



Folsom Garden Club

Neighborhood Gardeners since 1934

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1681, Folsom, Ca 95763
Website: www.folsomgarden.org

November 2011 Newsletter

“Even if something is left undone,
Everyone must take time to sit still and watch the leaves turn.” – Elizabeth Lawrence

November 3, 2011

Business Meeting @ 10:00am
The Rotary Clubhouse in Lew Howard Park

Chrysanthemum Tea
(Honoring past presidents)

Guest Speaker: Trey Pitsenberger, owner of the Golden Gecko Nursery in Garden Valley, will be giving an informative talk on “Hydroponics Gardening”

Be Green - To aid in saving the earth, bring your own cup if possible

Folsom Garden Club – Calendar of Events

November 2011

9 10:30am	Dirt Gardeners	Field Trip to Eisley Nursery in Auburn	Gail Fitzpatrick Sharon Barnett	(916) 988-9370 (916) 294-7606
16 10:30 to 1:00pm	Dirt Gardeners	Wreath Creations @ Joan McArdle's 9906 Valley Pines Dr Folsom	Gail Fitzpatrick Sharon Barnett	(916) 988-9370 (916) 294-7606
26	Folsom Zoo Christmas Tree Lighting— or Dec 3 rd ?	Wild Nights & Holiday Lights at the Zoo	Joye Gephart	(916) 715-1418
*30 10am to noon	Dirt Gardeners	Christmas Tree Decorating Folsom Convalescent Home Natoma & Mill St	Gail Fitzpatrick Sharon Barnett	(916) 988-9370 (916) 294-7606

December 2011

1 11am	Business Meeting Christmas Party & Potluck	Rotary Club House - 11 am (Note time change!)	Joye Gephart	(916) 715-1418
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See the last page for additional Calendar of Events

The President's Corner

President, Joye Gephart

(916) 715-1418

mikeandjoye@gmail.com



A great big “Thank you and well done!” goes out to our club members who joined me in helping kids plant veggies & paint lady bug rocks on October 1st at the Folsom Family Wellness Expo event: Joy Greene, Gloria Hanson, Kathy Bunney, Carol McKee and her dog Nessie, Marilyn Starbuck, Sherril Gomes, Nina Sanders, and our photographers, Diane Stout (newsletter), and Sally Berry (website). Our two booths were ably handled between our members and teens from Interconnect, a youth chapter of the Rotary Club. Thanks also go out to Kids Growing Strong, Mercy Health and Home Depot for sponsoring our booths. We have a meeting planned for October 26th at 1 p.m. for refining our responsibility regarding our 2 new projects working with the Folsom History Museum and their Pioneer Village. Please RSVP to Adrienne Coolidge at 916-984-3768 if you can attend.

Happy fall! I’m loving it! Next to spring, it’s my favorite time of year.

Joye Gephart

(Look for additional items from Joye listed under **Help Wanted** and **Announcements**)

October Overview

There were 54 members and one guest who attended this meeting. One new member joined. Look under 2011-2012 Yearbook for their name.

Refreshments were prepared by: Diane Stout, Ed Schaeffer, Joye Gephart, Nina Sanders, Tinka Davi, Gail Fitzpatrick and Nada Boatright.

The Raffle collected - \$53
Hodgepodge table - \$16.15
Penny Pines - \$13.25

November Birthdays



1 Judy Hickey
1 Harriet Schaeffer
5 Shirley Hallfeldt
11 Gloria Hanson
14 Ildiko Allen
26 Sally Trench
30 Kathy Bunney
30 Catherine Elliott-Shillings

Guest Speaker – Teresa Hawkes, Master Gardener



from Sacramento County spoke about bulbs and bulb-like plants. She focused on spring plants only and explained the differences between true bulbs, corms, tubers and rhizomes. Folsom is in Sunset climate zone 9. Bulbs require even moisture like a “wrung out sponge”.

Bulbs she recommends for zone 9 are: Allium, Alstroemeria, Bletilla strata, Brodiaea, Dutch iris, cyclamen, Freesia, Helleborus, Iris, Ixia, and Kniphofia.

References: [Sunset Garden Book](#); [365 Days of Garden Color](#) (Sunset); [California Master Gardener Book](#).



Plant of the Month – Presented by Rhonda DesVoignes

Rhonda brought 3 types of basil: Marseilles (French), Dark Opal and Blue Spice which is a sweeter variety. They are easily grown from seed in the spring when ground is warm; especially good with tomatoes; best leaves are on young stems. Don’t let the plant go to flower as it makes the leaves taste bitter. Good sources for unusual varieties: Annies Annuals in Richmond and Morningsun Herb Farm in Vacaville. They have some photos on their websites also. www.anniesannuals.com and www.morningsunherbfarm.com.

October table decorations

These adorable scarecrows, prepared by Sherril Gomes and her daughter, decorated each table at the October meeting.



