

STANDING & OTHER COMMITTEES

****Committees/Chairmanships accepting donations**

Donation Forms (checks or credit cards): <https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/forms>

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Shane Looper

This Council meets at the call of the Chairman to discuss policies and procedures. It is composed of former Presidents and represents many years of experience and service to the organization.

AWARDS

Pat Clayes

This committee governs all aspects of the CGCI awards program.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Julie A. West

The six members of this Board each serve six-year terms. The immediate Past President may opt to become a member and one member is appointed by the President each term in an even-numbered year. The Chairman, elected by the Trustees, serves on the Budget & Finance Committee. The Board's duties are listed in the Bylaws, Article XIV. This Board constitutes the Endowment Funds Committee; with the Scholarship Chairman the Scholarship Committee; and with the Golden Legacy Society Chairman the Golden Legacy Society Committee.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Rita Desilets

This committee, comprised of the Financial Secretary as Chairman, First Vice-President/President-Elect, Treasurer, Board of Trustees Chairman, GTEP Chairman and up to three persons appointed by the President, compiles the annual budget. The budget states estimated income and expenses of the organization for a one-year period. Budgeted expenses are paid upon presentation of an itemized Request for Payment Reimbursement Form, receipts attached to the Financial Secretary. Expenditures in excess of \$25 over budget must be recommended by this Committee or Executive Committee before approval by the Board of Directors.

BYLAWS AND POLICY

Adele Kelly

This committee reviews and recommends bylaw, standing rule and policy changes. Suggestions for changes should be sent to this chairman before November.

****ENDOWMENT FUNDS**

Julie A. West

The Board of Directors has established two endowment funds: CGCI Scholarship Endowment Fund and CGCI Endowment Fund; the Board of Trustees serves as the Endowment Fund Committee with responsibility and authority to administer and manage both assets under general guidelines established by the Board of Directors. Donations are welcomed and appreciated from individuals, clubs, businesses, etc.; they may be designated for deposit in a single fund or split between the two funds. The Endowment Secretary shall send acknowledgment letters to donors in accordance with IRS guidelines for all donations received. Questions should be directed to the Endowment Funds Chairman.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS PROMOTIONS

Carol Jauregui

Responsible for devising events which will raise money for the Funds.

NOMINATING

Pat Clayes

See Bylaws, Article VI, Sec. 2. This committee is charged with obtaining the best qualified candidate for each executive office of CGCI and should recommend the individuals it considers the most competent. Written recommendations for qualified candidates are invited and should be sent to these Chairmen, or other committee member, for consideration before January 1 of an odd-numbered year; for eligibility requirements see By-laws, Article VI, Section 1b.

PROCEDURES

Carol Vallens

This committee will formulate a generic procedure form for use by all chairmen and committee chairmen. They will monitor these forms once completed to ensure they are kept updated. They will also compile new procedure books for conventions and board meetings.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

George Speer

This committee will investigate the future of CGCI and how best to deal with the opportunities, challenges, and trends of membership, leadership, management, financials, and technology areas.

THE CHAIRMANSHIPS

AMENITIES AND PROTOCOL

Millie Benson & Kathy Taylor de Murillo

Amenities are necessary courtesies and civilities. Protocol is the code of correct formal procedure. These Chairmen ensure that both are observed, are responsible for seating arrangements at meetings and banquets and the sequence of persons in a receiving line.

**ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK

Nancy Lee Loesch

With 600,000 acres Anza-Borrego is the largest state park in California, occupying eastern San Diego County and parts of Imperial and River- side Counties. In 2012 a project to restore the three-acre Visitor Center Desert Garden was approved. \$15,000 has been guaranteed for the project, monies to come from member clubs, districts, and individuals. Tax deductible donations will be used to purchase plants and replace the irrigation system.

ARBOR DAY

Chuck Goodwin

Arbor Day has been observed since 1872. This Chairman promotes the planting of trees in celebration of California Arbor Day (March 7, commemorating Luther Burbank's birthday) and National Arbor Day (last Friday in April); provides information about Arbor Day and can suggest special ceremonies for the occasion.

