

**California Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Minutes of the 2022 Fall Board Meeting**

October 17-18, 2022

Wyndham Hotel Sacramento, Sacramento, California

Host: Sacramento River Valley District

**President: Lynne Batchelor**

**Business Meeting #1**

President Lynne Batchelor called the meeting to order at 3:31p.m. on Monday, October 17. The Recording Secretary was present.

Roses Chairman Linda Malone gave the Inspiration.

President Lynne Batchelor introduced the Executive Committee.

Sacramento River Valley District Director Ron Byrd welcomed members to the 2022 CGCI Fall Board Meeting in Sacramento.

President's Project Chairman Robin Pokorski moved to adopt the meeting program as corrected.

**Motion Passed.**

President Lynne Batchelor thanked Sacramento River Valley District for hosting the 2022 Fall Board Meeting.

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

Excused: Milly Benson, Beverly Brune, Pat Clayes, Joan Craig, Robert Gordon, Sandra Graff, Berni Hendrix, Rosalie Hooper, Gudrun Kimmel, Ron Lang, Krystal Migliore, Joyce Parrott, Rosa Radicchi, Terry Sampson, Alexis Slafer, Kathy Taylor de Murillo, Emily Troxell, Charlotte Tucker, Elisabeth Tufo, David West, Julie A. West and Pat York.

Registrar Berniece Jones reported 57 registered.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported the Rules of Order for the 2021-2023 term were adopted at the May 29, 2022 Organizational Meeting and can be found on the CGCI website.

Minutes Review Committee Chairman Greg Pokorski reported on the following minutes:

June 7, 2022 Pre-Convention Board Meeting, distributed on July 17

June 8-10, 2022 Convention Meetings, distributed on July 17

Without objection, the minutes of each meeting were **approved as distributed.**

Without objection, the Chair appointed the following committee to review the minutes for this meeting: Greg Pokorski, Chairman, Marlene Kinney and Chuck Goodwin.

**Financial Report: As of August 31, 2022**

Treasurer George Perko reported.

Net worth:

Total cash in checking/savings accounts    \$112,313

Total other assets                                    \$491,104

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| TOTAL ASSETS  | \$603,417 |
| of which liabilities and restricted funds are \$358,809 |           |
| Cash Balance Available                                  | \$244,608 |

### **Officers' Reports**

President Lynne Batchelor reported. See Attachment A.

President-elect Carol Vallens deferred her report.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Adele Kelly deferred her report.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Marlene Kinney reported (See Attachment A) and moved to ratify the following Clubs, APS and Membership Status Changes.

New Clubs to be Ratified:

Salida Garden Club

District: Valley Lode District

President: Katherine Borges

Members: 12

Lakeside Garden Club

District: Palomar District,

President: Kristine Thorsnes

Members: 65

Healdsburg Garden Club

District: Luther Burbank District,

Co-Presidents: Teri Grill & Theresa Wistrom

Members: 100

APS

New APS – Associate Plant Societies

Bromeliad Society of San Francisco,

President: Carl Carter

Members: 35

Sacramento Valley Cymbidium Society,

President: Dr. Lee Turner

Members: 25

Change in Membership Status, APS to Club Membership:

California Garden & Landscape History Society,

District: Bay Ocean District

President: Keith Park

Members: 300

**Motion Passed.**

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst reported that the deadline for emailed reports is Tuesday, October 25, 2022 in Word document format.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst reported for Corresponding Secretary Milly Benson and

read a thank note from Sempervirens Fund for a donation of \$2,500.00 for Big Basin Redwoods State Park and a thank you from Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy for a donation of \$1,000.00 for Black Point Historic Gardens.

Interim Financial Secretary Rita Desilets reported. See Attachment A.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported. See Attachment A.

### **Executive Committee Recommendations**

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst moved to adopt or ratify the following recommendations.

