

*The garden is a love
song, a duet between
a human being and
Mother Nature.*



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SCHOOL GARDENS**

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WESTERN DAYS

Vacant

February 2025

LAKESIDE GARDEN CLUB

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at noon at the **Olde Community Church, 9906 Maine Avenue, Lakeside CA 92040** (unless otherwise noted from) August through June.

NEXT MEETINGS:

February 17

Betty Corvey (our own Master Gardener)
Flowers

March 16

Minely Lizarraga (Cuyamaca College)
Landscape Design

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE CLUB



Our February Field Trip to Balboa Park Botanical Building. We had a great time learning so much about the new building, the plants that were there and the upcoming additional plantings.

It is never too early to plan ahead for our Spring Garden Sale on May 10, 2025! We are hoping that more people will become involved in propagating from home and bringing plants as we did for this past Fall Sale. We each can contribute doing something for propagation, so look around and see what you can put in a pot or plant in a pony pack to contribute. I am doing geraniums, vegetables, and color bowls. Clara Arvai is a great example of someone who propagates for us at home—this past sale, she had about 100 plants that she contributed and she is planning even more for the Spring sale. Clara will be having mini-propagation clinics and those will be announced at the February meeting. You can get your 5 hours credit by growing or bringing plants for the sale.

AROUND TOWN

February 8th, 9 am - 10 am: Armstrong Garden Center, El Cajon. *No class scheduled*

February 8th, 9 am (members only), 10 am - 1 pm (public): Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park. *San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society Winter Show and Sale*

February 8th, 9 am - 10 am: Walter Andersen Nursery, San Diego. *Worm Composing with Kathleen*

February 8th, 9:30 am - 10:30 am: Walter Andersen Nursery, Poway. *Proteaceae with John Clements*

February 15th, 9 am - 10 am: Armstrong Garden Center, El Cajon. *No class scheduled*

February 15th, 9 am - 10 am: Walter Andersen Nursery, San Diego. *Bulb Planting with Kathleen*

February 15th, 9:30 am - 10:30 am: Walter Andersen Nursery, Poway. *Orchids with Chuck McClung*

February 16th, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm: Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101. *San Diego Bonsai Club*

February 22nd, 9 am - 10 am: Armstrong Garden Center, El Cajon. *All about Orchids*

February 22nd, 9 am: Walter Andersen Nursery, San Diego. *Terrarium Construction and Care with Erin*

February 22nd, 9:30 am: Walter Andersen Nursery, Poway. *TBD*

February 23rd, 3:00 pm: City Farmers Nursery, San Diego. *Gardening 101: Small space gardening*

March 1st, 9:00 am: Armstrong Garden Center, El Cajon. *No classes scheduled*

March 1st, 9:00 am: Walter Andersen Nursery, San Diego. *TBD*

March 1st, 9:30 am: Walter Andersen Nursery, Poway. *Tomatoes with Farmer Roy*

March 1st, 1:30 pm: Santee VFW Post, 8516 N. Magnolia Ste. 203, Santee. *East County Succulent Swap*

Happy Birthday

Lisa Lang

Welcome

To Our New Members

Sandra Keller
Bob Robeson
Rose Titilah



The red mushrooms we saw at Balboa Park

FIELD TRIPS SCHEDULED

Our next field trip on the docket is our April trip to the Japanese Tea Garden in Balboa Park on **Tuesday, April 15th**. More information at the February and March meetings.



Our January Speaker, Farmer Roy, not only educated us on vegetables, he entertained us and brought us some veggies to take home too!

THINGS TO DO IN THE GARDEN IN FEBRUARY

- Start seeds for flower and veggies
- Plant gerbera, glads, cool season bedding plants, and succulents
- Plant clivia, aloe, and camelias
- Fill in beds with cool season bedding plants
- Start seeds for flowers and veggie transplants
- Plant more winter veggies including mesclun
- Deadhead cool season flowers
- Cut back woody, overgrown perennials
- Prune kiwi vines
- Cut back Mexican bush sage
- Cut back woody and overgrown perennials
- Feed citrus, avocado and deciduous fruit trees
- Fertilize epiphyllums and hydrangeas
- Water and fertilize roses
- Fertilize cane berries and perennials
- Continue harvesting winter veggies
- Plant cool season herbs like cilantro, chives, parsley, chervil, and arugula
- Control snails
- Reduce irrigation to reflect cooler temps and expected rain

VEGGIES TO PLANT IN FEBRUARY

Asparagus, beans, beets, blueberries, broccoli, sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chives, collards, garlic, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, lettuce, marrow squashes, mustard, onions, parsley, parsnips, peas, potatoes, radish, rutabaga, spinach, Swiss chard, turnips

Most Info from 'Pat Welsh's Southern California Gardening: A Month-By-Month Guide.' Her book, "Pat Welsh's Southern California Organic Gardening, Month-by-Month" Chronicle Books is also now available and provides more detailed info.

RECIPE CORNER

Debbie Salazar's Teriyaki Chicken

Marinate:

- Slice 4 thawed raw chicken breasts into bite-size pieces.
- Juice, one to two lemons.
- Stir the chicken breast bite-size pieces into the lemon juice with salt to taste.
- Let marinate for at least 10 minutes.
- Sauté the chicken with the lemon juice

Make the teriyaki sauce:

Mix together:

- 2 tablespoons of soy sauce, or cocoa aminos (for those who are GF)
- 2 tablespoons rice vinegar
- 1 tablespoon molasses
- 1 teaspoon mustard
- 1/8 teaspoon garlic, or more, depending upon your taste

(Double or triple the sauce, depending how you like it.)

Mix the sautéed chicken into the teriyaki sauce. Heat it on warm for 15-20 minutes to meld all the flavors. Serve over rice.



