



Lake Forest Garden Club Rosette

Lakeforestgardenclub@gmail.com

www.LakeForestGardenClub.net

MARCH 2021



PRESIDENT'S BUZZ

Welcome, March! With the rains, we're guessing your gardens are (or soon will BEE) bursting with BEE-utiful flowers and BEES and butterflies doing what they do best - not leaving any flower behind. This weekend, our time "Springs Forward" to Daylight Savings Time, and we lose an hour. Remember to set your clocks ahead on Saturday night, March 13th before your head hits the pillow). Then right around the corner, the very next weekend, we welcome the official first day of Spring - Saturday, March 20!

March is also an exciting month packed with Covid-safe events hosted by our club.

- Mon, March 15 and Tues, March 16: "Talk in the Park" chats
- Fri, March 19: General Zoom Meeting with Speaker at 10am
- Sat, March 20: Mini Home-Boutique (the first of three this Spring)
- Thurs, March 25: "Walk in the Woods"

Please read this newsletter for detailed descriptions of these events. Buzz on in to join us as we slowly and carefully ease into more social activities. And, remember to mark these events in your calendars; it would be a shame to miss any of them.

Our February General Meeting (our Annual Tea) was a virtual success! **Cheryl Weaver** shared some history of tea and many types of teas. And, when entertaining, you now have **Ginny Heard's** "baseball version" of how to fold a fancier napkin. Buzzing into our March meeting, we are excited to hear from an herbalist as she educates us on natural means to improve our immune systems.

BEE Healthy in mind (learning new things and staying positive), heart (connecting with others and doing what you love), and "sole" (as we walk together on life's path).



Ginny Heard and Ramilla Lewis

The Return of the Busy Bees ("No Flower Left Behind")



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Lake Forest Garden Club March Program



Spring is definitely on its way—and in more ways than one! Trees are beginning to show a hint of green leaves, flowering trees are starting to bud in hues of pink, rose,

and purple, bulbs are popping through the soil with a promise of daffodil, iris, tulip, and freesia blossoms, among others.

Birds are active and singing sweetly, and baby birds can't be far behind. And as the weather warms and vaccinations continue, we look forward to enjoying our gardens, our friends and family, and a renewed promise of good health.

In these last few months of our 20-21 LFGC calendar, your Program Committee has scheduled some interesting and “springtime forward” speakers to support your interest in enhancing your mind, body, spirit and garden.

We miss those of you we haven't seen in several months! As always, please join us, and do not hesitate to contact your Vice President of Programs for Zoom assistance we'd be happy to help you Zoom with us!

First VP - Programs

Cheryl Weaver
Diane Boeck
Noel De Sota

March 19th speaker presentation will begin at 10AM

For our March 19th Lake Forest Garden Club General Meeting, please welcome Ms. **Florence LeFranc**, a Certified Medicinal Herbalist, certified Nutrition Therapist, and Ortho Molecular Medicine Specialist. She was trained in Functional Medicine and Psychology in Paris, and has continued her studies in Herbal Medicine and Nutrition after moving to California. She continues to stay informed of the most current scientific research on herbal medicine. Ms **LeFranc** has an office in Laguna Hills, and offers online consultations in addition to offering health consultations, education, and empowerment through classes and conferences. Her presentation will focus on common home grown herbal medicines and their benefits, common ways of using herbs on a daily basis, and how to evaluate quality herbs in choosing the ones you want to use. A special segment on how to fortify our immune systems during the Covid crisis will be included by Ms **LeFranc**.



BE SURE TO “ZOOM IN” BEFORE 10AM ON MARCH 19th—Business meeting to follow

April Presentation: Growing Summer Vegetables and Tomatoes with **Kris Bonner**

Have a wonderful, happy, and healthy March!!! See you on March 19th.



AFFILIATIONS

California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Orange County District Garden Club
Pacific Region of NGC
National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Lake Forest Garden Club
2021 Garden Tour

Save the Date
April 21 - 22 - 23

*If you've been waiting to volunteer
to show off your garden, wait no
more.*

We want you!

"Walk by or Drive-by"

Contact **Bonnie Oakden**
949.525.2528

CLUB ACTIVITIES



“Walk in the Woods”

Come join us for a beautiful “Walk in the Woods along Aliso Creek Trail starting at Norman P. Murray Park in Mission Viejo. Our last walk at the beach last year in Dana Point was a big hit and all agreed, it’s been way too long. Let’s gather, for a healthy outdoor experience and some LFGC camaraderie! Don’t forget your masks!

Where: Norman P. Murray Center
24392 Veterans Way
Mission Viejo

When: Thursday, March 25
9:00 a.m.

