



The Spindrifter



November 2020, Volume 47, Issue 3

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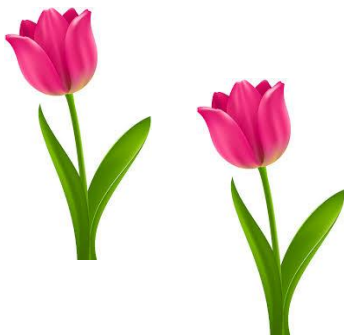
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General Meeting (via Zoom)
Thursday, November 19
Business meeting: 10:00
Program: 10:30

Jacqueline van der Kloet

**The Natural Garden: Mixing Bulbs with
Perennials, Shrubs, and Trees**



Jacqueline van der Kloet

See page 3 for more information

**NOVEMBER PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE**

Although we could not see your faces at the October meeting, we could sure feel your presence as evidenced by the chat comments during the fascinating videos presented by our program co-chairs. Who had ever heard the term “Insect Hotel” prior to Lina Hirsch’s tour of the insect habitat she initiated in Sweden where insects, important to a balanced ecosystem, can overwinter? Next, Bill Toone, so passionate about the endangered Monarch Butterfly, told us the story of their amazing migration. We are so grateful to Susan and Sheryl for bringing us the most imaginative, creative programs this year.

We are also so appreciative of the Bouquet of Thanks committee who reimagined how they could safely create and deliver the succulent pumpkins that the VA patients and staff eagerly await. They didn’t miss a beat!!

As challenging as 2020 has been, and despite the fact this Thanksgiving will probably be the most unusual one we have celebrated, it is perhaps more important than ever to focus on gratitude. Our garden club village is made up of such a fantastic group of members. In a recent National Garden Club newsletter, author unknown, we found this description of what it means to be a garden club member and have tailored it for VGCLJ:

- To some it means the actual gardening, hands in soil, body in the sun.
- To some it means the use of flowers as a medium of artistic expression.
- To some it means an opportunity to serve their community by beautifying an area or planting a tree.
- To some it is an experience whereby they may serve through a creative gift of plants or flowers to the patriots in a hospital.
- To a few it means the challenge of leadership and personal ability in group work.
- To a very few it is meaningless, a name on the membership list and sometime attendance.
- But to the many it means making friends, mingling with the old and welcoming the new.
- Garden Club work is as complex as the unfolding of a rose and as simple as the face of a daisy. It is spiritual. It is educational. It is scientific. It is a way of life.

Whatever your role in the Village Garden Club, we are most grateful for your membership and for supporting us while we continue to reimagine the way we stay connected while still achieving our objectives. We count you in our blessings and resolve to stay resilient while we face the challenges ahead.

We wish each of you a happy and safe Thanksgiving. With sincere gratitude,

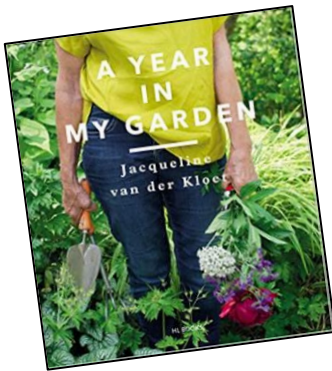
Sue and Sue /Sue ²

Please Note. The date for the **School Yard Garden/Gardener's Exchange Sale** was incorrect on the October agenda. The correct date and time are below:

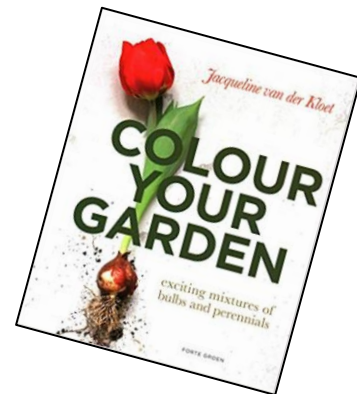
Wednesday, November 11, 2020, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

See page 6 for more information.

MEET OUR NOVEMBER MEETING PRESENTER:



Jacqueline van der Kloet



Jacqueline van der Kloet is a Dutch landscape and garden designer and planting specialist who is known throughout the world for her expertise in combining bulbs and perennials to create unique garden effects. She works around the globe and has designed EXPO 2000 in Hanover, River Park in Shen Yang (China), Millennium Park in Chicago, the New York Botanical Garden and many more.

