



# OVER THE GARDEN GATE

Member of CGCI

A Publication of Modesto Garden Club, Inc.

Valley Lode District – Pacific Region



## **Kika Shibata, Our March Speaker, Shares Her Expertise in Ikebana, the Art of Japanese Flower Arrangement**

We are fortunate to have Kika Shibata with us this month as a floral design speaker.

The Art of Ikebana is her forte. the art of Japanese flower arrangement, with formal display according to strict rules. Her expertise is unquestionable. She is frequently invited to conduct demonstrations, teach classes and workshops, and create ikebana arrangements and sculptures throughout the United States.

*Kika's mission is to teach Ikebana while having her students experience "the Joy of Ikebana" and to develop within her students the happiness that comes when loving one's Ikebana.*

Mrs. Shibata began her Ikebana studies at the age of four in Japan under her mother, Shoka Narimatsu. After moving to the United States, she continued her apprenticeship under her mother. She also returned regularly to Japan to study under Headmistress Kasumi Teshigahara of the Sogetsu School. After receiving her teacher's certificate in 1967, Mrs. Shibata went on to earn the prestigious title of **Riji**, the highest degree offered by the Sogetsu School. Her creativity and outstanding work in ikebana have earned her numerous honors including her appointments as *West Coast area coordinator of Sogetsu North America* in 1996 and *president of Ikebana Teacher Federation* in 1997.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

Summer Luncheon Table Viewing - Wednesday, June 5

Summer Luncheon - Thursday, June 6

Del Rio Country Club

Tickets go on sale at the April General Meeting

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

- **March 5 –Planters and Groomers, MGC Office 9:00 a.m.**
- **March 12 – Hackers and Whackers, Senior Center – 9:00 a.m.**
- **March 14 –MGC General Meeting Location: Trinity United Presbyterian Church, 1600 Carver, Hospitality: 10 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.; Learn and Grow: 10:30 a.m. George from Exotic Flowers – 11:15 a.m., General Meeting: 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Kika Shibata, Ikebana Floral Design, Guests \$10.**
- **March 19 –Planters and Groomers, MGC Office– 9:00 am.**
- **March 21 – Out of Town Tour, San Francisco Flower and Garden Show**
- **March 26– Hackers and Whackers, Senior Center – 9:00 a.m.**
- **March 27—Hands-on Workshop, 10:00 a.m. P&L Nursery**
- **March 28–MGC Board Meeting, MGC Office 9:00 a.m. – Noon**
- **April 2 –Planters and Groomers, MGC Office 9:00 a.m.**
- **April 9 – Hackers and Whackers, Senior Center – 9:00 a.m.**
- **April 11–MGC General Meeting Location: Trinity United Presbyterian Church, 1600 Carver, Hospitality: 10 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.; Learn and Grow: 10:30 a.m.– 11:15 a.m., General Meeting: 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Guests \$10.**

## President's Message

*By Mary McNicholas*

**B**lossoms are beginning to show themselves. Birds are singing more loudly and often. Could spring be here? Yes, and we are ready to bring new color, growth and beauty to our gardens!

How shall we arrange those lovely flowers? For ideas, come to our General Meeting which includes two speakers on floral design: Master Horticulturalist, George Sabokrooh from Modesto Exotic Flowers and Kika Shibata who will share her knowledge of Ikebana Scibna floral design. What fun these speakers will be for us!

Celebrate the First Day of Spring, March 21, by joining members on our Out of Town Tour to the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show **in Sacramento**. This is another way to find great ideas, tools and plants for spring and summer gardening as well having fun with your gardening buddies.

Also, this month our Nominating Committee will be presenting our Slate of Officers for 2019-2021. We are especially grateful for those of you who stepped forward to fill these positions. It is this volunteerism blended with enthusiasm that helps make our Club so wonderful.

