



August 2020

Newsletter

Fecund fecundity from the fertile foothills

President – Silvera Grant
Vice President – Leo Stallworth
Secretary Jean Courtney
Treasurer – Sandy Chang
Orientation – Mary McGilvray
Website – René Amy
Community Outreach – Mark Anthony Cole
Wood Chips, Fertilizer Coordinator – Erik Geiger
Inspection Coordinator – Eva Story
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Correspondence Secretary – Yolanda Jones
Programs Chairperson – René Amy
Newsletter Editor – Denis Titchenell
Archivist – Anne Reid
Nominating – Marie Yeseta
Albert West Advisor
Isaac Turner Advisor

Article submissions: altadenacnewsletter@abacus-es.com

Read the newsletter online:

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

[Visit our members discussion group on Facebook](#)

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Upcoming Events

- Altadena Farmers' Market Wednesdays, 2 - 6 P.M. Prepaid, no contact curbside pickup. www.afm-subscription.com



Portrait of Zdenka Svitek with her “elephant” cabbage. Photograph by Sean MacGillivray

News

The Garden is now a Wildlife Habitat

Thanks to the efforts of Garden board member René Amy, the Altadena Community Garden has been officially designated a Certified Wildlife Habitat.

Welcome Aboard

Mark Anthony (Stone) Cole has acceded to the office of Community Outreach Chair for the Gardens, a post formerly held by Mary Gothard whose work with visitors and school groups was extensive and included hands-on participation by other garden members. Let's offer our assistance to Stone for his projects as needed.



Congratulations

Let's extend our congratulations and support to Garden member Kameelah Wilkerson in Handicapped Plot #3 for being the unanimous selection of the Altadena Library District board of trustees to fill the remaining term of former board member Gwen McMullins. Kameelah and was selected in the first round of voting. Again, congratulations! We wish you the very best in your new position.

LFL Benches

The benches in our Little Free Library nook have been treated – stained and sealed to serve many years and perhaps generations of literature-loving gardeners.



New Members and their plots:

#5- Long time associates Sue Parilla and Ted Krontiris now have their own plot.

#5A- Next to them are new members Angelo and Chris Chiriaco.

#36A- Jacquie Ochoa-Rosallini is a very busy CPA with a small firm in Pasadena. She will be gardening with her niece.

#36AB (yes, we don't have a letter C) has the Bagley family; Robert, Liba and sons Cole and Jasper. Cole collects and raises exotic tarantulas from all over the world and attends the Webb School in Claremont. Jasper attends a Japanese immersion middle school in Glendale and plays sports. They are great kids and a great family!

#43- Mark Anthony Cole (aka "Stone") is a Medical Director of a rehabilitation center and is a Master Gardener. His associate Carol De Lilly is a nursing professor at Mt. St. Mary's University. Member at large: Mr. P, our prideful peacock.



Photo: Margaret Rax-Jones



Covid 19 Virus Measures Taken at the Garden

From the Garden President: In response to the coronavirus pandemic and directive from Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation the Altadena Community Garden will do the following:

1. Until further notice, the Garden will be closed to the public. Only members of the Garden listed on the Garden Roster should be in the Garden tending their plots. The gates must be closed at all times when a Garden member is in the Garden. While in the Garden members must have facial covering, practice social distancing – six feet from one another, and wear gloves.
2. All activities/events listed on the 2020 Garden Master Calendar are canceled. This includes meetings, classes, workshops and our Annual Community Garden Picnic scheduled for July 11th. No private social gathering or event of more than 10 people will be allowed on and around the deck.

Our Garden community will work together to ensure the health and safety of its members and the community.



The Online Garden

The phrase “Online Garden” appears at first glance to be an oxymoronic absurdity, unworthy of space in our Garden newsletter, but though it may lack the organic haptic delights of worms and whitefly or the taste of cucumbers and kohlrabi, information is part of every human experience. Whether it comes on clay tablets, illuminated manuscripts or bits and bytes, the only meaningful difference is the weight and evanescence of the medium. Assuming one does not accept the asseveration of that iconic fictional Yorkshire battleaxe, Nora Batty: “No good ever came of reading books,” one does in some way acknowledge the role of knowledge in gardening, be it in the form of shade structure instructions, use of pest management tools or simply the poetic reflections of a Wordsworth or Tennyson, the seeds and soil experience can always be augmented with inspired thoughts conveyed through language, images and sound.