1. To accept, with regret, the resignation of Mary Schulz as Youth Activities/Scouting Chairman.

**Motion Passed.**

2. To accept, with regret, the resignation of Nancy Compton as Environmental Schools Chairman.

**Motion Passed.**

3. To accept, with regret, the resignation of GinaRose Kimball as Arboretum District Director.

**Motion Passed.**

4. To ratify the appointment of Marlene Kinney as Associate Plant Societies Liaison.

**Motion Passed.**

5. To ratify the appointments of Judy Bates and Charlotte Tucker to the Awards Committee.

**Motion Passed.**

6. To ratify the appointment of Shane Looper as Environmental Schools Chairman.

**Motion Passed.**

7. To ratify the appointment of Charlene (Shane) Looper as Treasurer's Administrative Assistant.

**Motion Passed.**

8. To ratify the appointment of Mike Gould as Salesforce Administrator.

**Motion Passed.**

9. To ratify the appointment of Robin Pokorski to the Procedures Manual Committee.

**Motion Passed.**

10. To ratify the increase in the 2022 Fall Board Meeting registration fee from \$45.00 to \$50.00.

**Motion Passed.**

11. To accept the invitation of Palomar District to host the 2023 Winter Board Meeting. To ratify 2023 Winter Board Meeting dates of January 29 to February 1, 2023 at Harrah's Resort Southern California in Valley Center. To ratify the appointment of George Speer as 2023 Winter Board Meeting Chairman. To approve a registration fee of \$45.00 and a late registration fee of \$75.00.

**Motion Passed.**

12. To ratify correct dates for the Flower Show School in Modesto: Course 2 – September 24-26, 2022 and Course 4 – September 23-25, 2023 (dates ratified on May 28, 2021 were incorrect). (Sponsored by Valley Judges Council, Chairman: Judi Picinini and Jennifer Waite.)

**Motion Passed.**

13. To pay \$31.80 over the \$3,350.00 budgeted for Website (WebTech), line code 901.

**Motion Passed.**

14. To pay \$500.00 over the \$5,000.00 budgeted for Auditor, Carolyn Mayes, line code 101.

**Motion Passed.**

15. To pay \$19.50 per month to upgrade MailChimp from a free version to a paid version so we have the ability to have additional users, starting November 1, 2022, line code 902 Technology Software.

**Motion Passed.**

16. To approve a fee of \$199.00 yearly to upgrade our Word Press software to better integrate with our form builder and Salesforce effective November 1, 2022, line code 902. This form will automatically upload and total registrations.

**Motion Passed.**

17. To approve Carolyn A. Mayes, CPA as independent accountant for the 2021-2023 term.

**Motion Passed.**

18. To ratify the appointment of Robin Pokorski as Hotel Contract Negotiator.

**Motion Passed.**

19. To ratify official calendar dates for Flower Show School Symposium: March 27-28, 2023, Embassy Suites by Hilton San Francisco Airport, South San Francisco.

**Motion Passed.**

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski moved to ratify a Tri-Refresher sponsored by the California Consultants Council, Sue Bennett Chairman, March 29, 2023 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton, South San Francisco.

**Motion Passed.**

Meeting recessed at 5:02 p.m.

Meeting resumed at 5:21 p.m.

**Committee Reports**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Adele Kelly read the report of the Awards Committee. See Attachment C.

President's Project Chairman Robin Pokorski read the report from Board of Trustees Chairman Julie A. West. See Attachment C.

Meeting recessed at 5:30 p.m.

**Business Meeting #2**

Meeting reconvened on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 9:09 a.m.

President Lynne Batchelor reported on new ideas from NGC. See Attachment A.

**Committee Reports Continued**

Budget and Finance Chairman Rita Desilets reported. See Attachment C.

Bylaws and Policy Chairman Adele Kelly reported. See Attachment C.

On behalf of the Bylaws and Policy Committee, she moved to amend the following Standing Rules:

**Standing Rule 4.** New policies or proposed policy amendments shall be submitted to the bylaws and policy committee. The recommendations of the bylaws and policy committee shall be sent to the advisory council for comment and to the executive committee for final approval.

**Motion Passed (unanimous)**

**Standing Rule 5.** Each term, the president shall appoint a vice president, or the parliamentarian, to chair the bylaws and policy committee which shall include the parliamentarian and five

additional members, or six additional members if the parliamentarian is the chairman. At least one vice president shall be appointed to the bylaws and policy committee each term. The other vice presidents may attend the meetings and participate ~~without voice or vote~~ except for the right to make motions and the right to vote.

**Motion Passed (unanimous)**

**Standing Rule 6.** The bylaws and policy committee shall collect and review information and advise on the meetings/convention procedures and any other procedures deemed to be important to the organization.

Eliminate entire Standing Rule, renumber Standing Rule #7 to #6.

**Motion Passed (unanimous)**

**Standing Rule 70.** ~~The membership chairman and/or communications director~~ provides reports, as requested, to NGC chairmen, PRGC chairmen, CGCI officers, district directors and chairmen.

**Motion Passed as amended (unanimous)**

2022 Convention Chairman Sharon Tooley reported and presented a check in the amount of \$2,168.47 to CGCI representing its share of convention proceeds.

