



The Palomar Pruner

January 2026

www.californiagardenclubs.com/palomardistrict



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 \(californiagardenclubs.com\)](http://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

Cal-

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



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

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



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



Paradise Gardeners visiting Farmer Roy Wilburn's

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB &

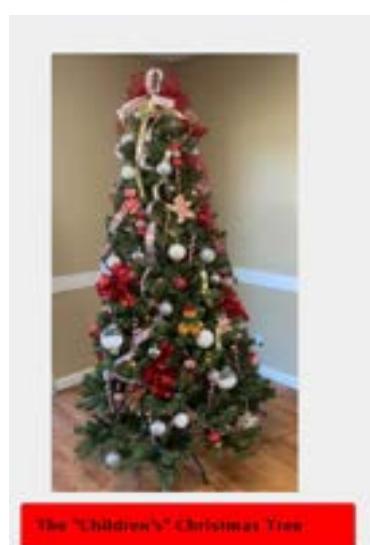


www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org

December's General Meeting was a resounding success. Our guest speaker, Diana Drummond, 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**



The "Children's" Christmas Tree

**Bernardo
Gardeners
Club
Deck the
Halls,
December 5,
2025**

**At the
Rancho
Bernardo
Swim and
Tennis Club.**





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

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

Save the Date: 2026 Community Garden Leaders Day



[California Pollinator Collaborative](#) 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/>.

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

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:

- *Sosesta 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 gardenclub.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.

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**

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: gardenclub.org.

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

Instructors
Design: Claudia Bates

Claudia is a Design Instructor for NGC Flower Show Schools, Symposia 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.

**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 Trosell

14766 High Valley Rd. Poway, CA 92064
etroxell035@gmail.com

Linda Hermeccz

15727 Davis Cup Ln., Ramona, CA 92065
lhermeccz@gmail.com

REGISTRARS

Laura Crenshaw

819 First St. Coronado, CA 92118

Kathryn Keitzer

734 G Ave. Coronado, CA 92118

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

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

District Director: Diana Drummeay
Co-Chairman:
Lynne Bachelor 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

**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.**