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The Watercan Post, vol 27, #02

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

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



The Watercan Post

newsletter of the Paradise Garden Club, Paradise CA

Hard to believe, but we're still gardening!

newsletter@paradisegardenclub.org ~ ParadiseGardenClub.org

Wait, why am I getting the PGCI newsletter?

The majority of those receiving this signed up on our post-Camp Fire "Watercan Post Only" mailing list, so no mystery there. This message is primarily for those who were on our original, non-member "Friends of PGCI" list.

One of the new realities in Paradise is sharply reduced membership numbers for most clubs and associations: a whole lot of folks moved out of the area. In this newsletter's case it's led us to rearrange a few things in order to reduce production overhead. This month that involved consolidating those two lists.

If info about PGCI is no longer of interest to you, just let us know. You can either respond to this message to state your preferences in an email, or unsubscribe yourself below. Either one works.

(We kinda hope you'll stick, though. This could be one heck of a ride.)

Thanks---
The Watercan Post staff

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If your cursor changes to indicate a live link when over an image, you can click that image to open a larger version in a separate browser tab.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Can you believe how fast the time is flying by? Well, not really. In fact a lot of days are *b o r i n g*, because there is nothing to do. No, wait: buy a new handle and fix the shovel, the rake, the hoe and... and go to the nursery? (Oops, they're gone, too.) Oh, let's just go the to movies... (Well that was no fun: the opening scene was in a mega-garden with sculptures and color everywhere and all the people smiling and dancing and...)

The current picture of our Paradise is changing, with those giant machines ripping and tearing the remains of structures and hauling it all away. The vista is just so different. Just pick a spot, stand there, look around; you were never able to see that far before.

If you like the sense of vista, think about how you might capture that view when you come back. If you don't like it, then instead of a drab fence consider foliage, vines on a wire, tall shrubs... Be creative. (Remember, you're in a Garden Club. You may be on a future Paradise Garden Tour!)

In the meantime there's a lot of just plain ground around town. Take a look. Do you see anywhere PGCI could do a little clean up, replanting, or (your creative thought goes here).

But in all, think +

*Your (+) President,
Ward Habriel*

(Just a fellow gardener---with really clean finger nails right now)

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NEWS about DUES

The vote is in: we're pegging dues at \$20 for an individual membership and \$30 for a household membership. If you haven't yet paid your next year's dues, you can:

- Mail a check in to PGCI, P.O. Box 1248, Paradise CA 96957.
- Go to the [Pay Dues page of the website](#) and use the pink button to pay via credit card.
- Bring cash or check to the March General Meeting (see below)

Thanks, and let's get on with things!

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Thank you to our donors!

The following individuals and organizations have recently sent support to PGCI:



- Mountain Ranch Garden Club, Mountain Ranch CA
- Barbara Flynn, Lake Oroville Area Garden Club, Oroville CA
- Karen Peck, Florence Garden Club, Florence OR
- Sea Lavender Garden Club of Manasquan NJ
- Women's Club North of the River, Bakersfield CA
- Julie West, past President, CGCI
- Sherry Molinari, Board Member, CGCI

Thank you so much!

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An invitation from Jennifer Jewell:

Spring Gifts for #CAMPFIRE Gardeners


03-31-2019, Magnolia Gift & Garden

NOTE: Do not RSVP by replying to this MailChimp message from PGCI.
Instead click the following link to
[RSVP to Jennifer at cultivatingplace@gmail.com.](mailto:cultivatingplace@gmail.com)

The grass is greening, the rain is raining, and love is in the air. It's time to garden when and where you can. We hope we can help you keep growing! ALL gardeners are welcome for fun, music, refreshments and the warmth of our gardening community! Care packages will be reserved for those gardeners who lost their homes or gardens in the #CAMPFIRE.

If you were able to attend the Winter event at The Plant Barn, we look forward to seeing you again; if you were unable to attend the Winter event, we very much hope to welcome you this spring; if you are not able to attend this event, please know you will be missed and we wish you all the best for the growing season to come.

Due to space limitations **RSVPS ARE REQUIRED BY EMAIL** ([click here](#)). Please include number of people attending and number of care packages requested (one per household attending. And I promise to have the attendance list alphabetized this time; thank you for your kind

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Please see all details in this [Event Flyer](#) and feel free to share the information with others. Remember, it's Sunday March 31 from 12-4pm, Magnolia Gift & Garden, Chico.

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AFTER THE FIRE: the Library and Triangles

(Photo from a 2017 Beautification Team work party)

The Paradise branch of the Butte County Library is due to reopen soon. Jim Dill & the Beautification Team have been doing some work at that location. Jim says, "We lost very few plants due to the fire."

"Things also are looking better at Elliott and Skyway," he added. "Somebody has been working in the garden and it looks great. We're also very busy at Foster and Skyway."

