

# Garden Clippings

Orange County Master Gardeners' Newsletter

Volume 13 Number 1

January 2007

## January Meeting

**Saturday, January 6, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.**

### Field Trip to the Maloof Gardens

There will be no general meeting at the Santa Ana Bowling Green in January; instead, we are touring the Maloof Gardens.

So far we have 50 people signed up for the garden tour. We encourage everyone, if possible, to car pool. Parking is limited on the grounds and street parking could be a problem (no parking signs on some streets). Hidden Farms has a parking lot available.

Since we are a large group, they will have an open house for us with Docents stationed in each room for information and questions. This will allow individuals to spend more time in areas of interest. They will do the same for the garden tour. They hope to have a new garden brochure with the names of the plants available.

Jackie recommends taking the 57 to the 210, a little longer but less traffic. The map and directions are on the back cover.

Jetta will write one check to cover all taking the house tour. Anyone writing a check should make it out to OCMG. Checks are preferable to cash. If you want to pay in advance, please send Sharon Neely your check before Jan 6.

**Tour Policies:** Photography is allowed in the gardens. However, no cameras, purses, or backpacks are allowed in the house in order to prevent damage to the furnishings and art objects. Small front-facing fanny packs or hand held wallets are allowed. Items can be left in cars or checked in at the bookstore. The residence tour is an hour of walking and standing, so wear comfortable shoes!

If you are interested in going on the tour and have not signed up yet, contact Sharon Neely IMMEDIATELY! Her initial registration deadline was December 25.

Please save your holiday cards for Rita Corpin and her school project.

**Board Meeting:** Home of Mike Maertzweiler, Tuesday, January 9 at 7 p.m.

## Gardening Events

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

**Sat, Jan. 6:** Grow and Enjoy Citrus Trees Bleachers--\$7/person, \$5/Members

Learn how to select and care for Evergreen Fruit Trees such as orange, tangerine, lemon, grapefruit, and lime. Frank James, Rare Fruit Growers Association, instructor.

**Sat, Jan. 20:** Rose Care and Pruning Workshop, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Bleachers.

Learn tips and techniques on how to prune and care for roses to produce both beautiful blooms and a healthy plant. Clair Martin instructs.

## OCMG Classes

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.

**Jan 6:** Composting with Bill Roley/Patrick McNelly at Fullerton Arboretum

**Jan 13** Pruning with Kent Gordon

**Jan 20** Citrus/ Avocados with Dr Greg Partida at Cal Poly/Pomona

## For the Electronically Connected

New Look and Content for UCIPM Home and Garden Pest Web site

Hundreds of new pests have been added to the Pests in Homes, Gardens, Landscapes, and Turf section of the University of California Statewide IPM Program Web site at

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/menu.homegarden.html>.

Find the latest information on managing pests of vegetable, fruit tree, and ornamental plants or household pests. New content was drawn from the UC Guide to Solving Garden and Landscape Problems, formerly only available in CD-ROM format. For the first time, users can find pest management information specific to a host plant. Over 120 vegetable, fruit tree and ornamental plant species are covered. From the UC IPM home page, click on "Homes, gardens, landscapes, and turf" and choose a plant category to find the most likely cause of your plant problem. Each plant menu lists the most common invertebrate, disease, and environmental disorders found on that plant species. Cultural tips are included for each vegetable and fruit tree host plant. Emphasis is on least toxic management methods that protect health and the environment.

### Correction for last month's Newsletter:

In last month's newsletter we mistakenly stated that the Dr. Earth products were developed by Kathryn Kellogg's father. That was an error. While her father developed the Kellogg Company and their products, the Dr. Earth Company was founded in 1992 by Milo Shammos, who is now the Chief Scientist and President for the Kellogg company. Sorry for that, our enthusiasm got in the way of the facts

Bonnie's new abode.  
See article on page 5



## The Great Park in Irvine – one viewpoint

As you may have heard, it is the intention of the Great Park Corporation and Design Team to include Mediterranean ornamentals and palms in the Canyon of the Great Park.

I know you will agree that this is a bad idea, and an irresponsible act. These are not only non-native species, but species that are specifically adapted to live in a climate JUST LIKE OURS. They could and WILL invade our open spaces, displacing native species which our native wildlife rely on to survive.

Please let your voice be heard. I contacted the Corporation myself and they responded that they believed my opinion to be in the minority. I responded that, "I do not believe my opinion concerning natives is a minority opinion. I KNOW for a fact that it is based on scientifically sound facts, and that there are thousands of people in the County that agree with me, and countless others that WOULD agree if they had received the same education that I have."

I hope you agree that - wherever possible - Orange County native plants should be used in the Great Park . PLEASE just send a quick, short email to the Great Park Corporation giving your opinion on this issue. They responded to an email I sent to [contact@ocgp.org](mailto:contact@ocgp.org), OR you could send an email directly to their Manager of Public Affairs, Marsha Burgess at [mburgess@ci.irvine.ca.us](mailto:mburgess@ci.irvine.ca.us). Ask that the Great Park Corporation staff and the Design Studio receive a copy of your email.

