



February 2021

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 Coordinator – Angelo Chiriaco
Fertilizer Coordinator – Joe Nagy
Inspection Coordinator – Eva Story
Maintenance Coordinator Leo Stallworth
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

- The Farmer's Market: Pickup weekly on Wednesdays is between 1pm and 3pm

News

ACG Board Election

– Marie Yeseta

I am happy to announce all standing board members on the ballot have unanimously been voted in to continue serving our Community Garden. Congratulations to all of you.

We all look forward to another successful year at the garden. Thank you for serving our garden we appreciate your service.

President's Volunteer Service Award goes to Garden Programs Chairperson, René Amy



Stacey Whitney

The [President's Volunteer Service Award](#) has been bestowed upon our colleague, René, for his service last year to ShelterBoxUSA.org, an amazing humanitarian-aid organization that has repeatedly been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.



René Amy

Small Business of the Year – Altadena Farmers Market

In a district with many outstanding small businesses and local entrepreneurs, Stacey Whitney, manager of the Altadena

Farmers Market has gone above and beyond through the Altadena Farmers Market. The market is well known for its fresh home grown produce, community friendly environment and its sustainability efforts including a zero-waste initiative. Thank you, Stacey, for your unconquerable spirit. We would also like to thank the Department of Parks & Recreation and Supervisor Kathryn Barger for their support to the Altadena Farmer's Market. We would not be able to have a farmer's market without your support. Again, thank you.

Christmas Tree Lane Turned 100 Last Year and there is yet another sobering event worthy of recognition



Christmas Tree Lane 1926

The iconic Altadena deodar-lined Santa Rosa Avenue was first lit 100 years ago this year. The 134 deodar cedar trees, native to the Himalayas, were planted by the Woodbury brothers in 1885.



The oldest large scale Christmas display in the world, Christmas Tree Lane was first lit in 1920 just when the Spanish Flu had finally subsided after infecting 50 million people – about a third of the world's population at the time. This year is thus a double commemoration.

The Christmas Tree Lane Association, together with the Altadena Library and Altadena Historical Society has created a series of videos covering the history of Christmas Tree Lane and the development of Altadena in general. It offers some fine work and insights despite its sometimes halting, awkwardly edited and uneven amateur delivery: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUZFDIIZd0ktbQS52axYFqt90Jx0FS4gt>

Fertilizer & Wood Chip Coordinators

Let's give a warm welcome to our two new Executive Board members Joe Nagy, plot 26, and Angelo Chiriaco, plot 5A.

Joe will assume the position of Fertilizer Coordinator on the Executive Board. He began his Garden membership as an Associate Member for Mark Rice in plot 14. Joe loves to grow sweet potatoes.

Angelo will assume the position of Wood Chip Coordinator on the Executive Board. Angelo is a fairly new and energetic member to our gardening community. His favorite vegetable to grow is fava beans.

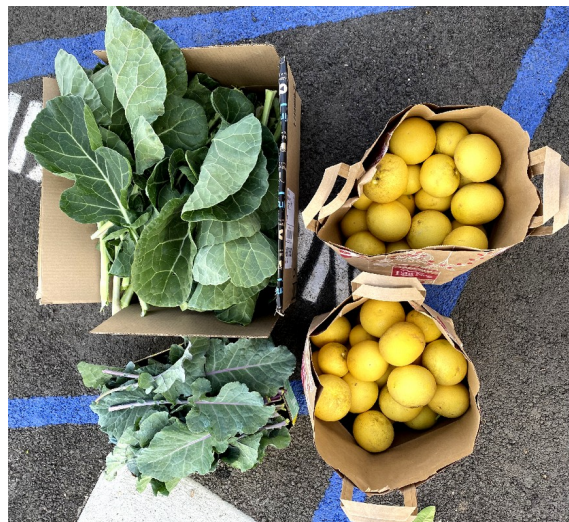
Thank you Robert Bagley, plot 36AB for expressing an interest in the Wood Chip Coordinator position. We look forward to your future contribution to the Garden in some other capacity.

