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

Vol. 44 No. 1 Director's Theme: "Look to the Garden Through the Eyes of a Child – A Kaleidoscope of Possibilities"



Pacific Region Director Kristie Livreri with Region Scholarship winner Marcel and former NGC President Linda Nelson Bentson.

## *Director's Message*

As I thought about what to write for my message to you, I have been reflecting on my visits around the Pacific Region. I officially visited the last two states of Arizona and Oregon. I am an ambassador for National Garden Clubs and encourage participation in all objectives, goals and projects of our wonderful organization. I have noticed a common thread as I have visited all of the eight states in the Pacific Region. Although faces are different and programs, workshops and speakers differ; all members I have met are friendly, nurturing people, who care about our Mother Earth. We just want to garden and share our love of gardening through participation in garden clubs, whether it be in design or horticulture. That common thread is what binds us together in the Pacific Region and NGC. With changes that occur, the responsibility we feel as garden club members to encourage and educate others, especially young people, remains the one constant.

Recently the Pacific Region Executive Committee had to make a difficult decision. We did not meet our

contractual obligations for the Pacific Region Convention held in Henderson, Nevada. The Executive Committee of the Pacific Region voted to liquidate our funds to pay the bill owed to Green Valley Resort. The bill was paid and we are left with a minimum of funds to operate the Pacific Region. The committee also voted to adopt a revised budget, and we are moving forward to meet any obligations. It is with a heavy heart that I tell you these things. We deserve better, and we will work to make sure this never happens again.

By now, you may know that a motion was rescinded by the NGC Executive Committee at the Winter Board Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina, which means that as of May 31, 2017, Pacific Region will no longer be under the financial umbrella of NGC, and must close its account at Bank of America under National Garden Clubs, Inc., Pacific Region. We will no longer use National Garden Clubs, Inc.'s EIN number. At the 2016 Pacific Region Convention in Henderson, we voted to obtain our own EIN number and move forward as the Pacific Region. A committee has been formed to research our options and I have asked them to report to us at the NGC Fall Board Meeting in Portland, Maine.

With all of these adult problems, it's been hard to focus on the theme of the Pacific Region to *Look to the Garden Through the Eyes of a Child*. However, we must continue to involve children and young people in our efforts to make this world a better place. The Director's Project Award will be funded by donation, and so it is our hope that we will continue to work and report to Sandy Ford all of the things our states are doing with young people. Thank you for your continued support.

*Kristie*



**Kristie Livreri**, Pacific Region Director, is a PR Gem for the exemplary manner in which she has led out PR through some challenges this term! ~ Becky Hassebroek

**Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Judy Tolbert, President**

Theme: "People, Plants and Projects"



AFGC members enjoyed a fun-filled day at our Kaleidoscope FUNdraiser complete with a delicious lunch, raffles and silent auction. Two of our members took home over \$500 each from the 50/25/25 raffle. No doubt about their enjoying the fundraiser. Tom Ogren, author of *Allergy Fighting Gardens*, gave an interesting presentation on keeping healthy and free of allergies in our climate. And, we were honored to have our own Pacific Region Director, Kristie Livreri, as our guest for the fundraiser and the 82<sup>nd</sup> AFGC Annual Meeting the next day. Marcie Brooks, a talented floral designer, NGC Life Judge and past President of Desert Designers, was unanimously elected as 2016 - 2017 President-Elect. Marcie will serve as the next AFGC President for 2017 - 2019.

A big thank you to our Nevada hosts for a great Pacific Region Convention in Henderson. The NGC Convention in Grand Rapids, held at the elegant Amway Grand Hotel, was filled with good food and entertainment, and the information presented was informative. I especially enjoyed the tour to Holland, Michigan for the Tulip Festival.

Landscape Design School, Course I is on target for November 12 - 14, 2016 to be held at the U of A Cooperative Extension Office in Phoenix. We welcome everyone to join us in our first LDS Course in Arizona in over twenty years. We have phenomenal instructors and we are already in the planning stage for Course II. Information on Course I is available on the calendar page of the AFGC website.

**Pacific Region States' Websites**

- Washington: [WAGardenClubs.com](http://WAGardenClubs.com)
- Arizona: [AZGardenClubs.com](http://AZGardenClubs.com)
- California: [CaliforniaGardenClubs.com](http://CaliforniaGardenClubs.com)
- Oregon: [OregonGardenClubs.org](http://OregonGardenClubs.org)
- Nevada: [NevadaGardenClubs.org](http://NevadaGardenClubs.org)
- Idaho: [GCII.org](http://GCII.org)
- Alaska: [AlaskaGardenClubs.org](http://AlaskaGardenClubs.org)

**Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs**  
**Terry Critchlow, President**

Theme: "Back to the Future – One Leap at a Time"



As the first year of this term comes to an end I am reflecting on the success of our garden clubs in moving forward with the present and continuing goals and objectives of National Garden Clubs. Washington members continue to learn and use more sustainable gardening practices and share this knowledge in their

community projects, youth and club programs. District newsletters report activity across the state with many projects in progress. Flower shows are scheduled at fairs, community events and in public venues. Summer children's programs and activities are ongoing. WSFGC aggressively has five school series planned for the next two years. Two Flower Show schools, an Environmental Studies and a Gardening Study school and a Landscape Design school. We are an active group with a thirst for knowledge. We scheduled a *Leap into Leadership!* workshop with Robin Pokorski. I promised the participants that if they didn't find the workshop helpful (which I challenged as impossible) at the very least they would have an enjoyable time.



Diane Franchini was awarded the NGC Award of Honor as well as the Lois Donahue WSFGC Past President's Award, for her multi-faceted and noteworthy

contributions to our state and the Pacific Region. She is a member and heavily involved in two clubs and two districts as well as fulfilling many of our state's needs. Diane with Co-Chairman Brynn Tavasci are making preparations for the 2017 Pacific Region Convention "The Best of the Northwest – The Pause that Refreshes" to be held April 18-20, in Seattle, Washington. Together these ladies are a team to aspire to and without a doubt will put together a convention that both educates and entertains us.

Our 82<sup>nd</sup> WSFGC convention "Imagine That" reminded us of the progress made in the last 82 years. From dial-up party lines to cell phones, from cabinets of paper files to simple 4" x 8" tablets, from ringer washers to front loading, top loading and stackable appliances, a trip coast to coast in just four hours, a man on the

moon, cake mixes, processed and fast foods, women using their own first names and even keeping their maiden names after marriage. Our grandmothers would be amazed. We have come a long way. While enjoying the ease and convenience in our daily lives we are now beginning to realize the stress on our environment this progress has produced.

We were thrilled to have our NGC President Sandy Robinson join us at the convention. She reminded us of the urgent need to preserve and restore our environment and spoke of the many partnerships and programs NGC has embarked on to encourage its members to become involved in educating our youth and working with our communities in this effort.

*"Imagine That"* offered a presentation from Louisa Lam, instructor of professional floral art, whose passion includes sharing her love of floral design. The 14 designs she put together amazed and inspired us all. Her floral necklace decorated this President the following evening at our awards ceremony.



***Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc.  
Janet Petersen, President***

*Theme: "We All Live Downstream. Choices Matter"*



As I sit in my backyard composing this letter I see insects, birds and other animals helping us to garden. We know pollinators come in all sizes, forms and species. Summer is here. Idaho's potatoes are in full blossom. In May the Treasure Valley Judges Council was the gathering place

for Judges Symposium. Two nationally recognized instructors Billie Fitch of Washington and Claudia Bates from Florida, came to Idaho. All who attended went away well-informed and ready to participate in judging both Horticulture and Floral Design.

Memorial Day in Idaho this year was special. The Nez Perce Garden Club in the Camas Prairie dedicated a new **Blue Star** Memorial Marker.

June has been a busy month. Our annual State Convention was held in the town of Orofino. It was hosted by the Clearwater District. In traveling from Boise to Orofino we southern Idaho garden club members passed through thousands of acres of rolling hills, planted with various crops including wheat, barley, beans and peas. Interspersed with these plantings were the vivid yellow fields of rape. It was truly a sight to behold. We were fortunate to have Sandra Robinson, our NGC President, attend our meeting. We took her on some wild and scenic roads showing her local gardens and the Dworshak National Fish Hatchery. We were also fortunate to have Robin and Greg Pokorski come to Idaho to help us "Leap Into Leadership." Robin gives a dynamic presentation. Greg consulted with our bylaws committee to help in restructuring the document.

