



# WACONIAH

WASHINGTON • ARIZONA • CALIFORNIA • OREGON • NEVADA • IDAHO • ALASKA • HAWAII

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

Vol. 43 No. 2 Director's Theme: "Look to the Garden through the Eyes of a Child – A Kaleidoscope of Possibilities"



*Pacific Region Director's Grandson David proudly showing his tomatoes grown from seedling to table in a bacon and tomato sandwich!*

## *Director's Message*

Our daughter gave me a trip to Ireland for my birthday. As we flew into Dublin everything I imagined was true. A kaleidoscope of many shades of **green, green, green.**

Mother Nature is an amazing gardener, and we, the children on this earth are blessed with the beauty she presents to us. **Hot pink** hydrangeas seem to grow wild all over the countryside. Ivy, in all varieties, grows up the trunks of the trees. Geraniums are on nearly every window sill. Ancient rock walls divide the land, where cows are as big as horses and sheep as big as cows. We loved it. We felt like children. Most of the time our mouths would drop open and tears would well up. The

childlike appreciation of all nature was re-kindled in us as we gazed into the ocean from the Cliffs of Mohr.

We took a side trip to Copenhagen, Denmark. We spent the day in that spectacularly modern city. The fragrance of Tivoli Garden filled the air. People were hustling and bustling on bicycles (over 6,000 we were told) in an effort to curb pollution. Then a train trip to Karlskrona, Sweden where we enjoyed the ride gazing at the wildflowers and fields of grain. Karlskrona is an amazing seaside city built upon thirteen islands connected with bridges. Sunday morning in town square, we enjoyed the farmers market. The international language of gardening is smiles and nods. We bought a bouquet of sweet peas (see article page 10) to take to our hostess. Lingonberries were everywhere. We saw children running about, helping and sharing their garden harvest. I wanted to be one of them. I wanted to stay and smell the fragrant air forever. As we walked under the majestic oak in the nearby countryside, I wondered why anyone would want to leave such a beautiful place.

When we were at the Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, I was so impressed with the National Wildlife Federation speaker who said it is important to "give children a choice. Nine out of ten times, they will choose to be involved with Mother Nature in some way or another." This summer I was given the choice to be in Mother Nature's garden. Let's give children a choice in our communities around the Pacific Region to enjoy the beauty this part of the garden has to offer.

"Listen to the murmur of the water and hear Mother Nature. Listen to the stillness beneath and you will find God." *Donald L. Hicks*

*Kristie*

**LEAP  
INTO ACTION!**



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

Theme: "Nurture Nature -- Nurture Friendships"



Oregon's Youth Program is off to a fabulous start with our Youth Chairman Carolyn Olley. Donor contributions made the purchase of "The Frightened Frog" book possible so that each of our 14 District Directors could receive the hand-delivered books on Labor Day weekend!!! And to top

it off, twenty additional books have been requested. Sounds like Oregon will be learning all about those endangered amphibians.

Our first Fall Board of Directors' meeting will be held at the Gardens of Enchantment which is a long-standing Oregon project. Since 1971 our members have diligently worked in this scent-filled garden especially created for the blind. We plan to honor Bob and Evelyn Mell for their MANY years of service as well as several clubs' members who donate their time to work regularly in the garden. Because the site hosts weddings, a dorm setting has been provided for us. We are looking forward to this first-of-a-kind location for our meeting!

As we come into the holiday season, this President challenges each member to consider a donation of \$15.00 to Wreaths Across America for a fresh wreath to decorate our national cemeteries and even many local cemeteries. The majority of the 1000+ locations place the wreaths on National Wreaths Across America Day which is the second Saturday of December every year. There were a total of 716,000 wreaths placed over the US in 2014. This is a wonderful tribute to our fallen heroes.

**Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Vicki Yuen, President**

Theme: "Growing in Nevada"

Many of our clubs stop meeting during the summer, as it is too hot for gardening. But that doesn't mean that nothing goes on with garden club. At the beginning of the summer, I flew to Reno to attend part of the California Garden Clubs, Inc. convention, and to take part in the moving **Blue Star Memorial Marker** ceremony planned by Joan Craig. Nevada had won this marker in the SAGE & ROSES drawing several years back, but we were unsuccessful finding a place for it in Southern Nevada. So Joan agreed to situate it in Northern Nevada. She found a spot in a lovely small park in Reno, which has a number of similar markers honoring various branches of the Armed Services. Rita Desilets (CGCI President) and I said a few words in the Dedication Ceremony, and unveiled the marker. I was

very pleased I was able to take part in this lovely ceremony.



Later during the summer, we had a visit from Robin Pokorski, who shared her Leadership Seminar with our members. Everyone who attended this workshop had a great time, especially during the construction of the tallest tower made from dry spaghetti and marshmallows. A real challenge!



Now our clubs are in full swing again. We have lots of good programs and plans, not least of which is preparing for the upcoming Region Convention next April. Hope you all come!

**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.

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

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



Washington Garden Clubs have been active this summer visiting community, private and Botanical gardens, holding and attending workshops, meetings and schools. As fall approaches so do the many county and state fairs. Our members sponsor flower shows, youth programs, and judge the many exhibits

brought in by community members to fairs across the state. Club members will continue with the series of Gardening Study School with Course IV scheduled in October. A new series of Flower Show School to begin next spring is greeted with new and renewed enthusiasm as new designers, crafters, and horticulturists learn to strut their stuff – so to speak.

The promotion of environmental awareness, both the NGC President's and my theme, is taking off. Many clubs and districts are purchasing 'The Frightened Frog,' an environmental tale, and donating it to their local libraries, youth groups, and youth educators. Plans for programs and presentations that highlight our environment and wildlife are embraced. A recent flower show titled 'Treasures in the Woods' included a youth design workshop which was very successful. The children attending made designs in a hiking boot for the class title, 'Take a Hike.' The horticulture section titled 'Bugs and Butterflies' boasted a large selection of dahlias and the artistic craft class titled 'Art for the Birds' was a collage. Garden clubs around the state are including education about our wildlife and the environment in their existing youth clubs, programs, and educational exhibits. The hope to spark an interest and educate our youth, their parents and ourselves about our natural environment is presented by our membership as we embark on our theme 'Back to the Future – One Leap at a Time, CPR – Conservation, Preservation and Restoration."



We are very proud of one of our members, Dorothy Dwyer. Along with 59 others she received recognition for her service in WWII this past summer in Washington DC. As a member of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corp, (WACs) she served on the staff of General Eisenhower and General Chidlaw.

