



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

March 2024

Vol. LV No. 6

"SEEDS FOR GROWTH" President's Message

San Clemente Garden Club

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Organized 1951

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Deadline for Articles

15th of each month



I want to start by thanking our program committee chairs, **Laura Bard** and **Mary Mohr**. They have provided us with such wonderful speakers this year. **Sally Richards** was so good explaining hydroponics. I have romaine growing in my kitchen window in a mason jar. So far so good. Sally is doing fine. She did come back and was able to help six volunteers set up their own hydroponics. Sally is with the **UCCE Master Gardeners of Orange County**. It is such a great program.

We have had so much rain in February that I have not been out in my garden. I know it needs work, but it is hard when it is cold. There are so many things to get done before "our winter" ends. This is when we should be preparing, planting, and tending our garden. Can you believe it is the best time to plant strawberries? Citrus and avocado trees do best when planted in late February. I just know I need to pull those weeds now before they go to seed.

GardenFest 2024 Plant Sale/Flea Market

Saturday, April 13, 2024, 8 am - 2 pm

Setup - Friday, April 12, 2024, 9 am - 12 pm

San Clemente Garden Tour

Saturday, May 18, 2024, 10 am - 4 pm

Tour proceeds support scholarships, school gardens, civic beautification and conservation organizations.



March 6, 2024

Florence Lefranc

Common Home-Grown Herbs and their Medicinal Properties

Florence Lefranc is a Certified Medicinal Herbalist, Certified Nutrition Therapist, and a cosmetic and supplement formulator. She offers health-related consultations online. She has developed her own brand of herbal products and formulates and manufactures products for other companies. She also loves to share her knowledge and enjoys hosting workshops. She

will speak about the common herbs we can grow in our garden, how to grow their medicinal properties, the different ways of using herbs daily (additions to food, brewed as a tea, skin ointments), the quality of herbs, and how to choose them.

Mark your calendars for GardenFest! Saturday, April 13!

Donna Vidrine

Our Garden Club's Spring Plant Sale and Flea Market will have hundreds of plants propagated and donated by our members and local nurseries.

Master Gardeners will be on site to sharpen your garden tools and answer your questions. Local artists will be creating original paintings for viewing and purchase during the event. Let the creativity and fun continue with the display and judging of the "Funky Container Contest" (entries are due by 8 am on Saturday, April 13).

Exhibits and demonstrations will include gardening and craft activities for the children and their families.

Shop our Garden Flea Market for incredible bargains on items for your home, hobbies, or gardens. Proceeds will benefit horticultural scholarships, junior gardeners, and civic beautification.

In Remembrance of Betsy Dunn

Kim Neal

On January 20, Betsy Dunn, the 2021-2023 Garden Club President and Membership Chairman for a few years prior, passed away surrounded by her husband, Greg and daughters, Julie and Jennifer. This loss is



leaving not only a huge hole in the hearts of the Dunn family and friends, but also in our garden club and its members. If you were lucky enough to know her, you know what an incredible, sassy, quick-witted, fun-loving person she was. Betsy made many contributions while a member of the club that she loved.

A private memorial is going to be held for her on **March 16**. The club is purchasing California Native plants that will be displayed at the memorial. On **Wednesday, March 20**, the plants displayed at the memorial will be planted in remembrance of Betsy at Casa Romantica and Park Semper Fi. We would love for you to participate in the planting! Complete details will be included in the club's mid-month email and posted on the website.

In lieu of sending flowers to the memorial, the family asks that you please consider making a donation in Betsy's name to the Creutzfeldt-Jakob (CJD) Foundation (<https://secure.qgiv.com/event/cjdfoundation/account/1680408/>) or the San Clemente Garden Club:

www.sanclementegardenclub.com.

Succulent Wall Art Workshop Date Change

Kim Neal

The date for the **Succulent Wall Art Workshop** has been changed from Tuesday, March 12 to **Tuesday, March 26**. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Neal.

The Workshop host will be Launa Gould. Learn how to create a living picture utilizing succulents that you can display in your home or garden.

**SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 5, 2024,
11:30 am**

San Juan Hills Golf Club

32120 San Juan Creek Road
San Juan Capistrano

Soon, VERY soon, it will be June. That's when we gather to install our officers, bestow our scholarships, and say good-bye to our garden club meetings for the summer. Best of all we will be doing this over a wonderful lunch at the San Juan Hills Golf Club. More information to follow.

Installation Luncheon Donations

Last fall, SCGC members came through with an assortment of donations ranging from gift cards and baskets to jewelry, beverages and everything in-between when the call went out requesting donations for the 2023 Holiday Luncheon. They were incorporated into the amazing Opportunity Prizes that were won at the luncheon. We would once again like to reach out to our SCGC members. This is a good opportunity to re-gift something that just doesn't work for you. Please contact Paula Laskelle (contact information in the Membership Yearbook) to let her know you have a potential donation.

Get reservations at \$42 each. It's best to make your reservation for our annual Installation Luncheon now. Go online to: sanclementegardenclub.com or buy your ticket at our March meeting.



Civic Beautification Kieu Doan

A big heartfelt thanks to **Bette Langford, Kim Neal, Marsha Medina, and Robin Nelson** who came to Park Semper Fi on Valentine's Day, February 14, to work in the garden. We trimmed back Lantana, Cleveland sage, blue Plumbago and Autumn Sage bushes. It was a busy morning but we had time to chat and visit while filling up three large bags of trimmings. The Garden Circle looks so much better and will be ready to show off all of the beautiful blooms in spring.

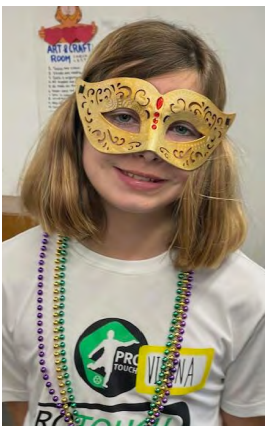
Join us at 8:30 am on **March 13** at Park Semper Fi and **March 20** at Casa Romantica. We will be planting many native plants at both of those gardens.



Garden Therapy Suzi Klickstein

In February volunteers **Nadine Skutnik, Barbara McLaughlin, Heidi Gibson, Dolly Latteier** and **Suzi Klickstein** met at the Boys & Girls Club for Garden Therapy.

This month the group recognized two happenings for February. We introduced the group of enthusiastic children to Mardi Gras, which in French means Fat Tuesday and marks the beginning of Lent for some religions. After telling them about how Mardi Gras is celebrated in New Orleans, with a parade, masks and lots of beads, we gave each of the children a Mardi Gras mask and beads in the Mardi Gras colors of gold, green and purple. After that we presented them with a Valentine project, where they glued red and pink puzzle pieces into a heart-shape on a rectangle of foam board. The delightful children did a wonderful job in creating a unique heart of their own. Some of the children even made two heart displays. As always, we volunteers enjoyed the various personalities of the boys and girls.





School Gardening program with Marblehead Elementary.



Thank you for volunteering!

Here is a **February update** regarding four of our schools in San Clemente with active gardens with ideally two Garden Club members at each school.

* **Shorecliffs Middle School**, 240 Via Socorro , EVERY Thursday, 10:30-

11am. The teacher is Jenny Goit.

* **Las Palmas Elementary**, 1101 Calle Puente, EVERY Friday from 8-9 am for weeding. **February 23, 10:30 am-1pm**. The Parent Volunteer is Julie Erickson.

* **Concordia Elementary** 3120 Avenida Presidente EVERY Wednesday, 2/28, 12-1pm.

YOU MUST HAVE DISTRICT CLEARANCE TO PARTICIPATE!

The Parent Volunteer is Rachelle Vesque.

* **Our Lady of Fatima Academy**, 105 N La Esperanza, EVERY Thursday, 2:45-3:45 pm. The teacher is Megan Roby.

ALWAYS CHECK IN AT FRONT OFFICE AND GET A NAME TAG!

