



Newsletter of the Paradise Garden Club, Paradise CA newsletter@paradisegardenclub.org ParadiseGardenClub.org

The Prez Sez



Well, hey, we made it to May! The days and nights are warming, and we are looking into the better weather typical of spring. As you can imagine there is a lot going on in the garden club world and in all our yards individually.

Joyce and I, as well as Nancy and Wayne attended the Water-Wise and Habitat Friendly Garden Tour April 20th, presented by the Chico Water Wise organization. There were twelve spectacular gardens presented over a 6-hour period. Two of the homes were up

here in Paradise and belonged to our very own Garden club Members. The homes of both Linda and Norm and of Ellen and Steve; what beautiful gardens! It was obvious that they put a lot of thought and love into their yards. An unabashed plug here, all the homes presented have received the Altcal Audubon's neighborhood habitat certification which we all might just wish to consider for our own yards.

May will be busy month in addition to our own upcoming tour. We had the Gold Nugget Festival on the 27th and 28th, the Hodges Nursery Anniversary on April 27, and the Horse Festival followed on April 28. On Saturday, May 4th the Fire Safe Council will present the third annual Grazing Festival and we will have tables at all of these events getting the word out for the club and upcoming tour.

Our May 13th meeting at 1:00 pm will be "Safety in the Garden," a timely presentation by Paradise Stronger instructor Jenny Yamate. She will teach us about proper ways to garden using better body techniques to make the most of our time in the garden enjoyable. Her talk will be followed by a round robin discussion about what is happening in our gardens and about our upcoming tour. Our open discussion is the best time to tap into the huge knowledge base that our members represent and is a lively and fun time.

Happy Gardening and do not forget the sunblock.

T3 (Todd's sign off.)

Todd

PGCI General Meeting, May 13 at 1:00 p.m.

Speaker: Jenny Yamate, Yoga Coach @Paradise Stronger

~ Safety in the Garden, Keeping Our Gardener Bodies Strong and Flexible

Plant Share Month: bring whatever you want to share—cuttings, seeds, plants, etc. We are helping each other learn new plants as we replenish our Paradise gardens.

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Beautification Team Report

The rainy weather continued into the first part of April keeping the Beautification Team indoors. With the welcome spring sunshine, we were able to embark on some much-needed cleaning up. The Foster Triangle had been planted with clover as a ground cover in the late fall, but we had no idea it would spread and take over more than half of the open area. It took six of us two hours to remove most of it. Clover has intertwined tenacious roots. It was a big project!

The poppies are in all their glory everywhere in the triangle now. Driving by on Skyway you see a big burst of orange and it makes you smile.

Elliott triangle has needed our attention as well this spring. From a distance there is much greenery and spring blooms, so it looks pretty good. However, as gardeners, we know that the weeds and sweet peas needed to be removed. The cover of pine needles was cleared by hand working through the many plants and getting down to the brown wood mulch. We continue to be grateful that the big pile of green waste that occurs every time we work is picked up by the Paradise Public Works Department.

The most gratifying part of being on the Beautification Team is gardening together. Whether it's pulling weeds, raking pine needles, or separating iris, we do it together. As gardeners, you'll find us with our heads down and our backsides up, as we bend toward the earth to make it beautiful. We share tools, conversation, laughs and yummy cookies. Some of our bodies are limited by arthritis or other health issues, so we simply do what we can, and together, it turns into something beautiful. You are always welcome to join us. Contact Jeudie Lovell in our PGCI roster for dates and times.

Jeudie



Photo & comment by Nancy Howe.

Remember to pause when you're pulling weeds to delight in the pleasure of dew drops, color contrasts, and the mysterious underworld where only the very tiny amongst us dwell.



Site of Plant Sale and Compost Demonstration by Ward Habel, CERTIFIED MASTER COMPOSTER

Archive: the 2009 Garden Tour & Plant Sale, familiar faces, family legacy, see page 11.

Upcoming Events

Paradise Garden Club meets every second Monday of each month at 1:00 at the Terry Ashe Center. All are welcome. (Odd months we bring cuttings, plants or seeds to share and even months we share food snacks.)

PGCI General Meeting, May 13 at 1:00 p.m. *Safety in the Garden* and will include a short presentation by Jenny Yamate, a senior and chair yoga coach at Paradise Stronger. Her focus is keeping our gardener bodies strong and flexible.

Jenny's presentation will include:

- The importance of proper body mechanics in gardening
- Proper gardening techniques
- Preventing back pain
- Encouragement to practice safe gardening habits for long-term health.