Hope this brings a smile. Some before & after photos will appear here soon.

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HYACINTH PLANTING: We're All In

PGCI has completed planting the white hyacinth bulbs that were provided by our bulb vendor to replace the thousands of daffodil bulbs that burned, still in shipping containers.



Plantings went in at Skyway & Neal, Clark and Pentz Roads, and _____. Keep an eye on these spots as Winter turns to Spring. (A sign is in the making that will read "Paradise Garden Club – watch us bloom!")

(Members participating in the project were Cheryl & Ward Habriel, Nancy Howe, Jeudie Lovell, Judi & Skip Maxwell, and Gwen Quail on the

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A note on Membership Numbers



PGCI membership has been holding steady at 62 people. We have 27 people in Household memberships, 32 in Individual memberships, and three Life Members.

... and we just got two new members! Welcome the Petersons of Neal Rd. at our next meeting, March 11th---see [the Meeting Reminder below](#) for location.

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Old Friends Heard From

A section on whereabouts and other news



Letter from an Old Friend


Dear Garden Club Friends:

It was with great sadness I heard of the horrible devastation in Paradise caused by the Camp Fire.

I know each of you has endured hardship and loss. I have been in touch with many of you, and have heard of the horrors encountered while trying to escape the flames. I watched national news and checked out the ER and Chico area television news for updates and prayed for the safety of all my dear friends—particularly you in the garden club.

I read Ward Habriel's letter in Golden Gardens and was heartened by his positive thoughts of rebuilding Paradise. I spoke by phone and e-mail with several people and learned many of you are settling into your new lives. I have witnessed your resourcefulness and "can do" attitudes over the years so none of this came as a surprise. I was particularly impressed when I heard you are again meeting on the second Monday. Many thanks to Candice Boggs for making this possible.

I consider each of you to be part of my family, and have been struggling with what I can do to help. This letter is the first step and it comes with an invitation to contact me at any time—by phone or by e-mail. Please note that my phone number above is not long distance if you are still in the Chico area. My e-mail

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my home.

You all remain in my thoughts and prayers . . .

Donna Beronda

Another Friend Heard Of

We recently learned that Marge Hamilton is now living in Arizona. For more info or for her contact information (she doesn't use email, remember), please [email Jeudie Lovell](#).



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Taking Great Pix

of people, events, & plants
(A multi-part series)

Tips, tricks, and a few hacks for
taking nifty snapshots!



Part 1: Fill That Frame!

Get close enough to your subject so the subject fills most of the frame. A common misstep by amateur photographers is to stand too far away from the subject of the photo. For instance, if you're taking a photo of a guest speaker at a podium on a stage, you don't need the whole stage in your photo. Stand close enough or zoom in so the speaker and podium fill most of your frame. After all, that's the story you want to tell. (This is why actual cameras with long lenses remain popular.) For example:



Gentle example from another garden club. This version recorded more than necessary to get the idea of the talk (including the red plastic luncheon-ware left on the table).



In this cropped version the speaker is the focus. Which shot is better? Depends on what aspect was featured: the speaker & topic, the lunch, or the setting!

(Greg Graves of Old Goat Farm talks to the Dogwood Garden Club, Pollack Pines CA)

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Another example from another garden club. The first one is good...



...but here the action is edge-to-edge. Which shot makes you feel more like a participant?

(Members of the Elmhurst Garden Club, Elmhurst IL)

In the comparison photo here (and also the one at the top of this column, of members of the Springfield VT Garden Club), the gardening tools, the soil, and the cheerfully garden-grubby attire all are part of the stories the photographers wanted to convey.

The takeaway: as the photographer you get to choose whether the "people story" you want to tell is best conveyed by head-to-toe images, relevant surroundings, faces only, hands and tools only, or any combination. You're in charge.

Next time: **Part 2: Heads or tails?**

Future segments to include:

- Composition and perspective
- Lighting tips
- Catching the action
- Suggestions on photographing plants and flowers
- Moving your photos from camera to computer
- Recording image data (like date/time, location, event, names, photographer, copyrights) invisibly within a digital photo
- Navigating intellectual property laws, privacy laws, and model releases

Series by Anne Barrett, a photographer of too many years to count. (Anne & her newspaper-photographer father were once the subjects of scientific research on spontaneous generation of camera equipment in offspring of carriers of camera equipment.)

Your comments & questions are welcome; send to newsletter@paradisegardenclub.org.

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And ONE MORE THING...

our March Meeting is coming up. Please be there!

EVENT: March 2019 PGC General Meeting

DAY/DATE: Monday 03/11/2018

TIME: 1pm

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please reply to this message & we'll add you to the list.



and a FINAL THING...

We're running 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. This month the deadline date is March 4th. 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](#)

This link takes you to our website; select "Calendar" from the menu.

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