HARVESTING WATER FOR YOUR GARDEN
GALA ENCHANTS EAST COUNTY
OUR MISSION
To educate and inspire through excellent exhibits and programs that promote water conservation and the sustainable use of related natural resources.

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The Joint Powers Agencies own The Garden and have contracted with the Friends of the Water Conservation, a non-profit organization, to manage it. These agencies also provide major funding for The Garden:

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

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A Fond Farewell

“Nothing endures but change”
- Heraclitus (535-475 BC), Greek philosopher

It is with mixed emotions that I write this farewell message to friends of The Water Conservation Garden. During my nearly four years as your Executive Director, I have benefited from the support of an extraordinary group of individuals and a community that truly cared about our success. I carry with me many positive memories of my tenure which cumulatively represent the tremendous support of members, donors, sponsors, water agency partners, and friends in the community.

I am gratified at the growth in The Garden’s foundation of donor support that has enabled the establishment of new programs to broaden our appeal to a wider audience. It has been wonderful to see the number of schoolchildren who experience the joys of learning about water conservation through The Garden’s efforts grow exponentially. I have been privileged to steward through to completion a number of dynamic new exhibits, with visionary plans for even greater growth already in place for the future.

Whether through The Garden’s demonstration gardens and exhibitions, education programs, donor cultivations, or fun events, the credit for so much of our success these last few years goes to our volunteer corps, an exceptional group of individuals whose dedication is unmatched. It has also been a privilege to have worked with The Garden’s Board of Directors, an outstanding group of leaders committed to ensuring that The Garden will be a community asset for years to come. I thank all those who have served for the gift of their time, talents and personal treasure during my tenure, particularly past and current Board leaders Richard Wright, Elyssa Robertson, and Harold Bailey.

Finally, my sincerest thanks to my dedicated and hard-working staff. On a daily basis, my colleagues consistently communicated their professionalism and good cheer through actions and words. It has been on their shoulders that I have stood.

I look forward to watching The Garden’s success for years to come. My successor will inherit a community garden with the tools and talents in place to remain one of our region’s most dynamic and relevant organizations. I wish the new leadership the very best of luck and encourage you to support their efforts.

Once again, thank you for allowing me to be a part of The Water Conservation Garden story. It has been my honor.

John H. Bolthouse, III
Executive Director

What a wonderful journey I have had as President of The Water Conservation Garden’s Board of Directors. As my term comes to an end, I want to thank my fellow Board members as well as The Garden staff and volunteers for making the past two years an enjoyable and rewarding experience. We have, as a team, installed the new Native Habitat Garden, hosted the inaugural and second annual “Enchanted Garden” Gala, and raised awareness of the importance of water conservation throughout the entire County of San Diego.

Of course, none of this could have been accomplished without the leadership of our Executive Director, John Bolthouse, and his staff. I am sad to see John go as he leaves The Garden at the end of the year to pursue another tremendous opportunity. On behalf of the entire Board, I wish him only the best and thank him for his leadership over the last four years.

I also want to thank all of YOU for doing your part to save water! I hope that you found the award-winning educational programs and exhibits at The Garden helped you reduce your water use. Please return as we update programs and exhibits throughout the year.

It has been said that “When the well runs dry we know the worth of water.” It is equally important to remember the worth of water when the well overflows. We are forecasted to have an El Nino winter, which hopefully will bring an abundance of water to our region. However, please don’t stop conserving! Remember the worth of water all year long to ensure sufficient supplies for everyone’s use in the future.

Elyssa Robertson
President, Board of Directors (2013-2015)
The Garden wowed attendees at its second annual “Enchanted Garden” Gala on Saturday, October 17 with an evening filled with delectable food and captivating entertainment. The event theme, “Water - More Precious than Gold,” served to underscore the importance of continued water conservation during the current drought.

Nearly 200 guests wandered through illuminated gardens encountering captivating creatures including a gnome, a mermaid, a Poseidon stilt walker, contortionists dressed as woodland creatures, and even a unicorn!

The event raised more than $90,000 for The Garden’s programs, which will benefit The Garden’s botanical collection care, exhibit upkeep, and education programs, including the award-winning “Ms. Smarty-Plants™” water conservation education program that reaches more than 63,000 children and adults annually.

Catering was provided by Continental Catering, who featured wine and appetizer stations as well as a luxurious seated dinner that satisfied the palette of even the most discerning foodie. The event also featured an extensive silent auction, live auction and a “Ms. Smarty-Plants™” performance. Attendees also got to take home a custom-made glass coaster, courtesy of FusionGlass in La Mesa, which had a leaf from The Garden imprinted on it.

