



Newsletter of the Paradise Garden Club, Paradise CA newsletter@paradisegardenclub.org ParadiseGardenClub.org

The Prez Sez

Well, here we are already in October, the heat of summer is but a sweaty memory. The days may still be warm, the nights chill out nicely and do not forget to enjoy the evening sunsets which are absolutely spectacular this time of year.



This season is also good for planting trees, shrubs and perennials and it is not too late to plant your winter veggies such as spinach, arugula, and cabbage. Root and cole crops such as broccoli and cauliflower also do well this time of year.

Things are not winding down for winter in the club either. On the weekend of October 7th and 8th, we are sharing a booth at Johnny Appleseed Days with club member and landscaper Kathleen. Please feel free to stop by to say hello.

And get ready for our annual planting of daffodils around town. Ward placed the daffodil order for 10,000 bulbs months ago and they just came in! Contact the Habriel's to place your personal order, \$30 per one hundred bulbs. Let Ward or Jeudie know areas around town you see that need a bright spot of color that our club can plant. Every year we add a bit more color back to Paradise.

The beating heart of the Paradise Garden Club, the Beautification Committee, led by our own long-time member Jeudie, still meets on Thursday mornings where we routinely set about tending several public areas of our town.

We have a field trip planned on Saturday the 14th at Rolling Hills Casino for a luncheon presented by the Red Bluff Garden Club to learn about bugs.

We continue to work toward scheduling future field trips. If you have field trip ideas, please mention it at our next meeting or contact our illustrious Vice President Anne P.

As usual get out into your gardens and enjoy yourselves!

Todd

PGCI General Meeting, October 9 at 1:00 p.m.

Our speaker: Jenny Marr, Master Gardener

Topic: Propagation Workshop



Beautification Team Report



September found the Beautification Team at all three TLC areas dead heading spent flowers, pulling weeds, and removing tenacious sweet peas. Club member Kathleen Elliott, who has owned her landscape business for over 40 years, shared her knowledge with three of the team as we toured the areas. She had advice on the placement of many new & established plants. We followed her first suggestion that we move the pink Dianthus from Foster to the Library Mound and place it along the steps going up to the bell. We will refer to her suggestions for more changes.

Jeudie met with the grounds keepers at the library to look at the spray pattern of water at the Library Mound. They were able to adjust it so there are less areas where the soil remains dry.

We continue to find vole holes here & there now at all three places. Until now the Library showed no evidence of voles. We continue to pour castor oil and mint down those holes as a repellent in the hope it will discourage them.

Jeudie



Foster Triangle



Elliott Triangle

Thank you!

Our thanks go to Pamm Larry from the Butte County Local Food Network. She spoke to us in September about the non-profit organization formed in October 2019. She gave us several examples of programs within the network such as Garden Blitz that involves getting you started on growing your own food by purchasing or applying for 4x4 or 4x8 raised beds, an annual seed swap, and the "1000 Acres More Project" which encourages everyone to grow their own food while collaborating with neighbors to do the same and share the bounty.

For information on the many programs and projects, check out their website at <https://bclocalfood.org/>. Donations of time, supplies and money are needed and very welcome.





Upcoming Events

Paradise Garden Club at the Terry Ashe Recreation Center

Monday, **November 13**, 1:00-3:00: Kay Perkins, Master Gardener, "Gardening for a Lifetime"

Your friends are always welcome

Johnny Appleseed Days at Terry Ashe Park, Paradise
Saturday, October 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, October 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Butte Rose Society's 2023 Annual Rose Show & Festival of Roses

Saturday, October 28, <https://www.butte-rosesociety.org/>



UC Master Gardener Workshops Registration Information and class location addresses at <https://ucanr.edu/sites/bcmg/Workshops/> *CLASSES ARE FREE AND FILL UP QUICKLY*

Growing Citrus Trees **NEW**, Thursday, October 12, 10-11:30am, Pat's Barn, limit 30 people

Blueberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, and Strawberries **NEW**, Friday, October 20, 10-11:30am, Private residence in Paradise, limit 15 people

Composting, Friday, October 27, 10-11:30am, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Registration for the classes below will be available at the beginning of October.

