

Clear Lake Trowel & Trellis Garden Club



Clear Lake Trowel & Trellis Garden Club was founded September 21, 1955, by three women who wished to create and promote an interest in amateur gardening in Lake County.

June 2008
Vol. 1, Issue 10

Officers:

- President:
Claire Grieve
- Vice President
Theresa Mathur
- Treasurer:
Nora Gerrard
- Recording Sec:
Linda Waterstraat
- Corresponding Sec:
Mary Pat Adams
- Parliamentarian:
Jo Douville



TIP #19 Plant two tomato plants per person unless you intend to can or freeze. Linda Pyers

TIP #20 To dry herb, try placing them on a newspaper in your hot car. Theresa Mathurs

TIP #21 To remove salt deposits off clay pots, wash with equal parts vinegar & water. CG

TIP #22 Use vegetable oil to detangle weed eater string. Claire Grieve

A Stroll Down 'Memory Lane'

with Shirley Estrem

My first "Trowel and Trellis" memory was in the beginning years at Fair time. I have this vivid memory of peeking into the Floriculture building after taking my sewing entries into the Home-Arts Building and seeing the flower crew making a beautiful garden. I always went to that building first when attending the Fair. I still have this beautiful vision, paradise on a hot day.

My next memory of the Trowel and Trellis was the first year returning to Scotts Valley after marriage, which would be 1963, my neighbor Helen Richabaugh gave me a ticket to their annual Chrysanthemum Show and Tea. This sounded like real fun, so I dressed up with heels and gloves and off to the Fair Grounds I went. The Show and Tea were held in the now Little Theater and everyone was there. I was greeted by a former teacher, Ada Stipp and started out to see all the sights. I have always loved flowers and arrangements and to my delight there were even many card tables set up with full table settings and flowers. Now all this was garden's glory for me.

With house building, an orchard keeper and then mother the next few years were hit and

miss with the annual tea. A few more years rolled over and I started taking some sewing skill classes at the college. There I met my 'Flower Mum', Carol Kesey. We soon became good friends and began tripping around the hills and meadows looking for wild-flowers. I was the designated driver – especially when we backed up a trail out at Highland Springs. Now I was initiated into the real Chrysanthemum world, as I would help pick and label all her specimens for the annual show.

When the Show was changed to the second Friday in November I joined the club and also entered arrangements. I think the theme that year was "East Meets West" and they were fun titles. I entered arrangements with her flowers for a few years, so we had great flower friends for fun times. I continued to help her pick, label and transport even when the date was switched back to the same as the annual craft show I participated in. We have great memories of these times, and the glow lives on, as each year she produces her own show. Just drive by Ninth and High in Lakeport, any time in November and you will see a real Garden Display. The

last two years our Kabatin Redbud Arrangers have used the November assignment to feature chrysanthemums and Carol opens her "florist" and invites anyone to pick for the arranging. We would love to have you all visit this year as the gardener is at work, planning and digging for the arrival of even new roots from Kings, as well as those she has saved over the years. What would you do with a spider – one of those frilly ones, that is over 12 inches across???? First, just look at its wonder and beauty, then let the creativity go. Hope to inspire you all to more flower friendships and fun.

Through the years we have done some workshops with pressed flowers and pinecones. We have been hostesses many times and made flower arrangements and demonstrations. I have had many years of "Petal Pleasures" in the Trowel and Trellis Garden Club Family, and am especially thankful for my "Flower Mum".



Whatsoever a man (or woman) soweth, That shall he also reap. Galatians



Cultivate

Kindness,

Share

Your

Garden



Tree Tally = 25

Each year we welcome new gardeners to our garden club family, as well as saying 'we'll keep you in our hearts' to those members who have chosen not to renew their membership. You are always welcome to come back and visit us.

Our Plant Sale was great fun - sharing our gardens and knowledge and friendship with our community. The event was a very successful one.

Welcome to our 2008-2009 Board - Theresa (our Vice President/Program Chairman). She comes with many enthusiastic ideas and input.

We have a lot of activities going on this summer even though we don't have official meetings in July and August. Phone or stop by to visit other garden club members. Our newsletter editor is already to take photos of many of our gardens - welcome her into your garden for a photo-op. And please stop by to visit me, we can sit on the swing with a morning cup of coffee or sit under the arbor with a glass of ice tea and enjoy the afternoon sunshine.

