



Folsom Garden Club

Neighborhood Gardeners since 1934

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

April 2011 Newsletter

"Courage is not the towering oak that sees storms come and go;
it is the fragile blossom that opens in the snow." - Alice M. Swaim

Board of Officers

2010– 2011

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Erin Angulo
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and

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Denny Wiemers
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April 7, 2011

Business Meeting – 10:00 am

The Rotary Clubhouse in Lew Howard Park

"Gardens of Folsom"

Garden Tour chairperson Brenda Dayton will discuss plans for the 11th Annual Garden Tour

REMEMBER to bring your NAME TAG

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

April Birthdays



7 Anita Miller
15 Abby Johnson
16 Susan Douglass
19 Brenda Dayton
22 Susan Goodman
24 David Coolidge
27 Diane Stout
29 Daphne Ebbage
30 Gladys Trejo

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

National Garden Club www.gardenclub.org

The President's Corner

President, Erin Angulo
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Hello fellow gardeners! I hope the saying "April showers bring May flowers" holds true; if it does we will have a basketful of flowers to look forward to!

I want to remind everyone that our 11th Annual Garden Tour is just around the corner. Please support this very worthy event by helping our committee and/or sell tickets to friends and family. This is our biggest fund raiser and most of the profits go towards our scholarships for horticulture bound college students.

Also coming up quickly are our nominations and voting for our new board for 2011 -2012. Please feel free to contact any present or past board members with questions. I know that all of us feel the experience has many more positives than negatives. We all grew as people and made lasting friendships.

I will be attending the California Garden Club Convention in Rohnert Park this May for at least one day. Please try to take the opportunity to attend as it is so close (Santa Rosa area) and it will be in Sacramento next year when we will ALL need to help out.

Diane Stout always includes many other opportunities for us to participate in other local garden events, so please read over our FANTASTIC newsletter and see what else you can put on your calendar!

Again, a HUGE thank you to ALL of you for all you do for each other and the club!

Yours in the love of gardening, *Erin Angulo*

"Gardens of Folsom" -- April 30 & May 1, 2011

Get ready for the 11th Annual Garden Tour

We have six lovely gardens. Here are just a few things to fill you in and also let you know what is still needed.



1. **More Volunteers needed** -- We need more members to volunteer to set up a yellow sign in their front yards. The sign up sheet will be at the back table at April's meeting. Thank you for those that already signed up! Also thank you to our wonderful sign design crew, Sharron Anderson, Sally Berry, Nancy Daniels, Rhonda DesVoignes, Daphne Ebbage, Lynn Emmick, Joye Gephart, Joy Green, Dorothy Populorum, Nina Sanders, Alice Wilcox and moi. Hope I didn't forget anyone!
2. **The Pre-Tour will be on Thursday, April 28, 2011** -- Each Host/Hostess and volunteers for the Gardens must attend this Pre-tour event. We will meet at my home, 102 Tidepool Court, at 4:00 PM to carpool. I will be letting small groups leave from my home spaced out in groups of 15-20 people. Some yards are small and the whole group of 50-60+ people would probably have a difficult time walking around in the back yards and seeing everything.
3. **Pre-Pre-Tour Potluck, Thursday, April 28, following the pre-tour** -- If you plan on attending the pre-tour potluck on April 28 please sign up on the food list at the back table. Also if you plan on bringing a guest write the number next to your name and circle it please. We want to make sure that we have enough tables and chairs for everyone. The potluck will be after the pre-tour around 6:00-6:30. My address and phone number are 102 Tidepool Court, and phone# is (916) 351-0862. This dinner is to honor our wonderful home owners that are on the tour. If you are not able to attend the April meeting, but would like to attend the potluck please contact Anna Lombard at (916) 989-2003, or lombardja@sbcglobal.net.

