



NEWSLETTER

Carmel-by-the-Sea Garden Club

Volume 37 Number 7 March 2025

President's Message

"Blossom by blossom the spring begins." Algernon Charles Swinburne

As we welcome March, I find myself reflecting on the inspiration, connection and friendship we shared in February. I hope you enjoyed the virtual GCA Photography and Floral Design conferences and came away with fresh ideas and knowledge. I really loved the February General Meeting space with its stunning views. Ramie Allard's "Carmel Garden Design: A Retrospective" presentation beautifully highlighted the connection between sustainability, our Mediterranean climate, native plants and thoughtful garden design. A special moment from our February General Meeting was Cass sharing the news of the Club Conservation Commendation to Clint Eastwood. The citation reads:

"In appreciation for his significant commitment and contributions to conservation on the Monterey Peninsula. His years of dedication have created a legacy for generations."

What a fitting tribute to acknowledge his efforts in conserving the natural beauty of the Monterey Peninsula. His framed Club Conservation Commendation Award will be displayed in a public space at the Mission Ranch.

I look forward to seeing everyone this week—we have such an exciting line up ahead!

On Tuesday, we have the Horticultural Committee field trip to Hacienda Hay and Feed where we will learn about regenerative gardening and composting systems. Wednesday will find us tackling those annual spring weeds at the North Dunes. On Thursday morning, esteemed photographer Michael Forsberg will present a workshop, *Writing with Light*, and in the evening, guests will join us for a program highlighting Mike's breathtaking photography, his gift of storytelling through photography and his environmental commitment.

Later in the month, our Conservation Chair, Caron Lacy, and our club delegate, Incy Brooks, will be traveling to Washington D.C. for the 42nd annual National Affairs and Legislation Conference. We look forward to hearing about your empowering experience in Washington!

I hope to see you on the general meeting zoom on March 20th, we will be discussing the bylaw changes that the board has carefully refined with much time and effort. We will present the proposed changes at the March General Meeting and in April at our general meeting the membership will vote to adopt the proposed changes. We will also be voting on the slate for the 2025-2026 Executive Board.

I know it's a busy time for us all, but I truly appreciate your commitment, dedication and enthusiasm for our club.

Excited to share the joys of spring with you,

Barbara

Mark Your Calendar

March General Meeting - Virtual

Date: Thursday, March 20

Time: Zoom will begin at 9:30 am for members, meeting promptly at 10:00 am.

Please email [regrets only](#) to Barbara

March 6 - Lecture and Book Signing - Guests Welcome



March 6, 2025

Carmel-by-the-Sea Garden Club presents

GCA Medalist Michael Forsberg
Into Whooperland

Carpenter Hall, Sunset Center

Garden club members & their guests invited at no charge.

4:00 pm Reception

4:30 to 5:30 pm Lecture and Book Signing



As the first recipient of the GCA J. Sherwood Chalmers Medal for photography,
Michael Forsberg's citation in 2020 reads:

Recognizing his awe-inspiring photography that depicts the beauty and fragility
of the Great Plains, and lauding his passionate commitment
to conservation education and environmental action.

Michael Forsberg, a Nebraska native, has devoted 25 years to photographing
America's Great Plains, covering 100,000 miles across twelve states and three Canadian
provinces. Through the beauty of Mr. Forsberg's photographs, he communicates why
the Great Plains matter, and his fascination with sandhill cranes led to five years of
documenting their migration and the publication in 2004 of *On Ancient Wings:
The Sandhill Cranes of North America*. His meticulous research and patience
lead to the "perfect shot," and his work and voice call for conservation action
and bring the magic of nature to the minds and souls of all who see his artistry.

Upcoming Dates

Tuesday, March 4, Horticulture, Visit to Hacienda Hay & Feed, 9:45 am

Wednesday, March 5, P4P Dunes Workday, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Thursday, March 6, Photography, Michael Forsberg will lecture on "Writing with Light,"
9:00 am social, 9:30 am lecture, Babcock Room at Sunset Center, guests welcome

Thursday, March 6, Reception, Michael Forsberg Program & Book Signing 4:00
pm reception, 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm program and book signing, Carpenter Hall, guests
welcome

Thursday, March 6, No-host Dinner at Rio Grill with Michael Forsberg after his presentation

Tuesday, March 11, Civic Gardens, 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Thursday, March 13, Board Meeting, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Gathering Place, Harrison Memorial Library

Tuesday, March 18, P4P Dunes Workday, 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Thursday, March 20, General Meeting via Zoom, zoom will begin at 9:30am for members, meeting promptly at 10am

Tuesday, March 25, Civic Gardens, 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Thursday, March 27, Garden Design & History, Hancock Park Garden Club member Carolyn Bennett will present "Artists in the Shadows: Women Who Turned Gardens into Art", 9:30 am social, 10:00 am lecture, Chapman Room at Sunset Center, guests welcome

Thursday, April 3, Horticulture - Butterflies of Monterey County

Committee News

Civics



The small but mighty weeding crew on February 11th.





