

OVER THE GARDEN WALL

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

Pacific Region, and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

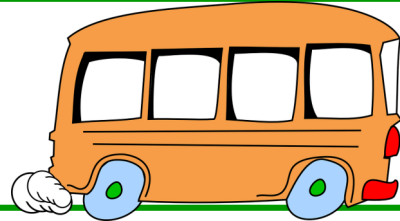
Newsletter Number 191 May 2023 Editor: Ingrid Nonnast

May 4, 2023 Field Trip Getty Villa at Malibu

8:45 a.m. Please arrive at the Little White Chapel

9:15 a.m. Bus departs from Little White Chapel

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR MAY 2023

What could be better on a day in May than a bus trip to an ocean villa with garden club friends? This is what we may look forward to on Thursday, May 4th; I hope to see most of you there, picnicking at the Getty Villa together! If you have not already sent in your \$25 check payable to Burbank-Valley Garden Club, our treasurer, Ingrid Nonnast, will accept your payment through May 1st. Ingrid's address is 907 N. Clybourn Ave, Burbank 91506. If you have questions about the trip, call Susan Law at 818-400-2970 .

Thank you, everyone who enjoyed eating at The Ramp during our April fundraiser. We appreciate you. And thanks go to Marlene Osborne, who set this up for us again.

At our April meeting we were delighted to welcome former co-President, Grace Davis, back to our meeting for the first time in a few years. We also voted to memorialize Grace's dear husband, deceased club member Vince Davis, with a Penny Pines Plantation.

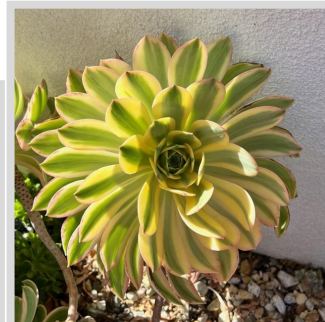
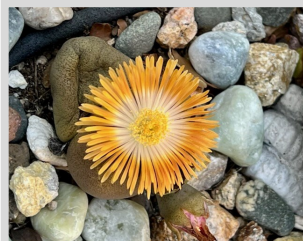
This month I toured 14 native plant gardens with the Theodore Payne Foundation and found inspiration in each of them. Spring is the climax of the garden year for native plants and with the deep rainwaters we received, native gardens have never looked lovelier or bloomed more profusely. The insects are having a feast, and the birds are fattening up their babies with insects. The great circle of life is on full display everywhere I look. If you can, take a walk in your neighborhood and feast your eyes and all your senses this month before the heat knocks the flowers down. And please see the article on importance of native plants and insects on page 4.

It's that time of year when we renew our commitment to our garden club, so please renew your membership. Enclosed herein is a Dues Notice; fill it out and either send with your check by mail or bring it to the May field trip or the June meeting. Be sure to take a moment to fill out BOTH sides of the page. The second side is a very brief Survey. As soon as our garden year is concluded (end of June) your new officers begin planning for next year. They will give serious weight to what you tell them on these Surveys. At our last meeting the Suggestion Box returned and it will be available at our next two events, the Field trip and the June Tea. The best garden meetings are the ones that answer your needs!

Best wishes,

Kathy

Janet Jack's Garden Pictures



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May 4, 2023 Field Trip Getty Villa at Malibu

The bus will depart at 9:15 a.m. from Little White Chapel, 1711 North Avon Street in Burbank, and return about 4 p.m.

We will lunch outside at picnic tables. Be sure to bring your lunch with you. You may also purchase lunch at the Café.

Quilt Donation for June Tea Raffle

BVGC is again fortunate to receive a beautiful quilt for our June Tea raffle.

The quilters are one part of the Sewing, Knitting, Crochet Group out of Joslyn Adult Center. All finished projects are donated to charity. The members of this group belong to The Burbank Volunteer Program.



HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS !

May 3	Grace Davis
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



May 18, 2023 @ 10:00 A.M.

African Violet Society

The Little White Chapel Christian Church, 1711 North Avon Street in Burbank.

The program and learning lab will be presented by Vice President Luis Pineda on "Prevention of Pest Control and Disease of Your African Violets". There is always something new to learn when growing America's favorite houseplant, the African violet.

There are raffle and silent auction tables. Refreshments are served and friendships are made. Guests are always welcome.

Sustainability

By Gail Vanderhorst, Sustainable Consumption Chairman

WACONIAH

The word "sustainable" means "able to create and maintain conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic and the requirements of present and future generations".



So again, it means recycling and/or reusing products more than once. Most of us are doing just that and contributing to the sustainability of the planet. We, as garden club members realize the importance of taking care of our earth and being responsible with the products that we use. So here are a few products that fit that criteria:

Reusable water bottles are one way to make a meaningful contribution to reducing one's carbon footprint and preventing billions of single-use plastic containers from littering the planet. Here is one from Costco: The ThermoFlask 32 oz and 40 oz tumblers are available.

Here is a sock recycler: Smartwool.com has a waste reduction program that will recycle donated socks into dog beds; they will take any brand of sock. Check out Smartwool.com.

