

# Golden Gardens eNews

www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org

May-June 2014, Vol. 6-3

## California Garden Clubs, Inc.

www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org

A member of  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Pacific Region

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### President's Travel Schedule

- ◆ May 13 - Roadrunner District
- ◆ May 15 - Golden Foothills District
- ◆ May 16 - Cascade District
- ◆ June 5-8 - CGCI Convention, Glendale
- ◆ June 11 - Montana de Oro District
- ◆ June 13 - Humboldt District
- ◆ June 14 - Santa Rose GC - Blue Star Dedication
- ◆ June 16 - San Fernando Valley District
- ◆ July 1-3 - Pacific Region Convention, Idaho



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CGCI had a membership promotion booth at the popular San Francisco Flower & Garden Show in San Mateo from April 19-23, 2014. **Josie Goodenow, Krystal Migliore** and Krystal's mom, **Ilene Herringer**, took turns working at the booth with me. The table held the expected items: brochures, educational gardening pamphlets, district and club brochures, bookmarks with labels on the back explaining the Zip Code Club Finder on the website. There were display boards and sign-up sheets for the upcoming Wildflower Conference and 10-day fundraising Colors of Fall cruise along the East Coast.

Something new was added this year – a hands-on planting experience that drew



visitors to the booth. A sign in front of a dishpan full of potting soil read, "Plant a Seed, Grow Green Beans." When asked, "Would you like to grow a dwarf bush string bean?" the responses ranged from "I save seeds and grow my grandmother's beans each year" to "What do I do?" The planting experience led to a discussion about garden clubs and would joining a local club be of interest. Leads to clubs not currently part of CGCI were discovered and collected. Reaction to the seed planting activity was always positive. Comments included, "This was so much fun! Thank you" and "I'll come back next year and let you know how my plant did." Who would have thought a little bean seed could do so much!

The Convention is coming! Now is the time to mail your registration form so you can be part of this fun and exciting event.

--Rita

Like CGCI  
on  
Facebook!



## CGCI OFFICIAL CALENDAR (other than schools)

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

**June 5-9, 2014** - CGCI 84<sup>th</sup> Convention & Tri-Refresher, Glendale. Host: San Fernando Valley District. Chairman: [Robin Pokorski](#). [Click here](#) for more information and forms.

**July 1-3, 2014** - Pacific Region Convention, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

**September 3-5, 2014** - CGCI Fall Board Meeting, Holiday Inn, Redding. Host: Cascade District. Co-Chairmen: [Anne Capes](#) & [Carolyn Hoyum](#).

**September 25-27, 2014** - NGC Fall Board Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa.

**October 4-14, 2014** - CGCI Colors of Fall - Cruising with CGCI! [Click here](#) for more information.

**February 2-5, 2015** - CGCI Winter Board, Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Fresno. Host: Sequoia Foothills District.



California Garden Clubs, Inc.  
83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention  
June 5-8, 2014  
*"Together We Grow"*

Hilton Los Angeles North/Glendale  
100 West Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale, CA 91202

Host: San Fernando Valley District

Chairman: Robin Pokorski

[Click here](#) for all information and forms.

### THE PLEASURE OF YOUR COMPANY IS REQUESTED

at the

**CGCI Awards Banquet**

**Friday, June 6, 2014**

- \* 5:00 p.m. cash bar – Grand Ballroom Foyer
- \* 6:00 p.m. -- CGCI Stars in the Grand Ballroom
- \* 7:00 p.m. -- Dinner in Salon IV and V

**NGC & Pacific Region Stars in Salon IV and V**

**Followed by Opening of the Awards Room**

**Cocktail Attire**

**Theme: Black & white with a purple accent!**



## 2014 COLORS OF FALL CRUISE

Get your deposit in now!

Call Chris Merkel, Expedia Cruise Ship Centers,  
800-258-8880. [Click here](#) for more information or  
contact [Mona Dunlop](#), Tour Chairman.

## CGCI BOARD RATIFIED PROJECTS

Click on the titles below for information  
on these CGCI projects and how to donate.

[Anza-Borrego Desert State Park  
Endowment Funds](#)  
[Golden Legacy Society](#)  
[Habitat for Humanity Landscaping](#)  
[Penny Pines](#)  
[Project Mission Blue](#)  
[Reforestation & Restoration](#)  
[Scholarships](#)  
[Sempervirens Fund](#)

Golden Gardens eNews is published every other month or whenever necessary. It is free. The link to subscribe and view past eNewsletters is <http://californiagardenclubs.com/eNewsletters>. One can unsubscribe at any time. Deadline to submit articles is the 23<sup>rd</sup> of the following months: August (for September issue); October (for November issue); December (for the January issue); February (for the March issue); April (for the May issue), June (for the July issue).

## CGCI OFFICIAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

### Upcoming Schools/Refreshers & Flower Show Symposiums in California

Check CGCI [Calendar of Events](#) for links to brochures, flyers, registration forms, etc.

For schools in other states,  
check the [NGC website](#).

According to Aristotle,  
"Education is the best provision  
for the journey to old age."

**June 6 & 9, 2014 - Tri-Refresher**, Hilton Los Angeles, Glendale; Host: California Consultants Council – Chairman: [Julie A. West](#).  
Registrar: [Robin Pokorski](#). [Click here](#) for flyer/registration form.

**July 9-11, 2014 - Flower Show School**, Course III, Diablo Foothills District. Co-Chairmen: [Victoria Lucido](#) and [Dolores Moffat](#).  
Course IV: February 11-13, 2015

**August 3-5, 2014 - 54<sup>th</sup> Flower Show Symposium**, Holiday Inn, Auburn. Symposium Chairman: [Mary Arakelian](#). [Click here](#) for flyer/registration form.

**October 23-24, 2014 - Landscape Design School**, Series 26, Course I. Sponsor: Luther Burbank District. Chairman: [Mary Ann Swanson](#). [Click here](#) for flyer/registration form.  
Course II: April 23-24, 2015  
Course III: October 22-23, 2015  
Course IV: April 28-29, 2016

**January 23-25, 2015 - 55<sup>th</sup> Flower Show Symposium**, Bakersfield. Chairman: [Mary Arakelian](#).

"Develop a passion for learning.  
If you do, you will never  
cease to grow."

