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## Award-Winning Display

Walter Andersen Nursery has been an exhibitor at the San Diego County Fair for 76 years and this year was the first in ages, if ever, that we can remember winning so many awards. The nursery was the recipient of the **Manager's Award, People's Choice Award, Pat Welsh Award, 3rd Place for Best Stonework, and Award of Merit.** This year's display included a water feature where water cascaded down a mountain and a train that looped around the landscape. Eyes that looked over the display carefully could see the buildings and people as well as a burned out locomotive at the bottom of the mountain, scorched trees, and a line of fire retardant up the mountain. **Watch the video here:** [facebook video link](#). •



## Water Plants

By Melanie Potter



*Patterened Fringe Plant*

San Diego County is home to poor soil. For plants to flourish, our nursery professionals recommend you amend the soil, add products to help build it up, and they boast about the benefits of compost.

If you have a water garden, you don't have to mess with that. Many plants will thrive in the wet environment and they'll require little to no care. At this

time of year, water plants and marginals are at peak selection. Marginal water plants grow in shallow water or in moist soil around the perimeter of the water garden. While they like their feet wet, they do not grow in deeper water like other water-loving plants. Marginal water plants can usually only handle growing in six inches of water at the deepest.

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## Fire Wise Planting

**Bob Hansen**, Consumer Bob from Channel 7 News, came to our Poway store on May 29 to interview Ken Andersen about fire wise planting. Ken was able to show him some good plant choices that included rosemary, Fremontodendron, Tecoma stans, Indian Hawthorn, and Stipa. See more choices at [www.walterandersen.com/pdf/Firewise08.pdf](http://www.walterandersen.com/pdf/Firewise08.pdf). •



*Ken Andersen speaking with Bob Hansen, Consumer Bob*



## Water Plants continued from p1

Marginals include: **Cattails, Japanese Sweet Flag, Papyrus, Canna lilies** as well as the related **Thalia, Parrot Feather, Marsh Marigold, Pickerel** (loved by butterflies), **Sagittaria, Water Celery, Nymphoides geminate** (a big seller at our stores and they bloom with yellow or white flowers), and **Horsetail**. Many of these are sold in dwarf sizes which are a better fit for the size of most ponds.



*Water Hawthorne*

Floating pond plants are of two types: those which are rooted with floating leaves (and those which are not rooted in the sediment, but just float on the surface, like **water lettuce, water hyacinth, bladderwort, and common duckweed**. Water hyacinth and water lettuce are invasive and in mass quantities will deplete the water of oxygen and will lead to fish dying. Don't let them take over your pond.

**Water lilies** and **Lotus** are grown from tubers and root into soil. In home water gardens, they are rooted

into containers of heavy soil suitable for water gardens. For best results, plant them in a container, add gravel to the surface of the soil to hold soil in while settling in the water then sink the container into the pond.

For an expert's advice, I turned to Tom Dougherty in our Poway store, who has more knowledge than an encyclopedia when it comes to pond plants. One of his favorites is **Water Hawthorne** because unlike most water plants, it does not go dormant. You'll have something floating on the surface of your pond year round. It grows from a small bulb; has long, narrow leaves and blooms profusely, with small, white, vanilla scented flowers.

One category of plants we didn't review is those that are submerged. They are rooted to the water's floor and most of their vegetation is under water. Some examples are **Cabomba** which is an excellent oxygenator with fan-shaped leaves that lies just under the water surface. In summer, it blooms with yellow centered white flowers. **Red Ludwigia** has small red and green leaves that will stick up and out of the water when planted in shallow areas.

There's also **Vallisneria**, a large, grass-like aquatic plant with translucent pale green leaves that grow toward the surface like ribbons. Use this plant with weighted anchors or containers. Plant several bunches together in a pot with soil. ●



*Water Hyacinth (left) & Water Lettuce (right)*

*Water Lily*



## TO DO LIST: July



### FERTILIZE

For lawns, use Marathon Fertilizer. For Tall Fescue, Scotts Turf Builder or Turf Builder Plus 2 to feed and control broadleaf weeds. Feed ornamentals with Gro-Power. Feed Vegetables with Gro-Power Tomato and Vegetable Food or Dr. Earth Organic Tomato and Vegetable Food. Feed Citrus, Avocado, and Fruit Trees with Gro-Power Citrus and Avocado Food. Feed Palms and Tropicals with Gro-Power Palm Tree and Tropical Food. Add Ada Perry's Magic Formula to your regular rose feeding schedule. Mulch plants to conserve water and dress up planting beds.

### WATER

Through October, keep a close watch on watering to make sure plants do not suffer from drought. Adjust sprinkler clocks or provide supplemental watering to avoid stress to plants. Make sure lawn sprinklers are working properly to prevent dry spots.

