



# Oroville Botanic Garden and Education Center

## November Newsletter 2022



### Presidents Message

Hi all;

OBGEC is almost to the end of our CA Releaf grant. To date we have planted 343 of the 327 trees we contracted to plant. A big thank you to all those volunteers that made it happen! We still have to go back and replace, train, gps and add a few trees.

In 2023 we will be looking for more funds. We are selling engraved bricks for our walkways at Dunstone. This is a great way to leave you mark on the OBGEC garden. The minimum is one brick for \$100.00, what a bargain. In 2023 we will have our Arbor Day festival, Flower show and Garden tour, and Spring seed and scion exchange to name a few events. We depend on our volunteers and our partnership with other organizations like Oroville Chamber of Commerce, City of Oroville and LOAGC.

So what are we doing with our funds? OBGEC's garden at Dunstone Memorial Hall will have a gazebo built and a Chinese bridge. Both of these are mostly paid for by memorial donations but unfortunately the entire cost is not covered. Gardens and pathways will be installed too.

One of our original members is donating 30 acres of Blue Oak Woodland. The woodland will be a second site, a natural site. The cost of rezoning and conditional permits is staggering. We hope to get the county to work with us, but who knows. We will also have permit and building costs before we get a roof over our head.

OBGEC is doing and will continue to do really good things for our community, Butte County and California.

Warmly,

*Susan Sims*

OBGEC President

### **November General Meeting**

DATE: Monday, November 14 , 2022

TIME: 6 pm

PLACE: Dunstone Memorial Hall

4790 Foothill Blvd

Oroville

*Remember! Our meetings are always on the second Monday of each month! We look forward to seeing you!*



# Oroville Botanic Garden and Education Center

## November Newsletter 2022

Also make Nutter Butter  
Acorns! YUM!



### KIDS CORNER

By Raeshae Shane

#### Acorn Hide-And-Seek (Ages 3+)

Some woodland animals, such as squirrels, chipmunks, and jays, collect food

in autumn to eat in the winter months when food is scarce. To be cautious of other onlookers, they roam far and wide to bury their hoards in many different places. They have even been known to fool potential thieves by making dummy caches, which contain no acorns at all. When the squirrels return in the winter months to find their food hoards, they rely on their senses, smelling for their buried food underground.

This game of hide-and-seek is about using memory, focus, self-control and imagination to find the hidden acorns and providing a great opportunity to explore and connect with nature by taking on the role of a squirrel.

Now, imagine yourself as a squirrel in autumn, gathering acorns and finding a good hiding place to store your acorns so you can return in the winter months (or in this case, after a short activity).

Let's Play!

What you need:

A small bag or container for children to collect acorns in

Join us at our November  
Open Garden to explore  
the acorns in our gar-  
den and make Nutter  
Butter Acorns

Have the kids walk around an oak tree and collect

5-10 acorns in their containers. Once the acorns are collected have the children part ways and find themselves a good spot to hide their acorns, making sure that no one else can see them hiding their acorns. Great spots may be behind or under a rock, under a leaf pile, or in the hole of a tree or fallen log, remembering these or other details of the surroundings will help them to find their acorns later.

Once they are done hiding their acorns, take the kids for a short walk or participate in another brief activity. When done, head back to the area where the children hid their acorns.

Now go find your acorns! Do they remember their hiding spots? Are the acorns still there? You can offer hints to those who are struggling to find them and remember to praise them for their use of memory, focus, and self-control.

After the activity, you can ask the children what their experiences were to be a squirrel, was it challenging? What skills do they think squirrels need to survive, why did they choose the hiding places they did, was it easy to remember where they hid their acorns, and what helped them to find them?

Other food squirrels like to eat include: hazelnuts, beech mast, tree bark, fungi, buds, leaves, and flowers. Squirrels will sometimes even raid bird's nests for their eggs and young.





# Oroville Botanic Garden and Education Center

## November Newsletter 2022

### Did you know?

The Monarch butterfly lays her eggs on the underside of the milkweed plant (*Asclepias californica* is our native variety). The leaves of the milkweed are extremely toxic (cardenolides) except to the Monarch caterpillar.

Once the caterpillar hatches it feeds exclusively on the milkweed leaf where the caterpillar ingests the toxic chemical. Because the toxin remains in the caterpillar's system and is passed on during the transformation to a butterfly both the caterpillar and butterfly are protected from predators.

