The Garden Wins International Water Conservation Award from the Rain Bird Corporation

The Garden was honored recently with an international award for leadership in water conservation. The “Intelligent Use of Water”™ award, accompanied by a $10,000 prize, was presented to Executive Director Marty Eberhardt at the Intelligent Use of Water Summit on December 31 in Pasadena. The Rain Bird Corporation, sponsor and creator of the award, also hosted her as their guest at the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl.

Rain Bird assembled a panel of experts to determine the winner for the award, which was created to “honor those persons or organizations whose innovation, leadership, ingenuity and overall commitment to improved landscape water efficiency has raised the standard for outdoor water conservation.” The panel of judges included Elizabeth Cutright, editor of Water Efficiency; Dan Stark, Executive Director of the American Public Gardens Association; and Ron Stoltz, Director of the School of Landscape Architecture at the University of Arizona. The judges found The Water Conservation Garden’s contribution to innovation, water savings, landscape preservation, and overall community impact to be superior, edging out other extremely well qualified nominees from several countries.

The Garden is delighted with this impressive recognition of its strength in the field of water conservation.

Third Annual California Friendly® Plant Sale by Elizabeth Ramos

Are you looking to retrofit a water-thirsty landscape? Perhaps you want to expand an existing drought-tolerant garden, or update its look with a new splash of color. Maybe you are thinking about starting a compost pile. If so, then look no further than the California Friendly® Plant Sale, Saturday, March 15, 9am-3pm. Growers from the Southern California region will converge at the Garden to offer unique water-wise plants at great prices. You’ll find it all: trees, shrubs, perennials, groundcovers, California natives, and cacti and succulents. Mature examples of many of these plants are growing in our garden, so you can view them before you buy!

Once you’ve purchased your plants, stop by the County Water Agency booth to find out how to enter your landscape in the California Friendly® Landscape Contest. They’ll tell you everything you need to know and give you some tips for indoor water conservation as well.

The Solana Center for Environmental Innovation will join the event with compost bins on sale throughout the day. Bins will be offered at reduced rates for residents of Unincorporated San Diego, and Master Composters will answer all of your compost and vermi-compost questions at our Compost Demonstration Site.

Plant sales, compost bins…the activities don’t stop there. A variety of water-wise gardening topics will be covered in our mini-lecture series, and docents will lead tours and interpret the Garden’s exhibits, including the firewise gardening exhibit and the vegetable gardening exhibit. Garden-related products such as worm castings and pottery will be on sale, and the Garden Gift Shop will offer the latest in water-wise gardening books. Children will enjoy fun activities just for them, and refreshments will be available for purchase while you shop.

Admission to the California Friendly® Plant Sale is free, and ample parking is available. For more information, please call 619-660-0614 ext. 10.
Executive Director’s Report

by Marty Eberhardt

Our last newsletter was mailed out just after the October wildfires. The most important thing that has happened to the Garden in recent months is that firefighters kept the Harris Fire from reaching us. We expressed our gratitude to them at the rescheduled California-Friendly Gardening Festival, but we cannot overstate our appreciation of their efforts. It would be hard to fulfill our mission with a burned landscape and facilities! The fires made it very clear why the redesign of our firescaping exhibit was a priority in 2007.

Other news pales by comparison, but we were very pleased to receive the Rain Bird Corporation's Intelligent Use of Water™ award (see cover story). The Garden is starting to receive national recognition, including a segment on the venerable gardening series “The Victory Garden”, a photograph in USA Today, a mention on salon.com, and upcoming profiles in Water Efficiency Magazine and on “The Coastal Gardener” television show.

We are also deeply grateful for the financial support of our members and other friends. As Nora mentions in the Friends report on page 7, we reached our goal in our annual campaign for operating support. We’re also off to good starts in funding shade and seating for the amphitheater, as well as the Dorcas Utter Sensory Garden.

As we head into 2008, rain or no rain, conservation remains deeply important to this region. A federal judge ordered 30% cutbacks in water pumped to southern California through the Bay Delta, effective on Christmas Day. More challenges await. We’re ready to welcome more people to our exhibits and programs here at the Garden, and, later in the year, we are preparing to take our programs on the road. We’ll let you know more about our expanded outreach efforts as they develop.

