



December 2022

Newsletter

Fecund facundity from the fertile foothills

President – Silvera Grant
Vice President – Leo Stallworth
Secretary – Ayesha Randall
Treasurer – Sacha Malin
Orientation – Mary McGilvray
Website – Joe Nagy
Community Outreach – vacant
Wood Chips Coordinator – vacant
Fertilizer Coordinator – Joe Nagy
Inspection Coordinator – Joanne McLaughlin
Maintenance Coordinator – Leo Stallworth
Correspondence Secretary – Alan Freeman
Programs Chairperson – vacant
Newsletter Editor – Denis Titchenell
Archivist – Anne Reid
Nominating – Marie Yeseta
Albert West – Advisor
Isaac Turner – Advisor
Fred Shotlow – Advisor

Read the newsletter online:

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

Donate to the Garden:

<https://www.altadenacommunitygarden.com/donate>

Article submissions:

submissions@altadenacommunitygarden.com

[Visit our Facebook members discussion group](#)

[Visit our Facebook public discussion group](#)

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News

All hands on deck to save the Altadena Community Garden!

The Garden urgently needs to raise enough money to pay for our monthly water bill starting in February, so we must ask all of you in our Garden community to give what you can. We receive so much direct benefit from our membership in this very special Garden.

Now some good news! The Altadena Community Garden has been included in a highly effective crowd-sourcing challenge fundraiser sponsored by SeedMoney. An easy way to help is to share this link: <https://donate.seedmoney.org/8150/altadena-community-garden> or scan the QR:



As of February of next year, the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department

Upcoming Events

- 4pm-7pm Wednesdays: The Farmer's Market
- December 6 (7:00-8:00 pm) [Meet & Greet information session of the Master Gardener Training Program](#)
- December 9th 6:30 – 8:30pm Fraternal Order of Eagle's BUNCO night fundraiser. All proceeds will go to Altadena Community Garden. \$20 buy in Sandwiches will be available for sale
- December 14 (6:00-7:00 pm) [Meet & Greet information session of the Master Gardener Training Program](#)
- January. Altadena Sheriff's Station Meet & Greet Event at the Garden, Date to be determined
- January 21, 2023 10:00am – 3:00pm Monarch Milkweed Madness at the Garden
- January 28th, 2023 9-11am pruning workshop at the Garden

will no longer be paying for our Garden utility or maintenance costs (and the Garden is at risk). Our campaign is active through Thursday, December 15.

Three Garden Committees are working diligently to raise funds and develop simple water conservation methods to reduce water usage and address overdue maintenance needs. The estimated amount we must raise is \$20,000 annually. Maintenance costs are estimated to be an additional \$10,000 per year, and we are fortunate that Supervisor Barger's office will provide financial support for the Garden's major maintenance needs.

All SeedMoney campaign donations made within this 30-day challenge will go straight to our Garden. Matching grants are also available and are based on popularity rankings, so the more donations made to our campaign, the higher our ranking goes, and we could qualify for an additional grant of up to \$1,000. Please talk with your associate gardeners about contributing with you to [our SeedMoney Campaign](#) for the garden, and let your friends and family know about this unique opportunity by sharing [the SeedMoney Campaign donation link](#) (<https://donate.seedmoney.org/8150/altadena-community-garden>).

With Gratitude,

Silvera Grant – Issac Turner – Fred Shotlow – Al West
Board President – Past Board President – Past Board President – Past
Board President

Any donation amount will be welcomed, and 100% will go directly to defray our water and minor maintenance costs. Please give before the December 15 cutoff for our [SeedMoney Challenge](#). Only online donations will count toward the add-on match money. To donate, please use this link to the Garden's Challenge page: <https://donate.seedmoney.org/8150/altadena-community-garden>.



ACG Donate

You can also mail a check to: Altadena Community Garden
P.O. Box 6212
Altadena, CA 91003-6212

All donations are tax-deductible. Please indicate if you would prefer your donation to be anonymous.

