PALOMAR PRUNER

SUMMER 2015

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Best wishes for a great Independence Day and Labor Day! Thank you so much for all of your work and support during my two years as Palomar District Director. I am especially indebted to our district officers and committee chairs for their many efforts and dedication. It has been my pleasure to represent you at state meetings and events and to visit your club meetings, garden tours and flower shows. I am so proud of all that has been accomplished by your clubs and that as a district we were able to install a blue star memorial marker at Miramar. Special congratulations to those clubs who gave a gift of a flower show or garden tour to their communities. Although those activities are definitely labor intensive, they are wonderful for bringing our mission to the community and for bringing your members closer together through working on these projects. In addition a number of clubs do their own version of Art Alive and Village Garden Club of La Jolla even has their members producing both the art and the floral interpretations. Not only through our own work but through the many scholarships which we provide and the school gardens which we support, we truly are making a positive difference not only to the present but to the future as well. I am so lucky to be a part of Palomar District, the biggest and the best district thanks to you!

Two important events are on the horizon—the state convention and the district meeting. I hope to see many of you at convention in Reno, June 8-12. In addition to a great opportunity to network, to learn new skills, to see new sites and to learn about the workings of the state, you can participate in all the Reno attractions. The second big event is the Palomar District meeting at 10:00 on Monday, June 29. Master Gardeners is hosting our meeting at Balboa Park. They chose this location because of the centennial celebration occurring there this year and have arranged a great program on the park and a tour by a ranger. At this meeting we will be getting final reports from clubs and committees for this year and organizing things for next year. In addition I will have the awards that you won at convention to distribute.

Speaking of awards, my job as 3rd vice president for the next two years will be to administer the awards program. I hope that all of you will either appoint a club member to serve as awards chair or will add it to the President's duties. The process for applying for awards has been simplified and the amount of money attached to awards has been increased. I would also like to encourage clubs, the district and our judge's council to sponsor an award. It is a 2 year commitment and you decide the amount you wish to award. You may look at the awards manual on the website to see which awards do not currently have funds attached to them or you may institute a new award.

We are so lucky to have a flower show school being held in our district at San Diego Botanical Gardens. Attending a flower show school is a wonderful way to increase your knowledge about floral design and horticulture. Whether you attend the school as a part of your own lifelong learning process or because you want to become a flower show judge, this is the place to start. The school consists of 4 series beginning September 21-23, the next sessions will then occur in February and September 2016 and February 2017. We would love for every club to send at least one member. Attendees will be guaranteed to learn new things and have a great time doing it. All the information is on the district website.

As you may know our district sponsors the Floral Design Forum which is held at Shinoda Design Center on the first Monday of the month from October through May. Whether you are a beginning flower arranger or an expert designer, you will benefit from attending these programs. Our experts who provide the programs will share their knowledge and experience and tricks of the trade with attendees. If you subscribe for the entire season, you get a great discount on the fee. You will find additional information on our website.

Have a wonderful summer whether you spend it working in your garden, seeing friends and family, traveling, relaxing, playing sports or games, reading, indulging in your favorite hobby, I hope it brings you peace and joy. See you soon, Lynne

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CGCI 84th Annual Convention June 8-12, 2015

Theme: "Growing Together"
Circus Circus Hotel
500 N Sierra St, Reno, NV 89503
775-329-0711
Host: Golden Foothills District
Co-Chairmen: Myrtle Findley and Joan Craig
Awards Banquet - Design Banquet - Installation

Summer Board Meeting

Monday, June 29, 2015 Host: Master Gardener Association of San Diego El Prado Building, #101, Balboa Park,San Diego Ca 92101
9 a.m. Check In
10 a.m. Board meeting
Noon: Lunch-Box lunch, catered by Waters Fine Foods.
Program: Presentation of landscape design and development in the park by Nancy Carter, a retired professor from USD and past president of the San Diego Floral Association.
Special Private tour: Led by Kim Duclo, a Park Ranger. Kim will be entertaining us with wondrous and humor filled anecdotes about the Prado's historical buildings. We will even get an insider's look at the famous Lath House.
Cost: $30 refreshments, luncheon, presentation, and private tour. **Checks must be received by June 22.**
Make checks payable to MGASDC. Laura Starr 2425 Myrtle St. San Diego 92104
Any questions can be emailed to Meredith French at frenchfoto@cox.net

