

Special thanks to all who participated in Plant Booth pre-planning.

submitted by Ginny Clark

Thursday.
May 28th, 2015

Donna Malbon
Marianne Huntley
Linda silver
Mary Jo Kerr
Marilyn Bittle
Helen Thompson
Jane Hamilton
Debbie Ball
Rose Nason



Dee Mattern
Patricia Fuquay
Barbara Jordan
Eileen Ryan
Lynette Sewell
Jan Dark
Lynn Danielson
Ann Mari Gardner
Ginny Clark

CGCI AWARDS

Orange County District held its end-of-year gathering at the historical Madjeska House and Gardens where we were informed of awards won for the 2014-2015 year.

State wide we won...

1st Place....for our Roster

1st Placefive botanic garden photographs.

1st Place....single photo of a botanic garden.

1st Place....video of Chinese Gardens which also won...

1st Place in Pacific Region's 8 western states, and...

Commendation at the National level.

At left: *Trish Schooley*; *OC.District Director, Elaine Davis* and *President Sandy Davidson display loot!!!*



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September 2015



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NEXT

General Membership Meeting

September 14, 2015

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church,
5872 Naples Plaza, Long Beach

12:30 p.m. Social 1:00 p.m. Meeting

Steve
Kaye

Professional
photographer
"Meet the Birds!"

This promises to be a truly
delightful program...
don't miss it!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



This *Island Poppy* is full of important articles; it also contains a flyer for the September 30 excursion, and our 2015-2016 budget. Please read it all. The budget will be discussed at the September 14 General Meeting and members will be asked to approve it.

● Thank you to members who returned a Greensheet to me. The president staffs all

the NIGC committees and beautification projects using Greensheets. We are a vibrant club and have a full calendar of events. It certainly is one reason we have a waiting list for membership. We need active members to be **ACTIVE**. Lost your Greensheet? Please call me or see me at our first meeting to volunteer for *Second St. containers*; this project needs more volunteers. Work with a friend!

● I will report on the health of the olive trees in La Bella Fontana di Napoli Park at the September meeting. Many members have talked to me about their appearance over the summer. Don Easterby has consulted the city arborist and an outside arborist and has a plan.

● NIGC Greenmail is our email communication with our members. After each email is sent, we can look at the percentage of members who opened the email to read it. It hovers around 70 – 75% . Please check your inbox and open "NIGC Greenmail".

● Thank you to our board who worked through the summer on financial matters, publications, our programs and 2015-2016 events.

● It's been really hot. A 2" layer of mulch on containers and garden beds will keep soils moist 20% longer. H + H Nursery, a donor to our Plant Booth, stocks an excellent selection of mulches.

"Green Grows our Island."

Sandy

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

September 14, 2015

Door hostess: Margaret Dineen-Kern

Flowers: Patti Martin

Refreshments: Carol Mehler, Wendi Vodhanel, Cynthia Cardarelli, Kristie Nairne

GARDENER'S GALLEY

From the Kitchen of *Ginny Clark*

Israeli Couscous with Apple, Cranberry and Herbs

- 2 Tbspoons olive oil
 - 2 cups Israeli couscous (or barley or orzo)
 - 4 cups low-sodium chicken broth
 - 1/4 cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
 - 1 1/2 Tbspoons chopped fresh rosemary leaves
 - 1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme leaves
 - 1 medium green apple, diced
 - 1 cup dried cranberries
 - 1/2 cup slivered almonds, toasted
- Vinaigrette:**
- 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
 - 3 Tbspoons maple syrup
 - 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
 - 1/4 cup olive oil

For the Vinaigrette:

In a small bowl, combine the vinegar, maple syrup, salt and pepper. Whisk in the olive oil until smooth. Pour the vinaigrette over the couscous and toss to coat evenly.

Cook's Note: To toast the almonds, preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Arrange the almonds in a single layer on a baking sheet. Bake for 8-10 mins or until golden brown. Cool completely before using.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

September 28, 2015

2:30 p.m. Social - 3:00 p.m. Meeting

Hostess: Margaret Kern

Co-hostess: Lynette Sewell

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- September 1 Linda Pillsbury
- September 6 Carol Mehler
- September 11 Lynn Gesner
- September 13 Nancy Merrill
- September 14 Claire Forbes
- September 16 Helen Roelfsema
- September 21 Dee Mattern
- September 21 Rose Nason
- September 22 Terry Marte-Greco
- September 27 Cathy Ridder



BUNCO

Swing into September with the Bunco Babes. Join the fun... Monday evening, September 14th at 6:45 p.m.

**Rosanne O'Brien's house
2 Rivo Alto Canal**

Remember to bring \$5.00 in singles and "treasure" in a bag.

call: Jeanie Miller (562) 433-0566

For the couscous: In a medium saucepan, heat olive oil on medium high heat. Add the couscous and cook, stirring occasionally, until slightly brown and aromatic, about 3-5 minutes. Add the chicken broth and bring to a boil. Simmer for 10-12 mins. or until the liquid has evaporated. Transfer the cooked couscous to a large bowl and set aside to cool. Add the parsley, rosemary, thyme, apple, dry cranberry and almonds.



Olive Tree Treatment

RPW Services, a horticultural company, treated the four somewhat-healthy olive trees in mid August. The treatment was paid for by NIGC. An antibiotic to combat the bacterial scorch condition, *Xylella fastidiosa*, was placed in small containers with tubes into the trees. This antibiotic is being used by RPW on recommendation of UCR entomologists who are fighting the state wide scourge caused by the sharpshooter insect. The insect enters the tree through a cut in the bark.

A systemic insecticide to prevent the sharpshooter insect from spreading the disease was then heavily sprayed on the exposed root flare.

