



Saturday, October 8th

Community Workday 9:00
Fall Potluck 12:00
General Meeting

**IMPORTANT:
GET YOUR COMMUNITY HOURS
IN TODAY. NOT MANY MORE
CHANCES LEFT.**

(You're really needed now!)

Longevity

Contemplate in the morning.

Pull weeds in the afternoon.

The joys and labor of a single day

Are part of a whole journey.



Holiday Happenings: Mark your calendar



**CALLING ALL OVF
ANGELS, ARTISTS
AND COOKS!!**

To celebrate the season we need your donations of hand-made holiday gifts, seedlings, and baked goods for the Arts & Crafts Fundraiser on Saturday, December 10th. To participate in this special event or for more information, please call Karen Andersen, OVF News Editor, at 310 838-8212.

Saturday, December 10th

Community Workday 9:00
Holiday Potluck 12:00
General Meeting, and...

**FOURTH ANNUAL
ARTS & CRAFTS
FUNDRAISER**

*Preview shopping under the Big Pine Tree
from 12:30 - 1:00, then 2:00 - 3:00*

DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT OVF

GardenMaster's Report

PIPE NEEDED We have a need for old salvage pipe for rebuilding retaining walls at OVF. Look around your plots to see if you have any pipe in the ground or lying on the plot that we could use. Take it to the Lumber Cage and put it under the cage and I will then pick it up and store it for future use. If you know of someone where you live that has some, please bring it to us.

WEED MATERIAL A reminder to not put False Garlic and Nut Grass in with your weed material for shredding. But it is OK to put Devil Grass in the weed pile. Our composting bins reach a temperature of 160 to 170 degrees and this kills the devil grass. Also, it is important that you separate your woody bush material from the green material at the orchard storage area. If the green material gets mixed in with the woody material it is very difficult to pull apart and slows the shredding process down. The shredding machine will allow pieces of wood to pass through the green material grate. The grate is changed to a fine screen when the woody material is put in and it results in sawdust.



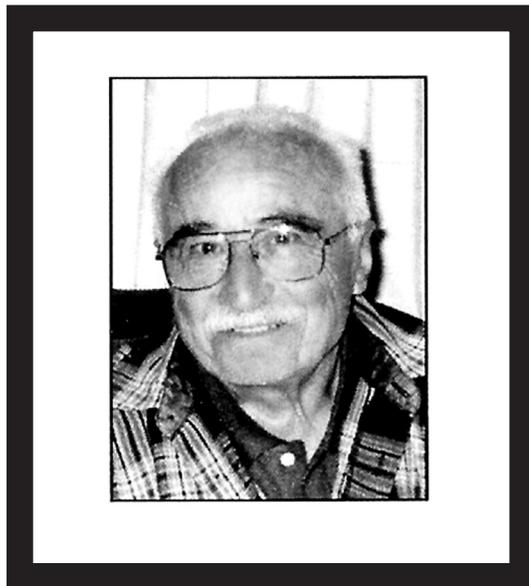
However, if green weeds are mixed in with the woody material, then the screen gets clogged and the machine must be shut down to clean it out. A lot of growling takes place at shredding time and nasty words are expressed about those that carelessly mix it in. So the shredding crew on Tuesday mornings thanks you for separating your weeds!

TRASH BINS There are two city trash barrels next to the storage pile. The black barrel is for trash, plastic, wire, metal, etc. The green barrel is for nut grass and false garlic. It is ok to put nut grass and false garlic in the black barrel if the green one is full. Do not put trash in the green barrel as it is going to the city's compost system.

SURPLUS VEGGIES This is the harvest season and if you have more vegetables than you can eat you can put them under the big pine tree meeting area for other members to share and not let them go to waste.

GARAGE CLEANING Please check with me before you bring items to OVF. I will determine if we have a use for it and I appreciate the thought. Some large items have been showing up on the property that we have no use for.

KEYS A reminder that if you lose your water key or gate key you can get a new one at the office for \$1. Our water



Santino Barricello

November 1, 1929 – September 13, 2005

Ocean View Farms lost a dear friend and valued member on September 13th, 2005 with the passing of long time garden member, Santino Barricello. Santino, a retired studio carpenter and 15 year OVF member, was responsible for almost single-handedly building most of the physical structures that exist in our garden, from the two sheds that house our shredding machinery in the orchard to all of the tables and benches in the meeting areas and so much more. Whether or not it was a large chore, such as repairing one of the manure bins; or a simple task, like adding a small shelf in one of the sheds, it seemed as if Santino would be finished before you could even complete your request for help.

