



OVER THE GARDEN GATE

Volume 2024, Issue 10

A Publication of Modesto Garden Club, Inc.

June 2024

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President's Message ~ by Nancy Robinson

We have concluded our Garden Club year with many activities. There are still activities going on, but for the most part, we can rest a bit until September.

We are looking forward to the Spring Luncheon and Table Viewing at the Del Rio Country Club on June 12 and 13. There are still tickets available! This is a not to be missed event that sells out every year. See details in this newsletter.

Another exciting event is the Modesto Independence Day Parade on Tuesday, July 4. This year's theme is Red, White, and "Bloom"! Our club has the honor of being the Grand Marshall! Janis Perkins has done a stellar job overseeing the creation of our fabulous float. I will be in the car leading the float. Come watch the parade and call out to me and wave.

The Modesto Garden Club is your club. It takes a village of volunteers to facilitate all of our activities and run our club. We are the largest garden club in California, with over 400 members. As your president, I would like to ask all members to consider volunteering time to help lighten the load of the few members who are heavily tasked. Some jobs are as simple as making phone calls or writing notes. Some jobs can be done with very little time. Every job is important! My mother used to say "many hands make light work." Please reach out to me or Janis Perkins if you can make time to dedicate your talents to helping. I value and appreciate each of you and your participation.

Happy Gardening ~ Nancy Robinson

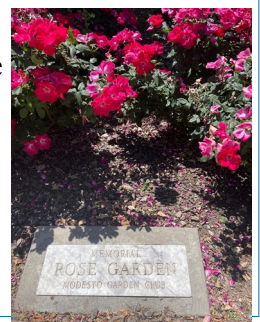


Civic Affairs ~ by Dan Yockey



On Saturday May 11 a group of determined volunteers braved the extra warm weather and planted the downtown pots. I can't say it was fun but it was a rewarding experience. The Clock is in the final stages of a complete makeover, so drive by and have a look! All of our community projects are looking especially good. Thanks to all who work so hard year-round to make it happen. Have a great summer.

Yours in Gardening ~ Dan & Gerry Yockey





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

**A MEMBER OF
 THESE
 AFFILIATIONS:**



Independence Day Parade Float ~ by Janis Perkins

Don't light those sparklers on the 4th of July before you visit the Independence Parade in Modesto! It is certain to be a bang up time with our incredible Centennial Float leading the parade.



In February, we were honored to be named the Grand Marshal of the parade. This is a great honor for the club. We hope to bring a greater awareness to the many residents of Modesto about our club and our ongoing services to the community.

As I mentioned, being the Grand Marshal, we will start at the beginning of the parade. We are the first car and float to get the parade going. The parade organizers say it starts at 9:30 a.m. sharp. So get there early. You just shouldn't miss this big event for the club.

There is a BIG THANKS I want to say to our members that have donated items. I was overwhelmed by your kindness and your generosity. Also, I cannot express my gratitude enough for those members who have worked hard making large paper flowers and donating their time to make the float.

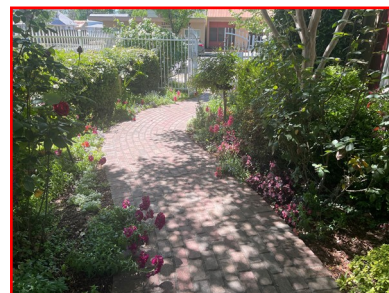
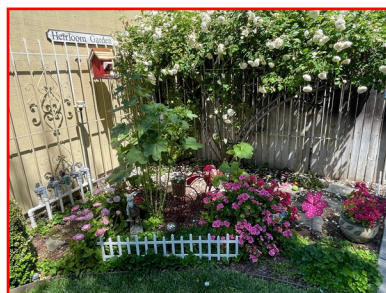
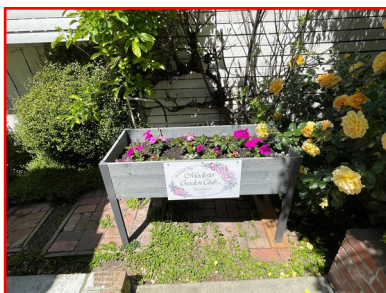
We are on track to make a beautiful and one-of-a-kind float, one that the Independence Day Parade of Modesto has never seen before! The month of June will be a very busy month and if you'd like to help, please call me on my cell phone, 562-397-5954. Thank you, ~ Janis

Planters and Groomers ~ by Gerry Yockey

Our next morning will be a very busy one. We will be planting impatiens and lobelia in the front yard. Most of the yard is now shady, so we must be selective in what we plant. A warm welcome back to Patsy Keller, one of our hard workers. Sadly, we lost our dear friend Norma Barron to cancer. She will be missed.

