



# Riviera Garden Club

## Sea Breeze

COSTA VERDE DISTRICT, CGCI, PACIFIC REGION, NGC

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Nov/Dec 2020

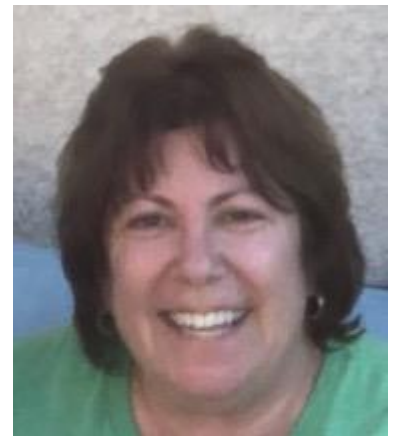
## A Word from Our President Ellyn Meikle

Nov 22, 2020

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This past year has been trying for all of us. We are still alive and full with anticipation for a more prosperous new year, in health and happiness for all.

Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas, and Happy Kwanzaa.



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# October General Meeting

Topic: RGC May General Meeting

Time: Oct. 27, 2020 9:30 social-Meeting-10:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Our October general meeting was well attended with 35 Members on our zoom call.

Thank you to Jeffery Warner, Master Coordinator, University of California for his very interesting and



informative talk on **Growing Fruit Trees in the South Bay.**

**Cocktail Fruit Trees (Multi-grafted)**

Newly planted 4-in-1 pluot

2 1/2 years later

6 feet of new growth in one season

Multi-budded Pluot

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
Agriculture and Natural Resources UC Master Gardener Program

# November General Meeting

Our November General Meeting was also very well attended we had 34 members on the Zoom Meeting.



## Garden Projects

We have ongoing beautification projects at:

### El Retiro Library and Park

Gloria Balcom, Jodi Rhodes and Carolyn Bazak

**Los Colinas Circle:** Ruth Vogel, Linda Rosenfeld and Wendy Tsuji

**Rocketship Park:** Toni Ziegler, Wendy Tsuji, Geeta Gupta and Connie Moseley

## Staying Connected

Volunteers are calling 10 people a month. Please feel free to join in and call members.

A new way we would like to stay connected is the, “make a call, get a call” plan. This will connect members with at least two other members during this isolating time.

For this plan every member would call the woman above her in our directory and connect with a chat or a message.

Being in relationship is such an important part of why we all belong to the garden club. Let’s make sure we continue that connection while we maintain social distancing.

## Happy Birthday

### November

Marilyn Baker	6
Meredith Grenier	8
Geneva Martin	9
Jodi Rhodes	11
Charlie Sappingtom	18
Pati Johnson	19
Ruth Vogel	20
Diane Connell	28
Jay Spradlin	28
Marilyn Rubin	30

### December

Julie Blake	5
Irma Maggio	21
Claudeene Lyon	30



# Upcoming Events

Please join us for Virtual Holiday Wine Tasting.

Enjoy some great wine with good friends.

Further information call

Cynthia Lundin 310-622-3692



**RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB VIRTUAL HOLIDAY PARTY AND WINE TASTING ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2020 AT 4:00 P.M.**

YOU ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL WINE TASTING PRESENTED BY SOMMELIER KARL ZIEGLER OF CONCURRENT WINES OF REDONDO BEACH. FEATURED WINES ARE LA BERNARDE ROSE FROM PROVENCE, FRANCE AND BREA PINOT NOIR OF SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS IN CALIFORNIA.

THE WINES WILL BE DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR PRIOR TO THE TASTING. INCLUDED WILL BE A LIST OF SUGGESTED CHEESE PAIRINGS AND A COUPON FOR A FUTURE WINE PURCHASE.

PLEASE RSVP BY DECEMBER 4 TO CYNTHIA LUNDIN AT 635 PASEO DE LA PLAYA #304, REDONDO BEACH 90277 WITH YOUR CHECK FOR \$45 MADE PAYABLE TO **CONCURRENT WINES.**



## **TREASURE HUNT and COOKIE HOLIDAY PARTY \*\* ON ZOOM!! DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 10:00 AM**

**Join us for a Virtual Treasure Hunt**

For more information call

The zoom link will be sent out to members in an email.

