



OVER THE GARDEN GATE

Volume 2026 Issue 1

A Publication of Modesto Garden Club, Inc.

September, 2025

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October Speaker—Garrett Visk —Succulent Creations

Garrett Visk's Passion for Plants and Succulents

Plants have consistently played an important role in Garrett Visk's life, offering both beauty and inspiration. Among all varieties, succulents have emerged as Garrett's favorites. He is particularly drawn to their distinctive shapes, remarkable ability to thrive in various conditions, and their vibrant array of colors. These characteristics not only capture Garrett's attention but also fuel his enthusiasm for gardening, motivating him to further explore and nurture his passion for plants.



Creativity in Gardening

For Garrett, gardening is more than just a hobby—it is a creative outlet that allows him to express his artistic side. He enjoys combining creativity with his love for plants by planting succulents in unique and unusual vessels. This approach brings a personal flair to his gardening, making each arrangement a reflection of his imagination and style.

Collection and Expertise

Over the years, Garrett has built an impressive collection of creative succulent planters. His dedication to nurturing succulents is evident in the diverse array of vessels he uses and the thoughtful care he provides to each plant. Garrett experiments with various soil mixes, watering routines, and lighting conditions to ensure that every succulent thrives under his care. Through this journey, he has gained a wealth of knowledge about succulent care, which he looks forward to sharing with others.



Sharing Knowledge and Inspiring Others

Garrett's enthusiasm for succulents extends beyond his personal collection. He is excited to share his insights and experiences with fellow plant lovers. By offering tips, advice, and inspiration, Garrett helps others achieve success in their own gardening pursuits. Be sure to attend the Modesto Garden Club's October meeting to meet him in person and learn more about his passion for creative succulent gardening.



Late Bloomers Contest — Janis Perkins—Shara Welty



Private Home Tour—Christmas —Evie Olds Heron

You are cordially invited to attend the Christmas Home Tour on December 4, 2025.

One home will be elegantly decorated for the holiday season.

Date: December 4, 2025

Admission: \$10

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served.

Flyers containing the home's address will be available at the Modesto Garden Club meetings

October President's Message – *Nancy Robinson*

We have a lot of activities scheduled for the next few months. Be sure to check out all of the details in this newsletter. This includes our Late Bloomers contest at our October meeting. We need help in a few areas of our club. We need someone to take over the monthly newsletter. If you know Microsoft Word you are a good candidate. We also need someone to be our digital historian. This involves putting our digital photos in order. It can be done on your own time. Next April, after our Spring Garden Tour we will need someone to take over VP of Fundraising. This is an oversight position and does not require you do everything for fundraising. If you are interested you could work alongside of Lee Lundrigan to learn the ropes and find out what the position involves. She is a wealth of information. I'd like this position filled sooner than later so you can come up to speed. Dave Provost needs someone to help with the Centennial Garden. This garden is on flat ground and easy to work in. It needs weeding and replacing plants as needed. Our Therapeutic Gardening team could use some help rejuvenating this program. Please contact Carrie Loschke if you would like to be involved at our senior living facilities helping seniors keep up with their interest in gardening. Sheri always appreciates everyone who brings goodies for our refreshment table at our monthly meetings. When each of us helps or just a little we all benefit. There is a place for you to fit in. There are some errors in our yearbook that just came out. If you see errors please contact me with corrections. I'm always open to suggestions for making our club even better. Don't hesitate to reach out to me. Happy Gardening
Nancy



Introducing the newest Vice President addition to our Yearbook



Grants and Donations—Dan Yockey—Purpose

Dan Yockey Vice President of Grants and Donations
Mary Ann Uyeno Grants Consultant
Keith Uyeno and Gerry Yockey committee members

Grants

- The Mission of Grants is to seek out available grants that match with Modesto Garden Clubs goals.
- Grants come in two general areas.
- Grants that are applied for that have specific requirements must match both the donor and the garden club's proposed use of the funds provided.
- Grants that have no strict guidelines for what can be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Donations

- The committee is preparing an online donation request as well as on our website.
- The request will ask for a monthly donation of \$20 dollars and several other areas of interest where specific Donations can be made.
- This will be on social media and our website so the general public can recognize with Donations the efforts of the

Fundraising—Lee Lundrigan—*Thanks for Fabulous Fall Gathering Enjoyed by Members!*

Thank you, Brad and Nancy Hawn, for hosting this year's Fall Gathering in their lovely garden and stirring up a most delicious Sangria. We enjoyed music by local band Home Grown (Patrick Durr, Michael Lingg, Bruce Johnson) obtained for us by Steve & Linda Pedego! And three kinds of wine donated to our Garden Club by EJ Gallo Winery.

Further gratitude goes to Lydia & Scott Smith and Debby Perry of our club for providing plates, linens and napkins and Lee Lundrigan for table flatware. Appreciation for the delicious catered buffet dinner prepared by Jeanette Robinson and her team, Ashley Dunn, Jennifer Wright, Sue Murry and Bernie Durossette and Sue Hudgens.

Added recognition goes to the Fall Gathering team including Lee Lundrigan, Mary Lou Rice, Atlanta Jordan, Deanna Clark, Lydia & Scott Smith, Sharon & Bob Searls, Nancy Robinson, Maren Lundrigan, Evangelina Paoluccio, Patté Williams, Janis Perkins.

Tickets and welcome table Nancy Holmes, Kathy Stepp and Janis Ontiveroz.

