

February 2023 Newsletter



IN FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

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- Update: Feb Monthly Mtg
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January Event Update: The rose and fruit tree pruning event was very well attended with about 25 attendees. Rosarian Frank demonstrated rose pruning for shrub and climbing roses. He also discussed rose pruning tools and maintenance and demonstrated how to keep pruners sharpened to keep disease at bay. Thank you to Sandi Adam for opening her garden to our members. Thank you to Yu Linda and Shital Parikh for providing delicious snacks to celebrate the Chinese New Year of the rabbit!

Master Gardener, author and blogger Greg Adler taught how to identify sucker growth on grafted fruit trees and recommended removal of that growth. We learned which trees to keep in an open vase and which ones would benefit from a canopy to save branches from

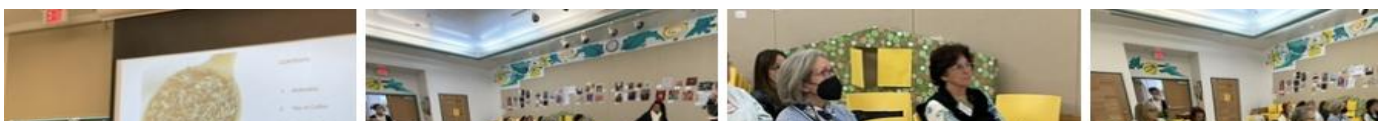
sunburnt and many other pruning tips based on fruit tree varieties. Seedlings for peas, cauliflower white, purple, broccoli green, purple, parsley, cilantro, onions, romanesco, lettuce, kale, swiss chard shared with members by Shital Parikh.



Welcome New Members: Please join me in welcoming 3 new & returning members Phillipa Farrar, Barbara Metz and Barbara Summer.



February 2, Monthly Meeting: Tea Tasting & Talk: About 15 members enjoyed the talk and tea tasting given by [Leo Yuan Luo on Eastern Teas](#). Yu Linda Song brought Borage & Kumquat Teas and Shital Parikh brought Onion cough syrup for tasting. [Recipes for these backyard Herbal Teas](#). Members took home Heart Rocks to celebrate Valentine's Day Month. Library was given a potted spider plant with a tiny book and rock with reading hearts. Thanks to everyone for helping clean up and carry out.



February 19 , 2023 Sunday, 3:00 - 4:00 pm [Sign up](#) to experience the western ranch lifestyle with a visit to Minnie Farr's ranch, home to Chickadee Country, a nonprofit after-school and summer camp program for kids. We'll check out her barns, greenhouse and super-size chicken coop and see baby chicks, goats, sheep, pigs and horses. Minnie is also growing veggies organically using manure and compost from food scraps. Free event. Member guests are welcome.



THIS MONTH IN THE GARDEN [Source: https://www.sunset.com/garden/garden-basics/southern-california-february-garden-checklist](https://www.sunset.com/garden/garden-basics/southern-california-february-garden-checklist)

February, **order seeds** for spring and summer vegetables and herbs such as pepper, pumpkin, tomato, corn, zucchini, basil. Johnny Seeds, San Diego Seed Co., Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Co., Seeds & Such, Renee's Seeds. Flower seeds from Botanical Interests

Plant **seeds** of beets, carrots, collards, fava beans, kale, leeks, lettuce, parsley, rutabaga, spinach, turnip.

Berries are now available to plant.



Blueberries, varieties recommended: Sunshine Blue, Bountiful Blue, Emerald, Biloxi, Jubilee, O'Neal, Misty. For the biggest production and healthiest plants, grow them in a container filled with acidic potting mix. Fertilize regularly, water deeply, and place them in half to full day sun.

Grass: Cut back ornamental grasses before new growth starts. Gather the blades by looping twine around the clump, about 12 inches above ground. Pull the twine tight around the blades, and then cut the grass about 4 to 6 inches above ground. Compost the clippings.

Method to check water level underground: To see if a planting bed needs water, dig a hole 4 to 6 inches deep. If the soil at the bottom is damp, don't water. If it is dry, water deeply, then wait for the soil to dry out before watering again.

Feb: **Fertilize citrus and avocado along the coast.** Use a granular organic fertilizer and follow label directions. Brand Grow Power for citrus and Avocado recommended.

Mosquitoes breed in anything that holds standing water: pots, buckets, birdbaths, etc. Hose out birdbaths regularly and empty vessels filled with dirty water.

Bug of the Month: [Thysanoptera: Thrips](#)



Western flower thrips



Greenhouse thrips

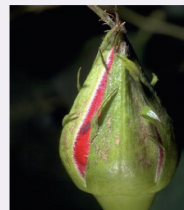
Damage



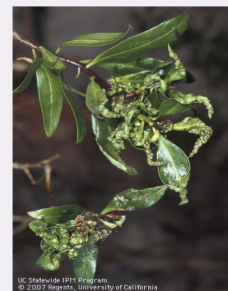
Black fecal spots and scarring



Silvering of leaves



Scarring of rose sepals



Leaf distortion-Myoporum thrips

Natural enemies of thrips



Minute pirate bug



Banded thrips



lacewings



Greenhouse thrips parasite--*Thripobius*

Control dust and avoid broad-spectrum insecticides to encourage natural enemies.