I hope all gardens are flourishing and pollinators are pollinating and we are "Leaping into Action," furthering a healthy environment.

***Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Shirley Schmidt, President***

*Theme: "Nurture Nature -- Nurture Friendships"*



On occasion a member or, better yet, a potential may ask: "Please tell me some of the things Oregon has done this year." This President is happy to respond, proudly...

We have:

- held both Fall and Spring Board meetings at garden sites that we have funded for many years: Gardens of Enchantment in Sandy, Oregon where we planted a Dawn Redwood and The Oregon Garden in Silverton where the planting was a Canadensis 'Appalachian Red.'
- received the benefits of making those donations with the room rental at the Oregon Garden being \$100 instead of the normal \$500 rate.
- accepted the request by our Pacific Region Tree Chairman for each District to plant a tree or shrub. This officer took the challenge a step further and prepared a small Oregon grape for each board member as well as each club in our state with a total of 150 plantings.
- shared our bounty with food banks and pantries aiming for the goal of 150 pounds per person at the end of the two-year term – now at halfway to our goal
- prepared a membership brochure to encourage members to begin NEW clubs to build our

*Theme: "Grow and Share Your Knowledge"*

- membership – and added at least *five* new clubs to the Federation
- invited our NGC President, Sandy Robinson, to be interviewed on a 30-minute "In The Garden with Mike Darcy" live radio program
  - collected loose change at our meetings for Penny Pines as well as the "Fill the Cup – Fulfill a Dream" for a classroom of 20 children in Algeria for \$.25 meals this school year – already have exceeded the two-year goal of \$1800.
  - held dedication ceremonies for Blue Star Memorial markers
  - honored numerous members with certificates and citations
  - elected the next Pacific Region director and alternate director – Peggy Olin and Sherry Cossey
  - purchased at least 667 of *The Frightened Frog* books from NGC
  - initiated a new award to celebrate creative designers in the honor of Suzy Twist-Powell
  - brought a new fund-raising chapter to our Ways and Means committee: Nature's Garden
  - incorporated children into club planting events and documented those with pictures
  - updated the Annual Convention Planning Guide
  - revised a few Standing Rules by adding monetarily to OSFGC's major awards
  - secured a winner for each of those major awards this year
  - offered and provided scholarships to clubs who initiate Youth clubs
  - upgraded our website and added more information regularly, the newest being Facebook and Pinterest ([www.oregongardenclubs.org](http://www.oregongardenclubs.org))
  - planted wildflower seeds for a second year of celebrating Lady Bird Johnson's Highway Beautification Act
  - received a first place award from NGC for our state Directory
  - traveled the State delivering *The Frightened Frog* book to each District Director
  - seated the highest attendance at Board of Directors' meetings
  - emailed birthday cards to all board members and former state presidents
  - honored to have an Oregon student selected by both Pacific Region and National Garden Clubs, Inc. to receive \$5000 in scholarships
  - entered the Photography contest
  - offered and held successful Flower Show Schools
  - earned the privilege of a winning entry in a contest being selected for display on a public roadside billboard
  - celebrated a former president with the first Lifetime Achievement Award

Members – So glad you asked this important question: "What have you done this year?" This President is hoping that the question has now been answered successfully and to your satisfaction.



We are having a beautiful season here in Alaska. So beautiful how can anyone think of being inside. The sun doesn't set until 11:40 p.m. tonight and rises at 4:20 a.m. No real darkness. All this daylight makes plants grow faster and bigger, including weeds. Weeding is

non-stop. Alaska garden club members are doing some form of gardening and weeding. I have seen on the news that they are putting the cargo vans to use by creating units for hydroponics. Lots of lights, lots of insulation and available water helps them grow their own vegetables year round. Probably no weeds. Alaska clubs are busy with their gardens and all their charity garden work and WEEDING.

Enjoy the summer, enjoy the weeding until next time.

### ***CALL to Pacific Region Meeting***

#### **Call to Pacific Region Meeting in Portland, Maine**

Director Kristie Livreri announces that a meeting of the Pacific Region Executive Committee will take place during the NGC Fall Board Meeting (September 19-24) in Portland, Maine. All region members attending the Fall Board Meeting are welcome, but only Executive Committee members have a vote. Specific time and meeting place in the Holiday Inn by the Bay are to be determined and will be communicated during the Fall Board Meeting. An agenda will be sent to members of the Executive Committee.

### ***Nevada Fun Fact***

Nevada is pronounced "Nev-ADD-ah." Not "Nev-AH-dah."



**Karen Aguilar**, Southern California Garden Club, California, is an unsung heroine! Her recycle efforts at EVERY garden club meeting are outstanding! ~ Lois Brayton

Theme: "Growing Minds, Planting Seeds"

When you joined a Garden Club, what did you expect?

Most of us would say to learn how to garden, find out what grows best in my area and for some an opportunity to meet new people/friends.

This issue, I thought I would share some of what I have been learning as I travel throughout the state visiting the Districts and/or Club members. It ties in nicely with my theme, *Growing Minds, Planting Seeds*. As President, my mind is constantly growing with the amount of ideas and activities that are being done. This is a small list of the many ideas. I also included a few suggestions that have come in.

- ❖ One District has their current presidents as the nominating committee. Thus a pre-defined nominating committee and who knows the members best, but their own presidents?
  - Someone suggested that as state President I might want to consider this. Something to think about for the future.
- ❖ One District has district awards; district recognitions. Such as Woman of the Year/Man of the Year/Civic Beautification. Similar to what the State has. Each club has an awards chairman and the members from each club work together. Members of the district are becoming more aware of what other clubs/members within their district are doing.
- ❖ One Club uses old calendars and folds them into envelopes. Of course, the outside has pretty flowers – and the inside isn't written on! Envelopes of all sizes, can be used to put a yearbook in, notes, etc.
- ❖ Clubs invite Youth Winners and Scholarship Winners to their end of the year celebration and present the awards locally for those who cannot make it to Convention.
  - With my Project *Encouraging Future Gardeners* – this was a real eye opener. The children love getting the recognition and the parents love it even more. The Scholarship Winners (along with their parents and/or children) are honored to be a part of the event and more importantly to be able to say **Thank You** in person.



**Vicki Yuen**, Pacific Region Alternate Director and former Nevada state president, is a GEM! She has gone far and above what is expected of her. I want her to know how much I appreciate her and am so thankful to have her in my life.  
~ Kristie Livreri



**YOUTH:** With a lot of kindness and a little effort you can enrich the life of a child and give them knowledge and an experience that they will never forget. Rose Garden Club in Nevada has donated money to help fund a child-friendly garden in Aleta MacFarlane's yard. The door is always open for children to visit and check on the progress in the plantings and other garden creations. As Aleta says, "I know they can make a fairy garden out of anything." This is true and with the materials in hand they can make it happen.

Rose Garden Club also invited a Boy Scout troop to help plant daffodil and grape hyacinth bulbs at the Touch and Smell Garden. "Attendees at the Region convention who went on the Springs Preserve tour also had a chance to see the resulting blooms," said Vicki Yuen. The Iris Club is creating a coloring book about the iris. This should be popular with young and old for sure.

A local school has benefited from the attention of Nevada's Cactus Society. Bob Middag, society member, has been renovating the school's cactus garden. Bob did the careful planting of the cactus, which were donated by the society. The children painted the stones that were placed in the garden amongst the cactus. Vicki stated, "It is really the pride and joy of the school now." This project will be remembered as a creative experience that they can recreate in other gardens in the future. Attention and opportunity, the gift that keeps on giving.

