

OVER THE GARDEN WALL

BURBANK-VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

*Member of the San Fernando Valley District, California Garden Clubs, Inc.,
Pacific Region, and National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Newsletter Number 220 April, 2026 Editor: Ingrid Nonnast*

April 2, 2026 Agenda

9:30 a.m. Doors Open
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting
11:00 a.m. Farm to Table —Speaker: Tami Chu



April 2, 2026 — President's Message

Happy Spring Gardeners,

Spring is a special time of year. A time of transition and opportunity. This April we have again been invited by the City of Burbank to participate in the annual Earth Day celebration. Celebration of Earth Day will be on Saturday April 25 at McCambridge Park from 10am-2pm. We will host a table, introducing ourselves to residents while answer gardening questions and sharing seed packets. This is our opportunity to share with our community what we do, the organizations we support, some of our recent projects and speakers and what fun we have every month. Anyone interested in participating please let me know.

Thank you to all members who helped make our Plant Sale and Basket Boutique a wonderful success. We doubled our fundraising over last year. These funds will allow us to give generously to two deserving high school students who are pursuing horticulture, environmental or sustainable careers. A special thank you to Brad Korb, Trader Joe's, Cynthia's Succulents, Sylmar High School Horticulture Program, and to everyone who donated items for our baskets. We appreciate everyone's input and energy in making our club the best we can be in service to our garden community.

May 14, 2026 we will be taking our annual Field Trip to the California Botanical Garden in Claremont. We will take a 1 hour guided tour of the gardens with a special focus on the Wildflowers in bloom. There will be a tram available for those who would like to forgo the garden walk. Please let me know if you want to take the tram, as we only have room for 15 members. Following the tour we will have an opportunity to enjoy their patio area for lunch. You can either bring your own lunch or order a Box Lunch from Handy Market, salad or sandwich for \$14. The Bus ride is free, however we need at least 40 people for the free bus. So feel free to invite your friends and neighbors to join us. Tickets for the trip are \$20. We look forward to having all club members join us for this field trip.

This month our Speaker will be Tami Chu, Publisher, Editor in Chief of Edible San Fernando Valley. Tami is a local foodie who will speak with us about the Farm to Table movement. What it is, how the movement has impacted local farmers, transformed how folks view their food along with how this movement improves your health and the health of our environment.

I hope you will join us on Thursday April 2, 2026 at the Little White Chapel at 10am. The address is 1711 North Avon Ave Burbank, CA 91505.

Robin

Successful ! That is what it was. Burbank-Valley Garden Club's Plant Fundraiser Donations

This is the amount of donations BVGC raised at the Plant Fund Raiser:

Plants	812
Baked Goods	92
Raffle	590
Succulents.....	113
Venmo	78
Thank you for total donations of	1685



Burbank-Valley Garden Club

April 2 Meeting –Farm to Table Speaker:Tami Chu



Tami Chu will speak on how Farm to Table came about, how it has impacted local farmers, how the movement has transformed how folks view food, their health and the health of their local communities.

Tami Chu, a local foodie, the publisher of *Edibles San Fernando Valley Magazine*, will speak to us on Farm to Table.

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PIZZA WITH A PURPOSE

Show this flyer or mention the organization listed below on your visit, and California Pizza Kitchen will **DONATE 20% OF ALL FOOD & BEVERAGE SALES** on your check to the organization listed below. Purchases include dine-in, take-out, catering, and online orders at CPK.com when you enter **BACK20%** at checkout.

FUNDRAISER IN SUPPORT OF:

Burbank-Valley Garden Club

April 2nd - 10 am - 10 pm

DATE

Let's get together after our April meeting!

VALID AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION:

CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN

Burbank - California Pizza Kitchen

601 North San Fernando Rd.

ADDRESS

(818) 972-2589

Fundraiser valid only on the date(s) and at the CPK location(s) identified on this flyer. Only 501c organizations and non-profit schools are eligible to participate in CPK's fundraiser program. CPK will donate 20% (twenty percent) of all food and beverage sales to the organization. Tax, gratuity, gift card and retail sales are excluded from the donation. Valid for dine-in, takeout, online, catering, curbside or delivery orders placed directly with CPK. Not valid for orders placed or fulfilled through third-party delivery. Void if flyer is distributed in or near restaurant. For more information about the 501c organization participating in the fundraiser, please contact the organization directly. Not valid at franchise locations in Guam, stadium, university, international, airport locations, or the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino.

"Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors and let's have a great turnout!"

Happy April Birthday!

April 3

April 7

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Noella Ballenger

Vonda Neundorf

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April 2026 Newsletter

DO YOU LOVE ORCHIDS? YES, YOU CAN GROW THEM!

By Arthur Hazboun, South Bay Orchid Society

(Excerpt of an article published in the
CGCI Golden Garden Newsletter)

While orchids do grow differently than roses, geraniums, and Dutch irises, there are just a few things you need to know to be successful at growing orchids.

First, most of the orchids we grow are epiphytes, which means that their roots need access to air. In the wild, many orchids grow in trees or on rocks where their roots are exposed. If you plant a Phalaenopsis in soil, it will die very quickly because the roots cannot breathe. This represents one of the biggest and most important differences among plant families that you need to understand.