Bunco event for Altadena Community Garden

Fraternal Order of Eagle's at 455 E. Woodbury will be hosting a Bunco fundraising event for the Altadena Community Garden on Friday, December 9th. Doors open at 6:30 pm with game time from 7pm to 8:30 pm. Buy in to games are \$20 buy in for the evening. Cash prizes for Most Bunco, Most Wins, Biggest Loser. Sandwiches will also be available for \$10 each. All proceeds from this event will go to the Altadena Community Garden to help with the water cost. Everyone is also invited to join in on Karaoke Night following the Bunco.



Altadena Community Garden Gardeners

ACG Picnic 2023

We are back: After a three year absence, the Altadena Community Garden Annual Picnic will be held next year in the summer. We are once again looking forward to staging this yearly Community Garden open house and fundraising event. Look out for the date, mark your calendar and please plan to attend. It has always been a must attend Altadena event.



Altadena Community Garden Picnic 2019

Altadena Sheriff's Station Meet & Greet Event

The Altadena Sheriff's Station next Meet & Greet event with the new Captain, Jabari A. Williams will be held in the Altadena Community Garden. Please look out for the forthcoming date and time in January. Bring your family and friends to meet the new Altadena Sheriff's Captain. He will answer your questions and address your concerns.

Do You Have Any Photos Taken in the Garden That We Could Use??

– **Mary McGilvray**

We are looking for any photos taken by anyone of activities and events that have occurred in the Garden. Do you have any pictures taken from a Master Garden class? The Picnic? A school group tour? A wedding? Your children picking food (we will have you sign a release for these)?

Please send anything you might have taken either digitally or had printed that we might be able to use for an important Fundraising Video we are currently making.

You can send them to me at marymcgilvray@gmail.com or I will come pick them up from you at the garden!

Thanks!

I Need Your Help Updating the Roster!!

– **Mary McGilvray**

Yes, my original roster from which all information is drawn is 15 years old. Yep, 15!!! Nope, that's not a typo. Please send your changes to marymcgilvray@gmail.com or call my home 626-794-9588 and leave a message.

Donations

Until December 15, please donate through the [Garden's Challenge page](#). At other times, please visit our Altadena Community Garden [Donation page](#).

Use Amazon Smile

Every time you make a purchase using Amazon Smile, Amazon will make a 0.5% donation to ACG at no charge to you!

How to Add ACG to Your Amazon Account

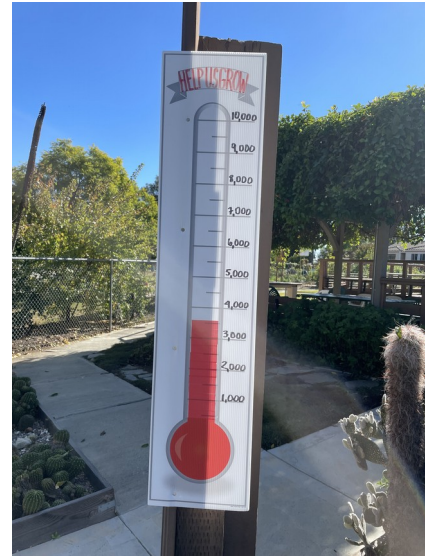
Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-4544795> and change your Smile donation recipient or

1. Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
2. From your desktop, go to Your Account and select the option to Change your Charity. Or, from your mobile browser, select Change your Charity from the options at the bottom of the page.
3. Select the charity search bar and type in Altadena Community Garden.
4. Select Altadena Community Garden from the list, and you're all set!

ACG Outlook, Goals and Status

It is a time when resources are in short supply for everyone (excepting only those rapacious few whose fortunes tend to follow a course inversely proportional to that general deprivation). Our Garden has been given but a meager six months to achieve self sustainability and half of that is gone already. A bar-thermometer type display showing the somewhat exiguous current progress of our designed-by-committee fundraising programs and the distance to our ultimate goal is now an updated feature of the Garden.

That this burden should be shouldered at a time when succor is scarce and success uncertain, forces us to recognize and evaluate the advantages of collaborative gardens. The community garden or allotment garden is a common feature in many countries including Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, The Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States. In nearly all cases, costs are at least partially underwritten by the state and in many instances, space is adequate to provide as many residents with gardening space as desire it. It is unfortunate that demand is such that our ACG has a long waiting list and thus membership is highly desirable and granted only to a few. This unfortunately creates the illusion that only a few benefit from the garden, causing some to undervalue its presence and benefit to the community. Indeed, if space were to be more available, far more residents would take advantage of plot gardening. The paucity of land thus causes demand to increase, usage to be limited to a small body of members and, indirectly, the practice of community gardening to become disproportionately undervalued when our communities would certainly benefit most from more gardens rather than fewer – an anomalous case of high demand causing something to be regarded as providing little value!