*Brynn Tavasci, Youth Coordinator*

**HABITAT:** Nevadans: Be Snake Savvy ~ Nevadans are so lucky to get to live with wildlife on a daily basis. While one of the goals of a wildlife habitat is to provide cover for the safety of our critters, we have to be aware that it can also provide the perfect spot for our only venomous snake in Nevada, the rattlesnake, to seek protection from the hot Nevada sunshine. Raise the skirts of your larger cover plants close to your house just a bit, and keep the area clean,



so you can see if a rattlesnake is in residence. According to the Nevada Department of Wildlife, never try to kill a rattlesnake yourself, that is when most people get bit. If left alone, they should leave an area where there are humans. If they pose a public safety threat, call the NDOW or 911 to request a warden. Did you know? Often, juvenile rattlesnakes are more dangerous than the adults, they are not yet able to control the amount of venom injected during a bite and will almost always administer a venomous bite. The adults, on the other hand, are smarter and will often retain most of their venom to use on food sources. All other Nevada snakes are harmless. Make sure you can recognize the difference! Be snake savvy and keep your wildlife habitat safe for you, your pets, and your children!

*Becky Hassebroek, Habitat Chairman*

**TREES:** Nevada designated the single-leaf pinyon, (*Pinaceae Pinus monophylla*), as its first tree symbol in 1953 and the bristlecone pine, (*Pinus aristata*) as an official state tree in 1987. They often occur together at high elevations.



**The single-leaf pinon** is a slow growing aromatic pine with short, stiff needles and low gnarled branches. It prefers coarse soils and will grow in crevices of rocks. The normal height is about 15 feet but under ideal conditions it can grow as tall as 50 feet. This is the only species of pine which bears its needles singly, instead of in bundles. In former times the wood was used to fuel railroad locomotives and to produce charcoal for silver smelters. The single-leaf pinyon still provides fenceposts, Christmas trees, and seeds. The seeds are deep in the cones and do not easily fall loose and so are conveniently available to birds. The seeds were a staple food for Native Americans and are still relished by many people today. It can be found growing in southernmost Idaho, western Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and California.

One of the largest single-leaf pinyons, almost 50 feet tall, is found in Washoe County, Nevada. A 909-year-

old single-leaf pinyon can be found in the Pilot Range, Nevada.



**The bristlecone pine** is the longest-living tree yet known. They are remarkable for their age and their ability to survive in harsh environments. In the Great Basin National Park of Nevada groves of these trees can be found at Wheeler Peak, on Mt. Washington, and near Eagle Peak just below tree line. These trees growing in cold temperatures with a short growing season and high winds grow slowly and form fascinating twisted shapes.

Always remember that everything in a National Park is protected. Some bristlecone pine wood may be thousands of years old and important scientifically.

**Please leave all downed wood in its place.**

In 1964 the Forest Service granted permission for a researcher to cut down what was thought might be the oldest living bristlecone pine. The tree that was cut down became known as "Prometheus." It contained 4,900 growth rings. The oldest living tree is in the White Mountains of California.



Bristlecone pines grow more quickly in more favorable environments at lower elevations but have a more normal pine shape. They have unique white dots of dried resin on their 1-1 ½ inches long, curved needles which are grouped five to a bundle. They can be an interesting specimen tree in the northwestern garden.

*Robyn McCarthy, Trees & Shrubs Chairman*

**BEES:** This article is about a bee found in Nevada as well as other states, the Valley Carpenter Bee. A unique characteristic that separates these from other species of bees is their ability to thermoregulate. This allows them to fly at very high temperatures without overheating and at low temperatures without freezing. Though the cooling and heating process of Carpenter Bees is not fully understood, by modifying their foraging patterns and flying at different altitudes depending upon temperature, the Valley Carpenter Bee is able to adapt to very different environments.

Valley Carpenter Bees are living in the Las Vegas Wash within the Clark County Wetlands Park as well as many other locations in Nevada. They are about  $\frac{3}{4}$  - 1 inch in length and resemble a bumble bee with a bare upper abdomen. The female is shiny, metallic black which is in sharp contrast to the fuzzy, golden brown, green-eyed male! They are the largest native bees found in Nevada so you are sure to notice them if they are in your yard.

In this picture there is a male and female Valley Carpenter Bee on the same passion flower. The gold on the female's shoulders is pollen from another flower.



Photo: UCD Bug Squad

Carpenter bees are not social insects and do not live in nests or colonies. These bees get their common name from their habit of boring into wood to make chambers for rearing their young. The adults overwinter, typically in abandoned nest tunnels. In the spring, the survivors emerge and feed on nectar. Then mating takes place and the mated female begins her nest construction. The female may either reuse an old nest tunnel (lengthened and modified to her taste of course) or construct a new one. She bores a circular hole (same diameter as her body) straight into the wood across the wood grain for a distance equal to her body length. Then the tunnel

takes a right-angle turn, usually with the grain of the wood. New tunnels (galleries) are 4-6" long but galleries re-used by several bees over several years may extend up to 10 feet!



The female starts her egg laying at the closed end of the gallery. She first places a mass of pollen and regurgitated nectar in the hole and then lays a single egg. This portion of the gallery is then sealed off with a chewed wood-pulp plug, forming a chamber or cell. This process is repeated until a linear series of 5-6 cells is completed at the rate of about 1 cell per day. This process creates a separate room for each developing bee, very similar to the Mason Bee's nest. The time needed to develop from egg to adult for the carpenter bee is only about 36 days.



Females of the carpenter bee will nest in a wide range of wood but prefer weathered and unpainted wood. Valley Carpenter Bees prefer partially decayed live oak, deciduous oak, eucalyptus, and other hardwoods. This carpenter bee is not known to nest in structural timbers but other types of carpenter bees do!

Male carpenter bees tend to be territorial and often become aggressive when humans approach, sometimes hovering a short distance in front of the face or buzzing one's head. Since males have no stinger, these actions are merely show but they are scary as it is not a common thing for a bee to be in your face! The female

does have a potent sting which is rarely used and they do not exhibit the same aggressive behavior that the male does. Thank goodness!

It is June as I write this article and I have these bees in my yard where they are pollinating the digitalis along with the bumblebees. Several of my gardener friends have mentioned that they have also experienced the male bee's aggressive behavior. It is similar to how hummingbirds let you know that their feeders need re-filling. It's hard to ignore them for long and they are just as persistent!

Valley Carpenter Bees are excellent pollinators but they are unable to reach deep into very deep flowers. They instead use a buzzing method in which they grab a flower in their jaws and shake it 100 times a second to get as much pollen as possible to come out (they typically beat their wings 200 times a second when in flight). This method allows carpenter bees to break into the toughest flowers so they can pollinate them!

So enjoy your gardens and notice all the pollinators in them this summer. There is a lot going on out there besides your activities!

*Josie Goodenow, Bees Chairman*

**BIRDS:** The Mountain **Bluebird** has been the Nevada State Bird since 1967, (also the state bird of Idaho) and a member of the thrasher family.



This beautiful **blue bird** is common in the higher elevations of Nevada, spending winters in the lower valleys, but heading for the mountains in the spring and summer.

The male is a bright **blue** and the female is a lighter shade of **blue**. Neither sex has the rusty color on their breasts like the Eastern **Bluebirds**.

These birds hang out in the tallest trees and swoop down hovering just above the ground while eating insects and berries when in season.

They sing with a short clear warble to each other as the female gathers her nesting material. They are cavity nesters and use nesting boxes freely, and do not get upset if there is human activity around.

So get out your hammers and saws, you will need them for that birdhouse you've been planning to build. Winter is just around the corner and these beautiful fowl will need a place to stay and plan their family.



Wood should be  $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick, anything less will get too hot for the chicks, and birds really do prefer natural to painted wood. Make it easy to clean out and make  $\frac{1}{4}$ " holes in the bottom for rain drainage. Add a roof overhang to keep rain and predators out, and make the hole about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " without a perch, that's important, to keep out the predators.

Then welcome these beautiful Mountain **Bluebirds** with a bit of dried fruit and suet.



[www.wild-birdwatching.com/makingbirdhouses](http://www.wild-birdwatching.com/makingbirdhouses)

*Orvalita Hopkins, Bird Chairman*

*Ed Note: I know that's too many pictures of bluebirds but your editor LIKES 'em and so there you go! Better than a bunch of pictures of snakes!*

#### NEVADA by the numbers:

- Nevada membership: 214
- Districts: none
- Clubs: 12
- Affiliates: 7
- Judges Councils: 4
- Youth Clubs: 7

**State President's theme:** *Digging, Planting, Cultivating: GROWING MEMBERSHIP*

#### **Nevada Fun Fact**

Nevada is the only state in the U.S. where prostitution is legal for licensed brothels. Pacific Region fundraiser??

