

IN AUGUST NEWSLETTER

- Library Bouquet
- Seed Library
- Community Garden
- Blog, Social Media
- Floral Design Forum Series
- Gift Card
- Save Seeds
- Garden Tasks August
- Member Contributions

August 2024

August Library Flowers for a Smile:

We're delighted to showcase a stunning bouquet. Linda Addison grew gorgeous dahlias that enabled Shital Parikh to make the August Library Bouquet. We invite all members to [SIGN UP](#) and donate homemade flower arrangements to the library each month. Whether you use homegrown blooms or store-bought flowers, your contribution will help spread the beauty of nature throughout our community.



SEED LIBRARY UPDATE:

Our seed envelope-making gatherings have been a great success! Over two sessions, we've prepared over 700 envelopes with fall and winter seeds. Five volunteers worked on stuffing seeds for September, and we'll have one more meeting next week to finalize everything for our September 1st launch.

Special thanks to Chris Ross, Barbara Scholz, Yin Gu, Linda Addison, and Shital Parikh for their hard work. Chris also brought basil, pepper, and tomato seedlings, now available outside my home. Linda Addison demonstrated a vacuum sealer machine for mason jars and shared her stunning homegrown dahlias, which will be featured in the library's August flower arrangements.



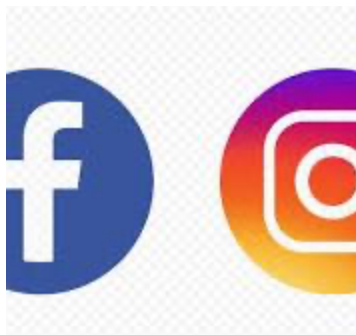
Belden Community Garden Update: We have successfully completed our first year at Belden community garden establishing it from ground zero to a thriving vegetable garden loved by residents. SDHC is now sending representatives to the garden every Thursday from 10-11 am. We will continue to visit as needed. Another shipment of grant materials worth



\$3000 was delivered to keep the garden going until summer 2025. Email info@friendsdmm.org if you wish to join on Aug 22. Carpool leaves DMM at 9:00 am.

Club Food Blog: Olivia Hansen & Raquel Sutton

Featuring [Purslane & Basil Pesto](#). Olivia shares it from her workshop at Napa Valley's famous Culinary Institute of America! Purslane is an edible weed very high in nutrition.



Club's Social Media

Invitation to join our club's member private [Facebook group](#). It is a great way to stay in touch with other members and share your garden successes and concerns. [Click here](#) to request membership. Post photos of summer adventures with nature on our Club's [Instagram](#) page. This private facebook group is open to invite your friends and family to learn more about gardening

District News Floral Design Forum

Series: We are a nationally accredited garden club under Palamore district. They are offering a series of amazing workshops on flower arrangements at \$15/-workshop. Do register to attend, and share photos on our club facebook page or info@friendsdmm.org, if you attend..

2024-2025

When: 1st Mondays: October thru May 12:00 NOON

Where: Rancho Penasquitos Public Library*

13330 Salmon River Road, San Diego, CA 92129



Objectives: To bring the finest floral designers to San Diego County; promote appreciation of floral art forms; develop skills in critiquing floral art; improve individual skills for in-home floral decorating; learn skills for flower show exhibition; encourage members to enter flower shows and promote floral arts in the community. The forum is open to anyone interested in floral design. [Click here for Registration Form](#)

October 7, 2024- Alan Nunn, from the UK. Robert L. Gordon, AIFD, from Scotland, taught the professionals, Former President of CGCI demonstrators *stretch* the confines of floral design.

November 4, 2024 – Carvill Veech, Master Judge, well known for her creative designs brings us Imagination. Come and learn how she gets there.

Please, note: location change! Poway Library, 13137 Poway Rd, Poway, CA

December 2, 2024 Rene van Remes. AIFD Christmas in Europe, and the Netherlands with the master designer.

January 6, 2025 Gail Vanderhorst, Judge. She is spreading her wings on her first time on our stage. Be ready for some new experiments and fun.

February 3, 2025 A special designer, Dyanna Madro brought Miniatures last year. This year Full size Designs "with Love" from the Winningest Designer at the San Diego Fair this year. A NGC Master Flower Show Judge

March 3, 2025, Barbara Weiller, Master Flower Show Judge. Not only an incredible Designer but also a fantastic Horticulturist. Watch what she brings to the Table.

April 7, 2025 Welcome to Debra Warriner from the Ichiro School of Ikebana. Learn some of the changes from other schools and appreciate beauty and elegance of design.

May 5, 2025 - The "Grand Finale: "FLOWER POWER" Our most popular Program. Watch as 4 local college student designers race against the clock to complete a *Surprise Package* design from material, container and theme. Then, like a 3 ring circus, they show a "signature design," a "round robin" and then a "wrap up" design.

Start time Noon Arrive at 11:30 a.m.

.....



Perfect Gift For Garden Enthusiasts: Customized GIFT CARD

Looking for a meaningful gift for the garden lover in your life? Delight them with a DMMGC gift card, offering a \$30 membership to our vibrant gardening community. It's a thoughtful way to support their passion and welcome them into the joy of gardening alongside fellow enthusiasts.

