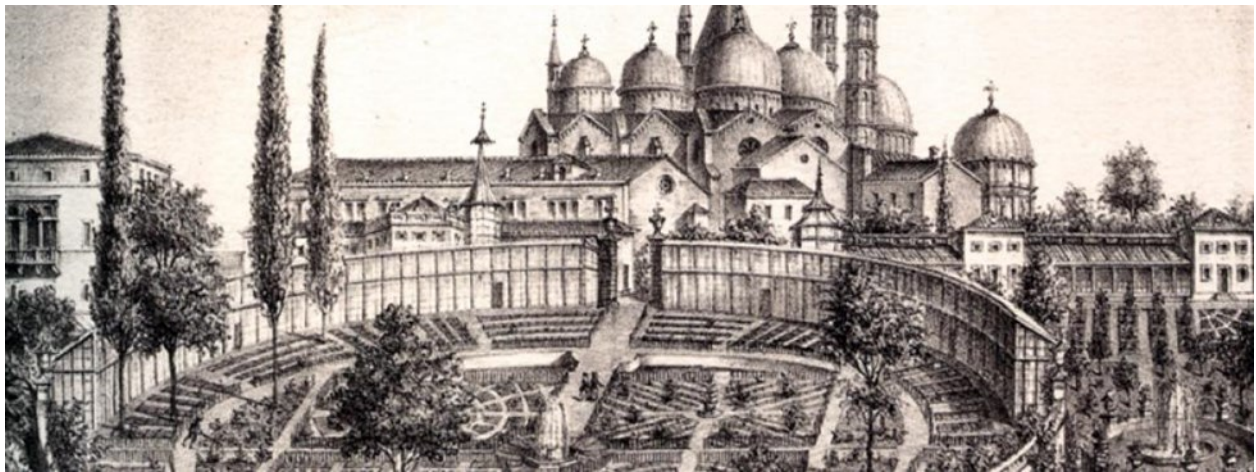




*Orto Botanico di Padova* (The Botanical Garden of Padua) by Elena Jones



The world's first botanical garden was created in Padua, Italy, in 1545. In the same location for almost 500 years, this academic garden still preserves its original layout, a circular central plot symbolizing the world surrounded by a ring of water representing the ocean. The plan is a perfect circle with a large inscribed square, which is subdivided into four units by orthogonal paths, oriented according to the main cardinal directions. The Botanical Garden of Padua houses two important collections: the library that contains more than 50,000 volumes and manuscripts of historical and bibliograph-

*(Continued on page 3)*



Tidy Tips, Baby Blue Eyes  
and Goldfields  
near Santa Margarita  
Photo Mimi Erland

*Meeting May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2:00*

**Prevention and  
Treatment of Plant  
Diseases**

Our guest speaker will be Shashika Hewavitharana, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Plant Sciences at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and Strawberry Pathologist at the Strawberry Center. Dr.

Hewavitharana will be talking about how home gardeners can deal with plant diseases in a coastal climate. Her current research focuses on integrated management of both current and emerging disease threats to California's strawberry industry.

The program will begin at 2:00, Stone Pine Hall, 210 South "H" Street, next to the Lompoc Museum. Light refreshments will be provided. All garden and botany enthusiasts are welcome, so invite your friends and neighbors to join in.

## Drum Canyon Road Log (Mid-April, 2023)

by Warren Arnold and Paul Diller



Sticky Phacelia  
*Phacelia viscida*

Photo Warren Arnold

The following Road Log is not intended to encourage people to travel Drum Canyon Road this spring, for two reasons:

- 1) Drum Canyon Road has been damaged by winter storms and is in need of maintenance.
- 2) The flowers listed are likely to have gone to seed by the time this newsletter arrives. This guide may be useful in future springs as Drum Canyon flowers appear near the same places year after year. Also, for historical interest, this road log may be compared to others for Drum Canyon, published in the past by LVBHS.

Turn left into Drum Canyon Road from highway 246. Be careful, because there is no left turn lane, and you may get rear-ended.