ARBORETA, BOTANIC & MEMORIAL GARDENS

Sherry Molinari

Arboreta or botanical gardens are educational and/or scientific institutions having a collection of labeled growing plants, arranged systematically, with trained personnel to fulfill their purposes and objectives. This Chairman maintains an up-to-date list, at the website, of California gardens, public and private, open for viewing. Inform this Chairman about new gardens, corrections, etc.

ASSOCIATE PLANT SOCIETIES (APS)

Marlene Kinney

This chairman will liaise with the APSs.

AWARDS

Pat Clayes

CGCI, PRGC and NGC awards are given in recognition of outstanding accomplishments, meritorious achievements, creativity, and ingenuity in the fields of activity within the organization. Descriptions of awards and application procedures may be found on <https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/awards>. The committee is responsible for administering the program. Any changes to, or discontinuation of, current awards and introduction of new awards will be determined by the committee after consultation with the sponsor.

AWARDS COMMITTEE:

CERTIFICATES	Judy Bates
FLOWER SHOW AWARDS	Emily Troxell
SPONSORS FINANCES	Monica Lewis
POSTER CONTEST	Charlotte Tucker
YOUTH AWARDS	Lisa Cosand

BACKYARD WILDLIFE HABITAT

Carolyn Villi

This Chairman encourages the creation of natural spaces in home gar- dens which provide food, water, cover, a place for wildlife to thrive and raise their young. By incorporating sustainable gardening practices that promote wildlife habitats, gardeners are also providing more environmentally friendly backyard spaces for themselves and their families. It is to partner with the National Wildlife Federation to achieve mutual goals.

BANNER ORDERS

Mike Gould

This Chairman processes orders for CGCI visibility banners. The banner will be shipped directly from the manufacturer to the purchasing club or district. Directions for assembling the stand are available.

**BLACK POINT HISTORIC GARDENS

Shane Looper

An area of just under one acre on a terraced hillside overlooking Aquatic Park in the heart of San Francisco's tourist district. The gardens face east behind the Generals House at Fort Mason. After some residential building in the 1850's (one a cottage owned by John C. Fremont and his wife Jessie, who created a strolling garden across the hillside), the military took over the area in 1882 maintaining the landscaping and stabilizing the sand dunes with vegetation. The gardens, long neglected, were abandoned in 1972. CGCI is partnered with the Golden Gate National Park Conservancy (GGNPC) for a 5-year fund-raising project for restoration of the gardens, with a goal of \$10,000.

****BLUE STAR & GOLD STAR FAMILIES MEMORIAL MARKERS**

Co-Chairman Southern California
Co-Chairman Northern California

George Unrine
Shirley Lipa

- The Blue Star Memorial Markers program honors those who have served, are serving or will serve in the Armed Forces. The Blue Star became an icon in World War II and was seen on banners in homes and businesses of those with sons and daughters away at war, a gold star indicated a family member had lost their life. In 1944 New Jersey Council of Garden Clubs planted 8,000 Dogwood trees along five and a half miles of US Highway 22 as a living memorial to veterans of World War II. In 1945 National Garden Clubs, (then the National Council of State Garden Clubs), adopted the program. A Blue Star Highway system was designated by the US congress, consisting of one east-west and seven north-south highways, covering each state in the continental US; many more highways are now designated and include Alaska and Hawaii.
- There are three types of Memorial Markers. The original, large Blue Star Highway Memorial Markers are placed only on dedicated highways. A second large Memorial Marker, less the word "highway," was approved in 1996 for dedication at National Cemeteries, V.A. medical facilities, veterans' homes, and veterans' cemeteries. The Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker, approved in 1994, is for placement in parks, historic sites, and civic areas. A complete list of Blue Star Markers in California and their locations may be found at the website.
- Contact these chairmen for assistance in the purchase and dedication of all Memorial Markers. Blue Star dedications are eligible for award #2. Clubs and districts are urged to contribute to the Blue Star Memorial Fund, which provides financial assistance to groups wishing to purchase and/or refurbish Memorials.
- **GOLD STAR FAMILIES** is a non-profit organization created to provide support to families who have lost a loved one serving in the Armed Forces. Only Gold Star Families Memorial Markers and By-Way Markers are approved; CGCI does not provide financial assistance for these. Contact the chairmen for information.

