



**SPECIAL
EDITION**
#2

The Real Dirt

No General Meeting for May

As you already know, the Covid-19 Virus Pandemic has kept everyone at home. But hopefully all of you are having more time to enjoy your gardens and gardening chores. The Ramona Garden Club meetings held the 2nd Wed. of the months Sept-June have all been cancelled for the remainder of this year. But, don't let this discourage us! Let's recharge our batteries for 2020-2021! Maybe the break will do us all good and we'll have an even greater, more profitable and rewarding experience in the next term.

There is only one more newsletter after this one, and I'd love for all of you to write in and tell me something you've done differently, or some experience you've had during this pandemic. Maybe you planted some bulbs and they came up! Maybe you read a great book. Anything and everything is a welcome addition. Perhaps you saw a bird in your yard you've never seen before or planted Milkweed and finally got butterflies. Send anything, even if you wish to remain anonymous to grover_web@yahoo.com.



Is Gardening on Your Mind???



GET YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES IN EARLY!

Verna Dailey, our Treasurer, would like to remind everyone the RGC membership dues (\$20 single) for the 2020-2021 year are due by June 30, 2020. Please mail your check to Verna @ RGC, P.O. Box 1412, Ramona, CA 92065. Thank you! Do it right away so you won't forget, and get it out of the way.

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:

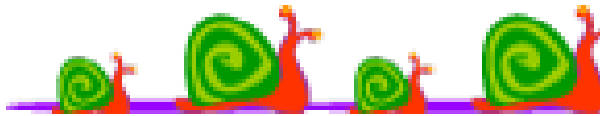
Ramona Garden Club, P.O. Box 1412, Ramona, CA 92065

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

"The gardener is by definition, one who plans for and believes and trusts in a future, whether in the short or the longer term."

- Susan Hill, Through the Garden Gate



To Our Wonderful Ramona Garden Club Members:

As we continue to "shelter in place" and communicate with each other, remotely, I want to particularly thank those who are helping us to move forward with the business at hand, including the nomination of 2020~2021 RGC Officers, posted in April by Deborah Grover, our great newsletter editor, who keeps us well in touch with each other; and now, the election of officers, which will take place during this month of May (remotely, of course)!

Finally, as we look forward to completing important end-of-the-year Ramona Garden Club goals, all by remote means, please continue to stay healthy and happy!

