

VOL. 15



Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



Garden #11 The Ark

Education in the Garden

May 2021
MEMBER NEWS

*The achievements of an organization
are the results of the combined effort
of each individual.*

-Vince Lombardi

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

The rocks were labeled, the cookies were baked, the raffle prizes expertly secured, and the attention to detail to make every visitor COVID safe was planned to perfection, all resulting in a spectacular 2021 Gate & Garden Tour. The hundreds of hours that went into the production of this annual major fundraiser for the Garden Club was matched only by the enthusiasm of the tour-goers. Bolstered by cabin fever, ticket sales resulted in a sold-out event that delighted the participants. The eleven gardens were spectacular,

could this be a wonderful side effect of the COVID lock down, lots of extra gardening time by the homeowners?

So now it is on to summer and hopefully the wonderful weather that makes Orange County the amazing place that it is. But September is not far off & LBGC will be hopefully hosting in-person meetings once again. **You cannot be there if you don't renew your membership.** Do it now, get the form on page 3 or on-line at our website:

www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org

COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Inside This Issue

MESSAGE FROM MARIANN

President Mariann Keenan shares thoughts about gratitude. See page 2

RENEW YOUR 2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP

We hope to see you in September in person! Send it in now so you won't miss out on anything next year. See page 3

MAY GUEST SPEAKER

Topher Delaney- Garden Yoga: The Meaning & The Metaphor See page 4

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

GATE & GARDEN TOUR

The tour was a smashing success! See pages 6-11

IT'S FOR THE BIRDS

Synthia Scofield summarizes an LA Times article. See page 12

2021-2022 BOARD

Members step up to lead the club into the next year. See page 14

Gratitude & Generosity

Dear Members,

Happy May. May is a wonderful exciting month for our club. The *Gate & Garden Tour* will already be over by the time you read this and I know it will have been glorious. (It was!) At this time our ticket sales are over 625. I hope many of you purchased tickets and volunteered as well. I did both and I loved seeing so many of you there!

My last President's message this year is going to be one of gratitude. There is so much gratefulness in my heart that I'm not sure where to start.



Our Garden Club is special, and it is You dear Members and our Board who make it unique and special. Thank you to each and every member who renews, who participates, who invites friends

and family, who agrees to serve on the board and to those who acknowledge the hard work of others — thank you, thank you.

Jorja Puma is leaving our board after many years of thoughtful meaningful service. She has been our President, Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Co-Vice President. Jorja brought much needed modernization and reform to our website, financial record keeping and audit procedures. She motivated the club to create a logo to match the City of Laguna Beach flower — the pelargonium. We are a better club for having had Jorja on our Board and I am personally grateful for her service, friendship and insight. She has agreed to continue as the Chair of our Community Projects team. Thank you very much Jorja.

Many of our Board members are staying in the same position and a few are moving into new positions, thank you, thank you, thank you. **Nancy Englund, Lynn Jax, Jackie Knauer, Patty Gaffney, Susan Denton, Kari Nies, Blythe Wheaton** support the Laguna Beach Garden Club in many ways and each other as well. It wouldn't be possible for any one of us to fill our role without the support, guidance and good humor of each of the members. I am truly

and deeply grateful to each one of you.

Cookie Lee and Grace Balen, Co-Membership Chairs are leaving the Board of Directors. I am grateful to this hardworking fun team.

I made this mosaic heart to share my happy heart and love. Hopefully, we'll be in touch about Green Day at the Sawdust Festival. Have a wonderful summer dear members and we'll see you September.

Love,
Mariann



Cookie Lee, Mariann Keenan, and Grace Balen remind you to **renew your club membership now! You won't want to miss a minute of next year's activities. Application is on the next page.**



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: _____

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 May 14 meeting by Membership Directors **Cookie Lee & Grace Balen**. President **Mariann Keenan** will select and deliver prizes before month end.

Topher Delaney

Garden Yoga: The Meaning & The Metaphor

Join us on May 14 when **Topher Delaney** is the featured speaker for our last meeting of the Garden Club year. Topher is a world-renowned landscape architect who hails from the Bay Area and has created both private and public installations across the US and Europe.



