



GARDEN GAZETTE

The San Francisco Garden Club

**Winter
2024**

SFGC Holiday Meeting/Luncheon

December 19

*Presidio Golf
& Concordia Club*

Rose from a bush in Martha's
garden grown from a cutting.

Calendar

(Tentative)

December

Tuesday, December 10

FILOLI Tour • 10:am - 2:00 pm

Thursday, December 19

SFGC Holiday Meeting/Luncheon

Presidio Golf & Concordia Club

January

Saturday, January 4

Volunteer Day, CCSF

Thursday, January 16

SFGC Meeting /Luncheon

Presidio Golf & Concordia Club

February

Thursday, February 20

SFGC Meeting/Luncheon

Past Presidents' Luncheon

Presidio Golf & Concordia Club

March

Thursday, March 20

SFGC Meeting/Luncheon

Presidio Golf & Concordia Club

April

Thursday, April 17

SFGC Meeting/Luncheon

Presidio Golf & Concordia Club

May

Thursday, May 15

SFGC Annual Meeting /Luncheon

Presidio Golf & Concordia Club

President's Letter



Dear Fellow San Francisco Garden Club Members,

Season's Greetings, Merry Christmas, and Happy Holidays to you and your families!

This year has been filled with wonderful events that have enriched our Club. Most notably, in April, Bonnie Demergasso led a garden group on an incredible trip to Santa Barbara and Montecito, where we visited Lotusland, Bellosguardo Mansion/Museum, and the Santa Barbara Botanical Garden. We've also enjoyed several dynamic monthly luncheons and programs, including the fabulous New Members Luncheon hosted by Lisa Harris in September at the San Francisco Yacht Club, Belvedere.

Looking ahead, December brings us three exciting events to close the year:

1. Holiday Wreath Workshop – Join Steven Brown on Saturday, December 7th, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the City College Horticulture Department in San Francisco for this dynamic and festive workshop.
2. Filoli Gardens Holiday Guided Tour – Don't miss this annual tradition! The tour is scheduled for Tuesday, December 10th, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the stunning Filoli Gardens in Woodside.
3. Christmas Luncheon and Floral Design Presentation – On Thursday, December 19th, we'll conclude the year with a festive luncheon as well as a presentation by floral designer, Neil Hunt of "Hunt Littlefield." Be sure to register early for this joyous event!

As we approach the San Francisco Garden Club's 100th Anniversary, it's a wonderful time to reflect on our history and mission. "In 1926, during San Francisco's 150th birthday, Mrs. William Hinckley Taylor gathered 65 San Franciscans for tea at her home and poured out her idea for forming The San Francisco Garden Club, stating the Club's purpose as, "beautifying the city." By the end of the year, the many visionaries, including Alice Eastwood (Honorary Vice-President), set the foundation for what has become a vital and enduring organization in the Bay Area.

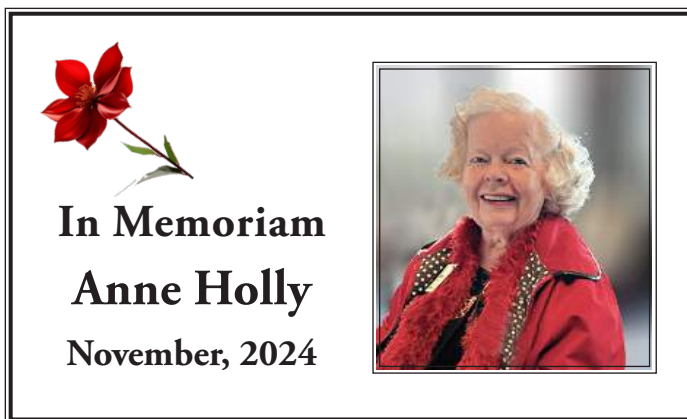
Today, it's our responsibility to carry forward their legacy. Our 501 (c) (3) status enables us to support vital programs and gardens across the region. During this holiday season, I encourage you to make a tax-deductible donation to one of the following funds: The Club's General Fund supports the Fine Arts Museum Auxiliary and the Gardens of Golden Gate Park, as well as our monthly programs and luncheons; the Civic Participation Program Fund provides grants to benefit the underserved and nonprofits in our communities; and the Alice Eastwood Fund provides scholarships to horticultural students at City College San Francisco.