Convention & Board Meeting Procedures Chairman Robin Pokorski introduced the committee and reported. See Attachment C.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Adele Kelly reported for Flower Show School Chairman Sandra Graff. See Attachment C.

Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP) Chairman Sue Bennett reported (see Attachment C) and moved to ratify the Willow Glen Garden Club, Santa Clara District to join the Group Tax Exemption Program. **Motion Passed.**

Sue Bennett moved to ratify the removal of the Meadow Vista Group from the Group Tax Exemption Program (they disbanded). **Motion Passed.**

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

|                 |                         |                              |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Day, Shirley    | Foothills Garden Club   | Valley Lode District         |
| Zbornak, Shelly | Toluca Like Garden Club | San Fernando Valley District |
| Jones, Ruth Ann | Toluca Lake Garden Club | San Fernando Valley District |
| Starr, Peggy    | Toluca Lake Garden Club | San Fernando Valley District |

**Motion Passed.**

Liability Insurance Chairman Shane Looper reported Liability Insurance is due January 15, 2023.

Nominating Committee Member Carolyn Hoyum reported for Nominating Committee Chairman Pat Claves. See Attachment C.

Procedures Chairman Carol Vallens reported.

Strategic Planning Committee Chairman George Speer reported.

Technology Committee member Carol Vallens reported for Chairman Jane McKee.

Meeting recessed at 10:13 a.m.

Meeting resumed at 10:45 a.m.

**Chairmen Reports**

Chairmen Coordinator Adele Kelly reported and presented the Chairmen who reported. See Attachment C.

Backyard Habitat Chairman Carolyn Villi gave an Inspiration.

Meeting recessed at 11:43 a.m.

**Business Meeting #3**

Meeting reconvened at 3:09 p.m.

President Lynne Batchelor announced that President’s Page Sharon Tooley is appointed to take minutes for this session in the absence of the Recording Secretary who has been excused.

District Director Coordinator Carol Vallens reported and presented the following Directors who reported:

Buttes District Director – Carol Jauregui

Humboldt District Director – Maria Krenek

Valley Lode District Director – Stephanie Pino for Berni Hendrix

2023 Winter Board Meeting Chairman George Speer invited members to the 2023 Winter Board Meeting, January 29- February 2, 2023, Harrah’s Resort, Valley Center, California.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski, on behalf of the Executive Committee, moved to add \$3,000.00 to line code 4010 Web Tech therapy for possible website ADA compliance upgrades. **Motion Passed.**

Announcements were made.

Meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

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

## **Attachment A Officers' Reports**

### **President, Lynne Batchelor**

Welcome everyone! I am so excited to finally be having a board meeting in-person. Thank you so much to the Sacramento River Valley District and especially to Nancy Compton (chair), Mary Jane Sutliff (co-chair), Bernice Jones (registrar), Ron Byrd (treasurer), Jan Goehring (with her team of talented floral designers) and all of the many volunteers who did a truly outstanding job!

Just another huge thank you is going to Palomar District for hosting my first convention. I really appreciate their optimism in hosting an in-person event which was a leap of faith. It was a wonderful event with excellent programs and workshops, tours of my President's Project, great reports, successful raffles, sales and auctions, and great camaraderie. I appreciate Carol Jauregui for trying so hard to hold my winter board meeting. My plan was to have 2 Zoom, 2 in-person meetings in the north and 2 in-person meetings in the south. Alas despite her best efforts, Carol could not get the casino to commit. Fortunately for me Palomar District's Design Forum will host winter board Jan 29-Feb1 at Harrah's Spa in Valley Center (near San Diego).

I recently attended the National Garden Clubs Board Meeting in St. Louis. The state Presidents met together to receive information about flower show schools including that the procedures can be offered on-line, that the Handbook Exam will be multiple guess and that judge's councils should be mentoring clubs. We then attended the Board meeting where we heard our national leaders give an overview of what they have been doing and we voted on changes to bylaws and standing rules. My favorite speaker (via Zoom) told us about planting the trees at the 9/11 memorial site; what an amazing engineering and botanical feat that was. I believe his talk will be on the NGC website and I highly recommend it. We had a tour of NGC headquarters which is an absolutely beautiful mid-century building (housing interesting exhibits) surrounded by wonderful gardens and sculptures. After the conference I visited the magnificent Missouri Botanical Gardens complex.