Topher makes her third appearance at the Garden Club, albeit this time via Zoom. We are very fortunate to have fostered such a wonderful relationship with such a world-class and well-known member in the design and garden world.

Topher's previous accomplishments are varied and reflect her "outside the box" thinking when envisioning a design. She has created several sanctuary

gardens. Some of which are the USC Norris Cancer Research Center in LA, Pediatric Oncology Meditation Garden at San Diego Children's Hospital for the siblings of those receiving care, Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Center at San Francisco General Hospital, Isaac Espinoza Memorial Garden for the SFPD to honor a 29-year old fallen comrade, and Abrahamson Family commissioned an outdoor area for rehabilitation at Beth Israel Hospital in NYC for children with cancer who are receiving Physical Therapy. Her public and private installations include designing the Portland Art Museum gardens, Let the Circle Be Unbroken in SF using suspended rocks that spell out the phrase in Braille, "The Promised Land" in downtown SF Market Street depicting the waterways of the Bay Area.

Her philanthropy extends to an agricultural installation along



the 101 Freeway (exit at 5th & Harrison) in a joint venture with California Department of Transportation, the Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club Garden in New York, and finally creating the Virgie Giles Foundation to benefit vulnerable communities.



Her topic for Friday is **Garden Yoga**. No worries she won't be outdoors performing the "downward dog" while she speaks to us. Instead Topher will share her philosophy of gardens and gardening. She believes integrating horticulture with the cyclical aspects of nature tell a story when creating a garden or installation. Yoga is an ancient Sanskrit word meaning to join, balance or connect to foster harmony in the body, mind and environment to achieve

Topher Delaney

Garden Yoga: The Meaning & The Metaphor

liberation from aches and pains. The knowledge gained through the practice of Garden Yoga of the right plant in the right place will create a harmonious and balanced environment.



Forty-seven years ago (with a degrees in philosophy and art history from Barnard College in New York and landscape architecture from UC Berkeley), Topher Delaney dug in, dug up, and dug around, thus creating and constructing site specific installations commonly referred to as “Gardens of Three Dimensional (3-D) Fine Art, Horticulture, and Literature”.

In scope and scale, these broad range of installations serve as dynamic physical evidence of a visual, spiritual, and cultural literacy integrating wonderful exemplars of horticulture and transformative cyclic aspects of nature with distinctive specific cultural linguistic narratives. The text of the terrain is realized in the structure of these narratives, crafted by technical skill and quality materials to create a sanctuary grounded in space and time.

The privilege of success afforded by supportive communities sponsoring both private and public commissions has allowed Topher Delaney with her able business partner, Calvin Chin, to establish the Virgie Giles Foundation, a 501(c)3 for benefit of service. Virgie Giles Foundation focuses on developing tangible policies of benefit in three specific areas of service.

Visit her website at:
www.virgiegilesfoundation.org



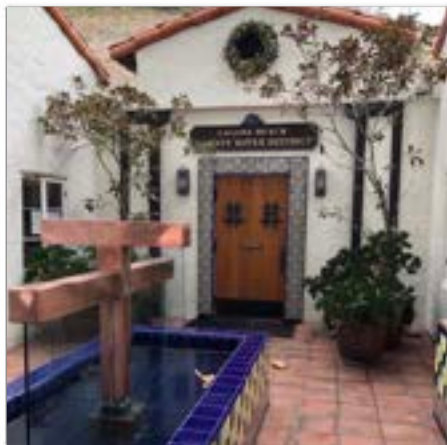
2021 Gate & Garden Tour

Eleven Wonderful Gardens in Woods Cove & Moss Point

The Laguna Beach Garden Club hosted its 16th annual *Gate & Garden Tour* on Saturday, May 1, 2021. The event which is a major fundraiser for educational school gardens, student scholarships, and support of local gardens and parks is a tradition in Laguna Beach that signifies that spring is here.

This was no ordinary year to plan and execute a major outdoor event. In addition to the normal challenges of finding a grouping of beautiful gardens in a neighborhood, with gracious homeowners willing to share the beauty of their creation with 600 admirers, 2020 ushered in a pandemic and all the changes that came with the new reality of living in a COVID restricted world. Like a Phoenix rising from the ashes after having to cancel the 2020 tour, the 2021 *Gate & Garden Tour* emerged as a breath of fresh air for a COVID fatigued public.

