

Golden Gardens eNews



www.californiagardenclubs.com

January 2017, Vol. 9-1

Member National Garden Clubs, Inc. Pacific Region

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cgcpresident@cagardenclubs.org
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Golden Gardens eNews

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Golden Gardens eNews

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- distributed electronically FREE
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californiagardenclubs.com/cgcinewsletters
- Deadline to submit articles: 15th of the month.



and



From the President's desk...

Happy New Year!

As we reflect on what we accomplished in 2016, we wonder, can we accomplish this and even more in 2017? Of course, we can!

We start the year with our **2017 Winter Board Meeting** in Anderson, hosted by the members of Cascade District who promise to give us a "once-in-a-lifetime" meeting. Who knows, maybe the tradition will continue?

We will have an **open discussion during one of the business meetings**, so put your thinking caps on as I encourage everyone to submit questions ahead of time to our facilitator, Robin Pokorski, (RobinP@juno.com) who will find the right person to answer. Questions will be accepted during the discussion, time permitting. A few questions to get you thinking: where do you think CGCI should be in five years, ten years? How do we get there? What can you/your chairmanship do to help us get there? What can be (should be) done differently?

Separate but conveniently scheduled at the end of the board meeting we have a **"Leap into Leadership" workshop**, held by our very own Robin Pokorski. Robin has been traveling throughout the United States giving her workshop – in fact some states have asked her to come back, we are so lucky to have her available.

This workshop is open to anyone - members or non-members, for an additional fee of \$25 (the fee includes lunch). Refer to WB Registration Form, Part I. One can attend just the Workshop and will not have to pay the board meeting registration fee. Encourage your club members to take advantage of this opportunity. I know I'll be there.

NOTE: For those who still have their Chia Heads, I can't wait to see the results of the **"Growing Minds" Chia Head challenge**. At our 2015 Fall Board Meeting, a challenge was made and those with the shortest "hair" will be donating to the President's Project. We haven't done this in a while.

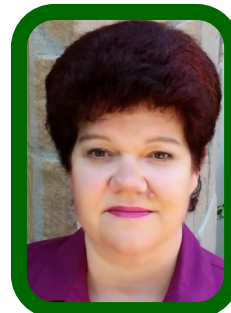
March 27 – 29 is the CGCI 2017 Wildflower Conference in Kernville, I know Marrilee Ray and Janice Wagner have been working hard to plan another great conference. Please see the article on page 4.

May 30-June 3 is our 86th annual Convention, in San Luis Obispo. Final plans are being made and you will be hearing more about it soon.

Visiting our CGCI clubs and districts continues to be a rewarding experience. Hearing about your financial contributions and personal dedication makes it even more of a pleasure to serve you!

See you at Winter Board,

Cheers, **SueB**



DEADLINE FOR WINTER BOARD EARLY REGISTRATION IS DECEMBER 28

CGCI Official Calendar

californiagardenclubs.com/calendar

- **January 30-February 2: CGCI Winter Board Meeting:**
Host: Cascade District
- **March 27-29: CGCI Wildflower Conference**
Co-Chairmen: Merrilee Ray & Janice Wagner; Kernville.
- **April 18-20:** Pacific Region Convention, Seattle, WA
- **May 16-21:** NGC Convention, Richmond, VA
- **May 30-June 3: CGCI Convention,** San Luis Obispo



Back to School

**NGC Schools Calendar
(California)**

All registration forms are on the CGCI website Calendar page
californiagardenclubs.com/calendar

Go to gardenclub.org
for schools in other states

- **February 24-25: Tri-Refresher,**
Sponsor: Long Beach Garden Club. Chairman: Jane Kaylor
- **March 13-15: Flower Show School, Course 4,** Sponsor: Southwest Judges Council; Poway, CA, Chairman: Emily Troxell
- **June 25-28: Flower Show Symposium,** Ontario, Chairman: Lili Aram-Bost

Note from Gardening Study & Landscape Design Schools Chairmen:

- Consultants whose credentials will lapse in December can request an extension. All consultants may refresh at the February Tri-Refresher in Long Beach.