The event was supported by more than 30 volunteers and nearly 40 sponsors, including Barona Band of Mission Indians, SDG&E and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.
The Garden is pleased to announce it was awarded a $15,000 grant by the Hans and Margaret Doe Charitable Trust, funding the remodel and expansion of The Garden’s classroom and patio to become a modern education center. This gift will supplement a recent grant from the Rice Family Foundation and funding from the State of California scheduled for 2016. The Doe Trust is a longtime supporter of The Water Conservation Garden, whose support has made possible a number of meaningful improvements to The Garden’s facilities, exhibits and programs for over a decade.

NBC 7 San Diego in partnership with the NBCUniversal Foundation recently announced that The Water Conservation Garden is the recipient of a $25,000 grant. The Garden is one of three San Diego area nonprofit organizations who will receive a total of $100,000 as part of the 21st Century Solutions grant challenge.

“We are dedicated to harnessing the power of all of our platforms to make a positive difference in the communities we serve,” said Richard Kelley, President and General Manager, NBC 7 San Diego. “We’re proud to once again partner with the NBCUniversal Foundation to support these impactful programs through our innovative 21st Century Solutions grant challenge.”

This funding will make a meaningful difference in The Garden’s efforts in 2016.
The Water Conservation Garden proudly hosted more than a dozen military veterans from The Mission Continues as part of a national veterans service day on September 11. The volunteers planted trees in one of The Garden's newest exhibits, the Native Habitat Garden.

"There are 54 Mission Continues chapters across the U.S., and the goal is to look for nonprofit organizations who can benefit from our help while helping veterans reconnect with their community," said The Mission Continues San Diego 1st Service Platoon Leader Roxana Mejia. "The San Diego Platoon is focused on Urban Agriculture & Green Spaces, and this year we selected The Water Conservation Garden as a beneficiary of our work."

The Mission Continues is a nationwide organization that helps veterans transition from active duty to civilian life, encouraging them to serve their community in new ways. They complete numerous service projects throughout the year on that focus on homelessness, environmental stewardship and at-risk youth.

“We are thrilled to have the help of such distinguished volunteers at The Garden, particularly on September 11,” said The Garden’s Executive Director John Bolthouse. “The Garden’s exhibits are sustained by volunteers, and we can think of no better way to honor the memory of September 11 than planting and enriching our community.”

Toro, a national leading manufacturer of landscape and construction equipment, has generously donated a dozen pieces of equipment to The Garden valued at nearly $20,000. The equipment includes a brush chipper, a hydraulic aerator, mowers, gas blower, sweeper blower, an edger and a trimmer.

Generous gifts such as these make a truly meaningful difference in the essential maintenance needs of The Water Conservation Garden. Thank you, Toro!
“Ms. Smarty-Plants™” Goes South of the Border

On November 14, 2015, “Ms. Smarty-Plants™” headed to Mexico to inspire and empower the Earth Heroes of Puerto Vallarta for the 10th Anniversary Birthday Celebration of The Vallarta Botanical Garden. Invited by the botanical garden’s Executive Director, Neil Gerlowski, “Ms. Smarty-Plants™” delivered a cross-cultural educational experience on butterflies and interacted with both children and adults who affectionately called her “Senorita Flor Sabelotodo,” which translates to “Ms. Know-It-All Flowers!”

The beautiful 25-acre site is filled with indigenous Mexican flora and fauna - coffee, cocoa, Manilkara chicle (chewing gum tree), the vanilla plant (which is actually an orchid), bromelids of every shape and size and so many species of butterflies!

VOLUNTEERS HELP RE-OPEN CHILDREN’S TRAIL

Ed and Peggy have been frequent visitors of The Garden for many years, even sharing their first date on a picnic and stroll through The Garden’s grounds. In 2013, they joined the docent volunteer corps and eagerly went through the training program.

Having worked in the school system for years, Ed wanted a space for kids to have fun without “getting in trouble for touching things.” So together, Ed and Peggy expedited the re-opening of the Children’s Trail with a whimsical winding path leading from the Jurassic Garden to the Butterfly Pavilion. Thanks to their initiative and the help of dedicated garden docents, The Children’s Trail is once again a fun, interactive place for kids, now re-imagined with even cuter critters.

