



# CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

January 24-25, 2009

## Winter Board Meeting

Carriage Inn, Ridgecrest, CA

**President: Robin Pokorski**

Hosts: Desert Empire District

**Excused:** Accardi; Adams; Angevine; Benson; Bonham; Brown, G; Clayes, Al; Crowell; Dean; Dewey; Fiumara; Francis; Gaspari, Dick & Rose Mary; Gates; Goodwin, Chuck & Mary Lou; Gorman; Gould, JoAnn; Gould, Launa; Hedtke; Hooper; Jackman; King; Lucas, Bob; Lucido; Mahshi; Marlin, Bob & Joyce; Mayo; Mellen; Miller; Moss; Nagy; Parker; Patten; Paul; Reid; Rivas-Brekke; Roton; Schuler, Hoberley & Robert; Sexton; Smith, Gina Belle; Speer, Deedee; Taylor, Betty; Tebo; Troutman; Tjosaas; Vanderhorst; Villi; Wolfe Zarnowski; Zimmerman

President Pokorski called the meeting to order at 8:30A.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by George Urnine, Blue Star Memorials Southern California Representative

Inspiration: Joan Blankenship, *Grass Roots* Editor

President Pokorski introduced the officers seated at the head table; former CGCI Presidents Elisabeth Tufo, Bob Gordon, Virginia Bennetts and Beverly Brune; the Pages and Timekeeper Martha Ann Walter

Recording Secretary Jane McKee called the roll and a quorum was established.

President Pokorski announced that the Rules of Order for Board Meetings were accepted at the Organizational Meeting in June for this entire term.

President Pokorski introduced Doug Luke, Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, who welcomed attendees to Ridgecrest.

President Pokorski thanked the Winter Board Meeting chairmen and presented President's Winners certificates to Merrilee Ray, Donna Thomas and Wanda Hewitt.

Wanda Hewett moved to adopt the Winter Board Meeting Program. The motion was seconded and **PASSED**.

**Registration report:** Donna Thomas, Registration Chairman reported a total of 127 registered attendees.

Pat Clayes, Chairman of the Minutes Review Committee moved to approve Minutes of 2008 Fall Board Meeting in Grass Valley with the following correction:

(Insert on Page 4 under Bylaws Committee recommendations:)

### **Amend Standing Rule #10:**

Now reads: New awards or changes shall be submitted to the Awards Chairman who shall present them to the Awards Committee for approval. Changes must be agreeable to both the Awards Committee and sponsor. Any award with no activity after two (2) years shall be dropped from the awards program with notification to the sponsor.

*Strike final sentence and replace with: Any award may be discontinued from the awards program upon approval of the awards committee and consultation with the sponsor.*

**Rationale:** allows more time before an award is discontinued.

To read: *New awards or changes shall be submitted to the Awards Chairman who shall present them to the Awards Committee for approval. Changes must be agreeable to both the Awards Committee and sponsor. Any award may be discontinued from the awards program upon approval of the awards committee and consultation with the sponsor.* **PASSED**

President Pokorski appointed the committee to approve the minutes of this meeting: Diane Charbonneau, *Golden Gardens* Editor, Chairman, Kathy Bramhall, Cascade District Director and Sharon Thorne, Veggie News Editor.

**Financial Reports:** Treasurer, Ed Dempsey, reported that one bank CD had been moved from Wells Fargo to Bank of America to take advantage of a higher interest rate and that the checking account would be converted to a higher interest rate account. (See also attachment A)

**Correspondence:** Pat Clayes read a thank you note from Pacific Region Director Jeanette Pruin.

**Executive Committee Recommendations:** Recording Secretary Jane McKee moved to approve the following:

1. Louise Dedeyne as Conservation Team, Bees Chairman **(PASSED)**
2. That minimum premium for liability insurance be \$35.00. (This is correction to wording of recommendation approved at Fall Board that read "\$35.00 minimum premium for clubs less than 20 members". No change to the dollar amount) **(PASSED)**
3. To issue invitation to the NGC Executive Committee to hold its 2010 Winter Executive Meeting in California. **(PASSED)**
4. New CGCI Lifetime Service Award. "For exemplary service and selfless dedication to the mission and objectives of CGCI (minimum of ten years of service)." CGCI will sponsor with monies to come from the Honor Book Fund, gift not to exceed \$100. **(PASSED)**

President Pokorski announced that CGCI is entitled to twelve delegates to the Pacific Region Convention, March 31 – April 2 in Las Vegas, Nevada and appointed Angela Michaels, Nancy Lee Loesch, Pat and Al Clayes to represent CGCI.

