

RIVER VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

A PLACE TO GROW

MAY 2018

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 9

HERE'S THE DIRT

Rooting for You: Are you a Bee or a Butterfly?

Jamie Fox, Newsletterer

To the right is a butterfly plant, which provides nectar to adult butterflies. Enticing, isn't it? A rainbow of colors mesmerizing a butterfly to come hither. But who thinks of a butterfly as a major pollinator? They just fly around looking pretty, right?

Bees have the reputation of being the wunderkind of the pollen world. Where would agriculture be without them? Bees are terrific at what they do. The zippy pollinators cover small areas and whiz in and out of flower heads collecting pollen on all parts of their bodies.

Butterflies, however, do their fair share of pollinating also, and in a manner that is extremely important.

Unlike bees, which collect the pollen *and then quickly return to the hive*, butterflies *perch* on larger flower heads and drink nectar, and in doing so, they collect pollen on their legs and body. As butterflies continue their search for food, they keep flying and alighting, flying and alighting, and in this manner they transport pollen to plants over great distances. Butterflies are cross-pollinators extraordinaire, which ensures a good mixing of plant genes.

So, why the bee vs. butterfly comparison?

Because it is time for us to define the RVGC leadership for next year and you can decide if you will be a bee or a butterfly. Now is the time to consider chairing a committee, or being a committee member for the 2018-2019 year. At the root of the River Valley Garden Club are the scholarships we give. By our work in the garden club, we generate income to fund the committees that fund the club, which funds the scholarships. The club is badly in need of a Scholarship Committee chair and Workshop Committee chair. *Will you travel great distances, or quickly return to the hive?*

Yes, RVGC members enjoy delightful programs, workshops, events, and camaraderie with like-minded people. But in truth we are a do-good organization. We help defray the horrific cost of college with our scholarships. Like the butterfly, we have this terrific ability to pollinate afar. But without people at the helm, chairing committees and volunteering, RVGC can't be the butterfly to those worthy college students who need our help.

So.
Are you a bee, or a butterfly, and what are you going to pollinate next?



Butterfly Plant

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2017-2018 Programs and Workshops

Seize the moment. Man was never intended to become an oyster.

~ Theodore Roosevelt

Date	Type	Provider	Location	Details
May 22, 2018	Program	Gary Cline	RMA Bldg.	Penny Pines and the Eldorado Forest

Program: Penny Pines - A Chance to Make a Difference

Mary Zelle, VP Programs

Gary Cline will be the speaker for the River Valley Garden Club's monthly meeting on May 22nd at 7:00 pm. The monthly meetings are held at the RMA building. Gary is a representative from [Penny Pines](#) which is a cooperative conservation program that operates a reforestation program in California.



The program was officially launched in San Francisco in 1941 and has been going strong ever since. Many garden clubs and civic groups support Penny Pines. Our Garden Club takes up a collection at our regular monthly meetings to donate to Penny Pines. For every \$68 collected, one acre of a Penny Pines Plantation is planted with over 300 trees. Our monthly donations go to the program to help reforest the El Dorado National Forest.

Gary will provide a brief history of how the organization started, how it operates today, and why this is such an important program to California. Everyone in the community is invited to attend our monthly presentations. Please consider donating any amount to this worthwhile program when the collection basket is passed during our meetings. One can also donate \$68 to the program as an honorarium, birthday, or Christmas gift and have an acre of trees planted for a special person.



Club News and Events

Program: Ace Hardware Gardening Event, Saturday, May 19

Debbie Kolmodin, Community Outreach Chair

RVGC will hold its 2nd annual garden tool sharpening and children's gardening event in front of RM Ace Hardware on Saturday, May 19, 9 a.m. to noon. Our youngest club member, Jack Blaisdell, is representing child gardening by demonstrating how he uses an unusual medium to grow flowers and veggies.

RM Ace Hardware partners with us to present this fun event to our community. Come out, support our club, and see what it's all about!

Sacramento Valley District Meeting, May 15, 2018

Berniece Jones, District Liaison

Our District meeting will be on Tuesday, May 15th at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center in Sacramento. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. with lunch around 12:00.

Each garden club President will present a short one to two minute recap of what their club activities were this past year. This is a great way to pick up new ideas for tours, workshops, programs, and fundraising.

Other events during the meeting will be the scholarship presentation to a college student, installation of new officers, and there is always a gift table with raffle items and plants for sale at bargain prices.

I encourage everyone to attend and meet other gardeners from other clubs and get to know those few of us from our club who always attend the district meetings. We meet at the RMA building and carpool. Please call me if you are interested. 916-354-2873



California Garden Clubs 87th State Convention, June 4 - 7, 2018

Black Oak Resort, 19398 Tuolumne Road north, Tuolumne, CA 95379

“Going for the Gold”

Berniece Jones, District Liaison

Everyone is invited to State Conventions and they're great fun. Our very own Nancy Compton is a state officer and will be attending, as well as others who have stated that they are interested in attending for a day or two.