See you in the garden, Claire

Mendo-Lake District Club ...buzz by Gina-Belle Smith

A Prayer in Spring by Robert Frost

**Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.
Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us happy in the happy bees,
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.
And make us happy in the darting bird
That suddenly above the bees is heard,
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.
For this is love and nothing else is love,
To which it is reserved for God above
To sanctify to what far ends he will,
But which it only needs that we fulfill.**

A BIG THANK YOU... from your Editor I would like to say 'Thank You!' for letting me sneak into your back yards and get the most amazing pictures. And for the rest of you, I'm coming. I have enjoyed putting together this newsletter, but could not have without the willingness of those that contributed stories, articles, history, garden hints, quotes and poems, pictures, and emails to keep me informed.

Thank you! for your donations and supporting the 'gift basket' for the 'opportunity drawing', which helped finance the colored pictures.

Jo Douville, *Thank You!* for selling the tickets and making our baskets so attractive. Your contribution was immeasurable.

And of course you know that Claire Grieve fed me most of the information and wrote most of the articles. A big **THANK YOU!**

Didn't you just love Jerry Shaul's short stories. I couldn't wait for each one. *Thank You!*

Garden Club Affiliates

- National Garden Clubs, Inc.
(www.gardenclub.org)
National President: Barbara May
- Pacific Region
Director: Jeanette Pruin
(JBandRJPruin@comcast.net)
- California Garden Club, Inc.
(www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org)
President: Robin Pokorski
- Mendo-Lake District Garden Club
District Director: Gina-Belle Smith
(www.MendoLakeDistrict.org)



Newsletter Chairperson / Editor
Linda Pyers
Phone: 707-262-5899
E-mail: His_lamb@mchsi.com
Deadline for articles is the last day of each month, but sooner is better.

Club Dues are Owed Now!
for July 1, 2008- June 30, 2009

Please see Nora Gerrard,
Treasurer.

\$20 for individuals
\$26 per couple.

There is an additional charge of
\$6, for name tags.

We are excited to have Theresa Mathurs as our new Vice President. Theresa is enthusiastic and is working along side President Claire planning the club's calendar for this coming year. At our May meeting, we enjoyed a sweet ceremony where Barbara Swanson installed Theresa as VP.

In case you did know, Celesta Deter was not able to complete her term, but we want to thank her for her fun contributions this last year.



Green
Thumbs



Up to *Nancy Bailey* who completed her training as a Master Gardner. Good Job Nancy! You are in good company with Marva, Jane, Doris, Roland, Linda W in Calif. and Gina-Belle & Theresa in other states.

Green
Thumbs



Up to *Diane Neilson, Nancy Bailey and Leslie Jones*. Thank You! Diane for giving us the info and following up on new members. Thank You! Nancy for sending out all those cards. Thank you! Leslie for your readings of inspiration.



Field Trip: A rare jewel: the only public garden in the continental United States fronting directly on the ocean, Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens offers everything from colorful displays to thunderous waves. See Ann Blue to sign up for our field trip to the Gardens. Please note that this trip will take place prior to our first meeting in Sept. So you won't want to miss out. The date is Sept 8, 2008. More details to follow, but your name needs to be on the list.

Sweet Memories
Butterfly Farm
Field Trip:
June 23rd



Annual June Potluck/Picnic

June 16, Monday at Lakeport Yacht Club located at the 5th Street Boat Ramp. Starts at 5pm - bring a potluck dish to share (not a dessert - club will provide a sheet cake). Also bring your own plate, silverware, drink, and a chair if you wish to sit outside. Guests are always welcome. Ice tea and coffee will also be provided. Any questions phone Nora or Claire.

July Planning/Organizing Meeting

All members welcome - Board members, chairman, and all members - please attend the Planning/Organizing Meeting on **July 15, 9:30-noon** located at the Mendo-Lake Credit Union, 963 - 11th Street, Lakeport. Surveys are still coming in - lots of great ideas and suggestions. Our Program Chairman, Theresa Mathurs has already contacted speakers and done research of possible programs. This is our Garden Club - let's all put our enthusiasm for gardening towards another successful Garden Club year.

CLTTGC Penny Pines Field Trip: Twelve of us headed up up up up into the Mendocino Mountains on a dusty road led by Ranger Nancy Mulligan. WE FOULDED THE MARKER! The sky was blue and the smell of the pines was breath taking. Ranger Nancy spoke about the area and showed us the marker with names of people honored and in memory of loved ones. We walked to the edge to see new life growing in a once burned out area of the forest. Ranger Nancy brought seedlings and was prepared to plant a few, but the ground was just too dry. It was decided that earlier in the year or at a higher elevation would give the seedlings a greater chance at survival. We then ate our lunches. Ann Blue graciously provided a much needed tablecloth and cookies for dessert. Another highlight of our trip was helping Carol Kesey collect woodland treasures, like moss, fungus, and even a flat old bird's nest. What a great time we had!



