



WALTER ANDERSEN  
NURSERY™

# Garden Talk

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

OCTOBER 2018



## IN THIS ISSUE

Fall Veggies & Winter Tomatoes	1
Pretty Poppies To Show In Fall!	1
Australian Groundcover Is 'It'	1
To Do List: October	2
Amorphophallus titanum	2
WAN History: Old Town	3
Come Wine With Us!	4
Old Ben: Fun Bird Facts	6
Mum's The Word	7
October Specials	8
October Garden Classes	8

## Australian Groundcover Is 'It'

By Melanie Potter



Last year, we shared a fabulous groundcover type of plant called 'Cousin Itt', an *Acacia cognata* 'Cousin Itt' or Little River Wattle. Well, now we have another 'Cousin It', spelled

[continued p3](#)

## 'Tis The Season For Fall Vegetables & Winter Tomatoes

By Melanie Potter



Everything about the weather says summer, but autumn is here and so are the fall vegetables and winter tomatoes.

To get your fall garden underway, take some time to prep the planting area as this makes a huge difference in the vigor of your growing vegetables. Amend

the soil with E.B. Stone Soil Booster and add Gro-Power's Soil Conditioner, Gro-Power Tomato & Vegetable Food, and pelletized gypsum.

Need planting ideas? Plant what you want to eat!

Broccoli, cauliflower, and kale are popular choices. Leafy greens and root vegetables shouldn't be overlooked. Chard, leeks, Brussels sprouts, parsnips, radishes, beets, and turnips don't appeal to everyone but I bet anyone could find a recipe on the internet they'd like to try that stars one of these. Organic vegetable starts are here for a limited time, too.

If you are looking for winter tomato suggestions, we'll have Russian, Siberian, Arctic, Glacier, and Stupice.

Artichokes and Asparagus will be found in starts and later this year in bare root. •

## Pretty Poppies To Show In Fall!

By Botanical Interests

Poppies are a harbinger of spring. Their delicate blooms are vibrant show-stoppers in the garden. There are several different kinds of poppies, many of which can be grown in any climate. Even if they aren't perennial in your area, they usually reseed, returning in even greater numbers the following year.

**California Poppies (*Eschscholzia californica*)** are native to the US and



[continued p2](#)



## Pretty Poppies continued from p1

are grown as reseeding annuals if they aren't perennial in your area (USDA zone 8 to 10). These lovely, 6 - 12 inch tall flowers are not only orange, but also white, yellow, red and pink, with single and double blooms. They bloom from spring until fall, taking a break in very hot spells.

**Corn Poppies (*Papaver rhoeas*)** are annuals that often reseed, persisting year after year. Flanders and Shirley poppies also fall into this group.

**Iceland Poppy (*Papaver nudicaule*)** is also grown as an annual, although it can overwinter in USDA zones 2 to 8. It's not necessarily long-lived but it could reseed. As the name would imply, Iceland poppies thrive in cool weather and flower in spring. They make wonderful cut flowers. They are not fussy, only needing average soil with good drainage. Afternoon shade can help keep them cool, prolonging the bloom period.

**Oriental Poppies (*Papaver orientale*)** are hardy perennials in USDA zone 3 to 8. Their foliage emerges early in the spring and looks thistle-like, growing to 24 - 48 inches tall by the time their large, 4 - 8 inch blooms

open in late spring. After they bloom, the foliage declines, but cutting it close to the ground will restart the growing process and may even sprout new flower buds. Oriental poppies thrive in average to rich, well-drained soil.

**Breadseed Poppies (*Papaver somniferum*)** are annual, but also reseed. These 24 - 36 inch poppies also have thistle-like foliage which stands out with its bluish-green hue. As you may have guessed, this group includes the types that produce culinary poppy seeds.