The eleven gardens on this year's tour were all in the enclave within Laguna Beach known as Woods Cove. The gardens ranged in size and theme to provide the public with a stunning array that felt like a global journey. These gardens that make one reminisce of times in Provence, France, to the tranquility of being in a Buddhist Zen garden, to the biblical story of Noah's Ark in ancient Mesopotamia. The homeowners in this neighborhood came together in a beautiful sense of community to make their gardens an incredible outdoor experience for tour goers. The tour included plein air painters in several gardens to the delight of our attendees!



The Laguna Beach County Water District's "Mediterranean Revival" style headquarters on 3rd Street, with exemplary water wise and fire safe gardens, was the host venue for the Gate & Garden Tour this year. They added the wonderful "Most Waterwise Contest" again this year and garden #4, Ellen Edington's masterpiece was the winner with its breathtaking Provence feel.

Susan Denton, retired nurse practitioner, was the 2021 Tour Director. She, along with several other physicians and health care professionals rounded out

her committee to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for volunteers and visitors alike. This year's tour had a few of the classic elements missing from the usual line up. The famous margaritas and Cinco de Mayo food were deleted this year in order to make needed modifications for COVID precautions.



Continued on next page

But the incredible raffle that the tour is known for, with over \$11,000 of prizes was still a highlight of the event. The Grand Prize for the raffle drawing valued at \$3000 was a spectacular hand curated set of plants fashioned into an arbor by Dana Point Nursery that was won by Susan Robertson, of Mission Viejo.

“As the 2022 Gate & Garden Tour Director, I look forward to having the full Gate & Garden Tour experience back in May 2022 where we can enjoy the 16 year tradition of this wonderful event,” says Susan. The homeowners and volunteers are the true engine behind making this spectacular event the success that it has been for 16 years.



Clockwise from top left: Waterwise Garden winner was the beautiful Laguna Provence garden #4. The cookie table was full of delightful sweets. Jeanne Yale expertly organized the volunteers garden docents and bus guides. Dana Victorson and Dalynn Malek chat with friends in garden #3-Sea Glass. Barbara Balossi, Diane Olson, and Karen Nelson, at the check-in table.



Susan McGill, Chris Lutz & Wendy Caulfield were docents in garden #4. Plein air painters added to the artfulness of the day. Madeleine McLendon's garden #7, "Chicken Hill" was filled with her lovely hand painted porcelain. She also donated a beautiful hand painted Monarch Butterfly vase, eggs and honey from her garden to the auction.



Clockwise from top left: LBGC swag sellers Elaine Davis and Lynette LaRoche had many logo branded items for sale. Painter David Kizziar in garden #5, Joy. Tour goers relaxing around the fire pit in garden #4. Mary Sanchez walks past the most photographed tree of the tour in garden #2, Johnny's Garden. Cookie Lee and Gale Balen enjoy the tour with friends.

Gate & Garden Tour Raffle

Amazing Prizes and Surprises

What a fantastic Tour, held May 1, and the Raffle was one of the most successful raffles we have had to date. Prizes were valued at more than \$11,600. Preliminary raffle ticket sales totaled a bit over \$4500. A record! Now it's my turn to boast, congratulate all the raffle winners, thank all those who purchased chances to win one of the prizes, thank those who donated items to ensure the success of the raffle, and thank all who helped me organize, set up, and sell tickets. To name a few: **Diane Lannon & JoAnn DeYonker** spent hours organizing before the event & setting up the day of, making it all look wonderful, plus selling tickets. **Alison Jax & Alyson Elias Calles** (my daughter and her friend) spent the day handling credit card sales; while **Pam Bisson, Norman Powell, Cheryl Czyz, and later Perry Stampfel** sold tickets.



The raffle included 25 “bundles” of incredible items donated by individuals and local businesses. With special appreciation to **Dana Point Nursery** for their generous donations (Yes, I mean plural). Not only did they donate the spectacular orchid arrangement + \$500 gift card to the nursery value \$1000, but also the \$3000 collection of 2 potted Delphiniums, 2 potted Foxgloves, 2 Mini-rose Double-Ball Topiaries, plus 6' wide x 8' high Ligustrum (Wax Leaf Privet), all of which comprised the Special Raffle, and what a “Special” offering it was. The tickets were \$50 each or 3 for \$100.

