

# The Watercan Post



Newsletter of the Paradise Garden Club, Paradise CA [newsletter@paradisegardenclub.org](mailto:newsletter@paradisegardenclub.org) [ParadiseGardenClub.org](http://ParadiseGardenClub.org)

## The Prez Sez



Welcome to February gardeners! We are finally getting that rain we were threatened with or promised. As I write this, we have a window slightly cracked to hear the rain squalls moving across our valley with rain predicted for the next week. Good news but as with most things there could be a downside. Mud, along with the rain, can be a slight impediment to us enjoying our gardens. When this happens there is always tea or coffee, a warm room, and a good book...maybe yet another one on gardening? Just a thought. For those of us who were able to plant a winter garden your bounty should be coming along nicely. We have already harvested enough greens for several salads just by trimming the low-lying leaves and the broccoli is budding out. The garlic is sprouting nicely, too.

In club news Jeudie's beautification group is still resting and waiting but knowing Jeudie we are ready to spring into action...come dry weather, I suspect. The February club meeting on Monday February 12th will be on wildcrafting presented by Jules Pecson from Fiona's Forest and looks to be both entertaining and informative so hunker down everyone as spring is coming. T3 (aka Todd)

*Todd*

**PGCI General Meeting, February 12 at 1:00 p.m.**

Jules Pecson from Fiona's Forest presents "Wildcrafting"

Bring a food snack to share, sweet or savory, it's your choice.

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## Upcoming Events



Paradise Garden Club meets every second Monday of each month at 1:00 at the Terry Ashe Center. All are welcome.

**February 12:** Jules Pecson, Fiona's Forest presents "Wildcrafting"

*Wildcrafting is the practice of harvesting a plant in its natural habitat. In this workshop, experienced herbalist Jules Pecson of Fiona's Forest will talk about the wildcrafting process, including how native plants are collected in the wild, which plants are most commonly used for medicinal remedies, and how plants are processed into useful health products such as tinctures and salves. This is sure to be an interesting and educational workshop!*

**March 11:** Robert Henry, Master Gardener; Topic: Gardening in the Foothills

*This workshop will focus on the specifics of gardening in the foothills and some of the rewards and challenges that the foothill soils and weather present to gardeners. Topics to be explored include (but are not limited to) design techniques for pest management; water-wise gardening; soil structure; the benefits of biochar and how to build living soil; solar impact; planting systems for various landscape types and plant selection.*

**Doom the Broom at Paradise Lake**, Saturday, Feb 3 @1-4, Paradise Lake Boat Launch #1 <https://buttefiresafe.net/event/doom-the-broom/>

### 14TH Annual Chico Seed and Scion Swap

Saturday, February 3, 2024, 12:00-2:00, 1710 Park Ave Chico, CA

*Bring your seed heads, seeds, cuttings, scions, bulbs, plants, rooting's and garden tools to share OR just bring yourself and family.*

<https://www.becnet.org/bec-events/14th-annual-chico-seed-and-scion-swap>

**The Red Bluff Garden Club** will be sponsoring a four course NGC, Inc approved Flower Show School. Course IT will be held **March 6-8, 2024**, in Red Bluff, California. See details in the latest PGCI mail chimp.

**Arbor Day Festival** (5th year) Saturday, **March 16, 2024**, 10-4:00, Oroville Convention Center 1200 Myers Street in Oroville, <https://www.becnet.org/bec-events/arbor-day-festival>



More upcoming events on page 3

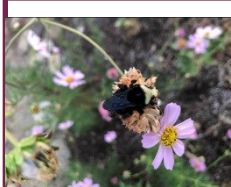


### Endangered Species Faire

Saturday, April 20, 2024, 10:00-3:00, 132 w 4th St, Chico  
<https://www.becnet.org/bec-events/endangered-species-faire>

**Farmers Market Mobile**, Sundays @10AM until most of the food is gone.  
Location: Magalia Community Park, 13917 South Park Drive, Magalia

