



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

The Prez Sez



Welcome to June. Since the rush of the garden tour met us on the first two days of this month, we now have time for quiet reflection. “A Medley of Gardens” was the theme this year. It was inspiring to see the various gardens created in the post fire circumstances. They show what is possible to achieve here.

Historically, we have had six gardens each year, then post fire, we began with three. This year, for the first time, we presented bonus gardens displaying their gifts to our community. One bonus garden was that of PGCI member Carrie Max in honor of her mother Thea whose lovely garden was destroyed in the Camp Fire. Carrie’s hard work is a tribute to both her own labors and to the memory and spirit of her mother. Our other bonus garden was the addition of our first commercial garden on the tour. The folks at Willow Springs Garden at Butte Valley Supply went all out to show what can be accomplished with the addition of wonderful soil. You can see the difference in all their happy plants. Did you know that in addition to worm casting soil, they also sell garden art and gifts?

This is the second year of our collaboration with the Paradise Symphony and the Paradise Art Center, and we hope that this continues well into the future. We have so much great local talent.

In our June meeting we look forward to discussing the tour, what worked, how to improve, and hearing more ideas from all members present. You and your opinions are our most valuable resource.

Thank you to everyone who stepped up to help with all the details and work positions. We could not have done it without you.

Horray for another successful tour! T3

Todd



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 assess what worked, areas to improve and ideas for next year.

Index

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Prez Sez & Next Meeting | 7 Board Minutes |
| 2 Beautification | 8 General Meeting Minutes |
| 2 Thanks, last month's review | 9 CGCI, Native Seeds |
| 3 Upcoming Events | 10 NGCI, Cover Crops |
| 3 May Garden Visit to Carrie's | 11 NGCI, Cover Crops |
| 4 Gardening for Wildlife | 12 Archive |
| 5 Poem, Gardening Struggles | 13 Archive |
| 6 Nancy's Garden Notes | 14 Contemplate |

Beautification Team Report

The beautiful days of spring are in full glory. The preparation for the tour has taken some of our work time but our gardens have let us know it is a season of growth. At the library mound, we found a fresh crop of vetch that we removed. We took out a lot of errant grasses hiding in the large clumps of grasses we had planted so long ago. Sweet pea roots grow very deep, so we just snipped them. The mycelium from the roots will help the soil. The red bud needed to be supported by stakes on both sides as the wind pulls it toward the north. The olive tree, though small, is doing well. We have plans to put down fresh mulch and fertilizer and plant colorful flowers but that will have to wait when there is more time.

We tended the garden at the monument area. Todd used a weed wacker on a huge spread of tall weeds growing to the north. Though we are only responsible for inside the border of the monument these weeds were very unsightly and a significant fire hazard. A hedge trimmer made quick work of removing the tops of the sedge. Now when the blue flowers bloom, they will be noticeable. We pulled weeds from around and inside the wood border. We topped the daffodils leaving the green to feed the bulbs for next year. It now looks fresh and clean.

We did not tend the gardens during the last Thursdays of May which allowed our focus to be on the needed preparation for the garden tour June 1 & 2.

Our working team has dwindled to just four or five dedicated members. We are doing our best but could do much more if there were more of us. If you are interested and can give any time on Thursday mornings, we welcome you. We even have yummy cookies. Talk to Jeudie Lovell at the greeter's desk at the monthly meeting or contact her online at her address in the roster.

Jeudie

Thank You



A huge thank you goes to Yoga Coach Jenny Yamada. At our May meeting, Jenny presented several ways to stay safe and active in the garden. She even got on the floor to show us the safest ways to get up if we take a tumble in the garden. With some pre-gardening stretches and correct postures when weeding and digging, we can stay safe and active for years to come.

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, 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?

No meeting in August. Enjoy your gardens, vacations and visitors. Stay cool.

PLAN AHEAD (*from Golden Garden Enews May/June 2024, pg 2*)

June 20 — National Bald Eagle Day

June 20 — First Day of Summer

July 1-7 — Clean Beaches Week

July 2 — National Wildland Firefighter Day

July 4 — Independence Day

July 7 — Build a Scarecrow Day

July 16 — National Cherry Day

July 20-28 — National Moth Week

July 28 — World Nature Conservation Day

July 31 — National Avocado Day

UC Master Gardeners of Butte County Workshops

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

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

If you know of upcoming events that would interest local gardeners, please let Nancy Howe, newsletter editor, know. She's in the PGCI roster. Thank you!

