

# The Real Dirt

NEWSLETTER OF THE

RAMONA GARDEN CLUB, RAMONA CA  
A CGCI BLUE RIBBON CLUB

**MAY 2025**

**General Meeting: May 14, 2025**

**Mountain View Community Church 1191 Meadowlark Way, Ramona**

**Doors open at 11:15 am**

**10:00 am Board Meeting**

**May Guest Speaker: Greg Rubin**

**Native Plants and Landscape Design**



As President and Founder of

*California's Own Native Landscape Design, Inc.*

Greg has been working with California native plants since 1985.

His company has designed over 700 native landscapes in Southern California.

Specialties include residential, commercial, and institutional landscapes that provide year-round appeal, low maintenance, water efficiency, rich habitat, and fire-resistance.

Greg has been featured in several periodicals and media coverage includes repeat appearances on NPR. He regularly gives presentations and workshops on native plants to conferences, garden clubs and other organizations throughout Southern California. He loves to incorporate paths, bridges, sitting areas and benches, patios, bird baths, shade structures, rocks and boulders, and dry streambeds that become flowing creeks when it rains.

Come join us at the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting to learn more about the importance of smart garden design and combining the right plants to promote the natural symbiosis that occurs within plant communities.



### Teri & Jane's Corner



Hello Dear Members,

Teri and I are looking forward to this last regular meeting of the year at MVCC!! We both have enjoyed working together for our wonderful garden club.

It is about what we do for the community (e.g. Collier Park, Scholarships, the Safari Park, the Library Flowers), but most of all it is about all of you and the dear friends that have come together on behalf of this wonderful organization. ***We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.***

We have grown to 93 members as of this date, and there are more to come before our June Installation in Collier Park.

This reminds me that May 2025 will also be our Election of Officers. I hope you can all make it to our May 14th meeting to participate in our election. As you all know our nominees: Robert Holton for President, Bonnie Crawford for Vice President, Babara Boryla for Secretary and David White for Treasurer!

**The RGC is now completing it's 22nd year of operation.** We have survived a pandemic and some bumps in the road but have dusted ourselves off and we are intent on our survival to continue the good work we have started.

Which leads me to the upcoming **Saturday, May 3rd Plant and Craft Sale at Ramona Oaks Park**. We are trying to do our best to support this event and really raise the bar on proceeds - we want to support our Scholarship awardees! I hope you can all come out and support our fundraiser, tell your friends and family about our event, we need a big turnout.

Lastly, there will be a special Members Only garden tour of Robert and Rebecca's amazing garden on the afternoon of June 1. Details to follow!!

See you all soon,

*Teri and Jane*

**Ramona Garden Club Field Trip for May**  
**Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, Summers Past Farms, El Cajon**



At the ***Spring Antique & Crafts Fair,***  
**on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>**  
over 50 fine craftsman and expert artisans will be at this  
event.  
Crafts, collectables, antiques, and a garden sale all on the  
spacious lawn area.

Enjoy your time strolling, learning, listening to live music,  
and shopping at this great outdoor event!

And with *Mother's Day on Sunday, May 11*, this event can be the perfect time to shop  
for Mom!

**NOTE:** Since this field trip occurs before our May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, interested members  
who want to carpool, will meet at the park-n-ride off Dye Road, behind the fire station  
at **9:30am, May 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**The Summers Past Farms address:**

**15602 Olde Hwy 80, El Cajon, CA 92021**

**Phone: (619) 390-1523.**

**Contact: Robert Holton (720) 346-8677 for more information.**

**A Quick View of May Activities**

**April 30th - 4pm to 7pm - Large Container Plants Pre-Sale (page 5)**

May 2nd & 21st - Safari Park Work Day

May 5th & 19th - Collier Park Work Days (page 5)

**\*\*\*\*\*May 3rd - Plant and Craft Sale - Ramona Oaks Park \*\*\*\*\* (page 4 & 5 & 12 & 13)**

**May 10th - Field Trip - Summers Past Farms, El Cajon (page 3)**

**May 14th - Board Meeting 10 am - General Meeting & Potluck 11:15 am (page 1)**

**May 26th - Newsletter Deadline**

June 11th - Last Meeting of Year! Installation and Potluck at Collier Park

## **Ramona Garden Club Plant and Craft Sale**

**May 3, 2025**

**Ramona Oaks Park 25341 Pappas Rd, Ramona, CA**

**10 am to 2 pm**

Our Plant and Craft Sale is taking place Saturday May 3 from 10 to 2 at **Ramona Oaks Park in Country Estates.**

The gate opens at 8am for set up.

