

## May 2025

### May Monthly Meeting: Yu Linda Song, Philippa Farrar & Olivia Hansen

#### IN MAY NEWSLETTER

- Monthly Meeting Update
- Seed Library Update
- Flowers for a Smile: PHR Library
- Edu. Display at Rec Center
- Community Outreach
- Welcome Members
- Pollinator Garden
- District News
- Monthly Garden Tasks
- Member Contributions

Great May meeting with 22 attendees. The talk by Marynika from Method Gardens was very well received. Photos by Lorelei Olsen captures the spirit, "couldn't add all the names to the refreshments, floral arrangements, seeds, plants, and garden goodies shared at our meeting. The pictures aptly capture these treasures!" Yu Linda, Philippa, Olivia, Jennifer and other regulars make a wonderful team. [May 2025 Business](#)

[Mtg.](#)



### SEED LIBRARY: Upcoming Event By Barbara Scholz

The seed meeting was conducted well by Philippa Farrar in Barbara's absence. Thanks to all the volunteers who came to help and make the seed envelopes.

- **Next Seed Packing Meeting : Friday, June 13, 10:00 am - noon** Carmel Valley Library will be confirmed in May meeting. Stop by to grab free seeds or help! Questions: Email: [bscholz@hotmail.com](mailto:bscholz@hotmail.com)





## Flowers for a Smile: Now at Pacific Highlands Ranch Library

Our *Flowers for a Smile* program has moved to the beautiful new *Pacific Highlands Ranch Library* at **12911 Pacific Place, SD**. Vases will be returned to donors. Join us in making the library bloom with happiness! [SIGN UP](#) May Flowers from Shital Parikh's Garden

## New Educational Displays placed at Ocean Air Rec Center!



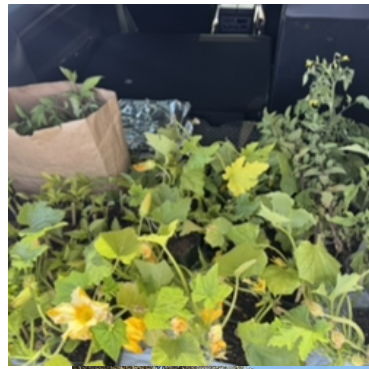
We're thrilled to announce that the Ocean Air Recreation Center has officially approved Friends of Del Mar Mesa's request to host two educational display boards and one interactive shadow box at the facility! **Friends of Del Mar Mesa Display Board** This board highlights the unique ecology of the Del Mar Mesa Preserve—featuring native wildlife, plant species, and their behaviors. It's all about cultivating a deeper appreciation for the natural treasures that surround us.

**Garden Club Display Board** Seasonal garden tips, ideas, and fun facts—refreshed quarterly to reflect what's blooming, growing, or ready to harvest in each season.

This initiative reflects the Rec Center's mission to support **Preservation of Natural Resources** and engage the community in **environmental education**. We hope these displays will spark curiosity and a sense of stewardship in visitors of all ages.

Join the display board committee: Email: [info@friendsdmm.org](mailto:info@friendsdmm.org) for more information. DMMC Member Nancy Barzvi, artist and retired teacher is lead coordinator for this project.

This project was started by our club during covid and is now being supported by San Diego Master Gardeners and Shital Parikh from our club.



Looking to Get More Involved? Join our Worker Bee Team in 2025! Volunteering as a coordinator is a great way to gain experience and become eligible for elected positions. Serve for two years to qualify for future nominations. *Open Position: Sign Up Genius Coordinator – Collaborate with the events team!* Interested? Email us at [info@friendsdmm.org](mailto:info@friendsdmm.org).



We are at 60 members as of May 21, 2025



**Renew Membership:** We are at 60 members. [renew membership](#) today!!

**Customized GIFT CARD**  
Email the first and last name of  
the recipient to

[info@friendsdmm.org](mailto:info@friendsdmm.org) with payment for membership



**Club's Social Media:** [Sandi Adam](#) Invitation to join our club's member private [Facebook group](#). [Click here](#) to request membership. Post photos of summer adventures with nature on our Club's [Instagram](#) page. This private facebook group is open to invite your friends and family to learn more about gardening.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer your time by helping us with planting and maintenance, please contact me. [wpoyns@gmail.com](mailto:wpoyns@gmail.com)

**Palomar District Summer Membership Meeting**  
**Monday, June 16, 2025**  
**Saint John's Episcopal Church**  
 750 1st Avenue  
 Chula Vista, CA 91910

**Host: Bonita Valley Garden Club**  
 Note: Reservations Required by June 5, 2025

**9:30 am** Doors Open ~ Registration ~ Shopping ~ Raffle for baskets and centerpieces  
**10:00 am** General Meeting  
**Breakfast** Pastries, fruit, yogurt, coffee, tea and fruit juices  
**Program:** With Patricia Simpson, "San Diego Native Bees and the Plants They Love"  
**Cost:** \$20.00


**Reservation Form** <.....>

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check payable to: **Bonita Valley Garden Club**  
 Mail by June 5th to: Bonita Valley Garden Club, c/o Susan Currie, 1782 Lone Tree Road,  
 Chula Vista, CA 91913 Phone: (619) 892-2933

**Note:** If several individuals are coming from one club, please send one check for all  
 and list the names of the individuals that the check covers.