We will learn fairly soon whether our society values vegetable gardens enough to preserve them and whether this long-established practice will become untenable in our part of the world and plot gardening be denied to everyone.

ACG Botanical Printing Art workshop series to be hosted by the Garden

The Altadena Library District has an Artist-in-Residency for the 2022-2023 calendar year courtesy of the Picerne Family Foundation.

Local botanical printer Linda Illumanardi has been awarded a grant from the Picerne Family Foundation to teach Botanical Printing and Natural Dyeing at the library. Linda's classes began in August and will run through July 2023. The first half of the year, August - January, she is holding the classes at the main library.



Botanical Printer, Linda Illumanardi

For the second half of the year, classes will be taken out into the community and a month-long workshop series will be held at the Altadena Community Garden in February 2023. Linda's classes are typically one day a week for 6 hours [with a lunch break]. They have been held on Saturdays in the past.

Appreciating Our Donors

The Garden Executive Board would like to thank those individuals who have donated money to the Altadena Community Garden to supplement the Garden's 2022-23 budget. The Garden is in need of all the financial assistance that is available to meet the financial challenges in the coming years.



ACG Merchandise

A number of Garden products are now available to order including hats, T shirts, kneeling pads, tote bags and aprons. Ordering and fulfillment schedules have yet to be determined but feel free to ask your questions and place your orders by email to: sales@altadenacommunitygarden



Milkweed Madness Native Seed Giveaway & Tropical-Milkweed Exchange

– René Amy

North America's beloved, iconic butterfly, the Monarch, is in significant danger – to such an extent that earlier this year it was listed as "endangered." The Altadena Community Garden will be hosting an event on January 21, 2023 10:00am – 3:00pm to raise awareness of the plight of the Monarch and to take measures to save it, with the help of a number of participating organizations. The event will also be a fundraiser for the ACG.



Male Monarch Butterfly

Where: Altadena Community Garden

When: January 21, 2023 10:00am – 3:00pm

Who: Confirmed partners: Altadena Maid Products (René's wildflower company), Altadena Community Garden, LA County Beekeepers Ass'n, Amigos de los Rios, Altadena Rotary Club

Event Producer: Altadena Maid Products

Event Host: Altadena Community Garden

Event Sponsors: Altadena Maid Products for seed giveaway, Altadena Rotary Club for exchange

Why:

- A) Raise awareness of (1) need for native milkweed for Monarchs, (2) dangers of tropical milkweed for Monarchs, (3) great local groups that support the environment
- B) Giveaway 4 native milkweed seeds to each attendee, along with information and planting instructions
- C) Trade-in (exclusively sponsored by the Altadena Rotary Club) of tropical milkweed plants brought in to event in exchange for a pack of Monarch Munch Native Milkweed seedbark
- D) Highlight participating organizations' commitment to the environment by having participating groups sign an Operation Pollination Pollinator Pledge.
- E) Potentially raise funds through donations at the event to help support the Garden as it transitions to a stand-alone operation.

