

Clayton Valley Garden Club



March Newsletter

"Life begins the day you start your garden" - Club Motto

CVGC MARCH 14, 2018 MEETING GUEST SPEAKER

Kristen Baltazor

Kristen will show us how to make paper flowers. We all love fresh flowers but they don't last very long. Paper flowers stay beautiful without water no matter the temperature. Once you learn how, you can make your own bouquets or floral decorations.



2018 VOLUME 21 ISSUE 2

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Nancy Niemeyer, Editor

GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS 2018

President - Gloria Utley

Vice President - JoAnn Caspar

Secretary - Carin Kaplan

Treasurer - Fran Veal

Membership Co-Chairs - Carolyn
Whitmore and Linda Cruz

Programs - Robin Willis

Parliamentarian - Jan Rubiales

Club meetings are on the 2nd
Wednesday of the month at Diamond
Terrace Retirement Living, 6401
Center Street, Clayton, CA

www.ClaytonValleyGardenClub.org

MEETING SPEAKERS & TREATS NOVEMBER

March 14: Speaker - Kristen Baltazor will talk demonstrate how to make paper flowers.
Treats - Debbie Eistetter, Judy Disbrow.
Drinks - Nancy Ahern.

April 11: Speaker - Nicole Hackett. Treats -
Dorothy Brandt, Stacy Deguzman. Drinks
- TBA

CVCG President's Message

March 2018

There were a few weeks in February when the weather was absolutely warm and delightful. Our plants thought Spring was here and sprouted new growth and beautiful blossoms. Then the weather changed and it became COLD. The freezing nights took their toll on the new growth and now some plants look like they have been fried. Although we want to prune away the frost damage immediately, we need to be patient and wait until Spring is really here. Cold snaps can still occur in March.



Now that our gardens are waking up from their winter rest, they need to be fed and prepared for the coming year. Check your soil for pH, nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, and organic material so you'll have a better idea what nutrients and amendments it needs. There are fertilizers available for every kind of plant and location: vegetables, fruit trees, container gardens, acid loving, succulents, etc. March is also the time to prepare new beds, plant summer bulbs, and control the pests that will be coming soon. Snails and slugs can be controlled with Sluggo (organic approved). Neem oil pesticides (also organic approved) can be used for aphids, mites, whiteflies, mildew, and other pests. Monterey Take Down Spray also helps to manage many types of insect and mite pests. Remember to help protect bees by spraying only when they are not visiting the plant.

The Diablo Foothills District meeting was held on February 22nd with a continental breakfast provided by CVGC. Co-Director Dolores Moffatt reported on the Winter California Garden Club Inc. (CGCI) Board Meeting. This year's CGCI convention will be held June 4-7th at the Black Oak Casino & Hotel in Tuolumne. The Board suggested that each club should have an Awards Chair. There are over 70 CGCI Awards and 3 scholarships given out annually. If you would like more information about the awards, go to CGCI's website at californiagardenclubs.com/awards The application deadline for Propagator of the Year, Floral Arranger, and Container Designer of the Year (a new award) is June 1st. The next District meeting will be June 28 with refreshments provided by the Discovery Bay Garden Club. The San Francisco Flower & Garden Show will be held April 4-8 at the Cow Palace and the District has given each club discounted tickets to sell (see page 3). Please let Cara Wahl know if you'd like to buy tickets.

CVGC members met at Toni Hegemier's home (thank you Toni) to propagate plants for our annual plant sale. Although it was cold and windy, we had a fun time, a tasty lunch, and good conversation. Some members also went on a field trip to Orchard Nursery in Lafayette. We shopped for 6-packs to transplant for the plant sale as well as whatever called to us for our own gardens. Lunch and shopping in Orinda afterwards was very enjoyable.



ABOUT THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER

Our March speaker will be Kristen Baltazor from Petal Adore who will conduct a workshop on making paper flowers. Her work can be viewed online at www.petaladore.com. Those who would like to participate can make a paper rose for free. If you would like to make a rose, please bring scissors and, if you have one, a hot glue gun. Kristen will also have kits to make another six roses for \$15. We would like to get a count of participants so if you want to make a rose at the March meeting and/or purchase a kit, please contact Robin Willis.



