



Sea Breeze

Riviera Garden Club

Costa Verde District, CGCI, NGC

September/October 2006

Issue 5

President - Judy Unrine

Editor - Geneva Martin

The Presidents Message:

Welcome back. What an exciting year we have planned for you. This fall, we will begin preparing for our Golden Jubilee that we will celebrate in 2007. The first of several events will be our Members' Tea. Pam and her committee promise a leisurely, relaxing summer afternoon, visiting with friends at Karen's home.

Mary and Sharon have been working to make your meetings interesting, educational and, most of all, fun. We want to run meetings on schedule this year: coffee at 9:30, business at 10 and speaker at 11. (9:15 for questions to Dianne.)

Looking forward to seeing you in September as we kick off preparation for our 50th

Fondly, Judy

Call Charlie Sappington to be added to her list to see her Night-blooming Cereus open.

Volunteer Opportunities

Arbor Day Co-Chair

Celebrate our 50th Anniversary with the dedication of a tree.

Gallery of Gardens

Collect and mount photos donated by our members taken in their garden or at a garden they have visited.

SCROC

Represent our club on the curriculum planning committee for the Horticulture Department.

50th Anniversary Celebration

Committee needed.

Torrance Marker

Cecilia needs help temporarily. Ability to drive to marker would be appreciated.



~ Reminder ~

PLEASE "Rush" to the RIVERIA GARDEN CLUB "MEMBERSHIP" TEA PARTY

On Sept 7th

**WHERE: Karen Murrey's 5210 Via El Sereno
Torrance, Ca. 90505 (310) 375-6454**

TIME: 1:00 until 4:00 pm

BRING: Finger Food

**RSVP (to) Pam Barrett (Membership) at
(310) 548-3926 by SEPT. 4th**

Audit and IRS

We send many thanks to Dave Sargent for taking the time to audit our books. He reported that our 2005-2006 books were in order and commended June Young for how well she had documented the bills turned in for payment.

We also want to thank Dave and Toni who worked this summer to revise our bylaws to satisfy the requirements mandated by the IRS for non-profit status.

Other summer workers...

Karen Murrey and Anne Jensen are working on the yearbook. We're all looking forward to seeing Anne's drawings again this year

Geneva Martin and Karen Lent are designing our own web-site. They will launch it soon. We will be able to check our calendar, view pictures of our activities, and share information with others interested in garden clubs and gardening.

Preview the web site at

<http://www.hollywoodriviera.org/Garden/>

Cherry Blossoms in New York



Picture by Karen Lent – April 2006

During an Easter Week visit to New York City, April 2006, we were awed by all things flowering: beautiful blooming trees, shrubs and bulbs bursting forth all over the park grounds, in front of the brownstones and filling every pot and urn in the city. But, what were those stunning pink, white and pinkish white blooming trees we saw everywhere? We soon found out that they were cherry trees.

We made a visit to the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens to see their blooming trees. When we took the path into the cherry alley we were treated to a lovely cherry aroma. People lay around, lounging and celebrating the beautiful trees - like they do in Japan. The Gardens have over 200 cherry trees.

The cherry genus belongs to the peach, plum, apricot and almond family. The flowers of the cherry are distinguished by groupings of flowers rather than single flowers. Besides the tree providing such gorgeous blooms, the cherry fruit is extremely healthy and tasty to eat.

Sadly, the beautiful cherry blossoms open all at once and hardly last a week. However, through fragrant memories, lovely pictures, the fruit – fresh and dried cherries last year round!!

Thank you so much Japan! Karen Lent

Garden Doctor

Rocketship Park:

We will continue to meet the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 am. Please join us. Sending a big thank you to all who helped this past year. The large Pittosporum 'Wheeler's dwarf' by the signs was vandalized this summer. Someone jumped in and broke out the centers. I have been trimming the side's back gradually and they will eventually fill in. Our main stubborn weed is that pesky nutsedge. It's easy to pull out, but insists on coming back. Our September workshop will be on September 12 at 10:00 am. It will be time to add more color around the marker which is always fun.

Plant Doctor/Horticulture:

Something new starting in September. I will be available at 9:15 am at our regular meetings for diagnosing garden problems and answering questions. Bring samples in zip lock bags. There will continue to be a written horticulture report hand out highlighting current garden issues and garden jobs for each month as well as a plant of the month to learn about.

This month most problems will probably be "heat related." "Insect population explosions" are common after hot weather and plants have been under stress and are more vulnerable to problems. Be careful with watering. It is still possible to over water, especially plants in containers with poor drainage. Plants will wilt in hot weather even if the soil is wet. Sometimes just a sprinkle to cool them off will help.

There will be new insects to talk about and how we can help our environment with watering and landscaping practices and other information I got at an all day seminar on IPM (Integrated Pest Management) entitled Healthy Gardens, Healthy Homes. Looking forward to sharing our gardens.

