

Riviera Garden Club

Riviera Garden Club

September 2009

Seabreeze

Dear Riviera Garden Club Members,

Hello to all! Where oh WHERE did the summer go!? We hope that whatever the summer held for you that you are renewed and refreshed!

As your new RGC Co-Presidents, we are excited about beginning our new Club year, which is themed: "**GARDEN POWER.**" With the resurgence of a nationwide interest in gardening, being "green" and cooking nutritiously from garden pickings, we plan to cover ALL those bases this year! Be GREEN & Grow with us! (from planting it - to cooking it!)

Mark your calendar right away: September 22 for our "Veggie Meeting" – our kickoff for the 2009/10 year. We have a terrific speaker on tomato and vegetable gardening, Scott Daigre, AND we will be meeting at Shelley's house – concluding with a Vegetable Pot Luck. How fun! (Details in Calendar, page 7.)

We thank our 1st VP's for planning terrific "**GARDEN POWER**" Programs upcoming this year – which in addition to the above mentioned gardening & cooking events will include field trips, garden tours plus time for a spot of tea! We'll also get help growing water wise plants. Thanks to Marilyn Rubin, Carol Lefevre and Cecilia Ceasar for providing so much to look forward to!



Shelley Lubinsky & Karen Lent present Landscape Award (photo by Julian Chasin)

New Riviera Garden Club Presidents, Shelley & Karen present the May 2009 Outstanding Landscape Award to the Sardie Residence at 424 Camino de Encanto. Lyle & Theresa Sardie executed an eclectic landscape plan for their new home including roses, palms plus colorful seasonal plantings.

June Award, see page 4.

July Award: Riviera Garden Club- Congratulations! Award winning redo of the planters at El Retiro Library. (Low water wise plantings planned by local landscape designer, Ric Dykseul.)

Several new things this year-**VERY Fun & Creative!** Our Outreach Chair, Pati Johnson, and Mary Varieur, will be organizing our Club's "**Flowers Imitate Art**" at the **Power of Art** in Redondo Beach, **October 15, 16 & 17**. If you like flower arranging, just being creative, or want to help, please call Pati or one of your Co-Presidents **a.s.a.p.**- thanks. NOTE: Pati will also be doing an Outreach program at El Retiro on seasonal plantings, November 7-please call her to help.

We have a beautiful new RGC year book – thanks to Geneva Martin. Check out the changes & upcoming programs. Thanks MUCH to Phyllis Valentin (& Geneva) for diligently working to get everyone’s mug in the book.

Something else new this year: **Flower Power Gardening!** This is a new committee that will do power gardening together on Wednesday mornings at our beautification sites: Torrance Marker, Colinas Circle, El Retiro Library and Rocketship Park. The Committee method makes it a lot of fun. If you can make it, call Alberta Brice before Wednesday morning to find out where the group (Alberta, Kitty Hill, Nancy Weaver, etc.) will be working. Bring your gloves, clippers, litter bag, and if you’d like: water and/or coffee for yourself. You’ll be surprised at how fast the time will go. This is a new spin on group therapy! (AND, you won’t even receive a bill!)

More new: In addition to Washington School, we’ve added Jefferson School to the school children’s gardening projects. Call Betty Moye or Alberta Brice if you’d like to get involved on a regular or occasional basis. We will also be observing Arbor Day next year after a hiatus for a few years, plus initiating a Flower of the Month (thanks to Mary Varieur).

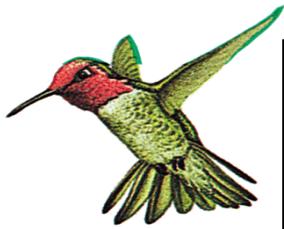


Madhatter Contest Winners & Judges

Proud winners at Madhatter’s June Luncheon: Betty Moye (most “green”), Judy Unrine (most beautiful), Pati Johnson (most humorous) – congratulations! Difficult judging job – everyone looked GREAT! Our TERRIFIC judges were: Kelly & Laura (Kelly Evans & Laura Medina-Remax Realtors) and Mary Lou McCammack our “water house” garden tour homeowner. HUGE kudos to our Luncheon Chair: Mary Varieur for a great job in putting all together. Thank you much Irma Maggio for so nicely doing the Installation for us. Thanks also to American Harvest for their gift certificate donation, Pete’s Coffee AND most importantly: MUCHO GRACIAS to Mike & Shelley Lubinsky for their generosity in sharing their beautiful home and yard with us!