## Pacific Region: Approaching the Finish Line!

By Alexis Slafer, Life Membership Chairman



The 2016 Olympic Games in Rio do not have horse racing as an event, but the Games do have the Equestrian Events: Eventing, Dressage, and Jumping. The Equestrian Events are

the only Olympic sport in which men and women compete against each other on a level playing field. They participate as individuals and as teams...much like the members of Pacific Region. While we don't think that any of the Olympians at the games in Rio are entered in the Pacific Region's "run for the roses" – the excitement of *our* race continues to build with new Life Members joining the competition. We are in the clubhouse turn, the backstretch looms ahead, and there is still time for you and your state to join the race.

Purchasing a Life Membership honors your members and supports our scholarship program. You can recognize and reward your members who have worked so hard -- with a Pacific Region Life Membership -- to celebrate their guidance and commitment to strengthening your club, state organization, and/or our region. Your state can join an exciting contest, created by this chairman, that provides an extra incentive to grow our life members' cadre (now at number 642)... while increasing our scholarship fund at the same time. The winner of this "run for the roses" contest will receive a \$180 donation to a special state project. The *Victory Lap* will be taken at the 2017 Pacific Region Convention, being held in Seattle, WA, by the state that has the largest percentage increase of Pacific Region Life Members.

So, look around your own club, district and state for those who have gone that extra mile or furlong. The following is a list of the winning "Thoroughbreds"



entered in our race for each state: **AK**- Janet Hartmann; **CA**- Brenda Leal, Peggy Horner, Kathy Lee, Heide M. Stack, Alexis Slafer, Bette Tang, Dee Hoskins, Evelyn Warrington; **NV**- Judy

Stebbins, Suzanne Henson, Roberta Baltz, Imogene Lindo, Marie S. Kaplan; **OR**- Velda Altig, Lauri Baker, Michael Zerwer; **WA**- Cheryl Trichia, Marilyn Topp, Tohnnie Ingalls, & Keith Ripley. Congratulations to these Life Members who are wearing the blanket of

roses and those that were the ones who recognized their efforts and honored them. Do you see your name listed? Isn't there someone in your club, district or state whose name needs to be added? You can add their name to the field!

You can do that, as individuals, organizations or districts by purchasing a life membership to honor a member **or** -- individuals may purchase their own. Just \$40 purchases a Pacific Region Life Membership, along with a lovely pin and certificate. And, remember your donation is fully tax-deductible.

Please follow any special life membership purchase procedures in your state. The application forms are available from this Life Membership Chairman or on the Region website: [pacificregiongardencubs.org/Forms](http://pacificregiongardencubs.org/Forms). Let's get those applications in and watch our scholarship program grow while honoring our deserving members. The more entering will increase your state's odds of winning this "run for the roses." The finish line is just ahead down the homestretch!

## Go GREEN

By Greg Pokorski, Contributor



An NBC story indicates Mom was onto something – Americans are not cleaning their plates. Food waste in the U.S. swelled by 50% since the 1970s and we're throwing away 40% of our meals. A total

of \$165 billion annually gets tossed by homeowners and in unsold or unused perishables or scraps dumped by grocers or restaurants.

Everyone has a role to play in reducing food waste. It's one of the easiest things we can do to reduce our environmental footprint. Start by trying not to over-purchase.

Some things may have been better in the good old days – before food expiration dates. We must have been more guided by common sense then. Many British grocers have stopped using those dates which are often just a tool to help store clerks stock shelves with the older products out front. People in the U.S. tend to see these as safety dates, but they are not regulated for the most part. They are intended as the manufacturer's suggestion for peak quality rather than anything that indicates the food is going bad. Many people, not understanding that, just throw food out after the date. We can see or smell or taste when many foods are going bad – occasionally that is even before the date on the package, but more often long after that date. A little old-fashioned common sense might help us to reduce waste, reduce our impact on the landfill and save money.

*By Vicki Yuen, NGC Leap Into Leadership Committee*

*By Becky Hassebroek, NGC Habitat Chairman*

As the newest member of the **Leap Into Leadership!** Committee, I am honored and delighted to be a part of this terrific committee. You'll find my first project in *Keeping In Touch* (KIT): I'll be providing KIT a schedule of our presentations by location and date. So if you are in a nearby State or City and would like to participate, just get in touch with the State President (or District Director). This is especially handy if your own State or District is not holding a leadership seminar, but you are interested in it yourself. And, you can travel with a friend and share expenses.

These Leadership Seminars are wonderful, so do take advantage of the opportunity. You can learn about agendas, what goes into the minutes, how to handle difficult issues and people, just in general how to feel more confident as a leader of your Club, District or State. Let's Leap!

And just so you know when and where sessions are (or have been) – here is the master schedule:

- August 19 – Las Vegas, NV
- September 2 – Long Beach, CA
- February 20 – Oklahoma City, OK
- February 22 – Arcadia, CA (Arboretum District)
- February 29 – Phoenix, Arizona
- May 24-25 – Grand Rapids, Michigan
- June 11 – Casper, Wyoming
- June 24-25 – Missoula, Montana
- June 27 – Boise, Idaho
- July 20 – Seattle, Washington
- July 22 – Eugene, Oregon

- Aug 1-2 – Searcy, Arkansas
- Oct 26-29 – Las Vegas, New Mexico
- Feb 24-25, 2017 – Tulsa, Oklahoma

**NGC Conservation Pledge**

*Adopted May 19, 1994*



I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forest, land and wildlife.

**A Thorny Issue**



My fear of **roses** is a **thorny** issue. I'm not sure what it **stems** from, but it seems likely I'll be **stuck** with it.

What a difference a few years makes in our outlook. I've personally always loved wildlife. But I grew up in southern Texas where there were many, many bugs, and maybe because of that they didn't garner my affection. It was common to "spray" for bugs – all types of bugs! I certainly didn't consider them "wildlife" at the time!

As an adult, that mind-set stayed with me. Twenty-five years ago, when I had a small fruit orchard and citrus grove – again in the South but this time in Florida – and even **after** I had gone through Master Gardener training - I had my huge Ortho book as a handy reference to identify bugs I found in my garden and tell me what chemicals I needed to use on them to annihilate them from my fruit trees and other precious plants. There were so-called "good bugs" and "bad bugs", and if it happened to fall in the "bad bug" list, watch out! I wasn't smart enough to know that I was killing the good along with the bad, or that they were all beneficial in one way or another!

After I stopped using sprays, I went to systemics, thinking that was the answer! We all now know better than that!

**It's just amazing that any of our pollinators are left!**

I remember even five years ago, when working in my garden, I'd frown at the bee that whizzed by, and want to kill every wasp that I encountered. And, I would get stung every so often – not because these "bugs" were focused on me, but because they were trying to save their lives.

Now, thankfully, knowledge about the value and plight of our pollinators has brought it all front and center – these "bugs" are responsible for the future of a large part of our food supply, and our children's and grandchildren's. **We need them! We can't exist without them! We have to protect them!**

I was just in my perennial garden yesterday – the delphinium are over my head, and the rest of the perennials are waist high. I just stood in the middle of this garden in awe at the "life" all around me. Insects of all kinds doing their "thing." I didn't worry about getting stung – these pollinators were not aggressive because I wasn't threatening them.



Mosquitoes were there, too (our State bird, you know – have to put in a plug about Alaska), but the swallows were catching most all of them to feed to their babies –

what would they do without them? Their lives also depend on our “bugs.”

I've added, and protected, many native plants and trees in my garden. Like the rest of you, I am truly entertained by our birds. We are so fortunate to have experts like Doug Tallamy, noted author of “Bringing Nature Home”, to prove to us that most of our birds depend on the soft caterpillars found on our trees to feed their young, and if these trees are not found in our gardens, the birds can't be there, as well. These caterpillars will not live on our fancy ornamentals! Natives are so incredibly important! We constantly have so much to learn!