I am also delighted to announce the appointment of Judith (Judy) Field as the San Francisco Garden Club's official Archivist. Over the past few years, Judy has meticulously researched the Club's history, amassing an incredible collection of information and historical facts. She created the SFGC's Google Drive, organized and uploaded all she has collected thus far, and will manage its administration moving forward. Members are encouraged to share any additional historical materials with Judy to ensure the preservation of our rich history.

I would like to thank Betty Voris for the historical information you authored and placed on the Club's website. It's a great read!

Finally, it is with sadness that we note the passing of Anne Holly, one of our cherished and long-standing members. Anne's contributions and spirit will be deeply missed, and her memory will remain a treasured part of our Club's legacy.

In this season of giving and celebration, let us all take time to share kindness, joy, and gratitude—with family, friends, neighbors, and even ourselves. A simple smile can go a long way! *Warm regards Verona*



December/January Programs



Prestigious Floral Designer
Neil Hunt of Hunt Littlefield
will be the presenter at the
SFGC
Holiday Luncheon
December 19

Neil Hunt and Trina Littlefield have worked with flowers most of their adult lives. Partners in business and in life, together, they founded their San Francisco floral studio. Their work focuses on the San Francisco Bay Area, the wine countries of Sonoma, Napa, Central Coast, and they have traveled nationally and internationally.

\$75 per person

RSVP by December 9 • Zelle/PayPal/Check • sfgardenclub.org



SFGC Program
The Great Barrier Reef
Eleanor Ketter
of Queensland Australia

January 16

The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system, composed of over 2,900 individual reefs and 900 islands stretching for over (1,400 mi) over an area of approximately (133,000 sq mi). The reef is located in the Coral Sea, off the coast of Queensland, Australia.

\$75 per person

RSVP by January 6 • Zelle/PayPal/Check
sfgardenclub.org



October Luncheon/Meeting



Gail McCollom, Natasha Hopkinson



Lani Pringle, Jane Bradford Evans



Carol Ede, Carol Engelbrecht, Sigrid Dedo



Cindy Ward, Cheryl Minvielle, Rose Pan



*Courtney Clarkson,
Theresia Treadway*



*Marky Quayle, Carmi Ticehurst,
Betty Voris*



Centerpiece



Marilyn Presten, Joanne Lindeke



Vinati Mishra, Sigrid Dedo



Maureen Fox, Ann Papale



Cindy Ward, Rose Pan



*Natasha Hopkinson, Guest, Vinati Mishra,
Andrea Smith*



Joanne Lindeke, Maureen Fox



Guests

November Luncheon/Meeting



Topic: Mongolian Gardening



Nara Bat-Ochir



SFGC member Jame Evans with Consular Corps members of the SFGC



*Maureen Fox, Verona Boucher,
Lani Pringle*



Ruth Wolf, Nara Bat-Ochir



*Allison Harrison,
Courtney Clarkson*



Kathleen McNulty



Merilyn Presten



Nara Bat-Ochir, Verona Boucher



Carol Ede, Amy Garant



Yunsun Ahn, Lani Pringle



Sally Ketchum, Janet Cushing



Lisa Harris, Alessandra DeDominicis



Maureen Fox

Horticulture Page

Roses of India

by Dr. Judith M. Taylor

We do not ordinarily associate India with roses but there one or two which are endemic to India and a unique couple has been working very hard for many years to ensure that there are lots more to join them. There is a very active Indian Rose Society, and M. ("Viru") and Girija Viraraghavan are among its leading members. The heavily hot and humid climate over most of the country does not suit roses. The plants like sun and warmth but not such an overwhelming atmosphere. Viru has been back breeding roses to tolerate these conditions. If the world continues to heat up as it has been these roses may be useful over a much wider area.

I had the great privilege of meeting Girija and Viru once in 2006, a very long time ago now. In spite of that, whenever I get in touch with Girija it is as if we were old friends. She has a genuine warmth for anyone who shares even a faint interest in her favorite flower. While her husband does the actual crosses and tends to the new seedlings, Girija does most of the other work that goes into such an enterprise.

The then curator of roses at the Huntington Botanical Garden, Clair Martin, had the happy thought of setting up annual seminars and inviting an outstanding rose expert each time to give the keynote address. He called the series "Great Rosarians of the World" or GROW. We got to hear almost legendary speakers over the ten years the series lasted, people one only knew through their books. After the talks he allowed time for the speaker to mingle with the audience and answer any questions. It was a heady time.

