



Official Publication of
Palomar District

Member of
California Garden Clubs,
Inc. (CGCI)
Pacific Region Garden
Clubs, Inc.
National Garden Clubs,
Inc. (NGC)

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"Cultivate Change through Nurturing Nature"

From the Director's Garden...

Dear Palomar District Garden Club Friends,

As we step into a fresh new year, I'm filled with gratitude for the dedication and creativity each of you brings to our garden clubs. Winter may be a season of rest in the garden, but for us, it's the quiet moment before a wonderfully busy bloom of activity.

April and May are just around the corner, and our most active months. Flower shows, garden tours, and plant sales will be in full swing, and our clubs will be showcasing the very best of horticulture, design, and community spirit. Whether it's clerking, staging, hospitality, horticulture entries, or simply offering guidance to newer members, your involvement makes a tremendous difference

Looking Ahead: CGCI State Convention – May 2026

Palomar District is honored that the California Garden Clubs, Inc. State Convention will be hosted here in San Diego this May. This is an opportunity to highlight our district's strength, creativity, and teamwork. Many roles will need to be filled—from workshops and registration to hospitality and décor—and your participation will help make this event truly memorable.

As soon as spring events wind down, preparations begin for the San Diego County Fair. June will bring another wave of excitement as we support exhibits, judging schedules, and horticulture displays. Your experience and enthusiasm are invaluable as we help present gardening excellence to the wider community.

Thank you for your continued commitment to excellence and support of our garden clubs. Together, we nurture the next generation of gardeners, designers, and leaders.

Warmest wishes for a joyful New Year and a flourishing 2026.

Diana

Director, Palomar District





CGCI Official Calendar

CGCI Official Calendar -
California Garden Club
(californiagardenclubs.com)

February 16, 2026
Palomar District Winter Meeting
Bernardo Gardeners

February 10 & 13, 2026
Flower Show Procedures
2:00 -3:00 PM via Zoom

Feb 19-21, 2026
Flower Show School #3
Escondido, Ca Sponsor: SWJC

April 18-19, 2026
Coronado Flower Show

May 2, 2026
Dos Valles Garden Club
Flower Show

May 2-3 2026
Vista Garden Club Flower Show

May 4-6, 2026
National Garden Clubs, Inc
Convention, STL, MO

May 9, 2026
Poway Valley Garden Club
Flower Show

CGCI Convention
Handlery Hotel , San Diego
May 11-14, 2026

June 16, 2026
Palomar District
Summer Meeting
Descanso Garden Club

June 10 to July 5, 2026
San Diego Fair

Palomar District Winter Meeting

www.californiagardenclubs.com/palomardistrict

Monday, February 16, 2026

Hosted by Bernardo Gardeners

Make your reservations soon!

See page 3 for details..

GARDEN CLUB EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Our 3rd Annual Fundraiser for Local Beautification Projects, Scholarships and Community Service

Friday February 14th - 9:30-3:00
In front of US Bank
7807 Girard Avenue

Paradise Hills Native Garden Committee have completed the fencing, patio in the center of the garden, new center paths, and spreading wildflower seeds this winter.



Paradise Hills Native Garden volunteers will be participating with Cal-





Palomar District Winter Membership Meeting

Palomar District **WINTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING HOSTED BY BERNARDO GARDENERS**

at Rancho Bernardo Swim and Tennis Club
16955 Bernardo Oaks Dr. San Diego 92128

FUN * RAFFLES * PRIZES * TREASURED JEWELRY SALE* **BRING CASH**

Program: "What's The Buzz "Presented by Donna Payton

Monday February 16, 2026 • 9:30 Social/10:00 General Mtg

Checks payable to Bernardo Gardeners with names of attendees-one check per club

RSVP with payment by Feb 6, to Judy Fizzard

PO Box 5010 PMB 123, Rancho Santa Fe Ca

Additional Parking at Rancho Bernardo Community Church at 17010 Pomerado Rd.

