



Golden Gardens eNews

California Garden Clubs, Inc.

June 2012 Vol. 4-6

[Julie A. West](#), President

[California Garden Clubs, Inc.](#) is a Member of [Pacific Region](#), [National Garden Clubs, Inc.](#)



Message from the President Julie A. West

A big 'thank you' to Sacramento River Valley District volunteers and 2012 Convention Chairman, Ron Byrd, for the whirlwind success of CGCI's 81st annual convention. The tram tour of UC Davis Arboretum was fabulous, and the workshops were full to the brim! CGCI was honored to have NGC President Shirley Nicolai as our special guest, and we enjoyed the opportunity to get to know her better. She witnessed lots of "positive energy" as we tended to business in a shortened format with a focused schedule.

Highlights include the following:

- Proposed bylaws amendments adding a Communications Director to the Executive Committee as well as *Golden Gardens* going electronic were approved, both to be effective July 1, 2013.
- Establishing a legacy society was adopted.
- Reserve May 11-18, 2013 to join this president and fellow CGCI members

on a fundraising cruise from Los Angeles to Vancouver, B.C. with ports of call in Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Astoria, Seattle and Victoria. Mid-ship balcony cabins are \$1,325 per person (+\$115 taxes/fees) including a \$50 donation to CGCI on the Sapphire Princess. See full details in article elsewhere in this issue.

- A permanent mailing address will be obtained for CGCI by renting a P.O. Box in Graton, CA -- P.O.Box 75, Graton, CA 95444-0075.
- A new state project was adopted in partnership with Anza Borrego Foundation to raise \$15,000 to restore the irrigation system and plants in the three-acre desert garden surrounding the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center. Desert visitors for years will enjoy your contributions! See article for resolution and donation form including links on CGCI's website.
- CGCI's eNewsletter has been re-named *Golden Gardens eNews* beginning with this issue.

Our focus now turns to the 2012 Fall Board hosted by CGCI's Executive Committee, September 6-9, 2012, at the San Mateo Marriott. Board members should expect The Call around the July 4. The last of George Perko's IRS workshops will be offered at that time since the IRS amnesty program ends December 31, 2012.

Thank you for your endeavors pursuing CGCI's objectives! Together, we can make a difference!

CGCI Convention in Sacramento

Want to see more photos from the 2012 Convention in Sacramento? If so, go to the [CGCI Facebook page](#) and look for the photo album. Even non-Facebook members can view this album. If you have photos which you would like to post, send them to the [Facebook Administrator](#).



Photo: from left to right: CGCI President Julie A. West; Pat Claves, CGCI 3rd VP-Awards Chairman; Shirley

Nicolai, NGC President; Ron Byrd, Convention Chairman. Photo courtesy of Roadrunner Photo.

Awards Banquet

To see the list of 2011 award winners, [click here](#) for the link to the Excel list. If you would like to see the Awards Banquet PowerPoint Program, [click here](#) for it in pdf format (shortened).

Please note that books of evidence for most awards (except for Publicity Press Books, some Flower Show Awards and certain other awards) will no longer be accepted. Use the new CGCI application form only -- limited to 3 printed pages -- front side of pages only. The new application form will be posted in July 2012 (as well as a sample of how to paste/scan your information onto it). Questions, contact the [Awards Chairman](#).

CGCI Special Awards

Helen Gates

2011 Lifetime Achievement Award

- Helen joined the garden section of the Palos Verdes Women's Club in 1951 and joined Silver Spur Garden Club in Costa Verde District in 1962.
- She has been a member of the CGCI Board of Directors since 1968 when she accepted her first position as Resolutions Chairman under CGCI President Evalyn Bell. [Click here](#) for full article.



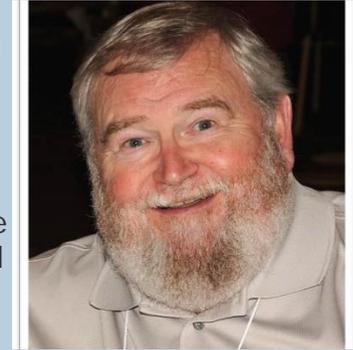
[Janet Eyre](#) - 2011 Lifetime Service Award

- Janet has served as a CGCI Chairman for over 30 years. Her chairmanships have included Anza-Borrego Desert State Park; California Poppy Reserve; Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area; King Cresote Clone Project, in addition to many others.
- Janet is currently serving as State Parks Chairman for the 2011-13 term and was Garden Arts and Crafts Chairman in 2009-11. The chairmanships cited are a small sample of the numerous chairmanships in which she has served CGCI more than once throughout the years. [Click here](#) to see full article.



