



# Lompoc Valley Botanic and Horticultural Society

Founded June 5, 1977

## President's Message *by Warren Arnold*



*Arcostaphylos pajaroensis*  
in Mimi's garden

The inertia of LVBHS seems to be in retreat. When the request for “boots on the ground” went out in my first message, you have come forward to get us rolling again. I hope all of you who have taken part are proud of what you've accomplished.

First, there was the annual maintenance of the Burton Mesa Chaparral Garden. Then came the work to be done in the Drought Tolerant Garden. Some members worked both areas, some chose one or the other, but your response was very encouraging for LVBHS as a whole.

Now, for the first time in many years we have another committee made up of more than one person in the newly formed History Committee, chaired by Joe Heuring. Four members worked three hours each on the first sorting of the many papers and photographs that have recorded 45 years of our accomplishments. As with all our projects, there is more to be done, and I have confidence that this wasn't just a flash in the pan, but a real beginning in seeing a project through to its goals.

Julie Levy has been sending out notices of botanically relat-

ed events which our members may be interested in attending. Even though these are not events sponsored by LVBHS, they are worthwhile activities, and we could hope that members from those groups might reciprocate with our projects. Did you see the nice notice that Elena Jones made to advertise our workday in the Drought Tolerant Garden? This was a great idea to let people know that we are alive and well and would welcome their help.

But let me say this; if you have extra time and are looking for

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*Astragalus sp.*  
possibly *A. curtipes*

At Montaña de Oro State Park

## Meeting May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2:00

### Horticulture Therapy

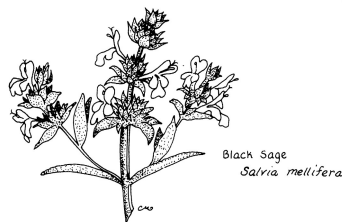
Carol Redhead will be talking about Horticulture Therapy; the history, research, and applications at the VA in Long Beach, CA where she served as an intern for 2 years. Carol will also be talking about integrated pest management (IPM) for garden insects using the best, most effective, least toxic

methods of pest control for homeowners.

The meeting will start at 2:00 at Stone Pine Hall, 200 South “H” Street, next to the Lompoc Museum.

Light refreshments are provided. All garden and botany enthusiasts are welcome, so invite your friends and neighbors to join in.

A flower blossoms  
for its own joy. -  
Oscar Wilde



### LVBHS History Quiz

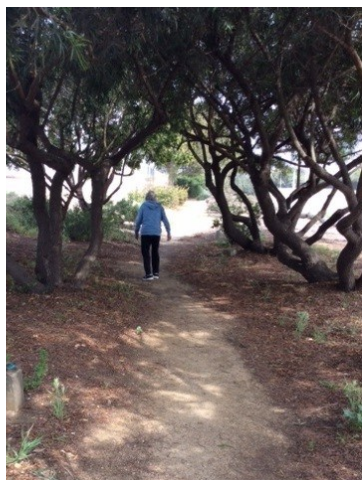
From Warren Arnold

Whose idea lead to the formation of LVBHS?

- a) Vaughn Proctor
- b) Bess Christiansen
- c) David Lemon
- d) Al Thompson

(Continued on page 3)

## Minutes from March 20, 2022 by Mimi Erland



Drought Tolerant Garden shady walk above, Salvador Ramos weeding deep rooted *Malva neglecta* below



President Warren Arnold called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm. He asked all to stand and introduce themselves.

Minutes from November 21, 2021, meeting were read. Charlie moved to approve the minutes as read, Elena 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Those present voted to approve, none against, those not present abstained.

Julie Levy presented the Treasurer’s Report. The ending balance as of 3/15/22 is \$17,021.33. The Treasurer’s Report will be filed.

Warren asked if there were any guests. Joan Bergstrom-Smith and Karis Clinton introduced themselves.

Mimi spoke for the Botanic committee. Julie spoke for Membership. Charlie spoke for Publications. He reminded members he has copies of *A Naturalist at Play*, *Arces of Loveliness* and *Burton Mesa Chaparral*, *A Natural Wonder* available for sale for \$16.10, tax included.

Mimi mentioned she needs newsletter articles. Julie mentioned that LVBHS.org lists activities, books by LVBHS, links to other websites, and local news like the Cabrillo High School plant sales on Saturday mornings.

Old Business; no old business unfinished.

#### New Business

a. Change to by-laws. Currently the LVBHS bylaws state that members who have been with the Society for 25 years or more do not have to pay dues. Patcine moved to change the Bylaws to remove that section. Charlie 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Discussion followed. It was pointed out that those who were already “Life Members” could still keep the honorary privilege, but could choose to pay dues, knowing the Society has little income and would benefit from the dues. There will be a vote at the next general meeting.

b. Charlie moved to change the LVBHS tax status from 501(c) (5) to 501(c)(3). Jana 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Discussion followed. Warren said the old status designated the Society as agricultural non-profit, but without the ability to generate tax-deductible donations for projects. Those present voted in favor, none against, those not present abstained.

