

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.

May 2012
Vol. 1, Issue 7



Officers:

President:

Helen Turley

Vice President:

Linda Waterstraat

Treasurer:

Ginny Cline

Secretary:

Jo Douville

Parliamentarian:

Jo Shaul

www.clttgc.org
See us on Face

California Poppy

Avoid over-watering once plants are established. Great for naturalizing fields, vacant lots, roadsides, and rock gardens.



Thyme with President Helen:

May is considered by some to be one of the most beautiful months of the year. The wild flowers are blooming. I just love seeing our beloved California poppies and the glorious fields of wild mustard everywhere. The first gardens begin to sprout this month. Many birds have built their nests and mother birds are sitting on their eggs, which will soon hatch.

Several stories are passed around to explain how the month of May was named. The most widely accepted explanation is that it was named for Maia, the Roman goddess of spring and growth. Her name related to a Latin word that means increase or growth. All we have to do is look to see that "growth" is happening everywhere around us as we move into this 5th month of the year, which actually used to be the 3rd month on the early Roman calendar.

There are some interesting superstitions about May. One is that first thing in the morning on May 1st, young girls used to rush out into the garden to wash their faces in the May dew. WHY? There is an old tale that says that May dew has magic properties and that anyone who has washed their face in it will have a beautiful complexion all through the year. This dew was supposed to be able to remove freckles and also spots and pimples. It doesn't say anything about those of us who are a "little" older. I wonder if it removes wrinkles!!! Maybe I'll give it a try and let you know.

One other superstition that interested me was "Cats born this month will not be good rodent catchers and even worse, will bring snakes into the home". Yikes—fortunately, we have no pregnant mummies right now in our Cattery.

And about May weather.... It is said that "A wet May makes a big load of hay. A cold May is kindly and fills the barn finely." I wonder what Mother Nature has in store for us this year.



One of my best memories of elementary school in May was "dancing around the maypole". Do kids still do that today?

Arbor Day is the last Sunday in May. The time when we can be pretty sure here in Lake County that Mr. Frost won't be showing up for awhile. Think about planting a tree in honor of someone special in your life and then be sure to let Leanne know.

I hope you are all taking the time to be out in your gardens enjoying the milder weather and all the May flowers that our glorious April showers have given us. Summer will be here soon—another NEW BEGINNING.



POPPY LOVE

Jerry Shaul

Since 1890 our state flower, most beautiful of all. Viewed long before from coastal sailing ships as fields of flaming gold. Revered by Native Americans for it's medicinal "magic." A gift from their gods when first they came and eons before. Well, here I am a late comer and intruder at best. Flame flower, La Amapola, Copa De Oro, Golden Poppy or California Poppy it knows no boundary. Of the number of species my favorite is the California Poppy (*Eschscholsia Californica*). Twenty or so years ago when I became seriously interested in landscaping with natives, I chose to use California Poppies along dry driveway borders and fence lines with mass plantings in dry areas prone to promote weed growth. Not so fast and it wasn't. If I had known then what I have learned since, I would have observed where poppies grow best in Lake County. Well drained lean soils especially serpentine formations and always in full sun. I would have used seed from plants grown locally - especially from my landscape. After flowering has stopped and seed pods are mature I cover plants with a plastic bag and tie it around the main stem. After the



pods have "exploded" I cut the stem and harvest the seeds. Broadcast seeds after the fall rains without any special soil preparation. Depending upon success you may find seedlings growing where they're not wanted. Poppy plants are both annual and perennial. When "Happy" the perennial will improve each year and grow into a large bouquet of gold. The seedlings must be transplanted when very small with a tap root 6 - 8 inches. Remove a plug of soil 3 inches in diameter that extends beyond the tap root. Place in a hole of the same dimensions; fill voids with loose soil and compact soil by "foot stomping" followed by watering. This operation should occur during the February/March period. O.K. Josephine it's time to remind me as to why I have this special fascination with the California Poppy. Yes, when I was 9 years old, Gloria with sky blue eyes and golden hair teasingly threatened to kiss me. Being very shy I bolted down the grassy slope with my bare feet skimming through hundreds of Golden Poppies. I lost my footing and fell. To this day I can smell the fragrance of crushed poppies. As promised I was kissed by Gloria. Oh, come on Josephine it was just "Poppy Love."



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

**PLEASE
return Binder
this May.**

2012-2013 OFFICERS

President: Leanne Harvey
VP: Hans & Carol Dobusch
Treasurer: Ginny Cline
Secretary: Helen Turley

KELSEYVILLE KID'S GARDEN:

Helen Finch, who spoke to us at the last meeting about the Kelseyville Kid's Garden, called last night because she found the thank you notes she mentioned from the kids for the Club's donation to their garden and needed my address to send them to me. While we were talking, she mentioned the Kid's Garden Plant sale and I thought some of you might be interested. The date is

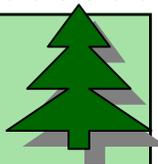


May 12. It is at Kelseyville Elementary School from 9 to 2. Their main focus this year has been heirloom tomatoes and herbs so if you are looking for seedlings, you might want to support this sale.