Congratulations to our RGC Scholarship Award Winners: In June we were DELIGHTED to award scholarship awards of \$1,000 each to two VERY deserving ladies of the South Bay: Sara Iozaki, a North High Graduate, majoring in Environmental Science, who impressed us with her landscape project benefiting seniors. Even though it was graduation day, Sara and her father came to our Madhatter’s and seemed to enjoy us! Donna Guerrero is a “back-to-school-after-the-kids-are-grown” woman attending El Camino College, majoring in Horticulture. Donna sent us a nice thank you but was unfortunately working the day of our luncheon. An extra award this year was made possible by Garden Tour proceeds. Thank you to the Scholarship Committee members who chose so wisely: Geneva Martin, Judy Unrine, Pam Barrett and Pati Johnson.

Mark Twain said: “Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”



We appreciate our Garden Doctor, Diane Connell, who will be sharing Hummingbird Garden Secrets with us this year. Don't forget she can answer garden problem questions during Coffee Social at our meetings. Thank you Diane!

Calendar Info: PLEASE NOTE: The Club will be meeting five times at the Airport Meeting Room this Club Year: November 2009, and in 2010: January, February, March & May – these are the months that we bring (AND buy!) items for Penny Pines and also bring a flower for the Bouquet of the Month (to be given to a deserving person(s)).

El Retiro Library Reopened in July (our newly replanted planters enhanced the décor and the building's architecture for sure!). Planning and funding for this project was done through our Gift Committee (thanks again to Garden Tour proceeds!). City reps thanked Riviera Garden Club for the MANY years of dedication to the Library. We SO appreciate all the special gardeners over the years: Jean Winters, Eunice Hargrove, Kitty Hill, Cecilia Ceasar, Hazel Mulqueen, and Cavin Shorter – you're all really VERY terrific! If we've forgotten to mention anyone's name here – please forgive us!

Back Breaking: Special thanks to all those that helped replant the planters at El Retiro Library one VERY hot weekend in July. We gave ourselves the Landscape Award (!) and it looks deserving! – check it out if you haven't already. Thanks to the laborers who put the “petal” to the metal: Pictured back row: Keith & Karen Lent, June Young, Kitty Hill, Lana Terry, Phyllis Valentin, Middle Row: Eunice Hargrove, Geneva & Patrick Martin; Bottom Row: Shelley Lubinsky, Sherwin & Marilyn Rubin, Ruth Vogel, Wendy Tsuji and Jean Winters (not pictured: Chris (Tsuji) Collignon and Gloria Balcom). (Photo by Julian Chasin)



Library Landscape Workers Relax

RGC Member News

● **Lou Atha** (a 50+ year member of RGC!) married a former classmate, Joe Marriott, from Michigan this summer. He proposed to her using his Notre Dame class ring! ● Wishing GOOD HEALING to new member ● **Shiela Kutkus** who is recovering from some serious back surgery. ● **DeLaine Anthony** appreciated her send off in July and says thank you to all! She just joined a new garden club with a cute name: Sow and Grow! (her new address: 1171 E. 1st Ave., #17221, Broomfield, CO 80020 email: delaine.anthony@hotmail.com.) ● Sadly, ● **Louise Kilburn**, a long time Club member, passed this summer. The RGC will be honoring her with a Penny Pines Plantation in her memory. ● Our condolences to ● **Pam Barrett** who recently lost her mother – hugs to Pam. (Please let Shelley or Karen know if you have member news to share.)



Can you identify this flower? It is our **October Flower of the Month:** Find out from our "Flower Lady" – Mary Varieur at our October 27 Meeting (Bus Trip)



September Flower of the Month:

Kniphofia uvaria – what is the common name? Look for this plant at the El Retiro planter box plantings (not currently blooming). Find out much more at our September meeting from Mary.



The Gutierrez Family wins June Landscape

June Landscape Award recipients:

Liz & Juan Gutierrez, and children Julia & Daniel, at 5336 Del Valle: Lovely new home and new landscaping by Ric Dykseul Drive by and check this charming upper Riviera shingled home with "eyebrow" window in the foyer. Plantings include roses, salvias, blue crane's bill geraniums, Santa Barbara daisies and penstemon.

We are growing! Welcome new members!