It's important to prioritize our physical health while enjoying the therapeutic benefits of gardening. By following Jenny's tips and techniques, we can prevent back pain and continue to enjoy our time in the garden.

After Jenny's presentation, we will have an open discussion. If you have a gardening tip you'd like to share or have a question you'd like to ask the group, now is the time. We'd still like to learn more about snakes in our area, so if you have information, please come and share.

Grazing Festival: Saturday May 4, 10am-3pm at the Terry Ashe Recreation Center, 6626 Skyway
Activities: Goat Yoga, Herding Demo, Storytime with Goats, Live Music, Craft and Food Vendors, Wildfire Safety Education, etc.

PGCI General Meeting, June 10 at 1:00 p.m. Paradise Garden Tour 2024 Wrap up and Celebration: The club will provide food and drinks to celebrate another successful Garden Tour. We'll have time to assess what worked and what might need improvement next year.

PGCI General Meeting, July 8 at 1:00 p.m. Installation of Officers and visioning for next year. What would you like to learn about? Where would you like to visit as a club? Other ideas?

UC Master Gardeners of Butte County Workshops

Details on classes & locations go to <https://ucanr.edu/sites/bcmg/Workshops/>

Firewise Gardening NEW, Thursday, May 2, 10-11:30am, Location TBA

Bee Basics: An Introduction to Our Native Bees NEW, Wednesday, May 8, 10-11:30am
Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Pest Management, Friday, May 17, 10-11:30am, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Weed Identification, Monday, May 20, 10-11:30am, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

How Does Your Garden Grow? Adaptations of California Native Plants NEW, Wednesday, May 22, 10-11:30am, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Farmers Market Mobile, Sundays @10AM until most of the food is gone.
Location: Magalia Community Park, 13917 South Park Drive, Magalia

Chico Farmers Market, Saturdays @7:30am-1pm, Parking Lot, E 2nd St & Wall

You are cordially invited to this free Special Event
hosted by the UC Master Gardeners of Butte County

Presentation & Book Signing by Jennifer Jewell

Thursday, May 9, 3–5 PM
Neighborhood Church
Fellowship Building #4
2801 Notre Dame Blvd, Chico

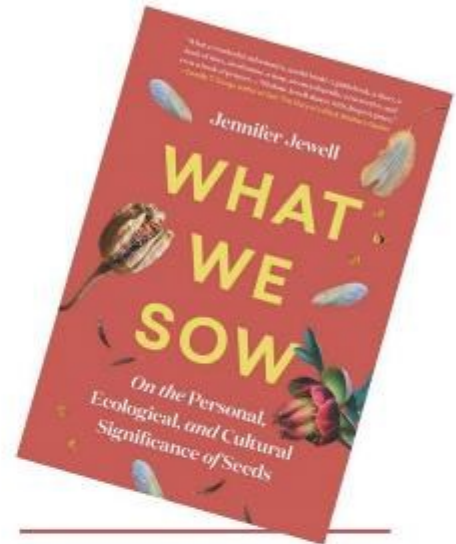


Jennifer Jewell is the host of the national award-winning public radio program and podcast “Cultivating Place: Conversations on Natural History and the Human Impulse to Garden.” Listen to the podcast at www.cultivatingplace.com/blog-1

In her presentation, Jennifer will explore the philosophy of Cultivating Place, based on the belief that gardens and gardeners are powerful agents and spaces for potentially positive change in our world, helping to address challenges as wide ranging as climate change, habitat loss, cultural polarization, and individual and communal health and well-being.

She will explore how this power of gardens (and gardeners) can be viewed through a lens of seeds: the general state of seeds in our gardened lives; how they grow; where they grow; who grows them; who sells and/or controls them; and their care throughout the world.

Photo courtesy Jennifer Jewell.
www.cultivatingplace.com/post/seedislife



“A fascinating discourse on seeds, how we use and abuse them, and how to forge a more sustainable relationship with the seeds we depend on.”

—Douglas W. Tallamy, author
of *Nature’s Best Hope*

Pre-order your signed copy of Jennifer Jewell’s latest book, *What We Sow: On the Personal, Ecological, and Cultural Significance of Seeds* online at tinyurl.com/mg-jjbook.

Board members in attendance: Todd, Jeudie, Margaret, and Anne.

The board meeting was brought to order by President Todd Hummel at 11:30am.

Todd asked if there were any corrections or additions to last month's minutes. One addition made: Board decided to reinstate 'Garden of the Month' and Todd agreed to visit his house after the April general meeting. Minutes were approved by consensus.

