



# Riviera Garden Club

## Sea Breeze

COSTA VERDE DISTRICT, CGCI, PACIFIC REGION, NGC

Volume 58, Issue No. 1

January- February 2015

### From our President

The winter rains have certainly been beneficial for our yards and gardens. Earthworms are happily enjoying the rain-dampened soil. I have had to rescue a number of earthworms that mistakenly took refuge in our garage and in the street curb gutters. Fortunately they are alive, and happily reproducing now that they're back in the soil. In my Lago Seco Community Garden plot I have been harvesting kale, rhubarb and the last of my zucchini. I recently planted broccoli, onions, turnips, radishes, red and gold beets, snap and shelling peas, spinach and other various herbs. The Rubin family will have many delicious fresh organic veggies in our future.



In December at the Christmas party, **Nancy Weaver** collected all our new donated items for the UCLA Harbor General Hospital Men's Outreach. **Cavin Shorter** and **Geneva Martin** delivered them to the hospital. THANKS! Did you know that our donated items are given to male patients who might have had their clothing cut off of them in the emergency room or perhaps ruined by being involved in an accident? Our items are put into a repository at the hospital and then they are given to needy discharged male patients if these men need something to wear on discharge.

I would like to thank **Toni Sargent** for her work collecting toys and clothes for the Salvation Army Christmas Angels. Another BIG THANK YOU is for past RGC president **Geneva Martin** who has been my mentor and idea sounding board as I settle into the RGC presidency role. A THANK YOU to **Sharon Saffer**. She is graciously taking over the job of Program Chairman 1st V.P.

from me. Sharon will coordinate the speakers and the hostesses; and she will take reservations for our April excursion to Pasadena.

THANK YOU, other caring RGC members, for your involvement and help with our club's various activities.

I wish all of you GOOD HEALTH in 2015.

Marilyn Rubin

Email me at [president@rivieragardenclub.org](mailto:president@rivieragardenclub.org)

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Table at Holiday Party

## Calendar of Events

### Riviera Garden Club:

**January 20**, Tuesday, 9:30 am. RGC Board Meeting, Geneva Martin

**January 27**, Tuesday, 9:30 am. RGC General Meeting, Airport, **The Future of Organics** by Melody Funk of **Dr. Earth**.

**February 17**, Tuesday, 9:30 am. RGC Board Meeting, Marybeth Muir

**February 24**, Tuesday, 9:30 am RGC General Meeting, Airport, **Arranging Succulents Vertically** by Sandy Chase

**March 17**, Tuesday, 9:30 am. RGC Board Meeting, Marilyn Rubin

**March 21**, 10-11, Succulent Basket Workshop at El Retiro Library. *Sign up to help*

**March 24** Tuesday, 9:30 am. RGC General Meeting, Airport, **Bromeliads for the Home and Garden** by Jerry Robinson of Rainforest Flora

**April 21**, Tuesday, 9:30 am. RGC Board Meeting, Kathryn Joiner

**April 22**, 4-5, Monarch Butterfly Food Workshop at El Retiro Library. *Sign up to help*

**April 28** Tuesday, 9:00 am. RGC Bus Trip, Lago Seco Park, Arlington Gardens and Storrier Sterns Japanese Garden in Pasadena, \$45 *Sign up to go*

### Other:

**February 2-5**, CGCI Winter Board

**February 27 - 28** Designs for Dining, St Francis Church, Palos Verdes Peninsula

**February 28 -March 8** Philadelphia Flower Show

**March 4**, Wednesday, 9:30 am. Costa Verde District Meeting, SCBG, What to plant in a coastal climate by Ellyn Meikle. Hosted by Riviera and San Pedro. *Sign up to help*

**March 18-22** - San Francisco Flower Show

**April 23**, Wednesday, 8:30 am. Costa Verde District Bus Trip to Costa Mesa Flower Show at South Coast Plaza, Fee \$15

## Member News & Tidbits

### Congratulations

#### January Birthdays

Jean Vasquez	02	Jeannie Brown	05
Linda Rosenfeld	07	Mary Varieur	16
Bertie Wood	16		

#### February Birthdays

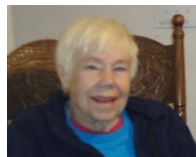
Anne Jensen	02	Rita Wagstaff	22
Martha Bragg	23	Gay Hargrave	23
Dina Wiley	26		

The Walteria Library staff sent RGC a Christmas card. Thanks to Marilyn Rubin for tending the landscape at Walteria Library.



