

WACONIAH



Washington • Arizona • California • Oregon • Nevada • Idaho • Alaska • Hawaii

Vol. 50 No. 2

Director's Theme: *"One Green World"*



2021 – 2023
Pacific Region
Director
Lana Finegold

Director's Message

Dear PRGC member,

As PRGC Director, I sit on the NGC Executive Committee which allows me a front row seat at the Board of Director meetings. Terry Critchlow and I flew to St. Louis for the NGC Fall Board Meeting in September. Our original flight was to depart around noon. Our suitcases did not arrive when we reached St. Louis. So we went shopping for necessities. On the last day of the NGC meeting, our suitcases finally came to us.

Among the many programs, I learned about the landscaping for the 9-11 memorial in New York. The landscape team chose 240 liquid amber trees for the site. My liquid amber is the messiest tree in my garden with its many seed pods. But it does have gorgeous fall color. Leaves and seeds are falling already and September is nearly over. My landscaper friend said there are liquid amber (Sweet Gum) varieties that are

sterile. I sure hope the 9/11 plan used sterile trees. Blooming now in my garden are Sedum Autumn Joy and Daphne Summer Ice. And yes, I love to garden.

LANA'S BIG ADVENTURE

Up at seven, out much later, flight delayed till after four
And my bag might not go with me when I exit airplane door.
Overnight was not St. Louis, missed the meeting (scholarships)
Missed a chance to bond with others. Could not plan for future trips.
Heard the meeting was productive: Scholarships can turn the tide.
Students learn to help our world adapting skills to make us thrive.

5:15) Five fifteen and still not moving, need to land in Vegas soon
But the skies are filled with airplanes, Vegas airport has no room.
So we wait anticipating a quick flight and Vegas fun
Spirit flew us. Spirit fed us. Soon we might enjoy the sun.

5:22) We are captive at their mercy. We adjust and all stay calm.
But inside we sense some unknown. Take it easy. Remain strong.

5:28) Half past five and finally rising, in the sky we move so fast
See the sunshine, see the water, Puget sound is finally past.

The sound is flanked by Seattle. Although I live in Bellevue, a Seattle suburb, I grew up in Seattle. I am barely five feet tall now. Yes, I am shrinking so the

head rest bump in an airplane seat hits the top of my head. I used to use a neck ring behind my back or around my neck but before this flight I could not find my neck ring. We flew on four different airlines for this NGC Fall Board. I now have a new headrest I bought at the airport. Most inspirational Program was the former CEO of Seeds for Change and she is a garden club member now. She urged us to get our stories out there and fill our Facebook pages with compelling pictures. She urged us to build alliances, cultivate new friendships, have open clubs. (Yes there are clubs that you join by invitation only)

For imagery on your club's Facebook page find free pictures on Pexels.com and other sites. If you use pictures of people and want to post those pictures you took, the people need to sign the NGC release form. Carol Norquist is our PRGC Facebook page specialist. It is important to frequently change what is posted. Carol is an excellent resource for all of us and Carol will be the next Director of PRGC. She is also chairing the 2024 PRGC Convention in Anchorage Alaska. The 2025 PRGC Convention will be in Arizona.



The final evening program at NGC Fall Board was a design challenge. Four accomplished designers were given the same containers and plant material and had 30 minutes to create a design using as much or as little of the materials. We applauded their work and the moderator said that all four were winners. This is a program that could be adapted anywhere. The challenge design is in the 2017 NGC Handbook for Flower Shows. A corrected copy is available online for free. Go to the NGC website.

There are a number of people in our region who serve on the NGC Board. Our support helps to make NGC successful.

THE SAGA OF THE STRAY SUITCASES

The Spirit bird flew oh so high and took our luggage from the sky
 And somehow no one found it then we held our breath and prayed again
 And finally our things came back and we were once again on track
 So THANK the Stars and Praise the sun and JOY to ALL and Every ONE.

Thank you for all the garden club support you give and keep on learning and growing.

Yours for One Green World, Lana

Summer Fun With Kids

By Tanja Swanson, Youth Activities Chairman

I once wrote about our Street Fair projects that we do here in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

This year after two years' absence we finally were able to have fun with the kids again.



We did two "Third Thursdays" but the one in June was during our OSFGC Convention, so we didn't have enough members to participate.

Again, we made little flower arrangements in July and we made crowns in August.



This year we used a crown pattern that our member Bernie Wood suggested. She was a longtime Kindergarten teacher, so she has great ideas. The

crowns were made by members at home ahead of the event. That way even those who couldn't be there on the Third Thursday were able to participate.

