



March 2019

# Newsletter

*Fecund facundity from the fertile foothills*

President – Silvera Grant  
Vice President – Leo Stallworth  
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Treasurer – post vacant  
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Website – René Amy  
Mary Gothard – Community Outreach  
Wood Chips, Fertilizer Coordinator – Erik Geiger  
Inspection Coordinator – Eva Story  
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Isaac Turner Advisor

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Read the newsletter online:

<http://www.altadenacommunitygarden.com/newsletter.html>

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## Upcoming Events

- March 16, 23 & 30 9 AM-1PM Spring Victory Garden Classes ACG
- Monday 4/21: Workshop, 4/21 3 – 4:30PM Earth Day ACG
- April Athens Services Free Compost Giveaway
- Saturday 4/27, 10 -11:30AM General Membership Meeting Loma Alta Park Gym
- Saturday 6/22, 10 -11:30AM General Membership Meeting Loma Alta Park Gym
- September 21, 28 & October 5, 9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. Fall Victory Garden Classes ACG
- Saturday 10/21, 10 A.M.-12 P.M. Executive Board Meeting Loma Alta Park Gym
- Sunday 11/17, 10 A.M.- 12 P.M. Workshop - Sharing the bounty of your garden by preserving for gift giving ACG
- Saturday 12/7, 10 -11:30 A.M. General Membership Meeting Loma Alta Park Gym

## From The President



Dear Fellow Members,

As we continue our gardening adventures for 2019 in this very special place, the Altadena Community Garden, let me stop for a moment to express my sincere gratitude to you for once again entrusting the leadership of the Garden to me and the executive board. We are humbled and honored and will continue to make decisions that are in the best interest of the Garden and the community. In 2019, due to the realignment of the Los Angeles County Department of Parks Recreation parks system, Loma Alta Park including the Altadena Community Garden will receive services from the North Community Services Agency under the direction of Deputy Director, Joe E. Gargan. This is somewhat of a sad moment for me and our gardening community because the Garden will no longer receive services from the East Community Services Agency. For the past 10 to 15 years the East Community Services Agency has been providing the Garden with outstanding service. We would like to thank Deputy Director,

Mercy Santoro and her fabulous administrative staff for their support and service. Thank you Anthony Montanez, Michael Ralston, William Hottran, Brian Pollaccia, Charles Isbell, Sophy Sam, Bod Cruz and his workers, for their service. We will miss working with them. However, we look forward to working with the North Community Services Agency, with confidence that they will continue to provide Loma Alta Park and the Altadena Community Garden with the same level of service.

Although we have secured the money for the Garden Deck Landscaping Project and have begun to do some of the physical work, we will not be able to have our Annual Garden Picnic for the second year in a row. I know that this is a disappointment, but the completion of the Deck Landscaping Project is our number one goal for this year. Next year we will have our Annual Garden Picnic to celebrate the completion of the deck project and to recognized the donors.

In closing let me once again thank the East Community Services Agency for their years of outstanding service to Loma Alta Park and the Altadena Community Garden. We welcome the return of the North Community Services Agency to the community and look forward to working with them to continue to grow the Altadena Community Garden. I would like thank the executive board for staying together for another year of service to the Garden and the community. To the Vice President, Leo Stallworth, the Garden reflects who you are as a person. I appreciate your commitment to serve and your love for the Altadena Community Garden.

Sincerely,  
Silvera Grant,  
President, Altadena Community Garden  
silvergrant@gmail.com 626-398-9840.



## News

**The Altadena Community Garden is seeking someone to accede to the office of treasurer.**

Vacant Treasurer Position:

This is an elected position on the executive board. With approval of the executive board, the president will appoint the next treasurer. The duties of the treasurer are to: collect and record all dues, assume responsibility for all monies collected, pay all bills, produce financial statements, report to the executive board and general membership meetings, co-signs checks with either the president or vice president and submit an annual financial statement (budget) to the executive board and membership. Applicants to this position should contact Mr. Grant (silvergrant@gmail.com or call 626-398-9840.).