Ed and Peggy’s favorite part about volunteering in The Garden is the camaraderie. They have met great people through volunteering and appreciate how everyone works hard toward a common goal. Ed and Peggy are “hooked for life.”
Pre-registration is REQUIRED for all classes
www.thegarden.org or by calling 619-660-0614 x.10

JANUARY

9th
Saturday, January 9th
10:00am - 12:00pm
Rainwater Harvesting and Greywater - A Cure for El Niño
Just in time for El Niño! Learn how to harvest rain water and use your greywater to beat the drought! Candace Vanderhoff, expert and owner of “RainThanks and Greywater,” will give an inspiring and easy step-by-step class on these systems.
Members Free
Non-members $10.00

16th
Saturday, January 16th
10:00am - 12:00pm
Tree Trimming, Pruning and Care
Don’t let the drought take a toll on your trees. Join Jose Bedoya, arborist and owner of “LeafIt2us” for a dynamic, hands-on class on the proper care and trimming of trees and shrubs.
Members Free
Non-members $10.00

23rd
Saturday, January 23rd
10:00am - 12:00pm
Hillside Gardening
Ever wonder how to care for that slope/hillside you have? Join renowned Landscape Designer Connie Beck to discover beautiful solutions for hard to plant spaces.
Members Free
Non-members $10.00

23rd + 30th
January 23rd & 30th
12:30pm - 4:30pm
Docent Training Program
Utilize your skills and talents to contribute to The Garden’s success by becoming a Garden docent! There are many ways to get involved and wonderful new people to meet. To register, please contact Pam Meisner, Education Director at pam@thegarden.org or 619-660-0614 x13

30th
Saturday, January 30th
10:00am - 12:00pm
Free Compost Workshop - Register early limited to 20 participants
In partnership with the County of San Diego and The Water Conservation Garden, the Solana Center for Environmental Innovation is providing a FREE composting workshop. Learn the basics of composting, how to compost with worms, and how to save water in the process! Compost bins will be sold at the end of the workshop with subsidized prices for unincorporated County residents so don’t forget to bring cash or a check.
To register for this workshop, please call the Solana Center at (760) 436-7986 ext. 222, or visit www.solanacenter.org/upcoming-events

FEBRUARY

20th
Saturday, February 20th
10:00am - 12:00pm
FREE - How to Hire a Landscape Contractor and Save $$$
Thinking of changing your landscape or beginning from scratch? Have you ever hired someone to help and didn’t get what you paid for? Join Pam Meisner, Education Director at The Garden, for a fun and informative class as she addresses the pitfalls to avoid and the practical approach to saving money. This class is offered free by a generous grant from the County of San Diego Watershed Protection Program. Reservations are required.

31st
Sunday, January 31st
10:00am - 11:30am
Qigong (Chi Gong) in The Garden
A great class for beginners, instructor Reyna Lerma will guide students through an ancient form of relaxing, moving and breathing. Learn simple exercises to open different joints from neck and shoulders to the waist. Bring a mat or something to lay on, and wear loose, comfortable clothes.
Please note: no class in case of rain. No registration required. This class is offered multiple times. $10.00 suggested donation.
27th
Saturday, February 27th
10:00am - 12:00pm

**After the Lawn: Finding Better Solutions**
Your lawn is dead or looks like it, now what do I do? Landscape Designer, Connie Beck, will give you ideas and solutions to turn those areas into beautiful, inviting outdoor spaces.
Members Free
Non-members $10.00

28th
Sunday, February 28th
10:00am - 11:30am

**Qigong (Chi Gong) in The Garden**
A great class for beginners, instructor Reyna Lerma will guide students through an ancient form of relaxing, moving and breathing. Learn simple exercises to open different joints from neck and shoulders to the waist. Bring a mat or something to lay on, and wear loose, comfortable clothes.
Please note: no class in case of rain. No registration required. This class is offered multiple times. $10.00 suggested donation.

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**FREE Garden Tours**
Every Saturday at 10:00am
Tour the lush, charming, and water-wise Garden with a knowledgeable docent to hear what makes our garden special, and be inspired to create a water-wise landscape of your own. Check our website for a listing of monthly, themed tours.

**FREE Special Access Tour**
Every Third Sunday at 10:00am
Have trouble navigating the terrain of The Garden? Let us take you for a ride! Explore The Garden from the comfortable Verbeck Shuttle with a Garden Docent. This tour seats only 4-5 people. Advanced reservations required. Call 619-660-0614 x16.

**Professional Landscape Design Consultations**
Spend 45 minutes, one-on-one, with a professional landscape designer and leave with a basic design plan and list of suggested plants for your own drought-tolerant landscape. Bring a photo of your property, a list of areas you want to re-design, the dimensions of the space, and photos of design styles you love.
Call 619-660-0614 x10 for appointment availability, designer information and reservations.
Members $60, Non-Members $75

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Please visit www.thegarden.org for more information about these and other events at The Garden.