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## Words From Walter

By Walter Andersen, Jr.

### Echeveria



Looking for an easy plant to grow? One that takes very little care and a small amount of water? Something you can grow in the sun, part shade or in a container? Something with interesting foliage with different colored leaves? Think Echeveria.

Most varieties WAN sells are species or hybrids from Central America to Mexico. They naturally grow in semi-desert conditions so they are very well adapted to the San Diego area. Several varieties are sold under the common name of Hens and Chicks because of the way they grow. The mother plant,

as it grows becomes larger, sends out offsets (chicks) that eventually form a larger more spreading mound. The leaves are thick and fleshy. Foliage comes in many colors of green, gray-green, pink edges and maroon. Some have yellow variegations, and all are bright and showy. Most have flower spikes that emerge from the center of the plant, with small blooms of pale pink, cream or yellow.

Echeveria can grow in most soils, but prefer well draining soils over heavy clay. There are great cactus mixes to use when planting. To encourage larger leaves and a little quicker growth, feed with a general purpose plant food, like Gro-Power. Apply about six times per year. Most Echeverias are easy to propagate from small stems, and some even from leaf cuttings. The variety is amazing, from tiny, one-half inch leaves to some with leaves eight inches long, or longer. Some varieties have interesting wavy leaves and some have bumps. •

## Growing A Cocktail Garden

By Melanie Potter

A few years ago at the nursery, someone planted a Thanksgiving garden. Into a container went a big Laurel tree, under which parsley, sage, and rosemary were planted. All the flavors of Thanksgiving were combined in one pot! We've sold Italian garden containers that were full of lettuce and basil as well as Mexican-inspired ones with cilantro and peppers.

So, themed gardens are not new. However, some genius shook things up and incorporated mixology, so now you can muddle, infuse, and garnish your cocktail with your garden harvest!

When my neighbor throws a bash, she brings out her beautiful glass beverage dispenser and fills it with

water to which she adds strawberries, apples, cucumber, mint, and citrus. I have drained many a red Solo cup of this concoction. It's a great way to use many of the edibles you may be growing, and it's a friendly drink for all ages.

I'm also a fan of muddling herbs, fruit, and vegetables into drinks and have upped the bar, when at a bar and no longer will a regular margarita suffice. Now, it's all about the jalapeno, cucumber, lavender syrup, or ginger star anise syrup additions that are making bartenders my new best friend.

What does your garden have that can find its way into a glass? Lucky for you if you have citrus or fruit trees, so their juice can be the star of your drink. Take

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## TO DO LIST: July

continued from p2



### PRUNE

Prune roses for late season blooms. Walter Jr., would like to remind you how and why to trim a Coral Tree: The wood is soft and holds a lot of water, and with all the foliage, the branches can get too heavy to support all the weight and the tree can break. Branches fall off, or worse, the whole tree will just fall apart! Many Coral Trees are planted on or near lawn areas and take up a lot of water and grow fast during summer months. To be safe, trim off 5' to 8' feet of the new growth. By doing this, you will probably remove most of the foliage, but it will start new growth in just a few weeks. No need to put sealer on the cuts, they will heal.

### PLANT

Anything! Just make sure it gets plenty of water when it is hot. Smaller root systems will require more frequent waterings than established plants.

### LOOK FOR

Plumeria, Hibiscus, Lantana, Plumbago, Gardenias, and bedding plants. •

Lantana





## Growing A Cocktail Garden continued from p3



a look at what is in the herb bed—plant basil, mint, cilantro, lavender, lemon verbena, and rosemary. All can be used as a garnish or muddled for more flavor (think of the classic Mojito muddled with fresh lime and mint). Don't forget celery (what's a Bloody Mary without it?), chilies, and home grown tomatoes. It's not unusual for me to find a bottle of vodka in the freezer to which my husband has added some sort of botanical infusion. There's a reason why Absolut makes about 17 different flavored vodkas, which include pepper, cilantro, acai berry, and hibiscus.

Grow strawberries, peaches, berries, or watermelon. These make colorful additions to champagne, or can be blended for increased juice flavor, or muddled.

So, now you have an additional way to enjoy your harvest. For inspiration, look to the internet for ideas, and to start, I'll share this favorite recipe. •

### Strawberry, Basil & Lemon Mimosa

3/4 cup packed fresh basil leaves

Juice from 2 large lemons (about 1/2 cup fresh lemon juice)

1/2 cup agave or honey

8 medium fresh strawberries

One 750ml bottle Prosecco, chilled

1/2 cup soda water or sparkling water, chilled

Combine the basil, lemon juice and agave in a pitcher. Using a wooden spoon, lightly muddle the basil. Stir in the strawberries, Prosecco and soda water. Pour into chilled champagne glasses and serve.