President Pokorski announced that CGCI is entitled to twelve delegates to the NGC Convention, May 13 – 18 in Houston, Texas and appointed Carolyn Johnson, Gudrun Kimmel, Beverly Brune, Harriett Behrens, Chuck and Mary Lou Goodwin, Al and Pat Clayes, Carole Lung and Gloria Aminian to represent CGCI.

#### **Officers Reports**

**Parliamentarian:** No report

***Golden Gardens* Editor:** No report

**Treasurer:** No further report

**Financial Secretary:** No further report

**Corresponding Secretary:** Pat Clayes reported that an updated mailing list of all club presidents and district directors will be sent to NGC for *The National Gardener* and *Keeping In Touch*. This information is also needed for forwarding *Golden Gardens* and the Call to Convention 2009 to all current club presidents. Printouts of the list for each district will be given to the director and should be updated and returned before the close of this winter board meeting. Email addresses should be included if possible.

**Recording Secretary:** Jane McKee moved to ratify the following dates:

Landscape Design Study Program, Course 3, Series 23

February 4-5, 2009, Temecula Public Library, Temecula

Sponsor: Palomar District, Chairman: Felicia Hogan **(PASSED)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:** George Speer reminded all of the NGC membership drive and moved to ratify the following new clubs:

Blackhawk Bloomers GC, Diablo Foothills District

Casta del Sol Heritage GC, Orange County District

Malibu GC, Channel Islands District

Horticulture Club of Solano Community College, Sacramento River Valley District **(PASSED)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Julie West reported for the following committees:

- o Policy: At Fall Board, the Budget & Finance Committee presented two recommendations for consideration. One resulted in new standing Rule #107 that was approved and the second was referred back to the Budget & Finance Committee with the Policy Committee's recommendation. The final draft of website policy has been completed and referred to the Bylaws Committee to present as a Standing Rule for Board of Directors approval.
- o Strategic Planning: A proposal to establish a Vision Statement and long term Basic Principles for CGCI has been presented to the Executive Committee for comment.
- o 75 Year History Book: The book is ready to go to print and the deadline to reserve a copy has been extended to March 31, 2009. The book will be available at the 2009 Convention.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:**

- o Maryanne Lucas moved to ratify the following clubs for group exemption: Boron Garden Club, Hughson Garden Club, Southwestern Judges Council, Culver City Garden Club, Newport Hills Garden Club, Laguna Beach Garden Club, Casta del Sol Heritage Garden Club **(PASSED)**
- o Maryanne Lucas read the first reading of the President's Project Resolution

**President:** Robin Pokorski reported

- o participation in at least nine Blue Star Memorial Marker dedications
- o Educational opportunities through the Flower Show Schools in Encinitas and Modesto, Landscape Design in Temecula and San Andreas, Gardening Study in Aliso Viejo, and Environmental Studies in San Mateo with more courses in each school scheduled for this spring.
- o the Wildflower Conference coming in April.
- o the benefits of membership including a CGCI banner to promote clubs and districts, the zip code search facility on the CGCI website
- o CGCI's presence at the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show in March
- o that the President's Project, "Trail of Trees" has been a huge success and thanked all who have donated or participated in some way.

President Pokorski recessed the meeting at 10:00A.M.

President Pokorski reconvened the meeting at 10:15A.M.

**Committee Reports:**

**Advisory Council:** Elisabeth Tufo (no report)

**Awards:** Nancy Lee Loesch reported that photos of award recipients will be taken in the awards room after the dinner; District Director boxes will not be available until end of convention (will contain all certificates and checks); new award certificates have been designed and reminded all that Blue Ribbon Cert applications are due February 15.

**Board of Trustees:** George Perko moved that the name of the two CGCI scholarships shall be the CGCI/Robert Gordon scholarship and CGCI/(insert Immediate Past President) Scholarship. **(PASSED)**

The Board of Trustees elected the following officers: Chairman – Bob Gordon and Secretary – George Perko

**Budget & Finance:** Joelle Holford reported that the committee has begun work on the 2009 budget

**Bylaws:** Mary-Jo Noth deferred the formal report until Sunday to allow time for several last minute submissions.

**Life Membership:** Carlotta Wixon moved to ratify the following: CGCI Life Membership: Ginny Kight, Doris Nagy, Mary Jane Proffitt; NGC Life Membership: Pat Claves. **(PASSED)**

**Nominating:** Bob Gordon, Chairman introduced members: Anne Capes, Cascade District, Joan Craig, Golden Foothills District, Lynne Hansen, Diablo Foothills District, Marilyn Oberti, Bay Ocean District, Judi Picinini, Valley Lode District and Joyce Reid, Channel Islands District.

