



**BAKERSFIELD GREEN THUMB GARDEN CLUB**  
**THE CALIFORNIA SEQUOIA FOOTHILLS DISTRICT**  
**NGCI, PACIFIC REGION, CGCI**



www.bakersfieldgreenthumb.org

Email: BGTGC@yahoo.com

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**Presidents Message**

By John Lucas

Hello and greetings to one and all!

Let's all welcome our new newsletter editor, Kay Bell and assistant editor, Mildred "Millie" Wheeler. Please support these ladies by sending in articles, photographs and suggestions. Also, please let them know if you are on the Internet because you can receive the newsletter at <http://www.bakersfieldgreenthumb.org/NEWSLETTER.html> This will reduce our Club's postage expense.

The Yearbook will be late this year. I hope that it will be ready in September. The reason for the delay is that the necessary information to produce the Yearbook has yet to be received. Please be patient while we wait for the information.

Help Wanted. Chairpersons are needed for Hospitality and Ways and Means. Volunteers are needed for many positions. Please contact John Lucas.

Looking forward to seeing you at the general membership meeting and Potluck on August 15<sup>th</sup>.



**Plant of the Month**

Fred Kotowske - Cactus

**Yard Tour**

September Tour to be announced

**Opportunity Table for August**

Janice Malouf

**Penny Pines for August**

Help Penny Pines collect for another plantation by bringing in your spare change for the donation can <http://bakersfieldgreenthumb.org/PennyPines.html>

**Calendar of Events**  
**Green Thumb Garden**

**August 15 Meeting:**

9:00 a.m. Social and 9:30 meeting

**Refreshments:**

Pat Tennant, Galina and John Lucas

**Program: - "Drip Irrigation"**

Speakers are from Kern Turf. They are Jim Clements, Vice President and Anthony Blanco, Sales Manager. Topic: How to set up a drip system and the introduction of an automatic control for watering according to the weather.



**Potluck Luncheon following the Meeting**

Everyone planning to stay and eat should bring their favorite potluck dish to share.

Hosted by: Pat Tennant, Galina and John Lucas

## Up and Coming Events



### **DON'T MISS** **THE BUS** **To Santa Barbara on** **August 22**

Rose Mary Maguire is still taking reservations for the bus trip to the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden with a side trip to the Historic Courthouse. It will cost members \$35.00 and non-members \$42.00.

No food will be available so we must bring our own liquid refreshments and something for lunch and dinner plus snacks



### **BGTGC Board Meeting Notice**

**September Board Meeting**  
**will be held on Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 6:30 p.m. at Lorene's**

Meetings will be held the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted here & on our website) at Lorene's Restaurant at the corner of Ming and Ashe.

All Members Welcome



When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant. ~Author Unknown

### **Fall Plant Sale**

**Saturday, September 26th**

If you've been in the club for a while, you know that every September we have a plant sale. For the last few years it's been in the courtyard at the Church of the Brethren and has been very successful. We will have it there again this year on Saturday, September 26th which is the week following the general meeting. It will be from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please start thinking about what you have in your garden to contribute to the sale. We count on our members to stock our shelves. There are always things to buy from other members, so it's a win-win. We have made over \$800 at the sale in the past and we are budgeting for a good year this year. It doesn't have to be plants, it can be containers, tools, and books about gardening are great too. Hope you will help make it successful. We'll have a sign-up sheet at the August meeting if you'd like to help the day of the event. - Rob Rephan

### **Newsletter**

It is your newsletter .... please help make it a great newsletter by sending articles, quotes, photos suggestions and questions to

Kay Bell or [BGTGC@yahoo.com](mailto:BGTGC@yahoo.com)

**Deadline is the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month**  
Board Members may submit information on Thursday after the Board Meeting

## Hummingbirds

By Trudy Albrecht

Hummingbirds sip, fuss, hangout on the top limbs of the Texas Ranger and get very territorial in my yard. By choosing summer and early fall blooming plants my flowerbeds provide hummingbirds a continuous supply of nectar well into fall. I've spread out the plants over a wide area so that they all can flit 'n' fan out across the garden to feed. Some of these plants are: Agastache (the Hummingbird Mints), Salvias, Aloes, and late blooming Penstemons.

Flowers should be chosen for their ability to produce nectar, to grow well in your garden, and be in bloom when the hummingbirds need them. The following is a basis for creating a hummingbird-friendly yard/garden.

**Color** can be important to a hummingbird's search process for locating flowers containing nectar. The majority of plant species that are known to attract hummingbirds have blossoms that are red to orange in color. Hummingbirds are



not that picky and will regularly visit blossoms of any color that they learn contain sufficient nectar to make it worth their time.

**Shape** can be a determining factor to flowers that are visited by hummingbirds. Nectar contained in a long, tubular blossom is easily extracted by a hummingbird, whose tongue can extend a distance equal to its beak length and reach where most insects cannot. Downward-hanging blossoms with no "landing" platform are also less attractive to insects. Honeysuckle is a hummingbird favorite, and is a blossom that displays all the desirable characteristics.

**Volume** influences a flower's attractiveness. Very tiny blossoms may offer nectar but require too many visits to make it worthwhile.

**Fragrance** Most hummingbird flowers have no fragrance, adding another reason insects visit them infrequently. Hummingbirds have little or no sense of smell.

**Note:** *Hummingbirds prefer the nectar of flowers to sugar water from a feeder. If there are enough flowers in the garden to support them, a feeder is often ignored.*

## **Bakersfield College Garden Fest Update**

*Please Note Date Change*

We just learned from Lindsay Ono that the date for the Bakersfield College Garden Fest is on the 4th week of April (the 24th), which is one week later than the last few years. That means we will have a meeting in April the week prior to Garden Fest - Rob Rephan

### **MEMBERSHIP UPDATES**

If you have changes to address or phone,

Please call Joyce Darrow

or email: [BGTGC@yahoo.com](mailto:BGTGC@yahoo.com)