Ellyn Meikle is putting together a cookie recipe book for us. Please send your favorite cookie recipe

to Ellyn by Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup>.

The recipes will be emailed out in time for the Treasure Hunt Cookie Holiday Party

Hosted by Geeta Gupta

310-544-3355



# Salvation Army Holiday Angels

To help make the holiday brighter for children in need  
Please pick up a Salvation Army Holiday Angel card.  
Toni Sargent will again be heading up the effort for the  
club to spread holiday cheer to children in the community.  
Cards include child's Name, age, gender and the  
wish they have for Christmas.

For additional information  
Please contact Toni Sargent: 310-378-7856



# Landscape Award Winners Congratulations to:

The home of Diane and Kit Kaiser at 500 Calle de Arboles. Kit is a builder and built this house. Diane's mother loves to garden and had a hand in planning the landscape



## “Save the Monarchs”

The article submitted below by Carolyn Pohlner, was reprinted from the *Marina District Log*, a publication from the California Federation of Women’s Clubs, with permission of the author, Jane Thomey

Among the most beautiful pollinators gracing our gardens are Monarch Butterflies. Sadly, their numbers are declining rapidly for familiar reasons: loss of habitat, herbicides, pesticides and climate change.

The Monarchs are experiencing a unique threat, however: the destruction of the milkweed plant. As part of their breeding pattern the Monarchs migrate annually, in the West their route takes them from Canada to Mexico and back again. On their way north they stop in several locations with abundant milkweed plants that allow the females to lay eggs.

As the eggs develop into larvae their main job is to grow. They do this by gorging on a diet restricted exclusively to vast quantities of milkweed. Certain agricultural practices have destroyed much of this food source from the migratory path and is a major element in the butterflies’ decline.

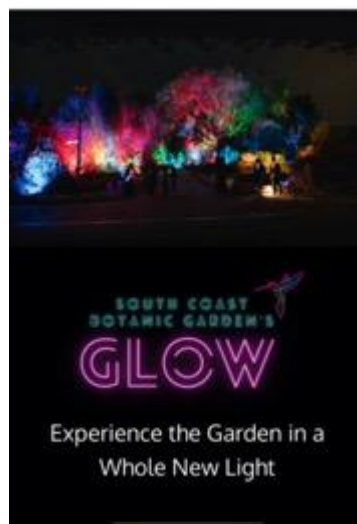
How can we save the Monarch? It is as simple as creating a garden that is friendly to the Monarch and, incidentally, to honeybees as well. Local nurseries carry milkweed, or you can grow it from seed. One organization, Save Our Monarch, (P.O. Box 390135, Minneapolis, MN 55439) will send you a packet of seeds for your garden for a \$5 donation.

The same organization invites schools to participate in the Pollinator Garden Program. Once enrolled, each group will receive a Garden Mix Pouch to plant a Butterfly and Bee Garden. (Perhaps, we should let Tim Mangus at Victor School know about this program.)

Many large groups have taken up the Monarch’s cause. One of them, the Environmental Defense Fund, invites you to Adopt a Monarch Acre. For \$35 each you will contribute to restoration of vast tracts of milkweed habitat along the migratory path. Contact them at [www.edf.org](http://www.edf.org) for more information.

Jane Thomey, CFWC Environment Chair  
November 2020

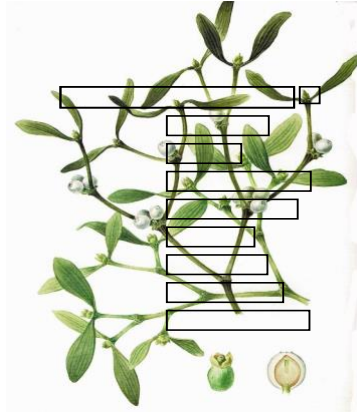
[https://southcoastbotanicgarden.org/glow/?utm\\_source=SEM&utm\\_medium=Search&utm\\_campaign=SEM%20ads](https://southcoastbotanicgarden.org/glow/?utm_source=SEM&utm_medium=Search&utm_campaign=SEM%20ads)



