



Walter Andersen
Nursery™

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

Garden Talk

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—• IN THIS ISSUE —•

Did You See Us At The Fair?	1
Hot Weather Watering Tips	1
A Pollinator Magnet	1
Happy Harvests	2
Hosting The Butterflies	3
Recipe: Brigantine Dressing	3
To Do List: July	4
10 Myths About Wild Birds	5
July Garden Classes	6

A Pollinator Magnet



From National Garden Bureau comes this beautiful combo that is a pollinator magnet! This perennial combo attracts bees, butterflies and songbirds with its fresh color and fragrance. It uses *Echinacea purpurea* 'Pow Wow Wild Berry', *Gaillardia x grandiflora* 'Mesa Peach', and Lavender 'Blue Spear'. You can substitute varieties if you can't find the ones mentioned. •

Did You See Us At The Fair?

By Ken Andersen



The San Diego County Fair kicked off last month and marked the return of the Flower and Garden show exhibits. Entering a display continued our record as **the longest running exhibitor in the Flower and Garden**



Show exhibiting every year since its opening in 1937. There were no shows from 1942-1945 and 2020 when there was no fair. In 2021, there was a much-abbreviated version that did not include a flower show.

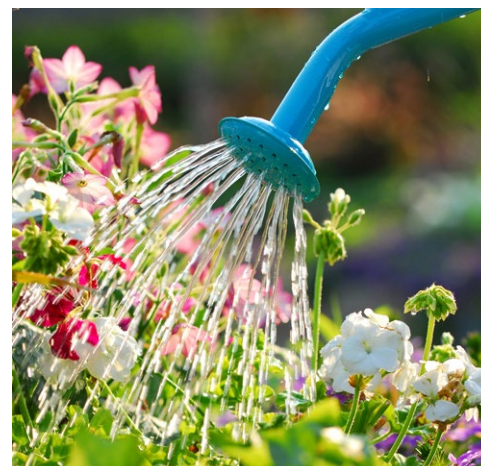
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Hot Weather Watering Tips

By Monrovia Nursery

Set Up A Watering Schedule

Summer is a busy time, but do your best to adhere to an early morning or late afternoon watering schedule once the heat of day subsides. Plants need to recover from the heat before they can really drink up. If you're pressed and need to water midday and are using a hose, remember to let the water run for a few minutes to clear overheated liquid.



[continued p2](#)

Happy Harvests

by Melanie Potter



Farmer Roy's tomatoes

We asked you to share your harvest photos with you and we weren't disappointed.

Farmer Roy from Cadence Living at Poway Gardens can be counted on to grow some of the nicest tomatoes we've ever seen. The folks at WAN enjoy being the recipients of his tomato haul. B. Perkins in Scripps Ranch also had success growing tomatoes this year. She planted several varieties and informed us that Bronze Torch was hands down the favorite. •



From B. Perkins garden

At The Fair continued from p1

This year, our exhibit theme was a 'Primordial Garden' consisting of plants that can trace their lineage through the ages. A selection featuring palms, ferns, cycads and more was installed along with a few dinosaur friends and some colorful metal flowers.

This exhibit, orchestrated by David Ross and George Allmon along with the help of Poway store employees Maurice Bullock and Casey Allmon

brought home some awards from the judges! **We earned the Paul Ecke Jr Award for the best overall garden show entry along with the Coordinator's Award and a few others.** In addition to the main exhibit we installed, Walter Andersen Jr himself drove his restored 1945 Ford Pick Up to the fairgrounds as a static display for the run of the show.

The fair runs through July 4. •

Watering Tips continued from p1



Water Deeply

This is no time for a spritz and go. You need to water deeply and thoroughly so that soil is wet down at least 4-6 inches deep where roots are likely to be. Anything shallower just evaporates which is a waste both for your water bill AND your plants.

Container Watering

When it comes to containers, we can't say it often enough. Stick a finger into the container's soil and if it's dry below your knuckle, WATER. You may need to water two or even three times a day in a heatwave. Plants can often come back from drying out but they never really look quite the same.

Mulch It

Finally, lay it thick. Mulch that is. If you've not replenished mulch, now's your moment. Helps keep moisture in and (hopefully) weeds at bay. •



Summer Recipe: The Brigantine House Dressing

by Melanie Potter



In my recipe box, I came across this recipe for The Brigantine house dressing I had clipped out of what was then the San Diego Union newspaper from 1986! It's the season for salads so this should get plenty of use.

8 oz. blue cheese, crumbled
6 oz. olive oil
1 oz. red wine vinegar
1 oz. lime juice
1/4 tsp. salt
1/3 clove garlic, crushed
1 cube beef bouillon, crushed
1 dash Worcestershire sauce
1 dash pepper
1 tbsp. sugar

Stir, don't beat, all ingredients with a spoon until blended. Add sugar while blending. Chill. •



Hosting The Butterflies

By Melanie Potter



< Our butterfly garden is a popular gathering for the butterflies, and bees. It's a colorful mix of butterfly bush, lantana, Mystic Spires Salvia, cuphea and pentas.



