



# San Juan Capistrano Garden Club

Member of California Garden Clubs, Inc, Orange County District

[www.SanJuanCapistranoGardenClub.com](http://www.SanJuanCapistranoGardenClub.com)

**SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO GARDEN CLUB**  
32158 Camino Capistrano  
Suite A PMN 120  
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675  
Organized 2001

- President:**  
Mozelle Sukut Ph.D.
- VP Programs:**  
Kathy Dixon  
*Advisor: Wendy Corzatt*
- VP Membership:**  
Carol Mansukhani  
**Advisor:**  
Andrea Jones
- VP Ways and Means:**  
Linda Thomas Jones
- VP Communications:**  
Jenell Blue  
**Advisor, Instagram:**  
Valerie Drey  
**Advisor, Facebook:**  
Pat Lussier
- Secretary:**  
Susan Kudsi
- Treasurer:**  
Pat Kenner
- OC District Director:**  
Beckie Splittgerber
- Immediate Past President:**  
Mary Crawford  
(non-voting position)

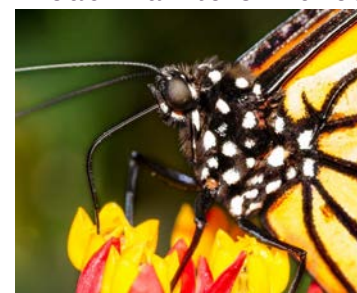
## President's Message

A Little Help and a Big Adventure, by Mozelle Sukut, Ph.D.

With the pandemic, related fallout continuing, and heat arriving, it is difficult to have energy to do what needs to be done in the garden. Yet, for some pollinators as butterflies, late summer is their busiest time for mating and depositing babies on their unique host plants. They could use our help right now. How about adding a few nectar plants for adults and host plants for their babies? These additions would also benefit bees and birds. Even if you have simplified your garden to create a clean succulent or cactus aesthetic, consider a few pollinator friendly plants for a corner.

All the winged visitors offer beautiful movement and color to make the garden come alive. Perhaps a citrus tree, a perennial basil, a native mallow, a passion vine, or the favorite of 30+ butterflies - a buckwheat. My butterfly buddy Larry called this week in a panic. His Monarch catts had totally eaten all of his narrow leaf milkweeds, and he'd gone to the local nurseries for more, but they currently stock only tropical milkweeds. Even though the nurseries do not spray with pesticides, the growers spray just as they are delivered and the residue lasts about 2 weeks. Thus Larry's newly purchased tropicals require quarantine for rinsing daily. He came over to get cuttings of healthy tropicals and Family Jewel milkweeds grown from seed in my garden. As you know, experts discourage growing the evergreen types of Asclepias because it can harbor and spread the dreaded OE disease. If you do grow it, you **MUST** cut it down each fall to 3 inches and maintained at ground level until February so the monarchs aren't tempted to keep laying eggs year round.

Recently the CA Butterfly Research team has advised to not grow any milkweeds within 5 miles of the ocean because of Monarchs' 'tree groves' winter grounds along the coast.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

• BOARD OF DIRECTORS	PG 1	• THE LECK HOUSE/LA SALA	PG 5
• PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	PG 1	• LOCAL HAPPENINGS	PG 6
• MEMBERSHIP	PG 2	• MEMBER'S GARDENS	PG 6
• ANNUAL MEETING NOTES	PG 3	• LET'S COMMUNICATE	PG 7
• PROGRAMS	PG 3	• GARDEN RELATED MOVIES	PG 7
• MEMBER DONORS	PG 4	• INDIGENOUS	PG 8
• BUSINESS SPONSORS	PG 4	• SEEDS FROM CHINA	PG 8
• SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT	PG 4	• BOTANICAL ARTIST	PG 9

## MEMBERSHIP

BY: CAROL MANSUKHANI, V.P. MEMBERSHIP

Big thank you to all members, 72% of you, who renewed your membership for 2020-2021 and for those who took advantage of our new membership/household category. We created this category to allow for household members to have full membership status at a value price.

We are accepting renewals through the end of August. You may renew on-line by visiting our website or mail a check to SJC Garden Club 32168 Camino Capistrano STE A PMB 120, SJC CA 92675. Look forward to seeing you at our August Zoom meeting.