BOARD MEETINGS/CONVENTIONS

COORDINATOR
COORDINATOR

Lynne Batchelor (2021-2023)
Carol Vallens (2023-2025)

All districts are encouraged to take their turn hosting conventions and board meetings. After voted approval by the district membership, (Bylaws, Article IX, Sections. 2 & 5), submit offers to host meetings to the coordinator who will provide meeting procedures.

HOTEL CONTRACTS Robin Pokorski (2021-2023)

Reviews the final contracts before they are signed to ensure they are complete, accurate and favorable in terms to CGCI.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE Sharon Tooley

REGISTRAR Robin Pokorski

Official registrar for this term

TIMEKEEPER Linda Malone

Times oral reports given at business meetings. Those reporting should inform this chairman if extra time has been granted.

BUSINESS COMMENDATIONS & DISCOUNTS

Judy Bates

CGCI helps clubs honor businesses that support their activities and objectives. A certificate and letter of thanks are available for businesses that are nominated and approved. Applications available at the website.

CALENDAR, OFFICIAL

Millie Benson

This Chairman maintains the official calendar of all CGCI events and activities and will present the dates of meetings, schools, symposia, etc. for ratification. Always check the website calendar for current listings of events and clear any dates through this chairman to eliminate conflict and facilitate scheduling.

CALIFORNIA CONSULTANTS COUNCIL (CCC)

Sue Bennett

This Chairman presides over the CCC, appoints chairmen as is necessary to conduct business and is an ex-officio member of each of the three consultant disciplines environmental, gardening and landscape design. An eNewsletter, Council Thymes, is published three times annually, to subscribe go to the website and select California Consultants Council and complete the posted form. Dues for 2021-2023 are \$20, submit with a Dues form, available at the CCC page on the website.

COUNCIL VICE-CHAIRMEN:

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS	Cynthia Jackson
GARDENING CONSULTANTS	Launa Gould
LANDSCAPE DESIGN CONSULTANTS	Carolyn Villi

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

Art Loesch

Members will be appraised of any changes in condition to California State Parks previously supported financially by CGCI.

CERTIFICATES

Judy Bates

Clubs wishing to honor members who have given twenty (20) years or more service to NGC garden club(s) may request a Long-Service Certificate; submit name of recipient, number of years served and date of presentation (allowing four weeks for delivery). Clubs wishing to honor members with fewer years of service may download a special certificate from the website. For custom certificates in recognition of specific accomplishments, achievements etc. contact this chairman

CHAIRMEN COORDINATOR

Adele Kelly

The Coordinator facilitates communication between chairmen, district directors and the Executive Committee. Conducts Chairmen's Forums held at board meetings and conventions; and addresses concerns/needs of chairmen. Suggestions for topics of discussion at the Forum are welcome. Chairmen will be requested to showcase their chairmanships at least once during this term with an exhibit at a CGCI meeting. An exhibit will take the place of an oral report.

CLIMATE AWARENESS

Ward Habriel

Climate indicators will be monitored for important changes.

COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION

Chuck Goodwin

Individuals, clubs, and districts are all involved in projects that beautify their communities. This Chairman will help share these good ideas with members in other parts of the state. The Awards Program has six Civic Beautification awards to recognize the efforts of individuals, clubs, or districts.

****CONEJO VALLEY BOTANIC GARDEN PROJECT**

Beverly Brune

The Conejo Valley Botanic Garden (CVBG) has leased the hillside and creek area on Conejo Community Center property in Thousand Oaks since 1973. The Kids' Adventure Garden includes a treehouse, tea party area and bird aviary and acquaints children with nature. A three-quarter mile nature trail meanders above the creek through oaks and willows. The objectives of this project are to improve and maintain plantings of trees and plants native to California and other Mediterranean climate zones, with an emphasis on low water usage. Entrance is free. Donations are appreciated and used for maintenance, irrigation, plants, trees, and signage.

