



## this issue

Volunteers of the year **P.1**New board members/Grant **P.2**Volunteer Appreciation Picnic **P.3**Statistics/Apparel **P.4**Outreach / Marketing **P.5**Pictures **P.6**Website news **P.7**

## Volunteers of the Year

After a year of work, Senior Gleaners launched a new and improved website. Many thanks to the trio making this happen: long-time board member Monte Turner, board member Jayanti Menches and volunteer web developer Calin Cionca. The three are the VOLUNTEERS of the YEAR for their dedication to getting this project done.



Take a look and give it a try--same address: [www.seniorgleanerssdco.org](http://www.seniorgleanerssdco.org).

The Home page aims to give a quick overview of our work and accomplishments. The Resources page provides information for volunteers and residents.

The About page recognizes board members, crew leaders and special service volunteers.

The Volunteer page gives links to documents you may need and makes it easy to order gleaner apparel. It includes a Photo Gallery. Take a look. You might see someone you know. Monte would welcome more photos of gleaning groups and individuals.

The Donate page is all-inclusive for donations of crops, funds and services to promote Senior Gleaners.

Note: Sorry, no picture for Calin

## Volunteer Appreciation picnic at Mission Bay Park

Senior Gleaners held a Volunteer Appreciation picnic April 15 at Mission Bay Park. Volunteers were thanked for their hard work in collecting fruit and groceries to feed the hungry. So far this year, gleaners have picked 53,000 pounds of fruit and 6,600 pounds of groceries and delivered the product to 23 distribution sites. This effort saved all the product from otherwise being wasted.

Aprille Geier from San Diego County Department of Agriculture spoke about the importance of having no stems or leaves in the picked product to limit the spread of the Asian Citrus Psyllids. In Florida, 75% of the citrus crop has been lost due to the disease. In California, Asian Citrus Psyllids have been found in Los Angeles, Oceanside and Rancho Bernardo. Senior Gleaners remain vigilant in looking for signs of infestation.

Thank-you gifts of succulents were distributed to attendees and raffle prizes were distributed. We had more raffle prizes than people attending so everyone “won” a prize. The Volunteer of the Year designation was presented to Jayanti Menches, Calin Cionca and Monte Turner for their yearlong dedication to improving the website.

Thanks to Daryush Bastani for being Master of Ceremony and to those who brought raffle gifts and food to share. The weather was breezy and cold. We decided that next year the event should be held indoors at the San Diego Zoroastrian Center 1721 Hornblend St, San Diego 92109.



## Senior Gleaners Welcomes New Additions to our Board

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to new board members, Carlos Cortez and Josef Strasser, both of whom bring years of management experience along with a passion to serve the community.



Carlos Cortez is currently a business strategist with a background in management and consulting in various organizations, including the food sector. He is also a member of the team behind the Nourish Movement, a multi-sector group of business leaders and entrepreneurs looking to address human and planetary health through Food is Medicine solutions.



Josef (Joe) Strasser and his wife returned to California in 2022 following 20 years in North Carolina and a career in regulatory toxicology within the pharmaceutical industry. He served as a boy scout leader and council member as well as years on the Board of Education for the Charlotte Diocese. Joe now volunteers on the senior volunteer patrol for the Fallbrook Sheriff and as a docent for the San Luis Rey Mission in Oceanside.

Senior Gleaners is governed by a volunteer board that meets quarterly to review strategy, operations and finances. Read more about Carlos and Joe's backgrounds along with our other board members (link to <https://seniorgleanerssdco.org/about/>)

## NEW GRANT RECEIVED IN 2023

Mission Beach Women's Club \$1,000 for gloves, pickers and gas for the van

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO [TRACY REAM](#) and her assistant [HUA LU](#) for submitting this grant. They were invited to attend the presentation of the grant on May 15.

# Apparel Shop



Hat \$10

Tshirt \$15

Polo shirt \$20

Hoodie \$35

A few womens poly \$15

Add your name for \$5

To order Call Daryush at 619-997-8177

## Picked fruit and groceries 2023 to May10

District	Pounds	Gleans	Hours
South	2,469	10	122
East	35,910	88	683
Clairemont	5,077	32	649
North	22,918	41	780
Groceries	6,605	21	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72,979</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>2,225</b>

Previous years totals	Pounds gleaned
2019	159,744
2020	141,270
2021	186,717
2022	185.647

### Follow Us on LinkedIn

Senior Gleaners has recently published its LinkedIn profile. Follow us and share our news with your friends and family.

Visit: [www.linkedin.com/company/seniorgleanerssd/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/seniorgleanerssd/)



## Outreach and Marketing

The Clairemont Garden Tour held on Saturday May 6th, was a highly successful event. It raised awareness of the Senior Gleaners organization.

The garden tour showcased a variety of beautiful gardens in the Clairemont neighborhood. There were a number of educational tables set up for the public to learn about where our food comes from. Attendees were treated to a feast for the senses as they strolled through the gardens, taking in the sights, sounds, and scents of the beautiful flowers, plants, and trees.

The success of the event was due in no small part to the many volunteers who gave selflessly of their time and energy to make it a success. From organizing the event to setting up tables and chairs, to selling tickets and guiding attendees through the gardens, the volunteers worked tirelessly to ensure that everything ran smoothly.

On behalf of Senior Gleaners, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the Clairemont Garden Tour such a resounding success. Your dedication and hard work are truly appreciated, and your efforts will help us continue to provide food assistance to those in need.

The Clairemont Garden Tour was a wonderful event that showcased the beauty of the Clairemont neighborhood and raised funds for a great cause. Thanks again to all the volunteers who helped make it possible. Your generosity and compassion are an inspiration to us all.

Lee Hart, Councilwoman Jennifer Campbell, Daryush Bastani, Margaret Burton



Porchlight Community Distributor



Many gleaners make light work



Community Christian Service Agency Distributor



North county pick with Clairemont



Great group of Gleaners



Raffle prizes for everyone



Daryush and Rostam



Coronado pick



## Our Website Has New Features

We've made several additions to our newly redesigned website. Please share a link to our website with others and post to your social media accounts to help spread the word about our work.

Find links to these items on our Home Page or other locations as indicated:



DIY Harvesters can find distribution sites that will take their picked produce.



Read about two new board members--Joe Strasser and Carlos Cortez.



Our basic information flyer is now available in Spanish.



Prospective donors can check our profile on Candid, which provides general and fiscal information about non-profits. Click on the logo at the bottom of any page.



SG expands service to North County



The Home Page links to a news release on this topic. Also, here's a link to a 5/26 Union-Tribune online article about the expansion:

<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/north-county-community-news/story/2023-05-26/senior-cleaners-expand-to-north-county-pick-tons-of-fruits-vegetables-that-would-have-rotted>

