



Regular Meeting – November 9, 2017

We will be meeting at the **Lucerne Valley Community Center** this month.

33187 Hwy 247 East, Lucerne Valley, CA 92356

Refreshments start at 9:00 am

Meeting starts at 9:30 am

Morning Refreshments: Anna-Maria & Shirley

Drawing: Sue Nolan & Vernell



Plant of the Month

Pyracantha, Firethorn

Pyracantha crenatoserrata

Plant Form: Evergreen shrub

Water use: Low

Mature Size: 15' tall x 10' wide

Exposure: Full Sun

Bloom time: March–May

Native to: China

Hardiness: Cold to 10 degrees F

The Pyracantha holds landscape interest throughout the year with its generous clusters of white flowers in spring and colorful bunches of large, long lasting berries in winter, just in time for holiday decorations. Many varieties are available to suit all tastes and applications from prostrate ground covers to erect shrubs that accept espalier training. All varieties grow fast and vigorously with glossy green leaves, thorns, and fruit that varies in color, size, season, and duration. If berry color is important, cut the plants when they have fruit. Flowers and berries are produced only on growth that is at least one year old, so when pruning, leave some of the growth made each year so that you will have flowers and berries. Use as espaliers on walls or fences, as barrier plantings, screens, or hedgerows.

Youth Program

Wednesday, November 15 will be the next after school project so be sure to let Linda know if you can come and help. There is always work in the school gardens to do and an indoor craft to help kids with. Contact Linda Riddle at the next meeting or call her at 760-248-6397 if you need more information.

Winterizing your Garden

Continue to plant trees & shrubs.

Continue to plant spring blooming bulbs this month as weather and soil conditions permit.

Before temperatures fall below freezing, disconnect outside water hoses, drain and store indoors.

Once night time temperatures drop to below freezing for a few consecutive days, turn off your irrigation system and drain the valves.

Regularly rake lawns to keep falling leaves and twigs from suffocating grass. Fertilize lawns for a final time early this month with an organic lawn fertilizer slow-release high in nitrogen; it will help lawns retain green color longer in winter and color up faster in early spring. Avoid walking on frozen turf; it breaks grass blades.

Continue to add grass clippings, leaves and dried plant material to your compost pile; turn regularly to speed decomposition.

Continue to water newly planted trees and shrubs, especially evergreens, until ground freezes.

Add 2 to 4 inches of an organic soil building conditioner to garden beds once the ground has completely frozen.

Wait until trees and shrubs drop their leaves or undergo color change before digging and moving them to new sites.

Empty ceramic, cement and terra cotta containers, clean and store in a frost-free space.

Coming Events

- Nov 9 Desert Crossroads Garden Club Meeting
Nov 23 Happy Thanksgiving!
Nov 30 Garden Clean-up...9:00 am
Dec 12 Desert Crossroads Garden Club
Holiday Potluck

Your Club Officers

Presidents	Sherry Hardin	760-912-8310
	Sharon Ravenstein	760-248-6466
V. President	Pat Hart	760-248-6389
Secretary	Sara Delperdang	760-248-7614
Treasurer	Darla King	760-947-7925
Parliamentarian	Shirley Clemmons	
Newsletter	Sara Delperdang	760-248-7614

Find us on the Roadrunner District website at:
roadrunnergardenclubs.com

Affiliates

Roadrunner District, Inc. of California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

What's In My Garden?

Gopher Snake *Pituophis*



Members of the **Colubridae Family**, the common, large, gopher snake is usually between 36 and 96 inches long. Gopher snakes range in color from cream-yellow to green-gray to tan, with large black, brown or reddish blotches on their back and smaller ones along their sides. Most specimens have a dark line between the eyes and another from behind the eyes to the angle of the jaw. Sometimes striped individuals, with or without blotches, are found.

Range; Throughout all 4 deserts of the American Southwest and beyond, up to 8000 feet.

Habitat; Found in a wide variety of habitats including desert flats, coastal dunes and coniferous forests, but preferring grasslands and open brush areas.

Behavior; Slow-moving, the gopher snake investigates burrows, rocky crevices and even climbs trees in search of prey. Adult snakes hunt small rodents, young rabbits, lizards, birds and occasionally other snakes, usually by their sense of smell. Prey is killed by constriction and suffocation. In Winter, gopher snakes hibernate, retreating to communal dens, sometimes sharing the lair with rattlesnakes, whip-snakes or racers. But in the breeding season, males vigorously defend their territories against all competing males.

Minutes of the October 12, 2017 Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 9:45 by Vice President Pat Hart.

Inspirational poem read by Sara Delperdang.
Pledge of Allegiance was led by George Yablonsky.
Minutes were handed out to members and approved.
Treasurers report was read, accepted and filed for audit.
4 new trees were planted last month.

Committee Reports

Penny Pines, Pat Lugo reported current balance at \$70.72. Members elected to send a plantation in memory of Bernadette Gudgin.

Socks for Nursing Home, Myra asked for white cotton socks to be brought in as soon as possible.

Sunshine, Myra will send cards to Sharon Ravenstein and Sharon Cross.

School Youth Program, Linda wants to start a funding drive to collect money for raised planters at the school. Pat Lugo offered to make donation cans to be passed at the meetings.

Water Awareness Garden, Sue Nolan is planning a garden cleanup on November 30 at 9am. Sue to find out what a watering system will cost for the garden.

Yearbooks, Sara passed out 2017-2019 club yearbooks to all members present.

New Business

The Fall Roadrunner District Membership Meeting our club is suppose to host was discussed. Linda Riddle was appointed chairman and looking for a theme, possibly Vintage Farmers Market, or Lavender Festival.

Bette Murie described the highlights of the 29 Palms Weed Show and good times had in the past going there for the day.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45

The Club Fall Festival and Plant Sale was the program and enjoyed by everyone.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Sara Delperdang Secretary

Rules for Gardening

If it's pretty, plant it.
If it's messy, mulch it.
If it wilts, water it.
If it grows, prune it.
If it's a weed, yank it.
If it's a bug swat it.
If it tastes good eat it
If it flowers, flaunt it!