We garden club members are so very lucky to have access to this knowledge so we can have healthy habitats - for the pollinators and other wildlife that will frequent them, for our pets, and for our children and grandchildren. And, at our ages – maybe a few “greats” thrown in there.

I am constantly amazed when I see people at the stores buying “weed and feed” for their lawns, round-up for their weeds, plants that have been treated with neonicotinoids. They don't mean to do harm, they just don't have the knowledge.



I, for one, have removed deadly chemicals from my garden and practice sustainable gardening. I know many of you have done the same! Thanks to the education being provided by NGC and the other partners in the “Million Pollinator

Garden Challenge,” we are being given the knowledge – it's our duty and privilege to pass it on. So, “Bee a Wildlife Action Hero,” commit to Garden for Wildlife, share your knowledge, and register your gardens on the SHARE map at Pollinator.org for the world to see. Let there be life all around you, right down to the smallest little critter! Your life will be so much richer!



### ***Dignity and Respect***

**From the U.S. Dept of the Interior Bureau of Land Management: *The Dignity & Respect Campaign empowers people to create environments for ALL to work, live, learn and play by delivering educational and training resources; programs and initiatives; and communication tools.*** [www.dignityandrespect.org](http://www.dignityandrespect.org)



***Linnea Miller Domz, at the age of 103, remains my shining example and my friend. I love you, Linnea~ Kristie Livreri***

## ***The Buzz: Bee Friendly, Bee Happy, and Bee Healthy***

*By Josie Goodenow, Bees Chairman*



Good news for bees! Ortho has recently joined the growing list of garden industry businesses that are moving away from neonicotinoids (neonics). The company plans on eliminating the use of these chemicals by 2017. As one type of insecticide is being phased out, the line of non-neonic garden products grows so you have easy to find alternatives available.

The insecticide companies are entering into partnerships with pollinator advocacy organizations, such as Pollinator Stewardship Council, to improve our environment for our pollinators as well as for us humans. Let's hope this trend continues! Of course these companies are also looking at their bottom line when making these decisions, but let's hope they are also waking up to the fact that we need to act to save our pollinators both managed and native. I see this as a trend that we, as gardeners, have had a hand in starting!

I'm sure you have noticed the seed packets from [www.SaveOurPollinators.org](http://www.SaveOurPollinators.org), Save Our Monarchs Foundation and other pollinator supporters are now also promoting Monsanto and Bayer brands. This is a great PR opportunity for the chemical companies for sure.

Home improvement stores including Lowe's and Home Depot have pledged to phase out neonic pesticides and many on-line plant suppliers have become neonic free as well. A partial list of US nurseries that have pledged not to sell or use neonics may be found on the Friends of the Earth website at <http://www.foe.org/beeaction/retailers>. I personally order from a nursery that is not listed but they certify that they do not use neonics on their plants right on their website.

Next time you are shopping for plants, whether on line or at your favorite nursery, please notice whether or not the nursery company displays a neonic statement. We can all do our part to help our pollinators by purchasing only neonic free plants and seeds!

I've read “Bee gardens make people happy.” And it's true!



## Pacific Region Boosters – There's Still Time

By Terry Critchlow, Booster Chairman



### There's still time to become a 2016-2017 Pacific Region Booster!

Start the year in support of offering opportunities to enhance our member's horticultural knowledge, youth programs and projects, awards and scholarships. Including but not limited to: promoting the goals and objectives of NGC, environmental stewardship, offering leadership opportunities and growth, networking, sharing successful ideas, sharing artistic expression through floral design and crafts, and more....

**2016-2017 Boosters (\$20 donation):** Garnet Ascher, Linda Nelson Bentson, Martie Black, Karen Brown, Sherry Cossey, Terry Critchlow, Lana Finegold, Sandra Ford, Diane Franchini, Elaine Gunderson, Janet Hartmann, Debbie Hinchey, Orvalita Hopkins, Robyn McCarthy, Dorothy Munroe, Peggy Olin, Carol Parrott, Marva Lee Peterschick, Janet Petersen, Greg Pokorski, Robin Pokorski, Sally Priebe, Alexis Slafer, Judith Stebbins, Brynn Tavasci, Dorlene Waite, and Vicki Yuen



**2016-2017 Silver Boosters (donation \$50):** Becky Hasebroek, Kristie Livreri, Jeanette Pruin

**2016-2017 Gold Boosters (donation \$75): none YET**



Please make checks payable to: PR of NGC, Inc. Send to Treasurer Becky Hasebroek, 518 Slater Drive, Fairbanks, AK 99701.

## August Holidays

- August 10 ...National S'mores Day
- August 18... Bad Poetry Day
- August 27... Race Your Computer Mouse / Mice Day
- August 30... National Toasted Marshmallow Day



*Alexis Slafer, Southern California Garden Club, California, is a super GEM! Helping me with any project willingly and cheerfully! ~ Robin Pokorski*

## Community Gardens Thriving

By Chris Wood, Community/Public Gardens Chairman



How wonderful it is to see the excitement for gardening and "growing your own." In Alaska we are seeing an increased interest in the growing of vegetables, herbs and fruits within our communities, cities and in the bush. With our short growing season, 24 hours of sunlight, and a pioneer spirit, Alaskans are passionate about their gardening. Out of need we grow food, hunt, fish and put up our food for the winter months.

The Cooperative Extension Service through the University of Alaska Fairbanks is an active partner in our success to gardening in this land. Through their Master Gardener's program, they have taught and graduated 1250 Master Gardeners that have been instrumental in the Community Garden movement here. Our garden clubs with their monthly educational programs encourage new gardeners to give gardening a try. Between these two organizations, community gardens in Alaska have exploded.

In the Municipality of Anchorage, there are designated areas in the city of 183 plots total for rent that are 10 x 20 feet. These are for private use by individuals in the community. Interestingly, churches and faith-based organizations are growing community gardens and encouraging their parishioner's involvement as a way to help each other and give to those in need.

With the help and interest of educators, schools have encouraged involvement of children to learn about gardening and have embraced hands-on training to grow, taste and share their food with others. From elementary schools to high schools, kids are involved and excitedly participating. Schools have built greenhouses and volunteers have helped teach our youth the principles of gardening. Our Alaska Botanical Master Gardeners have led an afterschool program called 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This program was set up at schools for at-risk children and has been successful. Master Gardener volunteers, through our Cooperative Extension, have assisted staffing this school program.

## Director's Project

By Sandra Ford, Pacific Region Project Chairman

A local high school has been growing transplants for the Refugees' Farmers Market project where refugees have worked an 8,000 square foot community garden plot. They sell their food at a weekly summer market in downtown Anchorage and are well received by our community.

Several state facilities have partnered with Cooperative Extension and started community gardens at prisons and youth detention centers to help rehabilitate prisoners.

The Master Gardeners have been active in the planting and maintaining the gardens of the State's senior facility called The Pioneer Home. Last year, these gardeners planted 750 flowers and cared for them Summer through Fall to the delight and appreciation of the residents. As more and more local and state funding becomes tighter, volunteers are needed to step up and help out communities in caring for our public gardens to keep them looking great. Our garden clubs are in a perfect position to lead and encourage this participation.

Another area of community gardens has been within neighborhoods and community associations. From apartment complexes to condo associations, these residents have wanted to and have planted a garden plot on site to grow food. Several private senior homes have placed community gardens in the master plan for their residents and employees to participate in the love of gardening.

In the heart of Anchorage, we have a Centennial Rose garden that is cared for by active garden club gardeners. The Blue Star Veterans Memorial Highway marker is planted, watered and weeded every summer by the Anchorage Garden Club members.

The Alaska Botanical Garden has a Junior Master Gardener program to actively involve children to learn to garden. Several eight-week sessions are well attended every summer. These kids have a garden plot they plant and care for. As they learn about gardening, they will no doubt carry with them a love for gardening their entire lives. In the Alaska Botanical Garden, Wildflower Garden Club maintains a lovely native wildflower path that weaves through this beautiful garden.

We are so blessed to participate in this incredible creation we live in. Every state has uniqueness of flora to share and celebrate.

