

BURBANK-VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

OVER THE GARDEN WALL

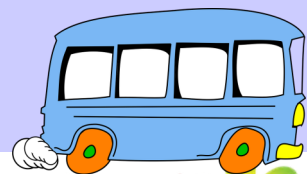
*Member of the San Fernando Valley District, California Garden Clubs, Inc.,
Pacific Region, and National Garden Clubs, Inc.*

Newsletter Number 221 May, 2026 Editor: Ingrid Nonnast

May 14, 2026—Agenda

Bus Trip to California Botanical Garden in Claremont

8:30 am Board Bus at the front entrance of Little White Chapel on Avon.



May 2026 – President's Message

Happy May Gardeners,

We all enjoyed a great speaker last month, Tami Chu, Publisher, Editor in Chief of Edible San Fernando Valley. Tami, a local foodie and nutritionist, spoke with us about the Farm to Table movement. She spoke about how we can help local farmers through visiting the Farmers Market or purchasing a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) box. The delicious dishes Tami made for us were all made of produce from local farms supported by GoodBox Organics, <https://goodboxorganics.com/>

The June Tea Committee is busy organizing and planning for our annual event to be held on Thursday June 4, 2026. This year we would like to thank our Board members for voting to purchase the food for the event. To stay within budget we will be making this a members only event. Everyone will need to RSVP to confirm and save yourself a seat by May 22. RSVP's are accepted through your email invitation link or by calling and leaving your name and number with Laura at (818) 353-7673. Music and entertainment will also be provided. I hope everyone will be able to join in on the fun.

This month we will not hold our monthly meeting on May 7. Instead we will be taking our annual Field Trip to the California Botanical Garden in Claremont on May 14, 2026. The Bus will pick us up at the front entrance of Little White Chapel on Avon, at 8:30am. We will leave at 9am sharp. You are free to park in the Church parking lot. Please bring your bottled water, snacks will be provided. Tickets for the trip are \$20, send your money to Treasurer Ingrid Nonnast by May 1.

Once we arrive at the Gardens, we will take a 1 hour guided tour of the gardens enjoying all of 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. 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 \$14. If you want to order a box lunch, send an email or call Robin Gemmill with type of sandwich or salad, no later than May 7. Sandwich options, ham, turkey, roast beef and veggie. Salad options, green, Greek or taco. While at the Gardens you will be able to tour the Native Plant Nursery to purchase a plant or two. We will return to the Little White Chapel by 3pm. We look forward to having all club members join us for this field trip.

We are also taking Membership Renewals for the 2026-2027 Garden year. Membership is \$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family. Please remember to turn in your Membership Renewals by June 30.

I hope you will join us on Thursday May 14, 2026 at the Little White Chapel at 8:30am.

The address is 1711 North Avon Ave Burbank, CA 91505.

Robin

History of our Bus Trip in May

Since 1927, California Botanic Garden has been at the forefront of California native plant conservation, research, horticulture and celebration.

As early as 1927, California Botanic Garden's (formerly Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden's) visionary founder, Susanna Bixby Bryant, saw the increasing pressure exerted by development on California's native plants and habitats. Concerned about the preservation of California's diverse plants, she set aside 200 acres of her Santa Ana Canyon Ranch near Yorba Linda, CA, as a native plant garden in memory of her father, John William Bixby. The garden was dedicated to growing and fostering an appreciation of the native flora. Mrs. Bryant consulted with leading botanists in planning and establishing her Garden and, for many years, took personal responsibility for direction of the Garden.



Farm to Table

Tami Chu, Publisher, Editor in Chief of Edible San Fernando Valley, shared with us the benefits of buying local produce which contributes to the nutrient quality of the food we eat. Our efforts to support Farm to Table benefit our local environment, farmers, as well as our own health.

For those who would like to purchase produce from a Farmers Market, there are many in the Southern California area. We are fortunate enough to have a local Farmers Market here in Burbank every Saturday morning from 8am-noon, located at 101 N. Glenoaks, Burbank, at the corner of Glenoaks and Olive. For those who live elsewhere please pick up a free copy the Spring Edition of Edible San Fernando Valley at Random Acts of Breadiness located at 2214 Magnolia Blvd, Burbank. Please consider subscribing to Edible San Fernando Valley to support local farmers by visiting Website :

<https://ediblesfvalley.com/>



The food was delicious.

Greetings From Alex aka Tomato Girl

Specialty and Vegetable Gardener

It's spring veg season! I hope your plants are in the ground; you're running out of time! And don't forget to prune off any tomato branches that are touching the ground!

It's loquat season right now, and it's about to be stone fruit season! Keep your eyes out for fruit trees on public property to forage from!

If you'd like your very own fruit tree, TreePeople is giving them away! They have 3 give-away events this month!