Food Pantry Food Distribution

– **Claudia Zhao**

Food Pantry Program Director, Tim Nistler, would be very appreciative of whatever excess veggies we can donate to the Food Pantry.

The Food Pantry in Pasadena accepts fresh vegetable donations from community and home gardens and provides donated food in the form of a store to those in need in our local area. They distribute on Tues/Wed/Thurs and are currently doing this in the parking lot instead of having people shop inside - they distribute up to 2000lbs a week!



Food Pantry donations. Photo: Claudia Zhao

Claudia Zhao, associate gardener from Plot 42, will be collecting excess vegetables that gardeners want to donate once a month on a Saturday and will bring them to the Food Pantry. If you are interested in donating excess vegetables from your garden, please contact Claudia via email at claudia.zhao@gmail.com to coordinate. Please have veggies you want to donate ready in a box or bag for easy handling.

The first monthly collection took place on Saturday 12/12.

The next excess veggie collection is scheduled for Saturday 1/23.

Learn more about [Food Pantry in Pasadena](https://friendsindeedpas.org/fid/what-we-do/our-programs/the-food-pantry/) and their work here: <https://friendsindeedpas.org/fid/what-we-do/our-programs/the-food-pantry/>.

Donation to the Garden, shared with the Loma Alta Park Children Program

Thanks to the Altadena Farmers' Market Manager, Stacey Whitney, the Garden has received an additional \$265.00 donation from the market's vendors and supporters in celebration of Ms. Whitney's recent birthday. As was done before with the previous donation of \$415.00, the Garden shared half with the Loma Alta Park Children Programs. This means \$132.50 for the Garden and \$132.00 for the Loma Alta Children Programs.

Total Donation Received:
\$680.00

Distribution:
\$340.00 for the Garden and \$340.00 for the Loma Alta Park Children Program.

Appreciation to Garden President, Silvera Grant and Board Member Mary McGilvray

– **Sandy Chang, Garden Treasurer**

The Garden has received a donation in the amount of \$510.00 from the Neighborhood Unitarian Universalist Church of Pasadena of which our president, Silvera Grant, is a member.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Silvera and Mary McGilvray for their tireless fundraising efforts and to thank them on behalf of all of us for securing this additional fund for the Garden!

Girl Scout Science Project

– **Ayesha Randall, Girl Scout Troop Leader**



Fava Bean Plant. Photo: Jared Burton

Our Girl Scout Troop, along with Mary Gothard, is doing a Community Science Project with Planet Earth

Observatory. We are working with the Fava Bean research community, a collaborative program that promotes healthy food and soils using fava beans. The program relies on community scientists throughout California, Oregon, and Nevada to determine the optimal planting date for the Vroma and Windsor fava bean varieties. So we are asking members of the garden if they want to join us in Growing these fava bean plants in their plots, backyards, or even a container and recording a few notes from the planting until harvest.



Here is a website with a lot of helpful videos that will further explain how to plant the seeds, collect fava bean data, and even cook fava beans:

<https://www.favabeanresearch.com/communityscience>

We will have fava bean packets available in a plastic tub on the bench at our garden plot. There are 2 types that we want to plant--Vroma and Windsor. There are 8 seeds in each packet.

Members of our troop and some of their friends and family did a Fava Bean Planting Kickoff on Saturday November 14, 2020.

For further information, please visit Ayesha's website:
www.GardeningInLA.net.

New Avocado Tree

A new avocado tree has been planted to replace the previous one that had borne fruit for the Garden for many years. Thank you Albert West, plot 8 for donating the avocado tree.

Rat Traps

Thanks to our Vice President, Leo Stallworth, the Garden purchased twelve large rat traps that are now in the large tool shed for your use to control the rat population in your plot. Use the traps in your plot and return them to the shed after using them in your plot. Please do not take them home. You can ask Leo or Silvera for assistance in setting the traps if you're unable to do so. Just as we have controlled the gopher population in the Garden we can do the same with the rat.

