



September 2010



since 1959

malibu Garden Club

www.malibugardenclub.org 310-399-2040



Pumpkin Carving !!

PRESENTED BY:

GENE GRANATA

Master Pumpkin Carver

WWW.MASTERPIECEPUMPKINS.COM

- WEDNESDAY -

OCTOBER 6, 2010

7:00 PM START TIME

The Club House — Pt. Dume Club,

29500 W Heathercliff Road, Malibu

GUESTS ALWAYS WELCOME.
REFRESHMENTS SERVED.



We are really excited to have Master Pumpkin Carver, GENE GRANATA. For 20+ years Gene has helped families around the world celebrate the Halloween tradition of pumpkin carving and decorating. Each year, his products are featured on national television and consumer magazines such as Women's Day, Saturday Night Live, CBS Sports, Fox & Friends, Live! With Regis & Kelly, General Hospital, Good Housekeeping, Unwrapped, and much more! Visit Gene's website to get some great pumpkin recipes and to purchase carving kits.

Come to our meeting to see Gene in action. He will be creating several masterpiece pumpkins (which we will be raffling off) and showing you how can do it at home. Gene will also have his carving kits available to purchase.

Enjoy some pumpkin pie, ice cream & cider while you watch Gene do his magic.

Garden Club Sharing Table: every meeting bring something, take something home...plants, cuttings, pots, extra fruit or veggies from your garden, anything garden related or not....

BOARD MEMBERS

Aaron Landworth – President
310.456.7117

Yvette Bocz - Program Director 1st VP
310.597.0173

Debbie Pierson - Ways & Means 2nd VP
310.452.0796

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310.753.8219

Pam Miller –Treasurer
310.457.4116

COMMITTEES:

Lisa Pallack - Newsletter Editor, Website
310.753.8219
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UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS: (subject to change)

*****DUES ARE DUE OCT. 1ST*****

November: "Out of Your Gourds". California Gourds Society speaker and a special trip for those members renewing their dues before November 1st.

December: Craft Class - details to be announced

January: Rose speaker

February: Chocolate!

March: Tomato Mania

April: Sustainable Landscaping for Dummies author, Owen Dell.

May 7th: annual garden tour



THANK YOU ROBERT JAYE -



MALIBU OLIVE OIL COMPANY

What a great night we had with Robert Jaye, owner of the Malibu Olive Oil Company. We learned all about olive trees, planting and caring for them and how olive oil is made. Robert taught us about the proper way to sample olive oil (who knew there was a formal process to it). We then sampled 3 olive oils (we were not told anything about them). We later found out one was very expensive and rated first place in the olive oil world, another that was very inexpensive, and the third was from the Malibu Olive Oil Company. Everyone agreed his tasted the best. Thanks Robert! We all enjoyed ourselves and learned a lot.



A SPECIAL NIGHT OF MUSIC

Also joining us at our last meeting was Youngmei Hu who stopped by to play some music on the piano and to raffle off 20 tickets to her piano recital at Pepperdine University that week.



The word itself, "Halloween," actually has its origins in the Catholic Church. It comes from a contracted corruption of All Hallows Eve. November 1, "All Hollows Day" (or "All Saints Day"), is a Catholic day of observance in honor of saints. But, in the 5th century BC, in Celtic Ireland, summer officially ended on October 31. The holiday was called Samhain (sow-en), the Celtic New year. One story says that, on that day, the disembodied spirits of all those who had died throughout the preceding year would come back in search of living bodies to possess for the next year. It was believed to be their only hope for the afterlife. The Celts believed all laws of space and time were suspended during this time, allowing the spirit world to intermingle with the living. Naturally, the still-living did not want to be possessed. So on the night of October 31, villagers would extinguish the fires in their homes, to make them cold and undesirable. They would then dress up in all manner of ghoulish costumes and noisily paraded around the neighborhood, being as destructive as possible in order to frighten away spirits looking for bodies to possess. Some accounts tell of how the Celts would burn someone at the stake who was thought to have already been possessed, as sort of a lesson to the spirits. Other accounts of Celtic history debunk these stories as myth.

The thrust of the practices changed over time to become more ritualized. As belief in spirit possession waned, the practice of dressing up like hobgoblins, ghosts, and witches took on a more ceremonial role. The custom of Halloween was brought to America in the 1840's by Irish immigrants fleeing their country's potato famine.

The custom of trick-or-treating is thought to have originated not with the Irish Celts, but with a ninth-century European custom called souling. On November 2, All Souls Day, early Christians would walk from village to village begging for "soul cakes," made out of square pieces of bread with currants. The more soul cakes the beggars would receive, the more prayers they would promise to say on behalf of the dead relatives of the donors. At the time, it was believed that the dead remained in limbo for a time after death, and that prayer, even by strangers, could expedite a soul's passage to heaven.