To purchase a customized gift card, simply pay \$30 [online](#) or write a check to Friends of Del Mar Mesa. Then, email the first and last name of the recipient to info@friendsdmm.org. It's that easy to give the gift of a whole year of gardening fun!



Request to save seeds for seed library: When saving seeds *make sure the mother plant is not hybrid* as the seeds will not yield a harvest similar in shape, taste or quantity to the mother plant. The plant needs to be open pollinated or heirloom for seeds to give a similar harvest.

[Time for Seed Saving](#) -



Label and store seeds in airtight containers in a cool, dark place, UC Marin Master Gardeners

As we reach the end of the summer garden season, were there some vegetables you particularly loved this year? If yes, consider saving their seeds for next year's garden. The easiest seeds to save are from self-pollinating plants like beans, peppers, lettuce, and tomatoes. Be aware that seeds from hybrid varieties may not breed true. Dry fruit plants like beans and peas can just be separated from their pods, dried, and stored. But tomatoes require a "wet" method where seeds are scooped into a container, fermented, washed, dried, and stored.

More information: [How to Save Seeds](#)

- August, September, October

Garden Tasks in August

Deadheading -

Deadheading means removing spent blossoms from your plants. Not all plants need deadheading, but if the flowers stay on the plant and become unattractive (think roses, dahlias, marigolds, coneflowers, geraniums and many more), then consider a little pruning. The technique varies by plant; some spent flowers can be snapped off by hand (dahlias), others are better done with hand pruners (roses), and some can be sheared off all together (lavender). You'll not only make the plant look better, you'll stimulate additional blooming for plants that have a long blooming season.

- May, June, July, August, September

Drought Tip - Trees Come First during Drought -

For Trees: Using a hose or soaker hose, slowly trickle water in a large circle under the canopy of the tree (but not right at the trunk). Deep watering for 30 min - once every few weeks will keep established trees alive.

More information: [Tips to Keep Trees Alive](#)

Fertilizing Fruit Trees -

As fruit starts to develop, trees and vines use nutrients to help with this energy-intensive task. This is a good time to plan a strategy for fertilizing your trees.

In the first year, a very light application of nitrogen (N) is desirable for most soils. Do not make first year applications before six to eight inches of new growth occurs. Split applications are safest, one or two months apart, so one application might be made this month.

After the first year: research indicates that summer fertilizer applications (August to mid-September) are more efficient than late winter (traditional) applications.

Fully mature fruit trees may not need fertilizing. Read more at [UC Home Orchard Fertilization Page](#).

- February, August

Fertilizing Ornamentals During Drought -

One way to manage plants during drought is to **reduce the amount of fertilizer used**. While plants need nutrients to survive and be healthy, excess fertilizer promotes additional growth, which then demands more water.

- May, June, July, August

Lady Beetle -



Lady beetles develop through four life stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult by Jack Kelly Clark, UCANR

We all know that lady beetles are good for the garden. Make sure you can recognize the larval stage because this life stage eats even more aphids than the adult form. Lady beetles lay their distinctive yellow eggs near a food source such as aphids. The larvae grow quickly, then pupate into the familiar adult form (but there are actually [many varieties of lady beetles](#)). It's better to attract lady beetles to your garden rather than buying and releasing them. [Purchased lady beetles](#) generally fly away, and the process of [collecting them in the wild](#) is often destructive. To attract lady beetles, refrain from spraying insecticides, grow flowers that attract beneficial insects, and leave some aphids for them to eat.

For more information: [Aphid Eaters](#)

- March, April, May, June, July, August

How to Tell if Fruits and Vegetables Are Ready to Pick -

The UC Davis Postharvest Technology website was designed for commercial growers, but the information on how to tell [When Fruits and Vegetables are Mature](#) is handy for home gardeners as well. There's also information about how to [Store Fruits and Vegetables for Better Taste](#).

- July, August, September

Gather Herbs for drying

Clean up fallen fruit to deter critters

Pruning Hydrangeas -

For better-looking hydrangeas, prune out the spent blossoms. Cut out the older stems that have flowered, leaving the ones that have not flowered. For the biggest flower clusters, reduce the number of stems. For lots of medium size flowers, keep more stems.

- August

Tomato Bottom Scarring -

Sometimes scarring can be seen on the bottom (blossom end) of tomatoes. This can be caused by weather conditions such as cool and cloudy weather at bloom time, making the blossom stick longer to the small fruit. The fruit is perfectly good to eat with the damaged part cut out. Some large heirloom tomatoes are more susceptible to this condition.



Also known as [catfacing](#).

- June, July, August

[Hand pollinating Squash](#): Identify female and male flower and transfer pollen from female to male using q tip or brush.

Facebook Member Contributions

Yu Linda Song's persian cucumbers have been prolific. She's cooking up a cucumber storm, stuffed with pork in soup, fried, stir fried with noodles & chicken, sesame salad.



Mary Balo's flowers

Yu Linda Song's Overgrown garden while she was on vacation ->



DEL MAR MESA GARDEN CLUB