Names of attendees:



Club Corner Spotlights

Spot light your club activities...send pictures to **Diana Drummey at drummedge@att.net** for the next Palomar Pruner...

Dos Valles Garden Club - Follow
December 5 at 10:40 AM · 📍

Club members making wreaths. Some will be on sale at the poinsettia and plant sale tomorrow.
Photos by Lori Kilmer



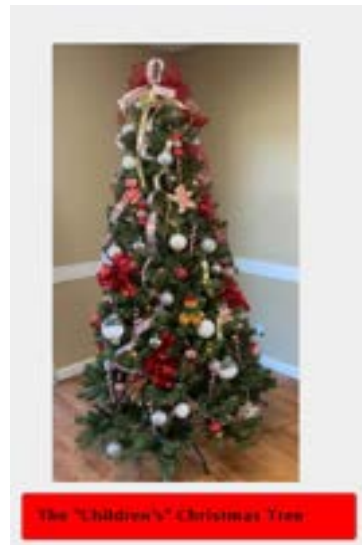
Paradise Gardeners visiting Farmer Roy Wilburn's

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB

&



www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org



Bernardo
Gardeners
Club
Deck the
Halls,
December 5,
2025

At the
Rancho
Bernardo
Swim and
Tennis Club.

December's General Meeting was a resounding success. Our guest speaker, Diana Drummey delivered a presentation on "Delightful Holiday Floral Designs" that was both del... [See more](#)



Mission Hills Garden Club
Nov 2025
Fall Pot Luck and Ikebana
Workshop w/ Chris Jones





**Fallbrook Garden Club
Celebrating 95 Years
1931-2026**

Beginnings:

On March 26, 1931, the Fallbrook Garden Club was established to promote the study of plant life, encourage best practices in plant cultivation, and foster the exchange of plants and gardening knowledge. Founded by Mrs. Mable Richardson, who served as the club's first president, the organization began with fourteen members. FGC became one of the 23 charter members of the California Federation of Garden Clubs (now named California Garden Clubs, Inc. - CGCI). As of December 2025, of the original 23 charter members, five clubs remain active: Chino Horticultural Society, Fallbrook Garden Club, San Pedro Garden Club, Southern California Garden Club, and Vista Garden Club. During the depression the club struggled through difficult times but survived with a firm foundation and a sense of dedication, which has been maintained throughout the years.

Membership:

In 1952 membership had grown to 68; by 1981 it was up to 123. In 2011, membership was around 200, and it has remained between 200 - 250.

Dues:

At the time of its founding in 1931, membership dues were set at five cents per meeting. By the club's 50th anniversary in 1981, annual dues had increased to \$7. In 2005, dues were adjusted to \$30 for individual members and \$50 for couples or families, rates that remain in effect today.

Community Beautification and Support:

Over the years, the club has contributed to many organizations and causes in the community: from decorating community Christmas trees, planting window boxes on civic buildings, decorating servicemen's graves, providing bouquets for school graduates, planting wildflower seeds, and providing landscaping for the Fallbrook Hospital, Fallbrook High School, VFW Post 1924, and Fallbrook Senior Center. It has provided the hospital at Camp Pendleton with flowers, provided Christmas wreaths for the Fallbrook Hospital and Convalescent Hospital; flower arrangements for the public library, celebrated Arbor Day each year by planting tree, and started a Junior Gardeners program in the elementary schools. The Club's many projects have evolved over time but remain centered on local needs as well as support for State and National programs.

Fundraising:

Before 1981, the FGC held an Annual Fall Plant and Baked Goods Sale. Today, the Garden Tours and plant sales provide funds for scholarships, community projects and club activities. The first scholarship of \$50 was awarded in the 1940's to students at Fallbrook High School and has continued over the years. \$1,000 scholarships are now awarded.

