

JANUARY 2024

THE FIG LEAF

Fig Garden Woman's Club Newsletter
Established in 1921



Important Dates & Events

- Board Meeting** - January 8, 9:30 a.m.
- General Lunch Meeting** - January 10, 11:30 a.m.
- Cinema Group** - January 12, 10 a.m.
- Knitting & Needles** - January 15, 10 a.m.
- Book Talk** - January 18, 10 a.m.
- Card Party** - January 25, 11:30 a.m.
- Out to Lunch Bunch** - January 31, 11:30 a.m.
- February Board Meeting** - February 5, 9:30 a.m.
- Valentine Cards** - February 8, 10 a.m.
- General Lunch Meeting** - February 14, 11:30 a.m.
- Valentine Night** - February 14, 5 - 7 p.m.



Executive Officers

- President:** Teresa Kirkorian
- 1st Vice President:** Kim Gould
- 2nd Vice President:** Desiree Ward
- 3rd Vice President:** Becky Morlock
- Recording Secretary:** Suzanne Crosina-Sahm
- Corresponding Secretary:** Liz Conner
- Treasurer:** Susan Simpson
- Assistant Treasurer:** Linda Boyajian

Appointive Officers

- Parliamentarian:** Mary Vaughan
- Historians:** Monica Balch, Marie Slater
- Auditors:** Marsha Wagner, Susan Pappas
- District Representative:** Eleanor Rojas

Fig Leaf Editor: Suzanne Crosina-Sahm



President's Message

Teresa Kirkorian

Happy New Year -- It's officially 2024!

What a busy and wonderful December we had. I want to thank you for your participation in all our events. The clubhouse looked beautiful! Thanks to **Desiree Ward, Sue Castro, Tracy Jolly, Irene Wiegand, Valerie LeMay** and all the committee members who transformed the clubhouse into a winter wonderland.

Thank you to all who donated pajamas for Rescue the Children. **Suzanne Swanson** and **Libby Borchardt** collected and delivered 50 sets of PJs for the deserving women and children of RTC -- *amazing!* Thank you for bringing joy to so many.

We started off December with Sip and Shop at Ammons. Thanks to **Cam Maloy** and **Suzy Wren** who hosted the beautiful event with spirits and snacks as we shopped the evening away. The store looked beautiful, and we all went home with holiday gifts.

Santa made a special stop at FGWC during our Santa's House Children's party. Everyone had a wonderful time with fun crafts, balloon art, face painting, yummy food and, of course, **Irene Wiegand's** magical Christmas song. Special thanks to **Irene, Jenna Straeter, Janelle and Ed Dunn, Liz Conner** and all the elves who made this a very special day!

After a hiatus, the Christmas Tree Lane Walk Night returned this year. **Donna Strickler** and **Jeanette Tate** organized the cookie give away with cookies supplied by our members. The walkers were so appreciative to receive free cookies as they strolled down The Lane and we collected over \$500 in donations for Christmas Tree Lane. Thank you to the committee for all your time passing out cookies.

On December 13th we held our favorite luncheon of the year, and the Christmas tables looked amazing. We have so many talented members. Thank you to **Juliette Hammel** and **Lisa Jelinek** for organizing the tables. **Tracy Jensen** and **Riley Gould** made sure our teacups were full and that everyone had all their linens for the luncheon and Gala dinner. Thank You! We had a rocking surprise with entertainment by "ELVIS"! Thanks to **Shirley Zaver** for organizing this surprise.

Our Christmas celebration continued on December 14th with our Gala dinner "Christmas on the Lane." **Shirley Zaver** and **Donna Strickler** worked hard to make this a very special evening. We had

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January President's Message, continued

a spectacular silent auction, delicious catered dinner, music, Champagne, and wine supplied by our cheerful bartenders, **Louis and Lisa Jelinek**. (We gave **Allison Alexander** and **Lynn Baldwin** a well-deserved evening off this year!) Thanks to all for your dedication and love for this amazing club.

Time to change the calendar to 2024 and start our January events.

