

**BURBANK-VALLEY GARDEN CLUB**

# OVER THE GARDEN WALL

*Member of the San Fernando Valley District, California Garden Clubs, Inc.,*

*Pacific Region, and National Garden Clubs, Inc.*

*Newsletter Number 201 **May 2024** Editor: Ingrid Nonnast*

## **May 2, 2024 Bus Trip**

Japanese Garden and Green Thumb Nursery

8:30 a.m. Arrive at Little White Chapel to sign in

9:00 a.m. Bus Leaves promptly

3:30 p.m. Bus will return to Little White Chapel



## **May 2024 President's Message**

Happy May Gardeners,

Spring is in full swing, gardens are bursting with life. Our days are beginning to warm up with many of us already planting for the summer. We begin the month of May with our annual fundraising Field Trip. Thanks to Kathy Itomura's leadership as our Third Vice President (3<sup>rd</sup> VP) Ways and Means, this year we will be visiting the Tillman Water Reclamation Center Japanese Garden followed by a picnic lunch at the Green Thumb Nursery. We hope you will join us.

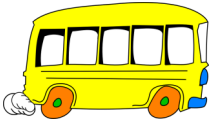
Kathy serves our club as 3<sup>rd</sup> VP, in charge of coordinating fundraising projects. As many of you might know, Kathy will be relocating to Northern California in June. Our club will need to find another member to be our 3<sup>rd</sup> VP. As our 3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Kathy has been working really hard on a variety of fundraisers this year. These fundraising projects include: 1) dining out at local restaurants, the Ramp with Barrigans coming up this month, 2) our monthly meeting raffle, 3) November Plant/Boutique Sale, and 4) working with the 2025 Garden Calendar Committee to publish our first calendar later this year. All of these fundraising projects are ongoing and do not require a lot of member time to coordinate

Through our fundraising we are able to support a variety of club projects in our community, as well as provide worthy environmental/horticulture students with a scholarship. I hope you will consider being part of our Club Board as the new 3<sup>rd</sup> VP. Please let me know if you might be interested in this very important role.

*Robin*

*Happy Mother's Day*

Printed By: Burbank Printing, 3131 West Burbank Blvd., Burbank, CA



**Japanese Garden and  
Green Thumb Nursery Tour –  
Thursday, May 2, 2024**

Join your pals and bring along a friend for the bus trip to view the Japanese Garden at the Tillman Water Reclamation Center in the Sepulveda Dam Basin. Arrive to Little White Chapel at 8:30 to sign in, meet your friends, use the restroom, hop on the bus. Don't forget to bring your own lunch with you; a snack and water will be provided by the garden club.

Bus will leave promptly at 9 a.m. We will spend about an hour or two at the Japanese Garden before re-boarding our charter bus and heading up to Santa Clarita.

The Green Thumb nursery is excited to have us visit. We can eat our lunch there in their pavilion and also enjoy a lecture on "Integrated Pest Management" by one of their professional nurserymen. The object of his talk is to inform us how we can garden better with less chemical inputs (and reduce our costs!).

Of course, there will be time to shop. Members who have visited this nursery say it's one of the best, not to be missed.

Please send your check made out to Burbank-Valley Garden Club, Venmo, or give your cash to treasurer Ingrid Nonnast by April 30. The cost is \$20 per person. Invite a potential garden club member and friend to come with you!

Bus will return to Little White Chapel by 3:30 p.m.

If you have questions about the tour, call Kathy Itomura at 818-642-1003.

**Dine Out and Donate on May 16!**

Barragan's Restaurant is happy to host us Thursday, May 16 any time between 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. 20% of your food order, whether dine in or take out, will be donated back to Burbank-Valley Garden Club.

Why not make it a special occasion and ask friends and family to join you ! You do not need a flyer or coupon; just remember to say to your server when you place your order, "I'm here for the fundraiser!"



**Welcome New Members**

**Sisters:**

**Kathleen Hyson**

6136 Auckland Ave  
North Hollywood, CA 91606  
818 762-4847  
Khyson001@aol.com

**Teri Alderete**

6136 Auckland Ave  
North Hollywood, CA 91606  
818 762-4847

**Happy May Birthday!!!**

- May 3 Grace Davis
- May 5 Terry Rhodes
- May 8 Mimi House
- May 10 Roland Neundorf
- May 11 Robin Gemmill
- May 13 Diana Garcia
- May 18 Margarita Codina
- May 26 Susan Law
- May 26 Carol Shankman
- May 28 Barry Foose

**Integrative Pest Management (IPM) Article**


Robin Gemmill

During our upcoming May field trip we will have an opportunity to hear from Green Thumb Nurseryman John Windsor. John has graciously agreed to take a few minutes to speak on Integrative Pest Management, IPM, as it is commonly known. Integrative Pest Management is an ecosystem based strategy that focuses on the long-term prevention of pests through a combination of techniques. We can create and manage a healthy ecosystem in our gardens by:

- 1) growing crops that can withstand pest attack,
- 2) choose disease resistant varieties of plants,
- 3) provide habitat, food and water for beneficial predators and parasitoids, and
- 4) monitor our garden plants often to catch problems early.