The Jack-o-lantern custom probably comes from Irish folklore. As the tale is told, a man named Jack, who was notorious as a drunkard and trickster, tricked Satan into climbing a tree. Jack then carved an image of a cross in the tree's trunk, trapping the devil up the tree. Jack made a deal with the devil that, if he would never tempt him again, he would promise to let him down the tree. According to the folk tale, after Jack died, he was denied entrance to Heaven because of his evil ways, but he was also denied access to Hell because he had tricked the devil. Instead, the devil gave him a single ember to light his way through the frigid darkness. The ember was placed inside a hollowed-out turnip to keep it glowing longer. The Irish used turnips as their "Jack's lanterns" originally. But when the immigrants came to America, they found that pumpkins were far more plentiful than turnips. So the Jack-O-Lantern in America was a hollowed-out pumpkin, lit with an ember.

So, although some cults may have adopted Halloween as their favorite "holiday," the day itself did not grow out of evil practices. It grew out of the rituals of Celts celebrating a new year, and out of Medieval prayer rituals of Europeans. And today, even many churches have Halloween parties or pumpkin carving events for the kids. After all, the day itself is only as evil as one cares to make it.



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EVENTS IN OUR AREA



10/2-3 - Conejo Valley Bonsai Society Exhibition & Demonstration. 9:00am-4:00pm. Enjoy viewing a variety of bonsai trees and learn how to create your own. Exhibit is displayed in the Resource Center. Demonstration times are 11:00am & 2:00pm in the Bandstand. Gardens of the World, 2001 Thousand Oaks Boulevard, Thousand Oaks. www.gardensoftheworld.info 805-557-1135

10/1 - Succulent Container Gardens: 7:30 pm. A lecture and book signing with author Debra Lee Baldwin. Santa Barbara Cactus & Succulent Society, Louise Lowry Davis Center, 1232 De La Vina Street, Santa Barbara, CA

10/2-3 - California Native Plant Society Annual Plant Sale: the Los Angeles Chapter of the CNPS will be holding its annual plant sale with an extensive selection of native plants from Matilija and Napolito Nurseries. Lectures and speakers will also be on hand like LA Times "Dry Garden" columnist Emily Green. Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Boulevard, Encino. www.lasmmcnps.org; 818-881-3706

10/8-9 (also 10/15-16) - Fall Festival & Plant Sale Theodore Payne Foundation: 8:30am-4:30pm. Their biggest sale of the year with discounts on plants and seed – plus vendors, music & more! 10459 Tuxford Street, Sun Valley. www.theodorepayne.org

10/9 - Design Like a Pro: Tips and Techniques for Beautiful, Functional, Sustainable Gardens a workshop with award-winning landscape architect Billy Goodnick: 9:30am-12:30pm. Join award-winning landscape architect Billy Goodnick (co-host of Garden Wise Guys on TV, blogger at *Fine Gardening* magazine and Edhat, and contributor at *805 Living* magazine) for look at how the pros do it. Billy will show you how to find the right style of garden for your. Workshop participants will learn to use native and locally adapted plants to create a garden that is beautiful, functional and sustainable. Napolito Nursery, Calvary Christian Fellowship Church 4221 East Main Street (next door to Nopalito Nursery) Ventura.

10/9-10 - California Native and Fall Plant Sale: 10am-4pm. The annual Plant Sale will be held at The Potting Shed. Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton. www.fullertonarboretum.org (657)278-7066

EVENTS IN OUR AREA (CONT'D)



10/9-10 - Fall Plant Sale Huntington Library: 10:30am-4:30 pm. For a beautiful spring garden, start planting in the fall. You'll find lots of inspiration at The Huntington's annual Fall Plant Sale. While you're here, pick up some tips from the experts on seasonal gardening topics such as mulching, pruning, winter lawn care, & pest control. Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino. (626)405-3504. www.huntington.org

10/14 - Getting Native with Presenter Frank Simpson
Presenter Frank Simpson will demonstrate how to create attractive, water-efficient landscapes with native plants: 7:30-9:30PM. Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino.

10/14-10/16 - California Invasive Plant Council 19th Annual Symposium: Weeds and Wildlife: Impacts and Interactions. A great line-up of talks, posters, and activities. This year's keynote speaker will be Scott Morrison, Director of Conservation Science for the California Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Sessions address trends in early detection mapping, balancing management for invasive plants and wildlife, grazing for weeds and wildlife, and many more. Other activities include Saturday field trips and a new field course on Strategic Approaches for Managing Weeds. Ventura Beach Crowne Plaza, 450 East Harbor Boulevard, Ventura. www.cal-ipc.org/symposia/

10/15-17- Orchid Show and Sale: 10:30-4:30pm. The Southland Orchid Show Committee presents its annual event featuring hundreds of exotic blooms in elaborate displays. Orchid plants and related merchandise will be for sale. Botanical Center and Conservatory. Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino. (626)405-3504. www.huntington.org

10/22-24 - Harvest Festival and Plant Sale: 9am-4pm. Expert will present talks, demonstrations and workshops through the weekend. Hand-crafted gift items will be available for sale. Family fun includes a costume parade and sing-along for young folks Saturday. And Patina Catering will sell barbecue from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Cañada Flintridge. www.descansogardens.org (818) 949-4200.

