



## February Bloomin' News

Good Morning – what a beautiful Spring day, I know it's technically still Winter but there's no convincing my garden of that fact!

Well Mary, Teresa and Marilu really delivered a blockbuster meeting this month. We had over 50 people in attendance. The enthusiasm for the events and activities planned for this year was reflected in all the names on the registration sheets. I was overwhelmed by the results. The day was capped off by another delicious meal provided by Allison Knight and her staff, much thanks to them. All in all, a meeting for the record books.

Our March meeting is right around the corner and promises to be a favorite; great venue, great presenter and great food and wine – below are the key details:

**WHEN:** March 4, 2020

**WHERE:** Via Romano Winery  
3400 Carson Court  
Camino, CA

**TIME:** 10:30 to 11:00 – Socializing  
11:00 to 11:45 – Meeting  
11:45 to 12:25 – Master Gardner Presentation  
12:25 – Lunch Catered by Via Romano Winery

Wine is available for purchase by the glass or bottle and wine tasting will be available after the end of the meeting.

Lunch is \$17.25 per person and you must have your order to Noma by February 26th.

*The Winery does not allow outside food to be brought into the Winery.*

We have a strong lineup of meeting and venues planned for the balance of the year. I have attached the calendar of events again for your reference. Here are some details on the next few.

Get ready to don your best Easter Bonnet for our April meeting which will be held at the Greenstone Barn in El Dorado on April 1st with a presentation by The El Dorado Beekeepers. As pollinators, bees play a part in every aspect of the ecosystem. The El Dorado Beekeepers organization was founded in 2010 to support beekeepers and beekeeping in El Dorado County. So, find your best bonnet and get ready for some fun competition – more details to follow!

May will bring flowers – our May meeting will be held at the Bluebird Haven Iris Farm in Somerset on May 6th. Bluebird Haven is a Victorian show garden with over 100,000 irises on magnificent display during the blooming season. Mary Hess, the owner of Bluebird Iris, will lead a discussion on iris gardening.

We will round out our Spring lineup with our June 3rd meeting at Bluestone Meadow Farms in Placerville. Bluestone is a lavender farm started in 2009 on a parcel of the original Madden Ranch, part of the area's rich history. The farm was named after the blue rocks found on the property which are believed to be from the Deep Blue Lead goldmine, one of the richest gold strikes in Placerville. We will have a presentation by the owner and tour of the gardens. They have a gift shop onsite where can purchase their many products produced from their lavender plants.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Via Romano – given our presenter is a Master Gardener, I want to leave you with this final thought provided by one of our dear members – thanks Lea!

#### 5 signs you could be a Master Gardner

- 1 – There is a decorative compost container on your kitchen counter
- 2 – You would rather go to a nursery to than a clothing store.
- 3 – You prefer gardening to watching television
- 4 – You plan vacation trips to arboretums and public parks
- 5 – Dirt under your fingernails, and calloused palms are matters of pride.

Anyone see themselves in that list?

As always call if you have any questions or comments.

*Barbara*