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Harvest Time at the Grow Lab



Volunteers at the Grow Lab in Riverside recently harvested vegetables from their test garden. See page 2 for more.

Garden Views is published bi-monthly by Riverside County Master Gardeners. In this issue:

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- New research reported by Ron Jemmerson shows how pore closing provides plant immunity, P. 2.
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Grow Lab Test Garden Harvest

Contributed by Kathy Warner, West County UCCE Master Gardener



The Grow Lab in Riverside maintains a test garden to assure that the vegetable plants that buyers purchase from the MGs at plant sales are fruitful. The MGs also learn how to grow the plants and harvest the vegetables, information that they share with those who buy the plants. Vegetables grown included tomatillos, New Mexico peppers, baby carrots, beets, scallions, zucchinis, 2 types of squash, baby eggplants, and 6 tomato varieties. The vegetables harvested from the test garden are shared among MG volunteers.

Closing of Pores Protects Plants from Microbial Infection

Contributed by Ron Jemmerson, Desert UCCE Master Gardener

The opening of pores on plants, known as stomata, allows entry of carbon dioxide that is used for photosynthesis and exit of oxygen which is a by-product. Closing of pores protects the

leaves from drying out. This is important for many desert plants. Some of them only open their pores at night and convert carbon dioxide taken up into an alternate chemical form that is then used in the light of day as a substrate in photosynthesis.

Now there is evidence for another function of pore closing—protection against microbial infection—and an explanation how this occurs. More than 30 scientists at six institutions around the World had a paper published on this subject in the August 26 issue of *Nature*, one of the highest ranked journals in all of science. Participating institutions included the lead institution, the University of Zurich and, from the U.S., the University of Maryland.

The scientists studied *Arabidopsis thaliana*, commonly called thale cress or mouse ear cress, a winter, roadside weed of Europe, Asia, and Africa. This plant is a popular subject for botanical study. Thale cress was the first plant to have its genome sequenced.

Stomata are surrounded by two guard cells that swell in response to an influx of calcium, thus closing the pores. They contract in the absence of calcium to open the pores. The recent report identifies the channel used by calcium to enter the guard cells and explains the mechanism of how the channel is activated. The channel involves a protein called OSCA 1.3 that is in the cell membrane and exposed on the interior of the cell in the cytoplasm. An enzyme known as BIK1, in a response recognizing pathogen-associated molecular patterns (PAMPs) of an infecting microbe, attaches a phosphate group to OSCA 1.3 which induces a conformational (shape) change allowing the channel to open and calcium to enter.

Recognition of PAMPs by cell receptors is a first line of immune defense in both plants and animals. Examples of PAMPs include the bacterial protein flagellin, a mobility component, and chitin, a component of the cell wall of fungi.

Master Gardeners on the Go in Los Algodones, Baja California (BC)

Contributed by Gail Nottberg, photos by Joan Kyle-Baerman, Desert UCCE Master Gardeners

The trip to Algodones is about two- and one-half hours from the Coachella Valley, making it a perfect destination for a day trip, but even more fun for a couple of days. There is a gated parking lot on the USA side of the border, making walking across the border an easy task. Be sure and take your passport or passport card. You can walk into Mexico without it, you just cannot return to the USA without it.

The trip is well worth it if you are looking for yard art, Mexican pottery, silver, and so many other things that it is impossible to list, including some of the best food that you will ever eat. Don't worry about carrying large purchases around as you shop as most shop keepers are willing to get your purchase to the border for you (be sure and check before you buy and, as always, keep your receipt and address of purchase). Most of the shops carry Talavera pottery so compare prices and do not be afraid to haggle, but please remember to be reasonable.



For those who don't know about Talavera pottery, it is a special pottery that has been in existence since the 1650's and has continued to grow in popularity. It is an earthenware pottery, with a white base glaze. It was originally decorated only in blue; however, many colors have been added

since the 16th century. Wikipedia has a great history on the pottery for those who wish to learn more.



We found one shop that had the biggest collection of Talavera that I have ever seen. Above, MG Carolyn Daniels and I peruse the wares at Curious Martinez. They have two locations:

- Alamo Alley
- Ave B between 2nd & 3rd

Below, MG Barbara Kay-Levin checks out garden goodies.