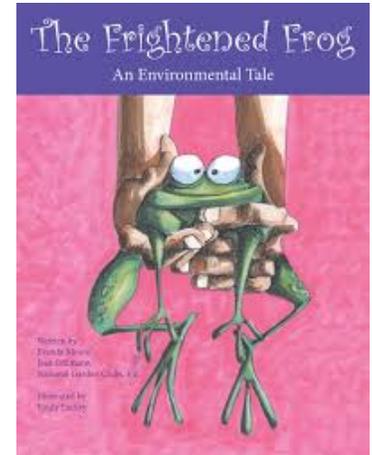
As Pacific Region Community/Public Gardens Chairman, I would love to hear what you are doing in your states and through the sharing of ideas we can all benefit our states and promote the love of gardening.

---

**I always carry a knife in my purse. You know, in case of a cheesecake or something.**

During the two-year term of Kristie Livreri as the Pacific Region Director, she has asked our eight states to involve children and young people in garden club activities. Our future members are the children of today. There is still time to start a junior garden club, encourage participation in Essay, Poetry, Poster and Sculpture contests!

Over 700 copies of the NGC book "*The Frightened Frog*" have been purchased and given to children, schools and libraries. A lesson plan for elementary school children may be found on the NGC website.



No project is too small! Many small projects from all of the clubs adds up to a big project for your state, so send in your report, along with pictures, to your state president or project chairman. Reports and pictures can either be sent by regular mail, or by email. A final report is due to me by November 1.

Cash prizes will be awarded at the Pacific Region convention in Seattle in 2017, for the most participation per capita.

## Gardening Tip



Turn a long-handled tool into a measuring stick. Lay a long-handled garden tool on the ground, and next to it place a tape measure. Using a permanent marker, write inch and foot marks on the handle. When you need to space plants a certain distance apart (from just an inch to several feet) you'll already have a measuring device in your hand.



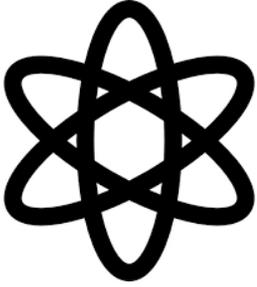
## Mother Earth's Kindness



**Mother Earth is so kind...  
you tickle her with a hoe  
and she rewards you with  
a laughter of harvest.**

## Energy Conservation

By Pat Babcock, Energy Conservation Chairman



Your Energy Conservation chairman lives in Alaska. In Fairbanks, Alaska we have about 22 hours of daylight. This sunlight could charge many solar batteries to be used in wintertime Alaska when it is -20°F or colder. In Alaska, we use double- or triple-paned windows to

conserve the heat. Summers we are able to bring in a lot of heat. Often awnings and drapes are used to block the sun. During the December solstice, we have only three hours and twenty minutes of daylight and cold temperatures. The windows help conserve the heat. We conserve energy in summers by not having to use the fuel to heat or light our homes. This is a definite plus for living in "our neck of the woods."

For all of the rest of you in the Pacific Region, using energy wisely means being energy efficient. Reducing your energy will definitely conserve your resources, like natural gas, oil and water. Of course this will save you money on your utility bills. Using energy wisely can cut down on pollutants in the air and water, making a better environment for every one of you.

Saving energy is the key to energy conservation. Here are some good ways:

- \* Shut off your television and lights when you leave a room.
- \* Open your curtains to let the sunlight in, instead of turning on the lights.
- \* Keep your windows and doors shut when you have your heaters or air conditioning on. Each time you open a door, while the heating or cooling system is operating, a lot of expensive heated or cooled air escapes.
- \* When it is sunny out, hang your clothes outside to dry instead of using the dryer.
- \* Do not let the water drip from your faucets. This obviously wastes water.
- \* Do not stand with the refrigerator door open. Check the seals around your refrigerator doors.
- \* Plant trees and shrubs to provide summer shade for your home and yard. In my area there are birch, spruce, tamarack and aspen trees surrounding homes.
- \* Check to see if energy-efficient compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) or light-emitting diode (LED) lamps will fit in your home's lighting fixtures. Count how many places in your home will take these types of light, and then start replacing incandescent light bulbs with new CFLs or LEDs. They cost more to

purchase, but you get the money back quickly. CFL lamps only use one-quarter as much energy as incandescent light bulbs and can last up to 10 times longer. LED lamps use about one-sixth as much energy as incandescent light bulbs and can last up to 50 times longer, which makes them a good investment.

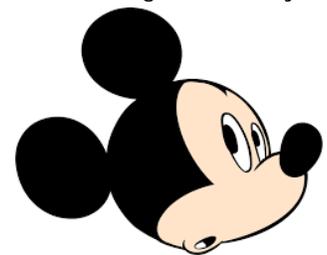
- \* Change out your home's air filters. They are usually located in the heating or cooling unit, but are sometimes in a register at the end of an air duct. If your home has central air conditioning, they should be changed or cleaned once a month or as needed.
- \* Install an insulating blanket around the water heater tank.
- \* Keep your water heater at 120° F.
- \* If you have a fireplace in your home, check the damper to make sure it is closed to avoid losing precious hot air or cool air.
- \* Turn off your fans when you are not in the rooms.

## Landscape Design Schools

Excerpts taken from the Net Gallery website

A newly published book (April 1, 2016, by University of Georgia Press) should be of interest to the members of Pacific Region. The title is *Ruth Shellhorn* and is authored by landscape architect Kelly Comras (a former NGC Landscape Design School instructor). In a career spanning nearly sixty years Ruth Shellhorn (1909-2006) helped shape Southern California's iconic modernist aesthetic. She created close to four hundred landscape designs, collaborated with some of the region's most celebrated architects, and left her mark on a wide array of places, including college campuses and Disneyland's Main Street.

The author tells the story of Shellhorn's life and career before focusing on twelve projects that explore her approach to design and aesthetic philosophy. The book's project studies include designs for Bullock's department stores and Fashion Square shopping centers; school campuses, including a multi-year master plan for the University of California at Riverside; a major Los Angeles County coastal planning project; the western headquarters for Prudential Insurance; residential estates and gardens; and her collaboration on the original plan for Disneyland.



Shellhorn set a standard of creativity, productivity, and respect for the native landscape that defused gender stereotypes—and earned her the admiration of landscape designers then and now.

## Stress-Free Master Panel

By Marva Lee Peterschick, Flower Show Schools Chairman

The local chairman of a Flower Show School Series appoints two **Accredited Judges** to both the Horticulture and Design Master Panels. However, finding judges to serve on the Master Panel becomes difficult and it may be the result of many factors: fatigue, the desire to not attend all lectures and practice point-scoring demonstrations pertaining to their specific assignment, and the attitude of a Master Judge being a non-eager volunteer by this statement: "I'm a Master Judge; I don't have to take point-scoring exams anymore."

The Master Panel experience should be pleasant and stress-free, one that is educational for all participants, and one that will assist the instructor in compiling the comment sheets. The Master Panel needs to point score at the same time students are taking the point-scoring examination so exhibits appear the same for all. The instructor who is part of the Master Panel must confer with other members of the Master Panel prior to judging and/or following judging, but each must judge alone.

Try to eliminate stress from the Master Panel experience by:

- (1) emphasizing this is not a test for the Master panel.
- (2) explaining they need to only write down the faults that they see.
- (3) confirming they do not need to put any numbers on their paper or add them up.

This should take no more than 45 minutes for this task. Panel members then retire to a quiet location to complete the educational/consultation phase. For qualities lacking faults, the instructor needs to make sure the Master Panel gives some positive descriptive comments. After the consultation, panel members should feel confident they did a good job of judging and they improved their judging skills.

The instructor is responsible for combining/summarizing Master Panel comments, averaging scores, and entering them on clean Master Panel point-scoring forms for later distribution to students. The instructor should always make sure the Master Panel gets a copy of the Master Panel comment sheet. Accredited Judges need to step up and volunteer – don't wait to be asked to serve on the Master Panel. Your local Flower Show Schools Committee will appreciate it.



## Celebrating our Region's Youth

By Brynn Tavasci, Youth Coordinator



Let's take a moment to celebrate the Youth Award Winners of Pacific Region.

