



Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



APRIL 2021
MEMBER NEWS

*Celebrating Art &
Science in the Garden*

"I love spring anywhere, but if I could choose, I would always greet it in a garden."

— Ruth Stout

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

Sometimes we just need to take a different look at the world around us.

Blue is my favorite color and I love that we try to fool Mother Nature by tinting her Hydrangeas this beautiful periwinkle blue. I especially like the composition of the blossoms—a cluster of individual flowers all competing for a kiss by the sun or



the cool mist of early morning. Each one similar in structure but unique because of its position with the rest of the delicate flower. I've had not

seen the Hydrangea from this vantage point before & it made me think—now that we can get out and about, make sure to take the time to really see our world.

COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting April 9 page 3

Deborah Shaw-
shares her botanical artworks with us.

9:30 am-
Make your own cup of coffee in your kitchen

10:00 am- Zoom in to the meeting. Check your email for the Zoom invitation.



Book Review page 7

The Food Explorer- The True Adventures of the Blog-Trotting Botanist Who Transformed What America Eats. by David Fairchild

**2021 Gate & Garden Tour
Page 9 & 10** Volunteer opportunities

**2021 Gate & Garden Tour
May 1, Saturday see
page 8** Your family & friends won't want to miss this one!

President's Message

Blooming With Spring Beauty

Hello dear Members,

Spring flowers are everywhere. I so much enjoy the variety of shapes and sizes, aromas and colors. This is one of the many joys of being a gardener. We get to choose what to plant and how to arrange the plants and then, the shopping. I might love the shopping most of all, especially with a friend!



I know many of our speakers would be disappointed to know that I rarely stick to my shopping list. There is always a plant or pot that screams at me, "I belong in your garden or space — take me home!" Sometimes I resist and often I do not. Is this sounding familiar to anyone?

Succulents are my absolute favorite. They seem to like me

too, growing well and only occasionally getting infested with mealy bugs. My go-to remedy for mealy bugs is spraying full strength alcohol. Be sure to do this in shade, never in sunlight as the plant will suffer sun damage. The alcohol evaporates quickly. It's important to check the plant again in a few days and spray again (making sure to get all the crevices and underneath too).

Recently, I added some other varieties for the flowers and to attract pollinators. These plants add so much color and as many of our speakers have advised, it's up to us to mix plants as long as we stay aware of water needs and sunlight requirements. One of my recent favorites it is a scarlet azalea.



Cookie Lee, one of our Co-Membership Directors made me aware of a beautiful bloom in Heisler Park. I am hoping it's still there for you to check out (near Myrtle and Cliff Dr.). The plant is Puya alpestris. In case it isn't still in bloom, here is a photo I took while there. See an article on this amazing plant on page 5.



I hope to see you at our **General Meeting on Friday, April 9.** Deborah Shaw is our Speaker, and we'll have more info to share about our upcoming **Gate & Garden Tour.**

All my best,
Mariann

Featured Speaker

Cultivating Diversity in Garden, Farm, and Field

Join us on **April 9** when **Deborah Shaw** will highlight the biological wealth that humanity enjoys using the lens of forty botanical artworks. These artworks are selected for inclusion in The New York Botanical Garden's Fourth Triennial exhibition, which is a partnership of the American Society of Botanical Artist and The New York Botanical Garden and devoted to the biological diversity in cultivated utilitarian plants. The exhibition is scheduled in fall of 2021 to travel to The Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens.

These plants have lessons to teach about the evolution and future potential of our botanical heritage. Deborah will share fascinating stories by these useful plants as we seek to increase the resilience of what we grow. In our recent past, agriculture has focused on an increasingly narrower range of important crops, leading to greatly reduced genetic diversity. Lack of diversity raises the risk of widespread insecurity from changing climate, environmental stresses, and susceptibility to disease. Heirloom varieties play a role in increasing genetic diversity, as do wild relatives. The genetic material contained in a broader range of cultivated



plants and their wild relatives can serve as building blocks for “updating” the resiliency of our crops and gardens.

