

Join a BGC Committee!

Programs

Chair: Eileen Nottoli

Our monthly speaker series is arguably our “raison d’etre”. Our Club was founded in 1932 by a group of women who met at Berkeley Evening High School in a class called “Home Gardening and Landscaping”. Over 90 years later, we continue to gather monthly (now both men and women!) to learn about gardening, landscaping and conservation. Our Programs Committee is where it all happens- selecting and inviting speakers and running the technology. Please consider helping with this very important Club mission.

Membership

Chairs: Mara Melandry

Are you a people person? Do you love talking to new (and existing) members? This would be the committee for you! Help is needed in responding to new membership inquiries, manning the welcome table at our monthly meetings, setting up a new member welcome program and otherwise helping to acclimate new members to our Club.

Social

Chair: Leslie Ann

Do you consider yourself to be a “Hostess (or Host) with the Mostest”? Do you like food, drink and party planning?? The Social Committee needs you! The Social Committee organizes refreshments at the monthly meetings- help is needed to set-up, man the refreshment table, and cleanup. Committee subgroups organize the Holiday party in December and the June Picnic. So much to do, but oh-so fun!

Fundraising

Chairs: Carol Maga and Patricia St. John

We keep our membership dues affordable to promote inclusivity and equity. But running the Club and serving the community requires funds beyond what membership dues alone provide. The fundraising committee will plan and execute this year’s fundraisers (the Art in the Garden Tour and the annual Plant Sale) to fill the gap. You can help in both big and small ways. Please consider joining this very important Club committee and get in on the ground floor of our fundraising activities.

Exchange Table

Chair: Mollie Boero

The Exchange Table occurs at our monthly in-person meetings at the ACC. It’s a fun way for members to share their garden riches and for the Club to raise funds. It’s a “donate what you wish” affair. Members are needed to help set-up, man the table and clean up.

Communications

Chair: Dee Plunkett

Proper communication is everything for the smooth running of the Club, and help is always needed. The Communications Committee is responsible for preparation, production and distribution of our monthly bulletin and our yearbook/roster. They send notices of our business meetings to our members and also publicize notices of plant sales

and special events to local newspapers. The tech crew maintains the Berkeley Garden website and our social media accounts. Please consider joining the existing team of dedicated Club volunteers to keep the information flowing!

Civic Beautification

Chair: Patricia St. John

Over the years, our Civic Beautification Committee has participated in numerous civic beautification projects. It all began in 1935 with planting of Fremontia Park (now the site of North Berkeley Fire Station No. 4). Plans are now underway for beautifying the outdoor space at the Albany Community Center. Please consider volunteering to help on this important Club mission.

BGC Garden Award

Chair: Jane Freeman

The BGC Garden Award is awarded to particularly attractive gardens in Albany, Berkeley, and Kensington that are a “gift to their neighborhood”. The BGC Garden Award Committee evaluates the gardens (nominated by Club members) and selects each year’s recipients. Put your discerning eye to work and volunteer for this committee!

Courtesy

Chair: Cece Nguyen

The Courtesy Committee is a vital part of why we are “The Friendly Gardeners”. The Committee makes telephone calls or write notes to members who are in need of sympathy, comfort, congratulations or appreciation. The Committee also recognizes members birthdays. Please consider signing up to help.

Conservation

Chair: Patricia St. John

Every year we disperse funds to several worthwhile local conservation groups that share our goals and values. The committee meets in January of each year to decide who will be the recipients. Writing checks?? Who wouldn’t like to be on this committee??

Awards

Chair: George Perko

Saving Forests \$68 At A Time! Small change collected at our meetings goes to the Penny Pines. Penny Pines is a program through the USDA Forestry Service to purchase and plant seedling trees for burned-over lands in our Northern California Forests. Since 1956, our Club has donated 92 plantations, totally over \$6,235, in recognition of members for their work and dedication to the purposes of the Club. The Awards Committee selects the recipients and administers our Penny Pines donations.

Audit and Budget

Chair: Larry Singer

The Audit and Budget Committee is responsible for auditing the financial records of the Club. The committee also prepares the annual budget to present to the Board of Directors. Are you a numbers geek? Is pouring over financial statements what you do for fun? Then this is the committee for you!