



# GARDEN GAZETTE

*The San Francisco Garden Club*

Late Winter  
2024

SFGC  
Luncheon Meeting  
Thursday,  
January 18

## Calendar

### January

Thursday, January 18  
SFGC Meeting/Luncheon  
Presidio Golf & Concordia Club

### February

Thursday, February 15  
SFGC Meeting/Luncheon  
Past Presidents' Luncheon  
Presidio Golf & Concordia Club

### March

Luncheon/Meeting  
Details TBD

### April

Thursday, April 18  
SFGC Meeting/Luncheon  
Presidio Golf & Concordia Club

### May

Thursday, May 16  
SFGC Annual Meeting Luncheon  
Details TBD

Mark your Calendars

## Past Presidents'

### Luncheon

February 15

Presidio Golf &  
Concordia Club

*Hellebore  
Winter Thriller  
Pink Fizz*

# President's Letter/Consular Corps



Garden Club Members,

I hope you all had a meaningful Holiday Season. What a great first half of the year we have had and how much the Club has grown. I think we have enlisted about 15 new members in the first 4 months of our 23-24 year. As one of our members said, the Pandemic is behind us, and we are ready to be together again.

Our next luncheon is January 18, 2024. We will have Jim Brown, Docent for the Asian Art Museum. He will tell us the History of the Silk Road. Cecy Jones is donating Silk Scarfs with minor flaws and we'll auction those off at this luncheon.

Cecy has offered (4) tours of her scarf studio in San Francisco. Two tours on February 7 and two on February 10, 2024. Cecy makes all the yacht club scarfs. *Mark your calendars.* There are a limited number of spaces for the tours. We need to consider a scarf to commemorate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It is coming up fast.

February 15, 2024, Steven Brown will hold his Past Presidents flower demonstration. Past Presidents please join us. He needs to know in advance.

April 22-25, 2024, we are scheduled for our Santa Barbra trip to Lotusland. There are still a limited number of rooms available. Our reservation is under the San Francisco Garden Club. Please make your own reservation by contacting them directly at [reservations@montecitoinn.com](mailto:reservations@montecitoinn.com). The rooms are \$140++ for a queen and \$150++ for a king. The dates are 4/22-4/25. We are making plans for activities while we are there including wine tasting, garden, city & museum tours. More details to follow. If you have questions please contact Bonnie at [bedsfo@gmail.com](mailto:bedsfo@gmail.com).

I send you all best wishes and gratitude for your continued support of our club.

*2024 Board Nominations – Please, if you are called upon, consider supporting the club by serving.*

## Studio Tours offered by Cecy Jones

**February 7**

10:30 - 11:30

*Luncheon your own  
on Chestnut street*

1:30 - 2:30

**J & J Designs**

2232 Chestnut Street,  
San Francisco

**February 10**

10:30 - 11:30

*Lunch on your own  
on Chestnut Street*

1:30 - 2:30

## Consular Corps

*by Beverley Hayes*



*HeeYoung*

As a US Support Committee member of the LSFCC, Legion of the San Francisco Consular Corps, I act as a Liaison to communicate special activities and to encourage SFGC membership to this international group, whose diversification adds significant insight into a variety of cultures, social customs, traditions and international friendships.

Postings vary for Consular Corps members however averaging about 3 years, which makes it difficult when goodbyes seem to come so quickly. Such is the case for two LSFCC/Garden Club members who left this past December.

Nemu Chik, whose husband will now have the title of Ambassador of Singapore in Timor Leste, an independent country since 2002, will be living in the capital, Dili.

HeeYoung Shin, Consul General's wife of The Republic of Korea, has also said goodbye to San Francisco, returning to her homeland but with hopes of someday, not far off, returning to San Francisco.

Both Nemu and HeeYoung loved their time spent here and were especially taken by the friendliness of the Garden Club members and the many activities offered.

As we say goodbye, we also say hello to a wonderful new LSFCC/Garden Club member, Misao Osumi, Spouse of the Consul General of Japan.

Currently, Honorary LSFCC/Garden Club Members represent the EU, Indonesia, Italy, Luxembourg, and now Japan.

Others who have shown interest in joining the Garden Club, are LSFCC members from India, and from Peru, and hopefully more to join in 2024.



*Nemu*

# SFGC Programs

Jim Brown, January Program Speaker

January 18, 2024

## The Silk Road

### *Globalization in the Ancient Times*



**Jim Brown** is a docent at San Francisco's Asian Art Museum, where he gives virtual talks on a variety of subjects for the museum's community outreach program.

Prior to retiring and becoming a museum docent, Jim built his own Executive Search firm specializing in the placement of marketing communications professionals for the healthcare industry.

