



Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



NOVEMBER 2024

MEMBER NEWS

"Sowing Seeds of Wonder through a
Community of Gardeners."

*"Autumn is a second spring when every
leaf is a flower."* -Albert Camus

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

Now is the time to plan for planting bulbs of flowers that blossom in spring. Even though we don't live in a climate where snow or frost is a concern for planting, it always is a wonderful surprise to see those little green leaf spikes of the flower bulbs poking out of the ground months after they have been planted.

The attached article lists flower bulbs that are especially beneficial for bees and bumble bees. It covers which flowers produce more pollen than others

and the flowering time so that your garden can produce blossoms for a longer period of time for the bees to enjoy. Happy Planting!

https://flowerbulb.eu/flower-bulbs-for-bees-and-bumblebees/?utm_source=gd-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Flower-Bulbs-10-10-24



COME JOIN IN
THE FUN

Events This Month

General Meeting Nov. 8

Johnny Wilson

Building an Ecological Food
Movement in
OC
(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 January 26th!



President's Message

Sowing Dreams, Harvesting Community!

Fall is my favorite season of the year. I enjoy the changing colors of leaves, cooler weather, warm cozy clothes, prepping my garden for the nourishing winter rains, and looking forward to family gatherings. Fall reminds me of gratitude for health, family, and sharing our gifts. I love to see my grandchildren still line up at the homemade growth chart on the wall and smile about the tradition. I am already planning our traditional holiday meals and setting out a hospitality basket of holiday socks and cozy blanket gifts for visitors. Families are like gardens... we nurture and care for them. We have the ability to scatter seeds of joy everywhere.

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us for the "nursery crawl" in North San Diego recently and to **Patty Gaffney** and **Synthia Scofield** for leading the way. We visited many amazing nurseries-- Barrels and Branches, Cordova Gardens, Weidner's Gardens,



Anderson's La Costa Nursery, and Cal Pacific Orchid Farm. It was such a fun day! One of the highlights of the trip was a tour of Cal Pacific Orchid Farm. I learned so much about orchids! Our stop at the Taco Stand was an amazing choice for lunch. I will be going back!



Recently, we made the trip to the annual marigold flower sale at Orange Coast College benefiting the college's horticultural department. Marigold flowers are popular during the Fall around the festive Dia de los Muertos or Day of the Dead celebration commemorating family members who have passed. Marigolds provide accents of bright color and strong aroma to the traditional colorful art and foods of the ofrendas or offerings. I hope you can join us on these delightful excursions next

time! I wish you a wonderful Fall season filled with family, health, community, and kindness.

With Gratitude,
Mary Sanchez



Gift Shop

A new item will be available at the Gift Shop during the November meeting. These great garden gloves are \$25.00 and they come in small/med and med/ large.

You will want to get at least a pair or two to protect your manicure this fall.



November Guest Speaker

Building an Ecological Food Movement in Orange County

Johnny Wilson is the Farm Manager of the historic Ecology Center, located on sacred Indian land in San Juan Capistrano.



The 28-acre Regenerative Organic Certified™ farm and education center serves as a hub for southern California's ecological movement. Offering tours, berry picking, farm to table dinners and more. The Ecology Center's four pillars; Grow, Eat, Make and Peace guide the Center's programming and offer Orange County a beautiful ecological food and gardening experience.

Johnny is a local Laguna Beach resident and will share his passion for the alignment of the Laguna Beach Garden Club mission with his work at The Ecology Center.

Please join us on Friday, November 8, 2024 from 9:30-10:00 a.m. for social time and refreshments, the meeting begins promptly at 10:00 a.m. Meetings are held at Laguna Presbyterian Church in Tankersley Hall located at 415 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach, Ca. Non-members are invited to attend for free on their first visit. For more information about the garden club:

www.lagunabeachgardenclub.org



Please do not use the church parking lot, street parking is available.



November Contest

Identify this Board Member if you can.



Submit entries via email to Lynn Jax:

lynnmjax@icloud.com

Deadline: Thursday, November 7 by 4 PM.