Ms. Van der Kloet studied at the Institut Provincial Supérieur d'Horticulture in Brussels. She spent several years designing public garden spaces but eventually branched out into residential gardens. She has documented her work in nine books including one that captures her particular aesthetic: ***Colour Your Garden: Exciting Mixtures of Bulbs and Perennials***.

Her own garden, Theetuin (Dutch for Tea Garden), is a popular place for garden tours near Amsterdam. Within the framework of a structured garden of hedges and trees and orderly beds, Van der Kloet intersperses bulbs with perennials to achieve the look of a natural flower garden developing within the garden's formal structure. The beauty of Theetuin is captured in her latest book: ***A Year in My Garden***.



NOVEMBER KUDOS

As November is the month to focus on thankfulness and gratitude, we want to extend our sincere appreciation to our various board members who work so diligently behind the scenes to keep our Club moving forward so efficiently. These unsung heroes are vitally important to our written and virtual communications, financial record keeping, and maintaining the connections that make our Club so unique.

Thank you to:

Sara Carpenter, who maintains and updates our website and data base with a calmness and competence that belies the fact that she is also raising two young children. We are in total awe.

Julie Fiss, our corresponding secretary, whose gracious and heartfelt notes convey a message of support and caring to Club members.

Marilyn Sorenson (2018-19), Susan Starr, and Suzanne Ward who have the formidable task of recording and deciphering our meetings for the Club's permanent record.

Cindy Lococo, our efficient treasurer, who juggles our cash, checks, and credit cards to keep our budget operating smoothly.

Sandy McCreight, our parliamentarian, who ensures that we are following correct procedures in line with our bylaws.

Gail Dill, the queen of the Eblast, who sends out the monthly Spindrifter and messages that need to be disseminated yesterday.

Lynn Jewell, Nancy Palmtag, Susan Starr, Catherine Fraser (2018-19), and Deanna Weeks, our fabulous Spindrifter team, who put together our newsletter each month to assure that our members receive information on our programs, civic projects, and gardening news.

Mercedes Bartolemei, Penner, Kate Engler, and Donna Koziol who work so diligently over the summer to produce our Yearbook. What a job! They make sure our membership pages are up-to-date and each of our committees have provided information for the year ahead. "Herding cats" refers to the daunting task they have undertaken over the years.

We rely on each of you and know that you are our "essential workers" that keep our Village running smoothly.

With gratitude,

Sue and Sue /Sue ²





OVER THE GARDEN GATE



Margaret Anne Lozuk



As the daughter of an Air Force pilot, I moved and traveled extensively growing up. We lived in Salt Lake City, Tripoli, Germany, Alabama, and New York just to name a few of the places! My family was very close, and my mother always made sure my two sisters and I had a comfortable home everywhere we lived. I feel so fortunate to have had so many wonderful experiences beginning at a young age.

I met my husband, Bob, at a Spinster party in Mission Beach. We married and raised our twins, Rob and Kristi, in Carlsbad to

be near my school and Bob's dental practice. Our children were very involved in sports, and we loved to travel when time allowed.

My mother and grandmother loved to entertain and garden, so it was a natural thing for me to want to do the same. I enjoy both to this day.

Kathy Peterson and I became friends after her twin son and my twin daughter met at Torrey Pines High School and married nine years later. After I retired from almost 40 years of teaching, Kathy and Laura Robins sponsored me for the VGCLJ. Kathy and I were in charge of Workshops for two years, and most recently we were Refreshment Chairs. We loved both jobs, but the best part was personally getting to know so many wonderful and talented members of our club and just having fun together.

I was also a member of the San Diego Junior League where I was on the Cookbook Committee, and I'm presently on the Board of the San Diego County Garden Guild, again a group I so value.

My love of travel has always prevailed as you can see from my picture taken in Torre del Paine, Chile. I travel with my husband as well as with family and friends. Retirement is wonderful!

It sure looks like we're all overdue for a trip about now!

!!!! REMINDER !!!!

The deadline for the next Spindrifter is **November 25**, a Wednesday, and the day before Thanksgiving.

