

AGG General Meeting
November 4, 2024
Atherton Town Center
History Room
Dinklespiel Lane and Ashfield
Atherton
9:30 a.m. Social
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting

Welcome—Patti Spezzaferro

Patti called the meeting to order at 10:10 am and welcomed everyone to a beautiful Fall morning.

Minutes

The October 7, 2024, General Meeting minutes were moved, seconded and approved.

Guests

Carrie Drake introduced her guest, Marybeth Horst, and Patty Leugers introduced Julie Gosler. Joan Sanders is also Julie's sponsor. Patti welcomed both guests.

New Business

Membership — Dana Bonham, VP Membership

Dana introduced Mary Tan, AGG's first new member for 2024. She presented Mary with her AGG Yearbook and name tag. The members gave her a welcoming round of applause. Katy McCormick and Nyna Dolby sponsored Mary.

Newsletter—Martha Woollomes

Martha asked members to send her photos of events, gardens, recipes, etc. for the Newsletter.

Horticultural Report—Patti Spezzaferro

Winter rain is coming, so it's a good time to plant shrubs and trees, but don't fertilize new plants. Clean and refurbish garden tools. There is an instruction video on the AGG website for this procedure. In winter, prune dead and diseased branches during dormancy.

Holiday Party Update—Suzanne Legallet and Mimi Hillyard

Suzanne announced details of the Holiday Party, "International Buffet." It will be held in the Jennings Pavilion, Holbrook Palmer Park, on December 9, from 6:00-8:00 pm. Ticket prices will be \$50 per person. Suzanne said "The members are the decorations" and encouraged "flashy dressing"—fur coats, best jewelry, ball gowns, tuxedos, etc.

Patti will email a Paperless Post invitation to members. Checks should be addressed to AGG and mailed to Treasurer Katie Bloomer with the memo line "Holiday Party."

Five food tables will have floral designs from AGG's designers. The food will be sourced from local stores and restaurants— Costco, Chavez Market, Safeway, and the Afghan restaurant in San Carlos. Dessert will be handmade truffles and a box of See's candy. Responding to a question about seating, Suzanne said there will be round tables with chairs for dining.

Lynn Heppberger will be in charge of the bartenders. Wine, Champagne, beer, and Perrier will be offered, but no hard liquor. Bartenders will have thirty-minute shifts.

Currently, the biggest concern is to find two people to help serve and clean up. A suggestion was made to ask Leslie Howard about finding help.

On the day of the party, AGG morning meetings will be canceled.

November 18th Holiday Floral Demonstrations—Patti Spezzaferro

"Holiday Floral Designs" will be held in the Library's History room on November 18 at 11:00 am-12:00 pm. Nyna Dolby will demonstrate how to create a holiday garland and use the skills in centerpieces, mantelpieces, and wreaths. Joan Sanders will demonstrate a holiday arrangement using a pumpkin, garden foliage, and seasonal flowers. Forty reservations will be available. Patti will email registration details to the membership. She has sent an event flier to Library staff Nick Hernandez.

Rose Garden Holbrook Palmer Park—Patty Leugers

Patti announced that the final deadheading of the roses took place last week. The rose garden will be available for volunteer work in February.

Member Photographs—Diana Bryan

Diana announced that she would be taking photos of members in order to update the photos on the website.

New Website—Carrie Drake

Carrie is continuing her work on AGG's updated website. It should be ready early in the new year. Its new functions will include ticket sales for AGG events, a QR code, and an updated member roster.

Program

"Let's Talk About Gardens" with Jenna Bayer from Jenna Bayer Garden Design. Jenna emphasized that her firm focuses on customer service and residential garden design. They welcome large and small projects and cover all aspects of a project, from design to horticulture to project management.

Jenna began her presentation by emphasizing the importance of trees to the garden and the earth's biosphere.

She then discussed and illustrated several of her garden designs. She recommended the following plants: for replacing lawns, *falkia repens*, which can be found at Annie's Annuals; for a good ground cover, *teucrium cossonii* (Gray Creeping Germander); and for landscape grasses,

sesleria, campo azul. She likes “Mood Indigo” agapanthus. She warned against using bark dust, which will be washed or blown away.

The firm’s offices are in Mountain View and Portland, Oregon.

Jenna Bayer Garden Design

Mountain View Studio

650-668-5952

1954 Old Middlefield Way, Suite B

Mountain View, CA 94043

Thank you—Patti Spezzaferro

Patti thanked Suzanne Legallet and Mimi Hillyard for today’s excellent program and the Hospitality Committee, Suzanne Van Ness, Patty Leugers, and Marion Oster for delicious treats.

Adjournment

Patti adjourned the meeting at 12:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela D. Smith, Recording Secretary