

California Garden Clubs, Inc.

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Maryanne Lucas, President

California Garden Clubs, Inc. is a member of National Garden Clubs, Inc., Pacific Region



Message from 2010 Fall Board Meeting Chairman

By Pat Clayes

Palm Springs, September 15-17, 2010, The Hyatt Regency Suites

Here is a huge "THANKS" to all CGCI Chairmen and District Directors who have made their hotel reservations and mailed their registration forms for the Fall Board Meeting in Palm Springs!

For those of you who have not registered yet, registration forms must be postmarked by September 1 to avoid the \$15 late fee. And, if you could mail your forms to Registrar, Jane McKee, ASAP, it would be very much appreciated. Click here for the forms on line.

Regarding the Hyatt Regency Suites, I was just informed that our whole block of rooms (including the many rooms which were added to our block during the past two weeks) is now sold-out. The hotel cannot give us any more rooms at the \$89 per night (with the resort fee waived and reduced parking rate for underground parking). The hotel does have more sleeping rooms, but at a much higher cost. IF YOU HAVE TO CANCEL YOUR ROOM RESERVATION, COULD YOU PLEASE LET ME KNOW (email or 909-337-6911) BEFORE YOU CANCEL YOUR RESERVATION. Perhaps someone who couldn't make a reservation at The Hyatt could take over your slot on our block.

Here's what I propose:

- 1) If you have a room at The Hyatt Regency Suites and would like a roommate, let me know.

Remember that every room has a fold-out sofa bed in the living room of the suite. I will start compiling a list of anyone who would like to share his/her suite.

2) If you haven't made your reservation yet and would be agreeable to be a roommate, let me know.

3) Finally, if you haven't made your reservations yet, you can book a room at [The Spa Resort Casino Hotel](#) (where the NGC Executive Committee held its Winter Board Meeting last January) which is only 2-3 blocks away - walking - but 6 blocks if driving because of one-way streets - from The Hyatt Regency Suites (and the Spa Resort Casino Hotel has a van which might be able to take you to the Hyatt and return -- for a tip to the driver). [And I will check with The Hyatt to see if its van can accommodate those staying at The Spa to and from our meeting.] You can, of course, drive to The Hyatt and park in its underground parking facility, but the cost is \$15.00 per day. The phone number for The Spa Hotel is: 1-800-854-1279 or book on line. [Click here](#) for the site. I went onto the site yesterday and got an \$89 per night rate (although I do believe that a \$15 resort fee also applies). This hotel also picks up at the Palm Springs Airport. If you do have to book at The Spa, let me know and I'll put you on my list in case anyone cancels his/her reservation at The Hyatt.

CGCI Chairmen and District Directors, who are unable to attend the board meeting, should let CGCI President Maryanne Lucas ([email](#) or 805-373-5338) know.

CGCI Tour to Boston
10th World Flower Show
June 14-19, 2011
Hosted by former CGCI President [Bob Gordon](#)

Itinerary:

June 14: Travel to Boston (airfare not included)

June 15: Morning 1/2 day sightseeing tour (includes Boston Commons, North End, Old North Church and other sites). After lunch, visit Arnold Arboretum at Harvard. That evening, enjoy a group cocktail party.

June 16: World Flower Show (admission and transportation included)

June 17: Free day to enjoy Boston or return to the World Flower Show on your own.

June 18: Day trip to the Berkshire Botanical Garden and Tower Hill Botanical Gardens with local guide (admission and boxed lunch included).

June 19: Depart for home

Additional Inclusions: 5 Nights at Hotel - Breakfast Daily - Baggage Handling - Lunch at the Berkshire Gardens. **Cost:** \$1456.00 Per Person - Double Occupancy*

*A deposit of \$100 per person will hold your space. Final payment is due March 14, 2011. Airfare is additional; please contact Mary Vickers at Gulliver's Travel (805-541-4141) in San Luis Obispo for information. Payment by check or credit card. Credit card payments will have an additional 3% additional charge. Cancellation fee applies. Travel insurance highly recommended; see Mary Vickers for information. Please call for single supplement.



About the World Flower Show "This Glorious Earth"

(Except from World Association of Floral Arranger (USA) President Ruth Crocker's letter on WAFAs website)

The World Association of Flower Arrangers brings the 10th World Flower Show -- ***This Glorious Earth*** -- to Boston -- the first to be held in the United States -- **June 15-19, 2011**. The Seaport World Trade Center will house 600 arrangements, with others in adjacent buildings. These spectacular exhibits will exemplify the various aspects of floral design creating a major learning experience for all interested in the fine art of flower arranging. For others, the colors, smells, sculptural shapes, size, mechanical intricacies as well as other attributes will be intriguing. Additional attractions will include three staged demonstrations: one by American designers, one by foreign designers and a final grand demonstration by one of the world's foremost floral artists as well as mini-talks on the show floor. [Click here](#) for the show's overview.

