



OVER THE GARDEN GATE

Member of CGCI

A Publication of Modesto Garden Club, Inc.

Valley Lode District – Pacific Region



Sahshah Middleton: International Floral Design

Sahshah “Ko Sen” Middleton was born in Singapore. She studied Sogetsu Ikebana at the age of seven and holds a first grade “Komon” certificate. Sahshah interned at the Singapore Botanical Gardens and worked in many florists as well as hotels where she was the resident designer from the age of 13.

When Sahshah came to the US in 1976, she worked in several floral stores including Gregories Flowers in San Francisco, Adachies in San Pablo and Ah Sams in San Mateo. She currently works for Rosedale Flowers exclusively by appointment. Other floral credits include show manager for San Francisco County Fair, and course completion for National Council of Flower Show judging. Sahshah enjoys participating in many county fair floral competitions as well as being a member of numerous garden clubs and plant societies

Flowers and plant life are her life!

Spring Garden Tour

By Gerry Yockey

I am so excited!! The Spring Garden Tour this year is going to be fabulous! We have some exceptional homes on the tour this spring. It is a walking tour that will take you into some very beautiful homes and gardens along Magnolia Avenue. The homeowners have been working on them for months. They can't wait to show you their gardens and unique homes.

We will be passing out some “Save the Date” pamphlets at our General meeting. I want you to take the pamphlets to your friends and people who might be interested in buying a ticket for the tour. Just another way of getting the word out.

I want you to think about becoming a docent on the Spring Garden Tour. I had such good luck getting volunteers for the Christmas tour and I hope it will be easy to get volunteers for the Spring Garden Tour. Because these homes are so beautiful, I know you will want to be a docent!

Looking forward to great turn-out!!!!

Did I say when the tour will be???? ***It is April 18th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.***

President's Message

Spring is on the horizon with all its beauty and renewal. I hope all of you are enjoying early spring gardening. We'd like a bit more rain though!

This spring also brings classes and flower shows that may be of interest to you. Check our calendar and website for dates and times. In addition, we are offering several out of town tours that are sure to delight our members and guests. See Patté Williams to sign up at our General Meetings or use the signup sheet to mail to the Office.

Speaking of our website, have you checked it lately? It has been revised for ease of use and the new software allows for colorful visual design. Thank you, Karen Johnson!

Our famous Annual Spring Garden Tour is almost here. It will be on Saturday, April 18. Please sign up to be a docent. There are 2-hour shifts at each home and our Office. The two hours are fun and go by quickly. You meet many happy visitors in awe of these fabulous gardens. And, you are also helping to promote our Club and bring awareness to our community projects and college scholarships. If you are unable to attend, consider purchasing a ticket anyway and gift it to a friend. The tour costs only \$25. Each ticket helps us reach our fundraising goal which pays for the majority of our Club projects.

As you work in your garden and visit other gardens and flower shows, perhaps you would like to ponder the following:

"A garden must combine the poetic and the mysterious with a feeling of serenity and joy." – Luis Barragan
Happy spring! – Mary McNicholas



