

Garden Clippings

Orange County Master Gardeners' Newsletter

Volume 13 Number 6

June 2007

June Meeting

Saturday, June 2, 2007

510 E. Memory Lane/2615 Valencia, Santa Ana

Annual Business Meeting & Plant Exchange!

Schedule

8:30 – 9:00 a.m.	Setup Plants 'n Things
9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	Business Meeting
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Snacks and Socializing
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Plants 'n Things
10:45 – 11:30 a.m.	Plant Exchange
11:30 – 11:45 a.m.	Clean up

We are asking all members to bring a breakfast item to share for our semi-annual potluck.

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

This is our annual business meeting!

We will hold elections and collect dues (\$20.00).

Please also update your contact information, especially your email address. We hope to have an updated roster by the September meeting.

Enrichment program—Plant Exchange

We are asking people to bring 12 or more plants. Plants must be potted and rooted. If you bring plants, you may choose plants to take with you. ALL plants must have an individual tag with botanical or common name on them. No provision is being made to mark them at the meeting. This event is being facilitated by the new class of 2006/07. Please contact Mike Maertzweiler at 714/524-6539 or email at mikem11@earthlink.net with any questions.

Gardening Events

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

Sat. June 9: Composting I 10 – 11:30 Learn how to compost!

Sat. June 9: Wildflower Field Trip (3-part series) 8 am – 4pm. Series \$60, \$25/members, \$30/person. Learn about different plant communities and the beautiful wildflowers that inhabit these areas.

Sat./Sun. June 9 & 10: Perennial Plant Sale 10:00 am. to 4:00 pm. Visit The Potting Shed to shop for hundreds of perennial plants..

Wed. June 27: Botanical Illustration Class - Bulbous Veggies 9:00 am - 3:30 pm \$60/person

Participants will have the opportunity to create studies of onions, garlic, shallots, leeks, etc. This class will be an equal mix of botany and art.

Nominations for Board

Diane extends her gratitude to the nominating committee for their hard work: Tonia Morrell, Marlys Sturris, Helen Elich, Yvonne Smith, and Jean Rice.

Candidates are:

President: Mike Maertzweiler

1st VP: Gayle von Eissle

2nd VP: Nancy Smith

Treasurer: *Jetta Miles?*

Recording Secretary: Jeannine Lawrie

Corresponding Secretary: Robin Russell

Reminder!

Next general meeting is August 5

No general meeting in July

No newsletter in July

Leaves from the President



First, I would like to thank Robert Sharp and Ann Porter for opening their gardens to us again this year. I saw parts of their gardens that I didn't see last time. Robert remembers where he got each of his plants and each has a story. Anne had just flown in from Hawaii the day before and her garden looked well tended and cared for. How does she do it? I came away with a list of plants I want to try and I know I can learn something from each of them. Thank you!

Second, I want to thank each OCMG member for your trust in selecting me to be your president this last year. It has been a very enjoyable year. OCMG holds much to offer each of us: friends and fellowship, gardens to share, wonderful speakers and interesting times. I would also like to extend my appreciation to each member of the board for their hard work and dedication this last year. They had a lot to offer and made contributions that each of us has felt. Sallie Licata successfully hosted the class and brought in many new members. Mike Maertzweiler kept us all in line for the Spring Garden Show and reworked the Volunteer Venue List. Jetta kept the finances in order. Diane took minutes of each general meeting and board meeting. Co graciously stepped in when she was needed as Corresponding Secretary while Gayle made sure that the meetings followed proper procedures. In addition, Jean Rice made sure that our volunteer hours were recorded and informed me when badges were warranted. Jill Patterson continued her stupendous job (as in the years past) in editing the newsletter. Nora diligently worked the Plants 'n Things table while Rich Cowles helped clean up after every meeting. And there are so many more contributions from members that I

don't have room to include. OCMG couldn't have functioned without each and every one of you. Please know that we all notice and appreciate you!

As the board members change this next year, changes are in store for OCMG. This is a wonderful time, as we contemplate what will stay the same and what will be different. They say that change is the only constant in the universe. We have probably seen our lives transform year by year and sometimes season by season (like our gardens). I hope you will join me in awaiting the marvelous changes our future holds. Thank you again for your participation in so many varied ways and I hope this continues as we march on into a new year.

--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 Editor*

Submit articles by the 10th of each month via:
e-mail at

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

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

Our deepest sympathies

Geoff Smith, who every year taught at least one of our OCMG classes at Fullerton College, died May 17 of pancreatic cancer. Cards may be sent to his wife and sons:

Judy Smith c/o Kent Gordon
Horticulture Center, Fullerton College
321 E. Chapman Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92632-2095

For the electronically connected:

Scott Carroll always finds the most interesting articles!

Cancer-Fighting Drug Found in Dirt

By [Charles Q. Choi](#), Special to LiveScience

The bark of certain yew trees can yield a medicine that fights cancer. Now scientists find the dirt that yew trees grow in can supply the drug as well.

Scientists originally isolated the drug paclitaxel-now commonly known as [Taxol](#)-in 1967 from the bark of Pacific yew trees (*Taxus brevifolia*) in a forest near the Mount St. Helens in Washington. Research since then has revealed other yew species generate paclitaxel and taxanes as well, as do some [fungi](#) and certain hazelnut varieties.

A decade ago, University of Portland biochemist Angela Hoffman and her colleagues discovered small yew branches could secrete paclitaxel into plant food, raising the possibility that yew trees might release the drug into the [soil](#) .

On average, a single dose of paclitaxel contains about 10 to 200 millionths of a gram of the drug, Hoffman said. Twenty grams of the medicine "would probably be

enough to last 30 to 50 people throughout their entire treatment," she estimated.

For the full story, go to:

http://www.livescience.com/health/070424_soil_drugs.html

Volunteer Opportunity

The Fullerton Arboretum needs more Potting Shed volunteers each weekend. Attend a recruitment meeting that includes a continental breakfast, June 9, 8:30 – 9:30 am, at the Potting Shed and get a head start on the Perennial Sale that day. No need to register, just show up and start adding to your volunteer hours!

Debris from the editor

Our June meeting is one of our most important meetings as it sets the stage for the coming year. We will be saying good bye to several Board members and greeting our incoming Board, who take office as soon as they have been voted in on June 2.

I would like to extend my personal appreciation to every member of this year's Board. Each of them has dedicated many hours in service to OCMG. I feel an extra measure of gratitude for our President, Diane Gipson. Diane has been a gracious and sensitive president this year. On top of all her responsibilities is the monthly proofreading of the newsletter and I acutely depend on her skills in that area. Thank you all, you've set a high standard for the incoming Board members to meet!

Geoff Smith's death is a loss to OCMG. We all knew him as an outstanding teacher. I would like to move that we honor his support by creating a biology scholarship in his name at Fullerton College, per a request by his family.

