

## Riviera Garden Club



### Presidents' Message

The summer has been busy with meetings of the Gift and Finance Committees, as well as the installation of the Adele Gift at El Retiro and the removal of some plants at El Retiro in anticipation of their ADA remodel.

**Nancy** has been the facilitator for the Gift Committee meetings over the summer and reports on good projects coming from the work group. The projects will be presented at the September 24th general meeting.

**Geneva** worked with **Robert Carson**, Parks Service Manager, to guide the approvals for the Adele Gift to El Retiro Park through the Park Commission and City Council. Robert wants to work with RGC to group our gifts together. We have also been talking with the Streetscapes Dept. about possible projects in their areas.

Last year concluded with our finances in good shape, thanks to **Pam Barrett**, **Marilyn Rubin** and **Nan Clancy**, who jointly raised over \$5,000. We had good response on the dues increase, so the budget looks good for the year. The budget will be discussed in detail at the September 17th Board meeting at **Charlie Sappington's** home.

Happy Gardening,  
Nancy and Geneva

### Welcome Back, Members!

The Riviera Garden Club begins the new season of gardening and camaraderie on Tuesday, **September 24**, 9:30 a.m. at the Torrance Airport meeting room.

You will hear about the different approaches reached by the Gift Committee on how to use the profits from the 2012 Historic Home Tour to benefit our community. They will be presented by the topic coordinators:

- 1—*Branding and Beautifying the Riviera.* **Karen Lent**
- 2—*Environmental Workshops and Grants.* **Dina Wiley**
- 3—*Parks & Libraries.* **Nan Clancy**
- 4—*Schools, Children & Senior Programs.* **Wendy Tsuji**

Meanwhile, you will be able to visit the topic displays and discuss the various recommendations with the coordinators. Your input will be requested via an informal preference survey to be turned in by the end of the meeting.

See you on the 24th!

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### 2013-2014 Officers

Co-Presidents: **Geneva Martin** and **Nancy Weaver**

1st VPs: **Marilyn Rubin** and **Carole Lefevre**

2nd VP: **Gay Hargrave**

3rd VPs: **Allison Jones** and **Marybeth Muir**

Co-Secretaries: **Toni Ziegler** and **Sheila Kutkus**

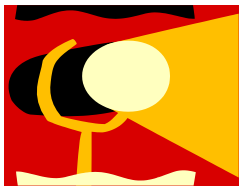
Treasurer: **Wendy Tsuji**

Parliamentarian: **Toni Sargent**

### Coming Up at the October Meeting . . .

**Marilyn Rubin** has an exciting speaker planned for you—**Andrew Chaves** of the Theodore Payne Foundation for Wildflowers and Native Plants. He will give a media presentation entitled "*California Natives, The Big Picture*" and will bring native plants available for purchase. The Theodore Payne Foundation (est. 1960) operates a California native plant nursery offering hundreds of different species and cultivars, and an education center with classes and field trips for adults and children. Their mission is to preserve, propagate, and promote California native plants, seeds, and wild flowers.

Where but in a garden do  
summer hours pass so quickly?



## Member Spotlight

### Toni and Dave Sargent

**Toni and Dave** each received the prestigious *Jared Sidney Torrance Award* for sustained service to the community. Mayor **Frank Scotto** presented the awards at a special ceremony of the Torrance City Council meeting July 23rd. "They have done so much volunteer work that *each* City Council member was needed to read a part of the list" reveals **Geneva Martin**, Co-President, RGC. "No doubt there was even more that did not get included. Many delighted RGC members and their spouses were in attendance." Congratulations, **Toni and Dave!** We are so proud of you!



Toni and Dave Sargent are surrounded by members of the Torrance City Council. From left, Pat Furey, Tom Brewer, Gene Barnett, Toni, Dave, Mayor Frank Scotto, Bill Sutherland, and Cliff Numark.

### L. B. Garden Club Hosts Seminar

The Long Beach Garden Club is pleased to invite RGC members to a Leadership Seminar presented by **Robin Pokorski**, past president of the California Garden Club. She will present tips on conducting an organized meeting, parliamentary procedure guidelines, increasing and sustaining membership, publicity, financial issues, and making connections.

This seminar will be held Thursday, October 17, 9:00 to 3:00 at St. Gregory's Church, 6201 E. Willow St., Long Beach. \$15 fee includes materials and lunch. Reservations by October 14 at [LBGardenClub@verizon.net](mailto:LBGardenClub@verizon.net). Mail checks made out to Long Beach Garden Club, 256 Claremont Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803. Direct questions to **Fran Woods**, 562-429-5450.