Bob Gordon presented the slate of officers for 2009-2011:

President	Maryanne Lucas	Corresponding Secretary	Carolyn Johnson
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Julie West	Financial Secretary	Joelle Holford
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Pat Claves	Treasurer	Ed Dempsey
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Rita Desilets	<i>Golden Gardens</i> Editor	Lynne Hanson
Recording Secretary	Greg Pokorski	Parliamentarian	Chuck Goodwin

**Youth:** Bev Switzer reported that there were 65 entries for Smokey Bear poster contest, six entries in the Poetry contest, one High School essay winner also is a Pacific Region winner and has been submitted to NGC

Scholarships: Evelyn Broaddus reported that four applications had been received and the committee would make the final selections during this Board Meeting.

**Convention 2009:** Shane Looper issued an invitation to San Mateo, June 4-9, 2009 and announced that Tony Tedesco will be featured speaker at judges council banquet. There will be tours, workshops and vendors.

**District Directors Reports:** Maryanne Lucas introduced the Directors (See Attachment B)

President Pokorski recessed the meeting at 11:30A.M.

President Pokorski reconvened the meeting at 1:50P.M.

## District Directors Reports continued

**Executive Committee recommendation:** Recording Secretary Jane McKee read the following and moved to approve:

To approve donation of funds available in the Reforestation Fund, minimum of \$5000, to USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region, Descanso Ranger District, Cleveland National Forest, San Diego, County. Monies to be used for Tamarisk removal on Cottonwood and La Posta Creeks. Funding required by May 1, 2009 to complete the plan. **PASSED**

**Chairmen & Team Reports:** Greg Pokorski introduced the Chairmen (See Attachment C)

President Pokorski recessed the meeting at 4:30P.M.

President Pokorski reconvened the meeting Sunday, January 25, at 8:30A.M.

**Bylaws Committee:** Mary-Jo Noth moved to approve the following to Standing Rules and Policy:

Words to be inserted are shown in ***bold italics***. Words to be struck out are shown as ~~strike through~~.

**Standing Rule #39.** The number of members for which CGCI pays NGC dues shall be based on the total ~~dollar amount of dues received from~~ ***number of members as paid*** by clubs and associate plant societies ~~in the fiscal year preceding the June 1 NGC due date~~ ***to the CGCI membership chairman as of May 31.***

**To read:** *The number of members for which CGCI pays NGC dues shall be based on the total number of members as paid by clubs and associate plant societies to the CGCI membership chairman as of May 31.*

**Rationale:** *clarifies basis of payment of NGC dues.* **(PASSED)**

Insert on page D13 of the CGCI Yearbook

New heading: ***Website***

***New Standing Rule 60.***

1. Definition: The CGCI website shall be the internet portal for official CGCI information and general information relevant to the mission and goals of CGCI.
2. There may be a communications coordinator, who shall work with the Webmaster and the hired website provider. Money for technical assistance shall be in the budget.
3. Website Links
  - a. The CGCI website may post links to CGCI District websites, the websites of National Garden Clubs, Inc. including regions thereof, CGCI Affiliates, Associate Plant Societies, and Clubs that are CGCI members in good standing.
  - b. Links to horticulture, design and environmental organizations that are not members or affiliates of CGCI are not accepted unless approved by the CGCI Executive Committee.
  - c. It shall be the policy of CGCI not to accept commercial links except those of businesses that are official members of the CGCI Participating Sponsors program or other official CGCI business partnership program.
4. The CGCI website may contain, but is not limited to:
  - a. General Information - items of benefit to garden clubs members as well as non-members:
    - o calendar of events
    - o educational schools
    - o membership
  - b. Official CGCI Information:
    - o CGCI Conventions and Board of Directors meeting information including minutes and annual financial statements
    - o Articles of Incorporation
    - o Bylaws and Standing Rules
    - o Any other information the President shall deem necessary
5. Advertising - Only those ads approved by the Executive Committee or by a chairman designated by the Executive Committee shall be accepted.
6. Endorsements - Only endorsements approved by the CGCI Board of Directors shall be posted.