The agave sale February 25th brought in **\$1,370** and made room for the rest of the agaves to spread. It was a really good day.

Rita Bell & Susan Osborne
Civic Projects chairs

Conservation



Please enjoy this beautifully photographed study of Monterey Bay that appeared in the Nature Conservancy magazine. [Click here to read article](#). The photos alone are worth a look!

At 9:30 am, Thursday, April 24, Dr. Cynthia Wagner Weick will give us insight on the botanical characteristics and conservation efforts for the Monterey Cypress and the influence this tree has had on 19th and 20th century artists. Fittingly, this meeting will be at Monterey Museum of Art's La Mirada location. Guests are welcome!

Caron Lacy
Conservation chair

Floral Design

The Floral Design committee gathered at Hilary's to try their hand at the Japanese art of Kokedama - they wrapped olive tree saplings in moss.



Hilary Gustafsson & Laura Vogel
Floral Design chairs

Garden History & Design

You're all invited to join us for a very special and exciting lecture by Carolyn Bennett on **March 27th at 9:30 am in the Chapman Room at Sunset Center**. Carolyn will present 'Artists in the Shadow: Women Who Turned Gardens into Art'. Using the words and images of female artists' works, Carolyn will showcase the fascinating personalities of these women, highlighting the societal and economic challenges they faced and the circuitous routes they took to fulfill their passions for including garden splendor in their art.

Carolyn recently spoke to the Santa Barbara Garden Club and they already want her to come back (it was that good!) and she received a standing ovation at Woodside Garden Club. Please RSVP to Diana Jacobson at (831) 596-1566. Guests are welcome.

Diana Jacobson
GH&D Committee Chair

Horticulture

Hello Horties - I'm hoping we will have a strong turnout for our visit to Hacienda Hay and Feed and its Rising Valley Farm on **Tuesday, March 4 at 9:45 am.**

Stay tuned for more details about our **April 1** meeting when we will meet Jan and Austin Tenney and learn about the butterflies of Monterey County - the title of their recently published book.

And hopefully you are carefully tending your offering(s) for our final meeting in May, the Plant Exchange.

Happy weeding,

Gay O'Connor
Horticulture Committee chair

P4P - Partners for Plants

North Dunes Habitat Restoration Project

Our February 18 workday at the North Dunes was marked by great activity as members cleaned up fallen eucalyptus branches, twigs, leaves and pips, removed invasive panic veltgrass and oxalis, and pruned dead twigs from native buckwheat to encourage new growth. About 300 pounds were bagged.



There will be two workdays in March to catch up on spring weeds and fallen debris: **March 5 and March 18.**

Photography

Monthly Photo Showcase

Pictured below are photographs that capture the essence of "**Passion/Love**". Thank you for your contributions: Laura, Barbara, Caron, Lynn and Courtney

All members are encouraged to send in photographs that capture the essence of "**New Beginnings**" by **March 24th**, that will be featured in our March newsletter.

