

# Palomar Pruner

March 2009

## Gardening: Having a Hand in Creation

### Director's Message



Volume 8  
Issue 32

A Quarterly Newsletter  
For the  
Palomar District, Inc.  
[geocities.com/pdgardenclubs.org](http://geocities.com/pdgardenclubs.org)

Member of  
California Garden  
Clubs Inc.  
(CGCI)  
Pacific Region  
National Garden Clubs,  
Inc.  
(NGC)

**Jerry Thirloway**  
District Director  
858-755-3284

[Jerrythirloway@roadrunner.com](mailto:Jerrythirloway@roadrunner.com)

#### Director's Theme:

Gardening:  
Having a Hand in Creation

Joan Blankenship  
Editor  
858-488-5618  
[jblankenship@san.rr.com](mailto:jblankenship@san.rr.com)

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Director's Message	1
District News	2
CGCI News	3
Regional News	4
National News	4
Club News	4
Event Dates	5
Pruner Deadline	5

#### Director's Message

A year ago this month, I wrote to you in my Director's Message about global warming and the effects it would have on our climate, specifically, the reduction in rain. I know for some people the jury is still out on whether we humans are responsible for the earth getting warmer. Some think the earth goes through a warming cycle from time to time and that's what we're going through now. None the less, I think we can all agree, no matter what the reason, we are having a serious water shortage in the Southwestern part of the United States and earnest steps have to be taken by all of us to get the maximum benefit out of the water that's going to be available to us.

According to a recent column in the SD Union, no one can forecast what the draught frequency will be. However, most climate models predict that the Southwest will become drier overall and suggest that the transition to a more arid climate may already be underway. I am aware that some of our clubs have started water saving programs by encouraging their members to plant draught tolerant and California Native plants in their gardens. They have also encouraged their members to replace their lawns with low use water plants. They are to be commended.

In my message to you a year ago, referenced above, I also said that we, as members of Garden Clubs, should be ambassadors to our communities. Again, I am suggesting that this is the time for stressing the importance of water conservation. In keeping with that thought, I have invited representatives from the Southern California Water District to speak at our April District Meeting. This will be my last meeting as your district director. A nice sendoff would be a large attendance to hear this program.

Jerry Thirloway  
Palomar District Director





**District News  
Club News**

**Palomar District**

Spring District Meeting, April 27, 2009

- Where:** Escondido Country Club  
1800 W Country Club,  
Escondido.
- Time:** 10:00 A.M. Board Meeting  
11:00 A.M. General Meeting  
11:30 A.M. Lunch  
1:00 P.M. Program
- Cost:** \$25/person. Club checks must  
be in to the District Treasurer,  
no later than April 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Joan Patten, PO Box 1630,  
Valley Center 92082-1630.  
760-749-3766.
- Program:** *History of Water and its  
Problems in San Diego, +++  
Water Needs*, by Eric Larson of  
the San Diego County Farm  
Bureau.
- Host Clubs:**  
Centerpieces --- Dos Valles,  
Fallbrook, Temecula.  
Head Table --- Ramona.  
Name Tags --- Village & Vista.  
Registration --- Chula Vista.

**P**alomar District Nominating Committee,  
presented the new slate of officers for 2009-  
2011. They will be voted on and then officially  
presented and installed at the April 27, 2009  
meeting. Maryanne Lucas, CGCI President-elect  
will be doing the installation.

Please welcome our new board:  
District Director – Jane McKee, Fallbrook  
1<sup>st</sup> Assistant --- Susan Puma, Temecula  
2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant --- Betsy Cory, Chula Vista  
Recording Secretary --- Lynne Batchelor,  
Bonita Valley  
Corresponding Secretary --- Meredith French,  
Mission Hills  
Treasurer --- Joan Patten, Dos Valles  
Parliamentarian --- Carolyn Epple, San Dieguito  
District Director ex-Officio --- Jerry Thirloway

**T**he Man and/or Woman of the Year will also  
be presented to the District at the April meeting.  
Thanks to Marcia Townsend, Nominating Chair.

