

THE SEEDLING

JANUARY 2026

PRESIDENTS LETTER

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season enjoying the company of good friends, wonderful family visits, excellent food, participating in your holiday traditions, attending holiday events and surviving all the hustle and bustle. I experienced a white Christmas for the first time in decades. My brother, sister-in-law, and niece moved from Temecula to Cooperstown, NY. I arrived on Christmas Eve and it immediately began to snow and by the next morning, we had 12 inches! Alas it continued to snow every day which really curtailed our travel (alas no NYC sightseeing).

Not only was your December full but so was the calendar of Bonita Valley Garden Club. We enjoyed decorating our tree for December nights and enjoyed a great lunch together afterwards at The Prado; thank you Irwin Pellerin and Leslie Schroeder for organizing it. We loved seeing the light show, the hotel shops, the skating rink and the tree at the Hotel Del Coronado, followed by a delightful Mexican dinner which had all been arranged for us by Angela Jones. We are indebted to Carmen Sandoval Fernandez for arranged our Holiday Party along with fun games that had wonderful tiny evergreen trees as prizes. She also provided beautiful table decor and giving everyone glasses or head gear. Thank you to Cindy Winters who provided an opportunity for us to give to others. We have an equally busy and rewarding January schedule, so I hope to see all of you there.

I hope the new year brings everyone health, wealth, happiness, a chance to participate in new experiences, the opportunity to make a difference, and the ability to attend BVGC meetings to learn new things and visit with your friends.

Happy 2026 everyone!
Lynne

JANUARY PROGRAM RICHARD REID



Richard Reid is a member of the San Diego Chapter of the California Rare Fruit Growers Association. They are fruit enthusiasts dedicated to:

- Growing fruiting plants that may or may not be commonly found in the San Diego County area.
- Sharing information about fruits potentially adaptable to the San Diego area and varieties of established fruit better suited to specific areas and growing conditions.
- Rich will share his experience in growing what many consider "exotic" fruit in his garden.





FEBRUARY TEA 2026. WEDNESDAY FEB 11. GARDENS OF BALBOA PARK

Our spectacular February tea will celebrate the gardens at Balboa Park.

There will be sign up sheets at our January 14 meeting. Please sign up for the February Tea to ensure a seat. There is a list below of hosts. Reservations are required for this event, please commit to this event when you sign up. The food prepared for this event is mainly sandwiches and cakes so indicate if your diet is gluten free.

Gardens and Hostesses:

Rose Garden, Lynne Batchelor and Susan Currie

Palm Canyon, Carvill Veech

Cactus Garden, Angela Jones

Casa Del Rey Moro Garden, Suzie Kirby and Deb Pfau

Japanese Garden, Guadalupe Gaieck

Zoo Botanical Garden, Carmen Sandoval Fernandez

The Botanical Building, Irasema Taylor

Zorro Garden, Kathy Taylor

Florida Canyon Native Plant Preserve, Pat Crisafulli

Veterans Memorial Garden, Susan Heavilin and Sonia Wilson

Pauline is setting up and decorating a holding table for the food. Her theme for this table will be the Lily Pond. She will not be seating anyone at this table.

Thank you, wonderful hosts for offering to design and decorate a table for our annual tea celebration.

The tables are round and there are 8 places at each table. Please set each place setting with a cup and saucer, a small plate, and a napkin. You will also need a small knife at each place setting because we are serving cheese scones accompanied by cream cheese!

Water glasses are also recommended.

In addition to the place settings you will also need the items listed below.

Table Host Settings: In addition to table settings for your guests, please bring the following items for our English Tea:

2 Tea pots OR 1 tea pot and 1 hot water thermos and 1 tea pot

1 Creamer + milk or cream

1 Sugar Bowl + Spoon + Sugar

1 Butter knife for cream cheese

Water pitcher and water glasses.

Side table/TV tray to hold tea pot, water pitcher.

Cloth for clean up

If you need any help with finding supplies for the table, including your centerpiece, please let me know.

Other suggestions for your table are favors at each place setting for guests to take home, some members have also decorated the chairs as well as the table in the past, usually with a ribbon or something similar.

Note: The club has **white round tablecloths** available that hosts may choose to use as an underlayment to their table cover/design. Please let Susan Currie or Pauline know if you would like to use one of these tablecloths.

Tuesday, Feb 10, initial set up: ?? We are hoping to be able to do some set up on Tuesday. I will keep you posted
Thank you so much Susan Currie and Pauline Waters

FIELD TRIP TO SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE BOTANICAL GARDEN JANURY 28 AT 10am

Angela Jones has set up another filed trip for us on January 28. We will meet at the Botanical garden at 10 am.

Directions

900 Otay Lakes Rd.

As you enter southwestern College take the perimeter road to the left, then take a left on Garden Road. Park in Lot F. There is some FREE PARKING, but limited.

If you want to carpool, please contact Angela. You can park on her street, it is very close to the college, and then car pool to the garden.

Pot luck salad lunch at Angelas house, please bring one dish for a salad bar and Angela will make soup.
Angelas address is : 808 Stanford Ave, Chula Vista 91913.

The Botanical Garden is lovely. PAUL REDEKER will give a talk as we walk about the gardens.



