

Volume 10, Issue 2, Feb. 2023

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Meeting 4th Tues. of the month



# Scripps-Mesa Garden Club

## Rolling out a spring meadow in a backyard

Inspired by Brydon Bennett's meadow of flowers that he cultivates each spring in his yard, Susan Castellana spread packets of wildflower seeds on the soil in the raised bed area.



Then she rolled the blanket over the soil and seeds, wetting it all with a fine mist. She will spray twice a week. The netting in the blanket is biodegradable and seedlings should pop through the cover. Susan said the project was much easier than putting down straw.



## Learn to speak the language of flowers

On Tuesday, February 28, *Union Tribune* language columnist and Scripps Ranch resident Richard Lederer will speak at the Scripps Mesa Garden Club about "Flowery English: How Flowers Got Their Names."



# Next Meeting

## Tues. Feb. 28

### 6:00 pm

Scripps Ranch  
Library  
Community  
Room

*Introduction  
to our website  
Brydon Bennett*

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**Guest Speaker  
Richard  
Lederer**

*Plant Share  
To follow*



## Minutes from the January meeting about subtropical fruit

By Erica Berick

The January Garden Club meeting was attended by 30 people.

Announcements were given by Helen Pluntner about plant sharings to begin at the library as well as news concerning the SR Sustainability group.

Susan Catellana will serve as President of our club for the year.

Dues of \$30 are payable January thru March reported long-time treasurer Char Fitzgerald.

Louise Badham is in charge of refreshment sign ups this year.

Lynnell Hallock will continue being in charge of programs.

The speaker for the evening was Mike Letzring His topic was *How to be successful growing sub tropical fruits in San Diego*. Some of the trees and plants that were covered included:

Mango : can grow to 15 feet with southeast exposure, Brazilian tropical cherries, dwarf Apple Banana, Star Apple, Cherimoya, Passion fruit, Dragon fruit and Coffee plants: Arabica. It takes 3-5 years to produce flowers & beans. Coffee likes acidic soil.



(Above Top) Lynnell Hallock, Program Chair, introduced herself at the January meeting and gave a brief message about her efforts for the S-M Garden Club. Lynnell has been a member for several years and held office numerous times. She announced an upcoming program with Shital Parikh for the March 28th meeting on companion planting.

(Below) Guest speaker and Scripps Ranch resident, Michael Letzring, engaged the audience in an informative talk on sub-tropical fruit trees. Mike works with these trees professionally at the San Diego Zoo and has a selection of his own in his home garden for his family's enjoyment. His talk included several visuals of these trees and their fruits so the listeners could become familiar with some un-common varieties and their special features.

**Renew your 2023 membership with \$30 by the March 28th meeting,**

**at the latest, to be included as a member and to get future newsletters.**

**You can pay at the meeting(s) or send a check in the mail to Char Fitzgerald at 10010 Vista la Cuesta Ct., San Diego, CA 92131. Make the check out to Scripps-Mesa Garden Club.**



# February Garden Chores



- \* Take cuttings from succulents for filling in empty spaces in the garden and sharing with friends
- \* Plant flowering vines and gladiolas
- \* Plant more cool season veggies like carrots, kale, beets, lettuce, parsley
- \* Plant blueberries and water, fertilize regularly
- \* Plant cool season annuals like poppies, pansies, English daisies
- \* Feed azaleas with fertilizer high in phosphorus until they stop blooming, then go to fertilizer with higher acidity
- \* Remove brown leaves and feed iris
- \* Aerate your lawn



## Refreshment Sign-ups

- Feb. Jean Bruckner
- Mar. Char Fitzgerald
- Apr. Paul Stillmann
- May
- June
- July Jackie Brown
- Aug. Potluck
- Sept. Steffi Bokser
- Oct.
- Nov. Potluck



## Need help with a plant problem?

Contact Univ. of CA  
Master Gardeners  
858-822-6910  
help@MasterGardenerSD.org

## Our President's Message

**HAPPY. STEP. SPREAD.**

**HAPPY.....** New Year, Happy 30 years of Scripps Mesa Garden Club, & Happy First 2023 Meeting

**STEP.....** up and join us: volunteer, share your plants, welcome us into your garden & present your suggestions

**SPREAD.....** the word about SMGC, reach out to fellow gardeners with a personal touch



*Susan Castellana*

Welcome  
Alan Binks  
Eric Hauffman



# Scripps-Mesa Garden Club

Email: [denise.stewart@hotmail.com](mailto:denise.stewart@hotmail.com)

Contributions of articles, suggestions, artwork, and gardening tips are warmly welcomed. This newsletter belongs to the Scripps-Mesa Garden Club members and is intended to reflect their gardening interests and experiences. Please take part in its mission and contribute an article or a photo.



## Spring Veggies

*With Farmer Roy Wilburn  
of Poway Gardens*

**Saturday, February 18th, 2023 • 10:00 AM  
Community Room**

Farmer Roy Wilburn, horticulturalist at Poway Gardens will discuss how to seed, plant, fertilize and care for your favorite warm season veggies.

**Scripps Miramar Ranch Library**  
10301 Scripps Lake Dr., San Diego, CA 92131  
facebook.com/scrippsmiramarranchlibrary • 858-538-8158



Later in the day there will be will an afternoon tour of the Poway Organic Garden at 1:30 p.m. At Poway Gardens, Monte Vista Rd., Poway

Rain cancels the tour.

RSVP requested to:

[Roy.Wilburn@sincerisl.com](mailto:Roy.Wilburn@sincerisl.com)

## Upcoming Garden Events Scripps Ranch Library

### Compost Comparison

*Find the Composting Method  
that Works for You*

**Saturday, March 18th, 2023 • 10:00 AM • Community Room**

### Honey Bee Swarms

*Presented by Denise Bienias*

**Saturday, April 15th 2023 • 1:30 PM • Community Room**

**Got a beautiful garden?  
Share it with the club.  
Contact: [lynnell@san.rr.com](mailto:lynnell@san.rr.com)**



**Garden Club  
Secretary  
Needed**

**Anyone who can  
take notes is  
qualified.  
Contact Susan**