**Four barn owl nest boxes have been erected and we welcome 100 gopher snakes worth of gopher deterrent songbird to the garden**

Pursuant to the motion passed by the board, four barn owl nest boxes have been deployed along the main East/West walkway in the garden. Two boxes were hand made by volunteer master woodworker, Chuck Nickerson, using highly recommended online plans and two were purchased from the Barn Owl Box Company. Installed by ACG member, René Amy, the variety of designs, heights and orientations will, we hope, maximize the likelihood of a nesting pair of Barn Owls taking up residence in the garden. Perhaps “songbird” is a somewhat misleading appellation for the barn owl whose blood curdling screech generally necessitates placing barn owl nesting boxes as far as possible from human habitation – as we have indeed

done. Still, unlike the gopher snake they do vocalize, though their vocal villainy is unlikely to please.

While not in hibernation, an adult gopher snake feeds about once every ten days, primarily on gophers. Barn owls can consume over 1,000 rodents in a year and a nesting pair, many times that number. A resident barn owl family would therefore probably take about as many rodents as 100 gopher snakes. Though some might contend that gopher snakes are more esthetic and perhaps of a more pleasant temperament, their behavior of mimicking the rattlesnake in pose and attitude can be somewhat offputting and could well result in erroneously bludgeoned gopher snakes or, far worse, a misidentified rattlesnake assumed to be harmless. The thought of 100 of them ranging the garden plots – even if they don't sing – is a prospect that few would entertain as desirable and serves as a discouraging factor in deciding for or against implementing the gopher snake solution to our gopher infestation. Let's hope for owls.



## Meet Stacey Whitney, Manager, Altadena Farmers' Market

Stacey Whitney's story begins in her hometown of Altadena, California, where, as a child, she learned to cook from her mother and grandmother. In high school, she would host friends, who were willing to help with her chores, in exchange for home-cooked meals.

As she grew older, her desire to see snow and "real" seasons led her to the Midwest, where she attended The Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago and earned an AA in Pastry and Baking. While in Chicago, she worked as a chef instructor with C-CAP - the Careers through Culinary Arts Program, which is a non-profit that provides culinary training and college scholarships to disadvantaged high school students throughout the Chicago-land area.

From Chicago, she relocated to Atlanta, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Culinary Management through Le Cordon Bleu, and actively volunteered in her community, teaching cooking classes with a focus on healthy eating alternatives. There, she also started a small community garden, where she taught-garden-to-table recipes to the local food desert community. In Atlanta, she also worked with disadvantaged women, providing free



food safety certification training and gardening skills.

Now back in the San Gabriel Valley, Stacey serves as a school garden educator, private chef, and is a UC Master Gardener. She enjoys creating artistically themed international meals, using local, seasonal ingredients for friends, family and clients and now hopes to bring her passions for gardening, cooking and community to the Altadena Farmers' Market, as its new manager.



## Invitation from Stacey Whitney, Altadena Farmers' Market

Gardeners! Would you like to join us at the market, and share information about pollinators, pollinator-friendly gardens, making seed balls, composting and water conservation? If so, we'd love to welcome you to spend a Wednesday or two with us at the Altadena Farmers' Market. The market is open from 3pm-7pm through March and from 4pm -8pm for the remainder of the spring and summer. Garden experts provide a valuable service to our community, and have so much knowledge to share in our efforts to develop a more sustainable world. In exchange for your time, you'll receive market money for shopping at the market, and a reusable handmade market bag. Please contact: [stacey@altadenafarmersmarket.com](mailto:stacey@altadenafarmersmarket.com) for more information. Thanks!



## Meet New Members

### Chuyen Nguyen

Work: I'm a software engineer. I work for myself.

Originally, I was born and raised in Vietnam until I was 13 years old. I left the country with my parents and siblings one month before the fall of Saigon. We had to leave because my dad was a Colonel and worked for the US Department of Defense when he retired from the military. Life would have been very harsh for us had we stayed behind for a high ranking military family.

I started out my life in this country in this really quaint and lovely town called Montrose, Colorado. After one year, my family and I moved to Denver. I grew up and graduated from the University of Colorado at Denver. Life was challenging and difficult both emotionally and physically for my parents. They lost everything and had to start their lives all over again from scratch in this country. So, my older siblings and I had to step up and went to work immediately to make a living in spite of our language limitation. For me, I was scared but it was fun at the same time growing up in this country. My identity got shaped by both American and Vietnamese cultures. Thus living in this country, so far I feel a bit like a gypsy ... not 100% American nor 100% Vietnamese.