-- Anthony J. D'Angelo



## MEMBERSHIP & YOU

### SIGNS THAT YOUR CLUB NEEDS MORE MEMBERS

By [Krystal Migliore](#), 2nd Vice President

This is the time of year that one of the signs is so obvious that your club needs more members. At a district meeting recently a club president said, "We don't have problems getting new members." When I said, "I disagree," she was rather shocked. You see, earlier during that same meeting, presidents from every club were discussing the challenges of obtaining volunteers to serve as officers in their organizations.

Come election time, if your club does not have at least one nominee for every position on your executive committee (with absolutely, no begging involved) you need more members. Not every member is willing to volunteer to serve as an officer. It is a numbers game. Some never will, some may and only a few will. For each individual who fits into the "few who will" category, you will need to attract 10 or more new members to your club.

At our CGCI membership booth during the March San Francisco Flower and Garden Show, we had the opportunity to talk with lots of gardeners. Some wanted to create a new club, many wanted to join a club, and others were already members of our existing CGCI clubs. A surprising number of CGCI club members told me, "Our club is dying, our membership is declining, and we don't know what to do." The bad news is that a dying/declining membership isn't a new challenge. The good news is there is something that can be done to correct this situation if the club and its existing members are willing. On the top of the to do list must be: **Attract new members.**

Club membership goes in cycles: Going up, staying the same and then going down. When officers or other key volunteers have been there, done that and are not willing to or are no longer able to do it again, something has to change. For any club to remain healthy and vital, there has to be someone else willing and ready to step up.

Volunteers truly want to do a good job. When existing leaders have the opportunity to train and cultivate the new members who will step into leadership roles, the new leaders are more likely to serve the club well and for longer than when they are simply thrown into a position.

Attracting new members is essential for a club to survive. New members provide the new energy, new experiences and enthusiasm

Continued on Page 4.

**Membership & You - Continued from Page 3.**

that drive the membership into the positive “going up” cycle. The more emphasis given to attracting new members, the longer that up cycle will continue.

Do you think you have enough members? Wonderful! If you have not already done so, now is the time to implement some of the strategies for attracting new members. Why? It helps you to have enthusiastic members recruiting new members! All garden clubs are urged to review the long list of ideas for attracting members which is available on our CGCI website. [Click here.](#)

## MEMBERSHIP

By [Josie Goodenow](#), 3rd Vice President - Membership

I attended the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show in March. CGCI had a good response to our exhibit, and I met many avid gardeners from the San Francisco Bay Area as well as some from outlying areas. A few were interested in joining our existing clubs, and a couple were seriously considering starting their own clubs as there are waiting lists for their local clubs. It seems we have quite a few gardeners residing in our currently inactive Central Coast Counties District. I hope to see some paperwork from them soon.

This month I attended the Wildflower Conference in Tehachapi. It was great fun and very educational as well. We had a wonderful band for entertainment at our dinner and several members had fun dancing to the music. A big “thank you” to the event Chairman **Merrilee Ray**, Co-Chairman **Wanda Hewett** and their assistants for a memorable conference! Merrilee and Wanda always have great speakers, and the tour to Adorable Alpacas was unforgettable. Please consider attending the next wildflower conference; you will not be disappointed!

As of April 14, 2014, we have the following membership figures to report: 273 clubs with 18,290 members, 56 APS with 3,846 members and 16 Affiliates. This equates to a total of **22,136 members**. Thank you to all of our members for your recruiting efforts and to our wonderful new member organizations too!



New Club:

- **The Garden Faire\*** (Santa Clara Valley District) with 10 members

New Associate Plant Societies:

- **Palomar Orchid Society\*** with 85 members
- **Tropical Plant Society of Modesto, Inc.\*** with 28 members
- **The California Sierra Nevada Judging Center\*** with 25 member

\*To be ratified at the CGCI Convention in June.

## CONVENTION CREDENTIALS

CGCI Convention - June 5-8, 2014

By [Greg Pokorski](#), Parliamentarian

Have you ever wondered why there is a credentials committee or chairman? Or just what credentials are for? The credentials chairman is responsible for checking in and verifying that the people attending the meeting have the proper qualifications as voting delegates to conduct the business of the organization. The qualified delegates will have voting privileges and receive a voting card in their registration packets as evidence of their right for admission to the meeting and their right to vote. A report is given at times during the meeting stating what the voting strength is. The report is used to determine whether a quorum has been met. This is also useful in cases where a written vote is needed to determine the number of ballots. The number of delegates that may officially represent each CGCI member club is stated in Article XI of the CGCI bylaws. Each club determines who its voting delegates will be.

**Club/APS Presidents:** The Credentials form is available online. Go to [www.californiagardenclubs.org](http://www.californiagardenclubs.org) and click on “CGCI Convention 2014” in the left menu. Open the form, complete and submit as directed before **May 22, 2014**.

## COMMUNICATIONS

*The times . . . they are a-changin' . . .*  
as CGCI moves further into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

By [Jane McKee](#), Communications Director



It is the time of the year when Clubs and Associate Plant Societies renew their CGCI memberships and update their organizations' information and, for the 2014-15 year, the renewal procedures have been revised. In the past, the contact information for presidents and treasurers was submitted in conjunction with the initial payment of annual dues due July 1.

To facilitate the renewal process, the contact information will be **submitted separately** from the dues payments. The new procedure will use electronic "webforms" for the primary collection of organizational data. Checks will still need to be mailed, but all forms will be completed electronically to reduce processing time as well as errors.

This is a major change in the way CGCI conducts business, and we hope that you will find that it simplifies some of your procedural requirements. We realize that with anything new and different there is a learning curve, and we ask for your patience during the transition. The new forms are posted to the CGCI website on the "**Forms & Publications**" page (under Membership). There is also a "CGCI Membership Renewal Procedures" instructional document posted.

### Internet Workshop at the CGCI Convention Friday, June 6, 9:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. with the Communications Director

Please attend if you are looking for:

- Explanations of some of those weird internet terms
- A better handle on our CGCI website . . . how it works, what it contains
- How to create a CGCI-hosted website (or any website)
- How to acquire an "alias" email account and why it's important
- How to work "in the cloud"
- Answers to (most of) your questions in real-time

Bring your laptop and questions for an in-depth tutorial (this will be a "hands-on" opportunity for those with laptops).



## HONOR BOOK

- ◆ In Memory of **Alvida Buron** from Rosa Radicchi
- ◆ In Memory of **Sharon Kessey** from Cascade Judges Council
- ◆ In Memory of **Joan Thompson** from Pacifica Garden Club
- ◆ In Honor of **Betty Myhre** from Chicago Park Garden Club

- ◆ In Honor of **Marjorie Finkelson** from Chicago Park Garden Club

For Honor Book recognition "In Memory or Honor of," send check payable to CGCI in any amount to CGCI Honor Book Chairman [Emily Wisneski](#), 9811 Howland Drive, Temple City, CA 91780. [Click here](#) for the donation form.

