

IDYLLWILD GARDEN CLUB

July-September Newsletter

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Summer Fun for IGC!!!

A big thank you to those of you who joined us in the 4th of July parade and especially to Max Singer who loaned, and drove, his vintage 1974 Ford Courier truck to use as a float. Don Roy was his co-pilot and Julie Roy and Wendy Read greeted us surrounded by beautiful plants donated by Denise Van Herpen's, The Green Thing Nursery on Highway 243. Molly Cozens and Devona Maillard proudly carried our banner. There's a special feeling to wave to people watching the parade and them waving back! We even won the Rotary's Squirrel Award for supplying all those flowers that our critters will be allowed to eat!



July Picnic Meeting

We had a great turnout for our July picnic meeting. There was lots of good food to share and a terrific presentation by Elizabeth Butterfield. She gave us some timely tips on gardening on a budget. She recommended reusing mugs, vases, and containers you may have, or can get for very little money at a thrift store. She also recommended using umbrellas to shade some plants as the heat is upon us now. Also, if possible, buy your plants in 6 packs! Always cheaper per plant.



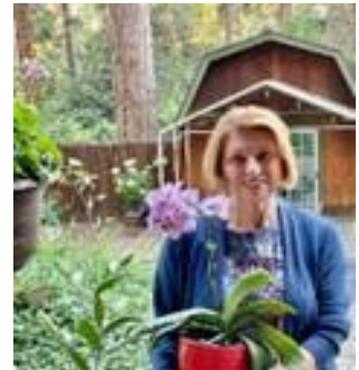
Announcements

GARDEN TOUR RESULTS!!! Wendy Read gave us a final report on our May Garden Tour. We had 89 attendees, with quite a few off the hill, and after \$200 in expenses, we cleared \$1138.00! A big thank you goes out to Wendy, of course, for putting this together and the many, many volunteers and garden owners for making this a success. If interested in having your garden on next spring's tour, please email us at idygar@gmail.com and we'll put you on the list.

AUGUST MEETING



Be sure to mark August 3rd for our meeting at the Nature Center. It will start at 12:30 and there will be light refreshments, as usual. Our program will be a panel, led by Julie Roy, on indoor plants. Julie was the "Plant Lady" for three years in San Diego on a CBS affiliate weekly TV show, showing how to keep indoor plants thriving. Julie will also share some valuable information on transplanting container plants! Don't miss this.



Two containers using techniques Julie will cover during the meeting.

Goucho blooms that doubled in quantity over the winter! Find out how!



We will also present our slate of elected officers. The election itself will be in September. W Thank you SO much for all who cheerfully stepped up to help us handle the various tasks that keep us running, and those who volunteered to stay on. We only have a few appointed positions still open and would love to have volunteers for the following:

OPEN POSITIONS:

Heading up 4th of July parade: Registers with the Rotary to be in the parade, and collaborates with some members to plan our participation

Newsletter help: We need someone to help Mary Rider write some of the articles that will be sent to Amanda Conerty to put it all together with photos we supply.

Communications: This office oversees the members who write the newsletter, do the website & Facebook, do the publicity etc.

Publicity: Falls under the Communication Chair to help with press releases, ads and flyers.



Be Water Wise!

Our current drought conditions are a real challenge for gardeners and even when just trying to keep your natural plants life healthy. Here are a few hints to help you got the most out of your water use.

Keep it low: Whether you're using sprinklers, or hand watering, avoid letting the water spray go too high. The higher it is, the more water is evaporated in the air before falling on the plants, plus most plants do better without water sitting on the leaves. Water closer to the base.

Consider the root system: If you are watering something, (like grass) you're better off with a couple of short-term waterings than one longer soaking type of watering. Once the soil is wet to a level just above the root depth, any added water is wasted as it soaks down to nothing but soil. When you water trees and large shrubs, concentrate your water around the foliage's outside edge. This is where the younger roots seek water and nutrition.

Use a timer: It is SO easy to forget that you have water running. One of the most reliable water control devices are timers that connect to your spigot and are well worth the minimal expense. Simply set the timer for specific length of time, turn on the water and adjust the flow. The timer will now shut-off the water automatically. You can also use any other type of audio reminder. Many of us now have those oh-so handy Alexa, or Siri, gadgets. After you have set your water, simply ask Alexa, or Siri, to "Remind me to shut-off /move the water in X minutes. Of course, can also set a cooking timer too, but if you don't hear the timer, it won't help.

Create a dam: If you have plants where the soil absorbs, or drains slowly, build a bit of a dirt dam around the plant so that the water will not drain away before being able to absorb near the plant.

Use mulch: A light of mulch around plants will help keep the moisture in when you water. For container plants we would recommend a shallow layer of Alpaca Fiber to reduce evaporation and extend time required before watering. Small bags of fiber, for only \$5, are available for purchase at our meetings.

Use containers: When it comes to the use of and the retention of water, containers can be great. However, to get the most out of using them, buy the kind that sits on a dish that has a reservoir. That gives the plant an extended source of water without drowning the roots. Also, if you can **bury** the bulk of the container in the ground, you won't lose the moisture through evaporation. Containers exposed above ground get a lot hotter.





We are in the process, this July, of changing to our new Website address. Instead of Idyllwildgardenclub.net, it will be Idyllwildgardenclub.com. We owe a big thank you to Erin O'Neill, our webmistress, who has been working diligently for months.

This change will save the club a fair amount of money each month. There are some differences in how you will interact with the new site. When it is time to renew your membership in December, you can go to the site, under membership, and either print out the form and mail it to us with a check, OR click on the PayPal link to join, or renew. PayPal offers several options on the type of membership and how you prefer to pay, (CrCd/E-chk) etc.

For security purposes Members personal information will no longer be available on this site. You can always go to the Contact Page and ask questions, or for member information. We will verify that you are a member, and gladly share. We are also planning on sending a mid-year membership directory page that will include new members. You may also use site's Contact Page for any other questions or suggestions. We can always be reached through idygar@gmail.com

Our past and current Newsletters are posted on the new site.



September/October Meetings.



September meeting: Wednesday the 7th – Election of officers and Bob Greenamy, head of the Community Garden and Education Center, will give us an update on CGEC and planned programs and more.



October meeting: Wednesday the 5th – Installation of Officers and presentation of the Board. Mary Rider, President of the Friends of the San Jacinto Mountain Parks and IGC secretary, will lead us on a fun tour of our pine forest at the Nature Center. Our meetings are at the Nature Center, 25225 Hwy. 243, 12:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

We are also considering have a **November 2nd Meeting** with a speaker giving us timely tips on Holiday décor. More information to follow in our October newsletter.



Membership

We are breaking records on our Membership! We are at **114** members. Some are not full-time residents here, but stay active, attend meetings when they can and are very supportive of our club and activities. A big 'Thank you' to all of you. You are appreciated.

By the way, we are not anticipating any increase in our dues. They will remain at \$20 per member, or \$30 per couple!

www.Idyllwildgardenclub.com

[Idyllwild Garden Club Facebook](#)

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