

Garden Clippings

Orange County Master Gardeners' Newsletter

Volume 12 Number 9

October 2006

October Meeting

Saturday, October 7, 2006

510 E. Memory Lane/2615 Valencia, Santa Ana

Note time of Enrichment Program!

Schedule

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Setup Plants 'n Things
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	Enrichment Program
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Snacks and Socializing
10:30 – 11:20 a.m.	General Meeting
11:20 – 11:30 a.m.	Plants 'n Things

Members with last names starting with H - Q, please bring a breakfast snack. 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 program— Aquaculture

Leon Gray from Aquascape will describe how to create a low-maintenance pond using natural enzymes and bacteria. His website is:

www.thenaturaltouchponds.net

Leon has a 2-year degree in Environmental Horticultural and has been in the landscape business since 1993, specializing in aquaculture since 1997. He will shortly earn his degree in Landscape Architecture from Cal Poly, Pomona.

Board Meeting: Home of Mike Maertzweiler, Tuesday, October 10 at 7 p.m.

Upcoming tour in January 2007

Mark your calendars for our January meeting now! We will be visiting the Maloof Discover Garden in Rancho Cucamonga. Sam Maloof was a woodworking artist. The garden tour is free; there is a \$15.00 fee for the optional tour of his home/museum. To whet your appetite, take a look at the website: www.malooffoundation.org

Gardening Events

Fullerton Arboretum. Pre-register for all classes by calling 714/278-3579 ext. 0. Classes are \$7/\$5 member.

Sat. Oct. 7 & 8: Potting Shed Grand Reopening, 10 am – 4 pm

Sat. Oct. 7, 10-11:30 am. California Native Landscaping. Pavilion/Classroom Introduce California Native plants into your landscape.

Sat & Sun Oct. 14 & 15, 10 am – 4 pm.. California Native and Fall Plant Sale. Largest California native and fall plant show in the region. Admission and parking free.

Sat. Oct. 14, 10 – 11:30 am. Award Winning” Worm Composting. Learn how to introduce and maintain worms in your home composting system.

Sat. Oct 21, 10 – 11:30 am. How to Grow a Butterfly Garden, Pavilion/Classroom. OCMG member Geri Cibellis will teach how to entice a variety of butterflies through plant selection.

Sat. Oct 28, 10 am – noon. Botany 101 for Gardeners, Pavilion/Classroom. Our expert botanist will teach plant identification skills.

Fullerton College: Fall Plant Sale

Sat Oct 7, 9am - 4 pm & Sun Oct 8, Noon – 4 pm. Features herbaceous perennials, California natives, drought tolerant plants, and more!

Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Garden:

Sat Oct. 14, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Survey of the Sunflower Family. \$84.00

Learn to identify species through fresh material, a digital presentation and a local field trip in the San Gabriel Mountains. Pre-register by calling Rachel Kau-Taylor (909) 625-8767 x224..

Leaves from the President



Autumn weather is finally here! I am thankful as I sleep with the crisp breezes coming through the windows and reach for a blanket that hasn't been in use for months. At this time of year a funny thing happens to me. Since I am originally from back east, my primary gardening programming kicks in and I think with a sigh of relief that my garden won't demand so much of my time.

Then it hits me – I am now in Southern California! Oh, yes there are joys involved with that as we all know. However, there is no rest for the weary – as this climate is so generous with our gardens that every month can be productive and utilized. Yes, I remember with a little grimace, as I want to head out to other things, fall is the busiest season in our gardens, and October is a biggie. We have plants to prune, plants to divide and finally plants to plant. Most plants benefit from being planted now, as the hot summer sun has passed (at least one can only hope) and the cooler weather with rain will be upon us shortly. So bring on the perennials, trees, shrubs and cool-season veggies and annuals. Next month come natives and groundcovers.

Some of us may be thinking about having our gardens in the Spring garden tour. Now is the time to plan so that we can get things done in a somewhat relaxed manner and still be ready. (Don't forget to tell Sharon Neely if you decide to share your garden with us next May.) And others of us can never get enough horticulture in our diets. So we may have signed up for a class to learn more about a particular horticultural topic or decided to sit in on one or two OCMG classes to refresh our knowledge in a certain area.

I got to welcome the 2006-07 students to their first OCMG class. I couldn't help but share their excitement and anticipation. A whole new world is opening up for them and since we have all been there, it's fun to share these feelings and the memories they bring up. Additionally, auditing that class reminded me of some of the basics - and aren't soil and fertilizers basic to gardening? It never hurts to hear wisdom yet again. WELCOME to the new students. May you all enjoy the camaraderie that develops in the classes while you are learning from the experts. We are looking forward to the future when you will join us at the Saturday meetings. This will happen all too soon, believe me!