Feel free to encourage others to write and share their opinions too. This isn't a terribly controversial thing to do, it's only stating what you know to be true. I'm not asking you to be "political," just to encourage the use of locally native plants – especially bordering Open Space!

From: "Reginald I.Durant"  
<[reggie@backtonatives.org](mailto:reggie@backtonatives.org)>

# Leaves from the President



This last month I have noticed how much juice (translate – energy) passion can inject into our lives. And no, I’m not talking about passion as in romance, though that revs us up too. I’m talking about the passion that ends up changing the direction of our lives. Of course, it doesn’t start out as passion. It begins as an idea, develops into a preference, and then appears to dictate how we spend our time (and sometimes money). Usually we become aware of it upon noticing how energized we become when engaged in activities that relate to it. Sometimes it is others around us that see it first, as they either cheer us on, worry about us, reprimand us or complain they are done with it and we can have at it. So we nod, kind of wondering where this enhanced stamina came from. And some come to the realization that they don’t want to control it but decide to embrace it instead.

I don’t mean to say that this is always a choice. It may start off that way, but somewhere in between we don’t choose it any more, it chooses us. Now, we may be saying at this point, ‘Don’t I wish! Nothing that momentous ever occurred in my life.’ But stop and look. It appears in many different forms and gradients. Usually we are the last to see it, if we are ever to see it at all.

Many gardeners that I know have the effects of this staring them in the face. They can’t deny it though they may try. On the OCMG garden tour last year it was evident in the gardens we enjoyed. Take Fred Snyder as an example (sorry Fred, I should have warned you). When we walked through his yard (as inadequate a term as that is for what I saw) last Spring, you had to admit that something had taken hold of Fred and didn’t let him go. I’m not sure he would call it passion, but it was more than a passing fancy

that built what we experienced on that tour. And I would venture to guess that at times his wife was exasperated with him and his ‘passion.’ Was he spending too much time, too much money or just too much attention on it? (Or maybe she became hooked too?)

What brought this to my attention was my infamous irrigation class. So **not** my passion! I heard myself saying, jokingly, that I’d be willing to flunk to just get out of it. That was when a fellow classmate (also an OCMG) said that she was going to take an incomplete so she could take the class again. I don’t know what that is but passion. Maybe not passion for this particular class, but for the goal she is driving toward. Her destination is a CA Certificate in Landscape Design & Horticulture . and a new career. And what better than passion to take one beyond the obstacles toward the new horizon. When one has passion, obstacles can merely make one more determined.

I salute all of those with a passion, a goal, a new vista before them. And if it should enhance your garden, your relationship with nature and enrich your fellow man (and woman), then what’s not to like? If you experience this in your life, don’t turn your back on it. Use it and see where it takes you. I’ll bet you won’t regret it.

--Diane Gipson

## Contacts

Diane Gipson, *President*.....  
Mike Maertzweiler , *1st Vice Pres*  
Sallie Licata, *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres*.....  
Jetta Miles , *Treasurer*.....

Fred Snyder, *Plant Clinic*.....  
Jill Patterson, *Newsletter Editor*

Submit articles by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month:

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

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

## **OCMG Web Master Gardener History**

Diane Gipson

We all learned the Master Gardener history and probably could recite it without looking it up in our California Master Gardener Handbook. Still, it is important to review the roots of this organization of which we are a part. This helps to see if we are going in the right direction and where we can enrich our experience and help those around us.

The Washington State University website (<http://mastergardener.wsu.edu>) states:

“The WSU Master Gardener Program is a public service program that provides university training to volunteers for the purpose of enabling them to serve their communities through horticulture, gardening and pest management.

“The first Master Gardener Program was initiated in the State of Washington in 1973 by Extension agents in response to a burgeoning interest in horticulture from citizens in the urban areas. The Program's objective was to train volunteers to help Extension meet the overwhelming demand for information on horticulture, gardening and plant problems. Today there are Master Gardener Programs affiliated with most land-grant universities throughout the United States.

“(Master Gardeners) . . . make it their mission to educate local community members in applying horticultural science to manage their landscapes and gardens in a science-based, sustainable manner. They address environmental and social priorities such as water conservation, the protection of water quality, reducing the impact of invasive species, increasing public awareness of the value of home and public landscapes and the opportunities for healthy living through gardening. They use gardening classes to teach children environmental stewardship and proper nutrition. Many WSU Master Gardener volunteers give public lectures, seminars or workshops while others write horticultural

articles or host radio or TV programs. Some participate with the court system in offering horticulture training as a part of juvenile rehabilitation while others provide enabling gardens and horticulture therapy for seniors. They also enhance communities through their numerous demonstration gardens and donate produce to local food banks. In some communities, low-income citizens learn to grow their own food and become more self-sufficient with the help of WSU Master Gardeners. Whatever the priority need may be, if it can be addressed through gardening, WSU Master Gardener volunteers are there to serve as part of the solution.

