



The Real Dirt

General Meeting March 11th

Wednesday, March 11, 2020 will be the next meeting day for The Ramona Garden Club! So save the date. Our General Meetings take place the 2nd Wednesday of the months (Sept-June). Bring or invite a guest, a friend, or family member. You may arrive at **12:00**. On the agenda will be a warm welcome, club business, our pot luck lunch followed by a featured speaker — This month it is **Mary Friestedt** who will give her presentation on **HERBS**.



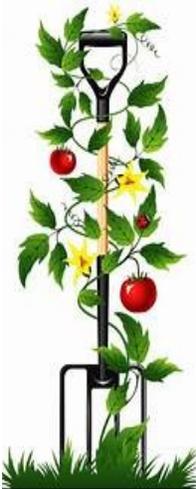
For the March Pot Luck, members with a last name starting with **M thru Z**, please bring an appetizer, a salad, or a main dish. Everyone else, please bring something to satisfy a sweet tooth. Coffee, tea & water will be on hand for your beverage. Do not forget to fetch your own dish, cup & utensils from home so that we will not have as much waste and utensils to wash.



Mary Friestedt, our guest speaker, is a retired college teacher who has been a docent at San Diego Botanic Garden since 2001 and Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve since 2012. She is a member of the Del Mar Garden Club and is also a Master Gardener. In her talk on March 11, she takes us beyond herbal flavors to herbal health remedies. Think antioxidants, skin care, arthritis remedies, and more.

She explores the history and culture of medicinal plants and shares their legend and lore. How did Cleopatra keep her hair and skin so beautiful? Can an herb change your hair from gray to black?

Come learn about the amazing properties of herbs.



The Ramona Garden Club meets at 12:15 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Mountain View Community Church, 1191 Meadowlark Way

A guest speaker, refreshments, door prize, plant swapping, raffle, horticulture table and library table are featured.

For additional information contact:

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

Member of the National Garden Clubs Inc. (NGC), NGC/Pacific Region and California Garden Clubs, Inc. / Palomar District and a proud Blue Ribbon Club

President's Message



Dear Distinguished Garden Club Members:

As the date approaches for our upcoming Ramona Garden Club Plant Sale and Garden Tour, we are making the final preparations for this most important even. This includes gathering members to volunteer for certain necessary tasks.

Please read the newsletter over very carefully, particularly the information provided regarding these vital positions which are in need of filling!

I'm confident it will all come together before the deadline, but please understand that WE NEED each and every one in the club to participate in some way or another.

Being an RGC member is so much more than merely arriving at the meetings, listening to the announcements and speakers, and enjoying the potluck. We have so many commitments and contributions made by everyone. This is definitely a team effort! Accordingly, I hope you will do what you can and get involved.

Sincerely & Lovingly,

Georgie Suitor
President

Announcements



RGC Tour Ticket Sales

We will be selling tickets for garden tour at either Stater Bros or Albertson's and we NEED people to sign up to sell them. The following shifts are available and currently unfilled:

- * Tues. 3/31 4:00-6:00 pm
- * Thurs. 4/2 4:00-6:00 pm
- * Sat. 4/4 4:00-6:00 pm
- * Thurs. 4/9 4:00-6:00 pm
- * Tues. 4/14 4:00-6:00 pm
- * Thurs. 4/16 4:00-6:00 pm
- * Sat. 4/18 4:00-6:00 pm

Hope you all have sold the 2 tickets each member is responsible for selling... AND HOPEFULLY MORE!! Tell everyone who buys a ticket to the tour that they will be eligible for a 10% discount on 6 restaurants around town.

HOSTESSES NEEDED!! We currently have 9 people signed up as hostesses for the tour, but this is not enough. We had a wonderful time being hostesses at the last RGC Garden Tour. I guarantee you will get something out of it should you decide to be a hostess. For one, you get to be involved in the pre-tour before anyone else gets a chance to view the lovely gardens on the tour. We will have Rita & Debbie on hand to take down your name as a hostess at the General Meeting on the 11th.