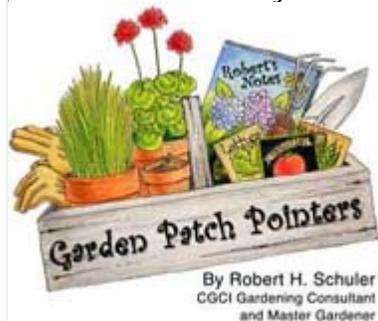


Foolproof Method of Starting Carrots

By Myrtle Findley, Home Grown Chairman

Now is a good time to start carrots for the fall & winter (in the

heat of the summer or early fall). Prepare a rich bed of soil and maintain several ounces of common sense: Collect a suitable size of burlap (soak in water) (whatever size you want your bed of carrots); a shingle the same size or suitable substitute; a rack from an old oven, refrigerator or closet shelf; another heavy piece of burlap or rug the size of the proposed carrot bed; an old window screen. Have the soil moist. Sew the seed in the bed. I hand place each seed (economy) or use your own method. Cover seed with the wet burlap. Cover burlap with the shingle. Cover shingle with the rug, burlap (to keep shingle and burlap moist). Place a timed sprinkler to keep moist daily. After the first week, peek and see if seeds are coming up. As soon as they break ground, remove the trappings. Then place the rack over the seedlings. Raise it an inch with rocks, or something. RE-COVER with the burlap and shingle. When seedlings are about an inch high, remove burlap. Leave rack and cover with a screen to prevent burning. (May use shade as well from hot afternoon sun.) After a couple of days, remove burlap and only keep covered with rack and screen until fully established. The rack keeps birds away as well. You'll have your carrots on their way. Congratulations!



Garden Patch Pointers

Q: Two years ago, I planted some summer bulbs, and it has been a joy to watch them grow in my garden. Can you please tell me more about *Liatrix* and the Mexican Shell Flower? Georgia Paul, Chino, CA

A: *Liatrix spicata*, also known as 'Gayfeathers' or 'Blazing Star' is a long lasting flower with reddish-purple flowers. The buds open first at the top then downward on the erect stem which is unusual for spiky plants. The best-known selection is 'Kobold' (2 feet tall), with bright rosy lilac flowers. 'Floristan White' (3 feet tall) is an alba form of this plant. This plant comes from Eastern and Central North America. It endures heat, cold, aridity and poor soil. The soil must be well-drained and plant requires full sun. In the spring, you can start with nursery transplants or rootstocks. Plant 2" deep and 6-8" apart. The Dutch growers often sell as *Liatrix callepis*. When the plant's performance declines, you can divide this plant in the early spring by separating the basal buds (the lower leaves at the base which often differ from the main plant's leaves) or by seed. I harvest the stem when the flower is fullest and dry them for flower arrangements. The flowers keep their luster after drying.

The "Mexican Shell Flower" or "Tiger Flower" is called *Tigridia pavonia*, and grows from a bulb. This flashy flower is a native from Mexico. This plant grows well with your summer bulbs or in a large pot for a real eye-catcher in your garden or patio. It has fans of narrow, sword like, ribbed leaves to 1 ½ feet long which send up erect 2 ½ foot long flower stems bearing triangular blossoms, sometimes 6" across. Flowers have three large outer segments in red, orange, pink yellow or white; a cup-like

center and three small inner segments are usually boldly blotched with contrasting color. Each flower only lasts one day, but the bloom period last for several weeks. Plant in spring after the weather warms up (night temperature should not fall below 60 degrees). Plant in well-drained soil, setting the bulbs 2-4" deep, 4 to 8" apart. Stop watering after the plant blooms and the leaves turn yellow. The bulbs can be left in the ground where conditions are right, but divided every 3 to 4 years. Spider mites are a main pest causing yellowish or whitish streaks on the foliage. Begin control when the leaves are several inches long. The bulbs can be stored for the winter just like gladiolus.

Questions for *Garden Patch Pointers* can be sent to [Robert Schuler](#), NGC Master Landscape Design & Gardening Consultant; UC Davis Master Gardener



News from National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Plant it Pink Birdhouse

The Plant It Pink birdhouse is available for purchase at [Louisville Stoneware Co.](#) or [Jon Carloftis Fine Garden](#). For every birdhouse sold until March 31, 2011, Louisville Stoneware Co. will donate 10 percent of the selling price to [Susan G. Komen for the Cure](#) and five percent to [NGC garden therapy programs](#) that introduce horticultural therapy into various health care settings.



2011 Vision of Beauty Calendar

Order your copy of the *Vision of Beauty* Calendar now. [Click here](#) to see the instructions on ordering. Get your copy/copies now before the supply is depleted! Your club and/or district might think about ordering multiple copies and use profits as a fundraiser!

