



Newsletter of the Paradise Garden Club, Paradise CA newsletter@paradisegardenclub.org ParadiseGardenClub.org



Photo by Joyce Hummel

As the days grow longer and the chill lifts from the air, the ridge is waking up to the first signs of spring! March is a wonderful time for gardeners in Northern California to begin planning, planting, and preparing for a colorful season ahead. Daffodils are blooming, fruit trees are budding, and the soil is soft enough to turn nature’s invitation to get our hands in the dirt once again.

The Paradise Garden Club will be hosting several workshops and Fieldtrips focused on early spring planting, soil health, and native pollinator gardens. Whether you are a seasoned gardener or just getting started, there is something here for everyone.

The end of February brought us a good bit of snow even in lower Paradise. Mount Lassen snowcap is now at four feet and Mount Shasta even more; good news for moisture in our warmer months.

We do not forget our community connections that make our club so special. Come join us at the Terry Ashe community center on Monday, March 9th at 1:00 for the opportunity to learn about pollinators from master gardener, Michelle Graydon, of the Xerces Society. Let us celebrate the beauty of gardening on the Ridge. Another welcome season of growth, friendship, and blooming creativity together! T3

Todd

This is an odd numbered month so we have the opportunity to bring seeds, plants, cuttings, whatever garden surprises you would like to share. This is a no cost way we help each other replant Paradise.



PGCI General Meeting, March 9th at 1:00 p.m.

“Bring Back the Pollinators”

Presenter: Michelle Graydon with the Xerces Society.

Create and conserve habitat for our all-important pollinators!

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Beautification Team Report

Right now, winter is upon us after a long, lovely autumn. With the change in temperature and daylight there is a quiet time in the garden. We have been to the library mound to weed, deadhead and to tidy it up. Many hands make light work, and it went quickly. We found scale on the red bud tree and the maple. We will spray them with Neem oil when the weather allows. It doesn't work well in the really cold, wet or hot but consistent spraying should stop the growth of scale. It's time to fertilize the trees as well. We will keep an eye on the needs of our other gardens as the weather changes. We only go out if there is no precipitation.

If you'd like to join us, stop by at the welcome desk or email Jeudie. Her address is in the roster to learn where we will be working next.

Garden on,

Jeudie

Thank you Swede Hanski



Swede of Hanski Family Farms was our February speaker and helped us understand how goats, with a few sheep mixed in, guided by professional Peruvian shepherds and smart guard dogs, reduce vegetation fuel around Butte County.

February was also a snack month. Thank you all for bringing such a colorful, yummy spread.



Upcoming Events

Paradise Garden Club meets every second Monday of each month at 1:00 at the Terry Ashe Center. All are welcome. Odd months we bring cuttings, plants or seeds to share while even months we share food snacks. ***Bring your own beverage.***

PGCI General Meeting, March 9th at 1:00 p.m. "Bring Back the Pollinators"

Presenter: Michelle Graydon with the Xerces Society.

Create and conserve habitat for our all-important pollinators! Because of their critical contribution to plant reproduction and diversity, pollinating species (insects and other invertebrates) are considered keystone indicators of environmental health. Join a local expert from the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation to learn how to attract and retain pollinators such as bumble bees, native bees, and Monarch butterflies to your garden.

PGCI General Meeting, April 13th at 1:00 p.m. "Members Tea Party & Garden Gab"

Bring your favorite cookie or healthy snack to share. Tea provided. A short presentation by Tina Lewis on the medicinal uses of teas. This is an opportunity to get to know each other better. Relax, sip tea, listen to fellow gardeners catch up on gardening questions, problems, ideas and dreams.

PGCI General Meeting, May 11th at 1:00 p.m. Craft-making for the 2026 Garden Tour Boutique.

Rock painting among other crafts. The crafts sold well last year. You will also have an opportunity to ask questions you have about volunteering at the Garden Tour.

PGCI General Meeting, June 8th at 1:00 p.m. Post Garden Tour Review, lunch with members and homeowners of the tour gardens.

Master Gardener News

For detailed information and to sign up go to: <https://ucanr.edu/site/uc-master-gardeners-butte-county>



12th Annual Local Nursery Crawl

Friday & Saturday
March 27 & 28, 2026
9:00am-4:00pm

Step 1
Pick up a flyer at a participating nursery

Step 2
Visit as many nurseries or shops as you can! Check out what each nursery has to offer, ask questions, and get inspired!