NGC had the following suggestions for individual clubs:

- Assess honestly what the club really wants to do/be. Having an outside facilitator is a good idea.
- Invest in telling stories
- Increase involvement with local organizations for instance FFA needs judges
- Welcome everyone who comes through the door
- From Me work on your elevator speech
- Contemporary volunteers
- Reduce bureaucracy
- Direct Communication
- Educate and inspire
- Find fellowships
- Emphasize giving back
- Fun and fellowship
- Have a personal motto
- Provide for the "independent" member i.e. only likes webinars

Use social media

1. Use FB for longer messages/link to content. Send to website
2. Instagram
3. Twitter-community connections-include a hashtag

4. Tic Tok for videos
5. Imagery is so important so get help with it

They also shared these insights: Change is upon us; think outside the box but no box is required; reading recommendation *Sacred Cows Make the Best Burgers*.

Roadrunner District invited me to their September meeting which was an outstanding event. All of the district clubs attended and gave reports on their meetings and activities. What a busy district! Montana de Oro District invited me to their meeting via Zoom; I loved hearing about their projects. The three Vice-Presidents, Robin Pokorski and I Zoomed with members of the Luther Burbank district to answer questions about structure and purpose of districts. Thank you to Fallbrook for inviting me to do their installation. A huge thank you to Berni Hendrix and the Valley Lode District for inviting me to attend their Fall District Meeting. The theme was 1950 and everything from the menu to the table centerpieces to the decorations to the members' attire was in the Rock and Roll theme. Charlotte Tucker did a great job organizing it. I loved hearing about their district awards (highest scoring blue ribbon club, most new members, highest attendance at district meetings, etc.) as well as the many events their clubs are conducting. Congratulations to Emily Troxell for organizing an amazing Symposium in San Diego and to Valley Lode District for their successful Flower Show School. In November NGC has a gardening school on-line and beginning in January CGCI will have environmental schools, flower show schools, a tri-refresher and a flower show symposium.

Robin Pokorski did a fantastic job producing our new abbreviated, user-friendly, environmentally-responsible Directory. She also did the mailing to ensure that you had them early in the club year. Please be sure to check out our website for the lesser consulted and specialty information. A big thank you to Launa Gould who took on the task of producing our membership cards and to Rita Desilets who counted and separated them for the clubs.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to my President's Project the gardens at Grant Park at the San Diego River Park Foundation. My theme is Celebrate, Communicate, Commemorate and theirs is Connect, Create, Conserve. Their plan is to **Connect** the community with the river by creating opportunities for emotional connection which fosters stewardship, lifelong love, education. They currently serve 2,500 students annually. **Create** a series of parks throughout the 52 miles of the river valley to preserve wildlife and fauna, provide interpretive signs and last year they planted 425 native trees. **Conserve** the area by removing trash and last year 3.78 acres of invasive Tamarisk. We will provide the Sensory Garden and Ethno-botanic Garden complete with signage. We are so lucky to be in on the ground floor, to have a site which is so accessible and to be getting excellent publicity.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President/Membership Chairman, Marlene Kinney**

Current Membership

Number Paid as of 10/15/2022

|            |     |          |
|------------|-----|----------|
| Clubs      | 217 | (11,875) |
| APS's      | 37  | (2,999)  |
| Affiliates | 1   |          |
| Total      | 255 | (14,874) |

Total Membership Dollars Paid as of 10/15/2022 in SF: \$40,955

CGCI has three new clubs to be ratified

CGCI has two new APS's to be ratified



CGCI has one change in membership status to be ratified  
Announcement: Disbandment – Meadow Vista Garden Club, Golden Foothills District

This concludes my report

**Interim Financial Secretary, Rita Desilets**

It is a pleasure working with Treasurer George Perko, Shane Looper who writes checks when George is in Greece, and Sue Bennett who reviews my spreadsheets each month.

Your Request for Payment forms will be processed quickly, but be sure you use the correct line code, stay within the budget. A Word document is available on the website or from the Financial Secretary. Please send it as a Word document, not a PDF which will need to be retyped. Your receipts can be scanned or sent via snail mail.

**Parliamentarian, Greg Pokorski**

Who is the Executive Board of CGCI? Not us here at this head table. It is all of us in the room plus those CGCI board members who are not present. Executive board is just another name for board of directors. Those seated at this head table are the executive committee, a subset of the board of directors.

Bylaws. Preferred usage and Robert's usage is bylaws – no hyphens, no spaces. Bylaws. Hyphens are for in-laws, not for bylaws.

That is your parliamentary lesson for today.

According to our bylaws, the board of directors shall be the governing body of this organization and according to our standing rules, members of the board of directors shall attend regular and special meetings and conventions.