Thank you to the following members who have renewed:

1	Karen Alms	30	Sue Ingram
2	Nancy Ambrose	31	Andrea Jones
3	Stephanie Beckley	32	Linda Thomas Jones
4	Jenell Blue	33	Sheri Kearsely
5	Peggy Byrnes	34	Pat Kenner
6	Nancy Cangiano	35	Barbara Kimler
7	Pat Chamberlain	36	Susan Kudsi
8	Mary Crawford	37	Yvonne L'Heureux
9	Crawford fam member	38	Pat Linville
10	Marilyn DeVitre	39	Pat Lussier
11	JoAnn DeYonker	40	Mary Ann Lyman
12	Kathy Dixon	41	Carol Mansukhani
13	Valerie Drey	42	Pat Martin
14	Dianne Esser	43	Jeannine McCaig
15	Marilyn Falls	44	Yvonne O'Tousa
16	Linn Felthaus	45	Jeannette Pease
17	Sydney (Syd) Fink	46	Diane Reynolds
18	Karen Fowler	47	Karen Rottmann
19	Cathy Garite	48	Sharon Rohan
20	Maureen Gebelein	49	Judy Sage
21	Erika Giordano	50	Carolyn Schneider
22	Shiela Rae Hammer	51	Diane Schulman
23	Pam Hanson	52	Donna Shaeffer
24	Inge Harris	53	Penny Smith
25	Mary C. Harris	54	Janet Sperber
26	Diane Hegyi	55	Mozelle Sukut
27	Ann Henery	56	Marianne Taylor
28	Lou Heimann	57	Josie Trujillo
29	Dona Helmich	58	Linda Webber
30	Kathy Holman	59	Teress Weber
31	Bobbi Howard	60	Gayle Welsh

## NOTES FROM OUR JULY ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

On July 20, the Club's annual meeting was held via Webinar. 29 Club members attended, and many others submitted their votes by e-mail.

- President Mozelle Sukut encouraged us to support our local non-profits during this difficult time. She thanked our VP Programs, Kathy Dixon, for re-thinking and re-planning our events and speakers with the changes forced upon us.
  - Kathy advised in place of our August evening event, we will host a 10 am Zoom meeting with Steve Kaye, a professional speaker and nature photographer who focuses on birds. Check our website and monthly newsletter for updates on our future meetings. The Club will be hosting activities on Zoom until we can all return to normal!
  - Pat Kenner, VP/Treasurer answered questions on the proposed budget and asked for a vote of all members. The budget as proposed by the board was approved by a solid majority of the quorum. The approved budget will be posted on the Club's website in the Members Only section.
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**BY: KATHY DIXON, V.P. PROGRAMS**

We thank all the members who joined us at our July Zoom meeting. We appreciate your patience as we learn to navigate the nuances of technology. Thank you, Sue Ingram, for expanding our horizons with a lesson in Zentangle. Sue, one of our incredibly talented members, kindly treated us to a lesson. We learned how to relax and create a beautiful artistic tile.

For those of you who were not able to attend and would like to learn more about Zentangle classes or card making contact Sue on her website at [www.SuzieQPapercrafts.com](http://www.SuzieQPapercrafts.com).

Save the date for our August meeting where we will be hosting, by Zoom, Steve Kaye. Steve is an inspiring, enlightening, and entertaining photographer. He will share his beautiful photography, wisdom, and respect for nature in a most entertaining way.

In September and October, we will be visited by Debbie Zimmerman, past president of the Orange County Gourd Society to share her knowledge of Gourds. In the future we hope to have an expert on Air ferns, Bromeliads and Succulents. So, look forward to an exciting and educational future with your Garden Club.

Sweet Stem Senders and Excursions are on hold until further notice.

## WAYS AND MEANS

**BY: LINDA THOMAS JONES, V.P. WAYS AND MEANS**

### MEMBER DONORS

Thank you to all our members who have donated funds in excess of their dues. Your support enables us to continue with our philanthropic mission to our community. Please visit the club website to view our updated donation program.