What a day the Master Gardener Association of San Diego County has in store for you. On Monday, June 29, we will be hosting the Palomar District Summer Luncheon at Balboa Park.
The Master Gardener community invites you to a full day of activities. Beginning with a visit to one of the famous gardens at Balboa Park, and ending with a private tour of the Prado and the Botanical Building, you will be experiencing firsthand the beauty, scope, and history of the park.
The MGASDC recommends an early arrival for both nearby parking and time to visit the Zorro garden, the San Diego Floral Association's extensive horticultural library, or the Rose Garden.
Refreshments will begin at 9:00 a.m. for those who wish to shop the vendor tables or attend the 10:00 a.m. board meeting. Lunch will be catered by Waters Fine Foods. After lunch there will be a visual presentation of landscape design and development in the park, "Growing Balboa Park: From Coast Sage to Landscapes for an International Exposition," by Nancy Carter, a retired professor from USD, historical horticulturist, and past president of the San Diego Floral Association. A free door prize drawing will conclude the formal agenda.
Additionally, at 2 p.m., you are invited to join a private tour given by Kim Duclo, a Park Ranger. Kim will be entertaining us with wondrous and humor-filled anecdotes about the Prado's historical buildings. We will even get an insider's look at the famous Lath House.
After the tour, you can spend still more time at the Park visiting the free Timken Museum of Art, fronted with water-wise gardens by the San Diego Horticultural Society, or the enchanting Japanese Gardens, free to San Diego residents.

PALOMAR PRUNER

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A Few Ways Gardeners Can Help Give Back to Our Planet

by Jackie Riekstins

Help protect the planet by gardening as organically as possible. All around us we have plants, soil, water, and all the creatures in those little microcosms (including ourselves) that depend on how we treat our gardens and landscape. Become informed about alternatives to the chemically intensive techniques and products that litter the shelves in the marketplace. And think twice before allowing a gardener to use them. It is no coincidence that we are sicker, have more obesity, and even when following 'the rules' often still are victims of syndromes almost unheard of just one century ago.

Grow some food and get that family (grandchildren anyone?) involved. Breathe deep and take in that fresh air. It is time to give thanks for the gift it is to be able to plant seeds and harvest delicious, nourishing food. Plants are our direct connection to Mother Earth, pulling the goodness from the soil and feeding our bodies. We need this primordial connection to Earth that nourishes us physically and spiritually.

Our landscapes used to provide flowers for pollinators, food for small animals, and habitat for songbirds, and much, much more . Tens of millions of prairie and forest acres have been lost to humans, giving way to our houses, shopping malls, offices,schools and playgrounds, roads and highways which have devolved into vast quantities of asphalt and concrete. Let's start to reverse some of this damage by giving back. We can plant to provide food and shelter so other creatures can share a little piece of “our” space. This can be effective if each and everyone of us does just a little more to make this a reality.

A Few Ways Gardeners Can Help Give Back to Our Planet, continued

Do not buy lethal and toxic gardening products. Kindly let the stores where you shop for gardening products know that we need effective organic and natural products that enrich and do no harm. Let them know that we want to learn how we can garden without the poisons that are so offensive that we have to hold our noses when passing the shelves in the Big Box stores and many of our garden centers. We should not have to make a choice whether we want to buy systemic pesticides that poison our pollinators (bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and others) or to use contact sprays that kill indiscriminately. And we should not want to spread damaging "weed-n-feed" chemical fertilizers/pre-emergent herbicides on our lawns and under the bare feet of children who play on this surface, never suspecting that something is slowly poisoning them.