DISTRICT DIRECTOR COORDINATOR

Carol Vallens

The Coordinator facilitates communication between the directors, chairmen and the Executive Committee. Will answer questions concerning CGCI programs and guide directors to the proper CGCI officer or chairman for help when necessary; conducts the Directors Forums held at Board Meetings and the Convention; stimulates networking between directors; and addresses the concerns and needs of the directors. Suggestions for topics of discussion at the Forum are welcome.

DONATION COORDINATOR

Robin Pokorski

Mail donations to: CGCI, P.O. Box 823, San Fernando, CA 91341-0823 with the relevant form obtained from the website. Applicable chairmen are notified of such donations and will send appropriate acknowledgements.

EDUCATIONAL SCHOOLS FINANCE

Joelle Holford

Groups wishing to sponsor one of the four NGC schools may apply to this Chairman for a grant. Go to <https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/membereducation> for instructions.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOLS**Shane Looper**

Administers the NGC Environmental Schools, serving as liaison between the local school chairman and NGC chairman and maintain student and consultant records. The School is a series of four (4) courses which may be sponsored by CGCI, or by a club, district, etc. under the auspices of CGCI. Club members may become accredited NGC Environmental Consultants upon successfully completing all four courses. Objectives are to promote the conservation of natural resources and environmental awareness. The public is welcome to attend any course.

FINANCIAL ADVISOR**George Perko**

Advises on financial matters as required; serves as a member of the Budget & Finance Committee and as Advisor to the Board of Trustees

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS COMMITTEE**Sandra Graff**

The Flower Show Schools Committee administers the NGC Flower Show Schools Program, the Flower Show Awards Program and promotes the art of floral design.

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS

Sandra Graff

Heads the Flower Show Committee and is responsible for the FSS Program and for adherence to NGC requirements for symposia. This Committee, instructors and judges are required to comply with The Handbook for Flower Shows and the Flower Shows Manual (instructors), with any additions and corrections published in The National Gardener. A series of Flower Show Schools may be sponsored by a member club, district, judges' council or CGCI. After successful completion of four courses and after passing the handbook exam, a member may become an accredited judge.

FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

Emily Troxell

Coordinates and oversees all awards related to flower shows; registers shows and selects the evaluating judges if the sponsor wishes to enter for an award. See the Awards Manual for rules and instructions.

FLOWER SHOW JUDGES CREDENTIALS Frances Raymond

Keeps the permanent record of each accredited judge and their status, monitors renewal of good standing for schools and symposia and authorizes attendance for audit or credit. When application is made this Chairman initiates NGC certification for Life, Master, and Emeritus status.

FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULES

Lynn Macfarland

Reviews flower show schedules and offers suggestions for improvement. Sending a draft to this Chairman for review is optional, it may be reviewed locally by an accredited flower show judge. The Handbook for Flower Shows states what information is required in the schedule.

FLOWER SHOW SYMPOSIA

Emily Troxell

Coordinates an annual symposium so that judges may continue their studies on new horticultural developments and trends in design. Any club member may attend the lectures upon payment of registration, but only NGC accredited flower show judges may take symposia for credit.

JUDGES COUNCIL LIAISON

Frankie Raymond

Liaises between CGCI and Judges Councils in California; presides over combined meetings of these councils held at symposia.

GARDEN CENTER LIAISON**Robert Gordon**

This chairman will connect with a Garden Center or Retail Nursery in the vicinity of a board meeting or convention to explore the possibilities of their presenting a program, being a vendor, or the location of a tour.

GARDENING SCHOOLS**Greg Pokorski**

Administers the NGC Gardening Schools in California, serving as liaison between the local chairman and NGC chairmen and maintaining student and consultant records. The objectives of this program are to increase gardening knowledge and help gardeners become accomplished horticulturists. Garden club members may become accredited NGC Gardening Consultants upon successfully completing all four courses which may be sponsored by CGCI, or by a club, district, etc. under the auspices of CGCI. The public is welcome to attend any course.