Happy Gardening, Diane

Riviera Calendar of Events

- Sept 7, 1-4 pm*, New Members Celebration, Home of Karen Murrey, 5210 Via El Sereno
- Sept. 10, 2-6 pm*, RHA 'Last Hurrah of Summer,' 9th Annual Concert in the Park with Lisa Haley and the Zydekats at El Retiro Park, 126 Vista del Parque. Our club will have a membership table. Contact Pam if you can help.
- Sept 19, 9:30-noon*, Board Meeting, Home of Toni Sargent, 156 Via La Circula, hostesses: Peggy Thomas and Jean Vasquez
- Sept 26, 9:30-noon*, General Meeting, Torrance Airport Meeting Room, Speaker Bob Golden – 'Everything you want to know about Begonias', hostesses: Pat Smith, Carolee Schuegraf, Virginia Schneider
- Oct 17, 9:30-noon*, Board Meeting Home of Claudeene Lyon, 256 Paseo de Granada, hostesses: Glyndis Dean, Wendy Eddy
- Oct 24, 8:30-midafternoon*, Trip to Malibu Lagoon, leave from Lago Seco Park, 3920 W. 235 St., Torrance

Local, District, CGCI and NGI Events

- Sept 13-15*, CGCI Fall Board Meeting, Fortuna.
- Sept 23, 8:00-3:30*, South Bay Begonia Branch Field Trip to three nurseries in Orange County. Contact Evelyn Isaac at 310-372-1547 or Diane Connell for details. \$23 due by Sept 14.
- Sept 27-Oct 2*, CGCI Garden/Theater Tour with gala opening of the NGC Butterfly Garden at the National Garden, Washington, DC.
- Oct 4*, Costa Verde District Meeting, South Coast Botanic Gardens – How to create Award Winning Table Designs
- Oct 21, 1-5pm, Oct 22, 10-4 pm*, Costa Verde District Flower Show – Celebration of Holidays throughout the Year, South Coast Botanic Gardens

RHA Concert in the Park

This Year's concert is being held at El Retiro Park on September 10 from 2-6 pm. We will have a table with information about gardening and garden clubs. Other participants will be El Retiro and Walteria Library, Torrance Historical Society and Save Old Torrance, The Torrance Fire and Police Department, and South Bay Energy Savings Center.

Hope you can join Pam there. What an enjoyable setting to share our love for gardening.

Costa Verde Flower Show

The District flower show in October is an All Table Setting Show. The theme is holidays. A 50th Anniversary Party could be our club's entry. Any other idea is welcome, and members can join individually.

Type I is a place setting for one or two displayed on a table. It would look similar to a place setting with floral arrangement you would do for a meal.

Type II is not functional. It does not incorporate a flower arrangement. Props are used to display the dishes, napkin, and flowers in unusual and artistic ways.

Miniature place settings are very small. Vase and flowers can be no more than 3", 5", or 8". The size of the dishes must be scaled to the floral arrangement.

RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB'S TRIP TO MALIBU LAGOON MUSEUM

OCTOBER 24

\$25.00

LUNCH on your own
at THE CROSS CREEK CENTER

For more information call

Mary Varieur or Sharon Saffer

Send or bring your \$25 to June Young

Membership

HI GARDEN CLUB LADIES: I hope you all had a very nice summer. For me, time disappeared way too fast! And now the 2006 / 2007 season will begin--are we ready? Over the summer we gained one new member:

Aleen Houston
21610 Linda Drive
Torrance, Ca. 90503-6261
310 - 316-2562

Other changes were: June Allen and Margaret White retired. Lynne Stern, Irene Brenner and Jan Kaminski moved. Barbara Davis and June Okomoto have too many other obligations. So ladies we lost "7" members and gained "1", now having a total active membership of 43 ladies, 12 associates (Joanne Solomon has become an associate) and 10 Honorary with Ethel Sellars becoming our newest Honorary Member. Perhaps our Membership Tea will bring us some new faces. Hope to see you all at Karen's!!!

Third Vice Pres. (Membership) Pam

El Retiro Library Flower Arrangement Assignments Fall 2006

Sep 5	Kitty Hill
Sep 11	Marie Hoffman
Sep 18	Pat Irwin
Sep 25	Pati Johnson
Oct 2	Toni Sargent
Oct 10	Jean King
Oct 16	Karen Lent
Oct 23	Shelly Lubinsky
Oct 30	Claudeene Lyon
Nov 6	Margaret Majid
Nov 13	Geneva Martin
Nov 20	Betty Moye
Nov 27	Hazel Mulqueen



Please pick up your arrangement at the end of your week. Thanks

Landscape of the Month

August's Landscape Award was presented to Wendell and Cindy Johnson. at 316 Via Bonita. Welcome to new Rivierans, Wendell and Cindy Johnson. This is a brand new house and garden that has quickly settled into the neighborhood. Chris Canaday of Masterpeace Gardens has created a sophisticated border of color, form and texture that meanders around the entire corner. It is a wonderful flowing blend of salvias, dodonarea, kangaroo paws, daylilies, penstemon, flax and stately liquid amber trees.

July's Landscape Award was presented to the Nitchman family at 4608 Newton Street. Paul and Jean Nitchman have created a beautiful country garden that harmonizes with their "colonial" style home. It delightfully combines the texture of foliage plants with the color of roses, geraniums, guara, daylilies and more. Note the sidewalk parkway strip that provides an appealing approach through soft set flagstone in gravel surrounded by low growing plants and shrubs.

Ruth Vogel

Health Update

Jean Levanas: As most of you know, Jean had a stroke this summer. Since then, she has been doing 6 hours of rehab daily at LCM in San Pedro. She is looking wonderful and will be returning to her newly remodeled, handicapped accessible home soon. She and her family want to thank you for all of the cards, letters, and flowers you have been sending. She wants to tell everyone, "Thanks! And remember to take your high blood pressure medicine as prescribed."

Merce Murner and Nadyne Shelton would also appreciate cards and notes. Both still enjoy hearing garden club news.