

THE SEEDLING

MARCH/APRIL 2024

APRIL GENERAL MEETING, APRIL 10.

“FENG SHUI PRINCIPLES FOR THE BETTERMENT OF YOUR GARDEN”

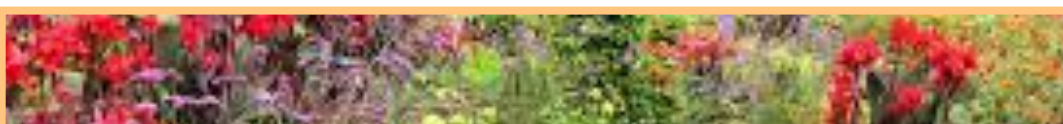
SUSAN FEFFERMAN

As the founder of Harmonious Surroundings, a San Diego based company specializing in Feng Shui & Interior Design, my goal is to not only bring balance to my clients lives but to educate them as to the importance of Feng Shui in their environments.

My educational background is in Business Management with a secondary degree in Interior Design and Master Certifications in Western School & Classical Feng Shui. My professional experience includes managing/operating an accounting firm for 20+ years, prior to starting my own practice. I am a “Perpetual Student” always looking to expand my personal growth and development. Through continuing education & training it allows me to bring all that is possible to my clients. I have strong organizational and project management skills, pay attention to budget and detail and am environmentally aware. (I also love animals!).

I’ve trained as an instructor of the International Feng Shui School and also traveled to China in 2013 on a FS Immersion Program. I am a Red Ribbon Professional Member of the Internat’l Feng Shui Guild as well as a longtime member of NKBA (National Kitchen & Bath Assn) and currently serving on our local chapters board as Secy/Treasurer

Susan Fefferman Harmonious Surroundings



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUES ARE DUE.

Membership dues are now **\$40** per a vote at the March 13, 2024 meeting.

Make your check payable to Bonita Valley Garden Club, and mail to:

BVGC - Treasurer

PO Box 16

Bonita, CA 91908-0016

Alternatively, you may drop your check off at the home of Glennalie Coleman in an envelope taped to the front door.



BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB LOGO GETS A FRESH NEW LOOK

By Camille L. Skiff

According to industry experts, the key to a great logo design is simplicity, memorability, versatility, scalability and color. So, when it was determined that the 2nd iteration of the club logo (the butterfly and sun) adopted in the late 90's didn't meet club's need, the BVGC Communication Committee went to work. As a result, we are excited to introduce a new logo that incorporates the key design criteria while capturing the club's long held identity.

Multiple design concepts were presented to the BVGC Board and which ultimately settled on a simple and easily recognizable circular design with the Rockrose and Lemon Tree (the club's official flower and tree). Given the club's artistic leaning the committee decided to use graphics drawn by a club member rather than purchase the graphics online. As luck would have it, Jackie Riekstins had previously done a sketch of a rockrose and offered it to the committee. With minor modifications it was perfect for the logo. On a roll, she also drew the lemon branch. Bravo to Jackie for drawing these graphics so beautifully in the short time allotted.

In the coming weeks and months, you will begin to see this new logo in use on signs, letterhead, promotional information and products, etc. The club's first logo created by A.M. Clark in 1972 will remain the club emblem as displayed on the front cover of the annual club Yearbook.

The Board and the Communications Committee are thrilled to present this new logo and we hope you will find it a simple yet beautiful and memorable representation of our amazing club.



BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The scholarship program is one of our garden club annual objectives, and was established to help students from Southwestern College and Cuyamaca College achieve their educational goals and potentially enter the horticulture industry.

Our scholarship award is \$4,000.00 annually. Scholarships are awarded in the Fall and Spring semester at Southwestern College. In the fall 2023-2024 school year, the recipient was Alejandro Elizalda, a Landscape Architecture, A.S. major, in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Here is an excerpt from his essay:

"I am a first generation immigrant student who is passionate about using my degree to grow different types of plants that can be used for medical benefits and teach people how to be self sustaining with plant growing. I hope to grow my knowledge and learn new skills in environmental horticulture to grow pepper plants and study how capsaicin can be used as a medical supplement but in a tasty way like in salsas."

This Spring, we are looking forward to awarding three more scholarships to horticulture students of Southwestern College and Cuyamaca College.

By: Bea Putian

March Program

Jackie Riekstins gave a very enlightening and informative talk about, glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup..



