

OVER THE GARDEN WALL

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

Newsletter Number 215 November, 2025 Editor: Ingrid Nonnast

November 6, 2025—Agenda

9:30 a.m. Doors Open
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting
11:00 a.m. **Travels in Japan: Gardens**
Speaker: Bruce Hale,
International Trip Leader,
Sierra Club



November 2025 — President's Message

Hello Gardeners,

Fall is finally here. Now is the time to consider replacing your lawns with native landscape. November through March is the perfect time to plant a native landscape. During our cooler months native plants receive consistent moisture to become established. The rainy season allows native seeds to germinate, perennials and shrubs to focus their energy on root growth making them more resilient during our hot summer months. This month we will be working with club member Kathy Itomura on planting the Native Landscape garden outside our Burbank Community Garden Hollywood Way garden fence. For all club members wanting to help plant, please Save the Dates of November 14-16 for native landscape planting of the Hollywood Way Native Garden. Kathy will be on hand to guide and educate everyone on how best to plant natives.

The holiday season will be here before you know it. The Holiday Committee is organizing our annual Holiday Party. We will be hosting our annual Potluck Holiday Party with music, games and entertainment on December 4. During our November meeting we will have a Pot Luck sign up sheet so everyone can sign up to bring in their favorite salad, hot dish, appetizer or dessert. Holiday entertainment will be provided by pianist Steven Solomon. We will also have a \$15 gift exchange.

Fundraising is key to our ability to support community projects as well as our student scholarships. We will continue to have our 2026 Calendar on sale for \$10 during our November meeting. These are great gifts for the upcoming holiday season. Our November restaurant fundraiser will be held at the Hill Street Cafe located at 3301 North Glenoaks, Burbank, CA. Many members will be enjoying lunch at Hill Street Cafe on November 6. Remember all proceeds go towards our student scholarship.

This month our speaker will be former club member Bruce Hale, Bruce is an International Trip Leader for the Sierra Club. Bruce will present garden highlights of his recent travels to Japan. Speaking about traditional Japanese landscape, a balance of human activity and ecological sustainability. He will also share photos of his visit to the famous Zen gardens, shrines and Buddhist temples in Kyoto, as well as the garden tour of the Peace Memorial Park in City of Peace Hiroshima.

As usual we will meet the first Thursday of the month on November 6 at 10am at the Little White Chapel. Located at 1711 North Avon St Burbank, CA 91505.

I hope you will all be able to join us. I look forward to meeting new members and catching up with each of you.

Robin

November 6, 2025—Travels in Japan: Gardens

Speaker: Bruce Hale, International Trip Leader,
Sierra Club

Bruce has been an international trip leader with the Sierra Club since 2006. He lives in La Crescenta. When he is not gardening, he has a passion for travel. He has toured China, Tibet and Mongolia. This year he visited Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Bruce will present gardening highlights of his travels in Japan. Bruce will be speaking about Japanese culture, beautiful gardens and ancient Japanese traditions. He will tell us about all the numerous Japanese famous cities, mountain villages, Zen gardens, shrines and Buddhist temples that he visited.

An Interesting October Speaker with an Unusual Topic

Our speaker last month was Sam Shoemaker, a sculpture artist who shared his

passion for art and mushrooms. Sam transformed ordinary tree mushrooms found here in Southern California into gorgeous art sculptures. Learning about mycelium and how to use mushrooms as source for his sculptures led him to discover a wide array of potential uses for mushrooms/fungi. Along this journey of discovery Sam decided to create a mushroom kayak, something few thought was possible. After months of research along with trial and error, Sam built a mushroom kayak/boat which he used to cross 26 miles of ocean from Catalina Island to San Pedro during August of 2025

The mushroom kayak/boat is currently on display at the Fulcrum Arts Studio in Pasadena located at 544 North Fair Oaks. This display along with video

of the 12 hour trek and a detailed open-source collection of his research will be open to the public from October 10, 2025 through January 17, 2026. You are in for a real treat.



Planting Your Winter Garden

Raymond Patterson , *Great Garden Plans*

Timing is important when starting a winter garden. The best time to prepare and plant for winter is in the late summer to early fall. This allows plants to establish before the cold sets in.

Choosing the Right Location

Selecting the ideal location for your winter garden is vital. Look for a spot that naturally receives sunlight, as most winter plants thrive with at least six hours of sunlight daily. Areas that are shielded from harsh winds can also help your winter garden flourish.

Choosing the Right Plants

There are various plants that thrive during the winter months, providing both beauty and nourishment. Here are some popular choices for winter gardening:

Greens: Spinach, kale, and collard greens are hardy vegetables that grow well in cooler temperatures and can even withstand light frost.

Root Vegetables: Carrots, turnips, and beets not only survive but can develop sweeter flavors after being exposed to frost.

Seed Selection and Sowing

For the greens and root vegetables mentioned earlier, you can directly sow seeds into the prepared soil. Follow these guidelines for success:

Follow the Package Directions: Always check the seed packets for specific planting depths and spacing recommendations.

Layer of Mulch: Once planted, cover the area with a layer of mulch to retain moisture and regulate soil temperature.