Viru spoke in 2006. It was a revelation. He is a very modest man with perfect manners but no one else was doing anything remotely resembling what he had accomplished. The couple recently released their memoir, "Roses in the Fire of Spring". Viru came from a high level professional family and his father simply assumed he would become a civil servant as he was himself. The problem was that as a very young boy, at about nine years of age, he was introduced to the world of rose breeding by a neighbor's gardener and never wanted to do anything else. He was a very dutiful son and took the path his father had laid out for him but as soon as he could retire with even a small pension he left the civil service and has spent all the time since then with his beloved roses.

Girija's grandfather was the president of India in the very early days of independence. She honed her outstanding social skills in her role as his hostess. After years of dull work obliging them to move about the country they have settled in the mountains of the west coast of India, the Western Ghats, and built themselves a comfortable house at 2000 feet. The memoir is a tour de force of recall. Girija not only recorded the places they visited when he gave lectures, but what they had to eat during those tours and all the people they met.



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India's National Rose Garden

The National Rose Garden of India located at Chanakyapuri in Delhi is an garden designed exclusively for roses where a wide variety of roses from all over the world are exhibited. The Garden includes approximately 65 varieties of rose from India and features rare varieties including green and black roses, which are hard to find anywhere else. The Garden is in its full glory in the months from December to February, and is open to the public in February and March. It is maintained by the Delhi government.

Member Page



RETURNING MEMBER

Allison Harrison

allisonmharrison@gmail.com

415.305.0535

Allison Harrison - I am excited to be returning to the San Francisco Garden Club. Originally from Tennessee, I lived in San Francisco from 2001-2015 and enjoyed my membership in SFGC for several years before returning to TN. The lunches, programs, garden tours, and other activities with fellow members were always fun and educational. After several years back in Tennessee, I missed San Francisco and returned to my former position at the San Francisco VA Medical Center as a nurse anaesthetist. On my days off, I love swimming at the Metropolitan Club, walking in Central Richmond and Lands End, SF Symphony, and Fine Arts Museums. I'm looking forward to reconnecting with and meeting new SFGC members.



*Beverley, Alessandra, Marina, Nara, Prathima, Yunsun
Consular Corps members got together at the
home of Beverley Hayes to create centerpieces for the
November luncheon. Centerpieces designed by Nara.*



*Beverley Hayes with Catarina, our former Portugal
Consular Corps member, now living in Lisbon.
Photo taken at, Pharmacia Felicidade, wonderful
picturesque restaurant in Lisbon.*



*Door frame flowers in Italy.
Photo by Beverley Hayes*



*Volunteers: Judy Fields, Gail McCollom,
Cynthia Woods with Steven Brown*

Please join Garden Club members for our
City College San Francisco Volunteer Day

Saturday, January 4, 2025

9:30 - Noon

50 Judson Street

(plenty of street parking on weekends)

Refreshments and free plant included!

Please bring your gloves and water.

RSVP: Gail McCollom

gailmarymc@aol.com or 415-260-7980



*Bernice Seimas, Beverley Hayes's sister in San Jose,
donated persimmons to place at each
person's place setting at the November luncheon.*

Horticulture Page

Civic Participation

Civic Participation Awards for 2025

Our Garden Club has a history of providing financial support to community, schools and civic organizations in San Francisco through its Civic Participation Committee. Non-profit organizations through an application process can receive funds for educational programs, beautification projects and gardening activities.

A few examples from recent years include contributions to the Senior Center of Aquatic Park to renew its planting areas at the Maritime Museum, Nature in the City to provide environmental workshops and materials to its volunteers, Mission Kids to establish a garden for its early childhood care facility in the Mission District and the Fort Mason Community Garden to construct raised planter boxes to be easily accessible to handicapped persons.

Civic Participation applications are available to qualifying organizations beginning January 2025. We know our members are well-connected and can help spread the word about this grant opportunity. The awards given can be up to \$5,000 or more depending on our 2025 funding capacity. If interested, you can ask to have part or all your donation benefit Civic Participation activities.



Planter at Maritime Museum

To recommend a possible organization to receive an application or for more information, you can contact any one of the members of the committee.

Chair Donna Coit, dmcoit@sbcglobal.net • Committee: Courtney Clarkson, Gail McCollom, Theresia Treadway

The Alchemy of Scent

by Eva Monroe



*Jean Claude Ellena,
Eva Monroe*

On a beautiful Fall afternoon in October, several members of the San Francisco Garden Club gathered in the aptly named Fragrance Garden of the San Francisco Botanical Garden. Jean Claude Ellena, the exclusive in-house perfumer to Hermes was about to reveal the secrets behind the art and business of creating perfume.