Take cash or travelers checks as most vendors do not accept credit cards. Although prices are great, the selection is so big that it is hard to settle on just one item.

For more information and tips log on to www.losalgodones.com

Google “Earth” for a walking tour: Los Algodones, Baja California (be sure to pick the right one as there are several Los Algodones in Mexico). Some suggestions to ease your visit:

- Carry a backpack for small purchases
- Take water
- Wear good walking shoes
- Bring along pen and paper for writing notes and locations
- No need to exchange money as the vendors accept US Dollars; some do take credit cards
- Take photos of plants; we regret not doing that

You are only allowed to bring one bottle of alcohol back across the border. If you are going to stock up, take along friends who don’t drink or aren’t buying alcohol and have them carry a bottle back for you.

If you have as much fun as we did, it will be a great day!

Travel on!



County-wide Master Gardener Zoom Training Class Offered this Fall

Contributed by Georgia Renne, West County UCCE Master Gardener

Originally only the Desert was going to host a Training Class this year, but the Executive Advisory Board met via Zoom in July and decided this class of 40 trainees should be open to anyone in the county since it would be held via Zoom.

Martha Tureen from the Desert was already selected as Class Coordinator, a position she held previously as a MG in Ventura. The class will be Zoomed Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m.-12:30, beginning November 4 through March 31. As of now Martha is assisted by Rosa and fellow MGs interviewing 30 applicants who have attended information sessions, all through Zoom. Desert MGs Melody Knox and Ann Coulston are set to assist Martha during the 50 hours of training. Rosa is working with Janet Hartin to set up the presentations and weekly quizzes.

Martha is working with a planning committee that has both Desert and West County MGs to assist her. The new Trainees will complete 36 hours of volunteering in designated activities with 14 hours of their choice, all to be completed by October 31, 2021. Martha and Rosa are working with Project Coordinators from both the Desert and West County to make certain Trainees are introduced to MG activities in both areas with activities available for volunteering during these pandemic times.

Most important to the success of this class is the mentoring by both Desert and West County MGs. David and Joe Dean from the Desert along with Juanita Wielenga from West County are already reaching out to all county MGs to select mentors for this class (currently 26 are signed up), developing a job description, preparing an orientation session, and scheduling for monthly mentoring immediately after training class.

Garden Serendipity

Contributed by Patty Reed, Desert UCCE Master Gardener

Newspaper ads begin to appear for the Fall planting season. Kathy Warner schedules times for MGs to start propagation at the Grow Lab. Requests arrive on the MG Help Line for information regarding vegetables and plants suitable for fall planting in the desert. For those of us who have lived here for many years, we anticipate a decline in the heat and time to prepare the soil for our “next season” gardens. Some years, though, life takes an unexpected turn: the summer plants aren’t removed, soil isn’t amended, and new seeds don’t get planted. A ritual is missed, disappointment ensues, and then, a bit of **serendipity**. Where neglect was evident, new life appears as the days cool. Green seedlings appear of their own volition. Mother Nature takes over and the raised bed fills with surprises. *Voila* – self-sowed cilantro from the previous year!

Cilantro or coriander, *coriandrum sativum*, is an annual native to Southern Europe and the western Mediterranean, areas with a dry climate similar to ours. The genus *koriandron* comes from the Greek word *koris*, a reference to the unpleasant smell of unripe fruits. (www.missouribotanicalgarden.org) For those of us who enjoy its earthy flavor, the leaves and stems make a tangy addition to salads or salsas. More often, the seeds (ground or whole) are used to flavor sauces, curries, meats, pies, cakes, and some brands of gin. The seeds, and oil extracted from them, are also used medicinally.

With the past six month’s gift of time, those neglected beds brought us great pleasure as we watched this miniature ecosystem flourish. We cooked with the leaves and stems, native bees pollinated the flowers, and as the coriander completed its life cycle, the seeds were harvested. Fall’s disappointment turned into a summer of delight. Enjoy the magic of your garden whether

it is the serendipity of the unexpected, or pride in a carefully executed plan.

