

Idyllwild Garden Club
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Mountain Greenery Newsletter

Idyllwild Garden Club

July - August 2019

TWO FUN EVENTS TO CELEBRATE SUMMER!

Join us for our annual picnic on Tuesday, July 2nd and join us for Idyllwild's Independence Day Parade on the 4th.

Our picnic will be held at the Riverside County Park * at 12 noon on the 2nd. The club will provide the BBQ'd veggie, regular burgers and hot-dogs with condiments. Each of you can bring a side dish, or dessert to share, so be sure to be there by noon so we can add your dish to the rest of them. It's nice and shady with picnic tables, but you might want the comfort of your own chair, and beverages of your choice. If you have any outdoor games you can bring, that would be fun too. I know we'll have horseshoes set up. As a special treat, Shelly Kibby will take us on a walk around the meadow and point out different plants, especially those of medicinal value! (The park is located at the south end of So. Pine Crest, on Riverside County Playground Rd.) There is no need to pay at the entrance. If asked, just advise you are with the Garden Club.

The Parade starts at 10 am at Fern Valley corners (Pine Crest at N. Circle Dr.) We will be one of the first in line, so if you want the fun of marching for the Garden Club (short walk and all downhill!) Join us at the head of the line by 9:30. It's a hoot to wave to your friends as you walk.



ARE YOU GETTING OUR INFO?

If you are not getting updates, notices, or this newsletter by email, (*in living color*) we must not have your email, or we don't have a correct one. Please go on-line to add, or correct, or simply email Toni at tonestar@verizon.net and ask to have the email added, or edited.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

Congratulations to all our new members! We have surpassed our goal of 100 members, as we now have 107! We even had the wonderful problem of running out of directories at our last 2 meetings. However, more have been printed, so if you have not received your membership directory, let me know at one of the upcoming meetings. We still have some wonderful programs in the next few months, so continue to invite your friends to attend.

One of the benefits of being a member of the Idyllwild Garden Club is a 10% discount at the Idyllwild Gardens Nursery. So when you shop, let them know you are a member. When I shopped the other day, with the discount, it felt like I was getting a free plant! And my garden is so colorful now!

See you at the picnic!
Julie Roy, IGC Membership Chair

WEBSITE UPDATES

We recommend you check our website before meetings, events, or trips as we update it as needed. www.idyllwildgardenclub.net
The yearbook you received has this information, but it is a good idea to check the site for changes and current updates, including contact information for new members as they are added.
Note: If you have anything to contribute to the newsletter, a concern, or a question, please let me know. Toni B. tonestar@verizon.net 659-2907

THE BIRTHDAY CLUB:

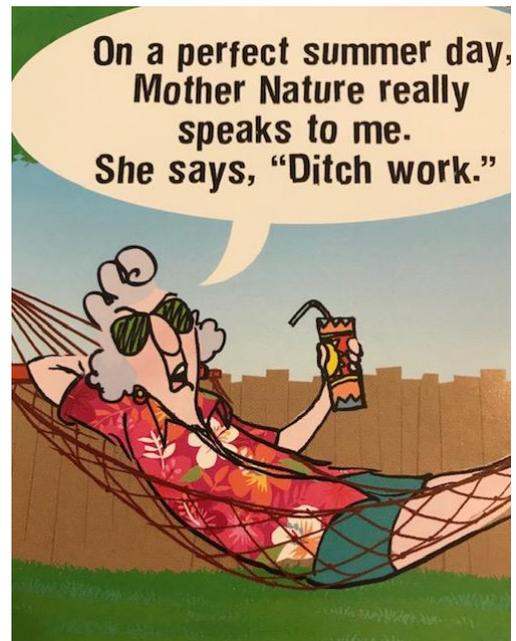


(Please let Toni know if you have been left out, or if your information is wrong!)

7/5 - Michael Duval
7/13 - Julie F Roy
7/17- Carol Thomason
7/18 - Joy Woodman
7/22 - Tracy Sampson
7/30- Steven E Murphy
8/1 - Zann Gustafson
8/4 - Emily Kelley
8/15 - Elliott Taylor
8/24 - Joye Schmiedt
8/26 - Antje Banks
8/29 - Theresa M Larkin
8/31 - Marlene Pierce
9/1 - Martha Lumia

GARDEN GIGGLES

Thanks to Carol Scanny!



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

If you are aware of any GC member who needs some cheering up, or just an indication of our concern, please contact Patti Morgan (760-636-2567) our Sunshine Chair.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

July 2nd- Our Annual picnic at Riverside- Location - County Park – 54000 Riverside County Playground Rd. (Entrance fee covered by the club) Pot luck, bring a side dish to share (hotdogs, burgers & bottled water provided by the club). Please feel free to bring any other beverages of choice. Arrive by 12:00, lunch at 12:30 - Hostess Helpers: Ed Hansen and Joy Woodman

August 6th at the Community Church: Light refreshments at 12, meeting at 12:30 and program at 1:00. A master Gardener from Riverside County Master Gardeners will give a presentation on natural remedies for 'critter-proofing. Hostess helpers will be: Debbie Roeder and Molly Cozens

NO! DON'T TOP THAT TREE

By Dennis Patton

From time to time I like to climb up on my soapbox, so here goes. When will people learn that topping trees is wrong? Topping is one of the worst things that can ever be done to a tree. If there were such a thing as crimes against trees, topping would be a felony murder.