# Mistletoe Report

By Judy Urine

*Phoradendron leucarpum* is a species of mistletoe in the Viscaceae family which is native to the United States and Mexico. Its common names include **American mistletoe**, **eastern mistletoe**, **hairy mistletoe** and **oak mistletoe**. It is native to Mexico and the south eastern half of the continental US. It is hemi parasitic living in the branches of trees. The berries are white and it has opposite leaves that are leathery and thick. Ingesting the berries can cause "stomach and intestinal irritation with diarrhea, lowered blood pressure, and slow pulse". This shrub can grow to 3.3 ft by 3.3 ft. *Phoradendron leucarpum* is used in North America as a surrogate for the similar European mistletoe *Viscum album* in Christmas decorations, as well as in rituals by modern druids. It is commercially harvested and sold for those purposes.



The sticky substance covering the fruits is toxic to humans, it is a favorite of some birds. Some say that the word "Mistletoe" comes from the missel thrush, a messenger of the gods who brought the plant to the earth. Actually, the bird is very fond of the berries and is responsible for the wide distribution of Mistletoe. Growing as it does, on trees as a semi-parasite, it is at once showy because of its huge masses of dense light green growth.

Mistletoe legends reach back to Norse mythology and Virgil's Aeneid. Mistletoe was the druids' golden herb. Robed in white, they cut it with a golden sickle and caught it in a white cloth before it touched the ground. It symbolized purity and strength, and was hung in houses to bring happiness, promote romance, and enforce peace. If enemies met beneath the mistletoe, they disarmed and kept a truce that day. Because of the plant's pagan associations, the Church banned it from Christmas ceremonies, but its magic was thought to be so strong that people used it secretly, and even monks wore it as a hidden amulet. It was believed to exorcise witches and demons and to protect its wearer from fits, lung fever, tremors, and poison. European mistletoe grows on oaks. American mistletoe, of the same family but a different species, grows on maples and black gum trees.

In the language of flowers, Mistletoe means "give me a kiss." This has its basis in a Scandinavian myth. Frigga, being the goddess of love and beauty, grateful for the return of her son, is said to bestow a kiss upon anyone who shall pass under the Mistletoe.





**RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB  
General Meeting Minutes  
Sept 22, 2020**

Call to order: **10:03 am by Ellyn Meikle, President**

Attendance: **37 Members in attendance via Zoom**

1. Secretary's Report - • May 2020's General Meeting's minutes were approved in June at the Mad Hatter gathering. **Carolyn Pohlner**
2. Treasurer's Report – • Balances checking & savings accounts **\$10,221.23 \$15,690.23**  
Report will be filed subject to review.  
• Proposed Budget - **\$5,000 from dues and cancelled events GM CL**  
• Dave Sargent's 2019-2020 fiscal year end report **Dave thanked Ellyn for the thoroughness of her work**
3. President's Report - • **Ellyn said nothing new was happening and she thanked her very supportive and competent Board and Committee Chairs.**
4. 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
Hostesses **Geeta Gupta reported that in addition to herself, Carolyn Pohlner and Cynthia Lundin were today's hostesses.**  
• **EM has instituted a new policy for both Board and General Meetings:**  
Hostess(es) will go online 9:45 to greet before the 10:00 start. **There will be different hostesses assigned to each meeting.**
- Speakers • Report on speakers for 2020: **Ellyn thanked Laurie Vaillant for doing such a good job getting speakers for next three months**
- |         |                                                                                  |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sept 22 | Kelp Forests in Palos Verdes<br>Michael Friedman, Pt Vicente Interpretive Center |
| Oct 27  | Growing Fruit Trees in South Bay<br>Jeffrey Warner, University of California     |
| Nov 17  | Early History of Vanderlip Family In PV Peninsula                                |

Dec 15

Zoom Holiday

Party \_\_\_\_\_

Excursions • None this year

**Marie Hoffman – No report.**

#### 5. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

Directory update Ellyn thanked Geneva for the excellent job in producing our annual directory.