J. David West - 2011 Man of the Year

- Dave completed his term as 3rd Vice President in charge of finance and currently serves as Parliamentarian and Budget Chairman for Santa Rosa Garden Club.
- Dave completed his term as Treasurer, and currently serves as Audio/Visual Chairman for the Luther Burbank District. [Click here](#) to see the full article.



Robin Pokorski - 2011 Woman of the Year

During 2011, Robin has served:

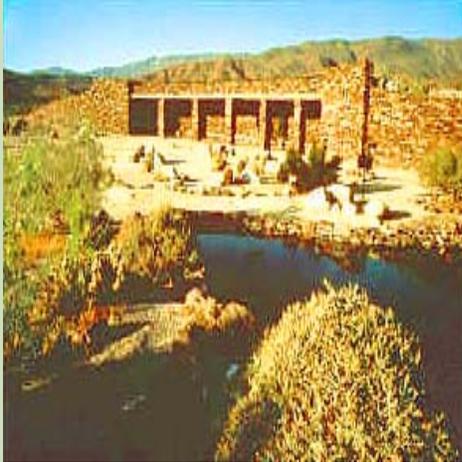
- Southern California Garden Club: Parliamentarian, Signature Plant Chairman, Conservation/Recycling Chairman, Specimen Judging, etc., Community Outreach Chairman, Newsletter Editor, Yearbook Editor, Country Store Chairman, Gardening Study Schools Chairman.
- San Fernando Valley District: Parliamentarian, 2014 CGCI Convention Chairman. [Click here](#) to see full article.

Youth Awards Luncheon

Smokey Bear with some of the Youth Award Winners at the Youth Luncheon at the CGCI Convention in Sacramento.

[Click here](#) to see the Youth Luncheon PowerPoint presentation in pdf format.





Anza-Borrego Desert State Park - CGCI's Newest State Project

By Janet Eyre, State Parks Chairman

On June 7, 2012, the CGCI Board of Directors approved a new state project for CGCI members to help restore the Visitor Center Desert Garden at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Years of declining budgets and deferred maintenance have left the beautiful three-acre desert garden surrounding the Visitor Center in need of serious restoration efforts. The park has many volunteers willing to supply labor to restore the garden, but funds are needed to buy

plants and supplies.

CGCI members historically supported Anza-Borrego Desert State Park for thirty-seven years between 1969 and 2006. We now have a new opportunity to provide support again by supplying funds (\$15,000 project total) toward the purchase of desert plants for the garden, or for replacement irrigation line and fittings at the Visitor Center. \$1,000 helps purchase a new pump to provide pressure, \$100 buys 100 yards of PVC pipe and fittings while \$50 will buy ten (small) desert plants or three larger plants. Desert visitors for years will enjoy your contributions!

The CGCI Board of Directors also approved \$1,000 from the Honor Book Fund to seed CGCI's newest state project. [Click here](#) for the full resolution. You may send tax deductible donations payable to CGCI with "ABDSP Visitor Center Garden" in the memo line to State Parks Chairman, Janet Eyre. [Click here](#) for the donation form. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!



May 11-18, 2013 CGCI Fundraising Cruise Aboard the Sapphire Princess

CGCI members, family and friends have the opportunity to enjoy a leisurely 7-day voyage along the Pacific Coast from Los Angeles to Vancouver with ports of call in Santa Barbara; San Francisco; Astoria, Oregon; Seattle, Washington and Victoria, British Columbia. A donation of \$50 per person will be made to support the ongoing

objectives of CGCI and a balcony cabin mid-ship is a bargain at \$1,325 per person (plus government fees and taxes of \$115 per person and subject to change).

For an additional charge per excursion, shore trips have been designed specifically for CGCI members that include an additional \$10 donation to CGCI.

[Click here](#) to read full article.