## CGCI GROUP TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM

By [Bev Davies](#), GTEP Chairman

If your club or district fiscal year ended December 31 or will be ending June 30, it is time to think about when and what needs to be reported to the various governmental agencies.

**December 31 Fiscal Year End filing deadline is May 15.**

**June 30 Fiscal Year End filing deadline is November 15.**

- Form 990-N (electronically filed), Form 990 or Form 990-EZ - send to the [IRS](#)
- Form 199N (electronically filed) or Form 199 - send to the [California Franchise Tax Board](#)
- Form RRF-1 - All 501(c)(3) exempt organizations report to the [California Attorney General Registry of Charitable Trusts](#)

If your club or district changes officers, make sure the new officers (President and Treasurer)

are aware of the filing requirements. If you have not yet done so, download the GTEP Organization Information Sheet. It is the last page of the GTEP handbook on the CGCI website. It can be completed with your organization's pertinent information and kept with your important papers. [Click here](#) for the handbook.

Other annual filings:

- [California Board of Equalization](#) – sales tax reporting
- [California Attorney General Registry of Charitable Trusts](#) – raffle reporting

Visit the websites for further information.



## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

By [Carlotta Wixon](#), Life Membership Chairman

Looking for a meaningful gift for your outgoing Club President or District Director? I have the perfect solution! A CGCI Life Membership! If he or she is not already a CGCI Life Member, presenting this honor would be a perfect "thank you" for a job well done. As you can imagine, much volunteer time and energy goes into doing these jobs and being honored in this way is very much appreciated by the recipients. As the name implies, this is an honor for a lifetime. The honoree's name will be listed with other Life Members in the *CGCI Yearbook, Manual & Roster*.

How can this be accomplished? Go to the CGCI website, click on form, then click on Life Membership. You will find the application form, which is to be completed and sent to this chairman, along with the one time fee of \$100.00. [Click here](#) for the application form. The honoree will receive an attractive presentation

certificate, signed by the CGCI President, a Life Membership pin and a cover letter explaining the honor. The donation goes into the Scholarship Fund to help with the education of students studying in some field relating to horticulture or environmental studies. Please check page 41 in the 2013-2014 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* for more information.

If your honoree is already a CGCI Life Member, you may choose to present a Life Membership from Pacific Region for \$40.00 or for National Garden Clubs, Inc. for \$200.00. These applications are also on our website. [Click here](#) for the Pacific Region application form. [Click here](#) for the NGC application form. By sending the application right now, it will be processed immediately and will probably be returned before the honored person leaves office.



**Members of the Judges Council of Southern California are Angels!**

**Thank you.**

**-From Helen Gates**



## PROJECT MISSION BLUE

By [Shane Looper](#), Chairman

In February, I was invited to attend the Luther Burbank District Meeting hosted by Santa Rosa Garden Club. **Price Sheppy**, Community Program Manager of the Golden Gate National Parks Conservatory (GGNPC), presented a program on the success of CGCI's funding of various lupine projects in Golden Gate National Park.

What an exciting program on Project Mission Blue it was! Price reported on the success rate of the lupine propagation throughout the park. He had graphs, maps, charts, facts and photos of the project since its inception in 2011. Price also noted a slight increase in the population of mission blue butterflies. Look for a report from Price Sheppy in the next *Golden Garden eNews* or look on the website for the updated progress report for 2014. This chairman can only believe that the increase in population of the mission blue butterfly is because of CGCI donations to propagate the varieties of the three lupines used as its host larval plant. Upon conclusion of the program, there was no doubt from any of the people in attendance what this project is about. Price did a fabulous educational presentation, and member clubs checked into potential program possibilities.

This project continues to be a successful CGCI State Project. Project Mission Blue was featured in the summer 2013 issue of National Garden Clubs Inc.'s publication, *The National Gardener*, because it won NGC's prestigious Award of Excellence for a state project along with \$500. Look on the CGCI website for details about how to donate and receive a CGCI Mission Blue pin. Feel free to contact me via email ([slooper@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slooper@sbcglobal.net)) or telephone (650-871-0172). Project Mission Blue continues until June 2016 so there are still opportunities for individuals, clubs and districts to support it and continue its success to help the federally endangered mission blue butterfly survive.

Donors since the Spring 2013 issue of *Golden Gardens eNews* are:

- ◆ Atherton Garden Guild
- ◆ Belmont Garden Club in Memory of Jo Waugh
- ◆ Chris Bushman
- ◆ Suzanne J. Clarke
- ◆ Maggie Crane
- ◆ Desert Empire District
- ◆ Josie Goodenow
- ◆ Jane Johnson
- ◆ Los Angeles Garden Club
- ◆ Luther Burbank District
- ◆ Carol Mayo
- ◆ Pacifica Garden Club
- ◆ San Bruno Garden Club
- ◆ San Clemente Garden Club
- ◆ San Fernando Valley District
- ◆ San Jose Garden Club
- ◆ Santa Rosa Garden Club in Honor of Price Sheppy
- ◆ The Gardeners
- ◆ The Palms Garden Club

The total contributions since inception to this project as of April 20, 2014 are **\$13,235.04**.



## GARDEN THERAPY

By [Bonnie Wagner](#), Chairman

Members of **Newport Hills Garden Club "NHGC"**, Orange County District, have been working with the Mesa Verde Convalescent Home for many years. NHGC members have two main activities each year with the residents of the home -- in spring and fall. According to NHGC Garden Therapy Chairman **Sue Kline**, "The club puts on a tea in the

fall. Members serve tea sandwiches, sweets and a very good tea in china cups and saucers."



This spring, NHGC members helped the residents celebrate a St. Valentine's Day Party with a succulent potting party. They took 4" pots, soil and member-grown succulents for each resident to plant his/her own pot. Members helped the residents select succulents. Residents decorated wooden plant sticks with foam hearts, and put one in each pot. The finale included St. Valentine's Day cupcakes and drinks.



A Giant Onion (*allium giganteum*) peeking out in late spring and growing up tall and bold with a 4-inch diameter flower and a pretty shade of lilac. These flowers are long blooming and are excellent to use as cut flowers. Alliums are coveted by floral designers when the stems are tied and manipulated while growing to achieve exciting shapes when dried.