Garden Viewing Hospitality

Carrie Max welcomed members to her garden after the May meeting.
You'll have another opportunity to see it on the tour June 1 & 2.

Thank you Carrie



Gardening For Wildlife

Linda Goddard

Aphids in the Garden

Aphids are tiny sap-sucking insects and are common pests in gardens worldwide. In Paradise, several aphid species can affect a variety of plants. Among these, the oleander aphid, a common milkweed pest, is particularly annoying. (My nemesis!)

Common Aphid Species

1. **Oleander Aphid (*Aphis nerii*)** Bright yellow with black legs. Primarily infest milkweed, but also found on oleander. Can weaken milkweed plants, reducing their ability to support monarch butterflies.
2. **Green Peach Aphid (*Myzus persicae*)** Light green or yellow green, sometimes with a reddish hue. They eat peaches, potatoes, and ornamental plants. Transmits plant viruses, leading to significant crop damage.
3. **Black Bean Aphid (*Aphis fabae*)** Dark black or dark green. They infest beans, beets, and various ornamentals. Heavy infestations can cause significant plant damage and reduced yields.
4. **Woolly Aphid (*Eriosomatinae* subfamily)** Covered in a white, waxy substance, giving them a woolly appearance. Typically found on apple trees and related species. Can cause gall formation and weaken trees by feeding on the sap.

Natural Aphid Management Strategies

Managing aphid populations without chemicals is essential for maintaining a healthy garden. Here are some effective methods:



1. Biological Control

Ladybugs (Ladybird Beetles): Natural predators of aphids. Introducing ladybugs to the garden can help keep aphid populations in check.

Lacewings: Both adult lacewings and their larvae feed on aphids. Lacewing eggs can be purchased and released in the garden.

Parasitic Wasps: These tiny wasps lay their eggs inside aphids, leading to the aphid's eventual death. Aphid mummies (aphids that have been parasitized) can often be seen on plants.



2. Planting Companion Plants

Certain plants can repel aphids or attract beneficial insects that prey on aphids. Examples include:

Garlic and Chives: Their strong smell can deter aphids.

Marigolds: Attract beneficial insects and can repel certain pests.

Nasturtiums and Calendula: Often used as a trap crop, drawing aphids away from more valuable plants.

3. Physical Methods

Water Sprays: A strong jet of water can dislodge aphids from plants. This method is most effective early in the morning when temperatures are cooler.

Handpicking: For small infestations, manually removing aphids can be effective. Wearing gloves, gently rub or pinch off the aphids.

Please do not use any chemicals as they will also kill the beneficial insects and the monarch caterpillars!

Garden Struggles

In the garden's tender embrace, I dwell,
Where sunrays dance and secrets swell,
Yet within this haven, a battle unfolds,
Where problems arise, their stories untold.



First, the soil, a canvas for life's display,
But in its depths, troubles doth lay,
Compacted and heavy, it hampers the seeds,
Stifling their growth, hindering their needs.

Next, the pests, with their insidious might,
Creeping and crawling, causing a blight,
They feast on foliage with voracious delight,
Leaving devastation in their ruthless flight.



Then comes the drought, a relentless heat,
Stealing moisture, life's precious treat,
Leaves wilt and wither, colors turn pale,
A parched landscape, a woeful tale.

But fear not gardener, amidst despair,
For each problem faced is a chance to repair,
With nurturing hands and wisdom in store,



The garden's spirit shall forever endure.

So, amend the soil, enrich it with care,
With compost and love, make it thrive and bear,
Seek natural remedies to ward off the pest,
A harmony restored, nature's gentle bequest.

In drought's cruel grasp, let water abound,
With tender patience, each plant's thirst be found,
Revive the garden, a haven of green,
With life's precious sustenance, a vibrant scene.

For in the problems of a garden's plight,
Lies the gardener's journey, both dark and bright,
Through struggles and toil, they learn and grow,
And within this dance, a deeper connection they sow.

So, let us embrace the challenges that arise,
In growing a garden, where beauty lies,
For with resilience and love, we shall overcome,
And witness nature's wonders, forever to come.

Written by an A-I app when Anne Pace asked it to write a poem about the challenges of gardening.

Nancy's Garden Notes



Dusty Miller cutting, dusted cut with root compound powder, stuck in outside soil in February. Now June, roots grown, acclimated, ready to use in landscape.

Poppies, once the leaves turn a dull gray it is time to pull up the plant. Easily slides out of the earth, just one center root. Nicely aerates the soil. Place the long pods where you want flowers next spring.



