

Garden Clippings

Orange County Independent Master Gardeners' Newsletter

Volume 15 Number 7

August 2009

August Meeting

Saturday, August 1, 2009

510 E. Memory Lane/2615 Valencia, Santa Ana

Schedule

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 8:15 – 9:00 a.m. | Setup Plants 'n Things |
| 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. | Business Meeting/Bylaws |
| 9:45 - 10:00 a.m. | Plants 'n Things |
| 10:00– 11:00 a.m. | Program |
| 11:00 | Clean up |

Members with last names starting with **Q- 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.

The business meeting will include a review of the proposed bylaws changes and a vote. Remember that you must have hours in for 2008-2009 to be eligible to vote.

The bylaws were sent to all members with the June newsletter. Please review them prior to the meeting. If you need another copy, contact the newsletter editor prior to July 30 or Sharon Neely for a copy.

Program: Meet the New Class

Students registered for the next OCIMG training will be introduced. This is our opportunity to show them what our organization offers. We will talk about our club history, content of the class, and the certification our organization offers.

Board Meetings

A standard date for the Board meetings has not been set. All members are welcome to attend Board meetings; contact President Bob Shaw for the date.

Gardening Events

August is the time to relax in your garden! Keep up with the watering but keep in mind your city's water restrictions.

Fullerton Arboretum. Pre-register for all classes by calling 714/278-3407

Reminder: The potting shed is closed in August.

Sat. Aug 22: "Plumeria Care" by South Coast Plumeria Society 9 a.m at Rogers Gardens

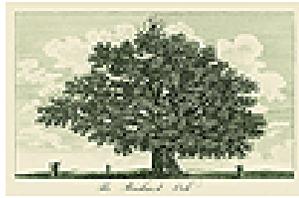
2301 San Joaquin Hills Rd, Corona Del Mar 92625. 949-640-5800 or 800-647-2356

One hour presentation with a brief history of plumerias, Southern California growing and propagation methods, watering, fertilizing, colors, fragrances, and where to obtain additional information for your enjoyment of this wonderful tropical flower. You will also have the opportunity to meet world-renowned plumeria specialist, Mr. Bud Guillot, who will share his vast experiences with you. Question and answer period follows the talk. Society website is: www.prlog.org/10187128-south-coast-plumeria-societys-new-website.html

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

Dues are due! Please send \$20.00 for the annual membership to Bob Shaw at 9170 Holder Street, Cypress, 90630

Leaves from the President



So many things to do, but where to start? I've just finished reading the newsletters from the past four years, looking to see what was on the newly elected presidents' minds. Little did anyone suspect what was in store for the club!

I'd like to share some of this year's planning:

We will have our next training class starting in September. The class will be based at the La Habra Branch Library. All those who have expressed interest in the class will attend the August club meeting with us. The program portion of the meeting will be a presentation on what our club is (and some of what it's not), class registration, class schedule, and a short description of what will be accomplished in each class session with expectations of post-graduation club participation. This will also refresh our memories of the classes we've all taken.

We are scheduling the club's monthly in-service topics to include composting, hands on grafting (guaranteed all grafts will take!), a description of the effort involved in a successful internet horticulture presence, poisons in the garden, pollination and more. Our meeting for November has a theme of "a Fall Harvest". The room will probably be divided into 5 focal areas: edibles, ornamentals, conservation, landscaping, and club activity. Our trainees will be attending and we'll be asking a few members for help in presenting information at each area. All attending will be free to browse their particular areas of interest.

It looks to me to be a very interesting year and I trust each of us will again be really looking forward to the 1st Saturday of each month. I'd also like to express my appreciation for every minute of every effort each of you spends helping others enjoy their gardens.

Robert Shaw, President, Orange County
Independent Master Gardeners

Sam Maloof

In January 2007, our group toured the Sam Maloof home and gardens in Alta Loma. Some of us were lucky enough to meet and speak with the master woodworker himself. Sam Maloof died in his home this past May at age 93.

The gardens and home are managed by a foundation and remain open to visitors. More information about the gardens, home, and events (including plein air painting in the gardens) can be found at the foundation website:

<http://www.malooffoundation.org/>

📞 Contacts

Robert Shaw, *President*

Anne Porter, *1st^d Vice Pres*

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

Jill Patterson, *Newsletter Editor*

Submit articles by the 10th of each month via:

e-mail at

or snail mail:

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

Website: [http:// www.ocmastergardeners.org](http://www.ocmastergardeners.org)

Articles needed

And, as always, send articles for the newsletter to the editor. Possible ideas are book reviews, information on pests or plant care, garden memories, garden tools and gadgets you recommend (or don't), public gardens and nurseries you've visited, good websites, upcoming events, news items, and recent experiences such as gardening successes or failures you've had.

We can always use helpful hints when it comes to growing tomatoes and recommendations of which varieties to try.

Volunteers Needed



The position of treasurer is still open. Please consider stepping up to the plate and taking on this role. We're a volunteer organization with NO paid staff and we need your participation.

Helen Elich has resigned from the position of 2nd Vice President. That position, which manages the trainee class, is now open. Contact Robert Shaw if interested in the position or in being part of a committee to organize and help run the class.

It's a new year and new committee chairs are needed, especially for Hospitality. Again, contact Robert Shaw to volunteer.

Debris from the Editor

Because I live next to an undeveloped area, I engage in guerilla gardening of my edibles to foil the squirrels, gophers, raccoons, and birds who all want a piece of whatever is growing. I have yet to eat more than a handful of blueberries as the birds are faster than I am. Every summer I plant several different varieties of tomatoes with an equal measure of high hopes for a fabulous harvest and dread that something will go wrong. My tomatoes each year show promise of bountiful and delicious fruit. And then...I end up with 3 or 4 tomatoes per plant and that's it. No more blossoms. No more fruit. My one perennial success is the yellow pear tomato, which I started growing because my mother is allergic to tomatoes but can handle this low-acid variety. I decided that my low yield was due to growing determinate varieties last year and this year I would stick with indeterminate. And this year, again, my plants stopped producing despite adequate water and fertilizer. I wonder if being grown in a container is part of the problem. If you've had good luck

with container-grown tomatoes, please share your techniques and secrets! Next year is another opportunity to try again.

The University of Maryland Cooperative Extension does have a brochure on container gardening which includes instructions on making a self-watering planter from a 5-gallon plastic bucket. The website is:
http://hgic.umd.edu/_media/documents/hg600.pdf

Plant of the month from Annie's Annuals:

Mimulus x aurantiacus 'Cherry'



This low water, pretty CA native shrub popularly known as "sticky monkey flower" has good-sized flowers of a

choice raspberry color, as well as a vigorous disposition. You also get extra karma points with this purchase, as it's a magnet for both hummingbirds and butterflies. Grows in many exposures, from blaring sun to almost full shade, but is much showier in sun. Be judicious with your water once this plant is established in your garden, as it prefers a life of neglect— low water, low fertilizer, little maintenance! Occasional, deep watering is recommended during the dry months, but regular watering is the death of many a Mimulus. In super dry conditions, the plant will live, but may go partially dormant during dry times. Light pruning to shape in early Spring is really all this plant requires to keep it looking good for many years to come. Grows from 2-3' high and wide. DRY SHADE and CLAY TOLERANT! Also deer resistant. Check your local nursery or order online at <http://www.anniesannuals.com/>