## HORTICULTURE

### Ornamental Onions - *Allium*

By [Pauline Sechi](#), Master Flower Show Judge

*Alliums* (*liliaceae* family) are often overlooked as one of the best bulbs for constant color throughout the seasons. *Alliums* actually come in oval, spherical, or globular flower shapes, blooming in magnificent colors atop tall stems.

Because good perennial garden designs are often made up of contrasting shapes, alliums' rounded blooms make them great components for interesting garden combinations.

In most cases, *alliums* are not too picky and grow in average soil and need full sun with good drainage. The drainage is critical because so many bulbs are huge and will rot with too much moisture. The average planting depth should be about three times the diameter of the bulb. When planting, leave plenty of room for the large bulbs to grow.

Aside from that, they are easy to grow and come back year after year without almost any maintenance. Occasionally they need dividing after a few years when a decrease in flower production is noticed (usually this pertains to those with small bulbs). One of the best things about *alliums* is that most animals find the taste unappealing.

## BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKER NEWS FROM NGC

**Effective 5/1/14 through 5/1/16**, the following are the price changes for all of the Blue Star Memorial Markers:

- ◇ Memorial/Highway Markers – Delivered with a 7' Post – includes shipping - \$1,410.00 per plaque. This represents a \$60 increase over the previous price of \$1,350.
- ◇ By-Way Marker Plaques - \$470 per plaque to include shipping. This represents a \$20 price increase over the previous price of \$350 per plaque.
- ◇ Replacement Posts - \$325 per post – No Increase.
- ◇ Refurbishment/Restoration – No Post - \$800 – to restore a Large Blue Star Memorial or a Blue Star Highway Marker – includes round trip freight) -- No Increase.
- ◇ Cap Repair/Refurbish – No Post – to restore a Large Blue Star Memorial or a Blue Star Highway Marker - including round trip freight - \$900.

Additional West Coast Shipping Charge – (any location west of MN, IA, MO, AR AND LA WESTERN STATE LINES) - \$50 per Memorial or Highway Markers.

Contact [George Unrine](#) or [Sandy Rogers](#) for more information.

### WANTED: Gardening Study Schools

We need a club or district (or more than one) to develop and sponsor CGCI's next series (Series 25) of Gardening Study Schools. This can be a wonderful team experience, providing interesting and useful information to club and district members and to the public (perhaps bringing some new members and raising some funds). California has not had a Gardening Study School Course since October 2013. It does take some planning and lead time to get a school series up and running. Contact Gardening Study Schools Chairman [Greg Pokorski](#) for information.

## OUR ENVIRONMENT

### What is Going into our Landfills?

By [Jo Bucheger](#), Desert Empire District



"Keurig" is a word that most people associate with single serve coffee makers. There are actually over 200 brands of these appliances. They all use little single cup containers, none of which is recyclable! Last year over 3 billion dollars (\$3,000,000,000) were spent on these little cups!



For this demonstration, I bought a box of coffee for about \$8.00. It contains 12 servings. My calculator will not handle numbers this big, so I had to make these calculations by hand -- imagine that in this day! But approximately 3,750,000 boxes were sold. And at 12 cups per box, that is over 4 trillion, 500 million of these little cups that went into our landfills in only one year!

But in my investigation, I found some hope for the future. The Coca-Cola Company has purchased a share of The Green Mountain Coffee Company which produced the box of cups that I bought. Apparently, they hope to combine the new soda streamers to change the way "Keurig" type coffee makers work. When I heard this I started to wonder about the CO<sub>2</sub> cartridges that power the soda streamers. But no worries on this account -- the cartridges are recycled by the company and refilled for another journey through the economy. So let's hope that Coca-Cola is successful in its efforts to reduce the number of single serve cups in our landfills.

Another method to avoid using single serve cups at approximately \$.50 per cup has been developed. You can buy permanent cups, which you then fill with your own brand of coffee (or tea, etc.) at a cost of only about \$.05 per cup. They sell for less than \$10.00 for a pack of four.



#### Fix A Leak

*Easy-to-fix household leaks account for more than one trillion gallons of water*

*wasted each year across the United States. Check your fixtures and stop leaks, either on your own or by reminding your landlord. If you're shopping for new fixtures or plumbing, look for the WaterSense label. [Click here](#) for more information.*

Meanwhile, does anyone have any ideas for recycling the single serve cups? If so, please share.



#### Bee Safe with Pesticides

*If you use pesticides where bees are present, always READ THE LABEL. EPA has developed new pesticide labels that help you understand how to apply the pesticides and help protect bees and other pollinators. For more information, [click here](#).*



**In memory of Evelyn Broaddus' 54 years of dedication and service to Ukiah Garden Club, Mendo-Lake District & CGCI.**

**-From Mendo-Lake District Clubs**



**In memory of NGC Master Flower Show Judge Eileen Fiumara.**

**-From Members of the Judges Council of Southern California**

## FLORAL DESIGN - Parallel Design



By **Pauline Sechi**, Floral Education Chairman

Parallel Design is a creative type that requires three or more groupings of materials in one or multiple containers. However, multiples must appear as one. A connective may aid in unifying the composition. Each grouping need not be of the same height or equidistant from adjacent groupings, but open space voids are essential to the design. The groupings can be of the same materials and components or different yet, should be related in some way with color, pattern or form etc.

Both Parallel Designs shown have the criteria of all fresh foliage materials only.

Above: Three separate containers of two different heights are used in this design, which have been unified as one with the use of a burgundy Cordyline. Lemon Balm scented *Pelargonium* with Cordyline create the three parallel lines. The 'variegated' *Pittosporum tobira* and *Begonia* are used as filler. Notice that designer **Adele Kelly** has made a very interesting unit with the use of colors and textures of the plant material only.

Right: This design by **Pauline Sechi** is created in one container, with the placement of the New Zealand flax at an angle and cut at sloping heights to add more creativity. Three small bunches of Rush tied together with gold wire strengthens the parallel lines. The color is pulled to the base with the use of trimmed Rhaps Palm and *Euonymus japonica* which also adds depth. The bluish color and furriness of *Echeveria pulvinata* rosettes brings in more texture.



