

The 2025-2026 River Park Garden Club Membership Directory

will soon be distributed. Produced by directory chairman Janice Stern, the booklet listings will include all the club officers and various committee chairs and members. A major effort, the directory also includes dates and speakers for the general meetings and listings of events in which members may participate.



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We know it has been a busy summer...



for all you avid gardeners, so maybe sending in that garden club membership renewal check has just slipped your mind. A handy envelope has been attached to newsletters coming to members who may still be considering renewing. Thanks for your loyalty to the club.

In Memoriam



Rosarian, Pam Myczek tending roses at Old City Cemetery

Longtime River Park Garden Club member Pam Myczek, lost her long battle with Parkinson's disease on Aug. 18. A dedicated Rosarian, she was a Consulting Rosarian, Master Gardener and a member of the American Rose Society, The Sacramento Rose Society, the Sierra Foothills Rose Society, the former Old City Cemetery Historical Rose Garden, the Perennial Plant Club and the River Park Garden Club.

Pam's backyard was a "forest" of old garden roses which she loved for their fragrance. Her front yard was Hybrid Teas, David Austins, Grandifloras, miniatures and shrub roses – especially those that were fragrant.

Before Parkinson's and her failing eyesight, Pam traveled extensively to visit gardens in Europe, Australia, China and South Africa. She was an excellent photographer and took many photos on her trips and also at the various club meetings and shows she attended. Her enthusiasm for roses was palpable especially when she gave talks to our membership on her travels to see roses and attend conferences about them. She will be missed.



Pam fought hard to stay in her home with her roses the last few months, but with her diminished eyesight and the progression of her Parkinson's she moved to assisted living. A celebration of Pam's life will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, September 26 at St. Mary's Church, 1333 58th Street, Sacramento, CA 95819. A reception at the church will follow.

--Therese Ruth

Are you looking for something to do?

Our club's annual Garden Tour, "**Special Garden Spaces,**" is seriously seeking your help for this rewarding spring event. The many phases of the 2026 tour need to be staffed with club volunteers. The areas that support the tour include -- Number One, finding gardens for the tour! Other areas are writing press releases, the program brochure and other printed materials, plus managing the printing of these materials. Selling advertising for the program, volunteering to host at a tour garden, hanging banners, selling tickets and taking reservations, could be your forte. Every area is important. All you have to do is let us know what interests you the most. Name your game. Call club president Pat Smith now (916-454-5637) to join the fun!

Ginkgoes in River Park

*Ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace. . .
singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
—Isaiah 55:12*


electric trees
overhang sidewalk to sidewalk

neon yellow
leaves flicker
glow on black shingled roof
the trees clap their hands

chimney smoke bouquets
in leaden-blue sky

lemon drop confetti
raining afternoon shadows
carpeting cracked sidewalks, lawns
trees clapping hands

saffron curly-haired boy in t-shirt and goosebumps
jab steps into the buttercup driveway
lofts a 3-pointer rolls on rusty rim
rattles through a broken chain net
the trees the trees



Sacramento poet Rick Rayburn composed this ode to River Park's stunning ginkgo trees. It will be included in Rick's third book of poetry, *Pink Tercets*, to be published Oct. 1, by Poetry Box Publishing in Portland, Oregon.