Bring: Sack breakfast/lunch for
Afterwards @ 10 a.m.
Beach/camp chair

Contact Bonnie for further details;
boakden@gmail.com 949-525-2528

CGCI - California Garden Clubs supports recovery of Big Basin Redwoods State Park by matching your donation

The August 2020 CZU Lightning Complex wildfire burned over 97 percent of Big Basin Redwoods State Park, destroying nearly all the buildings and infrastructure in its 18,000 acres including the historical Visitors Center and signage. At the 2021 Winter Board meeting, the CGCI Board of Directors approved supporting the Big Basin Recovery Fund by matching your donation up to \$5,000 in total.

Lake Forest Garden Club welcomes your donations that will be matched dollar for dollar by CGCI. You

can also designate as an Honorarium or Memorial.

As an added suggestion, many employers offer to match your charitable donations. Deadline is May 31.

Send your check to:

Linda Martin, Treasurer,
Lake Forest Garden Club
22921 Ridge Rte Dr, Lake Forest, CA 92630

In the subject line of your check please write:
BIG BASIN REDWOODS STATE PARK

Date
Amount: \$
Donor Name
Address, City, Zip Code
Telephone y eMail Address

CLUB ACTIVITIES ... GET INVOLVED!

We're Making Lemonade out of Lemons

It's Our 50th (Golden) Anniversary as a Club! Join us for a "TALK IN THE PARK"!

Expect a call this week to personally invite you to participate in one of our four in-person "Focus Groups" at Rimgate Park (29772 Rimgate Dr, Lake Forest, CA) next week! It'll be a great time to get out and be with other members! We will meet in small groups of 5-8 around the park for 45 minutes max for a "Talk in the Park" for 30-minutes of guided discussion. We want to hear your "golden honey" input of where we've been, where we are, and how we can continue to best serve our members and our community. Bring your beach/camp chair, mask, and a snack. Boxed Minute Maid Lemonade will be provided. Please join us for a "Beehive Chat" and some lemonade! Dates and times are:

Mon, 3/15/21 1-1:45p or 2-2:45p

Tues, 3/16/21 11-11:45a or 12-12:45pm

Spring into our 2021 Boutique "Alternative"

This will be our 2nd year of not holding the BIG Annual Spring Boutique and Plant Sale at the Beach & Tennis Club on the Saturday of Mother's Day Weekend due to COVID-19. Well, some of us got a "bee in our bonnet" and cleaned through the LFGC Storage Unit on Saturday, 3/6/21 in 2 hours to see just what was there, purge, and reorganize a wee bit.



("Thank you" to Noel, Cheryl, Nadine, Barbara P, and Ginny!)

Our Executive and Committee Board fully anticipate that in 2022, we will be back to full boutique cycle! But, for now, we have a basic plan to move the current "Boutique Inventory" without all the fuss.

We will do 3 **MINI HOME-BOUTIQUES** this Spring – each on a Saturday, each from 9-1, with set-up at 7:30am and **clean-up** done by 1:30pm.

Our first will be on the First Day of Spring!!!

We need your help, contributions, and participation. POC currently is **Ginny Heard** (c/949.294.5972).

#1. When: Sat, March 20 from 9am-1pm (set up at 7:30am, clean up by 1:30pm)

**Where: Noel DeSota's driveway
(24702 Toledo Ln, Lake Forest, CA)
and her neighbor's next door, Joyce Coker.**

What: Live plants, succulents, a portion of Fabulous Finds, nested baskets (sets of 3) from our storage unit, and items from our yards/homes that were set to be sold all the way back in 2020.

Who: Early birds... We'll need help at 7:30am with set up, grouping and pricing! Cashiers, helpers, shoppers, etc. Wear your LFGC green apron (if you have one) after all, it IS March! MASKS MANDATORY!

Looking ahead – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

#2. Sat April 17 9am-1pm Ginny Heard's driveway

#3. Sat May 1 9am-1pm Linda Martin's driveway

Let's have some fun...and enjoy a less-stressed, low-impact way to move things on their way and help support our club's philanthropic efforts.

*Daylight saving time 2021 in
California will begin at 2:00 AM
on*

Sunday, March 14



March Birthday Flowers

DAFFODIL & JONQUIL

The March birth flowers are the daffodil and the jonquil.

The daffodil symbolizes unequalled love, so giving this flower to someone expresses a deep love that cannot be rivaled or imitated, Daffodil is actually just a nickname. The botanical or Latin name is "Narcissus" a narcotic or numb sensation, attributed to the sedative effect from the alkaloids in its plants. All members are poisonous, due to the sedative effect from some chemicals in the plant. This is great for gardeners, because that makes them critter-proof. The bulbs and leaves contain poisonous crystals which only certain insects can eat with impunity.



THANK YOU...

YOU MAKE OUR GARDEN CLUB ROCK!



Great big "Thank You" to **Cheryl Weaver** for her fabulous Tea Presentation during the 2/19/21 March meeting - many who had the experience of seeing her presentation have gone out and purchased tea & tea books that were mentioned.

Great big "Thank You" to **Ginny Heard** for her fabulous napkin folding presentation- it was so much fun to follow along! Who would have thought it was so easy to do - just think first base, second base, third base & home plate!



