

THE GARDEN CLUB OF LOS ALTOS

PRESIDENT: **ALLYN FELDMAN**

VICE PRESIDENT & PROGRAMS: **JUDY MULENBURG**

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: **JUDY HOGAN**

WEB SITE: www.gardencluboflosaltos.org

MEETING PLACE: **Tuesday, February 28, 2012**
Los Altos Lutheran Church
460 S. El Monte Avenue, Los Altos

GENERAL MEETING: **12:45 p.m.**

PROGRAM: **1:30 p.m.**

PLANNED PROGRAM: We are so excited to have **Robin Stockwell** present a program on “Succulent Gardening” and how they can be incorporated into our gardens and patios. Succulents are draught-tolerant plants that are incredibly beautiful. **Robin’s** Succulent Gardens Nursery provided many plants for the San Francisco Garden Show’s award-winning vertical walls. The web site is worth viewing at sgplants.com.

This month’s program was developed by member **Susan Moss**. **Susan** is also chairman of our Spring and Fall Plant Sales.

DO YOU HAVE TROUBLE HEARING? We want every member to be able to fully enjoy our meetings and wonderful programs, so we will be reserving four seats in the front row near the podium for those who need them. Please leave the signs on the chairs after the meeting so that they can be used again. Thanks, **Susan Trost**, Corresponding Secretary.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS: This month has so many possibilities for flower arrangements – Valentine’s Day, Presidents’ Day, looks-like-spring-to-me, etc. We love to see our members’ creations – and maybe you can throw in a succulent or two in honor of our February program.
Carol Press

FEBRUARY ORGANIC FERTILIZER SALE: This month we will be selling Replenish 5-4-5 Natural Organic Fertilizer made by Earthworks. This fertilizer is one you sprinkle on the soil (you don’t have to dig it in) and water in well. The directions say to use liberally in spring and fall. We will be selling five pound packages for \$5.50 – which includes tax. The sale will be before the meeting so come early! **Pat Ley**

FEBRUARY “GARDEN TREASURES” SALE TO BENEFIT 2012 SCHOLARSHIP: We plan to sell gift-worthy books, ceramics, linens, etc., -- donated by our members -- that have a flowery/gardeny theme, before the February meeting. Look on your shelves and in your cupboards for that pretty vase, charming cup and saucer, dramatic framed print, beautiful book, flowery set of napkins or ??? Please price the item(s) you donate “to sell,” come early, and if they remain unsold after the meeting, we ask that you take them home with you. The proceeds

of the sale will go towards the 2012 Garden Club of Los Altos Scholarship given to a deserving student at Foothill College. **Liana Cauz**, Scholarship Chairman

POTS FOR TOMATO PROJECT: **Nancy Fletcher** would like used 4 inch pots, square or round, for her tomato project. Bring your extras to the February meeting! Seedlings coming!

HOSPITALITY: **February birthdays**, please remember your cookies or fruit/veggie plate. Everyone, bring your own cup – think green! **Marguerite Appling**

FACILITIES and CLEAN UP: Many thanks to **Liana Cauz**, **Pat Hirschbek** and several more (*I am name impaired!*) for helping to clean up after our January meeting. The church was pleased with how we left the hall – and that is always our goal. **Gloria Morris**

NAMETAGS: Our March salad luncheon will be the last time our membership committee brings nametags to the meetings. We will each be responsible for our own nametag. Our corresponding secretary **Susan Trost** suggests pinning the nametag to the visor of your car so it is always available. [editor's note – that works!]

HISTORY MUSEUM GARDEN HELPERS: Springtime is here! We had a good workday on February 2nd and got lots done. We continue to work on Thursday mornings this year, from 9-11. Bring your clippers and knee pads and come join us. If any of you wish to be added to my reminder mailing list, please let me know. Thanks! **Ellie Moll**

Don't miss the "Shaped by Water, Past, Present and Future" exhibit at the Los Altos History Museum which runs until April 22. History Museum days and hours are Thursday – Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The nominating committee -- consisting of **Pat Ley**, **Sylvia Jensen** and **Ana Muir** – recommended **Allyn Feldman** for President, **Judy Mulenburg** for VP and Programs Chairman, **Barbara Capron** for Treasurer, **Susan Trost** for Corresponding Secretary and **Liz Calhoon** for Recording Secretary. The vote was held at the January meeting and the recommended slate of nominees was elected.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: The Board and I would like to thank the membership for their approval of our membership dues increase to \$25 a year. The new fee takes effect with our renewal period this spring. The Board very thoroughly discussed the financial basis for this change, with our venue move becoming a significant factor. I would also like to thank **Barbara Capron** and **Judy Hogan** for presenting the information to you at January's general meeting.

