



Riviera Garden Club

COSTA VERDE DISTRICT, CGCI, PACIFIC REGION, NGC

January- February 2021 Volume 62, Issue No. 3

From Our President, Ellyn Meikle

President's Message

Happy New Year! I hope this year, at least by September, will bring us back together again.

Spring is around the corner. Consider volunteering to maintain community gardens. There is a list of gardens we care for, which are listed on page 4 of our directory, with persons who are currently doing all the work. Please give them a call to see where you can help.

March 14 is Daylight Saving Time. Planning your garden for late spring and summer flowers and vegetables can be on your 'things to do' list. There are a number of web sites that will teach you when to plant and harvest specific plantings. I found them very helpful coordinating clients' landscapes (back in the day).

Cheers!



General Meeting

Speaker/George Ochoa

March 23 2021 - Via Zoom

Subject: Wildflowers/Pollination

09:45 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting (click on link)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82075033102>

Due to Covid 19 restrictions we are continuing to meet via zoom and have postponed all in person events through June 2021.

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Message from our Treasurer:

I was pleasantly surprised with a check from Sheila Kutkus (Sheila.k@verizon.net) for Riviera Garden Club membership for the year starting next fall. The ZOOM meetings have been a great way for Sheila to see all of us again, since attending meetings in person is difficult.

It is a little early to be sending in dues, but the time will be upon us soon. I hope we will be able to announce in person meetings for the fall, but not until the state says it is good (our liability insurance concurred on that). By the end of April, you may start sending dues (\$50 for regular and \$60 for associate) to P.O. Box 10112, Torrance, CA 90505.

In the meantime, attend our meetings on ZOOM and get your vaccination.

Geneva Martin, your treasurer

Geneva Martin

genevamartin@verizon.net

Garden Announcements:

SPRING PLANTING

Time to plant a vegetable garden is now. To ensure a fall harvest consider planting your vegetables now as Spring is upon us.

Meyer Lemons: Member Marilyn Rubin has a large crop of Meyer Lemons from her tree to share. Please contact her and she will pick them and deliver with gloves and social distance protocol.

Ongoing Garden Beautification Projects:

Los Arboles “Rocketship Park”: Plant and maintain, in cooperation with City Parks Division, the area surrounding that shows the club’s adoption. For more information contact:

Members: Toni Ziegler, Wendy Tsuji and Geeta Gupta.

El Retiro Library Garden: Plant and Maintain, in cooperation with City Parks Division, the flower beds in front of El Retiro Library. For more information contact:

Members: Gloria Balcom, Carolyn Bazak, and Jodi Rhodes.



El Retiro Succulent Garden
Plant and maintain, in cooperation with the City Parks Division, Succulent beds adjacent the Community Center and tennis court. For more information contact:

Member: Katherine Joiner



February 23, 2021 General Meeting



Our general meeting was well attended with 22 members on our zoom meeting. The meeting was very efficient and all business was concluded by 10:18. We then had some time for relationship and were joined by our speaker Linda Meighan who spoke about herbs health and practices for wellbeing. For additional information please see her website. Thank you Linda for your informative talk. www.chooseherbs4health.com





January

Linda Rosenfeld	7
Ellyn Meikle	13
Mary Varieur	16
Bertie Wood	16

February

Rita Wagstaff	22
Dina Wiley	26
Marie Hoffman	28

March

Cecilia Ceasar	1
Gloria Rezek	8
Marlene Ennis	18
Toni Sargent	20
Alberta Brice	26
Eunice Hargrove	28
Carole Lefevre	31



South Coast Botanical Gardens

New Volunteer Opportunity Now Available at the Garden

"GLOW may be over, but there is a new, ongoing volunteer opportunity at the Garden! We are looking for people to join our Green Team to help maintain our 87 acres by planting, watering and weeding various areas. The Green Team will have shifts Tuesday -Thursday and Saturdays from 8am -11am. Sign up for a shift or learn more at: info@southcoastbotanicgarden.org."

Even though I don't venture out in public, yet, I realize there are others who do, who might relish the chance to volunteer at the Garden outdoors, soaking up the sunshine and fresh air!

Stay well!

Here is a link to the South Coast Botanical Newsletter

<https://southcoastbotanicgarden.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Spring-2021.pdf>

Carolyn Pohlner

Gardening Tips from The National Wildlife Federation(www.nwf.org)

Bring Butterflies to Your Backyard!