If you are bringing plants you will be able to drive across the grass to the covered picnic tables where our sale will be.

Heading east on Pappas, make the first left past the time shares into the small parking lot. You will be guided from there.

If you are helping with set up you can arrive as early as 8.

If you are just bringing plants or crafts please arrive between 8:30 and 9:30.

All you shoppers arrive at 10 for the best selection. It is going to be a great sale.

For more information contact Debbie Gomez at [\*\*deb4fino@pacbell.net\*\*](mailto:deb4fino@pacbell.net).

Or Carol Wilson @ [\*\*caroljaywilson@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:caroljaywilson@gmail.com)

For Craft information: Diane Schafer @ [\*\*zoomnphoto@yahoo.com\*\*](mailto:zoomnphoto@yahoo.com)







**Ramona Garden Club**

## **Pre-Sale of Large Container Plants**

will be held Wednesday April 30th

4 PM- 7 PM at

16773 Georgia Way SDCE

then on



Saturday May 3rd  
Ramona Garden Club  
Plant and Craft Sale

will be held at  
Ramona Oaks Park SDCE  
from

10 am - 2 pm

**[www.RamonGardenClub.com](http://www.RamonGardenClub.com)**



### **Work Days at Collier Park**

**Mondays May 5th & 19th, 2025**

Come join the group to help get the Collier Park  
ready for the June Installation and Potluck  
Meeting!

There is always lots of different things to do  
and lots of good times to be experienced.

## Elections for Ramona Garden Club 2025 - 2026

Robert Holton and Jen DeSimone have been hard at work obtaining an excellent slate of nominees for the upcoming 2025-2026 Ramona Garden Club Board. They are as follows:

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Robert Holton   | President      |
| Bonnie Crawford | Vice President |
| David White     | Treasurer      |
| Barbara Boryla  | Secretary      |

Nominations from the floor will be accepted at that time with prior okay from people nominated.

Please attend the General Meeting in May to participate in this very important vote!



### May Birthdays

3rd - Jane Vidal

3rd - Barbara Boryla

10th - Pamela Strider

11th - Toni White

14th - Scott O'Brian

15th - Jack Schlotte



20th - Karla Brustad

21st - Jim Faust

25th - Linda Ball

28th - Susan Vanderveen

29th - Rita Eastman

## April Question of the Month

**“Do you feed the wild Birds? What is your Favorite bird that comes to your yard?”**



**Valeria Privett:** Yes, I have a seed feeders & fruit feeders and 2 hummingbird feeders. The hummers are my favorites

**Rebecca and Robert Holton:** We have 4 feeders for hummers and 1 for Niger seed. Hooded Orioles are our favorites.

**Mary Ann Rodarte:** We have 6 feeders: Thistle, Sunflower & regular bird seed and 3 hummingbird feeders. I quit feeding hummers in June so they go to my flowers. My favorites are the Scrub Jays and they like the peanuts.

**Carl Hurst:** I have one hummingbird feeder and plan on getting a seed feeder.

**Pene Manale:** I have 3 hummingbird feeders and 1 seed feeder. My favorite is the hummers.

**Bonnie Crawford:** I have 3 hummingbird feeders and 5 seed feeders. Mourning doves are my favorites.

**Carol Wilson:** I have 3 hanging feeders - one for the Jay's peanuts. My favorites are the quail with babies and 20 plus turkeys!

**Georgie Suitor:** I have 4 seed feeders. Favorites are the orioles and the little birds.

**Lauren Moll:** I have 4 seed feeders: seed and Niger seed. Favorite are the quail.

**Eric and Susan Shapira:** We have 8 feeders, all seed. Favorites are the quail and thrashers.

**Gerry Bowman:** Have one with seeds and one with peanuts. Favorites are hummingbirds.

**Jeff Biletnikoff:** Have 6 seed feeders. Favorites are the orioles and I faithfully feed a flock of up to 50 turkeys outside my back gate!!