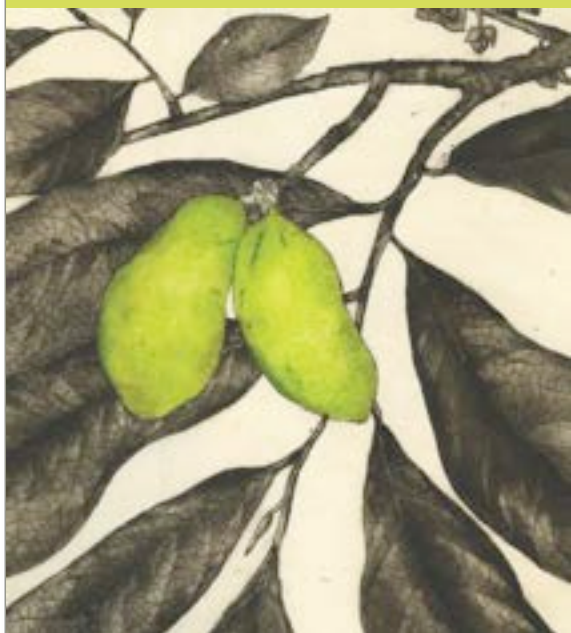
Deborah earned her degree in fine arts from Pomona College and The Claremont Colleges, and studied botany and native California flora. She is an artist and scientific illustrator and is the principal on **dbShaw Studios** that is an award-winning, multi-disciplinary design studio, specializing in print, design of websites & information, and scientific illustration.

She is an active member of the American Society of Botanical Artist, Botanical Artists Guild of Southern California, Northern California Society of Botanical Artists, the Southwest Society of Botanical Artists,

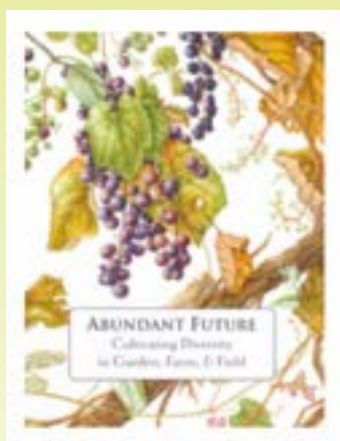
and the Guild of natural Science Illustrators. Deborah has taught botanical art at J. Paul Getty Museum and the Virginia Robinson Gardens, among other US venues. She taught illustration, digital design and information design at the University of California, Irvine, Extension where she received the “Distinguished Instructor” award.

Deborah's work has been displayed internationally in juried and non-juried exhibitions. Some her works are in the permanent collection at the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, part of the Botanical Collections at The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, and in private collections. She has received numerous awards for art, illustration, and design. Her favorite media include graphite, watercolor, colored pencil, pen and ink, scratchboard, Illustrator and Photoshop.





© Monika deVries Gohlke, *Paw Paw*,
Hand-colored etching



Abundant Future Cultivating Diversity in Garden, Farm, & Field

The Fourth
New York Botanical Garden Triennial
with the
American Society of Botanical Artists

NYBG
NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

ASBA | American Society
of Botanical Artists
Cultivating the Field of Botanical Art Since 1994

Exhibition can be viewed online at
nybg.org
through April 25, 2021

Traveling through mid-2023

Information about the
exhibition can be found at
asba-art.org/exhibitions

Catalog available for purchase at
https://asba-art.org/shop/catalogs

Learn more about botanical art at
asba-art.org
and at
bagsc.org
A chapter of the ASBA

BOTANICAL ARTISTS GUILD
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Spring Has Sprung

Puya *alpestris* (common name: Sapphire Tower) is blooming in Heisler Park, at Myrtle & Cliff Drive next to the art statue. Mariann Keenan and Cookie Lee posted photos on Facebook and motivated me to find this phenomenal beauty to see it in-person. This gorgeous bloom doesn't look real, but many, many bees are pollinating these flowers. It attracts hummingbirds also. It blooms in spring, but usually not every year, so this year is a special time. Be aware the stem with the flowers is much smaller than it appears in the photos.

I am not a plant expert so I did a bit of research online to discover a bit more information to share with you all. It is a pineapple relative of Bromeliaceae family, native to the Chilean Andes. The plant forms up to a 3 feet tall dense clump of rosettes of re-curving, spiny-margined with light green leaves that are silvery-gray beneath. The blooms appear turquoise blue-green with vivid orange stamens. The flower spike can be about 6 feet tall, and the branches have flowerless tips that act as perches for hummingbirds that pollinate the flowers. The USDA Hardiness Zone 9-11 are best for growing the Puya; by the way we are in Zone 10b. Puya *alpestris* is an evergreen that is drought tolerant with low water needs. It will grow in full sun of part shade and can stand temperatures up to 100° F. If interested, go online to do your deep-dive research. Enjoy.

