



President's Message

by Paula Elias



Dear Manteca Garden Club Members,

We are having such beautiful weather! However, I'm ready for rain! How about you?

It's Thanksgiving so I'm sending a big thanks to the folks who make our monthly meetings happen: Berti for finding the speaker, Linda and Sandie for setting up refreshments, Pam for supporting our share table, Allie and Joy for inspiration, Susan, Jesse and Gayle for welcome, Gloria for raffle & penny pines and Eric for the wonderful plant of the month information. A big thanks to Bev and Lorna for their monthly read outs. Also appreciated are the members who give us ongoing readouts on their chair projects; Tom and Marsha Savage (scholarships) and Tom Powell (schools and city beautification). Thanks to Anita, Barbara and Scott for capturing our meetings for Facebook and the website too. Without their support, we would have no meeting! We give thanks for their meetings activities for the club.

Hope to see you at the November meeting. If we will miss you, wishing all of you a wonderful, peaceful, safe, Happy Thanksgiving.

Paula

Key Dates

Meetings and Events

Wednesday, November 7	Field Trip: Green Acres in Elk Grove, lunch at Velvet Grill and Creamery with a stop at Spaan's Cookies
Wednesday, November 14	Board Meeting, Manteca Golf Club café, 9:30am
Monday, November 19	Manteca Garden Club Meeting, McFall Room, Manteca Library, Refreshments at 12:30, meeting starts at 12:55pm. Speaker: Joe Anthony Garnica, Yard Creations Landscape; Topic: Winter Gardening Tips for Yard Preparation.
Monday, December 17	Holiday Luncheon, 12 noon at Chez Shari, Manteca Golf Course, 305 North Union Road. Sign up and make payment at November meeting.

Gardener's Corner for November

by Cate White, Master Gardener

With cold weather setting in and winter just around the corner, now is the time to start preparing your garden for cold weather. Average frost dates in our area run from mid-November to late February or early March. Brief light frosts are less dangerous unless your plants are very sensitive, but prolonged cold or temperatures under 28 degrees or so are more serious. Early fall and late spring frosts can be the most damaging. Watch for clear skies and low humidity combined with low temperatures and follow weather forecasts so you can take appropriate action

To begin winterizing your yard, be sure that it has a good layer of mulch, which helps keep warmth in the ground. Remember to leave an area 4 to 6 inches in diameter around each plant free of mulch to keep trunks from developing rot. When leaves fall, rake them off your lawn, and use them as additional mulch around your plants. This also prevents fungal growth in your lawn. Another tip for lawns is that the heavy morning dews of November should supply them with enough water. Hopefully, we will even get some rain!

Cover frost sensitive plants before sunset to keep in ground warmth. Avoid letting covers touch plant foliage; place them over stakes surrounding your plant. Remove the covers on sunny days. Keep ground around frost sensitive plants moist, since damp soil holds warmth better than dry ground. For citrus, be aware that young trees are the most prone to severe frost damage, while mature trees may not be seriously affected. Wait until spring to remove damaged growth. Another strategy for protecting sensitive plants is to drape them with a set of little Christmas lights, which produce enough warmth to prevent damage, while adding a fun twinkle on cold dark nights. Be sure to use incandescent lights, not the LED types.

Frost sensitive plants in pots should be kept moist and moved under a sheltering roof for protection. Consider moving especially sensitive plants inside until the weather warms up.

Slugs, snails and earwigs become active in cool damp weather. Baiting or hand picking are the good ways to combat these voracious pests. Another removal method is to put out rolled up newspapers or flat boards. Snails and slugs congregate under the boards, and earwigs will take shelter in rolled up newspapers, making it easier to dispose of them.

Lastly, a word about Black Widow spiders, which are common in our area. Since their bite is quite poisonous, I generally make sure never to stick an ungloved hand into places I can't see. Learn to detect their webs, which are unorganized and very sticky, and often built low across pathways. Black Widows are active at night, so once you have detected a suspicious web, you can go out with a flashlight and dispatch them. In colder months, they look for more sheltered areas, such as sheds and garages, fuse or timer boxes, and sometimes your house. Spraying around doors and other likely spaces will discourage them, but since they aren't killed unless the spray actually hits them, general widespread use of pesticides is ineffective and will kill beneficial bugs. It makes sense to reserve sprays until you see the spider and then make sure to apply it directly.

November Garden Check List

- Continue planting trees and shrubs until nighttime temperatures drop below freezing.
- Keep planting spring bulbs and winter annuals such as pansies, violas, stock, Iceland poppies and decorative kale
- There's also still time to plant starts of winter vegetables including lettuce, kale, swiss chard and parsley.
- Manage ants using baits. Sticky barriers can go on tree trunks.
- Adjust your watering schedule taking into account dry windy weather, cold and rainfall. Avoid watering within 48 hours of measurable rain.
- Strip any "mummies" (dried, shrunken or rotten fruits) from fruit trees.
- Trim citrus 6 inches off the ground to prevent brown rot.



Plant(s) of the Month by Eric Teberg

Zantedeschia aethiopica, Calla Lilly

Flowers: purple, orange yellow
Blooms: Summer, Fall
Height: 54"
Exposure: Full Sun to Part Shade
Moisture: Moist



Refreshments by Ann Clapper, Sandie Harris Linda Schneide

The following members have volunteered to bring refreshments to the November 19, 2018 Garden Club Meeting. Refreshments start at 12:30pm.

Bertie Baumgartner
Pam Dias
Jeanette Farley

Robin Kassner
Sandra Sarras
Barbara Stoner



November Birthdays

7	Tom Savage	11	Edie Brown
8	Rescha Bistrong	21	Gayle Foster
10	Eric Teberg		