## District News

All members are invited to attend. This is a great way to meet other amazing gardeners and listen to great speakers. They have unique items garden items that are sold at the meetings.

## Get Free Trees look into these programs.

Our club members have applied for and received free fruit and ornamental trees.

[Free Tree SD City Only](#)  
[SDG&E Tree Rebate Program](#)

## EVENTS: SAVE THE DATES & SIGN UP Today: Yu Linda Song & Philippa Farrar




**June 4, Wednesday, Topic: Fire Resistant Landscape**  
**Monthly Meeting Time: 11am at Carmel Valley Library**  
**Speaker: Master Gardener Cindy Bruecks** [Sign Up](#)



**Annual Summer Garden Potluck & Microgreens**  
**Date: Sunday, June 8, 2025**  
**Time: 2 - 4 pm**  
**Location: Minnie Farr will be hosting our annual garden party at her ranch, Chickadee Country in the 4S/Del Sur area.** [Sign up](#) today to join this members only, extraordinary event.



## May Garden Tasks:

 **Vegetables to Plant in May:** Get seeds at our seed meetings

- Beans (bush & pole) – quick to sprout in warm soil
- Cucumbers, Squash, Zucchini – plant in rich, well-drained soil
- Corn – grow in blocks for proper pollination
- Tomatoes & Peppers – transplant seedlings; add mulch to retain moisture

- Melons & Pumpkins – give plenty of space to sprawl
- **Sweet Potatoes:** [Check out photos showing growing method](#)

### 🌸 Flowers to Plant: Get seeds at our seed meetings

- Sunflowers – fast-growing and great for pollinators
- Marigolds – deter aphids and nematodes
- Zinnias, Cosmos, Tithonia – heat-tolerant and vibrant
- Portulaca, Gomphrena – thrive in dry areas

### 🔧 Maintenance Tips

- Mulch to keep roots cool and soil moist
- Water early morning to minimize evaporation
- Fertilize warm-season crops lightly every 3-4 weeks
- Deadhead and pinch back flowers to keep them blooming
- Keep an eye out for powdery mildew on squash and beans

### ☀️ Heatwave Gardening Tips – San Diego

- Water early (before 9 AM) – deep and slow to reach roots
- Mulch well to retain moisture and keep roots cool
- Group container plants together – they create shade and reduce evaporation
- Shade delicate plants using cloth, umbrellas, or old sheets
- Hold off on fertilizing or transplanting – reduce stress
- Don't prune heavily – foliage helps shield from sunburn
- Check pots daily – they dry out fast in high temps

## Save the Dates for Sept, Oct, Nov

### September 3rd, 2025

**Topic:** Growing Plumeria

**Speaker:** Mike Atkinson of Atkinson Plumeria

**Location:** Carmel Valley Library

Fall Garden Tour

**Location:** Margaret Pham's Home in Del Mar

**Date:** TBD

### October 1st, 2025

**Topic:** TBA

**Speaker:** John Clements has been a horticultural professional for 46 years. Former nursery owner, gardener and koi pond builder to the rich and famous, horticulturalist, commercial fruit tree farmer, garden writer, agricultural historian, co-administrator of the San Diego Gardener Facebook group, and Director of Gardens at the 37-acre San Diego Botanic Garden

