

**California Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Minutes of the Virtual Winter Board Meeting**  
February 6 – 10, 2022  
**President: Lynne Batchelor**

**Business Meeting #1**

President Lynne Batchelor called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8. The Recording Secretary was present.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Marlene Kinney gave the Inspiration.

President Lynne Batchelor welcomed and introduced former CGCI Presidents in attendance: Shane Looper, Sue Bennett, Rita Desilets, Julie A. West, Robin Pokorski and Elisabeth Tufo.

President Lynne Batchelor recognized Circle of Poppies members Joan Craig, Judy Unrine and Carolyn Villi, and recognized those serving on the National Garden Clubs and the Pacific Region Garden Clubs boards.

President Lynne Batchelor introduced those serving on the Executive Committee for the 2021-2023 term of office and thanked the committee for hosting the Winter Board Meeting.

President Lynne Batchelor welcomed all attendees.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst called the roll and the President declared a quorum.

Excused: Beverly Brune, Helen Gates, Robert Gordon, Rosalie Hooper, Gudrun Kimmel, Krystal Migliore, Carlotta Wixon-Welker and Pat York.

Registrar Robin Pokorski gave the registration report with 78 registered.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported the Rules of Order for the 2021-2023 term were adopted at the May 29 Organizational Meeting and are listed on pages 32-33 of the 2021-2022 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*.

Without objection, the minutes of the October 19-21, 2021 Fall Board Meeting were adopted as distributed on December 1, 2021.

Without objection, the Chair appointed the following committee to review the minutes for this meeting: Greg Pokorski, Chairman, Milly Benson and Rita Desilets.

Treasurer George Perko reported.

**Financial Report: December 31, 2021**

Net worth:

Total cash in checking/savings accounts	\$146,401	
Total other assets	\$530,184	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$676,585</b>
of which restricted funds are	\$390,419	
Cash Balance Available		<u>\$286,166</u>

## Officers' Reports

President Lynne Batchelor reported. See Attachment A.

Her report incorporated Robin Pokorski's President's Project Report. See Attachment C.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Carol Vallens deferred her District Director Coordinator and Procedures Chairman reports.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Adele Kelly deferred her Bylaws & Policy Committee report and reminded board members that proposed bylaws amendments were distributed on January 20.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President Marlene Kinney reported (See Attachment A) and moved to ratify two new clubs: Willow Glen Garden Club, Santa Clara Valley District, President Sarah Mitchell, 7 members, and Orangevale Farm & Garden Club, Golden Foothills District, President James Beilgard, 15 members. **Motion Passed.**

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst reported that the deadline for emailed reports is Thursday, February 17, 2022.

Corresponding Secretary Milly Benson reported receiving a thank you note from Rob Hutsel at the River Center at Grant Park in San Diego.

Financial Secretary Rita Desilets reported.

Treasurer George Perko reported and read the Independent Accountant's Review Report written by Carolyn Mayes, CPA on January 26, 2022 and moved that the board of directors of CGCI accept the review as submitted. **Motion Passed.** See Attachment B.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported. See Attachment A.

## Committee Reports

Awards Chairman Pat Claves reported. See Attachment C.

Board of Trustees Chairman Julie A. West reported (See Attachment C) and moved to include in full in the minutes the thank you letter from CGCI to the Alberta Thiry Estate for the donation of \$15,252.28. **Motion Passed.** See Attachment D.

Budget and Finance Chairman Rita Desilets reported.

Bylaws & Policy Committee Chairman Adele Kelly reported (See Attachment C) and read and moved on behalf of the Bylaws & Policy Committee that the Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws be recommended to the voting membership at the 2022 convention.

### Proposal #1

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES Sec. 1. Elected officers shall be president, first vice-president, second vice president, third vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, financial secretary, and treasurer., ~~and communications director.~~ The appointed officer shall be the parliamentarian.

## **Would Read After Amendment**

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES Sec. 1. Elected officers shall be president, first vice-president, second vice-president, third vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, financial secretary, and treasurer. The appointed officer shall be the parliamentarian.  
**Motion Passed.**

### **Proposal #2**

Eliminate entire section.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES Sec. 8. The communications director shall oversee: (a) the creation and distribution of publications including, but not limited to, *Golden Gardens e-News, Yearbook, Manual & Roster*, press releases and brochures; and (b) the website. (Section 9 to be renumbered to become Section 8)

**Motion Passed.**

### **Proposal #3**

ARTICLE VIII – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Sec. 1. The executive committee shall consist of the president, vice-presidents, recording, corresponding and financial secretaries, treasurer, ~~communications director~~ and parliamentarian. A majority shall constitute a quorum.

## **Would Read After Amendment**

ARTICLE VIII – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Sec. 1. The executive committee shall consist of the president, vice-presidents, recording, corresponding and financial secretaries, treasurer, and parliamentarian. A majority shall constitute a quorum.

**Motion Passed.**

Bylaws & Policy Committee Chairman Adele Kelly moved on behalf of the Bylaws & Policy Committee to adopt the following new Standing Rule.

### **Proposal #4**

12. Money from sponsors must be on deposit with CGCI by August 31 of the year prior to the next convention, where the awards will be presented. Unpaid accounts will be liable for termination after this date.

**Motion Passed.**

Flower Show Schools Chairman Sandra Graff reported. See Attachment C.

Flower Show Symposia Chairman Emily Troxell reported.

Nominating Committee Chairman Pat Clayes reported. See Attachment C.

The meeting recessed at 4:56 p.m.

### **Business meeting #2**

The meeting reconvened on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 12:05 p.m.

