

VOL. 18



GROWING & GIVING

Laguna Beach Garden Club Weeder's Digest



“Responsible Gardening
in a Changing World”

September 2022

MEMBER NEWS

“A book is like a garden carried in the pocket.”
– Chinese Proverb

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR • DALYNN MALEK

One of the joys of spending time at the beach or in one's garden is relaxing with a good book. One book you will want to get your hands on is the *2022-23 Laguna Beach Garden Club Membership Book*. It is filled with all of the information you will need to make the most of your membership in the Garden Club. **Make sure to get your copy at the September 10 meeting.**

We are all looking forward to our first gathering of the year where

we can catch up with friends over a tasty treat from the **Snack Table** and check out the various offerings at the **Plant Table**. If you have any items to donate to the plant table, bring them early so that members have ample time to shop before the General meeting starts.

I hope to see you all there!



Come Join in
the Fun

Events This Month

General Meeting Sept 10

Matt Willey-“For the Good of the Hive” (see page 3)

Laguna
Presbyterian
Church
9:30 am
Social



10:00 am
Club updates

Green Thumb Crafts Sept 16

Gourd Painting with Elaine Davis (see page 13 for details)

Trip & Tours Sept 23

Waterwise Botanical and Oasis in north San Diego County (see page 11 for more details)



President's Message

A New Season and A New President

Welcome back to our 94th year of operation! After the privations of CoVid, we have come roaring back with our most successful *Gate and Garden Tour* ever. We have made donations to multiple organizations in town, some of which include the replanting and maintenance of The Presbyterian Church rose garden, a vegetable garden for the residents of Glenwood House, and a pollinator garden in Bluebird Canyon Park.

And now to our upcoming year. My theme is "*Responsible Gardening in a Changing World*" and there is no denying the reality of climate change. I am writing this from my little house in Burgundy, France where we have had record breaking heat and are in a drought. Fires still rage along the West coast of Europe and in the South, and glaciers are melting at record speeds.



Meanwhile at home, the West coast is in a record mega drought and a 3rd successive La Niña is forecast for this winter. There is no more fire season: it is now a year round problem. Laguna is high risk especially because of limited ingress and egress. So, what can we do? Our panel of speakers this year have been selected to address some of these issues. In October we are going



to hear about the fire mitigation plan for the city and how we might decrease fire risk in our own gardens. Subsequently Nan Sterman is coming to speak about water wise irrigation. Our world is changing and we must adapt accordingly.

Does this mean we have to give up on beautiful blooming gardens? Of course not, but we must plant and maintain more realistically. I grew up gardening in Ireland where you could put a stick in the ground and it would bloom in a week. However, from my first day at med school in 1967 until I retired in 2019, there was no time. Over the past 3 years I have been learning a

completely different method. I had my steep slope terraced and I replanted with California natives, put in a drip irrigation system, and am trying to set up a smart timer for it. Natives are not limited to spring blooming: with care, you can find plants that will have bloom or foliage throughout the year. I am almost to the point where in summer I will need to water once a month at most! However, in the interest of full disclosure I must confess that I still have a small rose garden: I just have 6 bushes in a narrow curving bed and they are well mulched!

I can't wait for our new club season and to seeing you all again! I promise I will do my best to say tomaato and not tomahto.....

-Janet Chance
2022-2024 President



September Speaker

Artist Matt Willey *For the Good of the Hive*



Matt Willey started on his journey seven years ago when a honey bee flew into his studio in Manhattan. The bee lay on the floor, and Matt lay down and joined it, and spent 2 hours absolutely transfixed by the beautiful and complicated nature of this little creature. The bee died, but it awoke a curiosity in Matt that lived on and sent him on a journey to find out more.

Matt started to discover the parallels between bees and humans. He discovered the complexity of how the hive works and is in complete synchronicity with nature. Matt says, "they are a symbol of change, a symbol of a sense of purpose and a sense of collective togetherness. Humans need more of that right now."

Matt made it his mission to paint 50,000 bees around the world and he launched a movement and organization called '[The Good of the Hive](#)'. He's reached about 10% of this target so far and completed 27 murals from the Smithsonian's National Zoo to Burts Bees headquarters and many other projects in between. If you're a bee enthusiast, you'll know that 50,000 is roughly how many bees it takes to make a hive.



Humans could certainly learn a lot from bees. It's almost beyond our capability to understand the importance of pollinators as a whole to the ecosystem. Bee species (and other pollinators) are becoming extinct, (right now 35 bee species face extinction and 71% of our butterflies are in decline - [Soil Association](#)) and with them whole swathes of plant species will follow. In the end, without pollinators we will cease to be able to grow crops and many plant species will disappear. It is estimated that it would cost UK farmers £1.8 billion a year to manually pollinate their crops (Soil Association), not to mention the time and energy this would

take. In China they are already seeing this have an effect and are unsuccessfully trying to replicate the work of the pollinators.