Neighborhood Habitat Certification **NEW** Saturday, November 4, 1:30-3pm
Pat's Barn, limit 30 people

Plant an Acorn; Harvest a Community **NEW**, Tuesday, November 7, 1:30-3pm
Pat's Barn, limit 30 people

Espalier, Wednesday, November 8, 1-2:30pm, Demonstration Garden, limit 25 people

Wildcrafting **NEW** Monday, November 20, 1:30-3pm, Pat's Barn, limit 30 people



Linda's wildlife habitat on pg 4

If we grow native plants, native insects will return to feed on these plants. If native insects return, native birds will return to feed on these insects. Native plants take very little water and thrive despite harsh weather. Gardeners, this is something we can do. Let's respect and promote the native, natural Paradise.



Linda pruning white sage

Getting to Know You

Linda began gardening about 35 years ago when she bought her first house in Michigan. She moved from Michigan to get away from the snow, and she became a Paradise resident in 1999.

Her hobbies are gardening, reading, and watching wildlife. Before the 2018 Camp Fire, Linda had an online business selling faery house kits, via Etsy, throughout the USA, and to France and Spain. She built the faery kits herself. It takes a lot of time and patience. Then, like most Paradise residents, Linda lost her home and belongings in the fire and stopped the faerie house business. With her home rebuilt, the garden is an ongoing development that has grown into a joyful wildlife haven.



Munched on Milkweed.

"People see plants being eaten and they say, 'Kill the bugs!' You have to get over seeing your plants being devoured in a natural habitat setting. You could say my theme is, 'Eat Me!'"



Munched on Vine Maple.

Linda's young pup, Raven, challenges herself daily by moving two-foot boulders that delineate paths and plant areas. As Linda walks through her yard naming plants for me, she realigns those rocks. Paths everywhere, curving through trees, understory shrubs, flowers, and multitudes of tiny and big plants. It's a visual delight of varied colors, textures, shapes, and sizes. All the while, there's a chorus of bird song and flight throughout the yard as if every day is their party.

Here are just some of the mostly native plants Linda has on her 1.3 acres: coffee berry, toyon, vine maple, mock orange, anemones, speciosa/showy milkweed, echinacea, pipevine, hummingbird sage, diamond height ceanothus (wild lilac), geraniums, asters, hot wings maple, portulacas, Everett's Choice California fuchsia, California Bay Laurel, and bush poppy.

"I really got started on the habitat ideas watching the robins come and wipe out the berries on the Toyon bushes every January. It made me begin to plant more things that provided food for the other creatures. I also put up hummingbird feeders and bird houses. I put out just a small amount of seed in the morning to welcome them and watch them feed. Then they move on to feed on the other plants in the yard." Linda gets a mixture of cracked corn and shelled sunflowers and mixes in dried mealworms for the birds. This mixture leaves no mess or weeds below the feeder. Another reason for the birds to party at Linda's place are the plantings of fennel, sunflowers, and portulacas. *"They come for the flowers, water, seed, and social interaction."*

Linda added a garden stream water feature after the fire. As we watch, gold finches, house finches and hummers alight to drink and dip their wings. Fluttering and jabbering news to each other. Also attracted to the stream, dragonflies with their opalescent wings, along with the butterflies and it's simply magical.

Another impetus to committing to a wildlife habitat were the pipevine swallowtail butterflies. She watched the caterpillars eating. This is when she began to plant all kinds of milkweed. Before the 2018 fire, there were hundreds of fluttering wings making her driveway look like a butterfly highway. Linda grows a wide variety of milkweed, mindful that this is the staple for monarch butterfly caterpillars. As we speak, a monarch surfs the wind over to a Mexican sunflower, then flits over to a butterfly bush. The nectar must be good.

Board Meeting Minutes

**Paradise Garden Club Board Meeting
September 11, 2023
Terry Ashe Recreation Center**

Attending: Margaret Hawe, Joyce and Todd Hummel, Alison Denofrio, Anne Pace, Ward Habriel, Nancy Howe, Jeudie Lovell, Ellen Michels, Wendy Wicklund

Treasurer's Report

Margaret stated we have \$32,100 in the bank. She recently renewed our Chamber of Commerce membership, our fictitious business license, and our tax- exempt status. Margaret asked if she could get a club credit card to pay for expenses such as these, and everyone okayed the idea. There was a discussion about how much money to budget for scholarships. We currently have \$2,000 budgeted, which could be used for Butte College students, Master Gardener trainees, or CGCI scholarships. The Butte College scholarships are currently set at \$500, and we gave out two of them this year. Wendy suggested we raise the amount to \$1000 per student. Since the scholarships have already been awarded this year, it was decided to wait until next year's budget to consider raising the amount.