With the Garden Picnic canceled again, and indeed, most delightful hours of prandial jocularity curtailed as never before in our history, it is only seemly that we should supplant modes of interaction which entail breathing the same air with other, safer social channels. A [private Facebook discussion group](#) was created in 2016 for garden members to interact, share and rant with each other instead or in addition to talking over the fence. There are currently about 35 members. Some have questioned the wisdom of using Facebook for ideological reasons, but no other forum is ever likely to enjoy the same level of participation.



Sean MacGillivray in the Garden

Sean MacGillivray, professional photographer and newly minted Garden fan, has taken some 300 plus photographs of the garden in its summer glory. These photographs are ready to be admired, included in our archives, and sent out to the world.

A sampling of the photos can be accessed a number of ways: on the [Garden's Instagram site](https://www.instagram.com/altadenacommunitygarden/) (<https://www.instagram.com/altadenacommunitygarden/>), through the private Altadena [Community Garden Facebook group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/550194825177730) (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/550194825177730>), on the [Altadena Community Garden website](http://www.altadenacommunitygarden.com/) (<http://www.altadenacommunitygarden.com/>) The Altadena Garden Online Resources (ACGOR) group is interested in hearing from you about how these exquisite images can be used. Thanks to Sean for his incredible gift and to all of you whose portraits are part of this collection and to Garden members in general for your inspiring gardens. We hope to invite Sean back for a day of gardener portraits.

Inspired by a Sean's significant bequest and the decision to create an online Garden library (both currently posted in the [private Facebook discussion group](#)), a little Altadena Community Garden Online Resources committee has been working on ways to support ACG members. Claudia Zhao has created a [Gardens Instagram resource](#). Suggestions and contributions are most welcome.

One work contained in our new [Online Garden Library](#) is [The Garden Muse](#), a wonderful anthology of garden inspired poetry including works by Tennyson, Wordsworth, Pope and Marvel.

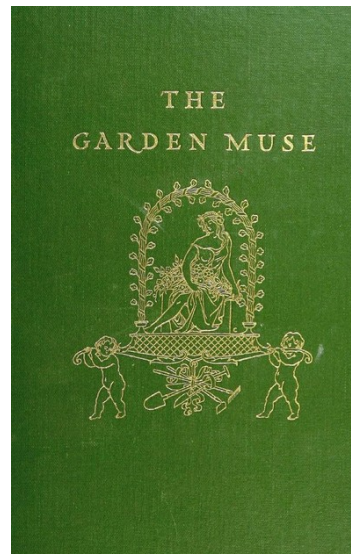
One little poem by Austin Dobson leaps out. The ending stanza may be a nice choice for a plaque of invocation in our LFL nook. What do you think?

A Garden Song

By Austin Dobson
[To the Pierides (The Muses)]

...

Here be shadows large and long;
Here be spaces meet for song;
Grant, O garden-god, that I,
Now that none profane is nigh,
Now that mood and moment please,
Find the fair Pierides!





Our LFL Nook, Photo: Sean MacGillivray



Our LFL

A column centering on the Altadena Community Garden's Little Free Library

Welcome to the second installment of our newsletter column celebrating the literary adventures of our fellow gardeners and the garden's Little Free Library!

For this column, I have interviewed Kelly Fernandez (my wife and garden plot partner) about a book she would like to share. This will be the first of many "interviews" with our fellow gardeners to come! If you are interested in being interviewed as well, please email me at jaredburtonmusic@yahoo.com -- thanks!