Speaking of fruit trees, did you know that fruit trees like a round drip line around the edge of their canopy? If your sprinklers are hitting the trunk or branches of your fruit trees, they're rotting the wood!

I can't wait for tomatoes to be back in season!!!



Happy May Birthday

May 3	Grace Davis
May 5	Terry Rhodes
May 8	Mimi House
May 10	Roland Neundorf
May 11	Robin Gemmill
May 18	Margarita Codina
May 26	Susan Law
May 30	Rita Arif



Plants that are Especially Good for Bees in May

(Copley's Garden Center)

In May, top plants for attracting bees include nectar-rich perennials and shrubs like **Salvia**, **Catmint (Nepeta)**, **Bee Balm (Monarda)**, and **Lavender**. Other excellent choices for early spring, often blooming in May, are flowering herbs like Thyme, fruit trees (apple, pear), and spring-blooming perennials like Lupine, Comfrey, and Golden Alexander.

Top Perennials for May

California Native Plant Society)

Salvia (Perennial Sage): Long-lasting purple, pink, or blue spikes loved by bees.

Catmint (Nepeta): A hardy, long-blooming plant that provides constant pollen.

Bee Balm (Monarda): Very attractive to bees and beneficial insects.

Lavender: Aromatic and highly attractive to honeybees.

Coneflower (Echinacea): A staple for attracting bees and butterflies in late spring/summer.

Alliums (Ornamental Onion): Provide early, essential pollen.

Flowering Herbs and Shrubs

Thyme & Rosemary: Herbs that are excellent for foraging bees.

Chives: Easy to grow, producing violet globes that bees love.

Fruit Tree Blossoms: Apple, Pear, and Cherry tree blossoms are crucial for early bees.

Lilacs: Provide early-season nectar.

Meet Your Local Bees

Bees are essential to people and our planet. They are a vital part of the biodiversity humans depend on for survival. Bees pollinate a large portion of our food supply and support wild ecosystems every day.



Common Local California Bees

(California Native Plant Society)

Crotch's Bumble Bee (*Bombus crotchii*): A robust, fuzzy bee often found visiting sages, listed as an endangered species.

Valley Carpenter Bee (*Xylocopa sonorina*): Large, noisy bees; females are solid black, while males are fuzzy and golden-orange.

Green Sweat Bee (*Agapostemon texanus*): Small, striking metallic green bees that nest in the ground.

California Mason Bee (*Osmia*, formerly *renovata*): Gentle, early-spring pollinators that use mud to build nests in cavities.

Urbane Digger Bee (*Anthophora urbana*): Ground-nesting, solitary bees that often form large colonies.

Longhorn Bees (*Melissodes*): Known for exceptionally long antennae, these often forage on sunflowers.

Squash Bees (*Peponapis*): Specialized pollinators that sleep in or nest beneath squash and pumpkin plants.

Key Difference to Note

Native vs. Honey Bees: Unlike the introduced European Honey Bee, most California native bees are solitary, do not produce honey, and are far less likely to sting.

Nesting Habits: Roughly 70% of native bees nest in the ground, while the remaining 30% nest in wood tunnels or beetle burrows.

Threats: Native bees are threatened by habitat loss, pesticide.



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

2025-2026 Executive Board

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Nancy Bryant

Treasurer:

Ingrid Nonnast

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Happenings



Friday, May 1 @ 9:00 am - 10:00 am Rose Garden Tour,
Descanso Gardens

Join our horticulturists for a guided walking tour to learn about the history, horticulture, and unique quality of the Rose Garden during peak bloom season. Tours may include off-path exploration. Included with admission, no registration required.

Monday, May 4—Wednesday, May 6, 2026 NGCI

2026 National Convention St. Louis, Missouri

Hotel Information and Registration link:

<https://gardenclub.org/events/2026-convention>

Monday, May 11, 2026—Thursday, May 14, 2028 All Day

2026 CGCI Annual Convention

Handlery Hotel, San Diego, 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego 92108

Hosted by Palomar District, Chairman, Diana Drummey & Sharon Lowery

Theme: "**Seeds of Liberty - Celebrating America's 250th Birthday**"

Saturday, May 16 • 9 AM - 3 PM Eagle Rock Garden Tour 2026

Women's 20th Century Club of Eagle Rock, 5105 Hermosa, Los Angeles, Explore five spectacular gardens, experience a rare glimpse behind the gates of our historic neighborhood. After the tour, join us for a lively Garden After Party at the Women's 20th Century Club, featuring DJ music, entertainment, a vibrant garden atmosphere, and shopping at the Garden Hive Market.

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Jazz at LACMA – The Los Angeles County Museum of Art's annual Friday Night Jazz series returns on May 2, offering free weekly concerts at Smidt Welcome Plaza.