



NEWSLETTER

Carmel-by-the-Sea Garden Club

Volume 36 Number 9 April 2024

President's Message

Dear Ladies,

Happy Native Plant Month! Congratulations to the many works of our talented GCA NAL delegates for sharing clear communication and further education with our Capital over our beloved environment. Lolly and Chris have planned a detailed report for our May General Meeting.

The fantastic work of Bruno Duarte of Fresh Floral Creations at our recent General Meeting and seminar was thoroughly energizing. What a gift to be inspired and patiently taught new skills. We shall never forget Bruno's mantra, "the first flower of our arrangements is our structure." CBTSGC creativity is alive and well.

April is abuzz with notable GCA happenings. I invite you to join the new round-table virtual event on April 4 (free): Supporting New Club Members with the GCA website. You will be delighted to find time disappear as you learn more about our prominent site.

Our friends from the Pasadena Garden Club will visit many members' gardens as they travel to be with us April 9-11th. As we bid farewell to our visitors, Barbara, Missy, Susan U., and I will attend and report back to you from The Urban Oasis Zone XII meeting hosted by Hancock Park Garden Club on April 15-17th. Davis Rubin PLA, FASLA, FARR, the 2024 recipient of the GCA's Elvira Broome Doolan Medal, will be the presenter. At the end of the month, Gay O'Connor and I travel to Hartford, Connecticut, joined by Missy and Susan U. for the Beyond the Green GCA Annual Meeting. Upon my return, I look forward to sprinkling the petals of news from these upcoming events.

Soaking up the sun in my garden,

Cass



Mark Your Calendar

April General Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 18

Time: 9:30 am social, 10:00 am awarding of scholarships with business meeting to follow

Venue: Our scholarship meeting/General Meeting will be held on the CSUMB campus at their Alumni & Visitor Center: Parking instructions will follow.

Scholarship introductions and awards will begin at 10:00 am and our business meeting will follow. Scholarships will be awarded to CSUMB students, MPC students and MEarth summer camp.

Please email [regrets only](#) to Cass

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday, April 9, Civic Gardens, 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Tuesday - Thursday, April 9 - 11, Visit from Pasadena Garden Club, garden tours

Thursday, April 11, Board Meeting, Gathering Place Meeting Room at Harrison Memorial Library, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Tuesday, April 16, P4P Dunes Workday, 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Thursday, April 18, General Meeting, CSUMB, 9:30 am social, 10:00 awarding of scholarships, with business meeting to follow

Tuesday, April 23, Civic Gardens, 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Thursday, April 25, Visiting Gardens, Field trip to Hillsborough and Woodside gardens, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Tuesday, April 30, Horticulture Committee, Field trip to the Waldens' garden in Carmel Valley, 9:30 am -11:30 am

Committee News

Civics



Judy H. showed up in the rain and worked tirelessly by herself to pull all the oxalis she could find. What a trooper!



The library garden is stunning, and visitors are constantly taking photos with the gardens in the background.

Marietta Bain, Bonnie Brooks, Ruth Donohugh
Civics co-chairs

Conservation



Our NAL delegates, Lolly and Chris, in Washington, D.C. They will give us a report at the



In addition to NAL, they visited the National Cathedral (above) and the National Gallery of Art (Chris with a Henry Moore sculpture below).



Lolly Menzies
Conservation chair

Floral Design

The Floral Design Committee met on February 29 for an instructional meeting on handheld bouquets. Sixteen ladies attended the session led by Judy Harrold. She demonstrated how caning and/or wire could be used in different sized or shaped coils as part of the bouquet. Judy manipulated the materials and then wound the flowers and plant material around the structure of wire or canning.

Below are examples of the finished product.