I want to thank all the following volunteers who make our MGC office garden so beautiful: Patsy Keller, Pat Williams, Joanne Meinhardt, Shirley Stewart, Mary Helen Alonzo, Josephine Parra, Jerry Frad, Mary McNicholas, Shirley Miller, Leah Meedom, Sharon Searls, Ronnie DeLeon, Emily Ryslinge, Suzie Ryslinge, Martha Anaya, Sue Sheridan and Dan Yockey.

It was a special treat for us when Emily and Suzie Ryslinge hosted a wonderful lunch for us at their beautiful home. Love ~ Gerry



Modesto Garden Club

Summer Luncheon



Table Viewing



Viewing Tickets \$10 At the Door

Table Viewing: Wednesday, June 12 from 1:00 to 7:00

Luncheon: Thursday, June 13, Viewing from 10:30 to 11:45

Del Rio Country Club

801 Stewart Road, Modesto, CA

**Contact Linda Pedego for Luncheon Tickets \$50
(209-523-1420)**



Membership News ~ by Janis Perkins



This is the time of year when we renew our Modesto Garden Club membership. You may do so online or at the club office on Wednesdays between 9 and noon. Be sure to update your information so it is correct in the next yearbook. For the first time in more than two decades our membership fees are increasing. The increase allows the Club to continue providing the valuable benefits of membership that we enjoy. Deadline to renew is July 31.

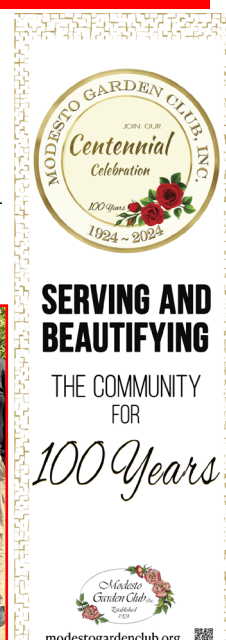
3 FOR THE PRICE OF ONE: Did you know your paid dues also include your membership in the Valley Lode District, The California Garden Clubs, Inc., and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Follow these clubs and what is happening in areas outside of our hometowns. We are proud to be part of a national organization whose ambitions we align with. Their contact info is in your yearbook.

Centennial Update ~ by Dan Yockey

I want to thank all of you who generously volunteered their time and support of our celebration. On Thursday May 16, we celebrated the unveiling of our Centennial Garden located at the Memorial Rose Garden in Roosevelt Park. This Garden is the culmination of 14 months of efforts of the Centennial Committee and numerous members. Please stop by and view this beautiful addition to the park and recognition of the Garden Club.

Next event is our float in the Independence Day parade. Plan to attend, have a bang up time with your family, and celebrate our club!

Thanks again for your support ~ Dan



Over the Garden Gate

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by the Modesto Garden Club, Inc.

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HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

is offering another great event at:

ZINC HOUSE IN ESCALON

Saturday, June 29 10:00 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.

Call Ginger Ratto at 209.484.8485

Fun-Raising News and Events ~ by Lee Lundrigan

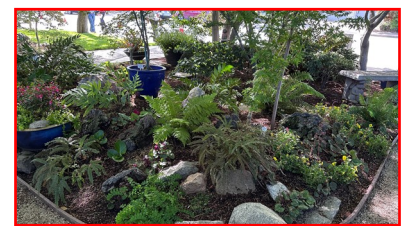
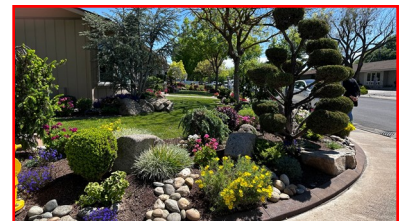
Fall Gathering - September 21st Continue to celebrate 100-years of the largest garden club in California by enjoying yourself at our Annual Fall Gathering. This year's *Fall Gathering* event is hosted by Brian and Denniz Wistow in their exquisite Modesto garden.