Set your trip odometer to zero within the first 100 yards after turning onto Drum Canyon Road.

There will be no notable spring wildflowers for the next three miles except for some Mustard (yellow) and a few California Poppies (orange). Most of the flowers will be on the right side of the road. Flower color in parentheses.

### Mile Specimens

- 3.6 A large patch of Fiddleneck (yellow orange)
- 4.3 A few Lupines (blue and white) and Wild Radish (pink and white)
- 4.4 More Lupine
- 4.5 A few Wood Mint (pink) and Bush Monkeyflower (yellow)
- 4.6 A few Blue Dicks (deep blue)
- 4.7 Fiesta Flower becomes abundant. (Blue with dark center)
- 5.0\* The road starts climbing a steep grade. Here the best show begins on a shaley sunlit hillside: California Poppies, *Phacelia*\*, Popcorn Flowers a.k.a. *Cryptantha* (white), Deerweed (yellow w/red), White Morning Glory or perhaps Bindweed (white), Chia (blue)
- 5.2 Bush Lupine (blue) becomes more abundant on the hillside
- 5.8 Many *Phacelia* (large blue with white center) and lower growing ones (lavender)
- 5.9 Indian Paint Brush (deep red)
- 6.0 The road reaches the summit.
- 6.1 Buttercups (deep yellow), Bush Lupine, Indian Paint Brush, Lupines (deep purple), Fiesta Flowers

- 6.3 Shaley hillside with Poppies, Bush Lupine, *Phacelia*
- 6.7 Popcorn Flowers and *Phacelia* for the next mile
- 7.6 Lone Elderberry Tree (light yellow)
- 8.8 Los Alamos Park

Poppies were best on sunlit shaley hillsides. Fiesta Flowers and Indian Paint Brush preferred shady areas.

5.0\* Two species of *Phacelia*; *P. viscida* (2 centimeters wide, deep blue, white center) and *P. distans* (1 centimeter wide, lavender)

In the past many *Clarkia* (large pink) a.k.a. Farewell to Spring have been seen, but not this trip.



Wildflowers along Drum Canyon Road

Photos above and right Warren Arnold



## ...Orto Botanico

(Continued from page 1)

ic importance, and the herbarium. There currently are over 6,000 species of plants, arranged according to systematic, utilitarian, and ecological-environmental criteria.

The Botanical Garden is the property of the Italian State but is on permanent loan to the University of Padua, the only entity responsible for the management and upkeep of the Garden since 1545.



The building above houses many things, including a theater, museum and historical herbarium with around 800,000 specimens of dried plants, algae, fungi, and lichens, together with 16,000 phials containing the seeds of food, medicinal and ornamental species, illustrative plates from the 19th century, models of fungi and cross-sections of woods.



In the plan below, the four smaller squares, called "quarters", were divided into flowerbeds (*areole*) arranged to form a series of completely different elegant geometrical patterns.

## The Celery Project *by J. Leafy*

Did you know that you can create a new celery plant from the bunch of celery you bought at the store? Here is the procedure. Cut off the base of a celery cluster straight across, leaving the celery stems (or 'ribs' or 'sticks' or 'petioles', whatever you want to call it) a few inches high. And by the way, it's alright if you've eaten some of the stalks before you do this. Add water to a clear glass jar that is slightly larger than the diameter of the celery base. See the pictures.

Set the base in the container with only the bottom of it touching water, and in just a few days, it will start sprouting a new stem in the center of the celery. In

a few weeks, it will show several leafy new growths. Special note: celery is not an easy plant to grow to full size, but indoors on your kitchen counter, it is satisfying to watch its early stages of growth.

And now for some edible tidbits to feed your brain: the petiole is technically the correct way to refer to the crunchy part of celery most people eat and put peanut butter onto. Celery 'sticks' and 'ribs', are not 'stems'. In botany, the petiole is a stalk that attaches a leaf to the plant stem. In petiolate leaves, the leaf stalk may be long (as in the leaves of celery and rhubarb), or short (for example basil).

