



Fairfield Glade Garden Club



December 2024 Newsletter

From the President

Hello Fellow Members,

I think 2024 has been one of the fastest years of my life. It seems like just last week I was trying to figure out how to cancel the January membership meeting because of a very unusual snow storm in the middle of the month.

Except for trying to deal with the sound system, I have enjoyed being the president of the Garden Club this year. Getting to know people has been the best part of the year. Fairfield Glade Garden Club works because people support each other. I NEVER felt like I was alone on anything we discussed or did.

I want to thank each and every Leaderboard team member for the support I received at every turn. I can't tell you how thankful I was for encouraging smiles. And quick responses to requests for advice. And suggestions for seeing things from a different angle. I never told anyone I knew exactly what I was doing, but together we figured it out.

I think next year's Leaderboard has a great assortment of experienced and new members. Experience is worth its weight in gold, but new members bring a fresh point-of-view to every meeting. I'm excited to see what 2025 will bring to the club.

Anne Bolter will be the President next year. Members, please do everything you can to

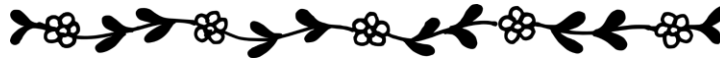
make it a very special year for her.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Susan Borghi

President

Fairfield Glade Garden Club



Dear FFG Garden Club Members

As we draw near the most joyous season of the year, I want to offer you my sincerest wishes for a most enjoyable holiday season. May the years which lie ahead bring you deep satisfaction and happiness. A Merry Christmas to you and those near and dear to you.

In addition, wishing you the best for a very happy ,healthy and prosperous New Year. With another milepost in sight and another year beckoning us with hopes and opportunities, let us stop a moment to reflect upon our pleasant relations of the year about to close.

Susan, thank goodness, has done a wonderful, thoughtful job as President this year and is leaving me with big shoes to fill. Our leader board and Committee Chairs have been great providing speakers, newsletters, leadership and Darlene, our trip chair, is truly exceptional.

It is, indeed, with gratitude that I thank you for your support and trust in electing me your president for 2025. Now at the onset of the new year, I appeal to you to attend our meetings. Your presence will be a barometer for our efforts. It will inspire us all to greater achievements. It will be more than an indication of support; it will be an inspiration for even better programs.

“ Come Grow With Us” is truly what we do together throughout the years.

Sincerely,

Anne Bolter

2025 Incoming President



*Merry
Christmas*

**There will be
NO
December meeting.
See you in January.**



Online Membership Renewal Process

The new online membership renewal process will kick off the week between Christmas and New Years. During that week, all current members of the Garden Club will receive an email from the Club with a link to the online Membership Renewal Form. If you wish to proceed with the online renewal process, click on that link and it will bring you directly to the online renewal application.

You are NOT required to use the online application to renew your membership. You still have the option to use a paper application. You can obtain a paper application either by picking one up at the next membership meeting you attend or downloading the application from the Club's website. To find the application on the Garden Club website (www.fggardenclub.com), click on the "ABOUT FGGC" button, and then click on the "MEMBERSHIP FORM" button located about halfway down the left side of the page. Clicking on the "MEMBERSHIP FORM" button will bring up a blank Membership Application. Print it out, fill it in and either mail it back to the Club, along with your dues payment, to the address at the top of the application or bring your completed application and dues payment to the January or February membership meeting,

Attached to the email will be a short memo describing in greater detail the Club's

current Volunteer Opportunities. Participation in one or more Volunteer Opportunities is a wonderful way to enhance your Garden Club experience by working together with other members to achieve a common goal. Please review the list of Volunteer Opportunities before starting the online renewal process.

Online Application

The Online Application has two sections: Contact Information and Volunteer Opportunities. In the Contact Information section all of the fields require an answer. The program will not let you submit the application form until all Contact information questions have been answered. When providing phone numbers and your 5-digit zip code, enter the requested numbers without any spaces, dashes or parentheses.

The Volunteer Opportunities section has subsections for each Volunteer Activity. Each subsection contains a very short description of a committee's activities and a "Yes" button. If you are interested in a particular committee, click on the YES button; if not, just proceed to the next section.

Clicking the YES button, only says "I'M Interested and want more information." It is not a commitment to join. Clicking YES will enable the committee's leadership to contact you with more information.

When you have completed your application, please review it for accuracy and then click on the SUBMIT button at the bottom of the application. A short time later, you will receive an email from the Club confirming receipt of your application.



I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Wishing you and your families a very happy holiday season and I look forward to another exciting year next year.



This week is the annual poinsettia sale. Be sure to stop by to pick up your poinsettia and tell all your friends. As you know this is one of our two major fundraisers for the year.