It is disappointing that 50% of our board members are not registered for this meeting. We should remind ourselves of the importance of fulfilling the commitments we make when we agree to accept any position.

Most of us use *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* (RONR) as our parliamentary authority. It is the complete rule book and contains 633 pages of text plus tables and charts. It has content that may be used at some time as procedural questions arise. It is a reference book that provides as much as possible an answer to any question of parliamentary procedure. But the average person doesn't have to know all this to be able to function effectively in most ordinary meetings. At least 80% of RONR will be used less than 20% of the time.

So, use Robert's as your parliamentary authority, but read RONR In Brief (213 pages) (I held up the book) to easily learn commonly needed basics of parliamentary procedure step by step.

But remember that your bylaws always trump your parliamentary authority.

The value of parliamentary procedure is that it provides processes through which an organization can work out satisfactory solutions to the greatest number of questions in the least amount of time. It should not be your primary focus, but used as a tool to help run your clubs and districts and provide effective meetings for your members.

## **Attachment B District Director Reports**

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

GFD has 10 clubs, and they are all reporting on meeting and being involved in their special activities. At a district level we had a wonderful Garden Party in May, with a hat parade contest, potluck luncheon and baskets to win. GFD had a Fall Board meeting which was a workshop going over the filing requirements by IRS, DOJ-CT, FTB discussion on raffle license and sales tax and other requirements. Clubs join in and share and ask questions which all were involved in. GFD just had our Fall General meeting which was a potluck luncheon with a wonderful presentation by a Chef on "Make it Tasty". The PowerPoint presentation was on how man has evolved to eat certain tastes and how a plant basic diet is healthy and tasty. GFD has three board meetings a year, two general meetings and a garden party. Clubs rotate hosting.

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

### **Arbor Day Chairman, Chuck Goodwin**

This Chairman reported on the CGCI Arbor Week, scheduled for March 7-14, 2023, which is the 174th birthday of Luther Burbank, recognized as the "Father of California Agriculture."

Burbank's activities were centered in the Santa Rosa-Sebastopol area of Sonoma County.

Burbank is recognized as developing more than 800 varieties of fruits, flowers and vegetables, such as the Shasta Daisy, Santa Rosa Plum and Russet Burbank potato.

Go to the GGCI website and in the search box enter: "Arbor Day." Click on the "Arbor Day" results and two tabs appear which have information to help you plan your event, including additional links with more information.

Report your trees planted by groups and individuals during the CGCI year, to NGC, for its national tree planting report.

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

Members of the Awards Committee: Chairman Pat Clayes; Judy Bates, Certificates; Emily Troxell, Flower Show Awards; Monica Lewis, Awards Finance; Lisa Cosand, Youth Awards; Charlotte Tucker, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest.

The updated Awards Manual and all evaluation forms for the 2022 Awards Year have been updated and placed onto the website.

All judging chairmen are ready to receive the entries, some of which must be postmarked by December 1, and the remainder must be postmarked by January 10. The Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl posters must be received by the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Chairman by January 23.

Please remind the members about CGCI's Special Awards that include Lifetime Achievement, Lifetime Service, Person of the Year, Member Award of Honor, Gardener of the Year, Youth Leader of the Year, Awards of Merit, and Consultant of the Year.

### **Blue Star & Gold Star Families Memorial Markers Chairman, Shirley Lipa**

This chairman has just learned that a member of the San Clemente Garden Club has recently refurbished their Blue Star Memorial marker. The photograph that I saw showed a beautiful marker that looked brand new! She researched to find the proper paint colors to use and how to clean the marker before the painting could begin. This chairman will be in touch with her and

will let all the clubs know the particulars through an article in an upcoming article in the Golden Gardens.

**Board & Convention Meetings Procedures Committee Chairman, Robin Pokorski**

I have the pleasure of chairing another GREAT committee: Board & Convention Meetings Procedures together with Launa Gould and Alexis Slafer. We have met by Zoom nearly every week pouring over each and every facet and aspect of Convention meeting procedures. We aren't quite finished but we will diligently keep at it.

Very soon our next step will be to send out the draft procedures to several people who have chaired or been closely involved in conventions for their input.

Then we move on to Board Meeting procedures.

We look forward to these important documents' final iteration as we hope it will encourage more groups to seek the opportunity to host a convention or board meeting.

Thank you, President Lynne, for the opportunity to serve you and CGCI as your Board & Convention Meetings Procedures Committee Chairman.

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

The Board of Trustees met virtually via Zoom October 7, 2022 with all members present and George Perko as guest.