Background: Due to habitat destruction, North America's iconic butterfly, the Monarch is in deep, deep trouble – to such an extent that earlier this year it was listed as "endangered" by a well-recognized international conservation organization. "[Tropical" milkweed](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asclepias_curassavica) ([\(\(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asclepias_curassavica\)\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asclepias_curassavica)) was introduced to the US in an effort to save the Monarchs – but it has backfired as new research has shown that tropical milkweed hosts interfere with the migratory pattern of the Monarch and are thus detrimental to its survival. (<https://www.iucn.org/press-release/202207/migratory-monarch-butterfly-now-endangered-iucn-red-list>). Earlier this summer, [tropical milkweed was "rated" as a noxious pest by the California Department of Food and Agriculture](https://blogs.cdfa.ca.gov/Section3162/?p=9211) ([\(\(https://blogs.cdfa.ca.gov/Section3162/?p=9211](https://blogs.cdfa.ca.gov/Section3162/?p=9211) (<https://www.science.org/content/article/plan-save-monarch-butterflies-backfires>))) at a level that allows County-level bans of the sale. Ventura County and Marin County (<https://www.marincounty.org/main/county-press-releases/press-releases/2022/ag-tropical-milkweed-082622> (<https://cdn.ventura.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Tropical-Milkweed-Asclepias-curassavica.pdf>))) [have both banned its sale](https://xerces.org/western-monarch-call-to-action). Tropical milkweed spreads easily by the copious seeds each plant produces, and homeowners often find it growing in their yards, even if they did not plant it. The organization that manages the annual Western Monarch count urges folks to [remove tropical milkweed and plant native milkweeds instead](https://xerces.org/western-monarch-call-to-action) <https://xerces.org/western-monarch-call-to-action>.

Rotary International (RI) recently added Protecting the Environment as its 7th area of focus, and RI president [Jennifer Jones](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1kdPAUGu88) has made the Monarch butterfly her North America environmental cause (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1kdPAUGu88> (<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes/protecting-environment>))). The Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group has formally adopted Operation

Pollination ((<https://operationpollination.net/> (<https://esrag.org/>))) and fully supports its goals. Signing an Operation Pollination "Pollinator Resolution" and gathering partners through "Pollinator Pledges" is the first step towards working together to better our environment. Note that RI president Jones speaks with the head of Operation Pollination, Chris Stein, in the video linked to.



[Note: René Amy is an Operation Pollination "ambassador."] - Ed.



Community Pancake Breakfast

– Sandy Chang

The sound of muffled commotion came through all too loudly at five in the morning. Fonda bolted out of the house with the door slamming noisily behind him, marking the first sound of the day, before even the rooster next door had a chance to crow.

Waiting for Fonda at the local Grocery Outlet parking lot was Silvera in his pickup, quietly eating a breakfast sandwich in the predawn darkness. At barely daybreak, the two men began to set up a slightly torn canopy – its age showing through the visible wear of years. Under the canopy was a yellow banner of a ring of leaves hugging the words Altadena Community Garden. Behind it, garden-related pamphlets and boxes of seeds spread over a picnic table. The booth was all ready for the rotary sponsored pancake breakfast!

A couple of hours later, the parking lot was bustling with a handful of tents and plenty of diners! To the left of the Garden's booth was the equally beloved Christmas Tree Lane Association, adorned with hanging shirts proudly swaying its logo like prayer flags, townspeople already anxiously inquiring about the lighting of the Lane still two months away! To the right was an adrenaline packed setup by the Altadena Mountain Rescue, with brightly colored ATVs, volunteer rescuers and more t-shirts. The rescuers garner much respect in this mountain community all too familiar with the sound of its helicopters regularly airlifting stranded hikers out of the Angeles National Forest. Also in the lineup were the Altadena Fire Department, Altadena Sheriff's Office and the Altadena Rotary – notable as joint sponsors of the enchanted Farnsworth Park Concert Series that has delighted the community for as many summers as Altadenans can remember. Captain Jabbari Williams, the new sheriff, mingled warmly amongst diners sitting at long breakfast tables.



Silvera Grant and Fonda Yu

Heaping plates of steaming sausages and pillowy pancakes were served with gallons of aromatic coffee, golden orange juice and free flowing syrup. With a five dollar ticket, attendees get to support Altadena's cornerstone 501c3s and enjoy a country styled breakfast amongst neighbors. Jose and Sandra Valenzuela, owners of Altadena's Grocery Outlet, ran back and forth frantically keeping the breakfast assembly well supplied while Rotary members manned the line flipping fluffy pancakes and grilling plump sausages that crackled and sizzled in all their glistening glory. These two groups jointly sponsored the event's food and labor thus allowing all donations to benefit the above named organizations.