If you have a gardening tip or find one you would like to share, please bring them to the garden club meetings and give them to Cathie Robertson. Your tip may be featured in the newsletter and some will be included in our upcoming cookbook!

If you have a recipe to contribute to the newsletter, please send to cathie.robertson@gcccd.edu

GARDENING TIPS AND TOOLS

From gardeningtipsandtools.com

HOW TO ATTRACT BEES TO YOUR GARDEN

Bees are incredibly important pollinators, responsible for the growth and reproduction of many plants, including the fruits and vegetables we eat. Attracting bees to your garden is not only beneficial for your plants, but also for the environment as a whole. Here's a comprehensive guide to help you create a bee-friendly haven in your backyard:

Choosing the Right Plants

Bees are attracted to certain types of flowers, particularly those that are blue, white, yellow, or purple. Some of the best flowering plants for attracting bees include:

- Annuals: Black-eyed Susan, marigold, nasturtium, cosmos, salvia, and poppy
- Perennials: Coneflower, sunflower, bee balm, rosemary, thyme, sage, and mint
- Trees and Shrubs: Blueberry bushes, honeysuckle, butterfly bush, magnolia tree, willows, holly, hazelnut, hawthorn, maple, and witch hazel.

Creating a Bee-Friendly Habitat

In addition to planting bee-attracting flowers, there are other steps you can take to create a welcoming habitat for bees:

- Provide water: Bees need access to water to drink and cool down. Place a shallow dish of water in your garden, and add a few stones or pebbles so the bees can land safely.
- Avoid pesticides: Chemical pesticides can be harmful to bees. Opt for natural pest control methods, such as IPM (integrated pest management), which involves using cultural, mechanical, and biological strategies to control pests.
- Provide shelter: Bees need shelter from wind and weather. Consider installing a bee house or providing a natural shelter, such as a pile of rocks or a hollow log.



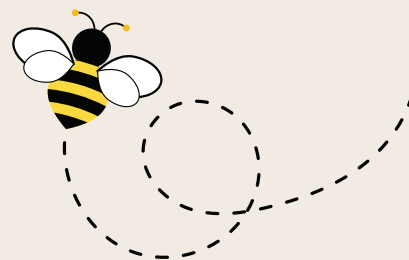
Benefits of Attracting Bees to Your Garden

Attracting bees to your garden has numerous benefits:

- Increased pollination: Bees help to pollinate fruits, vegetables, and flowers, increasing your harvest and the beauty of your garden.
- Improved biodiversity: Bees support other wildlife, such as birds and butterflies, by providing a food source and habitat.
- Environmental health: Bees play a vital role in the ecosystem by pollinating plants that provide food and oxygen.

Conclusion

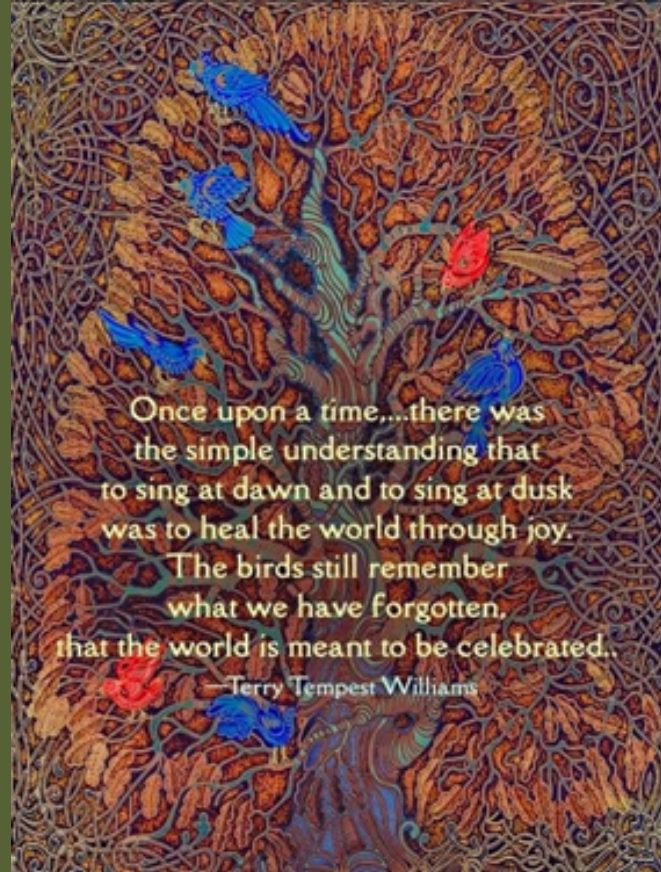
By following these tips, you can create a thriving bee-friendly garden that will not only enhance the beauty of your outdoor space but also support these important pollinators.





WHAT DO BIRDS DO FOR OUR GARDENS?

Bird species provide ecosystem services, which are services that include acoustic enrichment, pest control, seed dispersal, and visual enrichment. Birds provide songs to the spaces that people enjoy, control pests for our gardens and outdoor spaces, scatter seeds to help our urban areas, and add pops of color that are aesthetically pleasing. These factors all make birds vital to urban sustainability.



Once upon a time....there was
the simple understanding that
to sing at dawn and to sing at dusk
was to heal the world through joy.
The birds still remember
what we have forgotten,
that the world is meant to be celebrated..
—Terry Tempest Williams

Reflections

*"Take care of your garden...fill it with
sunshine, kind words, and kind deeds."*
— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

*"A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches
patience and careful watchfulness; it
teaches industry and thrift; above all it
teaches entire trust."*
— Gertrude Jekyll

*"Into the garden I go, to find my mind and
lose my soul."*
— Anonymous



**"A garden doesn't
just grow plants; it
grows peace of
mind."**

<https://monstrousgarden.com>