PROPAGATION WORK PARTY

- submitted by Linda Cruz

On a cold February morning, Laura Fairbanks, Patty Remoy, Carla Thompson, Gloria Utley, Fran Veal, Toni Hegemier, and Linda Cruz were all bundled up and propagating cuttings for the CVGC Plant Sale.



DIABLO FOOTHILLS DISTRICT MEETING - submitted by DFD Rep Cara Wahl

At the DFD meeting on February 22, David Rust, co-founder of the Bay Area Mycological Society, gave a presentation entitled 'Mushrooms, Good and Bad'. He talked about how mushrooms are classified and how important they are to our gardens and the environment. He also warned us about several types of deadly mushrooms and recommended All the Rain Promises and More, a simple guide to mushroom identification. The next Diablo Foothills District General Meeting will be June 28.



SF FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW TICKETS - submitted by DFD Rep Cara Wahl

Cara will be selling discounted tickets for the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show at the Cow Palace in Daly City on April 4-8. If you would like tickets, they will be available at the CVGC meeting on March 14 or you can email Cara. The tickets cost \$16 with \$2 from each ticket sold going to Diablo Foothills District. Full price tickets cost \$22 and can be purchased from the show's website, locally at McDonnell Nursery in Orinda, and at the show. Senior tickets for \$20 will be available at the show only. For more information, go to: www.sfgardenshow.com/visitors/tickets

HOOP HOUSE PROJECT - submitted by Chair Linda Cruz

In February, weather permitting, we got busy again preparing for the next CVGC Plant Sale and maintaining the area around the Hoop House. We have been clearing weeds, laying down fresh cardboard, preparing to receive mulch, potting up 4" size plants to larger pots, and securing the shade cloth over our work area. Soon we will fertilize, repot plants that have become root bound, make sure all the pots have labels, take inventory, and organize. There are sedums to be divided and six packs of plants ready to be planted in gallon pots. We will gladly accept donated six packs of perennials for the plant sale.

We have had some plants damaged by the extreme cold in February. We will trim off the frost damage and hope, for the seriously frozen plants, that the roots survived and will resprout in the Spring. Linda put a frost cloth screen across the open northwest side of the Hoop House to provide some protection.

We have been adding to the compost bin at the Hoop House (below right). We welcome your compostable materials such as toilet paper & paper towel rolls, coffee grounds and filters, vegetable and fruit peels, eggshells, used paper towels, leaves, grass, garden trimmings, etc. Weeds are OK (except crabgrass) as long as they don't have seeds or thorns. We can't compost sweets, meat, oils, diseased plants, or anything contaminated with human waste.

We have been blessed with lovely weather, fresh air, and good exercise at the Hoop House. Thank you to all the volunteers in February: Diane Selmer, Toni Hegemier, Carolyn Whitmore, Robin Willis, Lew & Carla Thompson, Rory Richmond, Patty Remoy, and Vicki Sexton.



FIELD TRIP REPORT - submitted by Linda Cruz

On Sunday February 25, Robin Willis, Linda Cruz, Gloria Utley, Nancy Ahern, and Marilyn Goode enjoyed a nice day at Orchard Nursery in Lafayette. Linda was looking for six packs of perennials suitable for potting up to gallon size for the CVGC Plant Sale. Orchard Nursery has a large variety of plants that we do not find at other nurseries and they will have even more available as the weather warms up. Over the next two months, a \$3.99 six pack can grow to six gallon sized plants that we can sell for \$5 each at the sale. After wandering about this beautiful nursery, we went to lunch at the Orinda Theater Square and shopped at a darling Home & Garden store.



BLOSSOMS FOR BARBARA - submitted by Chair Linda Manss Karp

Our seventh annual CVGC 'Blossoms for Barbara' event was a blooming hit again this year. Our volunteers prepared and delivered 1,311 gifts of love and compassion for Valentine's Day. The flowering plants were given to those under hospice care, shut-in patients in assisted living and convalescent facilities, Women's Shelters, a Veterans Hospice, and the elderly and shut-in recipients of Meals on Wheels in the Contra Costa area.