Loma Alta Drive / Glenrose - Altadena.

Married. No kids. My husband teaches Mathematics at Pasadena City College.

Optionally, favorite root vegetable? Beets, Kohlrabi, Carrots.

Whatever else you'd like to share. - Love to do these activities besides gardening: board games, meditation, calligraphy, and write poetry.

My husband and I are also professional massage therapists.

Chuyen (Chewy)

## Xinyi Poe and Yun Fang



Hi, I'm Xinyi Poe and I have a yellowish thumb. Hopefully, I can learn from you folks how to make it turn green. My best part of the day is working on my vegetables in the morning in the backyard. Their smell energizes me. Fortunately, my loving husband indulges my limited botany skills, as well as a few other quirks. He even built me a green house. There are 3 or 4 little sprigs of lettuce thriving in there right now. I look forward to being in this group and being inspired with your collective wisdom.



Hello, I'm Yun Fang. I share the same green passion with my friend Xinyi. Looking forward to seeing all of you around in the garden. Many thanks in advance.

## Jethro & Brittany Rothe-Kushel



Jethro & Brittany Rothe-Kushel bought their house in Altadena in 2015 when they signed up for #100 on the waitlist the hopes of having a gardening plot upon retirement. Just four years and a two-year-old daughter later, Jethro, Brittany, and Leylah are excited to join the Community Garden.

## Ayesha Randal



I am an active mother, community servant, and Girl Scout troop leader. I have been growing herb and vegetable gardens for 10 years. My paternal grandfather grew up in Leesburg, Georgia, 13 years after slavery was abolished, and discouraged his sons from working as sharecroppers because he felt it was going backwards. In a 1980 interview, he said:

*“Papa always told us to get out of that community down there because it was slavery almost. You know it hadn't*

*changed much from slavery because it was a farming community and the white people...had control of it. If you grow up down there you just start working for them as sharecroppers and things like that where you don't earn anything. You stayed in debt. But he said, 'As soon as you get up big enough I want you to get out of here. I want you to go to school.'”*

However, his boys, including my grandfather, still enjoyed gardening and passed down that appreciation to

their children. So my dad, who has always had a garden wherever he lived, built our family a raised garden bed and helped his granddaughter—my daughter—plant her first garden nearly 10 years ago.

When I first moved to Pasadena, I visited the Altadena Community Garden quite frequently, and one day, someone gave me a cutting from a collard green tree, and to this day, the trees are still growing strong. My favorite vegetables to grow are tomatoes and basil.

I was also an active gardener with another community garden before it closed. I assisted with community events and children's activities.

Gardening will be an ongoing and permanent component of our Girl Scout troop. We have a robust, fun, and educational program in store for all levels of girls. In addition, the girls will be volunteering on a regular basis. They already feel like the garden is part of their lives because they participate in so many activities, and receive so much encouragement and support from the members. The girls have learned so much already, and we are documenting their involvement and progress so that we can share with others the benefits of gardening.

In my spare time, I absolutely love and find so much joy in participating in LA's art and culture scenes; creating stuff and experiences; checking out diverse spaces and environments; listening to stories; talking and listening to different folks; spending time with family; enjoying the outdoors; eating and cooking good food, including garden grown squash and onions and street food like bacon wrapped hot dogs with grilled jalapenos, and chili Fritos from the ice cream truck; making my daughter's lunch for school; and shopping at thrift stores and garage sales.

I live in lush, green Pasadena, on the edge of sweet Altadena, with my husband, daughter, and Siberian Husky. I feel that I'm living my dream as a mommy, mom, mother, wife, daughter, sister, cousin, auntie, friend, and sista girl.

When I'm not doing all of this wonderful stuff, I am an instructor at a Los Angeles community college.

## Claudia Zhao



"Meet the new associate gardener for plot #42! Claudia Zhao is a new resident of Altadena, having recently moved from DTLA with her fiancé, Bill and dog, Cairo, where she started turning her thumb green at the Spring Street Community Garden. Claudia works in the fashion industry and her hobbies include yoga, hiking, and floral arranging. She is very excited to garden along side Mary and Leigh and to be part such a wonderful community of gardeners."