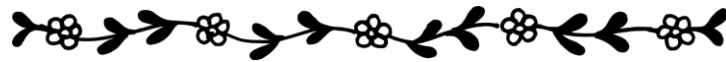
I would like to take this time to thank all of you who have volunteered your time to help out this week with the sale. With the holidays there is a lot going on so I appreciate you taking time out of your busy schedules. I especially want to thank the core team for their help including: Marie Spitler, Paula Tucker, Jan Priest, Liz Musial, Pam Orlando, Kathy Kuhagen, and of course Sue Neibuhr and Kathy Spancake for their support.

We will include the outcome of the sale in next month's newsletter.

Happy Holidays!

[Darlene Petersen](#)

Fairfield Glade Garden Club Plant Sale & Travel Chair



Extra coverage for Poinsettia Sale in the news this week

The Club has been blessed with not just one, but two, 'extra' articles in the newspaper this month about the poinsettia sale. In addition to the announcements Kathy Spancake generates, see if you can read these notices as well:

In the [December, 2024 Cumberland Now](#) publication distributed by the Crossville Chronicle:

The cover page's main story is about the poinsettia sale. See pages 4 through 8 for a nice article (and beautiful pictures) by Jessica Ceballos. The article focuses on the history of the plant sales partnership between Cumberland County High School and the Fairfield Glade Garden Club. Darlene Petersen, CCHS agriculture teacher Danny Wilson and I were interviewed for the article. I think Jessica did a great job capturing the process for both the school and the garden club. The Helena B. Schmidt scholarship program is one of the main discussion points of the article.

The [Knoxville News Sentinel](#) – Sunday December 1, 2024, page 12A

Cumberland County: The article mentioned above is the source for this week's 'snippet' about what is happening in the county this week.

Submitted by [Susan Borghi](#)



Look what I dug up by Nathy Hill



Strange Things Will Blow Your Mind

A fig is not just an ordinary fruit; in fact, it's not even a fruit. Strictly speaking, figs are inverted flowers. Figs don't bloom in the same way as other fruit trees like almonds or cherries.

Technically, figs are not a fruit, but an infructu (a set of fruits).

In a nutshell, figs are a kind of inverted flowers that are made up of many branches, each of which produces a single seed and nut that bloom inside this large, dark, red-hued bud we know as figs.

Each flower produces a single nut and a single seed called an "aquarium".

Therefore, when we eat one fig, we are eating hundreds of fruits.

But the most amazing thing, it's the special pollination process that some fig flowers need to reproduce. They can't depend on whether the wind or the bees bring pollen as other fruits, and so they need a Fig Wasp to breed. (That's a slaughtered wasp, which dies inside the fig.) These insects transport their genetic material, and then die within the fig allowing it to reproduce. For their part, wasps couldn't live without figs, as they deposit their larvae inside the fruit. This relationship is known as symbiosis or mutualism.

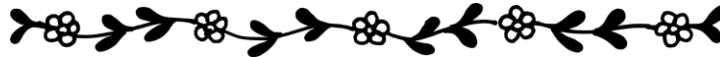
Wasps pollinate the majority of commercially grown figs. Yes, edible figs do include at least one dead female wasp. However, it is not quite the urban legend that fruits contain insect meat. When a female wasp dies within an edible fig, an enzyme known as ficin in the fig breaks down her carcass into protein.

Today, however, producers of this fruit no longer need the work of wasps. Not all figs have wasps in them. Some varieties - including many grown for supermarkets - don't need to be pollinated by fig wasps. Instead, they're sprayed with certain hormones to

make the fruit ripen or they're simply a type of fig that doesn't need pollination. How do you know if your fig has a wasp in it? "There's no real way to tell from the outside, but if the fig contains seeds it will have been pollinated [by a fig wasp]."



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FAIRFIELD GLADE GARDEN CLUB				
TREASURER'S REPORT				
Oct, 2024				
Operating Fund				
Balance at	10/1/2024			\$11,152.12
Income:				
		Trip payments - Winery		\$385.00
		Mem Dues	\$20.00	
		Payments for Aprons	\$21.00	
Total Income				\$426.00
Disbursements				
Checks:	1520	VOID		
	1521	FG Community Church - Oct Donation	(\$100.00)	
	1522	FG Community Church - Oct A/V	(\$25.00)	
	1523	Jennifer Gaffney - Oct mtg setup	(\$75.00)	
Total Disbursements				(\$200.00)
Balance at	10/31/2024			<u>\$11,378.12</u>
Scholarship Fund				
Balance at	10/1/2024			\$13,180.46
Income:				
		Return of Scholarship \$ (Ashley Josey)	\$1,500.00	
		Sharing Table Oct	\$82.75	
Total Income				\$1,582.75
Disbursements				
Checks:	1041	Village Green Mall - Poinsettia deposit	(\$75.00)	
Total Disbursements				(\$75.00)
Balance at	10/31/2024			<u>\$14,688.21</u>
Total Balance				<u>\$26,066.33</u>



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: Mary Stockton, 253-549-5575

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 October 2024 meeting minutes