-Lynn Jax



Free Plumeria Starters



White, fragrant & prolific - Free for the taking.

Take one or two or all three.

Just waiting for a pot to be stuck in or shoved in the ground (mine are in the ground). These are taken from plants I purchased from **Dorothy Goldberg's** garden at the Garden Club massive plant sale when she moved to New Mexico. Dorothy was President of LBGC 2004-2006. The original stalk has been in my garden for 7 years, so you know it has excellent lineage.

Contact Lynn Jax

Home: 949-497-7363 Cell: 949-294-1500 (text)

E: jax@cox.net

Congratulations to Ashley King – Recipient of the Saddleback College Scholarship

It is with great pleasure that the Board announces that the \$2000 scholarship for a student attending Saddleback College in the Horticulture Department with plans to study horticulture, landscape design, or plant science is awarded to **Ashley King**.

Ashley is very close to completing all requirements to receive her certificate in Sustainable Horticulture and Sustainable Landscape Design. These funds will assist her in bringing her goal to fruition.



Her interest in these particular fields ignited a fire and passion within her soul in a lifesaving manner. Being in the sunlight and watching the movement, purpose, and regeneration of plants made Ashley feel as though she could do her part in leaving everything better than

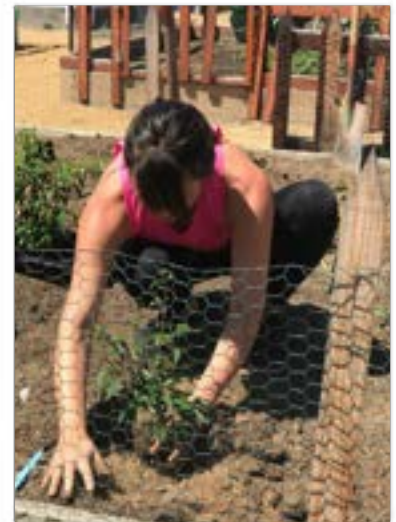
she found it. This includes the environment, ecosystem, soils and so much more. She can see the possibilities, improvements, and achievement are endless. Her love of learning and sharing what she knows with others is infectious.



Studying horticulture is not only attending lecture classes but a hands-on experience. She has worked on multiple landscape designs for large projects, for example designing a starfish on AutoCAD that was made into a concrete fountain for a park in Uptown Newport and designing the gardens for Arroyo Vista Elementary & Intermediate School.

She spent several months as a horticulturist intern at *Roger's Gardens*, which has let to a part-time job as Horticulturist and Succulent Specialist on the Nursery Sales Team. She also

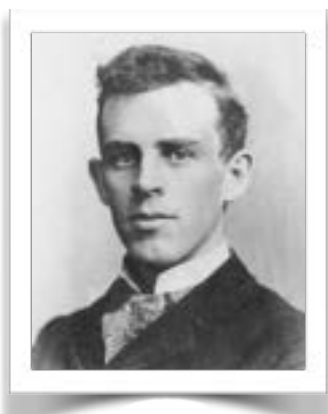
has led several videos on plants and designing at Roger's Gardens. Currently she was part of a day-long interview at *Tree of Life Nursery* and an offer is in the works for a paid-internship in cooperation with Saddleback College to work in the lab at Tree of Life Nursery, creating tissue cultures on rare and near extinct California native plants. The purpose is to prevent extinction and poaching of these rare species, by making them more readily available in nurseries so there is no need to remove them from their native environment.



Working in the lab at regenerative studies makes Ashley feel that she can actively work at reversing the damage done to our environment. **Sustainability is her mantra.**

The Food Explorer by Daniel Stone

We have listened to several speakers this year discuss the connection between pesticides and growing plants. Topher Delaney, our speaker for May, sent me this book and I thought it was worth sharing. This year many of us have turned to growing our own vegetables.



The subtitle reads: *"The True Adventures of the Blog-Trotting Botanist Who Transformed What America Eats."* David Fairchild, a late 19th century food explorer traveled the world and introduced diverse crops like avocados, mangoes, seedless grapes, and thousands more to the American plate.

