

# Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

March 2022 Vol. 9-14

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**National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**

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cgcpresident@cagardenclubs.org  
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**Golden Gardens eNews**

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**Award Winning—Golden Gardens eNews**

- Published monthly
- Distributed electronically FREE
- To subscribe or view past issues:  
[californiagardenclubs.com/cgcnewsletters](http://californiagardenclubs.com/cgcnewsletters)
- **Submit articles by 20th of month.**
- Distributed during first week of month.



I hope everyone felt loved and appreciated on Valentine’s Day!

Thank you so much to everyone who attended Winter Board via Zoom. We were able to get all the business of the state done as well as to be entertained and educated by the fabulous designers arranged by Palomar District’s Design Forum. I loved getting to stay for the District Director and Chairman’s meetings; what an incredible group of dedicated, enthusiastic, knowledgeable members you are! Everyone in CGCI recognizes how hard you are working and what amazing things are happening in clubs and districts around the state. I am looking forward to hearing your reports at convention and to seeing you there in the flesh!



I enjoyed my visit to the San Fernando District’s Zoom meeting on Valentine’s Day. Hearing the highlights of what was happening in their clubs was inspirational. The next day I was able to join the Zoom meeting of the Southern California Garden Club for an in-depth look at that busy club. I attended in person the Palomar District meeting who had a wonderful speaker on the garden at Abraxas Continuation High School in Poway. They teach the students not only about how to plant, harvest, eat healthy meals (they have a cooking component too) but also about construction, aquaponics, climate change, fertilizers, fund-raising (they sell their homemade salsa from their garden produce), etc. They grow so much food that they provide thousands of meals for needy families.

I hope this will inspire you to see if your own school district might be willing to do something similar. Google Abraxas Garden for more information.

I have some exciting news to share about my President’s Project. Hank Vanderhorst has turned his wonderful talents to carpentry and is making a bench which converts to a table for anyone who contributes \$300 to the President’s Project. You can see this invention on the website (coming soon) in the big budget movie produced by the Robin Pokorski Studio. Thank you so much Hank!!!

I love this quote which was on a card sent to me by a charity last week, *Happiness blooms where seeds of love and joy are planted.*

Happy St. Patrick’s Day!

I hope you are all planning a great day on the 17th; as gardeners, the whole green theme seems especially appropriate!



Lynne

**CGCI Calendar**

[californiagardenclubs.com/calendar](http://californiagardenclubs.com/calendar)

- **March 12-13, 2022**  
**Landscape Design Course 4**  
 Valley Lode District  
 Chairman: Bernie Hendrix  
 209-402-2351  
[schoolsvld@gmail.com](mailto:schoolsvld@gmail.com)

- **April 8-10, 2022**  
**Flower Show School**  
 Modesto  
 Contact: Judi Picinini  
 209 599 6821

- **June 6-10, 2022**  
**CGCI Convention**  
 Handlery Hotel, San Diego  
 Chairman: Sharon Tooley

- **July 18,19, 2022**  
**Flower Show Symposium**  
 San Deigo  
 Contact: Emily Troxell:  
[etroxell@sdsu.edu](mailto:etroxell@sdsu.edu)

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**CGCI Schools Chairmen**

**Environmental:** Nancy Compton  
[ncompton43@att.com](mailto:ncompton43@att.com)

**Flower Show:** Sandra Graff  
[sandgrf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sandgrf@sbcglobal.net)

**Gardening:** Greg Pokorski  
[gregpokorski@earthlink.net](mailto:gregpokorski@earthlink.net)

**Landscape Design:** Alexis Slafer  
[aslafer@ca.rr.com](mailto:aslafer@ca.rr.com)

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**Promotional Materials**



- Banners
- Bookmarks\*
- Rack Cards\*
- Pamphlets\*

\* Free materials  
Online request forms

**2021 – 2023 President’s Project**  
**San Diego’s River Center at Grant Park**

*by Robin Pokorski, Chairman*

A big **THANK YOU** to those who have supported the President’s Project.