Financial Report: Our balance is \$32,398.26

2024-25 Budget presented. Budget revisions discussed: 1) Plant Sales category eliminated because we no longer sell plants at monthly meetings. 2) For more accounting accuracy, a 'Daffodil' category was added, and the Beautification category was eliminated. 3) Storage amount is doubled because the way the calendar falls, we will pay twice in this budget year. 4) The Scholarships category was increased by \$500 to provide scholarships to students at Ridgeview and Paradise High Schools.

Daffodil discussion: Linda Marcus has been asked by Bill Hartley about purchasing 1000 daffodils for personal use at a discounted price because if we order more, the overall cost is less. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

Membership discussion: Anne asked if we call members who have not come to meetings this year. We have several members who have paid their membership dues but don't attend. It was decided that we should call and ask members how they are doing to see if there is a reason people are not attending.

2024-25 Budget was voted on and approved. Margaret will send a copy of the budget via email to all members, and it will be voted on at the May general meeting.

Beautification: Weather has not been good so work has been challenging. This week the weather looks good so the work will be on the Foster Triangle.

Board Elections: President, 1st Vice President, and Treasurer will remain the same. Open positions are 2nd Vice President of Publicity and Recording Secretary.

Banners and logo design: Todd has been working with C & C Prints to purchase new feather banners. He also stated that the banners will only be out occasionally, and not daily, and that we should try C & C Prints if there is a problem we would address it at that time.

Aprons and T-shirts. An informative presentation was given by Linda Marcus on research she is doing for the Garden Club to purchase new aprons and T-shirts with the Garden Club logo. Linda gave information on costs, colors, sizes. The purpose of purchasing aprons and T-shirts is to improve our visibility and add a professional look to the Garden Club when we are doing events like Gold Nugget Days and Johnny Appleseed as well as to make our Beautification team more visible when working. More information is coming soon.

Scholarships: Jeff Marcus has slightly revised the scholarship application and it has been renamed Paradise Garden Club Ward Habriel Scholarship to recognize Ward's establishment of, and ongoing contribution to the scholarship program. The change was approved by the board and Jeff will take it to Ward for his approval.

Status of Garden Tour: All paperwork has been completed for garden homeowners and the Tour Book is at the printers. There was discussion about the size of the tour signs and the use of Paradise Symphony signs. It was decided that we will not use the Symphony signs and will purchase two more water based road signs so we will have a total of six.

Changing the logo: Discussion about changing the logo color and possible design change. There is concern that our logo has identified the Paradise Garden Club for a long time and many things would have to be changed. The color will change on the t-shirts for now and the design change will be discussed further at a later date.

Margaret gave us a heads up about our November meeting falling on Veteran's Day. We may need to change it to the first or third Monday.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Submitted by Anne Pace

Paradise Garden Club General Meeting minutes

April 8th, 2024

The general meeting started at 1:03pm

Todd welcomed everyone, and we said the pledge of allegiance.

Financial Report: We are doing just fine. Our balance is \$32,398.26.

Tour Books: Margaret said the Garden Club tour books are at the printers.

Beautification: This coming Thursday the beautification team will be working on the Triangle on Skyway. Cheryl Habriel thanked the beautification team for working on her garden and yard recently. She expressed her thank you to all who helped.

Joannie, who is representing Penny Pines for the Garden Club, asked people to please add monies to the collection can, that is passed around each meeting, to help support pine tree plantings. \$68 dollars buys 1 acre of trees.

Good of the Order

Anne Pace asked people to sign up for jobs for our June Home Tour and Plant sale. Sign-up sheets are located by the check in table.

About 23 people attended the general meeting and helped create color bowls that will be an added addition to helping us generate money for our plant sale in June. Participants were asked to take these completed bowls home and babysit them and return them before the plant sale in June. The Plant Barn in Chico donated different annuals and pots to help create these "bowls". Another member donated succulents to add a different element to the color bowls. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

Zoom meetings are continuing for the planning of our Home Tour and Plant sale in June. Please join us. Tuesdays at 2pm. Please check your emails for the Zoom link.

Todd mentioned our club is starting up again, "visiting a member's garden" after our general meeting. Todd and Joyce offered their home as an invite for April.

Butte College Plant Sale is Saturday April 13th.

The Crystal Hermitage Tulip Festival Field trip with Todd and Joyce will be April 12th.

Elks Tea Party is April 13th.

Mt Lassen Chapter Native Plant Society Water-wise and Habitat-friendly Garden tour is April 20th at 9am. Our own Linda Goddard and Ellen Michels/Steve Rodowick gardens are on the tour.

The Goat Festival is on May 4th. Sign-up sheet is on the back table.