**Chico Farmers Market**, Saturdays @7:30am-1pm, Parking Lot, E 2nd St & Wall



**Water-Wise & Habitat-Friendly GARDEN TOUR, Saturday, April 20**, this year with Paradise gardens! Watch for tickets and info at [waterwisechico.com](http://waterwisechico.com). For more information about building habitat and certification contact Deborah Halfpenny, Coordinator – AltaCal’s Neighborhood Habitat Certification Program, Horticulture Chair - Mount Lassen Chapter, California Native Plant Society, (831) 595-7615

### UC Master Gardeners of Butte County Workshops

Details on classes & locations go to <https://ucanr.edu/sites/bcmg/Workshops/>

Seed Starting, Saturday, February 3, 10-11:30am, Pat’s Barn, limit 30 people

Gardening for a Lifetime, Wednesday, February 7, 1-2:30pm, Pat’s Barn, limit 30 people

Rose Care and Propagation, Co-sponsored with OLLI, Tuesday, February 20, 10-11:30am  
Bradley 2 at The Social, limit 55 people

Edible Landscaping, Monday, March 18, 4:30-6pm, ZOOM

“Black Gold” Vermiculture **NEW**, Wednesday, March 20, 1-3pm, Pat’s Barn, limit 30 people

Propagation, Saturday March 23, 10-11:30am, Demo Garden (Pat’s Barn if rain), limit 25 people

Fruit Tree Care, Wednesday, March 27, 10-11:30am, Private residence in Paradise, limit 15 people

Soil Health, Co-sponsored with OLLI, Monday, April 1, 3:30-4:45pm, Bradley 2 at The Social, limit 55 people

Native Gardens for the Birds **NEW**, Friday, April 12, 12-1:30pm, Pat’s Barn, limit 30 people

Fruit Tree Care, Saturday, April 13, 10-11:30am, Private residence in Paradise, limit 15 people

Irrigation, Wednesday, April 17, 10-11:30am, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Succulents, Friday, April 19, 10:30am-12:00pm, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Composting, Friday, April 26, 10-11:30am, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Firewise Gardening **NEW**, Thursday, May 2, 10-11:30am, Location TBA

Bee Basics: An Introduction to Our Native Bees **NEW**, Wednesday, May 8, 10-11:30am  
Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Pest Management, Friday, May 17, 10-11:30am, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Weed Identification, Monday, May 20, 10-11:30am, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

How Does Your Garden Grow? Adaptations of California Native Plants **NEW**, Wednesday, May 22, 10-11:30am, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

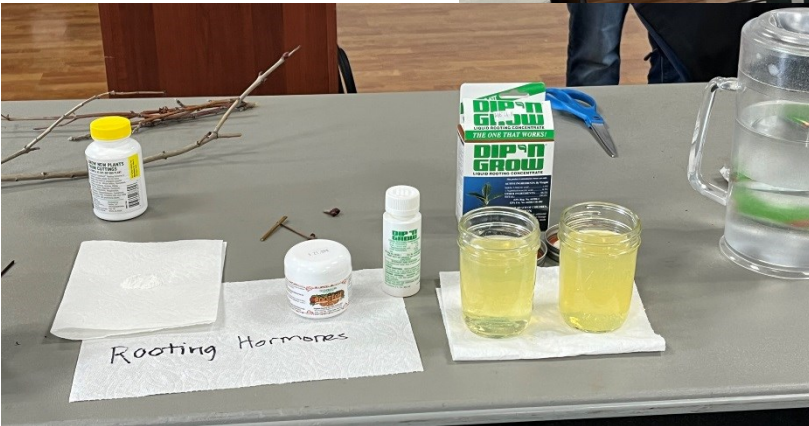


# Thank you Kathleen!

Our thanks to last month's "Hardwood Cuttings" workshop by Kathleen Elliott of Mountain View Landscaping. With the many cuttings brought in, Kathleen provided us with detailed instruction sheets and all supplies needed to follow successful rooting methods.



How do we best learn?



Look and listen. Visuals.  
Hands on guided practice.  
Notes to take home.

This type of instructional workshop will stay in our memories. We'll practice these methods in our gardens and share them with others.  
Thank you Kathleen!



Photos by Anne Pace





# Gardening For Wildlife

Linda Goddard

## Bird Feeding Basics

Watching birds is one of the many joys of having a wildlife habitat. I will share some of my tips to make feeding your birds fun and safe.

