

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

Volume 27 Issue 3

A Publication of Modesto Garden Club Inc.

November 2026

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Director Out of Town Tours

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Vice President Civic Affairs

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November
Speaker:
Adria Afferino
Winter
Gardening
See page three
for details

President's Message



I feel like this year is whizzing by. The downtown pots were replanted with beautiful new plants thanks to Dave Provost and his team. New plants were also planted at our Senior Living facilities. The tour on the USS Potomac Cruise last month was fabulous. The weather couldn't have been more perfect. Scott and Lydia did a great job filling in for Patté while she was in Europe.

We had about 12 people at the Japanese Maple Pruning Demonstration that our own

certified arborist, Andrew Carmichael, taught. Who knew "art" came in so many forms! Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Art Show in October.

Don't forget the New To You table will be at our general meeting November 12. Clean out your garage or attic for any gently used holiday items and garden items you would like to share. The tables are all spoken for with our upcoming Elegant Holiday Luncheon in December. Reach out to Linda Pedego if you would like to buy tickets for the luncheon.

This month's Hands-on Workshop will be making a Vintage Toy Truck Wreath. The Out of Town Tour to the Sacred Heart Parish School Holiday Home Tour in Sacramento will be on December 5th; see the flyer in this newsletter to sign up.

Very important: please see the new Bylaw changes in this newsletter. We will be voting on these at the General Meeting. The goal is to add a new position of President-Elect who will follow the President in anticipation of becoming President at the next term. This person will have regular duties and be mentored by the current President. Be prepared to vote at the meeting.

This strange weather has made for some interesting gardening. I was finally able to get out and do some work in my garden. It's been months and I've really missed it. I'm looking forward to our upcoming holidays and time with family.

Happy Gardening! Nancy Robinson



President-Elect and Other Bylaw Changes

In the October edition of *The Garden Gate*, it was reported that the Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors had selected Dee Godfrey to take over as President when Nancy Robinson's tenure ends. It was also reported that the membership would vote at the October General Meeting to approve both the creation of the new position of President-Elect and the selection of Ms. Godfrey to fill that position.

According to the Bylaws, the Board of Directors and the General Membership need to have a two-week notice prior to voting which had not been provided. In addition, there needed to be changes and additions to the Bylaws to accommodate this new position. A Bylaws Committee was formed to make the changes. The proposed text is in red (italicized for those receiving the print version of the newsletter) and is as follows:

Article V: Officers

Section 3. *The President Elect shall:*

- a. Prepare to assume the President's role*
- b. Assist the President with leadership and planning*
- c. Act in place of the President when the President is absent or unable to serve*
- d. Help coordinate the Board, committees, volunteers, and events*
- e. Attend and participate in meetings and help set agendas*
- f. Follow up on assigned projects to make sure tasks are completed*
- g. Support organization's goals and activities*

Section 4. The Vice Presidents shall:

- ~~a. Perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President or at the request of the President~~
- a. Oversee his/her Director's ~~Groups~~ *Groups* for Special and Standing projects
- b. Appoint Director(s) and Chairperson(s) in their area of responsibility with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Article IX: Committees

Section 4.

- a. A Bylaws Committee, chaired by the Parliamentarian, shall consist of the President, *President Elect*, the Immediate Past President and two Vice Presidents. They shall meet at a time called by the Parliamentarian for review and update of Bylaws and Standing Rules.
- b. Amendment of Bylaws: these Bylaws may be amended at any General Meeting of the Club by a two-thirds vote of the members present, providing such amendment(s) *include the exact text of the changes to be made and were submitted to the* ~~has been~~ *approved by the Board of Directors at least two weeks in advance of their board meeting, and were approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board Members present at that meeting, and were submitted to the members at least two weeks in advance of said meeting the General Meeting. (moved from Article XIII). Any Bylaw amendments must be consistent with Robert's Rules of Order.*

Continued next page

The Board of Directors voted on October 29th to approve the changes and additions. A vote of the members present at the **November 12, 2026 General Meeting** will be held to approve 1) the changes to the Bylaws and 2) the installment of Dee Godfrey as the President-Elect. All members are encouraged to attend as only those in attendance are eligible to vote.

Adria Afferino

Winter Gardening: Best Practices vs. Outdated Practices



I was raised in the heart of California's San Joaquin Valley on an almond ranch. Farming has been in my family for decades. I began growing vegetables at age 12 and quickly fell in love with gardening. Coincidentally, my parents had built a new house and began creating a landscape from scratch. I delighted in learning and experimenting with growing plants. While attending MJC I began my career at The Greenery Nursery. There I massively expanded my knowledge of plants, insects, diseases, helping customers and teaching gardening classes. I had also completed the UCCE Master Food Preserver program in 2014.

I currently work for RAM Farms helping manage everything from flowers to pumpkins to the ice rink. It thrills me

to be going back to farming. At RAM Farms I am continuing to deepen my knowledge and implement growing practices I've dreamt about.

My career so far has helped me realize my mission to educate and connect anyone who wants to grow something with solid and reliable plant information, gardening advice, food preservation advice and a little cooking inspiration. There's lots of crazy information on the internet and no consistent reliable source. I am here to change that.

Volunteer of the Month Cheryl Carmichael



THINK SPRING! SPRING GARDEN TOUR SATURDAY APRIL 17, 2027

Presented will be four (possibly five) beautiful gardens plus the Garden Club for our Club members and community to visit and enjoy the blooming flowers, creative landscaping, and the beauty of the season.

April 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



Hands-On Workshop

The next Hands-On Workshop will be on November 23rd from 9am to 12 noon at the Club office, 622 14th Street, Modesto and we'll be making Vintage Toy Truck Christmas Wreaths. The Cost is \$40 payable when you sign up and there's room for 16 people. You can sign up at the November General Meeting during Hospitality time.



November 21: Hands-On Workshop

Location: Modesto Garden Club Office

622 14th Street, Modesto

Time: 9am – 12 noon

Project: Vintage Toy Truck Christmas Wreath

Cost: \$40, 16 spots



Pictures are illustrative only, not the actual project but along the same lines.



News and Notes

The Christmas holidays are coming soon and the New to You Table will be available at the November General Meeting. If you have any gently used holiday decorations that you can live without, please bring them to the meeting. Members who are looking for some inexpensive holiday decorations please come and look at what is on our table. See you there!!

Coming Up

December 2 – Elegant Holiday Luncheon Table Viewing

December 3 – Elegant Holiday Table Viewing and Luncheon

December 5 – Out-Of-Town Tour

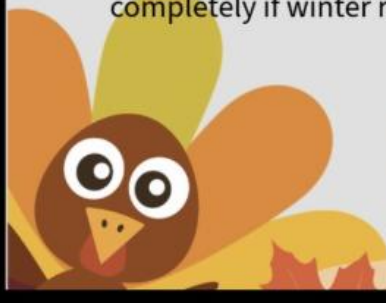
December 10 – Private Home Holiday Tour

January 25 – Hands-On Workshop: Spring Greeting Cards with Mary Ann Uyeno

November Gardening Tips Zone 9a & 9b

November — Avg: 66°F / 43°F ! EARLY FROST ALERT

- **Plant Spring Bulbs:** Bury daffodils, tulips, and crocus bulbs for an early spring show.
- **Sow Cover Crops:** Plant fava beans, vetch, or clover in empty beds to enrich soil nitrogen.
- **Divide Perennials:** Divide spring and summer blooming perennials while they go dormant.
- **Shut Off Timers:** Turn off automatic sprinklers completely if winter rains have begun.

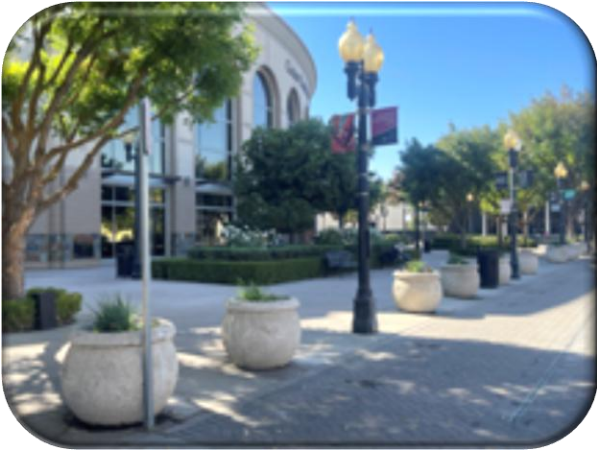


**Late Bloomers
Winner:
Suzanne
Breshears**



Downtown Pot Planting

OVER THE GARDEN GATE



Christmas Home Tour

Date: Thursday, Dec. 10th
Time: 1-5 pm
Location:
**2517 Bridle Path Lane
Modesto**

Modesto Garden Club
Established 1924

Admission \$10 at the door
Finger food & beverages provided





SACRED HEART PARISH SCHOOL HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

An annual tradition since 1973, residents of the Fabulous Forties in Sacramento have opened their homes around the holidays to benefit Sacred Heart Parish School. The tour features several houses decorated by professional designers to celebrate the season.



Keep the spirit going with a visit to our holiday boutique and café, located at Sacred Heart Parish School. Browse unique gifts from local vendors, savor treats or lunch (or champagne!) and catch live music from bands around our community to round out your festive day.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5: OUT-OF-TOWN TOUR

Location: Park-and-Ride, Vintage Fair Mall

Time: 10am

Cost: \$85 (includes chartered bus and tour ticket)
payable when registering

Questions? Contact Patté Williams-Moore (209) 505-3526

Name _____
Address _____
City, State Zip _____
Telephone _____
Email _____

OVER THE GARDEN GATE
Late Bloomers



General Meeting



Over the Garden Gate

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

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newsletter@modestogardenclub.org

(deadline is the 20th of the month prior)

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newsrequest@modestogardenclub.org

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All activities arranged for or sponsored by the Modesto Garden Club, Inc., are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate.

Modesto Garden Club, Inc., does not assume any responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participants or their property in any manner pertaining to activities.

Elegant Holiday Table Viewing

30 Inspirational Table Settings
Refreshments
Time With Friends

Wednesday December 2, 2026
Del Rio Country Club
801 Stewart Road
Modesto
\$15 at the door

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622 14th Street
Modesto CA 95354-2505

NOVEMBER EVENTS

November 3 & 17 – Planters and Groomers

Location: Club Office
622 14th Street, Modesto
Time: 9 am – 12 noon

November 10 – Multimedia Meeting

Location: Club Office
622 14th Street, Modesto
Time: 9:30 am – 11:30 am

November 12 – General Meeting

Location: Modesto Covenant Church
913 Floyd Avenue, Modesto
Hospitality: 10 am – 11:15 am
General Meeting: 11:15 am – 12 noon
Speaker: 12 noon – 1 pm
Adria Afferino, Plant Geek Inc.
Winter Gardening

November 19 – Board Meeting

Location: Club Office
622 14th Street, Modesto
Light Breakfast: 8:30 am – 9 am
Board Meeting: 9 am – 11 am

November 23 – Hands-On Workshop

Location: Club Office
622 14th Street, Modesto
Time: 9 am – 12 noon
Project: *Vintage Toy Truck Christmas Wreath*
Cost: \$40, 16 spaces

November 26 – Thanksgiving

