

# THE SEEDLING

MAY 2020

## President's Message

Life during Stay-At-Home: Another month of stay at home. I hope you and your families all are staying well.

I've been keeping my mind and body occupied with various projects around the house but honestly, how many times can I reorganize the pantry? On the upside, I've culled/used items that have been hanging out in the pantry for months maybe years. On another upside, cat adoptions are up during this time and the foster kitties have been rotating out of my home very quickly to their new fur-ever homes. 😺 In yet another upside, nature is unaffected by the lock down and many flora and fauna are thriving. I had a large army of monarch caterpillars that completely stripped my milkweed, formed chrysalis and emerged as butterflies. The milkweed is now recovering and getting ready for the next wave.

Finally, I've also been given a glimpse of what life will be like when my husband retires and is home nearly 24/7 since he is now working from home. So far so good.

Club Activities: I know we are all disappointed we had to postpone our Bonita in Bloom Garden tour till next year. On the upside, all of the homeowners remain committed to being on tour next year and have that much more time to make their planned improvements. Officer Installation: as I noted in my election announcement, I'm exploring options for an officer installation that follows physical distancing guidelines. I am looking forward to serving the club as President for another year. While we don't know what the coming months will bring, the board will move forward with planning the coming year that will allow flexible modes of program delivery.

I miss seeing you all and look forward to a time we can all come together again.

Please remember to send in your membership renewals and mail them to the PO Box.

Stay safe.

Lisa Mercier, BVGC President.

## It's Membership Renewal time!

Per our Bylaws, Section III, Article 4 "Dues are payable in advance on or before May 15 and delinquent on June 15. Members who do not pay their dues by July 15 will no longer be considered a member and will not be listed in the yearbook."

Make your check in the amount of \$35 payable to Bonita Valley Garden Club or BVGC. Be sure to include the member name associated with the check, especially if the name on the check does not match your name in the yearbook (e.g. husband's name or trust or different legal first name).

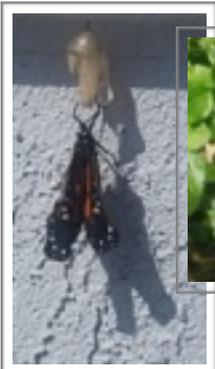
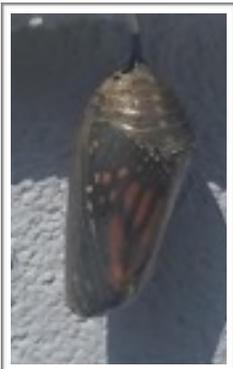
Please mail your renewal check to:

BVGC - Renewal

P.O. Box 16

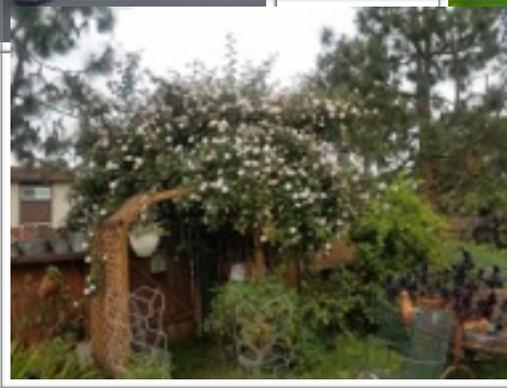
Bonita, CA 91908-16

Thank you in advance. We look forward to planning a wonderful program for next year and seeing all your smiling faces.



IN MY GARDEN

Every day is a new beginning.  
Believe in your heart that something wonderful is about to happen.