## Ida Calderon-Morin

I'm from Pasadena California

I've lived in California all my life mostly Southern California but also In Santa Cruz for a couple years.

I keep happily occupied with large family and meeting up with them and friends in many parts of the country and abroad at times.

I have three grown children who I not only love but like very much and enjoy as much as possible along with their wonderful spouses and my 4 grandchildren who are ADORABLE!

My favorite root veggie right now is golden beets!

I'm an associate with Maria Zendejas who's gardening skills are inspirational!!

I'm thrilled to have a place to cultivate my garden skills and be in a community that fosters the importance of urban gardening!!

I'm a software engineer. I work for myself.



## Water L A is coming to Altadena

Who are we? The River Project is a non-profit dedicated to holistic watershed management. Through our Water LA program, we help homeowners make active water management decisions on their properties through small but effective retrofits. We want homeowners to understand the important role they play in building climate resilient communities and shifting the region's dependence on imported water. The strategies we implement include parkway basins, rain grading, permeable paving, rain tanks, infiltration trenches, greywater systems, edible gardens, healthy soil, and native plants!

With funding from LA County Public Works and the CA Dept. of Water Resources, we are currently working with Altadena homeowners, who are part of the Upper LA River Watershed, to complete free water-capturing retrofits. Starting in April we will be hosting informational sessions, followed by a series of hands-on workshops. Our goal is to help Altadena residents become better stewards of the environment by implementing and maintaining home retrofits and helping their neighbors do the same. All hands-on workshops are run on "neighbor labor"; homeowners help each other install the retrofits, which helps everyone understand why the retrofits are important, how they work, and how to maintain them.

The projects we are bringing to Altadena will provide many benefits such as improving water quality and supply, mitigating local flooding, sequestering carbon, supporting native habitat, reducing your outdoor water use (and your water bill!), and cooling and cleaning the air. If you are a part of the Altadena community and would like to learn more, check out the website at [waterla.org](http://waterla.org) where you can sign up to receive more information, or give us a call at (818) 980-9660. We would be happy to answer any questions or get you signed up!



## Harvesting Seeds to Benefit the Earth

Suburban sprawl, increased use of pesticides, habitat destruction and fragmentation together with drought, warming temperatures and wildfires have had a profound impact upon California indigenous plant and animal populations and diversity. Of particular note have been the plummeting numbers of the pollinators, including bees and butterflies, upon whom so many plant species depend.

School groups, scout troops and other bands of forward looking people have attempted to address this problem in various ways. Unfortunately the large-scale planting of seeds tends to generate a fairly low percentage of germination and lower probability of plant maturation as the result of a number of factors including seed-eating birds, less than ideal weather conditions and other unforeseen and unavoidable vicissitudes.

Masanobu Fukuoka, farmer and philosopher, is well known for *The One Straw Revolution* and his work in natural farming and redeeming and revivifying desertified land. He famously revived the ancient practice of making clay seed balls for the effective and relatively high germination percentage distribution of seeds. These "seed balls", "earth dumplings" or "seed bombs" are a combination of clay, nutritive humus and



Seed Balls

seeds and serve the purpose of protecting the seeds from foragers, and keeping them locked away, dry and viable until exposed to enough water to erode the clay casing and allow germination to take place. The seeds thus packed in their protective fostering ball/pot/placenta/egg will only be exposed to the elements when circumstances become ideal for their sprouting and maturation.



*Calendula Pod and Flower*

can be the only way to plant.

The biodiversity of wild areas has suffered much in recent years from encroachment, herbicides, drought and other factors. Native plants such as the common milkweed upon which the monarch butterfly depends have been specifically hard put to survive in adequate quantities. Growing and harvesting judiciously chosen native species would be a wonderfully noble project.

We all enjoy our greens, tubers, legumes and fruit (when rodents leave us enough to harvest), but perhaps a colorful little spot in the plot could be cultivated for pollinator friendly and biodiversity seed saving. The garden outreach program works with a number of school and youth groups which would be very appreciative of some large scale seed donations. See Mary Gothard, our community outreach chair.

