



San Juan Capistrano Garden Club July 2023 Update

Yes, we are still here! Let's Celebrate!!

A HUGE thanks to the Marilyn Devitre (Secretary), Maureen Gebelein (Treasurer), Lou Heimann (Membership), and Lynn Rollison (Programs) for stepping up to fill important positions. Through their generosity, Kathy Dixon and Mary Crawford agreed to co-chair the office of President. A sincere thank you to Pat Kenner, who will continue as our trusty “accountant.”

Meeting Your New Officers

Maureen Gebelein: I'm a retired librarian but still work (very) part time at Saddleback College Library. I love gardening & reading and love living in SJC for our fabulous climate, proximity to the beach & our small town vibes!!

Lou Heimann: Rich and I moved to SJC 5 years ago from Mission Viejo in the Mesa Verde homes. Prior to that we moved frequently from the West Coast (our honeymoon) to the Boston area, then London, England with four very young children. After 3 years, we returned to Boston, then to St Louis and finally settled in Orange County. I have joined garden clubs in Sudbury MA and Lake Forest and was excited to find out about the San Juan Capistrano club meeting just down the street. We now just have several patio gardens in which I can putter in, just enough to keep me happy.

Lynn Rollison: Hello, my name is Lynn Rollison and as an Orange County native, I've been enjoying our wonderful parks, paths and beaches my whole life. I consider myself more of a maintenance worker than a skilled gardener. I love working on projects: just give me a task and I'll get it done. I look forward to serving the club for the next two years as V.P. of Programs.



As we welcome in our new leaders, we are grateful for the recent past leaders. Mozelle Sukut and her team led us through the difficult pandemic years. The team worked creatively to meet our mission: to enjoy, enhance and enrich our grounds through education, planting and community involvement. As we reentered after our isolation, Sharon Dunn and Janet Sperber, with their team, worked to find our way in a “new normal.” The last few years have tested our abilities and willingness to change the way things are done. Looking forward, your current board is committed to recognizing our organization as dynamic and ever-changing: we are looking forward to working (and playing!) with members as we make the SJC Garden Club stronger and more vibrant than ever!

~ Mary Crawford and Kathy Dixon



Hello Gardening Friends,

We want to take this opportunity, as we welcome our new board, to thank our outgoing board members who were instrumental in working hard to help make the past two years a pleasure to serve. Thank you to Nancy Cangiano - Treasurer, Pat Martin - VP Programs, Barbara Luby and Jenell Blue - VPs Communications, Jeannette Pease - VP Membership, and Jeannine McCaig-Secretary. We are excited to see the club continue under excellent leadership with fresh ideas and we look forward to joining in and continuing our involvement.

Past Presidents,
Sharon Dunn and Janet Sperber



The Sweet Stem Senders again created a festive holiday decoration for the residents of Atria. It's always special to enjoy the hospitality of Kathy Dixon and Wendy Ricci as the crafters not only create, but have fun getting to know each other. With the years of visits, the residents and club members greet each other with friendship and gratitude.

The best way to get to know members of our club is to participate in committee work. You will have the opportunity to decide on which committees you wish to join at the July 17th meeting.



Our field trip on June 23rd to the South Coast Research and Extension Center in Irvine was a big hit with those who attended. We learned about the extensive research undertaken there on avocados, stone fruits, drip

Trash to Treasures

YES! It's that time of year you've all been waiting for! Your Garden Club will be holding its annual **Trash to Treasures** auction on **Monday, July 17**.

So, scour your closets, garage, potting shed, and backyard for gently used gardening tools and items, pretty pots, or anything that can be enjoyed on the patio. Perhaps summery table linens, serving bowls, those plastic wineglasses you never use can be donated to the auction to provide fun for our members and funds for our Club treasury. Even that houseplant that just doesn't work in your home any longer can be auctioned off for a pretty penny. Remember that your unwanted stuff may be someone else's treasure. So, bring some stuff you no longer need or use and buy some cool, "new-to-you" stuff for your garden.

