



January 1, 2020

Dear Manteca Garden Club Members,

Can we believe it a new year? Hoping you had a nice Christmas and holiday season. 2020 has been a year of quiet, sadness, and hope. I know we all are hoping for a better 2021.

As we continue on with this garden club season apart, we will continue to stay in touch as many ways as possible. If you have any ideas on how to do that better, please let me know. Our goal is to continue to do our work with supporting the community. We may not be able to do that with gardening and such but we can contribute to the health of community in new ways for our clubs.

By now you all received via email a copy of our club yearbook. All of our members this year with the exception of Larry, Michele's husband joining, you should have a paper copy of last year's yearbook. This year's yearbook is ready to print when we can start setting event dates!

Thanks to all who have participated in our website contest. Many of you commented on how much you are enjoying it. We have had three winners each getting a \$25 gift certificate from a local winery and we will have another contest coming up in mid-January.

What a wonderful letter Manteca Unified School District sent us for the \$300 gift card donation for our homeless kids! Did you know we had 1,100 kids in Manteca without a home? I am so proud of our club for our donation and we definitely need to consider these kids as we move forward. Bev, our treasurer, also sent the \$300 donation to Ray's Hope hoping to help fill a void for the kids this holiday season. Sandie took the lead to contact St. Jude's for us so that we could fulfill our annual stocking gifts for them. Carol and Angie also were ready to help Sandie with the item gatherings. Unfortunately, with the virus out there, St. Jude's asked us to hold back the gift giving for this year. Sandie is working with them to send out Christmas cards. We have the money in the budget, so we can decide if we want to give something later on in the club year or wait until the next holiday season. Suggestions for the budget money are welcome too. Let me know.

We received a \$65 donation in memory of Judy Rosendin for supporting our rose garden. Judy was an outdoor lover and many of us know Judy through Thai Chi and or the Delta Tule Trekkers Walking Club. She will be missed by many.

Bev has received and paid the annual insurance for our members. We anticipate meeting and going on field trips so we want the extra insurance. In addition, Bev is paying dues to Valley Lode District and California Gardens as our membership increased since we paid dues in September. The two groups ask clubs to pay additional when membership increases.

What a joy it was to see so many members drive through for our holiday take out lunch. As you know we were planning a lunch at Chez Shari, as we do annually, with the backup plan of a drive through take out lunch. We had to do just that (a drive through lunch), but it worked out wonderfully. We had 29 members participate. Thanks to Gloria for the menu and logistic planning, Pat for purchasing and handling the raffle with 11 people winning a holiday gift, Michele for the lovely lemons, Pam for the donation of the beverage and Bev for handling the RSVPs, bills and money. I donated oranges from my backyard tree. Included with the yummy turkey dinner, we also had delicious individual, Just Bundt Cakes. Everyone smiled and gave joyful greetings behind their masks as our board delivered their packaged lunch. As usual John and his staff did a fantastic job!

We are hoping to see many of you at the Senior Center for rose pruning on Saturday, January 23 at 9:30. Bring your shears and buckets and gloves. Thanks again to Susan and Robert for leading the event in Hank's absence. We will have beverages and donuts for all who come out. Please wear your masks too and stay socially distant! Thanks to Susan and Linda R for taking the lead with the roses until then. We need you to help us with the rose garden April to October deadheading. We really do need help! It easy and only every five weeks! Sign ups on Jan 23.

Our wish for you all is to be healthy, to be safe, to be peaceful and to be joyful. We miss you all and look forward to our coming together soon so we can continue our work as The Manteca Garden Club. Happy New Year.

Paula