



OVER THE GARDEN GATE

Volume 2024, Issue 7

A Publication of Modesto Garden Club, Inc.

March 2024

2023/2024 EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Nancy Robinson

Past President

Dan Yockey

Vice President Activities

Linda Pedego

Vice Presidents

Civic Affairs

Dan Yockey

Gerry Yockey

Vice President

Communications

Mary Lou Rice

Vice President Education

Cheryl Koff

Vice Presidents Facilities

Mary McNicholas

Sharon Searls

Vice President

Fund Raising

Lee Lundrigan

Vice President Meeting

Set-up

Paulette Attoun

Vice President

Membership

Janis Perkins

Vice President General

Meeting Hospitality

Sheri McCoy

Treasurer

Nancy Smith

Corresponding Secretary

Louise Nelson

Recording Secretary

Judy Silber

Parliamentarian

Jean Davis

Anne Schellman ~ March 8th Speaker by Bob Taylor

Anne has always been fascinated by plants, animals, and nature. She credits her grandfather for her love of plants, and the Modesto Junior College for helping her discover a career in horticulture.

Anne graduated from Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo with a degree in Environmental Horticultural Science, and a Master's degree in Community Development from the University of California, Davis. She worked for University of California for over ten years, and currently works for Stanislaus County as the UCCE Master Gardener Coordinator. Come hear Anne speak on her topic "Tea time - Growing Herbal Teas in Your Garden."

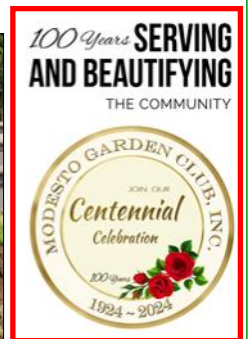


Centennial Project ~ by Dan Yockey

Hello everyone! I want to thank everyone who attended the ground breaking and placement of the time capsule at the Centennial Garden. Unfortunately, I was not able to be there because of the flu.

Thank you, Nancy Robinson and her daughter Jeanette, who stepped in and made sure the event was a huge success!

Our next project will be the planting of the actual plants at the garden. A sign-up sheet will go around at the March General Meeting. I don't have an exact date yet, but will let everyone know when we receive the plants. Thank you all for your support! ~ Dan





Organized: February 12, 1924
Federated: September 24, 1946
Incorporated: May 10, 1962

**A MEMBER OF
THESE
AFFILIATIONS:**



Presidents Message ~ by Nancy Robinson

For those of you who missed the February 12th Centennial Groundbreaking and placement of the 25-year Time Capsule – it was a fabulous ceremony at our new Centennial Garden on W. Orangeburg Ave! We were honored to have Modesto Mayor Sue Zwahlen; Modesto City Councilman Jeremiah Williams, Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors Chairman Mani



Grewal, and Downtown Improvement District Executive Director Heidi Savage in attendance. We placed the items that Centennial Chair Dan Yockey had collected in the capsule and everyone took turns shoveling dirt on the capsule. I appreciate all of you who attended. It was a momentous occasion.

On February 6th I spoke at the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors and the Modesto City Council meetings. I appreciate that several members joined me.

I hope all of you have seen the beautiful new Centennial Banners in 9 locations downtown. They are fabulous! Thank you Dan Yockey and Mary Lou Rice for your hard work on that project.

What a fun Late Bloomers contest we enjoyed at the last meeting! I'm so impressed with all of the artists we have in our midst. Thank you all for sharing your talents.

Our March general meeting speaker, Ann Schellman, will be talking on growing plants for making tea. Be sure to wear your favorite "Tea Bonnet" and bring your favorite "Tea Cup." It will be a fun day.

We are all looking forward to a fabulous Spring Garden Tour on April 20th. Also, we will be honored as the Grand Marshall for Modesto's 4th of July Parade. Our float preparations are amazing!

Arbor Day ~ by Nancy Robinson

On March 7 at 10:00 a.m. we will meet at the Senior Citizen's Center located at 211 Bodem Street to plant a peach tree in celebration of Arbor Day! The tree was donated to our



club by Burchell Nursery and courtesy of club member Berni Hendrix. This is a day that celebrates the planting, upkeep, and preservation of trees.