CORIANDER COOKIES (adapted from a “colonial” recipe)

5 tsp	coriander seeds
½ c	unsalted butter
½ tsp	kosher salt
¼ tsp	baking soda
¾ c	granulated sugar
1	large egg
2 c	all-purpose flour
½ c	buttermilk
1 tsp	pure orange extract

Optional glaze (whisk all ingredients together and drizzle over cookies as they come out of the oven):

½ c	confectioners’ sugar
2 Tbs	buttermilk
½ tsp	pure orange extract

Preheat oven to 350°. Toast coriander seeds in a small skillet over medium heat about 3 min. or until fragrant. Grind until fine. In electric mixer, cream together butter, salt, baking soda and ground coriander. With mixer running, gradually add sugar and then egg. Add flour alternately with the buttermilk and extract, blending well. Drop dough by the teaspoon onto lightly greased or parchment-lined cookie sheets. Keep dough rounded and spaced about 2 inches apart. Bake for 10-15 minutes or until just lightly browned around the edges and just barely firm on the top.



California Sister (*Adelpha California*)

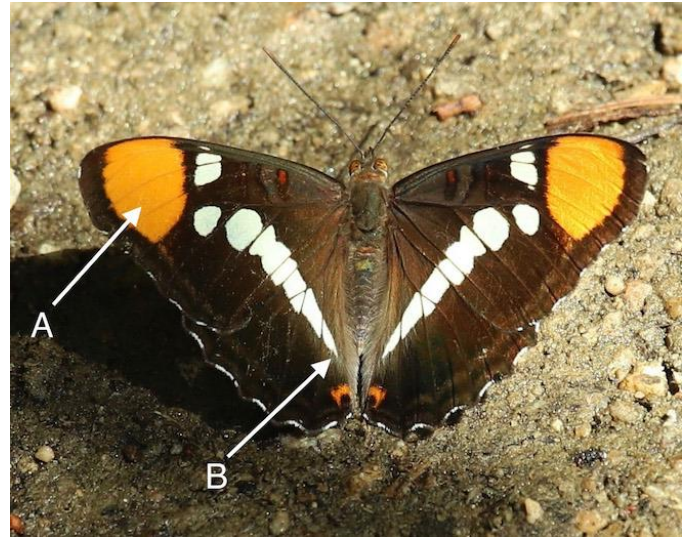
Contributed by Ann Platzer, West County UCCE Master Gardener

While walking through oak woodlands and especially in canyons with streams such as at Oak Glen, you may encounter a common colorful butterfly of the southwest oak lands, the California Sister, *Adelpha California*. This large butterfly is in the family Nymphalidae and has a wingspan of about 3-4 inches. During the COVID-19 pandemic, my husband, Ed, and I spent hours revisiting a number of nearby reserves looking for new butterflies to add to our bucket list. This May at Oak Glen, a Sister flew lazily back and forth flapping its wings infrequently, and then landed on an oak branch at about 8 feet above us displaying a great ventral view.



It wasn't until two months later near Silverwood Lake on a narrow four-wheel drive dirt road called Cleghorn that Ed got excellent photos of the dorsal view of an adult California Sister puddling at a seepage area along with other butterflies such as the California Tortoiseshell, Red Admiral, Satyr Comma, and Northern White Skipper. Needless to

say we frequently visited this spot. The apex of the forewing, both above and below, has a large rounded orange patch (arrow A) that does not reach the margin but is contained outwardly by a dark border. It has a broken colored white forewing while the solid white band on the hind wing tapers sharply to a point (arrow B) near the tip of the hind tail.



The female lays green eggs singly on the leaves of its food plant, members of the oak genus, especially canyon oak *Quercus chrysolepis* and coast live oak *A. agrifolia*. The adult's flight time is from March to November and there are two to three broods. The caterpillars eat the leaves of oaks. The latter broods overwinter as small caterpillars by curling up inside at the base of an oak leaf, then attaching firmly to a twig with silk. In spring, they resume eating and continue their development.

Their range is throughout most of California, but rarely in the deserts, then north to southern Oregon and more northern portions of Nevada. Adults seldom visit flowers but rather, as we noted this spring, feed on bruised fruit, flowing sap, excrement, and road kill.

The oak leaves that the larvae of the California Sister munch on are very distasteful so when flying or resting the adult proudly displays its

bright coloration as a signal that it is unpalatable to would-be predators. Despite the complexity of the wing pattern it is one of the least variable butterflies in California. The Monarch and the Pipevine Swallowtails are two other examples. It is assumed any variant in color pattern would not be recognized as distasteful to would-be predators and, thus, be eaten.

