



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™

Garden Talk

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™

NOVEMBER 2015

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Not Just Another Poppy

By Ken Andersen



Papaver rhoeas is not just another poppy. It has become the symbol of the fallen soldiers of World War I. This blood red poppy was also the inspiration for the VFW's Buddy Poppy® the small artificial red flowers handed out when VFW posts collect donations to benefit disabled veterans. The flower was also immortalized by poet John McRae in the poem 'In Flanders Fields'. This Veteran's Day, both of our stores will give away seed packets of these beautiful flowers, free with a purchase, in honor of all of our service men and women lost in battle. Scatter the seed in fall or early spring in a sunny location and scratch into the surface of the soil. Along with the packet, you will receive a copy of the John McRae poem. •

Dia De Los Muertos Alive And Well At WAN



Once again, we partnered with Southland Growers to provide out of season marigolds to the Save Our Heritage Organization's Dia de los Muertos celebration in Old Town held Nov. 1 & 2. Also called,

[continued p2](#)

Fall At The Front Door

By Melanie Potter

The title of this article refers to the season, fall, not the verb which might be reserved for New Year's Eve and be experienced when coming home from a late night out. Fall is upon us and it's worth pondering what your front door says about this time of year.

Want to add some fall color to your front door? Even though there is an abundance of plants displaying fall color, for help I browsed the Proven Winners website. This is a company that grows beautiful bedding plants and creates lovely container gardens. A good rule of thumb to follow when planting a container garden is to **use a 'thriller', 'filler' and a 'spiller'**. This container idea that I'm sharing with you (at right) however, didn't stick to that rule as it used two thrillers and a spiller, but the combination of plants in the thoughtfully selected container make it work. Also remember, your filler or thriller doesn't have to be a plant, you can place an appropriately sized pumpkin or something else

Earn Double Hedge Fund\$™ Points in Nov!

[See Details on Page 8](#)



'Thrillers' and 'spiller' by Proven Winners

[continued p2](#)

Fall At The Front Door continued from p1



Here's one of the WAN scarecrows we made with the scarecrow kit.

in the container. How is this container design for a fall look at your front door?

Follow this simple recipe: Plant one **Million Bells 'Terra Cotta'** (this will spill), one **Graceful Grasses 'Toffee Twist'** (thriller), and one **Coleus 'Sedona'** (thriller). If you can't find these specific plants, you can substitute. What I liked about this combination was the formal, urn-like container, but you

can be creative in choosing what will house your plants.

Here are more suggestions to fill a container. Thrillers like **Mums**, **Alternanthera 'Burgundy Threadleaf'** or **Coleus 'Henna'** give you a good start with their fall colors. Don't forget grasses like **Pennisetum 'Fireworks'** and **Carex 'Orange Sedge'**. **Colacasia** such as **'Jet Black'** or **'Black Magic'** offers a thriller plant that will get your container noticed. Fill in with non plant items like a pumpkin, mini scarecrow, gourds, or maize. 'Filler' plant choices include **Pansies**, **Violas**, **Gazanias**, **Gaillardias**, **Impatiens** (Accent Orange will work), **Begonias**, and **Heuchera**. If you are looking for spillers, look no further than **Lantana 'Luscious Marmalade'** or **Ipomea 'Ace of Spades'** or **'Midnight Lace'**.

What about a scarecrow at your front door? Both stores have **scarecrow kits** and in our Poway store, it has been a hoot building these guys and gals. Add old clothes and straw and you've got something for your front door that will make you the envy of the neighborhood. Kits make either a 4' or 6' tall scarecrow. You can also purchase additional faces. Kits are \$29.99. This makes a fun carnival game, hostess gift, or project to do with the family. •

Old Ben's Seeds Get New Look

By Old Ben

Old Ben's Workshop is upgrading all of its seed packaging and seed quality in the months ahead. How is this possible you ask?

Old Ben's Workshop is now working with one of the oldest seed mills in the country.