January 30 - February 2, 2017

CGCI Winter Board Meeting

Host: Cascade District

Co-Chairmen: Kathy Bramhall & Carolyn Hoyum

Gaia Hotel & Spa, Anderson, CA

Join us for workshops/programs: Bugs, Figs/Olives, Bees and Soil; & a Recycle/Repurpose/Reuse Fashion Show

Special: "Leap Into Leadership" workshop led by Robin Pokorski

Note the "early-bird" deadline: December 28, 2016 for

Hotel reservations (special \$99 room rate) & Registration forms

All forms: <http://californiagardenclubs.com/nextmeeting>



President's Project 2015-17

Maryanne Lucas, Chairman

"MANY THANKS" TO YOU ALL AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO 2017

President Sue Bennett thanks all of you for supporting her project and helping her to introduce a whole new generation of gardeners to the joy and wonder that can be found in a garden. Her project, *Encouraging Future Gardeners*, has been VERY WELL received and is now shipping hundreds of kits throughout the state each month to spark an interest in gardening among California youth. And she isn't done yet! Word has been spreading for the past 18 months. It takes time for word to get around but news of the program seems to have now made its way around California. More and more requests for the unique gardening kits are coming in each week.

President Sue doesn't want to disappoint even one, single child. She has pledged to encourage as many children as possible to become future gardeners. Please help. Go out and join some kids in the garden to help them "find their roots." It is healthy, educational and most of all, it is FUN. Sue and her busy elves are waiting to prepare kits to assist you with your effort. Of course, donations are ALWAYS welcome! For more information on how to order kits or make a donation, visit the CGCI website at

<http://californiagardenclubs.com/presidentsproject>.

HELP SAVE POSTAGE! KIT ORDERS RECEIVED BY JANUARY 15 CAN BE PICKED UP AT THE CGCI WINTER BOARD MEETING IN ANDERSON, CA.

Liability Insurance is NOW due. Did you get your bill?

By Shane Looper, CGCI Liability Insurance Chairman (cgciinsurance@cagardenclubs.org)

The liability insurance premium notice was mailed in November. The fees are **due on JANUARY 15, 2017** otherwise there will be a **late fee of \$25.00** (note new amount) for the 2017-2018 insurance year. If you did not receive a notice please contact the Chairman immediately.



If you have paid your liability insurance fee: The plan affords coverage for normal garden club activities such as meetings, luncheons, plant sales, garden tours, flower shows and etc.

Any additional insured certificates required for normal club activities have an additional fee of \$35.00. REMEMBER THE WEBSITE HAS A SECTION ON HOW TO COMPLETE THE INSURANCE FORMS AND WHAT IS REQUIRED. Also the current CGCI *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* explains the coverage (see Page 23-24).

The Liability Insurance coverage is not available to clubs or associate plant societies that own real estate or have exclusive ongoing use of building premises or clubs that have primary use of, or any degree of ongoing maintenance responsibility for gardens or land.

The CGCI plan does not cover:

- Activities with more than 1000 attendance (1001 or more)
- Tours/outings over two days
- Parade participation

Activities/events outside the normal scope, like those noted above must be submitted for underwriting review. If approved, the event/activity is added to the policy to provide coverage. An additional premium fee will be charged.



If the cost of the additional premium is prohibitive for the club, then it is up to your club to cancel the event or your participation in it. If you proceed with your event or participation and ignore the liability cost for underwriting your event you will be jeopardizing the liability plan of CGCI and the clubs and associate plant societies that participate in it. Your club would be putting CGCI's Liability Insurance at risk.

All forms and requests must be sent to CGCI's Liability Chairman at least 30 days prior to your event. This is the minimum amount of time for processing. Emergencies do happen and many times CGCI/McDaniel Insurance Service can accommodate the request, but the forms and money should be sent to the chairman as soon as you plan these events not at the last minute.

REMINDER: California regulations state that any time money is being paid for an alcoholic beverage, it constitutes a sale of alcohol and requires the seller to hold a liquor license. This includes alcohol (bottle of wine) in gift/raffle baskets or auctions. **The CGCI Liability Insurance EXCLUDES liquor liability. The simplest solution to the above situation: select only garden-related items for all gift baskets/prizes used in raffles, auctions, etc.**



Weeds are flowers too, once you get to know them.

A.A. Milne



In the Garden this month...