Folsom Family Expo & Wellness Event – Saturday, October 1

This is the 7th year FGC has participated in the Folsom Family Expo & Wellness Event, at the Folsom Community Center. The event was a big success with over 40 community groups taking part. A welcome addition to the event this year was the Interconnect group. This group of young people is the youth branch of Rotary Club. These high school students helped out wherever needed and took an active role in helping our garden club.



Participants planted veggies and herbs in small pots that they could take home.



Club president Joye Gephart brought red colored pet rocks and over 300 children took home their very own pet rock ladybug.



Last year's president of California Garden Club, Inc., Mary Anne Lucas, made www.Kidsgrowingstrong.org her special project. The goal of Kids Growing Strong is promoting strong bodies, strong minds and a healthy life style through garden-based education. Mary Anne created special color cards teaching children about a new food pyramid. The largest building block of the new pyramid is the message - **"KEEP MOVING"**



She also produced informational cards teaching children about lady bugs. Did you know that: lady bugs chew from side to side? That spots fade as the ladybug gets older? That not all lady bugs are ladies?

UC Davis Arboretum tour - September 29, 2011

There were about 32 who participated in the tram tour at the UC Davis Arboretum. We were fortunate to have as our guide, Ellen Zagory, Director of Horticulture at UC Davis. She gave a fantastic tour of the 100 acres of beautiful gardens bordering Putah Creek. After the tour we enjoyed having lunch in the arboretum nursery and the opportunity to buy All-Star plants.



HELP WANTED

Check at the meeting for sign up sheets or contact the person listed below.

- **Help with the Christmas Pot Luck** - Calling all crafters who would like to help with the Christmas party this year. This was suggested as a fun way of making our table decorations be one-of-a-kind and maybe not as expensive, too. Look for a sign-up sheet going around with suggested dates to see when you can make it! Contact Joye Gephart (916) 715-1418.
- **Chairperson needed** - June Installation luncheon. Contact Joye Gephart (916) 715-1418.
- **Assistant to the Garden Tour Chair** - Taking notes as secretary, reminding about decisions made and deadlines that need to be met. Joye Gephart (916) 715-1418.
- **E-mail Blast** - Someone to take over doing the emails that go out to the club. Contact Joye Gephart if you are interested. Joye Gephart (916) 715-1418.
- **Newsletter Editor** - Someone that would like to learn how to create beautiful newsletters! Contact Diane Stout (916) 983-3204.
- **Community Projects** - Lots of volunteers are appreciated to help with the community projects. Contact Adrienne and David Coolidge to see how you can help out (916) 984-3768.
- **Hodgepodge Table** - Please bring plants, cuttings, divisions, etc. to add to the hodgepodge table. Contact Dan Knott (916) 988-1931.
- **Members Photo Gallery** - Sally Berry is creating a "Members Only" section in the FGC website. To submit a photo of you, send to Sally at sallyaberry1@gmail.com. If you don't have a picture, let Sally or Diane Stout know to have your picture taken at the next meeting.
- **FGC Gardener Corner** - Looking for members with interesting plants, gardens or garden spot to share in the December or January Newsletter - sign-up sheet in the back. Contact Diane Stout (916) 983-3204.

Gardening Tips



- **Renew your garden for winter and spring.** Now is the time to plant seeds for many flowers directly into the garden including cornflower, nasturtium, nigella, poppy, portulaca and sweet pea.
- **Pull out the summer garden** and get started on cool-weather vegetables and flowers.
- **Deadhead your roses and mums.** Trim off the spent flowers, so new ones will form and extend their bloom into November.
- **Dig up corms and tubers** of gladioluses, dahlias and tuberous begonias after the foliage dies. Clean and store in a cool, dry place.
- **Reduce or eliminate watering,** watering as needed, depending upon rainfall, normally 3.1 inches in November.
- **Turn in composted steer manure** and compost into the cleared vegetable garden.
- **Place cold sensitive potted plants** in protected areas or indoors.



- **Plant cool-weather annuals** such as pansies, violas, fairy primroses, calendulas, pansy and snapdragons.
- **Putting winter crops in the ground** and harvesting greens: onions, lettuce, radishes, garlic, beets, chard, and cabbage.
- **Picking pumpkins, squash, colored corn,** and other crops for Thanksgiving decorations.
- **Treat azaleas, gardenias and camellias with chelated iron** if leaves look yellow between the veins.
- **Lawn care:** aerate soil and fertilize.
- **Plant spring bulbs.** For a three month flower show next spring, plant bulbs every two to three weeks through early December.
- **Add compost to the soil for fall and winter vegetables and annuals.**
- **Trees without leaves** need little or no watering.
- **Rake leaves** and add to compost piles and mulch layers.



Announcements from Joye Gephart

- Theodore Judah is again asking for help with planting – this time a winter garden. They are asking for us to join after-school kids on a Friday. November 7th was one date thrown out there. The school will buy the plants; they just wanted us to help with advice & planting the veggie garden.
- Anna Lombard sent a wonderful thank you letter for her Penny Pines certificate. I'll have it for the members at the next business meeting. We miss you, Anna!!
- If you have nicer (than Hodgepodge) items that can be donated for raffle, please let Pat Brown know (916) 933-1466. Thanks to Mary Chapman and Judy Hickey who have donated special items recently.
- Chrysanthemum Tea is coming up next meeting Nov. 3rd! Remember to get together with those you usually sit with & decide who will bring a tea pot, potted plant or other decoration to go with the fabric that will be on the center of each of 9 tables. Who knows? We may even vote on the best!