Before we hear from Kelly, Garden President Silvera Grant (Plot 27) has a resource tip: Read the gardening section in the L.A. Times! You can find this information under the "[Home & Garden](#)" section of the online edition (<https://www.latimes.com/topic/home>) which requires a subscription, or you can pick up the Saturday print paper and get ink stained fingers to go along with the soil stuck under your fingernails.

And now, the (very brief) interview with Kelly Fernandez (Plot 44A):

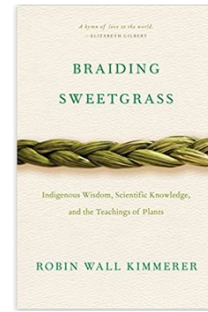
Have you read a book you'd like to share with your fellow gardeners?

Kelly: I am currently reading Braiding Sweetgrass by Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer.

What is it about?

Kelly: Dr. Kimmerer is a botanist and member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. She does a beautiful job weaving together indigenous traditions with botanical and ecological information through personal reflections. It's a nice book to read at this time because it is calming, reflective and relevant.

How did you come across this book?



Kelly: Braiding Sweetgrass, published in 2015, was a well regarded book when it came out, and continues to have high ratings. I decided to buy it a couple of years ago when I saw it at Tree of Life, a native plant nursery in San Juan Capistrano.

When do you make time to read it?

Kelly: I am (casually) part of a book club through work, which gave me inspiration. We had a wonderful discussion about it. We all agreed it was a slow read due to its richness in poetry and information.

Thanks for sharing Kelly! If you are interested in learning more about [the author of Braiding Sweetgrass](https://www.esf.edu/faculty/kimmerer/), visit her professional profile at <https://www.esf.edu/faculty/kimmerer/> (it includes a section with links to videos, speeches, and online resources)

If you happen to visit the garden's Little Free Library by the garden deck, remember to use (clean) gloves for added virus protection when browsing the books there. Remember, any book there is free for you keep!

On that note, given the state of affairs due to the virus, Denis Titchenell (Plot 43A) has promoted in The Online Garden above, a suite of online resources for remote use by all gardeners as well.

Happy reading and gardening to all!

Jared Burton
Plot 44A



A Garden Shade Structure

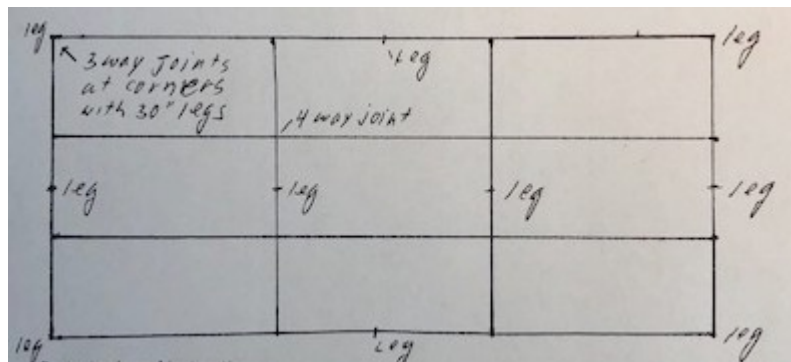
Slowing down the bolting greens

By Eric Callow

A variety of fresh lettuce from our plot has been a special treat since joining the Altadena Community Garden. However, this cool season crop does not do well as the temperatures rise and the sun becomes more intense. So, in an effort to extend our lettuce season, I designed and built a garden shade for our five foot by seven foot raised bed.

Using one-half inch PVC for a frame and shade cloth to filter the sunlight, the resulting garden shade appears to be working well as our lettuce varieties are thriving in mid-July.

The accompanying diagram and parts list were developed to fit over a rectangular raised bed of sixty-five by eighty-nine inches but the design can be resized to fit your particular application. Note that each joint adds one inch of length. The shade cloth is stretched over the resulting flat surface, wrapped around the perimeter PVC and secured with four-inch zip ties.



Parts, tools and instructions:

- 1/2" PVC: Buy eighty-feet and cut to:
 - 30" x 10 (for legs)
 - 28" x 10
 - 20" x 8
 - 14" x 4
 - 10" x 8
- 1/2" three-way slip joints x 4
- 1/2" four-way slip joints x 4
- 1/2" slip T joints x 14
- Shade cloth comes six feet wide to any length.
- PVC glue (optional)

- PVC shears, tape measure, rubber hammer.