January 8th, 9:30 a.m. - Board meeting
January 10th, 11:30 a.m. - General Luncheon Meeting
January 25th, 11:30 a.m. - Annual Card Party
January 31st, 11:30 a.m. - Out to Lunch Bunch at Red Lobster

Thank you,

Teresa

*“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time: they just have the heart.”
Elizabeth Andrew*



Cinema Group

Becky Morlock

The film this month is the romantic fantasy *The Shape of Water* (2017) Directed by Guillermo del Toro and starring Sally Hawkins, Octavia Spencer, Michael Shannon.

The story takes place in a top secret research facility in the 1960s, a lonely janitor forms a unique relationship with an amphibious creature that is being held in captivity. Please join us on Friday, January 12 at 10 am in the clubhouse to discuss it.

All members are invited to attend. All you need to do is see the film before the discussion and bring your opinion.

Thank you,
Becky





Fig Garden Woman's Club Board Meeting Minutes December 4, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by President Teresa Kirkorian and asked members present to wish Margaret Nordstrom a happy birthday by all singing together.

Approval of the Minutes: Recording Secretary Suzanne Crosina-Sahm announced the minutes of the November board meeting were published in the December Fig Leaf and asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions. Sharon Garabedian moved that the minutes be approved and Ann Caldwell seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously..

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Susan Simpson reported; as of November 30, 2023, there is total of \$221,315 in our accounts. Our checking account balance is \$104,202.04, Endowment Fund balance is \$72,018.68, Building Maintenance Fund is \$31,920.19 and Memorial Building Fund is \$13,174.09. Income for November was \$43,783.45 with \$27, 786.36 from Trash to Treasure, \$1,745 from Maker's Market, \$5,250 from Gala, and \$248.25 from Santa's House. Expenses were \$7,611.52 for a net of \$27,171.93.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Liz Conner was not at the meeting so Teresa reported for her. There was no correspondence sent. We had five donation requests - Hope Now, Salvation Army (2), Marjaree Mason Center, and the American Red Cross. There were no invitations received.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Contributions: Chair Tracy Jensen reported that her committee met last week and they have revamped the contributions process to ensure that all members felt included in the process. An email will be sent to the membership with a PDF that members can share with their favorite non-profit organizations to encourage them to apply for our community grants. The committee is looking to fund small grass roots organizations where our contributions will make a difference.

Clubhouse: Teresa shared that Irene Wiegand and Jennifer Huelskamp will be the clubhouse managers. Teresa met with the executive board before the meeting and our neighbor has agreed to remove one of the large trees that is damaging our property. That will come out in January. Marhsa Wagner pointed out that getting our neighbor to agree to this was quite an accomplishment as she has been difficult to deal with in the past.

Website: Chair Barb Moen reported that we currently have 951 Facebook followers which is up 47. There are 697 likes which is up 12, Instagram followers are 362 which is up 18. Our member resources section has 73 members which is up one since the last report. She also shared that she learned that we do not need photo release forms for photos of people at any of our public events. If we want to use a photo of a guest at one of our private events or meetings, we will need a photo release form filled out. They can be found on the desk in the kitchen.

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November 6, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes, continued

She also shared that we had a lot of spam on our Facebook page with crooks trying to capture registration money from our Maker's Market. Barb was very diligent in deleting and blocking those scammers, but next year we'll make a point of noting that only Nancee Smith (or the Maker's Market chair) can reserve a booth and accept money for it.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Santa's House: Irene Wiegand thanked her committee for a successful Santa's House party. Thanked Libby and Val for decorating and creating a magical wonderland. Thanked Teresa for decorating the Christmas Tree. We had 100 children attend the party and we made more money this year than in years past (the final numbers will be reported at a later date). She is grateful to Ed Dunn for playing a wonderful Santa again this year, and thanked Liz Conner and Lisa Woolf for dressing up as Mrs. Claus and an elf to help out. Barb Moen reported that there are 42 photos on social media and our website.

Christmas Tables: Chair Juliette Hammel thanked all those who signed up to decorate tables. They may decorate on Monday and Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Kim Gould will be there to let members in.