**I only feed my birds once a day, in the morning.** Once the food is gone, they will stay for awhile and feed on various insects, berries and other wild seed.

I like to use a mixture of a 20 pound bag of shelled sunflower, a 9 pound bag of cracked corn and 7 ounces of dried mealworms. This mixture leaves no mess of shells or uneaten seed which can cause unwanted weeds. They get about 1 quart of feed and eat it all!



### **I use 2 stumps and 2 feeders for the food.**

Large birds like ravens, crows, jays and band-tail pigeons prefer large open feeders like stumps and platform feeders.

Smaller birds like goldfinches, chickadees and sparrows enjoy the safety of the roofed feeder.



Ground feeders like quail and towhee eat the seed the others knock out, or I sometimes throw some seed on the ground, under the feeders. (When the dog isn't watching :)

I do not use the nyger seed socks to feed goldfinches because they make a mess which can get moldy, causing a dangerous condition for ground feeding birds. I still attract plenty of goldfinches, they love the shelled sunflower seed.



### **Hummingbirds are simple to feed.**

1 Cup of Sugar added to 4 Cups of Water.

This cute little feeder fits on a table on my covered deck. The hummingbirds love to use it when it rains or snows. (Amazon)



**Remember to provide water!**





## A Quick-Step Guide for Creating a

# California Native Habitat Garden

Created by Deborah Halfpenny 2020, Updated 2/22/23

1. **Start with a plan.** Make a sketch of your property or area, identifying how you plan to use the space. Determine where you need:
  - a. screening
  - b. shade
  - c. outdoor living spaces (patios, walkways, children's play area, dog run, edibles, etc.)
2. **Turn off the lawn water** if you are converting an existing lawn. There is no need to remove the lawn, unless you have Bermuda grass, bindweed, or other pernicious exotics. Cover the area heavily with mulch (See Mulch below) or compost. Make sure existing trees continue to get watered.
3. **Choose plants** that are appropriate for your location. Visit [www.calscape.org](http://www.calscape.org) and use your zip code to find the right plants for your location. Choose a variety of plants of different sizes, types, and blooming times. Note the plants' mature sizes to determine how many you will need. Notice their sun/shade and water requirements; group plants with the same needs together.
4. **Install infrastructure:** boulders; irrigation mainlines (if a new system is needed) and water lines for fountains and birdbaths; construct patios, walkways, ponds, berms, and swales, fences, pergolas; etc.
5. **Buy native plants.** Bring your proposed plant list, with quantities, to the nurseries. Try to stick to your list. You can always add more later. Make sure plants were not treated with any pesticides.
6. **Plant.** October – March is the best time to plant. Start by placing and planting the large trees and shrubs first, then everything else. Dig holes only as deep as the root ball of the potted plant.
7. **Install irrigation drip lines to plants** (or convert existing lawn sprinklers to drip or soaker system) to use until new plants are established. During the dry seasons, you will have to water the young plants for the first year or more. Allow plants to nearly dry out between each watering.
8. **Mulch.** Apply 3"-4" of mulch to conserve water and discourage weeds. Keep mulch a few inches away from the base of the plants. Ground barks are great for woody plants (avoid Eucalyptus, Walnut, Willow, & Bamboo). Gravel works for desert plants. Do not mulch seeded areas. Do not use landscape fabric, weed cloth, or plastic sheeting under mulch; cardboard sheets under mulch work to discourage most weeds and grasses.
8. **Add enhancements.** Birdbaths, rock piles, nurse logs, bird & bat houses, bee hotels. Do **not** add unnecessary outdoor lighting.
9. **Get certified!** Encourage your neighbors with a Certified Neighborhood Habitat sign. <https://www.altacal.org/neighborhood-habitat-program>
10. **Enjoy your hard work, be patient, & watch nature return. EVERY YARD MATTERS!**



## Restoring Habitat and Protecting Water

The goal of the Certified Neighborhood Habitat Program is to support community members interested in converting unused lawns to natural, drought-tolerant California landscaping and habitat, and adding biodiversity to other living spaces.

Every yard counts! By acting now, we can conserve and protect valuable water resources and rebuild needed wildlife corridors within our communities. Participation is open to residents of Butte, Glenn, and Tehama Counties in Northern California.