Santino is survived by his wife, Katherine, four daughters, Anna, Lydia, Lina and Alice, and three grand children Jinni, Niya and Robert. Donations in his name can be made to the Mark Santino Magsino Scholarship Fund, c/o The St. Augustine School, 3819 Clarington Avenue, Culver City, CA 90232.

keys have a hole in the handle so they can be put on a chain to help prevent losing them. Also, our gate keys are made from Master Factory keys.

SUMMER I feel that we have had a cool summer here this year which is OK by me, but I know some plants do better with heat. I have tried growing various varieties of grapes over the years and I have found that the Concord blue is well adapted to this climate. Most grapes, especially the seedless varieties, like hotter weather. The Concord is very delicious as a table grape but makes great jelly, juice and wine, all of which I have done! I have a vine in my backyard that is 45 years old and still produces good tasting fruit.

— Ed Mosman, GardenMaster

CHAIR SHOTS

OVF Fights to Protect Your Private Information

While I've always been extremely reluctant to mix my gardening and my politics, OVF has become engaged in a so far successful; but still very disappointing battle with the Mar Vista Community Council ("MVCC") for the past eight months over the council's attempts to obtain the names and home addresses of all OVF members. The system of community councils was brought about through the 1999 reform of the Los Angeles City Charter approved in a city-wide vote. Designed to give local stakeholders a grassroots say in government affairs the community council system was given final approval by then Mayor James Hahn in May of 2001 and the first of almost 100 Los Angeles community councils began appearing in 2002.

OVF first became aware of the intentions of the MVCC through an email from MVCC board member William Scheduling back on January 12th, 2005. Upon confirmation from the Los Angeles City Attorney's office that the garden was not obligated to turn over this type of information, the board of OVF respectfully declined this MVCC request.

All was quiet for a few months, until late May when Mr. Scheduling made his second attempt at getting OVF information by adding an agenda item concerning OVF and the North Venice Little League to his MVCC Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. This group thought that they were not the appropriate forum for this discussion and referred the item to the MVCC Urban Planning and Land Use Committee.

So on July 7th, 2005 off we went again, this time to the Urban Planning and Land Use committee meeting held at the Mar Vista Library. Here Mr. Scheduling expressed his desire to have the Urban Planning committee assist him in obtaining the names and home addresses of OVF members in order to ascertain if the property was being used to its' best purposes and whether or not there were residents of Santa Monica using the property. After some heated public comment, the Urban Planning committee refused to become involved in the matter and voted to table the item indefinitely.

Indefinitely lasted until September 13th, 2005 when Mr. Scheduling requested that the entire 13 member board of the MVCC entertain his "motion directing the MVCC to ask the CD11 City Council office to audit the books and membership rosters of the groups using the DWP property at Rose Ave and Centinela Ave (i.e. Ocean View Farms and North Venice Little League). Further, that the MVCC request that the Council office share the audit results with MVCC Board of Directors, or a committee there of, in order to determine that a major open space within MVCC is being properly utilized and available to MVCC stakeholders."

OVF was pleased to be joined in opposition to this motion from North Venice Little League president Paul Lieske along

with several Hilltop neighbors and Mar Vista residents. In addition, City Councilman Bill Rosendahl's Field Deputy for our area, Len Nguyen, attended the meeting and announced that the authority of the councilman or the city to request the private information of OVF members was extremely unclear at this time. The board of the MVCC refused an offer from OVF to present a report to them concerning the garden's financial activities. OVF is grateful to the six members of the MVCC: First Vice-Chair, Rob Kadota; Zone 3 Director, Ken Marsh; Zone 4 Director, Christine Taylor; Zone 5 Director, Amy Lawrence and At-Large Directors Claudia Border and Renee Marcus for their majority in the 6-2 vote that defeated this particular motion. Voting with Mr. Scheduling was MVCC Zone 6 Director, George Chung.

While hoping that this matter may finally be put to rest, OVF does not believe that will be the case. We'll continue to fight for your privacy and keep you informed. For more information about the Mar Vista Community Council, visit their website: www.marvistacc.org. To inform Councilman Rosendahl about your views on this matter, e-mail Field Deputy Len Nguyen at len.nguyen@lacity.org

In the meantime, here's wishing you all a happy Fall gardening season. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our October 8th and December 10th pot luck lunches or general meeting.