United Pacific Pet was established in 1918 (just 10 years before Walter Andersen Nursery opened). They are one of a very few pet companies that have a food grade license. They carry a wide variety of bird seeds and can make up all of Old Ben's blends. Remember they are a food grade

company. The same standards that apply to food manufactures apply to United Pacific Pet. You get higher quality control on all their products.

I recently toured their facility. You could eat off the floors. Everything is organized and kept to quality standards. I watched seed being bagged with the latest equipment.

In the next few months you will see a change in Old Ben's seed bags and labeling. You'll be able to buy the same great products but with higher quality control. •



Pluerry 'Candy Heart'

Looking For A New Fruit Invention?

By Melanie Potter

What do you get when you cross a plum and a cherry? Why, a Pluerry, of course.

New to our bareroot selections this fall is **Pluerry 'Candy Heart'**.

Japanese plum and sweet cherry in its parentage is a taste-test proven treat for fruit lovers. Its skin is dark, speckled red, the amber/red flesh is slightly subacid and very sweet, with a wonderful unique flavor. This variety has an extended hang time, reaching peak ripeness around mid-August in Central California.

It's pollinated by Sweet Treat Pluerry™ or Burgundy Plum. Chill hours are 500-600 hours. •

Muertos continued from p1

cempasúchil, the flowers symbolize death and are used to line paths and decorate tombs, graves and ofrendas (home altars). According to folklore, the strong scent of the flowers lures the dead back home. We felt these colorful flowers deserved time in the spotlight before their big days so we created a special display for them at our Poway store. •

Old Ben: Hawks

By Old Ben



In the last month, I received several inquiries from bird lovers asking how to keep hawks from eating their wild birds. The answer may surprise you.

Birders are often alarmed when a hawk visits their yard, but encouraging hawks is actually the gold standard of backyard birding. Because a neighborhood will have fewer resident hawks than other birds, and because raptors require a rich, vibrant ecosystem to thrive, attracting hawks is an excellent achievement that shows just how bird friendly a backyard can be.

While it can be upsetting to see a raptor make a meal of a goldfinch, dove, or other favorite backyard bird, the existence of raptors in a neighborhood is strong evidence of a wildlife friendly area. Hawks do not only prey on birds. Lots of raptors eat snakes, large insects, and rodents like, mice, rats, and squirrels.

Not every raptor is likely to make an appearance in a birder's backyard. It depends on where that backyard is and what the nearby habitat is like. Eagles, vultures and other large raptors are unlikely to be backyard guests except in very special circumstances, but smaller raptors that are more adaptable may visit backyards.

In our area the most common backyard raptors include: American Kestrel, Coopers Hawk, Great Horned Owl, Merlin, Red Shouldered Hawk, Red Tailed Hawk, Sharp Shinned Hawk, Western Screech Owl, and Barn Owls.

How To Attract Hawks The key to attracting any type of backyard bird, including raptors, is to meet the bird's

Look for Old Ben's New Seed Packaging starting to appear this month!

needs for food, water, shelter and nesting sites.

Food

All raptors are carnivorous, but they do not all eat the same prey. The most common backyard hawks, Coopers and Sharp Shinned, prey on smaller birds, from finches and sparrows to doves. The best way to supply that prey is to attract backyard birds with a good feeding station and other natural foods. Where the birds congregate, a raptor will eventually drop in for a snack. Raptors are usually successful on one in 10 attempts, or 10% of the time, so they will not deplete your smaller birds. Insects and rodents are also common prey. It is not acceptable to deliberately bait raptors with offers of pet mice or other treats.

Water

Most raptors do not regularly drink water; they get liquid from the blood of their prey. Raptors will visit bird baths to cool off and bathe. Bird baths need to be larger and deeper for raptors. Sturdy concrete bird baths are best. Ground bird baths are also good along with bird bath fountains.

Shelter

Raptors favor large, stable perches from which to spot prey as well as sheltered areas where they can roost after a meal. Raptors may also perch on fences, deck railings or other suitable sites.

Nesting Sites

Raptors will use the same large, mature trees for nesting that they like for

Old Ben's Specials

Valid November 1-30, 2015

Old Ben's Classic Wild Bird Seed

A classic mix that attracts a wide variety of wild birds. No fillers in Old Ben's.

