



The Garden Trellis



Newsletter for the **SAN CLEMENTE GARDEN CLUB**
Member of California Garden Clubs, Inc., Orange County District
Member of National Garden Clubs, Pacific Region

February 2024

Vol. LV No. 6

"SEEDS FOR GROWTH" President's Message

San Clemente Garden Club

P.O. Box 3891
San Clemente, CA 92674-3891
GardenclubSC@gmail.com
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Jim Proett

Garden Trellis Proofreaders

Launa Gould, Susan Pierce,
Elyse Crane, Diane Riopka, Mary
Blumé, Susan Reveal

Printed Circulation

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Online Circulation

Diane Murico

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OC District Programs

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Deadline for Articles

15th of each month



Our speakers have been outstanding this year. **Joanne Schwartz** was one of these. I never thought mushrooms could be that beautiful and interesting. She sure did not seem to be an amateur mycologist. Her knowledge about fungi helped me realize how important they are in our life.

I started thinking about how gardening is beneficial to our lives. Gardening helps get us outside and start moving. The sunlight provides us with Vitamin D which is essential to our bodies. We are doing squats and lunges while we are weeding. We are carrying bags of mulch, raking leaves, and maybe even pushing a lawn mower. The increased exercise can improve our balance, strength, and flexibility. It also helps to reduce our stress levels. Lastly, I love the friendships I have made with other garden club members. All of this improves the joy we get from gardening.

Application Deadline For College Scholarships: February 23, 2024



February 7, 2024 **Sally Richards** **Hydroponics**

What you Will Learn

- What is Hydroponics? ---
- Is this new?
- How does this work
 - Types of Systems
 - What is the Kratky System
 - How to adapt them for your garden
 - Size
 - Budget
- What do I need to get started
- What grows best in Hydroponics
- Let's Get Started
 - Supplies:
 - Containers
 - Planting (starts)
 - Fertilizers (why, isn't it just water?)
- Commercial Applications

Sally Richards is a master gardener who has been growing vegetables in soilless hydroponic systems for years. Come learn how to grow a bounty of fresh food with minimal water, very little space, and no pests for the dinner table whenever possible.

2024 Garden Tour News!

Mary Mohr

The 2024 Garden Tour is set for **Saturday, May 18, from 10 am to 4 pm.** The Committee is excited to announce that four gardens have been selected and we are currently looking for the fifth garden. If you, your neighbor, one of your family members, or a friend in San Clemente has an exceptional backyard garden that features native plant material, succulents, cactus and/or drought tolerant plants, please contact me.

Mary Mohr, Go4mohr@cox.net

Eco Warriors Reminders

Weej Baggaley

We have had so many new members join our club. Welcome! At our monthly meetings, the Eco Warriors raffle offers a prize to anyone who brings their own reusable cup, or who carools with a friend. See Kieu to get a playing card before the meeting starts. If your card is drawn, you can choose a prize.

Also, please do use the reusable dishes and cloth napkins for our breaks, rather than disposables. "Thank you," says the earth.

Our monthly Beach Cleanups are a great way to get outside and enjoy this beautiful area. We meet the last Monday of the month, 8:30 am at the pier. See you **January 29!**



Ria and Bill on the Sherman Library and Gardens Field Trip, January 17

January Propagation Workshop

Kim Neal

Our first workshop of 2024 was held on **Friday, January 12.** The propagation workshop led by **Launa Gould** was held at the home of **Teresa Whitney.** Attendees learned new propagation techniques and refreshed their skills by propagating plants that will be sold at **GardenFest 2024 on April 13.** Photos from the workshop can be found in the Photo Albums section of the website under the Members tab. If you missed this workshop, another propagation workshop will be held over the summer. The date and time will be announced prior to the culmination of this garden club year.

A video on the propagation techniques demonstrated at the workshop can be found on our club website under the Members tab by clicking on **Presentations and Handouts.** Click here to be directed to the website:

<https://www.sanclementegardenclub.com>

Succulent Wall Art Workshop Tuesday, March 12

Host: Launa Gould

Learn how to create a living picture utilizing succulents that you can display in your home or garden.



Civic Beautification Kieu Doan

We had a great start to our New Year with many members coming to work at Park Semper Fi on Wednesday, January 10. The weather was cold but it warmed up quickly. We visited and enjoyed each other's company while working hard in our beautiful community garden. We trimmed back the Tecoma or yellow trumpet plants, California Sun Flower bushes and Lantana plants. We also deadheaded the Marguerite flower bushes and the invasive Nicotiana glauca or tree tobacco plant. And we pulled out lots of weeds.

