

Clear Lake Trowel & Trellis Garden Club



Clear Lake Trowel & Trellis Garden Club (CLTTGC) is a member of Mendo-Lake District Garden Clubs, California Garden Clubs Inc (CGCI) and the National Garden Clubs Inc (NGCI). We were founded on September 21, 1955, by five women who wished to create and promote interest in amateur gardening in Lake County.

January 2012
Vol. 1, Issue 5



Officers:

President:

Helen Turley

Vice President:

Linda Waterstraat

Treasurer:

Ginny Cline

Secretary:

Jo Douville

Parliamentarian:

Jo Shaul

www.clttgc.org
See us on Face

Carnations

Need some hours
of full sun each day
and should be kept
moist. Remove
spent
flowers.



Thyme with President Helen: Our theme for this year is "Every Year a New Beginning" and now we have officially begun a new calendar year—2012. Hopefully you all had a jolly holiday season. For those of you who still make New Year's resolutions, how are you doing so far? My New Year's resolution is to become a more educated gardener.



Over the years, I have found myself saying, "As soon as the holidays are over, I'll..." And then I would fill in the blank depending on whatever I had been putting off. This year I found myself asking, "As soon as the holidays are over what needs to be done in the garden?" Since I am a novice gardener, I really couldn't answer that question. I love the fact that I can Google almost anything and get an answer. That fact has been particularly helpful in writing my monthly message.

Most of you are seasoned gardeners and probably already know all this but since I joined the Club to get better educated, there may be others like me who don't and maybe this information will be a good reminder for you veteran gardeners, too.

This information is for Zones 7-9:

BARE-ROOT—this is the prime month to buy and plant dormant roses, shrubs, fruit and shade trees, and vines. Bare-root plants cost less and adapt more quickly than container plants.

BERRIES—Blackberries, raspberries, and strawberries are all available bare-root this month. For a treat, try 'Olallie' blackberry. The huge 1-1/2 inch-long berries are sweet and succulent, and the plant is well adapted to Northern California. Or plant a row of flavorful 'Sequoia' strawberries.

ORNAMENTAL VEGETABLES—Ornamental vegetables add a colorful new dimension to flower beds. Some cool-season choices include cabbage, kale, red and green lettuces, and Swiss chard. Mix them with calendulas, Iceland poppies, pansies, stock, and violas.

SUMMER-BLOOMING BULBS—now's the time to order special varieties of begonias, dahlias, gladiolus, lilies, and other summer-blooming bulbs by mail.

VEGETABLE SEEDS—Sow seeds of cool-season vegetables for planting out in February. Try rainbow chard—Bright Lights is a tasty one or lettuce.

I'm sure there are many other things for me to know and do but for January, this is enough to get me started and, hopefully, inspire you to get started, too. Spring will be here before we know it. As we begin another "New Beginning"—winter; enjoy every beautiful Lake County day with which Mother Nature blesses us—no matter what the temperature. Google is great but even better is my own Garden Club family who is always willing to share their knowledge and experience with this novice gardener. Thank you and Happy New Year.

WHEN STRAW GOES BAD Jerry

Josephine, do you remember the year that you and Santa Claus got together and gave me a new bow and arrows so that I could play Robin Hood. Those were the days that I looked and felt a little more like Errol Flynn--you're laughing. Well to go along with the program I bought six of the trashiest weed infested bails of "straw" to act as a backstop while I honed my skills as an archer -- but they were so cheap. That was a wet winter and water puddled and flowed all over the yard. That spring the yard "sprung" with seedlings I couldn't identify. Late spring, early summer I identified many of them: Bur Clover, Yellow Star Thistle, several other ugly thistles, fox tail and other

happy campers. I saw no urgency to irradiate the unwanted. So I let many of them exercise their primary purpose of reproducing their species. In many cases I just roto-tilled them into the soil. Over the next several years I could be found in all areas of the yard on hands and knees plucking them from the soil being careful not to allow any seeds to drop before placing them in the burn barrel. So the morale of the story is don't let your wife buy your Christmas presents and if they require straw bails, pay a little more for good clean straw. As gardeners this is good advice when using straw for mulching around plants. And as for you Josephine, stay away from Santa Claus.