**(PASSED)**

Insert on page D14 of the CGCI Yearbook

***New Standing Rule 108:*** [formerly in Policy]: **Honoring Incoming CGCI President.** *The incoming state president shall be honored with a NGC Life Membership or a donation to an appropriate NGC honor book or program. This is the responsibility of the second vice-president. The donation shall be of an amount equal to the cost of a NGC Life Membership.*

**Rationale:** proposed by Advisory Council **(PASSED)**

## California Garden Clubs, Inc. POLICY

**Grants and Loans:** (Page D14, first sentence of second paragraph)

A grant of \$200 ~~will~~ ***may*** be given to each course 2, 3 and 4; \$100 to come from the General Fund and \$100 from the related school fund.

**To read:** *A grant of \$200 may be given to each course 2, 3 and 4; \$100 to come from the General Fund and \$100 from the related school fund.*

**Rationale:** Grants for courses 2, 3, or 4 may not be needed if a school is financially successful. **(PASSED)**

Mary-Jo Noth moved to recommend the following Bylaw amendments to the membership at Convention 2009:

**Article V, Sec. 9.** The parliamentarian shall: (a) advise on points of parliamentary law and procedure when requested, (b) maintain a record of all resolutions and motions adopted during each term of office which affect procedure or policy and provide a copy for the policy chairman and the permanent files, (c) serve as advisor to the bylaws committee, ~~and~~ (d) give instruction to the nominating committee following the organizational board meeting, **and (e) may vote only by ballot.**

~~Sec. 10. The parliamentarian shall have the right to vote on all matters except those where (she or he) is serving as parliamentary law advisor.~~

**Rationale:** to conform with standard parliamentary procedure. **(PASSED)**

**Article XII, Sec. 4** Interest from investments of Scholarship Funds shall accrue to the Scholarship Fund. Interest from all other investments shall accrue to the General Fund. ~~with the following exception: The Wil J. Tebo Scholarship Fund shall be allocated its portion of interest.~~

**Rationale:** The Wil J. Tebo Scholarship Fund has been depleted. **(PASSED)**

**Article XIV, Sec. 3 (d)** monitor the bank accounts in regard to the FDIC \$100,000 limit. **to be sure they do not exceed the limit insured by the FDIC.**

**Rationale:** the FDIC limit has been increased to \$250,000 until at least January 1, 2010. **(PASSED)**

**Article XIX, Sec. 2.** Proposed amendments to the bylaws must be submitted to the bylaws committee chairman. ~~by November 1.~~

**Rationale:** Allows more time for submission of amendments. **(PASSED)**

Bylaws Committee Chairman, Mary-Jo Noth noted that several bylaws amendments were submitted but need further study and will not be presented at this time.

**Committee Chairmen** reports continued.

Greg Pokorski moved that the Landscape Design Council report be included in the minutes. **(PASSED)** (See Attachment D)

**Scholarship:** Evelyn Broaddus announced that the recipients of the scholarships are: CGCI/Robert Gordon to Brent Saulsbury, Humboldt State University and CGCI/Elisabeth Tufo to Anassa Musgrove, UC Santa Cruz.

**Chairmen Coordinator:** Greg Pokorski gave a brief summary of the dialog exercise results. Complete results will be reported to the Executive Committee.

**Courtesy Resolution:** Pat Clayes, Corresponding Secretary read the Courtesy Resolution and moved to adopt. (See Attachment E)

The meeting adjourned at 10:00A.M.

Submitted

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Jane McKee, Recording Secretary

**CGCI Financial Statement**  
**1/17/09**

**ASSETS-Cash & Bank Accounts**

CD #1 (BA 6854)	45,116.19	
CD #2 (LB 49052-5)	95,163.45	
CD #3 (LB 53899-2)	90,000.00	
Cash-Checking (BA)	101,307.87	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>331,587.51</b>

**ASSETS-Other**

Golden Gardens Account	27,212.12	
Prepaid Deposits-Hotels & Meetings	1,150.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>28,362.12</b>