We've added many this last year and many more have expressed an interest for the upcoming year. Your assignment: please look for name badges with a GREEN smiley face sticker – this will indicate new members and prospective members. Our Membership Chair, Eunice Hargrove has been working hard – thank you Eunice! Claudeene Lyon and Anne Jensen will be helping her also (thank you!). Let's ALL greet and introduce ourselves, **welcoming the green sticker wearers!**



HAPPY SEPTEMBER

- 5 Aleen Houston
- 19 Sharon Saffer
- 24 George Unrine
- 27 Phyllis Valentin

HAPPY OCTOBER

- 5 June Young
- 24 Karen Lent
- 28 Sheila Kutkus

HAPPY SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

- JUNE** 8 Judy Unrine
 9 Nancy Weaver
 14 Ginnie Schneider
 29 June Stevenson
- JULY** 10 Wendy Tsuji
 22 Pat Smith
 29 Rae Jean Sullivan
 29 Lana Terry
- AUGUST** 28 Kitty Hill
 31 Marnie Inman

Our apologies to those birthdays we have missed - this inclusion of birthdays in the newsletter was a very late thought and we are running this to the printer as we "speak."

PRICELESS

RGC INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Power of Art, Arbor Day, Newsletter Editor, Ways & Means, Awards Chair, Travel Chair, working with school children, hands-on gardening projects or maybe a new Bulb Planting project with National Garden Club? If interested or to find out more, PLEASE call Karen or Shelley No pay - BUT rewarding experiences: Priceless! – thanks!

AND, The FIRST PLACE Prize goes to Riviera Garden Club from California Garden Clubs, Inc. – We won two project awards which were submitted by Geneva Martin and Wendy Tsuji. Hey! One FIRST PLACE for our Garden Tour, and the other, 3rd Place for Programs - Good work all!

We received a very complimentary review of our treasury books and Treasurer from Dave Sargent who again audited our books this summer. Thanks very much Dave for taking time out of your summer for this! Thanks so much to Treasurer, June Young, who has been toiling over our accounting and budgets during the break and has done such a good job for several years. Thanks also to Toni Sargent, Parliamentarian, Ginnie Schneider and Wendy Tsuji, Co-Secretaries who have also interrupted their time off too with several meetings - and there were no grumblings! – what a great Board you are! (How MANY times can you say: Thank you!? BUT – we mean it!)

Finally, we appreciate all of your enthusiasm and support via committees, etc. We realize that this is YOUR Club and we are only the current stewards. The POWER is with YOU. We are a very independent group of people and we bring a diversity of ideas and experiences and we do hope you will take the time to let us know your thoughts. Suggestions are definitely requested. Please let us know any committee or activity you'd like to be involved with. Check the "Priceless" Involvement Opportunities on page 5. (Call us: Karen 310.375.6539; Shelley 310.373-5878)

Let's have a fun plus enjoy the terrific learning and growing experiences planned for this year. Yeah Garden Power! We look forward to seeing you all at our kick off meeting and pot luck on September 22nd, details follow – (remember, be sure to meet & greet the Green Sticker folks!).

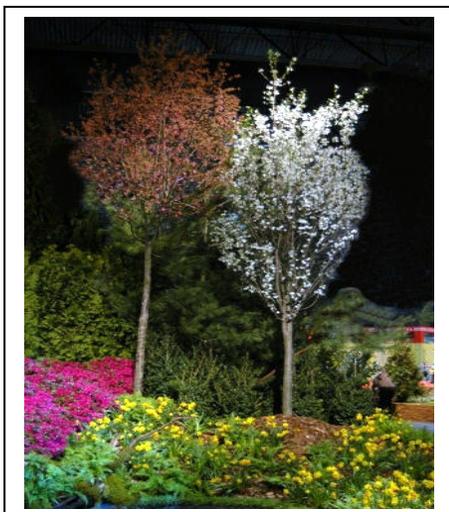


Fondly,

Karen and Shelley

Co-Presidents, 2009-2010, Riviera Garden Club

p.s. Special thanks to Charlie Sappington's friend Don O'Donal for helping at our Plant Sale last May PLUS donating \$100 to our Scholarship Fund! VERY special!