Garden Chat

by Don Schultz, Horticulture Manager

On my office wall is an October newspaper article predicting a dry winter. And out of my office window I see a light rain that has been falling all day, the third good storm in the last month or so. So much for the computer models. But this is great news for the garden’s plants. During the summer irrigation period, salt builds up in the soil. One year of irrigation adds about five tons of salt that was dissolved in the water. These dissolved salts come out of solution and cling to soil particles. Much of it stays within the top foot of soil. A rainy winter is the only practical way to leach these salts below the plants’ root zones. Six inches of rainwater will penetrate about two to three feet, enough to push salts well out of the danger zone.

We continue to have problems with furry pests that like to munch our plants. Rabbits are garden enemy number one. We’ve tried repellents but they need to be applied frequently. Fences seem to be the only sure thing. After years of anecdotal observations of cottontails, I’ve yet to figure them out. They seem to eat almost anything, but not consistently. At the garden, they prefer new plants. I have an image in my head of a Bugs Bunny-like character moseying through the garden every night searching for new plants to sample. They also seem to feed only in areas where they feel safe, eating plants down to a nub every night, while staying away from others of the same type that are only a little distance away. It’s difficult to protect plants from creatures that have such varied behavior.

We have more changes in the garden coming soon, including a new sensory garden in honor of Dorcas Utter, and many new plants to be added to the Australian area, the bird and butterfly garden, the retrofit house and other places. Everyone is invited to come by and see the changes!
Dorcas Utter (1924 – 2007)

Long-time San Diegan and community volunteer Dorcas Utter died on Wednesday, November 28 after a brief illness. She was 83. Born in Richmondville, New York, Dorcas moved to Southern California in 1955, raised a family, and made her professional career at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UCSD, for 28 years until her retirement in 1983. Dorcas is survived by her son, Bill Utter and daughter-in-law Deborah Utter of Portland, Oregon.

Dorcas is best known to the many friends she made and the people she helped in the dozens of volunteer capacities she filled in San Diego for over 30 years. Dorcas contributed her time and her considerable talents as a teacher, mentor, and friend to many nature groups and organizations providing services for visually impaired people.

Although Dorcas was blind, she refused to let that slow her down. In recent years, she was accompanied by her guide dog Sharla whenever she traveled about town. A few of the many organizations where Dorcas’ long-time presence, patient teaching, gentle wisdom, and determination will be greatly missed include:

- Anza-Borrego State Park
- Braille Institute, San Diego Center
- San Diego Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired
- C4U, dedicated to guiding Visually Impaired Persons on nature walks through the San Diego Natural History Museum
- Cuyamaca College, Department of Ornamental Horticulture
- Laguna Mountain Volunteer Association
- Offshoot Botanical Tours
- Quail Botanical Gardens
- San Diego Audubon Society, & their Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary
- San Diego Natural History Museum, Florida Canyoneers
- San Miguel Fire Department
- U.S. Forest Service;
- The Water Conservation Garden

Those who would like to honor the memory of Dorcas Utter are invited to make a donation to the Dorcas Utter Sensory Garden. Donations will be used to re-design and re-dedicate the sensory garden, one of Dorcas’ favorite spots in the Garden (see article at right). A web site has been created where friends of Dorcas can share their memories of this remarkable woman. http://web.mac.com/kenapple30/Dorcas_Utter/Obituary.html.

Sensory Garden to be Redesigned in Honor of Dorcas Utter
by Rosalie Dosik, Project Chairperson

Preliminary meetings have been held to discuss the redesign of the sensory garden, which will be dedicated to the memory of beloved longtime docent, Dorcas Utter. Initial brainstorming has produced many creative and practical ideas that will enhance the space. These include reshaping the pathway to include a circle of bricks within it. Each year a brick will be designated to honor a docent worthy of the Dorcas Utter Award for service at the Garden, and will be incised with his or her name. Jon Powell and Jeri Deneen, the original designers for the Garden, have graciously volunteered their time and expertise. Jon has drawn up a new plan that includes two low, facing walls that can serve as benches flanking the brick circle. We will be adding many new sensory plants for texture and aroma. Other ideas include entry arbors at either end of the pathway, plaques honoring Dorcas in plain text and in Braille, a rain stick for the sound of water, inscribing on metal the shapes of Dorcas’ wonderful hats, casting Sharla’s footprints on stepping stones, and the addition of chimes, bells or other musical attractions.