The special events at February's meeting look like a great opportunity to redo and renew. Both of our special sales are a nice way to support the club's ongoing activities. Even if you can't find something to part with for our Scholarship benefit sale, you'll find something nice to go home with! And our fertilizer sale benefits your garden, too. **Allyn Feldman**

PROGRAM SPEAKERS COMMITTEE MEETING: the Los Altos Garden Club Speaker Committee will be meeting on February 21 to set goals and exchange speaker ideas for the 2012-2013 year. **Pat Knight** will host the Committee at her home. Everyone who would like to offer suggestions and ideas for interesting speakers is invited. Please contact **Judy Mulenburg** if you would like to attend the meeting and find out more about our committee. We welcome you to come and share your gardening thoughts or if you can't come, call or send **Judy** an email with your ideas. Thanks.

HISTORIAN/PHOTOGRAPHER WANTED: Do you like to take pictures with your digital camera? We are looking for a new chairman for the Historian/Photography committee. If you are interested, call **Miriam Pedrotti** for more information.

FIELD TRIP SURVEY: Many thanks to everyone who mailed, e-mailed or brought a completed field-trip survey to the January meeting. Your feedback is greatly appreciated! (And, please remember that at any time during the year, don't hesitate to let me know of special places you visit or learn about!) Members shared excellent ideas for future trips and were overwhelmingly positive about re-visiting many of our previous locations. Past trips that received the most 'votes' included the San Francisco Wholesale Flower Mart, the UCSC Botanical Garden and area shops, Filoli, and the private succulent garden in Los Altos. "Stay tuned" for announcements of up-coming trips! **Betty Ward**

MEMBERSHIP: Welcome to our new member:
Danielle Glasgow,

UPDATED INFO FOR DIRECTORY:

Nancy Madsen has a new email address
Ruth Prillinger has a new email address
Leslys Vedder has moved.

COOKIE RECIPE FROM THE OCTOBER TEA: An amusing thing happened at the October Tea: A member came up to me to see if I could get **Susie Smith's** recipe for the cookies she brought to the meeting. I found **Susie** – she was talking to three other people who also wanted the recipe! Here it is:

Susie Smith's
"World's Best Cookies"

1 cup butter	½ cup shredded coconut
1 cup sugar	½ cup chopped walnuts or pecans
1 cup brown sugar, firmly packed	3 ½ cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 egg	1 teaspoon soda
1 cup salad oil	1 teaspoon salt
1 cup rolled oats, regular	1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup crushed cornflakes	

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Cream together butter and sugars until light and fluffy. Add egg, mixing well, then salad oil and vanilla extract, mixing well. Add oats, cornflakes, coconut, and nuts, stirring well. Then add flour, soda and salt. Mix well and form into balls the size of small walnuts, place on an ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten with a fork dipped in water. Bake for 12

minutes. Allow to cool on cookie sheets for a few minutes before removing. You can sprinkle the warm cookies with granulated sugar. Makes 8 dozen.

MARCH BOARD MEETING: The March Board Meeting on Monday, March 5, 2012, at 2 p.m. will be hosted by **Judy Hogan, Susan Trost** and **Betty Ward** at **Judy's** home Please call **Judy, Susan** or **Betty** if you will not be able to come.

SPRING PLANT SALE: With this great weather, it is time to separate and pot up some of your perennials. April will be here before you know it. **Susan Moss.**

SAVE THE DATE: The Spring Members Garden Tour is scheduled for Thursday, April 26th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you have (or know of) a lovely garden you would like to recommend for the tour, please contact **Sue Becker**. Thanks.

SPRING PLANT EXCHANGE: The Spring Plant Exchange will be held Saturday, April 28, at Hillview Community Center from 10 a.m. to noon. More info next month. **Betty Lee**

UPCOMING EVENTS: The **Furyu Floral Designers** March 7, 2012, program will be floral designer **Janice Hamlin**. She is a National Council flower show instructor and has exhibited in all of the major shows across the country. She is also an NGC Accredited Master Judge, a Master Gardener and a member of the Manatee River Garden Club near her home in Bradenton, Florida. Member **Sharon Hiatt** says **Janice** does lots of weaving and braiding of plant material (the latest thing in creative design) and will demonstrate how it is done. The program will be held March 7 at 1 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Campbell, 1675 Winchester Blvd., Campbell CA. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Call **Sharon Hiatt** at 969-7122 for advance tickets or more information

The San Francisco Flower and Garden Show will be March 21-25. Tickets, seminar schedule and more info are available at sfgardenshow.com. Summer Winds usually has tickets.

Master Gardener Spring Garden Market will be held on March 31 this year at History San Jose from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. More info including varieties of tomatoes and peppers offered can be found at the website <http://www.mastergardeners.org/spring-garden-market>