

Garden Clippings

Orange County Master Gardeners' Newsletter

Volume 11 Number 8

September 2005

September Meeting

Saturday, September 10, 2005

510 E. Memory Lane, Santa Ana

Schedule

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Setup Plants 'n Things
9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Snacks and Socializing
9:30 a.m. General Meeting
10:15 a.m. Plants 'n Things
10:30 a.m. Enrichment Program

Members with last names starting with R - Z, please bring a breakfast snack to share. Other members are also welcome to bring goodies.

Also, remember to bring along any items you wish to contribute to our Plants 'n Things raffle.

Enrichment Workshop—Patrick Mitchell

By popular demand, we have invited Patrick Mitchell for a return engagement. Patrick will give us an update on Santiago Park and the new nursery and will then lead a tour of both.

Board Meeting: September 15, 7:00 p.m. at home of Helen Elich.

Contest!

Attention OCMG members

We are having a contest for the months of September, October, and November. Each time you turn in your volunteer hours, your name will be entered into a drawing. At our December meeting, we will draw a name and that person wins a prize. This is open to everyone, including Lifetime members. I know you all volunteer and we want to count your hours! When you turn in a volunteer sheet for each month, you will get three chances, one chance per sheet turned in. Extra volunteer sheets will be made available at the meetings and are available on our website.

Gardening Events

Fullerton Arboretum. Pre-register for all classes by calling 714/278-3579 ext. 0.

Sept. 10 & 11: Flowering Vine Sale

The Potting Shed will open on September 10 at 10:00 a.m. after the summer closing and will feature a huge flowering vine sale.

Sept. 24: Composting Workshop 10-11 a.m. Bleachers, \$7

Oct. 01: California Native Landscaping

9:00-10:30am Oak Hall Classroom. Introduce California Native plants into your landscape with Chris Barnhill. \$7/person

The Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy

San Juan Capistrano (949) 489-9778

Sept. 17: Native Plant Nature Walk,

8:00 - 10:00a.m. **Walk.** 7 – 9:30 p.m. Learn some of our native plants during a nature walk. Develop a native plant ID card collection. (We will provide the cards.) See which plants are flowering in the summer. Must pre-register, \$8.00.

OCMG TRAINING CLASS STARTS!

Contact Robert Shaw if you would like to sit in on a class:

Sept 17: Botany with Geoff Smith

Sept. 24: IPM with Steve Williams

Members' Corner

Jan Youngquist has two round composters with a cover, about 3' high and wide. She would like to sell them for \$20.00 obo. She also has a Can-O-Worms worm compost bin for sale, contact her with offer.

Leaves from the President



Thank you all for your kind words and wonderful gift certificate. Choosing me to be your President for another year is an honor, as I have really enjoyed the last two years and I am looking forward to this next year. I have a wonderful Board and we have lots of great things planned.

We now have our 501c3 in place, so we have a non-profit number; helping us if or when we ask for donations i.e. potting soil, pots, etc. Thank you, Helen, for getting the paperwork completed.

We are also working on membership cards, for every member. Thank you, Robin, for volunteering to work on the card design.

We are formatting an information board on what OC Master Gardeners are doing in our communities. We will be using this board at our events like the South Coast Garden Show. Diane Asato is taking on the task, please, anyone wanting to help contact her 562 690-4990, thank you, Diane.

We, as an organization, are in our eleventh year and the time has come to make a historical record of our past. Anyone having pictures, stories, newspaper articles and please send them to Michelle Brendel at 219 Seal Beach Blvd #A Seal Beach 90740. Please include dates, your name and phone #, please include your email address. Michelle is gathering the information and organizing it so Jean Rice can put it in a scrapbook for us. If you would like to help with this task, please contact Jean at 562 862-2285 or Michelle at 562 431-4095.

There are lots of volunteer activities available to help everyone achieve their goals.

Have a wonderful volunteer year and your hours are appreciated. -- Sharon Neely

Contacts

Sharon Neely, *President*.....

Gayle Crowe, *1st Vice Pres.*.....