Sources:

- JHM Supply, 787 W. Woodbury Rd., Altadena. Tell them you're from Altadena Community Garden, referred by C E Callow Irrigation Design: PVC, parts, tools.
- Lincoln Avenue Nursery, 804 Lincoln Ave., Pasadena: shade cloth.

Feel free to come by Plot 36 to inspect our shade.



People of the Garden: Isaac “Ike” Turner

By Elisa Callow



Ike on shore leave with two-year-old son Calvin at their first meeting. Ike today at the Garden.

Back in November of 2019, the world was a very different place. That’s when Ike Turner and I sat together on the beloved Altadena Community Garden’s shady deck for what was to come: an inspiring story of a life filled with courage, righteousness, and an abiding love of family. Ike prepared me: “You better find a comfortable spot, because I am the oldest person in the garden and so have the longest story.”

At 96, Ike remains vigorous and engaged. He is frequently at the Garden, having been one of its first members and served as a Board president. He came prepared for our interview with a well-organized, hand written list of biographical facts whose extent would give anyone pause: born in Shreveport, Louisiana in 1924; married to Agnes;

father of four children; service as a Navy Petty officer who fought in five major WWII invasions; parts-builder for airplanes and space shuttles; and longtime leader within the UAW. But it's the depth of every experience that is truly remarkable. Each of these simply noted experiences reflects a deeper story. So "find a comfortable spot," and get ready to read about another Garden legend.

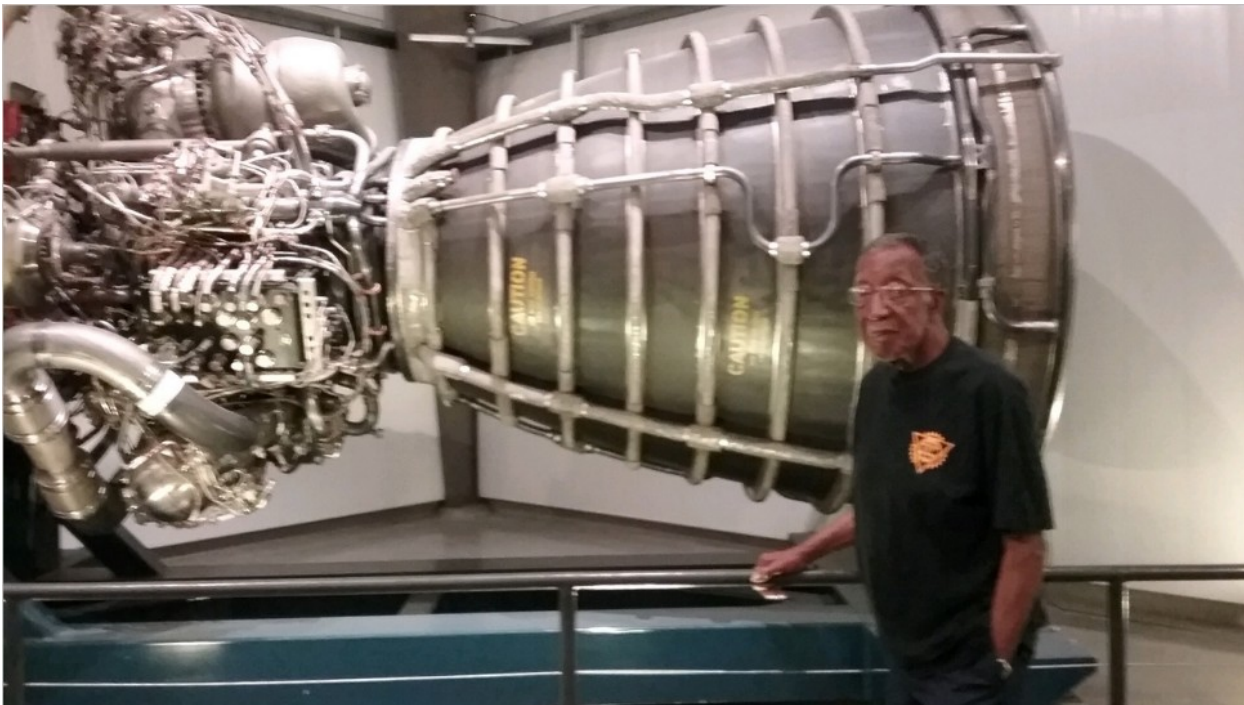
In the early 1920s and 1930s, the city of Shreveport was experiencing the height of Jim Crow "laws" and consequently a dangerous place for a young Black man to live. Ike recalls lessons taught by his dad and embedded in his heart and mind by experience. "I just hated the South and couldn't wait to get out. When I saw a white girl about half a block away, I knew to cross over, because if I passed her, she could decide to scream and holler. I saw a Black guy who was almost beaten to death. I just got on my knees and prayed for him. I think I was 12 or 13 years old. You couldn't take a Yellow Cab; we rode on [jitneys](https://www.globalblackhistory.com/2020/01/safe-bus-north-carolinas-largest-black-owned-bus-company.html). (https://www.globalblackhistory.com/2020/01/safe-bus-north-carolinas-largest-black-owned-bus-company.html) They roped off the buses and would take over half of the bus for whites. You had to go past the rope to the section with fewer seats. There were never enough, so we had to stand all the way. That was, until Rosa Parks came along."