Photos by Nancy Howe



Thistles, I prefer to pull out by the roots, so they will not return. Get your leather gloved hands on the underside of the leaves, to prevent being stabbed. Note how long the root is compared to the plant. Position your hands close to the base, pull slow & steady, it will come out. Might need to moisten the soil and/or loosen it with your hori hori. Always put weeds into green waste bin with the roots upward. This minimizes seed disbursement. If you weed wack thistles, the prickly leaves & stems fly everywhere. It is hard to collect all of them and they are hard on your pet's paws in addition to your summer bare skin.

Paradise Garden Club Board Meeting Minutes

May 13th, 2024

The board meeting was brought to order at 11:32am by Anne Pace our Vice President.

Anne Pace submitted Board minutes for April 2024 because Secretary Wendy Wicklund had an appointment. Board minutes were approved by board.

Financial Report: Margaret gave a brief explanation for our current expenses. We are doing fine. Printed copy given to Wendy, as secretary, to file.

Budget Report: Margaret asked Anne to remind our general meeting participants today to please review the budget when they can.

Beautification Report: Jeudie talked about our regularly maintained planted areas around town, and that our club keeps planted, tidied and looking great. Jeudie thanked all who participated in helping with these areas.

Jeudie found fifteen colored garden tour signs, measuring approx. 14" x 24" each in the storage unit. The board approved a suggestion given by Jeudie, to have these signs laminated for rainy plant sale years and to improve durability of the signs.

T-shirt design & sales. Linda Marcus showed the T-shirts she will be ordering and how the designs turned out. Great job Linda. Linda will be taking orders at the general meeting. The cost is \$20.00 plus tax.

For those folks working in the Home Tour and Plant Sale, please remember to wear the newly designed T-shirts, this helps us show unity and gives us a professional look to the club.

Anne mentioned next month is our Post Garden Tour Celebration Lunch. Check your emails for future information.

Board meeting ended 12:42p

Secretary Wendy Wicklund



Who doesn't love a group of well placed succulents?



Photos by Nancy Howe

Our general meeting was called to order by Vice President Anne Pace at 1:05 PM and we all participated in the pledge of alliance.

Financial report: Margaret said we are doing fine. Margaret also explained some of our monthly expenses.

Budget report: This budget report was previously emailed to members for review and approved today by members attending.

Beautification report: Jeudie talked about areas in the town that are raked, planted and regularly tidied by the garden club and how her team works. She also thanked all who help with these areas.

Guest Speaker today was Jen Yamate from Paradise Fitness in Paradise. Jen talked about how important it is to keep our bodies strong, flexible, and healthy. She also gave suggestions on how to get off the floor, or in your garden, with more ease and bending properly. Everyone seemed to enjoy the presentation. She offers programs through Paradise Strong for whomever is interested.

Joannie who is our representative for Penny Pines talked about when Penny Pines was first established and why forest replacement is so important. We all love Joannie's pine tree hat and her enthusiasm.

Garden Tour signups: Anne said signup sheets for our Home Tour and plant sale are in the back of the room. Please sign up for a shift.

Color bowls: Anne asked how everyone's color bowls that were created and taken home after the April meeting are doing.

Don Criswell is offering horse manure for anyone interested. His phone number is 530 520 3473. He lives in Paradise off Neal. Rabbit pellets are available from a woman on Honey Run Road who raises appaloosas and rabbits. Please call these people before you go.

General meeting ended at 3:00

Secretary Wendy Wicklund



Walking onion threading through feverfew. →

← Loving the lichen with fading Bulbine and Dogwood blooms.



Photos by Nancy Howe



INVESTING IN AMERICA INITIATIVE PROVIDES \$18 MILLION TO ENHANCE NATIVE SEED SUPPLY

By Nancy Compton, Legislation/Government Chairman

During the most recent National Native Seed Conference, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced that \$18 million will be made available to ensure an abundant and reliable source of native seeds which will serve to combat climate change and restore our public lands for future generations.

Native plant ecosystems are being lost daily due to climate-related events such as wildfire seasons and other extreme weather actions, as well as human causes like unchecked development. As these native ecosystems are lost, the risk of erosion increases, as does the resulting proliferation of non-native and invasive species in the landscape.

Critical to restoring native vegetation on public lands depends upon the collecting, procuring, and storing of native seeds. The funding for the newly launched native seed initiative is a component of the President's "Investing in America" agenda which has earmarked over \$2 billion over five years toward this native seed project which will put people to work restoring our nation's lands and waters.