### MID-CENTURY COMFORT IN THE TIME OF CORONA VIRUS

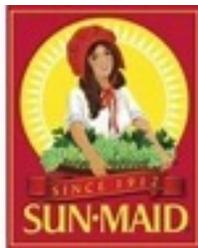
Mother loved to bake. Saturday was baking day. My sister and I took turns choosing the recipe. One of my choices would be oatmeal raisin cookies. The recipe was always on the back of the Sunmaid Raisin box -- until it wasn't. I was living in Anchorage and in the long "darkness" that is winter and in need of some comfort. I started by grabbing the raisin box. No recipe. How could that be, it was always there before. What will I do? It was the mid-'60's and a call to Reseda, CA, was expensive but I was desperate. I called my mother and low and behold, she had a box that had the recipe. She read it to me over the phone and promised to keep the original in safe keeping. I have made several batches of these cookies of late and they still comfort me. I even have had them for breakfast, because after all, oatmeal is a breakfast food. I've also been enjoying my garden. My Cecile Bruner climber rose is wildly abundant, my front yard rose garden is gorgeous, my grape vine is showing promise of being bountiful and the peas I planted from

"PS: As my daughter pointed out, just about everything can be found online these days, including the Sunmaid Oatmeal cookie recipe. <https://www.sunmaid.com/recipes/classic-raisin-oatmeal-cookies/>"

#### Classic Raisin Oatmeal Cookies

##### Ingredients

- 3/4 cup softened butter or margarine
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups quick or old-fashioned oats
- 1 cup Sun-Maid Natural Raisins
- 1 cup coarsely chopped nuts



##### Directions

- 1 HEAT oven to 350° F.
- 2 BEAT butter, brown sugar, granulated sugar, milk, egg and vanilla until light and fluffy.
- 3 COMBINE flour, cinnamon, baking soda and salt.
- 4 ADD to butter mixture and mix well.
- 5 STIR in oats, raisins and nuts, if using. Drop by tablespoonfuls onto greased cookie sheets.
- 6 BAKE 12 to 15 minutes. Remove from cookie sheets.
- 7 COOL on wire racks.



I have 5 Cymbidium Orchids free to a home. They need repotting.  
Jere Kausch



I have our beautiful red aprons, please call if you need one for a gift or for  
WONDERFUL YOU 🤗♀️❤️  
Take care. Sarah Tolley

I have been in contact with Pat Malone & her husband Dwight is very ill. He was in the hospital last week & was sent home on Wednesday the 29th. He is very ill and has gotten worse in the few months. She asks for thoughts & prayers from the garden club. If there are any questions you may contact me. Thank you. Jean Bibb

**Sunshine Lady**  
If you know someone who needs cheering up, let Sonia Wilson or Jean Bibb know and they will send a card



COOKBOOKS \$12  
HOT SAUCE \$10  
CALL DIANE HAHNEL  
619-216-1981

**Westmont at San Miguel Ranch**

**DINE YOUR WAY**

In an effort to support local seniors and their families during these challenging times, Westmont of San Miguel Ranch would like invite you to a complimentary meal from our culinary team.

**CALL TODAY TO PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR PICK-UP OR DELIVERY**

\*Limit of 2 meals per household per residency

**CALL (505) 271-4385 TO PLACE YOUR ORDER**

\*Terms and Conditions Apply

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Purisma Laconico  
2039 Parker Mountain Rd,  
Chula Vista 91913  
408-674-0025  
[placonico@aol.com](mailto:placonico@aol.com)

Pictures from Carvill's garden



Peggy Burleys Memorial Tree  
The tree is located in the parking lot off of Sweetwater Road that gives access to the Stephanie Rossi Trail, Morrison's Pond, & the horse staging area. There are two "green spots" in the parking lot. Peggy's tree is at the north end of the first green spot (the side closest to Sweetwater Road). See map.



## BVGC - 2019-2020 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS DURING QUARANTINE

(1) Southwestern College - BVGC received the news that the award scholarship Awards Ceremony could no longer take place as scheduled. SWC Foundation and College Staff moved and decided quickly so that the students get their awards as soon as possible, the drive thru scholarship pick up. Students were applauded as they drove past in their cars and smile could be felt even through the masks, according to the Foundation Staffs.



BVGC Horticulture scholarship of \$500.00 each, were awarded to: Krystaliza Ramirez Pimienta and Sandra Montoya King.



(2). Cuyamaca College - Due to the Restrictions placed on by the COVID-19 Virus, the Scholarship Award Ceremony will be held virtually with the help of ZOOM.

It will be held on Friday, May 22nd, 2020 at 7:00 pm, meet and greet at 6:30. Zoom invite and link will only be provided on May 20, 2020.