- ★ Date: Saturday, September 21
- ★ Time: 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- ★ Location: 1025 Magnolia Ave, Modesto
- ★ Cost: \$50 per person or \$90 per couple
- ★ Food: Specialties created by Garden Club Members
- ★ Drinks: A Signature Adult drink of the evening selected by our hostess, Wine, Tea, and Water

This event under the stars is limited to the first 100 MGC members and their friends. You are welcome to sign up to attend, and to sign up to bring one of your culinary specialties. Call or text me at 209.303.0011 or send me an email to Lundrigan@bigvalley.net.

Holiday Home Tour Mark your calendars now for this fun holiday event! We have the home of Sharon Lovalvo on Maud Kumpt Terrace, and the home of Nancy Robinson on Elliot Court, already scheduled! Four additional homes are still needed, want to make one of them yours? Plan to show off your specially decorated holiday home and call me to arrange it!

Spring Tour Wrap-up Thanks to the 700+ garden lovers who attended our Spring Tour this year. We were able to raise \$22,000 with tour sales and raffatunity tickets. Congratulations! The 39 new green aprons were a hit with the docents. We will use them for many events, A couple of aprons didn't make their way back, so if you know where any might be, could you let the office know? Many thanks!



Please Note: Next year the Spring Garden Tour will move to the second Saturday of the month, April 12, 2025. We're looking for gardens already! Check your calendars and let's make a plan.

Scholarship Award Winners ~ by Cheryl Carmichael



As the Chair of the Scholarship Committee, I am proud to present the six winners of the \$1,500 awards. These students are seniors in high school or college students from our county. They are all fine examples of advocates for the Agricultural Community, exemplify personal drive, are effective leaders and grateful for the help in funding their continuing education.

Enrique Lopez is a senior at Oakdale HS and will attend Cal Poly in the fall. As a young boy his family immigrated to the US from Mexico following a devastating downturn in their successful cattle business. Enrique started school here with no understanding of English. With the support of their parents, he and his brother overcame many obstacles to excel. His counselor described him as a go-getter and a natural leader. He serves as the President of the local chapter of FFA and has held many responsible positions there. He also works as an Ag mechanic.

Isabella Crutcher is a senior at Central Catholic HS and will attend Cal State Monterey Bay in the fall. She has participated in Ag related activities since she was young, starting with 4-H. She immediately joined the Central Catholic chapter of FFA. Holding leadership roles in 4-H and FFA, she has focused her education on Ag biology, Ag chemistry, Biology, and Sustainable Agriculture. Her career passion is Sustainable and Safe Ag Production. At age 4 she contracted E.Coli from something she ate and developed a severe infection and kidney failure, necessitating a kidney transplant when she was 5. Despite her health challenges (and maybe *because* of them) she has a relentless drive to positively influence safe and sustainable agriculture.

Lillian Agueda is a senior at Hughson HS and will attend MJC in the fall with the goal of becoming an Ag Teacher. Her drive is to provide students with broad information and direct experiences to fully educate those who follow in the footsteps of generations of farmers and ranchers. She also aims to touch the lives of students who have never had exposure to the richness of the plant and soil world. In FFA her focus was their garden club, growing flowers and plants for fair exhibits. It opened up a world of joy and learning for her. This well rounded student was awarded the Scholar Athlete Award every semester of high school.

Melanie Wolf finished her sophomore year at Fresno State studying Ag Education. Her goal is to teach high school or college Ag Sciences. She was an FFA member in high school, and continues to propagate plants for their fundraising plant sale. Her hands on approach to understanding the science and practice of plant propagation has taken her knowledge from theoretical to pragmatics. It has formed her understanding of crop production versus home gardening, soil health, and sustainability. She has the excitement and personality to effectively communicate with her future students.

Lauren Clark is a senior at Hughson HS and will attend MJC in the fall. Lauren dreams of a career in the horticultural industry, emphasizing the sustainable agriculture processes to support needs of farmers and home landscapers. Lauren has been an active FFA member who has been raised as a beekeeper to support her family's business. This essential and unique enterprise has opened up worlds of knowledge about bees and their intricate involvement in agriculture. She brings a well developed sensitivity to the interaction of all of nature to the health of the earth and our needs. Lauren was also a four-year high school Scholar Athlete.