Call or email Linda with any questions about the programs, their benefits and how to combine them to fit your goals. Special thanks to Karen Rottman for her targeted donation to the Leck House.

### BUSINESS SPONSORS

We are grateful for the continued and returning support of Valerie Drey of BHHS and California Garden Products. If you have any questions regarding becoming a donor or sponsor, please contact me. We will be reaching out to other potential sponsors throughout August and September.

#### **SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT**

California Gardens Brand returns as a sponsor this year...California Gardens is the #1 brand in canned Fava beans in the world! Their products may be purchased is specialty store and online. Their president shares that: "Forty years ago California Garden was born with a vision to supply the Far and Middle East with quality products from California. We started with canned fruits and vegetable items and now have over two hundred products packed in over twenty countries around the world."

We appreciate California Gardens continued support...





## THE LECK HOUSE

BY: PAT MARTIN

Work has recently started up once again on the Leck House project. The main flower beds have been planted and mulched, and now we will begin trimming and cleaning up along the side of the house. If you are in the area, stop by to see our progress, or join us on our bi-weekly Thursday work days. Things are looking quite nice.



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## LA SALA

BY: NANCY CANGIANO

Take a look at the beautiful blooming Crepe Myrtle's the next time you are in downtown San Juan Capistrano.

Sit outside of our beautiful Library, read a book, and listen to the Church bells.

Our committee continues to maintain the areas accessible to us. Let me know if you wish to join us in pulling weeds.



## LOCAL HAPPENINGS

### **Re-opening hours for SJC oldest garden, The Mission.**

Thursday - Sunday from 9am - 5pm All are invited to enjoy the Mission grounds- especially Gardeners, 4th Grade Students, and History Buffs. The beautiful gardens continue to be maintained by a group of Mission volunteers. Safe distance picnics by reservation can be enjoyed in the Central Courtyard; bring a chair or blanket and your picnic basket. Once a month on the 4th Friday is Fido Friday during normal hours of operation. A Mission Gardens plant guide is available to identify the plants as you stroll through the gardens.



### **New Farmers Market in town.**

Fridays from 9 AM to 1PM Farmakis Farms, located at the north side of town, home of the pumpkin patch, Christmas tree farm and a nice new barn, has created a farmer's market with a variety of vendors.

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## MEMBERS' GARDENS

Remember back at our Jan 2020 general meeting when CA Native Plant Society gave all our GC members a 4 inch buckwheat? Take a look below at Ann Henery's buckwheat growing on her slope with only rain water for moisture and is blooming its head off! Hopefully many of us members are having good luck with our plants. Some of us purchased additional ones to offer more nectar to pollinators. Please take a picture of any butterflies you see on your buckwheat and send to Jenell to post in future newsletters!

As Tree of Life writes, few plants can equal Eriogonum for habitat value- as host for caterpillars for butterflies and moths, and offering nectar to bees and other pollinators and later in the season seeds to birds. Some 30 plus butterflies love this plant, Skippers and Blues consider buckwheat their fav food.



## LET'S COMMUNICATE

BY: JENELL BLUE, V.P. COMMUNICATIONS

Every day is becoming a learning experience with so many changes for how we do things. Guess that is where the saying "out with the old and in with the new" comes from.

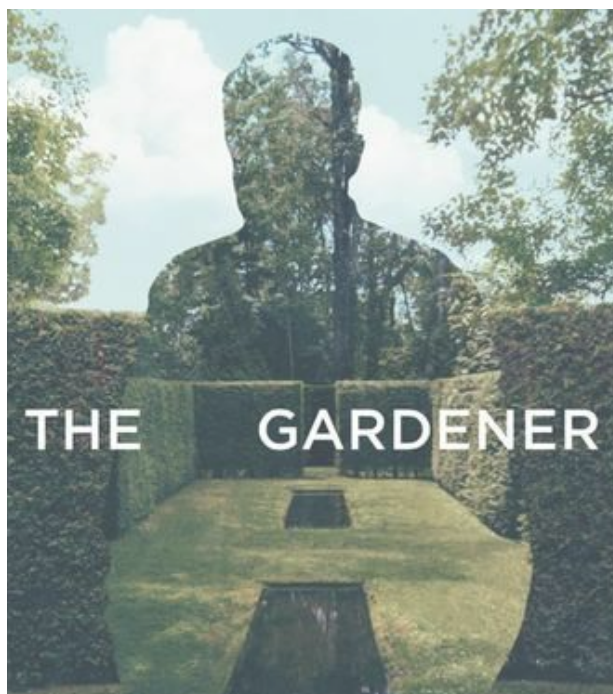
1. Are you looking for club documents? Look under the **Membership** tab on our website. There you will find the **Members Only** tab to find what you need. Email me if you have forgotten the code.
2. Want to renew or donate online? Click on the **Member/Donor** tab. Don't forget to close out of the site once you have finished viewing.