Step 3
Collect stamps from each nursery you visit on the flyer. Once you visit your 6th nursery you'll be entered into a raffle to win a gift certificate from that nursery!

Step 4
Feel good about supporting your local nurseries during the Crawl

1 **Cactus Affinity**
1311 Stanley Ave. Chico Ca 95928
530-324-5053
cactusaffinity.com

2 **DejaVu Gardens Galore Nursery**
5424 Foster Rd. Paradise Ca 95969
530-877-7341
dejavunursery.com

3 **Floral Native Nursery**
14388 Meridian Rd. Chico Ca 95973
530-892-2511
floralnativenursery.com

4 **Harvests & Habitats Nursery**
1710 Park Ave. Chico Ca 95928
behind 1078 Gallery
530-342-3376

5 **Hodge's Family Nursery, Inc.**
9681 Midway Durham Ca 95938
530-894-6598
hodesfamilynursery.com

6 **Kinney Nursery & Topsoil**
4115 Rowles Rd. Vina Ca 96092
530-893-2196
kinneynursery.com

7 **The Little Red Hen Nursery**
189 E. 8th Street Chico Ca 95928
530-891-9100
littleredhen.org

8 **Magnolia Gift and Garden**
1367 East Ave. Chico Ca 95926
530-894-5410
magnoliagardening.com

9 **The Plant Barn Nursery**
406 Entler Ave. Chico Ca 95928
530-345-3121
theplantbarn.com

10 **The Rock Garden Nursery**
9869 Hwy 99W Gerber Ca 96035
530-527-2411
therockgardenproberta.com

11 **Songbird Landscape Supply**
2742 Highway 45 Glen Ca
530-517-0713
songbirdlandscapesupply.com

12 **Vang's Plants & Succulent Hub**
116 Broadway St. Chico Ca 95928
530-804-2758
vangsplantsandsucculentshub.com.square.site



HODGE'S FAMILY NURSERY

Upcoming Events

February 7
Learn & Grow Winter Festival
Fruit Trees, Roses, Composting & Bonsai. Free! 10-1

March 7
Grapes & Berry Clinic
Demonstration with Daniel Hodge.
Wyld Flour Food Truck at Hodge's. Free! 9-4

March 14
Bonsai Clinic
Chico Bonsai Society at Hodge's. 10-12

March 27 & 28
Local Nursery Crawl
A weekend of visiting your local nurseries. Free!
Both days 9-4

April 4
Sip & Stroll Saturday
Wyld Flour Food Truck at Hodge's. 9-4

April 14
Honeybee at Hodge's
Free homeschool event. Register online. 12-1

April 25
Our 42nd Annual Spring Celebration
Local vendors, raffle, spinning wheel with prizes, face painting, food trucks. Free! 10-3



Members Tea Party & Garden Gab

Getting to Know You

Tina Lewis will give a short presentation on the medicinal uses of teas.

Gardeners new and seasoned, we have much to learn from each other.

This will be a relaxed time to visit and get to know each other better. Who's new? Try to sit by people you don't know. You will learn at least one new thing about each person at your table.

MONDAY, APRIL 13 AT 1:00 AT THE TERRY ASHE CENTER

BRING YOUR FAVORITE SNACK TO SHARE

TEA & COFFEE PROVIDED

Meet your Hospitality Team. The Paradise Garden Club has a long history of having a group of volunteers that coordinate the background elements of welcome for each meeting. During even numbered months we prepare tables to receive member snacks. During odd numbered months we prepare the plant table. Along with the greeters, we welcome people coming in and make sure their items get to those tables. Room & table decorations are set up by the Hospitality Team during festive celebrations. We work in coordination with the First Vice President of Speakers & Activities, Anne, to compliment that month's theme. Each volunteer has a written list of duties & who will do it, so it goes smoothly & we have fun as a well-coordinated team. Team leaders make sure supplies are stocked. Hospitality Team volunteers are:

Monthly table preparations: Nancy Howe (Lead) and Toby Brandtman (Second Lead)

Special Events Volunteers: Carrie Max, Betty Schmidt, Melissa Aebly, and Tina Lewis, along with leads Toby & Nancy.

This is quiet, background work. Do you want to help a few times a year, or, for special events? Contact Nancy or Toby. We appreciate ideas from all members for table or room staging. You're always welcome to bring bouquets anytime.