On the cusp of adulthood, Ike made a momentous decision that would shape and enrich the remainder of his life. He married his high school sweetheart, Agnes. He was 18, but told Agnes that he was older to match her 19 years. In May of 1943 Agnes was pregnant with their eldest son, Calvin. Without a moment's hesitation Ike knew he would ask her to marry him. "My grandmother put us together. She said, 'If the girl is pregnant and you think that's your baby—marry her.' The neighbors didn't want that; they said we were too young, people don't stay together, ya, ya, ya." Three months after marrying Agnes, Ike turned 19 and was drafted straightaway into the Navy. Ike saw combat in five invasions: The Gilbert, Mariana, and Marshall Islands, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. One way to understand the intensity of Ike's wartime experience is to consider his age and the amount of time he was engaged in battle: a total of eight months of relentless combat between the ages of 19 and 21.

Battle	Time Frame	Duration	Ike's age at the time
Marshall & Gilbert Islands	11/43 to 2/44	2 ½ months	19 years old
Marianas Island	11/44	1 month	20 years old
Iwo Jima	2/45 to 3/45	1 month	21 years old
Okinawa	4/45 to 6/45	3 months	21 years old

Despite its continuous and extreme peril, Ike saw his service as a way to reframe his future: "The military let me know that I could accomplish more if I moved out of Louisiana." California was an obvious choice, as five of his uncles lived there. One came all the way from California to pick Ike up, and they made the long return journey to Ike's new life. His aunt ran a boarding house owned by the notorious gangster [Mickey Cohen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mickey_Cohen) (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mickey_Cohen), and there Ike lived while working at an aluminum casting company making \$1 an hour as a laborer. A strong work ethic led to a quick promotion to company truck driver, where he was the first Black man to secure this position. Ike has a knowing side to him that is well evidenced by this recollection: "When the owner asked me if I knew the city, I told him I knew it like the back of my hand. And soon I did, but not before." Ike's successful work trajectory led to financial stability so that Agnes and Calvin were able to join him soon after his arrival in Los Angeles.

Ike's time in the service added another layer of determination to the formation of his character. Despite braving a number of life-threatening situations, Ike and other Black service men were compelled by the segregated culture of the Navy to sleep on the floor. But it was his wife Agnes who was his greatest influence. "She could do anything a man can do. We grew up together. She was so intelligent and capable." Ike's faith in Agnes' ability was not just expressed in words. He supported her academic preparation at USC for real estate law, which led to a professional life as a real estate broker. They shared a life for seventy-one years until her death in 2014.