— Happy Gardening, Frank Harris, Chair

The First Annual OVF Harvest Festival



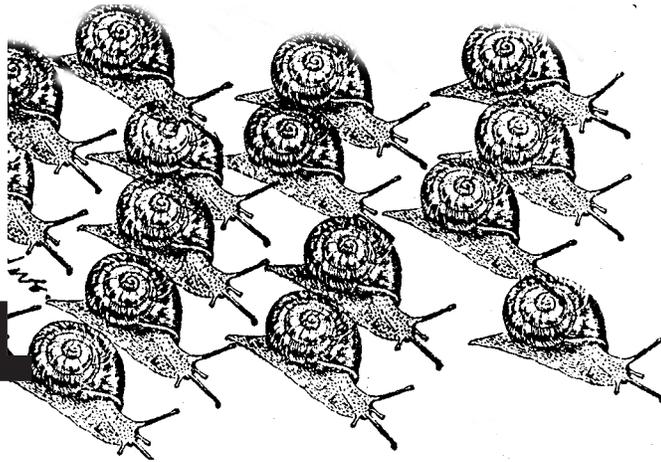
A big thank you to Eleanore Fahey (left, Phase I, G5-G7) for all her hard work in organizing, decorating and conducting the OVF Harvest Festival held during our general meeting on August 13. Look for this event again next summer.



OVF would also like to give a very special accolade to Merrihew's Sunset Gardens at 1526 Ocean Park Blvd. in Santa Monica for the generous donation of the gift certificates awarded as prizes for the five contest winners. Please let Merrihew's know that OVF appreciates their support on your next visit to the nursery.



GOOD GUYS ON PATROL



By Karen Andersen, Editor, Ph IV, C6

Next time you're stuck on the freeway in holiday traffic, allow your views to travel to less stressful topics of trivial pursuit, e.g., how DOES CalTrans keep their snail population under control along our California freeways. . . or HOW do our California citrus growers manage to reduce their snail population? A motorized drum roll puhlease! Allow me to introduce you to the conical shaped gourmet "Romina decollata" snail that was first introduced to the United States around 1860 from the Mediterranean via merchant ships. Since then this snail has been leisurely patrolling our citrus orchards, our freeways and in particular, landscapes in Texas and much of the Southeastern states where the brown snails have slowly become less of a nuisance.

Researchers from the University of California at Riverside discovered that decollate snails were very effective at controlling the brown snail population and did not damage live plants. Decollate snails are nocturnal creatures. They eat decaying fruit and vegetables or other dead plant material. Their preferred dinner menu includes the eggs of slugs and snails. Decollates especially like young snails but do not bother dining upon the larger adult brown snails. Ah the allure of inexperienced and youthful prey!

Hah! Although decollate snails will only live for about two years, they are apparently quite interested in promoting their species, and will lay about 200 eggs a year. The typical garden brown snail, on the other hand, lives for about 7 years. . . God sure does have a wicked sense of humor.

The decollate snails need several weeks to become accustomed to their new home. You will need one Decollate for each 1 to 4 square feet of space. Before introducing the

snails into your plot, water the area where you plan to place them, preferably in the late afternoon or evening. Set them out in groups of 3 or 4 in areas of your garden where they can easily find snails to munch on. Once the rain falls, or the area is watered, they will dig their way up to the surface to eat the brown garden snails. Decollates are so effective at controlling the brown snail population that the California Department of Fish & Game does not allow them to enter Northern California where they are concerned that the decollates would decimate the native slugs and snails.

If you'd like to purchase unusual garden holiday gifts, contact Tommy Peltier, a local musician, and owner of Ladybugs Forever, who sells decollate snails and ladybugs on Wednesdays at the Santa Monica farmers market and on Sundays, at the Hollywood farmers market.

Another idea is to simply grow plants that snails and slugs don't seem to bother with. Try ornamental grasses and woody plants or those with scented foliage like lavender, rosemary and sage. Other popular choices include begonias, California poppy, geraniums, fushias, impatiens, lantana, and nasturtiums.

Signing off from the garden patrol, I wish you all Happy Gardening.

OCTOBER-DECEMBER WORKDAY SCHEDULE

OCTOBER

8 Sat 9-12 Work
12 Potluck
1 Gen. Mtg.
30 Sun 1-4 Work

NOVEMBER

12 Sat 9-12 Work
19 Sat 9:30 Board Mtg.
27 Sun 1-4 Work

DECEMBER

10 Sat 9-12 Work
12 Potluck
1 Gen. Mtg.
2 Crafts Fair
25 Sun 1-4 Work

**LAST CHANCE
TO GET IN
YOUR HOURS**

*It is impossible
to have
too much love
or too many
daffodils.*

Katherine Whiteside



Know Your Rules & Regs

A good working relationship between the member and the Phase Representative is necessary to avoid misunderstandings. Members are to inform their Phase Representatives of any changes of address or phone number, as well as vacations, illness, or extended absences. *All Rules & Regs are posted on the bulletin board in the wheelbarrow shed, or consult your Phase Rep for a printed copy.*