Patagonia, a leader in sustainable textile practices, has released a line of coats using NetPlus material, made with fully traceable 100% recycled fishing-net fabric sourced from fishing communities in South America. This has multiple benefits. It keeps 'ghost' nets from harming marine ecosystems and provides economic benefits for the fishing communities. Patagonia.com is the source.

ThredUp extends the life of clothing and makes it easy to shop secondhand. You can send in items via the brand's Clean Out Bag. If clothes are in good condition, ThredUp lists them on its site, and you get a percentage if they sell. It recycles clothes that aren't sellable, or you can pay a fee to have them returned to you. Resale of clothing is certainly not new, but ThredUp has made it more glamorous. More information at ThredUp.com.

Continue doing what you are doing with regard to recycling and add one or two more ways you can reduce the waste and carbon footprint on our planet.

- Some ideas from *Good Housekeeping*
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Vince Davis' Memorial Service

There will be a memorial service for Vince Davis on Wednesday, May 17th at 11:00 am in the Wylie Chapel at the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood, 1760 N. Gower St, Los Angeles 90028. Luncheon to follow in the fellowship hall.

If you plan to attend the lunch portion, please notify Anne White 818 434-3616 so that we can provide a head count.

The Gardener's Calendar May 2023

By Robin Gemmill, Master Gardener

Pollinators: Garden Heroes

Bees are the most famous of pollinators. Other pollinators spreading pollen from flower to flower include wind, birds, butterflies, wasps, animals and, believe it or not, humans. The transfer of pollen grains from the male part of the flower, the anther, to the female part, the stigma, enables fertilization/pollination or the ability of the plant to reproduce, generating more seed for the following year. Roughly 75% of our flowering plants, including fruit, vegetables, nuts and seeds, rely on pollinators to distribute pollen in support of healthy genetic diversity/ecosystem. Sadly, bees, birds, butterflies, insects, flies, beetles, and wasps are struggling to maintain their populations due to disease, parasites, pesticides, loss of habitat and other factors.

Support biodiversity and pollinators by planting a wide range of flowering plants especially those preferred by pollinators. Remember to plant in sunny areas of your garden where pollinators like to visit. Consider establishing a clean source of water. A shallow bird bath is always a great way to add visual interest to your garden while providing safe clean water in the garden for pollinators to drink without drowning.

Native and non-native pollinator plants available at local nurseries may include the following:

Native Perennial: Beard Tongue (Penstemon), California Fuchsia (Zauschneria californica), California Buckwheat (Erigonum)

Herb: Borage (Borage officinalis), Rosemary (rosmarinus), Thyme (thymus vulgaris)

Native Shrub: Coffeeberry (Rhamnus californica), Red Flowering Currant (Ribes Sanguineum)

Native Annual: California Poppy (Eschschozia californica)

Non-native Annual: Nasturtiums (tropaeolum)

Support the pollinator heroes in your garden by planting plants that attract pollinators around and throughout your garden. Some of these do very well in containers on a balcony or patio too!



Low-Maintenance Flowers for Southern California

Santa Barbara Daisy

Summer brings plenty of show-stopping bloomers, including Santa Barbara daisy, a vigorous, no-maintenance garden plant with gray-green leaves and profusions of yellow-center flowers. The petals start out as white but fade into pink or purple.

Growing Conditions: Part sun and well-drained soil

Grow It With: Create beautiful masses in the garden with mounds of [coreopsis](#).

In My Garden

By Charlene Gallagher



I planted these California poppies two years ago and have had an Easter bonnet boulevard every Easter since.

The month of May, according to the Gregorian calendar, is named after *Maia*—the goddess of springtime and growth. Historically, the gentle warmth of the month caused flowers to blossom, crops to sprout, and people to dance. Children made garlands from greenery and participated in joyful celebrations on the first day of May.

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Romelle Culotta

"Gardening for Diversity and Doug Tallamy's Big Idea"

By Kathy Itomura

Doug Tallamy is professor and Chair of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology, Univ. of Delaware, and author of "Bringing Nature Home" and "Nature's Best Hope." He reminds us that we all depend on plants for our daily diet (even if our diet is 99% hamburger and steak; those beef animals are vegetarians!) and nearly all plant life depends on insects and their pollination activities.

We are seeing a shift from grass lawns to native plant landscapes attracting a tremendous diversity of native insects, birds, reptiles, and small mammals. Tallamy points out how costly those lawns are, yet give little value in return. They support very little insect life; they are little green deserts separated by paved walkways and driveways. By contrast, a local native plant garden in Beverly Hills, the Gottlieb Garden, has already attracted 1,835 distinct species of living creatures just since January of this year!

This brings us to Doug's Big Idea: Homeowners can plant native plants on the borders of their properties with native plants. It doesn't have to be a whole yard. Even a modest increase in native plant cover increases the number and species of breeding birds. Will the insects eat up your garden? No, because one breeding pair of birds brings hundreds of insects back to their nest daily. Tallamy calls this the "Homegrown National Park." To learn more and become part of a Big Idea, go to www.homegrownnationalpark.org.