Don't Miss These Club Activities



GARDENERS' EXCHANGE TABLE



Hello, dear gardening lovers. Come one, come all! We are so excited about our upcoming socially-distanced, outdoor event in the driveway of Sue Kalish's lovely home at **8641 Nottingham Place, La Jolla, 92037, on Wednesday, November 11, 10:00 a.m. to noon. We are finally open for business!**

We will gather (in masks) to exchange items at our **Gardener's Exchange** table and to shop al fresco at our **Market Place** and **School Yard Garden** tables. You may find wonderful treasures while doing some early Christmas shopping. For our exchange table, please bring items such as vases, planters, garden décor, supplies, books, as well as cuttings, seedlings, seeds, plants, and even excess fruits or vegetables that you have cleared out from your garages, closets, attics, AND gardens. Please bring them early if possible so we can set up. I will be there at 9:30. We are really looking forward to this time together and cannot wait to see you in a few weeks! It's always fun to try to recognize who is behind the mask!

In addition, we are still doing a **Virtual Gardeners' Exchange** that can be done on our closed Facebook chatroom any time you want to post what you have, including pictures and descriptions along with your name and any details you would like to add, such as when and where the items will be available or by appointment. Our members can use their 2020-2021 Yearbook for information on how to post on our closed Facebook page. You may advertise only gardening items such as cuttings, excess fruit or vegetables, plants, planters, vases, gardening tools, books, and any type of garden décor.

Note: For those of you who do not use Facebook, you can also send the above information to suekinlj@yahoo.com for inclusion in Voices from Our Village.

Happy gardening and be well,
Clara Blenis and Suzanne Thomas

➡ VGCLJ COOKBOOK: THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT ⬅



WE HAVE COOKBOOKS! If you're busy making your holiday gift lists, don't forget that our beautiful cookbook filled with the best recipes collected from our membership is still available. Priced at only \$15, it will provide you, your friends, and your family with new ideas for tasty dishes from appetizers to desserts as we continue to shelter in place. Thanks for your support of our club's programs.

Contact Robin Vandever at 858.344.9551 or revcsv@yahoo.com



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Thank you to everyone who has supported this wonderful cause in the past. Wreaths across America is following county health guidelines throughout the United States to be able to place wreaths on veterans' graves all across our country, abroad and at sea on December 19, 2020.

DEADLINE TO SPONSOR A WREATH – November 30th

The link below will take you directly to The Village Garden Club of America's website so that you can be sure the VGCLJ will receive credit for your donation. Please feel free to share this link with family and friends. WAA and the VGCLJ welcome their participation.

www.wreathscrossamerica.org/CA0328P

Questions please email Karen.novak123@gmail.com



OPPORTUNITY DRAWING

3 Holiday Arrangements

WILL BE CREATED BY THE
MAGNIFICENTLY TALENTED DECEMBER SPEAKER
Breesa
OF BLOOMSDESIGNHOUSE.COM

\$20 PER ENTRY
SEND AS MANY ENTRIES AS YOU LIKE

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO VGCLJ AND MAIL TO:
SHERYL LESTER 6590 AVENIDA MIROLA LA JOLLA, CA 92037
OR VENMO SHERYL-LESTER-2

YOUR ENTRY WILL BE CONFIRMED BY SHERYL.

LUCKY WINNERS WILL BE CHOSEN DECEMBER 16TH BY BREEA
GORGEOUS HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE
DELIVERED TO YOUR FRONT DOOR

ALL PROCEEDS FROM OPPORTUNITY DRAWING GO TO VGCLJ SPEAKERS FUND

VGCLJ CHAT ROOM



Come and join us in the VGCLJ Chat Room ~~

Sue Kalish is looking for tips on planting bare root roses.



Can you give her some advice?

Sheryl Lester has Scented Geranium (Pelargonium) cuttings to share.

I asked about growing veggies at this time of year and *Devonna Hall* kindly posted a link to the Master Gardener San Diego list.

The Chat Room is a closed (private) group on Facebook. Only members of our club can join and no one else on Facebook can see who the members are and what we're saying.

If you already have a FB account, just search for VGCLJ Chat Room and ask to be accepted. If you don't have an account, it's easy to set up and you can use it just to chat with gardening friends.

We look forward to welcoming you..

Elizabeth Hansen, Facebook Administrator



8TH ANNUAL PUMPKINS FOR PATRIOTS

Committee Updates



BOUQUET OF THANKS



8th Annual Pumpkins for Patriots Project. Despite COVID19 challenges, the intrepid Bouquet of Thanks Committee delivered 138 succulent-topped pumpkins to the V.A. Hospital on October 19 and 20 for patients, families and staff to enjoy (see photos on previous page). Thanks to hostesses Sandy Small (our pumpkin chair), Diana Lombrozo, Mary Ann Driscoll, Gail Dill, Priscilla Moxley andCarolynn La Pierre, volunteers were able to meet outside in small groups to decorate pumpkins. Sandy Small and I bought and organized materials, tools, succulents and pumpkins, which were picked up by each hostess for workshops held from October 17-20. Everyone I've spoken to had a wonderful time--it felt so normal to be getting together again to do this creative project. The V.A. was thrilled that we were still able to decorate pumpkins despite the challenging circumstances. Thank you to all the hostesses and volunteers who made this possible!