The prize awarded at the November 8 meeting.

Remember: I'm anticipating a 500% improvement in the number of entries from the October contest, which means the goal is 25 of you take a few seconds to email me. Take a chance. Make a Guess. Make me Happy! I even gave you a hint.

-Lynn Jax

New Member Luncheon 2024



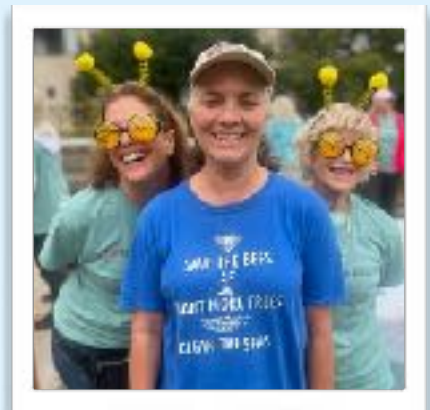
The New Member Luncheon was a huge success. On Friday, October 18 twenty-seven new members and sixteen others, including Board members and Special Administrators, attended the luncheon, held at Tankersley Hall, where each table was adorned with a potted orchid that six lucky new members were fortunate to take home. Diane Lannon created a lovely, decorated pumpkin as the grand prize. The board provided a delicious buffet lunch. 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. Look for a special edition of Weeder's Digest with the biographies of our new members coming soon.

Laguna Beach Garden Club now boasts of 239 members as of October 20, 2024



Our Hive Swarms to Love Laguna Beach

On Saturday, October 7th over 200 volunteers came out and generously gave their time, their talents, and their hard work to make the 3rd annual Love Laguna Beach a hugely successful day of service throughout our community. This year the Laguna Beach Garden Club was proud to sponsor the event! **Jane Leary** and **Kari Nies** manned a sponsor table at the event kickoff to promote our club and our upcoming *Gate & Garden Tour*. Our sponsorship helped to fund some of the many wonderful projects to help beautify our city, support our non-profits, and give help and encouragement to those in need.



Some of our members were busy bees taking part in volunteer opportunities afforded by this event. Club co-president, **Nancy England**, helped to clean the steps and refurbish the planters along the Third Street stairs. **Jane Leary** assisted Glennwood House residents in making jewelry to sell at their upcoming Gala fundraiser.

Volunteers at the TOW School Garden helped replenish soil, paint new garden signs, and fertilize, weed and hand water the California natives planted by the Love Laguna 2024 team. Volunteers swarmed the Laguna Day Worker Center to refurbish the site and install a raised garden bed. Some busy bees helped our beloved Skipper Carrillo to cut back his overgrown yard. Worker bees could be found cleaning up and beautifying the South Laguna Community Garden, Lang Park, Aliso Beach, and Main Beach. Volunteers lent a hand at the Boys & Girls Club, The Waymakers Youth Shelter, the Food Pantry, the Friendship Shelter, and more! A total of 22 projects took place all over our beautiful city. What a wonderful example of our Laguna Beach community coming together for the good of the hive!



Photos continue on the next page



Volunteers completed to many wonderful projects to help beautify our city, support our non-profits, and give help and encouragement to those in need.



Love Laguna Beach



Immediate Help Needed from our Members

Our Garden Club has a record number of members, 239 as of last count. Wow! We need at least 4 people to volunteer to help out the general meetings. And to be there on a consistent basis. That is only 1 day a month for the months of September through May. If you are thinking, “Well, someone will step up and volunteer to help our hive.” Please don’t let that thought prevent you from letting us know. With so many of us in this fabulous group, we can’t make personal phone calls to everyone. Please let this message be that personal outreach and VOLUNTEER. Easy- Peasy.

1. **Coffee Monitor** – Stand near the coffee area on the patio, be sure people pay per cup \$3, and afterwards count the money and turn it in to the Financial Secretary at the of the meeting.