Newsletter update The first newsletter for this year will be out soon. If there are any changes that we missed in the Directory, they will be noted in the upcoming newsletter. Please let us know your updates for newsletter publication.

#### 6. 3<sup>rd</sup> VP

Membership update \* We have 62 membership renewals.

**Regina Taylor – No report.**

New Business: \* Zoom requires all who log in to our meetings be directed first into a waiting room where they will see a message, “. . . *your host will be with you shortly.*” The meeting host will have to manually log them in, as per Zoom’s requirements for safety. If you have a guest that would like to log into a future meeting to hear the speaker, please contact Geeta so the hostess can let them in from the ‘waiting room’ to our Zoom meeting.

Looking ahead: **EM encouraged members to use paper stationery to reach out to Club members, emphasizing how extra special receiving a note in the U.S. mail can be , particularly for our older members.**

Please continue to reach out to members regardless of their physical condition. I have sent note cards with a few sentences asking how they are, letting them know I am lonely, bored, sad, too. They will know they are not alone. End with a cheery sentence that may

include, “talk to you soon” or “I hope to see you soon.” Little flower or cute stickers add a bit of cheer, too. *et* &

Our next General Meeting is October 27, with a speaker from the University of California who will talk about “Growing Fruit Trees in the South Bay”.

Adjournment:

**EM adjourned the business portion of the meeting at 10:16 am.**

**At which time, today’s speaker, Michael Friedman, was introduced and gave an interesting talk about “Giant Kelp Forests in Palos Verdes”.**

**The General Meeting officially ended at 11:04 am.**

Notes:

**Sheila Kutkus invited all RGC members to a Zoom talk sponsored by The South Bay League of Women Voters about the “Pros and Cons of the Propositions on the November Ballot” on October 14, 2020 at 1:00 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Carolyn Pohlner, Co-Secretary**

**Oct 3, 2020**

**RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB  
General Meeting Minutes  
Nov 17, 2020**

**Call to order:** 10:00 am by Ellyn Meikle, President, who reminded members to read the Zoom Guidelines and follow the protocol

**Attendance:** 30+ Members in attendance via Zoom

**1. Secretary's Report:** • October 27 General Meeting's minutes were approved by general consensus Carolyn Pohlner

**2. Treasurer's Report:** • Balances checking & savings accounts \$10,009.41 \$15,690.69  
(October 3, 2020 Report to be filed subject to review)

**3. President's Report:** Venmo usage - EM asked how many members currently use Venmo, 3 responded "Yes". After explaining what Venmo is, Ellyn then assigned all members to check out Venmo online in order to be better prepared to discuss its merits at the January 2021 General Meeting

**Zoom Holiday Parties on Dec 15 –**

**10:00 am: For all. . . This is NOT a business meeting, but a party where members can socialize.**

**Virtual Treasure Hunt hosted by Geeta – the winner's name will be posted in the minutes! No prizes will be awarded.**

**Virtual Cookie Recipes Book produced by Ellyn – Multiple cookie recipes allowed; submit all recipes by email to [ellynmeikle@gmail.com](mailto:ellynmeikle@gmail.com)**

**4pm : RSVP required (see flyer from Toni Z.)**

**Virtual Wine Tasting presented by Karl Ziegler of Concurrent Wines \_  
Make your \$45 check payable to "Concurrent Wines" and mail it to Cynthia Lundin's home address, which she listed in the "Chat" box:  
635 Paseo de la Playa, Unit 304, Redondo Beach, CA 90277**

**4. 1<sup>st</sup> VP**

**Hostesses** Hostess(es) will continue to go online at 9:45 to greet before the 10:00 start.

**Speakers** Speakers for Nov 17 (today)

Nov 17 ~~Early History of Vanderlip Family In PV Peninsula~~

~~Don Christy cancelled due to death in the family~~

~~Choice Herbs 4 Health with Linda Meighan – Due to unknown circumstances the speaker did not show up and the meeting was adjourned.~~

