20 Year Benefit Concert
Intern at The Garden
Ms. Smarty-Plants™ Goes Batty

FALL 2019
message from the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A CHANGE OF SEASON... CREATING CHANGE.

Fall is one of the most beautiful times of the year as it symbolizes a time of change. This season take time to sit and watch the leaves turn and reflect on the past and the present. It’s a great time to set some goals. The Water Conservation Garden is an extension of your backyard and is a wonderful place to watch this transformation of seasons with your neighbors, friends, family, colleagues, furry friends or just by yourself.

A new season is the perfect opportunity to create change for yourself, for your community, and for your living environment.

The key to creating positive change for yourself is to turn your desired actions into habits. All habits can be ignored, changed, or replaced. It’s not easy because a habit never truly disappears, it is merely replaced by new habits.

The Water Conservation Garden is here to help you become inspired to make small changes and create new habits that have positive impact for both the environment and yourself. See you in The Garden soon!

Jennifer Pillsbury
Executive Director

“It is not happy people who are thankful, it is thankful people who are happy.”

– Author unknown

Interested in joining a Non-Profit Board of Directors?

We are actively recruiting new members. Looking for areas of expertise in finance, estate planning, construction, legal, fundraising, small business management and marketing to name a few.

Visit TheGarden.org/board for more information.

The following are agencies that constitute the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) that owns The Garden and provides major funding:

The Garden is managed by The Friends of The Water Conservation Garden, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, tax ID no. 20-4395919.

The Garden and Gift Shoppe are open daily from 9am to 4pm (except major holidays). See the “Plan Your Visit” page at TheGarden.org for more information.

GARDEN WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS THIS FALL: Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 28), Christmas Eve (Tuesday, December 24), Christmas Day (Wednesday, December 25) and New Year’s Day (Wednesday, January 1).

Get Social With Us! #wcgarden
Keep up with the latest on news, events and more!
In our last issue of inBLOOM I discussed adaptations for tolerating drought conditions. Now let’s consider plants adapting to rainforest conditions. They need exposure to maximize light since there is so much competition by so many other plants in proximity. These plants are mostly dark green and thin leaved with many pores. Water is prevalent in the air so maximizing the green chlorophyll cells is essential for survival for plants like elephant’s ear, Aocacia. We don’t have this one in The Garden.

Since we all live near the ocean, how about we even look at plants that have adapted to being surrounded by water. If you have ever walked along the shore and taken a close look at seaweed beached on the sand, you may have noticed the bumpy air bubbles along the stems and branches. This adaptation lifts the plant leaves up closer to the ocean surface so the plants can photosynthesize. Sometimes I swim between seaweed at the cove in La Jolla and notice how the stems have evolved; flexible, rubbery and elastic-acting to avoid breaking. A closer look at the leaves reveals air bubbles raising the foliage up to the surface, allowing more exposure to sunlight which gives precious energy during photosynthesis.*1.

How does a purple-leafed plant photosynthesize? Some plants that have plenty of sunlight have purple, red, orange and other colored leaves. What’s up with that? Well, they still have essential green chlorophyll cells, however they also have pigmented cells containing carotenoids, which reflect other colors, like purple or red back to us. This adaptation can be helpful to distract animals from eating them. For us, it makes them attractive and contrasting in color for landscape use. In lower-light conditions, green leaves are most efficient at photosynthesis, and you may even see your plant adapt back to green in color quickly. We recently acquired a red aloe, Aloe cameronii, for The Garden. Only three days in the shade and it turned green. Now that it is planted in the front yard of our Backyard Retrofit Exhibit, it quickly regained its amazing red color. Incredible.

*1. Photosynthesis: An energy-producing process essential for plant growth that requires light, carbon dioxide, water and plant protein cells containing green-pigmented chlorophyll.