*We rely heavily on volunteers to make the tour and sale a success. Consequently, WE NEED YOU! Please take a couple of hours on one of these days to help out our club.

SVVC Fundraiser—April 4th — Rita and Diane will be there 1 to 4:30. We will have made centerpieces for the table, and will be selling tickets for the tour there. We hope to make something to auction off at the Silent Auction at this fundraiser.

*We also need someone to distribute signs around town on the day of the tour.



March Birthdays



- * *Jeanne Cannon*
- * *Debbie Gomez*
- * *Susan Hartman*
- * *Linda Joop*
- * *Patty Mussen*
- * *Linda Mulick*
- * *Julie Perreault*
- * *Ferrie Raymer*
- * *Diane Schafer*
- * *Jane Vidal*
- * *Kitty White*
- * *Lubomyra Yoldas*

NEW MEMBER CORNER

I'd like to welcome our newest member of the RGC, Debbie Moring. Debbie heard about RGC's speaker on succulents and decided to go to the meeting. She is an instructor on making mosaics with stained glass or broken china, etc. and many of her classes have been at the local wineries around town, i.e., Ramona Ranch, Turtle Rock, Mahogany where they will make mosaics on flowerpots. She believes the class is full but is hoping to add a 2nd one*. "I love gardening!" she said.



Birdbath (above) made from old satellite dish.

*See her FB page.



Does anyone have a craft that they would like to teach everyone for the Craft Sale
call Diane 760-658-0334



Still looking for crafters to have enough items to sell at our sale!

RGC Calendar of Events for March 2020

March 2	Craft Workshop—Rock Painting with Diane S.—Scout Hut	Page 6
March 6	Chandler Herb Garden at Safari Park Volunteer Day	Page 6
March 11	General Meeting	Page 1
March 13	Beautification Day — Collier Park ~ 9:00 a.m.	Page 4
March 18	Chandler Herb Garden at Safari Park Volunteer Day	Page 6
March 25	Board Meeting—Home of Linda Ball	
March 27	Beautification Day —Collier Park ~ 9:00 a.m.	Page 4
March 28	Debbie Moring's Mosaic Flower Pots class—Mahogany Winery Noon	Page 3
March 31	Volunteers Sell RGC Garden Tour Tickets - 4:00-6:00 p.m.	Page 3

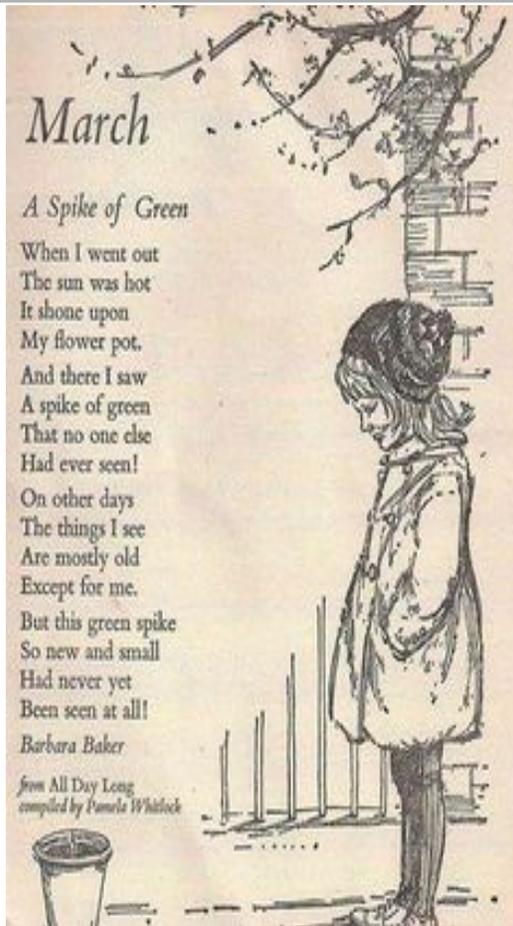
SOME MORE ITEMS OF INTEREST...