Special Raffle winner was **Susan Robertson**, invited by **Kathleen Kane** to attend the Tour. Susan met Kathleen at Garden #1 and did not venture to the Water District to see the items. Susan wanted to support the Club by purchasing Raffle tickets. Basically, she won the Grand Prize “Sight Unseen”. Lucky Woman! We sold 22 tickets for that item.

Raffle Winners were notified by phone or email & nearly all items have been picked up.

Karen Fox	#1 Orchid Arrangement + \$500 Gift Card: Dana Point Nursery	= \$1000
Cori Garrett	#2 Gift Basket Garden Goodies [Haven] + Beach Bag & Hat	= \$220
Lynn Jax	#3 Luxury Scented Candle + Flora Scented Pampering Items	= \$190
Ruth S.	#4 Ceramic Mosaic Planter by Marlo Bartels	= \$750
Cindy Simmons	#5 Decorated Gourd + “Chicken Hill” Eggs & Honey Basket.	= \$235
Kathy Jones	#6 Martial Arts Lessons – Laguna Beach Dojo	= \$600
Ellen Seefeldt	#7 Garden Art – Blue Metal Flowers	= \$125
Gina Mead	#8 Garden Goodies Bag + \$100 Gift Cards Laguna Coast Pottery	= \$240
Alissa Brown	#9 2 Handcrafted Glazed Vases + 2 Pots	= \$100
Kristi Johnson	#10 Garden Art Pole + \$100 Gift Cards Laguna Coast Pottery	= \$225

Gate & Garden Tour Raffle

Amazing Prizes and Surprises

Mary Wade	#11 White Topaz Pendant + Rock Martin Gift Card	= \$250
Steph	#12 Mosaic Tile by Jesse Bartels + \$50 Lumberyard Gift Cards	= \$175
Jenn Henerlau	#13 Snack Plates & Mugs + Laguna Beach Books Gift Card	= \$200
Trish Smith	#14 Patio/Beach Umbrella + Fresh Produce Clothes Gift Card	= \$300
Joe Morrison	#15 Mermaid "Ascend" Print by David Kizziar	= \$125
Mariann Keenan	#16 Monarch Butterfly Porcelain Vase by Madeline McLendon	= \$600
Debbie Casseratti	#17 Wood Bowls by Roger Taft	= \$350
Janet Walter	#18 Golf for 4 at The Ranch, Ben Brown Course	= \$200
Ty Hatfield	#19 \$150 Gift Card Lumberyard Restaurant	= \$150
Debbie Casseratti	#20 \$100 Gift Card Roger's Garden	= \$100
Diane Olson	#21 Private Wine Class for 20 at Total Wine & More	= \$500
Jennifer Sweet	#22 Succulent Wreath by Jeanne Yale	= \$85
Tom Zack	#23 Reef Wall Planter by Tentacle Arts	= \$750
Mimi Morrison	#24 "Mermaid Garden" acrylic abstract painting	= \$1000
Grace Balen	#25 Succulent Planter from OC Succulents	= \$150



Raffle Queen Lynn Jax above.
Tireless ticket sellers JoAnn
De Yonker & Pam Bisson
above right.



All For The Birds Things To Do To Help Our Feathered Friends

As many of us know, this has been a frustrating year for backyard birdwatchers. Salmonella has hit small birds with devastating results. It began with pine siskins in the Northwest and rapidly made its way down the entire West Coast via migrating birds. Lots of birds means lots of contaminated poop. Birds step in the poop and are infected. After being infected, birds generally die within 24 hours. **In an effort to contain the outbreak, wildlife officials have asked that bird feeders be removed until at least the end of May.**

Bird feeders should be supplemental to birds, not their main food source. If we want to keep healthy birds in our yards and other than daily cleaning of the feeders, what can we do moving forward?