2. **Penny Pines** – Need 2 more people possibly. Help pass the baskets up & down the aisles to collect funds to help the reforestation efforts in the Cleveland National Forest. Count the money afterwards and turn it in to the Financial Secretary. There are 2 people volunteering in that position (Gay Redcay & Mary Lewis); however, they cannot be at all the meetings. We need at least 2 people per meeting.

3. **Gift Shop Assistant** – Help keep track of sales at the Gift Shop at the meetings, help set up and repack the inventory, and help Susan South count money and turn it in to the Financial Secretary. Currently, Georgia Zachariah is volunteering but she cannot be at every meeting and Susan can’t do this alone.

4. **Meeting Set-Up Assistant** – assist Blair Contratto with set-up and tear down at the general meetings, putting tablecloths on all tables with appropriate signs, affix the window coverings to the French doors. All prior to the start of the meetings, which means arrival at 8:30 am. Then pack everything up and put items in containers to be transported by Blair. Currently Mary Koebler is helping out, but she also cannot attend every meeting.

Bee the helper for our Hive. Here is your chance to give a hand and bee of service.

Contact: Please Please Please
Lynn Jax – lynnmjax@icloud.com





Hortense Miller Garden – Farmer's Market Booth

Upcoming Events: **November 16** from 8am – noon.

Laguna Beach Farmer's Market –

Garden Art and Container Gardens Sale

Help is needed for set up and take down if you have an hour to give from 7:00am – 8:00am or 11:45am – 12:15pm at the Farmer's Market.

Contact Diane Lannon at diane.lannon@gmail.com or 949-374-2696

To schedule a visit to the mid-century modern house, wild hillside garden and art exhibit, go online to www.lagunabeachcity.net or call 949-464-6645 to book a Hortense Miller Garden tour most Thursdays and Saturdays.

A native of St. Louis, Hortense moved to Laguna Beach in 1953 and died in 2008 just shy of her 100th birthday. A lifelong writer, ferocious gardener and talented craftsperson, she was straightforward, unpretentious and feisty in her philosophy about gardening, politics, love and life in general. Although the property has been owned by Laguna Beach since 1977 when Hortense bequeathed it to the City, it is managed and cared for by a volunteer Board that must annually raise funds to repair and maintain the house as well as the more than 800 species of plants and trees that fill the dozens of slope side paths.

For more information about HMG volunteer opportunities, contact Diane Lannon at HortenseMillerFriends@gmail.com or 949-374-2696 www.HortenseMillerGarden.org

Which comes first - the egg or the egg carton?

Our LBGC members and families eat the eggs and you generously donate the cartons! Last month our count was 164 bringing our Club year- to-date total to 602. Nice work!

Maybe your neighbors are egg eaters, too, and you can bring theirs on Nov 8? With each one we donate we help the environment by giving them a second life and save \$0.45 for the Pantry. And it makes us feel **SO GOOD!**

Remember to open and stack them and bring only cartons with lids, plastic or paper are both welcome. (I double checked and plastic is ok).

In addition to our monthly egg carton drive, November is our annual food drive/money drive month. Canned goods such as peanut butter, pasta sauce, canned fish, canned beans, dry pasta and beans and other vegetables are always welcome. And staples like ketchup, mustard and mayonnaise. Check the dates if you're pulling off your kitchen shelves and don't bring anything that's expired. You can also bring checks (made out to Laguna Beach Food Pantry) and cash and I will make sure these make it to the Pantry. Monetary donations are particularly welcome as the Pantry buys food wholesale making your dollars go further.

Everything we do for the Pantry is appreciated so very much by their staff and volunteers. LBGC is making a lasting impact in the lives of so many! Thank you and see you all in November 8!

-Jane Leary

Taste of Laguna 2024

On behalf of the Garden Club, **Karen Nelson, Jane Leary, Susan Hankin, & Lynn Jax** attended the Taste of Laguna event on October 3, held at the Festival of Arts grounds, where more than 1000 tickets were sold. We have had a booth at this event since 2019, dispensing spa water to those in attendance. Jane Leary dressed in her bee costume and was the hit of the event, drawing thirsty customers to the Garden Club booth. Karen's husband observed that our booth was swarmed continually. We were very busy and happy to share our Save the Date cards for the *Gate & Garden Tour*, May 3, 2025. We truly made lots



of connections. There were more than 30 restaurants and several other organizations giving handouts. The music by "The Mighty Untouchables" made for dancing and joy. We look forward to next year's event.