Whilst we think humans are so important to the planet, quite the reverse is true. We are vastly outnumbered by insects, who really act as the engine to nature. Matt says, "I use the hive as a metaphor, but it's really us I'm painting".



Green Day at Sawdust & Succulent Give Away



Fifteen members participated in handing out bulbs and succulents at the *Sawdust Festival* grounds on Sunday, July 17. Thanks to **Ora Sterling**, everything was set-up for us when we arrived at 10:00. Additional thanks go out to our members who donated plants, we were still passing them out at 3:30 when I left and **Brian & Mary Jones** took over the table. We collected almost \$200 in donations and promoted green planting. I think

everyone had a good time and the public was excited with their new plants and the information we gave them.

-Sherry Stephens



Raffles Are Coming

We have another exciting Raffle planned to welcome you back to the Garden Club's general meetings. First raffle will be held at the first meeting on September 10. Come prepared with cash, check or credit card for your chance to bring home one of the fabulous prizes.

Ticket prices are always **1 ticket for \$5 or 7 tickets for \$20**. Wishing good luck to you all.

-Lynn Jax, Raffle Administrator

Raffle Items Needed



Speaking of raffles, I could use some donations. Gift cards, a special plant, or anything cute or fun are always welcome. Jeanne Yale has already agreed to create one of her fabulous succulent wreaths; her creations are always very sought after.

If you would like to add something special to the raffle, I'd love to hear from you.

Contact Lynn Jax (E: jax@cox.net or Cell 949-294-1500).

Giving to the Community

Commemorating Memorial Day



Laguna Beach Garden Club President **Janet Chance** and Vice President **Jane Leary** commemorate Memorial Day by donating a rose bush that will be planted in the Sister's Cities Garden. What a wonderful way for the club to honor all those who bravely served our country.

Scholarship Winners

The Garden Club Gives To The Future



Pictured on the left with Susan Denton are the 2022 Laguna Beach Garden Club Scholarship winners from Laguna Beach High School, **Peter Durand (\$1,500)** and **Gavin Pike (\$1,500)**. Not pictured **Lilie Kulber (\$1000)**. In the photo on the right are **Ashley King & Christine Villa** were the recipients of scholarships for college students presented by club President Mariann Keenan.

Recognition & Support

Continued Growing & Giving

As one of her last duties as President, **Mariann Keenan** awarded a \$4,564 check to the *Pollinator Protection Fund of Laguna Beach*. This organization is creating exciting & vibrant Western Monarch butterfly and pollinator gardens in Laguna Beaches Parks. Locations include Heisler Park, Bluebird Park in two locations and others TBA. For more information click on this link: <https://www.protectmonarchs.com/>

The Garden Club also supported the *Glenwood House* (\$1,500) and the *Blue Bell Foundation* (\$582).



Recognition Award Winners 2020-2022

Mariann also presented certificates of Recognition to several of our club members who have proven to be outstanding in their field (pun intended). Pictured from left to right are: **Elaine Davis, Lynn Jax, Dalynn Malek, Cookie Lee, Grace Baelen, Kari Nies, Inge Bunn and Diane Groh**. Not pictured are: **Nancy Englund, Sandy Smith, Susan South, Monica Thompson, Madeleine McLendon, Mae Ho, Jane Leary, and Gay Redcay.**

Dee Perry Honored as Woman of the Year

On June 17, 2022, the Women's Club of Laguna Beach named **Dee Perry** as the 2022 Woman of the Year.

A variety of factors go into what makes a Women of the Year candidate, such as resilience in the face of adversity and leading change within the community. This describes Dee Perry. She has taught elementary school in Laguna Beach for 37 years, retiring early on the advice of her doctor after being diagnosed with breast cancer to reduce stress. However, she chose to fill her "free time" with many community organizations. She is serving her second term on the Laguna Beach Unified Board of Education, has been a member of the Garden Club since 2010, volunteers as a docent for Laguna Art Museum. She also serves on the Crystal Cove Council, the Board of the Women's Club, and as a panelist for art grants for the State of California Arts Council. In addition, she volunteers at the school gardens of Laguna Beach and at San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife in Irvine. Dee is also president of the Career and College Advantage Board that strives to offer students courses in career fields, including law, medicine, and construction trades while earning college credits.