Helen also runs a business from her home called Finch Gardens. If you are interested in what she has created, there will be an open house on May 20 from 3 - 6. The address is 6565 Live Oak in Kelseyville. There will be food, music, and fun. Helen sells the produce she grows at Finch Gardens at the Farmer's Market in Kelseyville, which will be opening on May 5.



Congratulations!
Rena Clifton
 59th Penny Pines'
 Recipient



Family Resource Center—Workshop
 Friday: May 4th, at 9:00am (NOTE DATE CHANGE).
 Linda has made arrangements for some dirt to be delivered and, of course, the area needs to be weeded again before the dirt can be spread in the planters and the rosemary planted.



Green Thumbs Up

to Barbara Swanson who demonstrated 'Ikebana-Sogetsu Flower Arranging'. She gave a wonderful program with many examples of styles and techniques. " *The secret of the art of arranging flowers artistically is the earnest study of the fundamental styles*". *Ikebana*, by Sofu Teschigahara



June 4-7, 2012 - CGCI 81st Convention
 Host: Sacramento River Valley District Cal Expo
 DoubleTree, Sacramento



New Member

Basor, Christina

Jo Douville's email
 w-douville@yahoo.com

EXPLODING WEED: Bittercress (*Cardamine hirsuta*)
 (SEE <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rAuUJrzaJJY>)



Seed pods on bittercress (*Cardamine hirsuta*) are called siliques. Each silique generate about 30 seed, and each bittercress plant can generate up to 5000 seed per plant (Bachman and Whitwell, 1995, SNA Proceedings, pg.288-290).

Bittercress are generally easy to control with pre-emergence herbicides. However, because one weed can generate so many seed, failure to use or properly time herbicide applications can result in rapid infestation. This is why bittercress tends to be more problematic in propagation (where herbicides are not used) and during overwintering.

UC Master Gardeners of Lake County Present

SPRING GARDEN EVENT



Agricultural Center, 883 Lakeport Blvd., Lakeport, (707) 263-6888

Free! Sunday, May 6, 2012
 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
 (Rain or Shine)

Presentations:

- 10:30 Native Plants
- 11:30 Drought-tolerant Planting
- 12:30 Fire Safe Landscaping
- 1:30 Vegetable Growing
- 2:30 Pests/Diseases

Continuous Demonstrations:

- Spring Seed Starting
- Soils and Compost
- Transplanting
- Irrigation



Plants and Gently-Used Gardening Items
 will be available (Cash or check only)



Youth Activity Table, Garden Tours, and MORE

PLANT CLINIC

Master Gardeners will be available to answer gardening questions
 Bring plant samples in sealed plastic bags



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Call for special accommodations



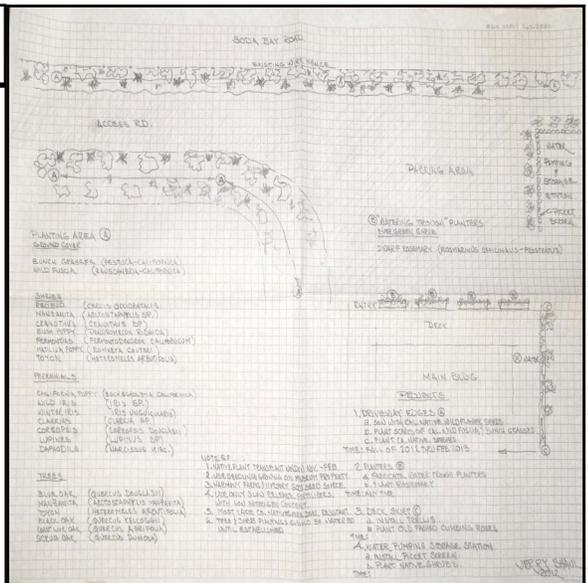


Green Thumbs Up



to Jerry Shaul for his work on our new Civic Beautification project, The Ely Stage Stop. Jerry presented a plan to the Board of his vision of plantings of the grounds in different stages. The Board approved

the plans and Jerry, Hans and Helen will meet with Greg Dills to see if it meets with The Ely Stage Committee's approval. Five hundred dollars has already been approved to start the work (probably in November).



SUNSHINE LADY

Marva Brandt

Sympathy Note-Reba Richardson's family
Thank You-Richard Birk (donated gift certificate)
Thank You-RB Peters (rocks)
Welcome to Christina Basor



(Please let Marva know if someone needs a little sunshine)

CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION: A bench has been purchased for the Hartley Cemetery Chapel Garden. Jerry will install it so that it cannot be *easily* removed.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: The deadline for the scholarships was April 15th. We have 15 applications to review. The scholarship application review meeting will take place on May 10th. Marva, Susan, Joyce and I are looking forward to deciding which student will receive the CLTGC's \$1,000.00 scholarship.