Calendar of Upcoming Events

- March 3 – Planters and Groomers, MGC Office, 9:00 a.m.
- March 7-8 – Spring Daffodil Show; Ironstone Vineyards, 1894 Six Mile Road, Murphys; Contact: daffodil.org
- March 7-8 – Course 1 Gardening School, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Cost: \$5 for garden club members or \$75 for non-members. Stan County Fairgrounds, Floriculture Building, 900 N. Broadway, Turlock; Contact: Berni Hendrix, 209-402-2351 or distdirvld@gmail.com
- March 10 – Hackers and Whackers, Senior Center, 9:00 a.m.
- March 10 – Multimedia, MGC Office, 9:30 a.m.
- March 12 – MGCI General Meeting, Trinity United Presbyterian Church, 1600 Carver Road. Hospitality: 10 a.m.– 11:20 a.m.; Learn and Grow: 10:30 – 11:15, Larina's Edible Garden; Meeting: 11:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m., Int'l Floral Designer, Sahshah Middleton.
- March 17 – Planters and Groomers, MGC Office, 9:00 a.m.
- March 18 – New Member Tea
- March 24 – Hackers and Whackers, Senior Center, 9:00 a.m.
- March 25 – Succulent Garden Party; Two sessions at 11 a.m. or 4:30 p.m. Cost: \$45. Rising Sun Farm and Garden, 2243 Welty Rd., Vernalis; Sign up on: rising-sun-farm-and-garden-school.myshopify.com or call Amy Thorpe, 209-892-4765 Extn. 29012.
- March 26 – Board Meeting, MGC Office, 9:00 a.m.
- March 26 - April 1 – Rising Sun Farm and Garden Spring Tours. Cost: free. RSVP to Amy Thorpe, 209-814-8865 or athorpe@patterson.k12.ca.us
- March 27-28 – Spring Plant Sale, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Rising Sun Farm and Garden, 2243 Welty Rd., Vernalis; contact: Amy Thorpe, 209-892-4765 Extn. 29012 or athorpe@patterson.k12.ca.us
- March 28-29 – Course 2 Gardening School (see details and contact information above for Course 1 March 7-8)
- April 3 - 4 – 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Rising Sun Farm and Garden, 2243 Welty Rd., Vernalis; contact: Amy Thorpe 209-892-4765 Extn. 29012 or athorpe@patterson.k12.ca.us
- April 7 – MGCI General Meeting, Summer Luncheon Tickets go on sale, Trinity United Presbyterian Church, 1600 Carver Road; Hospitality: 10 a.m.–11:20 a.m.; Learn and Grow: 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.; Meeting: 11:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.,
- April 18 - Spring Garden Tour . . . **Be A Docent!**



Betty, Dorothy and Mary at Valley Lode Meeting.

Planters and Groomers

By Gerry Yockey

Judy Crisp had announced at our last workday down at the garden club office that she was inviting us to see and have lunch at her new home at our next get together. We were very happy to be able to see her new place and was looking forward to a great time.

Two weeks later we arrived at the Modesto Garden Office to work in the yard and clean up the leaves, do some weeding and get ready for our Spring Tour at the office. The snapdragons are really looking great. They are starting to bloom. I have to say I can almost feel spring in the air!

Only one thing to think about and that is going to Judy's house for lunch!! We had such a wonderful time and Judy's new home is so warm and cozy. The food was excellent. She had so many volunteers in the kitchen. It is always so nice having everyone together and spending time and relaxing.

It's a great group! If you would like to join us, please come. We meet the first Tuesday of the month and the third Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m.

Over the Garden Gate

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Civic Affairs

By Dan Yockey

They say all good things come to those who wait, I think this is only true if you keep pushing to make sure that things get completed properly and you receive the outcome you desire.

I say this because of three weeks of the hanging baskets incorrectly placed on 10th street is now where they were intended to hang on J street. Keep your eye on them as they mature this Spring, I know they will be beautiful.

This is the time of year we all look forward to as Spring is just around the corner. The first sign of Spring in our area is the blooming of the almond trees and by the time you see this article they will be in full bloom making the orchards look like snow has fallen.

Before writing this article, I was outside looking at our camellias that are now in full bloom and have remained a stunning display of color. This only happens when we have no rain to ruin them and they make a beautiful bouquet for your home.

All of our Civic projects are in great shape and the volunteers who work diligently to keep them beautiful are also looking forward to spring so that they can complete the renovations and upgrades on all of the projects.

This is why the Spring Garden Tour is so vitally important. The funds for all of our projects depend fully on the success of the Tour. So, help us out, support the tour by not only purchasing tickets for yourself but involve your friends as well.

