



LFGC ROSETTE  
2025 - 2026

Lakeforestgardenclub@gmail.com  
Lakeforestgardenclub.net

### **Lake Forest Garden Club**

22921 Ridge Route Drive, Lake Forest, CA 92630

General Meetings are on the 3rd Friday of each month

**9:30 to 10:15 - Social Hour**

**10:30 to 11:00 - Club Business**

**11:00 - 12:00 - Program**

### **OCTOBER PROGRAM**

**Speakers Sally Richards, Alvin Lim and Catherine Amy**  
**talk about Hydroponic gardening.**

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

### **Hello Garden Friends!**

Our year is off to a great start. We had a wonderful first meeting in September with good attendance, a chance to catch up with garden friends, an informative presentation about the Niguel Botanical Preserve and delicious snacks!

Our club has already made a difference in beautifying our community this month. With our philanthropic funds, Lake Forest Garden Club sponsored a tree at the Plant A Tree event that took place on Saturday September 27. Over 50 Girl Scouts helped plant trees including the one sponsored by our club. Take a walk through the Lake Forest woods and look for the marker identifying our tree.

You noticed at the last meeting that we have reinstated taking attendance. At the next meeting, when you pick up your name tag, please put a check mark by your name on the attendance sheet. Thank you!

We are still in need of a treasurer for our club. If you have any experience in bookkeeping or accounting, please volunteer to help our club in this way.

We look forward to seeing everyone again at our next meeting for visiting with friends and learning more about gardening. We'll have updates from committees on all our projects and activities.

**Annette Brant**  
**Co-President, Lake Forest Garden Club**

### **THANK YOU NOTE**

This came from the boy scout to whom we donated \$100.

*Hi Mrs. Brant,*

*Thank you and the garden club for the donation! I really appreciate it, and I will send you an update of what the plants look like after my Eagle Project is complete.*

*Thank you again,  
Lucas*



## **OCTOBER PROGRAM**

### **HYDROPONIC GARDENING**

#### **SALLY RICHARDS**

Sally became a Master Gardener in 2016. She began gardening at eight years old in Michigan. She has been doing hydroponics for the last nine years using a 12' x 20' hoop house. Sally is co-Lead for the Master Gardener hydroponics team.

#### **ALVIN LAM**

Alvin became a Master Gardener in 2023 and co-lead for the hydroponics team.

Arvin became a Master Gardener in 2023 and co-lead for the hydroponics team. He started growing leafy greens hydroponically, but has recently branched out to grow tomatoes, peppers, and small melons in a small greenhouse.

### **CATHERINE AMY**

Catherine became a Master Gardener in 2023. As a teen she collected in propagated African violets and had over 100 varieties before going to college. She has a fruit orchard and hydroponically grows veggies but also enjoys, experimenting with unusual vegetables and fruits. She will be talking about the Preserve's Mediterranean plants focusing on California natives.

**Debbie Gray**  
**Program Chair**



**Remember to wear your Halloween costume to the meeting.** There will be prizes!! Prizes awarded to  
**Scariest costume**  
**Funniest**  
**Most Creative**



### **FOOD DRIVE**

At our October General Meeting we will host a food drive for South County Outreach. They are always in need of donations at the food pantry. Many of our neighbors in need rely on this pantry to put nutritious meals on their table.

**Most needed items:(non-expired only)**

**Cereal (all kinds), Bottled Water, Salt, Cooking oil, Spaghetti sauce, Spaghetti noodles**

**Condiments, Soup and Canned Fruit**

Bring items to the October General Meeting. Look for a container near the Raffle table  
All members who bring something will receive a complimentary raffle ticket!

**Tibby Montgomery**  
**Food Drive Organizer**

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## **MEMBERSHIP**

The Membership Team would like to encourage you to bring a guest to a meeting. In addition, we would like to challenge all members to try something new this year.

Some ideas are to join a trip/tour, volunteer to help with one of the various activities (preschool garden, butterfly kits, hospice flowers, succulent/flower basket workshop, etc.), work at the boutique or come to a board meeting. There are many ways to get involved and meet new people.

**Sheri Jones and Barbara Hudgins**  
**Membership co-chairs**

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## **HOSPICE**

The hospice flower committee will be cleaning flowers from Fuji Warehouse and Albertsons at 9 am and then arranging flowers for Memorial Hospice out of Saddleback hospital around 9:15 at Beach and Tennis Club on October 17. Please join us.