### Youth Activities:

**1<sup>st</sup> place** - Capitol City Garden Club, Washington

**2<sup>nd</sup> place** - Dogwood Garden Club, Washington

**3<sup>rd</sup> place** - Nampa Garden Club, Idaho

### Youth Poetry Contest:

**Jackson Foisie**, Kindergarten – Poway Valley Garden Club, California

**Mariana Dorsey**, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Desert Point Garden Club, Arizona

**Kayleah Sims**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Oak Harbor Garden Club, Washington

**Elliot Kohn**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Poway Valley Garden Club, California

**Theresa Campbell**, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Condon Garden Club, Oregon

**Xander Sema**, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Pecan Grove Garden Club, Arizona

**Taylor Clarkson**, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Pecan Grove Garden Club, Arizona

**Emily Ebsen**, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Multnomah Garden Club, Oregon

**Matilda Hernandez**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Pecan Grove Garden Club, Arizona

### Exceptional Student:

**Alberto Barraza** 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Pecan Grove Garden Club, Arizona

### Youth Recycled Sculpture Contest:

**Benjamin Crook**, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Poway Valley Garden Club, California

**Congratulations!** to the youth winners and the clubs that sponsor them.

**Leadership is rewarding – say "YES!"**

See the Director's message (page 1). Due to the circumstances of the liquidation of region funds to pay the bill at the Green Valley Resort for the 2016 region convention, the Executive Committee voted to adopt this revised 2016-2017 budget. This replaces the budget adopted at the convention in Henderson.

## PACIFIC REGION REVISED BUDGET 6/01/16-5/31/17

	A	B	C	D
1	Beginning Balance Checking			1,982.75
2	Beginning Balance Scholarship			2,000.00
3				
4	<b>REVENUE:</b>			
5	<b>Unallocated:</b>			
6	Pacific Region Boosters	200.00		
7	State Garden Club Dues (due 6/01/16)	1,050.00		
8	WACONIAH Gems	100.00		
9	<b>Total Unallocated Revenue</b>		1,350.00	
10	<b>Allocated:</b>			
11	Award Funding:	-		
12	Adult	-		
13	Youth	-		
14	NGC Program Allowance:			
15	National Convention	50.00		
16	Pacific Region Convention	200.00		
17	Scholarship:			
18	Life Membership / Book of Recognition	450.00		
19	Scholarships Savings Account Transfer	2,000.00		
20	Ways and Means 2015 - 2017 Fundraiser (Director)	500.00		
21	<b>Total Allocated Revenue</b>		3,200.00	
22	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>			4,550.00
23				
24	<b>EXPENSES:</b>			
25	<b>Unallocated Revenue Expenses:</b>			
26	Award Printing, Postage, and Seals	100.00		
27	Chairman / Officer Expense	50.00		
28	Director's Travel Allowance	1,030.00		
29	Director's Pin (odd numbered years)	-		
30	WACONIAH Circulation Printing and Postage	120.00		
31	Website	50.00		
32	<b>Total Expenses from Unallocated Revenue</b>		1,350.00	
33	<b>Allocated Revenue Expenses:</b>			
34	Awards Funded:			
35	Adult	-		
36	Youth	-		
37	NGC Programs from Allowance:			
38	National Convention	50.00		
39	Pacific Region Convention	200.00		
40	Scholarship:			
41	Life Membership / Book of Recognition Transfer	450.00		
42	Scholarships Awarded	2,000.00		
43	Ways and Means to Fund Director's Project	500.00		
44	<b>Total Expenses from Allocated Revenue</b>		3,200.00	
45	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>			4,550.00
46				
47	Ending Balance Checking			1,982.75
48	Ending Balance Scholarship			450.00

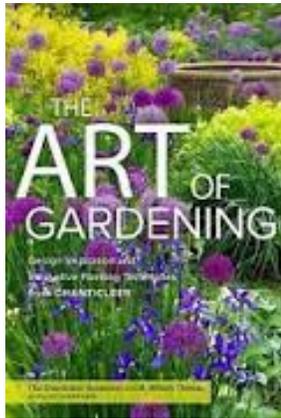
### NGC Nominating Committee Members

Nevada Garden Clubs elected Vicki Yuen to serve on the NGC Nominating Committee for 2017-2019. Kristie Livreri will serve as Alternate.

Summer is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces up, snow is exhilarating; there is no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather.

- John Ruskin

By Linda Larson, Book Review Chairman



*The Art of Gardening: Design Inspiration and Innovative Planting Techniques from Chanticleer, R.* William Thomas, Timber Press, 2015

In the nearly 100 gardens I visited in 2015, Chanticleer Garden in Wayne, Pennsylvania was by far the most inspiring. I came home and implemented design ideas from a Northeast Garden into my Southwest

Landscape. Bill Thomas is the executive director and head gardener of Chanticleer and in the introduction he says the "book aims to be a conversation between our staff and you. . . Our garden exists to inspire and is filled with ideas to try at home."

Chanticleer is a pleasure garden and all of the gardeners are artists creating in paint, wood, stone, metal, clay and plants. Their work is intricately woven into this beautiful place. Their inspiring prose and shared ideas make you love gardens even more. The book focuses on design and plants. My copy is conveniently digital. The hardback edition is so beautiful it begs for prime placement in your home. The Chanticleer property is a 1976 gift of Adolph & Janet Rosengarten Jr. They created a foundation establishing the mission of the garden to "Operate the property as a beautiful public garden, maintain the house as a museum and educate amateur and professional gardeners." Adolph wrote "One of the great joys of my life has been gardening. It's a wonderful way to express yourself. To create a garden is to search for a better world." If this is your goal, this is your book.

**Director's Travel Schedule**

Sep 20-24 NGC Fall Board Meeting, Portland, Maine

**Nevada Fun Fact**

It's illegal to drive a camel on any highway in Nevada.



By Lana Finegold, Correspondent



"Bloomin' On the Grand" was the theme of the 2016 NGC Convention in Grand Rapids Michigan May 2-6 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel. Invitational designs complimented pictures of our National Parks to celebrate 100 years of National Parks. Additional designs celebrated the Regions in NGC (see picture honoring Kristie Livreri). On May 4 the NGC Life Members Banquet was held in the Ambassador Ballroom. Three Men & a Tenor entertained. May 5 began with a Habitat for

Humanity Walk. The opening lunch featured Dr. Douglas Tallamy "Restoring Nature's Relationships." I learned that baby birds are fed caterpillars so knowing and protecting the food chain can enable a species to continue. Workshops featured Containers of Personality; "New Introductions" Proven Winners Seminar (Debbie Hinchey, Alaska; Lana Finegold and Dorothy Monroe, Washington were among those who took plants home); and a Leadership Workshop led by Robin Pokorski of California. The Design dinner was lovely. Michigan Association of Accredited Judges presented striking designs saluting Grand, Great and Glorious Garden Clubs. Questions after each design was presented provided audience participation and education. At the Region Breakfast on May 6 each of us received a puzzle wreath. Former NGC President Linda Nelson Bentson of Oregon said each of us is an important piece of the puzzle. Through communications we make the pieces fit together to complete the big picture.

May 6 awards banquet followed four educational offerings: "Bee Keeper Seminar," "What's New in Landscaping?," "Impact of Climate Change" and "Encouraging Our New Generations." It was hard to choose. I learned that monarch butterflies increased from 4,000 to 11,000. I wonder how they know? Book sales of *The Frightened Frog* have been enormously successful. Smokey Bear visited us at the Award of Excellence lunch. It was Smokey's birthday so we all celebrated.

NGC President Sandra H. Robinson urged us to "**Leap into Action**" as we download leadership materials from the NGC website, attend NGC Schools (Landscape Design, Environmental Studies, Gardening Study, Flower Show) and join together to leave a better natural world for those who follow. The next NGC Convention will be in Richmond, Virginia May 16-21, 2017.

## Why Use Parliamentary Procedure?

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian



Henry M. Robert said, "Where there is no law, but every man does what is right in his own eyes, there is the least of real liberty."

He also said, "In a

land where perhaps most persons...are members of one or more societies, some knowledge of parliamentary procedure may be justly regarded as a necessary part of the education of every man and woman." And "It is difficult to find another branch of knowledge where a small amount of study produces such great results in increased efficiency in a country where the people rule, as in parliamentary law."