Happy chatters rang all around as attendees mingled and made friends with one another. Many exclaimed in delight at finally meeting a neighbor down the street, while others commiserated over the lack of speed bumps or the overabundance of coyotes. Common topics were easily found. Participants perused the booths, made donations, purchased souvenirs and picked up helpful informational pamphlets. At the Altadena Community Garden booth, fascinating conversations were had over gopher prevention, organic seeding, planting calendar, winter gardening, and countless other fun topics. Garden enthusiasts pored over a large collection of seeds made freely available to the public by the Garden's President. The Garden's soon-to-be-available-for-purchase tote bag and t-shirt designed by John Maust of the Maust family in plot 32 were received with overwhelming enthusiasm and anticipation. Because of the family's love of the Garden, John is donating all of his services through his company Wicked Earth Design.



Many Altadenans made wonderful showings of support by purchasing tickets to the event, while others donated or brainstormed fundraising ideas together. *Silvera Grant and Sandy Chang* The air was thick with a sweet fragrance of syrup and a formidable sense of community. The two hour breakfast flew by all too quickly and just as the early October day begun to heat up it was time to disassemble the booth and part ways with friends old and new. Attendees were well fed and well stocked with seeds enough for the entire planting calendar!

The Altadena Community Garden depends on our fellow Altadenans and our community partners to keep alive a tradition that is the second home to generations of gardeners for well over half a century. Please read about the unprecedented challenges facing the Garden on our website and in our newsletters, and consider a show of support by donating, volunteering, spreading the word or simply enjoying a hearty breakfast at the next community pancake fundraiser!



Ten Tips for Water-wise Vegetable Gardening

1. Use Organic Soil and Compost - Organic matter in the soil helps retain moisture for longer. Amend the soil with plenty of organic matter before planting your crops. It absorbs waters several times greater than its weight, making sure all that water is available for plant growth instead of being wasted away in surface runoff and groundwater discharge. Organic soil is also rich in nutrients and overall soil health. This includes compost which you can make from home using kitchen scraps.

2. Use Mulch to Reduce Surface Evaporation - Mulching the soil doesn't just help in keeping the weeds down. It also helps keep the moisture in by reducing surface evaporation. Spread a thick, 3 to 4 inches layer of organic mulch over moist soil to keep your garden from drying out. Composted manure, compost, grass clippings, straw, shredded leaves, or any other organic material is a good choice for covering your soil. **3. Water in the Morning or Evening** - The aim is to water during the cooler parts of the day when **evaporation is low**. Early morning is the best time to water your vegetable garden since the sun isn't too bright at this time, and the

soil has a better chance to absorb the water deeper into its layers rather than losing it to the atmosphere. It also gives the plants sufficient moisture to lower the chances of stress during the afternoon sun, especially during peak summers.

4. Water the Roots, Not the Foliage- Watering the foliage doesn't just mean you're wasting water; it also means that you're exposing your vegetables to several diseases. Water is only *absorbed* by the roots, not the leaves or the stems. When using the hose or the watering can, point the spray of water towards the base of the plants to reach the roots easily, taking care not to waste any water on the foliage.

5. Know Your Plants' Requirements and Water Just Enough - Different vegetables have different watering requirements. Read the seed packet carefully to understand their weekly/daily watering needs so you can only offer what's necessary. As a general rule for most crops, you can stick a finger in the soil to check if it's moist 1 to 2 inches below the surface. If the finger comes out dry, it's time to water the crops.

6. Plant Crops with Similar Watering Needs Together - Planting thirsty crops like tomatoes, corn, and melons nearby can help you water them efficiently, with little wastage. Plan your vegetable garden such that you plant the crops with the highest watering needs at one end, those with low watering requirements at the other end, and the rest of them arranged in the center.

7. Keep the Weeds Out - Weeds compete with vegetable plants for water and nutrients. If you've mulched the soil, weeds are less likely to appear in your garden. Even so, if any do find their way in the garden, pinch them out, so they don't take up the plants' water.

8. Create a Waffle Garden - An intelligent way to prevent irrigation water from running off is to build a waffle garden. It's simply rows of square cells separated from each other by earth berms. This creates a reservoir around your vegetable plants to hold the water until the soil gradually soaks it. This technique prevents wastage by surface runoff, making sure all the water is utilized by the plants.