The Lorquin's Admiral is another colorful butterfly also found at Oak Glen and closely resembles the California Sister in coloration and flight pattern. However, the Lorquin's Admiral (see: Butterfly Corner, UCRBG Newsletter, vol. 39, #1, Spring 2019) is palatable since its food plants are nontoxic. Thus, the Lorquin's Admiral is a mimic that gains protection because predators mistake it for the California Sister and avoid it.

Happy butterfly gardening!

It was so hot this summer that even a plant sought relief by coming inside!



A friend of Juanita Wielenga, West County MG, shot her plumbago plant entering the kitchen through a light switch.

Helpline Query: Bermudagrass

Written by Marianne Donley and contributed by Susan Bookman, West County UCCE MGs

Query: When should I apply a fertilizer and aerate my Bermudagrass? [Note: correctly one word]

Response: The following schedule should help you maintain a consistent level of nutrients in the soil so that your lawn will be healthy throughout the growing season.

Mid spring—Bermudagrass begins to green when soil temperatures reach a consistent 60-65° F. The best time to apply fertilizer is after the danger of frost has passed and your lawn is at least 50% green. In the West County this is usually in mid-March to mid-April. Use a complete lawn fertilizer that contains a slow release form of nitrogen. Apply at the rate of 1.5 pounds of nitrogen per 1000 square feet. This application will last 2-3 months.

Mid-summer—Fertilize again as above approximately 2-3 months after the spring application, usually late June or early July.

Early-fall—In late August or early September apply the same fertilizer again or switch to a fertilizer with no phosphorus but high potassium such as 12-4-14 or 12-0-12 and slow release nitrogen.

Winter—Do not fertilize Bermudagrass in the winter. Your lawn could be stimulated to break dormancy in a warm spell only to be damaged should freezing temperatures return.

As for aeration, within 48 hours after you aerate you should over-seed, fertilize, and water your lawn. Make sure not to use fertilizer with weed control as it will inhibit seed germination. The best time to aerate is early summer when grass is growing rapidly. With harder soil it is a good idea to aerate twice a year.

For more information:

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/RiversideMG/>

Honoring our Platinum Badge Master Gardeners—Educator Ann Platzer, West County UCCE Master Gardener—In Her Own Words

My interest in gardening started at age 10 in Vancouver, Canada, when my Mother got me hooked on growing a “Victory Garden” with vegetables. I even had cactus plants growing on Mom’s kitchen windowsill. Gardening has always been a hobby. Who can resist picking your own fresh food such as strawberries, peas, and tiny carrots. That led me to climb the neighbor’s fruit trees, especially cherry.

After graduate school my husband, Ed, and I moved to Riverside to pursue our careers in Biology at UCR. I taught mainly histology and human embryology to upper division biology and pre-med students. Some of my research involved studying the early stages of Duchenne muscular dystrophy.



Our home, close to UCR, was initially a barren lot with school children walking through on the way to school! We needed to start serious gardening. Our passions revolve around native flora and fauna, so we introduced drought tolerant and California native plants, intermingled with cacti, succulents, vegetables, and fruit trees to the barren plot. After years of hard work we became certified as a Monarch Way Station and Backyard Wildlife Habitat.

Today it’s amazing how this barren $\frac{3}{4}$ acre plot has been transformed into a butterfly and bird haven with dragonflies by our ponds, lizards basking on rocks, and even the odd raccoon and opossum climbing the persimmon trees.

While walking to and from UCR I often stopped at the Botanic Gardens and talked to volunteers. That led to volunteering at the lath house which housed many succulents and cacti. Finally, in 2006 I became a Master Gardener after I retired from UCR. Now I had time for some of my former hobbies such as photography, painting, pottery, ceramic sculpting, wood-carving, and weaving, but mainly fossiling with our Southern California Paleontology Club. We also belong to the Gates Succulent and Cactus Society which meets monthly in Redlands.

My volunteer activities at the Botanic Gardens mainly involved supervising and propagating cacti and succulents for the UCR quarterly sales. In addition, I joined the MG Speakers’ Bureau to give talks on growing drought tolerant and California native plants and introducing butterflies, hummingbirds, and native wild-life habitat into gardens.

