



Frost Protection by Carol Redhead



Preparing a young avocado for frost

Photos Carol Redhead

For avocados and citrus, make sure to water the plants ahead of time on frosty nights. Watered soil withstands cold much more effectively than dry soil. When water evaporates, it releases heat into the atmosphere.

Mulch the soil around the base of trees, as a sort of blanket, which keeps the soil moist.

For Citrus: Hose the leaves with water just before nighttime. The water reaches 36 degrees and

will not reach freezing temperature of 32 degrees. This advice really will protect the trees from freezing.

You can protect trees and other plants from frost by placing a blanket, sheet, or frost cloth over the trees and plants, or even put up an umbrella over the top of shorter trees (hoping it will not blow away).

Do not remove leaves that may seem damaged. Wait until May before you can actually see any damage.

The avocado trees in these photos are covered with light-weight frost cloth purchased at either Ace Hardware or Windmill Nursery in Buellton.

Here is a link on how to protect your garden plants from frost/freezes.

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/info/frost-versus-freeze.htm>



Meeting November 19th, 2:00

Plant and Seed Exchange

Members are encouraged to bring not only potted plants and cuttings, but also bulbs, tubers and seeds that have proven to do well in our climate.

If you have extra bags and

boxes to share, please bring them with you as well. One of our members will also be on site for some tool sharpening. Make sure your tools are labeled for easy identification.

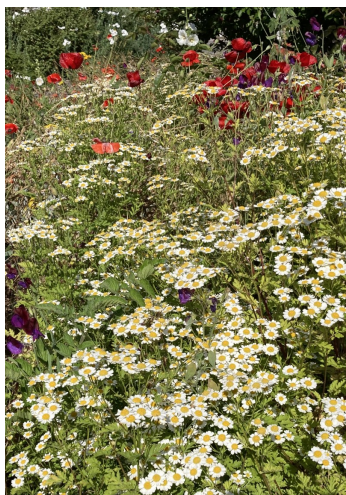
Feel free to extend an invitation to your friends and

neighbors to join our Society and to attend our events as a guest.

Refreshments provided, conversations encouraged.

Stone Pine Hall
210 South H Street
Lompoc, CA
2:00 p.m.

Feverfew in the Flower Garden by Mimi Erland



Feverfew in foreground,
Shirley Poppy—*Papaver
rhoeas* in the background

When I worked for a flower seed breeding company called Floranova, I would bring home some of the plants that were discarded by the breeders. They were always trying out different species looking for plants that bloomed perfectly in cell packs and 4" pots.

One of the species that didn't seem to work out for them was Feverfew – *Tanacetum parthenium*. It's a short-lived perennial with sprays of little white daisy flowers. The strongly scented leaves have been used

medicinally for centuries, and the blossoms last well in casual cut-flower bouquets. I like them because they tolerate my nutrient deficient sandy soil, and the snails, slugs, earwigs, sowbugs, gophers, and deer ignore them. I don't mind the smell of the leaves, but some may find them too strong.

They usually grow about 18" tall, but this last June, they shot up to about 36" and took over a lot of the garden after the sweet peas were done. When the flow-

ers dry, I cut the stems back to fresh growth, and they rebloom nicely as long as I water them through the summer. If the seed heads are left on, they will reseed freely, but I don't mind, as they are easy to pull up and I love free plants. My mother used to have a special place in her heart for "volunteers," and I guess I do too.

If anyone is interested in some transplants, just ask, as I typically can find plenty of little sprouts to dig up.

Feverfew in the Kitchen Garden by Elena Jones



Feverfew
Tanacetum parthenium
Photos Mimi Erland

In my native region of Veneto, Italy, feverfew is known as "maresina," a slang word that refers to the plant's slightly bitter (*amara*) taste. In proper Italian, the plant is called Erba Amara or Matricale. As a child, I remember my grandmother making a simple dessert featuring the fresh feverfew leaves that would begin growing on her large property in the spring. She would prepare a liquid batter to which she would add chopped feverfew leaves to then make crêpes in a frying pan. The final serving touch was a generous amount of sugar

on top! All the children and grandchildren took part in the tasting.

As an adult, I learned that in some other parts of the region, stale bread is soaked in milk and then added to the batter, thus changing the consistency of the pancakes. The more adventurous will use feverfew leaves in cakes, omelets, sauces, beer, and chocolates. Although the daisy-like flowers of this herb are very cute, I have no memories of my family ever using feverfew as an ornamental plant. The first time I found feverfew being sold in the flower section of

a store, I was quite puzzled: I had mistakenly taken the flowers for chamomile, but my brain kept telling me that it was "maresina," because of the very distinctive scent of the leaves. After reading the label, my instinct was confirmed. It was feverfew (*Tanacetum parthenium*) indeed.