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



Golden Gardens eNews

January-February 2024



## CONSERVATION

### WORLDWIDE WETLANDS DAY CELEBRATED

By Nancy Compton, Writer-at-Large



Unbeknownst to most of us, February 2 is not only Groundhog Day, it is Worldwide Wetlands Day—a day to learn more about this landform that is so critical to the health of our planet. February 2 commemorates the anniversary of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance in Ramsar, Iran in 1971. Since 1997, Worldwide Wetlands Day has been used to raise public awareness of the value and benefits of wetlands and to promote their preservation.

Wetlands are areas of our landscape where water covers the soil or is present either at or near the surface of the soil all year or for varying periods of time during the year. Essentially, a wetlands area is a stretch of land saturated with water that serves a crucial role in our ecosystem. Think of wetlands as nature's kidneys, as they serve to filter pesticides, sediment, and heavy metals that degrade water quality.

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<https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/>

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Wetlands often form along the shallow margins of lakes, estuaries, rivers, and areas with high ground water such as springs, wet meadows, ponds, and freshwater, as well as tidal marshes where they provide habitat for thousands of species of aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals, including a massive number of water birds, birds of prey, otters, deer, and a wealth of fish species.

Although California has lost nearly 90% of its historical wet-lands, the remaining 2.9 million acres serve not only as critical habitat for plants and animals and a filter for water purification, they also help with flood control, shoreline stabilization, habitat enhancement, and water supply.

Prior to the 1848 discovery of gold that resulted in a stampede of humanity into California, the Central Valley was endowed with a watery landscape, now difficult to comprehend, with dense riparian forests, swampy marshes, and vast grasslands, all crowded with birds, fish, and mammals, including elk and pronghorns. In the southern region of the Central Valley between Bakersfield and Visalia stood Tulare Lake, considered a freshwater lake and wetland complex and the largest freshwater lake west of the Mississippi River. The surface of this lake was four times the surface area of Lake Tahoe. During wet years, it was possible to sail all the way to San Francisco.

A century and a half later with groundwater pumping and 1,526 dams cutting off its tributaries, Tulare Lake is but a memory. Today the largest wetlands in California is the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, a sprawling delta and estuary complex that supplies clean drinking water to 25 million Californians. It also serves as a habitat for an enormous number of bird species, including waterfowl and sandhill cranes.

Anyone interested in seeing the sandhill crane migration in early November will be in awe of these stately birds noisily darkening the evening skies as they skillfully land in the marshy waters. The town of Lodi honors these majestic birds with a three-day festival that includes tours, talks given by ornithologists, an art show, children's activities, an exhibit hall, and merchandise sales.

Wetlands throughout the state are in danger of disappearing due to human activity. Approximately 90% or 454,000 acres of nonagricultural wetlands have been drained, mostly for agricultural purposes, but also filled in for development, or disturbed for modification to the wetlands, such as dams or water diversions.

So, what can we, as CGCI members do? Our mission statement includes the fact that we promote environmental responsibility. With our state's remaining wetlands in danger, we can step up and learn more about this valuable piece of our environment. Find a wetlands area near you. Determine if there is a visitors' center, and then go and visit. If not, learn what public agency oversees the wetlands. Invite a naturalist to speak at one of your club meetings. If warranted, write letters to elected officials to voice your concern. CGCI is an organization with 16,866 members. Imagine the impact we can make if we ensure that all our voices are heard.

This is an issue critical to the health of our planet. Let's be in-formed; let's be proactive; let's make a difference!





## The Value of Continuing Education

by Brenda Moore

As we age, our brain tends to slow down. Part of this is often due to the fact we don't use our brains as much. Harvard Medical School suggest six steps that you can do to keep your mind healthy 6 simple steps to keep your mind sharp at any age - Harvard Health. I'm using these steps to promote National Garden Clubs' (NGC) schools. Schools aren't only about credit, although you can become a consultant or a judge or use the educational hours to keep up your Master Gardener certification. NGC schools are a form of continuing education and thus keeping your mind sharp.



**01 Keep learning:** Nobody should ever stop learning. There are always new things to learn. Every National Garden Clubs Course, whether Landscape Design, Gardening, Environmental or Flower Show School, educates us. No two courses are alike.