9. Choose vegetables that don't guzzle water – You may love cucumbers, spinach, cabbage, celery, corn, onions, leeks, carrots, broccoli, radishes, and Brussels sprouts but their shallow roots require more water. If possible, choose deeply rooted plants such as watermelon, winter squash, pumpkins, parsnips, asparagus, okra, tomatoes, rhubarb, and sweet potatoes can reach down and tap into lower water reserves for moisture. They require less frequent watering.

10. Use Drip Irrigation - Drip irrigation is one of the most efficient ways to water crops while ensuring minimum wastage. It can reduce water consumption by as much as 60% while increasing yield by 90% compared to traditional irrigation techniques. Overhead irrigation wastes more water to stems and leaves and allows faster evaporation. In contrast, drip irrigation offers a steady drip of water right next to the plant's base so that it's quickly absorbed by the roots – just where it's needed.

Adapted from [Home and Garden](#), June 2021



The Online Garden

A [private Facebook discussion group](#) continues to provide online space for garden members to interact, share and rant with each other, instead of, or in addition to, talking over the fence.

A [public Facebook discussion group for the ACG](#) is available. Anyone may join in. Let's show gardening delight to the world.

Progress is being made on production of instructional and promotional videos from the garden.

Claudia Zhao has created a [Gardens Instagram resource](#). Suggestions and contributions are most welcome.

The official [Altadena Community Garden website](#) continues to serve the Garden and Webmaster, Joe Nagy (webmaster@altadenacommunity.garden), is delighted to receive contributions of news, prose, verse, screeds, diatribes, artwork and other media appropriate for inclusion therein.



Our LFL

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



Our LFL Nook, Photo: Sean MacGillivray

Our LFL, installed just west of the Garden Deck, continues to serve gardeners and visitors with desultory reading matter and a pleasant place to enjoy it. The nook benches have been newly refinished by our own René Amy with a properly UV resistant treatment and should now bear years of wear before again requiring attention.

Usually only containing a few tomes from diverse sources and a couple of copies of the Garden Newsletter, it nonetheless provides a reliable weatherproof receptacle for hardcopy printed matter, and perhaps just the little academic nudge some require to whet the literary appetite in the right direction at just the right moment.

For those with more focused objectives, there is of course the modern pocket library which dwarfs in extent the Bodleian, Alexandrian and Library of Congress with its dramatically and [superexponentially](#) increasing contents. Of course we are talking about the resources of the Internet. There are still those who are not aware that an online library card, obtained for free in seconds with only an email address, allows one nearly unlimited access to a significant repository of self-returning library books – readable online by the hour or by the week. [The Open Library](#) is only one of many such resources and merely the tiniest tip of the pocket-knowledge iceberg.



Whether one avails oneself of the stochastic and ephemeral content of our LFL box on a post or the virtually unlimited little box most of us keep in our pockets, the Garden LFL Nook remains a wonderful place to enjoy reading, alone or with fellow gardeners, fauna and flora, both pleasant and irksome.

Happy reading and gardening!



Members and their Plots:

– **Mary McGilvray**

Well look who's here! It is one of the Garden's favorite and most important founders of our precious Garden. Mrs. Joan Banks (plot #45), along with her sister Jean Mills, came to the Garden in the early years and were instrumental in its establishment. Here she is, along with her daughter and associate gardener Joel Williams.



Garden member Max & Khanh in plot 04 with their son Sean. They are about to celebrate Sean's first birthday as a Garden member.



Max, Khanh and Sean in plot 04



Desultory Droppings

Compost for the cranium

The Committee

– **Anonymous**

[Audio](#)

Oh, do have some pity, I'm on a committee
Which means that from morning till night,
We attend and amend and contend and defend
Without a conclusion in sight.

We confer and concur, we defer and demur,
And re-iterate all of our thoughts,
We revise the agenda with frequent addenda,
And list all the must-dos and oughts.

We compose and propose, we suppose and oppose,
Every point to the very last one,
But, though various notions are brought up as motions,
Deplorably little gets done.

We then cease to steer, we forget why we're here
We babble and fail to take votes.
Our team starts to prate and then degenerate
No minutes, no motions, no notes.

We resolve and absolve, but we never dissolve
We've thoroughly changed our perspective
What a traumatic pity to end our committee!
To continue seems now its objective.