In the mid 90’s I took Gordon Pratt’s excellent and informative UCR extension class on butterfly ecology that led me, in addition to butterfly talks, to also write a quarterly column called the Butterfly Corner for the UCRBG Newsletter beginning in 2010. This is still an ongoing activity.

It is hard to believe that I have accrued over 8,600 volunteer hours. Time flies when having fun. How wonderful to share garden experiences with many friends that I have met as a Master Gardener and a UCR Botanic Garden Volunteer. I want to thank all the wonderful Master Gardeners who have entered and blessed my life.

Why do I volunteer? Simple: Master Gardeners are such great, friendly, generous and helpful people who don’t mind getting their hands dirty.

Janet's Jottings: Fire-Safe Landscaping

Contributed by Janet Hartin, UCCE Master Gardener Program Director



Welcome to another “New Normal!” Due to climate change resulting in hotter, drier conditions and reduced snowpack, the occurrence of a “fire season” which traditionally occurred from May through October is becoming a misnomer, with fire occurring throughout the year. The severity of what may lie ahead over the next several months was highlighted in a recent tweet posted by CAL FIRE: “Compared to last year, California has seen over 2,650 more fires and a nearly 2000% increase in the acres burned year-to-date (January 1 – September 7), across all jurisdictions.” Indeed, Fall often hosts strong offshore winds that can quickly spread destructive fires, exacerbated by the impacts of climate change.

What can you do to help ensure ‘defensible space’ that increases the safety of your family, pets and property in fire-prone areas? First and foremost, select and properly maintain fire-resistant plants augmented with hardscapes and fire breaks extending from your home to at least one hundred feet outward. (This also helps ensure access to your home by firefighters and other first-line responders in the event of a fire or other life-threatening event.) Vegetation chosen for your defensible space should have low flammability and can include trees and shrubs along with herbaceous plants. Allowing adequate space between woody plants is important to avoid a continuous fuel path (fuel ladder) where fire starting at ground level can climb to the top of a tree and spread from tree to tree.

1. Follow these ‘defensible space’ guidelines to reduce the risk of fire:

Zone 0 (first 5 feet from structures): avoid anything combustible including woody plants, mulch, woodpiles, trellises, and stacked items. Instead, add walkways and mulch and other hardscaping made from pebbles and rocks, pavers, rock mulch, or pea gravel. Include a 6-inch noncombustible area extending from the ground to the exterior siding of structures.

Zone 1 (5-30 feet from structures): Eliminate fire spread by ensuring adequate space between trees, removing lower branches. Consider adding irrigated groundcovers or mowed grass or hardscapes between these plant groupings, as well. Properly maintain plants and remove dead portions of plants.

Zone 2 (31-100+ feet from structure to the property line): Concentrate on reducing the density of plants to slow the spread of fire and to reduce the height of flames. Woody plants should be spaced (as illustrated below) to prevent fuel ladders.



Defensible Zones (source: National Fire Protection Association, nfpa.org)

2. Remember that even a so called “fire-resistant” species that is under-watered or otherwise poorly cared for can be highly combustible. The conditions under which the plant is grown influences its fire-resistance more than the species itself. However, plant species high in wax,

oil, and resins such as conifers tend to be highly flammable while manzanita and ceanothus (California lilac) are less so.

Visit <https://selectree.calpoly.edu> for suggestions regarding fire-resistant landscape trees for your climate and micro-climate.

3. Avoid planting or spreading invasive species. While invasive plants are never recommended in any landscape, they are especially problematic in natural areas prone to wildfire. Once established they can fuel fire as well as crowd out native vegetation and associated habitat. Refer to the California Invasive Plant Council website for more information and specific examples and plants to avoid (www.cal-ipc.org).