Topping a tree is the drastic removal or cutting back of large mature limbs, leaving the tree with stubbed branches. Topping is sometimes called heading, stubbing or dehorning. All these practices are wrong.

Unsuspecting homeowners fall prey to fast-talking trimmers giving out misleading information. Let me be clear, there are zero benefits to tree topping.

One reason is starvation: topping removes leaves and the transport system. Proper pruning should not remove more than 1/4 to 1/3 of the leafy crown at any one time. Topping shocks the tree as the canopy acts like an umbrella, shading the rest of the tree. Limb

removal exposes protected bark, leading to sunscald.

Another reason is large pruning wounds are a magnet for insects and disease. These cuts decrease the tree's ability to fend off pests, inviting insects and wood-rotting decay. Once decay starts, there is no way to stop the progression. Research also shows wound sealants or tree paint can actually injure trees.

But this last reason is the real topper (pun intended). People think topping will control the height of a tree, decreasing the chance it will topple in wind or ice. Topping has become especially popular in dealing with ornamental or Bradford pear trees, which break easily in storms. The claim that decreasing the height will reduce limb breakage and preserve the tree is a ruse. In fact, just the opposite happens. Yes, the trees will regrow and the pears will flower again. But the irony is these trees, particularly the pears, are now more susceptible to failure.

Why? Topped trees respond by sending out numerous long sprouts. This new growth is weakly attached to the remaining stubs. The result is minimal attachment of wood to the main branch.

The tree, if it does not die, may quickly return to its mature height. But now with a bushier, less attractive appearance and weaker limbs, this regrowth is more likely to fail than the original branches.

A topped tree is also an ugly tree, disfigured even after it regrows. It will never provide the grace and beauty that a natural-shaped tree brings to the landscape. Topping may seem like a bargain when compared to recommended maintenance practices — all it takes is a chainsaw and a truck — but in the long run it will cost more money.

CALLING ALL GARDENERS

You can enjoy the satisfaction of seeing a place transformed while being with friends. We meet periodically at the Idyllwild Historical Museum, usually on Wednesdays, for

light gardening. The garden has our club's name on it and we want to make it BEAUTIFUL! Volunteers often bring a kneeling pad, gloves, and small hand tools. If you would be interested in the future let Molly know. (206-755-7671. Looking forward to having you join us. Molly Cozens

ARE YOU THE ONE WE NEED

Hi! It's me, Toni Berthelotte. I would really like to find a few people to help me out on jobs that I have done for the last 6 to 9 years. Let me know if either of these tasks interest you.

The first one is very short term and not difficult. I need someone to take over heading up the Holiday in the Pines party in December. (I know, I know, that's like six months away!) I already have someone interested in helping you with the games! Here's what it entails. The time and place are already set: Tuesday 12/3 at the Comm. Church, starting at noon. There'll be a potluck Holiday luncheon. Our long-time member Ed Hanson usually plays the piano for us for a sing-a-long (We already have the song books) The last couple of years we also had a harpist. Really special! The church usually already has a tree up so decorating the rest is pretty easy, we have a member who usually puts together some beautiful center pieces. So... We need someone to head it up. Have a meeting with the helpers and just be the MC to keep the party on track, Like facilitating a regular meeting, but no business stuff. I will still be in charge of the Help Center Family donations, so that's not even an issue. If you might want to help or want to know more. Please call me at 659-2907. or tonestar@verizon.net

The other job is to find a member willing to put together a newsletter every two months. I have the template for the one I use, or you can create your own. As web-mistress, you would email me a copy and I will get it emailed to our membership, and mailed to those who don't have emails. Most of the newsletters are 3 to 4 pages long and it doesn't take much to create that. Most of the articles are provided by chairs

and other members of the Board. Again, if you're interested, or need more information. Call me at 659-2907, or tonestar@verizon.net Thank you!

FOREST RESILIENCE

Fremontia Magazine-Native Plant Society

Forests have long provided overlapping and not always complementary ecological, social, and economic benefits. Thus, there is no social consensus about what a healthy forest looks like. Therefore, rather than health, in this article, we will focus on resilience, which is the capacity of a system to absorb disturbances and remain in, or return to, a similar condition.

Resilient forests can be characterized as those whose underlying technological processes continue to operate on any temporal, or spatial scale in response to historical disturbance regimes with which they evolved. In forests that lack resilience, a disturbance can push them into a new state, permanently altering what had been there before.

A Californian example might be a forest located at lower elevations or on a drought prone site that is adapted to low severity fires, but that burns at a high severity fire, killing all of the trees. It is possible that this forest will not naturally regenerate, but instead convert to a new state such as chaparral, shrubland, or grassland.

In general, forests have been resilient to historical disturbance, but as they come under increasing pressure from novel stressors that they did not evolve with, there is no guarantee that they will remain so. Climate change, invasive insects, diseases, and plants are changes to disturbance regimes that all represent departures from historical conditions. A major unanswered question then, given the increasing scale of disturbance in the age of climate change, is if forests will be resilient to ongoing changes in the present and the future.