



December 2024

San Juan Capistrano Garden Club

Presidents' Letter

Newsletter

As 2024 comes to a close, we can reflect on the fun learning activities SJC Garden Club members have shared together. Traditionally, our club has had a December tradition to sow sweet peas in San Juan for the enjoyment of the community. "Our hillside" is no longer available due to development, so we searched out a new site last year. This site was not a success for a number of reasons. So, this December, we are going to Plan B.

Let's each of us scatter sweet peas seeds in our own neighborhood to beautify our communities! Nancy Cangiano, who chaired this committee for many years, would soak the seeds in water when the weather report indicated rain in the upcoming days. Lo and behold, we had beautiful sights and smells for people to enjoy in a few months! Come this spring, we will be asking you to send in pictures of your sowing for our newsletters.

This year, with the flowers close to our homes, we will be able to perhaps hear how our neighbors enjoy the fragrant blooms. Perhaps not, but we will know that we have spread a little bit of beautiful nature with others.

This is the same with the charitable activities in which we engage. Our scholarship recipients write thank you notes to show their appreciation, and we know this boost has helped them get through their program or take another horticulture class. We can only imagine how many people each of these students will touch with their involvement with earth and it's bounties through their education.

Similarly, we can only imagine the shady comfort an oak will provide to a picnicking family or hiker. Gathering acorns is always a favorite activity of children when camping. We can feel happiness in knowing our financial support will assist Earthroots in their work to preserve these California gems.

Our efforts will bring joy to many others in the future. But for now, we hope that each of our members find joy daily during this holiday season.

Respectfully, Kathy and Mary

Upcoming Events

December 9 Holiday Celebration

Member's Only Brunch

January 20 Speaker:

Shelly Trainor: "Herbs"

Sign-up for Next Month's Field Trip

Pre-order Bluebird Houses

February 17 Field Trip:

Guided tour at Sea and Sage Audubon in Irvine

March 17 Speaker:

"Growing Veggies in Small Spaces"

Lynn Rollison

Membership News

We have one new member who rejoined the club at the November meeting, **JUDIE BERTOLINO**. Judie took a few years off (since 2007) and we are happy to have her back in the club. Judie and her husband are long-time San Juan Capistrano residents living here since 1973 and have two daughters in OC. She calls herself a "Gardenaolic" which brings her great joy and is in her genes as her grandparents grew up in Pennsylvania Dutch country farming and gardening. Judie is a retired professional singer and sang with the Pacific Chorale at the Hollywood Bowl during the 1984 Olympics.

Welcome to all our new members who have joined the garden club during 2024.

Lou Heimann

Some Gardening Thoughts—*Enjoy!*

Flowers are restful to look at. They have neither emotions nor conflicts. *Sigmund Freud*

Housework is for people who don't know how to garden. *Unknown*

When the world wearies and society fails to satisfy, there is always the garden. *Minnie Aumonier*

In nature, nothing exists alone. *Rachel Carson*

Walking Club

GREATEST NEWS EVER! Lynn Rollison has agreed to head up the Walking Club for us! She will be sending out reminders and making plans with the walkers. She will meet all the walkers and wanna-be walkers at 9:00 am on Tuesdays at the Arroyo Bird House Park at 27999 Calle Arroyo, San Juan Capistrano. We follow the creek path and can walk with groups of fast walkers and less fast walkers. It is always a pleasant 45 minutes to enjoy the beautiful area, learn about the trees, shrubs, and birds from each other, admire the horses, and enjoy each other's company!

Mary Crawford

Congratulations!

Congratulations to SJC GC member Kathy Holman, who has been given the honor of serving as SJC Swallows Day Parade 2025 Grand Marshall. We are all proud of you!

Details can be found at:

https://www.picketfencemedia.com/thecapistranodispatch/eye-on-sjc/grand-marshal-kathy-holman-taking-on-role-for-2025-swallows-day-parade/article_3c7647e6-a85d-11ef-9b69-2b890868e4bd.html

Mary Crawford

Sweet Stem Senders Thank You!

A group of us, ready to craft, were surprised by our hostesses Wendy and Kathy with a delicious assortment of appetizers, wonderfully tasty Cuban sandwiches, Kathy's oh so creamy chocolate mousse and to top it all off we were each gifted a lovely and welcomed loaf of Wendy's homemade cranberry and walnut bread. Wendy and Kathy are the absolute best hostesses and provide the most warm and welcoming homes in which we craft for our assisted living residents. Thank you, ladies, for keeping the tradition alive and doing it in such a gracious atmosphere where we work with friends, catch up on news and craft seasonal projects. You're the best!!

Appreciatively,

Janet Sperber

November Crafters



Pics sent by Mary Crawford



Thanks to these generous donors

\$1855 To Date

See additional information next page

Pat Lussier

COMMUNITY GIVING

MEMBER DONORS


As a 501 (c) 3 non-profit, San Juan Capistrano Garden Club seeks opportunities to support community activities that meet our organization's mission:


To enjoy, enhance and enrich our grounds through education, planting and community involvement with:

- Education & Scholarships
- Interactive Caring for Historic Gardens
- Holiday Love for our Seniors
- Restoration of California Forests

We thank these members who have given so generously...


2024-2025 Donors

 \$1000+ Swallow


 \$500+ Honey Bee

 \$200+ Dragonfly

Kathy Holman
Marcia Kelley
Shelly Trainor

 \$100+ Butterfly

Nancy Cangiano
Mary Crawford
Marilyn DeVitre
Sharon Dunn
Maureen Gebelein
Inge Harris
Lou Heimann
Pat Kenner
Pat Lussier
Rus Miller
Lynn Rollison

 \$50+ Ladybug

Kathy Dixon
Janet Sperber

 \$25+ Grasshopper

Lori Bickel

**GARDENER
WANTED**
Must look good
bending over.

Member Diane Hegyi saw this sign on a garden gate while on vacation.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO DONATE TO OUR COMMUNITY GIVING CAMPAIGN

Mail checks to : SJC Garden Club, 32158 Camino Capistrano, Suite A PMB120, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

OR

Bring to the November & December meetings

San Juan Capistrano Garden Club

Let's GROW Together

2024-2025 Donor Campaign

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CAMPAIGN GOAL

Raise \$5000 to fund community projects

Phase One = \$2500

Earthroots Field School Emergency Fund

Provide assistance in fighting the catastrophic destruction of the Coastal Oaks in Big Oak Canyon caused by the Goldspotted Oak Borer. See additional information on second side.

Phase Two = TBA

Phase Three = TBA

CAMPAIGN DATES

November 1, 2024 to January 2, 2025

DONOR LEVELS

\$1000+ Swallow



\$500+ Honey Bee



\$200+ Dragonfly



\$100+ Butterfly



\$50+ Ladybug



\$25+ Grasshopper



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