Of course these plans will require funding. We will also need volunteers to do the hands-on work of planting and creating the walls. If you are interested in volunteering or contributing financially to the redesign of the sensory garden, please contact the Garden at 619-614-0614 ext. 11. We hope to create a beautiful sensory garden that will honor Dorcas and her service to the Garden.
Winter/Spring 2008 Calendar of Events

Pre-registration is required for all classes! To enroll call 619-660-0614, ext. 10 or visit www.thegarden.org. Payment received before date of class guarantees your reservation. Refunds cannot be made within three days of the event unless we can fill your space or the Garden cancels the event. Thank you.

Proper Pruning Practices
Saturday, February 2, 10am-12pm
Join Certified Arborist and Garden Docent Leah Rottke as she shows you the do’s and don’ts of pruning. She’ll cover need-to-know basics for pruning both trees and shrubs, and use the Garden as a lab to analyze living samples. $10 Members, $20 Non-Members.

Saturday Afternoon Water-Wise Series (1-4)
The following classes can be taken individually or as a pre-paid series of 4 classes. Please pre-register: 10 student minimum per class.

1. Designing with California Friendly® Plants
Saturday, February 2, 1-3pm
Landscape Designer Jan Tubiolo shows you how to create a water-wise garden design from scratch. Topics include site analysis and measurement, plotting your design on paper, environmental factors, and water-efficient plant grouping. Individual Class: $15 Members, $25 Non-Members; Series $45 Members, $75 Non-Members.

2. Irrigation Design for Water-Wise Gardens
Saturday, February 9, 12:30-3:30pm
Garden Horticulture Manager Don Schultz discusses the essential design principles for integrating overhead sprinklers and drip irrigation into your garden. Topics include sprinkler selection and spacing, valve zoning, and water pressure. Note: This is a 3-hour class. Individual Class: $15 Members, $25 Non-Members; Series: $45 Members, $75 Non-Members.

3. Managing Your Irrigation Water
Saturday, February 16, 1-3pm
Garden Horticulture Manager Don Schultz discusses how soil, plant, and water relationships result in better plant health and improved water management. He will cover the different soil types, how to add soil amendments, and how to determine the water content of your soil. Don also covers methods for determining how long to run your sprinklers and how to customize an irrigation schedule for your garden. Individual Class: $15 Members, $25 Non-Members; Series $45 Members, $75 Non-Members.

4. Mulch, Compost, Fertilizer!
Saturday, February 23, 1-3pm
Unsure about how to use mulch in the garden? Not sure when to fertilize or what compost is for? Landscape Designer Jan Tubiolo and Master Composter Elizabeth Ramos will discuss in detail the benefits of these three garden-enhancing essentials. Individual Class: $15 Members, $25 Non-Members; Series $45 Members, $75 Non-Members.

Flavors of the Garden
Sunday, February 10, 11:30am
The botanical world blooms with flavors that tantalize the human palate. Join us for a pre-Valentine’s Day celebration as we tour the Garden sampling sweet and savory delights made with nature’s botanical bounty. Nibble on sweetened hibiscus flowers, sip sumptuous fruit nectars, discover herbs in many disguises. And then there is chocolate. Need we say more? Please register for this special event by Friday, February 1. $15 Members; $20 Non-Members. Ages 12 and up, please.

Secrets of the Garden presents…
This Class is for the Birds!
Parent Participation Program; Friday, February 15, 6-7pm
Come to the Garden and create a rustic bird feeder! We’ll get creative with some recipes only a bird would enjoy, then make a snack for ourselves that imitates the dining preferences of our feathered friends. For children ages 4 and up with an adult. Older children enthusiastic about this topic are welcome! Members: $12 per adult/child couple, $6 per extra adult or child; Non-Members: $15 per adult/child couple, $8 per extra adult or child.

