

Valley Lode

THE

Newsletter of the Valley Lode District
California Garden Clubs, Inc.

Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. National Garden Clubs, Inc.

HIGHLIGHTING THE ACTIVITIES OF INDIVIDUALS AND CLUBS SO THAT WE "LEARN AND GROW". [THEME]



▶ NGC PLANT AMERICA GRANT AWARDED TO TUOLUMNE1



▶ VLD GENERAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 11 FEATURING JULIE MOREHOUSE2



▶ GETTING THE MOST FROM THE DISTRICT – FIND EVENTS IN THE HILLS AND IN THE VALLEY2



GRANT AWARDED

TUOLUMNE COUNTY GARDEN CLUB



Members of the Tuolumne County Garden Club, pictured left to right: Joyce Richardson, Sally Lowe, Liana Shulver, Pat Mullen, Rose Gonzales, Catherine Crawford, Jeanne Bodiford, Charlotte Tucker, Linda Starnes (President), and Anne Plummer.
Members not in the group picture above: Diann Ebersole, Emily Kilgore, Lynne Kuhne, Kay McGinnes, Kathy Mastenbrook, Ann Pharris, Linda Santos, Sharon South, and Suzanne Ury.

Members of the Tuolumne County Garden Club are excited to be ringing in the New Year with a project which has won them a PLANT AMERICA grant of \$1000 from National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The project is for a FIRE-RESISTANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN for public education to be located at the Standard Fire Station on Striker Court in Sonora.

This three-year project will be executed in phases to cover a half acre of land. It will show various types of gardening and landscape methods for a fire safe landscape. Much of the plant material will be native to the area and/or draught efficient. The plan calls for pathways and seating areas which will provide ADA accessibility. Long range future plans after the project is near completion is to include the installation of a Fallen Firefighters Memorial and also a Blue Star or Gold Star Memorial Marker.

For this joint venture of soliciting the assistance from other community groups to implement the execution of the garden, the Tuolumne County Garden Club is to be commended for organizing this project and on winning the NGC PLANT AMERICA grant. Congratulations Tuolumne County Garden Club!

This is the second PLANT AMERICA grant to be awarded to a Valley Lode District garden club with the Escalon Farmington Community Garden Club being awarded in 2017 initiating a community park/garden area in Escalon.

The PLANT AMERICA grant is awarded for a project that benefits the community with a one-page application due in October. All garden clubs are encouraged to look at the PLANT AMERICA grant criteria and to adapt your beautification/education project(s) to meet the guidelines and to apply for the grant.

CHAIR REPORT

Valley Lode District Chairmen



GARDENING SCHOOL GROW MEMBERSHIP GROW KNOWLEDGE

Does your garden club have too many members? Do you have a waiting list for members wanting to join? If not, you need to promote the GARDENING SCHOOL. The very best way to **grow membership** is to **grow knowledge**. People will come for the information, and stay for the friendships.

It is not too late to send out emails inviting members to attend and to bring friends, family and neighbors. Valley Lode District is sponsoring the Gardening School for YOUR GARDEN CLUB to benefit from the knowledge and the membership opportunity! If you have a member with a financial hardship, have them contact your District Director. NO ONE is to be excluded!

First course begins on Saturday and Sunday, February 15, 16 with the young dynamic botanist, Andrew Gardner. An instructor from C S U Stanislaus who has plans for many hands-on and take-home projects. A Rhoads Scholar, Andrew has as his university pet project *Native Plants from the Valley to the Sierra's* and will have information for ALL garden clubs throughout the district, whether in mountains or the valley.

Reserve a spot for yourself; set an example. Send out emails or have your phone committee contact each and every club member.

District Calendar

LEARNING opportunities GROW friendships
Getting the most from the District

JANUARY 15 DEADLINE Insurance renewal. \$25 late fee after 01-15

FEBRUARY 1 DEADLINE GTEP Renewal (Group Tax Exempt Program)

FEBRUARY 1 DEADLINE Blue-Ribbon Achievement Score to District Director

FEBRUARY 2-5 CGCI Winter Board Meeting. New updated information from NGC, PR, and CGCI will be presented at the following VLD General Meeting on February 11.

FEBRUARY 11 VLD DISTRICT MEETING, Manteca Golf, Chez Shari Banquet Hall **DEADLINE to register is January 31, fee \$30. Featured speaker is co-owner of 'IN SEASON MARKET & NURSERY, Julie Morehouse, presenting "Healing and Inspiring Gardening" contact Bev 209-402-6368**

FEBRUARY 15, 16 Gardening School 8:30 am Stanislaus County Fair, Instructor: Andrew Gardner, CSUS Professor of Botany. Hands-on take-home projects planned with

time planned to be spent at the University in the Botanic Garden

FEBRUARY 14-17 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT online citizen-science project to collect data on wild birds For at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count, simply tally the numbers and kinds of birds you see. Count from any location, anywhere in the world, for as long as you wish! For more information go to: www.gbcb.birdcount.org

MARCH 5 Game Day & Luncheon Lodi Garden Club

MARCH 8 Daylight Savings Time begins- turn clock forward

The cultivation of flowers and trees is the cultivation of the good, the beautiful, and the ennobling in man.
J. Sterling Morton, Founder Arbor Day



LEARN AND GROW

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETINGS

- CALAVERAS: Greenhorn Creek
- CERES: Floral Design for the Home Made Easy
- ESCALON: Jeff Ramsey-Bees and other Pollinators
- FOOTHILL: Defensible Space – Saving Your Home
- LODI: Scott Reed -Everything Tomato: Purchasing, Planting, Caring
- MANTECA: Lorina Cajias, *Lorina's Edibles*-Cooking with Herbs
- MODESTO: 10:30am Nancy Tacket, NorCal Daffodil Society
- MODESTO: 11:45am Wm McNamera-Bring Plants from Mountains into Your Garden: Plant hunters, Botanists, Botanical Gardens
- OAKDALE: Manjeet Dosanjh-Cilantro, Spinach, Arugula
- PATTERSON: Humberto Rubio – The Tomato Grower Expert
- SIERRA MADRE: Plans and Signup for Spring Event
- TUOLUMNE: Local Garden Nursery Tour
- TURLOCK: Graig Hilliker- Sciabica Olive Oil: History, Grades & Uses

FLORAL DESIGN



Valley Floral Arrangers' Guild

Design Type:
Creative Reflective Design

Reflective Design - "A Creative Design containing reflective materials giving back images of light to the viewer."

-The reflective materials are to be an integral part of the overall design.

- Staging in front of a mirror or staging on a mirror is not acceptable.

- Usually very few plant materials are used in that almost no plant is reflective.

Now accepting signup for the next Guild. Space is limited to 8-16 members due to the format for individualized training and instruction.

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