Georgie Suitor
Ramona Garden Club President

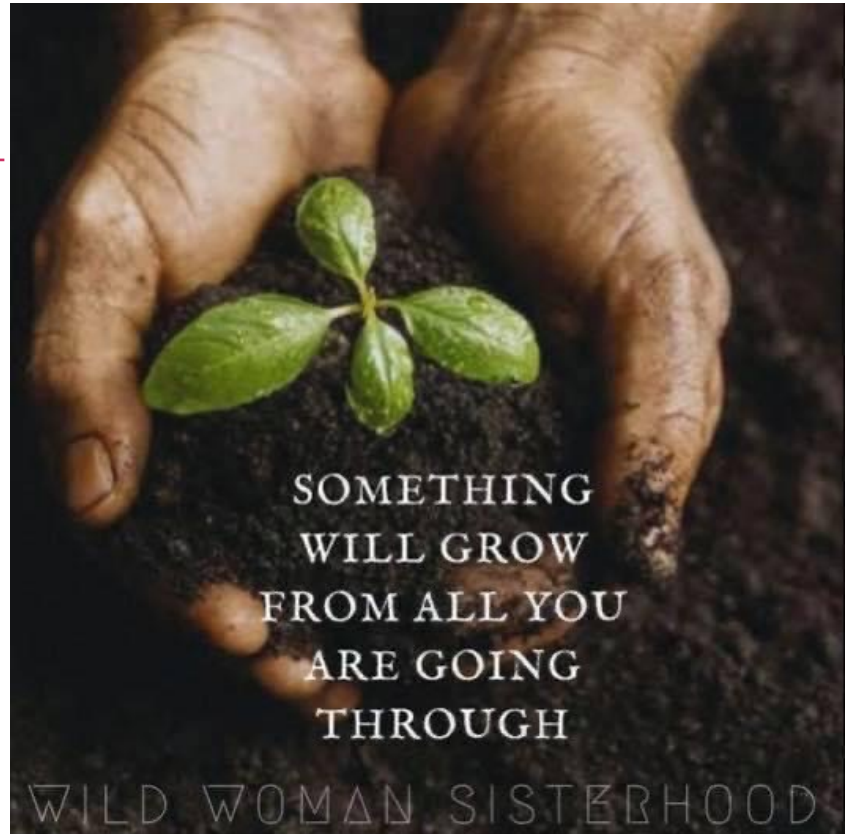


New Ideas

FACE MASKS —As of Friday, May 1, masks will be mandatory in all of San Diego County whenever you are in a public place where you are in contact with other people. Governor Newsom has implemented this ordinance and we should all comply. Just as we should comply with the “STAY HOME” ordinance as much as humanly possible. The better we all comply, the sooner this will be all over with and we can go on with our lives as they were before the CoronaVirus became a part of our lives. They should be washed between every use. If you did not wash your mask and need to go out suddenly, microwave it in a plastic bag for 2 minutes. If you need one, I will send you one. Also the Sew Easy Studio makes and sells them. Check out their website at seweasyramona.com. Grace Community Church also has them in the foyer. They're open M-Th 9-3.



May Birthdays



Ramona American Graffiti Cruise Night—For those of you who want to get out but are looking for something to do that is also safe, think about participating in the American Graffiti Cruise night.

The participants usually meet in the Kmart parking lot at around 5:45pm and leave at 6pm all the while maintaining a social distance. The cruise will go through some of our Ramona neighborhoods, where you'll see some great cars. Everyone is invited. Everyone who went last time had a blast. They will try to get to different neighborhoods each week. Everyone is asked to please drive slowly and safely. Find it on Facebook "Ramona American Graffiti Cruise" for information on the next route.



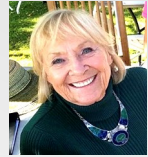
Co-Presidents = Debbie Canfield

[Debbie, a member since 2016, is a graduate of Ramona High School and has lived here since 1972. She began gardening from her Mom and then her Mother-in-Law who both got her involved in raising garden edibles of all kinds. She has been keeping this up yearly since then.]



Rita Eastman

[Rita, member since 2015, retired from the school district and was looking for something to occupy her time after retirement. She loves learning different plants from other members and loves the creative activities she's been able to do since joining.]



Vice-President = [NAME WITHDRAWN] If anyone would like to become the Vice President for 2020-2021, please notify Georgie Suitor as soon as possible.

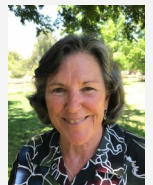
Secretary = Tracy Barnowe

[Tracy is a new member having joined in Dec of 2019. She is a Pastor at the First Congregational Church of Ramona.]



Treasurer = Barbara Kinder

[Barbara has been an RGC member since 2004, and has served in many different positions over the years, including Newsletter and Yearbook. She is retired from her job as R.N. and is an avid horsewoman.]



Open Standing Committee Chair Positions

The positions listed are open for volunteers. If you would like to take on any of these open positions, please contact Georgie Suitor or Debbie Canfield at once. Thank you!!!!

- Awards
- Field Trips
- Floral in the Park
- Grants/Scholarship
- Membership
- Newsletter
- Penny Pines
- Garden Sale
- Publicity
- Raffle

ANNOUNCEMENT

I am so very sorry to have to do this so late in the season, but my circumstances (& personal reasons) are such that I will not have time to take on the position of Vice-President. Please understand that my name is hereby withdrawn from the vote.

- Deborah Grover

This list is prepared to the best of my knowledge. If this is not correct, please let the parties at hand know that too.

RECIPE — Strawberry-Buttermilk Cobbler

5 C. hulled fresh strawberries halved
 1 C. + 1 Tbls. Flour (divided)
 1/3 C. + 2 Tbls. Sugar (divided)
 1/2 C. fine almond flour
 2 tsp. baking powder
 1/2 tsp fine sea salt
 6 Tbls. Cold unsalted butter
 3/4 C. whole buttermilk
 2 Tbls. Turbinado (darker & less fine) sugar
 Whipped Cream or vanilla ice cream



1. Preheat oven to 375° F. Toss strawberries, 1 Tbls. flour, 2 Tbls. Sugar in square 9" baking dish. Set aside.
2. Stir together almond flour, baking powder, 1/2 tsp. salt, remaining 1 C. flour mixture. Toss together spelt flour mix and butter. Gradually add buttermilk, mixing with fingers until ingredients are just moistened. Shape dough evenly into 6 (1/2 " thick) patties. Arrange patties evenly on strawberry mixture in baking dish; sprinkle with turbinado sugar.
3. Bake in preheated oven until topping is golden brown, 35-40 minutes. Let cool slightly, about 20 minutes. Serve warm with whip or ice cream.