In addition to planting native seeds on our nation's public lands, this ambitious initiative is focused on assisting farmers to transition from high-water crops to low-water native plant crops and investing in restoration projects. These include restoring white bark pine trees, converting 500 acres of degraded rangelands in Colorado to short grass prairie and sage shrubland, and collaborating with native tribes in Montana to expand greenhouse facilities for the growing of native seedlings for restoration efforts.

Bureau of Land Management Director Tracy Stone-Manning said, "Nature has spent thousands of years designing plants that fit in specific places, so we cannot do better than that as we embark on restoration efforts. Native seeds stand a better chance of long-term success."





Cover Crops in the Home Garden

Roxanna Champagne

People have used cover crops throughout agricultural history, with documentation of cover crops being grown during the early Roman times, ancient China, and India. Early North American farmers used cover crops during crop rotations and under trees in orchards. George Washington used and promoted the use of cover crops.



Buckwheat • UrosPoteko

It is easy to assume that cover crops were only helpful in commercial agriculture. Things are changing, and cover crops are used in small home garden plots and raised beds. After harvesting your summer vegetables, your soil may be bare, which can lead to compaction from rain or erosion when the soil dries out from exposure to the sun, as well as weed growth. Cover crops act like mulch in protecting bare soil from erosion and compaction and prevent the development of weeds. Cover crops can aid in making your soil healthy again. They turn into green manure, which increases the availability of air, water, and nutrients for your plants. Cover crops increase the activity of earthworms and beneficial microorganisms. Pollinators and other beneficial insects are attracted to cover crops. Some cover crops release chemical compounds that inhibit weed growth.

So, what exactly are cover crops? Cover crops are plants not grown to be consumed or sold but mainly to replenish the soil and prevent erosion. The benefits of each type of cover crop vary, and the home gardener should pick the right cover crop for their garden soil needs. Your location and season of planting will also affect the type of cover crop you choose.

There are four classes of cover crops: grasses, legumes, brassicas, and non-legume broadleaves.

Grasses

Examples: Rye and winter wheat, winter oats, millet Benefits: Improves soil retention and water quality, aids in weed control, adds organic matter to the soil, and prevents erosion.

Continued next page

Legumes

Examples: Crimson clover, hairy vetch, white clover, eas, alfalfa

Benefits: Adds nitrogen for use by subsequent crops, reduces or prevents erosion, adds organic matter to the soil, and attracts beneficial insects.



Brassicas

Examples: Radish, turnips

Benefits: Rapid fall growth, weed suppression, absorbs excess nutrients from the soil, breaks up soil compaction, releases chemical compounds that can be toxic to soilborne pests.

Non-legume broadleaves

Examples: Spinach, flax, buckwheat

Benefits: Helps mobilize phosphorus in the soil, builds organic matter in the soil, breaks down soil compaction.



Plant cover crops in late summer or early fall, depending on the type. They will need at least four weeks to get established before a frost. Scatter the seeds in your planting area. Follow the label on your seed package for seeding recommendations. Some cover crops may freeze and die during a cold spell. Leave the dead plant on top of the soil as it has roots that will feed soil microorganisms during the winter. At the end of the growing season, if you still have some living crops, make sure to cut them down before they set seed. You can work the cut plants into your soil. The plants will need about three weeks to break down before planting your next edible or ornamental crop.

Remember that soil is not dirt; it is a living ecosystem teeming with microorganisms – bacteria, fungi, nematodes, worms, and insects. Soil puts food on our plates, purifies water, protects us against flooding, and combats drought. We must take care of our soil and keep it healthy by feeding and protecting it. Cover crops are one way to improve soil health and conserve our soil.

Roxanna Champagne, of Louisiana, is the NGC Land and Soil Conservation Chair. She recently served as the Louisiana Garden Club Federation's State President. She is an NGC Four-Star Member.

dead of heart attack

Paradise Garden Club Archives 1988

Florence Styles once told why she put so much time aside to preserve local history: "There's lots of it in Paradise," she said simply. "I have often wondered how Tales (of the Paradise Ridge) could go on, but it goes on and on and on."

The same can be said of the contributions Styles has made to the ridge. Her personal library of historical documents, and the clubs and events she's helped to grow in the area also go on and on, and will continue to do so.

At the age of 83, Styles died suddenly of natural causes Monday evening while setting up election equipment for Tuesday's elections.

A service in her memory will be held today at 2 p.m. at Rose Chapel Mortuary, with Candice Grubbs, Evelyn Brick and John Hershey participating in officiation.

