



FORT BRAGG GARDEN CLUB

🌿 NEWS & NOTES 🍂

OCTOBER 2021



In memoriam:

Ted Rex, husband of long-time member and former president Kay Rex, died in an accident in September. In appreciation of Ted's long-time support of the club and in support of Kay, the board has voted for a gift in Ted's memory to Redwood Elementary School Library.

The Latest

Fourteen members enjoyed our gathering on October 11 at MacKerricher State Park. Johanna led a hands-on workshop on **Propagating Using Cuttings**. Attendees had the opportunity to plant multiple cuttings from a wide variety of plant trimmings brought by members. Everyone took their plantings home for their own garden, and/or for next spring's plant sale.

[If you attended the workshop and left your plant or tools behind, contact Cornelia at 707-494-2149 or CorneliaR@mcn.org]

The business meeting following the workshop broke into two smaller groups to discuss upcoming projects. One group, led by Johanna, discussed how best to support and participate in the South Lincoln Street Community Garden. A number of members are already involved in the community garden.

The other group, led by Cornelia, discussed how to plan and produce a member event in December.

Neither group came to definitive conclusions. But the breakout groups were well received by the members attending.

If you have feedback on the meetings, please be sure to let us know.

We are looking for a semi-outdoor location so as many members as possible would be comfortable attending a members-only holiday plant exchange on December 13. If you have any ideas for a location let us know.

Meantime check below on the location for the November meeting, and note that it will change in case of rain.

The Yearbooks are completed and were distributed at the meeting. If you didn't pick up your copy at the meeting, please contact Johanna (510 967-2369 or jbboakland@live.com) to arrange to get one.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Friday, October 29 at 11:00AM: Silver Gate Work Party**
Meet at Silver Gate parking lot for an hour work party beautifying this lovely native plant space which the club created and maintains. We will deadhead and spread mulch. Useful tools: pruning clippers, garden gloves, a shovel, or rake, wheelbarrow for the ambitious.
- **Thursday, November 4 at 1:30 PM: Join our ZOOM Board meeting**
Agenda and Zoom link will be sent before the meeting. All members are welcome.
- **Monday, November 8 at 1:00PM: Garden Club Membership Meeting
Campfire Center, MacKerricher State Park**
Michelle Morris of Meadowsweet Farm will demonstrate how she makes her one-of-a-kind wreaths. Michelle has created wreaths for many years. She gathers materials from her vegetable and herb beds, her beautiful flower garden, and the woods around her farm. Michelle sells her unique creations at the Fort Bragg Farmers Market.

Masks required. Flyer attached.

Special message about the meeting for Garden Club members only:

Our meetings are generally open to the public. However, contrary to what the flyer says, our November meeting will NOT be cancelled if it's raining. It will instead be held at the Mendocino Coast Botanical Garden's meeting room. To keep the numbers down for social distancing, we are opening this only to club members.

So, if it's a sunny day, we hope to see you at MacKerricher.

If it's raining, we'll see you at MCBG. Either place, please mask up and join us.



A Wreath by Michelle Morris of Meadowsweet Farm

BEAUTY & BIODIVERSITY



The Dry Season

Submitted by Laura Welter

After living in Fort Bragg for thirty-nine years, I have determined that our seasons are as follows: Jan-Feb-Mar is Spring. April-May June is Summer. July-Aug-Sept is Fall, and Oct-Nov-Dec is Winter. My sisters (we grew up in Iowa) always think it's a hoot when I say, "Okay, July is here, so it's time to start the Fall clean-up."

The rainy season ended so early this year that, in my yard, July truly was time to start cutting things back that were pretty much done for the year. The coral bells and alstroemeria lilies, the cineraria and Shasta daisies,

the calendula and yarrow, will all be back next year, but for now they are resting up, waiting for the real rainy season to begin.

So today on October 1, my yard is looking a little worn out. I am grateful for the clump of naked ladies that show up each Fall in that Spring-like shade of pink. There are spots of color here and there thanks to my Mexican sage, Jupiter's beard, and a few scented geraniums. The fuchsias and Matilija poppies still have a few blooms, and the ornamental oregano is hanging in there, still blooming after many weeks.

As for my husband David's edibles - the Gravenstein apples are pretty great this Fall, and the pears are starting to ripen. There is always tasty lettuce to enjoy, and our neighbor just brought us tomatoes from her greenhouse. David's five hens - Trudy, Connie, Polly, Dina, and Barb - have been very busy, so food production in our little corner of the world continues, despite the drought.

Mother Nature is so much better at watering than I am. Won't we gardeners be happy when the rains begin?

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Undoubtedly, we and our gardens are all happy that the rains have started. Let us hear from you about your garden and gardening thoughts in future newsletters. Send us your words — and a picture.

Thanks for reading.

Your co-presidents,
Johanna Brekke-Brownell
Cornelia Reynolds