A recommendation was sent to the Bylaws Committee to amend SR #41 to change from Fall to Winter Board Meeting for publishing the CPA's annual review letter.

Year-to-date financial reports were reviewed as well as the losses with Vanguard for both endowments.

Pat Clayes will chair Giving Tuesday scheduled November 29, 2022.

Shane Looper will maintain CGCI's Important Papers/Documents Binder.

A recommendation was sent to the Executive Committee regarding website compliance with ADA requirements for blind/visually impaired people. An e-Blast has been requested to be sent ASAP to members.

**Budget and Finance Committee Chairman, Rita Desilets**

The members of the Budget & Finance Committee, George Perko, Shane Looper, Sue Bennett, Julie West and Carol Vallens met via ZOOM.

We conducted the usual review of the financial records, Restricted Funds, Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet, the Revenue and Expense spreadsheets from July to August as well as the status of two CD's at US Bank. The meeting concluded after two hours and 20 minutes.

**Bylaws and Policy Chairman, Adele Kelly**

The Bylaws & Policy Committee members are Jeanne Johnson, Greg Pokorski, George Speer, George Unrine, Carol Vallens, David West and this chairman. The committee had monthly virtual meetings since convention and met on Sunday, October 16, 2022. The committee brought forth the standing rule recommendations in the body of these minutes.

**California Consultants Council Chairman, Sue Bennett**

The CCC met Sunday night and as approved yesterday:

-The CCC will be sponsoring a Tri-Refresher, March 29, 2023, South San Francisco, Embassy Suites, Chairman: Sue Bennett.

Thank you for the approval to move forward with it. We hope to see everyone there.  
-The *Council Thymes* will no longer be done; however, the CCC will be a featured article at least quarterly.

### **Chairmen Coordinator, Adele Kelly**

CGCI Chairmen met on Monday, October 17, 2022 at the Chairmen's Meeting. This chairman is pleased to report that twenty-one chairmen were present. Chairmen gathered into small groups with similar types of responsibilities and discussed what was working or not working in their respective chairmanships. Their comments and ideas were shared with all.

The following chairmen presented reports at Business Meeting #2:

Sue Bennett – California Consultant's Council  
Nina Blonski – Penny Pines  
Chuck Goodwin – Arbor Day  
Ward Habriel – Climate Awareness  
Adele Kelly – Chairmen Coordinator  
Bette Langford – Honor Book  
Shirley Lipa – Blue Star Memorial Markers N. California  
Shane Looper – Environmental Schools  
Lynn MacFarland – Flower Show Schedules  
Linda Malone – Roses  
George Perko – Golden Legacy Society  
Greg Pokorski – Gardening Schools  
Robin Pokorski – Directory, Donations, President's Project  
Judy Powers – New Cultivars  
Frankie Raymond – Flower Show Judges Credentials  
Martha Smyser – Scholarships  
Paul Vander Werf – Vermiculture/Vermicomposting  
Carolyn Villi – Backyard Wildlife Habitat, Horticulture

### **Directory Chairman, Robin Pokorski**

I was scared when the Executive Committee told me what they envisioned for the Yearbook, Manual & Roster, but excited too! What a wonderful opportunity to reduce our carbon footprint and actually practice what we preach – reduce the pages in the Yearbook, Manual and Roster. Make it more usable they said, include the pages the majority of our members refer to most and move the bulk of the material to the website where everyone could access it instead of the few. So we did....and I waited for the explosion but it didn't come, all I received was congratulations and back-patting but the kudos all belong the forward-thinking Executive Committee for taking a bold step forward.

Then the Directory as it was renamed was sent to each board member, club president and associate plant society president in early September so that everyone had their Directory promptly at the beginning of their district and club season. Another brilliant move by the Executive Committee.

Thank you, President Lynne, for the opportunity to serve you and CGCI as your Directory Chairman. Please join me in thanking these progressive officers.

**Donation Coordinator Chairman, Robin Pokorski,**

Being the Donations Coordinator is a wonderful job! This chairman gets to experience the unbelievable generosity of our districts, clubs and members. While we absolutely require a post office box for our legal needs as an organization, this chairman requests that checks be sent to my home address, which you all have in your spiffy new, uncluttered Directory!

To date this chairman has processed:

Anza Borrego - \$300

Big Basin - \$1485

Blue Star Markers - \$170

Conejo Valley Botanic Garden - \$100

Scholarship - \$300

Sempervirens - \$1045

President's Project - \$23,048

For a total of \$26,448 through this chairman. Our districts, clubs and members are part of an incredible force for good. This chairman is so very proud to be a part of it!