With thoughts of the coming spring, let us not just *see* the beauty around us but also *hear* the season. As William Shakespeare said:

*"The earth has music for those that listen."*

- Mary McNicholas



- **April 16 -- Planters and Groomers, MGC Office -- 9:00 a.m**
- **April 17 – Hands on Workshop**
- **April 23 -- Hackers and Whackers, Senior Center -- 9:00 a.m.**
- **APRIL 27 – ANNUAL SPRING GARDEN TOUR**

***Sign Up to Be  
a Docent!***



## Nominating Committee

*Deanna Clark, Marie Fuhr, Sue Houser, Mary Lou Rice*

The nominating committee has met and is actively looking for members to accept the challenge of making our Club blossom!

The following elected positions are open:

**Vice President (VP) of Fund Raising,  
VP of Facilities (Club Office),  
VP of Communications.**

There is a brief description of these jobs in your Yearbook and a notebook available for more in-depth information if you are interested. The slate of Officers will be presented to the membership at the March 14 meeting, so don't be shy about contacting members of the committee.

We also have openings for the following appointed positions: *Digital Historian, Chairperson of Vendors' Faire, and Parliamentarian. The Lavender Library still needs two more volunteers and we also need someone with computer experience to be the editor of the Yearbook.*

We are happy to entertain the idea of sharing positions as Co-VP's or Co-Chairpersons. We are looking forward to hearing from you so you can help keep our Club moving forward, serving our community.

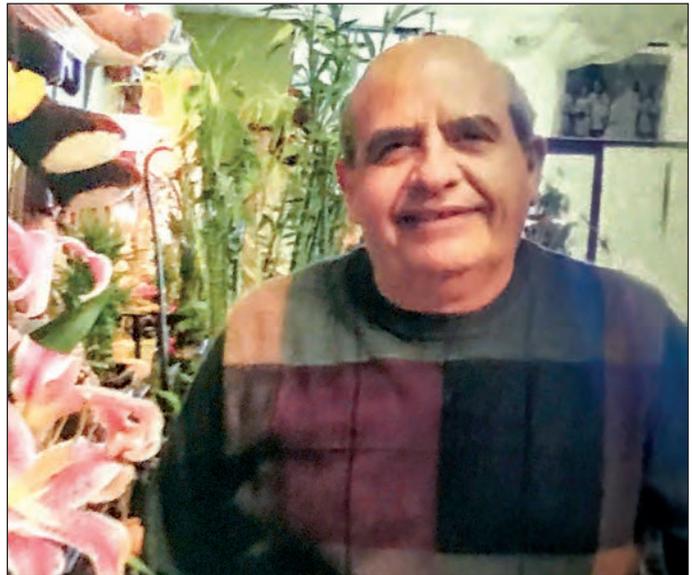
**Call Today: Deanna – 523-0618, Marie – 530-9390, Sue – 527-1337, Mary Lou – 869-3584**

## Learn and Grow

*By Beverly Schlegel*

Meet George, owner and operator of Modesto Exotic Flowers. With over thirty years' experience as a florist, George is also a Master Horticulturist, and has a master's degree in Plant Science from Murray State University in Kentucky.

“Why am I so passionate about the flower business? I have been involved with flowers my entire life. Honestly, I don't plan to retire ever! Once I tried to retire, and I got bored so here I am again. I like to be with flowers and with people.”



## *Over the Garden Gate*

**Published 10 times a year, September-June, by the Modesto Garden Club, Inc.**

**President: Mary McNicholas**

**Contributing Writers this month: Mary McNicholas,  
Beverly Schlegel, Mary Lou Rice, Dan Yockey, Gerry Yockey**

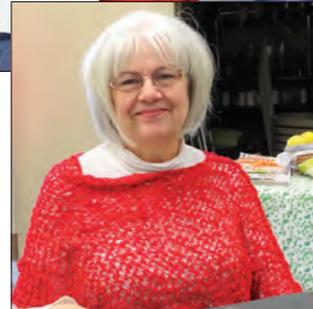
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# Lots of Red at the February Meeting on Valentine's Day!