Easter Lily vine



## WTF?

By Melanie Potter

**That's right, what's this flower? It looks like a Datura or Brugmansia but it was stocked in the wrong spot to be that. A peek at the can identified it as Beaumontia grandiflora or Easter Lily vine.**

**It's a vigorous, evergreen climber that can reach to 30 feet tall or more and as wide if a strong support is available. The head turning large, trumpet-like flowers are fragrant, and then you notice the even larger glossy, green leaves. New growth has brownish hairs. In late spring to early fall, the terminal clusters of large (3-6 inch long by 4 inches wide) fragrant white flowers that resemble an Easter lily appear.**

**Plant in full sun or light shade, preferably in a rich soil and provide ample water. If pruning is required, as it often is because this plant can get rather large, do so just after flowering to promote new flowering wood for the following year. Beaumontia is a genus of nine species of evergreen woody vines from the East Indies and Asia with this species ranging from Nepal and Southeast Tibet and Yunnan south through Assam, Burma (Myanmar) and Southeast Asia where it grows in scrub and on rocks and trees in forests from 1,000 to 5,000 feet in elevation.**

**Other common names for this vine include Heralds Trumpet and Nepal Trumpet Flower. •**

## July 4th Is Almost Here!



Making last minute preparations for a festive fourth of July celebration? Don't forget to add some patriotic touches to your table or garden. We have plants wrapped in red, white, and blue paper, you'll find flags in some plants, and to light up your night, check out the cool solar powered garden flag lights. Just a reminder that both stores will be closed July 4th. •

## Know More About Lesser Goldfinches

By Old Ben



Join Old Ben July 26 at 9:30am in the Poway store to discuss Lesser Goldfinches. You'll learn how to attract, feed, and create nesting areas for these fantastic little birds.

### Some Lesser Goldfinch Facts

A group of goldfinches may have been pirates or miners at one time, as a few of the names they have are 007, Treasury and Vein.

An American naturalist by the name of Thomas Say was the first to define the Lesser Goldfinch in 1823.

Lesser Goldfinches are most common in California and Texas. The male California Lesser Goldfinch has a green back and a black cap. The male Texas Lesser Goldfinch has a black back and cap.

### Main Characteristics

The Lesser Goldfinch is one of the smallest American song birds. They are between 4 and 4.5 inches in length, they have a wingspan up to 8 inches, and they weigh about .33 ounces.

Males have a yellow colored underside and olive green upper parts with a yellow rump. Their wings are dark with white wing bars and they have a black capped head. Females are duller than males and lack the black capped head.

### Habitat

Lesser Goldfinches are found in grasslands, woodlands, and gardens of the west, southwest United States, and northern South American. They are usually found in flocks and it is common for them to be seen at garden feeders.

### Diet

Lesser Goldfinches mainly feed upon a variety of seeds. They love to eat sunflower leaves. They also like buds of elderberry, cottonwoods, alders, sycamores, willows and oaks. During breeding, they will occasionally supplement their diet with insects. Their favorite seed is Nyger. Nyger is used in feeders to attract Lesser Goldfinches.

### Nesting

During the nesting season, usually June and July in San Diego, a cup shaped nest is constructed in a bush or low tree of small twigs and other plant material. Lesser Goldfinches love to line their nest with bison hair. Females lay 3 to 5 pale blue eggs and she incubates them for 12 or 13 days. During this time and for the first days after the chicks hatch, the male brings food to the nest, but after this period, both parents feed the chicks. When the young are two weeks old they are ready to leave the nest, but their parents continue to feed them for at least another week.

### Predators

Predators of the Lesser Goldfinch include birds of prey such as the American Kestrel and the Sharp Shinned Hawk. ●

## Old Ben's Specials

Prices Valid July 1-31, 2014

*Everything to Attract and Feed Lesser Goldfinches*

**35% OFF**

**25lb. Bag Old Ben's Nyger Seed**  
*Lowest Price Ever!*

**30% OFF**

**Nyger Aluminum Mesh Feeder**

**33% OFF**

**Large Finch Socks**  
*Choose from 7 Colors*

**50% OFF**

**Wild Bird Nesting Material**

**50% OFF**

**Bison Bamboo Perches Nesting Material**

**29% OFF**

**Dried Mealworms**  
**3oz. Bag**

**44% OFF**

**5lb. Old Ben's Classic Wild Bird Seed**

**66% OFF**

**Bamboo Perch Swing**

*All specials limited to stock on hand. No special orders. Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer.*





## Ho, Ho, Ho! Here's What's Hot In Retail For Christmas

By Melanie Potter

You are absolutely right to think that Christmas comes earlier and earlier (at least in retail) every year. I could have shared a Christmas décor forecast with you when I saw the report in January 2014, yes, that's right, less than one month after Christmas. I've waited until now and here's your sneak preview to the 2014 holiday season!