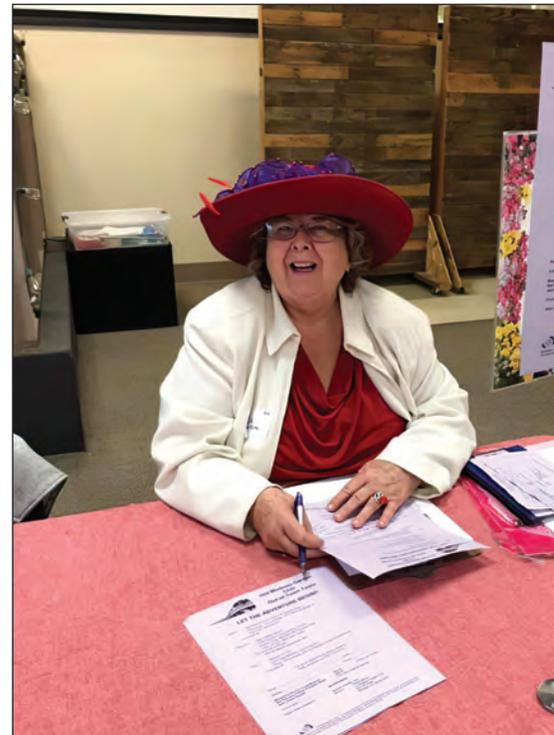
Yours in gardening, Dan



Mary Lou and Barbara at the Feb. Meeting.



**Lots of Valentine's Red
at the February
Garden Club Meeting**





Springtime
POTTED FLOWERS

Only
\$25

MARCH WORKSHOP
Monday, March 23
10am–Noon at Westurf Nursery
 1612 Claus Rd, Modesto

Get your front porch or patio ready for Spring! Enjoy the beautiful surroundings of the nursery while potting your pick of selected Spring flowers. Bring an apron and gloves!

REGISTER AT THE MARCH GENERAL MEETING
 —or call—
Karen Johnson 360.271.6760



Learn and Grow with Larina's Edible Garden

Be sure to attend Learn and Grow this month as Larina Cajias – proud owner of Larina's Edible Garden, a community driven business shares their story. Larina's Edible Garden is a family run herb farm and is celebrating their 20th year. A lifetime of "hands in the dirt" experience has inspired Larina, along with her husband and three daughters to create their business. They grow many varieties of vegetable and herb plants, lavenders, succulents and various perennials. A wonderful handcrafted line of spa products and delicious spice blends complement their garden plants and decor.

Weddings, themed dinners, workshops and holiday events spark the lineup of activities at their farm. Be sure to visit them soon!

Look for the grand opening of their new barn later in spring, as well as their posted events on Facebook or Instagram. You might even want to join their email list. Lorina@lorinasediblegarden.net or (209) 402-7567.



Club Members Can Volunteer to be Docenta for the Spring Garden Tour! Sign Up at the March Meeting!

Modesto Garden Club
 1924

MODESTO GARDEN CLUB

2020 Spring Garden Tour

SATURDAY APRIL 18TH
9AM ~ 4 PM

enjoy lovely homes & Gardens
Chosen for your pleasure

TICKETS ARE \$25
 Purchase tickets online at:
modestogardenclub.org

Gerry Yockey ~ Chairwoman ~ 209-527-5619

TOUR PROCEEDS SUPPORT ONGOING CLUB PROJECTS INCLUDING SCHOLARSHIPS, CITY BEAUTIFICATION, AND EDUCATION



**Volunteer
of
the Month**

Beverly Schiegel is presented the certificate for Volunteer of the Month by Modesto Garden Club President Mary McNicholas at the February meeting.



**2020
MODESTO GARDEN CLUB
OUT-OF-TOWN TOURS**

LET THE ADVENTURES BEGIN!!

- April 2 San Fran Cal Nor Flower & Garden Show
New name - New location - **Better & Bigger at Cal Expo**
Cost \$45.00
- May 30 Jack London Square
UUS Potomac Lunch Cruise, 3 hours Amtrak Train, Retired USS Potomac Ship A day of train, ship, train, home Cost \$120.00 (estimate) \$30.00 deposit guarantees seat
- June 2 Bouquets to Art
DeYoung Museum, San Francisco, Where floral design and Art Masters create awesomeness.
Cost \$60.00

For more information, please contact
Patté Williams at (209) 505-3526.

Name _____ Guest _____ Address _____ Phone _____

(Circle one or more)

- Bouquets to Art, De Young Museum** \$60.00
- San Francisco Flower & Garden Show** \$45.00
- Jack London Square** \$120.00 (or \$30.00 deposit)

Amount paid _____ **NO REFUNDS!!**

Make checks payable to: Modesto Garden Club, Send to Patté Williams c/o Modesto Garden Club 622 14th Modesto, CA 95354



Return Service Requested

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*Spring Is In the Air!
All Hands on Deck for
Modesto Garden Club Activities
Hackers and Whackers
Always Welcome!*