Granted *Robert's Rules* cover a lot of ground (669 pages of text, plus tables and index), but keep in mind that you do not need to know everything, you only need to know where to find answers when questions arise. *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR) In Brief* states that the average person does not need to know all of *Robert's* to be able to function effectively in most meetings, or even to chair one. "At least 80% of the content of RONR will be needed less than 20% of the time."

When an organization has adopted a specific parliamentary manual (such as *Robert's*) as its authority, the rules in that book are binding upon it in all cases where they are not inconsistent with the bylaws or special rules of order of the organization or any provisions of local, state, or national law applying to that specific type of organization. So remember that you look first to your own bylaws and formal rules and only consult *Robert's* for those issues not covered in your own rules.

A prime value of parliamentary procedure is that it provides processes through which an organization can work out satisfactory solutions to the greatest number of questions in the least amount of time.

## Sad News



With sadness we bring you the news that 1995-1997 Pacific Region Director **Carol Klingberg** passed away on May 9, 2016. Condolences may be sent to her son, Jeff

Klingberg, 4114 Thornton Road NE, Olympia, WA 98513-9302

## NGC Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan – Business Recap

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian

- Committee meetings took place May 3-4. The NGC Board of Directors met on May 5. Convention business meetings took place on May 5-6.
- Voting strength was 293, down from 427 last year, but total attendance was 765, up from 689 last year.
- The 2016 Fall Board Meeting budget and 2016-2017 annual budgets were adopted.
- The NGC Intellectual Property and Proprietary Information Policy developed by the Organizational Study Committee was adopted.
- The concept of a second NGC book for youth, to be funded from the proceeds of *The Frightened Frog*, was adopted.
- A new Standing Rule was adopted: There shall be no Affiliate's events included in the NGC schedule from the beginning of the BOD meeting until the end of the Convention or Fall Board Meeting.
- Bylaws amendments were adopted to increase annual dues of national affiliates from \$15.00 to \$30.00 and annual dues of international affiliates from \$25.00 to \$35.00 (effective June 1, 2017).
- It was announced that Administrative Assistant Kathy Romine was retiring May 31 with more than 30 years of service. Katie Roth is taking her position.
- It was announced that Susan Davidson, editor of *The National Gardener* for 24 years, is retiring June 30. Pat Binder will serve as editor.
- Pacific Region's Becky Hassebroek is a candidate for Third Vice President.
- Director Kristie Livreri and seven of our state presidents reported on behalf of our region.

## Roster Updates

Note that the following committee appointments have been made by the Director:

Jeanette Pruin as a member of the Budget Committee

Linda Nelson Bentson as Fundraising Co-Chairman

Those appointed to the Special Committee to research the region moving forward with its own EIN:

Jeanette Pruin, Washington, Chairman  
Carol Norquist, Alaska  
Robin Pokorski, California  
Gaye Stewart, Oregon  
Vicki Yuen, Nevada  
Janet Petersen, Idaho  
Judy Tolbert, Arizona  
Ann Swider, Hawaii

Awards Co-Chairman Dorlene Waite took the lead on Awards in 2016. Co-Chairman Nancy Lee Loesch will take the lead in 2017.

Nancy Lee Loesch was elected and installed as President of Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc. on June 4.

By Greg Pokorski, NGC Schools Coordinator

By Sheila Parcel, Schools Chairman



The Tri-Refresher held at the NGC Convention in Grand Rapids has received many favorable comments. These events can be educational highlights of NGC meetings, providing one more reason to sample the NGC meeting itself. This was an opportunity to see and learn about the beautiful Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, one of the leading cultural destinations in the Midwest, as well as to hear presentations on butterfly gardening, outdoor living spaces, Japanese gardens and wildflower sanctuaries. These events are generally open to everyone, but provide refresher credit for eligible NGC Consultants.

An upcoming Tri-Refresher is offered for those who attend the NGC Fall Board Meeting in Portland, Maine. See information posted on the NGC website. Our own Lana Finegold is the NGC Multiple Refreshers Chairman.

California and Washington continue to routinely conduct schools. California completed a Landscape Design Series in Santa Rosa in April and will conclude a Gardening Study School in Colfax in September. Sally Priebe, PR and Washington Gardening Study Schools Chairman, reports "I'm so proud of WSFGC - we are starting two FSS, ESS, and GSS this year and LDS next year. The first time that I know of that we have all four schools going during the same year."

Kudos to Alaska and Arizona. Alaska is beginning its first Landscape Design School in October and Arizona is beginning its first LD School in many years in November. Nevada is looking into doing its first Gardening Study School.

Sally Priebe made an offer that Oregon could not refuse. She will act as temporary GSS Chairman for Oregon and maintain their GS records until they can obtain another chairman – a win-win for Oregon and NGC (in tracking and maintaining records), and a great example of region cooperation and support.

**FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS**

September 12-14, Course 3, Poway, California  
 Contact: Jill Coleman, 915-684-2635,  
[bcnjill@hotmail.com](mailto:bcnjill@hotmail.com)

November 1-3, Course 1, Woodland, Washington  
 Contact: Mary Lou Waitz, 360-928-3728,  
[Marylou.94@hotmail.com](mailto:Marylou.94@hotmail.com)

**FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL SYMPOSIUM**

August 23-24, Holiday Inn, Wilsonville, Oregon  
 Chairman: Grace Emori, 541-899-9099,  
[GEmori@charter.net](mailto:GEmori@charter.net)

**GARDENING STUDY SCHOOLS**

September 17-18, Course IV, Colfax, California  
 Contact: Myrtle Findley, 530-346-2450,  
[MBFRWF@aol.com](mailto:MBFRWF@aol.com)

October 25-27, Course I, Ridgefield, Washington  
 Contact: Ruth Miller, 503-289-2049

**ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES SCHOOL**

October 11-13, Course I, Normandy Park, Washington  
 Contact: Chris Calderon, 206-242-1955,  
[Christine.calderon@gmail.com](mailto:Christine.calderon@gmail.com)

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS**

October 8-10, Course I, Fairbanks, Alaska  
 October 22-24 Course II, Fairbanks, Alaska  
 Contact: Becky Hassebroek, 907-456-3066,  
[beckyhasse@aol.com](mailto:beckyhasse@aol.com)

November 12-14, Course I, Phoenix, Arizona  
 Contact: Joyce Girvin, 774-217-8253,  
[joycegirvin@gmail.com](mailto:joycegirvin@gmail.com)

**TRI-REFRESHER** – ES, GS and LD

November 4-5, Long Beach, California  
 PENDING APPROVAL & RATIFICATION

**Pacific Region Pride**

**Calendar of Events**



Region members were proud to hear our own Treasurer **Becky Hassebroek** announced as a candidate for NGC 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President at the NGC Convention

in Grand Rapids. **You've got our support, Becky!!!**

- Sep 20-24 NGC Fall Board Meeting, Portland, Maine
- Sep 25-27 Tri-Refresher, Maine
- May 16-21 NGC Convention, Richmond, Virginia

*Happiness held is the seed –  
 Happiness shared is the flower*



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**Did you share your colorful  
 WACONIAH  
 with someone in  
 your club and district?**

*Horticulture: Cucumbers*

*From Southern California Garden Club newsletter, The Green Thumb*



It's an age old conundrum for so many vegetables. After waiting all season for the fruits of your labor, they disappoint you with bitterness, sourness, toughness or some other uncorrectable malfeasance.

In the case of bitter cucumbers, the culprit is usually stress. Long periods of hot temperatures are the most common cause. There is not much you can do to control the heat, but keeping your cucumbers well-watered will help offset the bitterness.

Another factor in bitter cucumbers is lean soil. Cucumbers are heavy feeders and a soil rich in organic matter will go a long way toward producing less stressed, better tasting cukes. If your soil is less than ideal, give your cucumbers a little food every 4-6 weeks.

And finally, look for varieties that are well suited to your area and site and that list non-bitterness as an attribute.

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Lord, give me coffee to change the things  
 I can change, and  
 wine to accept the things I can't!

