



# Into the Garden

The Gardeners' Club  
Santa Cruz County,  
California  
February 2025  
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When we think of rainwater as a precious fresh water resource, it doesn't make sense to manage it like a waste product. There is a finite amount of fresh water on earth and we can all take steps to protect it, starting with collecting it where it falls! Estimates indicate that a quarter-inch of rain falling on an average home yields



over 200 gallons of water. When we catch and collect the rainwater that falls on our roofs, we end up with a bunch of clean water that is perfect for watering lawns and gardens, washing cars or the family dog, and offsetting household water usage in many other ways.

We also help reduce local flooding, stress on storm sewer system infrastructure, and pollutants in runoff that reach rivers and streams. One simple, efficient, low-cost method to reduce the amount of storm water runoff from your property is to use **rain barrels**.

**Willard Schwartz** has been a member of The Gardeners' Club for over a year. He has made and used rain barrels in his own gardens for over 10 years. At our February meeting, he will tell you how to make them and how to set them up. We are eagerly looking forward to hearing about his knowledge, experience and suggestions.



See you there! Thursday  
Feb. 13th, 7:00 pm  
Aptos Grange Hall  
2555 Mar Vista Dr.

## Free ONLINE LECTURE Event



### CELEBRATING BLACK CONTRIBUTIONS IN ART AND NATURE

**Thursday, February 6, 2025 4:00-5:30 PM**

1 hour 30 minutes length; 54 tickets available. Purchase deadline: Wednesday, 2/5/2025 8:59 PM; Hosted by NEBG's Inclusivity, Equity, Diversity, and Accessibility (IDEA) Committee.

Immerse Yourself in the Stories of Black Horticultural Heroes

This Black History Month, Join Black in the Garden podcast creator Colah B. Tawkin as she guides attendees through the rich narratives of the NEBG Horticultural Heroes exhibit, bringing history to life in an innovative and interactive way.

Hands-On Creativity: A Special Coloring Book Experience

During this lecture, participants will follow along with a specially designed Black in the Garden coloring book, crafted to complement the stories shared. This hands-on activity encourages a relaxed, focused atmosphere, as attendees color scenes and symbols inspired by Black horticultural history. The act of coloring fosters mindfulness, helping participants engage deeply with the narratives and reflect on the profound contributions of these historical figures.

Interactive Trivia: Learn and Play

To enrich the experience, Colah blends her storytelling with engaging educational trivia. Each question highlights the lives and achievements of these horticultural pioneers, allowing participants to test their knowledge, learn fascinating new details, and deepen their understanding of the cultural and historical context. Friendly competition adds an extra layer of fun, with prizes offered to trivia winners as a reward for their enthusiasm and participation.

This webinar is more than an event—it's an opportunity to celebrate the remarkable contributions of Black leaders to gardening, botany, and environmental stewardship in a vibrant, creative, and interactive setting. Reserve your spot today and get ready to connect with history, art, and nature in an unforgettable way.

Exclusive Participant Perks. All registered participants will receive a print copy of the specially designed Black in the Garden coloring book, allowing you to fully immerse yourself in the webinar experience.

A link to a downloadable digital copy will also be provided to all participants.



Meet Your Speaker: Colah B. Tawkin

I help black people connect to nature via gardening and plant appreciation. It started in 2019 by producing and hosting Black plant media I created: The Black in the Garden podcast. The podcast is a space for Conversations with plant influencers, pros, authors and celebrities where we highlight Black contributions to horticulture. We've organically grown

a community of 'Soil Cousins' across over 50 countries with recognition from The Guardian, Essence and the New York Times! Currently, I'm producing season 5 of Black in the Garden, theme: Connecting the past, present and future of Black people in horticulture.

In fall 2021 we published our flagship offering, the Black in the Garden Coloring Experience which was featured by the Los Angeles Times in their holiday gift guide 'Best Gifts for Your Plant People.'

I'm currently connecting horticultural institutions such as Atlanta Botanical Garden and North Carolina Botanical Garden with material and programming that's relevant to Black interests and diversity amplification. As a hyper creative and Black culture preservationist, I do this well.

My legacy project, Underground Arborist, turned into the 501 (c)3 nonprofit arm of Black in the Garden in January 2022. The mission: to plant native trees in every State in the U.S. from sea to shining sea! We're currently looking forward to connecting with enthusiastic collaborators to help fulfill this mission that begins February 19, 2022, in partnership with The Nashville Tree Conservation Corps.

In short, I'm a whole PLANTrepreneur and if you read all this, I wish you 'love, light and SOIL!' Follow Colah B. Tawkin on Instagram and LinkedIn.

Registration Information...start account at <https://purchase.nebg.org/PatronEducation.aspx?pid=14176&cal=https%3a%2f%2fpurchase.nebg.org%3a443%2fcalendar.aspx>;

Please note that webinar links will be sent via email in the week prior to the lecture.





The time has come for membership renewal. Annual membership dues, which include all benefits, are only \$20.00, due by January 1st. The membership year lasts through the end of December, 2025. Dues entitle members to all club educational programs, our special events, plant trades and our awesome monthly newsletter. The "green" option is to receive an electronic PDF FULL-COLOR version of the newsletter by checking the newsletter e-mail option below. Consider sharing your passion for gardening, and supporting our club, by giving your favorite gardening enthusiast an opportunity to connect, share and learn with us. A gift



membership is a gift nobody will want to return!