Warren described the need for a history committee to help organize several boxes of Society paperwork and photos. He

asked for four volunteers. Joe H. offered to chair the committee, Jana, Patcine and Charlie offered to be on the committee.

Jana offered to be in charge of the bulletin board (kiosk) at the Chaparral Garden. Elena is putting together a flyer for our next workday, April 2 at the Drought Tolerant Demonstration Garden. She will have a PDF for us to share on the internet. Joan Bergstrom Smith suggested we enlist students at the high schools to help us in the garden. Joe said he has vegetable plug donations from Plantel Nursery for members to take on their way out.

Karis Clinton talked about the Native Plant class at Allan Hancock College and handed out flyers. Joan also mentioned other classes on gardening available tuition free.

Charlie introduced the video *Burton Mesa Chaparral*, *A Natural Wonder* for the program. Unfortunately, the computer playing the disc broke down, so Mimi passed around cuttings collected from the Chaparral Garden and talked about the plants.



## Prunes Only by Julie Leafy Levy

Lots of people (gardeners) cultivate trees of the *Prunus* genus for fruit and flowers: Peaches and nectarines, plums and cherries, and apricots and almonds. The fleshy fruits contain a single hard, lignified stone, or pit, which encloses the fruit's seed. Isn't it the *pits* that a prunus tree has to be pruned now and then? These stone fruits scientifically are called "drupes". And if they aren't thinned out during the early stages, the drupes' weight will make the branches *droop*, or even break.

[Aside: The *Prunus* genus is in the Rosaceae family. Apples and Pears are in the Rosaceae family, too, but a completely different genus: *Malus*.]

But let's get to the pith of the subject: PRUNES. The prune is sourced from one particular species, *Prunus domestica* – the European Plum. That, and only that, is the one selected to produce the prune juice and wrinkly dried prunes that we find in the grocery store, because prunes have pits that are easier to remove from the flesh unlike all other types of plum. [Aside: there are only two species of plums that have worldwide commercial significance: the European Plum and the Japanese Plum a.k.a. Chinese Plum (*Prunus salicina* and hybrids).]

Here are juicy tidbits (straight from Wikipedia): Plums may have been one of the first

fruits domesticated by humans. Plum remains have been found in Neolithic age archaeological sites along with olives, grapes and figs. In the late 18th century, the word, plum, was used to indicate "something desirable", probably in reference to tasty fruit pieces in desserts.

Reference:  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prunus> and  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drupe>

Reference:  
<https://www.thespruce.com/prunus-trees-and-shrubs-3269675>

Reference:  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plum>



Methley Plums  
 In Mimi's garden



Drought Tolerant Garden  
 Spruce-up  
 Joe Heuring to the left,  
 and Carl and Elena Jones  
 on the right



## LVBHS founded June 5, 1977

### BOARD MEMBERS:

- President**  
Warren Arnold 757-7992
- Vice President**  
Charlie Blair 717-0067
- Secretary**  
Carol Redhead 819-0760
- Treasurer**  
Julie Levy 717-8713

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- Chaparral Garden**  
Mimi, Julie, Charlie
- Drought Tolerant Garden**  
Jana Hunking—Kiosk
- History**  
Joe Heuring
- Horticulture**  
-volunteers needed
- Membership**  
-volunteer needed

### Newsletter

Mimi Erland 315-7105

### Publicity

-volunteer needed

### Website

Julie Levy  
 lvbothortsoc@gmail.com

### At Large

### Representatives:

Anita Friedman 736-2722  
 Patcine Beaman 736-7687

### History Quiz Continued

Answer: A)  
 Vaughn Proctor was a reporter for the Lompoc Record newspaper. He saw a group putting plant identification signs in Ken Adam Park and told the group he could find others willing to support their efforts.

# Lompoc Valley Botanic and Horticultural Society

P.O. Box 1266  
Lompoc, CA 93438-1266



Pelargonium sp.

*Photo by Julie Levy*

## ...Message cont.

*(Continued from page 1)*

some good exercise on worthwhile projects, you need not look outside our own LVBHS. Here's how to have a nice picnic: load your lunch into a basket, get your favorite companion and a couple of shovels or hoes and head to the Chaparral Botanic Garden at our local branch of Hancock College. There in the Burton Mesa Chaparral Garden you will find scads of *Cistus*, which does not belong in the garden or anywhere else in the chaparral. Dig it out! When you've destroyed your limit for the morning, go back to the parking lot, and on the table under Founders' Oak, have your picnic!



LVBHS member Martha Galisky, beautifying the grounds around her apartment in Portland, Oregon with Ribes and daffodils