Photos by Angela

PLANT SALE PREPARATION

BVGC Plant Sale will be held on May 9 2026. There is still time to start propagating for the plant sale. Take cuttings of succulents by mid February so that they will be well rooted in time for the sale. We cannot sell plants that do not have a good root system. If you have ferns that you can divide, this is a good time to start preparing them, these are popular plants. Also if you are good at growing Orchids, these are also very popular. Please start preparing planters of succulents, herbs or houseplants, and maybe create unique pots, and decorations to present your plants.



Help Us Grow Our Annual Plant Sale! 🌱 Let's Dig In Together!

Our annual plant sale is just around the corner, May 9 at the Bonita Museum, and it's our biggest fundraiser and community event of the year! To make it a blooming success, we need YOUR green thumbs and generous spirits.

How You Can Help (We Need You!):

- **Plant Donations:** Got extra seedlings, divided perennials, succulents, or herbs?
- **Pot & Supply Drive:** We're collecting clean pots (all sizes!), potting soil etc.
- **Setup Crew, May 8 & 9:** Help us arrange tables, set up displays, and get ready.
- **Sale Day Superstars (May 9):** Work a shift at a themed table (veggies, pollinators, house plants etc), help customers, or handle transactions.
- **Clean-Up Crew:** Many hands make light work to tidy up after the sale.

Plant Sale Ideas to Spark Joy & Sales:

- **Theme Tables:** Create "Pollinator Paradise," "Culinary Herb Garden," "Shade Lovers," "San Diego Natives," "Veggie Garden Patch".
- **Local Business Tie-Ins:** Ask local coffee shops for donated coffee/pastries, or home stores for mulch/tool donations.

Let's make this year's sale the best ever! Please reply to this email or contact Jackie, Cindy or Susan C with what you can do.

Happy Gardening!



Stephanie Rossi Trail

How Bonita Valley Garden Club keeps the trail beautiful.

On the first, second and third Thursday of the month our members walk the Stephanie Rossi Trail and keep the area beautiful. They meet at the Bonnie Brae Center (close to the post office) at 8.30am. In the summer the start time will be 8am. On the fourth Thursday there is a Rose Garden clean up at St Johns, starting at 9am.



SUNSHINE LADY

If you know someone who needs cheering up, please let Cindy Winter know and she will send a card.

1-858-344-5526



Please bring your old batteries to the meeting for Cheryl to recycle.



BVGC GENERAL MEETINGS

We are now offering items for sale at our meetings. Check out the Market Table and the Plant Table at the front of the hall. Angela is running a sales table with many rare and hard to find, must have, items. If you have any nice items to donate, please bring them to the meeting with a price tag attached and if, for some reason, they do not sell, PLEASE take them back home.

There will also be a plant donation/cuttings table, if you have any plants and cuttings to donate leave them on the table and they will become someones treasured plant. Plants are Free to Members! We need a volunteer to be at our meetings by 9:30 to collect and arrange plants and cuttings our members bring in. Members should take home any plants leftover. Our plant volunteer would need to wipe down the table after. Easiest volunteer position in the club!! Monthly raffle table prizes, sign up with Deb Pfau for a donation worth \$15-\$20.

Club items for sale, see Glennalie: Aprons \$20, Cookbooks \$12.

PALOMAR DISTRICT FLORAL DESIGN 2025-2026

When: 1st Monday, October thru May 12:00 NOON

Where Poway Public Library, 13137 Poway Rd, Poway, 92064.

Objectives: To bring the finest floral designers to San Diego County; promote appreciation of floral art forms; develop skills in critiquing floral art; improve individual skills for in home floral decorating; learn skills for flower show exhibition; encourage members to enter flower shows and promote floral arts in the community. The forum is open to anyone interested in floral design.

Co-Chair Lynne Batchelor, email lynneccgi@aol.com 858-790-2007.

George Speer, gspeerjr@aol.com 760-212-6339

Hostess, Monica Lewis, uniquemonique51@gmail.com 619-804-0461

Fees: \$15 suggested donation.

Mail: George Speer, 30861 Saddleback Rd, Valley Center, CA 92082. We are now able to process your credit card for any payment.

February 2 Deborah Warringer, Master Teacher of the Ichiyo school of Ikebana

March 2 Barbara Weiler, Master Flower Show Judge

April 6 FLOWER POWER. Local college Student Designers Race Against The Clock To Complete Designs

May 4 The Grand Finale. Monica Lewis NGC FS Judge "what has music got to do with it"



DECEMBER NIGHTS, BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB TREE DECORATING

December 5 and 6, the City of San Diego's largest free holiday festival in beautiful Balboa Park.

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION held a “**Festival of Trees**” on December 4-6 in Casa del Prado, Room 101.

This years theme was “ROOTED IN WONDER”. Bonita Valley Garden Club theme, “FROSTY THE SNOWMAN”.
Here Is our beautiful tree, also a picture of Point Loma Garden Clubs tree.

Lunch at The Prado afterward.



December Field Trip to the Hotel Del Coronado



Cornucopia workshop at Leslie's house.



I wanted to add this picture of Marge. Her picture popped up on my phone and I thought that those who knew her would like to see her lovely face again.
She passed away in 2015.

Marjorie Greer

CHRISTMAS PARTY



Photos by Guadalupe and Ray