We have raised over **\$10,000**. We can be proud of the footprint CGCI is making at the River Center through your generosity.

**WOW!!!** The big budget movie “Is it Table or a Bench” (shown at the virtual Winter Board Meeting) has garnered four donations and we thank every individual, club and district for your generous donations!! If you want to show the big budget movie to your club or district, I am in charge of the distribution rights and I know the “talent” would love the movie to be more widely distributed. I hate to let the cat out of the bag but..... there is Oscar buzz so I encourage you to dash to your computers to order a Table/Bench through me (or send Gail Vanderhorst to Acting School in case Gail’s career takes off!).

**Generous Donors:**

- Desert Rose GC of California City**
- Hesperia GC**
- Paradise GC**
- Red Bluff GC**
- Roseville Better Gardens Club**
- Sacramento River Valley District**
- San Fernando Valley District**
- Southern California GC**

**Table/Bench Donors:**

- Lisa Cosand**
- Rosemary Ecker**
- Martha Smyser**
- Anonymous**

**Acting Lessons for Gail Vanderhorst: Alexis Slafer**

**Thank you for making a positive difference in the lives of others, our community, and our state!**

**Gardening School Opportunities**

*by Greg Pokorski, CGCI Gardening Schools Chairman*

There are still no California Gardening Schools on the horizon, but there is an open invitation to clubs and districts to sponsor the four-course school. Contact this chairman for information.

However, three Zoom Gardening School courses are coming up: April 5-6 – Course 2 offered by NGC; April 7-9 – Course 4 offered by Massachusetts; August 22-23 – Course 3 offered by Missouri. These courses are open to anyone who is interested in the educational information provided. Those interested in becoming an NGC Gardening Consultant could take these three courses and a Course 1 as it becomes available and become a Consultant in a fairly short time span. Courses may be taken in any order. California has 49 Gardening Consultants and 15 Master Gardening Consultants who need to take a course for refresher credit at least every five years. They may take any one of these Zoom courses for refresher credit (refresher credit can only be granted once per calendar year). Please advise this chairman if you plan to attend one of these courses (to insure that you receive proper credit) or if you have questions about this valuable educational program.

**CGCI Programs & Projects**

Go to [californiagardenclubs.com](http://californiagardenclubs.com)  
for details

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- **Membership**

**Chairman: Marlene Kinney**  
315 Windmill Canyon Place  
Clayton, CA 94517-1904

- **Insurance**

**Chairman: Shane Looper**  
213 Carmelo Lane  
South San Francisco 94080-204

- **Group Tax Exemption Program**

**Chairman: Sue Bennett**  
7560 Shelborne Drive  
Granite Bay 95746-8617  
[gtep@californiagardenclubs.org](mailto:gtep@californiagardenclubs.org)

- **Penny Pines**

**Chairman: Nina Blonski**  
Checks to US Forest Service  
Online form [Penny Pines](#)

- **President's Project 2021-2023**

**Chairman: Robin Pokorski**  
[President's Project](#)

- **Scholarship Applications**

**Chairman: Martha Smyser**  
[CGCI Scholarship Fund](#)

- **Black Point Garden**

**Chairman: Shane Looper**  
213 Carmelo Lane  
South San Francisco 94080-204  
[Black Point Garden](#)

- **Donations** to the following projects can be made online or mailed to:

California Garden Clubs  
P.O. Box 823

San Fernando, CA 91341-0823

[Anza-Borrego Desert State Park](#)

[Blue Star & Gold Star Memorials](#)

[CGCI Endowment Funds](#)

[CGCI Scholarship Fund](#)

[Conejo Valley Botanic Garden](#)

[Sempervirens/Big Basin Funds](#)

**Flower season is all year – but mostly in the spring**

*by Emily Troxell, Flower Show Awards and Symposia Chairman*

If your club is sponsoring a Flower Show this year, it is time to consider having the show evaluated! It is an easy process. Select your judges, prepare your Flower Show Schedule and register it with CGCI. [Flower Show Registration](#).

