

# BEYOND THE GARDEN GATE



Elk Grove Garden Club

[www.elkgrovegardenclub.org](http://www.elkgrovegardenclub.org)



APRIL 2022 VOLUME 18 ISSUE 7

## APRIL MEETING

April 14, 2022

Gil Albani Recreation Center  
8830 Sharkey Avenue, Elk Grove  
Coffee and social at 10:00 am  
Meeting at 10:30 am.

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## ROLL CALL

What is your favorite succulent?

## EDITORS

Silvia Boggs  
Olinda Cortez

## PROGRAM

### Speaker of the month

Andi MacDonald biography

I became a Master Gardener in 1997, in Fresno. In that capacity, I worked in numerous areas, among them gardening with children, creating garden art from recycled objects, water wise gardening, chickens as an integrated pest management tool, and cooking with herbs. My home was on several Fresno garden tours. In 2010, I moved to Salt Lake City, Utah and became a Salt Lake County Master Gardener, volunteering at Primary Children's Hospital. I helped landscape an open air outdoor garden within the hospital walls, accessible to children with a variety of special needs. I returned to California in 2015 and am now a Sacramento County Master Gardener. Currently I volunteer in the Vegetable Garden, on the Speaker's Board, and work on the Video Committee.

I am a retired chef and culinary chef instructor. Before that, I taught elementary school. As well as gardening, my hobbies include vegan cooking, hiking, bicycling, and traveling. I can't seem to sit still!

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Linda Rivera



I love April. Our roses have their first bloom, tomatoes get planted, weeds get pulled, and trips to the nursery are exciting. As our trees are leafing out, the effects of drought on trees can be noted. Short-term damage, caused by one dry spell includes wilting, leaf scorch (see photo) and some defoliation. Long-term drought damage happens over a period of years and includes stunted growth, branch die-back (as the top of this tree shows) and possible death of a plant. Many woody plants can take up to 3 yrs. after a drought to display negative effect. With Earth Day on April 22 and Nat'l. Arbor Day, April 29, let's look out for our trees, our silent companions. Deep water when you can, winter prune only what's needed, no topping. One of the most common mistakes of tree pruning is removing too many branches.



"Topping" a tree involves cutting the main branches of a tree. It is disfiguring, expensive, harmful, and just the wrong thing to do. It can kill the tree. Let's live in harmony with our trees. Talk to an arborist. Ask questions at the garden club. Ask a master gardener - we have several in the club. Let's celebrate our trees. The native oaks in Elk Grove Park are a marvel. We're lucky to have them. Linda

# Minutes of Elk Grove Garden Club

Meeting on March 10, 2022

**President Linda Rivera** called the meeting to order at 10:32 am. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Nicholas Scott.

**Additions to the Agenda:** Nil

**Guests:** Christine Burnett and Joan Pisarz

**Program:** Bryan Young, "Bufferlands".

**Roll Call Question:** *What are you planting this month?* Flowers, herbs and vegetables.

**February Minutes:** Approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Approved. Chris Duane clarified the monthly statement and informed the meeting that the check from the church has been deposited to EGGC's account. A "Thank You" card from the Maggy family was sent to the Club.

**Tips and Techniques:** Julie Sutphin and Maria Schiffler, Wholehearted Blooms, Inc. provided a practical demonstration on *Soil Blocking: a simple and easy way to start seeds in a home setting*. Materials and equipment can be obtained from [thegardenersworkshop.com](http://thegardenersworkshop.com)

Sunshine: Mary Tolan-Davi reported that a "get well" card was sent to Linda Brett.

New Business:

Albani Meeting Set-up and Workshop Opportunity. President Linda Rivera announced that in exchange for CSD incurring a cost for labor to set-up and dismantling tables and chairs, CSD has suggested that EGGC could possibly consider hosting a few public workshops per year on gardening topics. Income from the sale of tickets could be donated to CSD's scholarship fund.

Membership. Vice-President Mary Adams-Wiley, new chair of the Membership Committee, informed that her goals are to (a) increase EGGC'S membership to 58; (b) redesign our membership application form to enable us to identify needs and expectations of prospective members; (c) draft a new fact sheet about EGGC to replace our current brochure; (d) set up a system to learn more about guests who attend our meetings (e) establish a program to mentor new members and (f) introduce a phone-call campaign to encourage the return of past members whose attendance lapsed primarily due to the COVID pandemic.

Year-end Meeting. Vice-President Mary Adams-Wiley announced that EGGC's year-end meeting

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will be held at Chicago Fire (7101 Laguna Blvd, Elk Grove). The price per person is \$20. However, the actual cost per person is \$20.12 (meal \$16 + 7.75% tax + 18% gratuity). Vice-President Mary Adams-Wiley suggested that the Club pays the difference of 12 cents per person, for example for 35 members at 12 cents the total would be \$4.20. This suggestion was put to the vote. Susan Muckey moved the motion that the Club pays the difference of 12 cents for each member. Puinky Dias seconded the motion. Reservations, checks or cash can be submitted to Chris Duane, Treasurer at our April or May meetings. Alternatively, checks can be mailed to her at the following address: Elk Grove Garden Club, P.O. Box 385, Elk Grove, CA 95759-0385.