Zinnia

Milkweed



This week, we received a phone call requesting permission to return two containers of tropical milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*) because caterpillars were eating all the leaves. That is actually a good thing. If you want to lure Monarch butterflies to your garden, milkweed is a sure-fire way to do so.

Here are some thoughts on creating a butterfly garden that is a fun summer project for all ages.

Start with milkweed. It is the host plant for Monarchs who will lay their eggs on leaves so the soon to be caterpillars have something to eat.

Swallowtails are lured to dill, fennel, parsley and rue. They also like anise, carrots, celery, milkweed, Dutchman's pipe, tarragon, thistle and Queen Anne's Lace.

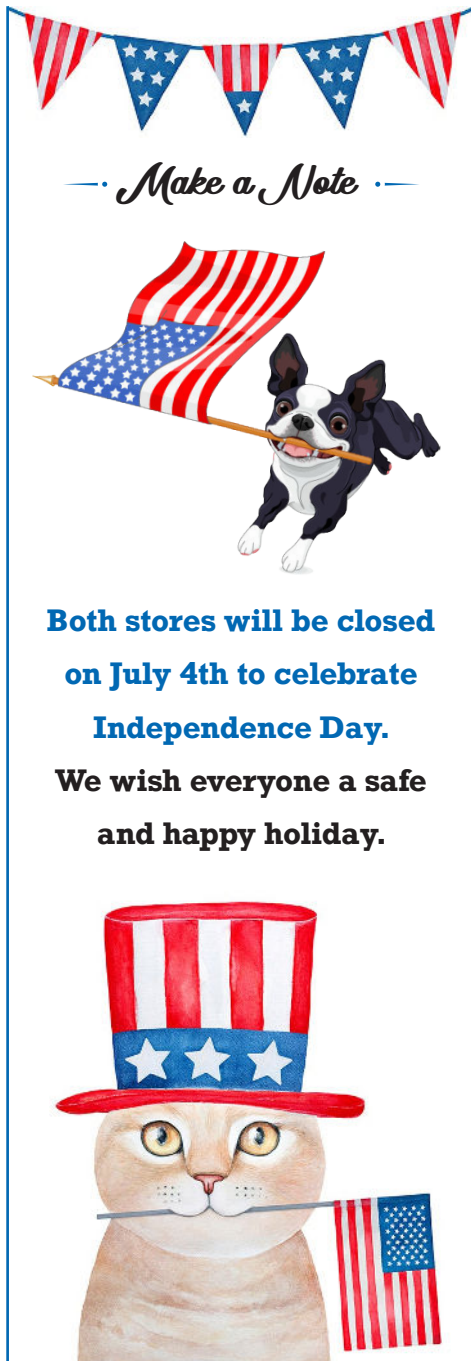
Gulf Fritillary butterflies like nectar plants including lantana, butterfly bush, zinnia, aster, thistle, and verbena. Its host plant is the passion vine (*Passiflora caerulea*) which has the added value of producing beautiful flowers.

A successful butterfly garden needs to include flowers for the adult stage butterflies and foliage for the caterpillars. Pollinators love to have a place to rest in between searching for food sources.

Red-spotted purples, mourning cloaks, buckeyes, and malachites, are among those that feed on rotting fruit, tree sap, carrion, or even dung. If your pollinator friendly garden doesn't include caterpillar host plants, they won't hang around unless they find the appropriate plant to lay eggs on.

You can buy or make a butterfly water station. It is constructed from a terra cotta saucer with gravel and a couple of rocks on which the butterflies can land to sip mineralized water. Many species of butterflies congregate on wet sand and mud to partake in "puddling", drinking water, and extracting minerals from damp puddles.

Do you have a butterfly garden? If so, send your photos to roseshow@walterandersen.com. •



**Both stores will be closed
on July 4th to celebrate
Independence Day.**

**We wish everyone a safe
and happy holiday.**

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Talk
RADIO**

**Listen to the WAN Experts
Saturdays 6am-7am
KCBQ AM-FM & KPRZ AM-FM**

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walterandersen.com

To Do List: July



Look for Plumeria



Fertilize Avocado

Fertilize

- > For lawns, use Marathon Fertilizer for tall fescue.
- > Feed ornamentals with Gro-Power.
- > Feed vegetables with Gro-Power Tomato and Vegetable Food or E.B. Stone 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 this month.
- > Mulch plants to conserve water and dress up planting beds.

Prune

- > Coral trees and roses.



Adjust sprinklers to prevent water waste

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 waste and dead spots.