**02 Use all your senses:** NGC schools require us to use our senses. We listen to the instructors; we see examples of gardens, environmental concerns or flower show exhibits; if we're at an in-person meeting we smell the flowers at flower show schools or while visiting gardens. If we're on a zoom meeting, we can certainly remember scents; we touch, even if it's touching our keyboard. We taste, if only our lunches.

**03 Believe in yourself:** Schools give you a sense of accomplishment. They help you set goals. I've mentioned one of my goals is to become a 5-star member.

**04 Prioritize your brain use:** Use your brain to gain knowledge of how to do things better. Environmental School is an example of using the knowledge I've learned to become a better steward of our planet.

**05 Repeat what you want to know:** When I attended my first flower show school course, I remember sitting down at a table and writing down what I'd learned that day. Doing this helps with memorization.

**06 Stay physically active:** When I attended my first Environmental School, it was at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, an island in Lake Erie. We waded into Lake Erie to take a sample to see if water was healthy. Many in-person schools have hands-on activities. If you're doing a Zoom school, get up and stretch during breaks.

**07 Get enough sleep** Just don't sleep during class.

**08 Eat a healthy diet:** Enough said.

*Continued on page 10*

During the last administration, National Garden Clubs offered the four courses of Gardening Schools via Zoom. During this administration we're offering all four courses of Environmental School via Zoom. Course 2 will be offered March 11-12. Sign up on this link: <https://gardenclubwebsite.wufoo.com/forms/ngc-environmental-school-course-2-series-z001>

Not a fan of Zoom schools? Many states offer in-person as well as their own Zoom schools. Check out the offerings on our website [Our Schools | National Garden Clubs, Inc.](#)

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January 15, 2024 blog

<https://gardenclub.org/>



## A Foggy Idea About Clouds

We have recently had quite a bit of fog but is it really fog or is it low clouds? Tule fog is the classic fog generated in low lying flat ground areas which through evaporation releases its moisture and condenses into a soupy and vision impairing cloud we all know but few love. It only lasts if the temperature, barometric pressures, and the ambient humidity stay below the "dew point". Fog of this type is usually a thin layer, sometimes such as over a freeway and can allow trucks which are taller than a car to see ahead while cars closer to the ground cannot.

What we have up here on the ridge is generated as clouds over the central valley that are being driven in by the winds. Is it the same effect? Of course! It is generated via a similar mechanism with one big difference, it can reach higher altitudes. As I am wont to do sometimes, I was wondering about this recently, so I grabbed my drone and flew it right out of my driveway to a height of 400' (which is the maximum allowable by both safety standards and by the FAA) and was still flying in complete whiteout. It may have appeared to be fog but it clearly was not.

When I was in Costa Rica, we visited a cloud forest which is like a rainforest but unlike a rainforest where the moisture in the form of rain is deposited from above. In a cloud forest the moisture is deposited by the clouds coming horizontally and directly contacting the plants, ground, and people. The process was fascinating when described and surprisingly drenching. I am not a trained meteorologist nor a doctor of earth sciences but what we have here is to all intents and purposes the very same processes going on here, thousands of miles away. T3

(AKA Todd Hummel)

### Paradise Garden Club Board Meeting Notes

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Start time 11:27a

**Vice President Anne Pace** brought the board meeting to order. Presiding for current president Todd Hummel who is sick. Board members and Garden Club members present were Cheryl, Ward, Margaret, Anne, Allison, Ellen, and Wendy.

**Review of last month's minutes:** One correction was made on a wrong check amount. Check to Penny Pines was \$204.00 not \$95. Margaret mentioned again The Penny Pines check hasn't been cashed because the office in Quincy is closed. Another check will be sent to Beckworth. Also, a check to CGCI hasn't been cashed.

**Finance Report:** Margaret passed out financial spreadsheet. Our balance is \$33,026.

**Beautification report:** Jeudie was not at the meeting. No report.

**Scholarship Recipients:** A round robin was held on future presentations of scholarship awards. Some of the suggestions given below.