We are most proud of her service to NGC and WSFGC. She is a master flower show judge, and served as an NGC Flower Show School Instructor for 27 years. During this time she was also Washington State's **Blue Star Memorial Marker** Chairman. During her reign she received national recognition for her accomplishment of placing 50 markers, making Washington in the top four states in the country with the most markers. At 88 she had performed over 50 presentations at **Blue Star Memorial Marker** installation ceremonies. At 94 she is still an active veteran, still receiving honors and still very much appreciated by the garden club members of WSFGC.

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

Theme: "People, Plants and Projects"



Sitting here in front of my laptop gazing out the window at the beautiful blue Arizona sky and a few fluffy cumulous clouds, I think of all I have learned about Pacific Region and National Garden Clubs in my first six months as AFGC President. I believe the most

impressive thing about the Pacific Region and National Garden Clubs is the limitless knowledge and experience of its members, and the willingness to share that knowledge with others. The NGC Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis brought clarity to many areas that previously were puzzling. So before I move on to bragging about Arizona, and mind you there is a lot to brag about, I want to say a huge thank you to every one of you who helped me out, answered my questions and kept me on track since April 2015. I hope someday I can pass it forward.

It was a busy summer for our webmaster, who spruced up the state website [www.azgardenclubs.org](http://www.azgardenclubs.org) with new page designs, an expanded calendar page, a Discussion Board, and a direct link to our Facebook and Flickr page. AFGC now has a Flickr account where nearly 1,500 photos submitted over the past six years were loaded and organized into albums of clubs and events. We hope you all will visit our [Flickr](https://www.flickr.com/photos/azgardenclubs/) site and see what great members we have in Arizona.

Gardening activities in Arizona peak in October and November as milder weather arrives and planting is prime time. Wildflower seeds are sown, as well as cool weather vegetables and it is the best time for planting perennials to insure they survive next year's hot summer. While much of the country is hunkering down for the coming winter, Arizona gardeners are just getting started. Definitely one of the "not to be missed" events in October is "Arts and Flowers" at the Phoenix Art Museum. The event brings together creative floral arrangers to share their talent and inspiration interpreting artwork from the Museum's permanent collection in fresh flowers. October hosts many annual and semi-annual plant sales by the Desert Botanical Garden, Pima and Maricopa Master Gardeners, Boyce Thompson Arboretum and local garden clubs, where gardeners can fill their carts and cars with native and desert adapted plants, as well as succulents and cactus, just to mention a few. Also in mid-October is the Showcase of Orchids, presented by the Orchid Society of Arizona.

An AFGC Symposium is planned for January 28 - 29, and Scottsdale GC is hosting "Chilly Chili Cook Off" on January 31, 2016. I am excited to hear more of the plans and projects at the Southern and Eastern/Central District meetings scheduled in the next few months. What a great time to be a member of the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs. As the residents say about this time of year, "this is why we live in Arizona."

**Alaska Garden Clubs  
Martie Black, President**

*Theme: "Share and Grow Your Knowledge"*



The Alaska Garden Clubs are always busy. They all list several ongoing projects.

Fairbanks GC carried out a youth/senior project in which the youth planted strawberries for the seniors to help brighten their homes. One member Denice Bates spied a little

pink rose about to be removed by a road crew. The rose proved to be important and Denice was interviewed by national media for her part in saving the rose. The rose has since been propagated.

Anchorage Wildflower Club grows marigolds in early spring to give to children at the Mall Garden Day. They also sponsor a class at the state fair for the youth growing the largest zucchini.

I will have more information for you in the next *WACONIAH*.

**Life Membership: Can I Buy it For Myself**

*Alexis Slafer, Life Membership Chairman*



*"I'd like to be a Life Member of Pacific Region, but I guess I have to wait until life membership is given to me."*

Nope, you don't have to wait. While many

clubs and districts give Pacific Region Life Memberships as way to honor or thank a member or even just support the Pacific Region scholarship program, many members purchase their own Life Membership.

And this term it could pay off in multiple ways. For just \$40, you'll receive a lovely pin and certificate...while, at the same time, you'll be helping our scholarship program. And, remember your donation is fully tax-deductible.

That's worthwhile, right there but then the added bonus this term is that an exciting contest is taking place. The state that has the largest percentage (per capita) increase of Pacific Region Life Members will receive a \$180 donation, to a special project of the winning state's choice!

This fall business has been a bit slow – so let's pick up the pace for the **"run for the roses."** To date those in the running are:

- California with 5 life memberships
- Washington & Nevada tied with 3 life memberships
- Oregon with 1 life membership



Please be sure to follow any special life membership purchase procedures in your state. The application forms are available from this Life Membership Chairman or they can be found on the Pacific Region website: [www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org/Forms](http://www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org/Forms).

The Board of Directors voted to award a second \$1,000 scholarship each year this term to a worthy applicant. That translates to needing twice as many new Life Members to cover the budgeted expense.

Let's get those applications in and watch our scholarship program grow while honoring our deserving members!



**On Thanksgiving Day, all over America, families sit down to dinner at the same moment ..... halftime.**

**California Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Sue Bennett, President**

Theme: "Growing Minds, Planting Seeds"



In early September, California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI) held its 2015 Fall Board Meeting; thus I am highlighting a few items that received positive feedback.

Something new: "Growing Minds" was an open panel discussion where Board Members, via the call and website, were encouraged to submit questions ahead of time to a facilitator, Robin Pokorski. There

were four chairmen, pre-assigned; however, we didn't want the members to limit their questions to just these four chairmen. Questions were accepted during the discussion, time permitting as well.

About a half an hour to an hour was allotted. It started when a member stood up and asked CGCI to consider two state meetings per year instead of three. Various Board Members went to the microphone and spoke – comments included, *if we eliminated one meeting, the other two would probably have to be longer; the state is so big – makes it hard to get everywhere, but if you can't come, get someone else to take your place; concerned for what we'd be losing; elimination of one meeting eliminates lots of learning experience, especially for newcomers; if you make meetings too short people will say it is not worth the time and money and effort to travel to the meeting location; argument that many of these meetings actually should be longer to address all the work that needs to be done; fewer meetings causes loss of personal touch.* The message was clear from the Board Members present that they wanted to keep three meetings – the message did not come via the Executive Committee. We plan on having this open discussion at future meetings. The Insurance Representative will be attending our 2016 Convention for an open discussion with presidents and members.