In the 1800s American meals were about subsistence, not enjoyment. Agriculture yielded stable, basic crops like soybeans, corn, and barley. But by the 1900s, appetites broadened and David Fairchild, a young botanist with an insatiable hunger to explore and experience the world, set out in search of foods that would enrich the American farmer and enchant the American eater.

He boarded a steamship with not much money but with boundless curiosity. He met up with a San Francisco millionaire, Barbour Lathrop, who financed his trip. They visited five continents and more than fifty countries, encountering cultures that were unimaginable to those back in America.

They brought back kale from Croatia, mangoes from Indian, hops from Bavaria, peaches from China, avocados from Chile, pomegranates from Malta. They did not limit themselves to only food but varieties of cotton from Egypt, introduced cherry blossom trees from Japan that adorn America's capital.

His adventures coincided with the golden age of science, travel, and a world growing more connected, and as a result the American food system was transformed.



Getting Ready for A Great Experience

A Trip Around the World in 2 Hours

We have all been longing for travel and adventure in the last year. The **2021 Gate & Garden Tour** is a microcosmic journey around the world in a 2-hour tour! The gardens have been carefully curated to give you a journey that gives you a glimpse of many countries, many generations and many spiritual quests for peace and joy through nature.

One garden will evoke the sense that one landed in Provence, the southeastern countryside of France, and is invited to visit a local neighbor's country house. Another garden evokes the memory of a farm replete with chickens, an outdoor aviary and an orchard of various trees. One can imagine enjoying a friendly chat while picking up their morning eggs and herbs for a delicious omelet.

One thousand pieces of River Rock were moved from the Santa Ana River by hand to complete a gorgeous garden, which evokes a feeling of Zen in a Buddhist temple. The herculean task to bring this garden to life is a wonder to marvel. The tranquility felt in this space is why it is named, Joy.

The study of birds and natural history in general became increasingly prevalent in Britain during the Victorian era, but there is a garden aptly named "Birdwatcher" garden that will feed the soul with the aesthetic beauty of birds, butterflies and magical hummingbirds throughout. The theme of "bird watching" is prevalent in almost every one of these incredible gardens on the tour, but this one is truly special.

Another garden takes us to ancient Mesopotamia, modern Iraq, where the biblical story of Noah and the Ark come to light. This nautical-themed garden is truly a one-of-a-kind garden that has rarely been seen by the public and is a treat for ocean lovers. This is just a peek at a few of the many gardens on the tour this year!

As we all have navigated the last 12 months, we have found that it is a luxury to spend time outdoors and take in all the beauty and majesty that nature has for us to discover. The Saturday, May 1, 2021, tour will delight the senses and indulge us in a beautiful journey through private gardens.

To purchase tickets and for more details: LagunaBeachGardenClub.org.

Laguna Beach Garden Club

Gate & Garden Tour

Saturday, May 1 10 to 4

Visit beautifully curated gardens that capture the imagination as you stroll through an iconic Laguna Beach neighborhood.

Tickets will have a designated entry time to allow for social distancing, and COVID precautions will be in place.

PLUS Cinco de Mayo fun, food & margaritas!

Day tickets at: LagunaBeachGardenClub.org
Sold at: Dana Point Nursery 31100 PCH, Dana Point
\$50 "Early Bird" \$60 after 4/26 if available

Thanks to our major sponsors:



FACE MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED

How You Can Help Make Our Tour A Success

Ten people for the Plant No Idea Team (formerly the Plant ID team) Monday, April 26

I need ten volunteers to help out on the Plant No Idea team. Seriously, you do not need knowledge of plant names. **Ruben Flores** knows all. You need to carry and write on rocks, have good penmanship and a sense of humor. One full day of work and you get to see all the gardens. This is a great opportunity to learn new plant names and to make new friends. If we don't finish on Monday, we will finish up on Wednesday, April 28.

Contact Nancy Englund to volunteer. NancyEnglund@icloud.com

Volunteer Your Time and Support Your Club

I need your help! Volunteers are still needed for this year's Gate & Garden Tour on Saturday, May 1— There are currently eleven gardens on the tour — ten in Woods Cove and at least one on beautiful Moss Point overlooking the ocean.