Ike with one of his creations— “the booster”—an essential part for a space shuttle’s launch into the atmosphere.

Given these profound influences—his determination in the face of prejudice, the courage and tenacity honed in battle, and his respect for his wife—it is not surprising that Ike found himself in a leadership position with the United Auto Workers after securing a job as a metal fitter. Initially, he was a reluctant leader, preferring, as he said, to arrive at work early for some quiet time to read the sports section of his favorite newspaper. But lead he did, becoming an early feminist as he championed the idea of equal pay for equal work. “She’s putting the right-hand door on the car and you are putting on the left. It’s two doors, so what’s the difference?” As the UAW Wage Coordinator, Ike’s favorite refrain was “Why not?” as he pressed for overtime benefits and equitable wages to be extended to women.

A chance drive up to the Meadows in Altadena with a realtor friend led to the purchase of the family home in 1962. By then, the Turner family consisted of Ike, Agnes, and four children (Calvin, Julia, Darryl, and Zelphanie)—two girls and two boys. Despite its diverse demographics today, The Meadows was a mostly white community in the early ‘60s. There were no more than six Black families, including the Turners. Calvin, Isaac and Agnes’ eldest son, befriended the son of Fred Shotlow, the Garden’s president at the time, and through this connection, Ike learned of the nascent garden and the possibility of establishing an agreement with the County Parks and Recreation Department of Los Angeles to assure its continuation. Like many other members, Ike’s first trial-and-error garden was by his own admission heavy on the errors, including the use of sand as a soil amendment. His advice for new gardeners wishing to gain mastery? “Get a book about what you can plant based on the seasons. Make sure to scare off the birds with reflective ribbons. And don’t be afraid to ask questions. I often ask Art [Fudge], Leo [Stallworth], and

Ike’s Barbequed Corn

As many Altadena Community Garden members know, a sign of summer’s bounty are the many corn stalks rising. To celebrate the incredibly delectable taste of corn picked and eaten within the day, Ike’s recipe for barbequed corn is something not to be missed. Thanks to Julia, Ike’s daughter, for sharing this recipe.

Ingredients:

Corn for as many people as will be eating. (based on garden yield and size of the party)
Butter and salt, optional

Method:

Pull leaves down from corn, but don’t remove
Remove corn silk
Pull leaves back up to cover kernels once again
(Leaves will protect the kernels.)
Place corn on a hot grill and barbeque until the
kernels are hot.
Turn at least once while barbequing.

Delicious on their own or with butter and salt.

Albert [West] for advice, and they give it generously.” As Garden president, Ike’s commitment to civil rights and access led to the creation of specialized garden plots designed for gardeners with disabilities.

Ike’s story reveals the depth of life experiences and wisdom of these first members of the Altadena Community Garden. In many situations, he has proven his capacity for doing the right thing, however difficult and no matter the consequences. The Garden is a place grounded in the history of people like Ike, who continue to energize subsequent generations of its membership.



What Garden Members Are Doing

This is a new column that will showcase the work of ACG members. If you have your own blog, business, service or product, please describe it in a sentence or two and give us link. If you have done something interesting, received an award or written an article, please tell us and provide a link. We want to support our members.



Garden Maintenance Update

Maintenance, repair & upgrade projects by Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation 2020.

1. Completed: New outside perimeter outside fence of the Garden in the lower Park completed by Dept. of Parks & Rec. The county has been working on this for the past two years. Thank you Bob Cruz and your crew for getting this done.
2. Completed: Work on the deck to complete handicapped parking space in the Garden next to the deck.
3. Completed: 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
4. Completed: 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.
5. Completed: Refurbish or replace all peeling letters on informational signs in the Garden.
6. Completed: As identified, continue to replace rotten perimeter plot boards in Garden plots.

7. Completed: As identified, continue to replace leaky water spigot in Garden plots.
8. Completed: Coordinate with the Garden to replace two rotten dead trees in the Lower Park in front of the Garden.
9. Completed: 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.