Garden Ladder

We now have a ladder that belongs to the Garden. The ladder is in the large tool shed and is to be used in the Garden by Garden members. Please be careful when using the ladder and return it to the shed after using it.



Our New Avocado Tree

New Members and their Plots:

– Mary McGilvray

Because of COVID, we have stopped all inspections. Therefore, no one has left except for Eric Geiger whose departure is covered in Notifications below, together with our expression of appreciation for his many years of service to the Garden. There are no new gardeners to report. However, Yolanda Jones moved from her plot 36B to Eric Geiger's plot 28 and master gardener/instructor, Trisha Hasten now has her own plot 36B.

Welcome

– Silvera Grant

Let's open our hearts and extend our open hands in welcoming the new arrival, Owen Aster Monzon Fernandez-Burton to our beloved garden community. Owen was born on the historic day, January 6th to the proud Garden members Kelly Fernandez and Jared Burton in plot 44A. Kelly & Jared report that all is going well and they are happy experiencing their first-time parents fatigue stage. Kelly was the chairperson of the Garden Deck Landscaping Committee and Jared's membership on the committee provided us with the Little Free Library.

Congratulations and remember it takes a village to raise a child and for us that village is the Altadena Community Garden. We look forward to meeting Owen!!



Owen, Kelly and Jared



Covid 19 Virus Impact

Fear of infection and the statewide stay-at-home order have resulted in little activity in the garden. This said, gardening for food is clearly an essential activity and thus not specifically prohibited by the state or county edict. Still, it is perfectly understandable that many may decide not to venture out at present.

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 2021 Garden Master Calendar are canceled. This includes meetings, classes, workshops and our Annual Community Garden Picnic. 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.



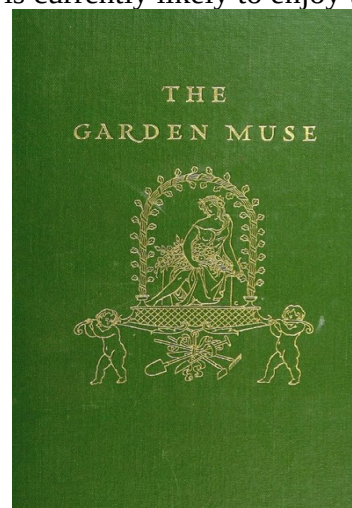
The Online Garden

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 participating members. Some have questioned the wisdom of using Facebook for ideological reasons, but no other forum is currently likely to enjoy the same level of participation.

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

– Jared Burton



Our LFL Nook, Photo: Sean MacGillivray

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

The Garden's Little Free Library has had a vibrant first year! Since the inaugural launch party in January 2020, I've seen titles come and go, which means people are visiting and finding books they want to share and take home. That's absolutely wonderful and exactly what the Library is intended for. There have been a wide variety of shared items, including everything from sci-fi classics to literary anthologies, gardening magazines to cookbooks, music books to modern poetry, as well as a book written by our very own gardener (and Newsletter editor) Denis Titchenell!

Here just a few titles I have noticed come and go between my upkeeping visits:

The Last Black Unicorn by Tiffany Haddish

Rise of the Pirate Classes: Freedom from Mental Manacles by garden member Denis Titchenell

The Signature of All Things by Elizabeth Gilbert

On a rather humorous note, I've noticed that one frequent visitor to our Library is a phoebe. This bird likes to perch on the roof of the Library in order to catch unsuspecting insects flying by. While we can all appreciate the work some birds do catching bugs in the garden, this also means the sweet phoebe likes to leave droppings -- all over the Library! So, I've made it part of my duties to clean up after our insect-hunting friend. It's really no trouble, but sorry if I haven't got to it before you pay the Library a visit!

Until next time, may we all find a good book to curl up with during the holiday season and to inspire us in 2021!