Plant native plants! Here are some recommended by experts in a recent *LA Times* article:

Live Oak tree
Buckwheat
Ceanothus species
Manzanita
Currant
Toyon
Coffeeberry
Lemonade Berry
Sticky Monkey Flower
California Fuchsia
Penstemons
Salvias — Hummingbird sage, Cleveland sage
Grasses — Purple needle grass, blue-eyed grass



The thing to remember is that we should not deadhead natives if we are trying to attract birds.

They need those seed heads! Natives also provide shade, cover, and nesting materials. Don't rake up leaf litter. Birds forage for seeds and insects in the leaves.

We don't need to shift our entire gardens to natives. There are many "standard" plants which will act the same as the natives. Do your research! Talk to your nursery staff. Head over to Tree of Life and talk to them. Go to the Audubon Society website; they have articles on using native plants. Read books and articles about attracting not only birds, but other wildlife as well.

Learn and help our local and migrating birds and wildlife!

Thank You!!

A Talented Team Keeps The Club Growing

As we come to the end of this year's Garden Club season, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the incredibly talented women who have led the *Laguna Beach Garden Club* through this challenging year. I have served as the recording secretary for many years, and I have been so fortunate to get to know these women who have given so much of their time and creativity to make this garden club one we can all enjoy and be very proud of. With their leadership we continued to have monthly meetings and completed the year with a very successful and greatly appreciated *Gate & Garden Tour*.

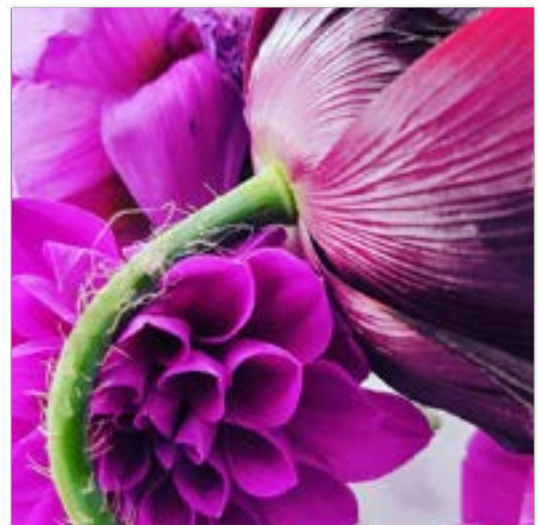
What a year to be president of the Club, and **Mariann Keenan** was more than up to the task. She along with **Lynn Jax, Kari Nies, and Jorja Puma** (and maybe others) researched the various options for holding the meetings since we could not meet in person. Mariann had to learn a totally new skill-set to hold these meetings using Zoom Webinar. And then Mariann and Lynn worked with the speakers to access their monthly presentations. They spent so many hours to keep our club active during this year, when I know many organizations were totally paused.

Dalynn Malek continued to create our informative and beautifully presented Newsletters throughout the summer and during the rest of our calendar year to help keep the club members connected. **Cookie Lee and Grace Balen** encouraged new membership to help keep the Club alive. **Blythe Wheaton and Lynn Jax** continued to keep news of the Club's activities in the local news. **Jorja Puma and Patty Gaffney** kept close watch on the Club's finances to continue to fund the many projects and scholarships that LBGC support. **Kari Nies** updated the Website to keep members informed. **Nancy Englund** has served in so many positions on the board that her involvement and knowledge of the Club's past have been invaluable during this stressful time.

Many years ago, Nancy began the walking tour of gardens in Laguna Beach...now known as the G>...the major fundraiser for the many philanthropic contributions to Laguna Beach. This year, a new club member and someone who had never attended a G> volunteered to chair the 2021 G>. I am not sure how we ever thank **Susan Denton** for her expertise and dedication that allowed this year's G> to even happen. Susan, Lynn, Mariann and Nancy dedicated so many hours to organizing this year's tour. They had so many obstacles to overcome to make this an in-person event. Over six hundred tickets were sold. Lynn Jax worked tirelessly to organize the raffle, which was a huge success. Jeanne Yale has organized the volunteers for years. This is such a big and complicated operation...she deserves our overwhelming appreciation.

Nancy Englund, Lynn Jax, Jorja Puma and Jeanne Yale have served as president of the Club and then continued to volunteer in other positions that required major time commitments. Our club exists and thrives because of their dedication. I think I can speak for the general membership that all your efforts are greatly appreciated!!