*FarmersAlmanac.com Sept 2022*

### In the Pantry

I know this isn't plant related...but...since it is that time of year and many of us will be baking, cooking, creating I thought I would add these two little tidbits learned from my mom, Phyllis

Burnett years, ago.

- \* Do you have issues with your brown sugar getting hard and clumpy? Add a piece of bread! It will soften it right up!
- \* Nasty pests making a home in your flour or other grains? Add a bay leaf. Poof! No more pests

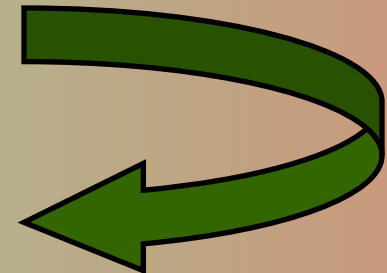
## OBGEC Wish List

OBGEC is always in need. If you (or any one you know) would like to donate any of the following items please contact me at [obgecdebiupton@gmail.com](mailto:obgecdebiupton@gmail.com). All items donated are tax deductible.

- ◇ Filing cabinet
- ◇ File folders, office supplies, plastic flyer holders
- ◇ Industrial exhaust hood (for stove inside Dunstone Hall)
- ◇ Metal roofing 10 pieces 2 x 12 ft
- ◇ Twenty 10 ft 2 x 4s
- ◇ Four 8 ft 4 x 4s
- ◇ Cedar fencing
- ◇ Solar path lights



### Two more Open Garden Events Coming Up





# Oroville Botanic Garden and Education Center

## November Newsletter 2022

WHAT'S UP AT THE GARDEN...

**WOW! The Halloween Eye Spy Insect event was a great success! Over 100 kids and parents attended. Lots of candy, hotdogs and popcorn were given out.**



Giant, creepy spider. She felt very at home at our Eye Spy Insect event

Thank you to everyone that made this event so successful. We are all looking forward to next year's event



Sue doing her thing. It was such a GREAT night!

Enjoying the howling skeleton. What a smile.



We felt very well protected that night!



# Oroville Botanic Garden and Education Center

## November Newsletter 2022

### SO MUCH HAPPENED IN OCTOBER!

#### Plumas Ave Elementary School Tree Planting



Group photo after planting 30 trees. Another good day.

We planted eight more maple trees at the Dunstone Garden. Seven of the trees are memorial trees planted for one family.



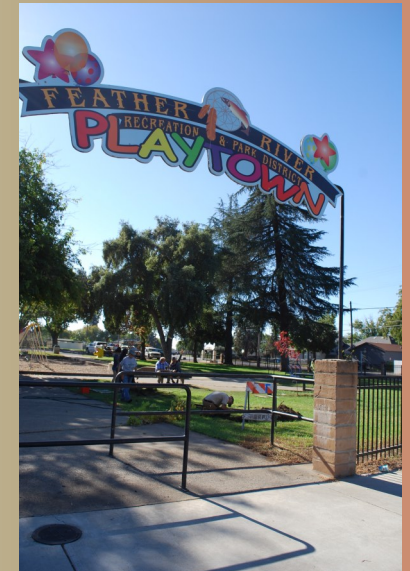
It is possible to smile while working hard! The students and staff were so appreciative—that makes smiling that much easier.



Thank you to Linda Oslin for the majority of the photos in the OBGEC newsletters. Your dedication is exceptional.



Tree planting at Nolan Baseball Sports complex, Playtown USA Park, Riverbend, and Dunstone Hall garden



Going to be so much color at these parks! They will be breathtaking!

4 more trees at Riverbend  
28 trees planted at Nolan Field and Playtown Park

October was a great month for planting trees!



# Oroville Botanic Garden and Education Center

## November Newsletter 2022

### Chico Home and Garden Show



Sue and Stephanie manning the booth



What an impressive booth! Sue, again, doing her thing.



### Seed Exchange



Oh! So many seeds and plants to choose from! The perfect place to get your vegetable and flower seeds! There were also red can-nas, strawberry starts from 30 year old plants, chrysanthemums, sage, salvias, Rose of Sharon....and so many other plants and starts. It was a wonderful day full of sharing and smiling! Join us this spring for our next seed exchange! A truly heartfelt **THANK YOU** to our member, Dani Hartwigsen, for getting everything together. Even though we don't see Dani as much as we'd like she sure comes through for our Seed Exchanges in a big way! AND, LAST BUT NOT LEAST, a SUPER BIG **THANK YOU** to everyone that brought plants and seeds to share. It was truly a heartfelt day.