The students at each school would love to chat with you. Thank you,

Sarah Gould & Diane Cheek
310-597-0773

Worm Day at Our Lady of Fatima school on February 15 Kieu Doan



Arbor Day 2024 Patricia Holloway

Our Garden Club will once again collaborate with the City of San Clemente to plant trees for **Arbor Day 2024, Saturday, April 27, 9 am to 12 pm.**

This year a tree planting ceremony will be held at **Jim Johnson Memorial Park, 240 Via Socorro, San Clemente, CA 92672,** next to Shorecliffs Middle School. The city would like to plant some California native trees to provide additional shade at the park. We will be joined by **Sunrise Rotary, San Clemente Rotary, and Citizens' Climate Education** members who will also provide donations and volunteers for the event. City landscape crews will purchase the trees and do the major digging. Our volunteers will backfill the holes with soil, and add fertilizer and water. We also need one or two people to set up a table with membership and school garden information. Please contact me if you'd like to help at pat13holloway@gmail.com or **949-378-7890.**

Garden Tour, 2024 Rosa Kinoshita

Make your plans for a wonderful day of garden touring on **May 18, 2024.** The 2024 San Clemente Garden Tour will feature wonderful gardens and live music. The Garden Tour is our major fundraiser and benefits the scholarship fund, community projects, school gardens, and more. At our March meeting we will have docent sign-up sheets. Docents will work one shift on the day of the tour. You will get half off on your ticket and preview all the gardens on May 7, 2024. Contact **KK Ciruli** at **(949) 547-8494** or kkciruli@aol.com.

Be a Docent! KK Ciruli

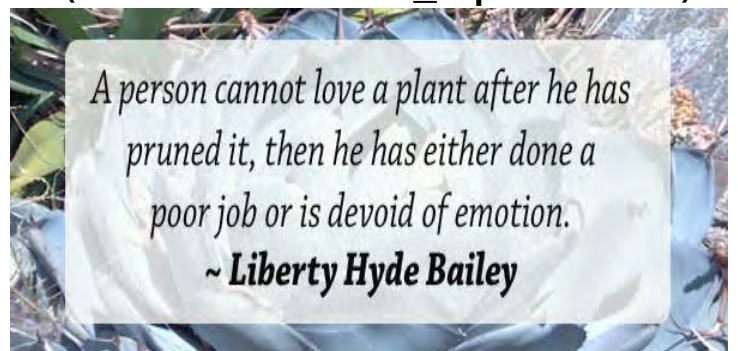
By now, you are no doubt aware of the date for our very special **2024 Garden Tour on May 18.** On that day, hundreds of thrilled gardeners will tour some of the area's most beautiful gardens and be filled with great ideas as they head home.

The San Clemente Garden Tour is our major fundraising event each year, and we need all Garden Club "hands on deck." One of the best ways to help is by serving as a docent for the event. Docents work a 3½ hour shift at one of the gardens while welcoming guests, giving them directions around the property, and generally serving as a host or hostess during their shift.

Not only do docents provide invaluable assistance on the tour day, they also receive two valuable benefits: a reduced tour ticket price (\$20) and a private preview tour of all of the gardens approximately 10 days before the event. You'll have an opportunity to sign up to be a docent at our March and April Garden Club meetings. Please be sure to visit us at the back table for more details on this exciting opportunity to be a part of what is sure to be a wonderful day!



(Note: should read: "If a person.....")



Back to Our Roots A History & Appreciation of Trees in San Clemente

By Patricia Holloway, M.C.P.
December 2023



Truffula Trees (*Truffula arborealis*)

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
nothing is going to get better. It’s not.”
--*The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss

Last year I was asked by the San Clemente Historical Society to write a history of trees in San Clemente to include as part of a “Time Capsule” that will be opened 50 years from now in 2073. I accepted this fun challenge, and included photos that I’ve taken over the years of unique and beautiful trees in town. Each month I will share a few stories beginning around the time of our city’s founding in the 1920s to Arbor Day 2023.

20k years ago

For thousands of years, the Oak Grove People lived among the Coast Live Oaks. Native Americans from the region depended on acorns as a diet staple.

1920s: Orange groves lined El Camino Real leading from San Clemente all the way down to the Mexican border. Their orange blossoms perfumed the air.

