

Member of California Garden Clubs, Inc., Orange County District Member of National Garden Clubs, Pacific Region

> May, 2021 Vol. LII, No. 8

Seeds of Inspiration

(COVID edition in lieu of our Yearbook.)

San Clemente Garden Club

P.O. Box 3891 San Clemente, CA 92674-3891 www.sanclementegardenclub.com Organized 1951

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Deadline for Articles: 15th of each month



President's Message from Cindy Burns

Welcome May. I'm quite excited about Adam Graves, from the San Diego Zoo, being our presenter in May. I personally have been a member of the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance for many years. I used to walk through the Zoo, thinking "Even if there were no animals at the Zoo, I'd still walk around because the grounds are so lush with exotic plant life". Fern Canyon was always my favorite trail. A thing of the past since it is not wheelchair accessible. The plant life always looks so perfect. How can that be when I never see

any gardeners trimming, deadheading, planting, watering or fertilizing? If you want to see the most spectacular staghorn ferns, the Zoo is the place. I love the Zoo so much that I became a volunteer several years ago. I still volunteer every Friday. I truly love the gorgeous surroundings and am actually looking forward to learning lots from Adam on a deeper level.

May 5 WEBINAR from Carol Luetz

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday**, **May 5,1 pm**, when **Adam Graves** from The San Diego Zoo will share his expertise in the horticultural aspects of the zoo.

Adam Graves has spent the last five years at the San Diego Zoo managing the horticultural department. He is interested in all things "plant" and has a soft spot for carnivorous plants, bamboo and Australian trees. He will share his expertise in the horticultural aspect of the zoo—what is planted, how it is used and more fascinating information about behind the scenes at the zoo.



THE PLANT SALE IS ON! Saturday, June 12, 8 am - 1 pm

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In Memorial



Roberta "Bertie"

Lloyd, passed away April 2. Bertie was born July 10, 1935 in Alhambra.

Bertie was very active in the San Clemente Garden Club, where she was Awards Chairman, and every year Bertie enthusiastically volunteered her time

as a docent in the gardens for the San Clemente Garden Tour. Other hobbies included raising succulents and designing miniature fairy gardens.

THE PLANT SALE IS ON! from Teresa Whitney

The City of San Clemente has finally approved the SCGC having a plant sale at the Community Center. Yay!

Mark your calendars for Friday, June 11, for set up, and Saturday, June 12, for the sale.

The sale will be a little different this year but will be lots of fun as usual. We will all need to help keep our customers <u>socially distanced and wearing masks</u> even if we've been vaccinated--no big deal, we're used to it!

We will need lots of volunteers to work both days and also to pick up plants and equipment from our storage on Friday. We are in desperate need of a couple of trucks so please call me if you have one and can help!!

Volunteers on Friday will help set up the room with plants and price and groom any donated plants that need it. Saturday volunteers will help with cashiering, moving people in and out of the sale as orderly as we can, and keeping the numbers in the room manageable and safe--as well as helping customers pick plants and clean-up at the end of the sale.

Volunteer times are Friday are from 9-11, and 11-1. Volunteer times for Saturday will be from 8:00-11 and 11-2--or come when you can, and stay as long as you can. See flyer at the end of the newsletter.

Let me know if you'd like to volunteer by calling or emailing me. It will be so great to see everyone in person again! **Teresa Whitney, 949-466-7151 Whitneys55@cox.net**

Free Compost Buckets from Launa Gould

Recycle your kitchen green waste! Pick up your free kitchen compost bucket provided by the City of San Clemente. Stop by anytime, buckets are inside the gate. Launa Gould,



Civic Beautification from Kieu Doan

Cindy Burns, Mischelle Paton, Kieu Doan and **Sherry Christensen** came to Casa Romantica on Wednesday, April 21 to work on the garden. We worked around the beautiful Golden Barrel Cactus area, pulled out many ragweeds, baby oxalis and tackled the big woody overgrown Calandrinia Grandiflora or Rock Purslane shrubs and replanting them with their smaller offsprings. We also enjoyed the many colorful blooms from the garden. The construction of the parking lot will be completed soon and they did a great job with the landscaping in between the parking spots.

We will meet at 9 am on Wednesday, May 5, at Park Semper Fi and on Wednesday, May 19, at Casa Romantica.

Come join us if you can to work in the gardens and meet up with your fellow gardeners and enjoy our beautiful community gardens.