BEAUTIFICATION DAYS COLLIER PARK

⇒ ONLY 2 Fridays per month

2nd and 4th Fridays volunteer pruners, rakers, diggers and cleaner-uppers will be asked to come to Collier Park for our bi-monthly beautification days. If you haven't yet volunteered, this is a perfect time for you. Just show up at the park with your gloves, clippers, rakes or what-have-you, at **9:00 a.m. on either Friday, March 13th or Friday, March 27th**. New members are especially encouraged to partake. And don't worry, Teri Schmidt will be there to assist you or give you some direction if you need it. In case you don't know, this is a community project the RGC has taken on and we are proud of what we've been able to do there, but it does take work and dedication. So come out into the fresh air, walk around the park and get to know some of the other volunteers if you don't already know them. They are a great group of ladies. The more the merrier and the easier it is to keep it beautiful. Sometimes even turkeys show up or other wildlife.



KEEP ON SAVING YOUR POTS!!!

We are still collecting 1 gallon (mostly) and other size pots so members can propagate their plants from home. Bring them to the general meeting or drop them off at Collier Park in between the two sheds! We also need unique containers for when we make the succulent gardens. Bring them to the meeting.



Help Save the Butterflies!



Grow a Milkweed Garden!

I'm happy to say I've seen Monarchs and other butterflies in my garden. Makes me smile. How about you?



March is perhaps the month in the year (in Ramona) which is most unpredictable. We all know about Spring, and how to tackle it. One way to combat this unpredictability is to start a journal of your garden. This is a good tool you can use to systematically improve your garden experience over the years. While you wait for something to note in your journal, there are a few things you can do.

1. Send a sample of your soil to a local county extension to have it tested to see what it may be lacking.
2. Don't walk on the soil because you may impact it due to excessive moisture, and this will impede root penetration and drainage.
3. Divide perennials that bloom in Autumn. Plant bulbs.
4. Fertilize your fruit trees.
5. Take action against the weeds.
6. Sow beets, corn, leafy crops, onions, arugula, chives, potatoes, squash and plants in the nightshade family.
7. Aerate mulch so plants can push up unimpeded and the ground can warm up.



newsworthy



PICTURES



Horticulture Table

The Horticulture Table will be happening again for the March General Meeting. Make a tag or use one of the one's we have on hand. If you know the plant's name, add that plus your name as exhibitor, the date, type of plant, botanical name, variety, etc. If you don't know the name, ask around and possibly someone can help you out with that. We will have the horticulture table in April also, so keep that in mind for next month.

Bits of Interest

SAFARI PARK VOLUNTEERS

Friday, **March 6th** (1st Friday) and Wednesday, **March 18th** (3rd Wednesday) will be the days Safari Park volunteers will work in the Chandler Herb Garden. You can become a volunteer also (if you are so inclined). To find out more, go to www.sandiegozoo.org where you can either fill out an application or merely gather more facts on the subject. You could also call Andy (760-738-5061) at the Park, or contact Debbie Gomez at deb4fino@pacbell.net. She can fill you in more thoroughly.



www.ramonagardenclub.com

Garden Tour

7 Unique Gardens

Plant and Craft Sale

April 25th 9AM-3PM
Ramona Library Parking Lot

Plants Grown & Raised in Ramona
Succulents
Cactus
Bulbs
Perennials
Cuttings
Native Plants

Succulent Gardens

Crafts

Gently Used Garden Decor & Tools

Diane Schafer Photography

If you are signed up for Diane Schafer's Rock Painting workshop, don't forget to meet at the Scout Hut 3/2 at noon for this crafting.



... and stay tuned for the next workshops coming up.



YOU can help by printing out the above flyer and putting them around town or handing out to friends, family and strangers... anyone you come across. We need to **GET THE WORD OUT!!!**