Green
Thumbs
Up



to *Nora Gerrard*

For finding us a speaker at the last minute. Hope you were able to enjoy Sandie talk and slide show regarding 'Spirit Wild', Lake County's Wildlife Center. This is one of the organizations we support financially and the information was quite valuable.

'Spirit Wild', Lake County's Wildlife Center.

Speaker Sandie Elliott shared with us all about the wildlife rehabilitation center located in Loch Lomond. We learned about the organization. The center is staffed entirely by Volunteers seven days a week. A slide show demonstrated the nature of the services they provide which include emergency medical care for sick, injured or orphaned wildlife, rescues, and much more. Not only was Sandie's talk very informative and serious in nature, but it was sprinkled with antidotes and funny pictures. And finally someone answered that burning question we all wanted to know the answer too.

CONTACT Information: Phone: 707 928-6665, Email: birdresq@pacific.net,
Website: www.spiritwild.org THE GIFT OF 'SECOND CHANCE'



The 'Real' Dirt

by Mary Ann Worth



So you've decided you want to plant one of the hardest, most beautiful perennials ever developed. You must be looking at an iris – *Iridaceae*. This word identifies the many different kinds of irises from the tiny spring blooming Reticulatas to the huge, almost dinner plate size flower of the double Japanese irises that bloom in the late spring/early summer.

Though many see irises as similar to orchids, nothing can compare to the multiple sizes, shapes, colors, and varieties. When irises are mentioned, most people think of the tall bearded with the 27 ½ to 48 inch stalks. Below them grow the various intermediates – Border, Intermediates, and Miniatures Tall Bearded. Next comes the dwarfs – Standard Dwarf Bearded and Miniature Dwarfs (3-8 inches). There are four other bearded irises of various height or size - Aril Bred, Novelty Bearded, Re-blooming (more than once a year) and Space Age (which have horns, spears or flounces at the end of their beards).

Then you have the Beardless varieties in which you find the Japanese, Louisiana, Pacific Coast, Species, and Spurias. All add up to thousands of different specimens, colors, patterns and shapes.

Next consider the Beardless Iris. As with all the others, the upper petals are called 'standards' and the lower petals, 'falls', but without beards (the fuzzy section below the standards). The Beardless varieties need a much damper environment – Japanese, Louisianans, and Species often grow in water. So consider your watering system. All irises require a damp soil to begin a new planting. Arils need quite a dry environment – perfect for Lake County. When the various irises begin to develop their buds, they need moisture; just don't get water on the blossom. Soakers are great.

To plant the rhizome (the potato shaped brown skinned object), I dig a hole about 12 inches deep, place a tablespoon of fertilizer in the hole, build a mound in the hole, place the rhizome at the top of the mound, then fill the soil up to the rhizome in an upright position. Water well letting the water soak in so that it is damp, but not 'gushy'. You will see new growth within a relatively short time. Keep the soil damp. After the first year, watering needs decrease but are still important. Cover the rhizome if your area freezes. Too much water can lead to rot in rhizome which can be aided by cutting off the rotten section. Clean area then sprinkle with a cleaning agent containing bleach. Thin ever 3-4 years. Plant shorter dwarfs and mediums in front.

It is a good idea to label each rhizome with its name because it is easy to forget the color or identity of each iris. You can also make a map. If you catch the 'iris bug', you'll want to know what you have and what you want next year. Color wise, irises are identified as 'self' (all the same color, bi-color, bi-toned or blended).

Get new ones from friends, other iris lovers or catalogues. Cooley's, Schrieners, and Mid America are large iris producers-hybridizers. Their catalogues are listed in Sunset and other gardening Magazines.

Call with questions. There is so much to know about my favorite flower. An excellent book on irises is The Gardener's Iris Book, by William Shear. Have fun – enjoy!

Mary Ann Worth invites club members to come see her beloved irises in early to mid May. (Please call first).