Treasurer George Perko gave the Inspiration.

Guests Bill Dahnke and Marla Libraty presented information about the President's Project, San Diego's River Center at Grant Park.

Procedures Committee Chairman Carol Vallens reported.

Scholarships Chairman Martha Smyser reported. See Attachment C.

Strategic Planning Committee Chairman George Speer reported.

Technology Committee Chairman Jane McKee reported. See Attachment C.

### **Chairmen Reports**

Chairmen Coordinator Adele Kelly reported and introduced those chairmen who reported. See Attachment C.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst reported for Life Memberships Chairman Carlotta Wixon-Welker and moved to ratify the following new CGCI Life Members:

Sally Biersdorf Santa Clara Valley District

Linda Sanford Golden Foothills District

**Motion Passed.**

### **District Director Reports**

District Director Coordinator Carol Vallens reported and introduced those District Directors who reported. See Attachment E.

The meeting recessed at 2:01 p.m.

### **Business Meeting #3**

The meeting reconvened on Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 10:11 a.m.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski gave the Inspiration.

### **Executive Committee Recommendations**

1. To ratify the appointment of Chuck Goodwin as Arbor Day Chair.  
**Motion Passed.**
2. To accept with regret the resignation of Rosa Radicchi as Sempervirens Fund Co-chair.  
**Motion Passed.**
3. To ratify the appointment of Kathy Taylor de Murillo as Sempervirens Fund Co-chair.  
**Motion Passed.**
4. To accept with regret the resignation of Kathy Bramhall as Flower Show Judges Credentials Chair.  
**Motion Passed.**
5. To ratify the appointment of Frankie Raymond as Flower Show Judges Credentials Chair, to serve concurrently as Judges Council Liaison and Sacramento River Valley District Co-Director.  
**Motion Passed.**
6. To approve the appointment of Lisa Mercier to serve as Convention Treasurer for the June 2022 Convention in San Diego.  
**Motion Passed.**
7. To approve the June 2022 Convention registration fee of \$45.00 and a late registration fee of \$75.00.  
**Motion Passed.**
8. To approve the Handlery Hotel as the location for the 2022 Convention in San Diego.  
**Motion Passed.**

9. To approve the appointment of Greg Pokorski as Convention Credentials Chairman for the 2021-2023 term.  
**Motion Passed.**
10. That the updated Restricted Fund Guidelines dated January 2022 received from and recommended by the Board of Trustees be approved.  
**Motion Passed.** See Attachment F.
11. To add new line code 1611, Social Media, to Chairmen with Special Funding, with a budget of \$375.00.  
**Motion Passed.**
12. To add new line code 4014Q, Circle of Poppies Pins, with a budget of \$275.00.  
**Motion Passed.**

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski moved to elect the following delegates to Pacific Region Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, April 25 – 27, 2022:

GinaRose Kimball  
Betty Langford  
George Speer  
Deedee Speer  
**Motion Passed.**

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski moved to elect the following delegates to the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention in Orlando, Florida May 16 – 19, 2022:

Joan Craig  
Adele Kelly  
**Motion Passed.**

Palomar District Director and Convention Chairman Sharon Tooley extended an invitation to the 2022 CGCI Convention in San Diego, June 6 – 10, 2022.

President Lynne Batchelor announced there was an incorrect line code announced at the 2021 Fall Board meeting which was recorded in the minutes. Without objection the line code listed as 1560 has been corrected to reflect the actual line code 1580.

President Lynne Batchelor announced that there are additional committee meetings today and invited members to stay after the adjournment of this meeting for an opportunity to strengthen CGCI by joining a discussion for creative, collegial, constructive and collaborative conversation with ideas, information, suggestions etc. on programs, projects and events.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Gail Vanderhorst \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

## **Attachment A Officers' Reports**

### **President, Lynne Batchelor**

Welcome everyone and thank you for attending. Although Zoom meetings have the advantage such of making the meeting accessible to those who wouldn't be able to travel because of the weather, their health, family responsibilities, jobs, finances, etc., I do miss seeing you and speaking to you in person. While I'm thinking about Zoom, I want to give a big thank you to all those committee chairs who agreed at their meeting yesterday to make an oral report at winter board. Communication is the key to maintaining and strengthening our organization, so your reports are vital. We expect to meet in San Diego in June and hope you will all be able to join us in person.

I want to begin with something near and dear to my heart—my President's Project. Adele and Carol and I visited the site in December and while we were there Marla said I think we should make a video. I'm thinking wait a minute, I have to prepare but she said we'll do several takes. She lied- they did the off the cuff one which she hoped I would use on social media since it contained a happy holidays theme. It was pitiful but here it is and at least you will see the CEO Rob Hutsel and a bit of the construction site. Now the holiday greeting is for lunar new year, the Year of the Water Tiger. You are a tiger if you were born in 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986. Tigers are courageous, ambitious, competitive, extremely generous, adventurous, risk takers, family oriented and believe in Go Big or Go Home. My most admired tiger is Queen Elizabeth and of course all of you CGCI Tigers.

As you may know the President's theme for Pacific Region is One Green World. To promote it at the Pacific Region Convention each state was given a category from which to make an outfit for a fashion show. We were assigned the category of junk mail. Robin Pokorski has volunteered to design and construct our runway entry. If you have fabulous junk mail, send it to her (particularly calendars).