**TOTAL ASSETS** **359,949.63**

**Restricted Funds**

Awards	7,601.88	
Blue Star Memorial	2,119.66	
Blue Star Pin Sales	315.64	
Blue Star Principal Financial	3,750.00	
Donor Christy Fitz Mem. Fund	1,410.01	
Donor Copeland Fund	11,975.04	
Donor Eleanor Miller Fund	3,250.00	
Donor Helen Minor Mem Flr Sch	4,713.65	
Donor Wil J. Tebo Scholarship	0.00	
Educational Schools Fund	7,825.00	
FAST	1,000.00	
Flower Show School	620.79	
Gardening Consultants Council	653.65	
Gardening Study	2,116.26	
Habitat for Humanity	55.00	
Honor Book	7,066.09	
Landscape Design Council	1,549.54	
Landscape Design School	4,015.31	
Liability Insurance	81,381.64	
Reforestation Fund	4,460.00	
Scholarship Fund	59,288.59	
Symposium Reserve	18,626.07	
Wildflower Conference	12,629.22	
Youth Fund	2,516.98	
<b>TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>		<b>238,940.02</b>

**Total Assets less Restricted Funds** **121,009.61**

**Funds available for operation:**

**\$121,009.61 – 28,362.12** **92,647.49**

## District Director Reports

**Arboretum:** Will have information booth at Los Angeles Flower and Garden Show in May; District goal is to improve speakers/programs at district meetings; Monrovia GC will participate with San Gabriel Valley Rock Hounds at Gem and Mineral Show in March; Floraia Club has been asked to create flower arrangements for Pasadena Mayor's Prayer breakfast in May.

**Bay Bridges:** Clubs hold plant and craft sales; luncheons that include a "pick your own prize" raffle, silent auction, previously loved jewelry/treasures. The District awards two (2) \$250 scholarships to Horticulture students at Merritt College each year

**Bay Ocean:** Has 17 clubs, one affiliate and one youth group; two clubs meet on weekends; Half Moon Bay GC volunteers in the garden at the historic Johnson House; the affiliate sponsored a children's garden project at an elementary school; the district will assist with the 2009 CGCI convention and participate in the San Francisco Home and Garden Show in March.

**Buttes:** No report

**Cascade:** No report

**Channel Islands:** All clubs have reported an increase in membership; Conejo Valley GC has its own membership competition, and is hosting our district lunch in March, when they hope to present a vintage fashion show; Westlake Village GC is celebrating its fortieth anniversary; Ojai Valley GC has increased its donations to the community.

**Costa Verde:** Gardeneers GC celebrated 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary; San Pedro GC their 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary; Riviera GC will dedicate a Blue Star Highway Marker on April 19 at a local fire station and their fall garden tour netted \$10,000; the District is starting a project to document its history.

**Desert Empire:** Hosted Winter Board 2009 with all clubs participating; Desert Planters GC decorated the library at Christmas; Oasis GC auctioned a decorated tree at the Santa Workshop and sponsored a Xeriscaping Workshop; Desert Rose GC replanted the area around the Blue Star Memorial on the City Hall lawn in California City.

**Diablo Foothills:** Added one new club the Blackhawk Bloomers and one affiliate, the Northern California Unit of the Herb Society; two Blue Star byway markers were dedicated – Clayton Valley GC and Livermore-Amador Valley GC; both were assisted by scouts earning their Eagle Scout awards; the District will host a bus trip to the DeYoung Museum in March and host the CGCI Fall Board Meeting in September.

**Golden Foothills:** No report

**Greater Los Angeles:** No report

**Humboldt:** Fortuna GC held their 38<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Tea and Home Tour in December; Ferndale GC presented a program by Mary Lou Goodwin called, "Judging a Garden from the Street"; a Garden of Merit plaque is awarded several times per year to non-members in recognition of their gardens; Eureka Sequoia GC hosted the fall District Meeting with program by Amy Grant on poisonous plants.

**Luther Burbank:** Sold Shooting Star Hydrangeas to help clubs cover the increase in CGCI dues. Clubs received \$7 per plant and the District \$3; Clubs made between \$14 and \$469 depending on the number sold. The district netted \$600; installed a Blue Star Memorial Byway Marker and dedicated it on Pearl Harbor day, December 7; this year the District expanded the nominating committee from 3 to 5, with five different clubs represented; four of five officers on the slate for 2009-11 will be new.

**Mendo-Lake:** No report

**Montana de Oro:** Morro Bay Garden Club held Dahlia Daze; there was District Booth at the San Luis Obispo Home Show in late September with the "Kids Growing Strong" road show. As a result of their investment in this project we are now on the "preferred non-profits" list of the group that puts together various shows throughout our county. In December the District helped to sponsor, with Pacific Beach High School an Environmental Symposium; the Cayucos Garden Club developed their own website; Multi-Flora has activities from garden crafts to garden therapy for their local care home; the District will hold its annual Flower Show May 9 at the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden; this will be their Saturday at the Garden educational program and part of a three week spring garden festival.