-Lynn Jax



Generous Members Donate

Because of our members who gave money at the last two general meetings, the Garden Club is able to donate to the reforestation efforts in the Cleveland National Forest, and help save the bees in flood-ravaged areas from the devastating hurricanes on the east coast. In September we collected \$218 for Penny Pines. Every \$68 we donate purchases a plantation in the Cleveland National Forest. In October we equally divided the money collected between Penny Pines and Greater Good Charity, who will send pollen to beekeepers in the flood ravaged areas. Each organization will receive a check for \$245. Thanks to the generosity of you all. - Lynn Jax



**GREATER
GOOD
CHARITIES**

Karen Nelson

Gratitude/Generosity/Kindness & Bees

It was a beautiful day in Laguna Beach and I was thrilled to be waiting for a dear friend at the restaurant to arrive to celebrate her birthday. I had arrived early and had 15 minutes to relax before she arrived. I was luxuriating in the beautiful weather, the gorgeous surroundings and the amiable staff at the restaurant. I thanked my lucky stars for another beautiful day in this beautiful town. I felt like I needed to pinch myself that I get to live here!

Three women were sitting at the table nearby and for 15 minutes I heard them complain about the weather, the traffic, the police, the city council, the election, their spouses, their children, their bodies, their gym, the food and on and on. I was dismayed that in this incredible environment they could not find a positive thing to say. Which gave me the idea about what to write for this issue.

Gratitude and Kindness, and Generosity are at the core of a bee's life. It amazes me how the bees' priorities are the health and well-being of the collective. Their productivity and kinship within the hive gives them the

satisfaction for their existence. Bees understand that being thankful is not a decoration you can buy in a store. It is a lifestyle, and in that, the honeybees do offer us signs as if to say "Give Thanks." Thirty-five percent of our agriculture comes from bees. They perpetuate biodiversity, give us the gift of honey, and deliver beautiful flowers, all without ever needing a thank you from us.

An article in *Psychology Today* states that giving gratitude and the response it creates, helps to bring down your blood pressure, heart rate, and breathing and can increase serotonin levels. People who count their blessings daily tend to be happier and less depressed. Even people with mental illness and depression can greatly benefit from this practice. Negativity itself can be an addiction, and if you surround yourself with negative people, it just reinforces the negative loop. Gratitude unshackles us from toxic emotions!

In this Thanksgiving month let's all practice finding a blessing each day, and at least one person to give gratitude to each day. It could be your spouse, a friend

who does something nice for you, a neighbor who is always cordial and polite, a person who works at a shop you frequent, the mailman, your hairdresser; the list is endless. Write a thank you letter to someone to show your gratitude, I assure you that it will make their day! Gratitude reverses our priorities to help us appreciate the people and things we have in our lives. I will start my gratitude practice with you, gentle reader. Thank you for taking some of your precious time to read this article and I wish you a gratitude filled Thanksgiving this year!



Trips & Tours - October

Encinitas Nursery Crawl

On a warm and beautiful Wednesday, thirteen club members had an excellent time perusing and shopping five distinctly different nurseries including Barrels & Branches, Cordova Gardens, Weidners' Gardens, Cal Pacific Orchid Farm and Anderson's La Costa Nursery with a tasty lunch at The Taco Stand. We enjoyed high spirited camaraderie amongst long time day-trippers, new members who are quickly becoming T&T regulars, plus our newest member to the club; welcome **Jo Trueschler!**



The variety of offerings on this six mile nursery crawl was astonishing: from the boutique vibe of Barrels & Branches, towering fiddle leaf trees at Cordova Gardens, to the Halloween candy corn colored striped mums, and lush pots of retro spider plants and tradescantia varieties at Weidners' Gardens. Also at Weidners' were glimpses of poinsettia starts for which the nursery is known, finds like an elegant bud vase looking like it came off a page of a glossy shelter magazine, and...goats. At Cal Pacific Orchid Farm, there were unique



vessels alongside colorful blooming orchids, and a tour where we saw the bulbous growth of the 100-year-old orchid and all our orchid questions were answered. In fact from the

potting demonstration, three of us won the repotted orchids with the fun coincidence that all three of us were in the same carpool.