The environment would indeed benefit from the large scale practice of targeted seed bomb dispersal and that scale could well be achieved were the pleasant practice of seed ball production and dispersal to become the popular pastime among students of all ages that it deserves and promises to be. What could conceivably be more fun than working with clay, projectile planting and watching as one's efforts achieve fruition in otherwise bleak and derelict surroundings?



## Outreach Report

by Mary Gothard



March 10th we received a Den of Cub Scouts for a tour through the garden. They enjoyed the visit; the weather was chilly, but no rain. They were entertained with the idea and process of making seed balls.

March 29th, we will host two kindergarten classes totaling 50 students from Odyssey Charter School. They have visited us in prior years and we are hoping for a good showing of new spring veggies.

Our new Herb garden is coming along fine and the girl scouts



plan to add additional herbs for the spring time. Watch for the new seedlings as they come up.

Mary Gothard  
Community Outreach



## Garden Maintenance Update

Maintenance, repair & upgrade projects by Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation 2019.

1. Continue to work on the deck to complete handicapped parking space in the Garden next to the deck. Complete by March
2. Provide the expertise and labor to complete the recommendations of the Garden Deck Landscaping Committee. Install the recommended irrigation system. Provide the labor and materials/supplies to do so. The Garden has completed a fund raising campaign to secure the funds to complete all of the other recommendations in the deck landscaping report. Complete by December
3. Stabilize Garden informational sign in the Lower Park in front of the Garden main entrance gate. Assess and repair damage two large signs in the Garden. Complete by March
4. Refurbish or replace all peeling letters on informational signs in the Garden. Complete by April.
5. As identify, continue to replace rotten perimeter plot boards in Garden plots. Complete by May.
6. As identify, continue to replace leaky water spigot in Garden plots. Complete by April.
7. Coordinate with the Garden to replace two rotten dead trees in the Lower Park in front of the Garden. Complete by April.
8. Construct a 6 foot border from the eastern Garden fence in the Lower Park and add mulch to the area. The Garden will remove plants growing on the fence and plant more fruit trees in that area. The Garden will be responsible for providing the ongoing maintenance for this newly created area. Complete by September.



## Notifications and reminders

From the President

### Farewells

Matthew & Rebecca Tufenkian - Plot 01:

Matthew & Rebecca have been members for the past 10 to 15 years. Their 5 year old son was raised in the Garden. Matthew & Rebecca served on the executive board and Matthew was a member of the Garden Corner Beautification Project Committee. Matthew was the designer for the Altadena 4H Club Children's Plot and both he and Rebecca were the teachers. They were also donors to the Garden Deck Landscaping Project. We appreciate their contribution to the growth of the Garden and wish them the best.

#### Mary Crew - Plot 3

Mary and her husband Ernest began their membership in the early 1980s. Ernest served as treasurer on the executive board. Upon his passing, Mary took sole position of the plot and continued gardening until January 2019. Mary had just about everything in her plot. She loved to grow roses along with vegetables and enjoyed the avocados and grapefruits. She was a quiet dedicated gardener. We will miss seeing her gardening in her tall rubber boots, apron and large brim hat. However, we may still see her gardening with her daughter in Handicap Plot - H1.

#### Karen Ma Gee - Shed Plot

Karen has been a member for more than 10 years. She would bring her daughter to garden with her late in the evenings. The shed plot was Karen's hideaway. She liked to grow the summer vegetables. She was very supportive of the annual picnic and contributed to the Garden Deck Landscaping Project. We will miss her support and wish her the best.

#### Linda O'Connor - Plot 17

Linda was with us for about a year. She was a contributor to the Garden Deck Landscaping Project. We think that the gophers got the best of her efforts. We wish her the best.

#### Amy Jerominek - Plot 38

Amy was with us for about two years. The demands of her family were too much for her to maintain her plot. We wish her the best.

#### Tanya Slatton - Associate in plot 12

Tanya was an associate member for about three years. Residing in Monrovia made it difficult for her to enjoy her gardening experience. We wish her the best.

#### Holland & Curtis Milsdap-Noel - Plot 32A

Holland & Curtis were with us for less than a year. Their work and travel schedule did not leave much time for gardening. We are sorry to see them go and wish them the best.

