

Garden Clippings

Orange County Independent Master Gardeners' Newsletter

Volume 18 Number 6

June 2012

June Meeting

Saturday, June 2, 2012

Rancho Santiago Community College, Rm. 107
2323 North Broadway, Santa Ana, CA 92706

Schedule

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Setup Plants 'n Things
9:00 – 9:45 a.m. Business Meeting/Elections
9:45 - 10:00 a.m. Plants 'n Things
10:00– 11:00 a.m. Plant Exchange
11:00 Clean-up

We're asking everyone to please bring a breakfast snack to our last meeting of our business year. Also, please 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.

2012-13 Slate of Officers

We will be voting on the slate of officers at this meeting. We thank these members who have accepted the nominations:

President: Anne Porter
1st VP: Glenn Vodhanel
2nd VP: OPEN
Treasurer: Diane Wilkinson
Corresponding Secretary: Melanie Boudreau
Recording Secretary: Judith Wright

Enrichment Program: Plant Exchange

It's our annual plant exchange! See next page for more information about labeling and delivering plants. This is also our annual meeting and we will have elections.

Board Meeting: follows general meeting

Gardening Events

Fullerton Arboretum. Pre-register for all classes by calling 657/278-3407

Sat. June 9: "Home Composting II" 10 – 11:30am \$5 member/\$7 non-member/free for residents of Fullerton, Brea, Santa Ana, Orange and Buena Park.

Overview of composting for the beginner and focuses on answering questions and providing participants with advanced techniques.

Sat. June 16: "Urban Farmers: Start Your Own Vineyard" 9:00 – 11:30 am. \$20 member/\$25 non-member.

Kent Gordon, from the Horticulture Department at Fullerton College, will lead this class on how to start your own backyard vineyard.

Sat. June 23: "Water Conservation Gardening: Low Water Edibles" 1:30 – 3:30pm. \$25 member/\$30 non-member. Classes free to those who present their Yorba Linda District Water Bill.

Learn how to grow an edible landscape that is packed with color, is water-wise, and produces year-round.

Reminder! Dues are due!

Please pay \$20 at the June meeting or mail by mid-July to:
Diane Wilkinson
2612 Sherwood Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92831

Volunteer Hours are Due!

Send your hours to Jean Rice
Use volunteer hours form listed on website and information from the Contacts box

REMEMBER: No July meeting!

We'll meet again in August

Leaves from the President



“To own a bit of ground, to scratch it with a hoe, to plant seeds, and watch their renewal of life - this is the commonest delight of the race, the most satisfactory thing a man can do”.

--Charles Dudley Warner

This is my last “Leaves from the President” and now I can admit it was my least favorite thing to do each month. Not only did I have to think of something interesting to say each month, but then wonder if anyone really read it. After this one, the pressure is off.

June's meeting is always a good one, I think. We have the election of the new officers, get to exchange plants for new ones, and eat! Speaking of eating, everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to this meeting. Nothing will be catered in.

I want to thank Barbara Eaves, Anne Porter, Virginia Carlson and Bob Anspach for letting us see their amazing gardens in May. For me, it was fun to see what other gardeners from our group have done to their yards. I loved the different sections in Barb's yard and her use of hardscape for her seating area. Anne Porter's Thai room and railroad were great. Virginia's roses were beautiful and a special thanks for allowing us to have lunch in her yard. Bob Anspach's avocado tree blew me away with the huge fruit on it. These are things I remember just off the top of my head. All their yards were special. For those of you who couldn't make it, you missed a treat.

See you at the June meeting.

Jill O'Neill, President
Orange County Independent Master Gardeners

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Plant Exchange This Month!

For every plant you bring to exchange, you get to take one home. Bring 10-12 well-rooted plants of any kind or combination. Each plant must be labeled with the **botanical and common names** along with a note as to how to maintain the plant.

All plants will be staged outside at the back side of the building. Just drive around to the far side, facing the freeway. There is plenty of parking and it's an easy drop off and pick up.

Try and place plants in groups: annuals, perennials, vegetable, succulents, etc. Signs will be provided to help organize the space. Please, no plants are to be brought inside the meeting room (unless you're willing to stay and clean up!).

Educational Opportunity: Back to Natives

Propagation of Native Plants, Wednesdays, June 6 through August 22, 9am – 1pm, \$75

Participants will meet for 12 weeks to learn which native plants propagate best by seed, cuttings, layering, and division. Students will help propagate native plants for use in habitat restoration and environmental education projects. Most classes will be at the Back to Natives Nursery at Santiago Park. RSVP to education@backtonatives.org

Bonsai: Spring Preparation

By Don Martin

Different trees have different needs. Some are more vigorous in growth than others. Even soil, pot size and exposure to the elements can tell you when to water. Keep your bonsai damp, not wet, and never dry. You could water daily or alternate days. If you have Maples, it's good to pinch or trim. Don't wire soft growth until it hardens. The attention should be on the upper part of the bonsai as this part grows the fastest. If it is unattended, it will deprive the lower branches of strength and nourishment. Check the wiring during this fast growth period; don't let the wire cut into the tree. Sprouts of new branch growth should be eliminated and whips should be cut back about two or three leave clusters. This encourages fine twiggy branches and shorter internodes. Avoid bar branches, except this is not important in the upper structures. The month of May also brings in a population of insects and we all know who they are, particularly scale. You should repot in the early part of May.

PS: I told you about Evertt Bassin, AKA "The Tool Guy". He will be closing his business due to family health issues. If you wish to make a purchase before the final closing, call him at (714) 827 0661 before 11am or after 6pm to set up a time.

There is plenty of free parking at the Community College office building

The following routes are suggested:

From the 5 heading north: Take exit 105B for Main St/N Broadway. Keep right at the fork, follow signs for Main St. N, and merge onto N. Main St. Make a U-turn. Turn right at the first street, W. Santa Clara Ave. Take the next right onto N. Broadway. Building will be on the right.

From the 57 Freeway: Take the 5 Freeway south. Keep **right** at the fork, follow signs for **Main St/N Broadway** and merge onto **N Broadway**. Building will be on the left, on the north east corner of Broadway and Santa Clara Ave. Turn left on Santa Clara and then left into the parking lot.

Debris from the Editor

I will echo Jill O'Neill's comments about last month's garden tour. What a delight to see so many different gardens. Barbara Eave's backyard includes a secluded garden fronted by masses of iris, all blooming wildly. A narrow spit of dirt between the driveway and house was seeded with sweet peas. I loved her reclaimed potting bench filled with cactus and succulents. Anne Porter has just redone her front yard, but it's her covered outdoor room with a train circling the track as an added touch of whimsy that I yearn for. Her fairy garden is adorable and did you all see her orchid shelves for those plants not in bloom? Virginia Carlson's garden is always amazing. Her roses were fabulous, but so were the masses of columbine along the parkway. Her backyard was a shady respite while we munched on sandwiches and enjoyed the conversation and company of fellow gardeners as we marveled at her green thumb. Bob Anspach has also redone his front yard, but his garden deserves another visit when the plumeria are blooming. And we all envied the avocado he presented to Jerry Young (more on that later). I'll post photos on our website soon.

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2323 North Broadway, Santa Ana, CA 92706
Map to meeting site

