



AGG is a member of the  
California Garden Clubs, Inc.

**Atherton Garden Guild**  
Since 1966

Atherton Garden Gate  
September, 2025

**AGG**  
**Meeting on September 8**  
**at the home of**  
*Joan Sanders*

**156 Hawthorn Drive**  
**Atherton**



# Calendar

## Calendar

### Meetings

Board Meetings: 9: 00 am

Social: 9: 30 am

Meetings: 10: 00 am

Meetings are on Mondays unless otherwise noted

### September

**Monday, September 8**

Joan Sanders home  
156 Hawthorne Drive  
Atherton

### October

**Monday, October 6**

Turbow Farms  
2363 Mora Glen Drive  
Los Altos

### November

**Monday, November 3**

Atherton Town Center  
History Room

### December

**Monday, December 8**

Holiday Luncheon  
Suzanne Legallet's home  
88 Selby Lane, Atherton

### January

**Monday, January 5**

Atherton Town Center  
History Room

### February

**Monday, February 2**

Atherton Town Center  
History Room

### March

**Monday, March 2**

Atherton Town Center  
History Room

### April

**Monday, April 6**

Atherton Town Center  
History Room

### May

**Monday, May 4**

Atherton Town Center  
History Room

### June

**Monday, June 1**

Patti Spezzaferro's home  
130 Selby Lane, Atherton

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

**Monday, September 8**

at the home of

**JOAN SANDERS**

156 Hawthorn Drive  
Atherton

**Swap Program**

**Book • Container • Plant**



Bring a garden related—book, container or plant(s) for the September Meeting AGG Exchange Table. Swap your contribution for something new to you. You may be thrilled with a wonderful find and at the same time make another member ecstatic to discover YOUR swap item!

## September Library Flowers

*Deliver flowers early Monday and pick up late Sunday.*

*Holidays and closed dates are listed each month.*

*Library is closed Labor Day, September 1st.*



1 Martha Woollomes	22 Sue Barkley
8 Terri Bailard	27 Karaen Bartholomew
15 Norma Baker	



## September Hospitality

Chair Julie Douglass

Pam Smith • Sally Brudos

Ready for  
Opening Night of  
"Bouquets to Art"  
2025



# President's Letter

*"In his garden, every man may be his own artist, without apology or explanation." Louise Beebe Wilder*

*"A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift, above all, it teaches entire trust." Gertrude Jekyll*



Two ladies an ocean apart but of the same generation and known to each other, loved color and art and gardening and what they could learn from their gardens. They were influenced by the Impressionists in their use of color in their garden designs which was novel during their lives. Jekyll designed over 400 gardens. Wilder wrote about gardens and garden design.

I like the ideas both these women present in these quotations. There is an invitation in each statement that invites experimentation and trying new things but with the underlying support of the natural world that is always growing and changing.

I feel like I am coming into this year as Guild president in this way. I feel you have entrusted to me a role that has much history behind it full of women who are accomplished and yet ever-growing and changing, like an established garden. I hope to learn from and also guide the group through "patience and careful watchfulness", "industry and thrift". I trust that by the end of the year the result of this collaboration will be something beautiful, not needing "apology or explanation". We shall see! We are in this together, thankfully!!

I love art and especially the interplay of colors similar to these ladies. My primary art form is ephemeral- flower arranging. Gardening is more enduring. Foliage sets the foundation for my flower arrangements as well as for my garden. (but in my garden the foliage often gets out of control!) The colors, textures, size of the trees and shrubs in my garden and in my arrangements allow the flowers to shine.

I'm hoping this year in AGG we are able to influence each other with the plants, designs, and inter-relationships we love both in our gardens and in our personal lives to make life more beautiful and meaningful for each of us. I know I am looking forward to being stretched and encouraged by each of you as I take on the role of Guild president. All things thrive with diversity and growth.

Many thanks to each of you who have volunteered to lead in various ways for the benefit of the Guild. We are all better together! Thank you also to all of you who have volunteered to be committee chairs or committee members this year. I'm so grateful to have a full roster of great leaders!

Terry Bailard, Martha Woollomes, and Carrie Drake have been busy throughout the summer getting us all ready for the year ahead in each of the ways they facilitate communication within the Guild and beyond. Thank you!

Mimi and Katy have set an exciting program schedule for us this year, and Suellen and Nancy Hardesty are developing our relationship with the Atherton Library and the families it serves. May we expand our influence and leave a beautiful fragrance wherever we go and with everyone we interact with.

Happy New AGG Year to us all!