**ONGOING PROGRAMS**

- **Members-Only Stargazing Party**, February 13
- **Tomatomania**, March 12 & 13
- **Waterwise Home Garden Tour**, March 26
- **California Native Plant Society Tour**, April 2 & 3
- **Spring Garden Festival at Cuyamaca College**, April 23
- **3rd Annual Butterfly Festival**, May 14

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Garden of Docent Mary Ann Stepnowsky will be one of several featured on March 26 tour.
The Kingdom Hall Memorial garden was designed by Water Conservation Garden docent, Diane Bernal with design assistance from longtime docent Rosalie Dosik and Director of Horticulture Clayton Tschudy. Viewed from behind a pane of glass, the long narrow space and repeated details on the background wooden walls inspired a Japanese courtyard style featuring a cobble streambed, and plants of contrasting colors and textures.

The garden flanks a large meeting room and is becoming a popular spot in the church. Diane's favorite plants include the Grey Honey Myrtle (Melaleuca incana), a small specimen tree that looks like a miniature Cedar, and a Golden Sedum that provides a beautiful color contrast to other groundcovers like the dark green Mondo Grass (Ophiopogon japonicus). This is truly a community garden project. Twelve church members assisted during installation and early maintenance, and many others will become involved in the long-term maintenance of the space.

My Rustic Garden

My Rustic Garden in La Mesa is The Water Conservation's newest garden partner. Owner Lenore Lipoufski has been in business for 9 years, and had an opportunity to open a local shop in La Mesa a year ago. The shop carries an extensive array of creative, whimsical and unique décor for the home and garden.

Some of the whimsical items from My Rustic Garden were recently featured as the backdrop to the stage at The Garden Gala on October 17, 2015.

Garden members receive a 10% discount by showing membership card. Thank you for your support of The Garden!

Harvesting Water for Your Garden

Even with the rainwater accompanying the storms predicted to pass through the San Diego area this winter, our region will still continue to face water shortage issues and residents will need to continue with conservation efforts. Rainwater harvesting not only reduces the strain on the existing water supply and reduces runoff that would otherwise carry contaminants and contribute to storm water pollution, it is also a free source of water for gardening.

Rainwater harvesting and storm water management techniques involve slowing it, sinking it and storing it. Terracing your yard and creating berms and basins around plants and trees can help to prevent erosion and capture water so it can sink in and reach deep roots. Installing permeable pavement and adding mulch and compost are also beautiful and effective approaches to absorbing storm water before it runs off your property.

One inch of rain falling on a 1,000 square foot roof can supply hundreds of gallons of water, making rooftop rainwater harvesting a very efficient way to capture and store water for gardening. Downspouts can be set up to drain into a basin in your garden, fill a rain barrel or cistern, or supply a drip irrigation system.

For more information about harvesting rainwater, managing storm water and other water conservation tips, please visit www.watersmartsd.org. For local resources for rain barrels, see the Gardening Resources page at thegarden.org.
New Members
2015 July-November

Wenda Alvarez
Karen Anderson
Rosalyn Arellano
Steve and Deb Bastian
Valerie Berg
Margo Bergen
Luis Bernal
Kathy Blackmer
Margaret Brown
Peggy Buffo
Theresa Bunting & Jack Finneran
Scott & Kristin Campbell
Hector Carlos
Richard Chadwick
Sandra Chadwick
Drew Cole
Jonathan & Rose Cooper
Susan Creveling
Anita Cummings
Eva Daggett
Daniel & Holly Davidson
Sherry Davidson
Denise Davis
Lyne DeGooyer
Dan Dennison
Tony & Kim Dettori
Rich & Ann Durham
Tami Emmett
Lawrence Feinberg
Eric Fenex
William Field
Carol Flanagan & Richard Corsi
Karen Garsson
Joe & Jonelle Garzanelli
Patricia Gillogly
Lilly and Steve Gloede
Linda Hagen
Julie & Fran Hastings
Debbie Harvey & Paul Witherspoon
Rita Haverkamp
Donna Hickethier
Siegfried & Candice
Debbie Hodgins
Deborah Iannizzotto
Michele Jachimiak
Terri Jacobson
Cora Jensen
Cecilia & Les Judd
Linda Kavanagh
William & Ruth Kennedy
Caitlyn Kes
Pamela & Ernest Kish
Walter & Alexandra Lake
Pam and Bill Leake
Karín Lee
Anne Lewis
Emily Loui
Marion Mallen
Nancy Manning
David and Lynda Marlow
Craig Maxwell
Eva McCatty
Lora McMurry
Robert Merrifield
Marge Meyer
Brian & Kimberly Monahan
Glenn & Mary Moore
Katherine Neubauer
Eden Nguyen
Jack & Jean Oehmsted
Kathleen Ondofrio & Steve Merriam
Karyn and Victor O’Rear
James Patzold
Ana Perez
Carol & Cy Perkins
Jean Perry
Kenneth Pitney
Terri Pontzious
Bonita Priatu
Jeanette Pryor
Genaro Ramos
Gaye and John Reinhold
Alma I. Romero
Puahilani Romero
Douglas & Patricia Ryan
Pam Satchell
Cristi Saylor
Sandra Schuler
Wendy & Brian Scott
Patti Sebastian
Charlotte C. Sedwick
Shemiran Ablakatof-Clow Family
Karen Sherman
Christine Sotelo
Jean Spafford
Dawn Stemm
Shannon Stemm
Beth Sullivan
Shannon & Modena Sanders
Svensen
Chris Tarman
Nancy Tedokon
Mary Ann Thompson
Tracy Cinglan & Barbara Cummings
Lynn Vincent
Mike & Monica Wallace
Janet Warner & Richard Fair
Cynthia Watten & Brett Stephens
John & Chris Weisickle
Carol Wells
Maria Wells
Phil Wertheimer
Howard Whitfield & Jutta Gilstrap
Marti Wilmot
Maureen Alexander Wright
Denise Wyborski