We appreciate the positive response and support from Department of Parks & Recreation in addressing these issues in the Garden. Under the leadership of Deputy Director Jonathan E. Gargan and his administrative staff, the Department of Parks & Recreation North Community Services Agency is now responsible for providing operational and maintenance/repairs services to Loma Alta Park and the Altadena Community Garden. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Deputy Director Mercy Santoro and her administrative staff from the East Community Services Agency for their many years of outstanding service to Loma Alta Park and the Altadena Community Garden. We will miss not working with you.

Notifications and reminders

From the President

Expert Gardening Consultation Offer from Jessica Yarger, UC Cooperative Extension

Dear Gardening Community Member,

Do you have a garden related question? Having trouble identifying a certain pest or want to get some information about how to start a vegetable garden?

Master Gardeners are available to answer all your garden related questions, including tree care, pest management, and soil health.

You can call the Master Gardener Hotline at (626) 586-1988 or send an email to mglosangeleshelpline@ucdavis.edu.

Regards,

Jessica Yarger
UC Master Gardener Program Assistant
University of California Cooperative Extension
Los Angeles County
700 West Main Street
Alhambra, CA 91801

Warning about seeds from China:

[NBC News article warns about residents receiving unsolicited seed Packets from China](#) and admonishes recipients not to plant nor trash them but to send them to the appropriate [state plant regulatory officials](#) in their original packaging. It does not answer many salient questions: What kinds of seeds can be readily identified (clearly corn, allium, cruciferous vegetables are obvious among them, though these are not shown nor mentioned in this report)? How long will it take to examine them properly? Will any announcement be forthcoming in the future and when? What does it say on the packets in Chinese? How does one dispose of them properly if one decides not to send them in?

Excess produce?

Do you produce more vegetables in your plot than you can use? Do you have vegetables left in your plot to rot? If you are producing more than you can use, please consider donating the excess to a food non-profit or you can put the excess on the table in front of the bulletin board in the Garden. No need to waste what you have worked so hard to produce.

Appreciation:

Our sincere appreciation to Lance Verdugo, Craft Manager 1, Facility Operations, North Community Services Agency and his painter, Roberto Guillen, for staining the benches in the Little Free Library Nook. They did an excellent job.

Thanks to the Vasquez Family in plot 18A for their recyclable donated items. With their donated items we were able to earn \$102.

Thank you René Amy - plot 3 for making the necessary arrangements with a local tree trimming company to provide wood chips for the Garden.

Thank you Erik Geiger - plot 28 for providing the fertilizer for the Garden.

Thank you Sheila Grady - plot 25 for the recyclables. We appreciate your support for the Garden.

Thanks to Leo Stallworth for clearing plot 56/57 for a new member from the waiting list.

Thank you Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Senior Deputy Sussy Nemer and Staff Assistant Savannan Moore for your support over the years for the Garden and community. We are what we are today because of your support.

On the Mend:

Lets extend our good wishes for a steady and speedy recovery to Brenda Hurst in plot 24A who is recovering from a broken left ankle.

Congratulations:

Our enthusiastic congratulations to plot #44A members, Jared Burton, our LFL Librarian, and Kelly Fernandez, our Deck area Landscaping Maven, who just celebrated their 10th anniversary and who anticipate the arrival of a new family member in January.



Congratulations:

Let's put our hands together and applaud fellow Garden member Lea Rogers in plot 24. Ms. Rogers is a Registered Nurse who provides ongoing care in a hospital for Covid-19 patients. She has been doing this for the past five months. She also conducts health and safety inspections of nursing homes. We appreciate Ms. Rogers for her dedication and commitment to serve despite the dangers she faces in these stressful times. Thank you Lea!

In Memoriam

The local population of pocket gophers has suffered a number of casualties as a result of cleverly deployed traps. If only we could get some barn owls interested in taking part.



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.

Rats

Some gardeners report having problems with rats eating their vegetables. It is the gardener's responsibility to control the rat population in their plot. Population control must be environmentally safe such as using traps.

Compost

Please comply with the fertilizer distribution guideline for each plot.