**Orange County:** Added two clubs, the Casta Del Sol Heritage GC and the Orange Country Chrysanthemum Society; the Floral Arts Guild held workshops on Ikebana, functional and creative table settings (in preparation for the flower show), wreaths and designing with foliage; the District sponsored a flower show "Holiday Dining by Design" on November 22, 2008 held at Sherman Library and Gardens; the winning designs are posted on the NGC website under functional and creative table designs; Orange County has a liaison with the Great Park; the District is researching the possibility of a Blue Star byway marker at the Orange County Fairgrounds, which is located on the former Santa Ana Airbase property.

**Palms to Pines:** One new Inland Empire Master Gardener's Club; the district's Annual Bazaar and Small Standard Flower Show will be February 28, 2009 in Banning, CA; as a district fundraiser, we are selling small bags of fertilizer through our member clubs & societies; in October the district hosted an information booth at the 3rd Annual Desert Garden Community Day in Palm Desert to explore the possibility of starting a new club in the desert.

**Palomar:** The emphasis in the District is on environmental issues; one club is promoting green shopping bags to reduce the use of plastic bags from super markets; Temecula Valley GC is starting a program "Grow it and Give it" to encourage members to grow organic fruits and vegetables in their home gardens and some of their harvest will be donated to the less fortunate; Bernardo Gardeners is making business cards for their Board of Directors to give to prospective new members...the card reads "Invited by" with the Board member's name and the name of the club.

**Roadrunner:** No report

**Sacramento River Valley:** Welcomed two new clubs; the district fundraiser will focus on bees and backyard pollinators and participate in the Sacramento Home and Garden Show.

**San Fernando Valley:** District programs focused on growing green; clubs' programs were primarily on succulents, soil, environmental issues, waterwise and firewise gardening; Southern California GC started "Grow it, show it." With members bringing a floral design to each meeting.

**Santa Clara Valley:** Clubs take advantage of the Master Gardener program for speakers and programs.

**Sequoia Foothills:** Garden tours are the primary fundraisers for clubs; district funds are supplemented by \$1.00 surcharge for luncheons and the district receives 10% of club sales and district meetings; one Blue Star Marker was dedicated in Fresno.

**Top o' the State:** No report

**Valley Lode:** No report

**Yosemite Gateway:** Blue Star Memorial Marker was dedicated at the San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery in November; two clubs received CGCI/Principal Financial Group grants; three garden tours and two flower shows are planned for the spring.

## CCGI Committee Chairmen Reports

**Chairman Coordinator:** Serves as liaison between chairmen, the Executive Committee and District Directors and joined with District Director Coordinator to produce a combined pre-Board Meeting newsletter for all board members.. A Chairmen's Forum was held on January 23 with at least 50 in attendance. Attendees were divided into seven groups to discuss a series of questions of interest to CGCI. A full report will be submitted to the Executive Committee for their information and consideration.

**Arbor Day:** Information on Arbor Day was distributed to all district directors and clubs are encouraged to participate in the annual celebration by planting trees in their communities; photos and information on 2009 events may be sent to the chairman

**Arboreta/Botanic/Gardens of California:** Encouraged members to visit local gardens; information on names and locations can be found on the CGCI website

**Associate Plant Societies:** 53 societies have paid membership of 3952; 3 groups dropped membership.

**Awards Finances:** All 56 sponsors for 2008-09 have remitted their payments for the awards to be presented at Convention in June 2009.

**Blue Star Memorials:** 12 dedications were held in 2008: Sequoia Foothills District, Yosemite Gate way District, Southern California GC, Toulume GC, North Lake GC, Ramona GC, Vista GC, Patrick's Point GC, Hesperia GC, Clayton Valley GC and Livermore-Amador GC; there are still some Principal Financial Group grants available for work done by June 1, 2009.

**CGCI Special Grants:** In 2007, 16 clubs were awarded \$250 each for projects using native plants; most projects have been completed and final reports are due May 1, 2009.

### Conservation Team

**Water:** Described the problems facing California; complete report from Public Policy Institute of California is found at [www.ppic.org](http://www.ppic.org).

### Conventions/Board Meetings:

**Fall Board 2008:** 144 attendees and 24 participated in the tri-refresher; net profit was \$2788.34; Golden Foothills District donated \$500 to the President's Project.

**Winter Board 2009:** Will be held at the Dana Inn on Mission Bay, San Diego, January 7-10, 2010.

### Flower Show

**Awards:** Four books of evidence have been forwarded to NGC for judging; CGCI awards must be submitted by February 1; there is CGCI award for Small Standard Flower Show in 2009.