A magazine called ***Selling Christmas Decorations*** forecasted last year what you'll see in stores soon. Prepare to step back in time to the Roaring 20s. Chic and glitzy elements will lead you back in time to the Jazz Age with its art décor feel.

### Purple & Green

Emerald green was Pantone's color of the year last year and it's not done with its appeal yet. Its popularity for Christmas is due to it being able to give a fresh spin to a traditional color. Purple is Pantone's color of 2014 so it's a safe bet you'll see plenty of that.

### Owls, Foxes & Reindeer

Owls pictured on décor has been big business for years, and given that they are traditional northern European icons, they are a good fit for the holidays. Deer are iconic woodland creatures so they will remain popular but expect to see foxes make a showing.

### Natural Textures

Natural elements such as burlap, sisal, jute and capiz shells used as décor are inspired by nature and it is felt that textures represent something sincere and real, which makes consumers feel good as well as these materials reflect the movement towards a more eco-friendly outlook. Things that look homemade are back in style.

### Vintage

Look for nostalgic Santas in Victorian style and, St. Nick, and the Coca Cola



type of Santas. Inspiration comes from vintage postcards of old Christmas toys and collectibles.

### Nordic

Think Scandinavian ski lodge which gives a winter feel and has more staying power as a décor theme throughout the season.

### Bright Colors

Look for blues in hues from royal to light coastal pastels, oranges and warm colors. Metallics will also be popular holiday accents with silver and gold the frontrunners. This year, you may see 'lesser' metallics such as grays and pewter along with gilding of natural elements. These appeal to traditional tastes as well as contemporary ones. With the bright color scheme, look for bold patterns such as Ikat patterns and animal prints.

### Textiles

Ornaments made of decorative fabrics are becoming very trendy. Faux fur added to textiles is expected to be more prominent.

### Gnomes

A symbol of good luck, wisdom, and happiness, these are whimsical characters that have carried over from the garden market. Look for them to be made from various materials such as felt, resin or stuffed fabric. •

## Planted Walls

By Melanie Potter



**Call them living walls or vertical gardens, either way they are plants defying gravity and not growing from the ground up. A recent trip to Laguna Beach uncovered some planted walls at their best. Colorful succulents planted on a complimentary colored mount is something you could replicate anywhere and would make for a fun weekend project. A more ambitious undertaking was the vertical garden that has filled in the front of a building very nicely. Thriving in this landscape are Spider plants, Ficus decora, Philodendron, Baby Tears, Asparagus Fern, and Draceana 'Song of India'. •**



## Garden Classes

JULY

Saturday classes are **FREE** and last about an hour. Complimentary coffee is served. During inclement weather, classes are held indoors in San Diego and on the covered, heated patio in Poway. Topics are subject to change. See the full schedule at [www.walterandersen.com/calendar/](http://www.walterandersen.com/calendar/).

**SAN DIEGO | 9:00AM**

7/5

Basics of Garden Design

7/12

Summer Color

7/19

Plants for Banks &amp; Slopes

7/26

Plumeria

**POWAY | 9:30AM**

7/5

No Class

7/12

Cactus &amp; Succulents

7/19

Fertilizers & Watering with  
Richard Wright

7/26

Goldfinches with Old Ben

## July In-Store Specials

Sale Prices Valid July 1-31, 2014

**20% OFF****Deciduous Fruit Trees:****Apple, Plum, Nectarine, Peach & More***(Excludes Citrus, Avocado, and Tropical Fruit Trees)***20% OFF****Grapes & Cane Berries****20% OFF****All Dr. Earth Fertilizers***No coupon needed. Limited to stock on hand. No special orders. Hedge Fund\$ certificates do apply.*

## Visit Our 2 Locations

**SAN DIEGO**

3642 Enterprise Street  
San Diego, California 92110  
{619} 224-8271

**POWAY**

12755 Danielson Court  
Poway, California 92064  
{858} 513-4900

**Closed 4th of July**

A reminder that both stores will  
be closed on the 4th of July.

**Wee Corner:****Think Very, Very Small**

Miniature gardens and all things fairy related were the rage a few years ago. Then, they lost their popularity but now are enjoying a resurgence. Both stores are stocking more fairy garden items than ever before and our Poway store even has a large display of terrarium essentials. At WAN, we normally tell you to 'think big' when it comes to your garden endeavors, but sometimes it is fun and rewarding to think very, very small. •



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