A Celebration of life for Debi Durham is being held June 8th at 1 pm in FRONT of the Butte Creek Country Club .

Next month's program will be Jenny Yamada, Senior and Chair Yoga coach: Keeping our bodies strong and flexible.

Also Snake identification: Speaker to be announced.

Secretary: Wendy Wicklund


From Sandy Miller: Attached is a link to the Butte Fire Safe Council video featuring my home.

<https://youtu.be/SSPjpwMLBIS>



Thank you Anne Pace,
(Vice President of Programs) for all the work & research that went into a fun time at our April meeting making container gardens for the upcoming June plant sale.



To all of us who took home color bowls to tend: 1) Keep them watered 2) Add purchased soil if needed. 3) Make sure they get appropriate sun. 4) Above  are some after just three weeks. Four more weeks to the plant sale! 5) Anne has additional bowls/pots if you want to make additional plantings for the plant sale. Her contact information is in the roster.



An uplifting new color idea for our PGCI symbol. What do you think? Let us know. The green photo is blurry, but shows what it can look like in a green setting.



A welcome garden of PGCI information at the Chico Home & Garden Tour in April. Thanks volunteers!



CONSERVATION

Make Each Day Earth Day

By Bette Tang, Writer-at-Large

We celebrate Earth Day on April 22. Since 1970, this special day has brought attention to the health of our planet, conservation, and sustainability. Earth Day has evolved into the largest civic event on Earth, activating billions across 192 countries to safeguard our planet and fight for a brighter future.

This year's theme is Planet vs. Plastics. It will advocate for widespread awareness of the health risks of



plastics, rapidly phase out all single-use plastics, urgently push for a strong UN Treaty on Plastic Pollution and demand an end to fast fashion. There are billions of plastic waste items choking our oceans, lakes, and rivers and piling up on land. Plastics are more than unsightly and harmful to plants and wildlife; they are harmful to human health too. One million plastic bottles are purchased every minute worldwide, while up to five trillion plastic bags are used in a year. Each

year the average American ingests more than 70,000 microplastics in their drinking water supply.

Microfibers from synthetic fibers have been shown to make up the majority of human material found along the world's shorelines. Cigarette butts — whose filters contain tiny plastic fibers — are the most common type of plastic waste found in the environment. According to a 2020 study conducted by PEW Trusts, annual flows of plastic into the ocean could be reduced by 80% by 2040 through the application of existing approaches to reduce our consumption of single-use plastics and the adoption of eco-friendly alternatives.

We all can do something to eliminate plastics from our lives. By now we have heard about the ways to eliminate plastics, but many are too complacent to follow through. Why? We don't need plastic bags, plastic water bottles, plastic straws and utensils, plastic personal



care products, and plastic containers. There are recyclable alternatives. See these



websites for suggestions (<https://www.earthday.org/campaign/end-plastic-pollution> and <https://endplasticwaste.org/>). Each of us needs to take

responsibility and make each day Earth Day and pay attention to whether our actions affect the sustainability of life on Earth. Jane Goodall said, "You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you.

What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make." We should take personal action and advocate for the elimination of plastics through our elected officials and legislation. It is probably the most important thing we can do.



Gardening and the Changing Climate

Melinda Myers

The extreme weather conditions of the past few years have added to the challenge of growing a successful garden. Prolonged periods of excessively high temperatures, drought, wildfires, floods, and an increase in heavy rainfall events impact our gardens, homes, communities, and health.

As gardeners, we have an opportunity to make a positive impact on climate change. As an influencer who shares knowledge, you can help other gardeners do the same. Implementing sustainable and smart gardening strategies can help increase our growing success and help slow future warming by reducing carbon emissions and increasing carbon storage in plants and the soil.

Start by looking for ways to improve the soil and keep it covered year-round. When land is cleared, wetlands filled, and soil tilled or left uncovered, CO₂ is released into the

atmosphere. Exposed soil is also subject to erosion and nutrient run-off that pollutes nearby waterways. Increasing the organic matter in the soil allows rainfall to infiltrate the soil more readily, reducing the risk of erosion while improving the soil's water-holding capacity. This process helps our gardens as we are experiencing more periods of intense rainfall and droughts.

Grow various plants suited to the growing conditions in your gardens and landscape that can best tolerate the extreme heat and cold, wet, and drought conditions we are experiencing with climate change. A diverse group of plants supports a healthy soil ecosystem that is better able to store carbon and promote healthy, productive plant growth. Grow native plants whenever appropriate and suitable for the growing conditions and your garden space. These plants slow and capture stormwater. Their deep roots provide pathways for water to infiltrate the soil. They have evolved with insects, songbirds, and wildlife while providing them an important food source and shelter.