Well then, where on earth is the real stem of celery that the petiole is attached to!? My source of information is [www.botanicalaccuracy.com](http://www.botanicalaccuracy.com). It says "It is that small, disk-shaped woody part in the center of the plant." And it further explains how the stem grows taller. "When the plant is old enough it will shoot up one stem in the center of the leaves, and that stem will then grow taller than the leaves around it, have smaller leaves on it, and eventually flower and set seed high above the leaves at the base."

Here is another valuable tidbit: celery has a large amount of Vitamin K! A 3.5 oz serving (100gr) has 28% of the daily requirement.



Celery rooted and growing

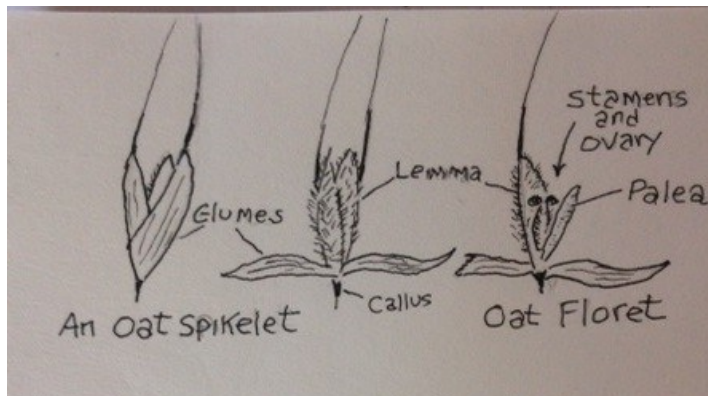
*Photo Julie Levy*

# Don't Know Your Grasses From a Hole in the Ground by Warren Arnold

Amongst us amateur botanists, the grasses are often overlooked as we search for the more prominent and colorful herbaceous plants. But grasses feed the world, and their variety rates equally with most of our blossoming plants. In fact, grasses do have flowers, but they lack the color and show of their broad-leaved relatives.

A botanist who specializes in the study of grasses is known as an Agrostologist, and the discipline is Agrostology. The terms used by these people are Culm, Glume, Lemma, Palea, Spiklet and Floret.

Here is a quick review of those terms, using the common Wild Oat as a model:



The following photographs show the most common wild annual grasses now found in our local vacant fields and uncultivated places: Can you identify them by common name?



Answers on Page 5

## Membership Meeting Minutes *by Kristin Worthley*

### LVBHS Membership Meeting Minutes March 19, 2023

Meeting called to order by Mimi Erland at 2:03 pm.

Mimi welcomed all to the meeting.

**Minutes:** Request to approve minutes from January 22, 2023.

Jan Keller gave the motion to approve the minutes. Elena Jones seconded the motion. Minutes approved by majority.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Our opening balance on Jan. 22, 2023 (date of our last general meeting) was \$16,333.26.

Debit -\$431.01 (Stone Pine Hall rent, Jan. January speaker's fee, CA Dept. tax fee, liability insurance through CGCI); credit \$310 (membership dues & donations). Petty cash balance \$10.

As of 3/17/23 (March bank statement) our closing balance was \$16,462.25.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Botanic:** Mimi thanked the people that helped at the Chaparral and Drought Tolerant Gardens. She

thanked the painters of the picnic tables.

She announced the April 22 event at the drought tolerant garden. Bring tools and wheelbarrows. All are welcome, workers and socializers.

**Communications:** Elena expressed the improved visibility of our organization with partnering with Route 1 Farmers Market. She also announced an opportunity to continue our Earth Day work by volunteering at Cold Coast Brewery from 2-4 with an information table and plant demonstration. Volunteers are: Charlie, Christine, Kristin, Joe Goetz and Carl. Everyone please donate pots for plant holders.

Mimi needs articles for our newsletter.

**Education:** Christine stated she has a liaison with the schools.

**History:** Joe Heuring is resigning. Mimi stated that we need someone to take over this role. We also need someone to store the history documents. Bonnie Bigelow offered some storage space, while Christine

mentioned she may become available in the future.