Arbor Day is a day to reflect on the importance of trees in our city and state and across the nation, for, without them, we would die for lack of oxygen. We are expecting city and county dignitaries to attend. I encourage as many of you as possible to attend, to show support for Arbor Day and the Senior Citizen's Center.

ARBOR DAY CALIFORNIA

by Berni Hendrix, Arbor Day Chairwoman, California Garden Clubs, Inc
(Shared by Nancy Robinson)

Arbor Day, much like Earth Day, is a holiday that celebrates nature. Its purpose is to encourage people to plant trees.

Most everyone has heard the story of J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska who in the mid



J Morton Sterling, Nebraska Territory
 Newspaper Editor

1800's started the movement to plant trees. On that first tree planting day it is estimated that more than one million trees were planted. The excitement from the sheer number of trees planted in one day spread across America to where Arbor Day is celebrated in all 50 states. The most common date for state observance is the last Friday in April, now congressionally declared National Arbor Day.

Many states across the USA celebrate at other times to coincide with the best tree planting weather. In California, Arbor Day is celebrated around March 7 to honor Luther Burbank, born March 7, 1849.

With only an elementary education, Burbank at age 21 purchased 17-acres in Santa Rosa, California. He became one of history's most inventive and productive breeders of plants. Conducting as many as 3,000 experiments at once, Burbank painstakingly crossbred foreign and native species of plants, cultivated the resultant seedlings, and used grafting to arrive at new and better breeds. Of the tens of thousands of varieties he attempted, hundreds were successful, including the famous 'Shasta Daisy'. The Elberta peach, Santa Rosa plum, and Flaming Gold nectarine, to name a few, were still on the market one hundred years later. All were invented by Luther Burbank.

But his greatest success was the Russet potato (1871), better known as the 'Idaho potato.' It was soon exported to help Ireland recover from the potato blight devastation of 1840-1860. And even today, Burbank's large, hardy, fine-grained potato is unsurpassed as a staple of American agriculture.



Luther Burbank, 1849-1926

ARBOR DAY CALIFORNIA (CONTINUED)

by Berni Hendrix, Arbor Day Chairwoman, California Garden Clubs, Inc
(Shared by Nancy Robinson)

Like George Washington Carver, Burbank realized that human ingenuity could improve nature's productivity. His tremendous success, and also his book, *'How Plants Are Treated To Work For Man'* (1921), largely inspired the PLANT PATENT ACT of 1930, which made new varieties of plants patentable for the first time.

Luther Burbank died in 1926 at 77 years of age. He received 16 plant patents posthumously. More importantly, he set the precedent for innovation in plant breeding that continues today through bio-engineering.

Inspired by the passion of these two men, we in garden clubs, and all of California, plant trees and celebrate Arbor Day during the week of March 7-14. An Arbor Day Tree Planting Celebration in your local community will inspire your city leaders and citizens and will inspire creditability for your garden club. A Celebration program is easy to organize and a step-by-step template for success is on our website. www.californiagardenclubs.com/arbor-day/

Arbor Day is a day to reflect on the importance of trees in our city and state, and across our nation, for without them, we would die for lack of oxygen. One acre of forest puts out four tons of oxygen which is enough to meet the annual needs of 18 people. The following from various entities show just how important are trees in a community:

The net cooling effect of a healthy tree is equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. *US Dept of Agriculture* Plant a tree on the west side of your home, in 5 years your energy bill should be 3% less. In 15 years, the savings will be nearly 12%. *Dr E G McPherson, Center for Urban Forest Research* A mature tree can often have an appraised value of between \$1000 - \$10,000. *Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers* Healthy, mature trees add an average of 10% to a property's value. *USDA Forest Service* Trees properly placed around buildings can reduce air conditioning needs by 30% and can save 20-50% in energy used for heating. *USDA Forest Service* Trees can be a stimulus to economic development, attracting new business and tourism. Commercial retail areas are more attractive to shoppers, apartments rent more quickly, tenants stay longer, and space in a wooded setting is more valuable to sell or rent.

The Arbor Day Foundation

Arbor Day is a holiday that celebrates the planting, the upkeep and the preservation of trees. Let us celebrate!

Out and About ~ by Nancy Robinson

We are so lucky to live in an area that is culturally rich with activities to enjoy... in addition to those we attend in our own Modesto Garden Club. Here are a few you might be interested in checking out!