Article by Paul Redeker
Photographer unknown
Sources:
www.Baynature.org
www.psu.edu/dept/nkBiology/naturetrail/leaves.htm
happenings & EVENTS

Ms. Smarty-Plants™
GOES BATTY
OCT. 12, 5:30 PM

Saturday October 12, 5:30-8pm
Whoooo’s ready to put on your costume and stop in for a spell to enjoy a fun family event? Ms. Smarty-Plants™ is excited to host an amazing show as The Garden offers Ghostly Greetings on our Trick or Treat Trails and Creepy Critter Encounters. It is going to be a SPOOKtacular good time!
$5 per person, kids 2 & under FREE
FREE Parking. Pre-event registration required.
Tickets available here: TheGarden.org/events/Batty

Fall Plant Sale
Saturday November 9, 10am–3pm
**Special Members-Only Preview Sale – 9–10am
You’ll Fall in love with the “unbeLEAFable” plant selection The Garden has to offer! It’s the best time of year to plant, so get started and dig in!
**Special event discount on the popular Landscape Design Consultations! Online reservations recommended. For assistance call 619-660-0614 x21.
Tickets available at: TheGarden.org/fallplantsale

Holiday Gift Shoppe Sale
Saturday December 7, 9am-4pm
Make your Holiday shopping fun and festive by stopping at The Garden’s Holiday Gift Shoppe Sale to find the best gifts for your loved ones! During this sale you’ll find sweet deals on the most unique and amazing items for the gardeners in your life. It’s a once a year sale you don’t want to miss!
BENEFIT CONCERT: Celebrating 20 Years!

LIMITED TICKETS: Reserve yours today!

Saturday November 16
5-8:30pm

The Water Conservation Garden is hosting an anniversary concert to honor 20 years of proudly serving San Diego County. This exciting evening features food and drink stations, live music, and unique auction items. Celebrate The Garden’s birthday and support 20 more years of conservation education!

For details & tickets, visit: TheGarden.org/ Benefit-Concert

SAVE THESE DATES!

Coming Back in March – Tomatomania
The Garden Yard Sale
March 14, 8am-12pm
OCTOBER

5 Firescaping with Natives
Saturday, Oct 5 | 10am-12pm
Expert landscape designer and author, Greg Rubin, of California’s Own Native Landscape Design, returns to share his talk on the essentials of fire-wise landscaping using native plants. Garden Members $8, Non-Members $12

13 Garden Docent Training
Sundays, Oct 13 & 20 | 12-4pm
Volunteers help our plants and programs grow! There are many fun ways to be involved, along with wonderful people to meet. Two-day training is FREE with materials fee. Details and registration online.

26 Hillside Planting
Saturday, Oct 26 | 10-11:30am
Wondering what to do with your slope/hillside? Renowned Landscape Designer, Connie Beck, the Holistic Gardener, will amaze you with beautiful solutions for hard to plant spaces. Class made possible by the San Diego County Watershed Protection Program. FREE

27 Lose Your Lawn
Sunday, Oct 27 | 10am-12pm
Don’t know where to start when tackling your lawn removal and redesign? Andrea Doonan Horticulture + Design guides you in exercises to learn basic tools that can jumpstart your project (and take advantage of rebates)! Proudly sponsored by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Garden Members $8, Non-Members $12

NOVEMBER

2 Glass Making with Leaf Imprint
Saturday, Nov 2 | 10am-12pm
Join local artist and owner of FusionGlass, Debbie Solan, in a creative glass-making experience that ends with 2 unique pieces of botanical art made by you. All supplies, instruction and firing of two art pieces included. Garden Members $45, Non-Member $55

13 Tree Talker
Wednesday, Nov 13 | 5-6:30pm
Get your trees in shape with Brad Brown of Tree Life Consulting. Demonstration and talk covers successful installations and establishing strong trees from the start. Garden Members $5, Non-Members $10

16 Backyard Composting
Saturday, Nov 16 | 10am-12pm
All you need to know to get started with a compost bin that fits your lifestyle. Class made possible by the County of San Diego, presented by Solana Center for Environmental Innovation. Register online at www.solanacenter.org or call (760) 436-7986 ext. 700. FREE

17 Nature Therapy
Sunday, Nov. 17 | 1-2:30pm
Engage all your senses during a slow-paced, quiet discovery of nature’s benefits found in our very own Garden. Based on the science and practice of Japanese Shinrin-Yoku, or “Forest Bathing.” Garden Members FREE, Non-Members $10
**FALL 2019**
Registration is REQUIRED for all workshops at TheGarden.org or by calling 619-660-0614 x21.