10/23 - Using California Native Plants for Food & Medicine and to Create a Beautiful Garden: This workshop covers everything you need to know about starting your own native-plant food and medicine garden. From the basics of growing California native plants to an extensive list of which plants are used for medicine and food — no grinding stone will be left unturned. Join us as we explore the original California Cuisine and First Aid Kit. Napolito Nursery, Calvary Christian Fellowship Church 4221 East Main Street (next door to Nopalito Nursery) Ventura.

10/28 - Ventura County Rose Society Makers of Heavenly Roses: 6:30 pm. With John Bagnusco. John is the Editor of Garden Compass magazine and hosts a Sunday garden radio show. He has been a leader in the garden advice industry for 35 years and he is also an author of several gardening books. Ventura County Educational Center, 5100 Adolfo Rd. Camarillo, For more information please contact Dawn-Marie Johnson at 805-523-9003 or Janet Sklar at 818-993-6622.



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BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

Our annual election of the Board of Directors is coming up and we are looking to fill a few vacancies:

- Secretary (should have excellent note taking skills and able to attend our monthly board meetings)
- Garden Tour Sub Committee

If you are interested in these positions, please email us at info@malibugardenclub.org. We'd love to have you!!!

DUES ARE DUE - OCTOBER 1ST

Please help support our club by renewing your dues.

\$ 25 /1 person	\$ 30 / household
\$ 60 / sustaining	\$150 organization or business

Dues may be paid:

via our website: www.malibugardenclub.org

via the mail: send check to Malibu Garden Club,
PO Box 4171, Malibu CA 90264

In person at one of our monthly meetings.

We have a special tour (location to be announced) in November for all those who pay their club dues during the month of October but before November 1st!

Please note: if you paid your dues after May 31, 2010 you are covered until October 1, 2011 and you may renew then.

WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER?

Would you like to be on our e-mail list or know someone that Would?

Let me know at: info@malibugardenclub.org

7 THINGS YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT PUMPKINS: *

- Pumpkins are fruits. A pumpkin is a type of squash and is a member of the gourd family (Cucurbitaceae), which also includes squash, cucumbers, gherkins, and melons.

- The largest pumpkin pie ever baked was in 2005 and weighed 2,020 pounds.

- Pumpkins have been grown in North America for five thousand years. They are indigenous to the western hemisphere.

- In 1584, after French explorer Jacques Cartier explored the St. Lawrence region of North America, he reported finding "gros melons." The name was translated into English as "pompions," which has since evolved into the modern "pumpkin."

- Pumpkins are low in calories, fat, and sodium and high in fiber. They are good sources of Vitamin A, Vitamin B, potassium, protein, and iron.

- The largest pumpkin ever grown was 1,689 pounds. It was grown by Joe Jutras of North Scituate, Rhode Island.

- Pumpkin seeds should be planted between the last week of May and the middle of June. They take between 90 and 120 days to grow and are picked in October when they are bright orange in color. Their seeds can be saved to grow new pumpkins the next year.

*source=www.history.com

HAVE ANY NEWS YOU WANT TO SHARE?

If you have any events or news you would like to add to the next newsletter, please email me at: info@malibugardenclub.org

MALIBU GARDEN CLUB'S MISSION

The Malibu Garden Club is a non-profit organization whose mission is to aid in the beautification of Malibu, promote civic development and improvement, present scholarships to deserving students of horticulture, landscape architecture or related fields along with creating and promoting goodwill & friendship among local residents.



LOCAL HALLOWEEN/FALL FESTIVALS:



10/1-31: Pierce Collage Halloween Harvest Festival

Enjoy their Adventure Corn Maze, Haunted House or Haunted Trail. For those looking for something more extreme, the Halloween Harvest Festival takes on a more sinister persona after dark as FrightFair Scream Park comes to life, featuring both the "Factory of Nightmares" Haunted House and "Creatures of Corn" Haunted Trail—not for the easily startled! 10am-10pm Sun-Thurs. 10am-12am Fri-Sat. 818-999-6300 www.halloweenfestival.com

10/16: Malibu Fall Family Festival

11:00 am– 4:00pm. Enjoy food, a haunted house, bounce house, face painting, rock wall, dunk tank, petting zoo, bungy jump, dance entertainment. Our Lady of Malibu School, 3625 Winter Canyon Road, Malibu.

10/16-17: Calabasas Pumpkin Festival

Enjoy rides, contests, games, car show, live bands, nature programs, food & beer, craft, pumpkins and pumpkin treats. 8:30 am-9:00pm. Pre-sales tickets can be purchased for \$3 (\$5 at gate). Kids under 2 are free. De Anza Park (3701 Lost Hills Road, Calabasas). For info (818) 222-5680 or Info@calabasaschamber.com.

10/29 - Haunted Gardens at the Fullerton Arboretum.

Wander through the gardens at night with one of their tour guides. There will be plenty of spooky goblins and scary characters waiting at every turn. Age recommendation is 5 years or older. Tours last about 30 minutes each. 6:30 pm-8:30 pm.