Judy Harrold and Susie MacMichael
Floral Design co-chairs

Garden History & Design

The Scenic Bench – Out on a Limb and more, a “twofer”

It takes some imagination to see the “bench” in this photo, aka a natural Cypress tree “limb” stretching toward the ocean, strong enough to sit and gaze at the sea with a nearby stump to rest one’s feet. The view is famous as it includes the Butterfly House with its flared wing-like roof. Some call it the flying nun house. Beware, following a narrow path to reach “the out-on-a-limb bench,” has its risks. Those with acrophobia stay clear. The sheer size of this Cypress tree is enormous along Carmel’s rocky cliff’s edge. The flowering ground cover in lavender hues will soothe the soul and literally take your breath away. It’s one of Carmel’s most unusual “benches” if you dare to go “out on a limb.” There is more, look down below the cliff to the concealed bench wedged between-the-rocks-on-the-sand. Nature is calling.



Recommended Reading

Please find the March 2024 Garden History & Design Newsletter ([click here to read](#)) from GH&D Chair Gloria McMahon for your reading pleasure.

Marcia B. Harrington
GH&D chair

Horticulture

The Horticulture Committee met in March at the Monterey Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society's (CNPS) propagation site and MEarth. Briane Leneve, from CNPS,

discussed propagation techniques and Hort members had the opportunity to purchase plants - possibly as a source for cuts in the Bench Show in May.

The Monterey Bay Chapter of CNPS hosts an annual Wildflower Show; this year it will be held on **April 20-21** at the Carmel Women's Club. The wildflower show is one of the largest in the country and a wonderful way to learn about native plants and wildflowers.



The next committee meeting will be a field trip to the home and garden of Erica and Loren Walden in Carmel Valley on **Tuesday, April 30**. The Waldens' site features an extensive installation of native plants which hopefully will be in full bloom. We will plan to carpool; members will be contacted by email with time and meeting place details.

For the upcoming Bench Show at the Annual Meeting/Luncheon in May the cuts should be plants native to California that grow in Monterey County or from a drought tolerant plant or fire-wise plant. The plant from which a cutting is taken should be owned by the exhibitor by **April 16**. Cuttings should be exhibited in clear glass containers.

And a reminder...the GCA Spring 2024 issue of The Real Dirt is hot off the presses; all CBTS GC members will "enjoy reading about the foundation of gardening and the power - and peril - of seeds...Let's get growing!"

Gay O'Connor and Susan Osborne
Horticulture co-chairs

P4P - Partners for Plants

North Dunes Habitat Restoration Project

March 19 was a great workday under blue skies. In preparation for April as National Native Plant Month, members planted native dune grass (*Elymus mollis*) and coastal California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica* var. *maritima*), which attracts native bees and butterflies. The group also pulled 115 lbs of invasive weeds (oxalis and riggut brome) and gathered .25 CY of old branches of senescent sagewort to allow for future growth. Our next workday is **April 16**.







Biologist Joey Dorrell-Canepa (above) walks along a path with yellow-flowered oxalis waiting to be pulled.

Diana Fish
P4P chair

Provisionals



This year's three Provisionals participated actively and added a lot to the club this year. All enjoyed a celebratory lunch at Roy's and took home gorgeous floral arrangements created by Chris. Pictured with their respective proposers: Julie Gikas with Terice Clark, Laura Vogel with Courtney Doust, and Rita Bell with Susan Uydess. Provisional Co-chairs Missy Jensen and Chris Johnson, Membership Chair Margaret Pelikan, and President

Cass Antle also attended the lunch.

Chris Johnson and Missy Jensen
Provisional Committee co-chairs

Visiting Gardens

The Carmel-by-the-Sea Garden Club will be hosting over 25 members from the Pasadena Garden Club on **April 9th, 10th, and 11th**. Isabella has organized a series of exciting garden tours for their visit. For more information, please reach out to Isabella.

Field Trip on Thursday, April 25th - open to ALL club members

Meet in parking lot behind California Pizza Kitchen, Del Monte Centre at 8:00 am. We will visit Merrill McGowen's garden in Hillsborough (10:00 am) and then Liza Jane McNaughton's garden in Woodside where we will have a box lunch and leave at 2:00 pm to avoid traffic.

Please email Isabella: idesibert@gmail.com to SIGN UP. Lunch will be \$25. Cash or check to Isabella or Zelle: idesibert@gmail.com. Carpooling will be organized nearer the date.

Save the Date

On **Monday, May 20th** at 2:00 pm we will visit a couple of interesting homes and gardens in Pebble Beach. Details to follow.