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### DECEMBER

#### Texture Techniques in Silk
**Saturday, Dec 7 | 10-11:30am**
Artist and instructor Marjorie Pezzoli of Pezzoli Art, shows you how to capture colors in silk. All supplies included for your 'make & take' hand painted creation. No drawing experience needed. Artists of every age welcome, youth 6+ pricing available online.
Garden Members $40, Non-Members $45

#### Sign Language & Succulents
**NEW!**
**Saturday, Dec 7 | 12-1:30pm**
A fully ‘hands-on’ class! Learn basic American Sign Language with Director of Programs, Pam Meisner, and practice words to Sign when planting a holiday succulent to take home!
Garden Members $5, Non-Members $10

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Ms. Smarty-Plants™ Goes Batty!**
**October 12, 5:30-8pm**

**Fall Plant Sale**
**November 9, 10am-3pm**

**Benefit Concert: Celebrating 20 Years**
**November 16, 5-8:30pm**

**Holiday Garden Gift Shoppe Sale**
**December 7, 9am-4pm**

Visit TheGarden.org for more information about these programs.

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**FREE First Saturday Tours**
Docent-led Garden Tour at 10am. No registration needed.

**Group Garden Experiences**
Reservations required
- Tours
- Shuttle Rides
- Succulent Plantings

**Second Saturdays**
Professional Landscape Design Consultations. Information & registration online.

**Field Trips and Assemblies**
To book an educational program for your class, visit www.MsSmartyPlants.org

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Located next to Cuyamaca College in the Rancho San Diego area of El Cajon.
Growing Leaders!

Are you thinking of a future in Education, Sustainability or Conservation? Join our amazing Intern Team! We’re currently accepting applications for interns, ages 16 and above. Visit MsSmartyPlants.org for more information.

Assemblies and Field Trips

Do you want to encourage Nature Education? Book a Ms. Smarty-Plants™ assembly or field trip today! Inquire with your school to see if they qualify for a FREE program through their water district!

Visit MsSmartyPlants.org.

“Let Nature be your teacher”
-William Wordsworth
METROPOLITAN LAUNCHES
RESOURCES TO HELP SOCAL DITCH THEIR LAWNS

Metropolitan Water District is making it easier for Southern Californians to ditch their lawns for more beautiful and sustainable yards. Earn up to $10,000 in rebates with a suite of resources available at bewaterwise.com.

A series of short “how-to” videos outline three ways to remove lawns - solarization, sheet mulching and sod removal. Choose a method based on grass type, length of time and tools needed. Many lawns can be removed by fall, the optimal season for planting California Friendly™ and native plant landscapes.

Residents and businesses in Metropolitan’s 5,200-square-mile service area can access materials designed to curb water use and tap into the $2/sq. ft turf replacement rebate.

“There are so many reasons to get rid of your grass – beautifying your yard, conserving water, saving money, and helping Southern California respond to a changing climate,” said Metropolitan’s Water Efficiency Manager Bill McDonnell. “We want to make sure we’re helping residents as much as possible so they can successfully remove their lawn, navigate the rebate process and see the results they want.”

The first step for a rebate is to click the socalwatersmart.com link on bewaterwise.com to review program requirements and reserve funding. The site features a step-by-step video showing how to apply for and complete the rebate application.

Other helpful resources and tips on bewaterwise.com include:
- California native plant profiles
- Guides to maintaining California native gardens
- An overview on creating a rain garden
- Information on upgrading irrigation systems to be more water efficient
- A directory of local nurseries where California native plants are available
- Listings of turf replacement classes throughout Southern California

PLANT TALK WITH SALK!

Ms. Smarty-Plants™ and the Education Team were thrilled to tour the Salk Institute for Biological Studies and learn about their Harnessing Plants Initiative. In a bold approach to fight climate change, Salk scientists are optimizing a plant’s natural ability to capture and store carbon, to help mitigate the effects of climate change while providing more food, fuel and fiber for a growing population. A special thank you to post-doctoral fellow Dr. Charlotte Miller for her amazing presentation and tour, and the entire staff at Salk.

Ms. Smarty-Plants™ gets a hug from Joanne Chory, Ph.D., Director of Salk’s Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Laboratory.
Thanks to supporters like you we have raised $315,000 for the new Samuel M. Ciccati Water Conservation Education Center! Our team is extremely grateful for everyone who contributed to the campaign. Your generosity will enable us to serve 5,000 more community members each year in this new facility. We hope you will stop by The Garden to see the impact your gift has made. Thank you!

This project is financed under the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, administered by State of California, Department of Water Resources.

Carol & Carol Receive the Dorcas Utter Award

In June The Garden got far out and groovy at the Docent/Volunteer Appreciation Dinner featuring peace, love, 60’s/70’s karaoke, and great food for an Age of Aquarius theme. The shining moment of the evening is always the presentation of The Dorcas Utter Award for exceptional service throughout the year. This year both Carol Stevens and Carol Wells were awarded the honors!