I am trying to introduce something new at each Zoom board meetings. For fall board, I invited the club presidents and club treasurers and all of you provided knowledge and friendly faces to whom they can relate. The club presidents and treasurers reported that it was a great experience; thank you for making that possible. For this meeting we had a special Zoom program yesterday on floral design which was available to everyone. I hope you were able to attend, enjoyed it and bought a container to bring in funds for Palomar District. These programs are held monthly (Oct-May) at noon and may be attended in person or via Zoom for a fee of \$12. If you would like to join us, contact George Speer.

I am so pleased to announce that four California clubs won NGC Plant America Community grants. Congratulations to the Garden Club of Colusa County in Buttes District, the Folsom Garden Club in the Sacramento River Valley District, the Los Osos Valley Garden Club from Montana De Oro District and Toluca Lake Garden Club from the San Fernando Valley District.

For you fellow jewelry enthusiasts, I want to point out my President's pin. When Shane came to our Judges Council in January, she brought it to me so this is its first official outing. Speaking of outings, I am lonely. Please invite me to your district or club meetings. I really want to attend in person and I am vaccinated and boosted but Zooming is fine as well, let me know when I can be there. Another ask is for someone to step up to do convention 2023. It needs to be ratified at the San Diego convention in June, so please, please, please think about jumping in and volunteering.

At the convention we will have a remembrance ceremony for those we have lost this year. If you have photos or anecdotes you would like to share, please send them to me by May 5<sup>th</sup> (5/5).

As the finale for my report, I am turning it over to my President's Project Chair Robin Pokorski who has a big budget movie to show you which will be preserved on our website. Thank you to Hank Vanderhorst who has volunteered to make the bench/tables for a contribution of \$300 to the President's Project! Looking forward to seeing you in June!

**Third Vice-President/Membership Chairman, Marlene Kinney**

Current Membership

Number Paid as of 1/31/2022

Clubs           235   (12,530)

APs             47    (3,578)

Affiliates       1

Total           283   (16,108)

CGCI has two new clubs.

Madam President, I move to ratify the following clubs:

Willow Glen Garden Club, Santa Clara Valley District, President Sarah Mitchell, 7 members, and Orangevale Farm & Garden Club, Golden Foothills District, President James Beilgard, 15 members.

This concludes my report

**Parliamentarian, Greg Pokorski**

Duties of this office continue to include reviewing minutes following each meeting, working with the president and other officers to prepare for each meeting, participation in the Bylaws & Policy Committee, advising the Nominating Committee and responding to club and district parliamentary inquiries.

By not reporting orally or submitting written reports for attachment to the minutes, chairmen and District Directors have not taken full advantage of recent state meetings to promote chairmanships and share good ideas regarding district activities. Yesterday's Chairmen's Forum discussed and encouraged such reporting. It is important to share at these meetings what you have accomplished and what you need and what chairmen have to offer clubs and districts. It is important for districts to inform us what their clubs are doing and what they need from the state organization. It is important to summarize your accomplishments for the record by submission of written reports to the Recording Secretary.

I frequently and repeatedly remind parliamentarians and other club, district and state officers that parliamentary procedure is a continuous learning experience and one that I, and at least some of you, find fascinating. I am pleased to now be a member of an electronic parliamentary unit which contributes to that learning process. Using parliamentary procedure really can make meetings more effective and eliminate wasted time. We all learn and get better at this the more we do it. As always, let me know if you have questions.

Our next meeting is convention. All member clubs are entitled to representation by the president or the official alternate of the president, and by delegates, based on the number of club members. District Directors, please encourage your clubs to attend and participate and learn about their organization. Watch for instructions in the Call about the credentialing process. Individuals cannot merely designate themselves as club delegates – they must be elected or appointed by their clubs. Those who serve as delegates have a vote and should be attending the convention business meetings, not just attending workshops or meal programs.

By coming together and learning together we can all do more to benefit our garden clubs.

It is a pleasure to serve CGCI and our President in this office.

## Attachment B Accountant's Review Report

*Carolyn A. Mayes, CPA*  
*Auditing and Consulting Services*

### INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

To the Board of Directors of  
California Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Graton, California

I have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of California Garden Clubs, Inc. (a nonprofit organization), which comprise the statement of financial position as of June 30, 2021, and the related statement of activities, statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets, and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of organization management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion.

#### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Accountant's Responsibility**

My responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the America Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require me to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether I am aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. I believe that the results of my procedures provide a reasonable basis for my conclusion.

#### **Accountant's Conclusion**

Based on my review, I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*Carolyn A. Mayes, CPA*

Santa Rosa, California  
January 26, 2022

California Office: 465 Stony Point Road, #237  
Maine Office: P.O. Box 86

Santa Rosa, California 95401  
Friendship, Maine 04547

Tel: (707) 573-8892  
Tel (207) 832-7883

## **Attachment C Chairmen and Committee Reports**

### **Awards Chairman, Pat Clayes**

All committee members (Elisabeth Tufo, Emily Troxell, Lisa Cosand and I) have been working diligently on behalf of all clubs and APSs eligible to participate in the Awards Program. As of this date, all NGC award applications have been forwarded to NGC (some electronically/some via Federal Express). PRGC award applications will be forwarded before the March 1 deadline. Elisabeth Tufo reports that new award sponsors have been acquired.

### **Blue Star Memorial Markers Co-Chairman, Shirley Lipa**

The Stockton Garden Club replaced a By-Way marker and the Red Bluff Club has ordered a Memorial Marker to be placed in the Tehama District Fairgrounds.

Tom Stelling, our BS Memorial Restorer, has informed me that he has heard that the paint he uses to do the restorations across the United States might not be allowed for use in California. Tom is awaiting an answer from the California Air Resources Board. Hopefully, he will hear from them soon and then will be able to get our restorations done this year.