Soprano Joan Anderson and Melva Cummings will provide music at the service.

The event will mark the passing of one of Paradise's most outstanding citizens. "She was a type of institution here in Paradise," explained Supervisor Len Fulton.

In addition to being the impetus behind "Tales of the Paradise Ridge," a semi-annual historic magazine which was started in 1960, Styles was a member of a 1959 committee that was to be the

creator of today's Gold Nugget Days.

The historian's pride and joy was her collection of obituaries, used mainly for her work with the Paradise Genealogical Society.

One of the first to join the society when it formed in 1968, Styles' drive in collecting the names of those buried in Butte County, and her perserverance in getting others to help her collect, has led today to the group's complete notation of the names of all those buried in Butte County cemeteries, with the exception of Oroville and Glenn Oaks in Chico.

A Sacramento man wrote to Styles in 1986 requesting information on his ancestors. "He found his relatives (buried) in

Pine Creek north of Chico and wrote me, 'I found my relatives just where you said they'd be,' " she later recalled.

Due to Styles' obsession with clipping facts from local newspapers, she once admitted her husband (Wil) wouldn't let her read the newspaper until he was done with it.

"I can't touch it until he's finished with his crossword puzzle," she said. "Otherwise it would be just like Swiss cheese."

In addition to 32 years worth of clippings, Styles' collection of books, biographies and historical documents make up probably the largest collection

Florence Styles

PARADISE — A memorial service for onetime Paradise Citizen of the Year Florence H. Styles, 83, will be held at 2 p.m. Friday in the Rose Chapel.

She died Monday night of natural causes while she was helping set up election equipment for Tuesday's balloting.

Mrs. Styles, named 1981 citizen of the year in Paradise, also shared grand marshal honors with her husband, Wil, during 1985's Gold Nugget Days celebration.

Born May 28, 1905, in Petaluma, she moved to Paradise in 1955 from Oakland.

Mrs. Styles and her husband developed and owned Acres of Paradise Mobile Home park on Pentz Road for many years. They sold the park in 1974.

Mrs. Styles was instrumental in organizing a half dozen or more clubs in Paradise.

She was interested in history, and maintained an extensive library in her home comprised of records and files she carefully collected over the years.

Her interest in history led to her becoming the first editor of "Tales of the Paradise Ridge," published by Paradise Fact and Folklore.

She was a charter member of Paradise Newcomers Club and was its president in 1957. She



Florence Styles

remained active with that group throughout the years.

In 1959, she was a member of the committee that organized a program to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the finding of the "Dogtown Nugget," a 54-pound gold nugget near Magalia. The commemoration became what today is known as Gold Nugget Days.

Gardening was among Mrs. Styles' varied interests, and she was a longtime member and a past president of the Paradise Garden Club. She has served on numerous committees that ar-

ranged garden shows, home tours and beautification projects in Paradise.

She was a charter member of the Honey Run Covered Bridge Association and researched and edited a book used to raise funds for the historic structure.

When Paradise Genealogical Society was organized in 1968, Mrs. Styles was among the first to join. Her records have been used as source materials by persons from throughout Butte County, including those from several county offices and civic groups.

She has also served on the board of directors of the Butte County Historical Society and she was a member of the Association of Northern California Research and Records at Chico State University.

She had served also as a director of the Paradise Community Concert Association and was historian for the Paradise Symphony Society and Symphony Guild.

Her endeavors earned Paradise Elks Lodge recognition in 1981 when she was named citizen of the year for her outstanding contributions to the community and its citizens.

Mrs. Styles was a medical librarian at Highland Hospital in Oakland for 10 years before moving to the ridge.

She and her husband were married June 1, 1930 in Piedmont.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a daughter,



WILL BE MISSED — Popular Paradise resident Florence Styles died suddenly of natural causes Monday evening while setting up election equipment. Services will be held today at 2 p.m. at Rose Chapel Mortuary.

Doreen F. Thornhill of Kansas City, Kan.; a sister, Winoma Brodie of Spring Valley; and four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Candice Grubbs, Evalyn Brick and John Hershey will participate in the memorial service. Joan Anderson and Melva Cummings will provide the music.

She will be cremated at Rose Chapel. Inurnment will be in Paradise Cemetery at a later date.

Arrangements are being handled by Rose Chapel.

Contemplate



Photos & haiku by Nancy Howe

Layers, precious life
Fragile, resilient, complex
Enjoy the moment.