Ours is a club celebrating the joys of gardening, friendship, community, learning, nature and growth. We have a history of giving to the community, and have focused this giving in the last few years on scholarships for Cabrillo College

students who are working towards careers in horticulture. Because our dues are so low and we'd like to be able to continue to give scholarships as needed, we are giving you the option of making an additional gift with your membership.

### Your Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How would you like your newsletter? Check ONE:

E-mail (FULL COLOR!!!) (the green option...save trees)

Paper (Black & white; via Snail Mail)



### Gift Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Membership Newsletter —Check ONE:

E-mail (FULL COLOR!!!) (the green option...save trees)

Paper (Black & white; via Snail Mail)



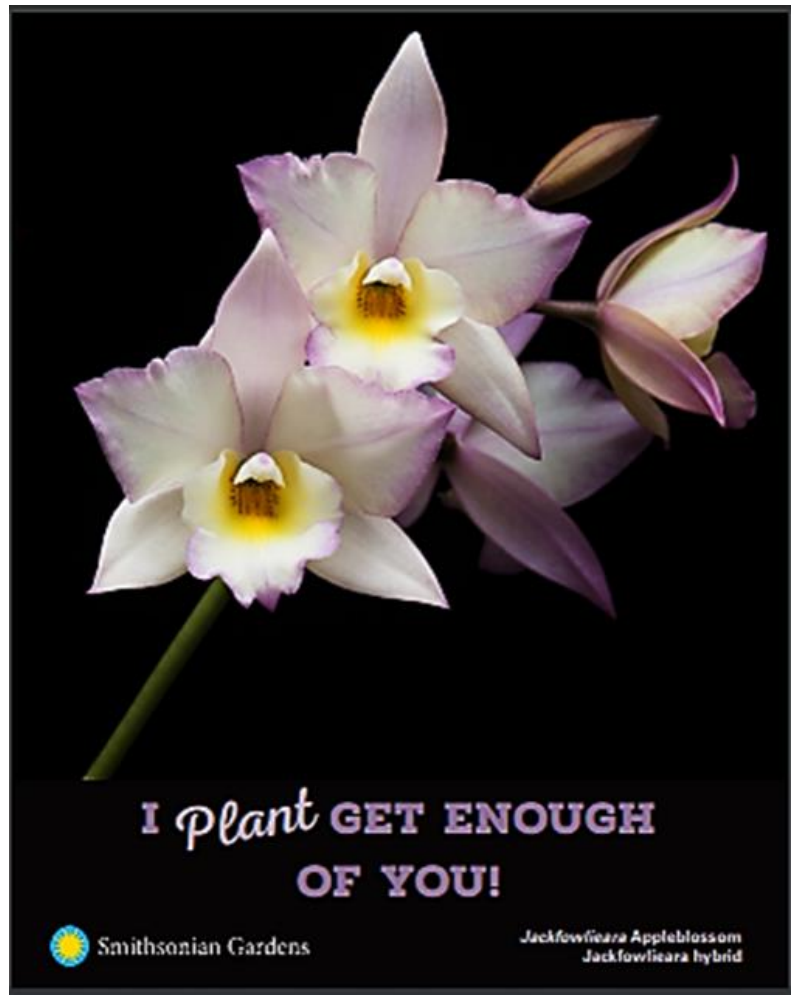
Enclose check for \$20 per member, plus any additional contribution to our scholarship fund, made out to *The Gardeners' Club*.

Mail to The Gardeners' Club  
c/o Suzanne Caron, P.O. Box 3025,  
Ben Lomond CA 95005

Membership amount	\$ _____
I would like to make an additional gift	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

"If apples were pears  
 And peaches were plums  
 And the rose had a  
 different name.  
 If tigers were bears  
 And fingers were thumbs  
 I'd love you just the  
 same."

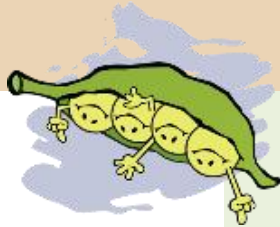
- Valentine's Day Songs  
 and Poems



Our front page logo is graciously shared with us by artist Lisa Zador. Order a print or see more of her work at her Etsy shop [www.etsy.com/shop/curiousprintpattern](http://www.etsy.com/shop/curiousprintpattern).

each month at the Aptos Grange, 2555 Mar Vista Dr., Aptos CA 95005. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of to "The Gardeners' Club" and mail to P.O. Box 3025, Ben Lomond, Dues are \$20 per calendar year. Make check

**It's easy-peasy to join our club!**



# The Gardeners' Club

P.O. Box 3025, Ben Lomond CA 95005

**President** Cherry Thompson, 475-0991

**Secretary** vacant

**Vice President & Publicity** cherrylea@comcast.net

**Treasurer** April Barclay, 688-7656

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**Hospitality** Suzanne.bottomline@gmail.com

**Refreshments** Marge Gregory 684-1529

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**Member-at-Large** (916) 303-3673

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**Refreshments** aneymark@hotmail.com

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**Members-at-Large** Marge Gregory

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