**Membership:** Helga George will keep membership roster. We need additional volunteers for the membership committee.

**New Business:** New Botanic Committee member is Allyssa Imano, and new Horticulture member is Joe Goetz.

**Announcements:** Upcoming Garden care days: April 22 Earth Day at the Drought Tolerant Garden and then to Cold Cost Brewery, May 6 at the Chaparral Garden, June 3 at the Drought Tolerant Garden.

Julie put some worm composting knowledge on the website. Charlie stated we will have a plant pathology presenter for our May 21 meeting.

Adjourned at 2:25 pm

Respectfully submitted by  
Kristin Worthley, Secretary

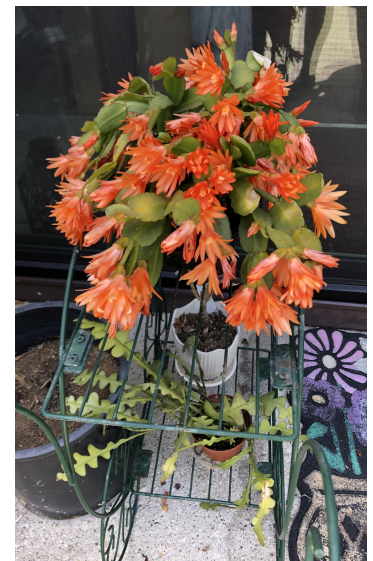
### Upcoming Events

#### Membership Meetings

- May 21
- September 17

#### Garden Care Days

- June 3 at the Drought Tolerant Garden
- August 5 at the Drought Tolerant Garden



Spring Cactus  
*Rhipsalidopsis gaertneri*  
Photo Patcine Beaman

#### **Grass Identification:**

1. Wild Oat (*Avena fatua*)  
Only two florets per spikelet; count the awns.
2. Mediterranean Barley (*Hordeum marinum*)  
Also known as Foxtail.

3. Madrid Brome (*Bromus madritensis*)  
Awns may have reddish tips.
4. Ripgut Brome (*Bromus diandrus* or *B. rigidus*)  
Mature florets harmful to livestock

The *Bromus rigidus* is now called *Bromus diandrus*

#### **Flower Identification:**

On page 6, does anyone know what the little yellow flower is among the filaree and grasses?

# Lompoc Valley Botanic and Horticultural Society

LVBHS

C/O Carl Jones—Treasurer  
416 North C Street  
Lompoc, CA 93436

## BOARD MEMBERS:

### President

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### Vice President

Patcine Beaman 588-7498

### Secretary

Kristin Worthley 909-855-9786

### Treasurer

Carl Jones rayjones267@yahoo.com

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Elena Jones 450-3668

Charlie Blair 717-0067

Allyssa Imano 588-7598

### Horticultural/Drought Tolerant Garden

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Joe Goetz 405/707-8005

### Education

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czuhlsdorf@gmail.com

### History

Need volunteer

### Membership

Helga George—the roster 705-6857

Need 2nd volunteer for outreach

## COMMUNICATIONS:

### Books and DVDs

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### Publicity/Social Media

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### Website

Julie Levy lvbothortsoc@gmail.com

### At Large Representatives:

Elena Jones 450-3668

Need two more At Large reps. (they help with decisions at board meetings)

## *Eastside Walk* by J. Leafy

Beauty abounds all around us, especially if we are keyed in to notice all the nuances.

Walking along the “multi-use trail” on the east side of town, with the sun bright in the sky and the grasses glowing fluorescent green (on April 11<sup>th</sup>) on either side of the path, while wearing five layers of jackets against the strong wind, I felt joy and surprise at what was out there: owl’s clover and showy thistles; tiny yellow composite flowers [I do not know the common and or scientific names] and a spectacular native California shrub with large, bright yellow flowers, Fremontia.

Note: many plants are named after John C Fremont, the explorer. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_C.\\_Fr%C3%A9mont#Plant\\_eponyms](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_C._Fr%C3%A9mont#Plant_eponyms)



California Fremontia  
*Fremontodendron californicum*