Membership from Betsy Dunn MAY IS MEMBERSHIP MONTH!

We are all looking forward to a very active 2021/2022 Garden Club Year. Everyone I talk to is anxious to get back to normal. Do we even remember what that was like?

We want to get as many renewals and new registrations as possible completed before May 31. This will allow the Board to organize speakers, plan activities, and get the Yearbook printed in time for our first meeting in September.

There will be a very casual get together at my house – outside, safe, and masks required on:

May 12, at around 1:00 pm Feel free to come by, bring a lawn chair, visit

with friends – and renew your membership. We can accept checks, cash, credit cards or Venmo.

On that date you can pick up your membership/ discount cards, and we will be giving away

Smart Pots, Compost Buckets, and Chico Bags. FREE! FREE! FREE!

In addition, if you renew by **May 31**, your name will be entered in a drawing for **gift certificates** to Plant Depot and Shore Gardens.

If you cannot make it on May 12, you can still send a check to me or to the PO Box. The Membership Form is attached. I hope to see everyone soon.

1212 Avenida Buena Suerte, SC

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Eco Warriors Vanguish Litter from Weej Baggaley

The Eco Warriors have struck again. Beach litter has no chance with us. We send fishing line, cigarette butts, and Styrofoam packing. Come join the fun next time. Monday, May 24, 8:30 am (note earlier time). Meet at the base of the pier, then walk the North Beach Trail picking up trash as we go. (Or head to the beach if you'd prefer.)



Standing: Lesley, Sherri, Terry, Matt, Karen, Donna, Rosa. Kneeling: Lynn, Sylvia, Kieu, Weej.

Orange County District News from Bette Langford

Currently, the Orange County District of CGCI has no events scheduled.

Egg Cartons Recycling from Lisa Spinelli

Be a "GOOD EGG"!...(Egg Cartons recycle / reuse .. for good cause !!) F.A.M. (Family Assistance Ministries) needs Clean, Used, Empty EGG CARTONS for distributing eggs. Please Drop off at FAM: 1030 Calle Negocio, San Clemente, CA 92673 (around back between 10AM-3PM), or drop off at Lisa Spinelli's house if you're near Max Berg Pk..

2021-2022 Proposed Executive

Committee from Launa Gould

The Nominating committee of the San Clemente Garden Club is presenting a slate of new officers. A majority shall elect at the May General meeting. The proposed slate is as follows:

President: Betsy Dunn

1st Vice Presidents, Programs: Carol Luetz, Weej Baggaley

2nd Vice President, Membership: Mary Blume'

3rd Vice President, Ways and Means: Donna Vidrine

Treasurer: Elyse Crane

Recording Secretary: Diane Murico

Corresponding Secretary: Carol Glasheen

Support our 2020 - 2021 Club Sponsors



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

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Serrano Creek Soil Amendments 25200 Trabuco Rd., Lake Forest 949.768.1008 serranocreeksoils.com

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

We are very Grateful to our Sponsors! Please bring them your business.

Asterisk (*) indicates San Clemente Garden Club Member

Ralphs Community Contribution Program from Weej Baggaley

Our San Clemente Garden Club has partnered

with Ralphs to raise money for our club through the Ralphs Community Program. After you link up your Ralphs card, Ralphs will donate a percentage of every purchase you make to our club, every time you shop and use your Ralphs card or linked phone number. (You can search for our club alphabetically, or use our code AY273.) https://www.ralphs.com/asset/ ralphs_instructions_2016-2017



From IN THE GARDEN - New York Times Why Diversity Is an Advantage in a Vegetable Plot

By Margaret Roach, April 14, 2021

Forget whatever you've heard about which plants "love" which other plants. This isn't Match.com for vegetables: There's a science to it.



Sweet alyssum (Lobularia maritima), a common annual, may enhance biological aphid control in lettuce. In organic lettuce farms in California, strips of it are alternated with the lettuce.

Before pushing that cart of vegetable seedlings to the checkout line, consider a stop in the seed aisle. On offer: potential organic pest control. A packet of radish seeds could help fight the flea beetles on your new tomato transplants, and nasturtiums sown among your zucchini may limit the damage done by squash bugs.

Those are just two of the many strategic pairings suggested in Jessica Walliser's book "Plant Partners: Science-Based Companion Planting Strategies for the Vegetable Garden," which takes a new look at a popular subject that has long relied on folklore and conjecture rather than research.