Paradise locals: Ellen & Steve's front garden. Photo by Nancy Howe.

Continued next page

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Plant trees, shrubs, and groundcovers to help reduce the use of fossil fuels for heating and cooling our homes. Properly placed trees, shrubs, and vines can provide welcome shade, direct cooling breezes toward the house, and block or deflect hot summer or cold winter winds away while allowing warming winter sunshine to help reduce energy use. Planting trees in the right place for your climate can help reduce energy use by up to 25%. Trees and shrubs also take up and store carbon for many years. Washington State University says, “Trees in U.S. urban and community areas store 1.4 billion tons of carbon and continually take up more than 26 million tons a year.”



Paradise locals: Ellen & Steve's back garden. Photo by Nancy Howe.

Avoid invasive plants that leave our gardens and invade nearby natural spaces. These bullies outcompete native plants, thus disrupting the natural ecosystem on which wildlife depends. According to the North American Invasive Species Management Association, “Invasive species can negatively impact climate change mitigation efforts in many North American ecosystems. Invasive tree pests reduce carbon sequestration rates in forests. Aquatic invasives decrease the resilience of green infrastructure to resist flooding and sea-level rise. Aquatic invasive species can also increase the temperatures, negatively influencing the hydrologic cycle.”

Reducing the amount of lawn and considering less energy-consuming alternatives are options many gardeners enlist.

When managing any lawn size, consider ways to make it more climate-friendly. Mow high to encourage deeper roots and healthier plants that are better able to outcompete the weeds and are more drought-tolerant and pest-resistant. Leave grass clippings on the lawn to return moisture and nutrients to the soil. A season's worth of clippings is equal to one fertilization. Use compost to improve the soil and fertilize the lawn. A quarter inch of compost spread over the soil surface provides two pounds of nitrogen per 1000 square feet. Use water wisely. Keep equipment serviced and running efficiently. The simple act of keeping mower blades sharp can reduce fuel use by 22% and the lawn's water use by 30%. Choose low-emission equipment when investing in replacements or new products. Gas-powered garden equipment is a significant emitter of CO₂. Consider hand and battery-powered options whenever possible.

Do not let the challenge of incorporating climate-friendly garden practices overwhelm you and the gardeners you advise. Start by evaluating your and their current gardening practices. Look for ways to be more climate-friendly when managing gardens and landscapes. Then, begin tackling that list of changes. Together, we can make a difference.

*Melinda Myers authored more than 20 gardening books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook* and *Small Space Gardening*. Her website is www.MelindaMyers.com. Excerpt from *The National Gardener/Spring 2024*, Pages 5-6*

2009

From the PGC Archives

PGCI members & family members sharing their gardens & service during the 2009 Garden Tour & Plant Sale.

Benefit Drawing

Thank you to all the Club members who provided Benefit Drawing items for our annual Garden Tour. We did better than ever before - over \$1300!! Tiffany and I appreciate all the help that was offered and especially all the Club members who supported our Benefit Drawing by buying tickets!

Cheryl Habriel



A Garden Fountain and a Japanese Maple were donated as door prizes by Paradise Garden Center

Co-chairs of the Benefit Drawing Cheryl Habriel and daughter Tiffany Hague.

We moved here from So. California, unaware of what grew here and of the gardening challenges such as plants tolerant of late afternoon sun. Mendon's was helpful in the choosing process. We designed all of the gardens. We kept the Japanese maples, pine trees and mugo pines. Plants like azaleas, rhododendron, spirea, abelia, creeping phlox, quince, wisteria, lilac, campanula, gardenia, vetches, and dwarf crepe myrtle are in the front yard. A wheelbarrow with succulents, a gazing ball, and assorted solar decorative lights are also found. Pots on the front porch hold annuals and perennials.

Our backyard is a bird sanctuary containing birdhouses, feeders and birdbaths. This year we are installing a pond to attract frogs. Our plantings take advantage of each season. The backyard contains assorted trees and perennials: hosta, hellebore, daphne, clematis, and pieris. Another wheel barrow contains a bunny forest. In addition there is a rose garden, hydrangea, heuchera, and specialty trees like cascading crab apple tree, tri-color dogwood, tri color beechwood, and Japanese maples.

We are in the garden almost everyday, weather permitting. Our greatest joys are the birds and the pond—our reward for our back breaking work.



Contemplate



Helichrysum Strawflower, photo by Nancy Howe

Sunlight and shadows
endlessly play with colors
and we get to watch.