20lb. \$15.97 Reg. \$31.99

Nyger Seed

The staple food for gold finches and many other small birds.

25lb. \$39.97 Reg. \$59.99

Tropical Milkweed Seed Packet

Packet contains 30 seeds.

\$1.00 Reg. \$3.99

While Quantities Last!

Crystal Clear Hummingbird Food

3 for \$9.99 Reg. \$6.99 ea.

Must purchase 3 to get sale price.

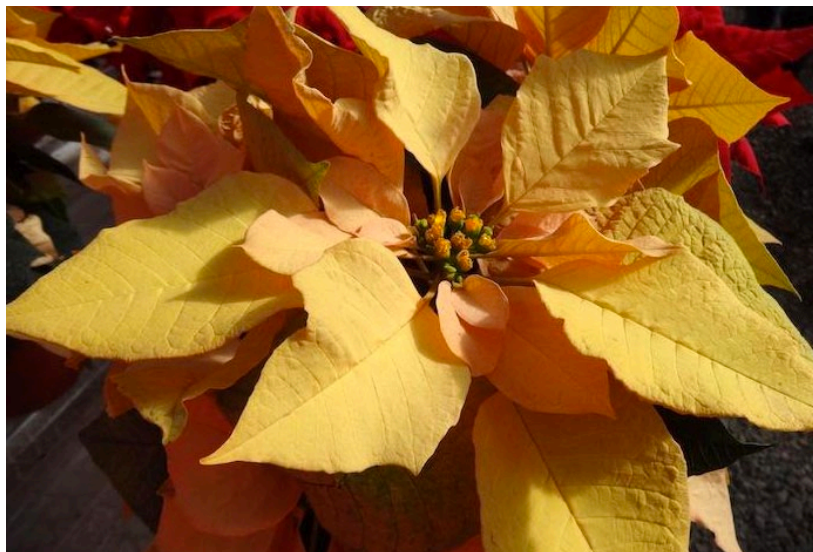
All specials limited to stock on hand. No special orders. Cannot be combined with any other discount or offer.

perches and shelter. Branches should be wide and stable to support raptors' larger nests, and a variety of large nesting material such as branches and twigs should be available for raptors. Some small raptors, such as Kestrels, Barn Owls, and Screech Owls, will nest in boxes.

Every day I have Coopers and Sharp Shinned Hawks make a visit to my backyard. The small birds know they are coming before I do. They fly, hop or run into the surrounding shrubs, vines and trees. Every bird is quiet as a church mouse when the hawks visit. The hawks must be successful once in awhile as they come back every day. •

Poinsettias Are On The Way

By Melanie Potter



'Autumn Leaves'



'Prestige'

Right around Thanksgiving, you'll see Poinsettias. Their appearance, slightly stealing the spotlight of Turkey Day, is a well executed plan that times their arrival before the last week of November.

Because it takes about six months to get Poinsettias to bloom, growers began giving them loads of TLC in May. For those months, growing conditions are monitored to include monitoring soil pH levels, fertilization, and temperatures in the greenhouses, pinching them and paying close attention to light levels. Poinsettias are called a short day photoperiod crop, which means that they naturally flower when the nights become longer than the days. In commercial production, many growers use black cloth to either produce earlier crops or make the entire crop more uniform. However, recent advances in breeding have led to crops which naturally flower early enough in the season to meet early sales requirements. Conditions must be perfect or the plants delay flowering and the color is compromised.

Here is a partial list of what we'll stock this holiday season.

Autumn Leaves

New this year, Autumn Leaves poinsettia is guaranteed to provide holiday warmth with its bracts that are the colors of leaves in the fall.

Prestige

Red bracts with dark green foliage. It has a 'V'-shaped architecture, is very upright, and its bracts are less breakable.

Jubilee

Dark green leaves. Bracts are red, pink, white, or Jingle Bell. Upright habit.

Snowcap

Large, pure white bracts with medium green colored leaves.