Plant

- > Plant anything! Just make sure they get plenty of water! New plantings will require more frequent, shallower waterings than established plants.
- > Look for Plumeria, Hibiscus, Lantana, Plumbago, Gardenias, and bedding plants. •



Old Ben: 10 Myths About Wild Birds

By Old Ben

1) There is NO need to feed wild birds in Summer. Answer: Though there are abundant sources of natural food in summer, many times birds need to find food easily. It could be that the parent birds also provide for hungry babies in their nest. This can get the parents overworked. Providing them bird seed will help them to get food without much competition. No matter which season, leave food outside for our feathered friends. This will keep many species returning to your backyard year after year.

2) If you feed birds, they will become dependent on your handouts, and will forget to search for food on their own. Answer: This is simply NOT true. Birds get only 25% of their food from bird feeders. The remaining 75% comes from natural sources like insects, bugs, sap, spiders, pine nuts, grasses and so on. If feeders are not present, birds will not starve. They will resort to natural resources to gain food. However, during drought and harsh winters, it is very difficult for them to find food. So, it is always better to provide supplementary food through bird feeders. Rest assured that birds will not be completely dependent on it.

3) It is okay to feed bread to ducks. Answer: This is a false notion. Giving bread to ducks is as good as feeding them junk food. White bread offers NO nutritional value, and can be a source of excessive fats for the ducks. It may even pollute waterways and lead to diseases. Animals and pests like rats, mice, insects, and predators will also be attracted to the bread. Feeding them cracked corn, vegetable trimmings, fresh pears or grape halves along with Old Ben's Duck and Waterfowl Food is recommended.

4) Bird feeders do NOT require cleaning. Answer: This is a misconception that there is NO need to clean bird feeders. In fact, bird feeders should be cleaned from time to time. Without cleaning, there is a good chance you will end up making birds sick. Due to exposure, bird feeders can become breeding grounds for bacteria and diseases. It is recommended to scrape off the old bird seed and clean the feeder with soapy water and a 10% solution of bleach. Rinse thoroughly and dry the feeder. Clean your feeders a minimum of four times a year.

5) Birdseed NEVER goes bad. Answer: Like any type of food, birdseed can spoil over time. Especially if it is stored improperly. Seed can attract pests and rodents or become mildewed, and old seed dries out and is less likely to be eaten. If you store birdseed properly, it can last for weeks or months and still be suitable for your feeders. Choose a cool, dry area to store seed. Use airtight containers that will deter rodents and insects. Many seeds may be stored in your freezer for later use. All seed has insect eggs in it. Warm or hot conditions will allow the eggs to hatch. Freezing kills the insect eggs.

6) Uncooked rice will make birds' stomachs swell and explode. Answer: ABSOLUTELY NOT!! Most birds eat all kinds of grains, including rice, with no ill effects at all. It's part of their natural diet.

7) Don't feed peanut butter to birds, they will choke on it. Answer: NOT! I have been using peanut butter for many years, I have observed that my birds take tiny amounts, fly to the nearest tree or shrub, place it under a leaf or piece of bark and eat it as though it were a bug they just found. If you are uncomfortable giving



high energy peanut butter to your birds, just mix it with some black oil sunflower seeds.

8) Hummingbirds hitch rides on the back of geese. Answer: No such thing has ever been documented!

9) This feeder is squirrel-proof! Answer: While it is true that some bird feeder designs are more squirrel resistant than others, no feeder is 100% squirrel-proof. Squirrels are cunning and resourceful, and if the feeder has a seed or food they like, they will spend hours discovering a way to get it, causing significant damage.

10) Don't bother to clean the bird bath, birds use mud puddles, don't they? Answer: Unclean bird baths are perfect breeding grounds for algae, mosquito larvae and mold. Keep those bird baths clean and filled with fresh water on a regular basis. •

— Ask Old Ben —

Ask Old Ben questions about birds,
show him your bird photos, or
share your birding experiences at
askoldben@aol.com

Happy 4th of July!



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 <https://www.walterandersen.com/classes-events/>.

SAN DIEGO | 9:00AM

7/2

No Class (4th of July Weekend, Store Closed 7/4)

7/9

Help Your Plumerias Thrive with Mike Atkinson

7/16

Felco Tools & Maintenance with Jennifer Thomson of Felco

7/23

Growing Mushrooms with Richard

7/30

Drought Tolerant Landscapes with Olivia

POWAY | 9:30AM

7/2

No Class (4th of July Weekend, Store Closed 7/4)

7/9

Tropical Fruit Tree Care with Mike

7/16

Firewise Planting with Greg Rubin from California's Own Native Landscape Design

7/23

Companion Planting & Book Signing with Brian Lowell

7/30

Cactus & Succulent Care and Culture with Dean



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GardenTalk

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