Robert Shaw, *2nd Vice Pres.*.....

Helen Elich, *Treasurer*..... (13421 Jessica Dr. Garden Grove 92843

Fred Snyder, *Plant Clinic*.....

Jill Patterson, *Newsletter*

Submit articles by the 10th of each month via:

Jackie Brooks, *Vol. Hours*..... (

OCMG Website: <http://www.ocmastergardeners.org>

Volunteer Opportunities

Fullerton Arboretum Nature Guide Class

A class for training new Nature Guides is scheduled to begin in the later part of September. This is an approved venue for Master Gardeners.

Nature Guides provide tours of the Fullerton Arboretum. Most of the tours are with children, but there are some with adults that are handled by the more advanced guides. Tours are usually scheduled for weekday mornings and last a little over an hour. Each guide is expected to do about 2 tours a month.

The training provides guides with the opportunity to learn about the nature of plants and the different plant communities at the Fullerton Arboretum. Most guides find the training to be enjoyable and the experience with the children to be fun.

The classes will be held from 9 am until noon, one day a week, for six weeks. The class day is tentatively scheduled for Mondays, depending on trainee availability.

If you would like to sign-up for the training, please contact Don Grime

Environmental Nature Center Butterfly House

Docents are needed for dates listed below, contact Lori Whalen at 949 645-8489 if you can help. Shifts are either 9 a.m. – noon or noon to 3 p.m.

September 9, 10, 17, and 24

October 1, 8, 15, and 16 (Fall Faire)

Arbolita Elementary School in La Habra

The school wants to start a butterfly garden and needs help. Please contact Barbara Eaves or Diane Asato.

WAMPEE – *Clausena lansium* var. 'Kua Pan' – Rutaceae

Donated by: CRFG/Tom and Glenda Ponder and planted in 1999 (r.f.-01)

Common names: Wampi, huang-p'i-kuo, wang-pei, huampit, galumpi, hong bi, hoang bi, som-ma-fai

The wampee is a distant relative of the citrus fruits and is native to southern China and the northern and central provinces of Vietnam. The plant was introduced to the USA in 1914 and has been growing in Florida. Some varieties are being introduced to California, and they seem to be prospering.

The tree's growth depends on its location; it can be fast growing or slow. The tree is an evergreen shrub to 15 feet, with upward slanting and flexible branches. The tree bark is rough to the touch. The leaves are arranged in a spiral form and are elliptic ovate to 2 to 4 inches.

The flowers are whitish or yellow-green, about 1/2 inch wide and borne in slender panicles of 4 to 20 inches long.

The fruits hang in loose clusters at the end of several strands, and they can be round or oblong. The thin but tough rind is a light brown with very tiny raised brown oil glands. It is easily peeled. The flesh is divided into segments and is

yellowish or colorless grapelike, juicy, sweet, and can be sub acid or sour. The fruit has 1 to 5 oblong seeds of a bright green color with a brown tip.

The tree is considered to be a subtropical to tropical, and young and mature plants have been found to be tolerant to 28° F, but they will be killed at temperatures below 20° F.

The plant seems to be tolerant to a wide range of soils, including deep sand and limestone soils, but thrives in rich loam soils. Good drainage is essential and requires watering during dry periods.

The Wampee grows readily from seeds, which germinate in a few days. It can also be grown from softwood cuttings, air layering, and be veneer grafted onto wampee seedlings. There have been trials to propagate the wampee with various rootstocks, but some will work while others will not. Seedlings begin to bear fruits when 5 to 8 years of age.



The fruits ripen in July and August in the east of the USA, in November and December in the west of the USA. Mature trees may yield 100 lbs. of fruits in a season.

There are other varieties, and they vary somewhat in general

characteristics. The most common varieties planted throughout the world are: 'Niu Shen', 'Yuan Chung', 'Yeh Sheng', 'Suan Tsao', 'Hsiao Chi Hsien', 'Chi Hsin' and 'Kua Pan'.

—Alfredo Chiri, *OC Calif. Rare Fruit Growers liaison to the Fullerton Arboretum.*