Sow poppies in the fall. They don't require stratification (a cold moist period, aka winter) but come up earlier, grow larger, and seem to flower more when sown in fall. For mild climates, fall is the ideal time so that they flower as early as possible in your area. Loosen the soil with a hard rake or hoe, leveling the area at the same time. Then sow the seeds and rake them in very lightly with a gentler leaf rake or just pat the seeds down with your hands. Water or rely on rain to work the seeds in a little further. Then, just ignore them (really!) until it is time to thin the seedlings. •

## Amorphophallus titanum

When this plant didn't capture enough attention, a dinosaur spinner decided to photo bomb it! This is indeed a rare and unusual plant, **Amorphophallus titanum**, but you probably recognize it as the '**Corpse Plant**'! It blooms on an irregular and unpredictable schedule and when it does, it is said to smell awful, like rotting meat. This is the flower that makes the news and has lines of people around the block waiting to see it when it blooms. We have had this for about a month at our Poway store where it is on display but is not for sale. It will be a few years before it does bloom. •



## TO DO LIST: October



### PLANT

**California natives** and **drought-tolerant plants** are best planted this time of year to get root systems established. **Bulbs** like Daffodils, Ranunculus, Freesias, Anemones and more. **Winter annuals** like Stocks, Snapdragons, Pansies, Violas, and Primrose. **Cool season vegetables, shrubs** such as Camellias and Azaleas, and **trees** that provide wonderful fall color such as Cotoneaster, Liquidambar, and Ginkgo. **Overseed Bermuda lawns** with Annual Rye. It's a great time to **plant Fescue** from seed or sod.

### WATER

When dry **Santa Ana winds** arrive, make sure to get extra water on plants and lawns as needed, especially container plants.

### FERTILIZE

For **lawns**, use Marathon Fertilizer for tall fescue, and Bonide DuraTurf Weed & Feed to feed grass 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. **Do not feed Camellias** until after they are finished flowering. •



## How Much Cauliflower Can You Eat?

It's a good thing there are so many ways to serve cauliflower, at least that's what Brijette in our Poway store thought when she prepared to harvest this cauliflower, 'Graffiti'. She purchased it as a seedling at our San Diego store and just look how big it grew; it's bigger than her head! •

## History of WAN: Intertwined History With Old Town

By Ken Andersen



*Celebrating Dia De Los Muertos at the cemetery in Old Town where you'll find loads of marigolds!*

*Eleventh in the series. Read all the articles starting with the December, 2017 newsletter at [www.walterandersen.com/news/newsletters](http://www.walterandersen.com/news/newsletters).*

Since opening the original nursery in 1928 on Juan Street, near Taylor, the history of Walter Andersen Nursery has been tied to Old Town in some way or another. The original location was at 2854 Juan Street, now a parking lot next to La Pinata Mexican Restaurant. According to Walter Sr., when he moved to the second location near the corner of Pacific Highway and Rosecrans (northbound side), nothing had ever occupied that property. The store's second location on Pacific Highway butted up to the edge of Old Town from 1932 until 1937 before

another move just a few blocks away to 3860 Rosecrans Street. At one time, Walter Sr.'s brother, Hans, lived in Old Town in a large house east of the intersection of Morena Boulevard and Taylor Street.

When restoration of Old Town was started, Walter Sr., along with his Kiwanis Club (Old Town Kiwanis), helped with the buildings and the park. Walter Sr.'s friend John Clark, another long time San Diegan and owner of San Diego Fence Company, was also a member of the Kiwanis Club at this time. The building that now houses Rocking Baja Lobster is a reconstruction of the original that was directly in the pathway of Interstate 5.

[continued p4](#)

## Groundcover

continued from p1

with one 't' and this is an Australian native that also grows low to the ground, **Casuarina glauca**.

Growing nearly flat on the ground, it spreads 6-8 feet wide and has tiny needle-like foliage. It is a good plant to mound over rocks or spill over ledges.

Plant in full sun to light shade in pretty much any soil, tolerating well drained to heavy soils that are slightly acidic to slightly alkaline (pH 6-8). It is drought-tolerant so you can irrigate infrequently or provide more regular water to speed its growth. This versatile plant can be grown near the coast and is hardy to at least 20 degrees F. You'll find this native to the east coast of Australia from central Queensland, south to southern New South Wales.