"Planting Seeds" Price Sheppy, Marin Community Program Manager for the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, and Georgia Vasey, San Mateo Community Program Manager for the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, updated us regarding *Project: Mission Blue* and the state of the Mission Blue Butterfly in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. CGCI sponsors this board-ratified project that ends June 2016. Members were pleased to get an update on the project.

Carrie Drake, Director of Donor Relations and Major Gifts at Sempervirens Fund, and Amanda Krauss, Tribute Program Manager, were invited by CGCI's

Sempervirens Fund Chairman, Rosa Radicchi. Since they came on separate days, they were invited to sit at the honor table and thus introduced. Members approached me later stating they enjoyed meeting them and was hoping they could talk more about their project. Members were excited to have "donor" organizations interested in learning more about CGCI. I plan on inviting/having local "donor" organizations to future CGCI meetings.

I was honored to visit National Garden Clubs Headquarters in St. Louis and witness CGCI member Joan Craig participate in the dedication of the Golden Circle Tree. The Golden Circle Committee is comprised of NGC Board Members who have served at least 25 years. Joan Craig was honored as an NGC **Golden Circle** member in May 2010. Joan was also my guide for the day. **Thank you, Joan**, for all you do for CGCI, PR and NGC.

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

Theme: "We All Live Downstream. Choices Matter"



Hello from Idaho. Summer in Idaho as well as the rest of the Pacific Northwest has been very hot and dry. Wildfires have burned hundreds of thousands of acres of desert and forest lands. It is sad to see all the land under flame but we must remember it is nature's gardening way.

Our Chinden Gardeners GC in Garden City, Idaho has worked together with Garden City to become a "Bee City USA" (see article following). To become a "Bee City" requires a set of commitments and responsibilities, which are outlined by the Bee City organization, [beecityusa.org](http://beecityusa.org).

Included in their project of Bee City USA, Chinden Gardeners are developing a pollinator garden along the Boise River to educate the general public about the importance of pollinators.



Our garden clubs have had a busy summer entering and judging at the local fairs and putting on Flower Shows. It is amazing how creative and inspiring we gardeners are. GCII is busy getting ready for our fall District meetings. The GCII Fall Board meeting will be held October 5 in Boise, at the County Extension Office. We are excited to have Kristie Livreri attending our meeting.

## Garden City Goes to the Bees

From Idaho Statesman, 10/6/2015

Garden City's City Council recently passed a unanimous vote to make the city a "Bee City USA" — the first in Idaho. Bee City USA is a national nonprofit that advocates for city leaders to raise awareness of bees and other pollinators and adopt practices to support healthy pollinator communities. The Chinden Gardeners Club led the charge to get the certification.

Judy Snow, a spokeswoman for the Gardeners Club, said a number of local organizations took part in the Bee City discussions, including the North End Organic Nursery, The Vineyard Church and the Boys & Girls Club of Garden City. The club will plant a public pollinator habitat behind City Hall in Garden City. This habitat will include a native bee observation booth, butterfly houses, bat houses and more. The garden will act as an outdoor classroom. Being designated as a Bee City also means that Garden City will take on the responsibility of hosting public awareness activities and an annual celebration.

Note, Garden City residents are welcome to join the pro-pollinator efforts. The Bee City USA committee meets the third Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m. in the Garden City Library. For more information about the Garden City Bee City USA program, contact Judy Snow at 208-371-4140 or [judysbaskets@gmail.com](mailto:judysbaskets@gmail.com).

## SPOTLIGHT STATE: ARIZONA



**Natural Habitats:** Nowhere in the United States are there more rare and unusual native plants than in Arizona. So says the Arizona Department of Agriculture, and having been a wanderer through your lovely State many times, I must

agree! Planting native plants, or leaving those that you find on your property right where they are, undisturbed, are your very best bet for attracting and protecting pollinators and wildlife indigenous to your area!

A few excellent resources for you:

- The Arizona Native Plant Society, [www.aznps.com](http://www.aznps.com)
- Landscape Plants for the Arizona Desert (not necessarily ALL native), <http://amwua.org/plants/>
- The Xerces Society Plants for Enhancing Pollinator Habitat in Arizona (again, not necessarily ALL native), [www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/11/Plants-Poll-Habitat-AZ-2012.pdf](http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/11/Plants-Poll-Habitat-AZ-2012.pdf)

If I can ever help, please contact me: Becky Hassebroek, PR Habitat Chairman, [beckyhasse@aol.com](mailto:beckyhasse@aol.com), 907-456-3066.

**Birds:** The cactus wren has been the Arizona State bird since 1973. Hold on just a minute, the story is that the Federation of Woman's Clubs wanted a state bird designated before their biannual council meeting to be held in Phoenix in 1931, and the cactus wren won hands down. The 1932 edition of the Nature Magazine and the 1931 edition of the Arizona Wildlife Magazine both state the cactus wren was the State Bird before 1973.

The cactus wren is the largest North American Wren, ranging from 7 to 9 inches and found only in the southwest deserts. This brown bird can be identified by the white stripe just above his



eyes. Males and females are similar in appearance and make nests in the Saguaros and other cactus plants surrounded by thorns for protection from predators.

This Arizona State Bird can survive without free-standing water and prefers to get it from their food. They eat insects, including ants, beetles, grasshoppers and wasps, occasional seeds and fruits. Cactus wrens will destroy the nests of birds and small animals, by pecking and scaring them away to protect their own young. I've seen them at the Dessert Botanical Gardens in Phoenix and hiking through the desert. The cactus wren forages on the ground for its food and it is interesting to watch and enjoy their flight. Its home is a hole, way up high in a saguaro cactus they have lined with grass and debris found in the Sonora Desert, or a beautiful flowering sage found nearby.

*Orvalita Hopkins, Bird Chairman*

## Youth: Youth Doing Good – Focus on Youth in Arizona:

Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs provides outreach to all ages of their local youth. From preschool to college age, current and future gardeners all have benefitted from the dedication of AFGC's members.

The Desert Pointe GC of Ahwatukee assisted local preschool students in the planting of flowers and vegetables in containers and raised beds. These patio gardens act as outdoor classrooms where the "Garden Ladies," as the garden club members are known, actively teach the children the many benefits of gardening. "We have measured and recorded the growth of a tomato plant, picked and eaten carrots, lettuce and radishes, among others. The children have made Mother's Day gifts, pinecone bird feeders and many other seasonal book-related projects." This long-term youth project is something that the "Garden Ladies," look forward to each year, as do the preschool students.