If you have volunteered in the past you know that you'll have a fun day. If you're new to the tour, rest assured the job isn't difficult. The greatest need is for garden docents who will greet guests and help with traffic flow through the gardens. Other opportunities are also available — please contact me for more information.

Volunteers do not have to be members of the club. You might enjoy inviting a friend, spouse or grown children (21 years or older) to volunteer with you. If you've already purchased a ticket for the tour, consider spending part of the day volunteering in one of the gardens.

After a long year spent mostly at home, you will have a chance to see our new venue at the Water District and reconnect with your garden club friends. Tour Director **Susan Denton** and numerous others have been working very hard to produce a safe and enjoyable tour during these unusual times.

Volunteering for the tour is a fun way to support your club. The tour is a major fundraiser for school gardens, local scholarships and community projects and can't go on without volunteers.

If you or someone you know have questions or can volunteer a few hours of your time, please contact:

Jeanne Yale Jeanne.yale@cox.net C: 949-246-5777 H: 949-497-9400

More Of How You Can Help Make Our Tour A Success

Wanted: A Few Good Men

I need **3 more men** to round out the Gate & Garden Tour **Security Detail** of 12 personnel. I sent an email blast request out in early March and received five positive responses to add to 4 volunteers, making the total now of 9 dedicated helpers.

There will be two separate shifts of 6 people each, approximately 3 hours in length. Responsibilities of the Security Team include:

- Ensure NO alcohol leaves the food/drink area. Bartenders will check IDs if warranted.
- Ensure masks are worn at all times (except when consuming food or drink).
- Ensure the line of ticket holders for the buses moves smoothly.
- Check for wristbands.
- Wear the black SECURITY tee-shirt that I will provide.

Ask your friend, brother, uncle, son, son-in-law, cousin, husband — at least 21 years old. It will be a fun day and safe with us all being outdoors enjoying the festivities.

A huge thank you to those who have agreed to be part of the **Security Detail**: Pete Lannon, Rich Plavetich, Chet Malek, Randy Bisson, Jeff Knauer, Tom Bent, Tom Roesch, Scott Graham, and Janet Chance (who is doing double-duty as a bus docent & security - Kudos).

Please contact me,
Lynn Jax
E: jax@cox.net
Home: 949-497-7363
Cell: 949-294-1500 (text)



Members Are Invited To Show Their Talent

Annual Photo Contest – Deadline for submissions April 23

It's that time again and the deadline to submit is fast approaching. Members submit photographs from their gardens for our annual photography contest. The first and second place entries are featured on the front and back covers of our Membership Book.

The winner of the 14th annual contest was **Mary Jones'** photo of "Night Blooming *Cereus*." **Dean Day** with "Sunset in the Garden" was the second-place winner.

Photo Contest Rules

1. Photo entries are due Photo Contest chair, Perry Stampfel, by **Friday, April 23, 2021**.
2. Only one entry per Garden Club member is allowed.
3. Square or vertical entries are preferred, although horizontal can be adjusted.
4. The entry must be a recent photo of some part of the member's garden.
5. By submitting the entry, the member declares that he/she owns the rights to the photo.
6. Entries will be judged by the Board by the end of the club year.
7. The first and second place winner's photos will be featured on the front and back cover of the 2021-22 Membership Book, respectively.

Submissions should be sent to Perry Stampfel via email. You will receive a reply confirming that your photo has been received.

For information contact:

Perry Stampfel

456 Cress Street

Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Home: 949-497-7363 or

Cell: 949-294-1502

Email: stampfeljax@cox.net or
stampfel@icloud.com



Time To Renew Your 2021-22 LBGC Membership

Renew your membership by the May General Meeting, May 14, and we'll enter your name in a prize drawing. Three lucky renewing members will win a gift valued at not less than \$10. The drawing will be held during the meeting by Membership Directors **Cookie Lee** and **Grace Balen**. President **Mariann Keenan** will select and deliver prizes before month end.

It's the time of year to renew your Laguna Beach Garden Club membership for September 2021 to May 2022 Year! We are all very excited for the new year. We are anticipating in-person meetings (based on CDC guidelines and rules in place by our host, the Laguna Beach Presbyterian Church).