Holiday Cards and Poinsettias. Nansea Wolff's card group created over 220 beautiful handmade holiday cards for the V.A. during the summer. Since the club won't be meeting in November, we are planning to distribute blank card stock for people to add messages to, and Nansea has volunteered to glue the messages into the cards. If you are coming to the club's yard sale at Sue Kalish's on November 11, we will have cards there to admire and sign as well. In mid December, small groups will meet at Judith Johnson's and Jill Holmes's houses (we will work outside, weather permitting) to assemble the cards, labels, and purchased 4" poinsettias. We will deliver immediately thereafter to the hospital.

Thanks for your continuing support! Julia Sheldon, Bouquet of Thanks Chair

WORKSHOPS

We regret to announce that our Holiday Floral Design Workshop with Annette Gomez is cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns. We hope to invite Annette back during our 2021-2022 session for a wonderful hands-on flower arranging workshop.

Mary Ruyle and Maureen McMahon, Workshop Co-Chairs

THE JACARANDA AND NATIVE TREE PLANTING COMMITTEE

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**Devonna Hall and Penelope West, Co-Chairs**



I don't normally have reason to visit Kate Sessions Park, and when I visited recently to take photos of Jacarandas, I was so impressed to see the thriving trees with families relaxing in their shade. This park with its lush green lawns must be one of the best irrigated and cared for in San Diego. Going to see the Jacarandas in bloom at Kate Sessions would make a fun day out with the family in spring.

It was Kate Sessions herself who first imported the Jacarandas and other trees to San Diego. However, since those early days much has changed here. We have a better understanding of the role played by native trees and plants in protecting local birds, butterflies, and insects by providing the specific food and shelter they need for survival.

Doug Tallamy, who spoke to our Club in 2016, asks: "How can we adjust our planting palette to be both beautiful and environmentally useful? How much more does a local oak species contribute to habitat richness than an out-of-ecological-context exotic tree?"

Of course, we can plant both! In the right spot our Jacarandas are magnificent in bloom, but not all locations are suitable due to lack of water, the hazard of fallen blooms, and, if truth be told, these trees don't support a single bird!

We believe we can make an important contribution to the environment by including Engelmann Oaks (habitat trees) in our tree planting program. The oaks will contribute to nature's diversity and provide welcome shade for people.

We know some members will always be drawn to those beautiful purple flowers of the Jacarandas, but we hope you will also help us expand our plantings of oaks that will soon grow into handsome landmark trees. We thank those of you who have chosen habitat trees in your donations or even let us use past donations for habitat trees. Our committee will continue to look for the right place to plant both Jacarandas and Engelmann Oaks.



*Englemann Oaks*



## Friends and Enemies



### GIANT SWALLOWTAIL



In most of my articles in this series the subject is clearly identifiable as a friend or an enemy, but in the case of the giant swallowtail, *Papilio rumiko*, how you classify it would depend on your priorities. The beautiful adult is a source of pleasure as it soars between blooms in search of nectar. Its ugly duckling larva, called the orange dog (*photo above*), feeds on citrus leaves, and in Florida, where it is present in larger numbers than in California, it can be a pest for the commercial grower. It may defoliate a small plant but causes no great harm on larger trees. We see the larvae infrequently on our oranges and lemons and have rarely seen any damage to our mature trees. Therefore, we welcome them in our garden.

Our local species is found in the southwestern states in areas close to Mexico and throughout Mexico and Central America. Until recently it was considered the same species as the giant swallowtail of eastern North America, *Papilio cresphontes*. *P. rumiko* was promoted to a separate species in 2014 after DNA analysis of the two populations. While the splitters were at work on these two species, the lumpers have amalgamated what were previously separate genera, and the genus, *Papilio*, now has some 200 members and is found throughout the tropical and temperate regions of the world.