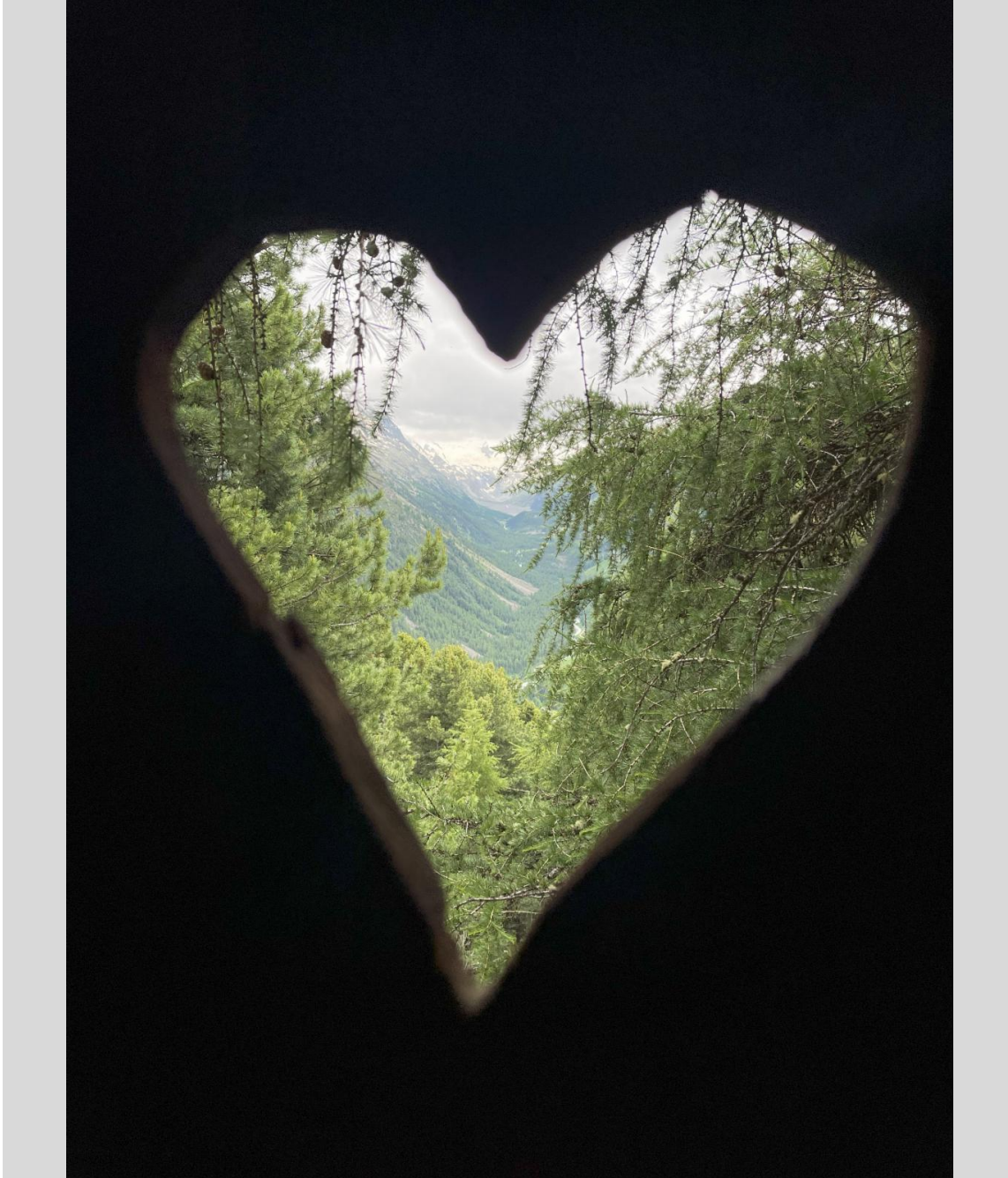






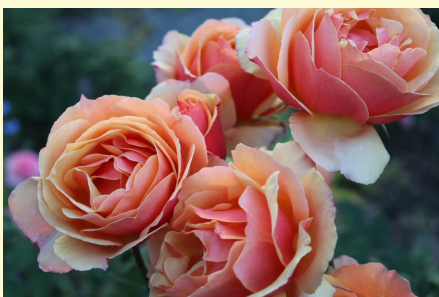






On **March 6th at 9:00 am**, nature photographer, Michael Forsberg, will instruct us on "Writing with Light". This lecture is applicable to all skill levels and camera types. We invite all members to attend this meeting in the Babcock room at Sunset Center. If you have a friend who can't attend Michael's afternoon lecture on March 6th, you are welcome to bring a guest to this meeting instead. Please RSVP to Courtney.

Cass Antle & Courtney Doust
Photography chairs



Don't Forget to Read the Minutes

[Click here to read the February General Meeting minutes.](#) Please send along **any corrections or additions** to our Recording Secretary, Kathy Sparolini.

Inter-Club Payments

If you have an expense for reimbursement, please email Terice the receipt or send the details via USPS to her personal mailing address: PO Box 1416, Pebble Beach, 93953.

Upcoming Zone XII Flower Shows

Hillsborough GC, “**Hit Refresh!**” - a GCA Flower Show - April 22-24

Woodside-Atherton GC, “**Simply Spring**” - a Club Flower Show - May 17

The Portland GC, “**Inspirations 2025 Kaleidoscope**” - A GCA Major Flower Show - May 16-18

Tacoma GC, “Back to the Future” - a GCA Flower Show, September 6-7

All GCA members from any club are welcome to enter any GCA and GCA Major Flower Shows. Only host club members may enter their club's Club Flower Show.

GCA 2025 Annual Meeting Scarf



The Annual Meeting Scarf, modeled above by Susan U. and Missy, is a large, 52” square scarf in a lightweight wool/silk combination. The scarves are available in four different colorways. If you are interested in purchasing one, please go to the **GCA Marketplace**.

Show and Tell



A volunteer viola showed up under Gay's potted rose - leaving her puzzled and charmed by its arrival.



If you're looking for inspiration for the May plant exchange, check out these three beauties that Gay is nurturing. From left to right: Ligularia, Kalanchoe, and a Pacific Coast Iris.



Spring's comes alive in Lynn's garden with vibrant narcissus blooms, while her delightful garden gnome (below) stands guard, adding a whimsical touch to the scenery.



For our first flashback photo, Iris shared a beautiful memory that her iPad selected for her homepage. Taken on December 14, 2017, it features the ever-inspiring Shirley Meneice

front and center.



Our second flashback photo was shared by a CBTSGC member who went to high school with our GH&D guest speaker, Carolyn Bennett. Hint: they're both in the third row up from the pool.

Carolyn and Susan U. were Aquettes (water ballet team) together at Evanston Township High School.

Carmel-by-the-Sea Garden Club | PO Box 1416 | Pebble Beach, CA 93953 US

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