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## GARDEN RELATED MOVIES. DVD AND ONLINE

DVD and video on demand editions of *The Gardener* film are available in the USA. The Gardener documentary film was released on DVD and video on demand on September 18, 2018, in the USA only.

The *Big Flower Fight* is a flower arranging competition show on Netflix. Much like The Great British Bakeoff, the show takes place in a massive tent in the English countryside. On the show, teams of floral designers compete to build elaborate structures made of flowers.



Travel may be hindered, yet there is nothing stopping us from touring some of the world's most beautiful gardens, nor experiencing some fun in the competition with floral design, all in the comfort and safety of our homes. We hope you enjoy these suggestions. If you have others to share send them to us.

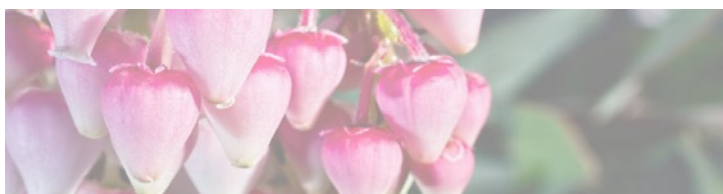
## INDIGENOUS

BY: JENELL BLUE, V.P. COMMUNICATIONS

For those of us who have lived in the area for years, we know that our area is diverse. When we think of planting, our minds commonly go towards what we are used to planting, but natives are something familiar, and yet too often, intimidating. My thinking is if we give native plants the opportunity to be a part of our food culture, then we are moving towards a better future of respect for our land's gifts. Native plants that we walk by daily can offer medicinal properties and also nutrition. For years I thought Manzanita was prevalent around Idyllwild never thinking it is in our backyard. Manzanita means "little apple" in Spanish. The blossoms are not only beautiful, they can be sprinkled raw on a salad, or made into a lovely jelly.

### *Manzanita Blossom Jelly*

4 cups blossoms  
 1 1/2 cup water  
 2 tsp lemon juice  
 3 cups sugar  
 2 packages liquid pectin



- Mix 4 cups of blossoms and the remaining ingredients in a saucepan and bring to a boil.
- Reduce heat and simmer covered about 10 minutes.
- Place a strainer over a large bowl and pour in blossom with wooden spoon to extract any remaining juice.
- Return juice to the pan and bring to a boil.
- Add 2 packages of liquid pectin and boil for 1 minute, stirring vigorously.
- Skim off any foam and pour into sterilized jars to and refrigerate.  
 Makes 4 pints. Refrigerate or freeze.

## UNSOLICITED SEEDS FROM CHINA

State agriculture officials are urging people who received unsolicited packages of seeds not to plant them. The seeds, which appear to have been shipped from China, may be invasive. So far California is not on the USDA list, yet be aware.

Some of the packages were labeled to say they contained jewelry, according to the Kansas Department of Agriculture. The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry reported that some of the packages were labeled to say they contained earbuds or toys. *Source: NYTimes*





## **BOTANICAL ARTIST, MARIA SIBYLLA MERIAN**

One extraordinary scientist and botanical artist from history, Maria Sibylla Merian, who had collected and studied caterpillars since childhood, sold most of her belongings and boarded a cargo ship bound for the rainforest of South America in the summer of 1699! She wanted to study and draw the flora and fauna of Suriname. Below is the Blue Morpho on a Pomegranate from her Suriname book.



### ***THANK YOU SPONSORS***