- Jacqueline Knauer, Recording Secretary



Growing & Giving

Members Dig In To Guide Our Club Next Year

2021-22 Board

President – Mariann Keenan

Mariann's first meeting was a February Plant & Planter Sale – she arrived late and missed the whole silent auction but caught the excitement and fun. She joined at the next meeting and volunteered two months later for the *Gate & Garden Tour*. She loved the Club immediately, volunteered for everything, never missed a meeting, and next thing she knew, Lynn Jax asked her to consider a position on the board... and as the saying goes... the rest is history. Mariann started out nervous to be Vice President but ended up loving that job and making friends of several speakers. When several board members suggested she think about being President, it seemed a little crazy — but now she loves that too. Mariann feels it is an honor and privilege to be on the board of this wonderful club with so many smart, funny, hardworking people. The best part — new friends!

Vice President - Janet Chance

The board tricked Janet into being Vice President. We dangled the opportunity to be Club President, and when she decided that would be a good fit, we broke the news that she had to be Vice President for a year first. As VP she will fill out the schedule of speakers for next year, so expect topics she is passionate about including California natives and worms. Janet will become President in 2022 when Mariann Keenan finishes her term.

Janet grew up in Ireland and loved to muck about in the garden from an early age. She spent much of her life longing for those happy hours in the dirt. She left for med school at 18, studied in Canada, moved to the US, had a long career as a neurosurgeon and retired at 70 and has only recently had enough time to reconnect with gardening. She settled in Laguna in 1992 on a steep lot off Bluebird Canyon. She has ocean views out one side, and canyon views out the other. She is filling her newly terraced garden with California natives that provide color year-round,

from fresh green leaves, to blooms to golden leaves in fall, and attract humming birds, bugs and butterflies.

She has enjoyed being a part of the club since 2016 and looks forward to many more years of learning and service.

Co-Treasurers-Brian and Mary Jones

Brian and Mary Jones will serve together as Co-Treasurers. Mary loves numbers and is very detail oriented. Brian has a background in business. They joined the club in 2012 and their colorful cottage garden, a meandering mix of perennials, annuals and natives inviting to birds, bees and grandchildren, was featured on the *Gate & Garden Tour* in 2013.

They support the club by volunteering on the tour every year and are ready to kick it up a notch by serving on the board. They are interested in learning the inner workings of the club and have some new ideas for how to keep it financially healthy.

Financial Secretary – Patty Gaffney

Patty joined the club in June of 2018 shortly after she retired from a corporate position. Attending the *Gate & Garden Tour* in 2018 was her first introduction to the club and she was hooked, she had to join. Now volunteering on the tour every year is at the top of her list of retirement activities. A favorite early childhood memory is being given the privilege of picking sweet peas in her mother's garden. Patty was small for her age and remembers all this glorious scent wafting above her head as she stretched to pick as many as she could.

Membership – Lynn Jax

Lynn has held several positions on the Board of Directors of Laguna Beach Garden Club: Vice President, President, Past President, Publicity, and next year she will be Director of Membership. She joined the club in 2009 when she retired from teaching and was looking to get involved in local

community groups. She picked the Garden Club because it was so well-organized and it gave her the opportunity to learn something about gardening that would help turn her black thumb green. Instead of playground lawn for children, she and her husband Perry now have a real garden oasis filled with unusual succulents and fragrant natives.

Recording Secretary – Jackie Knauer

Jackie is a retired teacher and has been a member since 2008. She delights in working in her garden, a meandering mix of succulents and perennials, which her son designed. As recording secretary, a position she has held since 2014, she takes meticulous, detailed and funny notes at each board meeting.

Gate & Garden Tour – Susan Denton

Susan joined the Garden Club in 2018 after she retired because she had never belonged to any type of Club (except lawn bowling) and thought it would be nice to get involved with the community, volunteer and maybe learn a little about gardening. In 2019 she was named garden club “Rookie of the Year”. She had worked blindly in her garden for the past 15 years or so and had some success along with a few failures so she knew a tiny bit, but wanted to learn more, including what is wrong with her Camellias. At the first meeting she attended everyone was asked to volunteer for the *Gate & Garden Tour*, so she did! She worked closely with Karen

Nelson on the 2019 Tour. She also enjoyed going on Trips & Tours and getting to know people at the Open Garden Happy Hours. She thinks club activities are a great way to get involved, meet members and form friendships while having fun!

