



Bakersfield Green Thumb Garden Club
The California Sequoia Foothills District
NGCI Pacific Region, CGCI

www.bakersfieldgreenthumb.org Email: BGTGC@yahoo.com Oct. 2011, vol. 16, #4

“Gardening is about enjoying the smell of things growing in the soil, getting dirty without feeling guilty, and generally taking time to soak up a little peace and serenity.”
Lindley Karstens, noproblemgarden.com

Calendar

Our September Plant Sale was a big success, netting just over \$500. Pat Tennant did a wonderful job coordinating the sale. A little rain didn't dampen the enthusiasm of shoppers and there was a great turn-out of members who helped. Thanks to all who donated plants and their time.

With sadness, we note the passing of Doris Dermody, 9/27. Doris was a charter member of BGTGC, generously giving of her time and plant expertise to the club. She grew prize-winning camellias, inspired us with her pithy poems and sayings, and above all was a friend to many.

October 15: General Meeting: “Growing Orchids” by Jack Katchadourian of the Orchid Society.

October 21-23: Home and Garden Show at the Kern County Fairgrounds. Please bring specimens of anything you have blooming or thriving in your yard this season, houseplants, yard art, seeds for give-away packets, in short, anything that you can share. Help is needed to set up Thursday, 4 – 7 p.m. and Friday morning. No parking passes are needed at those times. We are in Exhibition Hall 3, go through gate 28 for closest access. Gates open at 1 p.m. Fri. Volunteers for our booth will get a weekend pass. Our display will be dismantled from 5 – 7p.m. Sunday. Questions? Call Barbara Loudon, chairperson.

November 12: Floral Design Workshop from 10 to noon at the Church. Beginners welcome, line design is this month's focus. Bring your own plant material and container.

November 19: General Meeting: David Schwartz from the Native Plant Society will speak about ferns, those which do well in our area, and how to groom and care for many varieties in both wet and dry areas.

December 10: Annual Holiday Potluck luncheon: As always, be prepared for a fabulous spread of delicious dishes and a carefree gathering of your gardening friends. The floral design group is inviting all interested members to help create unique centerpieces and table decorations for auctioning. There is also talk about a general holiday sale, so think about something you can grow or create to donate and sell, and there may even be a "used" table with bargain prices. More about this at the next meeting.

Garden tips for October

Planting Guide from the University of California, Farm and Home Advisor's Office

Vegetables

Beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, collards, endive, garlic, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mustard, bunching onions, parsley, peas, radishes, rutabagas, spinach, Swiss chard, and turnips.

Flowers

Alyssum, baby's breath, calendula, candy tuft, chrysanthemum, dianthus, dusty miller, gazania, gerbera daisy, hollyhocks, ornamental kale, lavender, lupine, nasturtiums, pansies, Iceland poppies, primrose, snapdragons, stock, sweet peas, sweet William and violas.

As mentioned last month, *The National Gardening Association* has a very helpful web site. For those of you with internet, it's worth checking out the *Regional Reports*. NGA's check list this month for our region: *Northern California and Coastal and Inland Valleys*

- ✓ Groom lawns
- ✓ Deep water trees and shrubs
- ✓ Harvest herbs
- ✓ Cut back overgrown perennial plants
- ✓ Cut whips from vining plants

* A separate handout with detailed information is available on the membership table. *

This is, of course, a top bulb planting month. For those of you with internet, The *National Gardening Association web site* has an excellent video on bulb planting tips.

Daffodils, crocus, narcissus, tulips, anemone, allium, grape hyacinth, are popular choices. For vibrant color, tuck in ranunculus. Many blooms sprout from this unassuming little bulb. Prices vary, with 99¢ for a prime bulb, less when bought in bulk, but you get a lot of bang for your buck. Plant "toes" down.

It may be Fall, but think Spring