SUNSHINE LADY

Marva Brandt

Thinking of You

- ♥ Jo Douville
- ♥ Doris Ellsworth
- ♥ June Beto
- ♥ Diane Neilson & Helen Turley



Taking joy in living is a woman's best cosmetic.

Rosalind Russell

Green Thumbs Up



to **Rena Clifton**, **Nora Gerrard** and **Heather Jameson** for helping with our latest Garden Therapy project. **Jo Douville** for all the treasures she finds in her thrift store adventures; **Barbara Swanson** and friend, **Jo Swenson**, for the beautiful autumn leaves; and **Ann Blue** for her collection of green bottles. All of you help to make the Garden Therapy activities unique. THANKS!!!! **Jo Jameson**, chair



to **Jo Jameson** for her dedication and creative inspiration to brighten up the lives in the adult respite program. **Jo** welcomes anyone wishing to join her and be blessed.

FUYU PERSIMMON BUNDT CAKE

Joyce Potterfield

Grease and flour a Bundt cake pan.

Preheat oven to 350.

Blend 2 tsp baking soda into 3 cups of chopped firm Fuyus. Set aside.

In a large bowl, beat 1/2 cup soft butter with 1-2/3 cups sugar. Add 2 eggs, 2 tsp lemon juice, and 2 tsp vanilla and beat until fluffy. Stir in Fuyu mixture.

Sift together 2 cups flour, 1 tsp baking powder, 1 tsp salt, 1 tsp ground cloves, 1 tsp cinnamon and 1 tsp nutmeg. Stir flour into Fuyu mixture just until blended. Add 1 cup chopped walnuts and 3/4 cup raisins

Pour into prepared pan. Bake 55-60 minutes or until toothpick tests clean. Cool 15 minutes in pan. Turn onto rack until cool.



Award Book

Deadlines:

January 10th, 2012

See Jo Shaul

or Mary Secord

ALL BOARD MEMBERS & CHAIRMEN PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY TO ATTEND A MEETING AT 11 AM.



Christmas Wreaths 2011



Christmas 2011

PEAR BREAD Jo Shaul 12-1-2011

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2/3 cup margarine (1 ½ inch cubes) | 1 tsp salt |
| 1-1/2 cup sugar | 1 tsp baking soda |
| 2 eggs | 2 tsp baking powder |
| 1 tsp vanilla | 2 tsp cinnamon |
| 2 cups grated pears (3 or 4) | 2 tsp apple pie spice |
| 2 cups flour | |

Cream margarine and sugar; add eggs, pears and vanilla. Sift together flour, salt, baking soda, baking powder, cinnamon and apple pie spices. Add all ingredients to first mixture, turning well. Grease and flour 2 loaf pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 40-45 minutes.



Green Thumbs Up

to **Betty Atwood-Reyna** for making our Christmas Luncheon a joyous occasion. Each place setting had a festive bouquet and a flower-pot of candy. The tables were adorned with wonderful arrangements by our **Lake Ka-Ba-Tin Redbud Arrangers**.



Green Thumbs Up

to **Leanne Harvey** and all the Clubbers that worked so hard to make this workshop a great success! (From Leanne), I counted 35 members and many guests who expended an amazing amount of work, knowledge and technical skills for the club's benefit. Each of us did it with a terrific work ethic and positive attitude to complete the big job of making wreaths. We sold and made 152 wreaths and then made wreaths for members and working guests. Thank you all for giving so much of your time and energy! CLTTGC members really are the best!

HEADS UP

SOS Your Nominating Committee (Jo Jameson, Rena Clifton, Mary Ann Worth) are busy finding new nominees for the 2012-2013 Board. Please consider your talents and decide where you want to serve. We are looking for a President, a Vice President, and a Secretary (Ginny Cline will continue on as Treasurer). Please call Jo Jameson at 263-4039.