Choose the flowers that the butterflies prefer. Butterflies favor yellow, orange, pink or purple blossoms, with flat-topped or short tube flowers.

Provide clusters of small flowers to feed adults. Dense “clusters” of small flowers, such as zinnias, marigold, tithonia, milkweeds, verbenas, and many mint family plants generally works well.

Plant good nectar sources in full sun. Adult butterflies usually feed in the sun, so your butterfly nectar source plants should receive full sun from mid-morning to mid-afternoon.

Avoid the use of insecticides. Insecticides are as lethal to butterflies as they are to pest insects they’re used against.

Feed the caterpillars, too! Choose plants that feed and host caterpillars. For more specific information on the individual species and their preference, please visit the NWF at www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Attracting-Butterflies

Thank you, Carolyn Pohlner for this article.

2020 Holiday Scavenger Hunt

Geeta hosted a scavenger hunt on December 14th. She had 10 items on her list for the participants to hunt in their homes. She set up a timer for 10-minutes, long enough time for hunting. Apparently, the items were too easy to find and some people were done in five minutes. She does not know the number of participants. She gave out three medals, gold, silver and bronze. Congratulation to our winner Diane Hayden, Mary Alessandra Cook and Carolyn Pohlner won the gold, silver and bronze medals respectively.

Diane Hayden 2020 Winner



Landscape Awards - January/February 2021 Congratulations: Kelly and Howard Moore

at 358 Camino de las Colinas have put loads of work and love to this property.



**RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB
Board Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2021**

Call to order: 10:00 am by Ellyn Meikle, President

Attendance:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| ● Lynn Fernandez, 3 rd VP, Member Services | ● Geneva Martin, Treasurer |
| ● Geeta Gupta, 1 st VP, Hostesses | ● Ellyn Meikle, President |
| ● Diane Hayden, Co-Secretary | ○ Carolyn Pohlner, Co-Secretary |
| ● Marie Hoffman, 1 st VP Trips/Social Media | ● Regina Taylor, 3 rd VP Member Serv |
| ○ Cynthia Lundin, 2 nd VP Publications | ● Lauri Vaillant, 1 st VP Programs |

Guests: G. Balcom, L. Rosenfeld, M. Rubin, C. Sappington, T. Ziegler

1. Secretary's Report
 - Nov 10, 2020 minutes approved by general consent
2. Treasurer's Report
 - Account balance: Checking \$6,701.41, Savings \$15,690.95
Report will be filed subject to review.
3. President's Report
 - No in-person club gatherings through June 30, 2021.
 - \$200 submitted to Mary & Joseph for events will hold over indefinitely.
 - The History of Riviera Garden Club coordinated for our web site is currently in progress. Gloria Balcom has been compiling information with input from , Irma Maggio, and Toni Sargent. Editing will start late January.
 - Holiday parties:
 - Toni/Cynthia/Marie: Good time, well attended
 - Geeta/Ellyn: Scavenger hunt fun but too short. Try again another time and/or other Zoom activity, i.e., Bingo.
4. 1st VP
 - Hostesses
 - Hostess(es) will continue to greet online 9:45 before 10:00 start.
 - Speakers
 - Speakers for 2021:
Jan 26: Caring for Your Roses with Mike Garcia, Enviroscap, Inc. LV will plan speakers for remaining meetings. Some suggestions for future speakers: Tree People, George Ochoa
5. 2nd VP
 - Newsletter
 - EM reported that next issue will be February per CL.
6. 3rd VP
 - Membership
 - No report
- New Business:
 - Discussion: Jan-June 2021 calendar
The Board voted by general consent to move the 2021 Mad Hatter meeting from June 1 to June 8. Notice of this change will go out to members by email, newsletter, and as a General Meeting agenda item.

- Should we have a Community Outreach Chair to oversee all community activities (gardens, plaques, etc.)?
The Board was not in favor of this proposal at this time. Instead, it was suggested that an item be added to the General Meeting agenda for community volunteers to regularly report to the club about their activities.
- Should we not have any fundraisers through the end of June?
There was no support for this proposal due to the restrictions caused by COVID19.
- Should we have General Meeting Minutes and condensed Financial Reports in the newsletters?
 - a) Newsletters should continue to include General Meeting Minutes that contain summary financial information on the status of the club checking and savings accounts.
 - b) The Board should provide financial reports to membership at General Meetings at the beginning and end of fiscal year.
 - c) The motion to request a proposal from the Gifting Committee for additional gifts this year beyond what was originally budgeted was approved by general consent. [DH/GM].