News from CGCI Chairmen

Parliamentarian, [Greg Pokorski](#)

This officer attended the parliamentary workshop presented by NGC Parliamentarian Joan Corbisiero at the recent NGC convention in Buffalo. Copies of her handout on the 11th edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* were available at the parliamentary exhibit in the exhibit room and placed in the District Director and Officer mail boxes. All are reminded to buy and use the 11th edition, published last fall.

Natural Resources Chairman, [Dwight Holford](#)

To be considered a natural resource, a material or an area must be considered useful or of value to a particular human culture. Natural resources, renewable, are living or biotic; and others, such as soil and water which are closely associated with and affected by living organisms, are non-renewable. Therefore, water must be a non-renewable natural resource. Water can be desalinated or cleaned-up to be fit for an intended use, but we cannot make more water.

The supply and condition of water in California is affected by many factors, most of which are interrelated. Such items include timing and amount of precipitation, the location and the condition of the land it falls on. Storage methods, distribution methods, usage practices and conservation are part of the equation. Climate change, too, is playing a part on the availability and need for water.

Making positive changes in the management of our water resource is made difficult by the very complex nature of the problem. Engineering questions are not clean cut as is further complicated by the large sums of money needed to cure problems. Getting everyone to agree on legislation to take action to solve some of these problems has proven to be a great task. So, stay informed, stay involved and do the best you can.

Scholarship Committee Co-Chairman, [Albert Chang](#)

The Scholarship Committee requests that district and clubs provide scholarship information to the Committee so the Committee can list this information on the CGCI website to aid students, parents, counselors, educators and instructors to know what scholarships are available from CGCI clubs and districts.

Please provide the following information:

1. Number of scholarships and dollar amounts.
2. Qualifications (for example: student must be in horticulture or related subjects, etc.).
3. Restrictions (for example: must be from a particular school or area, etc.).
4. Name of club and district.

5. Contact information (usually the club president and an email or snail mail address).
6. Name and contact information of scholarship winner(s).

Flower Show Awards Chairman, [Susan Coolidge](#)

So far this year, twelve flower shows have been registered and held, with ten receiving evaluations. At least one show took place which was not registered. Five clubs registering shows this year also held them in 2011. An argument for registering shows is to validate judges' claims in their records leading to accreditation; however, at present, there is no system for communicating registered Standard Flower Shows to the Flower Show Judges' Credentials Chairman. Of course, in addition, many judge flower shows at fairs, which do not register with CGCI and which do not always have panels of three accredited judges; in fact, judges may depend on fairs to receive credit. Flower Show Judges use NGC standards, whatever the setting.

There are many CGCI Flower Show Awards offered; clubs can plan their shows with these in mind.

Clubs are advised to register their shows and have them evaluated; much can be learned by meeting with the judges and hearing their comments. Of course, it is hoped clubs will take the next step and, if eligible, apply for an award and prepare a Book of Evidence. Standard Flower Shows are a wonderful way to show off clubs to the public.

Blue Star Memorials, [George Unrine](#), Co-Chairman

First, marker prices were increased last month. Byway markers are now \$450 and large markers are now \$1400, both including shipping. The website has been updated as will be the upcoming yearbook.

This chairman would like to congratulate El Cerrito Garden Club for recently installing a byway marker at the Richmond History Museum and dedicating it on May 28th. Bay Bridges District will be dedicating a byway marker in Castro Valley later this summer. Meadow Vista Garden Club will be dedicating a new byway marker on November 11. Nearby Colfax Garden Club must relocate a marker and is coordinating with Meadow Vista Garden Club to hold a rededication on the same day to save out-of-town attendees an extra trip.

CALTRANS is an enthusiastic partner of the Blue Star Project. CALTRANS personnel are currently moving an old highway marker from storage to an area completing construction at the 5th Street end of the Bay Bridge in San Francisco. They also purchased two replacement highway markers for rest areas being renovated on Highway 99 near Tipton. One was badly aged and one had gone missing. This Chairman will check with CALTRANS on the fate of the marker at Mono Lake Overlook. They are often removed during construction, and the posts may not be reusable and left for demolition.