Happy reading and gardening to all!

Jared Burton
Plot 44A



What Garden Members Are Doing

The **President's Volunteer Service Award** <https://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/> has been bestowed upon our colleague, **René Amy**, for his service last year to <https://www.shelterboxusa.org/>, an amazing humanitarian-aid organization that has repeatedly been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Elisa Callow has completed a huge marmalade sale to benefit Fair Fight Georgia, Stacey Abraham's organization. She made over 100 jars of jam and marmalade and raised nearly \$3,000.



Elisa's marmalade

Claudia Zhao, in plot 42, **launched an online concept shop** in October for urban sustainable living called Farmer Claude, selling products related to gardening, shopping at the farmers market, kitchen and dining, and self care, with 10% of monthly proceeds going towards local and national food justice organizations. Please visit the website www.farmerclaude.com or check out the Instagram page [@farmerclaudeshop](https://www.instagram.com/farmerclaudeshop).

An Irish ballad explaining the dearth of intelligent life in the universe? Well, one does exist! Written this year by your ACG Newsletter editor, **Denis Titchenell**, [The Eejit Stage of Evolution – Why Intelligent Life May Never Be Found](#) appeared in the Astral Waters Review.

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 project by Los Angeles County Department of Parks Recreation in 2021.

1. Edges of decking board have twisted, especially at ends, causing numerous trip hazards across the decking surface - especially for older Garden members and guests. Twisted boards should be refastened, sanded, and/or replaced as necessary to ensure an even surface across all of the deck.

Earlier surface treatment is failing across much of the deck, leaving exposed, untreated wood. Entire deck should be pressure washed to remove loose material, allowed to dry completely thereafter, voids filled with [System Three Sculpwood Putty](#) then coated with [Vista Paint Prime-Zall](#) and top coated with two coats of [US Monopole Dex Cote](#) - non-skid for deck surfaces, smooth for benches, railings, and all other surfaces.

2. Teak Benches: Oil finish on teak benches at the west side of deck has failed. Benches should be cleaned (including wire brushing by hand as necessary), then top coated with two coats of [System Three Clear Coat Marine Epoxy](#).

Thank you René Amy for your assessment and recommendations.

3. As identified, continue to replace rotten perimeter plot boards and leaky water spigots in Garden plots.

4. Prune the grapefruit tree in the Garden.

We appreciate Mr. Lance Verdugo, Craft Manager 1, Facility Operations from the North Agency Headquarters for his immediate and positive response to all of our previous repair requests and look forward to working with him to complete our 2021 repair and maintenance requests. We also appreciate Mr. Daniel Gonzalez, Sr. Grounds Maintenance Worker from the North Agency for his positive response to our request to address the browning and dying condition of the grassy areas in front of the Garden in Lower Loma Alta Park. Thanks to Mr. Gonzalez's intervention the areas are now green and thriving. We also appreciate his commitment to ensuring that the outside areas of the Garden on Palm Street and Lincoln Avenue are properly maintained.



Notifications and reminders

From the President

Garden Dues

Gardeners, your dues for 2021 are now due. Please mail your dues to:

ALTADENA COMMUNITY GARDEN
P.O. BOX 6212
ALTADENA, CA 91003 - 6212

Dues are:

Regular member ... \$73
Associate member ... \$30
Handicapped plot ... \$43

Failure to pay your dues by 1/31/21 will jeopardize your membership in the garden. Please put your plot # on your check.

Thank you.

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

Farewell to Erik Geiger, plot 28.

Fellow gardeners, it was a sad experience to say goodbye to Garden member Erik Geiger in plot 28 who is next to me in plot 27. Erik has decided to leave the Garden because of additional employment responsibilities and the need to spend more time with his family. We will miss Erik's years of service on the executive board as our Fertilizer & Wood Chip Coordinator. Erik also assisted with maintaining the grape vine on the Palm Street Garden fence. Erik's plot is a fine example of his creative construction abilities and will remain a show piece in the Garden. Thank you Erik for your years of service to the Garden and the community. Your participation has made us a better functioning community garden. We will miss your quiet presence and gentle voice. We wish you the best in all of your future endeavors and look forward to when you will be able to renew your membership in the Garden.