Thanks to Pam and Jim for hosting another great holiday party.

### Remembering Hazel



Hazel Mulqueen, a member of the club since 1998, passed away in December. She had been falling for a couple of years. Finally a fall from her horrendous front stairs created complications she couldn't overcome. Hazel's son said at the funeral that the last six months taking care of her had provided him an opportunity to get closer to her.

Hazel was a great fan of second hand shops. She was always up for helping out at Penny Pines and White Elephant sales. She helped on the yearly hospital therapy projects. She will be missed.



Lorraine Ornelas, long time member of San Pedro Garden Club and active in the district and the state, passed away in December.

## **Costa Verde District Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 4, 9:30-noon**

Ellyn Meikle will talk about drought-smart plants and how to care for them. The focus will be on succulents and cactus, using them in artistic live arrangements. Ellyn will bring examples of her beautiful and creative live arrangements.

Ellyn owns Water Wise Garden Center (25633 Crenshaw at Rolling Hills Way, Torrance). South Coast Botanic Garden, \$2

## **Salvation Army Angels**

Many thanks to all the Riviera Garden Club members who so generously donated over fifty gifts of toys, games and clothing for the angel project this last holiday season.

Ernesto Madrid, the Director of Stillman Sawyer Center, was very pleased. Ernesto thoroughly checks that all the recipients need the help provided.

The Salvation Army is the number one social service organization in the USA. **Toni Sargent**

## **Landscape Awards**

Given by the Riviera Garden Club and the Riviera Homeowners Association  
Lynn Fernandez, Bobbie Davison and Neva Gallegos  
Pictures by Julian Chasin



January 2015 – The LaCorte residence – 3837 Bluff St



December 2014 – The Pogue residence – 335 Via Linda Vista

John LaCorte's water wise garden features a mature Valencia orange tree in the courtyard. In front of that are cacti, a blooming yucca, colorful Haemodoraceae (kangaroo paws) and contrasting types of mulch all on a drip irrigation system.

A small statue of Buddha and an iron lantern accent the space. John did most of the work himself with the help of a friend.



November 2014 – The Sasso residence – 102 Via Sevilla

## **Healing Garden**

### **Torrance Memorial Medical Center**



Torrance Memorial Medical Center recently completed the Lundquist Tower and the new Healing Garden. The Healing Garden, dedicated November 2014, incorporates water features, seating areas and beautiful foliage. Japanese maple trees are surrounded by many low growing ferns and a variety of succulents. The Healing Garden is a place to relax, reflect and relieve stress which enhances the healing process.



**Kathryn Joiner and Auxiliary Member Peggy Brewald**

The Torrance Memorial Auxiliary Volunteers pledged a million dollars to help create the Healing Garden. The Healing Garden is open to the public daily. It has become a peaceful refuge for many. What a pleasure it is to see patients and their families as well as staff members, volunteers and visitors enjoy this serene garden at the Torrance Memorial Medical Center. Donations in any amount for the Healing Garden continue to be welcome.

**Kathryn Joiner and Nan Clancy**

## **April Trip to Pasadena Gardens Sign up at the Meeting**

### **General Meeting at Airport**

**Tuesday, January 27, 9:30-noon**

Melody Funk, the **Dr. Earth** company territory manager, will present a program entitled "**The Future of Organics.**" She will explain why we need to feed our soil NOT just our plants. Melody will explain how using organics can improve soil texture and also how using organics can help our plants survive and thrive during these critical drought conditions.

Our Costa Verde District Director, Kitty Guzman, will be attending.

### **General Meeting at Airport**

**Tuesday, February 24, 9:30 to noon**

Sandy Chase, a succulent aficionado, will teach us how to make a vertical succulent arrangement. She'll show us what plants we need and she'll show us how to either build or where to buy the frames for these unique vertical arrangements.

### **Help Needed - Sign up at the Meeting**

- Help Charlie with the Penny Pines Sales - needs help loading & unloading car.
- Bring a brunch dish to the district meeting.
- Help with Succulent Basket Work Shop at El Retiro on March 21.
- Help with Monarch Butterfly Food Workshop for Kids on Earth Day, April 22