**2008 – 2009 Floral Design Forum** is again at  
the Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St.

April 6<sup>th</sup> presents Nancy Colvin, NGC floral  
designer. Nancy was Flower Arranger of the  
Year in 2003, 2005 and 2006. She will be here  
just in time to help with ideas to finish off your  
designs for this year's flower shows.

May 4<sup>th</sup> is Jim Johnson a well known national  
designer and instructor at Texas A&M.

**B**ernardo Gardeners presents their 6<sup>th</sup> annual  
Garden Tour, 10 – 3:30 on April 16<sup>th</sup>. \$15/pp.  
Self guided tour and flat shoes recommended.  
For more: 858-673-8728 or 858-485-0583,

**R**amona Garden Club's annual Spring  
Garden Tour is on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 9 – 3:30 at 1315  
Main St., Ramona. \$15/pp. For more: 760-271-  
8208 or [www.ramonagardenclub.com](http://www.ramonagardenclub.com)

**V**illage Garden Club of La Jolla presents  
*Expressions in Art and Flowers* on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
10:30 AM. \$15 non-members. 8320 La Jolla  
Scenic Drive North. For more: Gail Adams at  
858-551-8895.

**M**ission Hills GC is looking for some  
volunteer docents for their annual Garden Walk,  
May 9<sup>th</sup>. Three hour shifts from 9:30 – 4PM. To  
volunteer please call Marien Kissling at 619-542-  
0880 or [marienmk@cox.net](mailto:marienmk@cox.net).

**S**an Dieguito Garden Club presents *Tea in the  
Garden*. June 13<sup>th</sup> from 11:30- 1:30, 1105 Santa  
Madera Ct., Solana Beach. \$25/pp at the door.  
Seating is limited so please make your  
reservation early. For more: Geri Thirloway, 858-  
755-3284.

**P**alomar District Flower Arranger of the Year  
is due; Blue Star Memorial Photos are wanted  
for a calendar; Conejo Valley Botanic Garden T-  
shirts are available. Contact: Carolyn Epple at  
[CarolynSmu@san.rr.com](mailto:CarolynSmu@san.rr.com)

*In March and in April from morning till night. In  
sowing and seeding good housewives delight.*

Thomas Tusser



## CGCI News

**CGCI Winter Board Meeting, January 22 – 24, 2009** convened at the Carriage Inn in Ridgecrest and

everyone *Experienced the Mojave*. The Desert Rats put on a very enjoyable meeting. Thank You all.

**C**CGCI's new Executive Board is as follows:

President-Elect – Marianne Lucas  
1<sup>st</sup> VP – Julie West  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Pat Claves  
3<sup>rd</sup> VP – Rita Desilets  
Recording Secretary – Greg Pokorski  
Corresponding Secretary – Carolyn Johnson  
Treasurer – Ed Dempsey  
Financial Secretary – Joelle Holford  
Parliamentarian – Chuck Goodwin  
Golden Gardens Editor – Lynne Hansen

**A**rt Loesch, CGCI Reforestation Chairman gave a report on the state of our local forests. CGCI is responding to the USDA Forest Service need for funds to support California National Forest Service Projects. These funds will help our forests recover from the devastation that results from fire and insect infestation. The Reforestation and Restoration Fund is an Expansion Program. It does not replace Penny Pines, but is a restricted fund that will be used for SPECIAL USDA Forest Projects that support reforestation. Club and individual donations will be in increments of \$100. Checks made out to CGCI and sent to this chair.

When contacted, the California USDA Forest Service officer said that the Cleveland NF was in the most desperate of need and our gift of \$5000 will be sent to our local forest to assist in the removal of tamarisk on the Cottonwood and La Posta Creeks and the planting of native plant species in those areas.

This chairman requests that you go back to your clubs and make your club members aware of the need to add as much as possible to the CGCI Reforestation Fund so that we can make a significant contribution toward restoring and preventing further loss of this native riparian habitat. [LoeschAC@aol.com](mailto:LoeschAC@aol.com)

**P**resident Robin Pokorski's President's Project, *The Trail of Trees* at the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden has exceeded all expectations. Before the Winter Board Meeting, it had topped

\$25,000 and every penny is matched by a generous benefactor. During the meeting many more funds were added. Congratulations to everyone who has been giving of their time and money to make this project reality.