Jean Claude was the epitome of a handsome and charming Frenchman of a certain age. His manner was softspoken and polite. He had been in the business as a famed “nose” for creating fabulous scents for years, beginning at the tender age of 16. Besides Hermes, his clients have included Cartier, Van Cleef and Arpels, and Bulgari. As he spoke of his experiences, we sat on chairs on a meadow like lawn, surrounded by open sky, with birds chirping in and out of trees and flowering shrubs. We were a rapt audience.

He revealed that it is his immersion in nature that creates a world of “memory scents” in his mind. He has the remarkable capacity to take each of those memories and combine them with a distinct human emotion to give it its unique character. One can imagine the spectrum of combinations that can be produced.

Nature is Jean Cluade’s primal laboratory as he uses each of his five senses to influence his imagination while gazing out from his country villa in the South of France to the Mediterranean, the fields and forests of Grasse and the surrounding coastal mountain range. Yes, there is a working laboratory with compounds and vials of chemical substances, but for Jean Claude Ellena, perfume begins with his senses and the romance of memory that translates to the alchemy and magic of perfume.



*Bonnie Demergasso, Verona Boucher,
Tish Brown, Eva Monroe*



Fundraiser

Holiday Table Settings

“Holidays on a High Note”

Peninsula Family Service Fundraiser • September 2024



The Peninsula Family Service strengthens the community by providing children, families, and older adults the support and tools to realize their full potential and lead healthy, stable lives

The Event Included

*Table Settings
Boutique Vendors
Live Auction
Silent Auction
Floral Demonstration
Lunch*



New Address

901 16th Street,
San Francisco, CA 94107.

San Francisco Flower Mart

Relocation & Interim Hiatus
New Year Opening on January 2nd!
SFFM Will be Closed
December 27th to January 1st!

Badge Holder Hours

Monday: 6am - 12pm
Tuesday: 4am - 12pm
Wednesday: 4am - 12pm
Thursday: 5am - 12pm
Friday: 5am - 12pm
Saturday: 6am - 12pm
Sunday: Closed

History/Filoli/CCSF Sale

INVITATION SFGC Fundraiser December, 1997

The San Francisco Garden Club
Presents
"A Williamsburg Christmas"



Featuring a Presentation by John L. Enterline

Wednesday, December 10, 1997
The Ralston Room and Grand Ballroom
Palace Hotel

Program

10:30 a.m.

Holiday Bazaar of Greens and Wreaths, Gourmet Treats,
Christmas Crafts, and Silent Auction. No-Host Cocktails.

12 Noon

Prize Drawing

Luncheon

Winter Baby Greens Salad with Peas
and Caramelized Walnuts
Piquetfort Crostini
Creamy Red Wine Dressing

Chicken Breast Trio
Stuffed with Spinach, Fresh Cranberries, and Gric Cheese
with a Marinated Sauce
Wild Rice Pilaf in a Baked Apple
Seasonal Vegetables

Pumpkin Cheesecake
Fruit Coughs and Vanilla Bean Sauce

Coffee or Tea

Floral Demonstration by John L. Enterline

Mr. Enterline, popularly known as "Mr. Christmas," will display his imaginative skills as he creates "A Williamsburg Christmas." Having spent much time on the East Coast of Longwood Gardens and the Conestoga House, he has an instinctive understanding of Colonial American traditions and designs. The customs of the Colonial Era are a personal interest and he will share them with you, giving added meaning to the floral arrangements/seasons. Mr. Enterline has presented programs at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the La Jolla Antique and Garden Show, and for numerous educational institutions and garden clubs around the nation.

The San Francisco Garden Club
1997-98 Board of Directors

Janice Stein, President


Judith Branch	Sally Ketchum	Laurabeth Nelson
Deanna Brinkman	Heather Klarquist	Jane Rothschild
Karen DeWitt	Tillie McCullough	Lois Shapiro
Lola Heer	Betty Mohr	Sandra Swanson
Marilyn Jacobson		Phyllis Ware

"A Williamsburg Christmas"
Beverley Denebein, Chairman

Lee Bagnell	Marilyn Jacobson
Myra Bailie	Sally Ketchum
Carolyn Beltzer	Sue Lloyd
Shelley Bergman	Cynthia Major
Deanna Brinkman	Holly Money-Collins
Barbara Gronowski	Laurabeth Nelson
Nancy Hagosian	Beryl Rubert
Betty Harrington	Lois Shapiro
Lola Heer	Sandra Swanson

And a very special thank you to our many members who generously gave their time and donations to make today a memorable success.