Thank you, President Lynne, for the opportunity to serve you and CGCI as your Donations Coordinator.

**Flower Show School Chairman, Sandra Graff**

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS COMMITTEE REPORT: SANDRA GRAFF - FSS CHAIR 2021-2023

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL:

The Valley Judges Council sponsored Flower Show School Courses at the Stanislaus Ag Center-Harvest Hall, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto CA. Co-Chairs Judi Picinini and Jennifer Waite.

To date all required FSS forms have been submitted by CGCI FSS State and Local FSS Chair/s.

- Course I - April 8-10, 2022 Successfully completed!

Instructors - Darlene Newell - Flower Show Procedure and Horticulture. Cathy Waitinas - Design

- Course II - September 24-26, 2022 Successfully completed!

Instructors - Sue Kirkman - Flower Show Procedure and Horticulture. Trece Chancellor - Design

- Course III - April 14-16, 2023

Instructors - Shirley Tetreault-Flower Show Procedure and Design. Cathy Felton - Horticulture

- Course IV - September 23-25, 2023

Instructors - Sue Kirkman-Flower Show Procedure and Horticulture. Judy Binns - Design

SYMPOSIUM- July 17-19, 2022: Successfully completed!

- Pt. Loma Nazarene College, San Diego, CA. Chair-Emily Troxell. Approx. 40 (forty) attendees and for those who chose to take the exams, they all passed the exams in Design and Horticulture!

CGCI CONVENTION SAN DIEGO FLOWER SHOW June 7-9, 2022 Handlery Hotel:

Successfully completed! An NGC Design Specialty Flower Show: General Co-Chairs Sandra Graff & Kathy Taylor de Murillo. Theme: "A River Runs Through It" /Presidents Project -The San Diego River Park Foundation.

- Host: Palomar District. Budget \$466 submitted to Palomar District Director/ Convention Chair, Sharon Tooley, who graciously agreed since it was reasonable +many hours had already been invested
- Actual Total Expenses: \$401.18. Cost-saving measures below:
  - . Schedule Editor Peggy Heider: Services Complimentary (good friend of General Co-Chairs)
  - . Office Depot 25%+ discount from Co-Chair Graff account. Ordered 40 schedules instead of 100
  - . Designers: Flower Show Schedule advised to bring their own backgrounds
  - . Donations: Some supplies from President Lynne Batchelor
- Path Forward: According to Archives of CGCI Minutes of the 2017 Fall Board Meeting Gold Country Casino and Hotel, Oroville, California October 4-5, 2017. Host Buttes District President: Krystal K. Migliore. Business meeting 2. The meeting reconvened 10:33A.M. Thursday, October 5, 2017. 16. "To approve CGCI Judges Council offer to sponsor a Standard Flower Show or exhibition during the conventions held in even-numbered years when funds permit. CGCI will provide the venue, i.e. hotel lobby, dedicated or shared room; and the Judges Council will bear any expenses of the show. Motion passed as amended" This finding was initially emailed March 15, 2022 Judges Council-no response.
- Retrospect: \*Include stand-ions attached with caution ribbons to rope off the area where Judging occurs. \*Have a sign stating "Judging in Progress, no entry please. Thank you!" \*Flower Show Committee to include Publicity Chair for Community Outreach and the dissemination of Flower Show Schedule to District Managers, Garden Clubs-Statewide, etc., along with CGCI website. \*Submit a proposal to establish a line item for the budget for an annual CGCI Flower show.

HANDBOOK EXAM: October 27, 2022- 1(one) student. Proctor Emily Troxell CGCI Symposium Chair. NGC HB Chair Jackie Davies emailed study HB Exams Aug. 12 to CGCI FSS Chair Graff, who emailed to student Aug.12. New NGC HB Chair Sue Kirkman has received form 4 that I sent requesting HB Exam-CA!

SYMPOSIUM: March 2023 - TBD So. San Francisco, CA. - Chair Emily Troxell

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL 2023+: Two have expressed an interest in hosting a Flower Show School. Marsha Bode-San Diego, CA. Charlotte Rodriguez- Red Bluff, CA, who I emailed guidelines + referenced to NGC FSS Resources.

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

This chairman is glad to walk clubs/districts through the process of conducting a Gardening School (GS) - which can be in a classroom or by Zoom. We have six Gardening Consultants who will lapse if they don't refresh this year. They may refresh at NGC's Zoom GS Course 3 in November (see NGC website) or request an extension. A Tri-Refresher will be held in South San Francisco on March 29, 2023. Let this Chairman know if you register to take any course/refresher for credit. CGCI's annual yearbook is now online at the CGCI website. You can find your Consultant status (the date your good standing expires) by clicking on the link for "Consultants-pdf."

