

# The Redbud

March 2008

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Contact us: [auburn.garden.club@hotmail.com](mailto:auburn.garden.club@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.auburngardenclub.org](http://www.auburngardenclub.org)

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## President's Message

*"A green thumb is nothing more than hard work and the desire to make things grow."*

*-Albert E. Tuttle*

(I don't know who Albert E. Tuttle is/was. Does anyone else know?)

So many warm, sunny days to work outside. Plants are leafing out so quickly, you can almost watch the leaves appear. Now I am beginning to wish for a bit more rain. We get seasonal water from NID for some of our ranch watering and that doesn't begin until mid-April. I sure hope Mother Nature will water a few more times for me!

I have found cottony cushion scale on my Meyer Lemon bush. I was able to control it last year with a spray of water and "finger massaging" each leaf - squishing the critters by hand. I guess I brought it in with the plant when I bought it last year. I try to refrain from chemical pest management and there is really no effective insecticide for this pest. Do you know about the UC Davis IPM (Integrated Pest Management) website? You can select your problem plant and learn about safe controls for its pests. Go to: [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/index.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/index.html) and check it out.

Have you begun feeding your garden? With this growth spurt, it is time to feed your plants.

Check your favorite sources for recommendations.

I was reading the current issue of the Sacramento Perennial Plant Club newsletter and the list of vendors who will be at their plant sale on March 22 made me begin salivating. Saul Wiseman, their current president, has a blurb about the sale elsewhere in this newsletter.

Well, the caboose is officially finished. Of course there are a few more bits and pieces that need completion, but we are hosting an **"Open Caboose"** on May 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For those of you who have seen it in various stages, or if you have not seen it yet, please plan to stop by that day and check it out.

Enjoy your garden chores and remember to just walk through your garden and notice its loveliness. You can go after the weeds another time.

- Peggy Beltramo

### **Annual Reminder for AGC Shirts**

For all members, AGC embroidered shirts can be ordered from Dancing Dog Productions, 1101 High Street, Auburn. You may call them to order at 530-885-3692. Sizes S, M, and L are in stock, and other sizes can be ordered. The cost is \$16.50 plus tax.

### **New Members**

Please welcome two new members this month! They are Ruth Peterhans and Judy Cave, both of Grass Valley.

### **Membership Dues Reminder**

Membership dues, (\$20.00) are payable March 1, and become delinquent June 1. Members who wish to have their names in the annual club yearbook must pay their dues by June 15. For new members, payments received after January 1, 2008 will be extended to include the following year. Please let our membership chair, Chris Kreps (530-887-1215), know of any changes in your address, phone number or email.

### **Field Trips**

There is still time to sign up for our next field trip (but too late to sign up for lunch), on Tuesday, March 25, to Boonie Lang's Garden of Inspiration and Harmony in Granite Bay. You can sign up at our next meeting, or call me. Meet at Bethlehem Lutheran Church by 9 a.m. We will carpool from there, or you can meet us at the garden by 9:50 a.m. The tour starts at 10:00 a.m. sharp and lasts approximately two hours. You may leave then or have lunch there if you have pre-ordered it. Maps will be available at the meeting. This is a rain or shine trip!

On Tuesday, April 15, we will visit Yarda's Ditchwater Iris Garden in Loomis. We will meet at the church to carpool no later than 9 a.m., or at the garden at 10 a.m. Directions: From Auburn, take Auburn Folsom Road to Horseshoe Bar. Turn right at the Flower Farm, and go approximately one mile to Hansen Road on the left. You will go over the canal on a small wooden bridge. The garden is almost immediately on the right at 4250. Do not go too far as turning around will be difficult. Sign up for this trip at the meeting or call me. Hope to see you there.

- Elly Cadiente

### **Perennial Plant Club Sale**

With 15 vendors, The Perennial Plant Club invites you to their 8th annual Sale of Unusual Plants and Garden Treasures on Saturday, March 22, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Location: Sacramento's Shepherd Garden & Arts Center at McKinley Park, 3330 McKinley Blvd.

The Sacramento Perennial Plant Club is sponsoring an extraordinary collection of specialty nurseries, many from just outside the immediate Sacramento area, to help you get a jump-start on this year's gardening season. They will offer wonderful trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, Mediterranean and California natives, aquatic plants, miniature water gardens, gardening books and magazines and much, much more.

The guest speaker, Sean O'Hara, is co-chair of the Northern California Branch of the Mediterranean Garden Society (MGS), which produces a quarterly journal: The Garden Resource Guide for Northern California's Mediterranean Climate. He will speak at noon.

Proceeds from the event will help fund Sacramento Perennial Plant Club's work supporting community gardens and local horticulture projects.

### March/April Calendar

	Mar. 24	Regular Club Meeting
	Mar. 25	Field Trip to Boonie Lang's Garden. Contact Elly Cadiente
Rose	Apr. 8	Cleanup at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 8:30 a.m. Marianne
	Apr. 10	Plant Propagation, 10:00 a.m. Contact Saul Wiseman.
	Apr. 15	Field Trip to Yarda's Ditchwater Iris Garden.
	Apr. 28	Regular Club Meeting