The MGM Garden Society of Yuma, is dedicated to providing for the upkeep of the U of A, Robert J. Moody Demonstration Garden, where children are always welcome. Features of an especially child-friendly area of the garden include many interactive garden items including a tic-tac-toe board, garden phone, rope bridge, and a real tractor. Tours can include a garden tool treasure hunt and digging worms in the vermiculture bed, two activities that youth of all ages would enjoy. Garden Club President Dalene Kelly said, "We have entertained groups from preschool through college. The youngest are often taken to the vegetable garden and given the opportunity to sample fresh vegetables right off the vine. We also help them plant something to take home. The older students come to study and ask for advice on vermiculture, composting and planning raised beds." The benefits of this worthy project are countless.

Sedona Area GC is in the book, as in they wrote it originally, updated it recently, and republished it with help from around the state. This science workbook is "On the Trail of Trees, Tracks and Tails," and was written by SAGC members. It was first published in 2005 and a new version will be given to fourth-grade students in local schools, and be available in public libraries. "It encourages the students to be little detectives by looking for clues to help them identify the trees and animals in their own backyard, and then draw conclusions about them and their locations," stated Gail Heyer. Funds for the project came from many sources including Kachina Retired Teachers Association, the Kiwanis Club of Clarkdale-Verde, the Rotary Club of Sedona, and several levels of Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs. This book leads children outside and into the study of nature. What could be better?

*Brynn Tavasci, Youth Chairman*

## **The BUZZ**

*By Josie Goodenow, Bee Chairman*



Arizona was once a hotbed of the honeybee industry, a place where bees were so plentiful they were sent by the truckload to states such as California, North Dakota and Washington to pollinate cherries, apples and almonds.

Up until the mid-1990s there were more than 20,000 beekeepers in Arizona. That number has dwindled to about 5,600 beekeepers today, a result of a ravaged honeybee population. Nothing has dealt a blow as nearly fatal as the emergence 30 years ago of the Africanized bee, a small, ferocious bee that strikes fear in Arizonans' hearts and sends beekeepers packing. The African bee, also called the Killer bee, arrived in

Arizona about 1993. It's not so much a freak of nature as a freak of overzealous breeding, a Brazil laboratory experiment gone awry when some queens escaped.

Arizona beekeepers have learned to take extraordinary steps to prevent the still prevalent African bee from taking over their backyard hives. The aggressive Africanized bee enters hives occupied by gentle European bees and takes over by killing the queen and laying their own eggs, thereby taking over the hive.

Despite the challenges, the industry is making a comeback in Arizona. Beekeepers have developed a variety of solutions to help keep Arizona buzzing. To prevent African bees from taking over their hives, Arizona beekeepers must regularly re-queen their hives with expensive European queens. Hardworking beekeepers can prevent their hives from becoming Africanized with the help of Italian or other gentle queen bees.

Honey bees pollinate crops, but native bees also have a role in agriculture and they are essential for pollination in our natural landscapes. There are 1,300 native species of bees found within Arizona alone!

As summer wains and fall weather is upon us, I thought that we'd enjoy learning about a late season native bee, the long-horned bees. There are approximately 97 species of these in North America. The insect's common name is derived from the extremely long antennae that are characteristic of most males. These antennae are often as long as the body! Long-horned bees typically start emerging from their nests in the summer months, starting in July. This coincides with the flowering of their preferred forage plants: the Asteraceae family which flowers from midsummer through fall. Midsummer through fall is the optimum time to observe them at woodland edges, meadows, gardens and old fields.

These beautiful, medium-sized bees are effective pollinators of many open flower forms, including mallows, sunflowers, ironweed, coneflower, black-eyed Susan, tickseed, thistles, cosmos, pincushion flower, coreopsis, daisy, and Joe Pye weed. In the late summer and fall they visit goldenrod and asters. They are a major pollinator for commercial sunflower, watermelon and cotton crops in California and are found in every member state of our Pacific Region!

As with most native bees, long-horned bees have solitary nests in the ground. Nest construction typically begins in midsummer and is excavated in uncompacted bare soil, often next to an object such as a rock, stick on the ground, or plant stem. This helps the female find her particular nest when she returns from foraging trips. Be sure to leave the nesting sites unmulched as anything that will impede a bee from establishing a nesting site in your garden means they will have to look elsewhere!

*By Nancy Lee Loesch, Convention Chairman*

The females emerge as adults from the ground nests, mate with males, and then look for a site to build their own nests. The nest is excavated by the lone female. She lines the brood cells with a wax-like secretion from a gland located at the end of her abdomen. This substance provides waterproofing of the cell. After collecting pollen and nectar from numerous flowers, she combines them to form a pollen ball, bee bread, and returns to her nest. The pollen-bread is made up of flower pollen, nectar, and bee saliva. It will be food for her young. Bee saliva contains an antibiotic and anti-fungal element that keeps fungus and bacteria from harming her egg. When enough pollen and nectar have been collected for a brood cell, the female lays an egg on the provisions and then caps the cell with soil. Each cell is backfilled with soil, often using the soil dug for the next brood cell in the nesting site. This goes on for 4 – 6 weeks, the average life span of these solitary bees.

Please note that ground-nesting native bees are not aggressive. The aggressive, stinging insects that nest in the ground are yellow jacket wasps. Solitary bees rarely sting; some cannot sting at all, and others do not have stingers that can penetrate human skin. The ones that can sting do not pack a punch or cause a lot of pain, unlike honey bees that deliver a sizable sac full of venom with their stinger!

**Thanks** for giving these hard working native bees a chance to live and thrive in your gardens!

### ***Pacific Region Convention Rotation***

*By Jeanette Pruin, Policy & Procedure Chairman*

With Hawaii officially passing on hosting the 2018 Pacific Region convention a revision to the Convention Rotation was required. Every state moves up one year. Here is the new rotation.

2016 – Nevada	2021 – Idaho
2017 – Washington	2022 – Oregon
2018 – Arizona	2023 – Nevada
2019 – Alaska	2024 – Washington
2020 – California	2025 – Hawaii

The Pacific Region Executive Committee met at the NGC Fall Board meeting in St. Louis. The new Convention rotation was approved.

The rotation can be found on Page 4 of the *Pacific Region Policy and Procedure Guidelines*. The guidelines are available on our Pacific Region website [PacificRegionGardenClubs.org](http://PacificRegionGardenClubs.org)

**Thanksgiving is an emotional holiday. People travel thousands of miles to be with people they only see once a year. And then discover once a year is way too often.**

-Johnny Carson

The excitement is growing as Nevada prepares to welcome NGC garden club members from Washington, Arizona, California, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska and Hawaii to our beautiful state. There is so much to see and do.