## PACIFIC REGION NEWS

[www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org](http://www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org)



### Pre-Convention Tour Pacific Region of NGC GLACIER NATIONAL PARK June 27-30, 2014

\$579.00 Per Person / Double Occupancy

#### Includes:

- \* 3 Nights Lodging
- \* Roundtrip Motorcoach
- \* 3 Breakfasts; 2 Lunches, 1 Dinner, 1 Tea
- \* Going-To-The-Sun Road on Red Bus
- \* Tea at Foxwood House
- \* Idaho Native Plant Arboretum
- \* Ross Creek Cedar Grove
- \* St. Ignatius Mission
- \* Flathead Lake

Questions, contact Sandra Ford via telephone (208-853-6575) or email ([sandraford@cableone.net](mailto:sandraford@cableone.net)).

Make checks payable to "Alpha Omega Tours." Send payment with names, address, telephone number & email to:

Alpha Omega Tours  
P.O. Box 97  
Medical Lake, WA 99022

Check the Pacific Region Website for more information.

## CGCI PRESIDENT'S PROJECT UPDATE

By [Sara White](#), President's Project Chairman

We now have a total of **\$3,575** in the **Habitat for Humanity Landscaping** coffer. Since last issue, we have received nine more donations from:

- **Arboretum District**
- **Caruthers Garden Club**
- **Conejo Valley Garden Club**
- **Desert Empire District**
- **Desert Rose Garden Club**
- **Oasis Garden Club of Indian Wells Valley**
- **Pinole Garden Club**
- **Santa Rosa Garden Club**
- **Sequoia Foothills District**

In addition, we have received a grant application from **Petaluma Garden Club** (our second), and club members will be augmenting their \$250 grant (in process) with \$69 for a total of \$319 to fund the planting of eleven redwood trees (*Sequoia Sempervirens*). These trees will be planted around the perimeter of The Woodland Hills Affordable Subdivision, a five-unit, low-income property currently under construction in the City of Cotati.

Thank you for your participation!



### GOT BANNER?

Order a banner for your club, district or council.

These banners are eye-catching and announce your organization to the public when the banners are placed at your meetings or events.

[Click here](#) for the order form.

For more information, contact Banner Chairman [Launa Gould](#).

*May the wings of the butterfly kiss the sun.  
And find your shoulder to light on.  
To bring you luck, happiness and riches.  
Today, tomorrow and beyond.*



*—An Irish Blessing*

## MESSAGE FOR ALL ENVIRONMENTAL, GARDENING & LANDSCAPE DESIGN CONSULTANTS

**Tri-Refresher: June 6 & June 9, 2014!**

National Garden Clubs, Inc. has approved the Tri-Refresher (sponsored by the California Consultants Council) to be held in Glendale in conjunction with the 2014 CGCI Convention. This means that Gardening Consultants, Environmental Consultants and Landscape Design Consultants, depending on their eligibility, may receive refresher credit by attending this event. To receive credit, Consultants must attend the convention tour on Friday, June 6, and lectures and tours on Monday, June 9. [Click here](#) for the flyer and application form.

Contact [Shane Looper](#) (for Environmental Consultants,) [Greg Pokorski](#) (for Gardening Consultants) and [Alexis Slafer](#) (for Landscape Design Consultants) if you have questions about your Consultant status or refresher requirements.

Note from Greg Pokorski: All of the new local Gardening Consultants from the recent Southern California Garden Club-sponsored Gardening Study School are in good standing through December 31, 2018. All may refresh up to once each calendar year, beginning January 1, 2014. All Consultants must refresh at least by the end of the fifth calendar year following the last completed course or refresher. Consultants who complete four refreshers become Master Consultants.

## NATIVE PLANTS

### *Ceanothus* 'Blue Jeans' (Holly Leaf Mountain Lilac) By Christine Sangster, Fallbrook Garden Club



This glorious hybrid *Ceanothus* is as attractive as it is useful. *Ceanothus* 'Blue Jeans' has brilliant violet flowers that start to bloom in early spring. It is very tough, drought tolerant and yet will tolerate heavy clay soil. It is a great option for a hedge or barrier reaching about six feet high and with a similar spread. It will also respond well to pruning for a more formal hedge. *Ceanothus* is a large genus of diverse, versatile and beautiful North American native shrubs in the buckthorn family *Rhamnaceae*, many native to California. The genus includes over 60 species of shrubs or small trees. *Ceanothus* species are easily identified by their unique leaf-vein structure shared by all plants within this genus. The leaves normally have a glossy upper surface, and vary in size from 1/2 inch to 3 inches. Many of the very drought-tolerant species have

spiny, holly-like leaves. *Ceanothus* flowers are largely blue in a wide variety of shades, but a few are white or pink. *Ceanothus* species are used as food plants by the larvae of some butterfly and moth species, and also attract bees and other beneficial insects, so can be considered components of a habitat garden. Several members of the genus can form a symbiotic relationship with soil micro-organisms and fungi, forming root nodules which fix nitrogen. This is a reason why fertilizing is not normally recommended -- adding fertilizer may just kill off the good micro-organisms and make room for the bad ones. *Ceanothus* plants are better left fending for themselves.

#### CARE:

- ◆ Good drainage seems to be a key with *Ceanothus*, as with so many native plants. If soil and drainage are less than ideal, plant *Ceanothus* rootballs a little higher than the surrounding grade. Or try to plant on slopes so the surface runoff drains more rapidly.
- ◆ Most species need full sun, though in hotter areas some afternoon shade is beneficial. In the garden, those tolerating summer irrigation are easily satisfied by one or two deep waterings a month when established.
- ◆ *Ceanothus* is often said to be short lived, but that may be mostly in gardens that insist on drip irrigation, summer water and soil amendments. In their wild conditions, *Ceanothus* plants have a natural life cycle of 10-15 years, with some even longer. Plant this lilac in full sun to appreciate its brilliant blooms at their best.



### GOT CRITTER PROBLEMS?

Got gophers, roof rats, moles, voles, deer, tree squirrels, skunks, raccoons, opossums, mice, ants, wild turkeys, wild rabbits and other common wildlife?

Check out the Creative Critter Control website for possible effective and humane critter control which you may want to consider. [Click here](#). Let us know via the CGCI Facebook page if you have tried any of these controls. Tell us if you have any other effective and humane controls. And, of course, voice your opinion about non-use of any controls.

The link for the CGCI Facebook page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaGardenClubsInc>.

We want to hear from you!

"Spring is  
Nature's way  
of saying,  
"Let's  
party!"