We will meet at 8:30 am on **Wednesday, February 14**, at Park Semper Fi and on **Wednesday, February 21**, at Casa Romantica. Come join us and meet up with your fellow gardeners.



Big kudos to our hard working members! L to R: Kieu Doan, Deborah Spang, Kim Neal, Weej Baggaley, Robin Nelson, DeAnne Hanley, newest member Evelyn Castellana, Susan Reveal.

Working at Casa garden today, January 17, by the Ocean Bluff Garden and Story Circle. L to R: Deborah Spang, Kieu Doan, Kim Neal, Evelyn Castellana, Sherry Christensen.

Garden Therapy Suzi Klickstein

In January, Tom Benton, Kieu Doan, Barbara McLaughlin, and Suzi Klickstein met at the Boys & Girls Club for Garden Therapy. In keeping with a winter theme, our craft subject was penguins. When relating penguin facts to the children, we were pleasantly surprised that they had previously studied penguins and could answer many questions about the amazing flightless birds. Volunteers guided the children in creating a mini diorama containing two paper penguins in a winter scene. The young students did a great job of following instructions and each left with a cute little penguin diorama.

If you would like to volunteer for Garden Therapy at the Boys & Girls Club, contact **Suzi Klickstein** at 949- 922-3734 or suziklick@gmail.com, so she can send you paperwork required for a background check that is required of all volunteers at Boys & Girls Clubs.



School Gardens Have Continued To Thrive!

Sarah Gould

Marblehead had a great turnout for its yearly cleanup!

Shorecliffs Middle School Garden Club continues to meet every Thursday. They are combining art and Gardening.

Las Palmas has a weekly garden weeding activity and a monthly all-student activity.

All of the other schools, Our Lady of Fatima, Palisades, Lobo, Concordia, Truman, Vista and San Clemente High, are in constant need of help from our club.

Please reach out to Sarah Gould if you are able to help at any of these schools.

310-597-0773



Our gardenclub works with local schools in San Clemente promoting school gardens. Pictured is **Jamie Goodwyn**, principal at Marblehead Elementary, with plants for the school garden on a Saturday pruning and weeding with Garden Club volunteers, parents, and youth.

Donna Vidrine

Thank you for volunteering!

Here is a January update regarding three of our schools with active gardens.

Schedule of Events:

Shorecliffs Middle School, 240 Via Socorro, SC.

Be sure to check in at the front office. The teacher is Jenny Goit. There is an ongoing session every Thursday from 10:30-11am.

Concordia, 3120 Avenida Presidente, SC

This is a monthly after school activity from 2:30-3:30 pm. Rachele Vesque (vesquefamily@gmail.com)



Las Palmas GARDEN Monthly Activity

January 26th

During lunch recess

Volunteer Hours 10:30am-1:00pm

We will be harvesting the lemons and making lemonade!



is the parent volunteer for the school.

Las Palmas, 1101 Calle Puente, SC.

Be sure to check in at the front office 10:30-1pm. This month the students will be making lemonade. Julie Erickson (julieerickson@gmail.com) is the parent volunteer. It goes on every Friday, 8-9 am for weeding.

We have been going to the schools and teaching the students about decomposers and butterflies. If you have a garden workshop that the schools would be interested in, please let us all know.

We have seven other San Clemente schools that we have helped in the past. They are currently not having weekly or monthly activities. We are hoping that will change.

Thank you,
Sarah & Diane



In Community Donna Vidrine

A "shout out" to **Teresa Whitney** for hosting our propagation workshop January 12. We had a good gathering of members with plants readied for our April GardenFest plant sale.

There are many reasons for propagating plants. One basic reason is simply to make multiple plants from a single plant to increase revenues for our Garden Club programs. Another reason is to make a young attractive plant from an old leggy plant. And another reason could be to propagate a particular plant because of its unique or attractive features.

This year, I am propagating some plants at home and bringing them to our GardenFest Plant Sale. I will have them rooted and groomed. If you have plants to propagate and donate, bring them to the Community Center on April 12, our "set up" day, or call for pick up.

Bragger's Corner

Donna Vidrine--Propagation from home pictures.