$5,000 and Above
Barona Resort and Casino
Bennett & Associates
California American Water
Hunter Family Advised Fund At The San Diego Foundation
Hunter Industries, Inc.
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
SDG&E
The Toro Company

$1,000-$4,999
Agri Service, Inc.
Backflow Services
Harold & Mary Jane Bailey
Baldwin & Sons
Best Best & Krieger LLP
Bob’s Crane Service
Charles Wei-Hsun Fu Foundation
Crown Computers
Teresa & John Fistere
Fusion Glass
C. Sedwick
Community College District
Hester’s Granite Co.
Kleinfield
Margaret Matarese
Pardee Homes
RCP Block & Brick
Rotary Club Of El Cajon
Samuel Ciccati Family
San Diego County Water Authority
San Diego Metropolitan Credit Union
SoCal Shade Sails
Spectacular Events by Carrie
The Brickman Group, Ltd.
U.S. Bank
Frank & DeAna Verbeke
Wells Fargo Foundation

$500-$999
Hamann Construction
Hans & Margaret Doe Charitable Trust
Joe & Jonelle Garzanelli

$100-$499
Tom Allingham
Maggie Barnett
Sue Ellen and Jack Benson
John and Suzanne Bridges
Eva Daggett
Bobby & Mary Dean
Di Donato Associates
Fortress Fence and Landscaping, Inc.
G.M. Brown Construction
Geocon Incorporated
GCCCD - Ornamental Horticulture Department
Lee & Zoe Herald
Dianne Jacob
Sandy Jenzen

$50-$99
George & Janet Gastil
Janell Puckett
San Carlos Garden Club
Judith Walton
Richard Wright

Welcome to Otay Ranch by Baldwin & Sons, a pedestrian-friendly planned community. Our vibrant surroundings combine the best of old-style neighborhoods with the latest in community design. Enjoy our open parks as you stroll or bike along an extensive network of trails, paseos and promenade streets.

Discover Otay Ranch...

Homes range from the Low 300's to the High 400's.

Visit Us At
www.baldwinsons.com
Become a Member!

Membership at The Garden comes with a host of benefits including free classes, free admission to national and international botanical gardens and discounts in the Gift Shop and at partner nurseries and garden shops.

To become a member, call 619-660-0614 x 14 or visit www.thegarden.org and click “support.”

GREAT MEMBER BENEFITS

Garden members now receive a 10-20% discount on all purchases at the following partner businesses. A current membership card must be presented at the time of purchase.

- **Anderson’s La Costa** — Encinitas (andersonlacostanursery.com)
- **Barrels & Branches Nursery** — Encinitas (barrelsandbranches.com)
- **Gardens by the Sea** — Leucadia (gardensbytheseanursery.com)
- **Hunter’s Nursery** — Lemon Grove (huntersnursery.com)
- **Kniffing’s Discount Nursery** — El Cajon (kniffingnursery.com)
- **The Madd Potter** — Encinitas (maddpotter.com)
- **Mission Hills Nursery** — San Diego (missionhillsnursery.com)
- **My Rustic Garden** — La Mesa (myrusticgarden.com)
- **Rancho San Diego Nursery** — El Cajon (ranchosandiegonursery.com)
- **Rancho Valhalla Nursery** — El Cajon (ranchovalhallanursery.com)