For event information (“The Call”) and convention highlights, [click here](#).

The daily convention schedule can be found [here](#).

The registration form can be obtained [here](#). It needs to be filled out and mailed with your check. Deadline for the reduced registration fee of \$45.00 is May 4th. The cost of registration for forms postmarked between May 4th and the May 18th deadline, is \$70.00.

Meal prices are included on the registration form.

If you can possibly attend, contact Nancy Compton (354-0354). Carpooling and room sharing helps keep the expenses down and leaves more funds for gambling.

Our district has committed to hosting the Fall Board for the state in 2020, so this is an opportunity to observe the way things are done at these conventions. Our club will be asked to support the Fall Board in 2020. Several years ago, our club had to make several gift baskets for the raffles. We also sent several volunteers to help during the convention. Molly, Marianna, and I volunteered that year. Mark your calendars with the convention date and join the fun. Need more info? Berniece (354-2873).



In the Spotlight

Debbie Kolmodin, Community Outreach Chair

Keep your eye out for the May issue of RM Neighbors magazine. It will feature an article written by Nancy Clark introducing RVGC and it will spotlight who we are and what we do as a club.

The editor of RM Neighbors magazine approached us last year and Nancy Compton wrote an article on behalf of RVGC's Community Outreach Committee. The ladies of the Outreach Committee will continue to write articles for the magazine and discuss different gardening topics. The editors feel that their readers are interested in gardening and would like to learn gardening techniques and information.



Refreshment Committee

Debbie Kolmodin, Chair

In keeping with our "beverage of the month" theme, Rosann Stevenson will work her magic once again as our star mixologist and whip up a refreshing and delicious drink for our May 22 meeting. As usual, the refreshment committee will have delicious treats gracing our refreshment table.

If you are a volunteer who has signed up to bring treats to the meetings during the 2018-19, I will send you a reminder a week prior to a meeting. Please send me a reply to confirm that you have received the reminder, and that you will indeed be bringing a refreshment for the table.

Membership Committee

Irene Slavens, Chair

A trunk full of veggies and flowers from Big Oak Nursery is made even better with the help of our garden club discount card.

That's in addition to great programs, workshops and events.

Don't miss out - sign up for our 2018 - 2019 Season.

Only \$25 for a full year of fun!



We had 25 Members and 4 visitors attend the April 24 general meeting.

Description	9/26/17	10/24/17	Holiday Party	1/23/18	2/27/18	3/27/18	4/24/18
			NA				
Total number of Members	41	53		55	56	56	56
Number of New Members this year	5	7		9	10	10	10
Number of Mbrs at meeting/party	33	27		29	24	30	25
Number of Visitors at meeting/party	3	11		1	4	4	4

Swap Meet Success!

Photos by Debbie Kolmodin



Swap Meet, Con't.



Nancy Compton and Helen Mary Scheinert. Helen Mary's son, Pete, generously allowed us to set up shop in front of his Stonehouse Bistro.



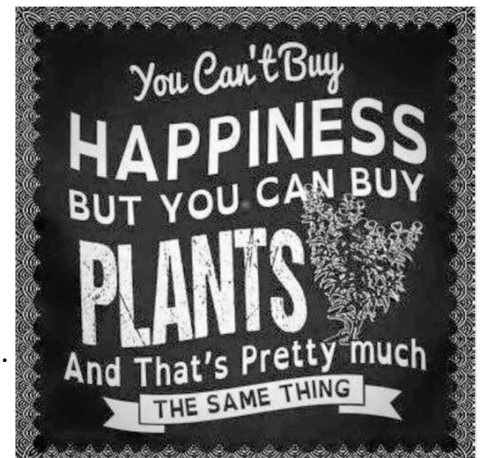
The Swap Meet raised over \$400 - much of it designated for the RVGC Operating Budget and other committees.



Nursery Discount Program

Debbie Kolmodin, Chair

This is the season to take a drive and exercise your garden club discount card. Our website has a [list](#) of all the places you can shop for plants and flowers to receive a discount. Print it out and keep it in the car to help you plan your plant buying trip. If you do not have your club discount card, please make sure when you come to the May meeting to check the back of your name badge for this card. Badges are located at the greeter's table. If you have misplaced your card and need a new one you can get a replacement at the greeter's table. [Get the list.](#)



Summer Picnic - June 27

Carol Prinzo, Chair

If you haven't already done so...

Please be sure to RSVP and indicate if you will be attending, the names of your guests (if you are bringing any), and if you will be bringing a main dish salad, or hearty appetizer.



“LET’S GET GROWING!” RVGC ANNUAL PICNIC SOCIAL

ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS!

COME AND ENJOY OUR END OF THE YEAR SOCIAL!