Valentine's Day Susan Pierce

St. Valentine is the patron of love, young people, and a happy marriage. Valentinus was caught marrying people in the Roman Empire and trying to convert Emperor Claudius. He was condemned to death. He was beaten and beheaded on February 14 about the year 269.

Following conversion of the Roman Empire to Christianity in the fifth century, the pope of the Roman Catholic Church declared **February 14** as St. Valentine's Day. Prior to St. Valentine's Day, feasts and festivals were held in pagan cultures in mid-February. It is thought that these events increased fertility and were for matchmaking men and women.

Today the floral, candy, and greeting card companies promote St. Valentine's Day. It is the number one day for flower purchases. The red rose is the most sought after flower for giving on February 14. The red rose symbolizes love and romance. Following the red rose is the pink rose that symbolizes admiration and appreciation. White roses are also given and they symbolize marriage, spirituality and new starts. Other roses given on February 14 are the red and white mixture and orange which symbolizes enthusiasm and passion.

Following the Rose Parade and typical January rose bush pruning in many areas, the supply of roses in the United States is severely diminished. Roses are obtained from large production greenhouses in the southern hemisphere primarily in Ecuador and Columbia for St. Valentine's Day giving. No wonder the cost of a dozen long stemmed roses is so expensive. The shipping from South America to the United States and packaging to keep the flowers alive and fresh are costly.



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Daisy Sponsors \$250

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We love the San Clemente Garden Club!

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949.492.0657 rodstreeservices@yahoo.com

Green Thumb Intl. Nursery
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25200 Trabuco Rd., Lake Forest
949.768.1008 serranocreeksoils.com

***The Marine Monument at Park Semper Fi**
Heritage San Clemente Foundation
P.O. Box 456, SC 92674, marinemonument.com

Shore Gardens Nursery
201 South Ola Vista, San Clemente
949.492.3526 shoregardensnursery.com

Asterisk (*) indicates San Clemente Garden Club Member

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We are very Grateful to our Sponsors & Donors!
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Orange County District, State, and National News/Events

Orange County District
Meeting, June 10, 2024
California Garden Clubs
Winter Board Meeting (virtual)
January 29-31, 2024
Convention, May 18-22, 2024
Sacramento, CA
Pacific Region
Convention, Anchorage, AK
August 20-23, 2024
National Garden Clubs
Convention, Westminster, CO
June 2-5, 2024

Food Waste: Money in the Trash

Virginia Churchill

We all want to stretch our food dollars as far as possible and be protectors of our Planet Earth. Did you know the most difficult foods to use up are lettuce, bananas, milk, apples and bread? Produce, in general, is found in the trash bin with the greatest frequency.

Here are some helpful suggestions:

1. Shop at stores that allow you to buy the right quantity for your needs, and not the large quantity prepackaged produce.
2. If you go to the grocery store with a list, you will resist impulse buying and buy less thus saving money and probably food waste.
3. Gardening allows us to grow just what we enjoy and most likely treat them like the valuable assets they are. Plus kids are more likely to eat what they grow and this supports their health.
4. As gardeners we may grow more than we can use. Remember all those zucchini and tomatoes that ripen all at once? Plan ahead with containers for freezing the excess, locate food pantries that accept donations, bring excesses to our Garden Club meetings, and locate neighbors without gardens.
5. Use good storage techniques. Store on the counter foods that produce ethylene gas that expedites ripening and shortens shelf life: apples, avocados, bananas, peaches, tomatoes, garlic, onions, and sweet potatoes can be stored on the counter, not in the fridge.

It is estimated that cutting food waste just 15% in the USA would annually feed about 25 million Americans! Are we using our land to feed the most people possible? Let's take care of ourselves and our planet!

10% Show your Membership Card! 10%

Receive a discount at these local businesses

Armstrong Garden Centers
San Juan Capistrano and Laguna Niguel

Green Thumb Nursery, Lake Forest

Laguna Nursery, Laguna Beach

Plant Depot, San Juan Capistrano

Seaside Growers Nursery, San Juan Capistrano

Shore Gardens Nursery, San Clemente

Golden State Materials,
29511 Rosenbaum Road, SJC

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P.O. Box 3891
San Clemente, CA 92674-3891

San Clemente Garden Club Activities
February 2024

February 7	Board Meeting	10 am
February 7	Meeting and Program	1 pm
February 12	Garden Therapy-Valentines	2:30 pm
February 14	Civic Beautification Park Semper Fi	8:30 am
February 21	Civic Beautification Casa Gardens	8:30 am