



THE REAL DIRT

Vol. 4, Issue 11

RAMONA GARDEN CLUB

May, 2008

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Our very first Garden Tour and Plant Sale was a huge success! Thank you to a very special few who worked many long hours and thank you to many who worked a few hours. We were able to accomplish our goal. It took a lot of hard work to organize everything, including getting volunteers, selecting gardens, making and setting up signs and taking down at the end, advertising, selling tickets, setting up the plant sale, getting donations for the raffle, setting up the day of the tour and so much more! I personally want to thank the thirty members who helped to make this a successful endeavor.

OUR MEMBERS ARE THE BEST!!! A very special thank you to the owners of the seven beautiful gardens on the tour...Barbara Janson, Bill and Sandy Dunigan, Scott and Donna Farguar, Glenn and Sandy Marlin, George and Karen Guglielmetti, Norm and Sally Campbell and Elden and Karen Mahan.

A heartfelt thank you to JoAnn Cruz for a huge donation of plants, trees, cuttings, and cut flowers for our plant sale. Thanks to members and everyone who donated plants. The plant sale was very successful!

Thanks also to the many businesses and organizations who contributed items for the raffle; E & K Nursery, L & J Growing Grounds, K-Mart, Ransom Bros., Hidden Valley Nursery, Designer Stone Garden Shop, Grangetto's, Wild Animal Park, Treasure's Store, Ramona Interiors, Mary's Secret Garden, Hair Etc. and The Spa at the Ramona Fitness Center.

Any comments or ideas to help us make improvements for next year's tour please write them down and bring them to the next meeting or send them to me at terismith87@yahoo.com.

MAY PROGRAM

On Wednesday May 14th the Ramona Garden Club welcomes Jeff Moore of Solana Succulents. Jeff has had this specialty nursery for the past fifteen years. He has received well deserved recognition for his unique "undersea" succulent gardens at Quail Botanical Gardens, Sea World and the Philadelphia Flower show. Jeff has also been featured with Paul James on HGTV.

The Ramona Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of each month (excluding July/Aug/Dec) where the meetings feature a garden related program, refreshments, opportunity drawings and door prize. Call 789-8774 or visit the website at www.RamonaGardenClub.com for additional information.

NOMINATIONS ***For 2008-2009 Officers***

President	Debbie Gomez
Vice President	Marci Shirley Barbara Kinder
Secretary	Debbie Novak Sherry Wilson Carolyn Wallace
Treasurer	Ramona Valencia

BOARD MEMBERS

Teri Schmidt <i>President</i>	789-8774
Sherry Wilson <i>Vice President & Fund Raiser</i>	787-1563
Debbie Gomez <i>Secretary</i>	788-6709
Marci Shirley <i>Treasurer</i>	789-8880
Cindy Simon <i>Membership</i>	788-1973
Wilma Parker <i>Parliamentarian</i>	619-884-0694
Barbara Janson <i>Photographer</i>	788-0131
Nancy Pate <i>Garden Arts & Sales Table Co-chairman</i>	787-9657
Kathy Rice <i>Garden Arts & Sales Table Co-chairman</i>	789-2616
Debbie Novak <i>Publicity & Programs Co-chairman</i>	789-2510
Ramona Valencia <i>Publicity & Programs Co-chairman</i>	789-8430
Maddie Volper <i>Newsletter Editor</i>	788-7971
Pam Marler <i>Hospitality Chairman</i>	787-0087
Gail Morris <i>Librarian</i>	788-1583
Ann Mundt <i>Penny Pines Chairman</i>	789-9395
Pat Frederick <i>Garden Tour Chairman</i>	788-9177



Perennials are the ones that grow like weeds, biennials are the ones that die this year instead of next and hardy annuals are the ones that never come up at all.

-Katherine Whitehorn-

ABOUT THE CANDIDATES

My name is **Debbie Gomez**. I'm running for President and I've been a member of the garden club for five years. Because I've enjoyed it so much, I feel I should contribute by serving on the board, to ensure that our club continues to be so great. Helping with community projects such as Collier Park, fundraising for scholarships, and the Chandler Herb Garden at the Wild Animal Park are especially rewarding to me, along with all the wonderful friends I've made.

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Hello, my name is **Barbara Kinder** and I am running for Vice President of the Ramona Garden Club.

During my first few semesters of college, I waffled between a major in nursery and landscape or *nursing*. Although a nursing career won out, I continued to love being outdoors in the garden... digging, planting and learning about the various trees, shrubs, flowers, and herbs that we can grow in Southern California.

Today, I am semi-retired from a thirty-eight year career in the medical profession.... working in hospitals, doctors offices and home health nursing. My last twenty years were spent teaching medical assistants for the Grossmont School District.

Over the years, I have had many opportunities to serve as a board member for various equestrian organizations. I was a founding member of Poway Ridge Riders, serving that organization as president, treasurer and newsletter editor. Several years ago, I was president of Ramona Trails Association. Currently, I am a mounted patrol volunteer for the San Dieguito River Park, County Parks and the Laguna Mountain Volunteer Association.

