

Garden Clippings

Orange County Independent Master Gardeners' Newsletter

Volume 18 Number 10

November 2012

November Meeting

Saturday, November 3, 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
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 **R - Z**, please bring a breakfast snack. Other members are also welcome to bring goodies. 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.

Enrichment Program: Hummingbirds: Jewels of the Garden

Valerie Sinex and her husband are the owners of Wild Birds Unlimited in Yorba Linda, a shop the editor has patronized for years. Hummingbirds are the perfect accoutrement for any garden—they don't eat your fruit, nibble on leaves, or poop on your flowers. Learn how to attract them to your garden in a healthy and safe way.

Board Meeting: follows general meeting

Reminder! Dues are due!

Please pay \$20 at the October meeting
or mail to:
Diane Wilkinson
2612 Sherwood Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92831

Gardening Events

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

Sat. Nov. 17: "Native Plant Sale". 10:00am – 4:30pm. Potting Shed

There will be hundreds of plant varieties available.

Sat. Nov. 17: "Worm Composting". 10:00 – 11:30am. \$5/members and \$7/non-members/free to residents of Fullerton, Brea, Orange, Santa Ana and Buena Park

Learn how to introduce and maintain worms in your home composting system.

Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens 1500 N. College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711, just off Foothill Blvd. and east of Indian Hill.

<http://www.rsabg.org>. Pre-register for all classes by calling (909) 625-8767 x224.

Sat. Nov. 3: "Fall Planting Festival" 10am – 4pm.

More than just a plant sale! Includes free admission to the garden, gourmet food trucks, live music, and a bake sale. The **Fall Planting Festival** at Grow Native Nursery at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden will showcase thousands of California native and water efficient plants, many not available anywhere else.

The event will include a lecture series with 30-minute horticultural and landscape design talks: Dave Lannom on propagation at 10 a.m.; Frank Simpson on landscape design with PlantQuest at 11 a.m. and Scott La Fleur on creating a sustainable garden at 1pm.

Leaves from the President



Hello everyone,

I'm sitting here in front of the computer, slowly typing in with just one hand – and feeling sorry for myself. I had some surgery done on my left wrist Thursday and it HURTS. The doctor knew I'd probably want to get out and trim something or dig something up and get all dirty planting. And he would have been right! So he put me in a cast. Have you ever tried to hold a plant when your fingers won't come together? Doesn't work.

So this all made me think about family and friends and how we can all work together to share our ideas, fears, and pain. I may not be able to plant on a beautiful fall day like today; but I can watch you. And we can talk and share stories of gardens and special plants and people. We have a rich group of wonderful people to share our passions with. That really does help. Stay close.

Anne Porter, President
Orange County Independent Master Gardeners

Bonsai Care in October

By Don Martin

Fall is generally the climax of summer growth and the last spurt of growth before going dormant. Now you should anticipate and enjoy autumn colors. As leaves start to drop, remove trash from the surface of the pots. If clean-up is neglected, undesirable creatures such as slugs and sowbugs may come. This time of year, the day's sunshine is shortened, so reduce watering. A balance must be maintained of minimal watering and loss of moisture by transpiration and warm spells. This is also a good time to remove last year's wiring and check for wire cuts. New wire can be applied. Also give your evergreens and conifers one last feeding of mainly potash and phosphorous at 0-10-10.

New "Bonsai" book from Timber Press

Keshiki bonsai ("keshiki" means landscape), created by a designer named Kenji Kobayashi, is a different form of Bonsai. In his new book, *Keshiki Bonsai: The Easy, Modern Way to Create Miniature Landscapes*, published in October 2012, he shows you how to distill the essence of wild landscapes using readily available plants and containers. The results might remind you of a forest, a mossy stream bank, or a hillside. And best of all, they're easy to create and maintain.

The book contains thirty-seven projects, and each is accompanied by clear instructions and step-by-step photos. Kenji Kobayashi studied engineering and landscape design in his native Japan before learning about bonsai in Portland, Oregon. He has since returned to Tokyo to open a shop specializing in this form. The author's website is www.sinajina.com and the book is available directly from Timber Press or amazon.com for less than \$20.00.

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Herb Affair Celebrates Tenth Anniversary

Cynthia Polera-Waugh, Life Member
Orange County Independent Master Gardeners

Herb Affair 2012 held on May 12 at the Antique Rose Emporium was a resounding success, as Comal Master Gardeners celebrated the event's tenth anniversary. The emporium was the most appropriate of settings as the event featured the rose as the Herb of the Year as selected by the International Herb Society. Comal Master Gardeners greeted and talked to a constant flow of visitors (approximately 300 to 400 guests) throughout the day.

Meeting since early in the year assured that this year's event would be as special as always, but with the tenth anniversary and featuring the rose, every participant wanted it to be a most special occasion. This project takes at least 8 months of planning and numerous master gardeners giving their time and energies for its success. We started small and it has grown over the years. It is the highly anticipated Spring gardening event in the Bexar and Comal County communities.



The extraordinarily beautiful ambiance of the Herb Affair was designed to feature the Victorian era of roses. The interior of the building was transformed into a room filled with roses. The aura of a Victorian garden gazebo, greenery and blooms were in abundance as roses peeked in and about the gazebo.

2012 Herb of the Year, Rose Exhibits included:

Edible Flowers and Herbal Flowers
Natural Beauty with Herbs
Pressing Flowers and Herbs
Tussie-Mussies
Potpourri
Making Rose Napkin Rings
Herbs in the Landscape
Herb Gardening for Bees
Pestos
Sorbets: An Herbal Twist

Each table included samples for the visitors and how tos. The Herb of the Year is included in all refreshments and cookies are baked with the herb. Sometimes this can take some research and, of course, lots of testing.

The herb of the year for 2013 is Elderberry. Wish us good luck as we have already started discussing how to incorporate this in next year's event. We are thinking all herbs with emphasis on Elderberry. Also, we will not be able to have our affair at the Antique Rose Emporium again as they have consolidated their two locations to Brenham, Texas. We are very sad to leave but have always appreciated their assistance.

Hope this gives you some new ideas.

OCIMG Trainee Class

The newest class for OCIMG trainees has begun! If you're interested in auditing or assisting a class, please contact Bob Shaw at paradigmengineering@dslextreme.com or Jill O'Neill at oneilljill@sbcglobal.net. This year, we are trying a new scenario which allows the students to come to our monthly meetings for the enrichment program and mingle with the members. Be sure to wear your badge and greet our students. The November class schedule is below:

Nov, 3: Hummingbirds with the OCIMG
Nov, 10: Botany with Dave Lanham of Mt. Sac
Nov. 17: Tree Selection and Care with Don Case, arborist