Anniversaries and Awards: - On March 26, 1981, exactly fifty years after the date of its founding, the club celebrated its Golden Anniversary. -The club held its 51st Annual Standard Flower Show in 1982. - Four members have served as Palomar District Director - Joe Goble, Opal Maletta, Barbara Stevens and Jane McKee. Eight members have been named Palomar District "member of the year" and several members have served as other District and State officers or Committee Chairmen. -The first "Member of the Year" was honored in 1985 and in 1994, a Blue Star By-way Marker was installed and dedicated in the Village Square. -1998 study groups were started in specific areas of horticulture. - In 2006, the website was launched and FGC celebrated its 75th anniversary. -2007 a Garden Tour was added to the list of projects and has become a major fundraiser. -On the club's 80th anniversary in 2011, club activities included: Fallbrook Botanical Gardens at Live Oak Park, Arbor Day ceremonies, Memorial Day bouquets, Junior Gar-



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-On the club's 80th anniversary in 2011, club activities included: Fallbrook Botanical Gardens at Live Oak Park, Arbor Day ceremonies, Memorial Day bouquets, Junior Gardeners, Penny Pines Project, Petals for Patriots, garden therapy, gardening and craft workshops, and continued scholarships for Fallbrook High School graduates, as well as the Annual Flower Show and Garden Tour.

-Joined Facebook

Today:

-The Fallbrook Garden Club meets ten times a year and puts out a monthly newsletter, "The Garden Chirp." Its programs feature the latest developments in horticulture and observations of home gardening and bird watching to the membership.

-The Club flower is the Geranium (Pelargonium x hortorum); Club colors are coral and green; Club logo is a Singing Goldfinch on a marigold (Tagetes); Club motto is "Flowers, like friends, should be nurtured and cherished"; and the Club theme is "Gardening is Fun."

-The newsletter, "The Garden Chirp" is available to members via our website or e-mail.

The club will commemorate its 95th anniversary with a celebratory birthday program at its March 31 general meeting. The event will feature a presentation on the club's history and our community.

As we look to the future, we continue to be committed to member education, civic beautification and the conservation of natural resources. *Submitted by Marci Eisenstadt & Gretchen Bonifield*

La Jolla, Calif. -- San Diegans will have the chance to observe one of America's masters of floral artistry and design, Lewis Miller, when the **Village Garden Club of La Jolla** presents **Meet the Masters** at the Fairmont Grand Del Mar on **March 12, 2026**. As the founder of Lewis Miller Design, he crafts signature floral events for Tiffany, Chanel, The Metropolitan Museum of Art and many marquee names in entertainment and business. Miller is the genius behind Flower Flash, the pop-up floral installations in public spaces – from trash cans to Rockefeller Center – that have brought joy and beauty to New Yorkers for the past decade.

Tickets are \$200 and include a luncheon plus live floral demonstrations showcasing Miller's celebrated talents. All his floral arrangements will be auctioned off with proceeds benefiting the Garden Club's service projects including Schoolyard Garden Grants and Bouquet of Thanks for Veterans. More info: www.vgclj.com

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FRANCIE MURPHY mobile: +1.858.922.0079 email: francie@franciemurphy.com



Save the Date: 2026 Community Garden Leaders Day



COMMUNITY GARDEN LEADERS DAY

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Saturday
February 28, 2026
8am - 4pm

TLC Community Garden -Tierrasanta, San Diego
11240 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.

Pre-Register here:

bit.ly/3Xj0gxa



**Saturday February 28,
2026**

TLC Community Garden,
Tierrasanta

Who Should Attend?

Current and Future
Community Garden Leaders

Why Attend?

- Network with Counterparts
County-wide
- Hear from Key Topic
Experts
- Share Best Practices



California Pollinator Collaborative

[California Pollinator Collaborative](https://www.capollinatorcollaborative.org/) is a group of people and organizations concerned by the decline of California native pollinators and their habitat.

The goal is to establish a California Pollinator License Plate program by replicating the Whale-Tail License Plate Program that provides millions in grants annually. Having a license plate program for pollinators would direct funds for the protection and restoration of habitat for all native pollinators, enabling more community action and supporting the work of many non-profit organizations involved in the native pollinator protection effort.