*Heart Designs by Vecteezy*





*Modesto Garden Club*

# Spring Garden Tour

## April 27, 2019



Saturday  
from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m

*This year there are 6 remarkable homes plus the Garden Club Office for tour guests pleasure!*

### Tickets \$30

Tickets are available for purchase at any of the homes on the day of the tour:  
 7444 River Nine, 7434 River Nine, 1220 Countryview Drive, 3348 Shoemake Avenue, 504 Riddle Court, 215 Lane Street,  
 Modesto Garden Club Office at 622 14th Street; in Modesto: Marcy's Hallmark Shop,  
 McHenry Mansion Visitor Center and Gift Store, Paper Habit, Suite 54, Westurf Nursery;  
 in Escalon: P & L Concrete Products and Garden Center; in Ripon: Park Greenhouse,  
 Silverado Nursery & Building Materials; in Riverbank: Morris Nursery; in Turlock, The Greenery Nursery & Garden Shop,  
 and Online at [modestogardenclub.org](http://modestogardenclub.org).



## NEWS AND NOTES

*By Dan Yockey*

As time goes by, we all tend not always receive all the information on things of note that happen in the Garden Club. I want to highlight some of the recent events and news.

- **THE CLOCK**

Being involved for some time as President and now co-Vice President of Civic Affairs I, like most of us, have always referred to The Flower clock or just “the Clock.” The real name of the clock is The Aileen Gallo Memorial Flower Clock. In order to recognize the generous contributions made by the Gallo family all future mention of the clock should be referred to by its full name.

- **2017-2018 YEARBOOK**

Each year we receive this well-crafted and beautifully produced tool for all of us to use during the year. What most of us do not know is that this year’s handbook won First Place in the California Garden Club 300 plus member category. First place winners are automatically forwarded to the Pacific Region to compete in the same category. The book also won First place in the same category. This hand book was the forwarded to the National Garden Club. It took First Place in the Nationwide contest. Quite an accomplishment for the Club from California. We must recognize the Club members who made this possible. Year book Editor Karen Dyrseth and Communications Vice President Mary Lou Rice as well as their committee of proof readers.

*CONGRATULATIONS*

- **VALLEY LODGE DISTRICT LOGO**

As time goes by, we see this logo used by the Valley Lode District in all their newsletters and correspondence. The logo depicts a Gold Miner on one half and a Valley Orchard on the other half in bright colors. This logo was created by Dan Yockey and produced by D&D Graphix here in Modesto. It was presented to the District Director Penny Binney on her last day as Director.

## Civic Affairs

*By Dan Yockey*

It has been a very rainy year so far and has allowed the downtown pots and the hanging baskets continue to grow and become colorful and are filling in to make a beautiful show so far. We look forward to April and the Spring Garden Tour when they will look spectacular.

Stop by now and get a preview of the Pots, Baskets, and the Clock.

- **Rose and Victim Gardens**

Both Rose Gardens have been pruned and cleaned by our much-appreciated volunteers.

The Victims Garden at the Courthouse has the roses pruned and will soon receive a Spring planting of color.

Thank you, Pat Williams, Beverly Schlegel, and Elaine Greydanus for heading up these important projects.

- **George Lucas Plaza**

Our George Lucas Plaza garden always looks great under the care of Renate Glinkas and Linda Pedego.

- **Senior Center Garden**

Soon you will see a dramatic change to the Garden on the East side of the Senior Citizens Center. Pixie

Kinser and her crew will soon be planting shrubs and color to that area as well as the installation of the flag pole at that location.

- **Victims Garden Maintenance Head Needed**

Civic Projects needs someone or some group to head up the maintenance of the Victims Garden. This small garden would be a great place to become involved in the Garden Club without a great deal of time commitment. We need you to stop thinking “Maybe...” and say “I am going to do this. Let Gerry or Dan know you are ready to take on this project.