GARDEN THERAPY**Roy Wilburn**

Garden Therapy is for physically challenged people of all ages and disabilities. There are two types: Active therapy. garden-related activity projects conducted with the participation of the physically challenged. Sedentary therapy. projects conducted for those unable to participate (visits, gifts, reading, etc.). Clubs are urged to undertake garden therapy projects. See award #14.

GOLDEN GARDENS eNews**Launa Gould**

The official electronic publication of CGCI, published monthly.

WRITERS-AT-LARGE: Nancy Compton, Cheryl Habriel, Ann Wallace

GOLDEN LEGACY SOCIETY**George Perko**

The Society is administered by this Chairman and the Board of Trustees who comprise the Golden Legacy Society Committee. A brochure will be sent upon request.

PROMOTIONS ASSISTANT Cathy van Orman

GROUP TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM (GTEP)**Sue Bennett**

This Chairman keeps the files, including initial applications and annual renewal forms, submitted by clubs and districts who wish, and who are eligible, to be members of the Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP) and coordinates the Group Tax Exemption required renewal reporting to the IRS and California FTB. This chairman is not responsible for the annual electronic information forms which clubs and districts must submit to the IRS and FTB, reports to the California Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts. nor to the California Board of Equalization.

HERBS, SPICES & EDIBLE FLOWERS**Judy Unrine**

Flowers are not often thought of as edible. This committee will explore flowers as culinary decoration and food. Recipes that explore the unusual uses of herbs and spices will also be shared.

HOME GROWN**Myrtle Findley**

This Chairman encourages the use of chemical-free, organically grown produce from one's own garden or local Farmers Markets. If buying sprays and fertilizers, ensure they contain no chemicals which will kill the precious ectomycorrhizal fungi which attach to roots and keep a plant healthy!

****HONOR BOOK****Betty Langford**

The Honor Book records memorials, contributions, and recognition of outstanding service. This Honor Book has evolved from the Green, Gold, and Copeland Fund Honor Books, all are displayed at the annual meeting. Funds are used for any CGCI objective upon approval of the board of directors; first place winners, all grades, of the Smokey Bear Youth Poster Contest; and redwood tree per decade honoring former CGCI Presidents. Honorees will receive a card and an acknowledgement card will be sent to the donor. For a memorial, name the person in whose memory the gift is made, name and address of next of kin, name and address of donor, a card will be sent to the next of kin.

HORTICULTURE**Carolyn Villi**

Horticulture is the art or science of growing, flowers, fruits, vegetables, trees, and shrubs. This Chairman encourages the primary objective of CGCI: to create, promote and further an interest in horticulture and amateur gardening and to assist clubs in their goal of helping members learn more about plants and how to grow them.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS**Alexis Slafer**

Administrates the NGC Landscape Design Schools in California, serving as liaison between the local school chairman and NGC chairmen, as well as maintaining student and consultant records. Landscape Design Schools are a series of four (4) courses, established by NGC. A garden club member may become an accredited NGC Landscape Design Consultant upon successful completion of all courses. Objectives are to promote aware- ness and understanding of the principles and theories of landscape design; site planning and landscaping; ordinances, zoning restrictions and codes developed by government agencies for good land use, planning and development. The public is welcome to attend any course.

LEGISLATION/GOVERNMENT**Nancy Compton**

This Chairman will bring major issues affecting CGCI objectives to the attention of the membership. Individual members must act on their own if pursuing an issue.

LIABILITY INSURANCE

Shane Looper

Premiums are remitted to this Chairman, who completes all transactions with the insurance agent in accordance with the state master policy. Qualified member clubs and APSs may purchase this coverage if desired. Affiliates are not eligible.

LIABILITY INSURANCE CONSULTANT Julie A. West

****LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**

Carlotta Wixon-Welker

CGCI, PRGC and NGC memberships may be purchased as an honorarium or individuals may purchase their own. Application forms are available from the website or from this Chairman. Donations support the scholarship programs in CGCI and PRGC. All life membership donations are fully tax deductible.