Farewell to Elke Burling, plot 32

Elke will be giving up her plot because she just doesn't have the time to put into it. However, Elke continues to run her free fruit co-op in front of her house which she started last year. She will harvest some grapefruits from the grapefruit tree in the Garden for distribution. Thank you Elke for your support and contribution. We wish you the best with your free fruit co-op program.

Appreciation:

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the following Garden members; **Mark Anthony (AKA Cole) plot 43, Mirna Roach plot 35, Isaac Turner & Julia Hardman plot 31, Sandy Chang & Fonda Wu plot 54/55, Sacha Malin & Dori Levanoni plot 1 & Silvera Grant plot 27** for their donations to the large tool shed cleaning project. Due to their generous donations we achieved the financial goal to purchase the supplies and to pay for the labor to complete the cleaning of the large tool shed. We will move forward to complete this project by the end of the month. We would also like to extend our support and appreciation to the following Garden members; Joe Nagy plot 26, René Amy plot 3, Douglas Jones plot 27 and the Bagley family plot 36 AB, who offered their services to clean the large tool shed.

Our thanks to Jean Courtney who raised \$52.00 through her recycling project.

Our thanks to René Amy who raised \$253.00 through his poppy giveaway project.

Our thanks to Lucia Vasquez, plot 16A for donating the pitchfork and recyclable cans to the Garden.

Our thanks to Sheila Grady, plot 25 for donating the recyclable plastic bottles to the Garden.

Thanks to our Vice President, Leo Stallworth the Garden purchased twelve large rat traps that are now in the large tool shed for your use to control the rat population in your plot. Use the traps in your plot and return them to the shed after using them in your plot. Please do not take them home. You can ask Leo or Silvera for assistance in setting the traps if you're unable to do so. Just like we have controlled the gopher population in the Garden we can do the same with the rat.

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

Thanks to the Altadena Farmers' Market Manager, Stacey Whitney, the Garden has received a \$265.00 donation from the market's vendors and supporters in celebration of Ms. Whitney's recent birthday. The Garden will share this donation with the Loma Alta Children Programs.

On The Mend:

Associate Member Regina Hardman, plot 31 recovering from recent surgery.

Arthur Fudge recovering from injury to his leg from a recent fall.

Charles Hope, plot 02A recovering from Covid.

We pray for a speedy recovery and to see you back working in your plots soon.

Sympathy:

Please join me in expressing our deepest sympathy to gardener Elisa Callow in plot 36 for the passing of her beloved 93-year-old mother Norma Green on October 14th. Elisa described her mom as a very loving and active person. Elisa states "Mom was truly her active self up until the very end. I miss her everyday". Our thoughts and prayers are with you Elisa.

Congratulations:

The [President's Volunteer Service Award](https://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/) <https://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/> has been bestowed upon Garden Programs Chairperson, René Amy, for his service last year to ShelterBoxUSA.org, an amazing

humanitarian-aid organization that has repeatedly been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

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!

Rat Traps

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 – no poisons please. The Garden purchased twelve large rat traps that are now in the large tool shed for your use to control the rat population in your plot. Use the traps in your plot and return them to the shed after using them in your plot. Please do not take them home. You can ask Leo or Silvera for assistance in setting the traps if you're unable to do so. Just as we have controlled the gopher population in the Garden we can do the same with the rat.

Gopher Traps

The Garden has 6 gopher traps in the large tool shed. The traps are numbered and labeled and are available to Garden members to be used in their plots and walkways 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.

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. There has been no response to our overtures and offers of shelter and nest boxes.



Photo: Silvera Grant

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 2021. You may want to consider not renewing your membership for 2021 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.

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. 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.



Tools replaced in 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 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