Garden Tour

The garden tour search team is made up of Nancy, Joyce, Cheryl, and Carol. There was a discussion about going back to a one-day garden tour. Four board members were in favor of that idea. Anne wants to hear what the membership thinks. It will be brought up at the general meeting. There was a discussion about changes to the tour booklet. Some of the suggestions were: more pages for the homes/gardens, putting ads in the back, more gardening-related ads, and including a map.

Miscellaneous

Wendy expressed an interest in being on the Board. Ellen suggested that Wendy take on the role of secretary, as Ellen has done it for several years and is ready to move on. Wendy accepted. Ellen offered to stay on a few more months to help transition Wendy to acting secretary.

There was a question about whether we needed to budget money for the booth at Johnny Appleseed. Margaret said she could fit it into an existing budget category.

Beautification Report

Jeudie reported that three members of the beautification team had met with Kathleen Elliot to go over recommended changes to the triangles. There was a list of changes/plants/ recommendations sent out to the three members. Ellen expressed disappointment that she had not known about the meeting since she was the who had suggested eliciting Kathleen's help. Jeudie will forward the list of recommendations to her.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Michels, Recording Secretary

General Meeting Minutes

Paradise Garden Club. Inc. General Meeting September 11, 2023 Terry Ashe Recreation Center

President Todd Hummel called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. There were approximately 30 people attending. Everyone introduced themselves; then Todd asked for a moment of silence to remember all the victims of 9/11.

Treasurer's Report

Margaret reported that the club has over \$32,100 in the bank. She recently renewed the Chamber of Commerce membership, the fictitious business license, and our tax-exempt status.

Joanie announced that she is taking on the job of collecting funds for the Penney Pines program (something Margaret used to do.) She will collect donations at each meeting and the funds will be used to plant trees in Plumas National Forest.

Master Gardener Moment

Ellen reminded everyone that the Master Gardener program is currently recruiting for the class of 2024, and that she had information on how to apply. The deadline for applying is September 30th. The application can be found online at <https://ucanr.edu/sites/bcmg/>.

Ellen also let everyone know that the Master Gardeners will be holding a plant sale at Patrick Ranch on September 30th, from 9:00-12:00. All the plants (many are native) have been propagated and cared for by Master Gardeners, and no plant is over \$10. There will also be two 30-minute workshops that morning: one on native plants and one on raised beds.

Beautification Team Report

Jeudie reported that a few members of the beautification team had met with Kathleen Elliott (professional landscaper) and she gave them advice on changes to make to the "triangles" on Skyway and the library mound on Clark Road. They did not have time to visit the memorial on Clark Road, which is the 4th area the team beautifies.

Miscellaneous

Someone mentioned that Kathleen Elliott has olive oil for sale and a sign-up was passed around for people who would like to order some.

Serena suggested that we partner with the schools to have students pull weeds on vacant lots in the spring as a project they could get school credit for. It was mentioned that Jeff Marcus, at the last meeting, suggested partnering with the "Ridge Rangers, a student group at Ridgeview High. We would need to get the property owner's permission if we wanted to do this on private property.

Continued next page

Garden Tour Discussion

Todd asked what members thought about the idea of going back to a one-day garden tour, the reasoning being that a two-day tour is a LOT of work and we did not have enough people step up to volunteer during the last tour. He asked everyone to think about it, and we will discuss at the next meeting.

Guest Speaker

- Allison introduced our guest speaker - Pamm Larry from the Butte County Local Food Network. They are a non-profit organization formed in October of 2019. Some of their programs are: Garden Blitz, where you can apply for or purchase a 4X4 or 4X8 raised bed garden to grow your own food,
- the Farmers MarketMobile, which takes food grown by local farmers and sells it (they take EBT) it in areas of the county that do not have a regular farmers market,
- the Save our Seeds Project, which sponsors an annual seed swap, among other things,
- the 1000 Acres More Project, which encourages everyone to grow their own food, encourage their neighbors to do so, and pool resources for buying and sharing of seeds and produce.