CALIFORNIA TREE SCHOOL BUTTE

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources Forest Stewardship



"A DAY OF FORESTRY AND FIRE EDUCATION LIKE NO OTHER!"



4.18.2026

8:30 AM-5:30 PM

PARADISE HIGH SCHOOL
5911 MAXWELL DR.
PARADISE, CA 95969

A DAY OF LEARNING FOR ANYONE WHO LOVES TREES!

FOREST
OBSERVATION

REFORESTATION
AT A GLANCE

CONIFER
IDENTIFICATION

AND MUCH
MORE!

FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS EVENT AT LINK.UCANR.EDU/CATREESCHOOL

With over 20 local and regional professional presenters, the day has so much to offer.

Classes available include:

Getting to Know your Forest with Plant ID

Using Beneficial Fire

Reconnecting with Nature after Fire

DIY Mass Timber Panels Workshop

Forest Stewardship with Beneficial Grazing

Frequent Fire Dependent Ecology - Forest Human Fire Symbiosis

Forest Pathology

Reforestation at a Glance

Thinking Like a Forester: Field Observation Skills

And much more

Register today at:

[Tree School - Butte County](#)

Calli-Jane West
Community Partner Liaison



buttefiresafe.net

Butte County Fire Safe Council
A non-profit, grassroots community organization
6569 Clark Rd, Paradise, CA, 95969
PO Box 699, Paradise, CA 95967
530-877-0984
buttefiresafe.net

Getting to Know You . . .



As a child, Lisa watched her mother and grandmother grow flowers and vegetables. When she moved up to the Ridge and had a home in upper Magalia, her hope was to grow a garden. She quickly learned there was not enough sun coming through the thick pines for the type of garden she envisioned. She searched in Paradise and bought a place with enough sun to grow a garden.



Post fire, some of her plants returned, like her Ginkgo Tree. She had help putting in an irrigation system, gravel, and trees. Then she went to work putting up raised beds and planting flowers and trees in both the front and back yards. She has a shady area for her favorite flower, hydrangeas, that thrive in pots, enclosed away from deer. She is about one third of the way to completion on her landscaping plans.



Fencing in the backyard provided protection from the deer for her veggie garden and fruit trees. After two years in pots, last year she planted two grape vines, a Thomson Seedless and a Red Flame seedless. She loves seeing a family member pluck a grape off the grape vine, or a cherry tomato and pop them into their mouths. A good harvest of tomatoes last year had her filling fruit baskets to share with family members. Home grown goodness.



Photos by Lisa L.

She has added a passion fruit vine, strawberries, and a medley of other garden favorites in the backyard. One of Lisa's favorite enjoyments is sitting in her rocking chair, sipping coffee and reading. She pauses often to simply gaze at the garden, plan, and dream. "Just taking time with it." She calls retirement her permanent home vacation.



Left to right: Heather, Jeudie, Lisa & Nancy on a Beautification workday.

When venturing away from Paradise, she enjoys visiting the ocean in both the Fort Bragg and Monterey areas. "It's a time when you can just breathe."

A favorite quote of Lisa's, "Life is not a dress rehearsal." Keeping it real.

Lisa became a PGCI member in 2022. She is involved in several aspects of the club, including the Beautification Team. We are so glad to have such a friendly, vivacious person adding her wisdom, friendship, and gardening queries to our group. Gardening brings us together, adding a little more paradise to Paradise.

Funds made during the annual PGCi Garden Tour & Plant Sale go toward horticultural scholarships, as do designated donations. The following two pages are about the 2025 scholarships. PGCi members, you made this happen! Thank you!



**BUTTE COLLEGE
FOUNDATION**

December 2, 2025

Cheryl Habriel
Paradise Garden Club Scholarship
P.O. Box 1246
Paradise, CA 95967-1246

Dear Cheryl,

Thank you for your support of Butte College students. Your investment makes a lasting impact by supporting the people and programs that shape student success, and we are grateful for the trust you place in us to steward your gifts.

At the Butte College Foundation's annual scholarship awards ceremony, we have the pleasure of recognizing the achievements of our students and the generosity of our donors. Your support directly helps students pursue their goals and dreams. Enclosed, you will find thank-you notes from the students your scholarship supports, sharing the difference your generosity has made in their lives.

