

# Sun Lakes Garden Club

## September 2020 Newsletter

*"Cultivating gardens and friendships"*



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**WE'RE MEETING LIVE THIS MONTH . . .**

**AT THE CHAPEL CENTER !!!**

**On Tuesday September 15th we'll welcome Doug Jones, speaking on Exotic and Rare Fruits. Doug is the President of the Arizona Chapter of the California Exotic Fruit Growers.**



**Doug lives in Mesa AZ on acreage and grows an amazing assortment of fruits. He spoke to our club in 2017 and he brought mangos and other fruits from his harvest for the members to try. Since his presentation was so popular and the club has so many new members, he was invited back for the September 15th monthly meeting at 9:30 am. We are wearing masks and our friendly greeter will check each attendee's forehead temperature. We're not going to share any refreshments quite yet, so bring your water bottle if you need it. We'll still gather at 9:30 to review raffle items and buy those tickets and socialize while our speaker is setting up to start his presentation at 10:00am. WE'RE PLANNING TO VIDEO THIS MEETING TOO!**

**“Thank You” to Linda Blane for sharing publications, updates from the Master Gardeners, local Nurseries and Bloggers with helpful Gardening Information for our members.**



## *September Gardening Calendar*

### **Approximate Dates & Gardening Activities:**

- 2 - There's still time to plant early fall vegetables this week, such as tomatoes, peppers, zucchini, etc.
- 4 - Pull summer flower varieties and begin planting fall flowers—in-store now!
- 6 - Use insect preventatives in early flowers and vegetables.
- 9 - Start planting winter vegetables this week...
- 11 - It's time to fertilize your citrus.
- 13 - Rose care—clean up, light pruning and fertilizing.
- 16 - Grow a lush winter lawn—start prepping for winter ryegrass seed.
- 18 - It's a great time to plant citrus!
- 20 - Landscape clean up and fertilization of trees and shrubs.
- 23 - Plant select seeds indoors for your fall/winter Tasty Garden.
- 25 - Winter Lawn—begin planting ryegrass seed once nighttime temperatures are a consistent 65 degrees F.

Talk with one of our *Trusted Garden Advisors* to learn about natural and organic fertilizers for your Tasty Garden and desert landscape!







The Arizona Agave was on the endangered species list from 1984 until it was removed from the list in 2003. This summer Nancy Hicks pointed out that some of her agave's and many of her neighbors are suffering from root weevils. After she brought it to my attention, I noticed that they are all dying in my neighborhood also. She was able to find a pesticide that will kill the weevils, but not all nurseries carry it. Here are 2 that were recommended in a blog about Agaves. Starla



Merit 0.5 Granular Systemic Insect Co...

\$58.01 \$80.00

★★★★★ (129)



Criterion 75 WSP Systemic Insecticide

\$35.45

★★★★★ (23)



Problems and Pests of Agave, Aloe, Cactus and Yucca



AZ 1299 Revised 03/11

Agave Snout Weevil (*Scyphophorus acupunctatus*). The adult weevil attacks many species of agave. The very large *Agave americana* or century plant is more susceptible to weevil damage than the smaller species. The adult weevil is about ½ inch (12 mm) in length, is

brownishblack and has a dull body (Fig. 16). The adult female enters the base of the plant to lay eggs. Decay microbes also enter through this injury and as the tissue rots, the plant has a wilted appearance. Infested plants soon collapse and die (Fig. 17). The larvae (grubs) develop in the dying plant and infect other hosts nearby. Agave snout weevil also infests the canes of several *Yucca* species. **Control of the agave snout weevil is difficult.** Selecting species that are less susceptible and typically smaller than the century plant is helpful, especially in areas where the problem has occurred previously. **With rare or special specimens, chemical prevention using a broad-spectrum insecticide applied in spring is often effective in reducing damage.**







**"A few of you took some cuttings home from my 'Night Blooming Cactus' but I still have 2 or 3 pieces to give away. Give me a call if you'd like any and they are on the side of my house in Cottonwood."**

**Terri McStocker**

**(480)468-8096**



**Nancy Hicks offered to give away her red cactus pieces last month. Here's a photo she shared! They bloomed while they waited for a new home.**



**"Our last RAFFLE was at our last meeting in February. We're looking forward to seeing all of you at the Chapel Center on September 15th and if you have raffle a donation that you think other members would like,**