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Scholarship Award Winners, continued ~ by Cheryl Carmichael

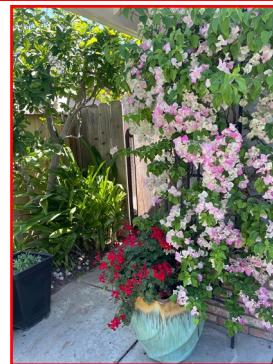
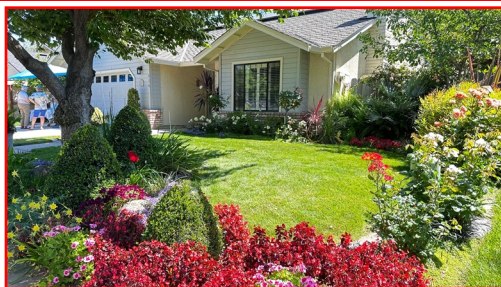
Sofia Johnson is finishing her junior year at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Her academics and work have focused on Environmental Earth and Soil Science. Her ongoing effort to understand the Earth as a living and changing planet is important work for all. This fall Sofia will spend a semester abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark, where she will spend a week living on a glacier in Iceland! She will be participating in ongoing experiments studying glaciers, climate changes and soil science. Since childhood Sofia has been plagued by OCD in the form of “picky eating”. For all of her life, gardening has proven to be the most effective intervention -

calming her anxious thoughts, increasing flexible thinking, and improving her overall health. Gardening has put her on the right track to master the constrictions in her life, challenge her anxious thoughts and behaviors, and jump on experiences like foreign studies.

Thank you for all of your varied contributions to the Modesto Garden Club as we congratulate the 2024 scholarship winners. I know they will make a tangible difference in their own lives and the lives of others!



Enjoying the Dedini's Private Home Tour



**June 4th ~ Bouquets to Arts,
DeYoung Museum- \$80.00**

7:30 am- 4:30 pm

Join us to witness a flower and stick become a piece of art! This is a place where fragrance overwhelms your senses—where your eyes dance from floral design to floral design and you're consumed with the excitement and surprises around every turn. Begin now preparing yourself for sensory overload!

There are a few seats left on the bus for this fun experience!

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



*May
Volunteer
of the Month
Roberta
Greenstreet*





622 14th Street
Modesto, CA 95354-2505



Modesto Garden Club's Dates to Remember

June 4 9:00 a.m.	Planters and Groomers	MGC Office 622 14th Street
June 4 7:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.	Out of Town Tour Bouquet to Art, DeYoung Museum	Gather at Park & Ride, Vintage Faire Mall
June 12 1:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.	Summer Table Viewing Tickets \$10 at the door	Del Rio Country Club 801 Stewart Road, Modesto
June 13 Table Viewing 10:30 a.m.—11:45 a.m.	Summer Luncheon & Table Viewing—luncheon 12:00 p.m.	Del Rio Country Club 801 Stewart Road, Modesto
June 18 9:00 a.m.	Planters and Groomers	MGC Office 622 14th Street
June 29 10:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.	Hands On Workshop	Zinc House 120 Van Allen Road, Escalon
July 4 9:30 a.m.	Modesto Independence Day Parade Red, White and “Bloom”	Grand Marshall ~ Modesto Garden Club! 
July 31	Membership Renewal deadline	Modestogardenclub.org
September 21 6:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.	Fall Gathering	Home of Brian & Denniz Wistow 1025 Magnolia, Modesto



Fall Gathering

Saturday, September 21, 2024

6 pm ~ 10 pm

Hosted By

*Dr. Brian and Denniz Wistow
in their exquisite Modesto Garden
1025 Magnolia Avenue*



LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING BY:
THE CREOLE JAZZ KINGS

FOOD: SPECIALTIES CREATED BY:
GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS

DRINKS: INCLUDING WINE;
A SIGNATURE ALCOHOLIC DRINK OF
THE EVENING, SELECTED BY OUR
HOSTESS! PLUS WATER & TEA

TICKETS ARE
\$50 PER PERSON
OR

\$90 PER COUPLE
AND LIMITED TO THE FIRST 100
MEMBERS & FRIENDS

TICKETS ARE REQUIRED AND MUST
BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE

At either
ModestoGardenClub.org
Wednesday mornings
at 622 14th Street
or the
September General Meeting

