



Fairfield Glade Garden Club



February 2024 Newsletter

From the President

Hello Gardeners,

Our crazy, crazy week of winter has passed. Now we look to the future:

- ***We'll hear from Chris Burriss of Stone Memorial High School in February to learn about **hydroponic gardening**.***
- ***We hope to wrap up the **2024 membership drive** at the February meeting. David will be on hand to accept your membership payments and application forms.***
- ***I think we can all agree that the Fairfield Glade Garden Club excels when it comes to hospitality. We welcome guests and new members with a warm smile, friendly conversation and a small yummy snack. Ali Reader has volunteered to be the lead for the hospitality team, but she can't do it by herself. She **needs HOSTS** to work at the membership meetings. The hosts get to the meeting about 8:00 to set up the hospitality tables and tablecloths. They start the coffee and prepare the pitchers of ice water, etc. They also coordinate the clean-up of the tables at the end of the meeting. Please volunteer for this***

very important position.

- In addition, **we need members to bring the snacks**. Our meetings are very well attended so Ali estimates we need approximately ten donations per meeting. We have over 200 members, so we're all set if each person volunteers to supply munchies for one month. Maybe you aren't a baker (I know I'm not), but you can still contribute. How about a big bowl of fruit? Or consider bringing a platter of cheese and gluten-free crackers. I've never seen a deviled egg still on the table at the end of an event. Of course, sugary, gooey nibbles are always welcomed too. A small note regarding special features is appreciated: contains nuts, gluten free, etc.
- **Please sign up to be a host and / or bring treats**. Sign-up sheets are available at all meetings, or you may contact Ali directly at 815-353-1997 or afreader@msn.com.
- **Bring your calendars** to sign up for trips, hospitality tasks and other important dates.

This month's tip for a lazy (efficient) gardener:

Use the bathtub faucet to fill your watering can for your indoor plants. The extra force from the larger pipes significantly cuts down the time needed for watering. Bonus tip: Use a small watering can and walk back and forth many times between the plants and the bathtub. Extra steps doing something you love!

Take care,

Susan Borghi

916-203-9178 CELL



Our **February 21st** meeting is at
the **FG Community Church**.
Membership meeting begins at
9am

Our **February 21st** speaker will
be **Chris Burris**
Stone Memorial
Hydroponics Gardening



Garden Club Membership Renewal

Membership Renewal Deadline Extended

Due to the inclement weather conditions that resulted in the cancellation of the January 17 th membership meeting at which many members had planned on submitting their 2024 membership applications, the deadline for existing members to submit their applications has been extended from January 31 to February 29. You can renew your membership for 2024 by either mailing the application and dues payment to FGGC Dues, PO Box 1589, Crossville TN 38558 or by submitting your application at the February 21 membership meeting. We realize that there are many other opportunities for community involvement, and we appreciate your participation in the FG Garden Club. Your continued membership entitles you to our monthly newsletter and other email blasts keeping you informed of Garden Club activities, access to great speakers, the Member Only Event as well as the nice perk of 20% off plants at Landscape Solutions. In addition, only new members and existing members who have submitted their 2024 applications by the February 29 deadline will be included in the 2024 Membership Directory which will be emailed to members in March. We are looking forward to seeing you in the new year as a Garden Club member. Should you have questions or concerns regarding the application process feel free to call or text our Membership Chairperson, David Dean, at 503-928-1867 or to email him at dean3fish@aol.com.

David Dean



Travel Corner



Travel Corner

There are still a few seats remaining for the **February 13th Landscape Solutions** trip with lunch following at Willow Catering. Please let me know if you are interested in participating. We would like a good turnout to support them. Remember, we get a 20% discount on all plant materials there all year as garden club members. Cost is \$10 payable directly to Landscape Solutions the day of the event. We will be talking about preparing for spring, and have a little hands on activity.

The March 21st Harmony Lanes Goat Farm trip filled up quickly, therefore there is no longer availability there.

If you have signed up for either of the above trips, be sure to watch for my email 2-3 days prior to the trip with all final details.

I am working on trips for April and May and will be communicating as soon as confirmed dates and costs are available.

I am not planning a group trip, however, you may be interested in the following show being held in Knoxville.

[Dogwood Arts House & Garden Show](#) – February 9-11 - Knoxville Convention Center



Geranium & Fern Sale

Unfortunately at this time I do not have confirmed dates for our annual Geranium & Fern sale. This is

our largest fundraiser for our scholarship fund. I will communicate confirmed dates once received and should have by our February meeting. Sign up sheets will be available at that time for volunteers to help work the sale.