- Robin  
Williams



## NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC. NEWS

[www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

### MEMBERSHIP PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

#### Theme: "NGC Membership Is . . ."

The NGC Membership Committee would like to see the essence of NGC Membership portrayed through your photos with captions. What does NGC Membership mean to you and your State or Local Club? Give it some thought and take some pictures that best convey the idea of NGC Membership. Then, join in the photo contest!

The NGC Membership Photography Contest Award may be awarded to the highest scoring photograph with a caption best depicting the theme, "NGC Membership is . . ." Entries may originate in any format but must be submitted electronically. All entries must be the original work of a national or international member and free from copyright restrictions. Members are member clubs, groups of member clubs, State Garden Clubs, NGC Regions and International Affiliates.

The photograph should be a .jpeg or .jpg format with the highest resolution possible. Digital manipulation of the photograph is permitted. A release form for everyone depicted in the photograph, including minors, must be included. Release forms are available on the NGC website. Entries must be received by March 15, 2015.

#### Awards

- 1st Place \$250.00 gift certificate to Member Services and Certificate
- 2nd Place \$100.00 gift certificate to Member Services and Certificate
- 3rd Place \$50.00 gift certificate to Member Services and Certificate

All entries must be submitted through email to:

[NGCMEMBERSHIPIS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NGCMEMBERSHIPIS@GMAIL.COM).

Include club name, state organization, number of members, location, date, caption, and any required release form with the photograph.

[Click here](#) for more information and scale of points.

## DROUGHT - WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER

By [Krystal Migliore](#), 2nd Vice President



- *"The drought doesn't affect me!"*
- *"I don't have a shortage of water because every time I turn my faucet the water is there the same as always!"*
- *"The drought is over!"*

Have you heard one of the above or something similar? Have you wanted to do something and weren't sure what to do? The calendar year 2013 was the driest year in California's history. During this time period, the City of Los Angeles had a total of 3.6 inches of rain. Whether the current drought was eased a bit by a recent storm or not, water should always be a concern for Californians. Our enviable climate and weather patterns makes it a certainty. We are already involved. The real question is what action we will take.

Our garden clubs can educate the public about the impact this drought has on every Californian. We can make the public aware what the costs are to our environment, our communities and our economy. The costs affect everyone and endanger our financial well being.

Our state's vegetation is dry. I live in Butte County located about 60 miles north of Sacramento. Normally, outdoor burning is allowed until May 1. It was so dry this year, an

Continued on Page 14.

**DROUGHT - Continued from Page 13.**

outdoor burning ban was issued on January 20. After a February storm passed through, the ban was lifted . . . temporarily. Dry conditions lead to increased risk of fire and especially wildfires.

We can educate the public that wildfires put a strain on the resources of fire districts; they devastate our flora and fauna; increase the chance of soil erosion; destroy property and displace owners; and cause serious health risks for many Californians with allergies, asthma and other breathing related illnesses. Money, Money, Money, Money, Money, Money!

Lake Shasta, formed by the Shasta Dam in Shasta County, is considered the keystone of the Central Valley Project. Lake Oroville, formed by the Oroville Dam in Butte County, is one of the key features in the California State Water Project. Water is supplied to Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys, into the California Aqueduct and into regions of Southern California. These are the two largest reservoirs in California. On February 27 the capacity of Lake Shasta was 39% and Lake Oroville was 40%. To check on lake levels, snow pack and other water related issues in California visit: [www.cdec.water.ca.gov](http://www.cdec.water.ca.gov). Both lakes are popular recreational areas, and the low levels will have a negative impact on recreation and the natural beauty of the areas.

Butte and surrounding counties rely heavily on agriculture. Walnuts, almonds, peaches, prunes, olives, rice are just some of the crops grown in this area. The drought is already having a major impact. Water allocations for irrigation have been decreased. In some cases the decrease, while significant, is not devastating for established farmers. In other cases the cuts have been major to extreme to total. Orchards are being torn out because there is not sufficient water allocated to water the trees. Land that has always been productive in the past now lies fallow. Dust mitigation will become more challenging as the drought continues.

People you talk with may think that because they live in a different area of the state that this will not affect them. Tell them to think again! We can educate the public that a statewide shortage of water impacts nearly all crops. It is about supply and demand. The supply will be significantly lower, and the demand will be at least the same

and probably higher. The cost will catch the attention of most Californians at the grocery store or farmer's market.

Butte County is home to Gray Lodge Wildlife Area. More than a million waterfowl travel the Pacific Flyway to winter at Gray Lodge and surrounding areas. Waterfowl do like water. Flooded rice fields that provide food and habitat every winter dried up about two months earlier this year because there were no rains to naturally replenish the water. If the waterfowl had the ability to complete a survey this year, it would have been two wings down. Their winter accommodations were not what they have come to expect. Even though we have received more rain this spring, the drought is not over.

During the CGCI Winter Board Meeting in Glendale, we took a tour to the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden. One of the ponds had such a low water level it looked like a mud hole. The waterfowl there would probably also give the two wings down rating for the accommodations.

Please educate -- take every opportunity to educate the public. These are just some of the more obvious reasons to use when explaining why the drought really does impact everyone in California. Then, when you have their attention, provide education on water-wise gardens, drought tolerant plants, and water conservation methods. Share some of the objectives of California Garden Clubs, Inc.: To promote, create and further an interest in amateur gardening, in plant life and bird life. To promote, further and assist all movements of all kinds having as their objective the conservation and enhancing of the natural beauty of the State of California.

If you have any wonderful water conservation tips or resource materials to recommend, please let me know.



### Drought & the Redwoods

"Redwood trees give water back to the ecosystem . . . Redwoods capture fog in summer when water is most scarce. Fog condensing from the trees falls to the ground like rain, providing a significant percentage of annual precipitation."

--Betsy Herbert, Member of the Sempervirens Fund  
Science Advisory Panel (*San Jose Mercury News*)

To contribute to the CGCI Sempervirens Fund, [click here](#).

## GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL

By [Greg Pokorski](#), NGC & CGCI GSS Chairman

We get questions about how the new text, *Botany for Gardeners*, fits into the school program. Your GSS Committee views it as a good reference for all gardeners and for Gardening Study School students and Consultants. There are many regional differences in soil, climate, water availability, growing conditions and plant palette. We look to the instructors to bring in much of their own material on the subject to be covered and that will largely be specific to the geographic area where the school is being held. We view all of the reading materials listed for GSS as more recommended than required reading and as reference materials that complement each other and complement course materials provided by the instructors. *Living With Plants* may still be used – it is just no longer required. *Secrets to Great Soil* is recommended for Course I, which includes the class on Soils.