Newsworthy

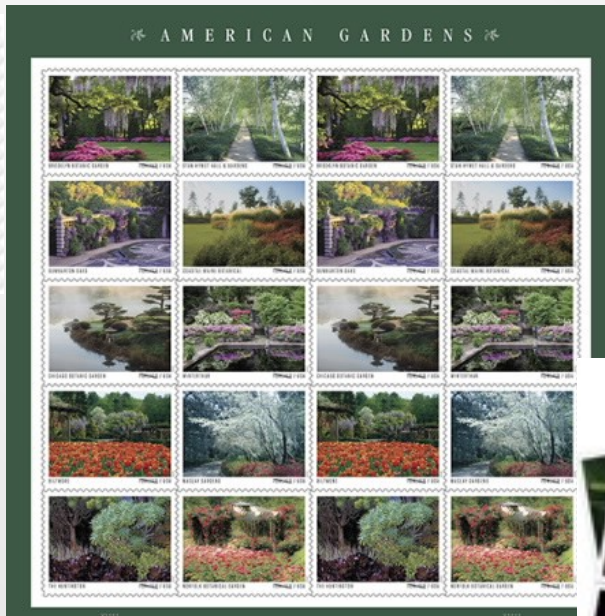
STAMPS

According to CBS News, the Postal Service is in need of urgent help as a direct result of the Covid-19 crisis. Based on a number of briefings and warnings this week about a critical fall-off in mail across the country, it has become clear that the Postal Service will not survive the summer

without immediate help from Congress and the White House, and could possibly close down by **down by June**. Every community in America relies on the Postal Service to deliver vital goods and services, including life-saving medications. The lawmakers noted that postal workers delivered more than one billion shipments of prescription drugs last year; ceasing operations during the outbreak could have dire consequences for the health of people around the country. The Postal Service needs America's help, and we must answer this call. One way YOU can help is to buy stamps RIGHT NOW. You can order them online at https://store.usps.com/store/results/stamps/_/N-9y93lv. The website features some beautiful, garden-related stamps to spruce up your letters (and bills). I myself have already purchased \$18.00 worth. Let's do our part. Most of them are "Forever" stamps, which will save you in the long run since the price will most likely be going up at some point.



Flowers From the Garden



Some of the choices...



A warm Happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful mother's in the RGT and their Moms and Daughters.



Remember your Mother or another Mother you know this May 10th!!



Cute Craft Idea from Thrift Store Finds— You too, can make an adorable hanging succulent planter from an old wooden cutting board and a salad bowl cut in half. Just cut the salad bowl down the middle and glue the two halves as shown, one on top of the other one with some wood glue. Then fill with succulents and hang someplace where it can be enjoyed and appreciated by others... in your entryway near the front door or on your patio.

This is a great idea, and so very low cost. Plus, it is made from recycling unused items. It also can be switched up with other materials such as teacups, metal lids, etc. Get creative and make it your own. Maybe you have some of these things laying around the house. Give as a gift for Mother's Day, which is coming up soon!

GARDEN SHARING



Courtesy of
Teri Schmidt
(left & Right)



Save the bees



Wisteria at Deborah's
House (Left)



Collier Park Irises



Those bloomin' Tillandsias

Watch Out For Snakes

Lots of people have been seeing snakes outside these days, so keep your eyes out for them. Remember, they help keep the rodent population. Probably shouldn't be touched though unless you know what kind of snake it is.



Coachwhip?



Long-nosed snake (harmless) at left.

Generally, snakes with a triangular-shaped head are rattlers.

Below is a great example of what a rattlesnake looks like.



Red Diamond Rattlesnake head (above) & Tail (below)

