



March 2023

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Is it the luck of the Irish?

It's a sad fact — garden clubs across the country are losing members, or even closing. We wish this wasn't happening, but sure n' begorra we don't have this problem! Instead, we are a vibrant club, gaining members and growing stronger. You might call it the luck of the Irish, but we don't think so!

We think it's happening due to the quality of our leaders. The amazing members who have stepped forward and taken on leadership roles. The Ways & Means leaders who work very hard with our fund-raisers — the Plant Sale, the Holiday Bazaar & Tea, and the Garden Marketplace.

These events not only provide a financial base for our club but adds fun and enjoyment throughout the year. Our Membership leaders do an amazing job helping us gain new members, and our Program leaders ensure that we have an entertaining program at every meeting.

And we have many more! Add to this group the leaders with Hospitality, Petal Pushers, Socials in the Garden, Field Trips, the Newsletter, Email communications, the Website, Community Service, and Philanthropy— quite an impressive group of people all working hard to make our Club a success.

Many thanks to all of you who support our leaders. The members who open their homes and gardens for events, the members who make wonderful designs for our sales, those who bring baked goods, floral arrangements, items for the workshops and the Garden Marketplace, the people who work and shop at our fundraisers, and the many members who faithfully come to meetings. All these pieces fit together in a truly remarkable way! So... it's not the luck of the Irish, but our terrific leaders and members!

In appreciation of our leaders and members, we'd like to close with an Irish toast . . .

**"For each petal on the shamrock this brings a wish your way . . . Good health, good luck, and happiness for today and every day."**

Jill West & Kay Anderson, Co-Presidents

Point Loma Garden Club is affiliated with Pacific Region of National Gardens, Inc. and California Garden Clubs, Inc., Palomar District

# WAYS AND MEANS

Hi members! FYI, thanks to all of you; we had a very successful Garden Marketplace (Back Table) on February 8th! We earned well over \$400. for our club and our philanthropic endeavors! Let's do it again on March 8th!

## PLGC ANNUAL PLANT SALE: Saturday, APRIL 1st

Preparations are in motion; helpers and volunteers are in action! We had one, good workshop on Feb.13th. What can you do next to pitch in and catch up with your colleagues and friends??? (You ask, here are some ideas...)

You can donate six-packs of plants (tomatoes, vegetables, herbs, flowers, etc.) to drop off at Hanna's home, if you cannot attend a workshop. (See workshop dates below). Attend any or all workshops. Create baked goods to sell at the Plant Sale, remember to have them individually wrapped. We will need one-gallon containers, if you have any that are in good shape and clean, please donate them. Especially lovely terra cotta containers, or painted containers. We can also use donated plumerias, tillandsias, rooted succulents, or rooted non-succulents, as well as any garden related items that are in good shape.

### WORKSHOPS:

Feb. 13: Succulents at Susan's; **DONE AND SUCCESSFUL: ITEMS RESTING THERE!**

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FEB. 28: Non-succulents/6-packs at Hanna's; 10:00am-12:30  
Mar. 6: Succulents Dish Designs at Susan's: 10:00am-12:30  
Mar. 28: Plants Trimming and Pricing at Hanna: 10:00am-12:00  
Mar. 29: Succulents' Pricing at Susan's: 10:00am 12:00

Workshops are either at Susan Nance' home: 3534 Wilcox St.  
or at Hanna Richardson's: 3564 Hugo St. Remember, when attending a workshop, bring your gardening gloves, a trowel, and a water bottle. Signup sheets will be at the March 8 general meeting, or you can sign up online, or by emailing Dan Dennison or Melinda Medina.

Dan Dennison, Melinda Medina & Lauren Azevedo-Grondona  
Ways and Means committee

The floral presentation at the February meeting



## CONNECT 4

Are you up for a game? We are sort of "up a creek" with our Plant Sale coming up April 1st and no publicity chairperson. SO. . . we are hoping our members will connect with four (or more!) people and spread the word -- friends, neighbors, relatives, and acquaintances, and tell them about our Plant Sale. Fun is guaranteed! They'll find plants, flowers, vegetables, tillandsias, staghorn ferns, succulent gardens, amazing arrangements, and unique garden and gift items.