Excerpted from
Sunset Magazine

- Plant bare-root fruits including blackberries, blueberries, raspberries, and strawberries.
- Order onion sets (dormant bulbs) to plant next month. Short-day onions are best—they form bulbs with 10–12 hours of daylight. Plant them in full sun, and amend the soil with compost. Water regularly.
- Plant desert willow (*Chilopsis linearis*) in *Sunset* climate zones 18-23 while it's dormant for a beautiful, drought-tolerant large shrub or small tree. In late summer it will erupt in large, orchid-shaped blooms in magenta, blush pink, and rose.
- Buy aloes. Many are blooming now, showing off coral or yellow candle-bras, so you can choose the right color for your garden.
- There's still time to plant California poppies and seeds for other spring-blooming wildflowers. Choose a spot in full sun. Rake the soil slightly and water to dampen. Sprinkle seeds on to damp soil and rake gently, just enough to cover seeds. Unless it rains, continue gentle watering to keep the soil damp until seeds sprout.
- Prune dormant fruit trees and vines such as apricot, peach, apple, and grape. To prevent peach leaf curl, apply a copper-based spray.
- Prune dormant roses. Clean up dead, diseased, or crossing branches; then cut back canes by about 1/3, trimming just above outward-facing canes.
- Check drip irrigation systems for leaks or kinks. Open the ends of drip lines and run the system for a few minutes to flush, or install self-regulating auto-flush valves.



CGCI Wildflower Conference March 27-29, 2017 Kernville, CA

Join us for the 2017 Wildflower Conference in Kernville. The registration fee is \$90.00 per person. **A "Hold My Place" deposit of \$30.00 is required by January 7, 2017.** The balance of \$60.00 is due by March 1.

- Registration includes all speakers, "Wienie Roast" reception, entertainment, one lunch, one dinner and tours. Other meals will be on your own.
- The event starts Monday evening, March 27, with the "Wienie Roast" reception;
- Tuesday will be filled with interesting and educational lectures; Tuesday evening we will enjoy after dinner entertainment;
- The conference concludes Wednesday morning with a tour of a local fish hatchery on the Kern River and the Kernville Museum.
- The host lodges are reserved but selection is dependent upon attendance (that's why your "Hold My Place" deposit is so important this year). Lodging will be ~\$100 per night. You will make your own lodging reservations once the venue is selected. You will be notified shortly after January 7.
- Consider extending your stay following the conference, and enjoy the many opportunities in and around the Kernville area.

NOTE: The "Save My Place" form is available on the website:

<http://californiagardenclubs.com/nextmeeting>

(under the Wildflower Conference tab)



The "elves" from the Roseville Better Gardens Club (President Sue's home club) putting together *Encouraging Future Gardeners* kits. Keep up the good work!

God made rainy days so gardeners could get the housework done. ~Author Unknown

CGCI Programs & Projects

Go to californiagardenclubs.com
for details

- **Membership dues**

Mail to: Rita Desilets
8316 Sparton Avenue
Van Nuys, 91402-4030

- **Insurance**

Chairman: Shane Looper
213 Carmelo Lane
South San Francisco,
94080-2204

- **Group Tax Exemption Program**

Chairman: Krystal Migliore
P.O. Box 1414
Gridley, 95948-1414

- **Penny Pines**

Checks to US Forest Service

- **President's Project 2015-17**

Chairman: Maryanne Lucas
1986 Channelford Road
Westlake Village, 91361-3558

- **Project Mission Blue**

Chairman: Shane Looper
213 Carmelo Lane
South San Francisco,
94080-2204

- **Scholarships (Applications)**

Chairman: Martha Smyser
4949 Mammoth Ave.
Sherman Oaks, 91423-1319

- **Stagecoach Hill Propagation**

Chairman: Mary Lou Goodwin
1312 Gates St.
Eureka, CA 95501-2627

- **Stamps**

Chairman: Claudia Marsh
19822 Ottawa Rd, Apple Valley
92308-6155

- **Donations to the following projects are mailed to:**

California Garden Clubs
P.O. Box 75, Graton, CA
95444-0075

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park
Blue Star Memorials
CGCI Endowments
CGCI Scholarship Fund
Rare Plant Treasure Hunt
Reforestation/Restoration
Sempervirens Fund

Stagecoach Hill Azalea Propagation Project

Chairman: Mary Lou Goodwin

Protecting Western Azaleas

by Carol Ralph, President North Coast Chapter, California Native Plant Society
(excerpted from the winter, 2017, issue of *Darlingtonia*, CNPS newsletter)

Head-high shrubs laden with large, ruffled flowers in fresh, clean whites and pinks, wafting heavenly fragrance into the spring air--Western Azalea (*Rhododendron occidentale*) is definitely among our charismatic megafauna.