Ways & Means – Nancy Englund

When Nancy first moved to Laguna in 1992 she clipped out a little notice about when the garden club met and kept it tacked on her bulletin board for years. She finally joined the club in 2003 after her garden was featured on the Spring Tour. She served as Ways & Means Director for several years and suggested the tour switch from a drive-around tour to a walking tour, and the Gate & Garden Tour was born. She ran the tour for a dozen years before handing it off to serve as President.

Media & Publicity – Blythe Wheaton

Blythe is a busy mom, professional photographer and avid gardener. She is active with her kids schools and other community projects. She joined the club in 2019 because she was involved with the school garden and grew curious about the garden club which helps fund it.

Website – Kari Nies

Keri is a retired nurse and computer wiz. She joined the club in 2020 to learn about gardening and the board quickly took advantage of her technical skills by installing her as Director of Website.

LBGC 2021/2022 Budget Approved

In early April, the Club unanimously approved, via the Constant Contact email voting capability, the budget proposed by the Budget Committee. This is consistent with the process outlined in the club's by-laws, and thank you to all the members who voted.

This budget reflects another year of engaging and informative speakers, our desired return to Tankersley Hall for in-person general meetings, and of course funds for our scholarship programs and donations to community projects.

As Treasurer, I'm looking forward to another healthy fiscal year plus fun garden club activities including another fabulous Gate & Garden Tour and supporting meaningful projects. -Patty Gaffney

This & That

Random Fun Stuff To Share

The Laguna Beach Garden Club partnered Laguna Bluebelt Coalition along with several other donors to add a water bottle filling station at Main Beach, located at the playground at the South end, adjacent to the newly renovated restrooms and beautiful mural decorating the showers that face the beach. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held May 4. This is the second water station the Club helped come to fruition. The first is located in garden of the Water District as you may have used while at the reception area of the Gate & Garden Tour.

It will be one of many water-bottle stations to be installed in Laguna Beach, ultimately benefitting the entire city, environment and of course the ocean. A perfect example of successful project initiated by private organizations and citizens and supported by the City.



Good Morning! Receipes to Nourish



Topher's Nasturtium Sandwiches - 02/03/2021

Fishing for lunch @ Virgie Giles Foundation courtesy of the culinary talents of Celia O. + Oscar S. SMOKED SALMON gifted from WJ + NASTURIUMS + CITRUS from Virgie Giles Vallejo Victory Garden.

Ingredients

16 Nasturtium leaves
½ lb smoked salmon
¼ Cup cream cheese
1 Lemon

Directions

1. Wash Nasturtium leaves in a colander, set aside to dry.
2. While Nasturtium leaves dry cut lemon in half then cut halves on the mandolin to get thin slices of peel and meat. Set aside.
3. Place Nasturtium leaves on a platter.
4. Place a spoonful of cream cheese on half of the leaves.
5. Next place small slices of smoked salmon on top of each cream cheese dollop.
6. Then place the thin slices of lemon on top of each slice of smoked salmon.
7. Close the sandwiches with the remaining Nasturtium leaves.
8. Enjoy at room temperature.

More This & That

Winning Results Of The Annual Photo Contest



Twelve entries were submitted for the annual contest to determine which photos will grace the front and back covers of the 2021-22 Membership Book. The Board of Directors voted at the April Board meeting. The front cover will feature **Jackie Knauer's** rock garden, showcasing her beautiful aeoniums, and **Sandy Smith's** proteas will don the back cover.

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all who submitted an entry. Plan ahead, start taking photos now for next year's contest while your garden is in full bloom.

-Perry Stampfel

These two beautiful photographs will be on the front and back covers of the 2021-2022 Membership Book which you will get **ONLY** if you renew your 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 May 14 meeting by Membership Directors **Cookie Lee & Grace Balen**. President **Mariann Keenan** will select and deliver prizes before month end.



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www.LagunaBeachGardenClub.org

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