- CGCI Life Membership: The donation is \$100; individuals receive a certificate and a pin. Life members continue to pay dues. Make check payable to CGCI.
- PRGC Life Membership: The donation is \$75 and includes a pin. Make check payable to PRGC.
- NGC Life Membership: The donation is \$200 and entitles individuals to a lifetime subscription to the electronic newsletter The National Gardener. This contribution is divided equally between the NGC Plant America Community Grant Fund and the NGC Permanent Home and Endowment Fund. Make check payable to NGC.

MEMBER AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Judy Bates

An application form is available at the website. Remit completed form and a \$50 fee. A certificate and pin will be sent for presentation to the honoree, allow four weeks for processing.

MEMBERSHIP

Marlene Kinney

Promotes and processes new clubs, affiliates and associate plant societies. The different membership classes are described in the Bylaws (Article IV). Free membership materials may be obtained from this Chairman using the order form available at the website.

NEW CULTIVARS

Judy Powers

Horticultural information on new plant introductions and their uses, of interest to California gardeners, will be shared through educational material. This Chairman encourages the use of new cultivars for landscaping, conservation and enhancing the gardens and natural beauty of California.

PENNY PINES

Nina Blonski

The Penny Pines Conservation Program was established to aid in the reforestation program of US Forests situated in California. Clubs, districts, and individuals may participate by purchasing a Penny Pines Plantation, donations must be in the amount of \$68 for each Plantation purchased. Complete the Penny Pines Reporting Form online, make 2 copies mail one with your check, retain one for your files, then submit the form electronically to this chairman.

PERMANENT FILES

Rita Desilets

The permanent files contain the historical books and records of CGCI. These records are temporarily located at the Chairman's residence and are under the supervision and control of the President and this Chairman. Historical information is available to members upon request.

PLANT AMERICA GRANTS (NGC)

Joan Craig

This chairman is ready to assist any club needing help in applying for an NGC Plant America Community Grant.

POLLINATORS

Terry Sampson

Conservation is an objective of CGCI. Bats, bees, and birds are important pollinators needing our help use less pesticide in your garden, grow nectar rich plants, provide cover and a water source. Support local Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation who provide food and care for found and injured wild birds. This chairman will give bee programs.

POST OFFICE BOX

Robin Pokorski

The permanent mailing address is CGCI, P.O. Box 823, San Fernando, CA 91341-0823. Mail is collected on a regular basis.

****PRESIDENTS PROJECT 2021-2023**

Robin Pokorski

Gardens at the San Diego River Mission Valley Park: The 52 miles of the San Diego River, flowing from the mountains in the eastern part of San Diego County to the Pacific Ocean, is an area of cultural and environmental significance which provides places for recreation, nature discovery, flora/fauna habitat, and education. The mission of the San Diego River Foundation is to protect and enhance the natural and cultural resources of the river valley and to create a unified system of parks extending all along the river. CGCI will sponsor two gardens

at Mission Valley Park, a Sensory Garden, and an Ethnobotanic Garden.

PUBLICITY

Chuck Goodwin

Publicity utilizes all tools of communication available, i.e., radio, television, internet, publications, magazines, newspapers, newsletters, etc. Information released should be accurate, brief, neat and timely. Observe deadlines. Limit to one page. Publicity should always include the WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHY, WHERE HOW. When possible, mention NGC, Pacific Region, CGCI, district and club in press releases. This term CGCI will be promoted throughout the state by recognizing the activities of the members and clubs to increase the visibility of CGCI to the general population.

REUSE, RECYCLE, REPURPOSE

Gloria Barry

This chairman promotes the reduction of landfill waste. Encourages a functional and practical approach to creatively reuse and repurpose common household materials. Supports and educates members about state and local recycling programs.

ROSES

Linda Malone

This chairman will encourage members to grow roses in their gardens and on their patios and to exhibit them in flower shows. New plant introductions will be described.

