

October 2009

Member of:
Desert Empire District,
California Garden Clubs,
Inc., Pacific Region,
And National Garden
Clubs, Inc.

Newsletter for
Desert Planters of
Ridgecrest,
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Ridgecrest CA 93556
Website:
<http://www.desertempiredistrict.org/>

Desert Trumpet

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Shirley Craver, Wanda Church, and Art Spiegel

The President's Corner:

By Shirley Craver

THEME: *Gardener's We Are, We Plant Our Gardens With Beauty*

Good October to all members and friends

We are sort of misplaced again for our October general meeting this October 10th, 2009, SO REMEMBER, come to the Library, this ONE meeting, come in the side door of the west side of the building. The church is having extensive remodeling done, that's why we won't have our meeting there.

It feels like winter is at our doors. Are you in your garden getting it ready for fall and winter crops?? We are at my house.

Members, it is time to choose a Nominating Committee to select members to run for club offices, and to take office in May of 2010. We really need some young blood in the club. If you can spare a couple hours on the second Saturday of each month for approximately 3 1/2 hours for general meetings, and the 4th Tuesday afternoon for the board meetings please step up and let the present officers know. Committee chairmen are also needed for this year, Oct to June 2009-10. PLEASE, IF YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS AND WANT TO HELP YOUR GARDEN CLUB, PLEASE, contact either La Verne at 375-9505 (vice-president) or Shirley at 377-4629 (president)

Several members are under the weather. Our friend Renee has been home for some time now but is doing well. Helen Ashby fell over a chain at church that required 29 stitches in her leg, but is doing well. Wanda Church has been under the weather too, but is better. Her hubby, Steve, however, needs our good wishes Lucille Nielson's son is having tests and we wish David the



Look out
for the
Goblins!!

best. Maybe we should start a health clinic instead of a garden club !!!!

Thank you for all the cards, and phone calls during my stay at the hospital for two surgeries within four days and then home. I think I am so lucky to have so many friends.

GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU AND PLEASE, STAY WELL !!

Shirley
Mrs. S. B. Craver, Sr.

DOOR PRIZES:

Thanks to Shirley Craver for donating the door prizes for the September meeting.

- CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (CGCI) State Garden Club information www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org.
- PACIFIC REGION www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org
- NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC. for National Garden Club information—www.GardenClub.org.
- Desert Empire District (DED). To download the *Desert Trumpet*—www.DesertEmpireDistrict.org.

- October 10
- ◆ **DPR Monthly Meeting, 1 PM** — This month the meeting is being held at the **Kern County Library** in their meeting room. Enter the library by the outside door on the west side of the building.
 - ◆ **Speaker: Kari Hunter**, owner of Bella Rosa Nursery, who specializes in Mediterranean plants. After the meeting members are invited to tour the nursery at 521 South Sunset, Ridgecrest. Hunter has a display garden, a koi fish pond, trees, shrubs, a large variety of plants that grow well in our area for sale and she also has a variety of organic fertilizers. A map is available at the meeting for directions to the nursery.
 - ◆ Horticulture Grow & Show by: All members please bring plant cuttings from your garden. Door Prizes awarded, come and be the lucky winner.
 - ◆ Refreshments graciously provided by: Judy and Art Spiegel.
- October 11
- Bylaws committee meeting, 9:30 A.M. at 2395 W. Ridgecrest Blvd.
- October 13
- Chamber of Commerce Membership Luncheon**, 2nd Tuesday, 12:00 noon at Victoria's at the Heritage. (in courtyard at Heritage Inn). RSVP 375-8331
- October 17
- The 36th Annual Maturango Junction Days** at Freedom Park.
- Please note: DPR Board Meeting location change below:**
- October 27
- * **DPR Board Meeting 4th Tuesday**. 1 PM. Meet at Lucille Nielson's home, 501 North Randall Street. Randall Street is off of Los Flores, one street east of Downs Avenue. All members welcome.
- October 31
- Halloween**
- November 7
- Indian Wells Valley Water District** is presenting the Fall 2009 Xeriscape Workshop on Saturday, from 10 am to noon at the USO Building. **Desert Planters is participating with a Plant Sale along with Oasis Garden Club.** (outside on the east side)
- November 10
- Chamber of Commerce** Membership Luncheon, 2nd Tuesday, 12:00 noon at Victoria's at the Heritage. (in courtyard at Heritage Inn). RSVP 375-8331
- November 14
- ◆ **DPR Monthly Meeting, 1 PM** — Speaker: Aida Stafford is planning to discuss "Floral Designs for Fall and the Christmas season." Using different types of wreaths, and floral designs. Horticulture Grow & Show by: All members please bring plant cuttings from your garden.
 - ◆ Refreshments: Wanda Church and LaVerne Harms.
- December 5
- Desert Planters Annual Christmas Party and Potluck Dinner**. 6 P.M. Lucille Nielson is graciously hosting the party at her home. 501 North Randall Street, Ridgecrest.
- January 8 - 9, 2010
- CGCI Winter Board Meeting**, San Diego, Host Palomar District.
- February 8, 2010
- Desert Empire District Winter Board Meeting**
Host: Desert Rose of California City

