



**Bakersfield Green Thumb Garden Club  
The California Sequoia Foothills District  
NGCI Pacific Region, CGCI**

[www.bakersfieldgreenthumb.org](http://www.bakersfieldgreenthumb.org) Email: [BGTGC@yahoo.com](mailto:BGTGC@yahoo.com) Dec. 2011, vol. 16, issue 6

*"Out of gardens grow fleeting flowers but lasting friendships."*

*Beverly Rose Hopper*



**Calendar**



**December 10: Holiday Potluck Luncheon**

Get in the spirit early and enjoy a little pre-party camaraderie by helping decorate and set up Friday night at 6 p.m. at The Church. **Also, the Silent Auction Committee would love it if you could drop off your contributions at this time.**

Plan to be at the potluck by 11 a.m. Saturday for some social time and setting up the buffet which will begin at 12 noon. Remembering the variety of salads and main dishes and desserts you all brought last year makes my mouth water already!

After we've eaten our fill, and then some, the Floral Design Workshop will raffle the centerpieces which have graced the tables. Their theme this year is "The night before Christmas". What an opportunity to take home a unique, ready-made arrangement for your holiday decorating, so remember to bring a \$ or two, for this worthy fund-raising project.

Next, we'll need some time to browse the silent auction table and put in our bids. Do you have something around your house or yard that you can contribute? It can be Christmas decorations, live plants, something garden-related or not, new or gently-used, something "re-gifted", etc. The variety and the surprises that you bring will be very entertaining!

*You are welcome to bring a guest to our annual Christmas party - a spouse, a friend who likes to dabble in the garden, anyone who would enjoy a happy time.*

## December Community Events:

### **Bakersfield College Holiday Plant Sale:** now until Dec. 7.

To learn more,  
<http://bakersfieldcollegeagriculture.weebly.com/poinsettia-and-holiday-plant-sales.html>  
or contact Sally Sterns at the BC Environmental Horticulture Lab at (661) 395-4446

This well-done website is worth a look.

### **University of California Cooperative Extension Pruning Demonstrations:**

Tues. Dec. 13, 12 noon – 1:30 p.m.  
Thurs. Dec. 15, 12 noon – 1:30 p.m.

Farm and Home Advisors

John Karlik and Mario Viveros  
1031 S. Mt. Vernon Ave. 868-6200

<http://cekern.ucdavis.edu/?newsitem=41442>  
Check out a good newsletter from this site.

## Coming Soon.....

**January 14: Design Workshop** You are always welcome at the floral design workshop 10 a.m. to noon. Oriental design will be the focus this month. So, gather some plant material from your yard, find a container or two, come to The Church, and surprise yourself with what you will arrange with the guidance and encouragement of this group.

### **January 21: General Meeting**

Desert wildflowers is the topic for our program this month. Harris Brokke, Executive Director and CEO of Maturango Museum, will present a variety of photos and displays of desert wildflowers which are so abundant in the Ridgecrest area. We will surely learn how to identify and appreciate more species from this speaker. Let's cross our fingers for a banner wild flower Spring in Kern County! We will resume with the Opportunity Table this month.

## Annual Garden Tour

Lynda Savelberg and her committee have logged many hours planning for this major event in April. Lynda, Joyce & David Cubberly, Marlene Castro, Kim Goforth, Lynne Green, Sherrie Hess, Edith McCormick, Kathy Torchia, Candy Wright & Steve Edwards discussed and visited many sites, narrowed the field to 9 homes, and ultimately selected 6. It's been rewarding and a lot of fun, reports Steve. You will agree that the six houses have "must-see" gardens. "I felt like I was on an island," said Steve, when he described one location which actually is an enclave of several family homes surrounded by a variety of palms and enclosing a fabulous koi pond. Contrasting that, another home feels like a mountain retreat, completely built and landscaped by the owner. Down in Westchester is one of our traditional homes owned by residents of more than 40 years. In this well-established yard is a another lovely koi pond and the most amazing aviary. Next month, look for details about the other three homes. All six homes group neatly into three pairs with each home in close proximity to another, making our driving and locating homes much easier. How thoughtful is that! Our thanks go to Lynda and her committee who have planned a wonderful event for us to look forward to this Spring. Now is our turn to step up and volunteer to help.