Please share this information with your respective affiliations. Here's the website: <https://www.capollinatorcollaborative.org/>.



Local travel or housing information

Nearest airport: San Diego International
Hotels near Chalice UU Congregation
2324 Miller Street, Escondido, CA 92029

Local Hotels: Escondido area:

*Soseta ES Suites, San Diego, Rancho
Bernardo (2.6 mi)

*Comfort Inn Express
1250 West Valley Parkway
Escondido, CA 92029

*Springhill Suites, Marriott
200 La Terraza Blvd
Escondido, CA 92025

*For more information do a search for hotels
within 5 miles of Chalice UU Congregation

COURSE 3 STUDY SUBJECTS

For a complete outline of Course 3 see Page 126
of the Handbook, revised 2017 edition with 7/25
updates. Another resource is gardensclub.org in
the Flower Show School information.

Zoom - Flower Show Procedure: Carol
English will teach FSP on 2/13/26 at 2:00 pm.
The optional Zoom training will be on 2/10/26
at 2:00 pm. Please make sure you are available
at 2:00 pm on 2/13/26. We will send you all the
information necessary for the Zoom meeting. It
is suggested that you arrive a bit early to chat
with other students. This is a required portion of
the class. It will only be offered once and is
covered in the registration fee. The test will be
administered on Saturday along with the Design
and Horticulture written tests.

IMPORTANT FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL INFORMATION

Any interested person may attend Flower Show
School full or part time. Those wishing to
become Flower Show Judges must attend all
sessions and must complete the test on Saturday.
For accreditation, a student needs to be a
member of a local NGC Garden Club.

*Note: For full credit, students must be seated by
8:15 am on 2/19/26 and 2/20/26 and be present
for the Zoom instruction of Flower Show
Procedure. All students must attend the
Saturday session to complete the necessary
written tests.*

STUDY MATERIAL

All written study material will be emailed by
January 15, 2026 to fully registered students. If a
student is unable to print the study material,
these documents can be mailed for a charge of
\$15.00.

*Study materials and Handbook for Flower
Shows, 2017 updated version 2025 must be
brought to the class and will be used as
reference.*

For further information go to the National
Garden Club website: gardensclub.org.

Flower Show School, Course 3 is Sponsored
by: Southwestern Judges Council, California
Garden Clubs, Inc., National Garden Clubs, Inc.,
Chalice Universalist Congregation.

NGC FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL Course 3 Revised 1/1/26



February 19-21, 2026
Zoom presentation - 2/13/26
Chalice UU Congregation
2324 Miller Ave., Escondido, CA 92029

CGCI PRESIDENT
Adele Kelly

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL CO-CHAIRS

Emily Troxell
14766 High Valley Rd. Poway, CA 92064
etroxell035@gmail.com
Linda Hermecz
15727 Davis Cup Ln., Ramona, CA 92065
lhermecz@gmail.com

REGISTRARS

Laura Crenshaw
819 First St. Coronado, CA 92118
Kathryn Keitzer
734 G. Ave. Coronado, CA 92118

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Zoom: Flower Show Procedure

February 10, 2026- Zoom setup, 2 pm
February 13, 2026- Instruction / test, 2 pm

Thursday, February 19, 2026

8:15 Seated by
8:15-8:30 Daily information
8:30-10:30 Horticulture
10:30-10:45 Break
10:45-12:15 Horticulture
12:15-12:45 Lunch
12:45-2:15 Horticulture
Practice Point Scoring
2:15-2:30 Break
2:30-4:30 Horticulture: Point
scoring

Friday, February 20, 2026

8:15 Seated by
8:15-8:30 Daily information
8:30-10:30 Design
10:30-10:45 Break
10:45-12:15 Design
12:15-12:45 Lunch
12:45-2:15 Design:
Practice Point Scoring
2:15-2:30 Break
2:30-4:30 Design: Point scoring

