

OVER THE GARDEN WALL

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

Pacific Region, and National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Newsletter Number 199 March 2024 Editor: Ingrid Nonnast

Agenda March 7, 2024 Meeting

9:30 a.m. Doors Open
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting
11:00 a.m. Speaker, Roxie Esterle
"Cacti and Succulents: A Prickly Passion"



March 2024

President's Message

Winter in Southern California has started with record breaking rain. Over this last month we have seen heavy to moderate rainfall, in some cases breaking rainfall records. While we are a little water logged now, we must not forget to conserve and collect as much rainwater as we can, summer drought is not far off.

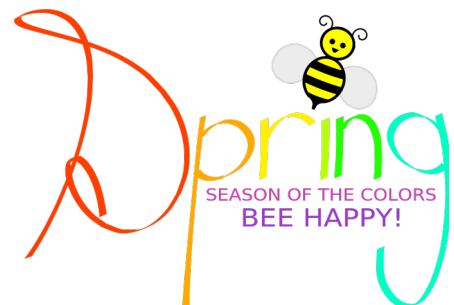
There are a variety of ways to harvest rainwater. An easy way to start, if you have rain gutters collecting rainfall make sure the gutter is connected to a rain chain or downspout. Both direct rain that falls on your roof downward into the garden or water storage system such as a rain barrel. Rain barrels are available for purchase from a Metropolitan Water District Distribution Events held throughout the year. Burbank Water and Power offers rain barrel rebates through these events. If you would like to learn more, here is the link. <https://socalwatersmart.com/en/residential/rebates/available-rebates/rain-barrels-cisterns/>

Another option, create a rain garden. Start by observing how the rain falls on your property. Follow the water's path as it flows through your garden landscape out into the street stormwater drainage system. As you observe the water's path look for low lying areas in your garden. The low lying or garden depression is a perfect place to establish a rain garden. As the rainwater flows through the rain garden, the water will slowly seep into the soil where soil microbes clean the impurities and pathogens. The continuous movement of water downward into our local ground water aquifer, recharges our water supply while further purifying the water. Creating a rain garden allows us to replenish our ground water supply while creating a beautiful garden landscape.

Within the new rain garden space we can plant a variety of native plants, perennials, wildflowers and succulents. Our guest speaker this month Roxie Esterle will share her passion for Cacti and Succulents. Please join us at the Little White Chapel on Thursday March 7, 2024 at 10am for our monthly meeting to learn more about cacti and succulents.

Happy Spring !

Robin



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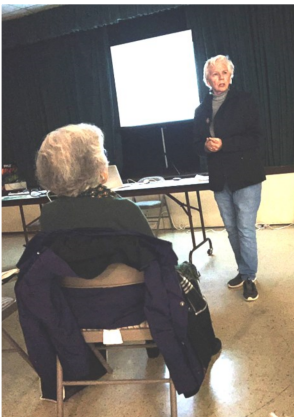
March 7, 2024 Meeting

Speaker, Roxie Esterle
"Cacti and Succulents: A Prickly Passion"

Roxie Esterle is world traveler. She has visited unique biological habitats including the Galapagos Islands, Madagascar, Borneo, Ethiopia, South America and South Africa. Roxie's presentation will begin by defining the characteristic of "succulents" in plants, then clarifying the difference between cacti and succulents.

February 1, Meeting with Andrea Polk

February speaker, historian Andrea Polk, fascinated garden club members and guests with a deep dive into San Fernando Valley history, geology, and political beginnings. We kept her talking long after her hour was over and members agree, Andrea must come back.



March Raffle Item

Kathy Itomura

This large decorated china container will be included in the March raffle. It is suitable to hold an extra large houseplant or it may be equipped to contain a few goldfish and a small water plant. Think of the possibilities.



Recycle for Cash

Kathy Itomura

Many thanks to member Ana Maria Barillas, who will begin collecting aluminum cans and plastic water bottles. Bring them to our meetings and Ana Maria will take them to Recycle for cash refunds. This is a "two-fer" because you will be effective recyclers AND our club will receive cash for what you bring.

Remember, ONLY clean aluminum cans and clear plastic water bottles! **No food cans.**

Fundraiser at "The Ramp"

Wednesday & Thursday March 13 & 14
Hours: Noon to 9 p.m. both days.



The Ramp offers American and Italian foods and is located in Burbank at 7730 N. Hollywood Way.

Call 818-768-6499 to make reservation and be sure to say "for the Garden Club". Bring the enclosed flyer with you.

Happy March Birthday!