So you might be wondering how do I accomplish all of that? Many gardeners manage to create a healthy garden by using a variety of approaches to control pests. These include having natural predators, such as the ladybug in the garden for too many aphids. Or by growing nasturtiums or marigolds, you can attract the aphids away from your vegetables. This is considered biological control. If you are growing vegetables, make sure you do not grow the same vegetable in the same spot year after year. Move your vegetables around in the garden so as to not deplete the soil of important nutrients that set the stage for pests to settle in. This is a cultural control method. You can also remove the pest from the garden by manually removing the pest from the plant. Many gardeners will remove tomato horn worms from their tomato plants. This is physical or mechanical control. The last resort approach, is to apply a pesticide. If you choose to apply a pesticide, you are encouraged to read the label on the bottle, talk with your nursery expert, understand what the pesticide will do to the pest, humans and other organisms/animals that visit your garden. Pesticides carry long term side effects that could potentially impact ourselves and our environment.

*SunnyAesq@aol.com*



**SUNNY CHARLA ASCH**  
*Attorney At Law*

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## GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY

Noella Ballenger

For the last couple of months, I have been photographing some of our members' gardens for the upcoming calendar next year. It is a fascinating project that combines wonderful visits with friends and getting to know them a little better by seeing the variety of interest and taste as they shared their yards and gardens.

But rather than talk about individual yards because we want you to be surprised when the calendar comes out, let me share the way that you can improve your garden photography. Most, if not all, of us have a wonderful camera in our phone. I really debated between using my phone or professional cameras to do this project. The camera is only a box ... it is your ability to see that counts.

Here are some tips to really improve your garden photography.

You have a limited amount of space in the frame of your photograph so use all of it! Unless something adds to the image, leave it out. This would include things like large walkways or even patches of dirt. If it doesn't add to the image, leave it out.

Decide what the subject of the photograph is going to be and emphasize it by making it the most important thing in the image.

Backgrounds matter so watch what is behind the subject. To fix this either move the subject or move yourself.

Bend your knees and get down to the flower's level or bring the flower up to your level. Looking down on plants isn't always the best way to show them off.

If you have strong sun and dark shade in your photograph, use your flash outside...it fills in the dark areas and keeps the exposure correct on the light areas.

Don't stop photographing if the sky is cloudy or even rainy. The colors become more intense in those conditions.

Take more than one photograph of the subject as sometimes the light or your position will change slightly and one or the other will be just a little better.

Hope these tips help you make beautiful and unique images in your garden.

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## Mrs. Chipmunk Speaks

Our forest engineers have been busy working even through the rain and snow. Mr. Hank, chief beaver engineer, and his crew of four other beaver buddies have dammed one creek that runs by my tree home. It has created a pond that will slow the water so that the surrounding grounds can soak it up. These canals form and spread the moisture through the area. The team managed to fell the trees with their strong and large teeth and created this dam. It was wondrous to see.

## Mrs. Chipmunk Speaks (continued)

Several of my fellow forest friends and I watched as this was being done. We were so grateful for their efforts and chattered our thanks to them. They seemed to know how we felt and excitedly chattered back at us.

Beavers have been doing this wetland building for a long, long time. Then man entered the forest and started damming up the creeks, thus preventing the flow of water to the floor of the forest. Creating these ponds slows the flow of water and thus the earth has more time to absorb the water. The weblike system of canals spreads the moisture through the floodplain. Many of the trees within the wetlands had to be felled by our furry friends, but only those that encroached on the wetlands.

When, and if, we have another fire and man sees how this helps the forests, I bet we will see more beavers moving into our forest. New neighbors who can help us to keep our forests safe. Welcome new neighbors! Hooray!

### April 4, Meeting

Katherine Pakradouni spoke about her work as the creator of the first Miyawaki-inspired micro-forest within the Griffith Park Bette Davis Park. A most interesting topic enjoyed by members.



**B**urbank-Valley Garden Club  
907 North Clybourn Ave  
Burbank, CA 91505-2701

*2023-2024  
Executive Board*

**President:**

Robin Gemmill

**1st Vice-President, Programs:**

Rosalia Gomez

**2nd Vice-Pres., Membership:**

Janet Jack

Susan Law

**3rd Vice-Pres., Ways & Means:**

Kathy Itomura

**Recording Secretary:**

Anne White

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Nancy Bryant

**Treasurer:**

Ingrid Nonnast

**Parliamentarian:**

Terry Davis



**Happenings**

**May 20 - May 22**

CGCI Convention

92nd Annual Convention May 20-22, 2024

Host: Golden Foothills District.

Chairman: Sue Bennett

**May 23 @ 8:00 am—May 24 @ 5:00 pm**

Flower Show Symposium

Wyndham Hotel, 5321 Date Ave

Sacramento, CA 916 246-6791

CGCI Symposia Chairman, Jan Goehring

Registrar, Nina Blonski

**June 2—June 5**

NGC 2024 Convention

The NGC Convention will be held in Denver, CO

**May 16—10:00 am**

Burbank African Violet Society

Little White Chapel

Program is Leaf Bingo—actual games of bingo to win named African violet leaves. The Vice President will demonstrate how to plant an African violet leaf.