He also has extensive travel experience. Before getting into executive search, Jim was National Group Sales Manager for both French Line and Royal Viking. He has visited more than 55 countries throughout the world.

A graduate of Columbia University, Jim was Chapter President of the Business School's American Marketing Association and headed up their speaker's bureau. In December he will talk about "*The Silk Road: Globalization in the Ancient World.*"

## SFGC January Meeting/Luncheon

*Location: Presidio & Concordia Club*

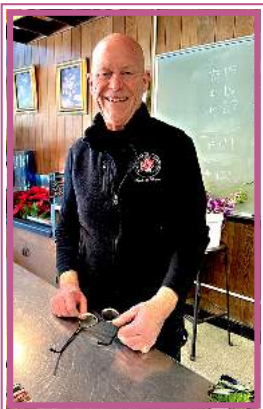
Menu: Asian Chicken Salad or Beet Arugula Salad (VG)

Cost: \$69 each

RSVP by January 8 - \$10 late fee

Pay through Zelle, PayPal or through the SFGC website: [sfgardenclub.com](http://sfgardenclub.com)  
or a check sent to the SFGG Office: 640 Sutter St. #4M, San Francisco 94102

The Silk Roads globalized our worlds millennia ago. Trade trickled from Han China in 2nd century BCE and ended only when the Europeans broke into the spice trade in the 15th century CE. The landed Silk Roads joined present-day China, Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, India, Iran, Afghanistan, Ukraine, and Belarus before meeting up with eastern, central, and western Europe. The maritime Silk Roads took in ports that straddled present-day Vietnam, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Iran, and the Gulf Arab states, and continued on to Alexandria, Venice, Genoa, and Cadiz in the Mediterranean, after a short overland transit through the Arabian Peninsula.



## Past Presidents' Luncheon

February 15

*will feature*

**Steven Brown, AIFD**

*Chair, "Environmental Horticulture/Floristry Department CCSF"*

*You will not want to miss this special luncheon & program*

**T**he Presidents' Luncheon is a SFGC tradition when past presidents are honored by the members. It has become a SFGC tradition for Steven to be the Presenter at the Luncheon as well. His beautiful program is an inspiration to all.



# Holiday Luncheon



*Bonnie Demergasso,  
Eva Monroe*



*Barbara Johnson,  
Gail McCollom*



*Betty Voris, Steven Brown*



*Bonnie Demergasso,  
Martha Woollomes, Anne Katz*



*Cheryl Minvielle*



*Courtney Clarkson,  
Susan Johnson*



*Donna Coit*



*Jane Storseter, Lynn Norris*



*Elaine Larkin*



*Leslie LaRocca*



*Guest, Maria Monica,  
Rosanne Ramirez, Moria Conzulman*



*Lisa Harris, Crecy Jones*



*Jane Evans, Maureen Fox,  
Bonnie Demergasso*



*Marilyn Presten, Joanne Lindeke,  
Janis Burke*



*Claire Blake-Resor*



*Sally Ketchum, Betty Voris*



# Holiday Luncheon



*Program Presenter  
Steven Brown*



*Program Arrangement*



*Program Arrangement*



*Program Arrangement*



*Carol Ede with guests*



*Lynn Norris,*



*Tammy Braas-Hill*



*Maria Monica, Theresia Treadway*



*Tish Brown, Toni Heineman*



*Cynthia Woods, Steven Brown*



*Rosanne Ramirez,  
Mora Conzulman*



*Program Arrangement*



*Carolyn Lee, Beverley Hayes*



*Loraine Fulmer*



*Margaret Rae, Susan Johnson*



*Steven Brown*



# SFGC Activities

## HOLIDAY WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP WITH STEVEN BROWN

*by Eva Monroe*



At 10 am on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 18 members of the SF Garden Club and the SF Museum Auxiliary met with Steven Brown, Chair of the Environmental Horticulture and Floristry Department of the City College of San Francisco.

Seated in Steven's large and airy classroom, we eagerly awaited his instructions to create our holiday wreaths. In just 20-25 minutes, he walked us through the intricate steps to build a foolproof, sturdy, and beautiful natural wreath, all the while sharing floristry tricks of the trade, and personal

anecdotes of what worked and what did not.

Finally, we were dispersed to our workspaces where boxes and bins of many varieties of evergreens, ribbons, decorative ornaments, and pinecones awaited. Steven also provided the wire forms, paddle wire, and shears for each participant. As we worked, he walked among us, sharing support, a helping hand, and his invaluable advice. We worked so diligently, that we barely touched the yummy refreshments that were provided for our enjoyment. It was all about the wreaths.