This plant is a rare find for us. It was first sold in the United States in 2013 in Arizona and it is rapidly becoming more common in the California nursery trade. In Australia, Casuarinas are called She-oaks (or sheoaks), or in the case of this species, Swamp Oak or Swamp She-oak because the wood is oak-like and it grows near brackish waterways. The cultivar name is in reference to the character Cousin Itt, whose entire body is shrouded by long hair, in the 1960s television series "The Addams Family". •





## History of WAN continued from p3

C. Arnholdt Smith, a prominent local financier and good friend of Walter Sr., paid to have the replica built. Walter Sr. handled the landscaping of the grounds after construction was completed. Hans, a carpenter by trade though he did work for the nursery for a time, built the Old Town Community Church at 2444 Congress Street. In the 1970s, Walter Andersen Jr. served on the board for Heritage Park and played a role in preserving part of San Diego's history that otherwise would have been lost.

Today, Walter Andersen Nursery and the Andersen family are still involved in Old Town activities by providing marigolds for the annual Dia De Los Muertos celebration. This connection started when Save Our Heritage Organization was coordinating the event and Ken Andersen served on their board of directors for a term. The nursery supports the event with the help of Southland Growers, who themselves have ties to Mission Valley when it was mostly agricultural land and dairies. Walter Andersen Nursery also sponsors some of the holiday decorations that are displayed around the park during November and December.



*The back of the nursery when it was located on Pacific Highway.*

Even today, our San Diego store is only about a mile from Old Town. Though we have grown over the years, we have never moved far away from where we first put down roots 90 years ago. •

## Come Wine With Us!



We're counting on you to help us taste wine, give experience to apprentices in Cuyamaca College's viticulture program, and make sure kittens and cats in need get the homes they deserve. You can do all that at **Wine & Whiskers**, our first ever wine tasting that will be held Oct. 20 from 5-7pm at our Poway store (12755 Danielson Court).

Sample local wine and you'll also be able to see the painted wine barrel that we are sponsoring for the Ramona Valley Vineyard Association's 6th Annual Art & Wine Fest, to be held Nov. 3.

As mentioned, this event will raise funds for some good causes. A donation will be made to the **San Diego Viticulture Technician Apprenticeship Program** and proceeds will benefit **Howe-2Care4Critters**.

Tickets are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. To **RSVP** and pre-pay, call 858-513-4900. We are unable to accommodate walk-ins and attendance is limited. Please note that this is a 21 and older event and those under 21 are unable to be on the premises when alcohol is served. •

## Celebrate the Holiday Season at our Open Houses

Our Poway store will celebrate on Dec. 1 and for the first time in our history of holding this event, it will be held in the daytime from 11am-1pm. We will have some special vendors join us that day who will share gift ideas. Santa will be here and available for photos, and hotdogs will be grilled by David Ross.

*Mark your calendars and spend some time with us as we kick off the holidays with our annual open houses!*

The San Diego store will hold its open house on Dec. 15 from 11am-1pm. During that time, there will be photos with Santa, a face painter, grilled hot dogs and to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Santa visiting, he will read *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* at 1pm as he did in 2008.







  
WALTER ANDERSEN  
NURSERY

*Event open to persons  
21 or older; those  
under 21 cannot be  
accommodated.*

# Wine & Whiskers

WINE TASTING FELINE FUNDRAISER

**Saturday, October 20th** from 5-7pm

**WAN Poway:** 12755 Danielson Court

**7 Tastings: \$20** per person, **\$35** per couple

**5 Local Wineries** including San Pasqual Winery,  
Vineyard Grant James & Jack Simon Vineyards

**RSVP & Pre-Pay at 858-513-4900**

A donation will be made to the  
**San Diego Viticulture Technician  
Apprenticeship Program**  
and proceeds will benefit  
**Howe-2Care4Critters**, a 501c3  
non-profit resource in helping  
foster, rehabilitate,  
and care for animals  
in need.





## Old Ben:

### Fun Facts About Birds

By Old Ben



A bird can be described as a winged vertebrate animal. Birds are classified as bipedal (they have two feet). They are warm-blooded, egg laying creatures. Birds are unique in that they have feathers and winged forelimbs. You knew what a bird was, but did you know these facts about them?