March 16 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. **61ST ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW AND PLANT SALE**

March 17 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **61ST ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW AND PLANT SALE** is presented by the Camellia Society of Modesto. See over 1000 blooms from all over the valley. Free Admission. Event at the E&J Gallo Administration Building, 600 Yosemite Blvd. Modesto.

March 19—March 22 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm. **RISING SUN SPRING PLANT SALE.** Rising Sun is an adult transitional school that teaches life skills to young adults with special needs. They grow a number of items and sell to the public twice a year. The address is 2243 Welty Road, Vernalis.

April 13 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. **MODESTO POLLINATOR FESTIVAL.** The La Loma Neighborhood is sponsoring this fourth annual event at the La Loma Native Garden located at 1805 Encina Avenue in Modesto. Several local agencies will have booths with educational information about pollinators and how we can help them thrive.



MODESTO GARDEN CLUB
Out of Town Tour
Sunday March 30th, 2024

Little Shop of Horrors
 Sierra Rep's Fallon House Theatre

GLOBAL DOMINATION, CONSUMING BLOOD

Down and Out Krelborn, Alien Madness

Mix all these ingredients together and prepare for screams, laughter and total silence as you enter the world of horror!!

BUT WAIT...Before we get to the Fallon House Theatre we will stop in Sonora for lunch and shopping!

Cost: \$80.00 (Non-Refundable)

Time: 10:00 am- 5:30 pm

Gathering Place: Park & Ride, Vintage Faire Mall

**Tickets are available at the March 8th General Meeting or
 call Patte' Williams at (209) 505-3526**

Spring Garden Tour ~ by Lee Lundrigan



April 20, 2024 Centennial Spring Garden Tour Update

Our 2024 Spring Garden Tour is less than two months away! Circle the date and tell all your friends. This year we celebrate the Club's 100th Anniversary by self-touring six gardens on Saturday, April 20th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and children 11 and under are free.

TICKETS: Tickets can be purchased at the Modesto Garden Club meetings on March 14th and April 11th. Tickets are also available at the Morris Nursery, Marcy's Hallmark, The Paper Habit, Park's Greenhouse Nursery, Thompson's Nursery, Westurf Nursery, the Greenery Nursery,

the Modesto Garden Club Office and online through VENMO or modestogardenclub.org and are available for purchase on the day of the tour at each garden location.

GARDENS: The six gardens embrace an assortment of ideas, plants and focus. The gardens are homeowner maintained by enthusiastic and knowledgeable home gardeners. The Office garden is maintained by club volunteers. Prepare to be wowed by succulents, citrus, Japanese maple trees, wildflowers, and a small farm. A Master Gardener's booth will include gardening tips and information. An arborist will host a pruning demonstration. Refreshments and Raffatunity prizes will be available for all.



2024 Modesto gardens on tour include:

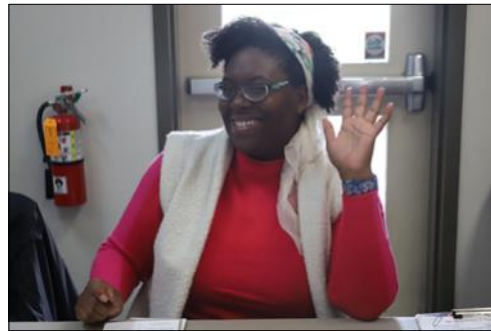
1) *Steve, Cheryl, Andrew Carmichael* at 2517 Bridle Path Lane; 2) *Sue Murry* at 1029 Mt. Vernon Dr; 3) *Sue Hudgens* at 3705 Corte Madera Ave; 4) *Rich & Patti Przybyla* at 301 Greewich Lane; 5) *Mike & Makayla Sousa* at 2504 Sunrise Ave; and 6) *The Modesto Garden Club Office* at 622 14th Street. All tours take place outside in the garden.

FUNDS: Funds from the Spring Garden Tour make it possible for the Modesto Garden Club to continue its 100-year focus on urban beautification and preservation of green spaces. Proceeds support scholarships for college bound horticulture and landscape students, planting the Aileen Gallo Memorial Clock, planting flower pots in the downtown area and Gallo Center for the Arts, maintaining the Senior Citizens center garden, school and therapeutic gardens, and over a dozen additional philanthropic endeavors.