Anderson's Nursery was the last stop where those who had made it received an enthusiastic welcome, and where **Debbie Sugg** and **Nancy Englund** added even more

sansevieria varieties to their collections. As you can imagine, that 4-person-carpool was packed with their shopping hauls and plants carefully cradled between the passengers' feet - signs of a marvelous time had by all and future planting fun.

Many thanks to **Synthia Scofield** who planned and coordinated with all the merchants of this nursery crawl along with our photographers and drivers: **Kari Nies**, **Mary Sanchez**, **Nancy Englund** and **Trudy Josephson!**

The next Trip & Tour will be in the new year, Wednesday January 22nd. You will find more information in the January newsletter and general meeting. The T&T team look forward to having more fun with you in the new year. -Patty Gaffney



October Meeting Scenes



Name Tag Wearer

Dorothy Moss, a member since 2024 was caught wearing her LBGC name tag and was rewarded with a jar of Maine Maple Champagne Mustard by Director of Membership, **Lynn Jax**. What a tasty treat for making sure everyone knows her name!



Volunteer of the Month

Joanne Trejo-Magee, also a member since 2023, was selected as the Volunteer of the Month. Director of Membership, **Lynn Jax** presented her with a gift of jars of honey as a token of our appreciation for the time she has given to the club.



October Newsletter Contest Winner

Winner of the *Count the Bee's* contest from the October's newsletter, **Regina Hartley**, a member since 2022, received a fun honeycomb shaped ice cube tray.

Check out this month's contest on page 3 and send your answer to Lynn Jax by **Thursday November 7 by 4PM.**



The Good of the Hive Award

The Good of the Hive mural received more accolades, the latest from the Laguna Beach Beautification Council, recognizing its contribution to beautifying Laguna. The goal of the council is to inspire beauty that benefits the community. Awards go to homeowners, trees, gardens, developments, remodeling projects, artists, and individuals who have consistently played a role in preserving the history and beauty of Laguna. Not only was the mural recognized at the well-attended award celebration at Seven 7 Seven on Thursday night, but the club was also selected as a winner for our contributions to the community. A full table of club members and representatives from the water district enjoyed a taco buffet and stories about the award winners.

Clearly, the council has been paying attention to our work, as several of the homes that received awards have been featured on the *Gate & Garden Tour*.

Jose Gallardo and Juan Benitez of the water district joined **Lynn Jax, Karen Nelson, Jane Leary, Susan Denton, Blair Contratto, John Holcolme, Kari Nies, and Nancy Englund.**



THANK YOU

LAGUNA BEACH BEAUTIFICATION COUNCIL

For recognizing "The Good of the Hive" Mural as a 2024 Award Winner in the category of Art in Public Places. Visit the mural located at the Water District on Third Street.

LAGUNA BEACH COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
AND THE LAGUNA BEACH GARDEN CLUB



Surrounded by Marigolds too Hard to Resist!

A whole crew of happy Garden Club members supported the Orange Coast College Horticulture program. One thousand gorgeous marigolds were grown from seeds by OCC students and sold at a bargain – only \$5.00 each. It's their annual fundraiser with the funds used for scholarships and to support student's projects.

Between all the LBGC members who attended (a few are shown in the photo) we purchased at least 50. That's a generous donation of \$250 and we get to enjoy these beautiful flowers for months to come!

The marigold sale is an annual event so if you missed it this year you'll have a chance again in 2025.

Happy Fall!

-Jane Leary



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/>