



Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



NOVEMBER 2022

MEMBER NEWS

Responsible Gardening in a
Changing World

*"Be present in all things,
and thankful for all things"* -Maya Angelou

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

Yeah rain! Living in southern California makes a rain storm seem like a monumental event. Once when I was teaching, the skies opened up and a torrential downpour caused a classroom full of high schoolers to jump out of their seats and rush to the windows to watch the water fall from the skies. (This was before Tip Tok!) For my friends with allergies, I'm glad the rain will clean the pollen filled air, and for my plants I am happy that they will all get a free

drink. I guess one could call it a horticulture happy hour! So I am gleefully pulling out my sweaters and umbrella and looking forward to what we Californians call fall. Let's savor these times.



COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting Nov. 11

Linda Larson

The Best View of Our World is
Through a
Garden.
(see page 3)



9:30 am:
Social/
Plant Table
in the patio

10:00 am:
General
meeting &
guest
speaker.

Green Thumb Craft

No Green Thumb Craft this month,
see you in January!

Trips & Tours

October found us at the Rainforest
Nursery enjoying a lovely fall day. (see
page 5)

December's trip is to Sherman
Gardens & Roger's Gardens in
Newport Beach

December Raffle

There will not be a raffle in December.
Get ready for a fabulous raffle at the
February Plant & Planter Sale.

President's Message

Thankful and Grateful

The end of the year is approaching and with it Thanksgiving and all the winter holidays: Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa. We are very fortunate to be able to live in Southern California and now is the time to think of those less fortunate. Many, many people are struggling this year between inflation and astronomical gas prices. In November the Garden Club does a food drive for the **Laguna Food Pantry** and also start collecting unwrapped toys for the Fire Department's charity: *Spark of Love*.

Our November meeting is on the 11th, and in December we gather on the 9th. For the November food drive, dried foods, canned goods and produce are welcomed: please bring what you can to the meeting, and similarly for new unwrapped toys in December. Thank you all in advance!

November is also a wonderful time to plant. It allows new plantings to develop deep roots, provided we get enough

rain. Unfortunately a third La Niña is forecast, worsening our already catastrophic mega drought. For those of us living in Laguna, the city has already sent out the winter watering schedule, so plant wisely!

-Janet Chance



Persimmons from Janet's garden

Our Members Make a Difference!

Jeanne Yale, pictured with Co-Vice President **Jane Leary**, is one of the reasons the Garden Club is such a success. In October she coordinated the decorating of LBGC's spa water table for the *Taste of Laguna*. Over the years Jeanne has made numerous succulent wreaths to be used as prizes in our raffles, as well as given several workshops on how to make them. Jeanne is a past LBGC President and currently is the Special Administrator for Green Thumb Crafts and Sunshine. Thank you Jeanne!



Diane Kloke was the lucky member "caught" wearing her name tag at the October meeting. **Lynn Jax**, Director of Membership, presented her with a pound of Jedediah coffee, donated by Coast Hardware, from for proudly wearing her green badge to help our members get to know each other better.

Diane coordinates the Garden Club's scholarship award for Laguna Beach High School each year as well as wrangles the lovely club marchers in the annual *Patriots Day Parade*. Get your walking shoes and flower hat ready, because she will be armed with her sign-up sheets soon. Thank you Diane for all you do!



November Meeting

Change Your Point of View

Linda Larson will share her discoveries of gardens from all over the world

November speaker **Linda Larson** is an advocate for the importance of public green space and the value of nature in our lives. A lifelong lover of flowers, Master Gardener, Faculty Emeritus of Mesa College and gardener in Mesa, AZ for over 30 years, Linda writes a monthly "Traveling Gardener" column for the Maricopa County Master Gardener newsletter, Roots & Shoots and AFGC State Newsletter, "Greenleaf". One of her earliest memories is of daffodils lining the winding stone path to her grandmother's door. Linda encourages audiences around the country to discover the beauty and enjoyment of public gardens at home and in their travels.



Continually exploring gardens everywhere she goes, over 450 gardens on four continents, 35 countries and all 50 US states, she entertains readers and audiences with her insight and discoveries.

Follow her on her blog:

[A Traveling Gardener, wandering, wondering, noticing. . .](#)



Have you begun to plan the spectacular container garden you will be donating to the **February 10 Plant & Planter Sale**? I lucked into a really unusual container which I anticipate filling it with stunning plants. If you don't like making an elaborate container garden and are looking for different ways to support your club, this year we have two additional options: a *Plant Table* and a *Boutique Edition* of the sale table.