**Judges Credentials:** 118 judges (62 Master, 13 Life, 43 Accredited); two Master judges became Emeriti and one Master judge's credentials lapsed; Symposium will be July 24-26, Bakersfield; 23 judges credentials will expire 12/31/09.

**Symposia:** The symposium is July 24-26, Bakersfield Double Tree Inn; instructors will be Dottie Howett, horticulture and Lynn Frank, design; registration forms will be sent mid-March.

### Horticulture Team

**Horticulture:** The theme is "Cacti, succulents and Coping with Desert Climate" and discussed which plants can thrive in either heat or cold.

**Container Gardening:** Encouraged members to consider water gardens in waterproof containers. They are low maintenance and can accommodate a variety of plants.

**New Cultivars:** Reported on new succulents, mostly hybrids: Aloes "Grassy Lassie", "Pink Blush", "Silver Ridge" and "Fire Ranch"; Gasteria/Aloe hybrid "Midnight" and Agave "Retro Choke".

**Trees:** Reported on the Bombacaceae-Pseudobombax ellipticum, var. alba ("Shaving Brush Tree") and reminded members to submit the tree report for possible CGCI awards.

**Vegetables:** Current newsletter focuses on peppers; it is available on the CGCI website.

**Invasive Plants:** Reported on the problems associated with Eucalyptus trees.

**Insurance:** 218 clubs and 38 APS have submitted premiums; providing complete information on the form is important and avoids delays in filing.

**Legislation/Government:** Assisted several member clubs with the new IRS reporting form – 990-N – for non profits with annual gross receipts under \$25,000.

**Memorial Gardens:** The chairman requested photos and listings of plantings of activities over the past two years.

**NGC-Member Services:** Free materials from NGC are displayed at all CGCI meetings and can also be reviewed on the NGC website.

**NGC-Principal Grants:** 5 clubs (including one state project) were funded a total of \$2500; all projects must be finalized by May 2009; recipients are listed on the NGC website.

**Operation Wildflower:** The conference is April 8-10, 2009 at Carriage Inn, Ridgecrest; reservations are now being accepted.

**Penny Pines:** Donations continue to increase.

**Permanent Files:** Additions to files may be given to chairman at any convention or board meeting

**Photography:** Developing Blue Star Memorial calendar for 2010. Needs additional photos that can be submitted until Feb 09.

**President's Project:** \$25,000+ in donations received to date; A bench with a bronze plaque that reads, "Donated by California Garden Clubs, Inc. Districts, Clubs and Members 2009" will soon be installed; all donations are matched by a friend of the Botanical Garden.

#### **Schools/Councils**

**Gardening Study Schools:** Course III, Series 20 will be March 27-28, 2009, and will feature an off-site botanical tour of the Community Center in Mission Viejo. The Registration Form will be available on the CGCI website; the CGCI Wildflower Conference may qualify as a refresher in GS (and other NGC disciplines); Nine Consultants must refresh by the end of 2009.

**Landscape Design Study Program:** 24 club members and 17 non-members attended Series 22, Course 3 in October (Course 4 will be held May-23, 2009); Series 23, Course 3 will be held in Temecula February 4-5, 2009.

**Landscape Design Credentials:** 268 LDC members; 63 have been deleted as they did not complete the class in time or did not refresh; 22 of those deleted were non-CGCI club members.

**Sempervirens Fund:** None of the CGCI groves were damaged in the recent wildfires; donations for Grove #10 - \$25,000, protecting 2.5 acres continue to come in; to update the CGCI President's Trees: three trees were dedicated on July 19, 2000 in Grove #8, 1970-80; 1980-90; 1990-2000; with a donation from CGCI of \$1,500. A new tree honoring 2000-2010 CGCI Presidents will soon be dedicated. Convention 2009 in San Mateo is about two hours from Big Basin State Park and the chairman would be available to arrange a tour of the park.

**Tours:** The 2008 trip to Hampton Court Flower Show raised \$1000; the Southern Comfort tour has been revised and refundable deposits are due by Feb 1; the post Pacific Region Convention tour will include Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park; \$100 deposits are due by March 1.

#### **Youth Activities Team:**

**Coordinator:** Clubs ratified

**Smokey Bear Poster Contest:** 65 entries

**Program Development:** Participated in the San Luis Obispo Home Show and the Sacramento Home and Garden Show with displays and activities for kids

**Poetry/Essay Contest:** 6 entries; one California High School essay winner also is Pacific Region winner and will be submitted to NGC.