Peterstar

Red, white, pink, or marble colored bracts with medium green colored leaves.

Ice Punch

Striking award-winning poinsettia that was the 2008 beauty queen of poinsettias. A fabulous example of a poinsettia with a patterned bract, this cultivar features cranberry and frosty white coloring amongst deep green leaves. •



'Jubilee' Red



'Snowcap'



'Peterstar' Marble



'Ice Punch'



WALTER ANDERSEN
NURSERY™

Poway

San Diego

5 **DECEMBER** 5:30-7pm *Saturday* **DECEMBER** 11am-1pm **12**

(Poway store closes at 5pm and reopens at 5:30pm)

Shop with us, get your FREE photo with Santa and enjoy food and beverages. Select your tree, holiday plants, ornaments and décor, as well as gifts for friends and family. As always, it's family and pet-friendly!

FREE Photo
with
Santa!

• San Diego's Independent Nursery Since 1928™ • www.walterandersen.com •

Get Ready To Plant Winter Edibles

By Melanie Potter



So far, fall feels like summer, but the summer plants have made their way out of the nurseries. In their place are the fall and winter edibles.

Get ready to plant **sweet onion** starts, and don't delay. These are highly perishable and are best selected within two weeks of their arrival (mid November). Another shipment is due to arrive the beginning of January.

Versatile **potatoes** are another edible that you'll want to plant and don't forget the **garlic**. **Cloves** are here, ready to be broken up and planted sharp point up!

Here's a quick guide to what else will be available to plant:

Strawberries

Albion, Alpine, Chandler, Quinault Everbearing, Seascape, Sequoia and even more!

Caneberries

Varieties of boysenberries, blackberries, raspberries, youngberries, goji berries and gooseberries are available.

Asparagus

Choices include Jersey Knight, Apollo, U.C. 72 and U.C. 157.

Olives

Arbequina, Arbosana, and Mission.

Kiwis

Choose from Issai Self Fruitful, Tomuri (Male), and Vincent (female).

Figs

We offer Black Jack, Black Mission, Brown Turkey, Celestial, Excel, Flanders, Italian Everbearing, Janice, Peter's Honey, etc.

Grapes

Finally, there are enough grape vines that you could have table grapes and wine grapes.

For a complete listing of **bare root fruit trees**, go to www.walterandersen.com/pdf/2016fruittreelist.pdf.

Don't forget, there is still time to order from the **Dave Wilson SOFT program**. The deadline for ordering is Nov. 10. See that list at www.walterandersen.com/pdf/Softfruittree2016.pdf. •



Tool Shed: Eliminate Annoying Gnats

By Melanie Potter



Do you hate those little fungus gnats that fly annoyingly around your face? They come from the soil of your houseplants and there is a cute and effective way to combat them. We have Sticky Stakes that you place in your houseplants. The Sticky Stakes look like a yellow ribbon. This is a more subtle approach to a trap as it resembles a bow in your plants rather than a big fly paper trap.

It's not only gnats that are attractively lured to their death. Sticky Stakes attract and trap many types of flying insects such as whiteflies, fruit flies, and blackflies. The stakes are disposable and can be thrown away when they are full of bugs. Best of all, the ingredients are all natural and contain no harmful chemicals or pesticides. Each package is \$5.99. •



— Recipe —

Slow Cooker Sticky Caramel Pumpkin Cake

By Dan from Platter Talk

*2 cups all-purpose flour**2 teaspoons baking powder**1 teaspoon baking soda**1/2 teaspoon salt**1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice or ground cinnamon**1 and 1/3 cups sugar**1 cup butter, softened**4 eggs, room temperature**1 can (15 oz) solid-pack pumpkin**1 jar (16 oz) caramel sauce or ice cream topping*

1. Coat 4 1/2 quart slow cooker with nonstick cooking spray, turn to "high."

2. Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and pumpkin pie spice in mixing bowl.