The *Plant Table* will include modest planted arrangements, and interesting specimens. It is a little late to start seeds for this year's sale, but there is still time to make cuttings or replant a six-pack into six larger pots or containers which will grow to a good size by February. Funky small containers from thrift stores planted with succulents, replanted store-bought annuals and rooted cuttings from your garden are all welcome. Think about donating plants worth \$5, \$10 and \$20 to the Plant Table. We are also going to offer a *Boutique Edition* of our usual sale table. Scour your closets and bookshelves for better quality donations. Hand-made objects and cards are also welcome. And finally, invite your friends! Master Gardeners will give a presentation and be available to answer questions plus so much fun stuff to buy! **Please contact Nancy Englund with any questions or suggestions.**

Nancyenglund@icloud.com



Taste of Laguna Shines Again

Our Garden Club participated for the third year in the Chamber of Commerce's signature event, **Taste of Laguna Food & Music Festival**, on Thursday, October 13 on the grounds of the Festival of Arts.

Over thirty restaurants, bakers, gelato vending bicycle, food artisans, and VW bus photo booth participated. Four Garden Club members (**Trudy Josephson, Perry Stampfel, Jane Leary, and Lynn Jax**) offered spa water and disseminated information about the Club and the upcoming *Gate & Garden Tour*. **Jeanne Yale** used her artistic talents to decorate our booth. Providing music to add to the festivities were a radio DJ from KXFM (local Laguna radio station) and a very talented live band, which encouraged much dancing. What's not to like: amazing specialty bites created by the chefs, wine, music, and great people? It was a Sold-Out event and so much fun.

Next year's event is planned for October 5, 2023. If this appeals to you, mark your calendar and buy tickets when they are available. See you there.

Submitted by Lynn Jax



Trips & Tours

Happy Travelers Soaked in Rainforest Flora

Visiting **Rainforest Flora in Torrance** took a big bite out of my monthly plant budget, but was worth it. Their selection of tillandsias is unrivaled. They also pulled some deep red, almost black bromeliads from the back for us. One of the owners gave us some history of the nursery and lessons in propagating tillandsias. With full cars and happy hearts our group of eight headed to **Sunflower Farms**, also in Torrance, which proved to be a fun space to explore and offers many classes. Lunch at Gaetano's was delicious, when it finally arrived.

Our next T&T will be in December to enjoy the holiday decorations at **Roger's Gardens and Sherman Gardens**, both in Newport Beach.

-Nancy Englund



Treats, No Tricks

Special thanks to **ElizaBeth Chapel & Lynn Pries** who coordinate the Hospitality Table and to **Chris Lutz** who brews the delicious coffee. Our members always enjoy the social hour before the monthly meeting.



ElizaBeth's cute granddaughter was her Halloween helper.



Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees

On Saturday, October 22, Garden Club members **Jane Leary** and **Dee Perry** attended the San Diego Floral Association's special event — "Birds, Bees, Flowers and Trees" - and boy did they have fun! This was a free event held in Balboa Park and well worth the trip.

There were 32 exhibitors including Coastal Sage Gardening, Resendiz Brothers Protea Growers (spectacular bouquets and plants for sale), San Diego Rose Society, San Diego Geranium Society (free cuttings, who knew there were so many different types of geraniums)!, and Ms. Smarty-Plants from the Water Conservation Garden, who was handing out packets of pollinator mix seeds and encouraging kids to be environmental heroes.

The featured author was **Nan Sterman**, Waterwise Gardener, who is our December 9 speaker. She was signing her latest book, *Hot Color, Dry Garden*. What a treat it was to meet Nan!

Nan and her husband are looking forward to spending a few days in our beautiful Laguna, enjoying our gardens and art galleries. Nan has a fun and informative presentation planned that you don't want to miss!

Submitted by Jane Leary



New Member Luncheon

Our New Member Luncheon was a huge success. On Friday, October 21 twenty-two new members and fifteen others, including Board members and Special Administrators, attended the luncheon, held at Tankersley Hall, where each table was adorned with a handmade centerpiece that seven lucky new members were fortunate to take home. After a delicious buffet lunch was provided by Board and Special Administrators. Then new members had the opportunity to learn about the Club and those in attendance. Each new member received a goodie bag and mingled with the rest of the attendees. Thank you to all who made this a fantastic fun event.



Laguna Beach Garden Club now boasts of 204 members as of October 31, 2022.

In an effort to acquaint all Garden Club members with our newest members, I asked each attendee to complete a short questionnaire to enable me to write a mini-biography and Dalynn Malek, who is our Newsletter Editor, to take their photo. Please roll out the Garden Club Welcome Mat when you see our new members at meetings and outings. I truly enjoyed reading about and writing about each one. I know you will also.