Ideas for a Pumpkin Vase Centerpiece

Materials, tools

- Pumpkin
- Vase, jar or can to hold flowers
- Assortment of flowers, foliage, berries
- Knife to core the hole in the pumpkin

Directions

1. Cut a hole in the top of the pumpkin large enough to slip the container inside. Use the container as a pattern and trace a circle around it. Use a small knife to cut the hole. Cut straight down, not at an angle, or the vase won't fit inside. Clean out the seeds and make sure the container has a flat place to sit inside the pumpkin.
2. Place the container inside. Add water to the container.
3. Glean items from the garden: springs of fall leaves, flowers, greenery, cornstalks, nandina berries, yarrow, yellow and orange coneflower, honeysuckle, Mexican sage. Voila! You have a knockout arrangement.

(Pictures from the internet, directions by Pat Rubin, from Sac Bee, Oct 2007)



2012 Garden Tour

Dates: April 28 & 29, 2012

Time: 11:00 – 4:00

More Gardens needed!

For more information or to volunteer, contact Jan-Can at (916) 855-3210.

There will be a Garden Tour Committee meeting on Thursday, November 3, following the business meeting, beginning at 12:15 and will end at 12:50pm.

Gardener of the Month – Ron Byrd



When did you start gardening?

When I was growing up as a young boy I helped my mother plant sweet peas and vegetables each year in our home garden.

What do you like about gardening?

I like the creative process of making something that is pleasing to the eye and that brings joy to others. I like the challenge of dealing with the soil, weather, rocks, water and uneven ground. I also like the exercise and being outdoors. When I moved here, I took out the front and back lawns and terraced

everything and put in a drip system. I made an English rock garden in the front yard to complement the Tudor style of the house. I had an abundance of rocks to work with!



Was there someone or something that prompted you to start?

As an adult I was inspired by my Aunt Libby in Dallas, Texas. She created a beautiful backyard garden and she got me to become serious about gardening.

What is blooming or flourishing just now in your garden?

I have many summer flowers: lantana, profusion zinnias, marigolds and others in various colors. I harvest the flower seeds and plant them the next spring. The yard attracts bees, butterflies and lizards. I have plants I received from Pat Brown, Joan McArdle, Sue Nelson, Rhonda DesVoignes, Jan-Can Prendergast and Anna Lombard. Gardening is about sharing with others! I also have a separate fern garden in the one shady spot of the backyard.

Do you grow vegetables as well as flowers and shrubs?

I planted corn and acorn squash this summer. My produce stand

currently has Folsom potatoes on sale. My backyard has a farm theme with a windmill, rusty farm equipment, wagon wheels, etc. I like seeing the vegetables and flowers together. I have two water features since I love the sound of flowing water in a garden. The sound of water, along with music brings peace and serenity to both the plants and the gardener.

How long have you been a member of Folsom Garden Club?

I joined in 2007 after moving to Folsom and deciding to completely redo the yard. I became Treasurer for two years and I am currently Treasurer for the Sacramento River Valley District. I am also chairman of the State Garden Clubs Convention to be held in Sacramento next June.



2011-2012 Board of Officers

President

Joye Gephart
 (916) 715-1418
mikeandjoye@gmail.com

1st Vice Presidents

Gail Fitzpatrick
 (916) 988-9370
gail@aplusgreenthumb.com
 And
 Sharon Barnett
 (916) 294-7606
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2nd Vice President

Jan-Can Prendergast
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Treasurer

Sally Berry
 (916) 933-4885
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Recording Secretary

Joyce Roderick
 (916) 608-4097
jmr49@sbcglobal.net

Recording Secretary Alternates

Daphne Ebbage
 (916) 849-8329
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 And
 June Jones
 (916) 790-4353
ladeejun9@aol.com

Preceding President

Erin Angulo
 (916) 768-3629
palidans@aol.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

We now have 100 members. Add the following new member to your list:

Jo Anderson

Garden Club Websites

SRVD - The Sacramento River Valley District www.srvd.org

CGCI - www.californiagardenclubs.com

National Garden Club - www.gardenclub.org

What do you get if you divide
 the circumference of a
 pumpkin by its diameter?

Pumpkin pi

Calendar of Events - Continued

January 2012

January 2012				
5 10am	Monthly Business Meeting	Rotary Club House – Jeanne Neshem from Village Nurseries will speak on the art of pruning.	Joye Gephart	(916) 715-1418
19 10:30 to 12:30	Dirt Gardeners at the Folsom Senior Center	Earlene Easley and Cindy Davis, of Easley Nursery in Auburn will discuss houseplants and herbs. Plants will be for sale.	Gail Fitzpatrick Sharon Barnett	(916) 988-9370 (916) 294-7606