



NIGC Veterans Day Committee 2017 with commemorative wreath.

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~Thank you to all who submitted photos.
articles and information! ~



Island POPPY



Naples Islands Garden Club

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NIGC VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION
2017 ~ Betty Hercus, Veterans Day Celebration Chair

Veterans Day here in Naples is really a special celebration that brings our community together to honor our local Veterans and their families. This year we had another great gathering of our community... the sun was shining, a beautiful wreath, donuts and coffee, the boys scouts, Suzie Price's wonderful patriotic speech, Marilyn Bittle leading the group with God Bless America, and, best of all, **Naples Islands' Veterans**. WOW, it could not have been better. The Garden Club's Veterans Day Committee did an outstanding job putting this event together and making it a success. Thank you to the committee, Peet's coffee, Krispy Kreme Donuts, the Boy Scouts, Sarah Sangmeister for the loan of her PA System, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church for the use of their chairs, and Marilyn.



Vietnam Veteran, **Mike Frakes**.
USAAB.



WWII Veterans 2017 Back: **Howard Davis, USN, Jim Ferraro, USN**,
Front: **Fred Burris, USN, Isabel Lounsberry, USMC**. Right Photo:
Event Chair, Betty Hercus, introduces each Veteran.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

Hurry! Hurry!
NIGC Christmas Luncheon
deadline is Monday,
December 4th.

Please get your reservations to
Linda Silver today!
{\$55.00 per person}
Remember to bring a child's
gift for the
"Spark of Love Toy Drive".
Virginia Country Club will be
looking gorgeous in all of its
finery!

Wednesday
December 13, 2017
11:00 am
Virginia Country Club

Happy holidays everyone and welcome to all the joys this season brings. Our festive month starts off with our Holiday Luncheon and the “Spark of Love” toy drive at Virginia Country Club. If you haven't already reserved your table, please do so now! This is our most popular event of the year and our wonderful firefighters will be there to accept your generous donations.

Then be sure to attend our annual Luminaria Night at LaBella Fontana on Monday December 11th. The Bella committee will construct the luminarias at 4:30 that afternoon and caroling will begin at 7:30 p.m., led by the wonderful Bayshore Community Congressional Church choir. That should have us all in a joyful holiday mood.

I want to wish everyone a very happy holiday season and may all your wishes come true.

“Gardening is an Instrument of Grace”

~ Barbara

LUMINARIA NIGHT 2017

~ Sandy Davidson, Chair

Monday
December 11, 2017
7:30pm at La Bella Fontana

Please join your neighbors and Garden Club friends on Monday, Dec. 11, 7:30 pm for a short concert of traditional carols at the fountain. Led by the talented choir of **Bay Shore Community Church** and NIGC sustainer, **Linda Landes**, this Islands event adds a special touch to December festivities.

HOLIDAY FLORAL DESIGNS

~ Trish Schooley & Kay Bailey



What a spectacular table spread with flowers so perfect they did not look real! The Gelson ladies, Barbara Tavitian and Alice Grazziani, (buyer of all the flowers for many Gelson stores), were the perfect duo complementing each other creating holiday arrangements with humorous commentary.

Between the two of them, we learned about inverting rose hips into a vase of water to cover stems along with cranberries, tiny apples, submersible lights, lemon grass leaves or polymer paper. Alice gave us many tips for searching our gardens for accent greens like magnolia leaves, (you can wash these with Dawn dish soap for shine!), scented acacia, eucalyptus and cypress sprigs. Other ideas included spraying mini pumpkins with glitter and tying wheat tips with raffia onto pumpkin stem. Cinnamon sticks also tied with raffia were mixed in with pumpkins placed on greenery throughout the table's center and the suggestion was made that the holidays do not have to be red or plaid. Cool winter colors of silver and lavender would slide into New Year's Eve as well using tulips, available all year here in California with forced blooming.

Thank you, Gelson's Girls for a delightful and informative program!



L-R: Barbara Tavitian, Gelson's designer, NIGC President Barbara Jordon, and Alice Grazziani, Gelson's Regional Supervisor.



Barbara working with magnolia leaves in a vase filled with autumn fruits and branches.

MEMBERSHIP

Prospective Member

Arleen Tolle

Sponsors:

Susan Bell

Eileen Ryan

Please address any comments to

Lynette Sewell

VP Membership by
December 20.



Rose hips in a large glass container conceal stems in a tall arrangement.

PUMKIN DELIGHT!

By popular demand! The amazing recipe from **Pam McCredie** served at the Sip, Nibble & Donate party!

Ingredients:

- 1 large can Libby's hard packed pumpkin
- 1 12oz can evaporated milk
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 eggs beaten
- 2 tsp. pumpkin pie spices
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1 1/2 cubes butter, melted
- 1 1/2 cups chopped pecans

Mix all ingredients except butter, cake mix and pecans. Pour into a greased 9x13 pan. Sprinkle entire box of cake mix on top, sprinkle nuts on top, then pour melted butter over entire cake.

Bake at 350 degrees for 50 minutes or knife inserted in center comes out clean.

Serves 12 people and is lovely with vanilla ice cream or whipped cream!



ROMANCE ETC. FUNDRAISER FUN!

~ Pam McCredie and Wendi Vodhanel, Event Co-Chairs

Much fun and merriment was had by all, at our annual Garden Club Holiday Fundraiser held at Romance, Etc. on November 5th. It was a fabulous day of shopping and visiting with friends while nibbling on delicious tea sandwiches and scrumptious treats! The \$100.00 value raffle items, donated by Romance Etc., were all outstanding. Thank you for all your time and support in making this event a great success and raising over \$5100.00 (over \$600.00 more than last year!) to go towards our Naples Beautification Projects.