If you are interested in learning more about Foundation programs and initiatives, or have feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Please don't hesitate to contact the Foundation office at (530) 895-2359, foundation@butte.edu, or use the enclosed envelope.

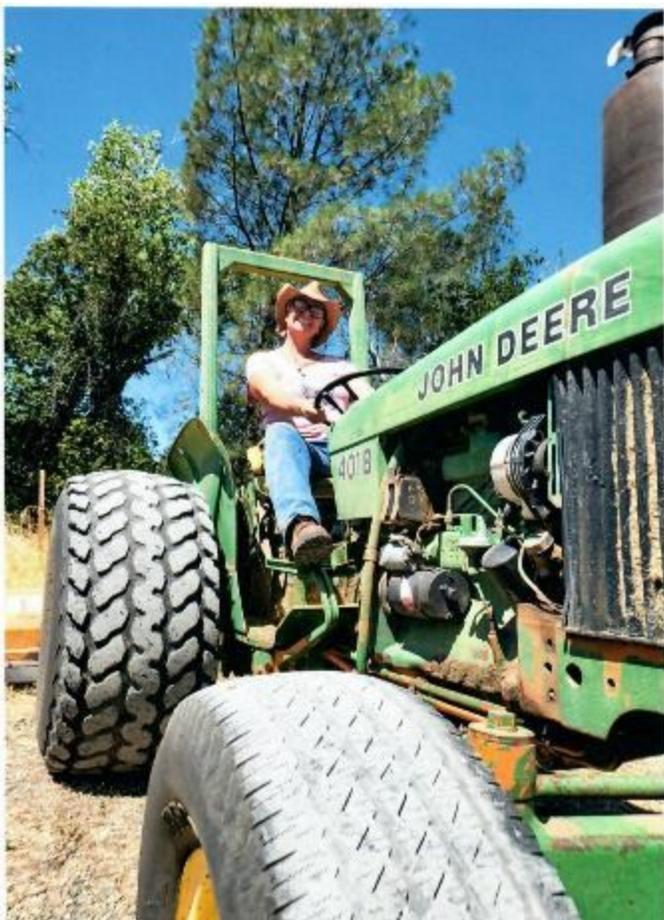
Together with our students, faculty, and staff, we thank you for your commitment to education. Your generosity helps students achieve their dreams and builds a stronger community through expanded access and opportunity.

Sincerely,


Suzanne Watroba
Executive Director
Butte College Foundation

Thank you!

2025 Scholarship Recipients



Dear Members of the Paradise Area Garden Group,

I am writing to express my heartfelt thanks for awarding me your generous scholarship to support my education in horticulture. It is an incredible honor to be selected by an organization so deeply rooted in cultivating beauty, sustainability, and community.

Your support not only eases the financial burden of my studies, but also inspires me to pursue my goals with greater passion and purpose. As someone committed to contributing to the health and vitality of our natural spaces, I'm especially grateful to be recognized by a group that shares these values.

Thank you again for your generosity and belief in my potential. I hope to one day give back to our community in the same spirit of support and encouragement you have shown me.

Warm regards,

Sita Runk

Dear Paradise Area Garden Club Scholarship \$500,

I am deeply honored and grateful to be selected as a recipient of the Paradise Oroville Area Garden Club Scholarship. Your generosity means so much to me, and it inspires me to keep striving toward my goals.

I am currently a student at Butte College, majoring in Environmental Horticulture and Plant protection. I chose Butte for its supportive community and excellent academic programs. I'm involved with Addressing Climate Solutions at UC Davis (Summer 2025 program), and I'm passionate about navigating my career in the agricultural industry.

After graduation, I plan to continue my academic path at Chico State or UC Davis, where I intend to pursue a major in the Plant and Soil Science program. This scholarship helps reduce my financial stress, allowing me to focus on my studies and future.

Thank you again for your kindness and belief in my potential.

Sincerely,
David Moreno



Snow Days, late February 2026

Jeudie in Magalia, our wonderful Beautification leader was snowed in Wednesday and Thursday (February 18 & 19th). She and cookie-making Mike, shoveled and shoveled and barely made a dent. They were blessed to learn of [Yard Angels.com](http://YardAngels.com). "A person came with a helper and completely dug us out. It is grand and we are very blessed!!!"



Memories: March 2023
Joyce's Chickens



Lower Paradise, Photos by Joyce Hummel

Blaze: "Dad, do I hafta go out there?"
Todd: "Yup!"
(See front page photo, Blaze survived, even enjoyed it.)