### Costa Verde District Meeting

As the RGC was the recipient of several awards this past year, RGC members may want to attend the CVD General Meeting October 2 at the South Coast Botanic Garden. Beginning at 9:30 a.m. with a social brunch and brief meeting at 10:00, the main program, at 11:00, will be led by **Trish Schooley**, award-winning photographer from the Naples Island Garden Club. She will present a slideshow featuring the beauty of Monet's Garden in Giverny. "Also," explains **Kitty Guzman**, Director of CVD, "we will honor all the clubs that won awards last year. They will showcase their awards and provide information on what it takes to be an award-winning club."

### Welcome to Our Newest Members!

- ◆ **Irma Chiota** joined us in May
- ◆ **Ronnie Silverstone** joined us in March
- ◆ **Yvonne Carnes** joined us in July

We look forward to meeting you at our garden club events!

*Kiss of the sun for pardon. Song of the birds for mirth. You're closer to God's heart in a garden than any place else on earth.*

— Dorothy Frances Gurney

### 501 (c) 3 is reinstated!

The 501(c)3 status was awarded to the incorporated Riviera Garden Club on June 25, 2013, and is retroactive to the date of incorporation, March 29, 2012. This means that all dues and contributions paid after incorporation are tax deductible.

Good news for all of us!

# Outstanding Landscape Awards

The Riviera Garden Club, in conjunction with the Riviera Homeowners' Association, proudly congratulates these Riviera homeowners, with appreciation for beautifully enhancing our area and community.  
 — Photos and articles by Karen Lent



May 2013—The Dennis Residence—5006 Via El Sereno

This colorful cottage garden features pink and white Peruvian lilies, bright pink fuchsia, fox-gloves, and azaleas among many other beautiful plants, under the limbs of mature magnolia, viburnum, and sycamore trees.

Always evolving, this shade-loving garden is lined with small boulders and accented with several Japanese maples.

Congratulations and thank you to successful garden lovers, **Cindy and Steve Dennis!**

Homeowners **Richard and Jamie Glimp** (shown with son, Jeremy) re-landscaped when they purchased the house five years ago. **Richard** tore out the lawn and terraced the gentle slope with small boulders and rocks, adding drought-tolerant landscaping. Silver dymondia is a very successful groundcover near the sidewalk. A variety of grasses meander up to the house entry where a landing has a bench on one side of the walk with a water fountain on the other. In June the orange kangaroo paws were popping among copper plants and smoke trees. Thank you, **Glimp family**, for your beautiful contribution to the neighborhood!



June 2013—The Glimp Residence—414 Camino de Encanto



July 2013—The Montelongo Residence—4817 Paseo de las Tortugas

The **Montelongo's** trim and charming ranch house highlights a lush green lawn and whimsical topiaries alongside the front window. A tall porch street light features hanging flower baskets, while a bower vine curves over the garage door. Colorful white and orange roses frame the inviting landscape.

Thank you, **Chris and Shelly**, for such a lovely neighborhood yard!

## Summer Happenings in the Hollywood Riviera

### Tree Dedication at Rocketship Park

The dedication of a liquid amber tree at Rocketship Park on June 18th was a great success. This magnificent tree was dedicated to former RGC member **Jean Winter**, who passed away in June, 2012.

The event was attended by Jean's daughters and several of her friends, as well as about 20 Club members. **Mark DeCrescenzo** from Torrance Parks conducted the dedication ceremony, while member **Pati Johnson** provided refreshments.

Below Left, a friend of Jean Winters' honors her while Gloria Balcolm, Nancy Weaver, Pati Johnson, and Claudeene Lyon look on. Below Right, Pam Barrett, Karen Lent, Wendy Tsuji, Marilyn Rubin, Allison Jones, Toni Sargent, Barbara Bratcher-Ott, and Ruth Vogel attentively listen to the ceremony.



Top Left, the tree is about to be planted. Top Right, Jean's daughters pitch in with Pati Johnson (Front Rt), while Gloria Balcolm and Claudeene Lyon watch in the background. At Left, a gathering of all those who attended the dedication.



### The Adele Project is completed!

In 2009, **Adele Rockwood** bequeathed \$5,000 to the Club for civic beautification. The "Adele Project" was presented to the Park Commission on June 12, 2013, and the City Council on August 6. The succulent garden at El Retiro Park is now surrounded by a lovely low wrought iron fence, and the adjacent area has new sod. This new fence replaces the former orange mesh fencing, and keeps children from trampling the garden.