### **Board of Trustees Chairman, Julie A. West**

Restricted Funds Guidelines were updated for the 2021-2023 term. The CPA's Financial Review Statement for 2020-2021 was reviewed and approved. *Giving Tuesday* donations were tallied indicating \$700 was raised for the two endowments. The endowment funds with Vanguard were reviewed and are within parameters established by Standing Rule 45.

The Scholarship Committee met and reviewed applications received for CGCI, Pacific Region and NGC Scholarships. Martha Smyser will report the winners of the two CGCI Scholarships and Alberta Thiry Memorial Scholarship. It was agreed to only require two letters of recommendation since NGC now requires two instead of three letters.

### **Bylaws & Policy Committee Chairman, Adele Kelly**

The Bylaws & Policy Committee members are Jeanne Johnson, Greg Pokorski, George Speer, George Unrine, Carol Vallens, David West and this chairman. The committee had four Zoom meetings since the beginning of the current term. In the meetings, the committee members reviewed suggestions for bylaws, standing rules and policy amendments. Future suggestions for amendments should be submitted to this committee through this chairman.

During Business Meeting #1, this chairman on behalf of the Bylaws & Policy Committee, read the attached CGCI Proposed Amendments to the CGCI Bylaws and Standing Rules to be Considered at the Virtual Winter Board Meeting 2022 (February 8, 9, 10). All four proposed amendments were moved/passed for recommendation to the voting membership at the 2022 convention.

### **Flower Show Schools Chairman, Sandra Graff,**

November 12, 2021: NGC Flower Show Committee held a two-hour instructional zoom meeting navigating through NGC Flower Show Resources website for the FSS State Chairs. Invaluable...  
December 1: Shirley Tetrault- NGC Accredited Chair emailed The Directives –for Schedule writing which I forwarded to our two FSS students. (Correction-2021Virtual Fall Board meeting).  
January 18, 2022: NGC Student Schedule Correction Chair- Carol English held a FSS instructional zoom meeting on The Directives that are sent to students in how to write a Flower Show schedule. Both CGCI students in attendance, along with Shane Looper and myself. 8-945A

February 4: The Valley Judges Council Flower Show School Course I for April 8-10, 2022 has been registered with NGC Janice Hamlin. Co-Chairs Judi Picinini and Jennifer Waite. Course II-September 17-19: Course III- April 14-16, 2023; Course IV September 15-17, 2023.

February 9: Received Flower Show Schools Manual from NGC for Flower Show Chair, Symposia and Judges Credentials sent to appropriate chairs.

February 10: FSS committee are simply delighted to welcome the incredible knowledge and expertise of Frankie Raymond as our Judges Council Credential Chair until 2023. A huge thank you to Kathy Bramhall for her many years of dedication in this position.

March-May: The Palomar District Design Forum with Chair George Speer will continue to delight us with in-person and virtual floral design presentations. Several Flower Shows in the Palomar District and throughout California noted on the CGCI website with Coronado celebrating 100 yrs.

June 6-10: CGCI Convention San Diego- Design Specialty Flower Show. Theme: "A River Runs Through It" since the Presidents Project is for the San Diego River Park Foundation.

Co-Chairs Sandra Graff + Kathy Taylor de Murillo.

July 17-19: Symposium- Pt. Loma Nazarene College, San Diego California, Chair- Emily Troxell.

### **Gardening Schools, Greg Pokorski**

This chairman is looking for clubs/districts to conduct our next Gardening School and will be glad to walk you through the process of having a school (in a classroom or by Zoom). We've lost Consultants since FBM: 3 lapsed and Emeritus Consultants Mary Lou Goodwin and Hoberley Schuler passed away. California currently has 16 Provisionals, 49 Consultants, 15 Master Consultants and 7 Emeritus Consultants. Although no Gardening Schools or Refreshers are scheduled in California some courses are available by Zoom: Course 2 April 5-6; Course 4 April 7-9; Course 3 August 22-23. There will be a Tri-Refresher at the NGC Convention in Orlando in May. Please advise if you are planning to attend any event in order to assure that you receive credit.

### **Golden Gardens eNews Chairman, Launa Gould**

The CGCI *eNews* is published monthly. The newsletter is limited to six pages and provides updated information received from board members, chairmen and club members. If space allows, interesting articles are included.

There are about 3000 email subscribers to the *eNews*. This is a good opportunity to get the message out about your chairmanship to the rest of the members in the state.

The *eNews* and *WACONIAH* are emailed out using Vertical Response, a bulk mail application. This chairman received instruction and tutorials from Jane McKee, Webmaster, on how to send the *eNews* using Vertical Response. The February *eNews* and February *WACONIAH* were sent successfully by the *eNews* editor.

### **Landscape Design Schools, Alexis Slafer**

The Landscape Design School on the calendar is hosted by Valley Lode District. The second course is February 12 & 13, 2022 and course 4 will be held on March 12-13. So, the entire school will be completed within 2 months.

The newer Landscape Design curriculum... is doing well. If your credentials will lapse this year, please take advantage of the many virtual opportunities that are available to attend schools or refresh credentials. Check the NGC website for upcoming events.

Encourage your club or district to sponsor a landscape design school.

### **Life Memberships Chairman, Carlotta Wixon-Welker**

This report will be very brief as this chairman only received two (2) new Life Member applications since the Fall Board Meeting. Perhaps I now qualify to collect Unemployment Benefits? I hope by the time we meet in person again, this chairman will have more to report.