DATE: TUESDAY, JUNE 26TH

TIME: 5:30PM

PLACE: RMA BUILDING

**BRING EITHER A MAIN DISH SALAD OR HEARTY
APPETIZER AND AN ADULT BEVERAGE OF YOUR CHOICE.
LEMONADE AND ICED TEA WILL BE PROVIDED AS WELL
AS DESSERT!**

**** AND WEAR YOUR FAVORITE GARDEN HAT!****

RSVP TO: CAROL PRINZO, rcprinzo1962@gmail.com or

354-9688

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

Sacramento Farmers' Markets

I'm sure we will all be growing massive quantities of fresh food this summer, but in case we run a bit short, (what, no rutabagas?) Debbie Kolmodin has shared this handy flyer of the days and locations of Sacramento Farmers' Markets.



CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKETS OF SACRAMENTO

WWW.CALIFORNIA-GROWN.COM

SATURDAYS

NATOMAS

8:00 AM - Noon

The Promenade

3637 North Freeway Blvd. - N. Natomas

Open May through September - (EBT)

ELK GROVE

8:00 AM - Noon

Laguna Gateway Center

Laguna and Big Horn Blvd. - Elk Grove

Open All Year - (EBT)

FAIR OAKS - RANCHO CORDOVA

8:00 AM - Noon

Sunrise Light Rail Station

Folsom and Sunrise Blvd

Open All Year - (EBT)

ARDEN-ARCADE

8:00 AM - Noon

Country Club Plaza

Butano Drive Parking Lot - Sacramento

Open All Year - (EBT)

Certified Farmers' Markets Of Sacramento

Bringing California Family Farmers to
Our Sacramento County Communities
Since 1980.

SUNDAYS

SACRAMENTO

8:00 AM - Noon

State Parking Lot

8th and W Streets - Sacramento

Open All Year - (EBT)

TUESDAYS

SACRAMENTO

10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Roosevelt Park

9th and P Streets - Sacramento

Open May through September

SACRAMENTO

10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Fremont Park

16th and P Streets - Sacramento

Open May through September - (EBT)

Sign Up for our Email Newsletter!

What's in Season at the Markets.
Healthy Tips and Information.

www.MarketLocations.com

WEDNESDAYS

DOWNTOWN SACRAMENTO

10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Chavez Plaza

10th and J Streets - Sacramento

Open May through October - (EBT)

THURSDAYS

SOUTH SACRAMENTO

8:00 AM - Noon

Florin Sears Store

Florin Road & 65th Street - Sacramento

Open All Year - (EBT)

DOWNTOWN SACRAMENTO

10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

Capitol Mall

6th Street and Capitol Mall - Sacramento

Open May through September

DID YOU KNOW?

The month of May was named for Maia, the Greek goddess of fertility.

The May birth flower is the Lily of the Valley which was under the protection of the son of the goddess Maia. For the Greeks the son was named Hermes, and for the Romans he was Mercury.

Another legend tells of a Lily of the Valley which fell in love with a nightingale's singing, and only bloomed when the bird returned to the woods in May. The meanings of the Lily of the Valley flower can vary from love, passion, beauty and perfection. The meaning depends upon the color of the flower.

May's birthstone is the Emerald, which is emblematic of love and success.

Mother's Day is celebrated on the second Sunday in May in the United States.

Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the ancient Greeks and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday."



Income from 4/24 RVGC meeting

Ruth Lecheler-Moore, Treasurer

Penny Pines collected: \$22

Raffle collected: \$46



What is it About May?

Jamie Fox, Newsletterer

Here we are, already in May, shedding the last vestiges of winter, enjoying near perfect weather (not too hot, not too cold) all the while eyeing summer and its impending adventures. People start feeling frisky. Hence the Merry Month of May reference. No wonder there are celebrations.

May Day is Lei day in Hawai'i. Lei Day started on May 1, 1928 in Honolulu as a way of perpetuating the centuries-old practice of lovingly presenting someone with a garland of flowers strung on a thread. On Lei Day, celebrations abound in Hawai'i, and flowers, on clothing and people, are everywhere. The islands are awash in color and fragrance. There is even a song. Enjoy it [here](#), complete with a hula.

In other cultures, May Day has roots in ancient times and is a traditional spring festival. [Maypole dances](#), singing and cake are usually part of the festivities.

In Camelot, however, they celebrated the "Lusty Month of May". Feel free to adorn your hair with massive amounts of flowers and join in the merriment.

[Celebrate the Lusty Month of May here.](#)

And then there's Mother's Day. More phone calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year. These holiday chats with Mom often cause phone traffic to spike by as much as 37 percent.

The official Mother's Day holiday in America was conceived in the 1900's as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's death in 1905, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children.

We all have mothers, and many of us are mothers and grandmothers as well. I think you will agree the job is not for the faint-hearted. Mothering can be a difficult business, with moments of heartbreak and angst, but also great joy and pride. If you've ever wondered what went on when mothers were created, you can find out [here](#).

So, to mothers everywhere, I wish you Happy Mothers' Day and send you this song in recognition of the hearts you have fostered over the years. Sung by the extraordinary *One Voice Children's Choir*, [this song is for you.](#)