## Hospital Garden Therapy

**Pati Johnson** (right) has been babying the dishes of succulents on her side stairs since March when they were created by RGC members **Nan Clancy, Eunice Hargrove, Aleen Houston, Pati Johnson, Geneva Martin, Betty Moye, Marilyn Rubin, Charlie Sappington, June Stevenson, Wendy Tsuji, Jean Vasquez, and June Young.**

In June, **Pati, June Stevenson, and Geneva** delivered the succulent dishes to Harbor UCLA Medical Center as gifts for patients, who can take them home when they are discharged.



Decorated succulent dishes await transport to Harbor UCLA Medical Center



Pati Johnson removes succulents . . . and hands them to June Stevenson



Geneva Martin, Dina Wiley, and Nancy Weaver display the Club's First Place Community Impact Awards at the CVC Awards meeting June 12.

## RGC Receives Awards!

The California Garden Club honored RGC with a **First Place** Community Impact Award for the Club's Historic Home Tour in June 2012, as well as a Blue Ribbon Certificate of Achievement for our 2012-13 Yearbook. We were also recognized for the video of the History of the Hollywood Riviera and the Program Book for the Historic Home Tour.

The National Garden Club awarded Civic Achievement and Grow Our Membership Certificates of Commendation.

Congratulations to RGC members who were involved in making our Historic Home Tour and our Club an award-winning success!

## Street Beautification Projects

The City of Torrance has removed dead trees and vegetation to revitalize the side of PCH across from South High. The overall project on PCH will include three parts: the center median, the South High side, and the homeowners tree strip across the street from the high school. The eucalyptus trees on the South High side will also be removed. This issue will be discussed by a member of Torrance's Public Works Streetscape Division at the October 16th meeting of the Riviera Homeowners Assn.

The Riviera residential streets are being resurfaced for weather protection, using Gas Tax funds. This fall, Palos Verdes Blvd. will undergo a major renovation, using Proposition C Bond Transit Funds.

*"My green thumb came only as a result of the mistakes I made while learning to see things from the plant's point of view."*

— H. Fred Ale

# Riviera Garden Club

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

*Sea Breeze*

*Sea Breeze* is a bi-monthly publication for the members of the **Riviera Garden Club, Inc.**, a registered 501(c)3 non-profit, philanthropic organization of the South Bay.

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Place mailing label here!

## A Sunshine Bouquet for . . .



**Pam Barrett, June Young, and Margaret Majid** who are recuperating from foot surgery.

**Judy Unrine** who is also recovering from a recent surgery.

**Marjorie McKarns**, whose husband, **Art**, passed away on August 2nd.

**Welcome Home** to **John and Karen Odom** who returned September 6 after John's five months of recovery from the Boston bombing.



Along the Garden Path

## Wedding Bells are Ringing!

**Congratulations** to **Glyndis Dean** who married **Robert Calley** in Yosemite on April 27th.

**Congratulations** to **Pam Barrett and Jim Hill** who will be wed October 5th on a Princess cruise.

## Happy Birthday, Members!



### September

2 Lynn Fernandez  
5 Aleen Houston  
19 Sharon Saffer  
20 Laurie Vaillant  
24 George Unrine  
26 Kathryn Joiner  
29 Connie Moseley

### October

5 June Young  
5 Carol Harrison  
8 Kay Kanuit  
8 Margaret Majid  
14 Bebee Moorhead  
17 Gene Hassan  
19 Mary Eninger  
24 Karen Lent  
28 Sheila Kutkus

## Calendar of Events

Sept 17 9:30 Board Meeting at **Charlie Sappington's home**

Sept 24 9:30 Member Meeting at the Torrance Airport  
**Hostesses: Geneva Martin, Michelle Friedman, Lynne Stern**

Oct 15 9:30 Board Meeting at **Gay Hargrave's home**

Oct 22 9:30 Member Meeting at the Torrance Airport  
**Hostesses: Sheila Kutkus, Pat Heilmann, Claudeene Lyon**

**Nov 12\*** 9:30 Board Meeting at **Wendy Tsuji's home**

**Nov 19\*** 9:30 Member Meeting at the Torrance Airport  
**Hostesses: Lynn Fernandez, Gene Hassan, Tecki Poletti**

Dec 15 11:30 Holiday Party at Blue Water Grill  
**Coordinators: Mr & Mrs Santa Claus (Pam Barrett & Jim Hill)**

\* Note earlier meeting dates due to Thanksgiving