

# Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

January 2023 Vol. 6-15

Member:

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

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cgcpresident@cagardenclubs.org

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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.



Happy 2023!

Saluting the things that are yet to come in 2023 and the memories that we hold dear from 2022. Wishing you 12 months of success, 52 weeks of prosperity, 365 days of good health, 8,700 hours of peace, 525,600 minutes of adventure, and 31,536,000 seconds of joy.



I had a wonderful time at the Southern California Garden Club's December meeting. Thank you to Robin and Greg Pokorski for hosting my excellent deli dinner, to Gail and Hank Vanderhorst for providing a luxurious bedroom, and to Harriet Vallens and the members of the club for making me feel so welcome. I had an equally wonderful time at the Hanford Garden Club's (Sequoia Foothills District) December meeting. Jana Dudley was a fantastic hostess providing both a superb Mexican dinner and my own suite at her home. I am indebted to all the members in attendance who were so friendly. I am looking forward to attending the San Fernando Valley District's January meeting and I would love to visit your club and/or district. Since I could not travel during my first year as President due to covid restrictions, I am trying to make up for lost time by visiting lots of places in the next 5 months. Please invite me!

I hope you have marked your calendar for the Winter Board Meeting at Harrah's Resort in Valley Center on January 30-February 1. The registration form, schedule, agenda, and information on the workshops, tour and speakers are all both in The Call you received by email and on the website. See you soon!

Thank you to the many individuals and clubs who have recently contributed to my President's Project. I am so grateful for your continued contributions as I need more money to produce my initial vision for the gardens due to the inflated costs of plants brought on by covid.

NGC, CGCI, and our districts are providing multiple educational opportunities. Please check our website calendar for information. The first opportunity to broaden our horizons is Membership Monday on January 9 via Zoom. It is produced by NGC from whom you will get the link after registering.

Tis the season so I recently read the book, "The Leadership Secrets of Santa Clause". Here are the highlights to whet your appetite to consult it:

1. Build a Wonderful Workshop
2. Choose your Reindeer Wisely
3. Make a list and check it twice
4. Listen to the Elves
5. Get Beyond the Red Wagons
6. Share the Milk and Cookies
7. Find out who's Naughty and Nice
8. Be Good for Goodness Sake

"Effective Leadership to all and to all a good year!"

**Lynne**

**CGCI Calendar**

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

- **Winter Board Meeting**  
January 29-February 1, 2023  
Harrah's Resort, Valley Center  
Contact: George Speer  
[speerCGCIbrshp@aol.com](mailto:speerCGCIbrshp@aol.com)
- **CGCI Convention**  
June 5-9, 2023  
Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys  
Contact: Rita Desilets  
[4rita.desilets@gmail.com](mailto:4rita.desilets@gmail.com)
- **Flower Show School**  
Course 3 April 14-16, 2023  
Course 4 September 23-25, 2023  
Modesto—Contact: Judi Picinini,  
[jpicinini@aol.com](mailto:jpicinini@aol.com)
- **Flower Show Symposium**  
March 27-28, 2023  
South San Francisco  
Contact: Emily Troxell  
[etroxell@sdsu.edu](mailto:etroxell@sdsu.edu) 858 748 1025
- **Tri-Refresher**  
March 29, 2023  
South San Francisco  
Contact: Sue Bennett  
[sue\\_c\\_bennett@att.net](mailto:sue_c_bennett@att.net)

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**CGCI Schools Chairmen**

**Environmental:** Shane Looper  
[slooper@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slooper@sbcglobal.net)

**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)



**California Consultants Council  
of  
California Garden Clubs, Inc.**

California Consultants Council (CCC) consists of members accredited as Environmental, Gardening and Landscape Design Consultants.

Members act in an advisory capacity serving on local and state committees in addition to promoting the study of the environment, gardening, and landscape design by encouraging and promoting sponsorship and attendance at NGC Environmental Schools, Gardening Schools, Landscape Design Schools, and refreshers. The CCC also provides continuing study through lectures, workshops, conferences, and tours.

**CCC is Sponsoring the Speaker at Winter Board Lunch, Tues, January 31, 2023.**

***Native Plants and Their Uses by Southern California Tribes***

Lorene Sisquoc is the Cultural Traditions Leader and Museum Director of the Sherman Indian Museum in Riverside. She is also an instructor at a private high school. She has studied native plants and how the Southern California tribes use them. That will be her subject matter and she may have samples. She comes highly recommended by a number of Tribal members.