There are many more programs and projects that can be found on the Butte County Local Food Network website at <https://bclocalfood.org/>. Pamm passed around a sign-up sheet and asked people to volunteer to help with any of these programs or just to donate \$\$\$, wood plants, sheds, or other garden-related things.

Good of the Order

- Ward announced that there will be 10,000 daffodils coming in October. They will cost \$30 for a bag of 100 bulbs.
- Ward also talked about becoming a fire-wise community, a program where neighbors who join to take steps to reduce the risk of wildfires can get a discount on their insurance. More information can be found on the Butte County Fire Safe Council website at <https://buttefiresafe.net/firewise-usa>.
- Nancy talked about the Red Bluff Garden Club's luncheon at Rolling Hills Casino on October 14th. She passed around a sign-up for those interested in attending.
- Anne announced that she will be having Kathleen Elliott at her garden on October 11th at 10:30, and invited people to attend as a "pop-up" workshop.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Michels, Recording Secretary



COME SMELL
OUR ROSES

**28th Annual
Butte Rose
Show
Saturday
Oct. 28, 2023**

**1-4 p.m. Free
Butte Rose Society at
Chico CARD Center
545 Vallombrosa Ave. Chico
www.butte-rosesociety.org**



CGCI PRESIDENT'S PROJECT 2023-2025

Building the CGCI Scholarship Fund



The purpose of the President's Project 2023-2025 is to raise funds to increase the scholarship dollar amount awarded per recipient and/or to increase the number of scholarships awarded beginning in 2024. The cost of attending a four-year college full time, including tuition, fees, and room and board, has increased 180% annually since 1978. CGCI has more scholarship applications from well-qualified and worthy students than funding available for the scholarship program. The project will add to the Scholarship Donations/Life Membership Fund (Line Code 31513) and correct the imbalance between the growing need and CGCI's ability to meet the need.

Donations can be made online or via mail. The forms to donate can be found on the website. Questions? Please contact the President's Project Chairman Terri Taylor. Thank you so much for your generosity.

FLORAL DESIGN

2022 Floral Arranger **First Place** — NGC FD-1A Calendar Arranger of the Year, **Hetty Shurtleff of OFAD and Las Floralias**

* * *

Hey Paradise, If you enjoy floral designs and arrangements, you are very welcome to bring and share your craft with us at any PGCI meeting. We look forward to it!