The crowns are made from colorful roller craft paper. What is interesting about them is that the bottom is folded over to the front for about an inch and a half so



you can stick small flowers, even tiny bouquets, grasses, and other interesting plant materials in the fold and attach them with tape. It doesn't show under

the fold. This year we also had colorful feathers, stickers, and markers available.

The kids had a blast and some grownups too! The pictures tell it best!

Alaska Garden Clubs

By Sharron Carlson, Alaska State President

Theme: "Gardening Under the Midnight Sun"

Greetings from Alaska! Spring was very short and was escorted in with a hot and dry June. I guess that was our summer. The rain started in July and has not let up. There were a few sunny days to garden, but did not deter us from attending to our gardens. Fall is now here and winter is not far behind, with termination dust on the mountains.

The different garden clubs, Anchorage, Eagle River and Fairbanks have been busy with different community involvements. The Blue Star Markers are one of our favorite community involvements, along with sharing our harvest with the local food banks. Anchorage held their annual garden sale in early June. It is always a highlight for the Anchorage/Eagle River communities. Eagle River Garden Club held a few workshops for youth. Teaching the youth the importance of pollinators. Anchorage is busy with their community garden that provides food for the local food bank. Fairbanks shared their harvest provided with Stone Soup.

This past April I was able to attend the Pacific Region Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada and met our Pacific Region Director and many of the Pacific Region State Presidents. It was a very educational convention. I attended the National Garden Clubs (NGC) Convention in May that was held in Orlando Florida. It was nice to be able to meet in person. The flower show was amazing. I enjoyed a number of the workshops. I am looking forward to next year's National Convention.

Alaska held their State Convention in late June in Eagle River. The Greater Eagle River Garden Club did a great job hosting the convention. The convention was fun and it was educational time for me.

BUT the best part about the convention was we had the privilege of having Lana Finegold, current Pacific Region Director, join us and speak about her passion – One Green World.

Lana enjoyed the garden tours we had scheduled for the convention participants. She also visited the Rose Garden and the community garden in Anchorage. Lana toured the Eagle River Nature Center and enjoyed seeing the variety of native plants. Lana enjoyed the tram ride at Alyeska and still seeing snow in June. It was a great visit.

Here in Alaska, we have been busy enjoying gardening and playing outdoors. Now it is time to prepare for the winter and shorter days.

We look forward to Spring and attending our many gardens.

Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

By Anne Sullivan, WSFGC President

It is hard to believe that Summer has come and gone. Clubs in the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs have been busy planning for the new garden club year. We are so happy to be able to meet with each other in person again. Several of our clubs have been celebrating milestone anniversaries. Edmonds Floretum Garden Club celebrated their 100th anniversary this year. My own club, the Oak Harbor Garden Club, is preparing for our 100th anniversary next October 2023 by planting at least 5,000 daffodil bulbs this Fall and planning many activities and celebrations for Oak Harbor. We want everyone in Oak Harbor to become aware of all the club does for the community. Many of our clubs and districts participate in county fairs all over the state. It is a great way to advertise garden club activities.

Washington held a Symposium and is participating with Oregon to hold a Flower Show School. FSS I and III will be held in Oregon and II and IV will be held in Washington. We are also in the final stages of putting our State Directory, Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policy and Procedures online in the Members Only section of our website. It will allow us to update items more easily.

Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.

By Marci Brown, Nevada State President

Just returned home from the Fall Board Meeting held at the Marriott Airport Hotel located in St. Louis, Missouri. I arrived Monday, September 19 thru checkout Friday September 23, 2022. This was a very busy time. So very many meetings - thank goodness

for lunch breaks. Membership Committee meeting discussed the same circumstances we all face: low membership, aging out – it's so necessary to always talk up garden club meetings when appropriate. The Calendar Committee meeting sorted photos for publication; very interesting. Flower Show Schools: there are some changes here as well. Many Committee meetings will be on Zoom.

We visited the Headquarters in St. Louis. The grounds are just beautiful. There is an additional room for programs, which is very well appointed. Many members viewed the carpet that has each garden club named, very lovely. Needless to say many items were available for sale in the lower level.

Wednesday, we had a program after dinner. The program was about the trees planted at the 9/11 Memorial, from the growing to the transporting and final resting place for these trees.

Thursday, we had a delightful program "Green Line", presented by a young woman, who reminded us of our childhood and precious parks, etc. I'd love to share more about the Fall Board Meeting if you ask me.