Birds can be found on every continent. There are about 10,000 different types of birds on earth.

What do birds eat? The food they eat varies depending on the type of bird. It can include: fruit, plants, seeds, nuts, and meat. Meat includes mice, other birds, insects, and carrion (the meat from a dead animal).

The ostrich and penguin are two of the birds that do not fly.

The largest and heaviest bird on earth is the ostrich. The ostrich with its long legs can run up to 43 mph.

Penguins are short legged birds that are native to cold southern regions like the Antarctic. They do not fly, but are great swimmers. They have webbed feet and wings that work similar to flippers.

Owls are birds of prey and include: barn owls, burrowing owls, hawk owls, horned owls, screech owls, and snowy owls to name a few. The neck of an owl can rotate 3/4 of the way around its head.

The bones of birds are thin and hollow. This makes the bones much lighter and more efficient for flying.

Hummingbirds are the only birds that can fly in all four directions. They are also the smallest bird species and are only found in North and South America.

There are about 310 different types of pigeons and doves. Pigeons have been used for food for thousands of years.

In a recent American National Pet Owners Survey, 5.7% of American households were listed as having birds as pets. Pet birds included parakeets, canaries, cockatiels, cockatoos, doves, finches, lovebirds, parrots, and macaws.

The most famous of all extinct birds is the Dodo Bird. The Dodo Bird was native to the island of Mauritius. The Dodo only survived 175 years after being discovered by explorers. Their extinction was due to the introduction of other animals, disease, and human exploitation on the island.

There are more than 2,000 birds listed on the endangered bird list. Disease, environmental waste, marine debris pollution, and deforestation have all contributed to the decline in bird populations. •



### Ask Old Ben!

Email Old Ben your questions to:  
[askoldben@aol.com](mailto:askoldben@aol.com)

## Old Ben's Promise

- I believe ingredients should come from nature, not a lab.
- I believe wild bird food should be made only with ingredients I am proud to share.
- I believe wild bird food should be simply prepared with as little processing as possible.
- I believe wild bird food should be made with a commitment to quality.
- Nature has nothing to hide; neither should your wild bird food.
- I use ingredients from natural sources across my entire line - NO artificial anything.

## Old Ben's Specials

Valid October 1-31, 2018



**THE FALL SEED SPECTACULAR!**

All 20 and 25 lb. bags  
of all-natural Old Ben's  
Seed is on sale!

# \$5 OFF

## All Old Ben's Seed

Choose from **Nyger**,  
**Special Finch Blend**,  
**Classic, No Mess**,  
**Dove & Quail**, or **Economy**



**No coupon necessary. No limits.**

No special orders. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. While supplies last. Hedge Fund\$ may be redeemed.



## Mum's The Word

By Melanie Potter



When talking about fall color, you can't keep mum about including Chrysanthemums somewhere in your landscape. The types of mums, of which there are about 30 species, are differentiated by their petal arrangements, but all types come in a wide variety of colors, including pink, purple, orange, blue, yellow, and red. This is the season when both stores receive regular deliveries of mums.

Did you know that it's not just their colors that make these the favorites of fall, but that the plants appreciate shorter days? Chrysanthemums are "photoperiodic", which means they bloom in response to the shorter days and longer nights we have in fall. Therefore, do not plant chrysanthemum flowers near street lights or night lights because the artificial lighting may wreak havoc with their cycle.

Plant in full sun and in well-drained, enriched soil, and don't overcrowd chrysanthemums as they require good air circulation to reduce the chance of disease. Divide them every couple of years.

Chrysanthemums not only look pretty in your home, but they contain a derivative that protects the plants from falling prey to insects. You may have heard our customer service representatives telling you about various

products that work because they contain Pyrethrum, a natural insecticide. Chrysanthemum flowers are pulverized, and the active components called pyrethrins, contained in the seed cases, are extracted. This is applied as a suspension in water or oil, or as a powder. Pyrethrins kill quickly on contact.