The coffee is free, and baked goods are a bargain - \$1 per pkg! Cards will be passed at the March meeting. Please take one, write your name at the top and the first name of four people you have talked with, bring it to the April 12th meeting, and put it in the container. There will be a "special drawing" for one lucky winner! (and if you don't have the card, a piece of paper is fine . . .)

## PETAL PUSHERS

NOT SUCH AN ORDINARY DAY FOR PETAL PUSHERS, VALENTINE'S, FEBRUARY 14, 2023

Actually Petals preparation for the Valentine's at the Meals on Wheels location in Old Town started the day before, on Monday. Kay and her husband Dan met Emy at Trader Joe's in Liberty Station on Monday afternoon to pick up the generously donated flowers. They also purchased some additional posies. From there they went onward to Meal on Wheels in Old Town to prepare the flowers and set them up for Tuesday's big day.

At first, we were told to be at Meals for "tv coverage" at 10:30 on Tuesday. Then plans changed and Emy was asked if they could be there by 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday. Emy, Dan and Kay arrived bright and early about 7:15. Then the fun began. Fox channel 5 arrived and their charming anchor woman, Elizabeth, did two almost back-to-back segments featuring the wonderful contributions of Meals on Wheels to their recipients and us. Meals fortunate recipients received not only their meals but loaded goodies bag and Valentine cards hand made by elementary school children, plus "flowers!" What a haul!

Brent Wakefield, President and CEO of Meals, was very gracious in acknowledging the contribution from the garden club as well as their volunteers. And would you believe, Trader Joe's donated even more flowers on Tuesday, a comparable amount to those they had and maybe more. They had so many flowers to work with. Linda Staton and Kathi Reid also came to help, and they believe that both KUSI and Channel 8 were filming.

They ended up with about 30 bouquets plus loose flower contributions for distribution. Quite a day's work. The ladies from Petal Pushers were pleased with the recognition, as well as Trader Joe's, and of course, Meals on Wheels.

Kay Philips- Petal Pushers

# Membership

Welcome to our newest members! They will be introduced at the March Meeting.



## **Rick Spear**

rspear0502@gmail.com  
619-549-5520  
Street Address  
3037 28th Street  
San Diego 92104

Rick says: "I have always loved plants and flowers. My college aptitude test suggested I study to become an ornamental horticulturist. However, I took a different path and recently retired from my 37 Year IT career at Costco Wholesale. I most recently studied Floral Design at Cuyamaca College. I enjoy participating in floral design competitions. I am a member of Palomar Design Forum and Flower Arrangers Guild." Rick's committee interests are Community Service, Outings and Petal Pushers.

## **Cherie Abrahms**

gcabrahms@gmail.com  
760-801-6875  
3319 Canon Street  
San Diego 92106

Cherie says: "I graduated from USD with an Art major; my background is in design, retail management, education and community volunteering. My husband, Greg, and I have 3 sons in their 20's, we often visit them in Portland, Seattle, and Chicago. In 2019 we decided to downsize our empty nest and move to Point Loma, trading in three quarters of an acre of flat rocky soil for a steep clay slope. I enjoy landscape design, pruning and shaping, and would love to take a class in Niwaki. Greg and I fill our newly tiered slope with natives but also enjoy growing plumeria, camellia, and bearded iris." Cherie's committee interests are Community Service, Ways and Means, Publicity/Publications and Petal Pushers.

## **Debbie Westbrook**

dgwestbrook@att.net  
619-546-6966  
1420 Grove St  
San Diego 92102

Debbie says: "I'm a resident of South Park and was introduced to PLGC by my wonderful friend & former neighbor, Rebecca Long. I also belong to Mission Hills Garden Club and have an informal group of friends who love to garden, visit gardens, and sit in the garden with a glass of wine. I am retired & loving it! My interests include gardening (of course), crafting (doing simple mosaics now) and lunching/socializing with friends. Love to visit gardens and I'm currently planning a trip with friends to Lotusland. I also have a 20-year-old daughter who just moved from home to Tucson. I'm missing her and the house is too quiet sometimes. I'm so proud of her!" Debbie's committee interests are Hospitality and Ways and Means.