Management

- Row covers/reflective mulch for vegetables
- Prune out some species
- Excessive nitrogen may increase some species
- For most plants, insecticides not necessary or use soaps or oils.
- Spinosad can be effective
- Pyrethrin + PBO for greenhouse thrips



Myoporum thrips

- Almost impossible to manage without regular insecticide treatments
- Replant with more pest resistant species



MEMBER HIGHLIGHT: Member Rachna Agarwalla led a succulent art activity with Del Mar Pines Students. Some of the succulents and branches for the activity were contributed by Del Mar Mesa Garden Club members. Students made stunning succulent arrangements.

This activity was done by DMMGC in the first year for members.



MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS :

[Watering plants with a string:](#) 2 min [Video](#) contribution Margaretta Galanter

[Traditional Onion Cough Syrup](#) Maggy Dujowich

GIFT CARD

Spend quality time doing what you love with friends & family. Club Gift Card, can be applied towards memberships or event and workshop costs. Makes for a great gift for a garden lover all through the year.



You can register them on the website and pay their membership dues of \$25 or get this beautiful gift certificate to present to them an amount of your choice. [Membership registration form](#) link.
Email: info@friendsdmm.org to request the gift certificate.

Free Gifts with membership: *New members* get a gift choice of root veg grow bag and Sweet Potato plant cuttings. *Renewing members* get garden club tote with annual growing chart and seed packet.



DMMGC T- Shirts now on sale for \$20. To purchase a club T-shirt, please email info@friendsdmm.org



[NEW WEBSITE](#) for DMMGC & Friends of DMM..... Thank you Raquel Sutton

SOCIAL MEDIA..... By Sandi Adam

[Club FaceBook Page now open to friends and family](#)

The Club Facebook page is a great place to ask your garden questions and interact with all members regularly. Members can join and also invite friends to Join the DMMGC FaceBook Page using the link below or inviting through your Facebook account or using the QR CODE.:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/delmamesagardenclub/>

DMMGC's Instagram Page: The club instagram page has 539 followers. We invite members to post photos of Gardening adventures with nature. Photos from DMMGC instagram page.

Club Financials Jan 2023: Gary Levitt

We are most grateful for Garden Club monetary donations received so far:

01/10/23

Friends of Del Mar Mesa
Profit & Loss by Class
January 1 - 10, 2023

| | Garden Club | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Ordinary Income/Expense | | |
| Income | | |
| Program Income | | |
| Membership Dues | 5,025.00 | 5,025.00 |
| Total Program Income | 5,025.00 | 5,025.00 |
| Total Income | 5,025.00 | 5,025.00 |
| Gross Profit | 5,025.00 | 5,025.00 |
| Expense | | |
| Contract Services | | |
| Bank Fees | 100.98 | 100.98 |
| Total Contract Services | 100.98 | 100.98 |
| Operations | | |
| Supplies | 828.78 | 828.78 |
| Total Operations | 828.78 | 828.78 |
| Other Types of Expenses | | |
| Insurance - Liability, D and O | 43.75 | 43.75 |
| Total Other Types of Expenses | 43.75 | 43.75 |
| Total Expense | 973.51 | 973.51 |
| Net Ordinary Income | 4,051.49 | 4,051.49 |
| Net Income | 4,051.49 | 4,051.49 |

\$500: Patricia Tishler

\$ 1000: Mary Balo

\$2,500: In the first year

\$ 5000: RegDev Inc. Corporate project sponsor

(P.S. Donations, I don't think are reflected in this statement, we will add it in Feb... Shital)

Garden Club District Meeting: Palomar District Winter General Meeting Monday, February 27, 2023

Hosts: Bonita Valley Garden Club & Palomar District NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR: Hello fellow gardeners, I would like to thank the Bonita Valley Gardeners for hosting our Winter District meeting at the Handlery Hotel, 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108. Daytime parking is free! The reservation form is linked [here](#). The October meeting minutes are linked [here](#). Please consider attending. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting. Sharon Tooley, Palomar District Director **Reservations required** – payments must be received by February 17, 2023 WHO SHOULD ATTEND: All district officers, district chairmen, all club presidents (or their designated representative), all club delegates. WHO MAY ATTEND: Any club member.

March 1st Monthly Meeting: 1st wednesday of the month from, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm. Carmel Valley Library. Topic: Orchids. We are trying to get a speaker on orchids. If it turns into a field trip event for orchids, we will plan something else and announce the change.