Court system, demonstration gardens, donating produce to local food banks? Wow, how did we miss that upon first reading this? Amazing what Master Gardeners are doing! When WSU started this, they had no idea what kind of impact it would have. Today, Master Gardeners are in every state and in numerous foreign countries. This title can be seen in so many places: behind names of authors, TV garden show hosts and even landscapers. Where can we take this? How far can we go? It doesn't have to become our occupation, but it can be more energizing and inspiring for us than the rote monthly or bimonthly volunteering we do at the local school, garden or venue.

Master Gardeners everywhere have the same goals: to share their knowledge and enthusiasm to assist other gardeners and enrich their communities. There are a myriad of ways to do this and the sky is the limit (as is our imagination, creativity and energy). In what other ways can we take these goals to become involved and bring alive our little area of the world and in doing

so, make ourselves feel more vital? Have we gotten tired or bored with what we are doing? Have we lost the sense of challenge at our venue or the feeling of being part of something bigger? That doesn't mean this work isn't important, but maybe that it is time to change what we are doing – is it a new venue or a new endeavor that we need to develop? Maybe helping that little old lady down the street with her ailing plants or our child's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class. Remember, we are the only ones holding ourselves back. I invite each of us to take a look and see where and how we can best use our time and talent to bring gardening alive for us and our communities. Revitalize yourself and your gardening experience! Bring back your stories to OCMG – we'd love to hear how you plant these seeds and what you grow.

--Diane Gipson

### **News From an Outlander**

Hello all! Members from the earlier classes will remember me and maybe think the dizzy redhead is lost. I will be back and the Brea house with my tropical garden is in the capable hands of my family.

My first love is still tropical plant material, but I grew very tired of concrete and congestion; so I took a right at palm trees and ended up in the pines. I bought a place in the San Bernardino Mountains so I have a new learning ground. No traffic lights, just big incense cedars and pines.

My new garden sits among Dogwood, Lilacs and spring bulbs.

What a change and huge challenge to garden. I want to keep a natural look and feed the local wildlife in the process. When I want to plant a tree I just dig up a boulder and there's the hole! I have learned I will never have to thin my bulbs; the moles do it for me. I can get even, Starbucks gives away free grounds, and the moles do not like the java flavor. They move on to the neighbors.

Grey squirrels help trim all my flower baskets. They love red Petunias. My daughter sends up flats as their 'salad'. Not one has yet to tell me why they don't care for white or purple.

There are large varieties of birds that have tried to help me by planting Sunflower seeds; sorry to say the chipmunks ate the seedling tops off.

I have made a friend here who has the most beautiful English garden. He is included in the Spring Garden show here, and also has a \$200 a month water bill, not my goal. I have chosen Hollies, Butterfly bushes, Birch and Oak trees. They go well with the Pines and Alders that grow locally.

I wish I could buy our native Dogwood. It is as pretty in the fall as it is in the spring. But such an attitude! It does not like regular water; it does not like to be pruned. And it is very disagreeable to being transplanted. The local nurseries here will not stock it, mostly because they cannot get them to grow. Oh Well! My lovely pink Dogwood from Japan has stunning flowers and great leaves, just ask the squirrels who snack on it.

Dogs run in packs up here and can pee a 2-foot Pine to death. Since the dogs do not suffer from fleas at this altitude (4500') I would like science to make them attractive to the bark beetle!

All gardens should have a water feature. Even though I have a seasonal stream behind me, the birds' water dish is the favorite stop off for the

local neighborhood skunk. Needless to say I am REAL CAREFUL when taking out the trash.

We have large quantities of Pine needles and Oak leaves this fall. Has anyone read Tom Sawyer? It would make great garden mulch!

I am learning a lot and I do not babble as much as I did (the squirrels are not much for quality conversation, cute though they may be). If you would like to make the drive, it is about 1 hour and 45 minutes from the Brea area, come and experience the mountain landscape. I will be glad to answer questions and share a cold drink- oops a warm drink the temperatures are dropping as we head for snow. Oh, and a bonus feature -the plumbing works great!

Bonnie Kocsis

**Directions to Maloof Gardens:**

**From the 10 Freeway:** exit at Vineyard Avenue and drive North towards the mountains for approximately 6.25 miles. (Vineyard turns into Carnelian Street just past Foothill.)

**From the 210 Freeway:** exit at Carnelian Street and drive North towards the mountains approximately two miles.

**From the 15 Freeway:** take the 210 West and exit Carnelian Street. Drive North towards the mountains approximately two miles.

The Maloof Historic Residence is located at 5131 Carnelian Street, Alta Loma, CA 91701, between Hidden Farm Road and Almond. Continue past Hidden Farm Road and enter the second driveway on the right into our parking lot.

