



Beyond the Garden Gate Elk Grove Garden Club

2023 Winner of the Mayor's Volunteer Award

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Tenley Willock, Editor

Mary Adams-Wiley, Assistant Editor

Monthly Meeting February 8 at the Gil Albani Recreation Center, 8830 Sharkey Ave, Elk Grove. A complimentary brunch is served at 10 am and the meeting is at 10:30.

Note that the deadline to sign up for the District Meeting is Monday, February 5. See bottom of page 2 for details

"February is the border between winter and spring" – Terri Guillemets*

Message from the Co-Presidents

Maureen Slocum and Mary Anne Strohmaier

As we step into the second month of the year, February brings with it the subtle whispers of impending spring, promising new life and growth in our gardens. It's a time when the Earth begins to awaken, and our gardens eagerly await our tender care.

In the spirit of February, let us come together to celebrate the unique beauty that this transitional month brings to our hearts and gardens. Although it is still winter, signs of renewal are starting to emerge. It's the perfect time to plan and dream, to envision the splendid blooms and bountiful harvests that await us in the coming seasons.

Join us for our February meeting on February 8, where we will delve into water-efficient plants. Our speakers, Vivian Sellers and Jan Fetler, will share invaluable insights to inspire us on our gardening journey.

Wishing you a February filled with blooming possibilities and gardening joys!

**Terri Guillemets is the pen name of quotation anthologist Terri A. Woodhull (b. 1973) from Phoenix, Arizona. Since childhood she has spent most of her free time reading books, journaling, and collecting quotations. In 1998 her hobbies gained a worldwide audience when she created The Quote Garden website, www.quote garden.com. This large, unique compilation is one of the most long-standing online quotation collections and the first to feature a wide variety of special occasion topics. With a particular interest in antique books, her specialty is reviving abandoned literature from previous centuries.*

February's Birthdays

Olinda Cortez 2/2, Ana Weekley 2/4

Karmen Loftis 2/15, Scott Nicholas 2/21

February Birth Month Flowers: Violet and Primrose

Violets and Primroses are the February birth month flowers. These purple-hued blooms are a symbol of modesty, faithfulness, and virtue. In the Victorian era, gift of Violets or Primroses was a declaration of love. Violets are also known for their medicinal properties and were once used to treat several different ailments.

Gardening Activities for February

Plant artichokes, onion sets, peas, spinach, and Swiss chard.

Plant bare-root roses and fruit trees, deciduous shrubs and vines.

Feed deciduous fruit and citrus trees.

Plant Table – Maria Schiffler

During the monthly meeting there will be a table for plants and other garden-related items for members and guests to take for free. This is a fun and economical way to take a plant home to learn how to grow it or add to your garden collection. You don't have to bring an item to get an item; we trust that you will donate when you can.

Plants can include potted plants and starts, clippings, seeds, and bulbs/corms/tubers. Related items can include gardening books, magazines, tools, pots, etc. Bring these items with you to the meeting and put them on the table designated as the Plant Table. Questions? Contact Maria Schiffler, sapphireherbalboutique@gmail.com.

Don't Forget

As usual the photos from the last meeting have been posted on Facebook. If you need a little help signing up for the EGGC Facebook page, or have questions, contact Maria Schiffler.

Upcoming Events For Our Club and the District

Sacramento River Valley District Meeting will be **Tuesday, February 13** at the Shepard Garden Center from 10 am to noon. **Important; Please contact Maureen Slocum by Monday, February 5 if you plan to attend.** That is before our scheduled meeting on February 8. The names of attendees are always needed a week before the scheduled meeting. We also need someone to sell raffle tickets at the meeting. Mary Anne Strohmaier and Maureen Slocum have put together a beautiful basket for the raffle.

CCSD Propagation Class by Vivian Sellers for the community as well as our club will be held in the Poppy Room at the **Wackford Center**, 9014 Bruceville Road, from **10 am to 12 pm on Saturday, April 13**. The cost through CSD is \$25.

