



# COUNCIL THYMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSULTANTS COUNCIL  
Published since 2013

CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC. - NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

## Chairman's Message

The past four years serving as CCC Chairman have been an honor. It is time for a new CCC member to serve as Chairman so when asked by CGCI's incoming President, Krystal Migliore, please say "Yes!" It is a rewarding position and your leadership is needed.

Supporting Environmental, Gardening and Landscape Design Consultants with opportunities provided by the CCC have included a tri-refresher in June 2014, programs open to all at CGCI board meetings as well as a workshop at the 2015 convention. What ideas do you have as a member of the CCC for the new CCC Chairman to consider?

Twenty-four CCC Awards and Commendations have been issued during these four inaugural years including twelve Landscape Design Commendations, three Awards of Merit to Landscape Architects, five Landscape Design Certificates of Appreciation, Recognition and/or Achievement and four Outstanding Private Garden Certificates. All these were recommended, reviewed and approved by CCC members.

A special 'thank you' to Robin Pokorski who has generously donated her time serving the CCC as both Editor of the *Council Thymes* and Parliamentarian since the CCC was founded June 7, 2013. Her overall support of the CCC and assistance is appreciated!

We hope you will join us at CGCI's Convention in San Luis Obispo. The CCC 2016 Consultant of the Year will be announced at the Awards Banquet. Be sure to attend the CCC meeting scheduled to complete the business ending with this term. Don't forget to remit 2017-2019 CCC dues of \$20 because you will not want to miss the fun and future educational opportunities provided by the CCC.

'Thank you' for the wonderful memories you helped create being a part of the CCC. It has been a pleasure serving as the CCC's Chairman.

## Next Meeting



### Next Meeting

CCC Business Meeting - CCC members only

Thursday, June 1, 2017  
4:45 to 5:45 p.m.

San Luis Obispo South  
Embassy Suites by Hilton, San Luis Obispo, CA

A few items of business for the Agenda include:

- Election of CCC officers that include Vice Chairmen for Environmental, Gardening and Landscape Design Consultants, Secretary and Treasurer.
- 2017-2018 proposed budget approval
- Unfinished business postponed to this meeting
- CGCI School Chairmen reports

## 2015 - 2017 Council Officers

Chairman: Julie West, [julieawest@aol.com](mailto:julieawest@aol.com)

Secretary: open

Treasurer: Shane Looper, [Slooper@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Slooper@sbcglobal.net)

Parliamentarian: Robin Pokorski,

[CGCIRobin@gmail.com](mailto:CGCIRobin@gmail.com)

Vice Chairmen:

Environmental Consultants:

Dave West, [JDavidWest@aol.com](mailto:JDavidWest@aol.com)

Gardening Consultants:

Josie Goodenow,

[JosephineGoodenow@gmail.com](mailto:JosephineGoodenow@gmail.com)

Landscape Design Consultants:

Carolyn Villi, [caronv39@yahoo.com](mailto:caronv39@yahoo.com)

## School Daze

### Tri-Refresher Rescheduled

October 27-28, 2017

Sponsor: Long Beach Garden Club

Watch for details on CGCI's Calendar of

Events: <http://californiagardenclubs.com/calendar>

## CGCI Schools News



By Greg Pokorski, GSS  
Chairman

NGC Consultants, are you planning to celebrate you during National Garden Week?

As previously announced in these

pages, NGC's National Garden Week and Schools Chairmen are challenging all NGC Consultants to celebrate their consultant status and use and share knowledge gained in NGC schools during National Garden Week, June 4-10, 2017. The idea is to make NGC's Consultants more visible and vibrant, to give them a stronger purpose and a national purpose and to give them an opportunity to give back by observing a **National Consultants Day during National Garden Week.**

Environmental, Gardening and Landscape Design Consultants, what have you done? You attended four courses of a School and passed all of the exams. Perhaps you have refreshed your credentials once or more than once – and perhaps you are a Master Consultant. But, what have you done to use your credentials? Possibly a lot? Maybe you have given programs or workshops in your club or at a school, worked on a club project, written articles for the club newsletter or the local newspaper, placed exhibits in the flower show or county fair, or helped conduct or proctor an NGC School? We want you to tell us what you've done – and what you can do in the future. We want you to recognize your achievement in completing an NGC school and we want you to share the information you have obtained while letting others know about NGC, CGCI and your local garden club – so we can recognize you.