She is known as a fierce advocate for students and parents. She worked as a special education teacher and a speech pathologist, and pushed for English as Second Language programs. As a single mother, Dee also fostered two children, who credit her with teaching them the keys to accomplishing an objective. **To describe Dee, many of the speakers at the luncheon made references to a quote from Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream-"Though she be but little, she is fierce."**

The Hawaiian theme of the celebration was selected by Dee because her grandmother took her on a trip to Hawaii in 1965 in her early adolescent years. She embraced the Hawaiian culture and meaning of family (Ohana), giving thanks for those attendees from the many different group she belongs, giving gratitude to her book club and hiking Ohana, garden club Ohana, and Women's Club Ohana. The entertainment was a ukulele serenade and hula performance, in which Dee also participated.



Left to right: **Karen Nelson, Janet Chance** and **Lynn Jax** celebrate with Dee at the award event. Dee pictured dancing with Hawaiian Ukulele friends.

SmartScape Expo 2022 & Succulent Cuttings Needed

The Garden Club participates annually in SmartScape Expo, a community event sponsored by **Laguna Beach County Water District**. The 13th annual event will be held October 15 from 8am to 2pm. Those volunteering for the event will give away succulent cuttings donated by our club members, offer rock painting activity, and provide free gardening advice on planting, watering, sun and shade.

We need a minimum of 4 volunteers for each shift: Morning Shift is 7:45 to 11:00 and the afternoon shift is 11:00 to 2:00pm. The morning shift arrives at 7:45am to help set up and the afternoon shift helps to clean up our spot. In addition, we need at least 2 plant "experts" to offer advice.

A Sign-Up sheet will be available at the September 10 general meeting. See Lynn Jax or contact her to volunteer or with questions. Email: jax@cox.net or Cell: 949-294-1500.

What we need from you are succulent cuttings and about 12-15 volunteers.

Succulent cuttings can be dropped off at:

1. Lynn Jax - 456 Cress Street, Laguna Beach
2. Nancy Englund - 1616 Santa Cruz, Laguna Beach
3. Or the morning of Saturday, October 15 at 8am at the Water District-306 Third Street, Laguna Beach
4. Or bring succulents to the October 14 meeting



Our Membership Climbs To A Great 188

The Club is pleased to report that we are starting the Garden Club season of 2022-2023 with 188 members, a truly robust number. Thank you to all.

We encourage you to invite a friend to our meetings as our guest to listen to our world-class speakers and at that point if she/he feels we are a good fit, she/he can join. Membership is open to all anytime throughout the year. No requirement to live in Laguna; in fact, 40% of our members live in other communities. Applications are available on our website and will also be available at the meetings.

The new Membership Book will be available to be picked up at the September 9 meeting and subsequent meetings. All newly joined members' name tags will also be available at the meeting. Reminder to all: wear your name tag to each meeting to receive a ticket for a chance to win a prize. Keep your name tag in a safe (albeit hopefully a place you can remember). If anyone wants to order a replacement or spare name tag for \$10 (payment can be made at the meeting), please contact Lynn Jax at Email: jax@cox.net.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all in September.
Lynn Jax, Director of Membership



Lynn Jax gives ElizaBeth Chapel a prize for wearing her name tag at the May meeting. ElizaBeth also organizes the wonderful treat table at our meetings.



The 2022-2023 Laguna Beach Garden Club Board of Directors

Past President-**Mariann Keenan**, Director of Membership-**Lynn Jax**, President-**Janet Chance**,
Director of Website-**Kari Nies**, Co-Treasurers-**Mary** and **Brian Jones**,
Director of Ways & Means- **Diane Groh**.

Not pictured-Co-Vice Presidents-Nancy **Englund** & **Jane Leary**, Recording Secretary-**Gay Redcay**,
Financial Secretary-**Patty Gaffney**, Director of Media & Publicity-**Karen Nelson**,
Co-Directors of Gate & Garden Tour- **Susan Denton** & **Karen Nelson**.

Volunteer of the Month

Marilyn Ghere was selected as the *May 2022 Volunteer of the Month*. Pictured with President **Mariann Keenan** and Vice President **Janet Chance** she accepts a gift of our appreciation. Marilyn has been a club member since 2012 and she is on the team that maintains the Sister Cities Garden at Heisler Park. In addition, she made cookies for the Garden Tour, hosted the Tour in her garden one year, and donated succulents for Green Day at the Sawdust Festival as well as for the plant table at our meetings.



