

# Garden Clippings

Orange County Master Gardeners' Newsletter

Volume 14 Number 4

April 2008

## April Meeting

**Saturday, April 5, 2008**

510 E. Memory Lane/2615 Valencia, Santa Ana

### Schedule

8:15 – 9:00 a.m.	Setup Plants 'n Things
9:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Business Meeting
<b>9:30 – 10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Bylaws Review, Handbook, Committee List</b>
10:45 – 11:00 a.m.	Plants 'n Things
11:15	Clean up

Members with last names starting with **R – Z**, 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 and any gardening catalogs or magazines you'd like to share.

## Enrichment Program: Bylaws!



We have set aside this meeting in order to review the revised bylaws, OCMG Handbook, and Committee List. Based on our last review, please allow a good hour for discussion prior to voting for final approval of the

bylaws. We will try and load the proposed bylaws, revised since last month based on suggestions received, to our website prior to the meeting. The proposed changes in the bylaws merit your serious consideration as there are a number of changes.

**Board Meeting:** Home of Jeannine Lawrie in Orange, Monday, April 14 at 7 p.m.

## Gardening Events

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

**Wed. Apr. 2: Eco Friendly Gardening Practices with Gisele Schoniger from Kellogg Garden Products.** 9 – 10:30 am, Pavilion

Learn how to build healthy soil and feed your plants the natural and organic way. Receive a wealth of educational materials and sample packets of products.

**Wed, Apr 16: Hypertufa Pot Workshop with Steve Gerischer, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm** Bleachers. All supplies included. Pre-registration required. Old stone sinks and animal troughs have been used to grow plants for many years; make one from Hypertufa, a mixture of cement, peat moss and perlite molded to resemble tufa or crumbling granite. Bring water and be prepared to get dirty.

**Sat.- Sun., Apr 19 – 20: Green Scene Plant Sale and Garden Show!** 10 am – 4 pm. . Nearly 100 vendors will be selling plants, garden accessories and related outdoor gardening products.

**Sat. Apr 26: Yoga in the Garden with OCMG member Kim Mason (6 class series), April 26, May 3, 10, 31, June 7, 14.** 10:00 am – 11:30 am \$78/member \$83/person - pre registration required. Connect with nature and your spirit as you learn yoga postures and meditation in a beautiful garden setting. This class is perfect for beginners but all levels are welcome. Kim is a certified instructor with 20 years of experience

**Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens** Pre-register for all classes by calling 909-624-0838

**Sat. Apr. 5: Spring Plant Sale,** 10 am – 4 pm.

For more gardening events, check out <http://www.orangecountygardeners.org>.

# Leaves from the President



*Dedicated to Sharing Horticultural Knowledge...*

## ***Fantastic Graduation!***

Our March meeting was our annual graduation ceremony, which was a great success. With thirty graduates and their families, all enjoyed an energetic business meeting and ceremony.

For the Board, this meeting is a big highlight of the year when new students, now members, are inducted and recognized for their hard work since last September 2007. A gigantic “Thank You” to Nancy Smith, 2nd Vice President, who coordinated the class and to her assistants, Jo Wilson and Kathy Pacuad. With over 1000 hours of volunteer time and 14 green badges, this class really excelled.

Our motto for the Plant Exchange in June is: “if you bring some, you can take some”. Be sure your plants are harboring no pests. Small pots are preferred, bigger pots ok. Also welcome are special food items, garden items, excess books or magazines.

The April meeting **has been changed back** to the regular site at the Santa Ana Lawn Bowling Clubhouse. This meeting will focus on finishing the bylaws and the Handbook/manual updates. The tour of Olinda Nursery will be held later. Drafts have been sent out to all members for review, giving everyone opportunity to make suggested changes before the general meeting. We have received some great suggestions and perspectives from many senior members. I will be surprised if any “new” suggestions pop up as plenty of time has been allowed for your input. IF YOU HAVE any recommendations, PLEASE get them to Co Wilkins or Robin Russell so they can be included at the April meeting. We are planning to approve the bylaws at this meeting.

Plans are underway for the Southern California Spring Garden Show at South Coast Plaza Crystal Court, April 24 – 27, 2008. Gayle von Eissler is chairing the event along with committee members Heather Waxham, Nora Koenig, Fran Lebow, Barbara Romo, Roz Romain, Robin Russell, Nancy Smith, Lois Daybell and Jeannine Lawrie . Volunteers are still needed for the Saturday 5pm – 8pm shift. Please see a committee member if you can help at this time.