### Greg Phelan's Soils Class



What a great class! Greg's knowledge combined with his sheer passion for his subject made this an event worth attending! We look forward to future classes from this gentleman. Stayed tuned for future dates!



**Oroville Botanic Garden and Education Center**

**November Newsletter 2022**

**Remember to order your brick today!**

# BRICK FUNDRAISER



Oroville Botanic Garden is excited to offer to the community this enduring, life-long opportunity. When you purchase a brick through our fundraiser it will be placed in the pathways at our heritage garden at Dunstone Memorial Hall. Beome a part of our history, leave a legacy; a way to leave your mark on the world!

You can find the order form and instructions on how to create your unique brick at:

<https://donate.brickmarkers.com/obg>

**If you have any questions, please contact:**

Marina Hynes

530-812-4010

[obgecmarinahynes@gmail.com](mailto:obgecmarinahynes@gmail.com)



# Oroville Botanic Garden and Education Center

## November Newsletter 2022

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### WE'RE WINDING DOWN FOR THE WINTER...

##### Arbor Day Festival Planning Meeting

Its that time again. March will be here before we know it and that's when we have our BIGGEST fundraiser—SO — its time to get crackin'! If you are interested in adding your input please contact Susan Sims at 951-453-2651

##### Perennial planting at the Garden!

Thursday, November 10

Start time: 3 p.m.

We will be planting native perennials in our newly planted butterfly garden. Feel like getting dirty? Come on over and give us a hand!

##### Bringing Irrigation All Around the Garden

Join us for two days of bliss in the garden!

We will be installing irrigation line throughout the garden area . This is an exciting and big undertaking for us. This will give our garden water access throughout allowing us to utilize more of our space.

We will be trenching and laying 1" PVC around the perimeter of the garden. We will need help laying pipe! So come on over and get dirty! If you're like me, you will enjoy the total immersion of the purple PVC cleaner and glue. I end up wearing more than I get on the pipe! Come on over and lend a hand. It will be a FUN time...as ALL our happenings are!!

DATE: Monday, November 14 and 15

TIME: Start time: 10 a.m.

PLACE: Dunstone Memorial Hall

4790 Foothill Blvd

Oroville

### UPCOMING EVENTS con't

#### ...BUT WE STILL HAVE PLENTY TO DO...

##### OBGEC November General Meeting

DATE: Monday, November 14

TIME: 6 pm

PLACE: Dunstone Memorial Hall

4790 Foothill Blvd

Oroville

JOIN US! WE HAVE SO MUCH TO TELL YOU!

##### Open Garden Tours

Come on out and enjoy a leisurely walk around the garden collecting acorns and making Nutter Butter Acorns (cookies and chocolate...who can say "no"?!). See our Kids Korner write up about this activity. For those not interested in hiding acorns please come and have a cookie on us!

DATE: Sunday, November 20, 2022

TIME: 11 a.m.—2 p.m.

PLACE: Dunstone Memorial Hall

4790 Foothill Blvd

Oroville

##### WHAT'S HAPPENING IN FUTURE MONTHS

Monday, December 12

General meeting

This will be a Christmas themed POTLUCK! For those of you that didn't attend our last potluck you really don't want to miss this one! More info to come...

December 31, 2022

Our tree planting grant through CaReLeaf comes to an end. Stayed tuned to see how we did!



# Oroville Botanic Garden and Education Center

## November Newsletter 2022

Ready to plant onions?  
Just saw on facebook  
Hodges Nursery in  
Durham now has onion  
starts!

### Visit Our Garden

Dunstone Memorial Hall

4790 Foothill Blvd

Oroville, Ca 95966

#### OBGEC Board Members

President

Susan Sims obgecsusansims@gmail.com

Vice President

Marina Hynes obgecmarinahynes@gmail.com

Secretary

Bonnie Villarreal

Treasurer

Debi Upton (interim) obgecdebiup-

ton@gmail.com

Membership

Patricia Barker

Youth Programs Coordinator

Raeshae Shane

#### Other Member Rolls

Local Advertising/promotions

Linda Oslin

Web master

Nicole Sims

OnlineAdvertising

Kaitlyn Sievers

Newsletter

Debi Upton

THANK YOU to Trisha Barker and all the volunteers at our Rummage Sale! Once again, we had a productive event. Trisha, you are a shining gem amongst dull rocks! This venture would not happen without you

Our Membership

**109**

We are a 501 c3 nonprofit organization

Tax ID #81-4853232