March 13 Jean Hladilek
March 17 Shari Pearce
March 21 Debbie Shaffer



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A How-To-Guide to Gardening by the Moon

Almanac.com



Gardening by the Moon is a great way to plan your garden. Many gardeners follow the age-old practice of planting by the Moon's phase for a healthier, more produc-

tive garden. Gardening by the Moon isn't anything new. Gardeners and farmers have been using moon-phase gardening for ages! Best of all, it's a fairly simple process.

The basic idea behind Gardening by the Moon is that the cycles of the Moon affect plant growth. Just as the Moon's gravitational pull causes tides to rise and fall, it also affects moisture in the soil.

Therefore, it's said that seeds will absorb more water during the full Moon and the new Moon when more moisture is pulled to the soil surface. This causes seeds to swell, resulting in greater germination and better-established plants.

Moon phase gardening considers two periods of the lunar cycle: the time between the new Moon and the full Moon (the **waxing** of the Moon) and the time between the full Moon and the new Moon (the **waning** of the Moon). It's considered best to plant certain types of plants during the waning of the Moon and other types during the waxing.

The Moon also impacts plant growth through geotropism—how plants grow in response to gravity. Roots grow downward in the direction of gravitational pull, and stems grow in the opposite direction (i.e., upwards). This behavior can be easily demonstrated with potted plants. Lay one on its side, and the stem will grow upwards. Or, consider a tulip bulb: if you plant the bulb incorrectly with the pointed end down, it will turn around and send its shoots upward, even though it's in total darkness.

How to Plant by the Moon's Phases

To plant by the Moon, follow these guidelines:

Plant your **annual flowers** and **fruit and vegetables that bear crops above ground** (such as corn, tomatoes, watermelon, and zucchini) during the **waxing** of the Moon—from the day the Moon is new to the day it is full. As the moonlight increases night by night, plants are encouraged to grow leaves and stems.

Plant **flowering bulbs**, **biennial and perennial flowers**, and **vegetables that bear crops below ground** (such as onions, carrots, and potatoes) during the **waning** of the Moon—from the day after it is full to the day before it is new again. As the moonlight decreases night by night, plants are encouraged to grow roots, tubers, and bulbs.

Planting calendar available for download at:
<https://www.almanac.com/gardening/planting-calendar/zipcode/91505>

Change zip code to your own zip code.

Happenings



March 13—8:30 a.m..

San Fernando District Bus Trip together with Costa Verde District South Coast Botanic Garden 8:30 a.m. Departs from Balboa Park Presentation and Luncheon \$40 Donation RSVP Gail Vanderhorst by March 6th gg411@pacbell.net, checks payable to SFV District

March 16 —9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free

Southern California Garden Club Plant Sale A Plant Market Extravaganza will be held at the home of Gail & Hank Vanderhorst.6536 Langdon Ave. Van Nuys 91406. Contact Publicity Chairman Greg Pokorski, GregPokorski@earthlink.net, 818-361-7873 or Club President Gail Vanderhorst, gg411@pacbell.net, 818-988-3631

March 21, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

African Violet Society Little White Chapel 1711 North Avon St., Burbank Vice President, John Hershey will be giving the program "Structural Conversation about African Violets". There is always something new and exciting to learn about growing African violets, America's favorite house-plant. Guests are always welcome. For more information call Laura Carpenter 661 940-3990. Website: www.burbankafricanviolets.weebly.com

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Master Gardener

Grow LA Gardens Class Schedule

Every Spring and Fall Master Gardeners offer introductory garden classes. These classes are offered throughout Los Angeles area as an in person or as a hybrid (combination in-person and zoom garden class) class. Here is a link to learn more.

https://celosangeles.ucanr.edu/UC_Master_Gardener_Program/Grow_LA_Victory_Garden_Initiative_Class_Schedule/



Local Happenings

The Huntington

First Thursday of every month is Free Day. Admission is Free with advanced reservation. Check out this website link for more information.

<https://huntington.org/free-day>

Descanso Gardens

March 22, 2024 from 4:30-7pm Free Admission to the Cultivate: A Living Plant Museum

To learn more visit this link....<https://www.descansogardens.org/event/cultivate-a-living-plant-museum/>

Wisteria Festival

Saturday March 17, 2024 9-5pm Celebrate the Guinness Book of World Records Wisteria Vine. <https://www.sierramadrechamber.com/>

Brand Park

March 17, 9-2pm Free Annual Sakura Matsuri Cherry Blossom Festival with Bonsai Displays and a Tea Ceremony for \$25. <https://www.glendaleca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/70180/638138617423830000>