I was thrilled to receive a request to do a television news story for KTVU Channel 2 FOX news with Anchor Frank Millacoat. The story about our wonderful event aired throughout Valentine's Day. The news crew with a camera in tow followed me and my team to some of our delivery locations. They interviewed Elaine Clark, Chief Executive Officer for Meals on Wheels, who said "Linda and her group have extended the life of these folks." At Concord Royale, an assisted living facility, the news crew filmed and interviewed the surprised and extremely delighted recipients of the lovely blooms. Through the smiles on their faces, many recipients said that they had never received flowers until now. If you would like to see the story, go to www.ktvu.com/news/blossoms-for-barbara-delivers-more-than-just-flowers-to-hospice-residents

I created this event in loving memory of my mother Barbara who had passed away. I wanted to bring a little joy to those who were dying and to their families which were dealing with the horrible grief of losing someone they loved. Over these past seven years, we have touched the hearts of 5,656 recipients. We never anticipated also touching the hearts of the executives, care givers, nurses, ministers, counselors, and volunteers who helped to deliver the flowers.

We will continue to touch even more hearts and give even more flowering plants to those who are so much in need of a little love and kindness. We look forward to next year's Blossoms for Barbara Valentine's Day event.



CLAYTON MUSEUM GARDEN - submitted by Chair Steve Lane

On February 7, the Clayton Historical Society (CHS) broke ground on a major Museum Garden improvement project scheduled to be completed by the end of April. The Museum Garden has several areas; California native plants, plants used by Native Americans, a streetscape cottage garden, and an agricultural/mining equipment exhibit. The site is the location of a blacksmith shop built in 1864.

The project includes a new 'Wagon Wheel' design plaza surrounded by a seating wall and featuring engraved bricks listing the names of community supporters who have contributed nearly \$16,000 towards the project. Antique horseshoes and blacksmith tools have also been imbedded in the wet concrete. The irrigation system will be replaced and more plants added to the landscape. The cottage garden area will get an entry arbor and a new picket fence and there will be a new decorative metal fence around the agricultural/mining equipment exhibit. The Clayton Business and Community Association (CBCA) has donated a 1937 McCormick-Deering steel-wheeled tractor, informational bronze plaques, and \$15,000 for the exhibit's improvements.

Left to right: CBCA President, Steve Pierce; Clayton Mayor, Keith Haydon; Project Designer and Manager, Steve Lane; CHS President, Mike Wendorf; and Project Contractor, Luca Donisi.



When construction is complete, CVGC will resume the maintenance of the Garden's plants and Clayton

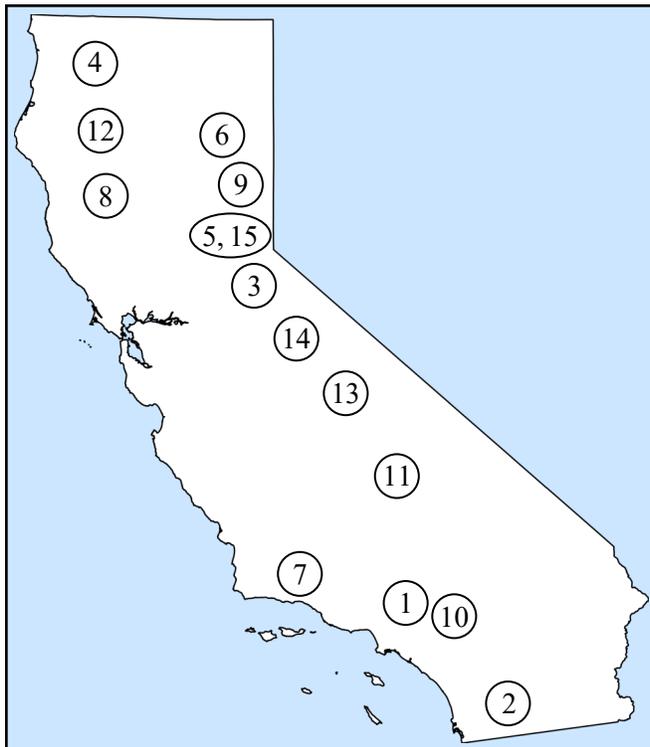
-based Diablo Lawnscape will maintain the grounds with free, donated, bi-weekly cleanup service. We would like to offer a big thank you to CHS, CBCA, our CVGC volunteers, and to Diablo Lawnscape for keeping our Museum Garden so beautiful.