Things that an individual Consultant can do any day (or on more than one day) during National Garden Week:

1. Volunteer at a Habitat for Humanity house (or similar non-profit) to do some outdoor cleanup/planting
2. Present an environmental, gardening or landscape program at a school or nursing home
3. Give a program/workshop at your local library
4. Invite gardening friends - (not necessarily NGC members) to your own garden and teach them about how your garden works - or does not work - problems and good environmental, gardening and landscape solutions etc.
5. Write an article on any of these NGC school subjects for your local newspaper
6. Help a neighbor/friend who needs guidance or help in their own garden or yard

Use your imagination. The possibilities are endless. Let us know your plans and your results. Share your knowledge. Learn more as you teach club members and the public. For more information, see related articles in recent issues of *The Council Thymes*, *Keeping in Touch*, *The National Gardener* and *WACONIAH*. Thanks for attending NGC Schools and becoming a Consultant. You have earned a "special merit badge" in the garden club world. You are special.

### **BUTTERFLY GARDENERS ALERT**

By Julie West, CCC Chairman



Attention all butterfly gardening enthusiasts - Mark your calendar for the upcoming NABA Memorial Day Counts scheduled for May 27-29, 2017. Visit NABA's website for

details (<http://www.naba.org/memvic.html>).

The idea is to engage more people in NABA's citizen science program reporting butterfly sightings. These can be any length of time and any location and are less formal than NABA's 4th of July Counts that have a more rigorous protocol. The data is used to track trends in butterfly populations. It is being set up right now but the plan is to offer free trial memberships in NABA for folks participating in the count. NABA also created a Facebook event for people - [www.facebook.com/events/1911587652404458/](http://www.facebook.com/events/1911587652404458/)

NABA hopes that literally thousands of enthusiasts will have a great time in the field and contribute their knowledge, quickly making "Butterflies I've Seen" one of the largest biological databases in the world. This is an awesome opportunity to make a difference.

### **Gardening Study School**

By Greg Pokorski, CGCI Gardening Study Schools Chairman



As you make plans for a new garden club year, plan to begin a Gardening Study School (GSS). GSS addresses all aspects of gardening – from the perspective of both the novice and the experienced

gardener. **You are needed to begin one (or more) new schools.** NGC provides the infrastructure with this well-established educational program for you to provide education to your members and to the public. By sponsoring a school, you should be able to increase the visibility of your garden club, district and CGCI and the good works they do while attracting some new members, encouraging future gardeners, and hopefully making

a little money – while developing teamwork and cooperation among those who perform the work of conducting the school.

Your district or club can sponsor a school utilizing local instructors. Each School contains four two-day courses. Each course includes five required subjects and one supplemental subject for a total of ten hours of instruction that cover gardening from soils to harvest (fruits, vegetables, flowers). Contact this chairman for details – [GregPokorski@earthlink.net](mailto:GregPokorski@earthlink.net), 818-361-7873.

At this time, the only refresher opportunity for Gardening Consultants (or any Consultants) in California this year is the Long Beach Tri-Refresher scheduled for October. See related article in this newsletter. All Gardening Consultants in good standing – that is all Gardening Consultants in the state are eligible to refresh their certificates at this event.

These Gardening Consultants must refresh this year or request and receive extensions by December 31: Beverly Brune, Margaret Strachan and Sharon Thorne. These Gardening Consultants are on extensions and must refresh by December 31: Teresa Kilroy, Darcey Lober, George Speer and Sharon Swildens. Don't lapse. There is always something new to learn.

### **2017-2019 CCC Dues**



The CCC is ending the 2015-2017 term with 45 members. Current CCC members have recommended, reviewed and approved seven Landscape Design Commendations, three Landscape Design Certificates

of Appreciation, Recognition and/or Achievement, two Awards of Merits for Landscape Architects and one Outstanding Private Garden Certificate for a total of thirteen CCC awards issued. Eleven of these various types of awards were granted in the 2013-2015 term. Congratulations to the 24 recipients these past four years!

Programs open to both CCC members and non-members were provided at CGCI's 2016 Winter Board, 2016 Fall Board and 2017 Winter Board meetings. A variety of topics of interest to all consultants were presented by the speakers whether it was seed balls (Valarie Bonilla's husband), heathers (Maria Krenek) or salvias (John Whittlesey).

Whatever the 2017-2019 term will bring to CCC members, you won't want to miss it. Make sure you complete and remit the 2017-2019 dues form attached to this issue of the Council Thymes and continue the educational journey of the California Consultants Council.

## **Compostophile or Compostaphobe – To rot or not to rot...**

### **TRI-REFRESHER**

*By Alexis Slafer, Landscape Design Schools Chairman*

Long Beach Garden Club of Costa Verde District is pleased to announce the current status of the Tri-Refresher being planned for October 27 and 28, 2017.

This multiple refresher is titled: *Reimagining the Mature Garden* and will focus on the residential garden. The catalyst for this theme centered on conversations dealing with the gardens we use and how our desires and needs change over time. Many people want to make changes to their yards, but are not able to do expensive whole scale landscaping projects. We all want to open up possibilities for bringing new purpose and life to these gardens. In part, that would include assessment and evaluation of the current garden, identifying current and future desires to create a wish list, and how to implement them.