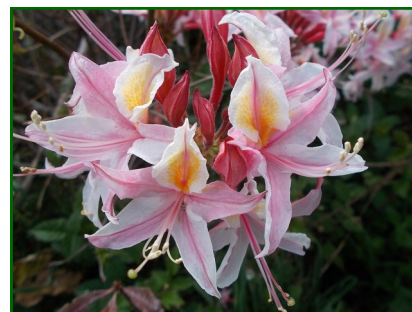
Its well-deserved attention has inspired its protection in parks and reserves. Here in North Coast CNPS territory we have two azalea reserves, the Azalea State Natural Reserve (2 miles east of Highway 101 on North Bank Rd, just up Azalea Rd. in McKinleyville) and the **Stagecoach Hill Azalea Management Area** (at the left end of Kane Rd. north of Big Lagoon). Both are managed by California State Parks.

The challenge is in preventing other shrubbery and eventually trees from overgrowing them. In the natural process of succession, native, woody plants sprout and grow among the azaleas, eventually shading them out. Natural "disasters" such as fire can return the upper hand to azaleas, which are adapted to fire and readily sprout from the base. When non-native, aggressive plants like Himalaya Blackberry are added to the mix, the need for fire or fire-equivalent is especially urgent. In other words, azaleas live in a high maintenance environment. State Parks has worked with this challenge and the Azalea State Natural Reserve still has azaleas after more than 70 years in State Parks care.

The North Coast Chapter of CNPS is joining **California Garden Clubs, Inc.** (CGCI) and the Eureka Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society in assisting State Parks in restoring the azaleas. Drawing on a fund just established by **CGCI** (which was instrumental in the original purchase of the Stagecoach Hill Azalea Management Area), State Parks has established the Stagecoach Hill Western Azalea Propagation and Restoration Project, and is raising seeds and cuttings from this remarkably diverse population to plant back in the reserve. The project also will remove encroaching trees this winter.

Note: Donation Forms for the CGCI Stagecoach Hill Azalea Propagation Project are available on the CGCI website:

<http://californiagardenclubs.com/stagecoachhill>



Awards, Honors & Recognition

CGCI offers many ways to say
"Thank You" or "Good Job"

NOTE: Check the forms for the
correct mailing address

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

♥ Angels

Chairman: Jane McKee
1276 Palomares Court
Fallbrook 92028-4480

♥ Awards Program

Check the website for updated
forms and instructions

♥ Business Commendations

Chairman: Launa Gould
New online request form

♥ California Consultants Council

Landscape Design (various) &
Outstanding Private Garden
Chairman: Julie West
850 Grandview Road
Sebastopol 95472-2930

♥ Honor Book

Chairman: Deedee Speer
30861 Saddleback Road
Valley Center 92082-3848

♥ Life Memberships

Chairman: Carlotta Wixon
14216 Karry's Place
Grass Valley 95945-7934

♥ Long-Term Certificates

Chairman: Mike Gould
New online request form

♥ Member Award of Distinction

Chairman: Mike Gould
1212 Avenida Buena Suerte
San Clemente 92672-2348

Promotional Materials

Did you know that CGCI offers promo-
tional and informational materials and
many are FREE*!



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

(Check the website for
ordering details)

Flower Show School, Course IV

Chairman: Emily Troxell

Host: Southwestern Judges Council

March 13-15, 2017 - Templars Hall, Old Poway Park, Poway, CA

Flower Show School, Course IV will feature two outstanding instructors.

- **Gina Jogan:** Design and Flower Show Procedure: Gina has a broad range of experiences with the NGC, local and state affiliates. Her designs have been widely published. She is a NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge, Gardening Consultant and Landscape Design Critic, Instructor - Floral Design Study School (A Bob Thomas Creation), and a member of OFAD.
- **Billie Fitch: Horticulture:** Billie lives in Nordland, WA. She received her MS in Marine Biology and then used the degree to teach Human Anatomy, Physiology and Biology at Green River Community College, Auburn, WA for 28 years. She has been a Horticulture and Flower Show Procedure instructor for 6 years.