Autumn on the Oregon Southcoast

By Cheryl Drumheller, Oregon State President

There are four seasons of the year. I like Autumn the best as it comes after the hot summer months and before the cooler winter temperatures. It is also the beginning of the Fall festivities that lead to Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

I am delighted in seeing the leaves turn from vibrant green to yellows, oranges, and reds or the amusing sound of them crunching under my shoes.

I love the sweet fragrance of candles, the decorative gourds, the taste of hot apple cider or hot cocoa with marshmallows, pumpkin spice lattes, squash and apple soup and the smell of wood fires. I take pleasure smelling spices like cinnamon and nutmeg which brings back precious memories of grandma's freshly baked apple and pumpkin pies and family gatherings for Thanksgiving.

My neighbor grew pumpkins and a variety of gourds. When they were ripe, he would let my friends and me pick what we wanted. As teens, my sisters and I would carve out the jack-o'-lanterns under dad's watchful eye. It was a fun activity! We saved the seeds for baking.

They were delicious! When the time came, we could hand out the Halloween candy and enjoy the trick or treaters.

It's now Autumn, and I'm enjoying watching the leaves start their color change.

Smokey Bear Historical Park

By Robyn McCarthy, Arboretums Chairman

Smokey Bear Historical Park was established in 1976 to honor Smokey, an orphaned little bear cub with burned paws, found in the aftermath of the Capitan Gap wildfire, in Capitan, New Mexico nearly three decades earlier. He became an icon for forest fire



prevention and lived in Washington, D.C.'s National Zoo for 26 years. When he passed away, the famous bear was laid to rest in his hometown of Capitan, New Mexico. His burial site is a special place in the garden in the Smokey Bear Historical Park. The museum contains original photos of Smokey's rescue and rehabilitation.

The park is a celebration of Smokey's legacy. At the very informative visitor's center, guests can view original photos and a video of Smokey's rescue and rehabilitation. Many of the exhibits are geared for elementary school age children and of course one can find adorable and memorable souvenirs in the gift shop or through the Woodland Catalog. (The Smokey Bear exhibit contributed by Woodland Catalog LLC is at the Central Idaho Historical Museum, McCall, Idaho.)

Visit the website at www.smokeybeargifts.com or call (208)882-4767.

Schools are in session and hopefully many of Idaho's youngsters will be doing Smokey Bear posters to be entered in the state contest.



Fascinating exhibits about forest health, wildfires, the science of fire ecology, and a historical look at wildfire prevention are displayed in an easy-to-understand

By Charlotte Tucker, Poster Contest Chairman

manner. A small theater features a film about how forest health and fire impact our lives today.

Smokey, in a legacy of 76 years, still has his work cut out for him. The Washington Post recently reported that, in the 1980's and 1990's, the average wildfire burned between 40 and 80 acres. This year's average fire now tops 130 acres. Nine out of 10 fires are human caused.

Dedicated in 2019, a bronze Wildland Fallen Firefighter Memorial is also appropriately placed in the garden area. It honors more than 30 wildland firefighters who have lost their lives while fighting wildfires in New Mexico. It provides a quiet place for those who wish to pay their respects and reflect on the wildland fire fighters we have lost in the line of duty. Remembered are the men and women that run into danger as others run away. We need to constantly be reminded of the sacrifice of the many brave, unselfish souls who fight the wildfires and in doing so may pay the ultimate price.



Please get started on your state's poster contest and make sure you get your five top winning posters (First Place for each of the five grades only) to me for the Pacific Region Judging by February 24th, 2022. Remember I'm always available by phone if you have questions or concerns.

Hope you have a very successful Poster Contest this year.

Charlotte Tucker
(209)533-9300
18047 Lime Kiln Road - Sonora, CA 95370

Gardening School News

By Greg Pokorski, Educational Schools Chairman

National Garden Clubs has announced that the Zoom Gardening School it is sponsoring will hold Course 3 on November 15 & 16. Because this course is being broadcast from the Eastern Time Zone (beginning at 10:00 a.m. each day) be sure to consider the correct time in your time zone. The brochure and registration form are on the NGC website - <https://www.gardenclub.org/school/gardening-school-courses> - click on the tab for Course 3.

Anyone may attend this course to obtain credit toward becoming an NGC Gardening Consultant or just to benefit from the educational material. Eligible Gardening Consultants may attend to obtain refresher credit. Please advise your State Gardening School Chairman if you enroll to ensure that you receive credit.