Demand that GMO foods be labeled. The dominance of GMO "Round-Up Ready" food crops directly results in the use of millions of tons of toxic herbicides, pesticide and chemical fertilizers that are poisoning the land, the water and our rural farming communities. Currently, 64 countries around the world require labeling of genetically modified foods. Unlike most other developed countries – such as 42 nations including the European Union, Japan, Australia, Brazil, Russia and even China – the U.S. has no laws requiring labeling of genetically modified foods. We can thank Big Ag for this, but also our complacency.
Buy food from a Farmer's Market, Groceries or Food Coop. Taste Real Flavors: Fruits and veggies that you buy locally are the freshest, tastiest possible and are more nutritionally intact. There is no long distance shipping, no gassing, no sitting in cold storage for weeks and sometimes months. This is real food if you cannot grow your own and you support local family farmers.
Food in the US travels an average of 1500 miles just to sit on your plate. This uses incredible amounts of natural resources (think fossil fuels), contributes to pollution and in turn global warming, and creates more trash by use of extra packaging.

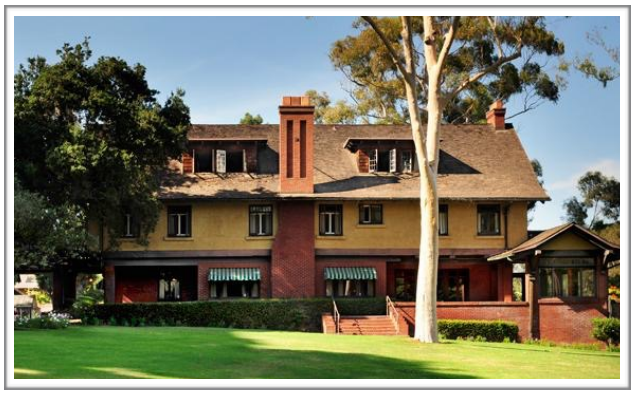
Share the love of gardening.

How is the next generation going to learn where their food comes from? Video games will not feed most of our children, and food doesn't just magically make an appearance at the nearest grocery store. We can and must support community and school gardening programs.

Plant a tree. Planting a tree is saying you believe in the future and are willing to make an investment for the future. A statement that says we need to look to the future and do something about it today. Consider planting an appropriate shade tree to cool your home, or plant a fruit tree to grow some fruit. Plant a flowering tree to feed the bees and other nectar eaters.
How can we enjoy nature and the garden specifically if we are tied to the cell phone? Be mindful and really notice your plants, your soil, and your landscape. Teach your grandchildren or the neighbor's children what a garden is for. Put up a hammock, or a swing, or just a bench. Nurture a direct connection without the distractions of someone nattering on. Enjoy all that gardening and connecting to Mother Earth has to offer. Make your time spent gardening restorative and let it bring you and your family joy!

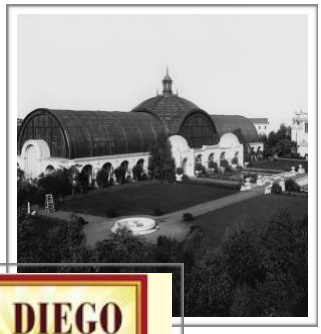
A Fair to Remember, A Celebration of World's Fairs and Balboa Park," commemorates the centennial anniversary of the 1915 Panama – California Exposition held in Balboa Park.The dates for the 2015 San Diego County Fair are June 5 through July 5. The Fair is closed Mondays and the first two Tuesdays. (Closed dates are June 8, 9, 15, 16, 22 and 29). check out the San Diego Fair Home and Garden Show, for the flower and garden shows, floral speakers, floral design competition, farm to table dinner, childrens gardens and much more garden related shows and competitions.

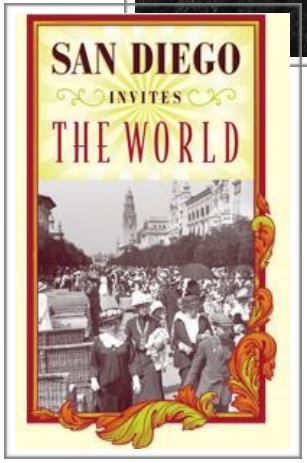
CENTENNIAL EVENTS AT BALBOA PARK
http://celebratebalboapark.org/celebrate
Exposition Memories - The Music, Literature and Decorative Arts of the 1915 San Diego Exposition
Beginning April 17, at the Marston House, see exhibits throughout the museum that highlight the literary and artistic heritage of California.