**please bring it to the meeting and put it on the raffle table."**

**Lyndi and Denese "The Raffle Rascals"**





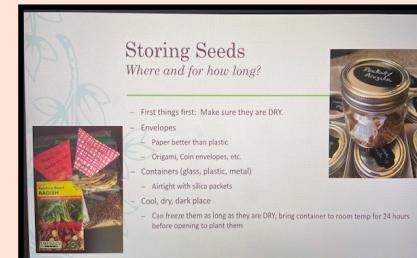
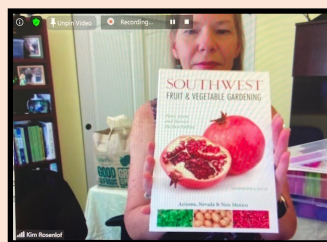
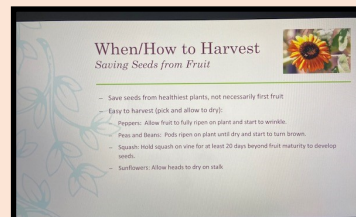
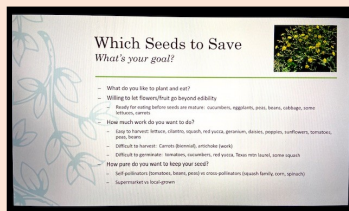
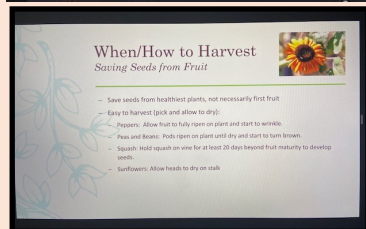
# Highlights from our August meeting via Zoom!

We had the pleasure of an amazing presentation by Kim Rosenlof, at our August meeting. Kim is the Immediate Past President of the Tempe Garden Club. She is a Master Gardener and she has an extensive knowledge of horticulture. This topic was about “Seed Harvesting, storing and planting ” and below you’ll see a few photos taken of the Zoom screen. She suggested some books that she uses as a resource and we have some of these in our club library.

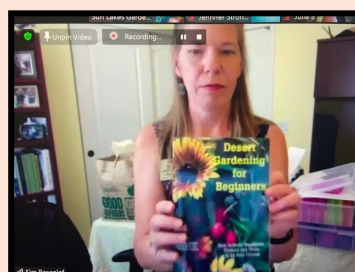


Did you know. . . .

- ...it takes 2 years for carrots to go to seed?
- ...Asparagus need a male & a female plant to pollinate?
- ...Germination success rates are on the seed packages?
- ...Cilantro plants create Coriander seeds use as seasoning?



**THIS ENTIRE PRESENTATION INCLUDING A GREAT QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WAS RECORDED ON ZOOM AN THE LINK WILL BE SENT OUT TO ALL MEMBERS THIS WEEK.**



## RESOURCES:

[Kim@Rosenlof.com](mailto:Kim@Rosenlof.com)

Phone/text (480)710-8830

Or [SeedSavers.ORG](http://SeedSavers.ORG)

[MotherEarthNews.com](http://MotherEarthNews.com)



**The tree in the front garden of the Chapel Center has been pushed back in place....thanks to the wonderful Facilities Manager, Butch Hall. It was 111 degrees and he and the Chapel Center President, Bill Townsend and his son Randy pushed it back into place. The tree was not damaged, as it leaned over in the wind. Butch watered it every**



**day to keep the roots from drying out until he could get help to lift it.**

**Butch has also been watering the Tipu**



**tree we donated in the back yard in April, in this heat all summer. We appreciate his efforts and they plan to install a drip-line to it in the Fall.**

**Butch is the person who sets up all of the chairs and podium and tables for us at our meetings. We appreciate that The Chapel Center board does not**

**charge us any rent, and in exchange, we maintain the gardens.**

**Linda Blane reached out to Butch and offered him some sturdy poles and rubber hosing if they need it. He said the poles were not snapped but they do want to make it more secure when the weather is not 113 and they can work on it more. That Mastic tree in the front is the focal point of the front garden and it was donated in honor of Don Klassen, their past treasurer who passed away suddenly about 3 years ago.**

**The Tipu tree in the back yard was protected by the house and it survived, but it looks smaller with much of the new growth having blown away in the high winds.**





## Treasurers' Report by Deena Bunzel

September 1st Checkbook balance is \$1518.79

No dues were collected last month for any new members for the first time this year. (However, we're close to 100 members for 2020 so far.)