**Flower Show Symposium 2022**

Flower Show Judges: The 2022 Symposium is going to be held on July 18 and 19, 2022, located in San Diego at Point Loma Nazarene University. Gina Jogan will demystify Multi-Rhythmic and Transparency designs. David Robson will take a close look at fruits and vegetables, as well as Pelargoniums.

For registration information, contact: Emily Troxell [etroxell@sdsu.edu](mailto:etroxell@sdsu.edu)

 **Flower Show School**

*by Judi Picinini*

Do you love flower shows?

Have you considered becoming a flower show judge?

Come and start your judging experience at Flower Show School Course 1 in Modesto on April 8-10, 2022. The CGCI website has the flower show registration form. <https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/calendar/>

Contact: Judi Picinini at 209-599-6821 or 209-480-6822.

**Send Me Your Junk.....YOUR Easy-Peasy Chance to Recycle**

President Lynne needs to model at the Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle Fashion Show in April at the Pacific Region Garden Clubs' convention in Las Vegas. I had an idea.....since our President Lynne is a fashionista – let's have her model in a complete ensemble of junk mail. I need YOUR junk mail (colorful and otherwise) in the box on my front porch (set out for this purpose) or in my mail box by **April 1**.

**Your ideas are also welcome** as I want to provide a dress, belt, cape, jewelry, hat, handbag, foot coverings and corsage for our President.

Think of the half dozen wall calendars you received from your charities, send those (they all have pretty pictures), send the envelopes as well (some have gray security liners that will be a wonderful cape lining).

Robin Pokorski  
512 Newton St., San Fernando, CA 91340

**Sempervirens: Think Arbor Day**

*by Judy Unrine and Kathy Taylor de Murillo Sempervirens Co-Chairmen*

With climate change, forest fires, and drought, California's Coastal Redwoods are in need of your protection. What better way to honor the majestic beauties than Arbor Day. All donations to Sempervirens marked Arbor Day will be used to purchase a Coastal Redwood tree in Big Basin Redwood State Park.

Thank you for your donations: **Southern California Garden Club**

**Amanda Krauss** honoring Rosa Radicchi for her years of service as co- chair.

**Jean Reilly** in memory of Maryanne Lucas.

**Lindon Garden Club** honoring Netti Pezzi.

**Awards, Honors & Recognition**

[californiagardenclubs.com/forms](http://californiagardenclubs.com/forms)

- **Awards Program**  
Chairman: Pat Clayes  
• [californiagardenclubs.com/awards](http://californiagardenclubs.com/awards)
- **Business Commendations,**
- **Long-Term Certificates, and**
- **Member Award of Distinction**  
Chairman: Judy Bates  
jlbates5900@sbcglobal.net  
Online request forms
- **California Consultants Council**  
Chairman: Sue Bennett  
Sue\_c\_bennett@att.net
- **Life Memberships**  
Chairman: Carlotta Wixon-Welker  
lifemember@cagardenclubs.org  
Online request form



**National Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**President 2021-2023**  
**Mary Warshauer**

**Theme:** "Plant America-Play Outdoors"

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**Publication:** *The National Gardener*

**Website:** [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org)



**Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Director: 2021-2022**  
**Lana Finegold**

**Email:** [lanafinegold@msn.com](mailto:lanafinegold@msn.com)

**Publication:** **WACONIAH**

**Website:**

[PacificRegionGardenClubs.org](http://PacificRegionGardenClubs.org)

Are you receiving WACONIAH, the newsletter of the Pacific Region?

If not, you can subscribe here

[californiagardenclubs.com/cgcinewsletters](http://californiagardenclubs.com/cgcinewsletters)

**Black Point Historic Gardens**

*by Shane Looper, Chairman*

Black Point Historic Gardens is well on its way to be a great project for CGCI. The gardens have been neglected since 1974, but the location of this Garden is very visible in San Francisco. The garden overlooks Aquatic Park near Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco's tourist district where approximately 12 million people visit each year. A view from this site also features the Golden Gate Bridge. This is a fabulous opportunity for CGCI to reach out to the public and show what CGCI can do to help restore the garden.

