



# Here's the Dirt!

## Calaveras County Garden Club Newsletter

January 2024



Happy New Year all you gardeners!! May the New Year bring lots of joy and happiness to all!! And beautiful, bountiful gardens as well!!

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### **December 13, 2023 Meeting revisited...**

The December meeting was held at the Murphys Hotel. It was a Christmas themed festive party which saw 29 members attend. Kris Pedroncelli and Sharon Norris provided fun games for the group to play-thank you ladies!! There were 12 beautiful table arrangements remaining from the winter fundraiser and they were auctioned off to some lucky members. The food was excellent! The tables were beautifully decorated-thank you Elizabeth Novello and Judy Weddle. The opportunity gifts were really nice as well provided by Elaine Shaffer, Patti Corcoran, and Chris Lestanguet. Thank you as well ladies!

### **January 10, 2024 Joint Meeting**

The January meeting will be held jointly with the Saddle Creek Garden Club at the Golf Club at Copper Valley-1001 Saddle Creek Drive, Copperopolis. Phone number is 209-785-7415. If you would like to know more about the Golf club their website is [www.coppervalleygolf.com](http://www.coppervalleygolf.com) .

This should be a lot of fun being able to share a meeting with members from another local garden club!

The speaker for the meeting is Duane Kyle owner/operator of the Dragonfly Peony Farm located in Wilseyville, CA. This is a family run farm and it is on the banks of the Mokelumne River in Calaveras County. Their peonies generally bloom in May and that is when the farm opens to the public for viewing and sales. If you would like to know more about the farm the website is [www.dragonflypeony.com](http://www.dragonflypeony.com)

**Please note that the check in time has changed for this special occasion. Check in is at 1130 am and meeting is to begin at 1200 pm.** Please remember to send in your \$30.00 luncheon fee no later than December 31, 2023. And also could you please include in the check memo line what the check is for as this would be very helpful to Candy our treasurer. Checks should be mailed to CCGC, PO Box 646, Angels Camp, CA 95222. If you happen to miss the deadline please text Candy Myers at 209-559-5195 by January 2, 2024 to make arrangements. **For further details please refer to the flyer below.** Hope to see everyone there!!

Joint Garden Club Meeting w/Saddle Creek Garden Club

**January 10, 2024**

Check in @ 11:30 am-Program begins @12:00 noon.

(we will not have a business meeting that day)

**Dragonfly Peony Farm Presentation by Dwayne Kyle, owner**

The Golf Club at Copper Valley

Grandview Room

1001 Saddle Creek Drive, Copperopolis

Bolognese Spaghetti, Salad, and Lemon Bars

(Special food preferences should be emailed to Candy Meyers at [candy.meyers@mac.com](mailto:candy.meyers@mac.com))

**RSVP to Candy Meyers by January 2, 2024**

**Mail your remittance to PO Box 646. Angels Camp 95222**

Exciting raffle (provided by CCGC members Willi Krause, Marian Coahran, Nancy Courts, and Laura Baughman and table decorations provided by Saddle Creek GC)

**And now a BIG thank you to Donna Anderson for all her dedicated work in making the Winter fundraiser a success!!!**

### **Holiday Green Bough Winter Fundraiser**

This year's weather cooperated with our annual fundraiser. Thank you to all that helped cut the green boughs, put together the beautiful arrangements and selling them at Calaveras Lumber. Many members who helped with the arranging also purchased them up front..... SO thank you for a great start to the fundraiser! Although some members were still in the mind set of SWAGS, We sold 52 arrangements from Dec 1st thru Dec 9th. Then at the December 13th meeting, we sold the last 12 arrangements, which makes it 64 Fresh, one of a kind arrangements sold! This scholarship fundraiser made \$2032.00

### **Volunteers**

John Randall Nancy Courts Catherine Brady Brit Gardina  
Willi Krauss Patti Corcoran Elaine Shaffer Laura Baughman  
Kathy Collins Lynn Helmbacher Connie Bowser Sandy Sharum  
Elizabeth Novella Nancy Murray Chris Lestaguet

Here are a few pictures!!!



## **Hort Report**

January is a great month for gardening! No, it really is!! This is the time of year when nurseries begin to stock bare-root plants. Per Sacramento Digs Gardening Article-this is the time to plant bare-root berries, fruit trees, kiwifruit, grapes, artichokes, horseradish, roses and rhubarb. Beware of soggy soil though as it can rot bare-root plants. If you buy bare-root plants and need to wait for your soil to dry out a bit, soak their roots for up to a week in water or pot them up in 1 or 5 gallon containers for planting later.

Check with your local nurseries for availability:

Ridge Road Garden Center at 18815 Ridge Road, Pine Grove, 209-296-7210

Calaveras Lumber, 155 S. Main Street, Angels Camp, 209-736-4601

Trifilo Garden Center, 88 Highway 4, Murphys, 209-822-3460

Solomons Gardens, 18180 Blue Bell, Sonora, 209-533-9425

You can continue to plan for the upcoming gardening season by looking over your garden, making a list of what needs to be done, and consider keeping a gardening journal so that you can recall what worked and did not work from the previous year. A journal also helps to keep you organized so that you can remember what and when you pruned, fertilized, planted (seeds/plants) and irrigated/watered your garden.

It's not too late to browse through those seed and bulb catalogs or check out the websites of companies that sell seeds and bulbs and get your order in in time for spring plantings.