Nancy wasn't present but sent along an email. Her suggestion was to maybe meet the recipient by having them come to a meeting. And maybe encouraging our attendees at our monthly meetings to think about donating to scholarships and be more enthused to help with the Garden tour.

Others on the board thought maybe this was a problematic idea because some scholarship winners work, have kids, or go to school.

Another: Having winners send thank you letters to The Paradise Garden Club. Note: This was already done. Please see letters in the January 2024 newsletter.

Another suggestion: Having a candidate send a video to the Garden Club as a thank you.

**Two additional scholarships** were offered to Joannie Ellison and Kathleen Elliott for \$200 each for the Master Gardeners program. Both accepted with gratitude.

**Garden Tour and timeline:** Board discussed what days would be best for a garden club tour planning meeting. The board decided that only people on that committee needed to come. But everyone is welcome if they are available on the day.

**List of tasks:** **List of tasks:** Cheryl is going to set up a meeting and that's when the list of tasks will be created for the garden tour.

**Also we are still looking for a chair head** for the garden tour. Cheryl suggested herself for parts since she know the inner workings.

**Vision for this year's tour:** Since so few (4) homes and maybe only 3 with Allison leaving for New Zealand for 3 months. Maybe we will not have a theme this year. Maybe this time we would focus on diverse landscapes designs.





**Other:** We were joined by Wayne Angel from the Rotary Club who was seeking advice on plantings for a Spring Social on 3/13/24 being planned by Rotary. He seemed unsure as to what and where to plant or locate his project, who would care for planting or project once completed, as there was some concern regarding care of Skyway planters. His business card and a flyer, he passed out, was emailed to our Beautification lead Juedie regarding above and another project he is proposing so she may contact him.

**New idea to think about and maybe add to "the Good of the Order"** A suggestion by Jeudie and Nancy. Adding a medical moment. With so much information out there in our world maybe a "medical moment" to suggest useful information others could benefit from. Another name or suggestion was called; "helpful hints". These suggestions might be a fabulous new suave for gardener's hands, or your new vacuum you just love.

Ward talked about possible moving the Garden Sale hub and sale to Cobblestone Court off Clark Road. This location has shade, more parking and more visibility for people to see us from the street. Concerns were; that people are already familiar with the PID location and this new location might cause conflict. Also is the landscaping at Cobblestone Court kept up? Wade is checking and gathering more information.

Ellen Michaels is a Garden Club member and Master Gardener. She mentioned a suggestion from one of her fellow Master Gardeners on program protocol for our upcoming speakers. This Master Gardener suggested not having a meeting at all, just going right into the program being presented so that our speaker has time to complete their presentation. Concerns were; Most on the board thought we should at least welcome our speaker and those attending and say The pledge of Allegiance. This would take 5 minutes.

Some felt that if we had the speaker speak first, they were concerned that people would not stay for the meeting afterwards. More discussions to come on this topic.

Ellen had another topic: Jen at Curves Fitness is having a Community Day and asked if anyone would be willing to come and sit at the table at Curves for a couple of hours to promote the garden club. Other businesses participating will be Pash, Museum. This would be on Martin Luther King Day, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Ellen.

Board meeting adjourned at 12:52p

Residing Secretary: Wendy Wicklund



Photo by Nancy Howe



Ward has daffodils planted into barrels, wheelbarrows, other pots and ground at their place. A sight to behold come spring. Little by little, PGC members and others buy the bulbs annually and plant around our town. Jubilant blooms of renewal. (Note the clever use of chicken wire. No critter munching here.)



## Paradise Garden Club General Meeting

January 8<sup>th</sup> 2024



Meeting started at 1:03p

**Vice President Anne Pace** welcomed everyone, and we said the pledge of allegiance.

We had 22 people introduce themselves around the tables and participate in the speaker program.

**Treasurer's report:** Margaret said we are doing fine. Margaret said we have \$33,026.

**Beautification report:** Jeudie was not at the meeting. No report

**Penny Pines:** Joannie has so much enthusiasm for her new post. She's redecorated the can passed around to collect money for pine tree. And her pine tree hat is so cute. Go Joannie! Joannie said we have provided trees for 3 acres.