Toby's daffodils' snow blanket



Quails appreciating birdfeeder at Toby's place.



Toby's upper Paradise snow magic.

Photos by Todd & Toby Brandtman

2026 Garden Tour Preparations Update

Our 2026 Home Garden Search Team has secured four interesting home gardens for PGCI's upcoming June Tour. We hope to find two more gardens. Have you seen a Paradise garden that might be good to consider? Please contact Anne, Toby or Ellen with the address so they can check it out. Their contact info is in the roster. Your help is much appreciated.

Work from home on projects that others sew by turning them out & ironing flat. We need you. These are small projects that don't take long. Please sign up at the back table during our monthly meeting or contact Wendy.

Paradise Garden Club members,

We need one of our members to volunteer to be our **Vice President of Publicity**. If you have a friend or two who would enjoy assisting you in this endeavor, great. A few things this position covers will be to

- attend monthly PGCI board meetings
- gather information from fellow board members on upcoming events
- distributing that information for our website updates, the newsletter editor, and various local news media including the Town of Paradise, the Paradise Chamber of Commerce, and local television stations.

Some of this can be done at home from your computer.

Why get involved? It is so much fun to be part of the board and make an impact in our community. Interested? Contact Todd or Anne in your roster.



Snake lizard enjoying a winter sleep did not expect his sleeping bag to be moved as I was weeding. I put it back. Snug as a bug & hopefully back to snoozing.—Photo by Nancy Howe

Newsletter Needs Pictures, Bits of Wisdom, Your Garden Discoveries

Gardeners are visual people. We love a lush garden, a sunning lizard, a busy bee. Text or email photos of plants or a gardening spot you love. Whether a plant, tool, or gardening experience you'd like to share with the group, it can go into our newsletter so members can learn and share with others. Questions, write ups, quotes, send them to Nancy, Newsletter Editor. She's in the roster. Thank you.

Meeting commenced at 11:30 AM Present: Todd Hummel, Cheryl Habriel, Margaret Hawe, Jeudie Lovell, Anne Pace. Guests Nancy Howe, Karyn Bartley and Linda Strand-Talmo.

The minutes from the January meetings were approved (motion by Anne, seconded and passed).

Treasurer's Report – [\\$28,424.82 balance. For more detail see separate Treasurer's report.](#)

Membership – several people are delinquent. Linda Strand-Talmo will help Margaret with membership duties and hopefully take over in the future.

Beautification – Jeudie asked PID to provide more mulch for their Demonstration Garden

Board Position – Second Vice President is still open. Nancy Howe will fill in temporarily until we get a permanent volunteer.

Garden Tour – We have three gardens for the 2026 Tour so far.

Future Speaker Format – There was much discussion when to have speakers start. If speakers go first many people leave afterwards and skip the Business meeting. It was decided by the Board to hold the business meeting first, have a 15-minute break and then the speaker. Anne will advise speakers they have 15 minutes to set up during the break and should arrive at 1:30.

Today's Speaker – Swede Hanski – Using Goats in the Landscape

Upcoming Activities

[March Speaker](#) – Michelle Graydon (Xerces Society) Bringing Back Pollinators

Possible CPR class in March

March 5 – pot cleaning at Cheryl's home for Tour

Members tea in April – themed *Getting to Know You*

Meeting concluded at 12:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Habriel, Recording Secretary

**PARADISE GARDEN CLUB
General Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2026**

Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance –
President Todd Hummel

Penny Pines – Joanie outlined what Penny Pines is and how our donations help.

Treasurer's Report – \$28,424.82 balance. For more detail see separate Treasurer's report.

Beautification – Jeudie explained what the Beautification Committee does and invited anyone interested to provide their email. Jeudie requested more mulch from PID for their Demonstration Garden.

Program – Swede Hanski presented "Using Goats in the Landscape".

Upcoming Activities

March Speaker – Michelle Graydon (Xerces Society) Bringing Back Pollinators

Possible CPR class in March

March 5 – pot cleaning at Cheryl's home for Tour

Members Tea in April – *Getting to Know You*

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Habriel, Recording Secretary



AI-generated content

Late February Snow Storm, 2026 photo by Joyce Hummel

Contemplate



Dark clouds exhaling
a snowy breath whispers down
Winter's magic kiss.

Photo by Toby Brandtman, Haiku by Nancy Howe