Looking ahead:

- The next General Meeting is Tuesday, Jan 26th.
EM to request volunteers for Nominating Committee.
- The next Board Meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 16th.

Adjournment: EM adjourned the meeting at 11:15am

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Hayden

January 19, 2021

**RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB
Board Meeting Minutes
Feb 16, 2021**

Call to order: 10:01 am by Ellyn Meikle, President

Attendance: Lynn Fernandez, 3rd VP, Member Services
Geeta Gupta, 1st VP, Hostesses
Geneva Martin, Treasurer
Ellyn Meikle,
President
Diane Hayden, Co-Secretary
Regina Taylor, 3rd VP Member Serv
Cynthia Lundin, 2nd VP Publications
Carolyn Pohlner, Co-Sec'y
Laurie Vaillant, 1st VP Program Speakers

Board Advisor: Toni Ziegler

Guests: Linda Rosenfeld, Marilyn Rubin

1. Secretary's Report - • January 19 minutes approved by general consensus. Carolyn Pohlner
(Carolyn Pohlner)

2. Treasurer's Report – • No actions in bank accounts, except Interest
(Geneva Martin) Balances checking & savings accounts \$6,70141
\$15,691.08
Report will be filed subject to review.

3. President's Report - • No report. Please call Kathryn Joiner on Nominating Comm to let her
(Ellyn Meikle) know if you wish to maintain your current Board position

4. 1st VP

Hostesses Hostess(es) will continue to go online at 9:45 to greet before the 10:00
(Geeta Gupta) start.

Speakers **Speakers for 2021:**

(Laurie Vaillant) Feb 23: Linda Meighan - "Herbs for Health"- Taking Care of Your
Health During COVID
Mar 23: Jorge Ochoa -from Long Beach State – Wildflowers and
Pollination

Excursions No report.
(Marie Hoffman)

5. 2nd VP

Directory update No report.
(Geneva Martin)

Newsletter update Next issue scheduled for end of February. CL asked Geeta to submit a report re:

(Cynthia Lundin) Holiday Scavenger Hunt, asked Toni Z. to submit a report about the Holiday Wine Tasting event; asked if anyone had taken a screen shot from January's meetings -no one had. CL will publish a reminder that the Membership Campaign kicks-off in May with info re: fees and where to remit them; she will provide a link to the SCBG, listing their upcoming events and activities

6. 3rd VP

Membership update RT – No report. Sheila Kutkus has already sent in her dues for next year.
(Regina Taylor & Lynn Fernandez)

New Business:

Fundraisers: As per the minutes from the Jan 19th Board Meeting:

“There

was no support for this proposal due to the restrictions caused by COVID-19.”

Discussion ensued about Toni Z.'s proposal for a Plant less Plant Sale. EM emphasized that the Club has plenty of money in the bank and therefore it's not necessary for a fundraiser of this sort. We can justifiably withdraw \$1,000 from our account for Scholarships. Other members agreed and the consensus was not to proceed with the Plant less Plant Sale.

Diane H. suggested the Board look into the savings acct and determine what is really needed to cover our operating costs for the next year, as

well as funds to have on hand for emergencies, etc, and then decide how to spend the excess.

Pati Johnson from the Scholarship Committee reported (via Toni Z.) that they had only received applications from South High students, none of the other Torrance High Schools submitted any. The applications will be read by all 3 members of the Scholar Comm (K. Joiner, Toni Z. and Pati J) and they will determine the recipients.

Geneva reminded us that the Budget only allowed for two (2) scholarships to be awarded, one to Torrance Unified and the other to El Camino College. More discussion ensued regarding perhaps giving more scholarships, or make a sizable donation to the El Camino Food Pantry, instead of another scholarship. Diane H. then made a motion to have the Gifting Committee look into giving a donation to the El Camino Food Pantry, in addition to awarding the traditional two scholarships. Toni Z. seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

Ellyn, Geneva and Gloria Balcom will connect and coordinate the Gifting Committee's research int this matter.

Looking ahead: Ellyn reminded us that the next General Meeting is Tuesday, Feb 23rd.
The next Board Meeting is Tuesday, Mar 16.

Questions,Comments,Suggestions: C.Pohlner volunteered to Host a Zoom Bingo game in lieu of a
Speaker, if
needed

Adjournment: EM adjourned the meeting at 10:41 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carolyn Pohlner
Feb 16, 2021