NGC Continues its Membership Contest

New Award & New Deadline: 6/1/10 to 3/31/11

Disappointed that CGCI did not win the honor of naming that beautiful new daylily? Well, we have a chance to claim victory by participating in a new contest where the state with the greatest number of new clubs will have the honor of naming a magnificent new variety of **African Violet**. This African Violet, grown by [Lyndon-Lyon Greenhouses, Inc.](#), is a semi-miniature variety with single/semi double

pansy shaped blooms of white, a distinct wavy green edge and light purple highlights randomly scattered about the flower face. Wavy medium green foliage enhances the striking blooms. HELP MEMBERSHIP BLOOM by creating new clubs in California and proudly compete to have this beautiful African Violet bear California's name!



Official Calendar of Upcoming Events

September 15-17, 2010 - CGCI Fall Board Meeting. Host: Palms to Pines District. Chairman: Pat Clayes

September 23-26, 2010 - NGC Fall Board Meeting, Great Falls, Montana

Back to School

Upcoming Educational Opportunities

September 21-22, 2010 - Gardening Study School, Series XXI, Course 3, Loomis. Sponsor: Golden Foothills District. Chairman: Patsy Jeffery. [Click here](#) for the brochure/registration form.

October 12-14, 2010 - Flower Show School, Course 1. Sponsor: Sacramento River Valley District. Chairman: Mary Arakelian.

November 4-5, 2010 - Landscape Design Study Program, Course 1. South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Boulevard, Classroom B, Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA. School Chairman: Alexis Slafer. [Click here](#) for the brochure/registration form.

November 9-10, 2010 - Environmental Studies School, Course III. Sponsor: Bay Ocean District, Chairman: Shane Looper

Website Links

[California Garden Clubs, Inc.](#)



Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Visit Our Website or call us toll free at **888-702-2075**. Any questions or comments about the CGCI eNewsletter, please contact the eNewsletter Chairman. If you are having trouble printing the eNewsletter, try printing in "landscape mode" and/or use legal size paper. If that doesn't work, simply "cut" or "copy" the information which you want to pass along and "paste" it into a Word document.

If your eNewsletter is going into your spam folder, add cagardenclubs@aol.com to your address book.



**Attn: Flower
Show Judges**

***NGC Tour to Peru,
Nov. 8-15, 2010***

This is just a reminder of
the tour NGC has
planned for Peru for

November 8-15, 2010.
NGC still needs seven
(7) judges for the flower
show that will be held in
Peru.

NGC wants you to pass
this information along to
your garden club
members and/or
friends.

If there are any
questions, please
contact Deana Roberts
or Itropa Tours 800-666-
3838.



***Garden Advice
from Mary Crowell***

***Container
Plantings***

Remember that
container pots dry out

quickly and need more attention in the late summer months because of the heat and wind. Adding top dressing to containers such as compost, bark, lava rock or gravel adds a fresh look and keeps them moist. Grouping your containers helps to keep the humidity high around them and adds a design quality.

Watering

For your lawn and plants, water deeply less times rather than shallow watering more often as it makes for better root growth. Best to water trees at the drip line (where the shade ends), rather than at the trunk.



Awards Update

**By Jane McKee,
Awards Manual &
Evaluation Form
Chairman**

The 2010-2011 Manual, Application and Evaluation forms and general information are now on the new CGCI website. Click on "Club Services" and "Awards" or simply [click here](#). Start planning for awards now!

**You can't win, if
you're not in!**

Any questions about the awards program, contact [Nancy Lee Loesch](#), CGCI Awards Chairman.

HT-4 Photography Award News

[Myrtle Findley](#), CGCI Gardening Consultants Council Chairman, wants you to know that "now is the time to take those photos for the HT-4 Photography Award of your 2010 vegetable/fruit orchard-garden." [Click here](#) to download the evaluation form to see what photos you need. Cash Prizes: \$50, \$30,\$20.



**NGC Landscape
Design Study
Program**

**By Alexis Slafer, CGCI
LDSP Chairman**

Are You Interested in
Sponsoring a Landscape
Design Study Program?

This exciting opportunity
is now available to you,
your club, and your

district!

Series 24 is being held in Southern California. It would be fabulous to hold Series 25 in Northern California. Just send the following information to me: Your name, address, telephone number, email address, club & district.

CGCI Yearbook Update

By Pat Claves, CGCI Yearbook Team Coordinator

I just received word from the printer that the CGCI 2010-2011 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* has been printed and is being bound. All 800 of them will be delivered to my house next week! I will be putting them in order for distributed at the Fall Board Meeting in Palm Springs. Al Claves will be handling the distribution for the Yearbook Team this year in the Hospitality Room.

District Directors &

Chairmen: Please pick up your yearbooks as soon as you arrive at the hotel.

**eNewsletter
Archive**

To view past CGCI eNewsletters, [click here](#).