(With thanks to all who've contributed words to this conflation found in many variations all over the web.)

[The Back Room] – Baruch Spinoza

“Better that right counsels be known to enemies than that the evil secrets of tyrants should be concealed from the citizens. They who can treat secretly of the affairs of a nation have it absolutely under their authority; and as they plot against the enemy in time of war, so do they against the citizens in time of peace.”

Mephistomail

Audio

Free email or free apps demand
Their fees be paid in other ways.
Your data yields to their command.
Each user with her freedom pays.

With psycho-tools they are adroit,
As Gmail scans your words for clues
To whims and flaws it can exploit
And any weakness it can use.

Your data to the devil goes
As Google plays that age old role.
As many a misled victim knows,
For one sad wish you sell your soul!

Zoo Poo

Zoo Poo continues to be available in the Garden fertilizer bin in arbitrary quantities. It comprises a number of ingredients, scatological and otherwise, possibly including dik dik doo doo, oryx ordure, flamingo feces, emu excrement, eland effluvium, dugong doodle, markhor merde, camel crap, sheep scheiss, toucan turds, penguin poo, mandrill manure, dromedary droppings, duiker doodle, gerenuk guano, cob coprolite, flea frass, kangaroo kak, elephant excreta and saiga stool. Initial testing leads one to conclude that it is not devoid of noxious weed seeds, but may, given time and further composting, serve well as a source of highly diverse, not to say exotic, garden nutrients.



Notifications and reminders

From the President

Congratulations

Val Zavala, an associate of our Community Garden, is the new Chair of Altadena Heritage. She succeeds Sharon Sand who led the organization skillfully for six years. Sharon is also an associate member of our Community Garden. Altadena Heritage is a long-standing local non-profit that advocates for Altadena and improves our community with programs like the annual tree giveaway and the Golden Poppy Award.

Congratulations Val!

Plot Inspection Update

The Garden inspector will continue to conduct a monthly inspection of your plot. If you received an Inspection Violation Report, please give it your immediate attention by correcting the violation (s) by the completion date on the Inspection Violation Report. If you are unable to do so, you can request additional time from the inspector to do so. Failure to correct the violation(s) will jeopardize your membership in the Garden.

The revised and amended Inspection Report below lists the inspection criteria:



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

INSPECTION REPORT

Name: _____ Plot # _____

All plots and surrounding paths shall be inspected in accordance with the By-Laws of Altadena Community Garden (Article III, Paragraphs C, D and E).

In accordance with this provision, an inspection of your plot was made on ____/____/____.

The following areas must be corrected immediately:

- 1. Plot neglected
- 2. 70% of plot needs to be productive.
- 3. Weeds in plot.
- 4. Weeds in your half of walkway.
- 5. Old produce needs to be removed or turned under.
- 6. Encroachment of produce into adjoining plots or pathways.
- 7. Number not visible.
- 8. Perennials and shrubs overgrown and unruly.
- 9. Plot being worked by others without authorization of the board.
- 10. Other: _____
- 11. Number of previous notices sent to you: _____

Your deadline date for completion is: ____/____/____

Let's take pride in our gardens and keep them neat, clean and beautiful.

Inspector: _____

Inspected by: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Verified by: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Extension Granted: _____ Date: ____/____/____

AK031102

Theft

Recently we have received several reports from Garden members about missing items from their plots. Please note that it is a violation of the by-laws (Article 3, Section Q) to remove any items from a Garden member's plot without his or her approval. Doing so will result in the immediate termination of your membership.

Wood Chips

The wait is over. Thanks to our Fertilizer Coordinator, Joe Nagy in plot 26, a fresh load of wood chips is now in the Garden. Please use the wood chips to upgrade your walkways and plot.

Appreciation

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Supervisor Kathryn Barger and her Senior Deputy, Sussy Nemer for their commitment and support for the Garden as we enter into the lease agreement with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation. We also appreciate the leadership and executive staff of the Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation for the support and guidance during the leasing process.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND BEST WISHES FOR 2023

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Silvera

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



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 submissions@altadenacommunity.garden.



The Altadena Community Garden at Loma Alta Park is a unit of the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation

