



OVER THE GARDEN GATE

Volume 2023, Issue 9

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May 2023

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President's Message

Hello everyone!

It seems like just yesterday that I started this journey as your President. I want everyone to know how much I have enjoyed being together with all of the members who have assisted me in all of the past years. It has been a wonderful journey, but like all journeys... it has come to an end.

I look forward to my new role as Chairman of the Centennial Committee. The Centennial Garden will be located in the Roosevelt Park, adjacent to the Rose Garden at the Virginia Corridor. Planning is underway and I will update everyone very soon.

I look forward to working with the new President, Nancy Robinson. She has a lot of new ideas for the future and is very committed to keeping our club great!

Thank you again for all of the memories.
Yours in Gardening, Dan



Teresa Sabankaya ~ May 11th Main Speaker by Bob Taylor



Teresa Sabankaya is a floral designer, floriographer, and author of *The Posy Book*. She is the owner and principal designer of Teresa Sabankaya Flowers and has been providing professional floral design services for elegant lifestyles in the Monterey and San Francisco Bay Area for over thirty years, designing florals for daily enjoyment, weddings, and other milestones. Teresa is most notably known for the creation of her modern-day posies, which are garden bouquets that tell a story in the language of flowers.

Her work has been featured in *Victoria Magazine* and *Hoffman Media Books-The Art of Flowers* and *Living with Roses*, *Country Gardens Magazine*, *Ell Magazine*, *The NY Times* and *Sunset Magazine*. Whew! She has also been a participant in many flowers shows including the prestigious *Bouquets to Art*, *DeYoung Museum*, *Golden Gate Park*, and *Monterey Museum of Art*.

Teresa lives in Bonny Doon, a special little enclave amongst the redwoods in the Santa Cruz Mountains, with her husband Nezhir and their French bulldog fur baby, Violet. She has two grown daughters that live nearby. She enjoys any time in the garden and especially loves to entertain there with her family. Attend our meeting and possibly win one of Teresa's floral designs!



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

**A MEMBER OF
 THESE
 AFFILIATIONS:**



Anne Schellman ~ May 11th Learn and Grow Speaker by Janis Perkins

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 to us about being water wise.



Planters and Groomers ~ By Gerry Yockey

April's meeting was very exciting for the Planters and Groomers. We were recognized as volunteers of the month! All of us were honored for all of our hard work at the office gardens twice a month. I hope you visited the office on the Spring Garden Tour - it looks exceptional this year! If you want to learn about gardening, (not just pulling weeds) and work with our close knit group, come join us the first and third Tuesday of the month. We welcome you!

Q & A from April ~ By Nancy Robinson

April's Learn and Grow speaker, Roxanne Campbell, took questions during her presentation. Some questions she couldn't answer at the time but we have the answers now: Q: Can all rosemary be used for cooking? A: Yes, there are many rosemary varieties. The ones with more oil are preferred. Tucson blue is a favorite. Q: How long are Hollyhock seeds viable? A: Hollyhock seeds can last up to 9 years if stored properly, i.e. kept cool and dry. Q: How long are Lupin seeds viable? A: Lupin seeds are viable for 3 years if stored properly, i.e. kept cool and dry.

MODESTO GARDEN CLUB OUT-OF-TOWN TOUR

MAY 20TH, 2023

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

ALL ABOARD! TICKETS GOING FAST

Cost: \$50.00 NO REFUNDS!!

Time: 7:30 a.m.- 7:30 p.m.

Departure Location: Amtrak Station (1700 Held Drive, Modesto)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL PATTE' WILLIAMS (209) 505-3526



****Yosemite Train**

Non Responsibility Clause: 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 these activities.

Scholarship Award Winners ~ by Judy Spencer



A big thank you to Bev Schlagel, Joanne Meinhardt and Jeanne Seeley for scoring applications this year. The applicants include outstanding female students with future education and career goals that are related to plant life. We were fortunate the two of the recipients were able to attend our April meeting! The six scholarship awards for 2023 are listed in alphabetical order.

ALAYNA AZEVEDO: This April she will receive her associate degree in Agricultural Sciences from Modesto Junior College. Next, she will go to California State University of Fresno. Alayna writes: "Growing up on the dairy was hard work, but after the day was done, I would help my mom work in the garden where we planted vegetables such as fava beans and kale to make with our traditional Portuguese soups for the winter. Through my Floral Design and Ornamental Horticulture classes, I have learned various skills such as greenhouse operation, irrigation set-up, rose care, and other essential skills involved in building and maintaining a garden, as well as more colorful well-maintained landscaping."



MICHELLE BORGES: Michelle is currently a senior at California State University Chico, majoring in agricultural science with an option in agriculture communication and leadership, with minors in agriculture business and public relations. Michelle writes: "With Agriculture Communications my goal is to help fix the many misconceptions agriculture faces. I want to help the public engage with agriculture to learn where their food is coming from. My goal is to be a liaison between consumers and producers using marketing and public relations tools, so people understand where their food comes from and develop an appreciation for agriculture."

*"Agriculture not only gives riches to a nation,
but the only riches she can call her own"
~ Samuel Johnson*

MIA BROWN: Mia is currently enrolled at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, majoring in plant science and horticulture, with a minor in floriculture. Mia says, "Ultimately, I see teaching and research as a primary role for me, after I continue my education and obtain a PhD. I have experienced this on a small level as an FFA Officer and Advanced Floral Student. I have educated elementary and middle school students in the general area of agriculture and where our food comes from. And I have taught floral workshops to adults. I have enjoyed those roles and have felt my passion for agriculture, plants and flowers come alive. I also wish to contribute in the areas of research and outreach, which I feel are crucial given society and the environmental impact it has."