Chairing the nomination committee is Janet Sonoff, please contact her, and let her know your interest to serve. See the nomination form attached to this newsletter.

In May, we are going to expand our garden tours this year by attending the Heard's Garden Tour on May 3 and 4, 2008. Please see the website [www.HeardsGardenTour.com](http://www.HeardsGardenTour.com) for maps and donation information. We will not meet at the clubhouse; I hope to see you on the two-day tour.

### **Coming Meetings/Events**

June - Our annual business meeting (elections) and PLANT EXCHANGE

June Home Show in Anaheim

July - No Meeting, OC Fair Opens

For club aprons (\$18) and license plate frames (\$15), see Gayle Von Eissler.

Please contact any Board member via email or me at [mikem11@earthlink.net](mailto:mikem11@earthlink.net) if you have any questions. My email is usually on...Mike M.

### **☎ Contacts**

Mike Maertzweiler , *President*....

Gayle Von Eissler, *1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres* .....

Nancy Smith, *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>

## Annual June Plant Exchange

Sponsored by the OCMG Class #13

Our annual plant exchange will be at the June meeting. Now is the time to start your plants. For every plant you bring to exchange, you get to take one home. Simple! Start your propagating now and be ready with 10-12 well rooted plants of any kind. Spring is just around the corner. Each plant must be labeled with the **botanical and common names** along with a note as to how to maintain the plant. Feel free to email or call Kathie Kelly at (949)830-3604 with any questions or comments.

## The Mary Lou Heard Memorial Garden Tour Is Coming in May!

This is quite possibly the best garden tour available to us in our own backyard, so to speak. Private gardens from Long Beach to San Clemente, and a myriad of gardens throughout central Orange County are open to the public for viewing on Saturday May 3rd and Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 10 am to 5 pm each day. There is no fee to take the tour, but donations are gratefully collected to support various OC charities. Please review the following website for further information [www.HeardsGardenTour.com](http://www.HeardsGardenTour.com) and join the email listing to receive the locations of the gardens and to learn of further activities of The Mary Lou Heard Memorial Garden Tour organization. For more information, please call Sheri Henderson at (714) 904-0303.

### From Our Members...

Kathie Kelly provides this list of free blog sites which she considers to be safe and secure to use:

[www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com)

[www.TypePad.com](http://www.TypePad.com)

[www.thefreesite.com/Free Blog Resources](http://www.thefreesite.com/Free_Blog_Resources)

[www.idontpay.com/blogs.html](http://www.idontpay.com/blogs.html)

[personalweb.about.com/od/hostingforonlinediarie/s/fr/blogdrive.htm](http://personalweb.about.com/od/hostingforonlinediarie/s/fr/blogdrive.htm)

This site has many listings and discussion of free blogs:

[www.blogrankings.com](http://www.blogrankings.com)

## Nominating Committee Update

The Nominating Committee met on Monday, March 17, 2008. The members are: Janet Sonoff, Sandy Denny, Heather Waxum, Diane Gipson, and Bob Borden. The committee reviewed the names submitted for all board positions and selected a nominee for President, First Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. We did not receive any volunteers for Second Vice President. As soon as we know the nominee for this position, we will submit our proposed slate to the current board and include it in the May newsletter. Elections will be held at the June meeting. Volunteers for Second Vice President should contact Janet Sonoff.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Back to Natives has a number of 1-day volunteer events, check out their website at:

<http://www.backtonatives.org/events.htm>

Earth Day Weed-a-Thon at Mason Park

**April 13, 2-5:00PM**

Come assist Back to Natives in restoring Coastal Sage Scrub to 3.5 acres of habitat in Mason Regional Park in Irvine! Everyone is invited – children below high school should be accompanied by a parent. Bring gloves, sunscreen, water, snacks, hat, and closed toe shoes. RSVP: 949-509-4787

Butterfly Habitat Garden Workshop

**At the Road Less Traveled Store**

**Sunday, April 27, 2-5PM \$5.00 donation**

Learn all about creating a butterfly habitat in your yard using locally native plants. RSVP:

714.836.8727.

## Debris from the Editor

I need newsletter contributions! It can be about a specific plant, a book review, a new nursery you've discovered, a helpline question you answered, or your latest landscaping effort. We have over 100 members and you all have at least one story to tell. Share it with us!