Wonderful World of Ferns



Not until we are about to lose something in the garden do we really understand how important it is to us, particularly when we've helped it grow from infant stage to adulthood.

When my neighbor cut down my 8 trees to 6 foot fence height, he also left my 10-year fern collection vulnerable to the hot sun! I made tents using 70% Shade Cloth and 4 posts each in 4 areas. Worked great and they are all enjoying winter. Some are going through that exciting time of propagation (See diagram Reproduction Cycle).

During this propagation process, I find myself marveling at these ancestors of the oldest known plant (at least 280 million years ago). They were here before the dinosaurs roamed the earth – grew in steamy swamps that covered much

of the world. We even benefit today using coal – called a fossil fuel, because it is made from fossilized remains of giant ferns and cycads.

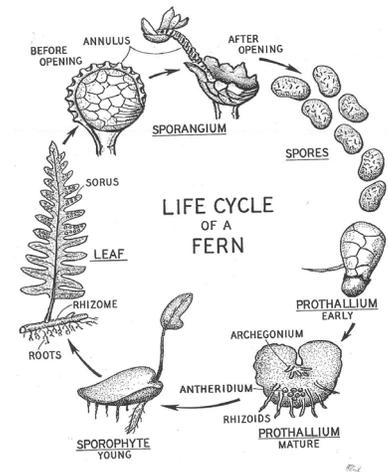
Great beginning for the New Year would be to try growing some hardy ones in your shaded areas outside – to study and observe these great plants.

Thru the ages they have developed distinct habitat preferences. Some became terrestrial at home in woods, fields and swamps, up cliffs and mountains while other adapted to lakes and ponds – growing from the tropics to Arctic Circle.

Try several small 3"-pot ferns indoors in 2" deep trays with pebbles in the bottom for ventilation and drainage. North light from facing window is best.

Happy New Growing Year! Doris

by Doris Ellsworth



How a Fern Reproduces

TWO generations alternate in a fern's life cycle. The (1) sporophyte generation is the stage at which the plants are most familiar to gardeners and nature lovers. It is the non-sexual "generation" of the plant. Small clusters of fruiting bodies (2), called sori, are formed on the under surfaces of fertile fronds. The sori consist of spore cases or sporangia (3). Under favorable conditions, the spores (4) are dispersed and develop (5) into prothallia. Each prothallium is a green, heart-shaped plantlet, about 1/4 of an inch in diameter, attached to the soil by rootlike, colorless rhizoids and containing microscopic male and female sex organs on the underside; these produce sperm (7) and egg cells (8). A mere droplet of water provides the means for the sperm to reach and fertilize the egg. When an egg cell is fertilized by a sperm, it divides and grows into the familiar fern plant (1 and 9). (Stages 4, 5, 7, and 8 can only be seen under a microscope.)

Mendo-Lake District / Winter Board Meeting

January 25, 2012 we will be hosting the Mendo-Lake District Winter Board Meeting and luncheon. Our Honored Guests will be Julie West, CGCI President and her 1st Vice President Rita Desilets.

Julie will present the program "A Brief Overview of My President's Project".

The meeting begins at 9:30 am with a social and breakfast breads and beverages. Luncheon at 12 Noon will be a soup and salad buffet with desert to follow.

All members are invited to attend. The luncheon is \$15.00. Workers pay \$7.

Barbara Swanson is Chairman of the event and has many of the members on her committee.

APRICOT RUM CAKE - Barbara Swanson

(Cooking Time: 45-50 minutes)

- 1 package Yellow Cake Mix
 - 4 eggs
 - 3/4 cup vegetable oil
 - 3/4 cup apricot nectar
 - 1/4 pound margarine or butter, melted
 - 2/3 cup sugar
 - 1/3 cup rum
1. Mix together the cake mix, eggs, vegetable oil and apricot nectar. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour a tube pan. Bake cake for 45-50 minutes.
 2. Mix together the melted margarine and sugar. Mix well, until sugar is dissolved. Add 1/3 cup rum. Mix well and pour over the baked cake while the cake is still hot. Let stand for 1 hour before serving.