Lynn Jax, Director of Membership



Ann Abrams – was invited by Sue Goldberger to join our club. She is a third-generation gardener, who hopes to learn new skills in gardening and meet new people with similar interests. Ann was born and raised in Prescott, Arizona, graduated from San Diego State University (SDSU) in education, and taught English in junior and senior high schools. She returned to SDSU for a Masters in Social Work and has worked as a social worker in rehabilitation, inpatient psychiatry and hospice. The last ten years of employment was as an education coordinator with UCI's Program in Geriatric Medicine. Her mother was an English war bride. Her father worked as a professional gardener, which meant she grew up with great gardens.



Vicky Adams-Cuccia – attended the Gate & Garden Tour and decided to join because she wanted to meet fellow gardeners and have fun. Recently retired, she owned a Hand Therapy practice where she worked as an Occupational hand therapist for 30 years. She has volunteered for various professional organizations. She grew up in Arizona but has lived in Laguna Beach for 27 years. Spending her summers in Colorado, she enjoys outdoor sports and high-altitude gardening. Vicky hopes to meet creative people who enjoy gardening, entertaining, and the outdoors.

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Bob Borthwick – is a landscape architect and has been involved in the design of many projects in the city; some projects include Alta Laguna Park, sections of Heisler Park, & many others. He has worked on projects locally and internationally, including Panama. Bob has been a guest lecturer on two occasions, the latest was September 2021 where he shared photos of his design for the newly updated areas on Catalina Island. His friend Trudy Josephson invited him to join. He grew up in Southern California and moved with his wife, Vicki, to Laguna Beach in 1974. He currently teaches English as a Second Language classes for adults at the Boys & Girls Club. In 1996, the year of his 50th birthday, he hiked the 230-mile John Muir Trail. Since then he has hiked/treked Machu Picchu in Peru, the Annapurna trail in Nepal, and the pilgrimage of Camino de Santiago in Spain & Portugal.



Vicki Borthwick – was invited to join the club by Trudy Josephson who shared her great experiences with the lectures, garden visits, and tours. She has lived in Laguna Beach in the same neighborhood on Brooks Street for 48 years. She was an educator for Early Childhood at Orange Coast College for 27 years. As a native Southern Californian, she has always enjoyed gardening. After listening to Matt Willey's presentation, For the Good of the Hive, she visited Raleigh/Durham in North Carolina and sought out the Burt's Bees headquarters to view Matt's mural. She has a pet chicken, named Alice, and four adorable grandchildren.



Judy Curry – decided to join because her long-time friend and colleague, Debbie Sugg touted the excellent speakers and tours. Debbie and Judy are both from North Dakota and worked as deputies at the Orange County Sheriff's Department and joined Master Gardeners together. She learned gardening from her mother and is passing that love onto her children who garden and preserve what they grow. She knows there is so much to learn about everything from fruit trees to succulents to veggies to California natives. Lizards scare her to death.



Jodie Goodwin – joined because her sister-in-law, Kathy Goodwin, is a member and told her about the great lectures & field trips. She attended a few lectures via Zoom during COVID & then decided to join. Her mother was an avid gardener and floral designer. She inherited the love of plants as well a fraction of her mother's artistic talents. Although her professional work was always in numbers, her hobbies are non-linear. She likes getting her hands in the dirt to clear her head. She joined because of the knowledge she has and will gain from the lectures, field trips, and meeting new friends. Matt Willey's motto: "Cultivate – Curiosity – Wonder – Awe – Beauty" is one of her favorites. Her parents & grandparents instilled in her a heart of service that fulfills her in so many ways. Jodie currently volunteers to care for the roses at the Palisades Gazebo overlooking Doheny State Park.

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Kate Guerra-Hershey – after attending her second *Gate & Garden Tour*, she spontaneously decided to join because her friend Sue Goldberger is a member and that would mean more opportunities to see each other. She grew up in Ohio, attending Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Horticulture. She has been a designer and project manager of landscaping and recently has worked for Armstrong Garden Centers in various positions for 10 years. She has lived in Laguna Hills, Dana Point, Laguna Niguel and now Mission Viejo. Her other talents include baking and cooking. By joining the club, she hopes to gain more local gardening and historic knowledge, make new friends, see more gardens, and regain the “hobby” love of gardening, not just professional pursuits. She

cautions that she often puts her foot in her mouth because she can be blunt and straightforward. She says she may look angry but that reflects her thinking or concentration.



