

CIVIC GARDEN CLUB OF SAN CARLOS

Editor: Joyce Sanns

DECEMBER 2017

Board Meeting
DECEMBER 11 – 10:30 a.m.

HOLIDAY PARTY
DECEMBER 15

Social - 11:00 a.m.
Luncheon – 12:00 Noon

The Luncheon will be prepared this month by Bianchini's Catering

Program – 12:00 Noon

We will be entertained by the Csardas Gypsy Ensemble who will be playing for our listening enjoyment.

Dates to Remember

January 24, 2018
Potting Party

April 28, 2018
Plant Sale

May 20, 2018
Wine and Cheese Party

August 8, 2018
Chamber of Commerce Mixer

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Member of the Bay Ocean District California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI)



737 Walnut Street San Carlos, California 94070-00954

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Members:

Seems like only yesterday that we were celebrating the holidays of 2016. And, here we are at the first of December 2017, ready to do it all over again. Do you sometimes wonder what you can do to make this season a little special? Here are a few ideas:

...Cut trees are nice, but how about a live tree in a proper pot that you can nurture year after year and make it a part of your holiday tradition? I must admit that I've never been successful in this but if you make it a family (or neighborhood) project you might be able to keep the tradition alive.

...Flowers are always part of the mix. Poinsettias, pansies and violas, bacopa and alyssum; and cyclamen galore. Pots here and there will brighten your holiday presentation.

...Have a neighborhood party. But start early before someone beats you to it. You can serve the drinks and the neighbors bring cookies and appetizers. And, you might start with a walk on the 1900 block of Eucalyptus Street right here in San Carlos ...one of the Peninsulas premier holiday light show.

...And then there's the music. Concerts up and down the Peninsula. When is the last time you sat through the entire Messiah? This could be your year to get reacquainted.

...Finally, the annual "Night of Holiday Lights" right here in San Carlos is not to be missed. Even though we missed it for this year (the show was Dec. 1) put it on your calendar for the first Friday of December, 2018. Laurel St. is closed from San Carlos Ave. to Olive. There is music, snow flurries, amusement rides, and family fun for everyone.

So, have a Merry Christmas a wonderful holiday season no matter how you celebrate, and don't forget our Club celebration at the Casa on Dec. 15.

See you there.

Tom

NOTICES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Hans Brough 12/28
Monika Jung 12/22
Bob Langstrom 12/03

The Club will donate \$1.00 to Pennies for Pines for each of our Birthday celebrants

Our Casa Rental Website

Please direct members to our rental website:

<http://www.sancarlosgardenclub.org/casa-de-flores-rentals>

NO PARKING

CASA PARKING LOT

Saturday and Sunday are reserved for our Casa renters, please do not park in our lot on those days.

ROSTER ADDITION

Please add the following new member to your roster.

Kelly Richards
226 Frances Lane
San Carlos, CA 94070
Email: richardscas@yahoo.com
Birthdate 09/26

Thank you to our November lunch committee consisting of Marlene Hohman, Victorina Jeffers, Carol Kirschner, Joyce Sanns and Judy Visconti for the very appetizing luncheon.



December 15 HOLIDAY PARTY AT CASA

**Social – 11:00 a.m.
Luncheon – 12:00 Noon
Entertainment- 12:00 Noon**

**Our luncheon consists of
Turkey, Ham and all the
trimmings.
Entertainment by the
Czardas Gypsy Ensemble**

**Due to our limited parking in
the area, please car pool if
possible.**

Officers and Directors For 2017-2018

**President:
Tom Davids
Vice President:
Joyce L. Sanns
Recording Secretary:
Nancy Ruff
Corresponding Secretary:
Dolores Riviello
Treasurer:
L. David Waterbury
Membership Chair:
Alice Story
House Chairs:
Olga Erlichman
Barry Daniels
Parliamentarian:
Edythe Miller**

**Please support your board by
serving on committees**

**Winter is the season in which
people try to keep the home as
warm as it was in summer,
when they complained about
the heat.**

ACTIVITIES IN THE PLANNING STAGES

**January 24
Potting Party for our Plant Sale
9:00 a.m.
Chair: Tom Davids**

**April 28
Plant Sale
Save your plants and pots
for this event
Chair: Tom Davids**

**May 20
Wine and Cheese Party
Chair: Joyce L. Sanns**

**August 8
Chamber of Commerce Mixer
Chair: Olga Erlichman**

**Dates to be set for:
Filoli Tour
San Mateo County Fair**

Programs for 2017-2018

**December 15, 2017
Holiday Party**

**January 19, 2018
New Tax Laws – Cameron Miller**

**February 16, 2018
Egg Decorating, Moravian Style –
Lenka Glassner**

**March 16, 2018
The Aging Hand –Lisa Sharek**

**April 20, 2018
Edible Container Gardens –
Laurel Nagle**

**May 18, 2018
Camellia Basics –
Caroline Beverstock**

**June 15, 2018
Installation Luncheon**

NOVEMBER MEETING PICTURES

By Renate Kemper



FLORA AND FAUNA

Coffee Cultivation

Coffee was first discovered and harvested in Africa, where it was an understory plant. Dutch traders introduced coffee to the New World in the 1700s as a forest-floor crop grown under a dense canopy. That method of cultivation persisted for centuries around the world.

In the 1970s, as market pressures and disease and pests hurt coffee crops, many coffee-growing countries incentivized the use of modern varieties of coffee grown in full sun. Sun-grown coffees offered the hope of better yields and disease resistance, but there were costs to this conversion.

Sun coffee is often grown as a monoculture that uses heavy doses of pesticides and fertilizers, which turns the coffee farm into an ecological desert. There are impacts to humans, too, as sun-grown coffee often requires the removal of trees from steep mountain slopes, thereby causing erosion, runoff of contaminated water, and landslides.

Sun-grown farming does produce more beans than shade-grown, but the coffee tends to be lower in quality, which means lower prices. Shade-grown coffee, on the other hand, can have lower production costs due to a lesser need for artificial fertilizers (because decaying leaf litter feeds the coffee plants) and pesticides (because trees attract birds that eat bugs like the coffee farmer's archenemy-the coffee borer). And, the final bean yields a better tasting cup of coffee, which can mean a higher price per pound.

The nutrients administered by the trees give the coffee a unique fragrance," says Francisco Javier Velazquez Budelo, administrator for the De Los Andes Cooperativa in the Colombian village of Jardin. "It gives the coffee more taste, more force."

Making Sense of Coffee Labels

Bird Friendly: Grown in farms certified by scientists from the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, this coffee is triple-certified-meeting Organic, Fair Trade, and additional strict requirements for both mature canopy cover and the type of forest in which the coffee is grown. This coffee is guaranteed to support bird habitat.

Rainforest Alliance: Rainforest Alliance standards for shade cover are less stringent than Bird Friendly, but more than 70 percent of Rainforest Alliance certified farms maintain shade cover, and the standard promotes preserving forest in reserves and along waterways.

Organic: As with other organic crops, certified organic coffee is grown without most synthetic pesticides and fertilizers. There are no criteria for shade cover, however.

Shade-Grown: "Shade-grown" labels often appear on coffee, but this designation has no regulations or certification standards. If you buy shade-grown coffee intending to support birds, you are trusting that the coffee company is telling the truth.

Specialty: Specialty" means the coffee scores 80 or higher on a tasting scale. It has nothing to do with environmental conditions, though specialty coffees tend to come from small family farms that can nurture higher-quality coffee.