Seeds

Free seeds are available at all general membership meetings, once they resume.

Gardening Classes

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

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

Harassment Issues, Complaints:

We want to assure everyone of a safe and pleasant environment at the Garden. Please inform Silvera or Leo of any infringements or complaints. As stated in Article 2 Section U in the By-Laws: In the spirit of our mission statement, we must all work together to create a safe, secure and injury-free garden environment. The Garden has zero tolerance of abusive behavior of any kind. To this end, all members and associates are to behave in a respectful manner and must refrain from any kind of discriminatory behavior, harassment, sexual harassment (as defined by the State of California) or victimization. Whether or not an offense was intended, the perception that it exists or has occurred is harmful and detrimental to the Garden. All unsafe conditions and/or security related issues must be reported directly to the Garden President or Vice President who will initiate an investigation. Disciplinary actions will be taken immediately when appropriate.

Garden Policy Update:

1. In compliance with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation guidelines during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Please note the following:
 - A. Until further notice the Garden is closed to the general public.
 - B. The Garden is open only to Garden Members who are listed on the Garden's official roster to work in their plot.

Garden Members must wear facial covering and practice social distancing while they are in the Garden. Gardeners must also wear gloves while working in their plots.

C. Until further notice, all planned organized activities such as meetings, classes, annual picnic, workshop and other activities are canceled.

Plot condition, violations:

As stated in Article 3, Section L in the By-Laws: Garden plots shall be under cultivation year round. If there are extenuating circumstances rendering this infeasible, the Executive Board may allow a fallow time (free from weeds) not to exceed six (6) months. Approval of the Executive Board must be obtained in advance. A letter from the plot owner must be submitted, outlining the details of the extenuating circumstances. Otherwise, the policy will be enforced.

We will be enforcing this policy as of 2020. You may want to consider not renewing your membership for 2020 if you are not able to cultivate your plot. We will no longer look the other way if your plot is not cultivated and remains empty. We have a four year waiting list of 50 or more people waiting to get in the Garden. All plots must be under cultivation and kept weed free.

Walkway Condition and Wood Chips:

Please pay attention to the condition of your walkway. It is your responsibility to maintain your walkway free of weeds and nut grass. You are also responsible to put wood chips in your walkway. Thanks to René Amy in plot #3, we have received a very large amount of wood chips from a local tree trimming company for your use.

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.

Plot Inspection Report:

Gardeners are expected to maintain their plot in accordance to the Garden by-laws. If you have received an inspection violation report please correct the violation(s) indicated in the report. Failure to do so will jeopardize your membership. Plot number must be visible. Please pay attention to the conditions of your walkways. Walkways must be filled with wood chips at all times. Chips from the avocado tree is a natural for your walkways. Please correct any violations listed in an inspection report.

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.

Tools & Equipment:

Please note everyone, that it's your responsibility to put the tools back correctly in the tool rack as shown in this picture. This is to avoid tools from falling from the rack and injuring another gardener who is attempting to remove a tool from the rack for his or her use. In correctly placing a tool in the tool rack, you can prevent causing serious injury to another gardener. Please take the time to put back the tools correctly in the tool rack.

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



Tools replaced in rack

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.

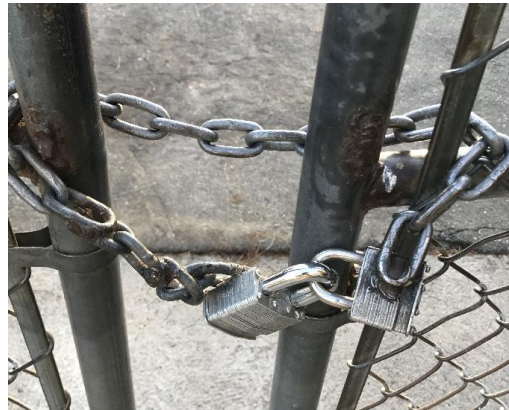
It is never appropriate to leave the gates open when leaving if the garden is empty or if only one person is present.

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 sections 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 altadenacgnewsletter@abacus-es.com