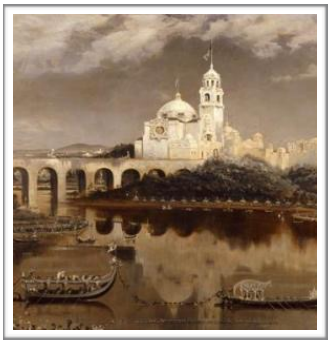
Souvenirs & Keepsakes: Memorabilia of the 1915 & 1935 Expositions
Beginning February 6, 2015 at the Marston House explore tangible personal history of the Expositions

Balboa Park Exposition Designers 1915-1935
Beginning February 6 at the Marston House see the works of more than 20 of the Park's Exposition designers.





Masterworks of the Exposition Era
Beginning January 16, 2015 at the San Diego History Center experience the stunning re-creation of the 1915 Expo Art Exhibition



Garden of Unity: San Diego's Japanese Legacy Documentary
Beginning in January, 2015, at the Japanese Friendship Garden, see the debut of a documentary examining the historical events that have shaped the Japanese American community in Balboa Park over the course of 100 years.

San Diego Invites the World: The 1915 Expo
Beginning February 1, 2015 the San Diego History Center celebrates the 1915 Exposition with a dynamic, interactive exhibition.

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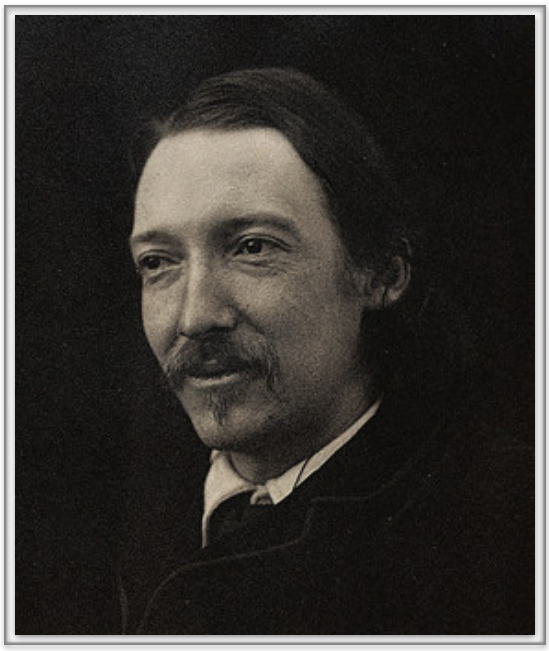

SUMMER SUN

Great is the sun, and wide he goes
Through empty heaven with repose;
And in the blue and glowing days
More thick than rain he showers his rays.

Though closer still the blinds we pull
To keep the shady parlour cool,
Yet he will find a chink or two
To slip his golden fingers through.

The dusty attic spider-clad
He, through the keyhole, maketh glad;
And through the broken edge of tiles
Into the laddered hay-loft smiles.

Meantime his golden face around
He bares to all the garden ground,
And sheds a warm and glittering look
Among the ivy's inmost nook.

Above the hills, along the blue,
Round the bright air with footing true,
To please the child, to paint the rose,
The gardener of the World, he goes.
Summer Sun
Robert Louis Stevenson

CALENDAR

June 29 Summer Board Meeting. Host: Master Gardener Association of San Diego El Prado Building, #101, Balboa Park,San Diego Ca 92101

July 24 Leadership Workshop Host: Palomar District & Fallbrook Garden Club Fallbrook Library Community Room, 10:00am - 2:00pm Cost: FREE

September 21-23 Flower Show School, Course I, San Diego Botanic Garden, Encinitas
Host: Southwestern Judges' Council, Chairman: Emily Troxell