Autumn is an energizing season and should be utilized before we hole up for the winter rains and dream about spring. I wish us all joy and satisfaction in whatever undertakings we start now. And may we reap a bountiful harvest later for the efforts we expend now.

--Diane Gipson

Contacts

Diane Gipson, *President*.....

Mike Maertzweiler , *1st Vice Pres.*...

Sallie Licata, *2nd Vice Pres.*.....

Jetta Miles , *Treasurer*.....

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

Jill Patterson, *Newsletter*

Submit articles by

the 10th of each month via:

e-mail

or snail mail:

Jean Rice, *Vol. Hours*.....

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

Our sincere condolences to Jan Youngquist on the loss of her mother in September. Jan, you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Last Month's Speaker on Mycorrhizae & Humic Acid products:

Last month, we had another informative speaker, Marilyn Chambers, discuss her products which contain humic acid and mycorrhizae (let's hope I spelled that correctly). Those of us who haven't used these amendments in our soil heard personal testimony from the speaker and from our own members about how these enrich the soil, which then fortifies the plants. Many of us have wanted to try these out – didn't we learn about these in our OCMG classes? – but haven't taken the effort to do so. Let's compare notes in the next couple of months and see if our gardens show the expected results.

OCMG Classes

The new class began Sept. 16 and it is full! Contact Sallie Licata if you would like to host a class or if you would like to audit a class to ensure there is space. All classes at Fullerton College unless otherwise stated.

Sept 30: Plant Propagation/Re-Generative at Cal-Poly Pomona with Dr. Partida

Oct 7: Vegetables and Worms with Geri Cibellis

Oct 14: Integrated Pest Management at Mt. SAC with Steve Williams

Oct 21: Lawn and Turf Care with John Domenici

Oct 28: Herbs at Fullerton Arboretum with Rita Corpin

Volunteer Venues Updating

The Board is in the process of updating the Volunteer Venue information. We try to do this every year so that current information is available to members, new and old, who want to branch out and volunteer at different organizations. If contact information changes at

the venue where you volunteer, please let us know (by filling out a **Volunteer Venue Request Form** or notifying one of the board members. This form will be available at Saturday meetings and online (shortly). We specifically need information on the following venues:

- Anaheim Achieves,
- Approach Learning and Assessment Center, 2212 E. 4th Street, Santa Ana 92705.
- El Sol Science and Arts Academy of Santa Ana
- Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy - www.orangecountywild.com
- Irvine Ranch Land Reserve - www.irvineranchlandreserve.org
- Huntington Beach Tree Society - www.hbtrees.org
- Mission Viejo Butterfly Garden
- Laguna Niguel Botanical Reserve
- San Juan Capistrano Mission "Garden Angels"
- Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens, Claremont, Ca
- Centennial Farm, OC Fair Grounds

New Volunteer Venue:

Knoll Canyon Elementary is in their second year of growing a school garden and would like to have some mentoring. If interested, please contact Karen Marks at 714/685-6868 and also fill out the Volunteer Venue Request Form and give it to Mike M. or any other board member so that OCMG has the information (contact, times, activities, etc.) needed.

More Garden Activities: Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens has classes in field botany, irrigation and California natives in October. Check it out at <http://www.rsabg.org>.

The Earth Knows My Name

By Patricia Kleindienst

Beacon Press, Boston

Reviewed by Barbara Eaves

This book makes a compelling read as it documents the personal stories of people who have recently come to this country and who are deeply involved in gardening as a way to bridge the difficult transition from one culture to another. These people sometimes have tragic and heart-rending stories—they have come from war-torn areas such as Cambodia, Vietnam and WWII era Italy. Of interest to us locally, is one of the people featured in the book—Ruhan Kainth, who came to the U.S. from India, and who now lives and gardens in Fullerton. Their stories are as varied as the cultures they come from, but they are united now as Americans and as people who love to garden.

Final reminder: September 30 is the last date to renew your membership and get your personal information in our membership list. If you need to change anything (such as address, phone number or email address), fill out the Personal Information Change Form below and email to Diane Gofferman-Asato at dianeG13@aol.com or mail to 1310 Rincon Dr., La Habra Hts., 90631.

One more gardening event:

Sat. Oct. 21, 9 am – 3 pm. UC Cooperative Extension, Master Gardeners Orange County, ‘4th Annual Fall Gardening Seminar’ at Huntington Beach Public Library, featuring speakers Pat Welsh (Mixed Media Mural), Mel Bartholomew (Square Foot Gardening), Annie Hall, Dr. John Kabashima (Bugs) & others. \$33 or \$40 with lunch, register by Oct 13. 714/408-1606 ext 300.

**Orange County Master Gardener
Change of Personal Information Form**

Please print your name and then fill in any information that needs to be updated.

After completing, please give or send to Diane Gofferman-Asato

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zipcode _____

Email _____

Home Phone # _____

Work Phone # _____

Date Effective: _____

Comments: _____