**M**aryanne Lucas announced her Presidential Project at the same Winter Board. *Kids Growing Strong* is an education based program so **Come on Board**.



## Regional News

The Regional Convention will be held this year in Las Vegas at the **Flamingo Hotel** from March 31 to April 2, 2009. They will be featuring some exciting pre-convention tours and possibly one following. "**DESERT DAZE-NEON NIGHTS**" is not to be missed. Deadline is March 2, 2009 to register. Forms can be found in the November issue of WACONIAH or at [RobinP@juno.com](mailto:RobinP@juno.com).



## National News

### **Blooming Magic – Texas Style**

The NGC 2009 National Convention, May 13-18 at the Hilton North at Greenspoint, Houston, Texas.

**T**he Natural Disasters USA program was started to assist clubs and states that have experienced a natural disaster caused by floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, ice storms, tornadoes or wildfires. Funds are awarded for the purpose of restoration and replanting of gardens or garden-related sites; municipal gardens, school gardens, city pocket gardens, etc. Many areas throughout our country have been affected by natural disasters in recent months. It may take some time to realize a plan for restoration in your area. Do not hesitate to request help, even though the devastation may have occurred a year ago.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding your project; send application to: [ms.candace@cox.net](mailto:ms.candace@cox.net).

Candace Morgenstern, Natural Disasters Vice Chair.

## Events



### April, 2009

- 16** Bernardo Gardners Sixth Annual Garden Tour, 10-3:20. \$15/pp. For more please call 858-673-8728 or 858-485-0583 or [www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org).
- 18** Ramona Garden Club's Garden Tour and Plant Sale. 9-3:30, 1315 Main St., Ramona. \$15/pp. For more: 760-271-8208.
- 23** Village Garden Club of La Jolla's 6<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of art and floral design showcases club members' art works and interpretive floral arrangements. 10:30 AM. \$15 non-members. For more: Gail Adams 858-551-8895.
- 23** National Arbor Day.
- 27** Palomar District meeting, Escondido Country Club, 1800 West Country Club Circle, Escondido. Host Clubs: Chula Vista, Dos Valles, Fallbrook, Ramona, Temecula, Village and Vista. Program: Eric Larson, from the San Diego County Farm Bureau. History of water and its problems in San Diego, plus our water needs.

### May, 2009

- 1-3** Los Angeles Flower and Garden Show at the Arboretum. 9-5.
- 9** Mission Hills annual Garden Walk with a plant and craft sale. Docents needed. To volunteer please contact: Marien Kissling, 619-542-0880.
- 13-18** NGC Convention at Houston's Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel. Remember the **\$79 roomrate** for early reservations and a 3% discount if you fly in on Continental Airlines.

### June, 2009

- 4-9** CGCI 78th Convention - Host: Bay Ocean & Santa Clara Valley Districts; Chairman: Shane Looper. Special Guest: Pacific Region Director Jeanette Pruin. Special Workshop on Floral Design by Tony Todesco. More: Shane Looper, 650-871-0172 or [slooper@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slooper@sbcglobal.net)

- 13** San Dieguito Garden Club's *Tea in the Garden*. \$25 at the door. Limited seating. For more: Geri Thirloway, 858-755-3284.
- 22** Palomar District Organizational meeting, Room 104 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park.

### July, 2009

- 24-26** Flower Show Symposium, Doubletree Hotel, Bakersfield.
- 31-** Gardening Studies School, Series 20, Course IV
- Aug 1** Soka University of America, Alisa Viejo. Sponsor: Orange County District

### August, 2009

- 20** Flower Show School, Course III, Encinitas, Sponsor: Palomar District. Chair: Evalyn Rodgers, 760-635-1557 or [evalyn7@sbcglobal.net](mailto:evalyn7@sbcglobal.net)

### September, 2009

- 11-13** **CGCI Fall Board Meeting**, Hilton, Concord. Host: Diablo Foothills District, Co-Chairman: Ruth Angevine and Jane Berger
- 29-** **NGC Fall Board Meeting**, St Louis, MO.
- Oct 3**

### January 2010

- 7-9** **CGCI Winter Board Meeting**, The Dana Inn, San Diego. Chair: Joan Blankenship, 858-488-5618 or [jblankenship@san.rr.com](mailto:jblankenship@san.rr.com).

