

The Redwood Garden Renovation Project

by Virginia Wofford

Last Saturday, November 14, was the culmination of the project to make the Redwood gardens more drought tolerant. A huge round of “thank yous” to all who participated.

The Redwood Board approved \$200 for this project. In addition, Larry Kavounas and Glenn Sipes offered generous cash gifts to purchase future additional plants.

Redwood Members David Oakley, Barbara Peters, Jim Scofield, Carolyn Berger, Stephanie Rake, Nancy Kingman, Mark and Elaine Smith, Kitty Cooper, and a friend of member Alan Des Roches, Dale Johnston, donated a variety of succulents, cacti, bromeliads, “poor man’s orchids”, “crown of thorns” and plumeria to the project.

Volunteer Garden Workers who showed up to plant on November 14th, or who helped prepare the soil with additives several weeks in advance included Redwood Members: Kenneth Martin, Lani Wilkerson, Martha Moffett, Natexa Verbrugge, Mary Scott Knoll, and her partner, William Doerrer, Alan Des Roches, Elaine Smith, Gayle Tinnerman, a neighbor of Gayle’s, Michael Harkiewicz, and, Virginia Wofford.

Virginia’s sister, Patti Mahoney, and Nancy Kingman generously provided gardening tools. Patti has loaned tools on numerous occasions and Nancy brought tools for others to use on Saturday.

In addition, some volunteers from our community also participated both with soil preparation and/or planting. We thank Jasmine Mendoza of Walter Anderson’s Nursery, and her friend Adam Wells for their shovel time and expertise.

Carly Dartz, *OtterCares Ambassador* for Otter Products, lives near Balboa Park. Carly became involved in our project after seeing Gayle and Virginia at work there. Carly’s company encourages its employees to volunteer in their community. In addition to Carly, Otter Products employees Corinne Allen, Simon Liu, Alexandria (Ross) Vats also helped with garden maintenance.

While they were not able to physically participate, Tot Breher, Ellie Cole, Marie-Claude and Robert Garin, and Sue Kaloustian, cheered us on from the sidelines. Gigette Caldwell committed to future support.

While the project is not complete, it’s nearing the 80% mark. Many hands make light work. We thank you all for your support.

In the meantime, we continue to enjoy virtual bridge online. We long for the day when we will all be able to gather again at Redwood Bridge Club: at tables of four, with bidding boxes, playing cards, scoring devices and in-person directors.