Charter Motto:
"Make Ridgecrest Clean and Green"

Remember: It's time to pot up plants for the plant sale November 7th at the USO Building. If every member donates five plants times 32 members that would amount to 160 plants (a good start).

You can also donate other items that relate to gardening, such as gardening books you no longer want, gardening gloves, etc. Look around the house and garage for items that you would love to part with.

Note: Shirley has an abundance of containers at her home for potting up your plants if you run out of them.

If you missed us at Immanuel Baptist Church last month we ended up at the new Pizza Factory since the doors were locked at the church. *Editor*

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS: September 27, 2009 Board Meeting

- It was moved, seconded, and approved that the club collect non-perishable food items for St. Ann's food bank at our General Meetings – Items needed – bread, cereals, and peanut butter for needy families in the community.
- It was moved, seconded, and approved that the club rescind the additional funds for the Historical Society of Upper Mojave Desert for the additional landscaping at the rear of the USO building.

DESCANSO GARDENS:

By Art Spiegel

With the terrible fires about a month ago in the Los Angeles area, particularly those that bore news headlines labeled La Canada/Flintridge.

Continued next column

Desert Planters of Ridgecrest,
P. O. Box 841, Ridgecrest CA 93556-0841
IRS Non-Profit Group Exemption Number: 5358
USDA Zone 8/9; Sunset Zone 10/11

I wondered how the Descanso Gardens might have been affected.

Their website is WWW.DESCANOSGARDENS.ORG. Their director writes about this as follows:

Aprés Conflagration
September 14, 2009

While the sight of the San Gabriel foothills aflame and the thick smell of smoke are gone, the memories remain fresh:

Of weary firefighters stopping by Descanso Gardens in their ash and mud-covered equipment for a quick nap, a cup of coffee and a bathroom break.

Of days on end with air quality so bad we could not in good conscience have Descanso's gardeners working outdoors, forcing us to close to the public for more than a week.

Of media reports carrying news of yet another community where Descanso employees, members, friends and supporters were under evacuation.

Of the chilling revelation of arson—who on this earth could do a thing like this?

Of our first venture up into Hall Beckley Canyon to find a scene of utter devastation, burned pipes, eerie silence save for falling rocks and the whisper of naked earth sifting and beginning to slide.

Of a water bill... that suddenly doubled with the disruption of our supply of irrigation water from the canyon.

Since the past few days of warm sun, clear air and blue skies, it has been a joy to see people returning to the Gardens, which seem even more verdant and serene than usual. Temporary repairs to the Hall Beckley system are underway. The charred foothills in the distance and the bright scars of fire breaks bulldozed into the ridgelines are a constant, if distant, reminder that this land and the adjacent communities are forever changed. The calm after hundred-year storm of fire. If one needed a reason to be grateful for and protective of places like Descanso Gardens, this was it.

David R. Brown, *Executive Director*