### *How Can Gardening Consultants Help in 2014?*

*Many ideas come to my mind. Here are a few suggestions for positive action for our knowledgeable consultants.*

*One – think about offering an educational talk/forum at your local library, local garden club or other civic group that gives ideas and suggestions to the public about the 2014 and future gardening challenges – drought, freezes, wind damage, flooding etc. Two – plan a Gardening Consultant event at a local farm or state agricultural field station to learn about issues and problems that farmers deal with daily. Three – volunteer your time at a non-profit farming organization.*

*This year can be a good start to learn more, teach more and to let the public know about National Garden Clubs Gardening Consultants.*

*Catherine Felton,  
NGC GSS Vice Chairman*

### Clubs/Districts:

Want to sponsor an NGC school? If so, contact [Shane Looper](#) for Environmental Studies; [Gudy Kimmel](#) for Flower Show Schools; [Greg Pokorski](#) for Gardening Study; and [Alexis Slafer](#) for Landscape Design.

## LANDSCAPE DESIGN

### Success in the Landscape Design Process

By [Alexis Slafer](#), Landscape Design Schools Chairman



Design is as individualistic as the person who does the design. Landscape design combines the elements of art & science to create a functional, aesthetically pleasing design, often acting as a link or an extension of indoor living to the outdoors.

The elements and principles of design are the means through which a designer evaluates the effectiveness and success of a project. The elements and principles act as the tools and guidelines for developing the design.

One purpose of landscape design is to blend the buildings into the natural surroundings. The elements of design (color, line, form, texture and scale) are never used independently of each other. The elements (unity, balance, transition, focalization, proportion, rhythm, repetition and simplicity) are the tools used in combination to adjust the design principles. These principles interact to create the intended design.

**Steps in Developing a Landscape Design** – First visualize your design to scale on paper. It is important to think with drawings and sketches so your mistakes are made on paper, not in reality -- on the landscape site.

1. Develop a plot plan;
2. Conduct a site analysis;
3. Assess client needs and wishes;
4. Locate activity

areas; 5. Design activity areas; 6. Design planting (selection & placement of materials).

A systematic approach should be taken in landscape design. First determine the objective of your design and then establish the general type of plan, whether it should be formal or natural.

Consider balance or imbalance. Imbalance is uncomfortable & not desirable.

- Symmetrical balance - Formal & has bi-lateral symmetry or is identical on each side
- Asymmetrical balance - Informal & equal weights on each side, but not exactly the same
- Radial balance - Works in a circular pattern from a center point

Order and Unity -- Order and unity are emotional and visual reactions to the overall organization of the design elements within the existing site conditions. It is the organization and structure of a design, acting as the basic scheme or "skeleton" of the design. Order might be achieved by symmetrical or asymmetrical balance or by having a formal or natural arrangement.

Unity is the harmonious relationship among all the elements and characteristics of a design; established by staying simple and minimizing differences. Too many components and materials and the complex use of elements create competitiveness and the resulting lack of integration within the design prevents unity.

### Address the Design Requirements

1. Plan for structural needs (buildings and their uses).
2. Consider land forms (slopes, erosion, flat areas, cliffs).
3. Determine traffic flow (vehicular, service, pedestrian, entrance, parking; including transitions and linkages).
4. Consider the public area (which is different from the client's needs), including: adjacencies to other properties (screening or enhancing views); entrance area (including traffic flow, linking the outside areas to the site); landscape face to neighbors; comfortable access and "way-finding" to the entrance.

The design should consider areas with a feeling of privacy and comfort, as well as provide limited exposure for security. A private area might be for reading or meditation that might be next to a building or in an isolated corner of the landscape.

Traffic Flow and Circulation -- When designing for traffic flow and circulation, each unit on the site should be part of the whole and contribute to the overall circulation pattern.

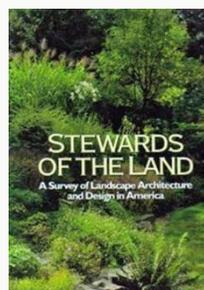
Circulation refers to the movement of people's eyes (towards a focal point) and then their bodies follow through a specific pattern in the landscape.

Definition & Separation of Areas -- A designer should clearly define and separate the activity areas once the ideas for the design have been determined. Sometimes space between areas or objects acts in this way, other times a fence or plant materials will do. Consider a visual screen that can be added without creating an actual physical barrier. Often plant materials can provide an inexpensive screen, adding both color & interest.

### Summary

Remember, every design a designer creates is unique. Using the basic principles of landscape design will ensure the creation of a functional and beautiful garden and landscape.

## Landscape Design School, Series 26, Course I Oct. 23-24, 2014



Luther Burbank District is hosting Series 26 of NGC's Landscape Design School. It is a series of four courses, educational/optional programs and tours. NGC members who complete the series of four courses and pass all the exams with a grade of 70 or above, are eligible to receive the

Consultants Certification Card, a NGC credential. This certificate is recognized as a sign of special achievement among NGC members but does not qualify the graduate to go into professional practice. [Click here](#) for the flyer/registration form for Course I. Instructors include Thomas Eddy, ASLA and founding president of Windsor Garden Club, and Phil Van Soelen of California Flora Nursery. All four courses are scheduled to be held at the Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa.

Registrations are already starting to arrive! Save the dates: Course II, April 23-24, 2015; Course III, October 22-23, 2015 and Course IV, April 28-29, 2016. We hope you will join us!

## SPOTLIGHT: COSTA VERDE DISTRICT



### DISTRICT HONORS PAST DISTRICT DIRECTORS

To celebrate the Holiday Season, members of **Costa Verde District** held a Victorian Tea on Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at South Coast Botanic Gardens. The program was titled "Gift Wrapping" and featured **Rosie Sato**, winner of the \$10,000.00 Scotch Tape Gift Wrap Con-

**Honorees:**  
**Irene Goldstone-Anderson** - 1960-61  
**Helen Gates** - 1966-68  
**Gudy Kimmel** - 1989-91  
**Ruth Brooker** - 1997-99 & 2009-11  
**Doris Nagy** - 2001-03  
**Diane Charbonneau** - 2003-05  
**Lorraine Ornelas** - 2005-2007 & 2011-13  
**Judy Unrine** - 2007-09  
**Kitty Guzman** - 2013-15

test. Members of the clubs were asked to bring packages gift wrapped using three different kinds of materials which were to be judged. Special guests were CGCI President **Rita Desilets**, and CGCI Past President **Robin Pokorski**. The highlight of the Victorian Tea was the recognition of Past District Directors who received a rose and a Certificate of Appreciation for their dedication to the district.