Laguna Beach Garden Club 2022-2023

Monthly Calendar

LAGUNA BEACH



GARDEN CLUB

GROWING & GIVING
S I N C E 1 9 2 8

September

- September 9 – General Meeting [Matt Willey: Bees]
- September 16 – Green Thumb
- September 23 – Trips & Tours – Destination TBD
- September 26 – Board Meeting

October

- October 1 – SmartScape (confirmed w/LBCWD)
- October 13 – Taste of Laguna
- October 14 – General Meeting [Mike Rohde: Fire Safe Gardening]
- October 20 – New Member Luncheon [Friday]
- October 24 – Board Meeting
- October 30 – Trips & Tours – Destination TBD

November

- November 11 – General Meeting [Linda Larson: World Travel through a Garden]

December

- December 5 – Board Meeting
- December 9 – General Meeting [Nan Sterman: Waterwise Gardening]
- December 9 – Annual Christmas Member Tour

January

- January 13 – General Meeting {Ron Vanderhoff: Gardens & Garden Centers}
- January 20 – Green Thumb
- January 23 – Board Meeting
- January 27 – Trips & Tours – Destination TBD

February

- February 10 – General Meeting – Valentine Open House & Plant Sale
- February 24 – Trips & Tours – Destination TBD
- February 27 – Board Meeting

March

- March 4 – Patriots Day Parade
- March 10 – General Meeting [Cristy Brennan: Bromeliads of the World]
- March 24 – Trips & Tours – Member Garden Tour – Destinations TBD
- March 27 – Board Meeting
- March 31 – Green Thumb

April

- April 14 – General Meeting [Mary Hurlbut: Art of Photography]
- April 14 – Deadline for Recognition Award Nominations
- April 24 – Board Meeting – Recognition Award Vote
- April 28 – Photo Contest Deadline

May

- May 6 – G>
- May 12 – General Meeting – [Kelly Griffin: Succulents around the World - Installation of the Board]
- May 22 – Board Meeting – Vote on Photo Contest entries

Revised: 6/22/22

Sherman Gardens Exhibition

If you haven't had a chance to visit *Sherman Gardens* this summer, you still have time to experience the annual **"Four Seasons"** exhibitions of **"Inspired by Nature"** of mosaic art in their garden. The exhibition ends September 21. **Irina Charny** created 45 works, some made especially for Sherman Gardens, including a mosaic butterfly with a 6-foot wingspan. She uses glass, porcelain, shells, mirrors, marble, and beads to create the mosaic art which are inspired by botanical gardens. The mosaics are also available for sale with 20% of the sales benefitting the garden.



Laguna Beach Garden Club donation helps Glennwood Housing's garden grow

By DIANNE RUSSELL

Photos by Mary Hurlbut

On Friday afternoon (July 15), as a group of excited Glennwood gardeners proudly looked on, Mary Jones of the Laguna Beach Garden Club presented Glennwood CEO Faith Manners with a check for \$1,500. Mary and her husband Brian are co-treasurers of the Garden Club. The funds will help support the maintenance and expansion of the garden.



Trips & Tours September 23

Waterwise Botanical and Oasis located in north San Diego County at 32151 Old Highway 395, Bonsall, is the destination for our September Trips & Tours expedition.

Meet at St. Catherine's Church on Temple Terrace at 9:15am. We leave at 9:30 sharp.

Waterwise Botanicals is more than a nursery and welcomes both homeowners and the landscape trade industry. They are always striving to assure convenience and confidence as they continue to offer quality and diversity of plant material. They have acres of beautiful nursery and growing grounds, including demonstration gardens, ponds, and a shade house full of creative treasures to inspire you.

They invite you to come and explore their location out in the country away from the stresses of daily life. They like to describe their garden as having a touch of "rustic elegance." Take time out to sit in their gazebo in the Cottage Garden, or bring a snack or lunch to enjoy at their picnic tables near the ponds.



Check out the sign that **Nancy Englund** spied on a recent walk in Bluebird Park that tells visitors about the Pollinator Garden and the Monarch butterfly. It provides great information about these subjects and also who is supporting these efforts. On closer look at the bottom left of the sign you will see the LBG logo! This is one of the many ways our fundraising monies are giving back to the community.

Green Thumb Crafts

Gourd Painting • September 16

Join us on Friday, September 16 for this ever-popular craft at the home of

Elaine Davis

32562 Sea Island Dr. Dana Point

9:30am

Sign up at the September meeting

Cost- \$15



Where In The World Were Our Garden Club Hats?

Club Members got out & about during the summer months. Pictured below are just a few of our traveling gardeners: clockwise from top left: **Susan Denton** in flower fields in the Dolomites, Italy, **Sandy Smith & Bill Atkin** gardening at Heisler Park, **Nancy Englund** rafting on the Mira River in Slovenia, and **Lynn Jax** cooling off with an Aperol Spritz in Germany.



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