**Please help us with needed cleaned greens to add to our arrangements.** Greens need to be at least 12 inches long with stems free of leaves the last 6 inches. (Leaves in water can cause bacteria.) It is best to let greens soak up water overnight so try to pick them on Thursday. Greens are needed by 9:30 am.

**We do make special arrangements for LFGC members who are ill or bedridden on this day. Please email me at [nadine.melberg@gmail.com](mailto:nadine.melberg@gmail.com) with the name of member needing a cheery arrangement.** (You can bring unusual vases to be used for our May Boutique to any meeting for us to store for our floral boutique)

arrangements.)

Please come and join us to create these floral arrangements. We will pair you with someone familiar with our process if you wish to join us for the first time.

Join us to make lots of smiles with our floral arrangements!

**Nadine Melberg**  
**Hospice Chair**

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## **REFORESTATION**

### **WILDLIFE RESILIENCY FUND**

Our new reforestation program, Wildfire Resilience Fund is off to a great start. At our September meeting \$39.57 was donated to the fund. Wildfire resiliency fund is one of the many ongoing restoration and reforestation programs that Tree People of Los Angeles is involved in. The wildfire fund is dedicated to proactive fire mitigation, ecological restoration and long-term resiliency efforts throughout thousands of acres in Southern California.

There is so much interesting information that you can learn about this group that we encourage you to visit their website at <https://treepeople.org>. We think that you will be amazed at the expansive restoration and reforestation work that they are actively involved in.

Our board has decided to send in donations on a quarterly basis instead of monthly. We will therefore send our first donation to Tree People at the end of November, an accumulation of money from September, October, November, at which time Tree People will send us a receipt for the money which will be kept by our treasurer.

Every dollar counts towards keeping Southern California landscape green and beautiful!d is in place of the Penny Pines program that we have originally been supporting. The new program is affiliated with Tree People, which is an educational and environmental advocacy organization based in Los Angeles, California.

Our monthly donations will support the Wildfire Fund's dedication to proactive fire

mitigation, ecological restoration, and long-term resilience efforts which will make thousands of Southern California wilderness areas more fire resilient for the future. We will be supporting their ongoing work in burn scar areas, the restoration of native plants, the promotion of biodiversity and watershed health, and community driven conservation programs. We look forward to supporting this Fund that focuses on keeping Southern California land healthy, green and beautiful!

**Suzanne Stephens and Susan Delaney**  
**Reforestation Committee Co-Chairs**

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## **HOSPITALITY**

Your Lake Forest Garden Club Hospitality Committee is excited to welcome all returning, as well as new members, for our September general meeting. We are excited to provide snacks and liquid refreshments for each of our general meetings. Please let us know if we can provide any new items, make improvements, etc. We welcome home-baked or purchased goods you would like to share with the membership, or any donation of candies, nuts, fruit, etc. We will always have fruit and protein items to share, and coffee, tea, and water for refreshments. This year we are pleased to also provide decaf coffee for members who are watching their caffeine consumption.

Last September members seemed to enjoy bringing a garden item to decorate the round tables where we will sit. Some item suggestions: a flower, a potted plant, your garden design, a garden photo, your garden diary, your favorite garden tool, a cutting, some fruit or vegetables you have grown in your garden this summer, a great garden article or book that has inspired you, or anything you can think of that makes you happy in your garden activities.

Just a reminder—If you are “cleaning out” paper goods or other table decorating items, please consider donating it to the hospitality committee. We have received some wonderful items which helped us beautify our serving tables, as well as our round tables, and appreciate the chance to create beautiful table arrangement each month to enhance our clubhouse setting. Thank you for all these items as well as donations of food, etc. See you on Friday, 9/19!!!



**Cheryl Weaver**  
**Hospitality Chair**

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## **TRIPS AND TOURS**

### **Thursday, October 23, Rancho Los Alamitos and Gardens Tour 10 am**

Meet at clubhouse at 8:30 to carpool if desired; will leave promptly at 8:45. The tour is 1 ½-2 hrs., but the grounds are beautiful to walk around with 4 acres of Historic gardens. It was suggested that we bring a sack lunch and enjoy the beauty of the Rancho while having lunch.

This is all dependent on school tours which typically use the picnic tables, and we won't know until it gets closer to Oct. 23, so I will send out a separate email to those who have signed up with an update. Otherwise, there is a restaurant close by called Fantastic Café, that we could go to for lunch, American and Mexican cuisine.



#### **Welcome to Rancho Los Alamitos!** *A Place For All Time*

THE MISSION of Rancho Los Alamitos is to educate and engage visitors by sharing our rich history, compelling stories, and authentic connections to California's past, thus inspiring a sense of community.