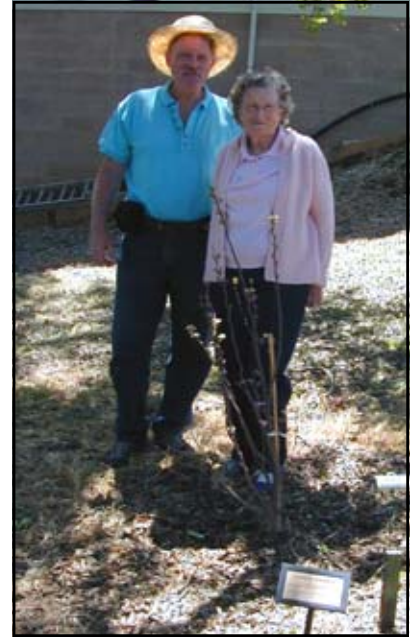
Editors Note: The pictures of the colorful irises are from many different club member's yards. Can you find yours?



Hanson-Linder- Dinsmore-Millberry



Memorial Grove



At the Park Commission meeting, member Carol Kesey learned about land that Bob Millberry and his family had donated to the City of Lakeport for a nature walking park. It is located at where 3rd runs into 4th. Carol suggested to the garden club, that this could be a Civic Beautification project. That was almost 2 years ago.

A committee was formed; we applied and received a \$500 grant from CGCI. Work parties and meetings supported this project. The Parks Dept. was asked to weed eat, while we hand pick weeds around the 13 huge oak trees and along the edges of the park creating huge piles of green waste that the Parks Dept. picks up for us. (Continued on page 6)

June Calendar

- Jun 2 -Penny Pines Field Trip.
- Jun 4 -Board Meeting.
- Jun 5 -LKR Arrangers/ Thur 10:30am.
- Jun 10 -Garden Therapy. Clearlake
- Jun 15 -Happy Father's Day!
- Jun 16 -Yr End Potluck/Picnic.
- Jun 19 -Garden Therapy: Lucerne
- Jun 23 -Butterfly Field Trip.
- Jun 25 -Dist Meeting.

June

Time to plant green onions, pumpkins, and basil..

Green Thumbs



Up to

Carol Kesey who has divided many of her 'prize winning' mums and shared the plants with members. She hopes we can have a Mum show in the fall. Let's support the Lake Kabatin Redbud Arrangers when they have their show in the fall.

(Millberry Con't) Many wildflower seeds, bulbs, shrubs, and trees have been planted. A shredded bark pathway winds through the park. Jo Douville and Claire Grieve used wheel barrels full of this bark to create the 4 inch thick path. Jo and Jerry Shaul have transplanted and donated many plants and shrubs and trees from their yard. All the signs and stakes were created by Jerry Shaul.

Now we are seeing the fruits of our labor with all the beautiful blooms that we are enjoying. The water meter and 5 faucets are now in place. This is much to the delight of Jo D. and Claire who hand carried buckets full of water to each shrub just trying to keep them alive until the water lines were in place. Carol Kesey has donated many, many seeds from her yard. The garden club has purchased many plants for the park. Claire, Jo D, and Ann Blue donated trees. The list of names goes on and on for all that have worked in the park.

It is peaceful and enjoyable to walk through the park, listen to the birds, watch the squirrel (who is digging up the bulbs by the boulder), and of course our neighborhood deer enjoy the lovely landscape. Our future list of goals for the park are signs, benches, and of course more shrubs and flowers.

As garden club members we are learning from each other about native plants and flowers - it is a fun learning experience, plus friendships are being created.

Most of all I think we are getting closer and closer to Bob's dream of a lovely neighborhood walking park for all of us to enjoy. We had our first Annual Picnic in the Park - and Bob was able to watch all the activities during the picnic - he lives just across the street. Thank you to Bob for your generous donation for all of us to enjoy.

Your neighbor and friend, Claire



The 'Real' dirt

shared by Doris Ellsworth

Taking Softwood Cuttings:

Look for healthy young shoots carrying at least 4-6 leaves, or pairs of leaves. The stems should be pliable, without any hardening of the skin tissue. Make the cut well below the bottom leaf or leaf pair. This bit of extra stem prevents the cut tip from drying out. Store the cutting in a plastic bag, along with a label that identifies the plant. The best time to take softwood cuttings is from the end of May thru mid June when the foliage is fully expanded, but the stems are still pliable. (By John Emmanuel)

Happy Birthday!