Through community engagement this garden is an ideal place to showcase a garden that encourages urban wildlife including birds, pollinators and small mammals. It is CGCI's opportunity to get involved by helping to keep the historical aspect of Black Point Gardens showcased. CGCI adopted this project at the Convention in June 2021 to help raise funds to plant plants, recreate a strolling garden, acquire garden tools and compost. In exchange, CGCI's logo will appear on plant signs in the garden and be promoted on GGNPC's social media. Local clubs are invited to participate in growing plants and/or adopting an area of the garden. Consider donating to this project to restore this very visible garden.

Total Donations collected as of 2/1/2022 - \$2,175.00.

Donations have been received from CGCI, **Carolands Garden Club, Garden Study Club of the Peninsula, Chuck Goodwin, Berni Hendrix, Elisabeth Tufo, Bradford Welles, Julie A West, and Shane Looper.**

Donation forms are on the CGCI website: [Black Point Garden](#)

**GivingTuesday**

*by Pat Clayes, Board of Trustees Member*

The Board of Trustees was very pleased with the response from our members to GivingTuesday last November. Thank you to **Sue and Bill Bennett; Al and Pat Clayes; Shane Looper; Martha Smyser; Carol Vallens; Julie and David West; and the Garden and Floral Arrangers Guild.** Grand total = \$700

This year, GivingTuesday will take place on November 29 (it's the Tuesday after Thanksgiving). Please ask your clubs and districts to consider donating on GivingTuesday to the CGCI Endowment Fund and/or the CGCI Scholarship Fund when creating their budgets for the coming year.



## Climate Awareness

*by Ward Habriel, Chairman*

As your Chair of Climate Awareness I am following all the information surrounding the implementation of CA SB 1383, which has been law for several years with partial delays of implementation and enforcement, depending on where you are, and more!

Essentially, CA has wanted us to reduce how much garbage we throw away. On the other hand, landfill operators were always happy to see more garbage come into their dump. Is there a happy medium here somewhere?

According to the experts who test our landfills; there is too much methane (a toxic) arising into our atmosphere; and we have to start controlling it! Hence, don't throw away organics into the waste stream, because they decompose.

And if not, what do we do with it ??? First check with local authorities. What are the compost options in your area? If none, consider starting your own compost pile (yes, even composting food waste).

CGCI has had information about organic composting from Paul Vander Werf, vermicomposting chairman, for many years. Why not consider those alternatives? More on this subject later.

## Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act

*by Nancy Compton, Legislation/Government Chairman*

A bill introduced in January by Congress Members John Garamendi (D-CA-03) and Mike Thompson (D-CA-05) would expand the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include an adjacent federally owned land parcel in Lake County known as Walker Ridge. This bill also renames the entire ridgeline in Lake and Colusa Counties from Walker Ridge to Condor Ridge (Molok Luyuk in the native Patwin language), befitting the area's cultural significance to Native Americans, especially those in the federally recognized Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.

Located north of Sacramento and the San Francisco Bay area, the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument offers a wealth of natural, historical, and cultural resources, recreational opportunities, and breathtaking scenic vistas.

This area is a prime example of a chaparral ecosystem, with rolling oak woodlands at lower elevations, transitioning to mixed conifers at higher elevations. Visitors to the area will view thick stands of fir, Jeffrey pine, and incense cedar, as well as old-growth forests, a game refuge, and two research areas providing high quality habitats for a variety of threatened and endangered species, including Northern spotted owls.

Springtime wildflower walks open onto fields of California poppies, lupines, and Indian paintbrush. From early spring well into the summer, colorful wildflowers paint lowland valleys and upland meadows.