1925 Ole Hanson’s Dream

“I vision a place where people can live together more pleasantly than any other place in America. I am going to build a beautiful city on the ocean where the whole city will be a park ... The whole picture is very clear before me. I can see hundreds of white walled homes bonneted with red tile, with trees, shrubs, hedges of hibiscus, palms and geraniums lining the drives with a profusion of flowers illuminating the patios and gardens ...”

1925

Hamilton Cotton planted a grove of Monterey Cypress trees when his original house, now known as Casa Pacifica, was built in 1925. It has become one of the most notable stands of Cypress trees in Southern California.

1926

From the beginning of the city, trees were used as an important part of the landscaping. At first, each street was planted with its own kind of tree.

Avenida Palizada: Jacaranda

Jacarandas have lovely lavender blossoms.

Photo taken May 27, 2013.



Here is a partial list from Vol. 1, Issue 1 of El Heraldo de San Clemente newspaper printed in December 1926:
Avenida Del Mar from El Camino Real all the way to the pier was planted with **Oleander trees**, with **geraniums** set between.

Lombardy Poplars ran along El Camino Real at the north end of town and at the entrance to Plaza Park.

Avenida del Rosa: **Pittosporum undulatum**

Avenida Mateo: **Eucalyptus rudis**

Ola Vista and Calle Seville: **Eucalyptus rudis**

Avenida Miramar: **Carob Tree**

Avenida Serra: **Acacia dealbata**

Avenida del Rosa: **Pittosporum undulatum**

Avenida Mateo: **Eucalyptus rudis**

Avenida Serra: **Acacia dealbata**

Avenida Cabrillo: **Pepper**

Avenida Granada: **Casuarina stricta**

Avenida Victoria: **Camphor**

Avenidas Algodon, Monterey, Madrid, and Santa Barbara: **Monterey Cypress**

Avenida Mateo: **Eucalyptus rudis**

W. Avenida Victoria: **Casuarina equisetifolia - Horsetail Tree**



Nectar Planting Donna Vidrine

The Garden Club was invited to participate in this nectar planting garden at San Clemente State Park. The Monarchs overwinter here and are significantly decreasing in numbers. The nectar gardens are painted to provide the Monarch butterfly with sustenance for their migrations. We were joined by high school youth earning credit with their environment and climate studies.



Eco Warriors Kieu Doan

Our enthusiastic Eco Warriors came to the Pier on Monday, Jan 29, to clean up the beach. Since we had many big waves coming to the beach due to the recent storms, we found many styrofoam pieces washed up and stuck inside the Iceplants. We also found many bottles and clothing articles left on the beach. A big thanks to our dedicated Eco Warriors for coming to help keep our beach clean and beautiful.



Donna Vidrine and Dottie (Donna's Friend), Evelyn Castellana, Kieu Doan, Lesley Bindloss, Molly Fehrenbach.



Support our 2023 - 2024 Club Sponsors



San Clemente Garden Club 2023-2024 SPONSORS & DONORS

Rose Sponsors \$500

***Distinctive Coast Properties**
110 Avenida Del Mar, SC - KK Ciruli
949.547.8484 dcpсанclemente.com

***Always Inn B&B - Freda D'Souza**
177 Avenida Cabrillo, San Clemente
949.374.4944 owner@alwaysinn.com

Daisy Sponsors \$250

***Shirley Eramo OC Coastal Realty**
635 Camino Las Mares, 3rd Fl. San Clemente
949-244-2680 homes@shirleyeramoc.com

***The Ken Wakefield Family**
"Gardeners make the world a better place"

***DeNault's Hardware - Ruth DeNault**
535 N. El Camino Real, San Clemente
949.888.5200 x102 denaults.com

***The Nelson Family**
We love the San Clemente Garden Club!

Glen's Landscape & Lighting
Native Plant Specialist, San Clemente
949.492.6492 glenslandscape.com

Plant Depot
32413 San Juan Creek Rd., SJC
949.240.2107 plantdepot.com

Green Thumb Intl. Nursery
23782 Bridger Rd., Lake Forest
949.837.3040 greenthumb.com

Rod's Tree Service (\$300)
P.O. Box 3897, San Clemente
949.492.0657 rodstreeservicesc@yahoo.com