Kudos to Debby Perry and the dessert team of Sharon Searls, Linda Pedego, Deanna Clark, Dan Yockey, Lee Lundrigan, Louise Nelson, Shirley Stewart, Joann Jenkinson, Suzanne Breshears, Janis Ontiveroz.

My personal special thanks to Suzanne Breshears who was not able to attend but volunteered working for hours on Saturday setting up the venue and more hours on Sunday breaking everything down to haul back to the Garden Club. We all enjoyed an evening with good friends, good food, delicious desserts, good drinks and good music. If you missed this one, plan to attend next year!

Seeking Gardens for the April 18, 2026 Spring Garden Tour Your garden is invited to join our famous Spring Garden Tour on Saturday, April 18, 2026. You are invited to contact Lee Lundrigan (209-303-0011) regarding your garden or if you know of a friend's garden to add to the tour. Gardens of ALL sizes, shapes and colors are invited to volunteer.

Art Appreciation & Open House—Dan Yockey—Member Art Show

Invitation to the Garden Club Art Appreciation and Open House

Do you paint or sculpt? Perhaps you enjoy spending your time working on needlepoint projects, or maybe photography is your true passion. You might even be a pottery designer, expressing your creativity through clay and glaze. Is your avocation jewelry making? Do you make mosaics?

No matter what form your artwork takes, we warmly invite you to display it at our upcoming Art Appreciation and Open House. The event will be held at the Garden Club Office on Saturday, October 25th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Join us to celebrate the talents of your fellow club members. Take part in a tour of our beautiful clubhouse and gardens, and enjoy a day surrounded by creativity and community.

This event is free and open to all members and their guests. We look forward to seeing you there!

Remember last year's "Art Show"?



Blue Star Memorial Dedication



September Meeting

Activities



Volunteer of the Month ---
Sheri McCoy



Raffatunity



Lavender Library



Out Of Town Tours



Fun Friends

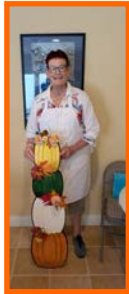


MGC
Awards



Hands On Workshop

Carla Latimer



Fall Gathering

Lee Lundrigan





Modesto Garden Club

Out of Town Tour

Sacred Heart Parish School

52nd Christmas Home Tour

Saturday, December 6th, 2025

MERRY CHRISTMAS, MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

I am excited! There are 14 weeks and 4 days until Christmas. I know it's only October, but for me, I'm already envisioning where trees, lights and centerpieces will go and saving boxes for under tree design and gift wrapping.

Today, I am very thrilled to invite you to come along with me to the Sacred Heart Parish School's 52nd CHRISTMAS HOME TOUR.

The "Fabulous Forties" (homes built during the forties) have graciously opened five homes that will be amazingly and totally decorated for the Christmas event. The homes will be decorated by both top home designers and the home owners. Even the yards are decorated for Christmas.

After an unforgetting Christmas Home Tour, we will go through their boutique and enjoy some Christmas shopping. They also offer a delicious lunch menu and desserts.

Just when you think it's time for a nap... we'll arrive at Pottery World in Rocklin. Every time I go there at Christmas, I feel like a little girl in a candy shop. The beauty of the decorated trees, lights, ornaments, nativity pieces from around the world, Christmas arrangements and the music fills the building with Christmas songs. I never know where to go first or which ornaments to choose.

So, wear your comfy shoes and get ready to enjoy a delightful day with your friends.

(Trips are Non-Refundable)

Gathering Place: Park & Ride, Vintage Faire Mall

Cost: \$80.00

Date/Time: Saturday, December 6th, 2025

Departure Time: 8:00 am

For more information, call Patte' Williams at (209) 505-3526

Name _____ Guest _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Amount Paid _____ **NO REFUNDS!!**

Make checks payable to: Modesto Garden Club

**Send to: Patte' Williams c/o Modesto Garden Club
622 14th Street, Modesto, CA 95354-2505**

Over the Garden Gate

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

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Address

Upcoming Calendar of Events

October 4 — Autumn Garden Tour
Location: Oakdale 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

October 9 – MGCI General Meeting
Location: Modesto Covenant Church
913 Floyd Avenue
Hospitality: 10:00 a.m.
Business: 11:15 – Noon
Speaker: Noon – 1:00 p.m.

October 14 — Valley Lode District Meeting
Location: Modesto Covenant Church
913 Floyd Avenue
Reservations required,— contact Nancy Robinson
Cost: \$35

October 25 – Art Show
Location: Club Office – 622 14th Street, Modesto
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Cost: *Free*

October 30 – MGCI Board Meeting
Location: Club Office – 622 14th Street, Modesto
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

November 13 – MGCI General Meeting
Location: Modesto Covenant Church
913 Floyd Avenue, Modesto
Hospitality: 10:00 a.m.
Business: 11:15 – Noon
Speaker: Noon – 1:00 p.m.

November 20 – MGCI Board Meeting
Club Office – 622 14th Street, Modesto
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

December 4 — Private Holiday Home Tour
3:00 p.m.— 7:00 p.m.
Cost: \$10

December 6 —Out of Town Tour
Sacred Heart Home Tour
Cost: \$80

December 10 — Elegant Holiday Luncheon Table Viewing
Location: Del Rio Country Club —801 Stewart Road, Modesto
1:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.
Cost: \$15

December 11 —Elegant Holiday Luncheon
Location: Del Rio Country Club — 801 Stewart Road, Modesto
Viewing: 10:30 a.m.—11:45 a.m.
Seating: 12:00 Noon
Cost: \$65

December 25—MGCI Office Closed

April 18 2026 – Spring Garden Tour