Green Thumbs Up



to Barbara Swanson and the LKR Arrangers for presenting their beautiful Holiday Centerpieces. Barbara explained some basics for this particular arrangement style. Members shared which plants they used as well as the mechanics they used to build their arrangement. All members of CLTTGC are welcome to join. For pictures see clttgc.org.

Lake Ka-Ba-Tin Redbud
Flower Arrangers—
Triangle Design

PROGRAM CHANGE FOR JANUARY 2012: Leslie Jones will be presenting a workshop called 'BLING RECYCLABLE'. The object is to re-purpose the beautiful objects around your house.

Is Mistletoe Really The "Kiss of Death"? Posted on Thursday, December 08, 2011 by eNature

Almost all of us have come across American Mistletoe, the white or green-berried parasitic plant hung in doorways during the holiday season to elicit kisses from those standing beneath it. Reputed to be the "kiss of death," Mistletoe (the *Phoradendron* species is found in North America) is said by some to be so poisonous that humans can be killed if they ingest the leaves or berries. This myth has been endlessly repeated throughout the years, reappearing every December in countless holiday safety reports on television and in print. Is it true? Is American Mistletoe a holiday killer?

What The Research Says Two physicians and researchers from Pittsburgh decided to find out. Dr. Edward P. Krenzelok (of the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh) and Dr. Terry Jacobson from Carnegie Mellon University examined data from the American Association of Poison Control Centers and found 1,754 reports of mistletoe exposure over a seven-year span. Curiously, not only had no one died of mistletoe poisoning, in the overwhelming majority of the cases (approximately 90 percent), the patient experienced no effects at all.

Those patients who did have effects suffered only minor discomfort. Treatment at a poison control center or at home made no discernible difference in patients' recovery or outcome. Most mistletoe ingestion is reported in children, often those under two, who finding a couple of berries or leaves that have dropped to the floor will put them in their mouths.

What To Do if You Ingest Mistletoe Drs. Krenzelok and Jacobson found that most, if not all, exposure to Mistletoe was not dangerous. That said, children who ingest the plant or its berries should be observed and treated for poisoning symptoms, such as nausea or diarrhea, at home if they do arise. They suggest that parents call their local poison control center and follow the advice given. The study did not indicate whether ingestion of large quantities of mistletoe might be more toxic, nor did it address the degree of exposure that might be toxic in pets (who might be inclined to eat a larger quantity than a child).

Causing at most only minor discomfort, American Mistletoe does not seem to have earned its reputation as the "kiss of death." Its European cousin, *Viscum album*, sometimes used in herbal remedies, is more toxic, but is not sold commercially in North America and is thus rarely encountered.

A Bit More About Mistletoe Mistletoe is an interesting plant—it's a semi-parasitic shrub which grows on other trees. Although able to photosynthesize its own nutrients, mistletoe relies on its host for most of its nutrients. The plant draws its mineral and water needs, and some of its energy needs, from the host tree.



THANK YOU, everyone that helped with the Chrysanthemum Show, MUM'S THE WORD - 2011.

LOVELY was the word, and our best show yet. Keep on growing and going! Thanks to the set up crew, there bright and early and those big tables seemed to take wings and fly into their places. Wings were on Jim and Leanne Harvey, Joyce Porterfield and her husband. Helen was there with the key and helping hands.

It was a beautiful morning, and after the tablecloths were spread all the arrangers came with their '*creativity*' and the show began to bloom. Thanks to all who had the "Words" to share with us.

The show really began, months ago when you all made cuttings and planted your 2011 chrysanthemums. Some ordered new ones from the King's catalogue. Some gathered them from the Garden Club Plant Sale. The Rescue Team of the Harvey's came in June for the grand task of planting our Flower Mums' collection when it was evident she would not be able to grow them this year. It all starts in the dirt. It takes digging, watering, pinching, 0-10-10, and lots of daily care and staking. Some are over six feet tall. This year the rain did its thing and some bowed their heavy heads. Others were stunned by our early frost. This year the show had four specimen growers. Members shared their blooms with others making arrangements. We had twelve arrangers, which add up to 20% of the club members. There were 15 different styles of arrangements. We are getting creative!