Spring Garden Planning

by Alexis Slafer

As we look forward, spring becomes a bouquet of opportunities. No matter what time of year you plan your garden, the best designs use the design process, incorporating the principles and elements of design. As soon as weather permits start preparing for spring: clean your tools and your beds. Then map your garden to scale and put your desires on paper. As you walk around, indicate the sun's path, any concerns you have, possible hard- scape features and/or structures you would like to include. Would a playhouse be perfect in that corner? Remember this is just one moment in time. What would you like to experience in your garden with your morning cup of coffee or evening glass of wine? Consider all of the seasons - what design qualities will be enhanced in summer or mid-winter? How will the shade patterns change as newly planted trees mature? Will activities be active or passive? Be sure to include anything that is important to you. You want to consider who will use the space children and/or adults. What about climate including temperatures and plant growing zone? Think about the amount of rainfall and when it occurs, soil structure and pH, sunlight as well as wind speed and direction. Of paramount importance is asking, "What are the results that I'd like to see? How will my goals be achieved immediately after installation, during the transition to maturity and beyond?" Based on those answers and if you plan well, your garden will be enjoyed to the fullest.



Congratulations to **Nadine Melberg** winner of the Valentine Decorating Contest. \$25.00 Gift Certificate to Green Thumb Nursery.



CLUB NOTES

HOW TO REACH US ...

Co-Presidents: **Ginny Heard**
949.294.5972

Ramilla Lewis
949.458.6215



Or check our yearbook for a full listing of
Committee Chairs

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



Thanks to Kellogg's Garden
Products donor of the soil
for our Plant Sale &
Boutique.

April Tips from UCCE Master Gardeners of OC:

As the days lengthen and the sun gets higher and hotter, watering becomes more important. You can now sow seed outdoors of the following vegetables: asparagus; beets; beans, both pole and bush; lima beans, carrots; sweet corn; popcorn; cucumbers; all melons; eggplant; leaf lettuce; romaine; kale; kohlrabi; peanuts; mustard greens; okra; long-day onions and onion sets; leeks; peppers; potato tubers; pumpkins; radishes; rhubarb; spinach; Swiss chard; all squash; turnips; rutabagas; and tomatoes.

Roses are making their first big bloom this month. This "first bloom" is the most spectacular of the entire year. The flowers will be huge and the color rich. The flowers will hold well in the cooler temperatures of April and the foliage should be lush and healthy as well. Enjoy the show. Continue fertilizing roses. They are heavy feeders. Do not use soil-applied fertilizers that are combined with a systemic insecticide. These products are very disruptive to soil life (beneficial microorganisms, bacteria, mycorrhizal

fungi, earthworms, etc.). Many rosarians also believe they reduce the vigor of the rose. Granular, well-balanced, organic fertilizers work especially well for roses and most of these will encourage beneficial soil life. Begin deadheading roses as they fade. The rule of thumb is to prune to just above a leaf with five leaflets. Floribunda's, many English roses and some others are deadheaded on very short stems until the last of the flowers in the cluster have faded. Then cut down to just above the first leaf with five leaflets.

Pay a visit to your fruit trees. You should start to notice that the blossoms on your stone fruit trees are giving way to small fruits. Now is the time to thin small, developing fruits on those trees to get a better crop. Remove up to two out of three fruits of the developing clusters. Plant Subtropical Fruit Trees The weather from now through June is ideal for planting citrus, avocados, and other tender fruits such as kiwis, kumquats, and pomegranates. In frost-free areas, also try cherimoya, guava, mango, and passion fruit. For containers, be sure to choose dwarf type trees. Look for trees with many strong branches, a smooth graft union, and deep green leaves.

April is a good month to **plant shrubs and perennials**. It is still a good time to plant winter blooming shrubs like azaleas and camellias, as well as natives. Look for plants that are just starting to come into bloom now and know exactly what you are getting. Start fertilizing summer flowering perennials such as daylilies and iris for more blooms.

This is a good time of year to **prune foundation shrubs** to retain their shape and size and encourage fullness as they grow through the warmer months.

Keep an eye out for **weeds** that have been encouraged by all the rain and get them under control early in the season. Adding a thick layer of mulch after weeding will keep them at bay as well as keeping the soil cool and moist in the summer.

Along with warmer weather and new growth come insects. A well-balanced garden will withstand a few pests without undergoing too much damage. Remember, the best defense against garden insects that do damage to plants is a good offense! Insects look for the weak plants to attack. Plants that are kept clean, well nourished, and well watered will less likely suffer from insect damage. Use balanced, organic fertilizers that encourage and maintain moderate, strong growth as opposed to high dosage fertilizers that cause the plants to send out fast, spindly new growth that is a target for hungry insects. Water deeply, less frequently and add a thick layer of mulch to encourage a strong, deep root system that will support healthy plants. Encourage predatory insects that attack the insects that will most likely cause damage to the garden.