Course 4 is planned for 2023, hopefully in the first quarter.

Carol Norquist, the next Pacific Region Director, is looking for board members to serve on the 2023-2025 board.

Your participation is needed for the Pacific Region Garden Clubs to be an effective organization for clubs in the eight states that make up the Pacific Region Garden Clubs.

Here is a link to a form to be considered for the 2023-2025 Pacific Region Board. Also please send this link to anyone you think would enjoy and be a good board member.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1sp9vofGo0f21ggfFa4YXidcIF8DKzN1E9835y0c2hQ4>

We look forward to your participation and enthusiasm for the Pacific Region.



Blue Star Markers

By Karen Bowen, Arizona Western District Director

Photos by Karen Bowen



#1 Blue Star banners have been displayed in homes where family members are serving in the armed forces since WWI. Each blue star represents a family member who is serving. The blue star is replaced with a gold star if the family member dies in the line of duty.

#2 Pictured is a Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker honoring our armed forces. The Blue Star Memorial Program has been sponsored by National Garden Clubs since 1945. Markers are placed throughout the U.S. to create a "ribbon of living memorial plantings across America".



Saluting Our Armed Forces

Blue Star Memorial Markers honor U.S. Armed Forces

On the eleventh hour, the eleventh day, the eleventh month of 1918, World War I ended. In 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as "Armistice Day" to commemorate the end of World War I, known as the "Great War". President Eisenhower changed the name to "Veterans Day" to honor all veterans who have fought to preserve America's freedom.

Use of blue stars to honor our military began during World War I when Army Captain Robert Queissner designed a rectangular banner 9 inches wide and 14 inches long that consisted of a white field and a red border. Two blue stars in the center of the banner represented Queissner's two sons who were fighting in the war. He hung the banner in his front window where passersby could see it.

Queissner's banner caught on; and soon, other families began displaying blue star banners. By World War II, blue star banners hung in thousands of windows across America. If a family member was killed in the line of duty, the blue star was replaced with a gold star. If a family member was injured or disabled, a silver star replaced the blue star.

In 1944, New Jersey State Council of Garden Clubs voted to beautify a stretch of U.S. Highway 22 with 8,000 Dogwood trees planted in memory of American servicemen and women who had given their lives during World War I and World War II. The Legislature of New Jersey named the section of highway the "Blue Star Drive" in honor of blue star banners flown during both wars.

In 1945, the National Council of State Garden Clubs chose to adopt New Jersey's "Blue Star Drive" as a national program. The program's name was Blue Star Memorial Highway Project, and garden clubs began placing Blue Star Markers throughout America.

There are three types of Blue Star Markers. Blue Star Memorial Highway Markers are permitted along highways and highway rest areas. Blue Star Memorial Markers are permitted on the grounds of national cemeteries, Veterans Administration medical centers, and other appropriate civic locations approved by the NGC Blue Star Chairman. Blue Star Memorial By-Way Markers are permitted in parks, historical sites, and other civic locations. Landscaping surrounding each marker beautifies the area and is maintained by the sponsoring garden club.

For those wishing to honor family members serving in the military with a blue star banner, it can be ordered through the American Legion (<https://emblem.legion.org/searchprods.asp>) or by calling (888) 453-4466. Forms and information about the NGC Blue Star Memorial Program can be found at <https://gardenclub.org/blue-and-gold-star-memorials>.

The Blue Star Memorial Program is one of National Garden Clubs oldest programs and offers garden clubs an opportunity to honor our armed forces.

Plant Growth

Just like with humans, some botanists believe that plants (more specifically plant growth) are affected by listening to music.

Upcoming Schools

By Launa Gould, Webmaster

California:

· Flower Show School
Course 3 April 14-16, 2023
Course 4 September 23-25, 2023
Modesto—Contact: Judi Picinini, jpicinini@aol.com

· Environmental School
Course 1 January 14-15, 2023
Course 2 February 11-12, 2023
Course 3 February 25-26, 2023
Course 4 March 11-12, 2023
Turlock
Contact Berni Hendrix [schoolsvid@gmail.com](mailto:schoolsvld@gmail.com)

· Flower Show School Symposium
March 27-28, 2023
Embassy Suites by Hilton, San Francisco Airport

· Tri-Refresher
March 29, 2023
Embassy Suites by Hilton, San Francisco Airport

Washington

· Flower Show School 2
Mar 07 - Mar 09, 2023 Tacoma, WA
· Register: Dorothy Bertram 360-412-0143

The Fear of Flowers

Yes, there are people who suffer from a fear of flowers. The name of this phobia is Anthophobia.