3. Beat sugar and butter in large bowl with electric mixer for about 3 minutes, until light.

4. Add eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each one.

5. Add packed pumpkin, blend until well mixed.

6. Gradually add flour mixture and beat at low speed for a minute or so until smooth.

7. Spread evenly in slow cooker and cover.

8. Cook on high setting 2 hours or until center-inserted tooth pick comes out clean.

9. Let cake stand, uncovered 10 minutes.

10. Invert onto wire rack, invert again onto serving plate.

11. Drizzle half of caramel sauce over cake. Serve warm with additional sauce. •

TO DO LIST:
November**FERTILIZE**

For lawns, use Marathon Fertilizer for fall fescue. 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!

PLANT

Fall Bulbs, California Natives and drought-tolerant plants. Winter bedding selections include Violas, Pansies, Snapdragons, fragrant Stocks, Poppies, and more. Look for Pyracantha, Cotoneaster, Camellias, Azaleas, and holiday plants. You'll find vegetables as well as potatoes, garlic and onions. Looking for more edibles to plant? How about caneberries, strawberries, kiwi, asparagus, and olives?

PEST CONTROL

This month start dormant spraying with Liqui-Cop and Oil Spray. **The wetter the winter, the more crucial dormant spraying becomes!** Clean up all foliage from beneath deciduous fruit trees and roses.

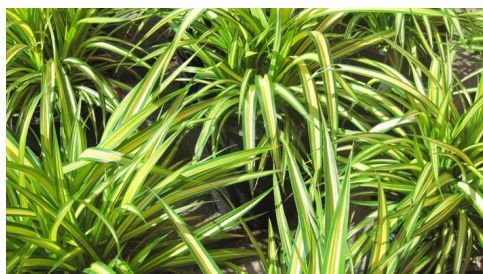
BERMUDA LAWN CARE

De-thatch and over seed Bermuda lawns with annual Rye. •

Two New Plants Arrive

Looking for an unusual addition to your garden? Look no further than **variegated Pandanus** and **Philodendron warscewiczii**. Both these rare plants are grown for their foliage. Variegated Pandanus has long yellow strap-like leaves that are edged in bright green. Philodendron warscewiczii has snowflake-like leaves and an interesting bulbous base. Make sure these plants get morning or filtered sun; they can take more sun along the coast. Both take regular water.

Buy quickly because we have a very limited supply. •

*Variegated Pandanus**Philodendron warscewiczii***Order Bare Root Trees!**

Nov. 10 is the last day to order bare root fruit trees from the Dave Wilson SOFT program. This program makes hundreds of additional combinations of fruit trees with assorted rootstocks available to you. See the list at www.walterandersen.com/pdf/Softfruittree2016.pdf. Read more about the program on page 3 in our October newsletter at www.walterandersen.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/News1015_F1.pdf. •

Garden Classes

NOVEMBER

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/.

SAN DIEGO | 9:00AM

11/7

Organic Pest Control

11/14

Birds in the Garden

11/21

Azaleas & Camellias

11/28

No Class

POWAY | 9:30AM

11/7

Deciduous Fruit Trees,
SOFT Ordering

11/14

Winter Veggies
with Roy Wilburn

11/21

Beginning Bonsai
with Richard Wright

11/28

No Class

Dates To Remember

November 25

Poway store closes at 3pm.

November 26

Thanksgiving

Both stores closed for the holiday.

December 5 | 5:30pm-7pm

Holiday Open House

At our Poway store. Santa will be here!

December 12 | 11am-1pm

Holiday Open House

At our San Diego store. Santa will be here too!

December 24Poway and San Diego stores
close early at 2pm.**December 25**

Christmas

Both stores closed for the holiday.

December 31

New Year's Eve

Both stores close at 2pm.

January 1

New Year's Day

Both stores closed for the holiday.

NOVEMBER In-Store Special

Valid November 1-30, 2015

Earn **Double Hedge**
Fund\$™ Points

on Purchases during the month of November!

Earn certificates faster and with the holidays just around the corner, this could save you some \$\$ on gift purchases in the future. Double points will be awarded Nov. 1 - Nov. 30, 2016.

Points are not earned on Gift Card or sod purchases.



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