Garamendi said that conserving California's special places has been a lifelong passion of his throughout his tenure in the state legislature, as well as when he served as Deputy Secretary of the Interior in the Clinton administration. He believes the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to be one of those special places.

Currently the bill is sitting in the House Sub-Committee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands awaiting discussion. As this bill aligns with the environmental responsibility clause of the CGCI mission statement and thus deserves our support, here's how we can make a tremendous difference: CGCI currently has 16,108 members, including garden clubs and associated plant societies. If each of us contacts our U.S. congressional member to encourage action on this bill, we can become a force to be reckoned with.


**Your letter or email doesn't need to be long – just to the point. Here is an example:**

"Dear Congress Member \_\_\_\_\_: As a member of the California Garden Clubs, Inc., I am committed to environmental responsibility and therefore urge your support of HB 6366. Expanded access to public lands while respecting the culture and heritage of our native peoples enriches our communities and our lives. Thank you. Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_." Often under my signature I will add something like, "A Constituent and Steward of the Land," or "A Constituent and Responsible Gardener." Make it personal. And thank you for joining in this effort to enhance our public lands.



**Nina Blonski, Chairman**  
 pennypines@cagardenclubs.org  
[Penny Pines](http://PennyPines.com)  
 2021 Total donations: \$23,732  
 2022 Year to date: \$2,856

District	Club / Donor	Honor or Memory / To Whom	Amount
Cascade	Red Bluff GC	Honor Red Bluff Garden Club Members	\$136.00
Cascade	Lake California GC		\$68.00
Desert Empire	Desert Rose GC	Honor Ann Richardson	\$68.00
Desert Empire	Oasis GC of Indian Wells Valley	Memory Russell Finke	\$68.00
Desert Empire	Oasis GC of Indian Wells Valley	Memory Tom Patterson	\$68.00
Desert Empire	Oasis GC of Indian Wells Valley	Vicki Rizzardini	\$136.00
Diablo Foothills	Livermore-Amador Valley GC	Honor Jeri Stark	Shelby Garrison, Chris Kallai \$136.00
Orange County	Naples Islands GC	Memory	Rose "Ducky" Caswell, Susan T. Beck, Nancy Merrill, Marion Beckman, Gloria Gesselman \$340.00
Palomar	La Jolla GC	Honor	Mary Mitchell, Caroline Meade, Ina Thompson \$204.00
San Fernando Valley	Southern California GC	Memory Bette Tang	Judy Doherty \$68.00
Sequoia Foothills		Memory Sally V. Sepulveda	Tim Powell \$68.00
Valley Lode	Tuolumne County GC	Honor	Saint Matthe w's Lutheran Church \$68.00
Valley Lode	Foothills GC	Honor	Ron Scofield \$68.00
Valley Lode	Escalon Farmington Community GC	Memory Dianne Yater	Eric Eugene Hammond \$68.00



### Trees and Their Kids

Trees can recognize their "children" trees.  
 They have the ability to send them more carbon below ground and also make more room for them.

### What is the name of your Club Newsletter?

Listed are more titles of newsletters the eNews has received.  
 Send your newsletter to eNews at: [goldengardens@cagardenclubs.org](mailto:goldengardens@cagardenclubs.org)  
 Make sure your newsletter includes the name of your club!

<i>The Watercan Post</i>	Paradise Garden Club
<i>Grow With Us</i>	Roseville Better Gardens Club
<i>Garden Gazette</i>	Lake Oroville Area Garden Club



### Gardeners Give Back

by Sally Belisle, Roseville Better Gardens Club Newsletter

“Grow A Row” The Petal Connection is a non-profit organization that makes and donates bouquets of flowers to hospice and senior care patients in Placer County. You can participate in their “Grow A Row” program by planting long lasting types of flowers in your home garden such as zinnias, alstroemeria, snapdragons, baby roses, statice, carnations, cosmos, and baby’s breath. As these flowers grow in a row in your garden; donate that row throughout the season.



Have fun “Growing A Row” of flowers and let’s spread some joy!