Xeriscape: Beautiful Landscape on a Low-Water Budget
Saturday, February 16, 9:30am-12:30pm
Landscape Designer Jan Tubiolo takes the mystery out of Xeriscape landscaping, and shows you why Xeriscape is not “Zeroscape”! Learn the seven principles of xeriscape, plant selection, and planting techniques. The workshop includes a classroom lecture and an interpretive tour of our own xeriscape garden. $20 Members, $30 Non-Members.

Xeriscape: Beautiful Landscape on a Low-Water Budget
Saturday, March 8, 9:30am-12:30pm
Landscape Designer Connie Beck takes the mystery out of Xeriscape landscaping, and shows you why Xeriscape is not “Zeroscape”! Learn the seven principles of xeriscape, plant selection, and planting techniques. The workshop includes a classroom lecture and an interpretive tour of our own xeriscape garden. This class is offered in partnership with Cuyamaca College’s Community Learning Program. For information and to register, call 619-660-4350, or visit www.cuyamaca.edu/preview. Cost is $30.

California Friendly Plant Sale
Saturday, March 15, 9am-3pm
Come on out to the California-Friendly Plant Sale where vendors from throughout southern California will be selling water-wise plants that are perfect for your San Diego garden. You’ll find California natives, salvias, succulents, herbs, and more! The Solana Center for Environmental Innovation will sell compost bins, and Master Composters will answer compost questions throughout the day. Gardening clubs and lecturers will provide plenty of gardening information, and the Gift Shop will be stocked up with the latest water-wise gardening books. Entries and information for San Diego County’s Fifth-Annual California Friendly® Landscape Contest will be available. The Water Conservation Garden is the backdrop for this event, where you can see full-sized examples of the plants you wish to purchase in our landscape. Don’t miss this California-Friendly plant extravaganza!
Secrets of the Garden presents…
In Like a Lion, Out Like a Lamb!
Parent Participation Program; Friday, March 21, 6-7pm
Tired of being a slave to your water-thirsty lawn? Join Nan Sterman, gardening expert and host of the PBS show, A Growing Passion, to learn how to exterminate your lawn for good! Nan will discuss extermination options, including the pro’s and con’s of chemical and non-chemical methods, and ways to physically remove grass. Learn how to prepare the soil for a new garden, along with lots of creative ideas on what to replace your grass with in Bye Bye Grass! Part 2 on Saturday, March 29th. Part 1 only: $20 Members, $30 Non-Members; Parts 1 & 2: $30 Members, $50 Non-Members.

NEW! Rain Harvesting and Grey Water
Saturday, March 22, 10am-12pm
It’s time to be “eco-logical” about water! Learn about our current and future water scarcity issues on both local and national levels. Find out what we can do collectively to save water by utilizing rain harvesting and grey water as alternative conservation methods for both residential and commercial applications. $10 Members, $20 Non-Members.

Plant Propagation Made Easy
Saturday, March 29, 9:30am-12:30pm
Learn the secrets of the professionals, and get your plants for free! Everything you need to know about how to make new plants from cuttings will be taught by Connie Beck, experienced nursery manager. Learn successful techniques for preparing, storing, and planting seeds. Bring samples of plants and seeds that you wish to propagate. This class is offered in partnership with Cuyamaca College’s Community Learning Program. For information and to register, call 619-660-4350, or visit www.cuyamaca.edu/preview. Cost is $30.

Bye Bye Grass! Part 1
Wednesday, March 26, 6-8pm
Bye Bye Grass! Part 1
Tired of being a slave to your water-thirsty lawn? Join Nan Sterman, gardening expert and host of the PBS show, A Growing Passion, to learn how to exterminate your lawn for good! Nan will discuss extermination options, including the pro’s and con’s of chemical and non-chemical methods, and ways to physically remove grass. Learn how to prepare the soil for a new garden, along with lots of creative ideas on what to replace your grass with in Bye Bye Grass! Part 2 on Saturday, March 29th. Part 1 only: $20 Members, $30 Non-Members; Parts 1 & 2: $30 Members, $50 Non-Members.