Gala: Chair Shirley Zaver thanked the members for buying their tickets and offered a big thanks to Janelle Dunn for the hard work of selling tickets and keeping track. There are only 18 tickets left with 10 pending (check is in the mail). The silent auction items are coming in and we hope you will bid on the the 15 items. Kim Gould said she will order 144 napkins half red and half white for the luncheon and the gala. All white tablecloths for both.

Christmas Tree Lane: Chair Donna Strickler reported that we are keeping the cookie giveaway simple. We will set up tables in the front of the house. We asked members to bring cookies. The walk goes from 6 to 10 p.m. We will be accepting contributions that will go toward the Lane. Please sign up to help and dress warmly.

Rescue the Children: Chair Suzanne Swanson is working to match new PJs to moms and kids at Rescue the Children. Thirty-three members have donated so far. An anonymous member donated 21 blankets so each child will receive one in addition to new PJs. The Northfork Woman's Club were guests at our November meeting and they donated some XL women's PJs for new admissions. Teresa asked that the center keep us posted if there are any new admissions so we can make sure every mom and child gets a pair of PJs. She thanked Libby and Carol for their help.

Annual Card Party: Chair Barb Moen reported that the four chairs have the event under control. The theme is "Razzle Dazzle" and the event is Thursday, January 25 at 11:30 a.m. Suzanne Crosina-Sahm is working on a flyer and Teresa offered to print them 50. Susan Simpson stated that checks should be sent to the P.O. Box which is emptied once a week. If there are last-minute sales they can call Susan with their credit card.

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December 4, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes, continued

Lunch Bunch: Chair Sue Stephens announced that she has sign up sheets for September 2024 for brunch at Fort Washington. Members can also sign up for January 31 11:30 a.m. at Red Lobster and February 28 at 11:30 a.m. at Max's. Max's requires a \$75 deposit and they give the deposit back as a gift card. Janelle Dunn offered to pay the deposit and will accept the gift card.

NEW BUSINESS:

30 Second Announcements:

Marsha Wagner noted that in November we normally honor the members we have lost in the last year but this year we have moved it to January. We are honoring Lydia Wyatt, Marilyn Gobble, Catherine Rhodes Hammel and Joyce Hughs. There are two members we cannot find any information about. She has not been able to get any info for Catherine Rhodes Hammel or Lidia Wyatt. Please share any information you might have for family members of these ladies so we can invite them to the luncheon.

Suzanne Crosina-Sahm reminded members that she is happy to share information members might want to include in the Fig Leaf. All you have to do is email your information to her by the last day of the month for publication the following week.

Janelle Dunn shared that her husband Ed along with a friend wrote a book and screenplay called "A Century of Christmas Tree Lane" that is being made into a movie. Fig Garden Woman's Club is mentioned several times. The son of his writing partner created candles to sell to support Fig Garden Woman's Club. Janelle will work with Teresa to have them available for sale at the luncheon.

Nominating: Chair Mary Vaughan reported that at the January board meeting we will be accepting nominations for the Nominating committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Suzanne Crosina-Sahm

Recording Secretary

FIG GARDEN WOMAN'S CLUB

FIG GARDEN WOMAN'S CLUB ANNUAL

RAZZLE DAZZLE!

**Card Party
& Luncheon**

BRIDGE, BUNCO, OR MAHJONGG

Thursday, January 25
11:30 a.m.

at Fig Garden Woman's Club
4550 N. Van Ness Blvd

\$25 per person - catered luncheon



Place your reservations and send your checks to:

Barb Moen, 329 E. Pontiac Way, Fresno, CA 93704

For more information, call or text Barb at (559) 285-2933

I would like to reserve ___ table(s) of four to play
Bridge ___ Bunco ___ Mahjongg ___ @ \$100 per table

Hostess: _____

Guests:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Fig Garden Woman's Club General Meeting Minutes December 13, 2023

Welcome: President Teresa Kirkorian welcomed everyone to our December luncheon.

Vice President: Vice president Kim Gould thanked Tracy Jensen and Riley Gould for all their work on the luncheon and for Juliette Hammel for coordinating the decorating of the beautiful tables. She also thanked Pardini's for a job always well done, and Jack Jensen for reconstructing our name tag boards.

Pledge of Allegiance and Collect: Martha Stewart led us in reciting the pledge of allegiance and the club Collect.