#### Roosevelt Williams

On January 16, 2019 our fellow Garden member Roosevelt Williams lost his courageous battle with cancer. Roosevelt and his wife Willia were in plot 48 until last year

### Sympathy:

Our deepest sympathy to Darrell Shurney - plot 20, who recently lost his brother.

Our deepest sympathy to Eva Story - plot 01, who recently lost her beloved friend, Donald Goodman.

On January 16, 2019 our fellow Garden member Roosevelt Williams lost his courageous battle with cancer. Roosevelt and his wife Willia were in plot 48 until last year, when they had to give up their plot because of his illness. Roosevelt and Willia loved to grow broad leaf mustard greens, collard greens and tomatoes. They were also fond of cucumbers, bush butter beans, okra, string beans, cabbage and purple hull black eyed peas. Cauliflower, broccoli and corn never made their planting list. Most of what they grew went to family members, friends and members of their church - Metropolitan Baptist. Several church members spoke at his funeral about receiving vegetables from his garden. Roosevelt was a very active member of the Garden. He once served on the executive board as Wood Chip Coordinator. He supervised the purchase of the meats for our annual picnic and was a member of the Barbecue Team. He recommended and facilitated the purchase of knives to carve the meats. He was very active in selling tickets for the annual picnic and always enjoyed the picnic with his family and friends. He was a financial contributor to the Garden Corner Beautification Project & Garden Deck Landscaping Project. Roosevelt Williams was an outstanding gardener, an excellent fisherman, a successful entrepreneur and a good friend. We will miss him dearly.

### On the Mend

Darrell Shurney recovering from back surgery

Joan Banks returned home from a rehabilitation facility

We hope that your health continues to improve.

## Gopher Traps

The Garden has purchased 6 gopher traps that are in the large tool shed. The traps are numbered and labeled. The traps are available to Garden members to be used in their plot and walkway to control the gopher population in the Garden. The traps are only to be used in the Garden. Please do not take them home. Gardeners should use one trap at a time, in order to give other gardeners an opportunity to get a trap for their use. Traps must be returned to the shed after being used. Please, do not store or keep the trap in your plot when you are not using them. Instruction on the usage of the traps are printed on one of the boxes that the trap came in, which is also in the shed. We will consider purchasing more traps if six is not enough to meet the demands of the gardeners to control the gopher population. Good luck with your efforts.

## Compost

The Garden will participate in Athens Services Compost Giveaway in April. Athens will provide a truck load of their compost to the Garden.

Please comply with the fertilizer distribution guideline for each plot.

## Seeds

Free seeds are available at all general membership meetings.

## Gardening Classes

All garden members may attend the spring and fall gardening classes in the Garden for free.

## Housekeeping reminders:

### See Something Say Something

Refer to the following emergency phone number list that is posted in the Garden.

- MEDICAL EMERGENCY IN GARDEN DIAL 911
- LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT PARK BUREAU (213) 974 – 8000 24-HOUR DISPATCH (800) 834-0064
- SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT – ALTADENA STATION (626) 798-1131
- PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT (626) 744-4620
- COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT/ALTADENA FIRE STATION #12 (626) 797-1911
- PASADENA HUMANE SOCIETY & SPCA (626) 792-7151
- PENNY DANIELS, RECREATION SERVICES SUPERVISORS LOMA ALTA PARK (626) 398-5451 or 5452
- NICOLAS BERNAL, OUR GARDENER Cell: (626) 379-0593
- SILVERA GRANT, PRESIDENT, ALTADENA COMMUNITY GARDEN (626) 398-9840
- LEO STALLWORTH, VICE PRESIDENT (626) 398-8846

### Tiller Usage:

Please check to see if gasoline or the oil and gasoline mixture are in the tiller before you try to start it. Make sure you put the correct fluid in the correct tiller before using it. Please remember to clean the tiller after using it.

### Dumpster Area:

Gardeners, please be responsible for cleaning up after dumping your trash and other items from your plot into the dumpster. The area should be kept clean as much as possible.

### Inspection Concerns:

Please correct any violations you may receive from an inspection report. Plot number must be visible at all times.