If you're looking for cut flowers to bring a feeling of fall into the house, look no further than China mums. These are mums with big heads and a vase life of one to three weeks. •

## Roll Out The Barrel



Well, it's more like roll in the barrel thanks to members of the Ramona Valley Vineyard Association, who brought us a barrel to sponsor as they prepare for their 6th annual Art and Wine Festival to be held Nov. 3 at Begent Ranch in Ramona.

This is the third year the nursery has sponsored a barrel. This year's barrel was painted by Haley Poole. Our Poway store is one of six businesses sponsoring and hosting a hand-painted wine barrel to preview before the festival, where one of the many events includes an auction of the barrels.

For more information and tickets, [www.ramonaartandwinefest.net](http://www.ramonaartandwinefest.net). •

## You Can Stop Diseases With Organic Control

By David Ross

Fall is here and even though our fruit trees don't seem to know it yet, the nights are cooler and the soil is cooler. Soon they will be dormant. If your fruit trees are established and in the ground, they will need infrequent watering. If we have occasional rain, you may not have to water. You can also stop fertilizing them until after the first of the year.

Now is also the time to begin controlling many diseases which will plague your trees next year. Bonide Copper Fungicide, also known as Copper Soap is an ORGANIC control for use on your fruit trees and many other plants. During the fall and winter, two or three sprays will help minimize Peach Leaf Curl, leaf and fruit spots. Spraying later as buds begin to swell will aid in the control of many other diseases as well. The more often it rains during fall and winter, the more often you will need to spray, up to every 7-10 days if we get the predicted rain. As always, remember to read and follow all label directions carefully before applying any sprays. •



## Garden Classes

## OCTOBER

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****10/6**

Dormant Fruit Tree Spraying

**10/13**Fall/Winter  
Vegetable Gardening**10/20**

Bulbs

**10/27**Planning & Enhancing Your  
Backyard Orchard**POWAY | 9:30AM****10/6**

Organic Fertilizers

**10/13**Fall Vegetables with Farmer Roy  
from Sunshine Gardens**10/20**Citrus Care and Varieties  
with Richard Wright**10/27**

Cool Season Transition Gardening

**11/3**

Vermiculture

## Dates To Remember

**10/20**Our Poway store will close at  
4:30pm for a private event. RSVP  
now for Wine & Whiskers!**11/21**

Poway store closes at 3pm

**11/22**

Both stores closed for Thanksgiving

**12/1 - 12/31**

No classes to be held in December

**12/1**Poway Holiday Open House from  
11am-1pm**12/15**San Diego Holiday Open House  
from 11am-1pm**12/24**

Poway store closes at 2pm

**12/25**

Both stores closed for Christmas

**12/31**

Poway store closes at 2pm

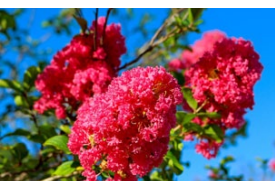
**1/1**Both stores closed for  
New Year's Day •October Specials *Valid October 1-31, 2018*

**\$10 OFF 1/2 Oak Barrels**  
Reg \$49.99 Now \$39.99



**50% OFF Deciduous Fruit  
Trees, Cane Vines & Grape Vines**

*Excludes Avocado, Citrus, Blueberries, & Subtropical Fruits and Nuts.*



**30% OFF  
All Crepe Myrtle Trees**

*No special orders. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. While supplies last.  
Hedge Fund\$ may be redeemed.*

## Visit Our 2 Locations

**SAN DIEGO**

3642 Enterprise Street  
San Diego, California 92110  
{619} 224-8271  
Open 8am-5pm daily

**POWAY**

12755 Danielson Court  
Poway, California 92064  
{858} 513-4900  
Open 9am-5pm daily



WALTER ANDERSEN  
NURSERY™

*San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™*



[walterandersen.com](http://walterandersen.com)



[facebook.com/walterandersens](https://facebook.com/walterandersens)



[twitter.com/walterandersens](https://twitter.com/walterandersens)



[online store](#)



[videos](#)