With so many students struggling due to the economic strain, receiving this scholarship support from our club allows them to continue their studies even remotely.



Bea



### 2020-2021 OFFICERS

President: Lisa Mercier  
First Vice President - Programs: Irasema Taylor  
and Sonia Wilson  
Second Vice President - Membership: Maria  
Balolong  
Recording Secretary: Ronni Russell  
Corresponding Secretary: Sandy Marking and  
Carolynn Gibbs  
Treasurer: Glennalie Coleman

I decided that Bonita residents needed to smile during the pandemic so I enlisted the help and sewing skills of Sandy Duncan to keep the glarf dinosaurs safe and to remind folks to wear masks. 😊 Ronni



What a difference a year makes. Still knitting and have finally started watercolor painting. Pauline



All the flowers are from the BVGC demo plot. April showers bring May flowers. Jackie



Jackie has beautiful flowers growing amid all the vegetables in the community garden. Bees are enjoying golden poppies, tall red and pink poppies and purple delphinium. The rangers have closed off the parking lot due to covid concerns but the gates to the garden are still open.



This is a "bee hive log" that animals recently discovered was full of honey. They tore it apart and left the combs to weather. This is on the Rossi Trail



This Perfect Moment Rose bush looks like it's on steroids after all the rain followed by heat. Having fun playing in the garden. Diane



Still in the process of taming my jungle. The pink rose is a David Austen. Susan C



I am sending photos of my Garden, I hope everything looks this good next year for the Garden Tour. Take care, Sarah 🧡♀️❤️

## PORT OF SAN DIEGO APPROVES SWEETWATER PARK COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT



Conceptual rendering of the future Sweetwater Park planned as part of the Chula Vista Bayfront Project. As part of the transformation of the Chula Vista waterfront on San Diego Bay, the Port of San Diego Board of Port Commissioners has approved a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) for the future Sweetwater Park. Planned for the northern portion of the Chula Vista waterfront near E Street and Bay Boulevard, Sweetwater Park is envisioned as a meadow-type open space to showcase the unique natural assets of San Diego Bay, encouraging passive recreation to complement the adjacent Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Proposed features include:

Meadows and specialty gardens

Mounded grasslands

Nature playground

Picnic area

Various pedestrian and bicycle paths – some with paved and others with softer surfaces

Sand dunes

Multiple overlooks for bayfront viewing

“The parks that are being designed and planned, including Sweetwater Park, will give us the long-awaited, enhanced shoreline recreation and active commercial harbor we’ve wanted for quite some time in the South Bay,” said Chair Ann Moore, Chula Vista’s representative on the Board of Port Commissioners. “Sweetwater Park, specifically, will allow us to appreciate nature on our bayfront, while also protecting the wildlife habitat, species, and our precious coastal resources.”

Sweetwater Park is one of two future parks currently in the design phase for the Chula Vista Bayfront Project. Sweetwater Park, along with Harbor Park, will account for more than half of the new park space planned for the Chula Vista waterfront. The parks design teams are KTU+A and Petersen Studio who were selected for their extensive urban park and waterfront design expertise – with an emphasis on local landscape architecture and natural resource management experience. The Port, along with the City of Chula Vista, in partnership with the design teams, conducted a three-part public outreach process to provide the community the opportunity to help guide the design vision for the parks.

The approved CDP will allow for completion of the design of the park. Future financing for the Gaylord Pacific resort hotel and convention center will include funding for Sweetwater Park and other public infrastructure and amenities. Next steps include award of a construction contract and then start of construction. Sweetwater Park is required to be completed prior to a Certificate of Occupancy being issued for Gaylord Pacific.

## The San Diego Museum of Art , Virtual Art Alive

Floral interpretations from our official designers are now online! View interpretations from the Museum first floor (Galleries 1-15) and the Museum second floor (Galleries 16-20). Thank you to the more than 50 designers that shared their inspiring floral interpretations!

<info@sdmart.org>

Go to the museum website and you can enjoy all the works of art and the interpretations. Here are just a few examples.



Manjusri Seated on a Lion interpreted by our very own club member, Pat Crisafulli.