Golden Gardens Changes

At the 81st CGCI Convention in Sacramento, the CGCI Board of Directors voted to

rename the online newsletter, from *eNews* to *Golden Gardens eNews*. The convention body voted to suspend the publication of *Golden Gardens* in print form. This move was necessitated by the precarious financial position in which the magazine had been for a long time coupled with rapidly declining subscribership. It was not a decision made easily nor without extensive time and effort put into research for alternatives and options, but the final outcome was fairly straightforward.

We invite you to enjoy the final four print issues of *Golden Gardens* (Summer 2012, Fall 2012, Winter 2013, and Spring 2013). Additionally, we encourage you to subscribe to *Golden Gardens eNews* which will cover the same articles and information plus a lot more than can be covered in the print edition in a more timely manner than a quarterly print edition can deliver. The monthly online newsletter is free of charge and all prior issues of the online newsletter are available in the archives online. To subscribe, [click here](#).

During this final year, when it comes time for 100% clubs to renew their subscriptions, the club may subscribe their members with email to *Golden Gardens eNews* and pay only for those who need to receive the publication in printed form (still paying the 100% club subscription rate of \$5 per person).

In a Nutshell



To see "In a Nutshell" [click here](#).

"In a Nutshell" is compiled by Robin Pokorski, CGCI Chairman Coordinator.

It contains important and interesting information from district directors' and chairmen' reports from convention.

News from Districts & Clubs

Bay Bridges District

Bay Bridges District received a \$25,000 grant to support its scholarship program at Merritt College. The Bonita Garden Club/Frances Whyte Restricted Scholarship Fund will allow for two, \$1,000 scholarships annually, for at least 12 years.

Costa Verde District

All clubs participated in scholarship programs either by providing scholarships to individuals or donations to the CGCI Scholarship Fund. Many clubs participated in Arbor Day programs by planting trees to enhance their communities, honoring individuals or donating funds to organizations that encourage the protection of our environment. The District sponsored a trip to the 23rd annual South Coast Plaza Flower Show and garnered funds for the district. A highlight of the year was a \$1,000 donation to the South Coast Botanic Foundation renovation of its Rose Garden as a result of a very

successful Landscape Design Study Program from which these funds were derived.

Mendo-Lake District

Potter Valley Garden Club reports its membership continues to grow. The club is planning to award a scholarship to a Potter Valley High School graduate. Last year's recipient is attending Cal Poly, majoring in a new major of Ag Communications. **Fort Bragg Garden Club** has had a very successful "Tree Planting Program" in downtown Fort Bragg. Again this year, the club joined forces with the Rhododendron Society for the annual Rhododendron Show in May. Also, the club will be awarding a \$500 scholarship to a student with a career toward floriculture, horticulture and related fields.

San Fernando Valley District

Southern California Garden Club has a fabulous line-up of instructors ready to bring YOU the latest and greatest gardening instruction and information. Please join us at Gardening Study School, Course I, in Encino on July 2-3. [Click here](#) for a registration form. The deadline to register is June 25. Reserve your place today! [Robin Pokorski](#), Local Chairman.



Message from the Membership Chairman

[By Sue Bennett](#), 2nd Vice President - Membership Chairman

MEMBERSHIP & YOU

By now your treasurer should have received the CGCI membership invoice in the mail; if not, please notify CGCI Membership Chair, Sue Bennett, and she will put one in the mail. [Click here](#) for current dues forms.

District rosters were due June 1 and are now past due. District Directors: Please make sure that you have sent your roster of club presidents and treasurers for 2012-2013 to the CGCI's Membership Chairman so they may be included in the 2012-2013 *CGCI Yearbook, Manual & Roster*.



It is CGCI's pleasure to introduce four new additions to CGCI. These four clubs were ratified at the CGCI 81st Convention in Sacramento.

2 Clubs

- 1) Gardeners 92103 with 11 members, Palomar District; President - Stephanie Hall
- 2) Turlock Garden Club with 85 members, Valley Lode District; President - Carol McRoberts

2 Associate Plant Societies

- 1) Doug Frost Begonia Society with 17 members; President - Bobbie West
 - 2) Pacific Central Judging Center with 24 members; President - C. Tedd Kennedy
- Welcome, CGCI is excited to have you!