Song and Inspiration: Kathleen Lehman lead us in singing "It's a Grand Old Flag" then read an inspiring piece encouraging us to do a good deed.

President's Report: Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked everyone who decorated a table for their works of beauty. She announced that we are going to move on with the business of the meeting so members can socialize during lunch. She thanked everyone who worked on committees in November and December.

Approval of the Minutes: Suzanne Crosina-Sahm announced that the minutes of the November general meeting were published in the December Fig Leaf, and asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions. Hearing none, Terri Sager moved the minutes be approved as published. Janelle Dunn seconded the motion and the minutes of the November general meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Susan Simpson reported; as of November 30, 2023, there is total of \$221,315 in our accounts. Our checking account balance is \$104,202.04, Endowment Fund balance is \$72,018.68, Building Maintenance Fund is \$31,920.19 and Memorial Building Fund is \$13,174.09. Income for November was \$43,783.45 with \$27, 786.36 from Trash to Treasure, \$1,745 from Maker's Market, \$5,250 from Gala, and \$248.25 from Santa's House. Expenses were \$7,611.52 for a net of \$27,171.93. She will have an update next month on all new income. Teresa thanked her for a job that never ends.

Nominating: Chair Mary Vaughan reported that in January we will be moving forward with our nominating procedure and asked that members refer to their handbook to refamiliarize yourself with that process. She also encouraged members to graciously accept if asked to hold a leadership position.

Maker's Market: Chair Nancee Smith reported that our second annual Maker's Market was a success. We sold 46 vendor stalls. Fifteen cancelled due to rain, but we had a great turn out despite the rain. She thanked her committee.



December 13, 2023 General Meeting Minutes, continued

Sip & Shop: Co-chair Cam Maloy reported that we had a successful event. She doesn't know how much we made yet, but will share at the January meeting.

Santa's House: Irene Wiegand thanked Jenna's committee for a successful Santa's House party. It was a big success with 100 children attending. We made more money this year than in years past (the final numbers will be reported at a later date). She is grateful to Ed Dunn for playing a wonderful Santa.

Gala: Chair Shirley Zaver thanked the members for buying their tickets and said reported that there are only four seats available. Thanked Janelle Dunn for handling ticket sales and placing members at tables.

Christmas Tree Lane: Chair Donna Strickler reported that we had fun passign out cookies to walkers and thanked everyone for making cookies. We had so many polite and appreciative families thank us and one many even donated \$100. All of those proceeds go to Christmas Tree Lane to keep our lights on.

Rescue the Children: Chair Suzanne Swanson reported that she still has a couple of PJs to collect but is in great shape. They are wrapped and will be delivered on December 20 to Rescue the Children.

Handbooks: Teresa reported that Susan Pappas has handbooks if anyone needs one.

Annual Card Party: Chair Barb Moen reminded everyone of the card party event is Thursday, January 25 at 11:30 a.m. She hopes to see you all there.

Contributions: Chair Tracy Jensen reported that her committee has revamped the contributions process to ensure that all members felt included in the process. An email will be sent to the membership with a PDF that members can share with their favorite non-profit organizations to encourage them to apply for our community grants. The committee is looking to fund small grass roots organizations where our contributions will make a difference. Applications must be received by Friday, February 15.

30-SECOND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Diane Whiteside announced that if you buy a book at Petunia's Place for a child at Valley Children's Hospital, you will receive a 10% discount on any purchase.

Chris Monahan shared that they decoated their table in an angel theme in memory of **Jill Robinson** who loved angels.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Crosina-Sahm

Recording Secretary

FIG GARDEN WOMAN'S CLUB



By-laws

Maureen Boyle, Chair

Happy Holidays from the by-laws committee! The following proposed amendments were presented at the November General Meeting. The vote of the membership to approve these amendments will be taken at the January General Luncheon Meeting in 2024.

Proposed revisions to the By-laws due to the changes we made to our club year and the increase of our dues from \$200.00 to \$250.00 per year.

Article V
 Club Year
 Current wording
 Sec.2

The Club will hold an organizational meeting for all members in September and regular luncheon meetings October through May.