Special Acknowledgments - The Garden Club expresses gratitude to the Palace Hotel and its Director of Catering, Sandra Brent, for her "above and beyond" assistance; to Peter Lee Brownies for our Door Prize; and to Optimum Press for its patience and generosity.

The Garden Club especially appreciates  for its continuing support of our Christmas Luncheon with its donation of the Grand Prize Round-Trip for Two to London.

Filoli Holiday Trip



Join SFGC Members
and begin the Holiday Season
with a trip to Filoli
*You will have a
magical holiday experience*

Tuesday, December 10
10:00 am • 2:00 pm

Cost: \$32.00 per person

Zelle/PayPal/Check/sfgardenclub.org

Contact Ly Ly for information
ly.ly@compass.com

City College of San Francisco
Environmental Horticulture/Floristry Department



Holiday Sale Scholarship Benefit

Thursday, December 12, 2024
11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Student Projects
Poinsettias
Orchids
Holiday Decorations
Indoor and Outdoor Plants

Horticulture Center
Ocean Campus
371-375 Judson Ave.
between
Genessee and Foerster
San Francisco, CA, 94112



For more information: 415-239-3140
Cash or Check please
for spring schedule of classes visit www.ccsf.edu

December Presenter



HUNTLittlefield

STONE STEM & LEAF

JOIN US ~ DECEMBER 19TH

11:30 AM ~ SOCIAL

12:15 PM ~ LUNCHEON

1:00 PM ~ PRESENTATION

PRESIDIO GOLF AND CONCORDIA CLUB

\$75.00 Zelle/PayPal/Check ~ sfgardenclub.org

Inspired by natural and urban environments to create unique and personalized floral designs and events, Neil's work is authentic and sincere because it reflects the people he represents rather than trends.

Special Guest Presentation by Neil Hunt

San Francisco Garden Club
640 Sutter Street 4M
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 771-0282
Email: sfgclub@att.net

Garden Gazette

Winter 2024

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Martha Woollomes

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Jane Scurich, Betty Voris

OFFICERS

President: Verona Boucher
Vice President: Beverley Hayes
Corresponding Secretary: Eva Monroe
Recording Secretary: Tish Brown

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

Lunch/Meetings/Programs:

Social 11:30 • Lunch 12:15 • Presentation 1:00

*If you prefer the vegetarian lunch, please advise Beverley Hayes:
beverleyhayes@sbcglobal.net by the RSVP date.*

Tuesday, December 10

Traditional Trip to Filoli
A magical Holiday Experience
10:00 - 2:00 pm
Cost: \$32 per person
For information contact:
Ly Ly at lyly@compass.com

Thursday, December 19

Seated Luncheon Speaker Series Menu:
SFGC Holiday Luncheon
Holiday Carved Turkey or
Spinach Quinoa Salad (VG)
Dessert: Select Bite Size Duo
Coffee or Tea • Cost \$75.00 per person
RSVP by December 9th- \$10 late fee

Saturday, January 4

CCSF Volunteer day
9:30 - Noon
RSVP Gail McCollom:
gailmarymc@aol.com • 415-260-7980

Thursday, January 16

Seated Luncheon Speaker Series Menu:
Chicken Cobb Salad or Sweet Potato &
Chickpea Bowl (VG)
Dessert: Apple Cobble Chantilly
Coffee or Tea • Cost \$75.00 per person
RSVP by January 6th - \$10 late fee

Name: _____

Phone # _____

Ways to Pay

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

Donations

_____ The San Francisco Garden Club General Fund
_____ The Alice Eastwood Fund
_____ Civic Participation Fund
_____ In memory

GRAND TOTAL

Consider making a holiday contribution to the Garden Club to support the Alice Eastwood awards for deserving students, or neighborhood beautification projects through Civic Participation grants.

SFGC OFFICE

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Web: www.sfgardenclub.org

PLEASE INFORM THE

Corresponding Secretary Eva Monroe
by email of SFGC members' births, illness, or death,
so that the appropriate acknowledgment can be sent.
Email: evamonroe@me.com