ROSE (Love, beauty)

Dwight Holford	6/4
Andrea Anderson	6/9
Gina-Belle Smith	6/12
June Beto	6/18
June Dye	6/21
Donna Isley	6/23
Jay Swanson	6/26
Sherry Centanni	6/28

LAKSPUR (Laughter)

Carol Brabrook	7/12
Katherine Ramos	7/16

Nancy Benkelman	7/18
Jo Shaul	7/19
Nancy Bailey	7/26
Shirley Estrem	7/30
Barbara Swanson	7/30

GLADIOLUS (Generosity)

Bob Benkelman	8/2
Nora Gerrard	8/6
Joanne Jameson	8/18
Linda Pyers	8/23
Bill Held	8/24
Sue Gardner-Neumann	8/27

Helaine Christensen	8/31
Linda Waterstraat	8/31

ASTER (Love/Daintiness)

Doris Ellsworth	9/1
Ginny Gunderson	9/3
Caryn de Larios	9/8
Jan Kespohl	9/8
Jim Smith	9/27





They came with the property-- free, wild and beautiful. For sixteen years we enjoyed the mass of golden poppy like flowers that bloomed during spring into summer. Without special care the 4-6 foot shrubs blessed the landscape with grey-green leathery leaves that accented our yard year round.

We hoped that when left undisturbed in their natural habitat with other drought tolerant natives, and watered only by rains, they would remain healthy and

happy. Not so, 'Mother Nature' with all her wisdom sent 'Jack Frost' with a hard freeze. Spring came and the plants appeared lifeless.

Remembering stories of the stimulating effects of wildfires on many native plants I decided to simulate those conditions. I piled pine needles around the plants and set it on fire which burned the dried foliage to the ground. Behold a miracle! Within several weeks new growth began and the plants soon were on their way to health and happiness. Of

the thousands of seeds that had been deposited over the years around each plant not one had ever germinated. Another miracle! Now I had 27 new seedlings.

From November to March I transplanted these seedlings to provide color and interest to other areas of our landscape.



Oppotunity Drawing Winners



Remember to take pictures for the Award Books

Habitat For Humanity Family to receive \$100 gift certificate

Linda Pyers replaces Claire Grieve on 07-09 Nominating Committee

Beware—that Yellow Starthistle menaces state's flora, fauna.

Change to Standing Rules—Scholarship Chair Pat Hopper will have a committee of 3, Ann Blue, Jan Kespohl, Jo Jameson

Please scout out location of greens now for this years' Christmas Wreaths, then *write it down*.

Your 2009-10, 2010-11 Nomination Committee:

Barbara Swanson
Linda Waterstraat
Pam Held

2008 Lake Co Fair

Bring out that _____ to be judged or just admired. Any one up for a friendly completion? Saw some new categories. If you've never entered, it's lots of fun and those that had entries last year can sure be proud. I was impressed.

Let the Good times Roll.

New Members

by Diane Neilson



No Adds & Correction:

No New Members for 07-08:

Sunshine News

by Nancy Bailey



05/24/08 -
05/24/08 -
05/29/08 -

Welcome to Rena Clifton
Welcome to Betty Schmidt
Thinking of You to Reba Richardson

Clear Lake Trowel & Trellis Garden Club

Return mail: Pres Claire Grieve,
970 4th St, Lakeport, CA 95453

The club meets at 12:00 pm
on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.
Scott's Valley Women's Club House
2298 Hendricks Road
Lakeport, CA 95453



Cultivate Kindness, Share Your Garden.



Forget-me-nots



Youth Garden Club: Tuesday & Thursdays / 2-3pm,
Kelseyville Elementary.

Field Trip: Penny Pines. Chair: Ann Blue
June 2 / TBA Mendo-National Forrest.

Board Meeting: Jun 4

Lake Kabatin Redbud Arrangers: contact: Barbara Swanson
June 5 / 10:30am, Thur. Theme: Multiple Containers (3+)

Garden Therapy (Adult Respite Program) Joanne Jameson.
June 10 / 10:30am Clearlake.

June Picnic: Year End Potluck/Picnic.
June 16 / 5pm MONDAY (CHANGE from Yearbook).
Lakeport Yacht Club, at the 5th Street Launch Ramp.

Garden Therapy (Adult Respite Program) Joanne Jameson.
June 19 / 10:30am Lucerne.

Field Trip: Sweet Memories Butterfly Farm Jo Douville
June 23 / 10:00am Sign up at May meeting. Cost is \$5.
Carpool: meet at Credit Union on 11th St (Safeway's lot).

District meeting - Hosted by Fort Bragg Garden Club
June 25 (Wed) at the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens.

Lake County Fair— Co Chair Pat Hopper & Leslie Jones
Aug 28—Aug 31 CLTTGC Garden Display

Field Trip: Ann Blue, Coordinator
Sept 8 Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens.



PLANT A TREE FOR FATHER'S DAY!

Have a great summer.
See you in the Fall.