****SCHOLARSHIPS**

Martha Smyser

CGCI scholarships are funded by the Scholarship Endowment Fund and the CGCI Scholarship/Life Members fund and are awarded to college juniors, seniors, and graduate students with noted accomplishments and/ or students who plan careers in botany, conservation, entomology, floriculture, forestry, horticulture, landscape architecture, plant biology, plant genetics, urban planning, or research in allied fields. The Scholarship Committee, this chairman and the Board of Trustees, selects the winning applicants based on scholarship, character, aptitude, ability to succeed and financial need. The number of scholarships and amount of money are determined annually. This Chairman also promotes NGC and Pacific Region scholarships for which the Scholarship Committee selects applicants to be submitted for consideration.

****SEMPERVIRENS FUND**

Judy Unrine & Kathy Taylor de Murillo

This Fund was established in 1900 to protect and preserve the Redwood Forests. In 1902 Big Basin Redwoods State Park, California's first State Park, located in the Santa Cruz Mountains, was established. Members have supported this CGCI conservation project for nearly 50 years.

****BIG BASIN RECOVERY FUND** A special fund within the Sempervirens Fund, was created to raise money for the recovery of the forest and structures, following the extensive damage done by the August 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Wildfire. In February 2021, CGCI approved \$5,000 for this new Fund. A second \$5,000 was approved in February and members were encouraged to match the amount. A third \$5,000, with a call for matching funds, was approved in May 2021 for a current total of \$25,000.

STAMPS, USED POSTAGE

Terry Sampson

Used postage stamps may be sent to this Chairman, please leave 1/8" 1/4" margin around each stamp. They will be forwarded to Postal History Foundation Inc. in Tucson, AZ. Mail to the chairman.

STATE PINS & MISCELLANEOUS SALES

Beverly Switzer & Hank Vanderhorst

These Chairmen are responsible for the inventory and sale of official pins with the CGCI emblem. Pins include Club President, Past Club President, District Director, Past District Director, and Life Member. Other items for sale include pins, charms, key chains, and books Inspirations; How to be a Blue Ribbon President, Installation Ideas Vol. III; etc. An order form is available at the website.

VERMICULTURE/VERMICOMPOSTING

Paul Vander Werf

Raising certain varieties of worms (vermiculture) to transform organic waste into a nutrient-rich soil amendment (vermicomposting). Those wishing to start a worm farm should contact this Chairman for information.

WEBSITE

Jane McKee

The Webmaster maintains the website at CaliforniaGardenClubs.com. Information covering all facets of the organization is available here. Forms, logos, *Golden Gardens eNews*, archived Board and Convention minutes, Awards manual and evaluation forms, GTEP Handbook and more. Any club, district, chairman or district director may apply for a website email address. To request a link to an existing club or district website visit the home page and select Member Benefits/email & website link.

YEARBOOK, MANUAL & ROSTER - DIRECTORY**Robin Pokorski**

The Yearbook, Manual & Roster is an official publication of CGCI and is available digitally on the website. It provides information on the organization and operation of CGCI. Complimentary copies of the printed Directory, which includes complete contact information for the Board of Directors, Club, APS and affiliate presidents, are distributed to those individuals.

YOUTH COORDINATOR**Lisa Cosand**

Oversees the CGCI Youth Garden Club program, assists senior clubs wishing to sponsor new youth clubs, presents new clubs for ratification at board meetings and conventions and is a member of the Awards Committee. Youth Projects are not supervised by the Coordinator. Clubs sponsoring them submit an annual Youth Renewal Form for the CGCI records.

SCOUTING BOYS & GIRLS**TBA****YOUTH CONTESTS SPONSORED BY NGC****SMOKEY BEAR POSTER CONTEST**

Charlotte Tucker

This Chairman promotes, coordinates, and administers the Smokey Bear (fire prevention) and Woodsy Owl (environmental) poster contest in California; state winners are forwarded for Pacific Region and NGC competition. Submit entries before January 23. See the website for complete rules, regulations, and updates before entering.

SCULPTURE CONTEST

Ron Lang

Encouraging youth to keep our planet green by practicing the three Rs: "Reusing, Recycling, Repurposing".

POETRY CONTEST

Lisa Cosand

The theme for 2021/2022 is: Sing with the Songbirds Exploring the Glories of Nature