Diane Hand – has known about the club for many years. She remembers her first introduction was watching the Patriots Day Parade when she noticed two of her tennis buddies, who are long-time members: Ora Sterling and Polly Dix, marching down Park Avenue. She decided she might learn how to keep a plant alive for longer than a month. She was born in London and came to the US in her very early 20s. She worked as a secretary until her first child was born and then became a full-time housewife. After attending one meeting, she realized everyone is every welcoming. She looks forward to meeting new people.



Regina Hartley – has been able to attend a few meetings while still working when she had an occasional Friday off from work. Now that she is retired, she can attend “at will.” She first learned about the club through members of groups she is part of, Diane Klope in *Lagunatunes* and Helga and Maggie at the *Laguna Beach Library Book Club*. She has lived in Laguna Beach since 2000, but has been a frequent visitor since 1969 as her former husband was born in Laguna. His parents kept their home in Laguna despite a company move to Northern California, so they often visited Laguna with their three children. She is currently raising her grandchildren in Laguna, which makes them 5th generation Lagunans. She is originally from NYC and met her husband at Penn State in graduate school, where she studied Speech Language Pathology. She hopes to be of service in some way and learn more from

gardeners and speakers. She is a tap dancer and a cast member of *Lagunatics*. She met Robert Kennedy in a restaurant on an island where her family still has a summer home.



Linda Hatfield – decided to join the club because of her love of nature and gardening. She loves being with like-minded people, making new friends, and learning about plants. Ruben Flores invited her and her husband to join the club; they are glad they did. She has lived in Orange County since the age of one. She was a waitress all through high school and college, taught elementary school for six years prior to getting married and starting a family. She gave birth to three daughters, who are now adults, in three years. She has taught parenting classes for

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23 years and co-authored a book on parenting. In 1995, she was the first woman in Orange County to donate her hair to Locks of Love; those 14 inches went to an eight-year girl in Georgia who was born with Alopecia, who received a cap with her hair sewn into it.



Ty Hatfield – after joining one of Ruben Flores’ Saturday Garden Walks and because his wife, Linda, has always tended their garden, he was “hooked” on his first hobby, gardening. He would love to create unique garden spots on their property and in the vacant lot next door. He was a police officer in Long Beach from 1985 and retired in 2011. He and his wife have taught parenting courses since 1999. He would like to learn how to care for trees and plants and to get the most out of their garden. He was a supervisor on a SWAT team for 7 years and had to work every day for 3 weeks without day off during the Rodney King LA riots, while his wife (who says “I don’t like guns!”) was at home with our 2 young girls.



Laurie Jocham – is a newly retired gardener, who finally has time to focus on her English garden. She found our club online. She has lived in California forever. She was a high school English teacher and loved teaching. She is looking forward to traveling with her husband. She hopes to be able to share her love of gardening with others, form new friendships, and learn how to make her garden thrive. She has been a water skier for 50 years.



John Loomis – joined the club because his fiancé, Janet Chance – our president, told him he had no choice. He and Janet will be married in November. He has lived in Laguna Beach for 46 years in one of the houses built for the Olympics in 1932. He is a preservation architect and has worked on many projects in many places, including Laguna Presbyterian Church. He wants to learn how not to kill plants that he plants. Janet’s cat, Piper, has adopted John and has moved into his house.



Barbee Martin – has several friends who are involved in the club. Once she retired, those friends encouraged her to join and give it a try. She is very glad she did. She’s a native Californian, raised in the San Fernando Valley and a resident of Orange County since 1977. She recently retired after teaching English at Laguna Hills High School for 23 years. She has three children and three young grandsons, who keep her very busy. Gardening has been a life-long passion. She would like to share knowledge about plants, explore new nurseries, and learn from the monthly speakers, as well as making new gardening friends. Thanks for her sports-addicted boyfriend, she has been to 11 Major League Baseball parks, 4 NFL stadiums, 6 NHL arenas, and 7 race tracks in the past five years; prior to that she said, “I’ve never really been into sports.”

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Cyndie Metz – thought that joining the club would be a good way to meet like-minded people and gain ideas for her small garden. She is from Philadelphia and two years ago moved to Laguna Beach permanently, although she and her husband have owned their home in Laguna since 2010. She has been a manufacturer's representative for restaurant supplies for many years. Her last job was a pre-school teacher. By joining the club and because California is a totally different way to experience plants, she hopes to change her family's moniker for her as "the Notorious Plant Killer" to something more positive. She says there is always something new to learn.