*Nyna Dolby*



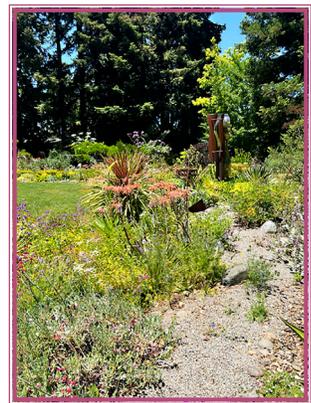
## Nyna's Granddaughter's Birthday Party



# Annual Meeting/Luncheon



# Annual Meeting/Luncheon



# Horticulture

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## Horticulture Report

by Patty Spezzaferro

### Master Gardener Check List

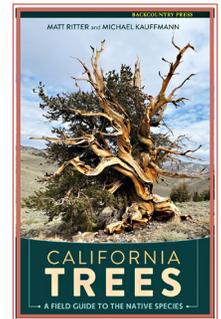
#### September

- In our area, this is a good time to start planting bulbs for spring.
- Plant garlic cloves 2 inches deep and 3 to 6 inches apart.
- There is still time to plant cool-season vegetables. See a list of good candidates in August.
- As you pull up veggie plants that are no longer producing, compost only those that show no sign of disease.
- Plant colorful fall flowers: Pansies, Violas, Mums, Stock, Snapdragons, Iceland Poppies, and Cyclamen.
- Fertilize azaleas, camellias, and rhododendrons with fertilizer for acid-loving plants.
- As fruit grows on second-year growth, cut back fruited canes of raspberries, leaving new canes for fruiting next year.

### Book of the Month

#### California Trees: A field guide to Native Species

By Michael Kauffmann and Matt Ritter



California has the tallest and largest tree on the planet, the Redwood Sequoia, and the oldest living tree, the Bristlecone Pine, which lives to about 5,000 years. Ecologist Michael Kauffmann and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo botanist Matt Ritter have compiled a comprehensive guide celebrating the beauty and ecological significance of California's 95 native species. This book is a perfect companion for nature enthusiasts, hikers, and environmental stewards. Illustrated with vivid photographs and expert insights into the critical roles trees play in supporting ecosystems. California Trees is a calling to deepen your connection with the natural world and appreciate the unique beauty of the Golden State's forests, woodlands, and wild spaces. Buy it at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

### A Bit About the Master Gardener Program

The first Master Gardener program was founded in 1973 by Dr. David Gibby of Washington State University Cooperative Extension in the greater Tacoma area to meet a high demand for urban horticulture and gardening advice. The first trial clinic was held at the Tacoma Mall in 1972. When that was successful, the Master Gardener Program was officially established, a curriculum created, and training began in King County and Pierce County in 1973. The concept then spread to other U.S. states and Canadian provinces.

Master Gardeners are active in all 50 states in the United States and eight Canadian provinces. Once volunteers are accepted into a Master Gardener program, they are trained by cooperative extension, university, and local industry specialists in subjects such as taxonomy, plant pathology, soil health, entomology, cultural growing requirements, sustainable gardening, nuisance wildlife management, and integrated pest management.

After completing training, master gardeners serve their communities by providing guidance to others and maintaining community and historic gardens. Awards are regularly presented to master gardeners for community service, innovative programs, and other topics.

# Who's in the Garden

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## Who's in the Garden With Patti Spezzeferro

*Patti Spezzafarro talks about what inspires her, what keeps her gardening, and much more.*



***If you were having a dinner party with three historical or present gardeners, who would you invite?***

Beatrix Potter, Gertrude Jekyll, and Vita Sackville-West. Three strong women who lived life on their own terms.

***What is your greatest fear?***

Losing my memory. My mom is suffering from Alzheimer's, and it is, indeed, a horrible disease.

***What is your idea of perfect happiness?***

Enjoying a wonderful dinner outside in my garden with my family and friends after a long day of working in the garden.

***Which gardens are your favorites?***

I love Hidcote, Huntington, Sissinghurst, and Lotusland.

***What have you learned about gardening that you wish to share?***

Gardening has taught me a lot of life's lessons: patience, consistency, and discipline.

***What is your favorite rose product?***

I love my Falco pruners. I can't live without them.

***What inspires you to garden?***

I want to create a space filled with magic that surprises people.

***A motto by which you live by while gardening.***

Tomorrow is another day.

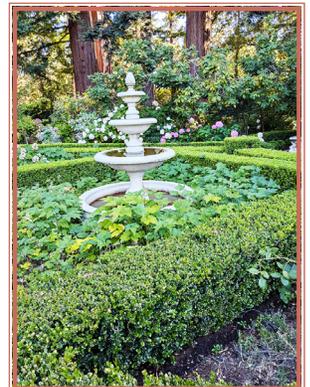
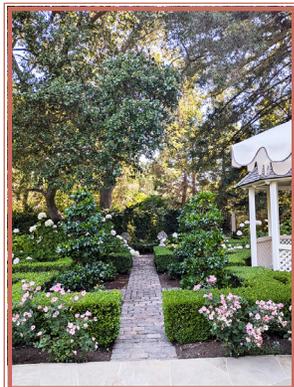
***What is your greatest extravagance?***

Traveling: Nothing takes me out of my comfort zone like traveling. I always come home from a trip a little bit differently, a little bit better. And a good blowout - it is so empowering.