4. **Ticket Contest** -- Don't forget our contest. Who ever sells the most tickets will win a (\$50) gift card to a selection of restaurants. Ticket chairpersons are Dorothy Populorum, (916) 985-0167, or cameodap@comcast.net; and Nina and Bob Sanders. (916) 984-3851, or ninaandbob@comcast.net. And remember **sell, sell, sell, and sell** those tickets. Thank you!!!
5. **Sponsors** -- Our sponsor committee did a terrific job in a short period of time. They raised \$1,015. in cash, \$510 in gift certificates, and a bread basket. I would like to thank Adrienne Coolidge our sponsor chairperson, and her assistants, Alice Wilcox, Tinka Davi, Anna Lombard and Denny Wiemers. Great going ladies!
6. **Silent Auction at June meeting** -- During our June meeting we will be having our "Silent Auction." The list of gift certificates are:
 - Bushnell Garden Nursery-(2 @\$50 each)-----\$100
 - Flower Farm Inn – a bed and breakfast-----\$125
 - Pottery World – lunch for 8-----\$115
 - Village Nursery-----\$50
 - High Hand Nursery-----\$45
 - Snooks Candies on Sutter Street, Folsom-----\$10
 - Great Harvest Bakery-----A gift basket
 - Janeen Lafreniere,Handmade Garden related tote bag----\$55
7. **Volunteers need to attend the April Meeting** -- At our April meeting we need all members that signed up to volunteer at a garden to be there. You will be receiving more information from Gail Fitzpatrick, Alice Wilcox and I after the break. So please attend! Thank You!!!
8. **Garden Club Members/Sponsors** -- Thanks again to our members that sponsored the tour, Anna Lombard, Joan McArdle, Jan-Can Prendergast, Gail Fitzpatrick, and Tinka Davi. I especially want to thank my committee. I couldn't do it without you.

Thank you all for your support! *Brenda Dayton, VP #2, Garden Tour Chairperson*



TOUR TICKETS – “Gardens of Folsom” ONLY \$12

Only 18 members signed up for tickets, which will be available at the April 7th meeting. We have 106 members. It is our hope that many more will be taking tickets to sell. This is a **REMINDER** that tickets will be available throughout April. All you have to do is call Dorothy (916) 985-0167, or Nina and Bob (916) 984-3851. As I stated at the March meeting, no refunds are to be made, and children 15 and younger can tour free. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me. I will also go over this at the April meeting.

All tickets issued to members will be put in an envelope with the member's name and ticket numbers. Money for tickets sold and those unsold should be returned to Dorothy Populorum, or Nina and Bob Sanders, in the same envelope for tracking purposes. This also applies to garden hosts responsible for those tickets sold at each garden, but those envelopes need to be returned each tour day after 4pm to Brenda Dayton's home. – *Dorothy Populorum*

Tickets may be purchased from these merchants: *The Blossom Shop* on Natoma Street, *Green Valley Nursery* on Green Valley Road, Ace *Hardware* on Greenback Road, and at the *Folsom History Museum* on Sutter Street. Tickets are also available online at www.folsomgarden.org. If you buy a ticket online you will receive a receipt, and take that receipt to the first garden listed on the tour and that is where you can pick up your ticket. There is a 50 cent charge per transaction.

March 3, 2011 Meeting of the Folsom Garden Club

Refreshments were prepared by Grayce Vander Broek, Diane Sullivan, Anita Miller, Barbara Peterson, Joyce Roderick, Sally Berry, Jan-Can Prendergast and Anna Lombard; the outstanding table decorations were provided by Judy Hickey.

There were **71** who attended this meeting. The Raffle collected \$81. Hodge Podge - \$15.40, Penny Pines -- \$19.04

One new member joined. Look below under **2010-2011 Yearbook** for the name.