Hope to see you all there, *Sue Bennett*, CCC Chairman.

***Save the Date***

California Consultants Council will be hosting a Tri-Refresher

Date: March 29 with tour on March 30

Location: South San Francisco Embassy Suites

Chairman: Sue Bennett: [sue\\_c\\_bennett@att.net](mailto:sue_c_bennett@att.net)



**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 94080-2204

- Group Tax Exemption Program**

**Chairman: Sue Bennett**  
7560 Shelborne Drive  
Granite Bay 95746-8617  
[gtp@cagardenclubs.org](mailto:gtp@cagardenclubs.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 94080-2204  
[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](#)

**California Garden Clubs, Inc.****Winter Board Meeting, January 30 - February 1, 2023**

*"California Roots"*

Host: Palomar District

Harrah's Resort, Valley Center, CA

Reservation deadline extended to **January 5** to register without late fees. All other deadlines remain in place.

Please make your hotel reservations ASAP!

[Register](#)

**The 61<sup>st</sup> CGCI Symposium**

March 27 & 28, 2023

Embassy Suites by Hilton

San Francisco Airport

**CGCI Symposium Chair**

Emily Troxell [etroxell@sdsu.edu](mailto:etroxell@sdsu.edu) 858 748 1025

Any interested person can attend the Symposium full or part time. You need not be a Judge or a member of National Garden Clubs or California Garden Clubs.

**Notes from Your Newsletters**

The thread through most recent club newsletters was holiday celebrations where members collected donations of non perishable food and unwrapped toys for children while they celebrated together. Some helped decorate their towns and even planned to help remove the decorations. Garden clubs do so much more than just dig in the dirt and assemble pretty flowers. Congratulations!. Keep your newsletters coming. *Editor*

**Discovery Bay Garden Club**, Nancy Dyer, president

Nancy shared an idea for recruiting new members. If you see an impressive garden in your neighborhood, approach the owner and ask if they would be interested in joining the Club.

Members that weeded their Blue Star Memorial Garden were thanked for being "Blue Star Angels."



**Awards, Honors & Recognition**

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

- **Awards Program**  
Chairman: Pat Claves  
• [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"

**NGC Headquarters:**

St. Louis, MO  
Telephone: 314-776-7574  
Fax: 314-776-5108

**Email:** [headquarters@gardenclub.org](mailto:headquarters@gardenclub.org)

**Publication:** *The National Gardener*

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

**NGC Convention** May 2-5, 2023

White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia



**Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Director: 2021-2023**  
**Lana Finegold**

**Theme:** "One Green World"

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

**Publication:** *WACONIAH*

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

**PRGC Convention** April 17-20, 2023

Embassy Suites, Lynnwood, WA

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

If not, you can subscribe here

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

**Notes from Your Newsletters, continued**

**Fortuna Garden Club** by Linda Gaffin Science Chair

***The Plant That Survives Hurricanes***

Remember Hurricane Ian that hit Fort Myers, Florida on Sept. 28, 2022? It made landfall at 150 mph, almost a cat 5 storm and did enormous damage, especially along the west coast. There was, however, one aerodynamic marvel that rarely falls over in strong winds. It is the classic, tropical plant, **THE PALM TREE**. Palms are monocots closely related to grasses, not to broadleaf trees and they are adapted to hurricane force winds. They have no tree rings, the trunk is not hard inside and they can bend 40 to 50 degrees. How can they bend over so far? The trunk is filled with thousands of vascular "straws" that carry nutrients/water from the ground to the crown. Palm leaves (fronds) are tough and rarely fall off. They can fold up like a paper fan so wind doesn't tear them and also act like sails moving in the wind. If a frond does fall off, it grows back quickly. Palm roots do not have a taproot. They create a massive root ball of hundreds of spaghetti-like structures which can hold onto sandy soil. Palm trees often survive tsunamis as their bare trunks allow lots of water to simply pass by. The Florida State tree is the Sabal Palm and Fort Myers' nickname is "city of palms". Fort Myers' McGregor Blvd is lined with 1,800 Royal Palms, some over 75ft tall. None of them fell during Hurricane Ian, but the ground was littered with brown fronds due to winds pruning the dead leaves. Overall, tropical palm trees are fibrous, fairly wet inside and, oh so, bendable. Over time, they have developed the ability to withstand the stresses of hurricane strength winds, ocean surges and go on to live for 75 to 100 years, through more hurricanes.