### April, 2010

- 22-24** Pacific Region Convention, Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs hosts the convention in Spokane, Washington at the **Red** Lion Hotel right on the **river!**

### May, 2010

- 14-16** **NGC Convention**, Atlanta, Georgia.

Deadline for the *Palomar Pruner* is May 15, 2009. Please send to Joan Blankenship, 5171 Crystal Dr., La Jolla 92037-7951, 858-488-5618 or [jblankenship@san.rr.com](mailto:jblankenship@san.rr.com) For a US Postal Service mailing, please remit \$3/year to Joan Patten, PO Box 1630, Valley Center 92082-1630 or [joanpatten@vcweb.org](mailto:joanpatten@vcweb.org)

## TOPIC OF THE MONTH

### Do you have a method for saving rain water?

Art Nye - I have a 1000 Gal. tank buried in the back yard down behind the house that collects all rainwater from the roof. I use it to water the trees down behind the house.

Kathleen O'Connor - I use new trashcans, bowls and other containers. I've looked online and there are several sites that offer items that can be used but I haven't tried them yet.

### RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEMS

Rainwater harvesting systems vary from the simple and inexpensive to the complex and very costly. Directing rainfall to plants located at contoured low points is a very simple rainwater harvesting system. Falling rain then flows to areas with vegetation. To do this, the grounds are contoured to direct rain to plants. More complex rainwater harvesting systems include storage of rainfall. Any container capable of holding rain dripping from the roof or patio can be a rainwater harvesting system. A plastic garbage barrel is sufficient. Other methods include:

**Rain Chains** - Special highly decorative rain chains can be used in some areas to replace downspouts. An 8 foot rain chain can be used to channel water from a roof into rain barrels or other containers. See note \*

**Rain Barrels** - According to the January 2009 Sunset Magazine, you can purchase a rain barrel that holds about 50-60 gallons of water. They are made from plastic, and have an intake line, spigot, overflow attachment, screen cover to keep out leaves and a removable solid cover. Place the barrel beneath a downspout. This type of rain barrel can cost over \$100. See note \*

**Cisterns** - Cisterns can hold 100s of gallons of water although they can be expensive. There are underground and above ground cisterns available. See note \*

**\*Saving Water - Especially from the Roof?** - Harvested rain is not without water quality concerns. Rain in some areas may contain various impurities absorbed from the atmosphere. Certain conditions can cause other rainwater quality concerns. Bird droppings, dust and other impurities accumulate between rain events especially on a roof. They then occur in high concentrations in runoff when it does rain. As a result, the quality of harvested rainfall needs frequent monitoring or filtering.

### Additional Information on the Web:

<http://ag.arizona.edu/pubs/water/az1052/harvest.html>

[http://www.emmitsburg.net/gardens/articles/frederick/2001/saving\\_rain\\_water.htm](http://www.emmitsburg.net/gardens/articles/frederick/2001/saving_rain_water.htm)

or search the following on the web using these phrases: Saving Rainwater or Harvesting Rainwater

Thanks to Lenore Morines of the Vista Garden Club Newsletter, *The Cricket*. for this information. ed.

### ADDENDUM:

Enjoy the sights and scents of La Jolla Garden Club's annual Gardeners' Market offering blooming plants, fresh floral arrangements, a bake sale and LJGC aprons and note cards. Held just in time for Mother's Day on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., on the patio of Chase Bank (formerly WaMu), 7777 Girard Ave., La Jolla. Proceeds support local horticultural scholarships and civic projects. For information contact Anne Caprioglio 858-454-6227 or Ruth Sheinbein 858-551-8272.