SOFIA JOHNSON: Sofia is currently enrolled at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, majoring in Environmental Earth and Soil. Her goal is to work in conservation and restoration. Sofia writes: "I have taken a number of major related courses that have solidified my belief that I am exactly where I am meant to be. Soil Morphology, Resource Law Enforcement and Soil Health and Plant Nutrition are just a few of these courses that have been nothing sort of inspirational. Resource Law Enforcement specifically caught me by surprise. I had taken the course as a free elective just to have a few more units in my schedule. Little did I know how it would inspire me to pursue a career with the parks system. Whether it be State Parks or National Parks, I hope to spend my career protecting our public lands for future generations. Thus, I intend to minor in Fire Ecology and Wildfire Hazard Planning as forestry is a topic that I find interesting and extremely relevant in our state."



Continued on page 4

Civic Affairs ~ by Dan Yockey

The Flower clock is now a work in progress. The cold weather and excessive rain plus vandalism has been a real challenge. For these reasons and more, the Plaza decided to fence the building and the grounds. So what happened? The contractor building the fence ruptured the water line to the Plaza and the Flower clock! I hope we will be able to save the plants. More information next month.

The downtown pots have all been refurbished. New soil was added on April 29th by our Love Modesto volunteers. Thank you to all who helped, and we can use more of you on May 6 which is the major planting with a total change in plant type and amount. I'm looking forward to seeing how they turn out. They should look fabulous!

Yours in gardening ~ Dan

May DIY Contest ~ Floral Design or Poem ~ by Janis Perkins

TWO CONTEST

FOR THE
MONTH OF
MAY



Floral Design
and/or a
poem with a garden
theme (50 words or less)

DIY



CONTEST



April's Spring Contest Winner



1st Place Nancy Robinson displays her hand made macramé Easter basket and crocheted eggs.*

Award Winners, continued from page 3 ~ by Judy Spencer

TAYLOR MELGOSA: Taylor is currently enrolled at Modesto Junior College majoring in Agricultural Science. Taylor says: "I would like to make a statement about what being a woman in agriculture means to me. To me, being a woman in agriculture shows resilience. Being a woman in agriculture is an honor because we are just as important as a man in this industry. No matter what role you play in this industry you are significant. Agriculture needs both men and women like us to advocate. Many people do not understand where their food comes from and that is a massive issue. Farmers take risks for us to be able to have food on our tables. 1.3% of the U.S. population are farmers. This small percentage feeds the entire world. Agriculture is the backbone of America and every role big or small impacts this industry. I am honored to be a part of agriculture and this industry will always hold a special place in my heart."

MELANIE WOLF: Melanie is currently enrolled at Modesto Junior College and will attend Fresno State next year, majoring in Agricultural Science. Melanie says: "The agriculture department did a phenomenal job at promoting ag literacy in the classroom which is a topic that is near and dear to my heart. Each lesson has some type of hands-on aspect to it and trips to the school farm were common for all classes, with every student playing a role in maintaining the farm. I had a blast helping with plant propagation in the greenhouse as well as getting my hands dirty potting plants . . . These interactions prove how ag teachers have a direct influence over the future of agriculture and are quite literally shaping this industry, something that I can't wait to do. I can say with certainty that a vast majority of these students found their place in the ag industry thanks to their agricultural teachers who helped nurture their passions and showed where these passions could lead them."



*April Volunteers
of the Month
Gerry's Girls
Planters &
Groomers*



PENNEY PINES

I am excited that we are again supporting the Penny Pines project. Thanks to Nancy Robinson we were able to secure three plots in the Stanislaus Forrest. They are dedicated in memory of PENNY BINNEY, BEV OLDERSHAW, and JOYCE SMITH. They were great Modesto Garden Club supporters and truly missed.
~ Dan Yockey

Busy Bees setting up for April's general meeting



**Summer Luncheon
and
Table Viewing**



Table Viewing: June 7, 1 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Luncheon: June 8, Viewing, 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Luncheon Served, NOON
DEL RIO COUNTRY CLUB ~ 801 STEWART ROAD

Luncheon tickets are \$45 and will go fast at the General Meeting, May 11th or from any table hostess.

Viewing Tickets are \$10 at the door. Treat yourself and a friend!

Always a fun event, the Table Viewing, is YOUR chance to see the tables at your leisure and to socialize with friends with drink and snack! For more information contact Linda Pedego.



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Return Service Requested

Over the Garden Gate

*Published 10 times a year, September-June,
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Dates to Remember

May 1	FIRST DAY TO RENEW MGC MEMBERSHIP!
May 2 9:00 am	Planters and Groomers MGC Office 622 14th Street
May 5	Cinco de Mayo
May 6 9:00 am	Planting of Downtown Modesto Pots
May 11 10:00 am	MGC May General Meeting 1600 Carver Road, Modesto
May 14	Mother's Day
May 16 9:00 am	Planters and Groomers MGC Office 622 14th Street
May 20 7:30 am	Out of Town Tour Yosemite
May 25	MGC Board Meeting Club Office - 622 14th Street
May 29	Memorial Day