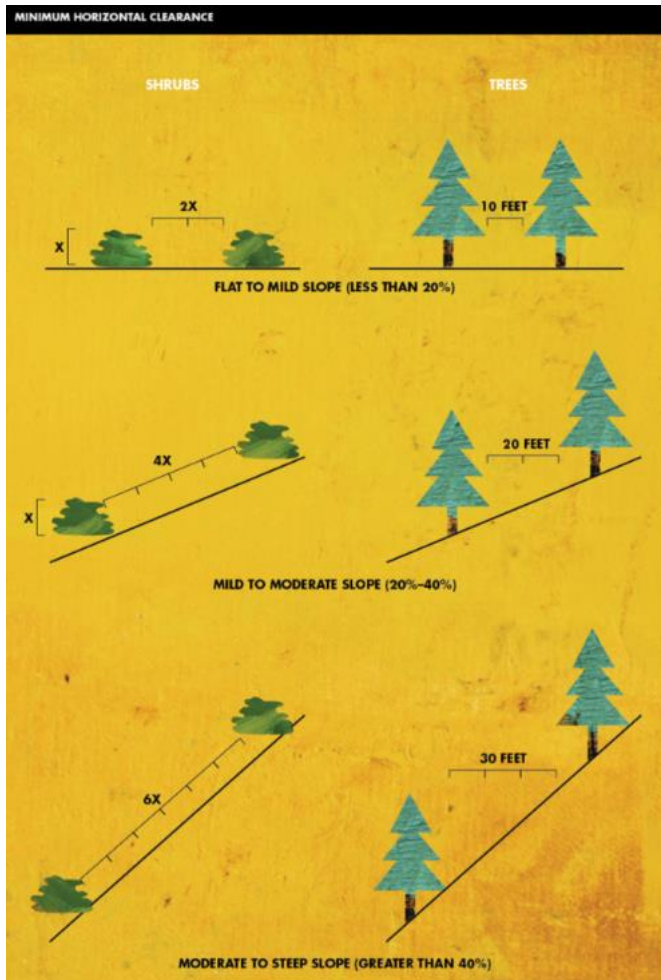


Photo above (courtesy of CAL FIRE) is a diagram to help you determine minimum horizontal

clearance for tree and shrub placement to reduce fire risk.

4. Follow recommended planting and pruning guidelines to prevent both horizontal and vertical spread from tree to tree. Horizontal spacing is directly related to the slope of the land and the height of the vegetation.



Photo above (courtesy of CAL FIRE) shows a 5' shrub near a tree. In this example, 15' of clearance (3 x 5') is needed between the top of the shrub and the lowest tree branch to prevent a fire ladder.

5. While fire-resistant natives and adapted non-natives greatly reduce your chance of losing your home and property to wildfire, all plants will burn under favorable conditions. Ensure that plants receive adequate irrigation.

6. Rather than applying organic mulch near your home, use non-flammable materials such as stone and pebbles. Granite pathways are also suggested since they provide a fuel break. Firewood and propane tanks should also be kept away from your home.

In closing, thank you for serving as “frontline” extenders of credible information on fire-safe landscaping to Riverside County residents who contact you for help and guidance they can trust!

References:

UC ANR “Preparing Home Landscaping for Fire”: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/fire/Prepare/Landscaping/>

CAL FIRE “Ready for Wildfire”:

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/get-ready/defensible-space/>

Drill et al. (2009), S.A.F.E Landscapes: Southern California Guidebook, UC Cooperative Extension <https://ucanr.edu/sites/SAFELandscapes/files/93415.pdf>

MG Volunteer Opportunities—What can I do for MG hours besides Zoom?

Contributed by Georgia Renne, West County UCCE Master Gardener

While COVID 19 is making us Zoomers collect hours for Continuing Education in so many fun ways, we all want to add to our volunteer hours. Sadly, the pandemic still keeps us from in-person spreading the MG word at many MG activities. We cannot enjoy the fellowship of networking with our MG comrades at social events and in-person meetings. However, there are still many opportunities to volunteer and contribute to our mission of extending our gardening knowledge to our community. Explore these current volunteer opportunities by checking VMS or contacting the Project Coordinator.

Grow Lab is alive and flourishing thanks to all who are there watering and weeding while practicing physical distancing. Volunteers are needed for propagation, maintenance, and preparation for the fall plant sale. Check VMS for days and times.

Project Coordinator: Kathy Warner
kathywarnerrealtor@outlook.com

Helplines are still open to the community through email and phone. Not only can volunteers help with responses to gardening inquiries, but also they can do research as assigned by the project coordinator to answer these questions. Project Coordinator: Susan Bookman sbookman@verizon.net for West County and Ralph and Jim Thompson ralph.n.jim@gmail.com for the Desert.