Introduction of Accounting system for EGGC's in-kind donations and volunteer hours at CSD gardens. President Linda Rivera explained the following procedure which will take immediate effect.

- ***A receipt for the purchase of any garden item (e.g., plants or tools) donated by EGGC members must be submitted to the Chris Duane, Treasurer, who will file the receipt and track the donations.***
- ***At the beginning of the following calendar year i.e., 2023, EGGC will prepare a report on in-kind donations and volunteer hours for submission to CSD.***

This system is not retroactive. The report will cover donations and hours made January to December 2022.

Tour to Empire Mine State Historic Park in Grass Valley. Mary Anne Strohmaier provided the following update about our annual tour which will take place on May 16th. The cost is \$25 - (\$10 for the tour to be paid in advance to Chris Duane, Treasurer and \$15 to the member/driver). We will meet at the Burlington Coat Factory parking lot on E. Stockton Blvd. The tour will include the gardens and the house. After the tour, members are on their own for lunch in Grass valley.

Book Club with a Garden Theme. Vice President Mary Adams-Wiley suggested the introduction of a book club with a garden theme as another activity for members. A sign-up sheet was available for those who were interested in this activity.

Old Business:



CSD Report: Josh Branco announced that The District has purchased plant signs for the roses at the Lichtenberger Garden. He recognized Vivian Sellers, Mary Anne Strohmaier and Margrethe Reed for their contributions to the rose garden.

Laguna Town Hall Rose Garden. President Linda Rivera provided the following update. Daffodil bulbs were planted in succeeding months creating attractive staggered daffodil blooms. The roses are leafing out and we eagerly await their first blooms. Our LTH Garden crew worked alfalfa into the soil and picked up the last leaves, twigs and weeds around the boxwoods. The eagle scouts cleaned and emptied the flag box which stands in the middle of the garden. The garden is clean with 30 new roses planted last fall that are also leafing out.

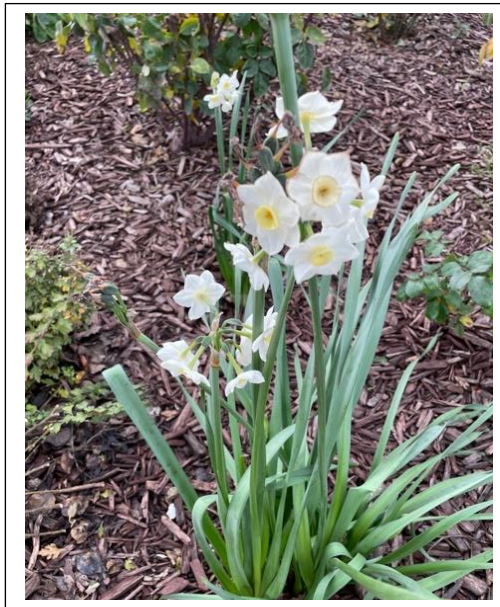
Lichtenberger Rose Garden. Mary Anne Strohmaier provided the following update. Azaleas were planted around the bench at the entrance to the garden, an old stump was dug out, newly purchased roses (10) were planted, and all roses were fertilized. Vivian Sellers' donation of small white daisy-like chrysanthemums and Johnny jump-ups were planted in the center planting area.

Jerry Fox Pool Report: Ducks are fond of eating "hens and chicks" succulents and these need to be replaced. Josh Branco has arranged for planting additional native plants at this site and will arrange for the installation of irrigation lines.

Nomination Committee. Leslie Haynes, Chair of the Nomination Committee indicated that Linda Rivera has consented to continue as President and Mary Adams-Wiley has accepted to continue as Vice-President. Leslie Haynes will continue canvassing members for the posts of Secretary and Treasurer in the coming weeks.

Attendance: Members - 27; Guests - 2

BG  
03-18-2022





## UP COMING EVENTS

April 2022 - Andy McDowell, MG; Topic: Succulents; Location: Gil Albani Recreation Center

May 2022 - Maria Shiffler and Julie Sutphin, Wholehearted Blooms, Inc.; Topic: Growing Cut Flowers and Herbs Without Breaking the Irrigation Bank; Location: Gil Albani Recreation Center

June 2022 Luncheon Mimi's Cafe

### Date and time

Sat, April 2, 2022  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM PDT

### Location

Cosumnes River Preserve River Walk Trail  
13501 Franklin Rd.  
Galt, CA 95632  
[View Map](#)



## Aphids Control With Kevin Epic Garden YouTube video from Vivian Seller

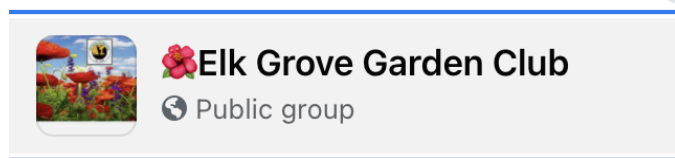
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mVdou1MJCAE>

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# ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MONTH

Tenley Willock has graciously offered to be the new Facebook administrator for the Club. YAY Tenley!!