Plan to arrive by @ 9:30 if you will be donating items for our auction so we can get them staged and sorted before 10 am. (No wrapping required!) Bid paddles will be provided to those interested in bidding for the opportunity to take the rescued items home to reuse and treasure, It will also give you time to peruse the items as they arrive and decide on which ones you'll bid.

And don't forget to bring cash (small bills and some change) or a check payable to SJC Garden Club, as payment will be by cash or check only!

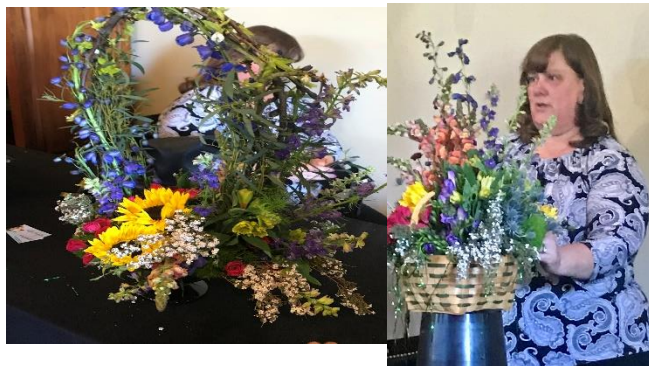
Monday, 8/14/2023 Board Meeting 10:00 AM Marilyn DeVitre's

Monday, 8/21/23 Putting on the Ritz 5:30 – 9 PM Golf Course

You will receive a separate email outlining the fabulous night. Your event committee has worked creatively and diligently to bring us a unique and fun evening. I know you will support your fellow members by participating in this club activity.

Monday, 9/11/2023 Board Meeting 10:00 AM Marilyn DeVitre's

**Monday, 9/18/2023 Program meeting 10:00 AM Golf Course
Floral Demonstration by Kathy Hayden**



Lucky us! Our favorite florist teacher, **Kathy Hayden**, will be joining us again with her fabulous floral decorating skills. She a favorite of members – if you are a newbie, you will not want to miss this program meeting!



We give a warm welcome to the SJC GC to Weej Baggalay! A native of Baltimore, MD, Weej has lived in South Orange County for the past 17 years: first in San Clemente and now in Rancho Mission Viejo. Her son is in law school in Philadelphia and her daughter is pursuing her undergraduate work at ASU.

Weej is an active member of San Clemente Garden Club and works part time for Goin Native.

....and from outgoing VP Membership, Jeannette Pease

Thanks for the opportunity to serve as the Garden Club's Membership Chair.

First, a huge thank you to the members of my committee, Karen Alms, Penny Smith and Robyn Thiffault, who helped so much – couldn't have done it without you. Also, thanks to longtime members, Jeannine McCaig, Karen Fowler and Rose Smuckler for stepping up when extra help was needed.

I've enjoyed the opportunity to become better acquainted with members and learn more about the mission of our club. In addition to the great fun we've had these past years with wonderful programs and special events, the San Juan Garden Club can be very proud of the contributions we make to our community—horticultural scholarships, aid to elementary school garden projects and garden beautification throughout the city. Your membership helps makes all of this possible.

So, get those dues in ASAP to Lou Heimann, your new Membership Chair.

Community Happenings and Resources



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Los Rios Park Butterfly Garden

Fridays 8:15-11:15 am Sundays starting 16 July, 10:30-12:30

This is a certified wildlife garden in downtown SJC, behind the train station and next to the tea house.

Park in the dirt lot off Paseo Adelanto and meet near the Los Rios Montanez Adobe.

Reata Park and Event Center

Every 2nd Monday, 8:15 am - 11:15 am Every 4th Wednesday, 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm

28632 Ortega Hwy, near the riding center at Antonio Pkwy.

Such a gem! Come and see for yourself.

Head straight back to the little brown house and find us in the gardens nearby.

Drop in for as long as you can. Bring your own gardening tools, or borrow ours.