Guest Speaker – Trey Pitsenberger, co-owner of *The Golden Gecko Garden Center* in Garden Valley. He recommended planting cool season vegetables NOW for harvest in May/June, and plant again in August to be ripe in Nov/Dec. He introduced some products that will help start seeds; called planting cubes. And, he introduced a new kind of pot, called a *smart pot*. They are collapsible and reusable. Visit the Golden Gecko Garden Center, 4665 Marshall Road, Garden Valley, CA 95633, or call 530.333.2394, or e-mail: trey@thegoldengecko.com There are great gardening tips on the website at www.thegoldengecko.com



Plant of the Month – presented by Rhonda Des Voignes

Rhonda showed the *Winter Bloom Virginia*. It had a nickname, called, *pig squeak*; and it referred to the sound of rubbing two leaves together and it sounded like a pig. This plant looked like a cabbage. This was on the UC Davis all-star list. It liked moist soil, shade, and it would tolerate drought and could survive in all different zones.



Bergenia is a perennial plant noted for its hardiness, and for its evergreen leaves. They are sometimes also called elephant's ears for their large leaf size. In many climates, the bergenia provides wide, heart-shaped, slightly curled leaves for most of the year. Colder weather will cause the leaves of the bergenia to turn a ruddy red during autumn, adding color and interest to gardens. Bergenia is native to China, and a few species to other parts of Asia. The plant is named for Karl August von Bergen, an 18th century German botanist who helped introduce the plants to Europe. By the 19th century, bergenia species were in full flower in North America, which has since produced various cultivars. Different species translate to different plant heights and flower color. One of the most well known is *bergenia cordifolia*, which grows to about 1.5 feet tall (45.72 cm). In late winter and early spring, tall, one foot (30.48 cm), red stalks produce clusters of bell shaped pink flowers. Other species exhibit a range of white to dark red blooms.



Mark Your Calendars

Folsom Garden Club Events

April 7 – 10am to noon – **FGC Monthly Business Meeting**

April 28 – 4pm to 6pm -- The tour will be followed by a potluck dinner at Brenda's home.

April 30 & May 1 – 11am to 4pm
"Gardens of Folsom" Tour

May 5 – 10am to noon – **FGC Monthly Business Meeting**

May 19 – **Field trip to Pauline's Garden**

Other Garden Activities and Events

March 23 - 27 - San Francisco Flower & Garden Show (SFFGS), San Mateo Event Center. CGCI and SRVD fund raising Opportunity.

April 1 - 3 - Wildflower Weekend, Feather Falls Casino & Hotel in Oroville. Call (530) 877-2432 - info@norcalwildflowers.org

April 5 - 7 -- Flower Show School in Folsom, hosted by SRVD

April 7 - 10 -- Cal Expo State Flower and Garden Show sponsored by CGCI

April 16 - 17 – Sacramento Orchid Society, Spring show and plant sale at the Scottish Rite Center in Sacramento.

April 22 – *Earth Day* – Plant something

Gardening Tips

- Clean up and weed vegetable gardens.
- Dig, roto-till, and **amend** garden soil.
- Clean up hiding places for bugs.
- Spray trees and shrubs.
- Plant summer vegetables.
- Weed, weed, and weed....
- Fertilize lawns.
- Prune shrubs after flowering.
- Use straw as mulch.



- Plant perennials.
- Prune evergreens.
- Plant seeds.
- Write a poem. Keep a garden journal.
- Remove dead branches and trees.
- Don't get sunburned.
- Flush drip lines and check to make sure they are working properly.
- Sit and observe.

EARTH DAY -- April 22, 2011

A day to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's environment. Here is a fun project for Easter, Earth Day or just about any spring day you can think of. No fancy materials are needed. With just an eggshell, a little soil and some seeds, you can grow your own planter. It's the ultimate in eco-friendly craft ideas! For more ideas go to www.holidays.kaboose.com/earth-day

Seedling Starter – Using a pin, poke a hole in the bottom of an empty eggshell half, put it in an egg carton (for stability), and fill with soil and seeds. Once your seedling appears, plant the whole thing in the ground. The eggshell will disintegrate and nourish the soil.