At 1pm, everyone had created their handcrafted masterpiece. Each wreath was a work of art as attested by Steven and happily agreed upon by the elated participants.



*Eva Monroe*



## SFGC Holiday Visit to Filoli

*Photos by Bonnie Demergasso & Jane Evans*





## HELLEBORES

*by Dr. Judith M. Taylor*

Many of us can remember a rather bedraggled, pitiful-looking little plant struggling up from the cluttered cold earth during the winter. It was called a “Christmas Rose”, *Helleborus niger*. Anything less rose-like can hardly be imagined. Fortunately, we can now push that memory way into the back of our cranial attic and revel in the wondrous profusion of new cultivars over the past few years. In spite of the epithet “niger” meaning black, the flowers of the Christmas Rose are whitish pink.

It is not clear what led to this resurgence of interest among plant breeders. Possibly it was because, in the temperate zones, it is a plant that flourishes in the dead of winter when very few others are doing very much.

The genus Hellebore is endemic to the temperate regions of Eurasia. It is in the family of Ranunculaceae and is in no way connected to roses. There are twenty-two species. Some of them have very well-camouflaged petals in greeny brown shades. Many of them were described and named back in the late 18th century and early 19th century after Linnaeus gave the index species its name. A crucial point to keep in mind with all of them is that the plant’s tissues are very poisonous. Even just handling the petals without gloves can lead to an uncomfortable rash.

Spontaneous hybridization often occurs but intentional crossing has increased the range of colors very significantly, making them useful for difficult places in the garden. More than one English nursery has contributed to this palate. In addition, the form of the blossom has been modified with double petals and picotee margins. Hellebores are pretty tolerant in the garden, doing quite well in the shade for example.

If any of you enjoy the early magnolia blossom in February, I can recommend visiting the SF Botanical Garden. The last time I was there the pink magnolia flowers were echoed by the pink hellebore flowers planted under the trees. It was heavenly.



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## 2024 FLOWER MARKET BADGE; DEADLINE Extended to February 16, 2024

*Last Call: It's time to order or renew your Flower Mart Badge*

*By Betty Voris*



If you purchased a badge in 2023 and still have your Proximity Card (which opens the gate), the cost is \$35.00 for your 2023 badge.

If you did not purchase a badge and Proximity Card and want to purchase the set for 2024, the cost is \$65.00. If you lost your Proximity Card and want another, you must purchase the entire package for renewal. Total cost is \$65.

The Flower Market has extended its deadline for renewal. Therefore, SFGC renewal is extended to February 16, 2024. Current badges will be honored by the Flower Market through February 29, 2024.

Payment may be made through either Zelle or the website. You also can mail your check to the office. Checks should be made out to the San Francisco Garden Club. NO payment will be honored after February 16, 2024.

Cards will be available at the March and April luncheons. For an extra fee of \$5, it can be mailed. However, cards mailed but not received will not be the responsibility of the Garden Club.

San Francisco Garden Club  
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## Garden Gazette

*Late Winter 2024*

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Martha Woollomes

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Recording Secretary: Verona Boucher  
Corresponding Secretary: Beverley Hayes  
Treasurer : Maureen Murray Fox

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

*Lunch/Meetings/Programs: Social 11:30 • Lunch 12:15*

### Thursday, January 18

SFGC Meeting/Luncheon  
Presidio & Concordia Club  
Menu: Asian Chicken Salad or  
Beet Arugula Salad (VG)  
Cost: \$69 each  
RSVP by January 8th - \$10 late fee

### Thursday, February 15

Past Presidents' Meeting/Luncheon  
Presidio & Concordia Club  
Menu: Avacado with Turkey salad or  
Spinach Apple salad (VG)  
Cost: \$69 each  
RSVP by February 5th - \$10 late fee

### March

Luncheon/Meeting TBD  
Details TBD

### Thursday, April 18

SFGC Meeting/Luncheon  
Presidio & Concordia Club  
Menu: Mediterranean with chicken or  
Arugula Beet salad (VG)  
Cost: \$69 each  
RSVP by February 5th - \$10 late fee

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### Ways to Pay

- Check sent to the SFGC Office
- On the SFGC website: sfgardenclub.com
- Through Zelle or PayPal

### Donations

\_\_\_\_\_ The San Francisco Garden Club General Fund  
\_\_\_\_\_ The Alice Eastwood Fund  
\_\_\_\_\_ Civic Participation Fund  
\_\_\_\_\_ In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

### GRAND TOTAL

### SFGC OFFICE

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### PLEASE INFORM THE

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY Beverley Hayes  
by email of SFGC members' births, illness, or death,  
so that the appropriate acknowledgment can be sent.  
Email: beverleyhayes@sbcglobal.net