Karina Page – found the club online while looking for garden clubs in Orange County. She has been a psychologist, manager of health food stores, a bank money trader and corporate treasurer. She has developed international fund-raising plans. She has been to India almost 40 times. She hopes to learn more about growing and propagating plants and about master plans for garden areas. Last year, she attended the first and only reunion of her high school, The International School of Brussels, after 50 years. The alumni are scattered everywhere. One friend, who has been in the CIA (tracking terrorists), used those methods to find and invite her to the reunion.



Lorna Paugh – was introduced to the club by Sue Stewart because of her love of gardening and Laguna Canyon. She has worked in training and development in biotech and is newly retired. She is looking for outside purposes and wants to learn more about gardening and travel. In September she just finished bicycling in the Finger Lakes of New York with a group.



Wendy Schaller – recently moved from Minnesota, and because she loves gardening, she thought the club would be a fun way to learn about California gardening and meet other gardeners. Diane Groh told her about our club. Mostly because her husband's job has been the catalyst for moves, she has lived in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Carolina, and California. She has two sons, aged 25 and 29. She has an Art Education undergraduate degree and a Master's Degree in School Counseling and has worked in both fields for many years. Currently she is on "sabbatical." She hopes to learn more about gardening in California and make new friends. She says she "bleeds PURPLE," as a diehard Minnesota Vikings fan. She has traveled to several playoff games but unfortunately never made to a Super

Bowl yet. Her husband and sons are Wisconsin Green Bay Packer fans; which makes things interesting. SKOL!

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Sharon Singer – was curious to see to what the club has to offer, not only to socialize but to help make Laguna’s future generation more involved and aware of the environment. She was born in Columbia but has lived in at least 15 cities worldwide. She has lived in Laguna Beach for 4 years with her amazing husband of 20 years and her two children, ages 14 and 16 years old. She owns a small distribution business and is currently studying herbalism. She would like to learn about growing medicinal plants and beekeeping. She hopes to help Laguna Beach become known as an “edible city.”



Pam Talarico – was always going to join the club when she retired but became too busy with various educational in-services. So finally, some friends who are also members (Janet Chance, Shari Yamamoto, and Sherry Stephens) nudged her because they have been to her garden often. She retired as an elementary teacher, has been a wedding and event planner. She has been the “story time person” at Laguna Beach Library from 2008 until the pandemic. She has lived in Laguna Beach since 1971. Her garden has raised beds, native plants, and roses. She looks forward to learning more about plants (especially drought tolerant and roses) and visiting nurseries. She is definitely a native of Southern California. She was raised in Orange County and moved two Laguna over 50 years ago. Her 3 children were born at South Coast Medical Center (now known as Mission Hospital Laguna) and attended school in Laguna and now all live in Bluebird Canyon with her 5 grandchildren.



Marie Wake – was introduced to the club by her dear friend, Dalynn Malek, because she knows Marie enjoys gardening and the beauty of the earth. She likes that the club is very involved in community needs. She has lived in Orange County since the age of 9, prior to that as part of a military family she moved many times and even spent time living in Weisbaden, Germany post World War II. She was a teacher in Saddleback Valley District for 30 years. She hopes to gain gardening tips, meet new people, and enjoy listening to the guest speakers. Her interests have a wide range. People tell her she is a fantastic cook, which she takes it as a compliment as cooking is clearly a passion because she enjoys making new dishes and sharing recipes with friends. She loves anything outdoors: hiking, skiing, golfing, biking, and practicing yoga 3 times a week. Besides being a high school teacher, she has taught ballet (she was a dancer), coached gymnastics (competed in college), taught snow skiing (Deer Valley, Utah). And at age 72, she can still stand on her head. She also loves music and plays piano.



Paul Wenger – was referred to the club by a woman, named Vicky, who works at Plant Depot. Being a long-time gardener, he was interested to learn more about the club and what it has to offer. He is 74 years old and has been married 45 years. He grew up in Baltimore and attended college in New Orleans. He has lived in Atlanta and Dallas, then moved to Laguna Beach in 1985 and bought an old beach cottage, built in 1933, in South Laguna. It is located above Aliso Beach and at the time it had more charm than plumbing. After spending most of his career in the equipment

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leaving industry in sales and management, he retired this year. He is an active outdoors person who enjoys gardening, golf, body surfing, yoga, and fitness and would like to learn Pickleball this year. He tore out his lawn last year and planted a drought tolerant perennial garden and wants to learn more about perennials that do well in this area, including how to prune and care for them. Recently his wife bought some beautiful indoor plants, when he started to water them, she said, “Knucklehead, those are artificial.” She won’t let him live that down.



Members of the Board & Special Administrators ready the lunch for our newest club members. It was a delicious feast! Mariann Keenan made one of the beautiful centerpieces which a lucky new member got to take home.



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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/>