Transplanting Seedlings

If you prefer starting your plants indoors, you can transplant seedlings into your winter garden as soon as they have developed a few true leaves. This method can result in stronger plants that are better suited to withstand colder conditions.

Maintaining Your Winter Garden

Once your winter garden is in place, proper maintenance will keep it healthy and productive.

Watering Regimen

Even in winter, plants require water to thrive. Be diligent about monitoring soil moisture, especially during dry spells. Water your garden thoroughly, aiming for deep watering sessions rather than shallow ones.

Protection from the Elements

Cold snaps and frost can be detrimental to your winter plants. Implement protective measures, such as:

Row Covers

Lightweight fabric can help trap heat and insulate tender plants during extremely cold nights.

Pest and Disease Management

While winter pests are generally less of a concern, they can still pose problems. Regularly inspect your plants for signs of pests or disease. Healthy plants are generally more resistant, so maintaining good garden practices goes a long way.



Kathy Itomura Tells Us About Her New Life!

If it should come into your life that you must move (as I did), take heart! There are garden clubs almost everywhere! I am now an active member of the San Mateo Arboretum Society, a CGCI and NGCI garden club. And you know how garden people are: so welcoming, friendly, interesting, and fun to be with. I walk to garden club three times a week which means three times a week I exceed ten thousand steps.

"They have a small group working on propagating California native plants, and of course, I immediately joined that group. Plus, we are creating a demonstration of native plants in San Mateo's Central Park and I'm helping with that as well. Here is a picture of the school-children helping us on the first phase planting day back in April:



Wish us luck - we just applied for an NGCI Plant America Grant to expand this new garden next year!

I live in a condo nestled into downtown and almost everything is within walking distance. My sons and their families live close too, so I get to see everyone often. I have even met them unintentionally, while doing errands! It's been a very good move for me. Nevertheless, I think of you all often and am happy to be coming to Burbank in mid-November to assist with the native plant garden at the second Burbank Community Garden at Hollywood Way and Clark. Perhaps some of you will be lending a hand that day? If so, there'll be hugs!

Mrs. Chipmunk Speaks

Wow! We got snow! Looks like winter is settling in, and half of the leaves are still on some of the trees.

Mr. Rabbit was commenting on the fact that the summer and fall heat was making the forest neighbors lazy. He probably is right, been around a long time. Anyway, everyone was out and about and enjoying the first snow.

Mr. Beaver was one, who normally doesn't stop toppling a small tree to keep the dam in good condition and tidying up his underwater castle, as he calls it. None of us have ventured to see it. Take his word on it...We are not cut out for underwater exploration. Maybe a little envious. As he sees and visits our abodes, sometimes an unwelcome guest, he is always wet and forgets that we are not. He and his buddies sure keep the forest looking good.

Heard one remark as a couple of hikers walked by, "Sure like to hire that beaver; these trees in this forest have never looked so good. Wonder how much a beaver would charge?" "You're nuts", his companion laughingly said.

Speaking of nuts...gotta go in for breakfast. Have a great day!



Happy November Birthday!

November 2 Janet Jack

November 2 Anne White

November 10 Elisabeth Trafton

November 28 Joan Chandler

November 30 Judy Kenehan



Address Correction

Please correct the Yearbook address of:

Kathleen Hyson

6136 Auckland Ave

North Hollywood, CA 91606

Home phone: 818 762-4847





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

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Happenings

November 1—Feb 20 Candlelight Concert Koreatown: Queen vs. ABBA

Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 3300 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010

Candlelight concerts bring the magic of a live, multi-sensory musical experience to awe-inspiring locations like never seen before in Los Angeles. Discover the music of Queen vs. ABBA at Immanuel Presbyterian Church under the gentle glow of candlelight.

November 15 & November 16 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Aquarium of the Pacific is hosting its annual Autumn Festival. This educational event, returning for its 24th year, celebrates the rich traditions and cultures of Japan, China, Korea, and the Philippines. Attendees can look forward to music and dance performances, craft demonstrations, cultural exhibits, and storytelling.

Cost: Admission to the festival is included with general aquarium tickets, starting at \$44.95 per person over 12 and \$34.95 per person under 11.

November 15, 2025 – June 2027

Autry Museum of the American West, Los Angeles, CA 90027-1462

In Griffith Park across from the Los Angeles Zoo. [Map and Directions](#)

Creative Continuities: Family, Pride, and Community in Native Art

Featuring selected works from the Autry's Native American collections, of Native culture: . Three contemporary Plains Indian artists—John Pepion (Blackfeet), Brocade Stops Black Eagle (Crow), and Jessa Rae Growing Thunder (Dakota/Nakoda)—reflect upon their relationships with works created by their Ancestors. Through this unique combination of cultural objects and stories, *Creative Continuities* aims to educate visitors about the diversity of Native American culture, history, and tradition that crosses tribal boundaries, past and present.

November 20 10:00 a.m. — Burbank African Violet Society

Little White Chapel, 1711 North Avon St, Burbank,

The program will be: "Playing Leaf Bingo."

Website: www.burbankafrikanviolet.weebly.com or call (661)940-3990