### **Membership Fun Fact of the Month:**

We just added the ability to order replacement membership badges on the website! Just go to <https://plgc.org/page-18114>. OR go on the website and click Members>Order a replacement badge. Have your credit card handy.

### **We're STILL looking for Mentor Members!**



We are looking for volunteers to mentor new members for a few months, and guide them through their first few activities, such as:

- ✓ Calling a new member to encourage them to come to our next meetings and/or activities
- ✓ Introducing them to a few people
- ✓ Walking them back to visit the back table, the sign-up tables, etc.
- ✓ Explaining our Membership raffle (a ticket for wearing your name badge and one for bringing your own coffee mug)

This should be a fun way to meet new people and contribute to the Club without a major time commitment. If you are interested in contributing in this way, please contact either of us. Thanks!

Gail Trimble [trimble.gail@gmail.com](mailto:trimble.gail@gmail.com), 619-823-1011

Janet Nees [ajnees@gmail.com](mailto:ajnees@gmail.com), 619-929-7770

Membership Co-Chairs



The ladies of Petal Pushers getting ready for Valentine's Day.

## Volunteers Needed in Balboa Park

Forever Balboa Park is currently recruiting individuals to give tours of our public gardens. We are looking for people with strong backgrounds in flower knowledge and would be comfortable leading tours. We will offer training for leading tours. We will try to be flexible with your preferred gardens and your time preference. For further information contact Tom McLaughlin, visitor services tour specialist, at 619-331-1114 or [tom@balboapark.org](mailto:tom@balboapark.org).

### **MARCH MEETING** **Wednesday, March 8** **Portuguese Hall** **9:30a.m.-noon**

**9:30-10 a.m.** Light brunch, Buffet Floral Design – Laurie Roeder

**Hospitality-** Lorenda Lucero, Leanna Luna, Gaye Macy, Jean Massard, Barbara Martin, Jennifer McReynolds, Jeanne Mikus, Reggie Morin, Toni Munsell, Sharon Novak, Judy Pack, Lina Pei, Bob Pels, Susan Pettit, Kay Phillips, Erin Powell

#### **10 A.M. – General Meeting**

**5 Minute Presentation:** Cindy Sparks Bruecks -Tips for gardeners as they age.

#### **Program: Organic Gardening – Fausto Palafox**

Mission Hills Nursery and staff work with plants at the nursery using organic soils and fertilizers along with organic insecticides when needed. They understand the added bonus of using organics as they are better for the soil and environment; bird and bees around the nursery appreciate this as well. When it comes to home gardening the majority of staff does some vegetable and edible gardening, even those living in apartments with just container gardens.

*Lecture*



## POINT LOMA LIBRARY FLORAL DISPLAYS

Many thanks to our members who volunteered to provide flowers for February: Julie Hasl, Ken Fernandes, Kay Anderson and Karen Worthington!

Date	Volunteer
March 4	Volunteer needed.
March 11	Volunteer needed.
March 18	Volunteer needed.
March 25	Volunteer needed.

Thank you to all our volunteers. The floral arrangements are so much appreciated and add a lovely touch to the Pt Loma Library.

To provide flowers, please contact me by email - [btcondor@yahoo.com](mailto:btcondor@yahoo.com)

### Social In the Garden

Rebecca Long's Gardens  
4555 Del Monte Ave, 92107  
Tuesday, April 4

Join us for the first Social in the Garden this year. This is a magical garden filled with whimsy. There are a number of steps in the front yard leading up to the home, this could be challenging for anyone with physical limitations.

Rebecca is on a cul du sac with limited parking, so carpooling is highly recommended. Since we are expecting a lot of members, we are asking that you commit to which session you will attend. Each session will be limited to 30 people.