CGCI EXTRA Yearbook Orders

Please let [Carmen Black](#), CGCI Yearbook Chairman, know how many extra yearbooks you need. Carmen needs to know how many yearbooks to order from the printer. Please let her know ASAP. Deadline to order extra yearbooks is August 1, 2012.

There are three forms:

1. For Districts
2. For Club Members not going through the District Director
3. For CGCI Chairmen

[Click here](#) and then scroll down the page to find the links for the forms.



Invasive Plants Part 3 of 10

The Terrible 10 Invasive Plants of Southern California: fountaingrass; castorbean; tree of heaven; cape-ivy; vinca; ivy; arundo; fennel; iceplant; and pampasgrass.

Terrible Invasive Plant #3 of 10 - Tree of Heaven

Ailanthus altissima - Tree of Heaven is a deciduous tree with leaves that can be confused for the California native Black Walnut. It is very fast growing and a prolific seed producer.

[Click here](#) to read full article.



News from National Garden Clubs, Inc.

NGC President Attended CGCI Convention in Sacramento

NGC President Shirley Nicolai attended our CGCI Convention in June! Thanks, President Shirley for your wonderful support and your wonderful personality.

You sat through all of our meetings, luncheons, dinners, etc. You are to be commended. Thanks for being a friend of CGCI!

Photo courtesy of Roadrunner photo.

NGC Website

Have you visited the new NGC website lately? If not, you should! It has a whole new look and contains important information for your clubs and districts.



News from Pacific Region

Pacific Region awards will not be presented until its convention in Alaska in July. All CGCI winners will be notified after the convention, and books of evidence, yearbooks, publicity press books, etc. will be given to the appropriate district directors at the CGCI Fall Board Meeting in September. Any questions, contact the [CGCI Awards Chairman](#).



Back to School

Upcoming Schools/Refreshers & Flower Show Judges Symposia in California Environmental, Flower Show, Gardening & Landscape Design

Check CGCI [Calendar of Events](#) for links to brochures, flyers, registration forms, etc. For schools in other states, check the [NGC website](#).

- **July 2-3, 2012 - Gardening Study School**, Course I, Sepulveda Garden Center, Encino. Sponsor: Southern California Garden Club. Chairman: [Robin Pokorski](#). [Click here](#) for the brochure and registration form for Course I. Course II: August 30-31, 2012. [Click here](#) for brochure and registration form for Course II / Course III: January 30-31, 2013 / Course IV: March 28-29, 2013.
- **August 20-22, 2012 - Flower Show School**, Course I. Sponsor: Judges Council of Southern California. Chairman: [Martha Hunt](#). [Click here](#) for the brochure and registration form. Course II: January 7-9, 2013 / Course III: August 12-14, 2013 / Course IV: January 6-8, 2014.
- **May 5-7, 2013 - Flower Show Judges Symposium**, Location to be determined.
- **October 12-13, 2012 - Gardening Study School**, Course I. Sponsor: Humboldt District. Chairman: [Mary Lou Goodwin](#). [Click here](#) for the flyer. Course II: January 4-5, 2013 / Course III: April 5-6, 2013 / Course IV: July 12-13, 2013.

Upcoming CGCI Official Events (other than schools)

See [CGCI Calendar](#) for club, affiliate, associate plant society and district "special" events which are open to the public.

- **July 26-28, 2012** - [Pacific Region](#) Convention, Anchorage, Alaska.
- **September 6-9, 2012** - CGCI Fall Board Meeting, San Mateo. Host: Executive Committee. Chairman: [Julie West](#).
- **September 26-29, 2012** - NGC Fall Board Meeting, Little Rock, Arkansas.
- **February 5-8, 2013** - CGCI Winter Board Meeting. Host: Golden Foothills District. Auburn Holiday Inn.
- **April 21-24, 2013** - [Pacific Region](#) Convention. Host: CGCI. Chairman: [David West](#). Hilton Sonoma Wine Country Hotel, Santa Rosa.
- **May 21-27, 2013** - NGC Convention, Seattle, Washington.
- **June 3-7, 2013** - CGCI Convention, San Diego. Host: Palomar District. Chairman: [Jane McKee](#).
- **June 5-9, 2014** - CGCI Convention, Glendale. Host: San Fernando Valley District.

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California Garden Clubs, Inc. P.O. Box 75, Graton, CA 95444-0075