**Speaker: Kathleen Elliot on Hardwood Cuttings.** Kathleen was very visual, educational, and easy to understand in her demonstration of hardwood cuttings. Kathleen passed out detailed instruction sheets for everyone to follow along and to try these procedures, with Kathleen's help and by providing all the parts needed; tools, soil, pots to use, rooting products, bleach plus many types of plants and cuttings to share for those wanting to try this rooting method. We all enjoyed her presentation.

**Good of the Order:** Ward had two articles of interest.

Fire Safe Council has a new office at 6569 Clark Road. Open house will be Wednesday February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 12p to 2p.

The Paradise Community Garden project offers a place in Paradise for you and your family to learn gardening techniques, participate in special events and enjoy farm to table meals. Sunday January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, at the Jubilee Church 6280 Clark Road. Sponsored by Adventist Health, Local Food Network and Community Leadership Program.

**Next month's speaker:** Jules Pecson from Fiona's Forest presents "Wildcrafting"

We ended early. About 2:15P

Presiding Secretary Wendy Wicklund

### The Mighty Nagami Kumquat

This two year old specimen is thriving in Linda's yard and produced this much fruit in December.

Grown in pots or the ground, this drought-tolerant, pest and disease resistant citrus grows in most soil types. (Linda planted this one in worm dirt.)

A nutrient-dense snack, high in fiber and vitamins C, and B complex and low calorie, best eaten whole, unpeeled. The peel is yummy as long as it's ripe. Otherwise, very, very tart but still edible. A nice nibble while gardening.

Comments by Nancy Howe



Photo by Linda Goddard





# PARADISE GARDEN CLUB, INC.

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## TODAY'S PROGRAM

Garden expert Valerie Spencer will give a presentation on soil preparation for spring and weed control

## President's Message, Donna Beronda

I was teaching a driving class this past Monday morning, and I pulled up to my own home just in time for 1:00 board meeting. Imagine my surprise when I was greeted by two beautiful new "Garden of Month" signs waiting for me in the driveway. They are not only beautiful, they are light weight. Pat Law, our Garden of the Month Chair is looking forward to using them in some special gardens beginning in March.

Speaking of board meetings, I am so pleased to report that your 2009 board members and Chairpersons have all been hard at work planning another great year for Paradise Garden Club. *In March, we will have a booth at the Soroptomist Home & Garden Show.* Jayne Locas will be looking for volunteers to man this booth—which should give us our first opportunity to tell the community about our completed daffodil project—as well as recruit new members. *In April, Paradise Garden Club will have a space at the two day craft fair celebrating Gold Nugget Days.* We are hoping to have our garden tour tickets available for sale at that time.

PPRD is renovating the building where we usually have our meetings, so beginning in May we will *move our monthly meetings to the Lutheran Church* (next door). The space is beautiful with easy access, and there is plenty of parking. I want to thank Lee Brasel and Doris Nunn for their hard and thoughtful work which made this possible.

Jean Sherman and Peggy Musgrave, our *2009 Garden Tour Chairs* have been working with Carolyn Melf to select the six gardens for this year's tour. We will have new directional signs this year, with special thanks to Julie Jones and Cheryl Habriel. Do you remember all the advertising we had in our tour book last year? Carolyn and I began contacting local business people and have already sold a number of ads for this year's tour.

Val Spencer has lined up some great speakers for your enjoyment, and Patricia Morrison has been hard at work making plans for our new members. Awards Chair, Cat Pagel composed a lovely tribute to Newsletter Editor Pat Pickard's work on our beautiful newsletter in her application for a possible award from California Garden Club.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Feb. 13, Friday, 10 am  
Library Weeding
- Feb. 15, Sunday noon-4 pm  
Soup and Games Day at the Senior Center
- Feb. 16, Potting People, Monday 10 am at Reid's
- March 2, Monday 1 pm,  
Board Meeting at Pat Law's
- March 5, Thursday,  
Newsletter Deadline
- March 9, Monday, 1pm,  
Garden Club Meeting at Terry Ashe
- March 21, 22, Sat. & Sun.  
Soroptomist Home and Garden show in Chico
- March 18-22. San Francisco Flower and Garden Show  
3/18 trip  
3/21 trip



# Contemplate



Know that you are loved.  
Delicately, robustly,  
With every color.