Below is a photo of what our page in Facebook looks like if you search for it.



Please check out our group page and add what you have been doing lately in your garden!



Last month's speaker, Bryan Young, is kindly extending an invitation to our members to be added to the Bufferlands email list. If you would like to receive information or announcements of upcoming tours and

events, please email the following to Chris Conard at [conardc@sacsewer.com](mailto:conardc@sacsewer.com). See example below:

Chris - Please add my address to the Bufferlands email list to receive announcement of upcoming tours and events.

Tours of the wastewater treatment plant will resume in May. Sign-ups have not yet been announced but you will eventually be able to sign up for a tour here <https://www.regionalsan.com/tours>

Information on how ratepayers can utilize the Recycled Water Fill Station at the Plant to pick up recycled water can be found here <https://www.regionalsan.com/recycled-water-fill-station>

## New Member to the club

Give an open arms welcome to new member Chris Burnett. Chris is a Bufferlands docent. She came to the Garden Club's Bufferlands program last month and learned about the Garden Club. She has the cutest dog in town, loves roses, travel, and takes French classes. She has also graciously volunteered to run for Secretary for the coming year. Chris brings a 'can do' positive attitude. Introduce yourself and learn more about Chris.

Christine Burnett  
cell 916 479-5492  
home 916 684-6826  
[cmburnett@frontier.com](mailto:cmburnett@frontier.com)  
Her birthday is May 18

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Here's a picture of snowbells in Ukraine this month near the Black Sea. In spite of the bitter cold, and impossible odds, Ukraine has several garden clubs. Our hearts are connected to all garden clubs trying to make things beautiful and to the people of Ukraine.



Karen Shelby 4/3  
Maureen Slocum 4/17



Let's support and remember. Take care of yourself and another person if you can. Plant a flower or a tree



Sacramento's Perennial Plant Club  
Pop-Up Sale

Friday, April 15 & Saturday, April 16  
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

4578 Parkridge Road, Sacramento

Tools sharpened; holes drilled in pots

## World Peace Cookies

Deeply chocolaty, lightly salty, with a divine shortbread-but-not texture, these cookies are impossible to resist!

Course Dessert

Cuisine American

Keyword Christmas, decadent

Prep Time 25 minutes

Cook Time 24 minutes

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Chilling Time 2 hours  
Total Time 2 hours 49 minutes  
Servings 36 cookies  
Calories 92kcal  
Author Marissa Stevens

## Ingredients

- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour 175g
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder 30 grams
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 11 tablespoons unsalted butter 156g, room temperature
- 2/3 cup packed light brown sugar 134g
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar 50g
- 1/2 teaspoon fleur de sel or 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 5 ounces bittersweet chocolate coarsely chopped

## Instructions

1. Sift flour, cocoa powder, and baking soda into a medium bowl.
2. Add butter to the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment and beat on medium speed until creamy, about 1 minute. Add sugars, salt, and vanilla; beat 2 minutes more, scraping down sides as necessary.
3. With the mixer off, add dry ingredients. Cover with a clean kitchen towel and mix on low until just combined (to minimize flying flour); uncover and continue to mix on low until just combined (the dough will be

crumbly). Add chopped chocolate and mix until just combined.

4. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
5. Turn dough out onto work surface and gather into a disc, kneading if necessary. Roll into a circle 1/2-inch thick. Cut with 1 1/2-inch diameter biscuit cutter and transfer to prepared baking sheet for chilling - no need to leave space between as you're not baking them yet. Cover with plastic wrap or a second sheet of parchment paper and freeze for 2 hours or refrigerate for 3 hours or overnight.
6. When ready to bake cookies, preheat oven to 325°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and arrange half of the cookies about 2 inches apart. Bake 12 minutes (cookies won't look done, this is okay). Transfer baking sheet to a wire cooling rack and let cool until warm or to room temperature before serving.
7. Repeat with remaining dough if desired.

## Notes

1. Refrigerate unbaked cookies for up to 3 days or freeze for up to 2 months. To bake frozen cookies, place in oven straight from the freezer and increase baking time by 1 minute.

## Nutrition

Calories: 92kcal | Carbohydrates: 11g | Protein: 1g | Fat: 5g | Saturated Fat: 3g | Cholesterol: 9mg | Sodium: 50mg | Potassium: