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Scripps-Mesa Garden Club

Time for the Garden Club to Bloom Again



See p.2 for the plans to meet again

Gathering together out of doors is now safe. The Scripps-Mesa Garden club needs to be ready to take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy the club's members' enthusiasm for plants, flowers and veggie propagation. Speakers need to be engaged. Locations must be determined. And topics need exploration. It can't happen without members' energy and involvement. Contact Susan Castellana if you have an idea to contribute for a program or club outing. **See p.2 for info on our first post-Covid meeting.**

Time for the Garden Club to Bloom Again

Tuesday, May 25th, 5:45pm



Meadow Tour

at the garden of Brydon Bennett
10835 Ashlar Place
(just a short distance from the park)

at 6 pm

BYO Picnic Supper

Lake View Park

10794 Mira Lago Terrace, Scripps Ranch

Picnic tables and benches available. Bring your own folding chair, if you wish.

*Do bring along your energy and ideas to fertilize the reblooming
of the Scripps-Mesa Garden Club*

2020 Scripps-Mesa Garden Club Officers

President

?

Secretary

?

Speakers

Helen Plutner &
Lynnell Hallock

Room Coordinator

Louise Badham

Refreshments

Susan Castellana

Website

Brydon Bennett

Treasurer

Char Fitzgerald

Newsletter & Publicity

Denise Stewart

denise.stewart@hotmail.com

New Officers Needed

Treasurer's Report

\$650.65



Peonies symbolize a happy life and a happy marriage

Peonies Star in My Garden Memories

By Denise Stewart

As a kid growing up on Long Island in the home of an enthusiastic gardener, I fell in love with peonies every spring as their gorgeous blooms and romantic scent filled our side yard. Flourishing just outside the back-door and just past the rose bushes they greeted both family and guests with beauty and aroma when entering our gate.

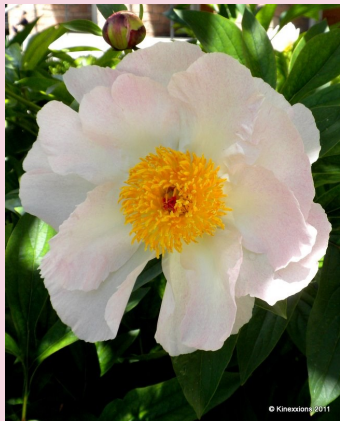
Every year toward the end of school, our parish held a May Crowning of the Blessed Mother and these spectacular flowers were twined into a crown for her statue. Scores of bouquets of peonies, roses and other blooms surrounded her feet. It was a stunning religious event as well as a floral extravaganza. It was a totally appropriate celebration in a town named Floral Park. My dad's garden contributed to its springtime glory.

How to Grow Peonies

Peonies are a beautifully scented perennial bloom that will be a highlight in your garden late spring to early summer. They flourish in full sun and well-drained soil. But they do like water. There are several types of peonies, each with a stunning color and scent of its own.

Peonies are best planted in the fall, but those planted in the spring will flourish, but not as much the first year. They are best planted away from other shrubs and trees. All the better to show of their beauty.

Plant them in full sun, in deep fertile soil that drains well. A neutral Ph is favored. Start with a 2 foot deep hole. Add 1 cup of bone meal and plenty of humus. Space other plants at least 2 feet away. Set the roots so the eyes face upwards. Don't plant them deep. Water thoroughly. Don't fertilize until after they bloom.



The San Diego Rose Society's 93rd Annual Rose Show

**Pacific Southwest District
Rose Show Convention and
Rose Auction**

June 12-13

Courtyard by Marriott El Cajon, 141 North Magnolia Ave, El Cajon, CA 92020

For tickets and more information contact their website: sandiegorosociety.com

The schedule for the two day event is listed there.



WISTERIA—BEAUTIFUL, FRAGRANT AND POISONOUS

By Bob Gale



Nothing says early spring with anymore gusto and beauty than the Wisteria Vine. It is one of those extremely beautiful and very fragrant, but very poisonous plants that we grow in our gardens. Because of its glorious beauty that the vine blossoms fill our gardens with each spring, we so often forget that it seldom reveals it's secret: that all parts of the plant are poisonous. It's seeds and the seed pods have the greatest amount of the poison. It's one of those great beauties we grow in our gardens that need to be grown with extra care, always keeping its secret in mind.

For San Diego County, I would think the very best Wisteria Vine would be the Chinese Wisteria Vine. Some of the Japanese Wisteria have much larger blossoms and larger clusters of blossoms, but they do require a great deal more water and a better degree of soil and care. The Chinese Wisteria Vine thrives on neglect and very little water. It is extremely vigorous and not fussy at all about soil. The more you stress your Wisteria Vine with the lack of care and heavy pruning after it blooms, the more it will bloom the next spring. Remember by giving it very little water and never ever fertilizing it you will stress your vine and make your Wisteria Vine bloom better than it ever has bloomed before.

Now the big question. How does one tell the difference between a Chinese Wisteria Vine and a Japanese Wisteria Vine? That part is very easy, if you know the traits of each of the vines. It's always fun when you're with non-gardening friends and you see a Wisteria Vine growing in a garden to be able to tell them whether it's a Chinese or a Japanese Wisteria. Always remember Chinese Wisteria Vines grow left to right or counterclockwise. Whereas Japanese Wisteria Vines grow right to left or clockwise. So, it's always good fun to be able to tell rather a Wisteria Vine is Chinese or Japanese. And it's essential to know when you go to buy one.

I do hope you'll have fun growing a Chinese Wisteria Vine in your San Diego garden. Good luck, vining around.

Some Beauties Growing in Char Fitzgerald's Yard



(Left) Cymbidium orchids will thrive outdoors. They like filtered sunlight while planted in leafmold and fast draining soil. Water weekly and feed with liquid orchid fertilizer every two weeks after watering.



(Right) Honey Perfume rose, a common floribunda, blooms from spring to winter in full sun. It grows to 3-4 feet high and spreads to 2– 3 feet. It's bright color and sweet scent attract people as well as butterflies.



May Garden Chores

- ◆ Continue to plant warm season annual flowers and veggies.
- ◆ Plant corn, green beans, melons, squash, cukes and okra.
- ◆ Keep watering drought tolerant plants every 3 to 4 weeks.
- ◆ Plant warm weather herbs like basil, thyme, rosemary, tarragon and sage.
- ◆ They need 8 hours of sunlight and regular watering.
- ◆ Remember mint needs to be confined in its own container or it will become invasive.
- ◆ Deadhead spring bulbs when they finish blooming. Leave the foliage intact until summer.
- ◆ Dampen down the compost pile regularly.
- ◆ Fertilize the roses and other blooming plants.
- ◆ Work lime into the soil around hydrangeas to produce pink flowers. Aluminate sulfate for blue.
- ◆ Remove suckers from fruit tree as soon as they appear.



basil



rosemary



thyme

Celebrate Spring with the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston

Right from home

Art in Bloom Festival

The museum is offering three guided tours of the floral installations inspired by works in its collection

When—Anytime

Where—mfa.org/event/special-event/art-in-bloom