Flower Show Schools

By Marva Lee Peterschick, Flower Show Schools Chairman

It is a pleasure to read about a joint venture between Washington and Oregon for starting up a series of Flower Show Schools. It has been way too long since WSFGC or an individual district in our state has offered Flower Show School to our members or anyone interested in becoming a student judge. Maybe you know of someone in your area who might be interested in attending Flower Show School but who is not a garden club member. This is ok for them to get started; they just must become a member before the end of the series.

What fun people can have when they attend a school, as they meet new people and make new friends; the student judges who attend all series in the school become even closer friends with each other. Sharing their experiences as they progress, they can be of help to each other also as they communicate before or after testing, even studying together.

In addition, if we have new student judges available, it means they will need flower shows. We must help accommodate them to make their job easier as they travel along this new highway to become NGC Accredited Judges. Let's help make their judging experience a rewarding experience for everyone. By sharing the responsibilities of a Flower Show School Series with a neighbor state, we are off to achieving our goals of having new judges available.

The fig tree we planted at the Pacific Region Convention in Las Vegas has survived the hot summer and is thriving in the cooler weather.



Pollinators

By Dave Krollen, Coos Bay Garden Club

The purpose of "Bee-Aware & Pollinator News" is to explore some of the fascinating interactions and relationships between pollinators and plants. This first article is an introduction to pollinators in general. We'll find out that among the various pollinators there are heavyweight champions and lightweights too, and why this is so.

If you stop someone on the street and ask them to name a pollinator, most people will offer up bees, hummingbirds, or butterflies. These are correct of course, but they miss some of the other pollinators, and of the initial three groups listed, only one is considered a heavyweight. Before continuing with pollinators let's step back and take a closer look at pollination.

We all know that pollination is just moving (male) pollen onto (female) stigmas in a flower – what the professionals call "plant sex". This occurs in many ways, from wind and water to various animals. Insects are by far the most important pollination route. Wind, water, and vertebrates like hummingbirds are responsible for just 15% of plant pollination, while insects are responsible for the other 85%. As much as we love our hummingbirds, their role in flower pollination is limited. In fact, vertebrates as a whole account for just 1% of pollination!

The main groups of insect pollinators are bees, wasps, beetles, butterflies, moths, and flies. Anyone that watches their flowers carefully will not be surprised that the leaders of this six-pack of insect groups are the bees. If for no other reason, we know this because of the numerous honey-bee hives we see placed next to many crop fields. Of these six groups, bees are (with a few exceptions) enormously more important for pollination than the others.

Why? It really comes down to intention. Bees are out there purposefully gathering and carrying pollen back to their nests – think of pollen as bee "baby food". The other groups are accidentally coming into contact with pollen while drinking nectar. But there is another factor that makes bees so important. Bees display a behavior known as "flower constancy". What this means is that when they are on a trip gathering pollen, they generally stick with the same plant species. This tendency is not absolute, and if you pay close attention, you may see them hit several species on a

trip. However, if there are adequate resources of one species available, they will mostly stick with one. (By the way, this is one reason why it is recommended to put pollinator plants in masses if you can.)

What is it about flower constancy that makes bees important? This takes us right back to the definition of pollination. We're moving male pollen to female stigmas. Would pollen from a lupine be of any value to the stigma of a penstemon? Of course not. Flower constancy means that bees vastly increase the chance of pollen moving to the right flower.

Until next time, let's help the pollinators keep pollinating.

Why People Aren't Buying Electric Cars

By Lori Robinson, Environmental Climate Concerns Representative

As a single woman I have had to research what kind of car I should buy. The emissions from gasoline fueled vehicle exhaust create Nitrous oxide N2O, Sulfur dioxide, and carbon monoxide that damage the ozone layer. This is one reason exhaust is creating pollution and climate change.

All electric cars have a flaw: the lithium batteries contain lead. China produces our batteries. They burn coal as fuel which damages the ozone layer and contaminates the air. The batteries need to be replaced every 5 years with an expense of \$5,000 or more. There have been reports of the vehicles catching on fire.

California now requires by law that all new vehicle sales in 2026 be electric cars, with the idea that this will reduce pollution.

In 2023 GE will have Ultium batteries for electric vehicles. In 2026 they will have close to a dozen mainstream options.