Thanks to Jerry Shaul who made extra backdrop holders so we could display our "Words" in our own little alcove. They really help set things off! Thanks to Jo Shaul who graced the sign in table – all day long; and gave us the statistics of who came and had a nice donation basket of returns. She also had a lovely arrangement to set the welcome table. Thanks to Susanne Russell and her creativity in the entry display.

The cookie display was a sweet treat as well, thanks to all of you who had visions of goodies. Thanks to Joyce for hauling around all that cider, refreshing out-of-the-crock-pots brought in saying this is 'Autumn'. Thanks to those that brought the crystal plate and cup sets from the clubhouse making this a most elegant affair. Thanks to the "Kitchen Queens" Heidi and Rena keeping everything in order.

The cleanup was as a blink of an eye, everyone pitching in, and the Harvey-Porterfield Crew again flying in to do the heavy work. We left it like we found it, but I am sure the walls picked up the beautiful essence of the day.

Heartfelt thanks to Helen and Linda, our Presidents who did a lot of behind the scenes fitting things together. Their support for this event is greatly appreciated. Another piece of heart goes to Claire as she stood by my side, and even put words in my mouth to get all of this going and kept it rolling.

There is one more, my DH, in all quietness picked up and delivered all my stuff and packed in a lot of containers and a lot of other things - who has been by my side 49 years and 1 day as I write this on 11-12-11, Did he realize I was a "flower child"?

We were all very glad our "Real Flower Mum" was able to come and see all her "children", in bloom.

I hope everyone feels thanked – with visions of MUMS forever more! **Shirley Estrem**

"WORDS THAT CAME TO LIFE," JO SHAUL

Editor's note: Thank you Shirley! Without your leadership, contributions, and encouragement this vision would not have been a reality.



Clear Lake Trowel & Trellis Garden Club

Return mail: Pres Helen Turley
PO Box 1903, Lakeport, CA 95453-1903

The club meets at 12:00 pm
on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.
Scott's Valley Women's Club House
2298 Hendricks Road
Lakeport, CA 95453

Garden Club Affiliates

- **National Garden Clubs, Inc.**
(www.gardenclub.org)
National President: Shirley S Nicolai
- **Pacific Region**
DHinchey@alaska.com
Director: Debbie Hinchey
- **California Garden Club, Inc.**
(www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org)
President: Julie West
- **Mendo-Lake District Garden Club**
(www.mendolakegardenclub.org)
District Director: Virginia Stranske



Every Year a New Beginning!



Forget-me-nots

January 2012

- 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!
- 3 10:30am (Tues) Garden Therapy-Clearlake
- 5 10:30am (Thur) Garden Therapy-Lucerne
- 10 Deadline for turning in Awards Books.
- 14 Lake Ka-Ba-Tin Redbud Flower Arrangers
Theme: Triangle Design
10:00am (Tues), St John's Episcopal Church
- 17 Regular Club Meeting
Hostesses: B Swanson, P Held, C Grieve
11:00am Board Meeting
12:00pm Social Time
12:30pm Flower Roll Call
1:00pm Regular Club Meeting

2:00pm Program: 'Flora Program will be replaced with, 'Bling Recyclable' by Leslie Jones

- 19 *Happy Birthday Ann Blue!*
- 20 11:00am (Fri) Redwood Arrangers- Ukiah
- 25 Mendo-Lake District- (Details on pg 5)
Winter Board Meeting
Hosted by CLTTGC
(Barbara Swanson/Chair)
- 27 *Happy Birthday Katherine Lewis!*

*Congratulations to Jo & Jerry Shaul!
In December they celebrated their
67th Wedding Anniversary.*

*Deadline for newsletter articles
is the fourth Tuesday of each month.*