The plant is known to repel moths, flies, ants, mosquitoes, cockroaches, and more insects. The extract of feverfew is used to prevent headaches and migraines.

Roses and Me by Al Thompson

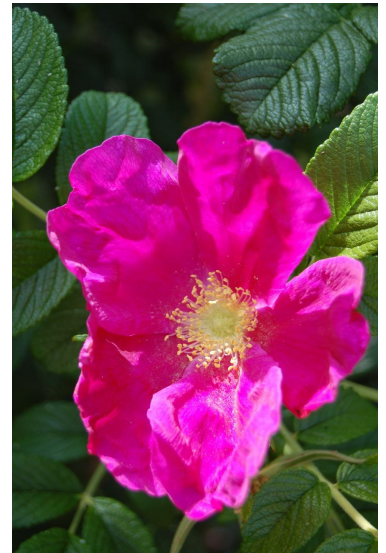
I'm happy to receive the LVBHS newsletter – being a life member. The CA central coast has been close to my heart, having lived there nearly 60 years. I dove in with head, heart, and energy, becoming an arts educator on Vandenberg Air Force Base, an art instructor at the local FCI, a Lompoc City Beatification Commissioner, a Santa Barbara Co. Arts Commissioner, and the garden historian at La Purisima Mission State Historic Park (where celebrity Huell Howser filmed me for his “California’s Gold” TV show). I founded the Lompoc Civic Theater and outlined *Roses* for TIME/LIFE, wherein artists in-

cluded drawings of me. Short of cash my first summer in Lompoc, I worked for the Burpee Seed Co. and discovered the mineral-rich Lompoc Valley – ideal for flower seed production.

As a Korean War veteran with further military service in Germany, I traveled across the earth. Wherever I was, I paid attention to what plants were growing; a passion taken root early on – it continues. One memory was the discovery of sweet-smelling wood violets I presented to my mother. Then there were roses! We had a hedge of them – pink sweet-smelling – I was enthralled!

Years later, writing a weekly column for the Lompoc Record (“Down to Earth”) and other newspaper items in the Santa Barbara, CA News-Press, I once wrote an item called “Roses Under Fire”. Roses had become my favorite flower!

One June day during the Korean War on a mission under enemy observation, I spotted something beside the road and yelled for the driver to stop. Jumping out, I made slashes at a flowering shrub, then jumped back in the jeep and said, “GO!”. We made it back alive as enemy mortars spotted us. In my hand were a bunch of wild roses. They and I are survivors!



Pink Single Rose

Photo, Al Thompson

Burton Mesa Video now available on YouTube and linked from our website

Burton Mesa Chaparral, A Natural Wonder

Written and directed by
Tony C. Sehgal

The filming of this video was sponsored by LVBHS and is now available to watch for free on YouTube.

The link is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8qiasmvEu8>

Information about the video: Burton Mesa in northwestern Santa Barbara

County is home to a unique maritime chaparral. Its geographic location near the center of the state makes it the convergence zone for species of plants and animals from northern, southern, and eastern California. The ecological factors, adaptations, and assemblage of species for the maritime chaparral are presented here.

Produced in 1996, the video is still relevant today as

this rare chaparral habitat endures ongoing threats from human development and climate change.

To learn more about the Burton Mesa Chaparral, please visit:

[BMCG | LVBHS](#) and

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Burton-Mesa-ER>



Toyon—*Heteromeles arbutifolia*, a common shrub of the Burton Mesa
Photo Mimi Erland

Fall in Connecticut by Elena Jones



Gorgeous colors at Crystal Pond Park in Woodstock, CT. Open year round for swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, dog walking, picnics and disc golf.

Leaf peeping at the Connecticut College Arboretum located in New London, in the southeastern region of the state. Founded in 1931, the arboretum boasts a forest of oak and hemlock trees, as well as a rocky, wooded, 40-acre island attached to the mainland by a small tidal salt marsh.

All Photos, Elena Jones

Though only a two-acre park, Palmer Arboretum is nonetheless rich and beautiful, providing a diverse wealth of trees, shrubs and perennials. Perfect for a quiet, reflective stroll, the park features a Rain Garden

and a shady glen with border gardens. Pictured on right is the kiosk where visitors can find material for a self-guided tour.



The Willimantic River is formed near Stafford Springs and flows south through northeastern Connecticut to the historic mill town of the waterway's namesake.

Membership Meeting Minutes *from September 17th, 2023*

Chaparral Garden, Lompoc Campus, Allan Hancock College

President Mimi Erland called the meeting to order at 2:10

Business

Minutes from May 21, 2023, were filed as presented in the September newsletter.

Treasurer's Report was given by Carl Jones.