A survey discovered that charging logistics is the primary reason Americans aren't buying electric vehicles. *Consumer Reports*, which said it surveyed around 8,000 Americans, found that 61% said they wouldn't seek to own an electric vehicle because of charging logistics, while 55% cited the number of miles a vehicle can go per charge. Another 52% said the costs of buying and maintaining an electric vehicle are too high.

Another 46% of the respondents stated they have not heard of any financial incentives available for owners of electric vehicles.

"We found that 14% of American drivers say they would 'definitely' buy or lease an electric only vehicle if they were to buy a vehicle today," said *Consumer Reports*. "That's up markedly from the 4% who said the same in a 2020 nationally representative survey from CR of 3,392 licensed U.S. drivers."

According to recent figures from Kelly Blue Book, the average price of a new electric vehicle hovered at roughly \$56,000. In contrast, the average price of a new compact was about \$25,000 at about the same time. The average price of a new, nonelectric SUV was \$34,000, while the electric version was nearly \$45,000.

I will keep researching because of the high cost of gasoline and conscience to reduce pollution and cost. A hybrid like a Prius and turquoise blue is my choice at the present time.

Credit: *WestSound Home & Garden Magazine*, Sept/Oct. 2022

Paper Pulp Masks

By Brynn Tavasci, Historian

Materials:

Plastic mask mold (purchase online, Joann's, Michaels)
Scrap paper
White glue
Gesso (optional)
Water
Craft paint
Dried plant material and other decorations
Spray oil

Create paper pulp:

Tear or shred non-glossy scrap paper, soak in warm water and continue to shred. Can use a blender to speed up the process. Drain off excess water and add a little white glue and optional gesso. Knead like working bread dough. Continue to knead until it

resembles clay in substance and texture. Apply small amount of spray oil into mask mold, dab out excess. Press paper pulp into mask until about 1/8 inch thick. Allow to dry. Paper mask will begin to release from sides of mold when dry. Gently ease out of mold. Paint and decorate.



Photo 1

Hydrangea, painted eucalyptus, and beads adorn this mask.

Photo 2

Calendula was added to the paper pulp when mixed. This created a golden look to the mask. Azalea pods, moss, leaves, and straw flower create the hair on this mask.



Pacific Region Governing Documents

By Greg Pokorski, Organization Study Chairman

Governing Documents for Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. are the Bylaws, the Standing Rules and the Convention Procedures. These are posted on our website. Board members (including officers, state presidents, former region directors and all chairmen) should be familiar with all of these. Suggestions for changes (which are enacted at our annual conventions) may be sent to this chairman for consideration by the Organization Study Committee. GregPokorski@earthlink.net

Ants Hate Chalk

Have an ant problem? Get some chalk!

Ants will not cross chalk lines.

Crossing chalk lines will throw off their sense of smell and they will not be able to pick up scent trails of other ants.

PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

Washington: WAGardenClubs.com
 Arizona: AZGardenClubs.com
 California: CaliforniaGardenClubs.com
 Oregon: OregonGardenClubs.org
 Nevada: NevadaGardenClubs.org
 Idaho: GCII.org

Alaska: AlaskaGardenClubs.org

Hawaii: None

The deadline for the February 2023 issue is 12-31-22.

The 79th Annual Pacific Region Convention

April 17 - 20, 2023

Embassy Suites, Lynnwood, Washington

Going Green - Together!

Parliamentary Tidbits

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian

Bylaws are Subject to Change

Bylaws (no hyphens, no spaces) are generally the highest-ranking governing document for most organizations. They define what the organization is, what it can do and how it is structured. The story does not end with the creation and adoption of bylaws – that is only the beginning. They should be reviewed on an ongoing basis because laws change and organization practices change. If you are not doing what your bylaws say, you need to change (amend) them (in compliance with the amendment provisions in the bylaws). It is common for many state garden clubs, Pacific Region Garden Clubs and National Garden Clubs to make bylaws changes annually. Club, district and judges council bylaws should also be reviewed frequently – nonprofit association guidelines suggest at least every three to five years – or whenever the existing bylaws deviate from the objectives and practices of the organization. And one size does not fit all. Be sure that your bylaws address any unique activities, practices and structure in your organization.

Because bylaws include all of the basic provisions of an organization, reading them is one of the best ways to quickly learn everything about a group. Officers, aspiring leaders and anyone (members) who want to get anything done in an organization and participate fully should be familiar with the bylaws. Every member of an organization should have a copy of its bylaws.



Stay tuned for more details!