



Issue Twenty Six **The Bloomin' News**  September 2013

**Hello fellow Pacific Gardeners!**

With Fall fast approaching it will soon be time to move indoors. I would like to have some interesting times to look forward to this fall so I am putting out some ideas for new groups. A while back Tanis suggested an art experience group which sounded to me like a great idea. I have talked to a couple of people about the idea of having a greeting card/scrapbooking club. I have some equipment and a few ideas and would be happy to spend time pleasantly involved in sharing this activity with others. What about a food savvy group for sharing recipes, meal ideas and perhaps ways to save money on food ( maybe buying bulk supplies together somehow). I understand at one time there was a group discussing the book "The four agreements" and it fizzled out due to lack of interest. We have recently had a few people move in and out and possibly there could be interest in reviving this discussion group. I am however very interested in Taoist Tai Chi and if one or two of us ( I am hoping to sign up) were to attend then we could have practice sessions here with anyone else who is interested.

These are just a few ideas I have been pondering as fall starts to approach. If anyone is interested in these ideas or if you have some of your own let's talk and see what we come up with.

Lynn Lowden

**CLC News**

The CLC committee welcomed Lynn Lowden as a new member at our August meeting. Lynn brings the eyes of a newcomer and great enthusiasm with her. Welcome Lynn!

The committee is planning to host a Monday night community meeting on September 16th at 6:00. We plan to introduce the new "reservations books" that Norah has worked so hard on, discuss and hopefully approve the revisions to the guest room guidelines that reflect feedback from the community and our new process, discuss and possibly approve new craft room guidelines that were drawn up by Roz, invite the smokers in our community to work on revising the smoking policy so that it meets the needs of all community residents, and update the community on the first steps we are taking to move forward with the recommendations that came out of the Carol Keane "Everyone Matters" workshop. It should be a full meeting!

Here are some other CLC hosted events planned for September:

- 1.) CLC Meeting September 13th @ 1:00 pm, drop by if you would like to join in our efforts to make living together more collaborative.
- 2.) Community Potluck BBQ and Games Night September 13th starting at 6:00 pm. Bring something to grill for yourself and something to share (salad or dessert). We will choose the games together following dinner. Options include Scrabble, Encore, or whatever game you bring.
- 3.) Community Circle September 24 at 7:00 pm Remember to be on time for this heart centered discussion.
- 4.) Slide Night September 25 at 7:00 pm Chad and Susana, and Bill and Sharon will share pictures of the cohousing communities they visited in their recent travels. There is a lot to be learned by seeing how other groups have solved problems common to cohousing.
- 5.) Potluck Pancake Breakfast followed by Work Party September 28 starting at 10:00. If the weather is good we will focus on the outdoor projects that need to be done, if the weather doesn't cooperate we will focus on indoor tasks that help keep things looking good and keep our shared home safe.

We are posting the minutes of our meetings on the CLC page of the new community website at [pacificgardens.zenlunatics.org](http://pacificgardens.zenlunatics.org) . If you need help visiting the website please let Sharon know.

submitted by Sharon on behalf of the CLC Committee

## Comings and Goings

Please welcome Felipe Pinto into unit 304. He is from Mexico and working at Baby Salsa restaurant. He will only be with us for one month so please be sure to say hello.

Please welcome Colin Boorman who will be moving into 308 with Tara and Jordan. He'll be working as a teacher at John Barsby school down the road.

We say a fond farewell to Monique, Luigi and Freedom. You will be missed. We hope you will visit often!

## Community Contributions



Wow! What a great community we have of people willing to do their hour of contribution every week! I also know that many of you are putting in more than an hour a week on jobs that aren't even listed. Thank you! Thank you!

Please keep checking the window in the dining room for new lists of things that need doing. Our next work bee will be September 7. It's a great chance to come out and work together and then share lunch.

BTW we need someone to make lunch that day. Any volunteers? It can count as your community contribution that week.

submitted by Kari

## Compost News



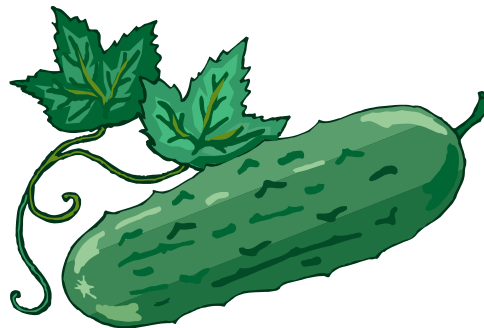
Please note that our compost area has been getting a lot more attention lately and is much more pleasant for you to deliver your food scraps to. Thanks to two volunteers and to people adding a shovel of soil to the buckets we have dramatically reduced the flies and odour!

If you are currently bringing your compost to the green bin in the garbage shed please consider walking a little further to the compost area and placing your donation in the "cans". This will really help the backs of your volunteers who have been lifting the green bin from the garbage area to the compost area.

Thank you to all of you for helping us make our own nutritious soil here for the gardens and for reducing our burden on the landfill.

Kari

## Thai Cucumber and Peanut Salad



Salad:

1 English cucumber or 2 field cucumbers, peeled, seeded and chopped

1 shallot, minced

2 green onions, minced

1 fresh red chili, seeded and minced

1/2 cup cilantro, chopped

1/4 cup dry roasted peanuts, chopped

Dressing:

2 tablespoons fish sauce

Juice of 1/2 lime

1 - 2 cloves of garlic, minced

1 tablespoon soy sauce

1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper

1 to 1+1/2 teaspoons sugar, to taste