### **Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP) Chairman, Sue Bennett**

This chair would like to give a huge shout out to George Perko. Thank you for all your help. Since June 2022;

- The GTEP Handbook has been updated
- New GTEP Renewal Forms were updated and emailed out along with cover letters.
- As of Oct 16, eight clubs have renewed plus one new club.

Total 114 member clubs/districts

This chairman is not a lawyer, nor works for the IRS, FTB, etc. This chairman is a volunteer. Be Kind!

### **Honor Book Chairman, Bette Langford**

The Honor Book records memorials, contributions, and recognitions of outstanding service. The Honoree's name will be inscribed in the Honor Book. This year we received a donation to honor Joyce Dean and another donation to honor Helen Gates.

The Honorees/Donors will be recognized in the eNews.

The funds reside in the Restricted Funds Guideline:

- Funds are used for any CGCI objective upon approval of the board of directors
- Smokey Bear Youth Postal Contest
- Redwood Tree per decade honoring former CGCI Presidents

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

Members of the Nominating Committee are Chairman Pat Clayes, Secretary Carolyn Hoyum, Roseann Costabile, Nancy McDougal, Terry Sampson, Sharon Tooley and Carolyn Villi.

The Committee is very pleased to announce that the Chairman of the Committee will file with the president and president-elect, two weeks before the 2023 Winter Board Meeting, a slate of at least one candidate for each office for the 2023-2025 term. The Chairman will include this slate in the Chairman's 2023 Winter Board Meeting preliminary report (according to Article VI, Sec. 2, D, 5).

The Committee would like to thank all who participated in the interview process.

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

Clubs are making donations to the different National Forests. I have heard several concerns as to the length of time before the National Forest office cashes clubs' checks and issues the certificates. Most clubs are getting their donations processed in a timely manner. Each year the stress of drought and the impact of the massive wildland fires creates a greater need to have our pennies help our National Forest to replant the affected areas. If you have a special collection box to pass around at your clubs' meetings many are feeling generous to help replant the areas effected by fires. It is a great way to Honor someone in your club, you can also donate in Memory of someone in your club.

### **President's Project 2021-2023 Chairman, Robin Pokorski**

We are right on schedule! We are just over halfway through this term and we are less than \$3,000 to our goal! The generous members of California Garden Clubs have donated more than \$22,000 to this CGCI project!

We are so grateful for the response to the Table/Benches – twenty-three Table/Benches have been sold for a total of \$6,900 for the President's Project. A total of 88 donors that includes individuals, clubs and districts have contributed a total of \$23,048.42....all of which has been matched to the River Center's foundation. We are thrilled to announce that the matching donor has agreed to extend his offer to match every donation up to a million dollars. This chairman wants garden clubs, districts and members to relieve him of even more of his money!!

Please visit our booth in the Boutique – we have homemade Almond Roca, jewelry, designers hand bags, bird feeders (handmade by our clever Man of the Year Hank Vanderhorst) and of course, we have two Table/Benches that are hoping to find a forever home here in Northern California!

We thank our anonymous donor for the donation of the white jade jewelry which will be offered at auction. We so appreciate the support of this CGCI project – together we will make a significant difference in the San Diego area, our state and our world – together we can make the gardens at the River Center happen! Think of the exposure our name will receive by being a part of this!

Thank you, President Lynne, for the opportunity to serve you and CGCI as your President’s Project Chairman.

**Roses Chairman, Linda Malone**

This chairman loves roses! That includes sharing them, growing them, and arranging them.

A suggestion for your next garden club meeting: Announce a theme for members to bring in roses for the horticulture program. Maybe even narrow it down to yellows/whites or red/pinks. It will be beautiful!

You are encouraged to grow your interest in roses and also grow your club’s horticulture program.

Many excellent speakers come from the University of California Extension/Master Gardeners, and the American Rose Society. The American Rose Society has an online listing of local Rose Societies in your area.

**Sempervirens Co-Chairman, Judy Unrine**

The Sempervirens account has had a steady but small number of donations in 2022. The account registers \$845 donated by 8 clubs and individuals during this year. The recent opening of Big Basin State Park, with limited facilities, could increase interest in supporting the park financially. As always, Penny Pines receives most donations, making it difficult for other environmental projects to compete. Making Big Basin and other environmental projects more visible will be our goal.