The excitement will begin with an all-day pre-convention tour on April 4. We will start the tour with a narrated bus ride through Henderson and Boulder City to Hoover Dam. At the dam we will be able to go down to the power generation area or visit the Hoover Dam Museum/Visitor Center or both (the tour to the power generators requires walking through tunnels). We will have a box lunch at the dam then take a bus ride to the Lake Mead Marina for an afternoon boat ride on Lake Mead to the back side of Hoover Dam.

We have planned great workshops, a floral design program from a top floral designer that comes to us by flying her own plane and a program about beautiful birds from faraway places by the former president of the Audubon Society. Attendees will have a choice of an afternoon tour of Springs Preserve or to stay at the resort for workshops.

For those who wish to visit the Las Vegas Strip, a resort van will get you there in 15 minutes.

We have sixteen local museums in our area. One of the most popular is the new Mob Museum which you don't want to miss. So come early or stay a few extra days at the same rate as the convention (3 days before or 3 days after the convention).

### **HOTEL INFORMATION**

Green Valley Ranch Resort  
2300 Paseo Verde Parkway  
Henderson, NV 89052

**Reservations** 866-782-9487

**Group Code:** GCIPRGC – Pacific Region Garden Clubs

**Cut-off Date:** Saturday, March 12, 2016

Standard King: Single/Double Rate \$150.00; Triple Rate \$175; Quad Rate \$200

**Double-Bedded Queen:** Double Rate \$150; Triple Rate \$175; Quad Rate \$200





Nevada's hard-working crew – getting ready to welcome all Pacific Region members to Henderson, Nevada on April 5 – 7, 2016.

### ***NWF Grants Extension to Our Members***

*By Becky Hassebroek, Habitat Chairman*

### **OUR NEW PARTNER, NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION, EXTENDS SPECIAL HABITAT CERTIFICATION FOR NGC MEMBERS!**

Previously set to expire on September 30, NWF has extended the certification special of \$35 to NGC members through the end of 2015. In addition to the certification and the quality metal sign, you will receive membership in NWF, monthly tips on Gardening for Wildlife, the NWF magazine, and more!

Because this special is for **NGC members only**, you need to access this link through the members-only section of our website. If you don't have access to the internet, one of your fellow gardeners will be glad to help! If you will follow the directions below, your certification process will be quick and simple:

1. Go to [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org)
2. At the top of the page, click on Login member
3. Your username is \_\_\_\_\_
4. Your password is \_\_\_\_\_
5. Click on sign in
6. Click on the picture just like the one above

And, that's it! You'll be directed to an NGC Welcome page where you will click on Certify Now.

Because you'll be receiving benefits from NWF, you'll be asked to set up an account – just a few questions that you'll be asked. And, you'll need to confirm that you have a minimum number of requirements for a healthy habitat on your property. The site will walk you through this!

Let's show our new partner that we support their mission to "Inspire Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future!" By certifying your gardens – not only at home but in our schools and other public places – you will be helping to educate and encourage those around us!

Any questions? Contact Becky Hassebroek at [beckyhasse@aol.com](mailto:beckyhasse@aol.com) or 907-456-3066.

### ***GOING GREEN***



It's easy for those dials to get knocked out of whack by oversized tubs of leftovers or marauding children or houseguests, so make sure you have the temperature set optimally in your appliances.

You should consult with your manufacturer, but in general the EPA recommends keeping refrigerators at 37 degrees F and freezers at 3 degrees. Anything colder is probably overkill, and a waste of energy.

That's important, because refrigerators and freezers use about a sixth of home electricity.

Not sure if the internal temps are actually correct? Place a weather thermometer inside to check the temperature and adjust the dials until you get the desired results.

### ***Gardening Tip***

Harden off ornamental shrubs and perennials by avoiding fall pruning or fertilizing. The more mature leaves can take a little frost whereas new leaves will be damaged. It is best to cut plants back in late winter before the spring growth comes out.

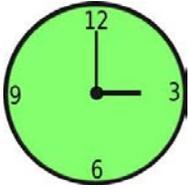


### **How do you fix a broken **pumpkin**?**

With a **pumpkin** patch, of course!



Excerpts from *Good Housekeeping*, January 2015



April 22, 2015 marked the 40th anniversary of the first Earth Day which started to boost awareness about the environment — and to ensure that pro-planet types would no longer be ignored by legislators.

But you don't have to be lobbying Congress to make a difference. Do your part by practicing these habits each day...around the clock.

### In the Morning

- **Brew "certified" coffee.** A USDA Certified Organic label means it was grown using sustainable standards.
- **Green "to go."** Not brewing at home? Take a travel cup to your favorite java joint; they may fill it at a discount.

### At Work

- **Double up.** Configure your office printer or copy machine so it prints on both sides of the page.
- **Put it to sleep.** If you'll be away from your computer for more than 20 minutes, change it to "sleep" mode.

### Running Errands

- **BYOB.** Bags, that is. It's good for your wallet, too: Some retailers, such as CVS, now pay you for every disposable bag you don't take (\$1 on a special CVS card for every four trips on which you BYO).

### Before Bed

- **Truly turn off electronics.** Plug your devices — the TV and DVD player, or the computer and printer — into a UL-certified power strip; switch the whole group off for the evening to prevent phantom electrical draw.

### Start 'Em Young

- **Game off?** Yep, get the kids to turn off video games (both the TV and the console) after they're done playing, and you'll win back about \$100 per year.
- **Pitch in.** Live in one of the 11 states with bottle bills? Have your kids collect aluminum cans and plastic bottles to redeem for cash to spend on a treat.
- **Don't tap out.** Teach children to turn off the water while brushing their teeth. Leaving the tap running during the recommended two minutes of brushing can waste up to five gallons of water a day.
- **Book it.** Dr. Seuss's 1971 book, *The Lorax*, stars a creature who "speaks for the trees" against those who'd cut them down. Talk about the message with your tykes (book and matching plush doll, \$5 each, Kohl's).