Saving Water and Money for Your Homeowner Association—Together We Succeed!
Friday, April 4, 9-11am
Homeowner associations and landscapers can be powerful allies in conserving water in the landscape. HOA managers, board members, and landscape technicians are invited to attend this class together to learn to lower the water use at their sites. The class covers establishing water budgets, tracking a site’s water use, cost-effective irrigation repair, and calculating your return on investment when replacing plants. Photos and real-world examples will clearly illustrate the concepts. This class is offered free to HOA managers, board members and their on-site landscape personnel.

Designing Landscapes with Native Plants
Saturday, April 5, 10am-12pm
Discover the variety of California native plants with Yvette Andersen of California’s Own Native Landscape Design. Learn the proper care and placement of drought-tolerant natives, and get ideas for designing your own home garden from Yvette’s stunning slide show of native plant landscapes. Register early, this class fills fast! Members $10, Non-Members $15.

Secrets of the Garden presents…
April Showers and May Flowers!
Parent Participation Program; Friday, April 11, 6-7pm
Create your own masterpiece in this art class with a floral twist. Each student will create a lovely painting with a floral theme. We will investigate the power of the flower and the mysteries behind their fragrance and appearance. For a snack we will enjoy a special “floral” treat! For children ages 4 and up with an adult. Older children enthusiastic about this topic are welcome! Members: $12 per adult/child couple, $6 per extra adult or child; Non-Members: $15 per adult/child couple, $8 per extra adult or child.

Home Compost Workshop
Saturday, April 12, 10am-12pm
FREE home composting workshop taught by Certified Master Composters in partnership with the Solana Center for Environmental Innovation. Learn the basics of composting, how to compost with worms, and how to save water in the process. A tour of the Garden’s Compost Demonstration Site follows the workshop. Compost bins will be on sale at a low cost for Unincorporated County residents. To register for this class, please call The Solana Center at (760) 436-7986, x225.

NEW! Hillside Gardening
Wednesday, April 16, 6-8pm
Landscape Designer Connie Beck shows you how to make the most of gardening on a slope! Erosion control, proper plant choices, terracing, and retaining walls are some of the topics that will be covered. A colorful slideshow of several San Diego hillside gardens will reveal the creative possibilities that are unique to this style of gardening. $20 Members, $25 Non-Members.

Xeriscape: Beautiful Landscape on a Low-Water Budget
Saturday, April 19, 9:30am-12:30pm
Landscape Designer Jan Tubiolo takes the mystery out of xeriscape landscaping, and shows you why Xeriscape is not “Zeroscape”! Learn the seven principles of xeriscape, plant selection, and planting techniques. The workshop includes a classroom lecture and an interpretive tour of our own xeriscape garden. $20 Members, $30 Non-Members.

15th Annual Spring Garden Festival
Saturday, April 26, 9am-4pm
Join the Water Conservation Garden, Cuyamaca College’s Ornamental Horticulture Department, and the Heritage of the Americas Museum for a celebration of spring at a new date and time! “Conservation in Bloom” is this year’s theme, and experts will address how to garden on a low-water budget, California’s water supply and climate change, and the latest water-saving technologies. The college will host its biggest plant sale of the year, and Eric Runningpath and the Intertribal Dancers will perform at the Museum. Ask the Experts, the Conservation Courtyard, and live entertainment will all be featured at the Garden. Llama rides, horticultural information, and author book signings are just a few more activities happening throughout the day. For more details, see the article on page 6, or visit www.thegarden.org. Admission to the Festival is free.

APRIL
“Conservation In Bloom”
at The 2008 Spring Garden Festival
by Elizabeth Ramos

The 15th Annual Spring Garden Festival celebrates resource conservation with the theme, “Conservation in Bloom”, on Saturday, April 26, from 9am-4pm. This popular festival is being held earlier this year to take advantage of the typically milder April weather. And, with expanded attractions, including a lecture series at the Cuyamaca College’s new Student Center, we’ve added another hour to the event so visitors have plenty of time to enjoy activities at each of its partner’s venues--the Water Conservation Garden, Ornamental Horticulture at Cuyamaca College, and The Heritage of the Americas Museum.