#### 5. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

**Directory** No additions/ deletions.

**Newsletter** Recently distributed and, as always, awesome job by Cynthia!

#### 6. 3<sup>rd</sup> VP

**Membership update** No new or returning members.

~~Regina Taylor – No new members.~~

#### New Business:

**Giftng – Gloria Balcom and Geneva Martin**

~~Gloria remarked that there IS money in our bank accounts and we do have the funds to support the following 4 programs:~~

- ~~1) \$2,000 to South Coast Botanic Gardens- these funds are unrestricted~~
- ~~2) \$400 to Victor Elementary school for their Gardening Club (requested by Mr. Tim Magus, one of the 3 teachers who run and operate the school's Gardening and Ecology club-~~
- ~~3) \$500 to Valmonte Farms and Gardens, which has just recently gone independent.~~
- ~~4) \$300 to Judi Gerber for greenhouses to grow seeds and new plants for TMMC'S gardens. The hospital uses all the herbs they grow for patient meals.~~

The Gifting Committee made the motion to donate a total of \$3,200 for the above-listed programs. The membership approved.

The Gifting Committee will address the Scholarship donation at the January General Meeting.

**Toni S. - Salvation Army Angels Cards**

Toni Sargent told the members of an opportunity to support the Salvation Army's Holiday gifts for children program. She has a collection of "Angels Cards" for members to choose from and purchase a toy(s) within a \$25 price range and deliver it, unwrapped, to Toni's house. Call Toni for a specific child's name and 'wish list'. Members may also write a check, payable to "Salvation Army Torrance Corps" and mail it to Toni. The deadline for this program is Thursday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Mary and Joseph event has been postponed to June 1 for the Madhatter luncheon.**

A fundraiser eatery is still being reviewed by the Fundraising Committee. Linda Rosenfeld has a call into Gaetano's, but hasn't heard back from Vince yet. Ellyn mentioned that she has a list of 20 different eateries that offer outside dining, pick-up, or delivery. Feel free to email her for a copy of this list.

We are looking for long-standing member(s) to put together a brief history of the garden club for present and future members.

Mary Varieur and Judy Unrine volunteered to help with this project.

Dina Wiley commented that she believed one had already been compiled in 2012.

Gloria Balcom worked on that committee and she has the original books that she will give to Ellyn.

## Looking ahead:

**EM encouraged members to please continue to reach out to other members. She continues to send 2 small 'hello' cards now and again, and recently received her first, hopefully not last, card. Keep it going!**

**EM announced the next Board Meeting is Dec 8 to review thoughts for 2021 – speakers for sure. She hopes a new administration will encourage the science to find a cure for COVID-19, so we can meet in person again.**

## Questions Comments Suggestions

### **Flower Duets – Carolyn Pohlner**

**Carolyn shared some information about the 2 sisters/ florists company and some of their online activities:**

**Flower Duet  
2675 Skypark Dr, Suite 205  
Torrance, CA 90505  
310-739-7644 (Casey's cell)  
www.flowerduet.com  
Kit Wertz & Casey Schwartz  
Sister Owners/Designers**

Online Designer classes offered- one-time only \$85.00 or 3 or more monthly subscriptions for \$75 each. These classes include video conferencing , bucket pick up and Zoom reunion to show off individual arrangements.

For each online class, you'll receive ‘

- 1) A downloadable PDF list of supplies, including the flower recipe
- 2) Easy to follow mini video lessons
- 3) Tips 7 florist secrets to help you become a successful arranger

Aug – Happy Dahlias

Sept – Antiqued Flowers ( Hydrangeas & Garden Roses)

Oct – Pumpkin Crafts w/ succulents

Nov 21 – Fall Flowers

Dec 12 – Holiday Floral Wreaths

**Bernice Slocovich announced that The Women's Club of Redondo Beach was having a fundraiser at Mod Pizza in the PV Peninsula Shopping Center and will send their flyer to EM who will send it out to our membership.**

**Our next General Meeting will be Zoomed on Jan 26.**

**Adjournment:** **EM adjourned the meeting at 11:00 am**

**Notes:**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Carolyn Pohlner, Co-Secretary**

**Nov 19, 2020**