POSTER: The poster for the Modesto Garden Club Spring Garden Tour has been completed and ready for members to start posting. Help us out by taking a couple and posting around town.

DOCENTS: Docent sign-up sheets for 2-hour shifts are available at our March and April general meetings. Thirty-six Garden Club members and their friends have already signed up to act as docents! Our Docent Chair, Atlanta Jordan, can be reached at 209-522-8292.

Want to help out in a different way? We need help with tasks of all sizes! Our next team meeting is March 20th at 12:00 noon at the Garden Club Office, 622 14th Street. Plan to join us! Call/ text/ email me with questions: 209-303-0011 or Lundrigan@bigvalley.net



Over the Garden Gate

Published 10 times a year, September-June,
by the Modesto Garden Club, Inc.
President: Nancy Robinson

Newsletter Editor: Mary Ann Uyeno
Submit articles to:
newsletter@modestogardenclub.org
(deadline is 20th of the month before)
maryannuyeno@outlook.com
Advertisements, Fliers, Photos:
Mary Lou Rice (209) 484-3584;
mlour@msn.com

Website: www.modestogardenclub.org
Email: email@modestogardenclub.org
Office: 622-14th Street, Modesto, CA.
95354-2505
Ph.209 529-7360
(Open Wednesdays,
9 a.m.-noon)

February
Volunteer
of the Month
Nancy Smith



SAVE THE DATE!

Hands-on Workshop is offering another great event at:

ZINC HOUSE IN ESCALON.

Saturday, June 29 10:a.m.—1:30 p.m.
120 Van Allen Road, Escalon 95320

Pizza will be provided. Cost: \$40

Class size limited to 40 so sign up early!

Bring your own medium to large vase.

We will pick flowers from the lovely gardens
and make our own arrangements.

Sign ups available at the general meetings or
call Ginger Ratto at (209) 484-8485



622 14th Street
Modesto, CA 95354-2505



Dates to Remember

March 5 9:00 a.m.	Planters and Groomers	MGC Office 622 14th Street
March 14 10:00 am Speaker at Noon	MGC General Meeting	Trinity Presbyterian 1600 Carver Road
March 16-17 1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.	Camelia Society Flower Show	Gallo Winery Admin 600 Yosemite Blvd
March 17	Saint Patrick's Day	Wear your Green! 
March 19 9:00 a.m.	Planters and Groomers	MGC Office 622 14th Street
March 19—22 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.	Rising Sun Spring Plant Sale	2243 Welty Road, Vernalis
March 20 10:00 a.m.—Noon	Spring Garden Tour Committee Meeting	MGC Office 622 14th Street
March 28 9:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.	MGC Board Meeting	Club Office - 622 14th St.
March 30 10:00 am —5:50 p.m.	Out of Town Tour "Little Shop of Horrors"	Tickets on sale March 8 General Meeting
March 31	Easter Sunday	
April 20 10:00 a.m.—4 p.m.	MGC Spring Garden Tour	Tickets go on sale March 8th

Spring Garden Tour

BROUGHT TO YOU BY MODESTO GARDEN CLUB
BEAUTIFYING AND SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR 100 YEARS

Saturday

April 20, 2024

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tickets \$25



ENJOY SIX LOVELY AND DIVERSE GARDENS ~ NIBBLE ON DELICIOUS REFRESHMENTS

CONSIDER THE MANY DIVINE RAFFLE PRIZES

MODESTO GARDEN LOCATIONS

2517 Bridle Path Lane	1029 Mt. Verron Drive
3705 Corte Madera Avenue	301 Greenwich Lane
2504 Sunrise Avenue	622 14th Street

Tickets may be purchased in advance at the following locations

MODESTO: Westurf Nursery at 1612 Claus Road - Mary's Hallmark and The Paper Habit at McHenry Village
RIPON: Park Green House at 12813 W Ripon Road - Thompson Building Materials & Nursery at 460 S Stockton Avenue

RIVERBANK: Morris Nursery at 1837 Patterson Road

TURLOCK: The Greenery at 742 E. Olive Avenue

ONLINE: modestogardclub.org

or

AT ANY OF THE HOMES ON THE DAY OF THE TOUR



modestogardclub



venmo