With historic dry weather conditions in San Diego, and global climate models predicting ongoing dryer weather patterns for California and the Southwest, water conservation will be an important message at this year’s event. Dr. Richard Norris of the Scripps Institute of Oceanography in La Jolla will present “The Future of Water In California”, discussing our current water supply and the expected changes to this supply based on predicted climate change. Nan Sterman, author of California Gardener’s Guide, Volume 2, will sign her book and give a talk entitled, “Garden Within Your Watering Means”. Other local gardening authors are invited to speak, so please check our website for updates as the festival nears at www.thegarden.org.

The latest in water-saving irrigation technology will be featured in the Garden’s Conservation Courtyard. Visitors can enter a free drawing for a high-efficiency clothes washer, and the Water Agency booth will offer tips on indoor water conservation. “Ask the Experts” returns, featuring free, 20-minute consultations with experienced landscape architects and designers. Call ahead to reserve an appointment as they book quickly (619-660-0614 ext. 10), and bring photos of your home landscape for feedback. You can also try your luck at the Opportunity Drawing Booth where tickets will be on sale for the grand prize: a home landscape redesign and other fabulous prizes.

Cuyamaca College’s biggest plant sale of the year happens during Spring Garden Festival, and they’ll be carrying a variety of water-wise plants—come early for the best selection! Faculty and students of the Ornamental Horticulture Department will offer information and demonstrations on plant propagation, floral design, arboriculture, and more. The Master Gardeners and several other gardening groups will answer horticulture questions throughout the day. (continued on page 7)

Focus on a Species: Bearberry Cotoneaster
by Don Schultz

Dependable, fire-wise and low maintenance ground covers are becoming more desirable as many gardeners look to replace their lawns. Cotoneaster dammeri, from central China, provides all of this and more. It has a clean, tight-knit growth habit that needs very little pruning to keep it in line. The small, dark glossy green leaves give it a lush look, providing great foliage color that contrasts with plants like Westringia and Cleveland Sage. In the summer it is full of small star-like white flowers. The real color bonus comes in the fall and winter, when bushels of small bright red berries appear (perhaps these are craved by Chinese bears?). Several cultivars are available including:

Coral Beauty – 6 inches tall with orange fruit
Lowfast – 12 inches tall, bright red fruit
Eichholz – 10 to 12 inches tall, bright red fruit with a scattering of orange leaves in the fall

All are very dependable, tolerate part-shade, are good for erosion control on slopes, and need little irrigation once established. Our two stands here at the garden need little attention and are content with once per week watering in summer months. Since these plants are not vines but prostrate shrubs, they don’t intertwine with trees and other shrubs, and don’t need to be edged nearly as often. They also live much longer than perennial ground covers and are not prone to die-back in sections like many perennials and ice plants. Since they are shrubs, however, they are not available in flats of 50 plants like many ground covers. It’s best to purchase these plants in one gallon containers and plant them four to six feet apart, depending on your budget and how quickly you want them to fill in. Larger wholesale nurseries – Miramar Nursery for example – are good places to buy ground cover shrubs when you need 30 or more since they have them on hand and they tend to be less expensive.
Notes from Friends of the Garden
by Nora Jaeschke

Good people working together for one mission. On January 14, member of the Friends Board invited Blue Ribbon Advisors, members of the Garden’s governing board, liaisons from our member agencies, and Garden staff to map out our future. Our mission as Friends is “to provide financial resources to support the programs and exhibits of the Garden” and this mission was our focus.

About twenty five dedicated conservation professionals met for four hours to create a plan for developing funding in the following areas: amphitheater shade cover and seating, corporate partners support, event participation, the annual campaign and grant writing.

Our annual campaign has met its goal of contributing $10,000 to the Garden’s operating fund. We will be listing annual campaign donors in the next newsletter. Now we are actively looking to find shade for the amphitheater so that it can be used as an educational facility. Thanks to the generosity of Bill and Norma Verbeck and the Linnie Cooper Foundation, we are making real progress in this area.