Isabella de Sibert
Visiting Gardens chair



Don't Forget to Read the Minutes

[Click here to read the](#) [Click here to read the March General Meeting Minutes](#). These minutes are pending approval at the April General Meeting.

Photo Highlights of Bruno Duarte Workshop









GCA Scholarship News

GCA's Scholarship Committee met to review the proposed 2024 GCA scholars whose unique passion align with the GCA's mission to restore, improve and protect the quality of the environment. Thanks to the careful management of GCA's endowment funds and the generosity of members, clubs, and friends this is an historic year for scholarship. **A record \$459,000 was approved for ninety-nine scholars.** Twenty percent of them are from Zone XII in fields including desert studies, native plants, medicinal botany, and urban forestry.

Details about the 2024 scholars will be posted this month and published in the summer issue of The Bulletin.

Community Billboard

Join Us!

APRIL 6TH, 2024



HILTON BIALEK HABITAT

4380 CARMEL VALLEY ROAD, CARMEL, CA 93923

10AM-4PM

FREE ADMISSION!

17th Annual
MEarth Day
April 6th, 2024



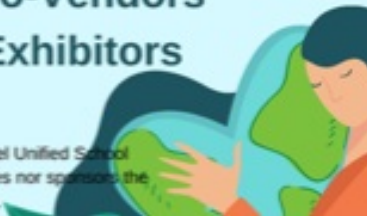
@MEARTH CARMEL

In the spirit of Earth Day, please join us for this memorable and unique community event!

**Native Plant Sale ~ Local Food ~ Music
Kids Zone ~ Eco-Boutique ~ Eco-Vendors
Silent Auction ~ Educational Exhibitors**

www.mearthcarmel.org

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Show and Tell



Iris sent in a little spring color from her garden - a Begonia that was a gift from a passing bird, and her Schlüsselblume, better known as Cowslip, which is a regular bloomer around Easter.



This charming flower, *Sparaxis tricolor*, harlequin flower, arrived unexpectedly with some freesia bulbs planted in Gay's previous garden. She saved a few of its bulbs and here it is again welcoming spring in her new garden.



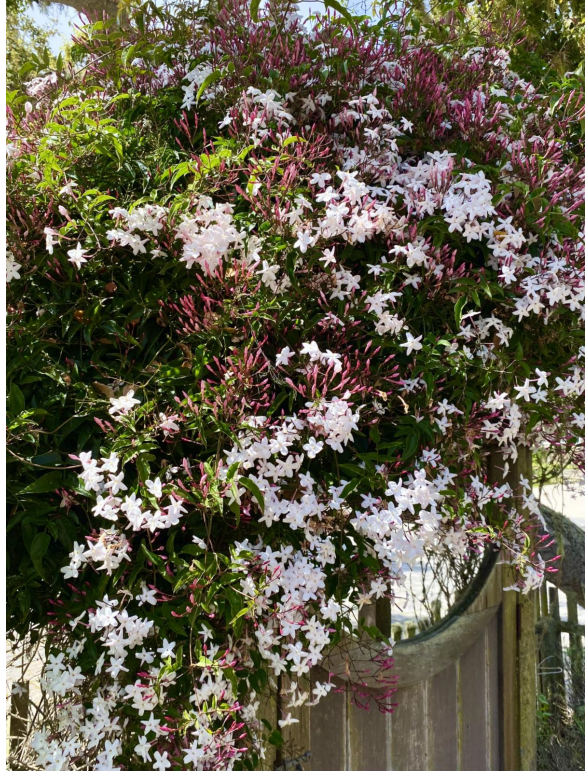
This small adult deer was in the fairway where Susan U. went to hit her golf ball. After Susan hit her ball, the deer did not move - she just watched the ball land and roll towards her...and then it rolled right into her chest! The deer decided it was hers, so Susan just took her photo and played another ball!



Look at all of the poppies that Susan O. photographed. Wildflowers are blooming!



Barbara contributed a riot of orange - a patch of volunteer calendula in her vegetable garden.



Susan U's camellia tree and her fragrant *Jasminum polyanthus* are covered with flowers.

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