The Coronation of the Virgin by Luca Signorelli interpreted by Carmen Villegas



Saint Sabinus (?) by Sano di Pietro interpreted by Diana Drummey.



Moon Landscape by Max Beckmann interpreted by Donna L. West.



Take good care of the plastic we have and try not to buy more. Very difficult at this time, I know.

## **PLASTIC WARS: INDUSTRY SPENT MILLIONS SELLING RECYCLING — TO SELL MORE PLASTIC**

A wall of plastic trash at Garten Services in Salem, Ore., is headed to the landfill. The vast majority of plastic can't be or won't be recycled. For decades, Americans have been sorting their trash believing that most plastic could be recycled. But the truth is, the vast majority of all plastic produced can't be or won't be recycled. In 40 years, less than 10% of plastic has ever been recycled.

In a joint investigation, NPR and the PBS series Frontline found that oil and gas companies — the makers of plastic — have known that all along, even as they spent millions of dollars telling the American public the opposite.



Plastics industry had "serious doubt" recycling would ever be viable

Starting in the late 1980s, the plastics industry spent tens of millions of dollars promoting recycling through ads, recycling projects and public relations, telling people plastic could be and should be recycled.

But their own internal records dating back to the 1970s show that industry officials long knew that recycling plastic on a large scale was unlikely to ever be economically viable.

A report sent to top industry executives in April 1973 called recycling plastic "costly" and "difficult." It called sorting it "infeasible," saying "there is no recovery from obsolete products." Another document a year later was candid: There is "serious doubt" widespread plastic recycling "can ever be made viable on an economic basis."

### **The industry promoted recycling to keep plastic bans at bay**

Despite this, three former top officials, who have never spoken publicly before, said the industry promoted recycling as a way to beat back a growing tide of antipathy toward plastic in the 1980s and '90s. The industry was facing initiatives to ban or curb the use of plastic. Recycling, the former officials told NPR and Frontline, became a way to preempt the bans and sell more plastic.

"There was never an enthusiastic belief that recycling was ultimately going to work in a significant way," says Lew Freeman, former vice president of government affairs for the industry's lobbying group, then called the Society of the Plastics Industry, or SPI.

Another top official, Larry Thomas, who led SPI for more than a decade until 2000, says the strategy to push recycling was simple:

"The feeling was the plastics industry was under fire, we got to do what it takes to take the heat off, because we want to continue to make plastic products," Thomas says. "If the public thinks the recycling is working, then they're not going to be as concerned about the environment."

It was the late 1980s, and the plastics industry was under fire as concern mounted about ever-increasing amounts of garbage. But the industry had a plan — a way to fend off plastic bans and keep its sales growing.

Frontline and NPR YouTube

More recycling means fewer profits for oil and gas companies

In interviews, current plastics industry officials acknowledged that recycling the vast majority of plastic hasn't worked in the past. But they said the industry is funding new technology that they believe will get recycling plastic up to scale. The goal, they say, is to recycle 100% of the plastic they make.

"Recycling has to get more efficient, more economic. We've got to do a better job collecting the waste, sorting it," says Jim Becker, Chevron Phillips Chemical Co.'s vice president of sustainability. "Five, 10 years ago, the industry response was a little more combative. Today, it truly is not just PR. We don't like to see [waste in the environment] either. We really don't. We want to solve this."

But the more plastic is recycled, the less money the industry will make selling new plastic. And those profits have become increasingly important. Companies have told shareholders that profits from using oil and gas for transport are expected to decline in coming years with better fuel efficiency and the increasing use of electric cars. Industry analysts expect oil and gas demands from the chemicals industry will surpass the demand from the transport side in the coming decade. Plastic production overall is now expected to triple by 2050, and once again, the industry is spending money on ads and public relations to promote plastic and recycling.

Plastic is now more prevalent than it's ever been and harder to recycle. Gas prices remain at historic lows, making new plastic cheaper than recycled plastic. And the industry now produces many more different — and more complex — kinds of plastics that are more costly to sort and in many cases can't be recycled at all. Efforts to reduce plastic consumption are mounting nationwide, but any plan to slow the growth of plastic will face an industry with billions of dollars of future profits at stake.