## PENNY PINES DONATIONS

April 2014 Report / Total Donations = \$4,148.00

By **Pat York**, Chairman

### ARBORETUM DISTRICT

Sierra Madre GC  
 Memory: Ruth Alene Putnam \$68  
 Honor: Phyllis Chapman \$68  
 Honor: Gladys Marie Moser,  
 who is 100 years old \$68

### BAY BRIDGES DISTRICT

Eden GC  
 Honor: Wendy Winstead \$68

### BUTTES DISTRICT

Chico Horticulture Society  
 Honor: Jennifer Jewell \$68  
 Honor: Sherry Somer \$68  
 Garden Club of Colusa County  
 Honor: John Vafis \$68  
 Honor: Donna Critchfield \$68  
 Paradise Garden Club \$136

### CASCADE DISTRICT

Redding Wonderland GC  
 Memory: Mike Cline 68  
 Memory: John Harrington \$68  
 Memory: Kenneth Richard  
 Gifford, Jr. \$68

### COSTA VERDE DISTRICT

Gardeneers, The  
 Memory: Lynn Bingaman \$68  
 Memory: Jean Woolley \$68  
 San Pedro GC  
 Memory: Marian Jones \$68  
 Honor: Cecelia Moore \$68

### DIABLO FOOTHILLS DISTRICT

Antioch Riverview GC  
 Memory: Joseph Warren  
 "Smokey" Jones \$68  
 Memory: Mario Tonin \$68  
 Honor: All Club Members \$136  
 Diablo Women's Garden Club  
 Honor: Roberta Brenner \$68  
 Honor: Ann Campion \$68  
 Honor: Jill Corti \$68  
 Honor: Lorna Defiebre \$68  
 Honor: Nancy Dyer \$68  
 Honor: Susan Edson \$68  
 Honor: Cindy Fox \$68  
 Honor: Dee Geisler \$68  
 Honor: Joan Hines \$68  
 Honor: Linda Holmes \$68  
 Honor: Fran Hounslow \$68  
 Honor: Nancy Huseby \$68  
 Honor: Hilary Lambert \$68  
 Honor: Judith LeBris \$68  
 Honor: Marge McHone \$68  
 Honor: Patricia McMillan \$68  
 Honor: Shirley Osmer \$68  
 Honor: Arlene Reed \$68  
 Honor: Carol Santa Maria \$68

### GOLDEN FOOTHILLS DISTRICT

District Donations  
 Memory: Richard D. Williams \$68  
 Donner GC of Auburn  
 Honor: Geri Godsey \$68  
 Roseville Better Gardens Club  
 Honor: Club's 85th Anniversary \$68

### HUMBOLDT DISTRICT

District Donations  
 Memory: Betty Thomas, Member  
 Southern Humboldt GC \$68

### MONTANA DE ORO DISTRICT

Paso Robles Multiflora GC  
 Memory: Lillian McMichael \$68  
 Memory: Marilyn Buchanan \$68  
 Memory: Beverly Davis \$68  
 Honor: Betty Wood \$68

### PALOMAR DISTRICT

Bridge and Bay GC  
 Honor: Jane Kaliff \$68  
 Carlsbad GC \$68  
 Ramona GC  
 Honor: Pam Mahler,  
 Past & Present President \$68  
 San Dieguito GC  
 Honor: San Dieguito GC \$68  
 Vista GC \$68

### SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT

San Jose Garden Club \$136  
 South Valley Fleurs GC \$136  
 Sunnyvale GC  
 Honor: Karen Ross \$68

### VALLEY LODE DISTRICT

Foothill GC  
 Memory: Donna Gallo \$68  
 Saddle Creek GC \$68  
 Memory: David Pugno \$68

## FROM OUR CLUBS

### "Art in the Garden" at La Paloma School Garden

By Kathleen McNally, Fallbrook Garden Club



What is a children's garden without a bit of whimsy? If you were to walk through the gardens at La Paloma, you would see an alligator basking under the fig tree. A bird house with a blue bird painted on the side, a mail box painted to resemble a barn, a swallow house that is painted to look like La Paloma School, rocks that have been cleverly painted to form caterpillars--all this and more would delight your eyes. In the Lady Bug Garden, the children plant the flowers and herbs that the lady bugs prefer as the place to lay their eggs and have their larva develop. But lurking among the plants are decorative lady bugs which the children have created at the Craft Table.

The children at La Paloma School are very fortunate to have the resource of the creative talents of **Anne Russo** and **Jan Wilkin**. Anne and Jan both came to the United States from England. Both relocated eventually to Fallbrook and both joined the Fallbrook Garden Club in 2001. Shortly after joining the garden club both women volunteered to work in the afterschool program at La Paloma School. Eleven years later, thankfully they are still hard at work and show up every Monday all year long to set up the Craft Table.



There is no doubt of their artistic talent or creativity. But the gift they bring to the children goes beyond that. They have the ability to take a craft or art project and break it down into its elemental components. They can define the project in steps that children can understand and accomplish. Previously La Paloma was a 4th through 6th grade school. Three years ago the school added kindergarten

through 3rd grade. This added a whole new degree of complexity as now projects have to be designed for children as young as 5 years old. Anne and Jan rose to the challenge and, every week without fail, show up with all the supplies needed to create yet another fun project.

Most days the children create a craft that they get to take home. The craft supports activities in the garden. For example the children might make a lady bug mobile when we are planting the Lady Bug Garden. They created an owl which used empty paper towel rolls for the body as part of the unit on Reduce/Reuse/Recycle. An additional job falls to the artists when Fallbrook Garden Club has a standard flower show, and the organizers turn to Anne and Jan to provide the entries for the educational portion of the show. Separate projects have to be created for each of four sessions. This is no simple task as the projects must fit the theme of the flower show yet be something a child can do. The craft created must be able to be stored for the months until the actual day of the flower show and the project has to stay in budget. Ideas fly as Anne and Jan typically collaborate with club members to come up with something new and exciting for each flower show.



Our two resident artists have made the children's garden at La Paloma a place of wonder, green vegetables and blooming flowers side by side with bits of whimsy. The rose bed has (literally) a brass headboard and footboard to define the "bed." Chimney flues were decorated by the children and form a raised bed for succulents. All around the garden you will see colorful signs and decorated borders in a garden designed for children.