By Becky Hassebroek, Habitat Chairman



Just look at me! **A sweet pea, *lathyrus odoratus***, not only beautiful but, as my name implies, one of the sweetest smelling flowers in the garden! But something is amiss with me! My gardener was standing in the 8' tall patch of my kin where I live and noticed that the air surrounding me was not alive like the

other places in her garden. Since she plants for pollinators now, she realized that the **pollinators were not visiting me – no, not one!** See, I'm a perfect little flower. I self-pollinate while still in my bud form. So, while I continue to be one of my gardener's favorites, and she would never have a garden where she didn't include me, she has vowed to make sure to plant other plants that will provide nectar and are pollen rich host plants for our friends, the pollinators. There's room for us all! **Please keep the pollinators in mind when choosing the plants for YOUR garden!** Be sure to check out the ecoregional planting guide available at [pollinator.org](http://pollinator.org). Click on the planting guides at the top of their home page, insert your zip code, and you'll be amazed at the abundance of information that you will find! Becky Hassebroek, your Habitat Chairman, [beckyhasse@aol.com](mailto:beckyhasse@aol.com).

## million pollinator garden challenge

By Becky Hassebroek, Habitat Chairman



**LET'S ALL REGISTER OUR GARDENS NOW AND SHOW THE NATION THAT NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC. MEMBERS DESERVE THEIR RECOGNITION AND THAT WE CAN MAKE A POWERFUL DIFFERENCE IN OUR WORLD!**

You've been a "Busy Bee" this year and planted for pollinators in your own garden and in your community gardens. Now it's time to stand up and be counted!

Go to [millionpollinatorgardens.org](http://millionpollinatorgardens.org), scroll down and select "**Bee Counted,**" and follow the directions to

register your pollinator habitat now! You can also access this link on [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org). Be sure, when asked where you heard about "The Challenge," to select National Garden Clubs, Inc. from the drop-down menu. You can choose to include as much or little information as you want – you will even have the chance to include pictures, but only if you want to!

You'll join over 185,000 gardeners all over the country who have registered so far and will help us attain that million garden mark sooner than anticipated!

And, when you register your garden and agree to S.H.A.R.E. your space with pollinators, your habitat will show up on the S.H.A.R.E. map.



**Now, let's see if you really read these articles all the way through** – if you let me know you've registered your habitat – your name, state and garden club, you'll get recognition in *WACONIAH*! Can we get a little contest going here between States and Clubs?!

Contact Becky Hassebroek, 907-456-3066, [beckyhasse@aol.com](mailto:beckyhasse@aol.com), for any questions!

*Editor's Note: Becky will be publishing the Pokorski's name in the next issue as we have now registered our garden!*

### ***The West's Crown Jewel***

*By Myrtle Findley, Environmental Concerns Chairman*



Tahoe...the crown jewel of western landscape, as it is described by many writers and referred to by those who love it.

Lake Tahoe is located at the bend of California, with a portion in Nevada. This writer was born in a logging hospital at Hobart Mills, located about 25 miles north of Tahoe 96 years ago. My grandmother had a summer

cabin on the north shore. This writer was raised on a cattle ranch nearby. When any article is printed regarding the imperils of that area she is interested. California Garden Clubs had its first Environmental Workshop in 1989 at Kings Beach, on the shores of Lake Tahoe. This chairman chaired that workshop. Joan Craig was our NGC resource. At that time, there was a pristine lake; the new sewer system for the area was releasing drinking water into the Truckee River. Drinking water is still being released, but there are problems being solved.

Last summer the Tahoe Resource Conservation District released a newsletter telling how local boaters, etc., were helping clean the southern area of aquatic and invasive weeds. Volunteers were to arrive with a clean boat, drained and dry at one of five inspection stations, get directions and be a part of the cleanup, which covered over six acres around Avalanche Beach, Swim Beach and Parson's Rock. "After years of comprehensive removal, Emerald Bay is now approximately 95% clear of weeds. Next will be Lakeside Beach, Ski Run Marina, Nevada Beach, lakeside of Truckee River dam and Truckee River from the dam to River Ranch." Thus goes the water cleanup.

Central California had wildfires this last fall. "Officials say Tahoe is imperiled by wildfires." That was the headline in a local newspaper this summer, following a meeting by federal lawmakers. "The meeting brought unusual bipartisan consensus among federal lawmakers on threats to the Tahoe Basin. Foremost was the decades of suppressing wildfires, leaving forests too thick, and with too many regulations on removal of dead, dying, and overcrowded trees" A proclamation to remedy was signed by: Governors Jerry Brown of California, and Brian Sandoval of Nevada, US Senators Harry Reid and Dean Heller of Nevada, and Barbara Boxer of California and U.S. Rep Mark Amodeo of Nevada.

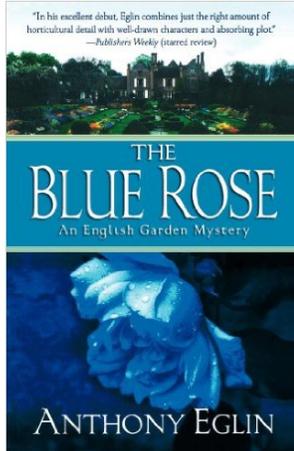
In the latest Tahoe RCD Newsletter this emphasis was given boaters. "Boat operators are the first line of defense against aquatic invasive species. ....we are seeing an increase in awareness of how and why to clean, drain, and dry your watercraft prior to every launch."



By Linda Larson, Book Review Chairman

*The Blue Rose*, an English Garden Mystery by Anthony Elgin.

Retired Botany Professor Lawrence Kingston is called in to examine the authenticity of a sapphire blue rose growing in Alex and Kate's English garden. A mystery begins without the blood and gore of so many mystery tales, but with intrigue surrounding the ins and outs of the rose industry, including gardening practices, vividly rainy days, strong tea and beautiful gardens. Antony Elgin is a gardener, award-winning rosarian and producer of a series of best-selling garden videos. Originally from England, he lives in California where his "pint-sized garden was awarded Garden Design magazine's Golden Trowel Award." His English Garden Mystery series with Dr. Lawrence Kingston sleuthing his way through the plants and plotting includes six titles, the latest, *The Alcatraz Rose* includes action in San Francisco. These books are highly entertaining for a gardener as the horticulture insights are delivered along with a good story. Other titles in the series I'm eager to try include, *The Water Lily Cross*, *Gardens of Secrets Past*, *The Lost Gardens*, and *The Trail of the Wild Rose*. If you are a fan of PBS's *Rosemary & Thyme* mystery series you will enjoy these books.



slender, wiry stems that are not thickly woody and have small evergreen leaves. The flowers are dark pink, with very distinct *reflexed* petals, leaving the style and stamens fully exposed and pointing forward. They are pollinated by bees. The fruit is a berry that is larger than the leaves of the plant; it is initially white, but turns a deep red when fully ripe.