Plans for this 2-day refresher currently include lectures by CSU Dominguez Hills professor, Dr. Connie Vadheim, who also lectures on various native plant topics at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center in Torrance; Jorge Ochoa, Professor in the Horticulture Department at Long Beach City College (who was a well-received speaker at the 2016 Winter Board Meeting in San Pedro); and Alexis Slafer, Landscape Architect, CGCI Landscape Design Schools Chairman, and NGC Gardening & Master Landscape Design Consultant. The first day will also include a tour to three Long Beach residential gardens to view first hand the focus of this refresher.

In addition to encouraging current Landscape Design, Gardening, and Environmental Consultants to refresh at this Tri-Refresher, we invite anyone who is interested in *Reimagining the Mature Garden* to attend. And, isn't this a great way to learn about the Schools of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

- Event: *National Garden Clubs, Inc. – Tri-Refresher*
- Sponsor: *Long Beach Garden Club, Costa Verde District, California Garden Clubs, Inc*
- Co-Chairs: *Jane Kaylor & Fran Woods*
- Location: *St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 6201 Willow, Long Beach 90815*
- Dates: *October 27 & 28, 2017*

**I think I'm going to hire the same landscaper I used last year -**

**He was really easy to get a lawn with.**

## California Consultants Council Awards

### CCC Landscape Design Commendations Awarded

Congratulations to the three recipients of the CCC Landscape Design Commendations awarded since the December 2016 issue of the *Council Thymes*. Each application was recommended by a CCC member plus reviewed and approved by three CCC Landscape Design Consultant members. Brief descriptions of each:

January 12, 2017 Trinidad Museum Society in Trinidad, CA was commended for their accessible, educational and inspiring Native Plant Garden demonstrating good land use that included woodland plants, plants of the coastal bluffs, plants around the vernal pool and plants of the central meadow creating a successful native habitat for the community as well as wildlife to enjoy. Two of the six photographs received are shown below.



*Entrance welcomes visitors to museum*



*Colorful border with wide walkways*

CGCI's Winter Board Meeting in Anderson, CA was the site for the February 1, 2017 commendation awarded to Judy Paul for innovative design and selection of plant material appropriate to the season in abundant varieties, colors and textures used in downtown Cone-Kimball planters that beautify the Red Bluff, CA location to enhance visitors' experience. Photos below are examples of the planters and gardens maintained by Judy.



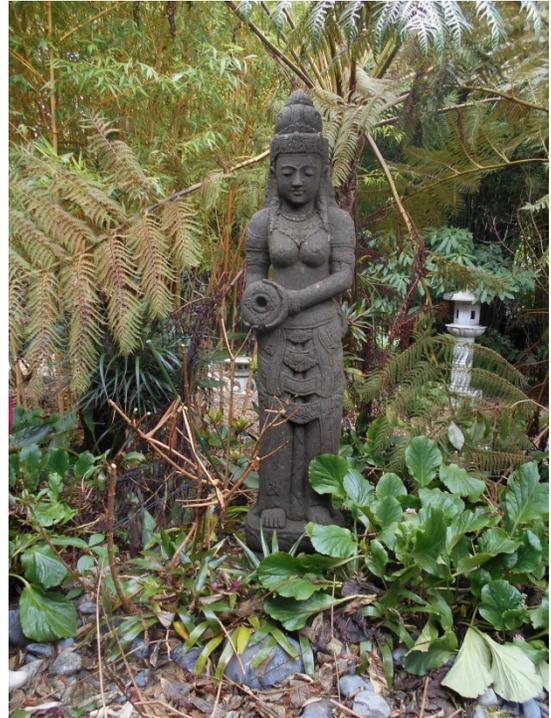
One of several round planters (left) and one of the garden planters in the Cone-Kimball Plaza design itself (right).

May 26, 2017 at the Humboldt District Meeting, the third commendation will be awarded to Verne and Paula Trinoskey from Eureka. Their Asian garden includes 13 varieties of Bamboo forming natural enclosures and privacy screens. A sea of gravel, fed by a dry creek bed and a waterfall formed of flat-smooth pebbles. Pieces of driftwood strategically placed mimics the limestone formations found in China. Dwarf conifers provide winter interest followed by a burst of color from tulips, narcissus, azaleas and rhododendrons in the spring. Summer focuses on the 160 conifers planted and 40+ varieties of Japanese maples provide the grand finale in fall.

The garden includes authentic artifacts and plants of Asia, grouped together to relate to their heritage. Good land use is demonstrated by individual rooms, hidden vistas and repetition of varieties of the same plant families. The path is circular and changes in elevation throughout the design.



*Asian garden of Verne & Paula Trinoskey*



*Large stone water maiden from Bali*



*New Zealand & Australian Tree Ferns provide shade and frost protection for tropical garden plants developed as a visual extension of the Thai- themed master bedroom.*