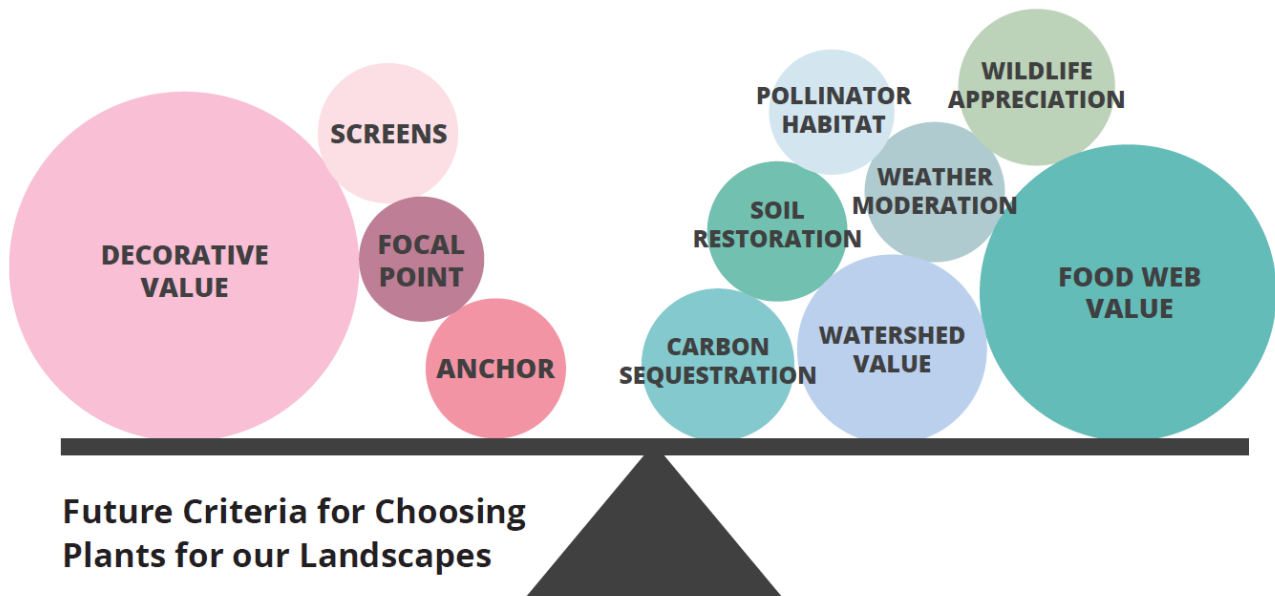


really - A BUG GUY SAID THAT?

Who would think that a professor of entomology (a “bug-guy,” in other words) would have a profound impact on the lives of all who care about our environment and our wildlife? I believe it surprised Doug Tallamy, as well! You probably recognize him as the author of “Bringing Nature Home: How you Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants,” and he’s one busy guy, giving workshops all over the country these days. Now, why would a “bug-guy” be so popular, and how could his message be so profound?

The following is a report by Arabella Dane, NGC Monarch Watch advisor, on the sold-out workshop Tallamy presented at the Coastal Main Botanical Gardens in June (2016):

He stressed the importance of planting the plants in our garden that our native insects depend upon, as these insects are the protein source for our migratory and resident birds. These insects are the critical element of the food chain.



Doug’s basic premise is that by planting native plants for our native insects, we are allowing Mother Nature to complete her web, garden by garden. Our landscape must 1) support life, 2) sequester carbon, 3) clean and manage water, 4) enrich soil, and 5) support pollinators in the process.

In order to help our local pollinators and the wildlife dependent upon them, he advises that we should consider creating corridors connecting natural/wild areas - the purposes served by our mountain ridges and river valleys. He suggests we consider using our power lines, roadway edges and medians and our rangelands to work in a similar manner.

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On the domestic level, he advises that we should reduce the amount of lawn in our own gardens as lawns do not sustain biodiversity; and that we should transition from non-native ornamentals to native ornamentals.

Doug suggests that, as in nature, we should plant our properties in layers - with the taller structural plants creating the canopy and then bring in the woody shrubs to make the walls, and use ground covers, etc., to make the floor. And, as in nature, we should plant densely - as this facilitates pollinator's easier access to their food sources - and that we should favor planting in communities overusing isolated specimen plants as occurs in nature.

The overwhelming evidence of the way our native plants sustain our native insects was shared using technical data comparing native host plants to non-native ornamentals. He also explained - and shared data - showing the importance of understanding the seasonal nutritional value of native vs non-native berries to our migratory birds. This data is available on his web site. <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/>

Doug shows how non-native ornamentals transplanted to an area may support only one caterpillar - maybe none - where a native oak, for example, may support over 50 different kinds of caterpillars! Now, that is indeed profound! If our birds cannot find food to feed their chicks, they will not be able to grace us with their presence! And this is only one form of wildlife.

Let us be reminded that our wild creatures will not be here in the future if we continue to take away their food and the places they live. In many parts of the country, they have no place left but the gardens we have created. It is up to us! And it is not too late. Our native trees and plants are indeed beautiful - SHOWCASE THEM!

They will provide our wildlife with the food they need - from the smallest insect to our pollinators, the birds and their young, and on up the food chain.

"A land without insects, which you may think is a gardener's dream, is a land without most forms of higher life. The terrestrial ecosystems on which we humans all depend for our own continued existence would cease to function without our six-legged friends" - Doug Tallamy.

Be sure and include Doug Tallamy's "Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants," in your library, share it with your friends and children, and try to catch him at one of his workshops around the country.

Now it is YOUR TURN to make that pro- found difference in the world around you - you want to preserve this for yourself AND for our future generations.

Becky Hassebroek,

NGC Environmental Concerns/Conservation Committee, Bee a Wildlife Action Hero
Chairman, National Wildlife Federation Liaison Committee, BeckyHasse@aol.com

National Garden Clubs, Inc. August 16, 2023 <https://gardenclub.org/>

From the
PGCI Archives

2009

DAFFODILS

— A symbol of hope

Paradise goes 'daffy' over daffodils



LEFT: Daffodils such as this one planted after last summer's fires can be seen now all around Paradise.



RIGHT: One of the many places in Paradise where daffodils can be spotted is at Community Park

Staff photo by Bill Huss



ENTERPRISE REC.
 Monday, March 23, 2009

Ridge reaps benefits of post-fire flower plantings

By HEATHER HACKING
 Staff Writer

PARADISE — "To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow," is one of the favorite sayings of Jayne Locas of the Paradise Garden Club.

That one sentence has led to a spectacular display of daffodils on the Ridge.

Last summer, Paradise suffered as devastating wildfires damaged numerous homes and structures and covered the town in smoke for weeks.

It was at this time the idea for mass plantings of daffodils took place. The Paradise Garden club calls it "Daffodils across the Ridge."

The club started off with a plan for thousands of bulbs, and enlisted support from the community.

By the time all the work was done, about 60,000 daffodils were placed in the ground — in parks, planter boxes, front lawns, churches and anywhere else there was a few feet of soil and permis-

sion from the property owner. Carolyn Melf, a spokeswoman for the club, said the flowers will be blooming over the next few weeks with several varieties planted.

Daffodils are bulbs that naturalize and will multiply on their own over time. They also are not gobbled up by squirrels like some other bulbs, such as tulips.

The project started last fall, Melf explained. The club made a \$2,000 commitment toward the project and then started fundraising through Johnny Appleseed Days. Different organizations, such as the Soroptimists and others, helped out with bulb money.

People also bought into the project by buying bulbs for the club to plant or at cost for their own yards.

ChicoER.com

View a Photo Gallery of the Daffodils
chicoer.com/multi/media

Where to see them

- "Welcome to Paradise" signs, Skyway near town limits and at Neal Road.

- Community Park, Pearson Road and Black Olive Drive

- Aquatic Park, Buschmann Road and Recreation Drive

- Senior Center and Performing Arts Center, Nunneley and Clark roads

- Terry Ashe Park, Skyway and Elliott Road

- Bille Park, Bille Road entrance

- Bille Park, west Wagstaff Road entrance

To e-mail the group to help out or find out more information, daffodils4paradise@att.net.

First to be seen are groups of daffodils when coming in town, at the Rod and Gun Club

DAFFODILS

From 1A

the Skyway.

The Town of Paradise sign has daffodils planted at its base. They can also be seen at the Nazarene Church at Neal Road and Skyway and liberally sprinkled along roadways throughout town.

Some of the most intensive plantings are at Bille Park at two entrances. Melf said perhaps the most impressive is a mound with about 5,000 daffodil bulbs at Bille Park at the Wagstaff entrance, at the pavilion.

More yellow blooms can be spotted at the Veterans Center on Skyway, on the corner of Elliott.

"I think we're going daffy. We're already thinking about locations for next year," Melf said.

About 175 pots were also loaded up with daffodils and gifted to area convalescent homes.

"We're hoping this will continue, and we would like to make it a tourist destination to come up and enjoy the flowers," she said.

Recently, the president of the Cali-

fornia Garden Clubs Inc., Robin Pokorsky, chimed in by honoring club member Locas for coming up with the idea. Locas was given the President's Award and a medallion in recognition of her contribution to community beautification.

Melf credited Locas for being the club's powerhouse and asking many property owners for permission to plant.

Another big help was Dan Kennedy, who supplied electric augers and workers who knew how to use them. The men spent hours and hours drilling holes in the soil, Melf said.

Having the augers was important because Paradise has varying soil, some of which would have caused blisters if they were planted by hand.

Melf said the club is already thinking about new locations for next year, and is hoping to have more help from the community.

"We're hoping to make it a tourist destination for people to come up and enjoy the flowers," Melf said.

See DAFFODILS, 9A

Contemplate



A native Coffeeberry at Linda's place. Photo & haiku by Nancy Howe

Birds nibble your fruit
dancing through sun warmed branches
catalysts of joy