



# THE SEQUOIA



EUREKA SEQUOIA GARDEN CLUB MONTHLY NEWS

A CGCI &amp; NGCI AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: KAREN BURGESSER

Traditionally, December is a time for year-end celebrating, taking time to relax, sharing, enjoying family and friends and making plans for the coming year. As gardeners in the Northern Hemisphere, our gardens have been planned, planted, weeded, watered, enjoyed, shared, harvested and put to bed for the winter.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!** Spring 2024 will be here before we know it!

## DECEMBER 15 ESGC PROGRAM

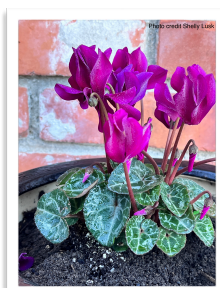
- Traveling this time of the year can be challenging, however ESGC members will dust off their passports and prepare to travel as we did last year in December. Our destination is the famous Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew in London, England! **Did I mention it will be a virtual trip?** ESGC member Jen Catsos traveled to London earlier this fall and will be sharing photos of her visit to this fabulous and amazing garden. "The Kew is a botanic garden in southwest London that houses the "largest and most diverse botanical and mycological collections in the world". Founded in 1840, today the 330 acres of grounds at Kew Gardens includes more than 50,000 different plants in its living collection and over 7 million preserved specimens. The library contains over 130,000 volumes and illustrations of plant based knowledge! ~KB

- Shirley Lipa and Karen Burgesser will host our December meeting potluck luncheon. Thank you to everyone who already signed-up to bring a dish. If you were unable to sign up at the last meeting, but will be at December meeting please bring either a salad or sandwich filling or a dessert to share at the potluck. ~Janet Biasca
- And finally, we are combining my two favorite things: plant sale and white elephant gift exchange. Bring a plant or garden item for the gift exchange, you know how this works! ~SL

## INSPIRATION

"In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy." *William Blake*

## HORTICULTURE NOTES: GEORGINA PACE CYCLAMEN



There are two main cyclamen species - *Cyclamen hederifolium* and *Cyclamen coum*. They are among the most commonly grown garden species. The genus is native to the Mediterranean Basin, stretching from Spain, southern France, Italy, Turkey and Israel to northern Africa. Cyclamen is the national flower of Israel.

Cyclamen are members of the family *Primulaceae*.

In the wild, cyclamen grow in the leaf litter understory of trees and shrubs and in rocky crevices, competing successfully with tree roots for water. They will take some direct sun but are not tolerant of wind as they are adapted to the protective shelter of trees, shrubs, and large rocks. In their native habitat, some wild populations of cyclamen have been severely depleted by over collection of tubers for commercial trade, rendering many species endangered.

The fruit of a cyclamen is a five-chambered capsule about one-half inch in diameter, containing 5-40 sticky, sugar-coated seeds. When the seeds are ripe, the fruit splits open and ants, attracted by the sugar, carry off the seeds which may eventually sprout and become a tuber.

*Cyclamen persicum* are used primarily as indoor, winter-blooming potted plants cultivated for their attractive flowers. Victorian women prized cyclamen for their winter flowers and used them as a Christmas decoration. Cyclamen were not widely popular in America until after World War II.

Resources: Various Websites including Pacific Horticulture, North Carolina Extension Gardener, Oxford University-Dept. of Plant Science, and Plant Delight Nursery article by Dennis Carey and Tony Avent.

#### IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

- At the November meeting our VP, Winifred Creamer, coordinated a great program featuring: Ourselves! Members gathered to learn from each other about coastal winter growing conditions and the tips, (or realities) of what might, or might not work. Members enjoyed learning from each other as they socialized, and the program was enthusiastically voted back in the Spring. SL



Photo credit Tony Gonsalves

- Thank you to Simone Taylor and Elsie Rose for hosting our November meeting. The table arrangements were beautiful with the autumn colors of yellow flowers mixed with lemons and mandarin oranges and tan maple leaves against a background of greenery highlighted by flickering candles. ~JB

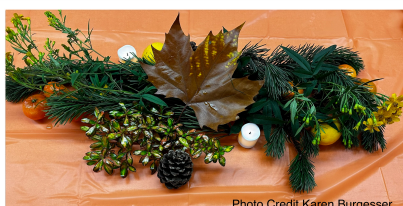


Photo Credit Karen Burgess



#### HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

Elsie Rose-15, Edeen Birkholz-16,  
Anne Van Zandt-19.

#### THE CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

- 12/01. Ferndale Open House
- 12/02. Tuba Christmas, Eureka Gazebo at 1pm, McKinleyville Shopping Center at 3pm.
- 12/01-03. Humboldt Craft Fair, Redwood Acres
- 12/03. All Seasons Orchestra at Eureka Woman's Club, 2pm-free.
- 12/03. Ferndale Christmas Tree Lighting
- 12/09. Eureka Truckers' Christmas Parade
- 12/09-10. Holiday Craft Market, Arcata Comm Cen
- 12/10. All Seasons Orchestra, Fortuna Riverlodge, 4:30 pm
- 12/13. Fortuna Garden Club Tea and Tour
- 12/15. ESGC monthly meeting
- 12/16. Sequoia Park Ivy Pull
- 12/17. Ferndale Lighted Tractor Parade
- 12/25. Christmas Day
- 12/31. New Year's Eve

#### EUREKA SEQUOIA GARDEN CLUB, INC.

Organized 1967, Incorporated 1977

A CGCI Blue Ribbon Club

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Meets monthly, 3rd Friday

Agricultural Center 5630 S. Broadway, Eureka

Annual Dues \$25 Individual, \$35 Family

#### 2023-2025 ESGC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President-Karen Burgess Secretary-Maria Krenak

VP-Winifred Creamer, Treasurer-Carolyn Chamberlin

Director-Wendy Robertson Director-Cindy Humphry

Past Pres-Maria Krenak Parliamentarian-Chuck Goodwin

#### NATIONAL, REGION, STATE, & DISTRICT OFFICERS

National Garden Clubs, Inc. President -Brenda Moore; Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Director-Carol Norquist; CA Garden Clubs, Inc. President-Carol Vallens; Humboldt District CGCI, Director-Karen Hall

**A proud member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.;  
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