Next step for the trees will be a careful pruning of all the dead wood on the four affected trees, probably in October.

submitted by Sandy Davidson

New Member Orientation



Front Row:

Patti Clark, Beautification Chair; Tina Everson; Lynette Sewell, Membership Chair; Patricia Fuquay.

Back Row:

President, Sandy Davidson; Pam McCredie; Lisa Mauck; Carol Sage; Kristie Nairne; Historian, Marilyn Bittle; Mary Jo Kerr.

Warm Welcome to our Newest Members!

On June 18th, a lovely orientation was held for new members at Marilyn Bittle's home. Seven new members were welcomed and a delicious lunch was served by the "hostess with the mostest." Club goals and projects were high-lighted, and information and answers were pointed out that could be found in the roster. Please introduce yourself to them at the general meetings.

Have you Noticed the Olive Trees?

Many members and residents are commenting on the appearance of the olive trees at La Bella Fontana Park. NIGC retained *Soil and Plant Lab* in 2011 and again in 2015 for leaf, bark, and soil testing of the trees to evaluate their health in scientific detail.

In both evaluations, *Xylella fastidiosa* was identified, caused by the glassy winged sharpshooter, an insect that is causing damage throughout California. The disease's common name is bacterial leaf scorch for which there is no cure according to the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Several olive trees in the park are in advanced decline and all trees exhibit symptoms of the disease.

Don Easterby, PRM, is working with the city arborist on the issue; he keeps in contact with our Club as they work together on the trees.

submitted by Sandy Davidson

LA BELLA SUMMER CLEAN UP

There was a good turn-out of La Bella Fontana Committee members for our July clean-up. Thank you to all hands on deck that made the job faster and more fun! Several days earlier Mike of Tri City Tree and his crew trimmed the hedges gratis, for which the Club is most grateful. The boxwood is looking thick and healthy! Our Club used the PRM "Adopt-a-Park" program this year to formalize our working in the park done by member volunteers and Teri Bays of *Women at Work*.



From left: Ruth Saa, Jane Hamilton, Judy Taylor, Kathy Owens, Lynne Clarke, Paulina Thompson, Diane Schmelzer, Edie Graber, Sandy Davidson and Barbie Litterst.



Barbara Jordon and Jane Hamilton clean tile...with a smile!



Judy Taylor and Kathy Owens snip tree suckers and rake leaves.

Sponsorship

In a recent Board meeting, the members reviewed the current membership report and realized that a number of our active members were sponsoring multiple individuals to join the Naples Islands Garden Club. After a long discussion, the Board voted to add a new standing rule to the roster which states that Active members can sponsor only one individual per fiscal year.

Sponsoring a new member for the Naples Islands Garden Club is a responsibility that we hope our members take very seriously. Here are some questions you need to ask prior to starting the process of bringing a new person into the NIGC.

- Do you personally know what your expectations are as a sponsor?
- Do you personally have the time and dedication to follow through the process?
- Do you personally know the individual you are sponsoring?
 - Is she available to attend business meetings, not just social functions?
 - Does she realize this is a working club?
 - Will she be involved in our beautification efforts?
 - Will she support our funding raising efforts?
 - Will she join at least one Club committee in her first year?
 - Why does she want to join the Garden Club?

If you are unsure of any of these, then reconsider if you should be a sponsor.

Membership

To remain an Active member of the NIGC, you need to attend three complete regular/business meetings during the fiscal year, September through May. This bylaw was approved in September of 2014 but a number of members appeared to misunderstand what it meant. Regular/business meetings are held in September, October, November, January, February, March and May. The Christmas Luncheon, April Flower Show and June Luncheon do not qualify. If, at any time during the year, you question if you're meeting these criteria, get in touch with the Membership Chair, Lynette Sewell.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Please Join in and Support our Fundraiser!

Standing Ovation Flower Gallery

10582 Los Alamitos Blvd., Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Shop early for Holiday gifts

Bring your friends!! 15% off all sales goes to Garden Club Beautification Fund

Sunday, November 8, 2015

12 to 4pm

Finger food and camaraderie amongst neighbors & friends

Pam McCredie & Wendi Vodhanel, Co Chairs



Plant Booth at Pancake Breakfast

June 2015

“Change is good” - NIGC validated that philosophy when we relocated our spring fundraiser to The Colonnade for the NIA Pancake Breakfast. It was an experimental year and the energetic committee selected a variety of flowers, plants and products to test what “the market” would buy.

Members planted pots at the home of Ginny Clark; wholesale nurseries were visited to buy orchids and bromeliads; a team went to the LA Flower Mart for fresh flower bouquets; “boutique items” were purchased. We loved greeting Naples residents in our red aprons and enjoyed the positive comments on our booth and our club.

The committee determined what our best selling items were for next year....same place same time! It was a spectacular display and caught the eye of all who stopped by to purchase and visit.



Above: Members Jeanie Miller, Lisa Mauck and Kay Berg swing by to admire all the treasures.



Above: Former Mayor Bob Foster and Nancy stop by to visit.



Above from left: Joyce Levinson, Jane Hamilton, Loretta Luskin and Linda Landes delight in donated plants from H&H nursery!



Above: Putting final touches on tables.



Above: Judi McCall and Priscilla Lane work the Plant Booth.



Above from left: Ginny Clark, Sandy Davidson, Marianne Huntley, Margaret Kern, Ann Mari Gardner and Patricia Fuquay with fresh cut flowers.



Above from left: Margaret Kern, Trish Schooley, Patricia Fuquay and Barbara Jordan stand before the beautifully displayed Plant Booth in front of Sandy's house.



Above from left: Suzie Price, Third District Councilwoman and Barbara Jordan with NIGC project display board.



Sandy greets an interested buyer!