She knows that what you've heard about companion planting was probably which crop "loves" which other one, like some kind of Match.com for vegetables. Whatever you've heard, it probably didn't include "tomatoes love radishes" or "zucchini love nasturtiums" — or more specifically, that certain insect pests of tomatoes and summer squash don't love those things and can be thrown off course by them.

Ms. Walliser — a horticulturist, self-described "science nerd" and the author of two other books on garden insects — wanted to know which pairings would help control pests and improve pollination, providing those and other ecosystem services to desired plants. Not satisfied with anecdotal recommendations, she turned to the scientific literature.

Admittedly, other than a few studies at botanic gardens and university extension facilities that mimicked the smaller scale of home garden beds, most of the literature she found was derived from research in agricultural settings. Nevertheless, the insights represented a leap forward from folklore, so she dug in.

If one idea unites the partnership possibilities Ms. Walliser discovered, it is this: Whether in farm fields, home gardens or the natural landscape, diversity is a powerful tool. Monoculture — too much of any one thing — always leaves us more vulnerable to loss. Rather than replicating the rigid, old-style rows of a farm field in your vegetable garden, Ms. Walliser recommends a modern, vibrant jumble of vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers.

And the goal, she writes, should be creating a habitat that supports beneficial insects, which means avoiding pesticides and other chemicals that kill indiscriminately.

ImageThe flowers of dill and its relatives can attract beneficial insects to help with pest control, and dill's ferny foliage has also been shown to protect broccoli from imported cabbage worms, reducing their egg-laying behavior.

Pest Control Plus

And please, she said, give everybody enough room. In the enthusiasm to cram in every possible plant partner, she warned, we can go overboard. Make a garden plan, and be strategic.



The flowers of dill and its relatives can attract beneficial insects to help with pest control, and dill's ferny foliage has also been shown to protect broccoli from imported cabbage worms, reducing their egg-laying behavior. Credit...Angelo Merendino

Plants, including the companions,

compete for resources like water and nutrients, and there can be too much of a good thing. Gardeners have often looked to companion plants for pest control, as well-matched partners can attract natural enemies like syrphid flies and parasitic wasps to act as biological-control agents. But smart pairings can



minimize weeds and improve soil, too.

A well-chosen, properly timed cover crop — like winter rye, oats, field peas, and crimson or white clover — acts as living mulch, limiting weeds. And some (including rye and oats) provide not just physical barriers, but are

allelopathic, containing natural weed-suppressing chemicals. After the active growth phase, their remains, if left behind, provide extended control.

Cover crops can help build better soil, too, when they're turned under — that's why they are referred to as green manure. Legumes, in particular, including the clovers and peas, fix nitrogen in the soil as they grow, and adjacent plants may benefit.

Other well-chosen plant partners can attract pollinators, whose work improves the yields of insect-pollinated crops. In cucurbits, those additional pollinators could reduce the frustration of shrunken zucchini or cucumbers that didn't size up to maturity because of insufficient pollination — or plants didn't bear fruit at all.

What's blooming in your gardens? from Teresa Whitney











Composting from Lynn Wolf

The Daisy Girl Scout Troop, Troop Leader, Lauren English Wynne, was working on a clover petal (merit badge: use resources wisely). Each girl got a composting bucket from our garden club and learned about composting.



'Though an old man, I am but a young gardener.



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



San Clemente Garden Club Membership Form 2021-2022



Dues: Individual \$25_____ Family \$40____ (members joining on or after February 1, 2022, pay half)

_____ Check here if you prefer our newsletter sent to you via US Mail – Your dues are \$35 single/\$50 family which helps cover printing and postage costs.

Make checks payable to: San Clemente Garden Club

Send application and payment to:

San Clemente Garden Club, Attn: Membership

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

(Please note that your yearbook/name badge/nursery discount card can only be picked up at our General Meetings)

Last Name	_ First Name	
For Family memberships: Spouse's Name		
Phone number, (preferably cell #)		
Address		+4 digit zip code extension
Email address		

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San Clemente Garden Club



2021 Plant Sale

Time for planting...

Vegetables & herbs, Seeds & bulbs, Flowers & perennials, Succulents & cactus, Shrubs & house plants Horticultural advice available SanClementeGardenClub.com SanClementeGC@gmail.com





Saturday, June 12, 2021 8am - 1pm SC Community Center Del Mar @ Seville







In partnership with the City of San Clemente Beaches, Parks, & Recreation Department