Philadelphia Garden Show anyone? This is *the* PREMIER garden show of the U.S. (San Francisco is no longer doing theirs'). We are exploring the idea of a Club Field Trip to Philadelphia in March 2010. The cost would be \$560 double occupancy/\$890 single. This price would include 3 nights hotel within walking distance of Convention Center, 2 days admission to the flower show and roundtrip airport transfers. The cost DOES NOT include air fare (non stop round trip air to Philadelphia is currently about \$450). \$100 deposit to confirm space required. Final payment is due 45 days prior. All payments non-refundable. Arrangements through The Travel Door, Palos Verdes. We would need 20 people to commit/40 maximum. If you are interested please let us know. Thanks.

Riviera Garden Club - GARDEN POWER Calendar

September 22, RGC General Meeting, Speaker & Vegetable Pot Luck, Shelley Lubinsky's house, 210 Calle de Madrid, Redondo Beach: 9:30 am: 10 am: Coffee Social, 10 am – 10:45 am: Business Meeting, 11:00 am – noon: Program: Speaker: Scott Daigre (Tomatomania) talking about Vegetable Gardening. Noon to 1:00 Pot Luck (bring a veggie dish/casserole to share).

October 3, South Coast Botanic Garden; Plant Sale

October 14, Set Up – Power of Art – see below .

October 15, 16, 17, Power of Art, Pati Johnson, Chair. "Flowers Imitate Art" 655 N. Harbor Dr., Redondo (old Red Onion site next to Cheesecake Factory). Please call to help or come to view.

October 27, RGC General Meeting, BUS TRIP to Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden at CSLB and Rancho Los Alamitos. Catered luncheon at Rancho plus docent led tours. Cost \$40 – checks & RSVP to Cecilia Cesear by October 22. Bus from Lago Seco Park at 9 am.

November 7, Community Outreach, El Retiro Library, Pati Johnson Chair, Workshop: TBA

November 24, General Meeting, Torrance Airport Meeting Room, Speaker: Paul Herzog: Ocean Friendly Gardens & Garden CPR. 9:30 am – 10 am: Coffee Social, 10 am – 10:45 am: Business Meeting, 11 – 12 pm: Speaker.

Sunday, December 6, Holiday Party, Doubletree Hotel Penthouse, Torrance, 21333 Hawthorne Blvd., 11 am – 2 pm, Holiday entertainment and lunch, Torrance, \$33 per person, Checks & RSVP to Pam Barrett by 11/30.

January 26, 2010, General Meeting, Torrance Airport, Members' Sharing Day

RGC Board Meetings: Sept. 15, 9:30 am – Wendy Tsujis', Oct. 20, 9:30 am – Karen Lents', Nov. 17, 9:30 am – Mary Varieurs', No December, Jan 19, 2010 – Cloria Reseks'

Costa Verde District Meetings; Programs: Oct. 7: Seasonal Basket Arrangements; by master designer, Dec. 2: Garden Art w/catered luncheon, Feb. 3: Speaker on Veggie Gardening

Costa Verde District Board Meetings: Sept. 30, Nov. 23 and Jan. 27 (all meetings & programs at South Coast Botanic Gardens; 9:30 am Social, 10 am – Business)

NOTE: The RGC January 2010 meeting will be a Members' Sharing Day. Members will have 5-15 minutes to show and tell something special. Please sign up NOW! Cut off this part of the page and return it to our 1st VP's (Marilyn, Carol or Cecilia) OR give them a call!

Name: _____ What would you like to show and tell about?

How long do you anticipate that this "showing or telling might take:

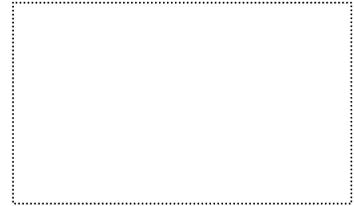
_____ Any special "props" needed? (table, or?) _____

Riviera Garden Club meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month, September through May, (no meeting in December – Holiday Luncheon), with an end of year luncheon in June. General meetings are regularly held at the Torrance Airport Meeting Room. There are other exceptions, please check our website: www.rivieragardenclub.org or www.localendar.com/public/RivGarden Local Calendar webpage for calendars. For other information, please call 310.375.6539 or 310.373.5878.

Riviera Garden Club, founded in 1957
Benefiting local education, scholarship and civic beautification
www.rivieragardenclub.org, email: presidents@rivieragardenclub.org
501 (c) 3 Charitable Organization, Member California Garden Clubs, Inc. Costa Verde District,
CGCI, Pacific Region, NGC Email us at president@rivieragardenclub.org



Riviera Garden Club
Riviera Garden Club



September 2009 Newsletter to:

GARDEN POWER