Now that's one strong, resilient and inspiring plant!

Source: [indefenceofplants.com](http://indefenceofplants.com)

**Divide Garden Club program,** by Nancy Candee

Speaker and Master Gardener Darla Mills has been active as a Master Gardener since 1981. She titled her program "Right Tree, Right Place". When choosing a tree and a planting site, some of the factors she emphasized were:

\*Soil type (pH of 5.5—8 optimal for most tree plant growth)

\*Sun, shade, water source

\*Size of full-grown tree

\*Where utilities are located, both below ground and above the planting site

\*Common pests in your area

Darla shared a wealth of informative websites:

[www.selecttree.calpoly.edu](http://www.selecttree.calpoly.edu)

[www.pge.com › righttreerightplace](http://www.pge.com/righttreerightplace)

[www.UrbanForestEcosystemsInstitute: ufei.calpoly.edu](http://www.UrbanForestEcosystemsInstitute.ufci.calpoly.edu)

[www.arboretum.ucdavis.edu](http://www.arboretum.ucdavis.edu) All-Star Plant Database

[www.ucanr.edu/sites/gardenweb](http://www.ucanr.edu/sites/gardenweb)

[www.ucanrcatalog.ucanr.edu](http://www.ucanrcatalog.ucanr.edu)



Nina Blonski, Chairman  
 pennypines@cagardenclubs.org  
[Penny Pines](#)

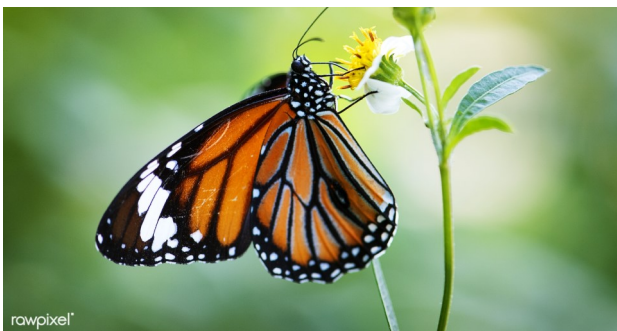
District	Club / Donor	Honor or Memory / To Whom	Amount
Desert Empire	Oasis GC of Indian Wells Valley	Memory Sandra (Sandy) Lou (Nagel) Flippin	\$68.00
Orange	San Juan Capistrano GC		\$884.00
Palomar	Fallbrook GC	Memory Charles (Chuck) Sill	\$68.00
Palomar	San Dieguito GC	Honor Jane Wilkerson	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Turlock GC	Honor Sheila Younkin, Sandy Mann, Tea Committee, Karen Johnson, County Fair Committee	\$272.00
Valley Lode	Turlock GC	Honor County Fair Horticultural Display, Rita Morgan, Downtown Pots Committee, Bill Frank	\$272.00

### Increasing numbers of monarch butterflies spotted in California

More than 300,000 monarch butterflies have been counted at overwintering sites in California, according to the Xerces Society's Western Monarch Thanksgiving Count. The conservation organization says this number of monarch butterflies hasn't been seen since the fall of 2000.

In 2020, only about 2,000 butterflies were counted across the state. This is the second year of increasing numbers. While the latest report is seen as positive, researchers say the monarch population has declined significantly since the 1980s when monarchs numbered in the low millions. Butterflies were counted at 183 overwintering sites in California. According to the Xerces Society's report, the largest individual count of butterflies so far this season was 34,180 at a private site in Santa Barbara County. Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura counties have the four largest overwintering sites -- including the Pismo State Beach Monarch Butterfly Grove -- which hosts more than 20,000 monarchs each. The Xerces Society expects to release a final count in late January 2023.

Article taken from KSBY News



### Life Memberships

Chairman: Carlotta Wixon-Welker, [lifemember@cagardenclubs.org](mailto:lifemember@cagardenclubs.org)

### Honoring Our Members and Supporting the Scholarship Program

The donation is **\$100**, and individuals receive a Life Membership Certificate, pin and letter of welcome.

<https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/lifememberships/>