready to lead a committee? No worries—there are plenty of fun ways to join in on the big day:

- Greet guests at the **Check-in Station** 
- Help crown the most “boo-tiful” bonnet in the **Hat Contest** 
- Serve tasty fall **Refreshments** 
- Stir up potions at the **Bar** 
- Be a **Garden Docent** and share garden lore 
- Join the **Security** crew (no broomsticks required) 
- Pitch in for **Route & Venue Set-Up and Tear-Down** (fast in the morning, *even faster* after the tour—so we can all head home, kick off our shoes, and enjoy a treat of our own!) 


Be Part of the Bloom!

The Gate & Garden Tour isn't just about strolling through Laguna's most enchanting gardens—it's about community, creativity, and a whole lot of fun. Whether you buy a ticket, bake tasty cookies, volunteer for a shift, or chair a committee, your contribution helps make this beloved tradition flourish.

Let's make ***Gate & Garden Tour 2026*** the best one yet! 

Susan Denton | Director, Gate & Garden Tour



Help Track Monarch Butterfly Sightings To Aid in Saving Declining Population

In January 2025, the California State Parks Foundation, a nonprofit foundation released the 28th annual Western Monarch Count results, which found 9,119 monarchs over-wintered in the state -- the second-lowest winter population counted since the count started in 1997.

An evaluation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service anticipates that western monarchs have a 95% chance of being extinct by 2080. Climate change, habitat loss, pesticides and disease are the primary causes for the population decline, according to the foundation.

The foundation is asking the public to download the free “iNaturalist” app on their phones and start an account. To contribute, take a photo of a monarch butterfly or caterpillar and upload it to the app. You can also register to help with the Xerces Society’s annual Western Monarch Count (WMC) community science initiative by [clicking here](#).

By reporting sightings, the public can help with efforts to fund restoration projects and volunteer efforts to support monarchs. One effort is planting native plants that monarchs can source for nectar like milkweed, yarrow and coyote brush.

The foundation is also advocating for the western monarch to be listed as a federally threatened species.

More information about western monarch conservation efforts and the 29th annual Western Monarch Count, which starts in October, is available at <https://westernmonarchcount.org>.

The Garden Club owns stuff: banners, rakes, water dispensers, table cloths, etc., so when we show up at The Taste of Laguna or for the Gate & Garden Tour, we look polished. **Ty Hatfield, Brian and Mary Jones, and Nancy Englund** moved all that stuff to our spiffy new unit at Laguna Canyon Storage. If you are one of the many worker bees who need access to club stuff, please contact a board member for instructions.



Taste of Laguna Food & Music Festival 2025

Held on the grounds of the Festival of Arts, the Taste of Laguna Food & Music Festival celebrated its 20th anniversary on October 2 to a sold-out crowd of more than 1200+. Laguna Beach Garden Club once again hosted a boutique water station to quench the thirst of those in attendance for something other than adult beverages. Representing Laguna Beach Garden Club were **Susan Denton, Karen Nelson, Kari Nies, and Susan South** (who donned the recognizable BEE costume to the delight of everyone). These four members shared information about the garden club, the Gate & Garden Tour, and provided good will. Guests treated themselves to samples of signature and specialty dishes from more than 30 local restaurants, and on the festival stage The Lucky Devils played a live concert, pulling in many to the dance floor.



Look at all those Egg Cartons!



Wow, between September 2023 and May 2025 our Club provided Laguna Food Pantry with a grand total of 4234 empty egg cartons! This translates to a savings of almost \$2000 for the Pantry which they've been able to put towards delicious and nutritious food for their clients.

We've started off strong for our 2025-26 Club year with a total of 482 cartons for September, a new monthly record. Anne Belyea, Executive Director of Laguna Food Pantry sent me her sincere thanks along with this photo showing one of their volunteers, all smiles, as she received our September cartons.

A new twist to our carton donations – going forward **please bring only cardboard cartons, make sure they are clean and have lids.** They no longer take plastic cartons.

With the Pantry serving over 1,250 families per week the need is greater than ever.

Ask your neighbors to chip in and give you their cartons, too! Casey Hensel (Club member Tom's son) is picking them up each month. Let's load him up

-Jane Leary



September 21st

Laguna Beach Clean Up Day



LAGUNA
OCEAN
FOUNDATION

Kids flocked to our table to paint rocks and grown-ups discussed their gardens during the beach clean-up on Saturday, September 21st. **Bonnie David, Brian Jones** and **Nancy Englund** worked the LBGC booth and spread joy throughout the day. -Nancy Englund



Queen of the Night: A One-Night-Only Blooming Spectacle

These dinner plate-sized blossoms of the night-blooming cereus (Epiphyllum Oxypetalum) open under the cover of darkness, releasing a sweet, intoxicating fragrance into the air. By morning, the show is over, and each flower has wilted.

At **Mary and Brian Jones'** garden, this extraordinary plant puts on a week-long performance, unfurling 20 to 30 of these luminous white flowers. With their feathery petals, delicate yet dramatic, and strange, stamen and stigma, each bloom feels like a glimpse into another world.



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/>