Since the early 21<sup>st</sup> Century, **cranberries** have been marketed as a "superfruit" due to their nutrient content and antioxidant qualities.

**Cranberry** vines are propagated by moving vines from an established bed. The vines are spread on the surface of the sand of the new bed and pushed into the sand with a blunt disk. The vines are watered frequently during the first few weeks until roots form and new shoots grow. Beds are given frequent light application of nitrogen fertilizer during the first year.

A common misconception about **cranberry** production is that the beds remain flooded throughout the year. During the growing season **cranberry** beds are not flooded, but are irrigated regularly to maintain soil moisture. Beds are flooded in the autumn to facilitate harvest and again during the winter to protect against low temperatures. **Cranberries** are harvested in the fall when the fruit takes on its distinctive deep red color. This is usually in September through the first part of November. To harvest **cranberries**, the beds are flooded with six to eight inches of water above the

**HORTICULTURE – Cranberries**

From Wikipedia

**Cranberries** are a group of evergreen dwarf shrubs or trailing vines in the subgenus *Oxycoccus* of the genus *Vaccinium*. They can be found in acidic bogs throughout the cooler regions of the northern hemisphere.



**Cranberries** are low, creeping shrubs or vines up to 7 feet long and 2 to 8 inches in height; they have



vines. A harvester is driven through the beds to remove the fruit from the vines. For the past 50 years, water reel type harvesters have been used. Harvested **cranberries** float in the water and can be corralled into a corner of the bed and conveyed or pumped from the bed. From the farm, **cranberries** are taken to receiving stations where they are cleaned, sorted, and stored prior to packaging or processing.

### **Cranberry Tidbits**

- The cranberry, a member of the heath family, is one of only a handful of major fruits native to North America. Others include the blueberry and Concord grape.
- Native Americans used cranberries in poultices and dyes.
- The Pequot Indians of Cape Cod called the berry *ibimi*, meaning bitter berry, and combined crushed cranberries with dried venison and fat to make pemmican.
- Dennis, Massachusetts was the site of the first recorded cranberry cultivation in 1816.
- Pilgrims may have served cranberries at the first Thanksgiving in 1621 in Plymouth, Massachusetts.
- The 1996 harvest yielded more than 200 billion cranberries -- about 40 for every man, woman and child on the planet.

What do you call a sad **cranberry**?

**A blueberry!**

### **Do You Know?**



...the **Cranberry** Capital of the World? (Answer on the last page.)

### **America Recycles Day – November 15**



By Presidential Proclamation, November 15 has been designated as America Recycles Day. "As Americans, we have a responsibility to ensure future generations benefit from an abundance of natural resources and a healthy planet." Aren't we glad to be in garden club that takes recycling and preservation of our natural resources very seriously?

One of the most interesting horticulture sections in a flower show is for Collections or Displays. However, very few flower shows offer a section for them. As judges, we should be encouraging schedule writers to include Collections/Displays. There are perfect candidates amongst our membership that could enter the Collection/Display classes of a flower show. NGC has four Scales of Points for judging Collections and one Scale of Points for judging Displays.

The Schedule must state requirements and the exhibitor must follow them. Collections/displays require at least five different cut species, or five different container-grown plants or a collection of fruits, vegetables or nuts. The Collection is exhibited for Cultural Perfection. Considered also is the Distinction, Uniformity and Education Value plus correct Labeling.

When entering a Collection or Display class, the exhibitor must be sure the cut specimens or container-grown plants are in separate or individual containers.

A Display is basically the same as a Collection with one major exception; it is exhibited for ARTISTIC EFFECT as well as Cultural Perfection. These two qualities are equally important. The exhibitor is allowed to organize the plant material in a creative manner with unusual staging. The space allocation in the schedule should be stated with advanced registration.

Important to remember when exhibiting or judging Collections/Displays:

1. Are all the specimens the same maturity or length of stem?
2. If in containers, are the containers uniform in size and/or color?
3. Have the plants been groomed, with no debris, insect or mechanical damage?
4. Are the plants in the same family, or with like characteristics? Do not mix diverse sizes like miniature roses with Hybrid Teas.
5. Have the plants been posed to make an attractive presentation, using risers to elevate the staging of some specimens so judges can easily view them?
6. Are the labels unobtrusive and easy to read? Labels in a Display must be attractive and in a complimentary manner and color.
7. Has a background been used in the Display to give a frame of reference to the exhibit? Check with the Consultant to see if it is allowed.

Refresh in the *Handbook* about Collections and Displays. Flower Show School Course IV always studies Collections/Displays. Find a FSS IV being held in your area and take time to attend it, you will gain much knowledge.

## **BEE A WILDLIFE ACTION HERO!**

By Becky Hassebroek, Habitat Chairman



**THERE'S MONEY OUT THERE!  
JUST WAITING FOR YOU!**



**DON'T YOU WANT  
TO "BEE A  
WILDLIFE ACTION  
HERO"?**

Of course, you do! Let your Club Presidents KNOW that you do! And, by committing to garden for wildlife, you'll not only be improving our environment through sustainable gardening practices, but you'll be bringing life into your garden which will put a SMILE on your face, and your club will increase their chances to **BRING HOME THE BUCKS!**

And, it's easy! You can either ask your President for a commitment form, complete it, and return it to them, requesting that they send it in with the others from your club to apply for the awards, or you can download it from the website as follows:

1. [Gardenclub.org](http://Gardenclub.org)
2. Select "Projects" tab at the top
3. Select "President's Projects" in the drop-down menu
4. On the left, select "**B**ee a **W**ildlife Action **H**ero"
5. Under Resources at the bottom, select the "Commitment to Garden for Wildlife Form"
6. Print it out, complete it, give to your president!
7. For updated award rules and application forms, select "Service in Action" on the left
8. While you're there, read about ALL of the President's Special Projects – there's great monetary awards available for most of them!
9. If you need help, ask one of your buddies! I know they'll be glad to!

Questions or suggestions? Becky Hassebroek, NGC Chairman, 907-456-3066, [beckyhasse@aol.com](mailto:beckyhasse@aol.com)

## **The Air We Breathe!**

By Nan Jean Roller, Air Quality Chairman



The Department of Environmental Air Quality is charged to preserve and enhance air quality to support healthy, clean, air for everyone. The term "Air Quality" means the state of the air around us. Good air

quality means clean, clear, unpolluted air.