UC Davis Botanical Conservatory Field Trip organized by Chris Duane, is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 24 at 11 am**. Tour is led by Maureen Simon; cost is \$11 per person with a minimum group fee of \$99.

EGGC Plant and Garden Crafts Sale — Nancy Baldwin and Vivian Sellers

February Update from Nancy Baldwin

Planning for the April 6 sale is well underway. There will be opportunities for everyone to help, particularly as we get closer to the sale itself. If you are growing plants or making crafts, we are asking that they be delivered to Vivian's house April 2-4 (Tuesday – Thursday). April 5 will be a work day to prepare and organize the plants for the sale. It will also be the set-up day for the crafts. More details on the time slots etc. will be provided as we get closer to these dates.

For the **February meeting, please bring** any glazed, ceramic or terra cotta pots that you would like to donate. We will use them to repot some of the plants in order to broaden the appeal of the plants we have for sale. If you can't make it to the February meeting, please deliver the pots to Vivian's house by February 15. If you need help transporting the pots, please contact Susan Muckey. These pots should be in good condition, and preferably cleaned and ready to use.

Also for the February meeting, we need succulent mix potting soil now and regular potting soil soon. If you would like to contribute a bag of soil, **please bring** it to the February meeting. This is a good way to help out if you aren't growing plants for the sale.

Remember to keep collecting boxes and plastic bags for customers to use to take their purchases home. We are asking that you bring them to the sale the morning of April 6.

And finally, start thinking about who you can invite to the sale, especially neighbors, friends, and relatives. We'll be providing flyers at the February meeting for you to use to distribute information about the sale. Your personal invitations will help increase the number of potential buyers!

Affiliations: National Garden Club, Inc., Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.,

California Garden Club, Inc., Sacramento River Valley District

~~~~ Shows and Sales ~~~~ List provided by Jan Fetler, Editor of The Scarecrow, the Newsletter of the Gardeners of the Grove. Thank you, Jan.

February 10 (Saturday) 9a till Noon, Master Gardeners Open Garden, 11549 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks, <https://sacmg.ucanr.edu/?calitem=572616>

February 21, 2024 (Wednesday) 6:30 till 7:30p, Preserve Herbs – Free on ZOOM — Sacramento Master Food Preservers, Register: <https://sacmfp.ucanr.edu/?calitem=570315>

March 9, 2024 (Saturday) 9a till 3p, Perennial Plant Club Gardener's Market, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento

March 12 (Saturday) 9a till Noon, Master Gardeners Open Garden, 11549 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks <https://sacmg.ucanr.edu/?calitem=572618>

March 16/17 (Saturday/Sunday) 10a till 4/3p, Shepard Garden & Arts Center Spring Sale, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento

March 23 (Saturday) 10a till 4p, Cymbidium Society Sale, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento

April 6 (Saturday) 10a till 4p, African Violet Society Sale, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento

April 6 (Saturday) Time and location TBA, Elk Grove Garden Club Plant and Garden Crafts Sale

April 13/14 (Saturday/Sunday) 8a till 5p, Bonsai Assn. Show and Sale, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento

April 17 (Wednesday) 9a till Noon, Master Gardeners Open Garden, 11549 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks <https://sacmg.ucanr.edu/?calitem=572619>

August 3 (Saturday) 9a till Noon, Master Gardeners Harvest Day, 11549 Fair Oaks Blvd, Fair Oaks

~~~~ Garden Tours ~~~~

April 27 (Saturday) Times/Details TBA Gardens Gone Native Plant Tour, California Native Plant Society

April 27/28 (Saturday/Sunday) Times/Details TBA, Gardens of Folsom Tour, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento

May 11/12 (Saturday/Sunday) Times/Details TBA, East Sac Garden Tour, Benefits the David Lubin Elementary School

May 25 (Saturday) Times/Details TBA, GOTG Garden Tour, Elk Grove