Marketing/PR wants photos with descriptions and stories of your garden for posting on Face Book, Instagram, and eBlast. Everyone loves a rotten tomato story with pictures or the most up-to-date research on the insects eating your roses. Project Coordinator, social media: Pam Clarke pjsickles.clarke@gmail.com Project Coordinator, PR (events for the public): Susan Cline susanc.cline@gmail.com

Newsletter (*Garden Views*) always needs interesting articles and stories showcasing MG volunteers or activities, interesting garden discoveries, and adventures to area gardens. Contact the project coordinator for specific help with a story or article idea. Project Coordinator: Ron Jemmerson rjemmerson@roadrunner.com

School and Youth Gardens offer opportunities to work with committee members on planning lessons, researching topics, and making videos to support distance learning at our schools. Contact: Jonie Kipling kiplingfamily@aol.com for West County and, for the Desert, Brad Hardison hardisonbrad@gmail.com

Thurman Howard, Project Coordinator for Goldminers, tells us that hopefully in February 2021 MGs will be able to volunteer at Farmers’ Markets and Info Tables at many big box garden stores! Ron Jemmerson, Desert Coordinator for Certified Farmers’ Markets was informed by the Markets’ Manager that return of MGs is dependent on County regulations regarding COVID. This also applies to docent activities at various venues. Keep checking VMS for the possibilities.

What’s bloomin’?



Bouquets of Jimson Weed (*Datura stramonium*) with their trumpet-shaped flowers can be seen in vacant, dry lots over 100°—highly poisonous but a popular subject of Georgia O’Keefe.

One painting sold in 2014 for \$44 million!

Children and School Gardens

Contributed by Kim Coons-Leonard, West County UCCE Master Gardener

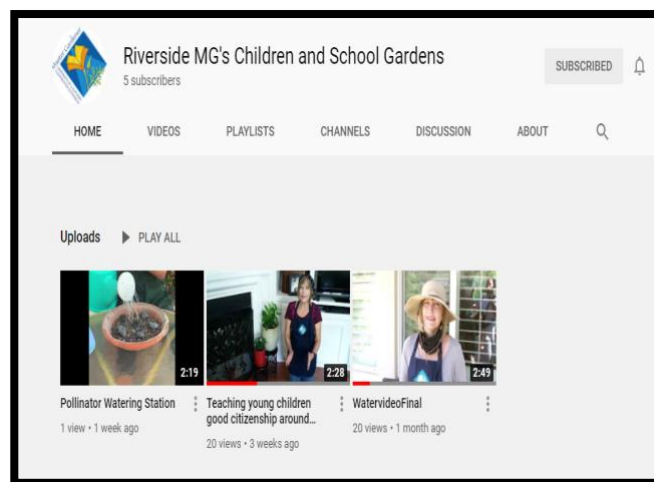
Riverside County teachers are not the only ones busy developing online lessons for their students. Our Master Gardener Children and Schools Garden Committee members have pooled their talents and resources to develop digital garden lessons intended for our school partners and greater community outreach.

These lessons are comprised of two components: interactive Power Points supported by brief informational videos. Lessons are designed so that they can be presented in the classroom by the teacher, included in online distance learning lessons for students, or in a pandemic-free future, presented by MG volunteers working in-person with students and teachers. Interest in these lessons is expanding beyond our current public-school K-8 partners, with home school and high school garden programs seeking our resources.

Work on these lessons began in April by gathering input on lesson topics from teachers at our partner schools. From this, a master list of pre-kindergarten through eighth grade topic categories was developed that touches on all aspects of school gardening experiences ranging from gardening citizenship, to water management to beneficial insects. Protocols were also developed to ensure that lessons follow consistent formatting and are aligned to both California Education Standards and UCCE Master Gardener guidance and research. Like so much of our MG volunteer work these days, all of this has been accomplished via online meetings and sharing documents utilizing UCANR Collaborative Tools 3.0 and Google Drive.

Overseeing the lesson development process are West Riverside County Children and Schools Garden Coordinator Jonie Kipling, and co-coordinators Christine Curtis and Kim Coons-Leonard. However, it takes a village of Master

Gardener volunteers to develop student-friendly, research-based Power Point lessons and videos. Desert Children and School's Coordinator Brad Hardison is providing technical review of all lessons. West County MG Brienne Tengwall is overseeing the posting of final lessons online. She has also made available her Riverside area garden as a location for video filming. Desert MG Cesar Lopez Barreras is editing and uploading videos to the recently created You Tube Channel called *Riverside MG's Children and School Gardens*.