**Location:** Carmel Valley Library

### November 5th, 2025

**Topic:** Native Plant Propagation

**Speaker:** Justin Daniel from Native Plant Society


Chapter Conservation Chair, Propagation Chair

**California Native Plant Society**

**Location:** Carmel Valley Library




## Member Facebook Contributions

 **Saritha Yaramada**  
May 4 at 8:29 AM · 🌍

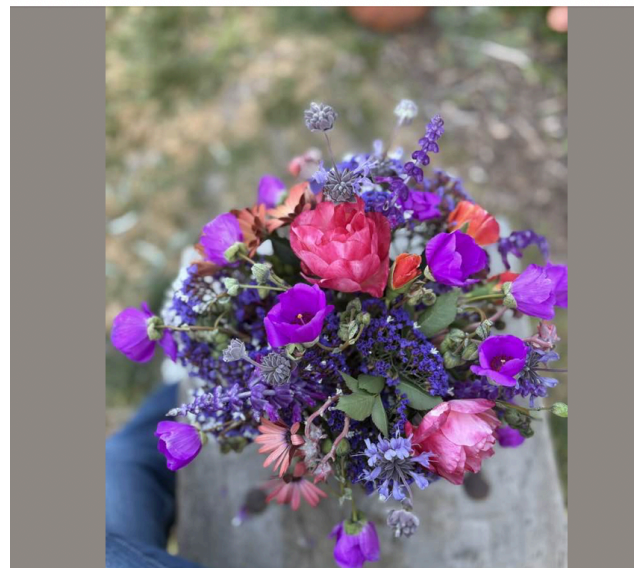
A big thank you to Marynika from Method Gardens for helping me refresh my garden last month—just in time for spring! Everything planted in the backyard is thriving beautifully. Grateful to [Yu Linda Song](#) for the lovely recommendation. You are welcome to check out my backyard in person any day 🌱🌸

<FYI> Marynika is our **guest speaker** at our **May 7th** meetup.




 **Emily H. Weaver**  
April 29 at 12:02 PM · 🌍

I didn't think I had cut flowers but these work just as well. Will see how long they last!



Shital Parikh and Philippa Farrar commented on this photo.


 **Shital Parikh**  
[Admin](#) [Top contributor](#) · May 12 at 1:47 PM · 🌍



 **Yu Linda Song**  
[Admin](#) [Top contributor](#) · May 5 at 6:03 PM · 🌍

Marynika of [Method Gardens](#) helped me plan and plant last year. She will be speaking on Wednesday. Not to be missed!  
Please tell your friends, family and neighbors!  
11 am on Wednesday at [Carmel Valley Library](#).... [See more](#)



 **Yoly Paniagua Marcos**  
May 17 at 3:33 PM · 🌍

a few more.



 **Shital Parikh**  
[Admin](#) [Top contributor](#) · Yesterday at 11:01PM · 🌍

Been having fun decorating gift bags with dried flowers and leaves—each one turns out so unique! Definitely time to start drying flowers... they make the simplest things feel special. Fever few leaves, poinsettia leaves, lucadendron leaves etc. Used today



**Shital Parikh**  
Admin Top contributor · May 17 at 3:42 PM · 🌐

Visited Beth's garden and a couple more as it was a rose garden tour. I was in a rush so 5 min in each garden but it soothed the soul. Beth suggested using HB1 for blooms. It's \$14 on Amazon. One tsp to a gallon on the base of the plant on a cool day. Can be used on othet flowers to get them to bloom Not to use on tropicals, succulents, orchids.



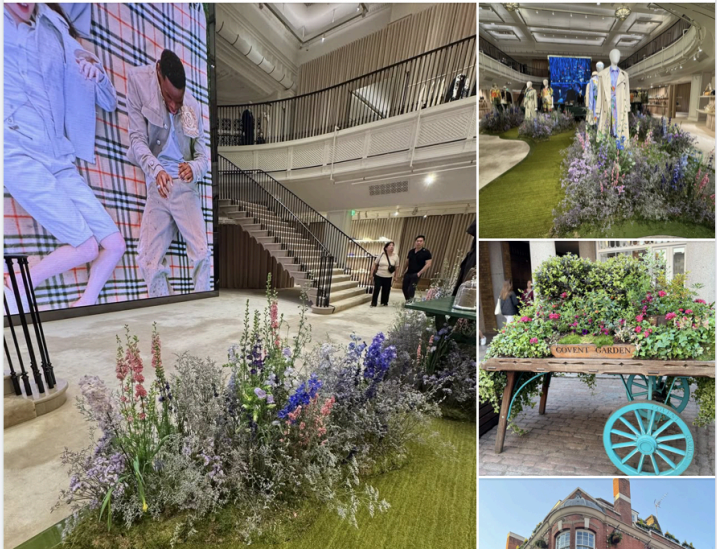
**Yoly Paniagua Marcos**  
April 27 at 10:25 PM · 🌐

I have a few more. It was fantastic. Thanks [Barbara Sc](#)



**Shital Parikh**  
Admin Top contributor · May 10 at 2:19 PM · 🌐

Unique innovative dry and fresh flower arrangement at Burberry flagship store in london. It's worth a try as it will last longer and looks super interesting. A few other flower photos from London



**Yu Linda Song**  
Admin Top contributor · April 27 at 8:52 PM · 🌐

Thank you [Barbara Scholz](#) for giving us a private native Fleming Trail at 📍 Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve lovely way to spend the afternoon right in our backyard