***Lisa B. Designs - Lisa Spinelli**
Graphic Design, PhotoShop, Signage
949.498.0877 lisabdesigns@cox.net

Rainbow Sandals
326 Calle de los Molinos, San Clemente
949.492.4930 info@rainbowsandals.com

Luna Landscape & Luna Tree
114 W. Paseo de Cristobal, San Clemente
949.492.3208 lunatreetrimming.com

Serrano Creek Soil Amendments
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

Donors

Farmers & Merchants Bank, SC • Costco, SJC • Trader Joe's, SC
Dana Point Nursery, DP • Seaside Growers Nursery, SJC
Armstrong Garden Center, LN • Bemus Landscape, SC • Laguna Nursery, LB

We are very Grateful to our Sponsors & Donors!
PLEASE BRING THEM YOUR BUSINESS

Bragger's Corner



WOW! February Tomatoes... YUM! Lisa Spinelli wonders what kind of tomato plant she bought!...or was it the rain and Serrano mulch?



HAPPY Passover

Orange County District, State, and National News/Events

Orange County District
Meeting, June 10, 2024
California Garden Clubs
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

FREE ADMISSION



San Clemente Garden Club

in partnership with

The City of San Clemente Parks & Recreation

SAVE THE DATE!!
Garden Tour May 18

Garden Fest

Saturday - April 13, 2024

8 am - 2 pm

San Clemente Community Center

HUGE PLANT SALE

GARDEN FLEA MARKET

Master Gardener Tool Sharpening

Exhibits • Demonstrations

City Water Conservation Info.

Local Art • Funky Container Contest

Kids Gardening Activities

sanclementegardenclub.com

***Proceeds benefit horticultural scholarships,
junior gardeners, and civic beautification.***

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
San Clemente Garden Club

Sunflowers and Seashells
Spring Social & Installation Luncheon

JUNE 5, 2024

11:30 A.M. SOCIAL - 12:00 P.M. LUNCHEON

SAN JUAN HILLS GOLF CLUB
32120 SAN JUAN CREEK ROAD
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675

RSVP no later than May 24th - No Exceptions

Pay on-line at sanclementegardenclub.com or at the monthly general meeting.

If paying by mail, mail this form and your check, made payable to San Clemente Garden Club, to:
Mike Gould, 1212 Avenida Buena Suerte, San Clemente, CA 92672-2348

NAME: _____

Entree Selections - Check One | Cost Per Person \$42

_____ **Cobb Salad | gluten free**

Chopped lettuce, grilled chicken, bacon, egg, tomato, avocado, and blue cheese crumbles, served with garlic ranch & vinaigrette dressing on the side. Served with rolls & herb butter and dessert.

_____ **Roast Beef Sandwich |**

Deli roll filled with roast beef, sweet & spicy bacon, aged cheddar, spinach, tomato, cucumber & garlic aioli. Served with house potato chips, rolls & herb butter and dessert.

_____ **Vegetarian Salad | gluten free**

Chopped salad with various toppings, served with garlic ranch & vinaigrette dressing on the side. Served with rolls & herb butter and dessert.

Bar & Beverage | No-Host Cash Bar

All entrees include coffee, tea and unlimited soft drinks.





San Clemente Garden Club Membership Form 2024-2025

Dues: \$25 _____ Family \$40 _____

(Members joining on or after February 1, 2024 pay half)

Make checks payable : San Clemente Garden Club

Send Application and Payment to: San Clemente Garden Club
Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 3891
San Clemente, CA 92674

If you prefer to pay online, use our website at sanclementegardenclub.com

(Please note that your yearbook/name badge/nursery discount card can only be picked up at our general meetings, starting September 2023.)

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Phone Number (preferably cell#) _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Email address _____

For Family Memberships:

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Phone Number (preferably cell#) _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Email address _____

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<http://californiagardenclubs.com/content/newsletter>



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

San Clemente Garden Club Activities		
<u>March 2024</u>		
March 6	Board Meeting	10 am
March 6	Meeting and Program	1 pm
March 11	Garden Therapy-Spring Craft	2:30 pm
March 12	Succulent Wall Art Workshop	9 am
March 13	Civic Beautification	
	Park Semper Fi	8:30 am
March 20	Civic Beautification	
	Casa Romantica	8:30 am