The Great Backyard Bird Count 2011



Diane and Gary Stout accompanied mom (Connie Dibb) and I on a chilly walk around the "big pond" off Silberhorn Drive on the Saturday morning of the Great Backyard Bird Count, 2/19/11. We had a break in the rain for our walk, and all the ponds, vernal pools and streams were very full. Several interested people stopped to chat, tell us about their sightings, ask us what we'd seen.

We saw a troupe of tree swallows, a flock of flickers, rather a lot of red-winged blackbirds, and a solo acorn woodpecker. In the winter time there are some seasonal visitors to the big pond--not just the mallards and Canada geese--we saw pairs of northern shovelers and cinnamon teals. A bystander said he'd seen a gray phase snow goose. Lots of buffleheads and American coots and some active great egrets.



No hawks this morning, but--here is my big confession--Mom and I were also here ready to count, looking for garden clubbers on Saturday morning 2/12, a week too early!--and at that visit we saw both red-tailed and red-shouldered hawks, one working on a kill in the fork of a huge oak tree.

We enjoyed our walk and even though you couldn't join us, we hope that you birdwatchers at least sent your count in to www.birdsource.org from your own backyard activity! -- *Donna Brennan*



Community Service Projects – There are many ways you can help

There are several community service projects which members of the Folsom Garden Club participate in throughout the year. Some occur once a year while others may need volunteers on a monthly basis. If you can spare an hour or two look for signup sheets at the meeting. Look in the 2010-2011 Yearbook on page 21 for a complete list of Community Service Projects. Here are a few of the community projects you can get involved.



City Park Signs



Christmas Tree Decorating



Community Garden

Gladys' Community Garden



Gladys Trejo, a member in the Folsom Garden Club since 1944, invites club members to her community garden to develop their skills in producing vegetables, fruits and flowers. Contact Dan Knott if interested in a plot at the Community Garden. 988-1931.



Lilacs

I saw an article in Better Homes and Gardens/April, 2011 issue about lilacs and thought you would enjoy them also. – Diane Stout

Aside from Roses, there is no flower as beautiful and aromatic as Lilacs. Of the two, Lilacs have a stronger scent that carries quite a distance. Unfortunately, Lilacs bloom for only a very brief couple weeks in the spring. To prolong their presence in your yard, grow a variety of Lilacs, including, early, mid and late varieties.



Lilacs bloom best in full sun and thrive in cold climates. In fact without winter chilling, many refuse to bloom. In these locations, plant so-called “low chill” lilacs, such as ‘California Rose’, ‘Lavender Lady’, or ‘Angel White’ (see pictures next page). In fall, large flower buds become evident as leaves drop, hinting at the upcoming spring show. Delay the trimming until after bloom so that you don’t remove blossoms-to-be.

Lilac bushes are prone to powdery mildew disease, so provide good air circulation by keeping their branches pruned. Prune right after blooming is over.

In addition to branch pruning, cut the dead flowers off when they're done blooming. This will prevent the seed from forming and thereby promote more profuse flowering the next spring.



Syringa x hyacinthiflora
'California Rose'



Syringa vulgaris 'Lavender Lady'



Syringa vulgaris Angel White

There are hundreds of varieties, here are pictures of just a few:



2009 – 2010 Yearbook

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS -- We now have a total of 106 Members

Add the following new member to the Membership Director in the Folsom Garden Club 2010-2011 yearbook.

John Markey

HELP WANTED

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

- **Gardens of Folsom** – Everyone’s help is needed. Sign up to volunteer at one of the gardens, finding sponsorships, set up a yellow sign in your yard, pre-tour potluck, sell tickets. Contact Brenda Dayton, at 351-0862, or daytoncharles@comcast.net.
 - **Cart or wagon - Book** exchange could use a cart or collapsible wagon to carry all the books from car to the meeting room and back again. Please contact Lynn if you have something to help her with this task at 294-9960,
 - **Hodgepodge Table** - Please bring plants, cuttings, divisions, etc. to add to the hodgepodge table
 - **Gardener of the Month** – Looking for members with interesting gardens to share in the newsletter. Contact Diane Stout @ 983-3204.
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