Our holiday wreath project makes the scholarship possible. The Wreath Chair is open for next year. It's not a difficult job, and it provides funds for the scholarship as well as for other projects like the Kelseyville Kid's Garden Club and Civic Beautification. Let Leanne know if you are interested.

Subscribe to the new **CGCI e-NEWSLETTER** by signing-up at www.californiagardenclubs.org

Lake County Fair –We don't have a Chairperson. See Helen if you are interested. When we win, this is a great money maker.

Linda Waterstraat is collecting BOX TOP\$ to help our schools get needed equipment. Now is the time to turn them in.



the difference
I can make.



Green Thumbs Up



to Jo Jameson and her helper Bees (Barbara, Mary, Doris, Heide, Nora, Rena, and others), for putting smiles on the faces of participants in the adult respite program.



The Lakeport Meals on Wheels clients received delightful baskets of flowers for Easter.



Lake Ka-Ba-Tin
Flower Arrangers—
Duo Design—Page 136

SPOTLIGHT—GARDEN OF THE MONTH Carol and Hans Dobucsh



"It's spring; it's spring.....the merry month of May!" These song lyrics from a favorite play celebrate a time of year in which many of us find ourselves doing battle with or for Mother Earth as we rehabilitate our gardens after winter's ravages. For Hans and me, this "spring clean-up" has included fun activities such as mucking out a goldfish pond, separating and relocating more than thirty water lilies, cutting back view-obscuring brush, grooming sticky juniper bushes, planting hostas where the "sun don't shine," and ornamental trees where it does, raking up fallen debris, pulling weeds, mowing foot-long grass, shocking an under-chlorinated swimming pool, spraying Round-up up and down steep terraces and.....the list goes on and on! But how we love to be outside and how we revel in the beauty of our hilltop home! We've taken some photos to share with you. The garden to the south of our house is in the process of be-



coming. From the back, looking forward, you can see that we converted an old hot tub into a gold fish pond. Apple, locust, maple, black walnut, olive, pine and redwood trees form the skeleton of this garden which is fleshed out by the additional plantings of countless numbers of bushes, grasses, and flowers along the pathway that meanders throughout. Another view- from front looking back- features a better look at the pathway with black walnut trees, daylilies, penstemon, sages, dogwood, smoke bush, columbines, etc. on one side and spirea, peonies, heuchera, rosemary, crab apple, camilia, euonymous, etc. on the other.

To the north of our house is our "Buddah" garden, named in honor of the red, portly garden statue residing therein. Here you find the deep shade of tall cedar trees, the mounds of ivy and thyme, cement pagodas, picnic tables, the mucked-out goldfish pond, and the unexpected color of a red maple. Moving farther along, you emerge from the shade to hear the soothing water fountain in the koi pond below and to see before you the splendor of Mt. Konocti.

How fortunate we are - as retirees - to have time and energy to develop and maintain our spot of heaven on earth. But better still, how wonderful it is to have friends to share it with!



As President Elect, I started looking at all the jobs everyone does for the club. With the great people we have who step up to the plate for chairing, no wonder the CLTTGC works so well and accomplishes so much. I am hoping that most of the chairs will continue in their present posts. **If not, please let Leanne know before the May meeting.**

Chairing the positions is fun for both new and experienced members so let me know right away which of the positions below one(s) you'd like to fill. Thanks to all the chairs in advance. Sharing the positions and

duties, keeps the club fun for all.

Hurry and volunteer for one or more positions before they get filled! [Open positions as of April 18th for 2012-13.](#)

Wreath Making
Scholarship
Trees
Membership
Daffodil Tea
Lake County Fair Exhibit



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

REMINDER:
PAY YOUR 2012-2013
DUES TO GINNY
AT OUR NEXT MEETING.



Every Year a New Beginning!



Forget-me-nots

MAY 2012

- 1 10:30am (Tues) Garden Therapy-Clearlake
- 3 10:30am (Thur) Garden Therapy-Lucerne
- 4 9:00am Workshop –CHANGE FROM MTG
Family Resource Center.
- 6 Lakeport MG " Spring Garden Event"
- 8 Lake Ka-Ba-Tin Redbud Flower Arrangers
Theme: Duo Design
10:00am (Tues), St John's Episcopal Church
- 12 Kelseyville Kid's Garden-Plant Sale
- 15 Regular Club Meeting
Hostesses: Gladly B, Suzanne R, & Marva B
11:00am Board Meeting
12:00pm Social Time

- 12:30pm Flower Roll Call
- 1:00pm Regular Club Meeting
- 2:00pm Program: 'Critter-Voles & Moles',
Greg Giusti, Forest & Wildlands Ecology Advisor &
Director of the UC Davis Cooperative Extension in
Lakeport
- 18 11:00am (Fri) Redwood Arrangers– Ukiah
- 18 *Happy Birthday Thelma Dangel!*
- 27 *Happy Birthday Sunol Westergren!*
- 30 *Happy Birthday Leslie Jones!*

June 19th 2012-2013 Officer Installation
Potluck

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