You can prune roses now. Per Sunset magazine for Northern California-It is important to know what type of roses you have because the pruning is different for each type. Prune hybrid teas and grandiflora roses by removing dead, diseased, crossing or badly placed branches first and then cut back the previous year's growth making cuts just above outward facing buds. You want to ideally have an open center. Remove all the leaves from the stems, pick them up and dispose of them properly-do not compost to avoid spreading foliage disease. Prune floribunda and shrub roses the same as above by starting by taking out any dead wood etc as above... and then cut back by one fourth to one third. The aforementioned applies to repeat blooming roses. Do not prune any roses that bloom only once in the spring now-wait until they bloom and then prune. And this rule applies to all spring blooming shrubs-wait to prune until after spring blooming.

But do prune non-flowering trees and shrubs now while they are dormant.

This is a good time to keep an eye on the weeds in your yard/garden as they can easily get out of control. And as the soil is damp, the weeds when pulled will come out easily!

Remember to leave frost damaged foliage on perennials-although it looks untidy, it provides protection from future frosts/freezes. Prune when the threat of frost has subsided-see October 2023 newsletter for frost dates in your area.

Continue to be vigilant regarding protecting frost sensitive plants from damage. See October 2023 newsletter for frost dates in your area.

In the veggie gardens: You can plant seeds for cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, mustard and lettuces. Plant onion which look like bulbs, just under the soil surface so the point of the bulb is visible.

In the ornamental/flower gardens: You can continue to plant bedding plants such as pansies, snapdragon, primrose and viola to provide some color!-same as last month

Happy Gardening!!!

### **Rusty's Rose Garden Work Days**

Beginning this month, there will be a workday each 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at Rusty's Rose Garden located at the Calaveras County Fairgrounds, 2465 Gunclub Road, Angels Camp. These workdays are designed to have any or all members who wish to help maintain the roses and the garden gather together and work to keep the garden looking beautiful! We will meet at **900 am and end by 1100AM**. If you would like to attend, just show up, dressed for the weather and for working with roses. Please bring appropriate gloves (long sleeved if possible). Also bring tools that we would use- hand pruners for sure and loppers. Also if you would like you can bring a sack lunch and a folding chair, we can spend a little time afterwards sitting beside the beautiful roses. This is all weather permitting-so if it is raining the day of then the workday will be cancelled. We will notify members by email if there is to be a cancellation. If you have any questions please contact Diana at 209-403-6114 call or text or email at [runner2056@gmail.com](mailto:runner2056@gmail.com). Here are the dates for the next 3 months:

**January 18, 2024**-we will be cleaning up the garden by removing all old leaves and debris on the ground, removing weeds, and we will begin to prune the roses by removing dead wood, prune to encourage blooms, and removing any suckers that emerged.

**February 15, 2024**-we will complete pruning of all repeat blooming roses and strip leaves from all the roses. Clean up and weeding continues.

**March 21, 2024**-we will feed the roses this month. Monitor for any disease or insect activity. Check irrigation system to assure working order. Weeding as needed.

Looking forward to seeing some smiling faces out there!!

### **Field Trip Planning**

Currently Judy Weddle and Catherine Brady are working on a fantastic field trip to a Spring Garden Tour in Oakland and Piedmont. Plans are to present the information at the January 10, meeting. We would like to have enough members from both garden clubs so that it would be feasible to rent a tour bus for transportation. According to Judy, several of our members have already signed up. Please text or call Judy at 209-728-4567 if you are interested. Catherine will be supplying tickets and from Catherine- Hurry! Order tickets now and save \$5. Early Bird Tickets cost \$30 and are available until January 31<sup>st</sup>. General Admission tickets go on sale starting February 1<sup>st</sup> and cost \$35. To order tickets, call Catherine Brady 209-754-9953 or 510-910-4526. **More details in the flyer below.**



And a bit more info about this event:

The Hillside Gardeners of Montclair is having a Spring Garden Tour to raise funds for Scholarships and Conservation Programs. The Spring Garden Tour is planned for Sunday, April 21, 2024, from 10 AM to 5 PM.

This year's tour offers seven exquisite gardens featuring expansive views, classic landscape design, fascinating plant specimens, stunning garden art, innovative irrigation solutions, and more. The Garden Gift Shop, located at a landmark home in the Oakland hills, will offer edibles, annuals, perennials, succulents, and beautiful handicrafts by our members. Attendees may visit gardens in any order. Children 12 and over are required to have a ticket. Please do not bring dogs or strollers. Regrettably, none of the gardens on the tour is handicap accessible due to stairs and uneven terrain. The Spring Garden Tour is held rain or shine.

### **Upcoming Events**

The Calaveras Master Gardeners have their demo garden open every Thursday 1pm to 5pm located at 891 Mountain Ranch Road, San Andreas.

Want to know about events in Calaveras County? You can go to the website [www.gocalaveras](http://www.gocalaveras) for information regarding upcoming events, festivals, and things to do in Calaveras County.

And on a final note.....

The deadline for submitting information that a member would like to have posted in this newsletter to include upcoming events, suggestions for articles, etc.. is the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month prior. For example, for the February 2024 issue, kindly email Diana with the info by January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Email address [runner2056@gmail.com](mailto:runner2056@gmail.com)



Calaveras County Garden Club, Inc.  
PO Box 646, Angels Camp, CA 95222