This chairman would like to once more feel useful to CGCI and be actively “employed” again by encouraging each club and district to send in at least one (1) new Life Membership application in 2022. The amount is \$100.00, which includes a letter of welcome, a membership pin, an attractive certificate, ready for framing. As most of you know, the funds from new Life Memberships goes toward the Scholarship Fund. Many clubs already donate each year to this fund, so why not honor someone with a Life Membership instead. The presentation may be held during your meeting to make the honoree feel appreciated and special.

### **Nominating Committee Chairman, Pat Clayes**

The Nominating Committee continues to seek qualified candidates for the Executive Committee. Interviews are underway. Qualified candidates are urged to complete a Personnel Form (found on the website) if interested in serving on the Executive Committee during the 2023-2025 term.

### **Penny Pines Chairman, Nina Blonski**

The last two years have affected many clubs from meeting in person to collect their monthly Penny Pines donations. Some clubs have created clever way for donations to be collected. One of the most frustrating parts of the last two years was the National Forest Services offices were closed and no one was processing the checks and issuing the much awaited certificates to present to a family or individual. From staff working from home and not going into the office to pick up mail to running out of the certificate to fill out. Well hopefully that is all behind us and we look forward to receiving the certificates when our donations are mailed in.

### **President’s Project – San Diego’s River Center at Grant Park, Robin Pokorski**

We are so thankful to the many that have generously donated to The River Center at Grant Park. We are thrilled to announce that an additional \$2, 875 has been sent to the Foundation bringing our fundraising efforts to \$10,030.00. We are nearly halfway through this term and nearly halfway to our goal of \$25,000 – together we can make the Sensory and Ethnobotanic Gardens a reality.

### **Scholarship Chairman, Martha Smyser**

This Chairman reported that the committee awarded three \$2,000 scholarships for the 2022-23 academic year. The Robert Gordon Scholarship is awarded to Madison Roger, a junior at Cal Poly SLO. The Charlene “Shane” Looper Scholarship is awarded to Adriana Stagnaro, a graduate student at Cal Poly SLO. And the inaugural Alberta Thiry Scholarship is awarded to Katelin Wilcox, a graduate student at Cal State Fresno.

This Chairman told Board members that the scholarships are funded from the CGCI Scholarship/Life Membership Fund as well as the CGCI Scholarship Endowment and contributions to both are most welcome. She thanked two clubs for their donations to each of these funds.

### **Sempervirens Fund Co-Chairman, Judy Unrine**

I am glad I have this opportunity to talk to you about our state park, CGCI’s Big Basin Redwoods State Park.

The matching fund drive is completed. We met our goal of \$20,000 with the added donation of \$5000 from Shane Looper’s president’s allowance. Additional donors since my last report are:

I can't take you to the park and show you the beauty of Big Basin Coastal Redwoods in areas of the park not burned. I don't want to show you photos of the devastation to park buildings, roads, and infrastructure.

What I want to tell you about is the courageous effort you, our members, have given to restore our state park. The Big Basin Redwoods State Park we have supported through the years. I can't take you to the park but if we were together, I would show you the seedlings growing beside the redwood trees, the new and unusual varieties of wildflowers, the animals returning as the habitat repairs itself.

Yes, I said the forest habitat is repairing itself, but that is happening with the assistance of the crews involved in the rescue, repair, and rebuilding of Big Basin state park.

The fire has brought so many changes and so many opportunities. The fire burned away combustible fuel littering the forest floor. This gives the people planning for climate change an opportunity to plan for visitors in the park while doing controlled burns so a fire this devastating doesn't happen again. Also, there are plans to purchase property at the south entrance to the park. Your donations to the Sempervirens fund could help make that happen.

I can't take you to the park, show you their regrowth, show you all the work to restore the habitat your donations have made possible.

Just remember what the Big Basin Redwoods State Park was before and what we can help make happen again.

### **Social Media Chairman, Pat Clayes**

The Facebook page continues to be updated daily with important news, reminders, club and district news, news from NGC and PRGC, plus educational content, garden quotes and fun items. Currently, the page has over 1600 followers; and, within the last 30 days, the page reached over 2500 people. Please continue to remind club members to "like" and follow the page.

### **Technology Chairman, Jane McKee**

Members: Jane McKee, Chair; Launa Gould, Mike Gould, Carol Vallens, Ben Vallens, Pat Clayes

The committee is reviewing the duties and procedures currently handled by the CGCI **Website:**

- The rebuilt/upgraded website is running smoothly
- A video "A Virtual Tour of the Website" was created and is posted on the website

Webmaster to determine how these positions might be divided and handled by one or more individuals.

The following actions have been taken:

- GTEP distribution: Renewal forms and general information are disseminated by the GTEP Chairman
- Council Thymes: The quarterly newsletter of the California Consultants Council is distributed by the Council Chairman.
- Golden Gardens eNews and WACONIAH: The CGCI and Pacific Region newsletters are distributed by the Golden Gardens Editor and staff.

The following recommendation has been sent to the Chairman of the 2021-23 Nominating Committee:

- Candidates for the office of CGCI Corresponding Secretary should
  - be proficient using various email formats including but not limited to:
    - creating "group" mailing lists in standard email service (Gmail, Outlook, AOL etc.)
    - creating and uploading lists of names
    - attaching documents

- be familiar with or able to learn how to use bulk mail services such as Mail Chimp
- be able to learn how to download data from the Salesforce database

The committee will prepare the position descriptions for CGCI Webmaster and Salesforce Administrator.

**Youth Coordinator Chairman, Lisa Cosand**

As Youth Coordinator, I am encouraging more clubs to gain recognition for their contributions to youth. Presently, there are 7 active groups and 17 donor groups of youth listed in the yearbook. I am promoting that clubs fill out the youth form to be a new/renew group. New groups can be presented at the June business meeting.