Membership dues will remain steady at \$65 for the entire year of fun! To make it even easier for you to pay by credit card, we have temporarily eliminated the \$5 credit card fee on our website. Here is the link <https://www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org/product/member-renewal/>.

If you prefer to pay by check drop your check payable to **Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc.** for \$65 in the mail to: Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc., P.O. Box 362, Laguna Beach, CA 92652. Enclose the attached form with your check. **Membership form is on the next page.**

We are looking forward to a great year of fabulous speakers, Green Thumb Activities, Trips & Tours, Open Garden Happy Hour and lots more!

Details of our future meetings will be posted in our newsletter and on our website as they become available.

So don't miss out on all our excitement and get your renewal in now!!!

Xoxo,
Cookie Lee & Grace Balen
(and Mochi)
Co-Directors of Membership





LAGUNA BEACH GARDEN CLUB, INC. 2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM

- ☐ Returning
☐ New Member

- Complete this form and attach a check for **\$65**, made payable to Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc.
Mail to: Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc. ~ P.O. Box 362 ~ Laguna Beach, CA 92651
- Membership can be obtained on our website: LagunaBeachGardenClub.org
- Please consider making a tax-deductible donation in addition to membership dues. Donations of \$25 or more will be recognized on the **Wall of Fame** in our newsletter, membership book and website. Donations can offset some of our expenses or can be earmarked for community projects, scholarships, school gardens, etc.
- All donations are tax deductible and much appreciated.

You do not need to fill out your personal information unless it has changed
PLEASE PRINT NEATLY!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

This Area **MUST be filled out completely**

NAME _____ DATE _____

Your application is considered a photo release, giving Laguna Beach Garden Club, Inc. permission to use any photos taken at club functions.

Signature _____

Total amount Paid _____ Dues _____ Donation _____

Cash _____ Check _____ Check # _____ Credit Card _____

I can help LBGC with: _____

SUCCULENTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 6:30-7:30 PM

Presented by
OC PUBLIC LIBRARY – CYPRESS

*Succulents are such easy plants to grow,
both in the garden and in pots.*

*This presentation covers the history and
origin of succulents, their care and feeding,
and propagation. It also covers pests,
diseases and recommended remedies.*

*Learn how to grow succulents in pots, in the
landscape, as art and as houseplants.*

*This class is an online Zoom presentation.
Free – Open to the public*

To Register, e-mail cyrise.smith@occr.ocgov.com

[Click here for more gardening information](#)

Presented by the
UCCE Master Gardeners of Orange County

mgorange.ucanr.edu

mgorange.ucanr.edu/Gardening_Hotline/



University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources

UCCE Master Gardener Program
Orange County

It is the policy of the University of California (UC) and the UC Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources not to engage in discrimination against or harassment of any person in any of its programs or activities (Complete nondiscrimination policy statement can be found at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/ucanr/files/215288.pdf>). Inquiries regarding ANR's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to UCANR, Affirmative Action/Compliance & Title IX Officer, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618, (530) 750-1240.



Spring & Garden Show at South Coast Plaza Coming Soon

South Coast Plaza has plans in the works for its Southern California Spring and Garden Show. It will be a modified version of the annual event and slated to kick off **April 22** with the completion of a three-story floral centerpiece created by Fiesta Floats, a company famous for crafting floats for the annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena.

The celebration will feature garden-themed displays designed to showcase areas landscape designers, home stores, and outdoor companies whose professionals know how to capture the magic of outdoors indoors.



ROGER'S GARDENS.

THIS WEEK

DISCOVER • EXPERIENCE • CONNECT

NATIVE MILKWEED • SAVE MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

Plant Feature of the Week

Experience Spring in the Garden! Attract Monarch butterflies to your garden. Monarch butterflies are in peril and need help from gardeners. For the health of Monarch butterflies, plant only local Native Milkweeds. **Click [here](#)** to learn why you should only plant Native Milkweed rather than Tropical Milkweed.

Exclusively available in-store at Roger's Gardens.



**Featured Plant of the Week:
Milkweed for Monarch Butterflies**

[Watch Now](#)

This is not meant as an advertisement for Roger's because Tree of Life Nursery also carries Native Milkweed, but meant just as follow-up to last month's article on Monarchs.

-Lynn Jax



PO Box 362, Laguna Beach, CA 92652

www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org

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