Now there are a few basic things we need to know to be successful orchid growers. It starts with buying the right kind of orchid for you. Many people make the mistake of buying a small inexpensive plant. This is not a good strategy for learning to grow orchids. Orchids can store nutrients and move them when and where needed within the plant. If you buy the largest and healthiest plant you can afford, it gives the plant time to adjust to the new growing conditions and gives you time to learn how to care for it. The plant can take some abuse while the two of you get acquainted.

EASY ALL-YEAR OUTDOOR ORCHIDS: Cymbidiums (Cym.), Dendrobiums (Den.), Cattleyas (C., L., Lc., Blc., Slc. Rlc.), Oncidiums (Onc.), Zygopetalum (Zygo.)

EASY INDOOR GROWERS: Phalaenopsis (Phal.)

There are five simple things you need to know to be successful with orchids (besides what orchids grow in); these are, water, temperature, sunlight, fertilizer, and airflow. Water, temperature, and light are the more critical, so we'll start there. **Watering:** Most Southern California water is adequate for the orchids I've listed above. So, you may water them right from the tap. Most orchids we buy are growing in either fir bark or sphagnum moss. **Growing in bark:** • Water early in the morning after breakfast. • Water the mix in the pot, not the leaves. (It is OK for the leaves to get wet.) • Water all around the pot to saturate all the bark. • Water should stream out of the holes in the bottom of the pot. • Watering frequency will vary depending on the time of year, temperature, humidity, growing media, size of plant and pot. During typical Southern California summers (and even our freak summer-like periods in the winter) you'll need to water twice a week. During the winter, once a week should be sufficient. **Growing in sphagnum moss:** Dig your finger down the inside edge of the pot (a couple of knuckles at least) and feel if it is still wet. When it begins to feel like it's getting dry, pour a few ounces of water on top of the moss. The moss acts like a sponge. You don't want to over saturate it and you don't want to let it dry out completely. Orchids like humidity. If humidity is low, such as during a Santa Ana condition, you may need to water more frequently. If possible, misting the plants on dry days is also a good practice. If you are not watering enough, Phalaenopsis leaves will not be smooth; they will appear dehydrated and sag.

New leaves of Cymbidium, Oncidium, and Zygopetalums will have "accordion" folds in their leaves. If you water too frequently, the roots will rot, and the plant will not take up water and nutrients sufficient for good growth and blooming. **Watering don'ts:** Don't water in the late afternoon or evening. Don't let water sit in between the leaves at night. Watering in the morning provides enough time for any water sitting in between leaves to evaporate before nightfall. And don't fill up a bucket and dunk each of your orchids one after another. This is how you can spread viruses from one orchid to another and there is no cure (except the trash can) for an orchid virus.

In My Garden By Charlene Gallagher

I thought it was spring...so, I took my trusty wheelbarrow, soil amendments, shovel, hose, and a bottle of water. I was prepared...so, so, proud of myself!

A great spring-like day, temperature 72 degrees, about 11:00 a.m. I leveled the ground by the side gate, raked and cleaned the site!

Let's see...got the potting soil, small pebbles for the bottom of pot for drainage. Vermiculite hose on standby...ready to go. Loaded the mid-sized half-wooden barrel carefully with pebbles on bottom. For drainage, mixed some of the soil along with vermiculite as I filled the barrel. Soaked it good with the water from the hose...Had set it in the perfect spot, and now to let the excess water drain out of the bottom while I take a break. Time for my soap opera and lunch.

Nice day to plant, sun out, not hot, fresh air...back at it.

Plant Midnight Bluebeard Shrub (Caryopeteris)



Not cheap to buy, smaller than I thought it would be....but oh! so beautiful when it blooms.

The easy part...carefully planted, mulched on the top after a touch of water. Does not like being soggy.

Done. Or, I thought so!

Never see my plant till fall...next day...100 degrees. Had to cover with a shade cloth and clothes pins to keep in place and my neighbor passed by to get into his car and had the gall to say to me "nice plant!"



Burbank-Valley Garden Club
7 North Clybourn Ave
Burbank, CA 91505-2701

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Corresponding Secretary:

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Happenings

Saturday, **April 18 and 19** 10 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.
South Bay Orchid Show and Sale
Palos Verdes Art Center,
5504 Crestridge Rd, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
More information about the event can be found
at: <https://www.southbayorchidsociety.com/>



Saturday, April 18, 2026 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM

“An Evening at the Movies!”

Southern California Garden Club Standard Flower Show

Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino 91436

Southern California Garden Club presents its 59th Flower Show.

Floral Designs, Horticulture, Educational Exhibits. Plant Sale,

White Elephants, Baked Goods. Free.

Carol Vallens CVallens57@gmail.com (818) 378-1313

Thursday, April 16, Burbank African Violet Society

Little White Chapel, 1711 North Avon St, Burbank, CA

Vice President, John Hersey, presents: “Growing to Show:”

<https://burbankafricanviolets.weebly.com/>