At the heart of this effort are MGs from across the county willing to research lesson topics, develop lessons, and film videos highlighting lesson information. Help is needed for all aspects of this lesson development process!

If you are interested in joining this effort to support our children and school gardens, please contact School Garden Coordinators:

In the West County area contact
Jonie Kipling at kiplingfamily@aol.com, Christine Curtis at christinecurtis2@msn.com or Kim Coons-Leonard at kimda@earthlink.net.

In the Desert area contact Brad Hardison at hardisonbrad@gmail.com.

Riverside County Master Gardener Program

UCCE Riverside County Director	Eta Takele
UCCE MG Program Director	Janet Hartin
Volunteer Services Coordinator	Rosa Olaiz

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Treasurer/Fiscal Officer	Jeremy Noye
Recording Secretary	Joyce Allen

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Chair Elect	Smoky Zeidel
Past Chair	Barbara Kay-Levin
Fiscal Officer	Bruce Wilcox
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Committee & Project Coordinators

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Coachella Valley Preserve	Marcia Stone
West County Community Gardens	Thurman Howard
Desert Events	Rita Kraus
Desert Farmers' Markets	Ron Jemmerson
Gold Miners	Thurman Howard
Grow Lab	Kathy Warner
Desert Help Line	Jim Thompson/ Ralph Thompson
West County Help Line	Susan Bookman
IT/Website	Brianne Tengwall
Desert Membership	Marsha McNamara Cynthia Morris- Sotelo
West County Mentoring Program	Juanita Wielenga
Desert Mentoring Program	David Dean Joe Dean
Moorthen's Botanic Garden-Docent -Propagation	Smoky Zeidel Barbara Kay-Levin
Desert New Projects	Carolyn Daniels
West County Equip./Inventory	Steven Lee
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Desert School Gardens	Brad Hardison
West County Socials	Yvonne Wilczynski
Desert Socials	Kathy Miller
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Desert Speakers' Bureau	Gail Nottberg
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Desert C.E. Events	Carolyn Daniels
Desert Training Class	Martha Tureen
UCR Botanic Gardens	Yvonne Wilczynski
Desert WIC	Joan Kyle-Baerman
West County WIC	Thurman Howard
Desert Large Events	Mary Moses
Desert Home Gardening Class	Linda Borlaug
West County Home Gardening Class	Linda Powell
WEL	Janice Rosner
Desert Visually Impaired Classes	Barbara Kay-Levin

Mission Statement

Master Gardener Volunteers are trained by the UCCE Advisors, Specialists and other qualified instructors to provide the gardeners of Riverside County with research-based information to promote environmentally responsible and sustainable horticultural practices. Activities of volunteers are solely educational - without inclusion of any purpose or intention of carrying on a business, trade, avocation or profession for profit.

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The Back Page

Contributed by Ron Jemmerson, Editor

Just when I thought Martha Stewart had put the "Gardening" in HGTV with a weekly show, after just 3 weeks (6 episodes) she disappeared. I do hope the show will return. For those who have not seen it, Martha began hosting two half hour shows called "Martha Knows Best" at the end of July that aired Fridays at 10 p.m. She had several segments including gardening advice for a fan, celebrity guests, and lessons for gardening with the help of one of her gardeners who was a regular side-kick on the show. The setting was her 153-acre farm in Bedford, Westchester County, NY that she has owned for 20 years. The buildings on the farm are a shade of grey and are complemented by black horses that are not allowed to graze in the full sun less their coat turns a reddish hue, clashing with the color pallet of the farm—truly over the top Martha Stewart. "Cantitoe Corners" as it is called is a working farm complete with a myriad of farm animals and is a designated wildlife habitat. I found the show to be informative and entertaining despite my tongue-in-cheek chastising. Besides, who among us does not enjoy spending time in a well-manicured garden that you know Martha would not have any other way. The show was a refreshing addition to the stale HGTV line-up. As of this writing the 6 episodes that aired are available at Spectrum On Demand and, perhaps, elsewhere.