The proposed revision :

Article V
 Club Year
 Sec. 2

The club will hold regular luncheon meetings September through May.

Article VII
 Fees
 Current wording
 Sec.2

Dues will be delinquent if not paid by June 30th.

Sec.4

Along with the admission fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), new members will pay dues equal to twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each month of membership October through May.

The proposed revision:

Article VII
 Fees
 Sec. 2

Dues will become delinquent if not paid by May 31st.

Sec. 4

Along with the admission fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), new members will pay dues equal to 1/9 of our annual dues for each month of membership September through May.



Our Club Website at Your Fingertips

Barb Moen, Website and Social Media Chair

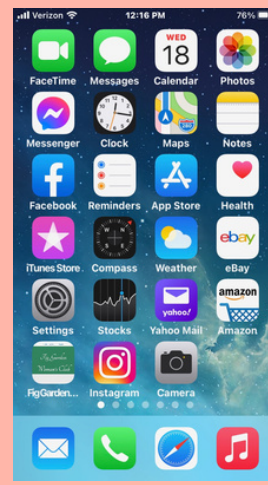
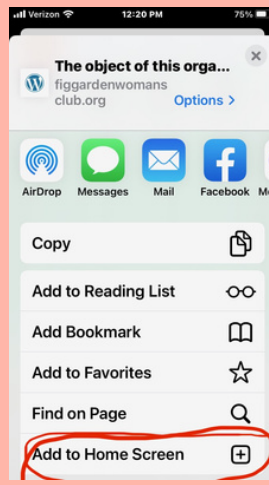
If you are not registered in the “Member Resources” Section, please go to figgardenwomansclub.org. You will see “Register” in the top right hand corner. Click on it and complete the form. The section contains our handbook, new members, the Fig Leaf, and our current calendar.

For new members who would like to add the FGWC icon on your phone or tablet for easy access, below are step-by-step instructions on how to do so.

For those of you with Apple IOS devices:

1. Bring up the FGWC website on your phone’s or iPad’s internet browser.
2. At the bottom of the page you see a square with arrow pointing up. Click on it.
3. Click on "Add to Home Screen".

That’s it! You’re done. Just click on the icon whenever you want to check the webpage.



For Android devices:

1. Bring up the FGWC website on your phone’s internet browser.
2. Touch the apps icon to display the apps drawer.
3. Long press the app icon you want to add to your home screen
4. Drag the app to the home screen page, lifting your finger to place the app

If you have any questions, I'd be happy to walk you through it or show you at the next meeting.

Happy New Year!
Barb

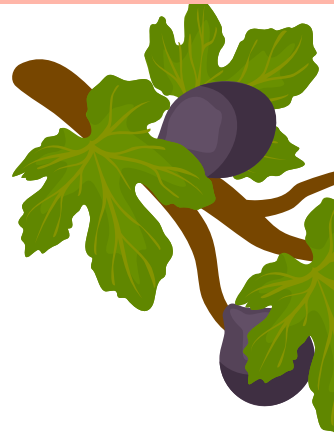


Thank you!

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January 2024 Amenities Report for December 2023 Activities

Chairs: Kim Garcia & Karen Tozlian

Birthdays Cards:

Peggy Abels, Joyce Hughes, Maragaret Nordstrom, JJ Krivochiev, Juli Solaegui, Cara Peracchi Douglas, Kathryn Efird, Erika Hoppe, Julia Durley, Dorothy Troisi, Vanda McArthur, Eleanor Rojas, Marsha Wagner, Lori Mohun, Suzy Wren, Carol Scott, Leesa Kazarian, Kristen Prieto, Pat Shein, Ellie Craig, Lingle Chen, Julia O'Dea, Susan Pappas

Four phone calls checking on members



**KIM (559) 970-1930 AND
KAREN (559) 284-5951**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*to our members
born in*

January!

1 Kathie Babigian
3 Betty Conner
3 Nancy Wood
7 Shirin Assemi
8 Jacqueline Curti

12 Diane Hill
14 Kathleen Lehman
16 Shelly Woolf
17 Sally Seago
20 Suzanne Yengoyan
29 Lee Leone