**Modesto Garden Club  
Out of Town Tours**

**DATE CHANGE**

**March 21-San Francisco Flower & Garden Show**

You are invited to celebrate with us the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show. *Change of Venue...Will be in Sacramento this year!* Plus, hear floral design and quest speakers share their knowledge on how you can improve and enjoy your outside space. There will be opportunities to shop specialty vendors featuring flowers, plants, gifts, tools, outdoor furniture and much, much more. I suggest good walking shoes, comfortable clothes and lots of cash on this trip.

Cost: \$55.00 **NO REFUNDS!!**

Time: 7:30 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. Departure Location: Park & Ride in front of JC Penney



**May 4-Filoli House/Half Moon Bay**

Filoli House is a historical home/museum snuggled in the foothills of San Mateo County. This beautiful home set on a 654-acre estate with 16 acres of formal gardens. You will have a private 2-hour tour in groups of 15 to view the home and gardens. Then, time to shop/visit the estate shop. When our visit to Filoli House is done, we will go to Half Moon Bay to have lunch and shop the many quaint shops. Please wear comfortable walking shoes, layer your clothes and as always... MONEY!!

Cost: \$65.00 **NO REFUNDS!!**

Time: 7:30 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. Departure Location: Park & Ride in front of JC Penney

**Chose one, but better yet, chose both events!! Enjoy two delightful days for anyone who loves gardening and beautiful flower arrangements.**

For more information, call Patté Williams at (209) 521-5889

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

|                                    |                |                      |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| <b>Filoli House/Half Moon Bay</b>  | <b>\$65.00</b> | (Circle one or both) |
| San Francisco Flower & Garden Show | \$55.00        |                      |

Amount paid \_\_\_\_\_ **NO REFUNDS!!**

Make checks payable to: Modesto Garden Club Send Patté Williams c/o Modesto Garden Club 622 14<sup>th</sup> Street Modesto, CA 95354-2505



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Modesto, CA 95354-2505

## Return Service Requested

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## Spring Garden Tour

*Docent chair Deanna Clark still needs docents for two-hour shifts. Please visit her at the March meeting to let her know what time will work for you!*

*If everyone takes a time slot, we will have plenty of docents, ensuring a successful Tour.*

Tickets for the April 27<sup>th</sup> Spring Garden Tour will be available at the March 14<sup>th</sup>, general meeting. Buy tickets for yourself and all your friends because this year's tour is, once again, *spectacular*.

Remember to mention the tour and the date to family and friends through personal contact, phone calls, email, text messages, or Facebook. They might like to know: The tour is our major fundraiser, benefitting our community gardening projects, therapeutic gardening, and scholarships.

Community projects include the Virginia Corridor Memorial Rose Garden, the Aileen Gallo Memorial Flower Clock, and the over 200 pots and hanging baskets in downtown Modesto—all with the goal of beautifying Modesto.

Last year's Tour allowed Modesto Garden Club to award six, \$1500. Scholarships.

Tour attendees always leave with at least one idea they can easily implement; some even take home a new vision for their own garden.

## Planters and Groomers

*By Gerry Yockey*

It was a very, very cold morning and a chance of rain in the afternoon. We already had hail the day before and my back yard looked like a hurricane had gone through it! I was not looking forward to gardening at the Modesto Garden Office, but we had not worked in the garden for five weeks and it looked pretty bad!

After three cups of coffee, we warmed up enough to head outside to start working in the garden.

Leah Meedom helped me replant the herbs in the back yard. We had ground cover along the fence, and it had taken over everything. We had to take it out and start over again. It took about an hour and it looks much better!

Josephine Parra made the moistest coffee cake! The next time I write an article I will put the recipe in. It turned out that the day was not as cold as I thought it was going to be.

The ladies were very busy cleaning up the front yard.... *everything turned out beautiful!*