Our opening balance as of May 16 (date of our last general meeting) was \$16,297.15

Debit -\$740.22 (speaker fee, charitable status renewal dues, additional member dues, 3-year website hosting renewal, sales tax, state & district dues, newsletter, flyer, and brochure printing) Credit \$618.43 (cash return from hardware store purchase, member dues partial return, donations) As of Aug 31 our closing balance is \$16,175.36

Petty cash balance is \$10.00.

Mark Zuhlsdorf volunteered to be our third Member-at-large position on the Board.

Committee Reports

Elena Jones announced we have a new format for our website - LVBHS.org.

Mimi Erland announced that we need someone to greet members and guests at meetings and provide guests with information brochures and membership forms. No one volunteered.

New Business

Mimi Erland made a motion to accept updated wording for the Communications Committee in the Constitution. Carl Jones 2nd the motion. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

Mimi Erland made a motion to accept updated wording for the Communications Committee in the Bylaws. Kristin Worthley 2nd the motion. A vote was taken,

and the motion was approved.

Announcements

Mimi Erland announced that the next garden care day will be held at the Drought Tolerant Garden on Central Ave. from 9:00 to 12:00 on national Make a Difference Day, either Oct 21 or 28. Date to be confirmed. Bring tools for weeding and raking, water to drink and a wheelbarrow if you can. Those who can no longer garden comfortably are encouraged to take photos and help direct volunteers when they arrive.

Mimi Erland announced that the next general meeting is on November 19, 2023, at Stone Pine Hall. This will be our annual plant and seed exchange.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 2:22 and was followed by an opportunity drawing and a tour of the Chaparral Garden led by Warren Arnold.

Photography Exhibit

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden is hosting an exhibit of native plant photographs in their Garden Gallery. The exhibit will be open to anyone with a garden reservation to view 10:00-5:00 until December 9, 2023.

Board Nominations

The Nominating Committee will meet soon and begin contacting members with regards to your possible interest in serving on the Executive Board in 2024.

Gardener's Bulletin Board

Patcine made an excellent suggestion to have a bulletin board in the newsletter where members could post requests, questions, or excess plant, seed, or fruit offerings to other members. Please submit your items to Mimi at mimierland1@gmail.com.

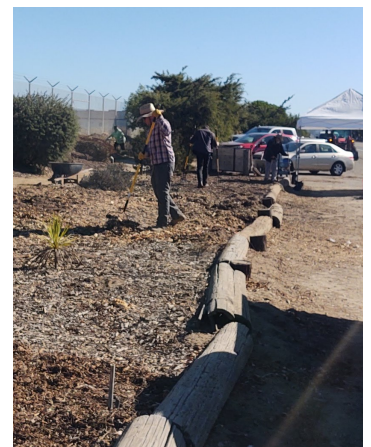
-Patcine is searching for a

gardener/contractor to hire for weeding, pruning and possible relandscaping of her yard. If you know someone to recommend, please contact her at 805-588-7498.

-Mimi is searching for codling moth prevention on apples, and pear slug prevention on plums. Call 805

-315-7105 or email mimierland1@gmail.com

-Charlie Blair recommends smelling the morning air in the local chaparral this fall for the sweet scent of the male coyote brush blossoms, aka Mr. Fuzzy Wuzzy. See Vern Human's [A Naturalist at Play](#), pg. 40 for more information.



Mulch spreading for Make A Difference Day

Photo Elena Jones

Lompoc Valley Botanic and Horticultural Society

LVBHS

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

BOARD MEMBERS:

President

Mimi Erland 315-7105

Vice President

Patcine Beaman 588-7498

Secretary

Kristin Worthley 909-855-9786

Treasurer

Carl Jones rayjones267@yahoo.com

At Large Representatives:

Elena Jones 450-3668

Bonnie Bigelow 717-0960

Mark Zuhlsdorf

mzrelatingtoplants@gmail.com

COMMITTEES:

Botany/Chaparral Garden

Elena Jones 450-3668

Charlie Blair 717-0067

Allyssa Imano 588-7598

Horticultural/Drought Tol. Garden

Mimi Erland 315-7105

Joe Goetz 405/707-8005

Education

Christine Zuhlsdorf

czrelating2plants@gmail.com

History

Need volunteer

Membership

Helga George 705-6857

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications Chair; Publicity & Social Media

Elena Jones edavey@hotmail.com

Books and DVDs

Charlie Blair blaircharles491@yahoo.com

Newsletter

Mimi Erland mimierland1@gmail.com

Helga George 705-6857

Website

Julie Levy lvbothortsoc@gmail.com

"Nobody sees a flower —really
—it is so small it takes time,
like to have a friend takes time."

Georgia O'Keefe

submitted by Julie Levy



Trailing African
Daisy
*Osteospermum
fruiticosum*
Photo Helga
George