The youth contests are finished for 2021-22. There are no school garden applications this year probably due to COVID. Some California winners are being sent to Pacific Region and to National for the next layer of competition.

**Attachment D**  
**Alberta R. Thiry Estate Letter**



**California Garden Clubs, Inc.**

Official Publication – *Golden Gardens eNews*

Website: *CaliforniaGardenClubs.org*

P.O. Box 823  
San Fernando, CA 91341-0823

December 22, 2021

Ronald Ruth  
116 Lakeside Ct.  
Chapin, SC 29036-8693

Re: Alberta R. Thiry Estate

Dear Mr. Ruth and family members,

On behalf of the 15,000 plus members of California Garden Clubs, Inc., we appreciate the generous donation received in the amount of \$15,252.28 to California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI) from the estate of Alberta R. Thiry. The Board of Directors approved the following distribution at their October 2021 Fall Board Meeting:

- Establish the **Alberta R. Thiry Memorial Scholarship** in the amount of \$2,000 for seven years. CGCI is sincerely grateful for her kind and thoughtful gift that will assist in providing future scholarships to college juniors, seniors and graduate students who plan careers in botany, conservation, entomology, floriculture, forestry, horticulture, landscape architecture, plant biology and or plant genetics, urban planning or research in allied fields. Winning applicants chosen are based on scholarship, character, aptitude, ability to succeed and the financial need of the student.
- The balance of \$1,252.28 will be donated to CGCI's state project, *Anza-Borrego Desert State Park* to assist restoring the three-acre Visitor Center Desert Garden purchasing plants.

In addition, Alberta has been named posthumously to CGCI's *Golden Legacy Society*. This society recognizes individuals who include CGCI in their estate plans as well as acknowledge and express thanks for such gifts both large and small.

CGCI is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) educational organization. Please note that no goods or services were provided in exchange for the contribution. Please keep a copy of this letter as your written acknowledgment for tax purposes. CGCI's Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) is XX-XXXXXXX.

We truly appreciate Alberta remembering CGCI in her estate plans and 'thank you' for the generous contribution!

Sincerely,

California Garden Clubs, Inc.

Julie A. West  
Board of Trustees Chairman

Cc: George Perko, *Golden Legacy Society* Chairman

## **Attachment E District Director Reports**

### **Bay Ocean District Director, Nancy McDougal**

Our sixteen clubs are coping in various ways--- through meetings on Zoom, one carefully in person and a couple with restricted schedules. One bright spot was the increased outreach in the community for two groups as one held weekly plant sales to support their downtown clubhouse and another increased monthly audience at lectures via Zoom, rather than in person. Though we keep contact through newsletters, online and phone, the connection within the local gardening community built on personal exchange has been severely weakened. Just being able to share favorite plants and chat over tea and cookies has been sorely missed.

### **Diablo Foothills District Director, Mona Dunlop**

DFD Fundraising event: Saturday March 26<sup>th</sup>, Floral Fashions and luncheon. We completed a website [dfdinc.org](http://dfdinc.org)...check it out. DFD meets three times per year and our next meeting is June 23, 2022.

Most garden clubs are meeting in person at this time. They are busy planning innovating meetings, annual fundraisers, and community projects.

Linda Holmes, editor of our DFD newsletter, Round the Mountain, sends out a monthly newsletter keeping clubs informed of each club's events, plant sales and other projects.

Linda and DFD clubs have been advised to email newsletters to CGCI Pres. and E-news editor.

### **Golden Foothills District Director, Nina Blonski**

Most clubs have been busy behind the scenes on their local level. We have kept in touch by emails since internet is an issue in some areas of the foothills. We have grown by 3 clubs since my term started in 2019, Placerville Garden Club 2019, Auburn Golden Gardeners, Inc. 2021, and Orangevale Farm and Garden Club was ratified at this Winter Board meeting.

Placerville Garden Club installed a Blue Star Byway marker at the Placerville Veterans Hall.

Golden Foothills District along with Auburn Garden Club installed a Blue Star Memorial Marker in Auburn at the Forgotten Soldiers Healing Gardens. We will have our first in person district meeting February 17, 2022.

### **Humboldt District Director, Maria Krenek**

Humboldt District Garden Clubs continue to survive and in some ways thrive in Covid time and space. Each club has created adaptations that have worked for their situations and memberships. Some have maintained outdoor venues, some virtual environments and others hybrids. Only one or two have not had some minimal communication that maintained a connection and activity. Most have been able to maintain their basic functions and community services. I am very proud to report the resiliency of their purpose and activities. Most have maintained their memberships through special valentines, programs, creative workshops and one on one outreach especially to those most isolated or not virtually connected. Introspection, too, was a response in more than one club with reinventing methods, purposes, reevaluation of bylaws, committee updates, etc. They have tried harder to keep it going!

All our clubs are looking forward to their busy spring time activities such as Arbor Day, plant sales, flower shows, garden tours and gathering together. There is a great deal of hope that all will be possible this coming year even if they have to adapt once again to a new garden club world.

### **Mendo-Lake District Director, Rhea Pitchard**

Mendo-Lake District's five clubs' ZOOM meetings and newsletters kept contact with members. ZOOM meetings were also shared with members of other clubs within District. Clubs found unique ways to honor members who died last year. Ukiah installed a memorial bench in their clubhouse garden for Sandy Spencer, a member for 60 years. District dues were reduced from \$5 per member to \$2.50, \$1 of that donated to Penny Pines, raising over \$200 in Penny Pines donations. A great way to increase donations over in-person meetings.

### **Palms to Pines District Director, Ron Lang**

A few of our clubs have met in person or by Zoom.

Riverside/San Bernardino Counties Orchid Society hosted an American Orchid Society Orchid Show at the Morongo Valley Orchid Festival in Landers, CA, in October. The Orchid Society also taught two classes on floral design using orchids at this event. One thousand dollars for a Scholarship was donated to the Cal. Poly University to the Ornamental Horticulture studies section.

We welcome two new club Presidents: Barbra Dawson for the Inland Empire Master Gardeners Garden Club, and Julie Roy for the Idyllwild Garden Club.

Two clubs are planning Garden tours for this Spring Idyllwild Garden Club and Riverside Community Flower Show Committee Inc.

### **Sacramento River Valley District Director, Debbie Doherty**

This has been another Challenging year. We have lost numerous members from the virus and dropping out for other reasons.

Our Folsom garden club started having zoom meetings quickly after the shutdowns. They started with zoom meetings and progressed to craft classes distancing and plant sales. Even had a garden tour but much smaller than before. They are almost back to their pre virus members numbers. It seems the clubs that stayed in touch did the best. Our Clarksburg Garden Club had 18 members and today they have 30. They kept up with each other and had outdoor meetings. They have a whole new attitude and are working to plan a bright future with the club. So this last year we have had a few in person meetings and as the shifts in shut downs happened we had zoom meetings. Our members are slowly coming back and new ones are filtering in. We have learned a lot from the shut downs and we are all making changes to our daily lives and our garden clubs seem even more important to each and every member.

I believe slowly all our clubs will be back with new and hopefully old members returning. Our future is a BRIGHT one!

### **Yosemite Gateway District Director, Mary Brooks**

Atwater Garden Club – Planning for their Fall Garden Tour

LeGrand Garden Club – Planning for their Spring Garden Tour

Merced Garden Club – Planning for their Spring Garden Tour

All three clubs will be awarding scholarships in June with the approximate amount of \$10,000.00 for the District Clubs.

Fund Name	Balance on 6/30/2021	Revenue	Disbursements
<b>Net Assets w/o Donor Restrictions</b>			
Blue Star Memorial (31001)	\$3,588.43	Donations	Grants available to assist purchasing a Blue Star Memorial Marker: \$100 Byway or \$350 Large Up to \$1200 @ \$200 each to refurbish markers (1/2003.) Chairman expenses in excess of CGCI Budgeted \$50.00 with approval of EC
Educational Schools (31002) incl. ES, FSS, GS & LDS	\$5,099.66	Combine various school funds +	Grants of up to \$250.00 for FSS, LDS, GSS, and ESS schools, refreshers and conferences. If school is profitable, grants may be returned to the fund. FSS would exclude course #1 - see Helen Minor Fund (until depleted). FSS, LDS, GSS & ESS Chairman expenses in excess of CGCI Budgeted \$50 w/approval of EC
Honor Book (31007) (6/1999 includes Gold/Green Funds)	\$6,200.67	Donations	CGCI objectives with approval of board of directors. Chairman expenses in excess of CGCI Budgeted \$50 w/approval of EC. Smokey Bear Poster Contest Awards (\$125); Redwood tree honoring CGCI Presidents in office during decade every ten (10) years.
Liability Insurance (31009)	\$68,629.11	Club Premiums Dividends (if any)	Pay Feb 15 Ins premium for clubs and APS. <b>ALL Chairman expenses.</b> D&O insurance premiums to be paid from Gen'l Fund & budgeted annually. Deposit Dividends, if any.
Symposium (31011-1)	\$14,208.78	Proceeds from Symposia	Chairman Expenses in excess of CGCI Budgeted \$50 w/approval of EC \$500 be allocated to each Symposium to defray expenses.
Checking (31011-2)	\$3,500.00		CGCI Operating account for Symposium
Wildflower Conference (31012-1)	\$16,726.93	Conference Proceeds	\$350 C-7 Award. Wildflower Project. Chairmans expenses in excess of CGCI Budgeted \$50 w/approval of EC. Net proceeds from Wildflower Conferences
Checking (31012-2)	\$0.00		CGCI Special Events Operating Account
Youth Fund (31013)	\$1,442.48	Donations	\$100 Youth Leader of Year Award. Combined Jr. Gardeners Fund (\$1000 bequest 5/1987, Adeline Walker estate), 2004 Youth Conference proceeds, and Youth Gardener Grants (\$2500 from NGC 2000 Convention).
CGCI Endowment Line Code (31016)	\$40,000.00	\$30,000 \$10,000	from General Fund approved by BOD 02/2011 from closing of Golden Gardens Operating Account. Approved by BOD 06/2015
State Projects Line Code (31017)	\$8,000.00	\$8000 from NGC 2000 Conv	For special needs of new and/or continuing CGCI state projects (excluding President's Projects) Proposal to be reviewed by BOT with recommendation for approval to EC & approval by BOD
Scholarship Endowment Line Code (31025)	\$15,000.00	\$10,000 \$5,000	from General Fund approved by BOD 5/1990 from NGC 2000 convention net proceeds
Alberta Thiry Memorial NEW Scholarship (31026)		Estate Bequest	\$2,000 annual scholarship for seven years in memory of Alberta R. Thiry = \$14,000. Balance of \$1,252.28 to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Project. \$15,252.28 Total Bequest Received.
<b>Total Net Assets w/o Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>\$182,396.06</b>		

Fund Name		Balance on 6/30/2021	Revenue	Disbursements
<b>Net Assets</b>				
<b>w/Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>Temporary</b>			<b>(Purpose Restricted)</b>
Awards (31501)		\$3,855.51	Donations	Cash Awards
Eleanor Miller (31503) (6/2004)		\$3,250.00	\$5000 from Estate	Grant up to \$500 for course one in LDS or GSS. Budget for course one must accompany request to CGCI Educational Schools Finances Chairman.
Helen Minor (31504) (5/1998)		\$3,713.65	\$5000 memorial from Velma Cory	Grant up to \$500 for FSS course one. Budget must accompany request to CGCI Educational Schools Finances Chairman.
CGCI Judges (31509) Council		\$892.33	Council Dues	CGCI Judges Council expenses
President's Projects 2019-21 (31511E)		\$11,403.78	Donations	Plant America: Plant Parks. San Bruno Mtn Botanical Garden restoration
<b>2021-23 (31511F)</b>	<b>NEW</b>	<b>\$675.00</b>		<b>San Diego's River Center at Grant Park</b>
Scholarships (31513) Donatons/Life Mbrs		\$5,311.47	LM Fee's & Donations	Scholarship donations and Life Membership Fees to pay annual scholarships awarded
Endowment Publicity Line Code (31514)		\$629.55	Donations	Used for marketing and publicity of both Endowment Funds
Anza-Borrego DSP Line Code (31516)		\$6.49	Donations	State project approved June 2012 by BOD to raise \$15,000 for irrigation replacement & plants Disbursed to ABDSP Foundation annually in June
Scholarship Endowmen Income (31517)		\$41,421.77	Dividends	Vanguard Scholarship Endowment Dividend/Interest Income
Sempervirens Fund Line Code (31518)		\$1,634.09	Donations	CGCI State Project since 1973 on behalf of Big Basin Redwoods State Park, Santa Cruz, CA Disbursed to Sempervirens Fund annually in June
California Consultants Council (31519)		\$6,004.43	Dues/Events	Combined Gardening & Landscape Councils into one Council for all consultants including Environmental Consultants 6-7-2013
<b>Black Point Historic Gardens (31523)</b>	<b>NEW</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>Donations</b>	<b>Five-year state project with GGNPC to assist restoring Black Point Historic Gardens in San Francisco. Disbursed January &amp; June to Golden Gate Nat'l Park Conservancy. 2021-26</b>
<b>Conejo Valley Botanic Garden (31524)</b>	<b>NEW</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>Donations</b>	<b>Five-year state project with CVBG for overall maintenance and development of newly acquired area for five Mediterranean climates in world. Disbursed January &amp; June to CVBG. 2021-26</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>				
<b>w/Donor Restrictions</b>	<b>Temporary</b>	<b>\$78,798.07</b>		



Fund Name		Balance on 6/30/2021	Revenue	Disbursements
<b>CLOSED RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>				
<b>Net Assets w/o Donor Restrictions</b>				
Golden Gardens	L/C 31006	0.00	Balance	Closed Operating account for Golden Gardens Publication - last issue was Spring 2013. \$10,000 to Permanently Restricted CGCI Endowment Fund & balance of \$9,483.98 to Board Designated Scholarship from GG (line code 31015). Approved by BOD June 2015.
Rattlesnake Canyon	L/C 31014	0.00	Donations	Money moved back into Reforestation Fund Line Code 31010. Approved by BOD June 2015.
Reforestation (31010)	L/C 31010	\$7,120.09	Donations	\$5700 paid to Cleveland Nat'l Forest May 2009 - disbursed in \$5000 minimum amounts upon approval of Bd of Dir. \$500 paid Nov 2016 to Sempervirens Fund for CGCI sign repair \$6500 paid to Sequoia Nat'l Forest Sept 2018. Moratorium on new donations. Closed 6/30/19.
Scholarship from GG	L/C 31015	0.00	Golden Gardens transfer	GG operating account closed & transferred to use for CGCI Scholarships approved by BOD. Closed 7-1-2017
<b>Total Net Assets w/Donor Restrictions - Temporary</b>				<b>(Purpose Restricted)</b>
President's Projects			Donations	
2011-13	L/C 31511A	Closed 6/30/14		Signage at Sonoma State University's Native Plant Garden
2013-15	L/C 31511B	Closed 6/30/15		Habitat for Humanity \$250 Landscaping Grants
2015-17	L/C 31511C	Closed 6/30/17		Encouraging Future Gardeners Kits
2017-19	L/C 31522D	\$11,868.50	Closed 6/30/2019	Scholarships L/C 31513/Scholarship Endowment Fund L/C 31811 split 50/50. Closed 6/30/19 \$5,934.25 to be transferred to L/C 31513 & L/C 31811 each.
Project Mission Blue Line Code (31512)		\$0.00	Donations	5 year State Project May 2011 - May 2016 with GGNPC. Phase II May 2016-May 2021 Disbursed January & June to Golden Gate National Park Conservancy. Closed 6-30-2021
Rare Plant Treasure Hunt (31521)	Temporarily Restricted	0.00	Donations	5 year CGCI State Project June 2014 - June 2019 with California Native Plant Society Disbursed January & June to CNPS. Closed 6/30/2019.
Stagecoach Hill Azalea Project (31522)		\$4,016.61	Donations	Two-year state project May 2016 - December 2018 with Redwood Park Conservancy to raise \$6,000 for propagation of native azaleas. Disbursed January & June to RPC. Closed 6/30/19. Balance transferred to Wildflower Reserve Fund L/C 31012-1.