**Scholarships** – 4 applications received

LANDSCAPE DESIGN COUNCIL  
CGCI WINTER BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 2009-RIDGECREST, CA

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following: June 1-Dec 1, 2008

- A wedding destination and Winery is located at the Fieldbrook Winery in Fieldbrook, CA The lovely gardens, ponds, water features, patios and arbors are accented by native plants.
- Ceago Vinegarden in Nice, CA is noted for its Bio Dynamic farming. The landscape includes acres of lavender, while the courtyard includes fountains, seating, and color plantings in containers.
- Tulip Hill Winery and Vineyards in Nice, is noted for the display of 50,00 tulips each spring followed by summer annuals. The pond, water feature, benches, bridges, and gazebo are an asset.
- Palomar District Director, Jerry Thirloway, has an English-inspired flower garden which includes plants on the walls, arbors, bird houses and statuary. The irrigation system conserves water.

Landscape Design Commendation was awarded to:

- Don and Rhonda Carano, who created Ferrari-Carano Vineyards and Winery. The gardens, started in 1993 include colorful parterres and lush gardens of year round color. The Enclosed garden features a gazebo, benches, arbors, paths and footbridges along a meandering stream with water falls and ponds. A map of the 2,000 named trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals which share the spring with 10,000 tulips and daffodils for a glorious show for all visitors to enjoy, is available.

Mary Lou Goodwin, Chairman  
Landscape Design Council

## COURTESY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of California Garden Clubs, Inc. attending the 2009 Winter Board Meeting in Ridgecrest, California, January 22-25, 2009, have benefited from information learned at the Board Meeting and will disseminate said information to their districts, clubs, associate plant societies and affiliates; and

WHEREAS, California Garden Clubs, Inc. President, Robin Pokorski, the officers, chairmen and members have served this organization with distinction.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, That California Garden Clubs, Inc. President Robin Pokorski, through her gracious presiding, and the officers, chairmen and members, through their dedicated concern in the deliberations of this Board Meeting, be commended for their spirit of cooperation; and

RESOLVED, That sincere thanks be given to Wanda Hewett and Merrilee Ray, Co-Chairmen of the 2009 Winter Board Meeting, and, Annette Craver, Director of the Host District, Desert Empire District, and all of the clubs (Boron Garden Club, Desert Planters of Ridgecrest, Desert Rose Garden Club of California City and Oasis Garden Club of Indian Wells Valley) and members of the Desert Empire District who planned and participated in the success of the 2009 Winter Board Meeting and assured its success by their many courtesies extended;

RESOLVED, That appreciation be given to the following:

- Joanne Latimer for arranging the fun tour to the U.S. Naval Museum of Armament and Technology
- The U.S. Naval Museum of Armament and Technology for its many courtesies in connection with the tour
- Oasis Garden Club of Indian Wells Valley; Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD), China Lake, U.S. Marine Corps Aviation Detachment Color Guard; The Farris Family Singers; Chaplain Roger E. VanDerWerken; and Bruce Wertenberger, President of the Historical Society of the Upper Mojave Desert in connection with the dedication of the Blue Star Memorial Marker
- Donald Storm, Archaeologist, Ridgecrest Bureau of Land Management for the enlightening lecture on petroglyphs
- Peggy Jacobson, SEEP Coordinator; Joanna Foster, Maturango Museum Docent and Volunteer at the Aquatic Station; Billy Foster of the Natural Resources Conservation Service for the special program on the Sand Canyon Environmental Educational Program
- Dave Freeland, retired District Ranger of the Greenhorn District of the Sequoia National Forest for the educational "Aftermath of a Wildfire" program
- Alexis Slafer and the CGCI Landscape Design Council for the Thursday evening program.
- Kathy LaShure, Leader of the Creosote Ring Sub-Chapter of the Bristlecone Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and Member of Oasis Garden Club of Indian Wells Valley for the knowledgeable program on penstemons.
- Gerald Olsen for the very productive parliamentary workshop and examination.
- Dan Brown, Music Pastor, First Baptist Church of Ridgecrest for the very enjoyable entertainment provided Saturday night.

RESOLVED, That this resolution be incorporated into the Minutes and that copies be sent to those mentioned above.

*Patricia Clayes*

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Patricia Clayes, Resolutions Chairman

Adopted by California Garden Clubs, Inc.  
January 25, 2009