



OVER THE GARDEN GATE

Volume 26 Issue 3

A Publication of Modesto Garden Club, Inc.

November, 2025

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November Speaker—Michael Merritt —Floral Design

This Month is a DON'T miss meeting!

We are fortunate to have Michael Merritt, whose designs are currently showcased in the floral design studio, Twigery, that he and his wife, Cheryl, own and operate in Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Michael is a renowned master in the world of floral art. Give him a simple crystal vase, a few flowers, sticks and greenery; he will transform them into an exquisite piece of living art. His maverick vision into the field of design shows his powerhouse of artistic expression through his varied styles of design. He is a floral designer's designer, as comfortable creating wreaths, baskets and floral arrangements as he is directing the design and decorating for a party of 1,000 Washinton DC political guests!

His amazing talent is a vision to behold; he will entertain you with tales of his travel from Carmel to Modesto or the "finds" he made on the streets of Modesto. He will certainly make your day brighter and excite you with new ideas!



A few examples of Michael's work



Private Home Tour—Christmas —Evie Heron-Olds

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 meeting November 13th. We look forward to welcoming you to this special occasion.

November President's Message – *Nancy Robinson*

This is an exciting month. We now have a new member who is going to be doing the Newsletter. Dee Godfrey, a very new member, has volunteered to fill this position. Thank you so much Dee for stepping up. Also, we now have a new couple taking over the New-To-You Table. See the article in this newsletter for more information. Thank you, Allison and Werner, for taking on this special project. I'm so excited about this new support for our club.

We had a fabulous Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication Ceremony. Thank you to all who were able to attend. You should see the marker, which is located at 700 Tioga Drive, Hanger 1-S on the south side. Modesto Garden Club, Inc. purchased this marker for the Commemorative Air Force Central CA Valley Squadron. The Beyer High School JROTC presented the colors, my daughter sang the national anthem in her Navy uniform and Dr. Samuel White-Ephraim Veteran's Foundation Director led the Invocation and Benediction. We had dignitaries from City Council, Board of Supervisors and representatives from several other elected officials in attendance. Paula Elias spoke on behalf of the Valley Lode District and Maria Krenek, CGCI Blue Star Chairman, came from Eureka for the ceremony and spoke on behalf of the CGCI President and Pacific Region Director.



I also want to thank my committee for carrying out all of the details for the Valley Lode District meeting last month. It's a joy to work with so many fabulous capable members. I was so grateful and blessed.

Happy Gardening, Nancy Robinson

New-To-You Table – Allison and Werner Kaiser

Remember your Trash may be my Treasure! Don't forget to drop off your 'Treasures.'

The fall New-To-You table will feature plant related items, plant sharing, yard art and gently used holiday items you no longer need. Members and guests may bring their items to the November 13th meeting by 9:00.

Seeking Gardens for the April 18, 2026 Spring Garden Tour — Lee Lundrigan

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.

Hands on Workshop—Carla Latimer—"Old Fashioned Candy Christmas Tree"



November's Hands on Workshop

Monday, November 17th

At the MGC Office 622 14th Street

9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

\$30.00 for all supplies needed to design your 12" high

"Old Fashioned Candy Christmas Tree!"

Make it for a friend, a party, or use it as a table centerpiece and share it with all your loved ones for the holidays!

There will be coffee, tea, water and some yummy snacks to enjoy while you build your tree!

Come join us for an easy, crafty, fun and creative morning!

Call Carla Latimer at 209-324-3549 to sign up or make sure you sign up at our November meeting!

2025/2926 Yearbook Birthday's August Corrections

(Sorry for the error...July Birthdays were mistakenly listed instead of August Birthdays.)

1	Barbara Padmos	11	Carlyn Costa	21	Bernie Durossette
	Cheryl Smith	12	Helen Wick	26	Judy Flodman
	Mona Santos	16	Carol Paxia	27	Brian Wistow
	Roberta Greenstreet		Mikki Montez		Dorothy Lareau
2	Carol McRoberts		Patricia Elston		Karri Hawkins
	Sandy Clark	17	Jerry Ornelas	28	Carrie Loschke
4	Linda Lovaas		Mary Ann Uyeno		Debbie Jackson
5	Elaine Broersma	18	Garrett Vick		Kay Grynbaum
	Pixie Kinser	20	Joanne Pedroni		Margaret Hodge
6	Sarah Hartmann		Michele Wright		Teresa Seifert
8	Barbara Page		Vicky David	29	Beatriz Friedman

MGCI General Meeting & Valley Lode District Meeting- hosted by MGCI



Over the Garden Gate

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

President: Nancy Robinson

Newsletter Editor: Mary Lou Rice

Submit articles to: newsletter@modestogardenclub.org (deadline is 15th of the month before)

Contributing Writers:

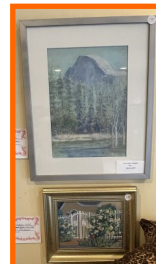
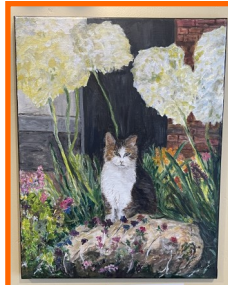
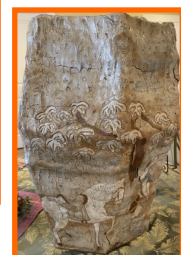
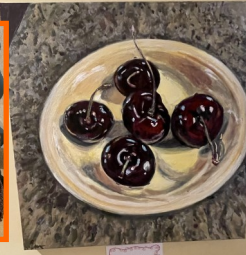
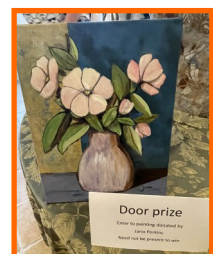
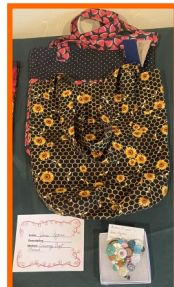
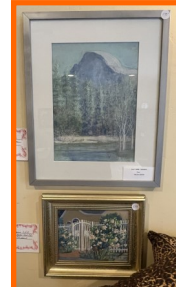
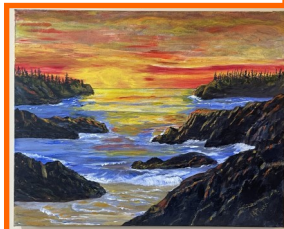
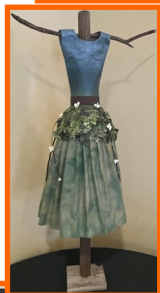
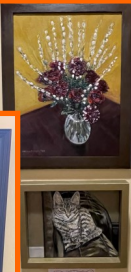
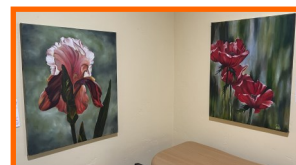
Carla Latimer, Lee Lundrigan, Evie Heron-Olds, Mary Lou Rice, Nancy Robinson, Patté Williams

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ART SHOW



Out of Town Tours –Patté Williams



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 unforgettable 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



622 14th Street
Modesto, CA 95354-2505

Address

Upcoming Calendar of Events

November 8 – Downtown Pot Planting

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 17 – Hands on Workshop – Candy Christmas Tree
Club Office – 622 14th Street, Modesto
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Cost: \$30 (you must have a reservation)

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: \$85

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

January 8 – 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.

April 18 2026 – Spring Garden Tour