Pam McCredie's home was the perfect place to set the mood for the NIGC's annual Fundraiser. Pam and Co-Chair **Wendy Vodhanel** hosted a delightful Sip, Nibble & Donate gathering.



Meredith Medanich at the Fundraiser Pre-party.



Lynn Shober and Lynne Misajon find treasures at Romance Etc...



Event Chairs, **Pam McCredie** and **Wendi Vodhanel**.



Longtime friends **Marilyn Bittle** and **Ginny Clark**.



Enjoying the book section are **Ann Burge** and **Sandy Davidson**.



Checking In Guests L-R: **Carol Mehler, Lisa Mauk** and **Diane Schmelzer**



Susie Armstrong and Rebecca Jones are ready with Raffle items.



L-R **Lynn Shober, Lynne Little, Debbie Tebrich, Lynette Sewell, Carol Mehler, Paulina Thompson** and **Lauren Bennett**.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Cynthia Cardarelli

December 12

Pam McCredie

December 19

Charl Alber

December 21

Rebecca Jones

December 24



Vintage items are on display for purchasing consideration.

BUNCO BABES

No Bunco During DECEMBER!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of the Bunco Babes! Thank you for making 2017 an enjoyable year! Next gathering will be at

Marilyn Bittle's
141 Syracuse Walk
Bring \$5 in singles,
A "Nice Treasure" in a bag
6:45 pm Social
7:00 pm Games Begin!
Please call
Jeanie Miller to attend!
562.433.0566

NIGC DAYTRIP

January 10, 2018

**Sunnylands,
Annenberg Estates,
Rancho Mirage**

**REGISTRATION
FILLED!**



NIGC ROSTER CORRECTIONS

Please send all emails to
Tina Everson at
tina55everson@gmail.com.

GLORIOUS GARDENS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

~ Kay Bailey, Travel Chair

NIGC Members! Mark Your Calendars!

April 30 - May 5 - Best time to see the tulips

3 nights in Vancouver, British Columbia

2 nights Victoria, British Columbia

Features of the trip include:

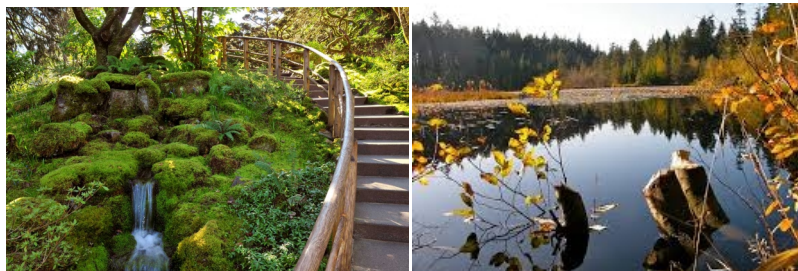
- ✿ 5 nights of perfectly located 4 star hotels: The St. Regis in Vancouver and the Hotel Grand Pacific in Victoria.
- ✿ Many meals including Breakfast daily, Dinner at Sai Woo Restaurant in a historic building in Chinatown, and tea at the Empress Hotel in Victoria.
- ✿ Visits to Stanley Park Rose Gardens in Vancouver and the Van Dusen Botanical garden and Butchart Gardens in Victoria.
- ✿ Ferry from Vancouver to Victoria and then a return Sea plane transfer to Vancouver.

All of this and more for \$1,500 per person, double occupancy. Ada at Seaside Travel will accept reservations and deposits.

Please call today to reserve your space!

Ada Brown at Seaside Travel

562-433-0917



Butchart Gardens and Stanley Park are two sites on the NIGC travel itinerary for "Glorious Gardens of the Pacific Northwest."

AND THEY'RE OFF!!!

~ Marge Hohly, Excursions Chair



Santa Anita Racetrack and the Sierra Vista Room will be the site of "Off to the Races" 2018!

C'mon and join your Naples Island Garden Club ladies for a day at the Santa Anita Race Track! Guests are invited to enjoy the day with you/us. **Here's what's on our Garden Club racing sheet for Saturday, January 27, 2018:**

Time: You can get to Santa Anita by either car pooling or I will arrange transportation for you. For carpooling or paid transportation at 9:15 gathering and 9:30 am departure. If driving plan to leave between 9:15 and 9:30 am. Plan to arrive at the races by 11:00 am. It'll take time once we arrive to get our programs, papers, tips and get up to the enclosed Sierra Vista Terrace.

Cost: The cost TBA includes admission to the Santa Anita Race Track, lunch with tax and tip, race program, a parking permit for general admission (valet is available for a fee est. \$10), an orientation to the races and a handicapper talking with you in the Sierra Vista Room. (You will want to bring along your betting money!)

We will be in the Sierra Vista Room (in the turf club area). Which includes tables with TV's by the rail for the whole day. We will enjoy our lunch on the Sierra Vista Terrace, as well as doing our betting and viewing from there. (There are betting windows and rest rooms on the same level.) The day should include several stakes races.

If you are "Off to the Races with NIGC", please RSVP to Marge Hohly 562-439-9554.

Exact price and all details will be available soon.

NIGC HONORARY MEMBERS 2017

It has been our pleasure as a club for a number of years now, to recognize two or three people who have been extra supportive of our organization. Honored at our last general meeting with a one-year Honorary Membership are: **Mike Frakes, Tri-City Tree Trimming** for his expert volunteer hedge trimming at La Bella Fontana; **Gisele Shoniger** for her generous amounts of donated **Kellogg Garden Products** at our June Plant Boutique; and **Ken Herbage, Park Maintenance**, for making himself available at the drop of a hat to attend a fountain or median problem.



L-R : Honorary members, **Gisele Shoniger** and **Mike Frakes** are presented with awards by Pres. **Barbara Jordon**.