

Garden Club Meeting Minutes January 5, 2026 2:00 PM

Meeting facilitator: Merlin Chancellor, President

Discussion:

- Tea next year will be held at December meeting, December 7, 2026
- There will be two tea stations, as suggested by a member.
- Goal: get “Youth in Action” Group to participate in the tea party next year for serving and cleanup.
- Months open for member volunteers to bring refreshments to each meeting: June, July, August, September, etc..

● **Field Trip possibilities:**

Jack’s Pond

Palomar College Arboretum: a guided tour is best.

San Marcos Heritage Park

Leo Carillo Ranch: can tour the house and/or the garden.

Alta Vista Botanical Gardens

Roger’s Garden

Mountain Meadows Mushroom Farm in Escondido

***Note: If you are interested in coordinating a field trip, please contact Merlin by replying to this email. Thanks**

- There is a space available in the PEW Community Garden; please contact Robert Fiero if interested. He’s in the PEW directory.

● **Suggestions for Speaker for our meetings:**

Herb Field. Merlin will go to his list for specifics

● **Success stories re:gardening:**

Mary Wallace has had success with bearded irises.

Deborah Taylor has revived several fruit trees e.g. lemon and peach.

Sherry Kruse has had good luck growing artichoke plants; she says they’re easy to grow!

Sheila Miller bought an amaryllis bulb at Roger’s Garden and that one bulb

produced several stalks with flowers.

● **Hint : for Amaryllis: get Corey's Snail Bait to get rid of snails. Works great on most flowers and plants.**

● **Wet weather produces a lot of snails.**

● **Hint: to get rid of gnats, put vinegar in a cup, cover with plastic wrap, poke holes in the top. Gnats are attracted to the smell; they get in but can't get out!**

Merlin is putting together a scrap book of all prior Hilltopper articles pertaining to the Garden Club; approximately 4 years worth. These will be available in the garden book area of the PEW Library in the lobby (near the door to pavillian).

Community Garden: planning for other events will be forthcoming.

Next meeting: Monday, February 2, 2026, 2:00 pm. Speaker: Master Gardener

Kathryn Blankinship.

Meeting ended 3:00 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nancy Sims, member