#### **Discover the magic of the Rancho**

The historic ranch house and gardens in Long Beach, California is open to the public at no charge and for all people to enjoy. Come and immerse yourself in the history and beauty of Rancho Los Alamitos.



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## **SCHEDULE OF TOURS 2025 - 2026**

### **Friday, November 14**

Carbon Canyon Regional Park and Redwood grove within short walking distance.  
Let's have a Picnic in the park! \*\*Bring own lunch, snacks to share.

### **Saturday, January 24**

Ecology Center Tour 10:00 AM  
45 minutes (no charge) - San Juan Capistrano

### **Monday, February 23**

Casa Romantica Cultural Center - Gardens Tour  
\$5/person, 10:00 AM - San Clemente

### **Friday, March 27**

Heritage Museum of OC at 1:00 PM  
Santa Ana-Tour of house \$15/. Picnic on the grounds before tour.

### **Friday, May 22**

Walk at the Beach, Crystal Cove, Newport Beach.  
Lunch, on your own @ Beachcomber or Restaurants in Corona Del Mar, Ruby's,  
Panini Grill, or Tommy Bahama

**Bonnie Oakden**

**Trips and Tours Chair**

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## **FUNDRAISING**

### **SPRING PLANT SALE AND GARDEN BOUTIQUE**

We're starting to plan for our famous Spring Plant Sale & Garden Boutique; it's never too early! Be thinking about unique raffle baskets that can be put together: gardening, personal, pets, cooking, home/garden décor, etc. and be looking for bargains on any items that would go into these baskets. Also, start asking vendors for gift cards to their



establishment as advertising and promotion for them, or if you have been gifted with a card that you don't particularly like, donate it to the Boutique Raffle Table and Gift Card Tree-even better!!

### **Bonnie Oakden (Fundraising Chair)**

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## **LET'S GET READY FOR SPRING**

It's not too early to start collecting seeds, planting seeds, dividing perennials and starting stem and succulent cuttings for the Spring Plant Sale and Boutique.

Save seed from your summer annuals like marigolds, zinnias, sunflowers and cosmos. These can then be planted in early spring to be ready for the Plant Sale in May.

Plant seeds of perennials now to be ready for the spring. Examples are cone flower (echinacea), rudbeckia, columbine, salvia, and gaillardia. You can plant these now, just know that some remain dormant through the winter and will sprout as soon as the weather starts to warm in the spring.

Divide perennials that are already in your garden like Shasta daisies, yarrow, rudbeckia and bulbs like agapanthus, irises and daylilies. Plant in pots so that the roots will grow strong over the winter. They will start to show more leaf growth in the spring.

Start stem cuttings of herbs and perennial flowers and even bushes. Take a 2"- 6" cutting, remove flowers and buds and foliage and leaves from the bottom 2"- 3". Dip ends and nodes in rooting hormone (not mandatory) and insert cutting in small pots or 6 packs in moist, sterile rooting medium. Succulents are even easier to propagate. Just give the cutting a few days to harden off and then stick it in cactus mix.

I will have some handouts and examples at the plant exchange table at our October meeting.

### **Bev Vargish**

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## **APRONS**

We still have aprons for sale. They have Lake Forest Garden Club embroidered in white on a forest green background. They have pockets. They are \$20 – cash or check. I'll have some to sell at the general meeting.

**CONTACT: Ramilla Lewis**

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## **FABULOUS FINDS**

The Garden Club Plant Sale and Boutique may seem a long time away but now is when you need to start putting aside treasures for Fabulous Finds. As you go through your cupboards, look at things you haven't used for a while (years) and put them aside for Fabulous Finds. We don't have a place to store your items so just keep filling a box in the garage. No fair going through that box and putting things back on a shelf. If it's too good for the thrift shop, it's perfect for Fabulous Finds. Keep filling the box!

**Pat Chong**

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## **PLANTED BASKETS 2026**

We need a lot of small and medium baskets for the fundraising plant boutique. These baskets will be for the flowers.

If you have any large baskets, we can still use them for the raffle table. They can be baskets with handles or with no handles. The baskets can be unique and unusual. They should be in good condition.

We appreciate your donation.

**Ramilla Lewis**

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## **GARDEN CLUB NEWS**

**See what's going on with our fellow garden clubs around the county and state.**

California Garden Club

<https://www.californiagardenclubs.com>

Orange District Garden Clubs

<https://ocdistrict.org>

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