**Session 1 2-3:30 p.m.**      **Session 2 4:30-6 p.m.**

Registration to this event will be by email or phone call to me Bev Bruff at [bevbruff@yahoo.com](mailto:bevbruff@yahoo.com) or 858 268 8088 only. At the time of registration, you will be given a number. No walk-ins will be allowed.

We would appreciate you bringing your favorite finger food/snack.

Bev Bruff- Social in the Garden

## HORTICULTURAL TABLE

Hopefully everyone got at least one of Jim's kisses or candy hearts at the Horticultural Table during our February meeting. That corner table is the place where YOU can display a special flower, fruit or plant from your garden so that the rest of the club members can admire it. We can even help you identify it.

At our February meeting, Jan Thoresen brought in a blooming Amaryllis bulb dipped in red wax, Karen Worthington displayed her Hellebore "Ice and Roses" Bianco with white and green bicolored flowers, Shyla Crowson showed off her large Camellia flower in a hummingbird vase and also Alex Ritchey brought in a Camellia flower. Natalie Crain wowed us with her Valentine appropriate Hoy plant that had heart-shaped leaves. Finally, Jim brought in a unique Corkscrew Rush plant (*Juncus effusus spiralis*) that had green spiraled branches with no leaves.

St. Patrick's Day is in March so we will have a green deco theme. If you stop by the Horticultural Table, you may even get lucky and find a green pot filled with gold coins that you can't spend but could eat. There could even be a shamrock filled with treats. For the last two meetings, members have brought in Camellias. Perhaps some more may also grace the Table this time. Who has a tulip, daffodil or fern to show?

Jim Tullar- Horticultural Table



The Horticultural Table



Jim Tullar



## FIELD TRIPS

Petals of Madrigal  
Wednesday, March 29  
8580 Chevy Chase Dr.  
La Mesa, CA 91941  
Tour begins at 10AM

Join us as we tour a private garden in La Mesa. This quote is taken from the website: “Madrigal is the private estate of Ellen Arcadi, RH, MPH, an artist, and creative thinker who dreamed Madrigal into reality. Ellen will help you discover the artist within by forging new pathways to Spirit and a reconnection to the Earth. Through her journey, inspirations, and life forces she followed her spirit and connected with the essence of this land to develop a better understanding of the Purpose of Becoming All You Can Become.”

“As you walk the Gardens of Madrigal, you will feel the magical energies that flow through its pathways and special places. On this walking meditation you will discover the many flowers, trees, animals and pieces of inspired art that call this place home.”

Some important things to note:

This is a property with multiple homes. Please respect the privacy of those tenants.

1. The driveway we will be walking down to enter the garden is very steep.
2. We will meet as a whole group at the “Sculpture Tree” at 10AM (See picture below)
3. Parking is on a residential street. The homes/garden are on a corner. Drive around the corner and past the driveway to park. There are curbs and sidewalks there. It is also quite hilly!
4. Carpooling is **STRONGLY** recommended.
5. Check out the website gallery to see pictures of the garden. It’s special!

We will meet for lunch (of course) after the tour. The Brigantine in La Mesa serves lunch, so that’s a possibility. There’s ample parking. If anyone has suggestions for other places, let Sherry Hebert know.

Sherry Hebert-Field Trips



## March Calendar

- Mar. 1, Wed.- Board Meeting- home of Gail Trimble
- Mar. 6, Fri. – Workshop, succulent dish designs at Susan’s
- Mar. 7 Tues. - Field Trip to Blue Sky Ecological Preserve  
rescheduled
- Mar. 8, Wed. – General Meeting: Portuguese Hall  
9:30 light brunch  
10:00 am General Meeting
- Mar. 28, Mon. - Workshop, plant trimming and clean up at  
Hanna’s
- Mar. 29, Wed. – Workshop- succulent clean up at Susan’s.
- Mar. 29 Wed. - Field trip- Petals of Madrigal
- April 1 Sat. - Plant Sale- Portuguese Hall

Maureen McGrath  
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