My goal in becoming your Vice President is to provide enthusiastic support as we strive to achieve the objectives of this ever-blooming club.

As you know, election of officers is coming up, and I wish to be your next Vice President. My name is **Marci Shirley** and I've been a member of the Ramona Garden Club for over three and half years. When I first joined, I volunteered to be the first librarian of the club, and set up the first library. In 2006 I was elected President of the club. During that time I wrote the newsletter, ran the meetings, and helped where ever I could. After my term as President was over, I became the club Treasurer, which is my current position. As you can see, I have had extensive experience in the club, and want to continue to serve. Therefore, I am running for Vice President. I not only love all the activities the club participates in but I love the people. Who else could you talk about worm castings except to a gardener? Please vote for me in the coming election. Thank you.

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My name is **Debby Novak** and I am running for the position of Secretary of the Ramona Garden Club. My husband and I moved to Ramona from Rancho Bernardo about four years ago. The main reason for the move was to have some land since we had always lived in areas with very small lots and we wanted to 'get away from it all'. We found this beautiful home up by the Cleveland National Forest with over 4 acres plus a barn and corrals for possible horse purchases. The house was only about four years old when we bought it and had survived the Cedar Fire about six months before we bought it. It had very little landscape – only some plants the prior owners put in before they put the house on the market and some beautiful old oak trees.

The first spring our lovely yard turned into this HUGE field of weeds!!! And so, it was time to learn about gardening, and specifically, gardening in Ramona. Neither my husband, Paul or I, had ever been much into gardening, but we have learned a lot since that first spring. Our yard is slowly but surely being turned into a relaxing yard with many lovely plants, including a large selection of natives. Since I joined the Ramona Garden Club several years ago, I have greatly expanded my knowledge of gardening. I have also met some wonderful people that I enjoy spending time with.

Who else can you talk to about worm castings and the pros and cons of various types of mulch vs. DG???

The Ramona Garden Club is a fairly new and growing club. It is exciting to be involved with a club that is getting going and has such potential to make a change on a community, both through individuals' yards as well as the community projects, such as Collier Park, Wild Animal Park, and the Garden Tour. I look forward to being on the board of directors if elected as secretary and helping implement some of the projects, as well as both providing and learning gardening tips and techniques. Thank you for your support.

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Hello my name is **Ramona Valencia**; most of you know me as program co-chairperson for the past few years. I am running for Treasurer. Many of the club's members work so hard to raise funds that I would like to help keep track of these revenues. My experience as a business owner as well as former Rotary Club Foundation treasurer and current treasurer for my homeowner's association should help me best serve the Ramona Garden Club. Thank you for your support!

Collier Park Garden Is Blooming!

Please check out our club's garden at Collier Park, along "G" St. between 6th and 7th Streets. A group of members have been working hard at planting many plants for birds and butterflies, a cactus-succulent garden, and installing a drip irrigation system. Recently about 50 new plants were planted in addition to those that were planted last spring. Members donated some, and others were purchased at E&K Nursery, who was kind enough to give us a 15% discount. The four hundred dollars raised from the wine tasting event paid for the plants, and the County Parks department provided irrigation supplies.
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There are pathways leading to picnic tables, and plans have been formulated for a Blue Star Memorial in the near future. This marker honors all military servicemen and women. Ramona Valencia applied for and received a grant from the National Garden Club for the major portion of the cost, along with another grant to landscape the area with native plants. We envision it to be a place for all to enjoy for many years to come. .

If you have plants, ideas, or your time to contribute, please call Teri Schmidt, 789-8774, or Debbie Gomez, 788-6709.

ROSE SHOW

Roses, roses, roses. Champion rose blooms. Gorgeous rose That's what you'll see when you visit the San Diego Rose Show on May 17th or 18th.

This year, San Diego's "Rose Man", Dick Streeper, is Chairman of the Rose Show and is planning to revolutionize the way roses are displayed at rose shows. His purpose is to "knock your socks off" and please the public, not just those who have entered roses in the competition. Education and delight will be the order of the day, not just prizes.

Special competition categories have been created in order to attract entries from for the florist trade, and rose societies from as far away as Georgia.

For Rose Show information you can also call (619) 602-7641.

The 2008 Rose Show takes place in Balboa Park at the Balboa Park Club building. The Show is open to the public on Saturday, May 17th, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and again on Sunday, May 18th, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Buy your ticket at the door. The cost is \$5.00 per adult, with children aged 17 and under admitted free of charge. Military members in uniform are also admitted free.

GARDEN TIPS

To attract butterflies plant asters, lantanas, buddleias (butterfly bush), marigolds, sweet williams, tithonias, zinnias and other daisy-like flowers.

Give an annual pruning to Trailing African Daisy (*Osteospermum fruticosum*) early in May after bloom to avoid buildup of thatch, which would cause risk of summer fungus.

Ramona Garden Club
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