## Farmers' Market and Garden Access:

The Garden is closed to the public during the Farmer's Market. All gates to the Garden must remain closed during the Farmer's Market. Garden members, Loma Alta Park staff and Farmer's Market staff are the only persons allowed in the Garden during the Farmer's Market.

## Avocados:

Please be aware that removal of avocados from the tree is now a violation of the Garden's by-laws. Refer to Article - 3, Section - P. We will harvest the avocados in December or January and distribute them to the Garden members in a general membership meeting. This will allow for everyone to get an equal share of the avocados.

## Tools & Equipment:

Please clean the tools and equipment before returning them to the tool shed. This is also your responsibility. Notify Leo if a tool or equipment is broken or needs attention. Let him know if you would like to have a tool that is not in our inventory.

Please remember to close the door of the small refrigerator in the tool shed tightly.

## Thievery:

Reminder: The Garden By-Laws call for the termination of membership of any member taking something from another member's plot without their permission. Several gardeners have reported items missing/taken from their plot without their permission -- items such as, vegetables, stepping stones, boards, chairs and personal hand tools.

## Open Gates:

If you are the last to leave the Garden, please make sure the gates and tool shed are closed. It is also inappropriate and inadvisable to leave a person alone in the garden without locking the gate. When entering or leaving the Garden, please remember to lock the Palm Street entrance gate; it should remain locked at all times.

## The Deck Fountain

Please use the bottom electrical light switch on the pagoda next to the deck to turn on and off the water fountain. You can also use the hose on the side of the deck to fill the fountain with water when it is low. If you are the last person to leave the Garden and the water fountain is on, please turn it off.

## Gate Locking and Parking Policies

The Garden is a public facility and we encourage the gardeners to keep the main entrance gate open when they are in the Garden gardening. This will give passersby the opportunity to see the Garden when a gardener or gardeners are present. However, safety is the top priority for all Garden members when they are in the Garden. It is therefore the responsibility of all Garden members to do whatever is necessary to ensure that they feel safe while in the Garden and the Lower Park. When alone in the garden it may be appropriate to lock the gate. Upon entering the Garden and finding the gate locked with someone inside, it is probably best to defer to that person's preference and lock the gate back up after entering. When leaving the garden with another garden member in the Garden, it is polite to determine whether that gardener would like the gate locked or not.

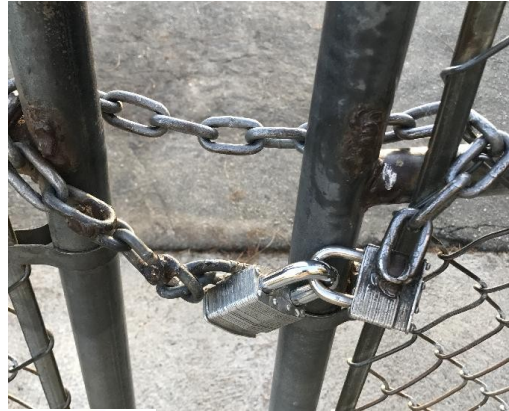
It is never appropriate to leave the gates open when leaving if the garden is empty or if only one person is present.

The Garden parking lots are for gardeners only. As the gates may be locked at any point, it is unwise for non-members to park there.

Only service dogs are allowed in the Garden. Visitors with or without service dogs are welcome to walk into the Garden when the gates are open, walk around in the walkways and visit with gardeners. They are not allowed to go into a plot or to take anything out of a plot. No alcohol, drugs or inappropriate behavior are allowed. Members may refer to Article 3 section A, G, J, M, P, Q, & U in the Garden By - Laws for justification.

## Gate Locking:

When locking the gate, please be sure always link the padlocks to each other so that opening either one will undo the chain. Padlocking to a chain link locks out legitimate users whose keys fit the other padlock.



## Call for Newsletter Submissions

Have you done anything interesting lately that you would like to share with garden members in the next newsletter? Please let ideas propagate in your imagination and share the harvest with us. Artwork is most welcome. As the ACG Newsletter will be in digital form, multiple media may be included as links. Please submit creative thoughts or material to [altadenacnewsletter@abacus-es.com](mailto:altadenacnewsletter@abacus-es.com)