Any questions do not hesitate to contact **Darlene Petersen** (petersendarlene@hotmail.com or 847-714-2153).



“A Taste of the Garden”

Member Only Event- September 2024

Mark your calendars! Our September Member Only event will be held at Cumberland Mountain State Park this year! It will be so much fun that we encourage you to have your friends join our Garden Club immediately! Here is what we need from you soon.

We will be collecting garden inspired recipes from our members at the sharing table each month through June. Contribute your recipe the old fashion way, on a recipe card, or 3 by 5 card, and drop it into our recipe box! Don't forget to put your name on the top! Meatless would be great....think garden!

Questions? [Deb Boyle](#) 847-924-2112



The Sharing Table

Something old, something new.....

We are ready for another fun year at our sharing table. We will have an empty table to start 2024, so bring your unwanted gifts, your plantings, puzzles, books, crafts, etc. It is a true trash to treasure hunt for 30 minutes before each meeting. We will not accept puppies or spouses as donations.

Do you want to be part of our team?
Contact Deb Boyle by text at: 847-924-2112

[Deb Boyle](#)



Scholarship Committee

Just a reminder for those who'd like to help with the Scholarship Committee—our next meeting is **Feb. 13th, 10:30am at Stonehenge Grill**. Please let Robin Marquis or Ali Reader know if you plan to be there.

Robin's email: marquisr181@gmail.com

Ali's email: afreader@msn.com

2024 Press Release

Fairfield Glade Garden Club is once again looking forward to awarding their **Helena Schmidt Scholarships to Cumberland County High School Seniors**, looking to continue their education in anything pertaining to the Food Web such as Agriculture, Culinary or Veterinary Sciences. Those students interested in applying should inquire with their school counselors office, or consult the Fairfield Glade Garden Club website, fggardenclub.com, to receive the necessary information and forms. All forms must be submitted no later than March 20, 2024. Scholarship amounts vary per year depending on the number of applicants and monies accrued through fundraising.



Conservation/Environmental Committee

The Conservation/Environmental Committee is looking for new members. We have been working on a few items these past two years including, pulling garlic mustard along the Sculpture Trail and encouraging folks to adopt Smart Yard principals.

The committee has also been approached about two other topics, financially supporting *One Tree Planted* <https://onetreepanted.org/>, and encouraging native plantings in Fairfield Glade. If you are interested in these or similar topics, please let the chair, **Suzanne Wade**, know by text or email at: 608-334-4517 or suzanne.wade52@gmail.com.



Look what I dug up by Nathy Hill

Poisonous Plants You Can Find in Your Own Backyard

Daffodil Daffodils are one of the most common plants found in our backyards. These bright yellow beauties captivate anyone's eye and are one of the first to break through winter's grasp. But they're incredibly poisonous. Luckily, accidentally ingesting a daffodil doesn't immediately kill you if you seek help quickly. If left untreated, though, it can be fatal to small children and pets. After ingesting the bulb, the consumer will experience difficulty swallowing, throat pain, and severe drooling. This is because the chemical is microscopic and needle-like and irritates the tongue, lips, and throat. Symptoms will last about three hours.

Foxglove Foxglove is an ironic plant you'll find in your backyard. Essentially, the plant produces digoxin, which is located in medications preventing heart failure. But if ingested, it doesn't prevent heart failure, it causes it. Because you're taking an unregulated and unknown dose of heart medication, it may affect your heart. The poison is found from eating the seeds or stems or sucking on the flowers. Recorded poisonings from this plant are rare but have happened in the past.

Dieffenbachia Pets and small children need to be extremely careful around dieffenbachia, one of the most poisonous plants you'll find in your backyard. Taking a big bite out of one of the leaves of this plant will make them extremely ill. Symptoms include oral pain, vomiting, and decreased appetite. Even though this makes a great houseplant, you need to be very careful not to ingest it.

Philodendron Philodendrons don't require a lot of TLC, which is why they're commonly found in people's backyards around the USA. Unfortunately, their leaves are toxic and contain calcium oxalate, which inflames the mucous membranes of the mouth and throat if accidentally ingested. It's worse if small children or pets accidentally ingest the leaves, and the more leaves they eat, the more toxic it is. Rarely, if the throat swells too much, it may be difficult to breathe.

