

The Watercan Post, vol 27, #01
~ First edition since the Camp Fire ~

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Rebuild this community?
Heck, yeah. Let's do this.

... and, while you're there,
bop on over and [enjoy our website!](#)



The Watercan Post

newsletter of the Paradise Garden Club, Paradise CA

Yeah, we're a bit scorched. But still gardening!

newsletter@paradisegardenclub.org ~ ParadiseGardenClub.org

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Focus on the +

Somehow, "HAPPY NEW YEAR" doesn't have the same ring to it this year as in the past. In what ever way your new year is coming along I just wish it were [choose your favorite word meaning "better"]. And you probably do, too. It will be, in time.

Meanwhile, let's be thinking about this year and the next year and beyond, because that's where the biggest differences will start appearing in our community. In PGCI's case, our first planting of white hyacinths was last Friday with over three hundred bulbs planted along the entrance to Paradise on a small patch of dirt

near the bus stop at Neal Road. The next Friday we next worked along Clark Road near the Paradise Garden Center (east side of the street).

There are more bulbs to come, and we will continue to do "planting parties" somewhere in Paradise as long as we have funds and staff. Please join us next time if you can. If you end up missing all the planting parties but still would like to contribute something, we do accept donations for future plantings.

A more personal note: Many folks have looked at the blackened wilderness and mentally added one black tree... to the next black tree... to the next, etc. And then considered what a negative outlook that math creates. But think again. When you're adding, you're using a plus sign (+), and to me a plus means a positive.

If you have a hard time trying to remember to be positive (+), try this: every time you communicate with someone, sign off with, "[your name] (+)." No, really: use your name and then include the plus sign. (On most keyboards that's a capital 9, a capital equals sign, and a capital zero). You'll be surprised how many people will ask about your plus sign, saying "I don't get your signature. What does that mean?" And you can explain why you have such a positive attitude.

My wish for all of you in 2019 is a positive outlook on your future, and the future of PGCI.

If you haven't got your 'hug' yet in 2019, come see me, hugs are freely given, and you deserve one. And remember our January general meeting: 1pm at Candice Boggs home on January 14th. All are welcome.

*Your (+) President,
Ward Habriel*

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HYACINTH PLANTING: Watch Us Bloom!



The first official project for the Paradise Garden Club took place on Saturday, December 29, 2018 when five members of the club planted some 350 hyacinth bulbs at the corner of Skyway

and Neal. President Ward Habriel outlined what will become an arrow-shaped bed of white hyacinths pointing toward town as a

In the wake of the fire, we've taken our newsletter digital sign of hope and encouragement to the community.



There are future plans to repeat this planting at Clark and Pentz Roads. A sign is in the making that will read "Paradise Garden Club – watch us bloom!" to let everyone know PGCi is here to stay! Members participating in the first planting were Judi & Skip Maxwell, Gwen Quail, and Cheryl & Ward Habriel.

*Contributed by Cheryl Habriel
Photos by Cheryl Habriel*



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NEWS about DUES

No worries at this point. Remember: regardless of what you believe is your current status on 2019 dues, your continuing membership is assured while the board works out what to do in a year when there's not likely to be a regular kind of tour. Please stand by & practice some deep yoga breaths while we get that figured out. Once that's done we'll send out the information everybody needs in order to move forward.

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And ANOTHER THING:

Thank you so much!



Paradise Garden Club has received donations from several individuals and sister garden clubs. Our thanks go to Karen Peck (in Florence OR!), Barbara Flynn (Oroville Garden Club) and the Mountain Ranch Garden Club (Mt. Ranch CA). **We appreciate the thoughts and gifts they've provided.** If you know anyone who would like to donate to PGCI let them know they can mail checks made out to PGCI to P.O. Box 1246, Paradise CA 95967, or use this [Donate Now](#) link for donations by credit card. Such gifts are tax deductible. All monies received will allow us to continue to fund scholarships and beautify our devastated community.

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The FOSTER TRIANGLE: After the Fire

The Foster Triangle is an interesting situation post-fire. Ronda Hoffman and I have been caring for it for about ten years and, just as with Ronda's house and yard, the fire demolished it. Or so I thought!

Upon closer inspection, the Ponderosa Pine, one of the three semi-mature trees, still has green needles at its top (which is only 12 feet above the ground). Almost two months now after the burn I have every reason to believe that it's a survivor.

The Dogwood, which we love, is scorched but the twigs still have sap. Another survivor?

The Redbud, which we love less, is much like the Dogwood--darn it. Time will tell.



The smaller plants (like the Fringeflower, Euphorbias, Coreopsis, Velvet Centaurea, Helichrysum, Juniper, and Nandina) all got fried. And the

"Pink Crystals" red-tinted grass, which I planted less than a month ago, just disappeared. On the other hand, the Blue Fescue grass, which I had divided two months ago (saving eight plants that I repotted), came through the fire saying "It was nice to be warm for a few hours." The base plants, Prostrate Manzanita, which have been there since time began, burned quite well but might survive because of their fairly deep roots.

The watering system, which uses primarily black poly pipe, appears to be mostly intact. However, the mostly above-ground, quarter-inch poly tubing did a pretty good melt job. The battery-powered controller still appears to work, but I did not put it to the test last week because I did not have my quarter-inch parts with me. Within a week I'll give it a try.

Last week I planted a couple dozen white hyacinths as a symbol of rebirth and I think they might look nice with the daffys just starting to break ground in the Triangle.

If this saga of the Phoenix Rising intrigues you and you want to be part of it, call me at [530-518-0892](tel:530-518-0892).

Best wishes for 2019---
Jim Johnson

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And ONE MORE THING...

January's General Meeting is coming up. Please be there!

EVENT: January 2019 PGC I General Meeting

DAY/DATE: Monday 01/14/2018

TIME: 1 pm (NOT 10am as previously reported)

PLACE: Candice Bogg's home; check roster for address

RSVP: Would be nice just because we'll have to locate enough chairs; please reply to this message & we'll add you to the list started last week. (No need to RSVP twice... unless, we guess, you didn't get an acknowledgement.)

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And a FINAL THING...

We're going to run The Watercan Post as an online newsletter for now. If you have anything to contribute to the next edition--writeups, photos, garden-oriented reasons for hope--please get it to the Newsletter Editor by the Monday prior to the next General Meeting. Thanks!



newsletter@paradisegardenclub.org.

(And, yeah, we most assuredly ARE looking for a new Newsletter Editor. Interested?) :-)

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[Link to Club Calendar](#)

As *The Watercan Post* has gone digital for now, [this link](#) takes you to the club calendar on [our website](#).

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