Carol Stevens, a past Docent President, is on the Topiary Team, leads the Docents-In-Training Program, organizes outings and fieldtrips and helps wherever needed. Carol Wells is the Leader of the Tri-Team, which includes the Container Garden, Sensory Garden and artistic beautification of The Garden. She and her team have provided abundant hours of artfully decorating many areas around The Garden. Congratulations to Carol and Carol!

Want to join this enthusiastic team of dedicated caretakers? The next training is October 13 & 20. Check the calendar of Classes & Events at TheGarden.org.

Mission Hills Nursery was founded in 1910 by the “Mother of Balboa Park,” Kate Sessions!

1525 Fort Stockton Dr.
San Diego, CA 92103
www.MissionHillsNursery.com
(619) 295-2808

Garden Member Discount: 15% off with current membership card.

Visit: Watersmartsd.org
Sponsor Spotlight: San Diego Gas & Electric

Thanks to sponsorship from SDG&E, The Garden and Ms. Smarty-Plants™ launched Nature Nights this summer, a first-ever nature exploration program for families. Earth Heroes of all ages enjoyed a summer evening in The Garden full of animal encounters, an interactive scavenger hunt, tasty snacks, and campfire songs with none other than Ms. Smarty-Plants™ herself! The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a check from SDG&E to bolster more educational events like this. What a success!

For over 10 years SDG&E has been a committed champion of The Garden’s efforts to educate and empower visitors in conservation methods. Their consistent and generous support has allowed Ms. Smarty-Plants™ and The Water Conservation Garden to offer free and low cost activities that engage folks from all walks of life, inspiring positive changes in conservation habits for San Diego and beyond. Thank you for everything, SDG&E!

Corporate Partners

We would like to thank our Corporate Partners and Non-Profit Affiliates in appreciation for all they do to keep The Garden a beautiful place.

New Members  April–June 2019

Barbara Adams  Jose and Courtney Aguila  Heidi Behnke  Les and Jenni Biggins  Harry Boghussian  Heidi Borum  John and Betty Bullock  Bruce Barr  Jochebed Carter  Fred and Judy Chu  Karen Correa-Fowler  Paul and GJ Crecelius  Charles Cuskaden  Marlene DeMers

Lydia Derrington  William and Catherine Erwin  Alex Estrada  Melissa Fillare  Rick and Ida Florez  Harry and Julie Hodgetts  Gary and Kathleen Hollowach  Cyndi and Ashley Janni  Shakeel Kazi  Mike and Jackie Kirby  Mia Kraus  Ann Layne  Larry and Jane Ledford  Ana Martinez

Sharon Mele  Lynn Milke  Eva Murdock  Carrie Nanninga  Jerry and Becky Nielsen  Celine O’Hara  Christine and Monique Perry  Soozie Pickard  Sher Prince  Debra Rafdal  David and Janet Reistetter  Steven Reistetter  Ray Reyes  Robin Senecal Family

Stephan and Ikumi Shuman  Dianne Smith  Cindi Smith-Dunham  Daryel Stager  Robert Surrat and Zar Shain  Alice VanDyken  Youssef Wahsd  Rick and Peggy Wells  Linda Wengen  John and Michelle Wheeler  Ghadah Winfield  Karen Wright  Eduardo and Tawana Young

Only new members to The Garden will be listed. All donors to The Garden will be acknowledged in The Garden’s annual reports.
BECOME A GARDEN MEMBER,
FOR GREAT BENEFITS!

- FREE and discounted classes
- FREE or discounted admission to over 300 national and international botanical gardens
- Discounts at local participating nurseries and garden shops (see list below)
- Discounts at The Garden’s Gift Shoppe
- Invitations to special members-only events and more!

**Anderson's La Costa** — Encinitas (andersonlacostanursery.com)
**Barrels & Branches Nursery** — Encinitas (barrelsandbranches.com)
**Cuyamaca College Dept. of Ornamental Horticulture Nursery** — El Cajon, (cuyamaca.edu/academics/departments/oh/)
**El Plantio** — Escondido (ElPlantioNursery.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)
**Rancho Valhalla Nursery** — El Cajon (ranchovalhallanursery.com)

To become a member, call 619-660-0614 x 10
or visit TheGarden.org/membership