Clear air is essential for our health. Air pollution kills more than three million people ever year. Low-altitude ozone and particulates in the air have been linked to heart diseases, strokes, respiratory illness and lung cancer.

Greenhouse gas emissions come from burning gasoline and diesel in cars and trucks. We need to reduce gas reduction goals. Standards for toxics in industrial pollution need to be stricter, and strengthen and galvanize the citizen action necessary to effect changes in regulating toxic air pollution.

The Pacific Region this past summer has been experiencing many wild fires, and it is estimated that fewer fires lessen airborne particulates enough to reduce premature deaths a year.



## **Director's Travel Schedule**

Jan 26-27	NGC Winter Executive Committee Mtg, Charleston, South Carolina
Jan 31-Feb 3	California Garden Clubs Winter Board Meeting, San Pedro, California
Apr 4-7	PR Convention, Henderson, Nevada

## 2017 Pacific Region Convention

By Brynn Tavasci Diane Franchini, Co-Chairmen

Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs invites you, your friends, family, and acquaintances to attend the Pacific Region Convention 2017.

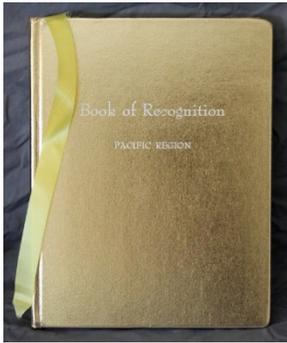
**Save these dates:** April 18, pre-convention meetings and dinner; April 19 - 20, CONVENTION FUN. This exciting event will be held at the beautiful hoo Suites Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Home of cooked-to-order breakfast in the morning and two drinks in the evening served in the fabulous atrium, all complimentary with the price of your room.

Tentative name: *"Best of the Northwest, the Pause that Refreshes."* We reserve the right to change it if we think up something catchier and shorter.

Hope you can come..... no really, we insist! It will be life changing.....in a good way.

## Book of Recognition

By Karen Varty, Book of Recognition Chairman



Honor someone for their service at the club, district, state, region or national level by entering their name into Pacific Region's Gold Book of Recognition. A special certificate will be

sent to the honoree or the family of the honoree. The amount to donate is decided by the donor and all contributions support the Pacific Region Scholarship Fund. Find the Application Form on the Pacific Region website.



## Pacific Region States' Websites

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

**Last Thanksgiving I had my chance to do the traditional thing of shooting my own turkey. You should have seen the people scatter in the meat department!**

## Calendar of Events

Nov 6 Hawaii Arbor Day – state tree: Kukui  
**Apr 4 Pre-Convention Tour**  
**Apr 5-7 73<sup>rd</sup> PR Convention, Henderson, NV**  
May 2-3 Tri-Refresher, tours  
May 4-7 NGC Convention, Grand Rapids, Michigan

## School Days

By Sheila Parcel, Schools Chairman

### FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS

March 21-23, 2016, Course II, San Diego Botanical Garden, Encinitas, CA Chairman: Emily Troxell

March 29-31, 2016, Course IV, Good Shepherd Church, Portland, OR

Chairman: Garnett Ascher, 503-686-5334,  
[garasch@msn.com](mailto:garasch@msn.com)

Registrar: Phyllis Olson, 541-467-2601,  
[llbloomsgreens@gmail.com](mailto:llbloomsgreens@gmail.com)

### FLOWER SHOW SYMPOSIA

Jan 28-29, 2016, Valley Garden Center, Phoenix, AZ  
Chairman: Joyce Girvin, (774) 217-8253,  
[joycegirvin@gmail.com](mailto:joycegirvin@gmail.com) Registrar: SAME

April 8-10, 2016, Holiday Inn, Auburn, CA  
Chairman: Lili Aram-Bost, (916) 632-0220,  
[LilyPeaceful@yahoo.com](mailto:LilyPeaceful@yahoo.com)

## Executive Committee Meeting Held September 18 at the NGC FBM in St. Louis

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian

- It was reported that the treasurer met with NGC's Accountant. Regarding requests for reimbursement, save everything!
- The resignation of Garnet Ascher as Public Garden/Community Garden Chairman was accepted.
- The appointments of Chris Wood as Public Garden/Community Garden Chairman and Mary-Jo Noth as Natural Disasters Chairman were approved.
- A motion was passed to revise the convention rotation since Hawaii officially passed on hosting the 2018 convention. See article on page 8.
- Motions were passed to change Pacific Region boosters to Scholarship boosters and that the scholarship booster be an annual \$20 contribution. These recommendations will need to be considered by the board of directors at the 2016 convention before they can be implemented.
- A motion was passed to discontinue fundraiser sales of mugs, t-shirts and caps.
- Director's Project Chairman Sandra Ford reported that information packages were mailed to state presidents in September.
- Robin Pokorski reported that leadership workshops are available to all states in the region.
- Attendees were reminded to *Think Beyond the Neon* and plan to attend the pre-convention tour on April 4, 2016 and the Pacific Region Convention April 5-7 in Henderson, Nevada.



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NGC Award-Winning  
Newsletter



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

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## Meet Our Pacific Region Director Kristie Livreri

*From Silver State Gardener*

Kristie is a native Nevadan. She was born in Caliente, and grew up in the small town of Pioche. At Lincoln County High School she ran track, was a cheerleader, played clarinet in the band, and was in the school's marching group. She was also Homecoming Queen! She says when there are only five girls in your class, you pretty much got a chance to do everything.

After high school, Kristie came to Las Vegas to attend Dana McKay Business College. She worked as a telephone operator during that time, back when operators were there not only to connect calls, but to answer all sorts of questions (weather, restaurant recommendations, and everything else).

She found a new job with the School District in Pioche. Although she had known her husband-to-be in high school, they had not dated. But on her return, they started going out, and soon got married. The town of Pioche practically shut down so everyone could attend the wedding.

Her mother was a charter member of the Pioche Garden Club (mentored by Linnea Domz). So when Kristie and Mike moved to Las Vegas, her mother asked Linnea to invite Kristie to join the Rose Garden Club. She has been Club President 3 times, and State President for two terms. And now she is serving as our Pacific Region Director. She also handled Headquarters building rentals, when she and Mike lived closer to Lorenzi Park. We are so pleased that she is so devoted to Garden Club!

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## WACONIAH Staff

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Answer to Do You Know: Middleborough, Massachusetts is the **Cranberry** Capital of the World.