Illustration donated by Charles Endom, Artist / Illustrator



California Garden Clubs Inc. adopted the Penny Pines Reforestation Program as a state project in 1957. Over the years CGCI and other organizations have contributed more than a million dollars to Penny Pines. Through these donations, more than 27 million seedlings have been planted, renewing 88,000 acres of national forest land in California. Penny Pines remains one of CGCI's major projects today. Donations from Clayton Valley Garden Club members help support this outstanding program.



NATIONAL FORESTS YOU CAN DONATE TO VIA PENNY PINES

1. Angeles National Forest
2. Cleveland National Forest
3. Eldorado National Forest
4. Klamath National Forest
5. L. Tahoe Basin Mgt. Unit
6. Lassen National Forest
7. Los Padres National Forest
8. Mendocino National Forest
9. Plumas National Forest
10. San Bernardino National Forest
11. Sequoia National Forest
12. Shasta-Trinity National Forest
13. Sierra National Forest
14. Stanislaus National Forest
15. Tahoe National Forest

A Penny Pines Plantation certificate makes a wonderful gift for birthdays, holidays, special occasions, or as a memorial gift in honor of a loved one.

For \$68, you can buy a Penny Pines Plantation certificate recognizing the person to be honored and the donating organization (CVGC). For an additional \$14, the certificate can be framed with mat board, border stickers, and a wooden frame.

The donation form for a Penny Pines Plantation can be found on the CVGC website at: <http://www.claytonvalleygardenclub.org>

Please give your completed form and check to Steve Lane, Patty Remoy, or a CVGC board member.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH/APRIL

Tuesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon CVGC Hoop House Project work parties at Gloria Utley's property in Clayton:

Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at North Wiget Lane and Mitchell Drive in Walnut Creek: Diablo Valley Farmers' Market. For more information, go to: www.cafarmersmkts.com/diablo-valley-farmers-market

March 2 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Friday, at the Contra Costa Water District Offices in Concord: The District will present a free workshop on how to replace your lawn with a water-wise landscape. For more information and to register, go to: sustainablecoco.ning.com/events/lose-your-lawn-and-get-a-garden-lawn-conversion-workshop

March 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, in Walnut Creek: Judy Adler will give a workshop on California native plant propagation. The workshop costs \$35. For more information and to register, go to: www.bringingbackthenatives.net/workshops

March 3 at 10 a.m., Saturday, at Sloat Garden Center in Concord: Elizabeth Ruiz will give a class on how to prune citrus. The class is free for Sloat Rewards Members (membership is free) and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, go to: www.sloatgardens.com/whats-happening/seminars-events/

March 3 at 2 p.m., Saturday, at Sloat Garden Center in Concord: Dustin Strobel will give a class on how to plan your Spring vegetable garden. The class is free for Sloat Rewards Members (membership is free) and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, go to: www.sloatgardens.com/whats-happening/seminars-events/

March 3 at 11 a.m., Saturday, at Annie's Annuals in Richmond: U.C. Berkeley's Dr. Gordon Frankie will give a free workshop about native bees. For more information, go to: blog.anniesannuals.com/2018-talks/

March 10 at 10 a.m., Saturday, at Sloat Garden Center in Concord: Dustin Strobel will give a workshop for kids to decorate and plant a terracotta pot. The class is \$15 for Sloat Rewards Members (membership is free) and \$25 for nonmembers. For more information, go to: www.sloatgardens.com/whats-happening/seminars-events/

March 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, in Walnut Creek: Judy Adler will give a workshop on California native plant propagation. The workshop costs \$35. For more information and to register, go to: www.bringingbackthenatives.net/workshops