***What does AGG mean to you?***

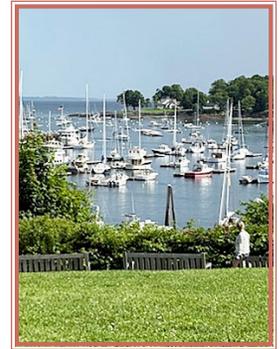
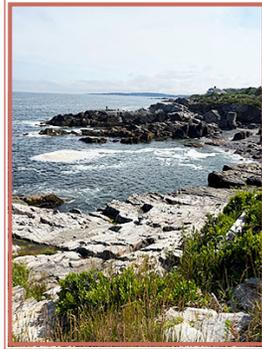
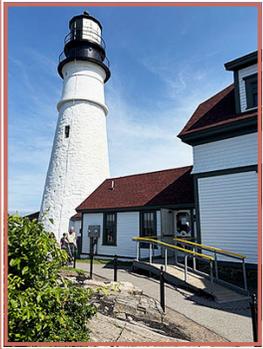
I am so grateful to be a member of AGG. The members are all so thoughtful, kind, and generous. I have learned a great deal and formed deep connections.

## Views of Patti's Garden



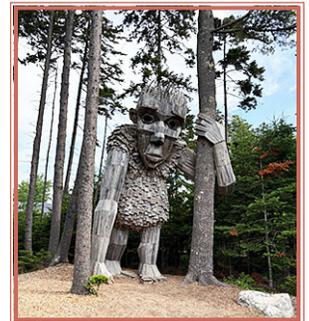
# Calendar

## Suzanne Legallet's New England Cruise



Please note the "Bouquets To Art" arrangement reflecting the Winslow Homer light house painting on page 9

Trolls may also  
be viewed  
at Filoli  
"Save the Humans"  
through  
November 10

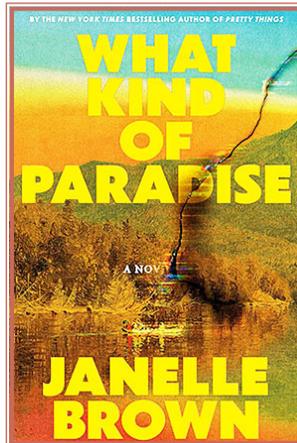


Suzanne Legallet & Karen Bartholomew  
in front of Troll at "Garden of the Seeds"

Trolls at "Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens" • "Garden of the Seeds." Trolls by artist Thomas Dambo

## Janelle Brown at the Atherton Library

This past summer, Janelle Brown, Pam Brown's daughter spoke about her new book "What Kind of Paradise."



Happy  
Labor Day  
September 1

# Bouquets to Art 2025





*The Atherton Garden Guild*  
PO Box 685  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

# AGG Newsletter

September 2025

## OFFICERS 2025 - 2026

President:	Nyna Dolby
1st Vice President:	Mimi Hillyard
<i>Programs</i>	Katy McCormick
2nd Vice President:	Dana Bonham
<i>Membership</i>	
Treasurer:	Katie Blommer
Recording Secretary:	Bing Hai
Corresponding Secretary:	Karen Handal
Historian:	Pam Smith
<i>Photography</i>	Di Bryan
Parliamentarian:	Patti Spezzaferro
Newsletter:	Martha Woollomes
Website/Technology:	Carrie Drake

## CONTRIBUTORS

Di Bryan, Nyna Dolby, Mimi Hillyard  
Suzanne Legallet, Mary Lipian,  
Nancy Hardesty, Patti Spezzaferro,  
Martha Woollomes

## PROOFREADERS

Nyna Dolby, Kasey Hansen,  
Pam Smith, Patti Spezzaferro,

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2025/2026

**Atherton Library Flowers:** Nancy Hardesty

**Bouquets to Books:** Chair Patty Leugers • Co-Chair Julie Gosler

*Committee:* Mimi Hillyard, Suzanne Legallet, Carol Selig,  
Patti Spezzaferro

**Donations:** Chair Carrie Drake

*Committee:* Sue Matthews, Mary Tan

**Flower Demonstrations:** Suellen Rottiers

**Garden Tour:** Chair Carrie Drake • Co-Chair Suzanne Legallet

*Committee:* Julie Douglass, Julie Gosler, Carol Selig, Suellen Rottiers,  
Martha Woollomes

**Holbrook Palmer Rose Garden:** Chair Patty Leugers

Co-Chair Pam McGraw

**Holiday Luncheon:** Chair Suzanne Legallet

*Committee:* Di Bryan, Julie Douglass, Karen Handal, Mimi Hillyard,  
Patty Leugers, Katy McCormick

**Horticulture:** Patti Spezzaferro

**Hospitality/Refreshments:** Chair Carol Selig

**June Luncheon:** Chair Patti Spezzaferro

*Committee:* Terri Bailard, Julie Douglass, Nancy Hardesty, Mimi Hillyard,  
Suellen Rottiers, Joan Sanders

**Nominating:** Chair Nan Ray

*Committee:* Kasey Hansen, Suzanne Legallet

**Yearbook/Roster:** Chair Terri Bailard



## Birthdays

### September Birthday Flower

*The Aster*

*The aster symbolizes love,  
wisdom and royalty.*

- 12 Julie MacLean
- 14 Suzanne Van Ness
- 18 Anne Sherwood
- 25 Anita Joy
- 29 Margaret London