For Earth Day 2024 on April 22nd, EARTHDAY.ORG is unwavering in our commitment to end plastics for the sake of human and planetary health, demanding a 60% reduction in the production of ALL plastics by 2040



Sustainability

Saving the Planet-Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Good Housekeeping and Better Homes & Gardens are both excellent resources for current products and best practices. Their experts test, follow established criteria, and award the best products annually. (Spring magazine issues will present the winners for 2024.)

'OLD fashion' Ideas may be the most sustainable and best practice.

Do you have **jars** that contained home made jam, relish, lemon curd, etc? Your friend would be happy to have you return that container to them. Or you can repurpose them with your own produce.

Do you have **other items** that you no longer use? Think about who would value them. Then, pass the on to that friend, family member, or the BVGC sale.

How about those **old towels?**

Repurpose dingy linens by cutting them into small rags for cleaning. Donate any extras to an animal shelter.

Are you using 'zero plastic & no waste **Laundry Detergents?**

Make the switch to laundry sheet products! They also sell sheets for floor cleaning. That means we can eliminate more plastics from entering our homes.

BONITA MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER

Saturday, April 6
2pm - 4pm

Johnny Reinhard will perform several microtonal music selections in the museum.

Johnny, recently moved from NY to CA and is celebrating 45 years of microtonal music performance. The concert is free for museum members and students.



Student Exhibitions

During the month of April we celebrate our student artists in the main museum gallery. Join us for a public reception on **Friday, April 12 from 4pm to 6pm** as we recognize our students and their teachers.

Also this month, find the award-winning photography from the *Sweetwater Authority High School Photo Competition*. Color and Black & White photography explores how we use water in the region. The public reception is **Thursday, April 25th, 4pm - 6pm**



Sheeeeeeep to Shawl Back to Back Wool Challenge



San Diego County Spinners are back for the International Back to Back Wool Challenge on **Sat. April 27, all day**. The team will be shearing, carding, spinning, and knitting a sweater before your eyes!

This year besides a sheep, find a llama, yarn and food vendors.

Pat Hansen. Loving memories of a wonderful friend.



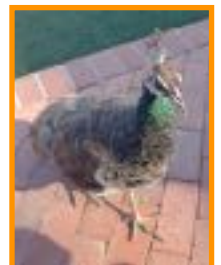
A Bloomers breakfast at The Galley

I received word today that our wonderful friend, Pat Hanson, passed away peacefully & without pain on April 2nd. That woman had spunk! And lucky for us she joined BVGC. She was a very active member of the garden club. Pat's Board meetings were legendary as were the many other gatherings held in her home & garden. That property, complete with chickens, goats & the infamous peacock, was also featured in what was back in the day, our annual garden tour. And it was no surprise that this gracious & generous hostess was on the hospitality committee.

Pat also helped spearhead the project to successfully add our club sign to the other prestigious organization logos on the wooden "Welcome to Bonita" sign posted on Bonita Road. And she was an original member of another Civic Beautification group active today. The Bloomers still do trash pick up on weekly walks of The Stephanie Rossi Trail.

With hearts full of gratitude for touching our lives , wish this free spirit a sweet farewell.

Deb Pfau





Stephanie Rossi Trail

How Bonita Valley Garden Club keeps the trail beautiful. On the first, second and third Thursday of the month our members walk the Stephanie Rossi Trail and keep the area beautiful. They meet at the Bonnie Brae Center(close to the post office) at 8.30am. In the summer the start time will be 8am. On the fourth Thursday there is a Rose Garden clean up at St Johns, starting at 9am. The Charlie Brown Tree on the Stephanie Rossi Trail has been decorated for Christmas. The tree is at the Morrison Pond trailhead. Take a walk on one of our beautiful days, take advantage of a nicely kept trail and visit the tree.

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Bonita Valley Garden Club Spring Bazaar

Saturday, April 20, 2024
9am-3pm

Bonita-Sunnyside Museum Patio & Courtyard
4355 Bonita Road, Bonita

- Something for Everyone
- Special Gifts for Mother's Day!
- Fabulous Jewelry
- Vintage & Current Clothing(all ages)
- Beautiful Shoes, Purses & Scarves
- Household Goods
- Home Decor & Furniture
- Garden Items & More

All sales benefit the Horticulture Scholarship Programs at Southwestern College and Cuyamaca College.