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH/APRIL (continued)

- March 10 at 2 p.m., Saturday, at Sloat Garden Center in Concord:** The Delta Bluegrass Company will give a seminar on water efficient lawns. The class is free for Sloat Rewards Members (membership is free) and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, go to: www.sloatgardens.com/whats-happening/seminars-events/
- March 14 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, Wednesday, at Orchard Nursery in Lafayette:** Nursery staff will give a free class on how to repot orchids. For more information and to RSVP, go to: www.orchardnursery.com/events/
- March 14 from 7 to 9 p.m., Wednesday, in Clayton:** CGVC Meeting, speaker Kristen Baltazor. See page 3.
- March 17 from 10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, at the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek:** Troy McGregor will give a class on gardening using Australian native plants. The workshop costs \$15 for members and \$20 for nonmembers. For more information and to register, go to: www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/rbgarden/pages/GardenWorkshop.html#fruit
- March 17 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, at the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek:** Brandi Chalker will give a workshop on how to design and create a succulent terrarium. The workshop costs \$44 for members and \$49 for nonmembers. For more information and to register, go to: www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/rbgarden/pages/GardenWorkshop.html#fruit
- March 17 at 11 a.m., Saturday, at Annie's Annuals in Richmond:** Pete Veilleux of East Bay Wilds nursery will give a free class on how to garden with native plants. For more information, go to: blog.anniesannuals.com/2018-talks/
- March 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon, Thursday, at the Tilden Botanical Garden Visitor Center in Berkeley:** Katherine Greenburg will give a class on how to tend a native plant garden. The class costs \$35 for Regional Parks Foundation members and \$40 for nonmembers. For more information and to register, go to: www.nativeplants.org/events-and-classes/classes-field-trips-workshops/
- March 23 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, Friday, at the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek:** Brian Kemble and Walker Young will give a tour of the Garden's Greenhouse growing facility and special plant collections. The tour costs \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. For more information and to register, go to: www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/rbgarden/pages/GardenWorkshop.html#fruit
- March 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, at Orchard Nursery in Lafayette:** Citrus tasting. For more information, go to: www.orchardnursery.com/events/

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH/APRIL (continued)

March 24 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Saturday, at the Pittsburg Library: Family-Friendly Gardens workshop will present ways to engage kids in the garden. The workshop costs \$20. For more information and to register, go to: sustainablecoco.ning.com/events/family-friendly-gardens

March 24 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Saturday, at the Mt. View Sanitary District in Martinez: The District will present a free workshop on home composting. For more information and to register, go to: ccwater.com/Calendar.aspx?EID=972&month=3&year=2018&day=21&calType=0

March 31 at 10 a.m., Saturday, at Sloat Garden Center in Concord: E. B. Stone Company will give a class about fertilizer. The class is free for Sloat Rewards Members (membership is free) and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, go to: www.sloatgardens.com/whats-happening/seminars-events/

April 4 - 8 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday - Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday at the Cow Palace in Daly City: The San Francisco Flower and Garden Show. Tickets vary in price. For more information, go to: www.sfgardenshow.com/

April 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesday at the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville: Walnut Creek Garden Club luncheon featuring speaker Will Durst. There will also be prizes and a silent auction. Tickets cost \$45 and must be purchased by March 21. For more information, call Margaret Stewart at 925 253-8599 or email her at mstewart@gmail.com.

April 7 from 10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, at the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek: Troy Nathan Miller will give a class about air plants (Tillandsia). The workshop costs \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. For more information and to register, go to: www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/rbgarden/pages/GardenWorkshop.html#fruit

April 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, at 2405 Shadelands Drive in Walnut Creek: The U.C. Master Gardeners will hold their Seventh Annual Great Tomato Plant Sale. Plants are \$3 each (cash or check only). For more information, go to: ccmq.ucanr.edu/EdibleGardening/GreatTomatoPlantSale/