Lantana Lantana is a beautiful, vibrant plant with yellow flowers nestled by bright red flowers. To feel the effects of poisoning, an animal only needs to ingest around one percent of their body weight. In cattle, the animal will experience liver damage, excessive skin sensitivity to light, and yellow discoloration of the eyes, which is also referred to as jaundice.

Easter Lily These trumpet-shaped flowers are quite beautiful to look at. They have a unique shape and color that's symbolic of springtime. All of the parts of the flower are poisonous, including the stem, leaves, and pollen. They're especially toxic for cats, in that even if they ingest a small amount, they may suffer from vomiting, increased thirst, and kidney failure.

Mountain Laurel Stay far away from this poisonous plant. It's not only an attractive plant, but it's also deadly. Immediately after someone consumes the flower, they'll experience burning lips and throat, followed by low blood pressure, drowsiness, weakness, convulsions, and paralysis followed by death. If you ever come across honey made from mountain laurel pollen, stay far away from it. It's highly toxic.

Hydrangea If you accidentally ingest a hydrangea, which is a common plant you'll find in your backyard, you'll experience skin irritation, upset stomach, convulsions, and coma. The most toxic part of the plant is the flower buds. It's even toxic to the skin, and if touched, may cause rash or irritation. If your pet cat happens to [ingest a hydrangea](#), it'll experience nausea, diarrhea, depression, breathing difficulties, and seizures.

Wisteria Wisteria is a beautiful plant to look at, hanging from the top of a ceiling with its bright purple color, it's one of the most poisonous plants you'll find in your backyard. If ingested, it may cause dizziness, confusion, headaches, or syncopal episodes, which are temporary drops in blood flow to the brain, where you may lose consciousness. If you eat the berries from the plant, you'll experience these symptoms about five to seven days later, if you're still alive.

American Pokeweed American Pokeweed is one of the most common plants you'll find in America, and most likely in your backyard. Don't be fooled by its purple-black berry, also known as pokeberry. It's highly toxic. If ingested, you'll experience nausea, low blood pressure, and vomiting. Even though it's at the [low end of the toxicity scale](#), especially compared to other plants on this list, it's still not recommended to ingest because of the horrible symptoms.

Tulips It may come as a surprise to find that tulips are poisonous, even though they probably thrive around your backyard. They're especially poisonous to pets, like horses, cats, and dogs. If a human ingests a tulip bulb, they'll experience mouth and skin irritation, dizziness, and abdominal upset. People who handle tulips for work or pleasure may experience "tulip fingers." This is an [irritating rash](#) caused by a rash called *tuliposide*.

Lily Of The Valley Lily of the Valley is one of the most popular plants in gardens around the world. Even though it's popular, it doesn't mean it's nice. It's a naughty plant that's incredibly toxic. It's so toxic that people drinking the water the plant was in have fallen ill. Children are especially susceptible because of their size. If ingested, people will most commonly suffer from upset stomachs, slow and irregular pulse, blurred vision, and seizures.

Tansy People often grow tansy for its golden, bright, vibrant flowers. Tansy has previously been historically used for flavoring; it contains a toxic essential oil that may kill a human. If it doesn't kill you, it will cause liver and brain damage, and at the very least, an allergic reaction to those who touch the flower. There's a reason we don't recommend growing these beautiful flowers in your backyard. The risk isn't worth the reward.

For a list of even more toxic plants and pictures of what they look like, check out the following link:

https://sciencesensei.com/these-everyday-items-turn-into-something-incredible-under-a-microscope/?utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=SCS3&utm_campaign=23853793400430020&utm_content=23853793400920020_23853793404420020&fbclid=IwAR0gaojYxRbX0grT1SPIWvd5QMEdmo4KVkPRBj0IGmePF_xUHRLTXST-QnY



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Question?

Who to call if you have questions about:

General Information:

Susan Borghi, (916) 203-9178

Membership: David Dean, (503) 928-1867

Travel: Darlene Petersen, (847) 714-2153

Sharing Table: Deb Boyle, (847) 924-2112

Hospitality: Ali Reader, (815) 353-1997

Submissions for publication in this newsletter should be emailed to Peggy Mitchell at pamitch23@comcast.net by the 28th of each month.

Web site - fggardenclub.com email - fggardenclub@gmail.com

Attachments: November 2023 meeting minutes
Speakers for 2024