Bonita Valley Garden Club Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, May 11
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Bonita Museum & Cultural Center patio
and courtyard next to the library.
4355 Bonita Rd., Bonita, CA 91902

Check out our varied selection of sun and shade plants, including perennials, herbs, vegetables, wildflowers, natives, cacti and succulents.

Most of the plants are priced between \$2 and \$10. And some gifts and specimens are also at reasonable cost.

Proceeds help fund Bonita Valley GC's scholarships for students in horticultural programs at Cuyamaca and Southwestern Colleges.



Cookbooks, \$12 and aprons, \$20, for sale. See Bea.





Jackie Metcalf
1876 Cabernet Drive,
Chula Vista, Ca 91913
619-987-8511
SanDiegoHouses@cox.net

Catalina Aguilar
2765 54th St,
San Diego Ca 92105
619-867-9844
cataguila@yahoo.com

Lori Starr
2020 Waterbury,
Chula Vista Ca 91913
619-482-0006
llstarr@cox.net

2024 Local Flower Shows

April 13, 2024
Poway Valley Garden Club

April 20 & 21, 2024
Coronado Garden Club

May 5, 2024
Vista Garden Club

May 11, 2024
Temecula Garden Club

SUNSHINE LADY
If you know someone who needs cheering up, please let Susan Rierson know and she will send a card.
619-672-0253.

2024 Local Garden Tours and Sales

May 4.
Bernardo Gardeners Club
Spring Garden Tour
\$30, 10am - 3.30pm

May 4
Ramona Garden Club..
Plant and Craft Sale
Ramona Oaks Park

Ramona Garden Club
Plant & Craft Sale
10 am - 3 pm
Ramona Oaks Park
25341 Pappas Rd, Ramona, CA

Garden Tour
10 am - 3 pm
9 Beautiful Gardens
Tickets: \$25

MAY 4, 2024

Coast redwoods—*Sequoia sempervirens*—are the majestic guardians of California's most precious habitats and wildlife. With your support, Sempervirens Fund protects and preserves redwood forests in the Santa Cruz mountains, ensuring a healthy and resilient balance of nature, now and always.
BVGC is now collecting for this wonderful organization. Donations collected on the hospitality table.

February 14, 2024 BVGC Annual Tea, Hat Parade & Membership Drive
Hats off to Valentines Day!







Bonita Valley Garden Club 2023-2024 Board, Special Chairs, & Contact Information

ELECTED OFFICERS

President: Leslie Schroeder; BonitaValleyGardenClub@gmail.com

First Vice President (Programs): Jackie Riekstins & Ronni Russell

Second Vice President (Membership): Bea Putian; BVGCmembership@gmail.com

Membership Application: <https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/BonitaVGC-New-Mbr-App-rev-03-23-fillable.pdf>

Recording Secretary: Beverly Calderon; bonitavalleygcinfo@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lisa Mercier, 626-773-6411; BonitaValleyGCTreasurer@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary: Susan Rierson

APPOINTED OFFICER – Parliamentarian: Laura Crenshaw & Carvill Veech

STANDING CHAIRS

Arbor Day/Conservation: Camile Skiff

Awards: TBD

Civic Beautification: Cheryl Hughes-Slezak

Floral Design: Kathy Taylor

Horticulture: Jackie Riekstins

Hospitality: Susan Currie & Cheryl Hughes-Slezak

Newsletter: Susan Currie

Publicity: TBD

Scholarships: Bea Putian

Ways & Means: Susan Heavilin & Sonia Wilson

Website: Sandy Brownell

Yearbook: Susan Heavilin

Youth Garden: Joanne Westover

Special Committee Chairs (non-Board positions)

Blooming Art in Bonita: Susan Currie & Lisa Mercier

December Nights: Cheryl Hughes-Slezak & Pauline Waters

Annual Tea: Lisa Mercier & Leslie Schroder; **Emcee & Parade Chair:** Sandra Graff

Field Trips: Leslie Schroeder

Summer Party August 2023: Glennalie Coleman, Kathy Taylor, & Sonia Wilson (host)

REGULAR MEETINGS:

When: Second Wednesday of every month September through June.
December, February, and June are special events requiring reservations.

Where: St. John's Episcopal Church – Nale Parish Hall, 760 First Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91910

Time: Arrive as early as 9:30 for social time and beverage service. Meeting begins promptly at 10:00.

Club Mailing Address:

Bonita Valley Garden Club
PO Box 16, Bonita, CA 91908-0016

email: bonitavalleygcinfo@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/BonitaValleyGardenClub/>