Meanwhile, we want to thank all of those who are helping us - as donors and as workers, like those who gave us their time at the planning session. The task we have is huge, and the need is great and growing each day as people realize that conservation is a must.

Spring Garden Festival
cont. from page 6

The Heritage of the Americas Museum invites the public to enter its Artifacts Alive! contest and create an artistic interpretation of a museum artifact. Create a floral display, jewelry design, quilt, or piece of stained glass using an artifact as your inspiration and your imagination as your guide. The Museum will also host the El Cajon Valley Gem and Mineral Society, and Eric Runningpath and the Inter-tribal dancers. For more information, call the Museum at 619-670-5194.

The 2008 Spring Garden Festival celebrates conservation with all of these activities and more. Our family-friendly event also offers llama rides, the Splash Science Mobile Lab, live music on the Garden stage, artisans, jewelers, and delicious food, plus free parking and admission. We hope to see you there at our new date and time, and don’t forget to carpool with your friends!

Welcome New Members
October - December 2007

Complimentary
Kathleen O’Toole
Shannon Stevenson
Alan Stewart
Cuyamaca College Child Development Center
Sunbeam Room
The Cowan Family
Zachary Ruskuski & Nicole Hiner

Basic, Cont.
Cheryl Lendvay
Lynn Lipinski
Rose Masters
Beth Metcalf
Linda Payne
Lynette Reid
Thomas Sanchez
Denise Scott
Terry Thomas

Student
Wallace, Barbara

Basic
Theresa Ashbacher
Jane Bausa
Irene Bauza
Maryvette Cabrera
J. Collins
Carol Gabrielson
Vilija and Steve Gloede
Pat Herrington
John Kramer

Supporting
Josephine Ball
Caroline Braun
L.A. Guske
Mark and Michelle Matson
Kelly Mooney
Ron Zuenges

Sustaining
Terry and Julia Allen

Hummingbird Nectar
1 part sugar
4 parts water
Stir to dissolve sugar. Boiling the mixture helps to retard spoiling. When cool, fill feeders and store additional mixture in a covered container in the refrigerator. Adding red food coloring is not necessary and may be harmful to the birds. Hummingbird feeders are usually designed with some red features which are enough to attract the birds. Change the nectar frequently. And change it immediately if the nectar appears cloudy. Experts recommend daily cleaning.

Want to learn more about encouraging bird visitors and create your own bird feeder to use at home? Join us for a family class called This Class is For the Birds this February! (see class description on page 4) Sign up on our web site; www.thegarden.org.
Please make checks payable to the Friends of the Water Conservation Garden and send your enrollment with payment to The Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA 92019. You can also sign up at www.thegarden.org. For more information, call 619-660-0614.

I would like to register at the level indicated:

- Student  $20
- Basic    $40
- Supporting  $60
- Sustaining  $120
- Patron   $250
- Benefactor $500
- Conservationist $1000

- [ ] I would like to support the Garden with an additional donation of $_________.

- [ ] I am interested in becoming a docent or Volunteer

**Our Mission Statement:**
“Promoting water conservation in the southern California landscape through excellent exhibits and programs that educate and inspire the public.”

Open 7 days a week from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Docent Tours; Sat. 10:30 am and Sun. 1:30 pm.

**Benefits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>Free Newsletters, Free Garden Admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Same as above, plus Gift shop: 10% Discount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting</td>
<td>Same as above, plus Classes/Events: Free or discounted admission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustaining</td>
<td>Same as above, plus Facility rentals: 10% Discount, up to $25 annually</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patron</td>
<td>Same as above, plus Engraved brick paver in garden pathway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benefactor</td>
<td>Same as above, plus Engraved brick paver in garden plaza, Facility rentals: 10% Discount, up to $125 annually</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservationist</td>
<td>Engraved brick paver in garden plaza, Facility rentals: 20% Discount, up to $250 annually</td>
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**Member Agencies**

- San Diego County Water Authority
- Palomar Water District
- Otay Water District
- Helix Water District
- Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District
- City of San Diego

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