*Such a fun hobby for gardeners. We get to sit and watch the birds & lizards enjoy our yards as much as we do!!*



### **Bald Eagle Visits Ramona Barn Owls**

Ramona Barn Owls and our member, Stacey Rudge, just had a Bald Eagle come to their camera pointed at the Hawk Pole! It was the first time he had come to visit. They have Red Tail Hawks, Turkey Vultures, Kestrels and occasionally Red Shoulder Hawks. Check out the video of the Eagle:

[https://youtube.com/shorts/4BUFkyURoiQ?si=Z\\_IPGGLiHUODbda3](https://youtube.com/shorts/4BUFkyURoiQ?si=Z_IPGGLiHUODbda3)



### **Ramona Community Library Flowers**

#### **At the Senior Center!**





## April General Meeting



Our April General Meeting was another grand success! **Tyler Trimble of Backyard Fruit** gave us wonderful advice on how to make our backyard fruit trees grow and produce the best possible fruit.



Potluck was enjoyed by all



Kathy sold lots of raffle tickets



Teri ran a tight meeting and Debbie Co-Chair of the Plant Sale gave us all the updated news of the Sale.



Diane had a presale on Craft Items



The Horticulture Table had a wide variety of plants



We had free stuff and good information shared with us.



## April Field Trip to the Kumeyaay-Ipai Interpretative Center, Poway

On April 14<sup>th</sup>, pleasant weather, and a bone-rattling earthquake welcomed 14 RGC visitors to the site of an ancient Kumeyaay village in Poway. Some time was first spent in the museum learning about various artifacts used by the Kumeyaay for 8,000 years at this sacred historical site. The group then headed out for an enjoyable walking tour of the 5-acre ancient village site, learning about how various plants and trees were used in harmony with nature, and learned why the site is sacred to the Kumeyaay.



Robert sharing about the center



Learning new things, hiking and spending time with new and old friends!!





## Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

Serving North County



*Spring Festival*  
~ **PLANT SHOW & SALE** ~

**Saturday, May 24, 2025**

**10:30am to 2:00pm**

**FREE - Open to the Public**

**PERFECT FOR THOSE JUST NEW TO THE HOBBY!**

PLANTS & POTS FOR SALE - NON-JUDGED SHOW  
WORKSHOPS ON VARIOUS SUCCULENT AND CACTUS TOPICS

Grace Presbyterian Church, 1450 E. Vista Way, Vista, CA 92084

[www.PalomarCactus.org](http://www.PalomarCactus.org) - [info@palomarcactus.org](mailto:info@palomarcactus.org) - We're on FB

### Executive Board 2024 - 2025

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Co-Presidents  | Teri Schmidt      |
|                | Jane Vidal        |
| Vice-President | Robert Holton     |
| Secretary      | Jennifer DeSimone |
| Treasurer      | David White       |

**Ramona Garden Club P.O. Box 1412 Ramona, CA 92065**

**Webpage: [www.RamonaGardenClub.com](http://www.RamonaGardenClub.com)**

**Find us on Facebook - Ramona Garden Club**

Newsletter Editor: [maggiocrane@att.net](mailto:maggiocrane@att.net)

Affiliations:

**National Garden Clubs Inc.** - [Gardenclub.org](http://Gardenclub.org)

**Pacific Region Garden Clubs** - [pacificregiongardenclubs.org](http://pacificregiongardenclubs.org)

**California Garden Clubs, Inc** - [Californiagardenclub.com](http://Californiagardenclub.com)

**Palomar District** - find through [Californiagardenclub.com/](http://Californiagardenclub.com/) member websites



# Crafts Sale Items created by the Garden Club Crafters



## Art Bottles



## Cement Planters



## Birdhouses





# **Ramona Garden Club Plant and Craft Sale**

**May 3rd 10 AM - 2 PM  
Ramona Oaks Park SDCE**



**Plants Grown & Raised in Ramona  
Large Potted Specimen House Plants**

**in unique containers**



**Succulents**

**Cactus**

**Protea**

**Epiphyllum**

**Bulbs**

**Cuttings**

**Native Plants**

**Garden Crafts and Garden Art  
Succulent Gardens  
Gently Used Garden Decor,  
Tools, & lots of pots**

**[www.ramonagardenclub.com](http://www.ramonagardenclub.com)**