Party favors were ordered for our December 8th Holiday party "Brunch with Santa" and the catering deposit will be due next month. The club is subsidizing the meal so that a \$30 gourmet meal will only cost members \$20.

We'll continue to pay the \$14.99 monthly fee for our Zoom membership until we are sure that all speakers are comfortable to speak to us in person.



## Who wants to grow more Hollyhocks in Sun Lakes???!

Deena's neighbor is our newer member Carol Shores. Remember the fun video Deena did of her next-door neighbor's fun back yard full of Hollyhocks and whimsy? If you saw it... you know why her friends nicknamed her the "Sun Lakes Hollyhock Lady." Carol will miss the September meeting because she's preparing for her wedding anniversary party on September 15th. However, she is making little individual packets of Hollyhock seeds to give to each member who wants one. If you won't be at the meeting, and want some, you'd better call a friend who can get a pack for you.



Carol has also offered to host refreshments at her garden for our March 30th "Members Only" garden tour. "Thank you Carol"

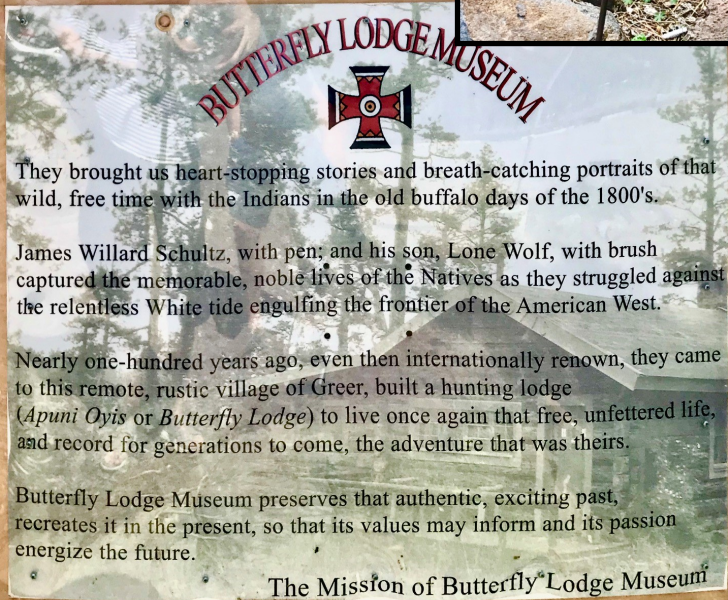


# Member Submissions continued

"Starla, Thanks for sharing the photos of the storm damage in Sun Lakes. I'm going to have someone check on our house in AZ. We're in NE Iowa now enjoying beautiful weather in the 70's. Here is the view from our deck. I'll look forward to seeing everyone at the November meeting."



Sherrian Beagle loves to travel and she just spent a week up at the Greer Lodge in the White Mountains of AZ. She shared some fun photos from around the lodge. The lodge burned a few years ago and she said there is a meadow where the trees had been. They are encouraging butterflies to visit the lodge like they did when the original "Butterfly Lodge" was built in the 1800's. She said that the weather was very nice and she'd encourage others to visit the lodge.





## Member Submissions



### MEMBER SUBMISSION:

**Mary Jencsok shared these beautiful photos of the Betty Ford Alpine Garden in Vail CO. (Can you smell those Alpines?)**

**Mary is fortunate to have family in Breckenridge where she has spent the last few weeks. She said that the weather was been just beautiful in August.**



PLEASE SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER WITH YOUR FRIENDS.  
VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO ATTEND ONE MEETING  
OR FIELD TRIP BEFORE JOINING.

**It's easy to join on our web site!**

## Sun Lakes Garden Club

"CULTIVATING GARDENS & FRIENDSHIPS"

THE CLUB   MEMBERSHIP INFO   CALENDAR   RESOURCES   NEWSLETTERS   GALLERY  
INFORMATION FOR SPEAKERS   CLUB ROSTER



**Members meet all year on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the CHAPEL CENTER. Members have been staying connected through monthly live ZOOM computer meetings, and “virtual” video field trips during Covid closures. Members receive a monthly Newsletter and they’re also available on SunLakesGardenClub.org.**

**Members are welcome from any city and any level of gardening experience. Club memberships are \$20 per year and a spouse or second member in the household is only \$10 per year. Meetings are held at the Chapel Center (next door to the Sun Lakes All Faiths Community Church). It's at 9230 E. Sun Lakes Blvd. N., (across the street from the Sun Lakes Country Club.**