April 7 at 10 a.m., Saturday, at Sloat Garden Center in Concord: Dustin Strobel will give a seminar about growing tomatoes. The class is free for Sloat Rewards Members (membership is free) and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, go to: www.sloatgardens.com/whats-happening/seminars-events/

April 7 at 11 a.m., Saturday, at Annie's Annuals in Richmond: Annie will give a free class on how to design and plant a new garden. For more information, go to: blog.anniesannuals.com/2018-talks/

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH/APRIL *(continued)*

- April 8 at 11 a.m., Saturday, at Annie's Annuals in Richmond:** Riz Reyes will give a free class on how to make bouquets using flowers from your own garden. For more information, go to: blog.anniesannuals.com/2018-talks/
- April 11 from 7 to 9 p.m., Wednesday, in Clayton:** CGVC Meeting, speaker Nicole Hackett.
- April 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Friday, at the Contra Costa Water District Offices in Concord:** The District will present a free workshop on how to replace your lawn with a water-wise landscape. For more information and to register, go to: sustainablecoco.ning.com/events/lose-your-lawn-and-get-a-garden-lawn-conversion-workshops
- April 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, at Markham Arboretum in Concord:** Spring plant sale. For more information, go to: markhamarboretum.org/events/categories/plant-sales/
- April 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, at Rodger's Ranch in Pleasant Hill:** Plant sale and Expo. For more information, go to: www.rodgersranch.org/events1.html
- April 21 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Saturday in Clayton:** Clayton Cleans Up. For more information, email Pamela at pamela@claytonpioneer.com
- April 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (members from 9 a.m.), Saturday, at the Tilden Botanical Garden in Berkeley:** The Garden will hold its annual spring plant sale featuring native perennials, shrubs, and trees. For more information, go to: www.nativeplants.org/visit-the-garden/plant-sales/
- April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, in Walnut Creek:** Judy Adler will give a workshop on gardening with nature in mind. The workshop costs \$35. For more information and to register, go to: www.bringingbackthenatives.net/workshops
- April 21 at 10 a.m., Saturday, at Sloat Garden Center in Concord:** Dustin Strobel will give a workshop to create an edible herb planter. The class is \$50 for Sloat Rewards Members (membership is free) and \$60 for nonmembers. For more information, go to: www.sloatgardens.com/whats-happening/seminars-events/
- April 28 - 29 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, Clayton Art and Wine Festival.** For more information, go to claytoncbca.org/
- April 28 at 10 a.m., Saturday, at Sloat Garden Center in Concord:** Dustin Strobel will give a workshop for kids about beneficial worms and bugs. The class is free for Sloat Rewards Members (membership is free) and \$10 for nonmembers. For more information, go to: www.sloatgardens.com/whats-happening/seminars-events/

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH/APRIL (continued)

April 28 from 10 to 11 a.m., Saturday, at the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek:

Concepcion Hennessey will give a workshop on how to design and create a succulent dish arrangement. The workshop costs \$35 for members and \$40 for nonmembers.

For more information and to register, go to: www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/rbgarden/pages/GardenWorkshop.html#fruit

April 28 at 11 a.m., Saturday, at Annie's Annuals in Richmond: Kate Frey will give a free class on how to create a fire-safe garden in fire prone areas. For more information, go to: blog.anniesannuals.com/2018-talks/

CVGC OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

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Utley, Gloria (President): gloutley@aol.com

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Cline King, Laney (Mt. Diablo Elementary School (MDES) co-Chair): laneycline@gmail.com

Fairbanks, Laura (Webmaster): lrfairbanks@gmail.com

Hackett, Nicole (Fourth of July Parade Chair): gardengirl94517@yahoo.com

Karp, Linda (Blossoms for Barbara): alohalindak@yahoo.com

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Lane, Steve (Clayton Historical Society Museum Educational Garden Chair, Penny Pines co-Chair): slane23@msn.com

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DianeandRolf@aol.com

Shubin, Linda (Hospitality): shubinlinda@yahoo.com

Wahl, Cara (Club Rep to the Diablo Foothills District): lavignetoo@comcast.net

Diablo View Middle School, Historian, Olympic High School (Concord), and Publicity: **Open**