The adults of the giant swallowtail and the anise swallowtail, *P. zelicaon*, are very similar, but there is no danger of confusing their larvae. The latter, which you will find feeding on the leaves of

dill, parsley, and other members of the carrot family, is handsomely striped and spotted with black, orange, and yellow. The orange dog caterpillar is mostly black, grey, and white, a protective coloration much resembling bird poop. The larvae go through a series of five stages as they grow, each being separated by a moult, and not only their size, but their appearance, change with each *instar*. The resemblance to bird droppings is most pronounced with the earlier instars, and it has been suggested that the older instars resemble snakes. When they are threatened, this appearance is enhanced by the projection of *osmeteria*, which look like a snake's forked tongue and which emit a foul-smelling and toxic mixture of chemicals.

Curiously, some of the articles on the Internet, by authors who should know better, seem to confuse the anise and the giant swallowtail, suggesting that the orange dog caterpillar can also feed on parsley and fennel.

The caterpillars feed mainly at night, which may explain why we rarely see them, though the adults are plentiful in our garden. They attack many members of the Rutaceae in addition to citrus. We were able to observe the whole life cycle when one larva appeared on a small Boronia 'Shark Bay' in a hypertufa container.

Two other species, the citrus swallowtail (*P. demodocus*), native to Africa, and the lime swallowtail (*P. demoleus*), widely distributed in Asia and Australasia, also attack citrus plants. The latter is invasive and is already established in Hispaniola, Cuba, and Jamaica. It is more destructive than our native species and will probably appear in Florida before long.

**Arthur Dawson**

## NOVEMBER 2019 MEETING MEMORIES





## November 2020 Calendar

by Pat Parks

The pandemic continues and we are still limiting physical contact. However, we are fortunate to live in San Diego and can walk outside and enjoy the landscaping and views. If you have a favorite place to walk and would like to share the information, please email me at [pparks2@verizon.net](mailto:pparks2@verizon.net) and I will add it to the Calendar.

### PLACES TO GO

- San Diego Botanic Garden: Open Wednesday – Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED Cost: Adults \$18; Seniors \$12; Children \$10. Reservations and tickets are available through their website: <http://www.sdbgarden.org>. 230 Quail Gardens Dr. Encinitas, CA 92024.
- San Diego Zoo and Safari Park are open and operating under CDC and State of California guidelines. Animal encounters, shows, bus, and trams are not available. Attendance in the parks is reduced, and waiting people are admitted as people exit. I saw frequent cleaning going on throughout the parks. San Diego Zoo (2920 Zoo Drive, San Diego); Safari Park (15500 San Pasqual Valley Road, San Diego). For more information and to purchase tickets see <http://www.zoosandiegozoo.org>.
- Friendship Garden of San Diego: Japanese garden with walkways, bridges, and landscapes. Buildings are closed. Garden is open Tuesday - Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Cost: Adults \$4; Seniors \$2.50. Located in Balboa Park.

### OF INTEREST

- November 21,28; December 5,12,19: San Diego Botanic Garden Open Air Yoga Experience 9:15 -10:15. Breathe in fresh air while being surrounded by lush gardens. Please bring your own yoga mat. Class fees include Garden Admission. Please note that the class will be cancelled in the event of rain. Cost: Members \$10; Non-members \$24. Must register at least 1 day in advance.
- San Diego Floral Association: Free online Virtual Floral class. December 10, 10:00 a.m. For more information and registration email [infosdfloral@gmail.com](mailto:infosdfloral@gmail.com). A confirmation email will be sent with Zoom instructions upon receipt of your registration. Must register prior to attending. Questions contact Laurie at [sdfaoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sdfaoffice@gmail.com).

Below is a list of links to websites that you can check as the virus situation changes. Consider becoming a member to participate in their Zoom meetings.

- San Diego Ephemery Society: <https://www.sandiegoepi.org>
- San Diego Horticultural Society: <https://www.sdhort.org>
- San Diego Zoo: <http://www.sandiegozoo.com> Check 3<sup>rd</sup> Fri of month for plant days
- San Diego Botanic Garden: <http://www.sdbgarden.org>
- San Diego Bonsai Club: <https://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com>
- San Diego County Orchid Society: <http://sdorchids.com>
- California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter: <http://cnpssd.org>
- San Diego Floral Association: <http://sdfloral.org>
- Friendship Garden of San Diego: <http://niwa.org>
- San Diego Rose Society: <http://sdrosesociety.org>
- Ikebana International Chapter 119 of San Diego: <http://ikebanasandiego.org>
- San Diego Bromeliad Society: <http://sandiegobromeliadsociety.org>