Saturday, February 21, 2026

9:00-12:00 Test

Instructors

Design: Claudia Bates
Claudia is a Design Instructor for NGC Flower
Show Schools, Symposiums and is a NGC
Master Flower Show Judge. She is past
president of the Florida Federation of Garden
Clubs, Inc. She has been a long time member of
Gainesville Garden Club and a member of the
Creative Arts Garden Club. Claudia feels that
belonging to NGC sponsored organizations has
increased her knowledge in horticulture, and
creating of floral designs as well as developing
leadership and parliamentary procedure skills.

Horticulture: Danielle Barbazon
Danielle, a Pennsylvania farm girl, earned a
PhD in Chemistry and received tenure before
deciding that raising two children was more
important. The world of garden clubs presented
itself and 25 years later, she became President of
the National Capital Area Garden Club. Her
husband supports their backyard gardening as
they experiment with vegetables, shrubs and
perennials. Danielle loves to travel and looks
forward to inspiring others to appreciate the
wonders of Horticulture through Flower Show
School.

Flower Show Procedure: Carol English
Carol is a NGC Accredited Master Judge and
FSP Zoom instructor. She is currently serving
on the NGC Flower Show Committee as the
Schedule Writing Chair. Carol holds a MS in
Art Education from Pratt Institute. She has
exhibited at DFAA Philadelphia Fine Arts
Museum, the Montclair Art Museum and the
Philadelphia Flower Show. She has been
Flower Show School Chair, District Director and
is a member of the Schuylerville Garden Club.
Carol now resides in New York with her
husband and two Labrador Retrievers.

REGISTRATION

NAME _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip code _____
Phone _____ Cell _____
Email _____

Registration Information

Fee - per person- full course \$180.00
Includes lunch for 2/19 & 20
Zoom Flower Show Procedure
2/13/26
One day fee- Design or Horticulture \$90.00
Postage for student study material. \$15.00
(If unable to print)
Registration after 2/2/26 \$195.00
Total Submitted: _____

Please list dietary requirements _____

Make checks payable to SWJC
Mail to:
Laura Crenshaw
819 First St. Coronado, CA 92118
or
Kathryn Keitzer
734 G Ave. Coronado, CA 92118



2025-2026

THE
FLORAL
DESIGN
FORUM

33rd Anniversary Season
The Floral Design Forum

When: 1st Monday,

October thru May 12:00 NOON

Where: **Poway Community Library, 13137 Poway Road, Poway, CA 92064**

February 2, 2026 Welcome back **Deborah Warringer**, Master teacher of Ichiyo of Ikebana. Enjoy her skill and take notes for garden club designs

March 2, 2026 Barbara Weiler, Master Flower Show Judge and an incredible designer but also a fantastic HORTICULTURIST/Watch what she brings to the table.

April 6, 2026 "FLOWER POWER" Our most popular Program. Watch as 4 local college student designers race against the clock to complete a Surprise Package design from materials, containers and theme. Then, like a 3-ring circus, they show a "signature design," a "round robin" and then a "wrap up" design.

May 4, 2026 – The "Grand Finale" Everyone knows **Monica Lewis**, hostess, NGC FS Judge With her Creative Designs she answers: **What has Music Got to do with IT.**

Start time Noon: Please Arrive by 11:30 a.m. to help set up.

NEW LOCATION:FOR THE SEASON!
POWAY COMMUNITY LIBRARY
13137 POWAY ROAD,
POWAY, CA 92064

District Director: Diana Drummey
Co-Chairman:
Lynne Batchelor Lynneccgi@aol.com
George Speer 760-212-6339
palomardesignforum@gmail.com
Hostesses: Monica Lewis and Peg McCay
Treasurer: Sharon Lowry
Set-up & Clean-up: open
Official Photographer: Don Davidson
Water Bottle table: open
Payments: cash, check and credit card