Registration form/flyer is available at

<http://californiagardenclubs.com/calendar>

CGCI Awards

THANK YOU to the following new award sponsors

- ♥ Ilona Buratti (C-1, C-9)
- ♥ West Valley GC (C-13, HT-2)
- ♥ Jane McKee (PR-2, Sec 4, Class A-2)



Remembering...Marilyn Oberti 1925-2016

Marilyn passed away December 14 at her home. She was a long-time member of the Hillsborough Garden Crafters and active in both CGCI and NGC serving for many years as the liaison for the NGC President's Projects and on the NGC Board of Directors. In 2013 she received CGCI's Lifetime Service Award and at Fall Board 2016 was elected to the Circle of Poppies for her many years of dedicated service. Marilyn was a life member of CGCI, Pacific Region and NGC. Services were held December 21 in Burlingame.

May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face and the rain fall softly on your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you in the hollow of his hand. ~Irish Blessing

**President 2015-2017****Sandra H. Robinson****Headquarters:**

4401 Magnolia Avenue
 St. Louis, MO 63110-3492
 Telephone: (314) 776-7574
 Fax: (314) 776-5108

Email: headquarters@gardenclub.org**Publication:** *The National Gardener***Website:** gardenclub.org**Convention:**

May 16-21, 2017, Richmond, VA
 Richmond Marriott

Ongoing projects:

- Ames Garden Tools
- US Botanic Butterfly Garden
- Ecology Warriors Workbook
- Plant It Pink
- Rain Gardens
- SAGE & ROSES
- School Gardens
- Spring Planting for Butterflies
- Photo Archiving
- Water Projects

(Go to gardenclub.org for details on these and other projects)

**Director: 2015-2017****Kristie Livreri****Publication:** *WACONIAH***Website:**PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

Convention: April 18-20, 2017
 Seattle, WA

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

If not, you can subscribe here
 (it's FREE):

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

National Garden Clubs, Inc.**Pollinator Questions**

By Mary Sue Colvin, NGC Conservation Committee

Did you know....

- 80% to 90% of all flowering plants on Planet Earth depend on insects and animals for pollination?
- the cacao tree, the source of chocolate, is pollinated entirely by a tiny fly relative called a midge?
- fig trees are pollinated by wasps?
- butterflies taste with their feet?
- bumble bees are the only bees that use "buzz pollination" to dislodge the pollen?
- beetles play a major part in pollination?
- hover flies are the workhorses of the orchard - pollinating a variety of fruit crops?
- hummingbirds are found only in the Western Hemisphere?
- a variety of night-blooming flowers are highly dependent on moths for pollination?
- wetlands are an excellent source of conservation and protection for pollinators?
- at least 185 species of pollinators are considered threatened or extinct?
 - over 300 species of fruits depend on bats for pollination?
 - one species of nectar-feeding bats has the longest tongue in relation to its size of any mammal in the world?



This bat is only the size of a mouse, but its tongue is almost 3 ½ inches long!

Are you interested in going to Seattle Washington? How about Richmond, Virginia?

Delegates from our state are needed to represent CGCI at both the Pacific Region Convention and NGC Conventions:

- **April 18-20, 2017: Pacific Region Convention**
 Host: Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs
 Embassy Suites Seattle-Tacoma International Airport
- **May 16-21: NGC Convention, Richmond, VA**
 Host: Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 Richmond Marriott, Richmond, VA

If you are interested, please let CGCI Corresponding Secretary Carolyn Hoyum, cgcicorrespondingsecy@cagardenclubs.org, know so that your name can be added to the list for approval.

NOTE: Attendance at these conventions is not financially supported by CGCI.



DONATIONS 2016
Total this month: \$2,652.00
Pat York, Chairman
 Total January 1 to date:
\$25,410.00

**BAY BRIDGES DISTRICT**

Eden GC

Honor: Monica Orton.....\$68

Pinole GC

Memory: Lovell Bennett\$68

BUTTES DISTRICT

GC of Colusa County.....\$68

Memory: Renee Kalfsbeek Dolbow

From: Mr. & Mrs. J. Maltby ..\$68

Lake Oroville Area GC

Memory: Monte Tubbs\$68

Memory: Lauus Kuukka.....\$68

Memory: Barbara Pierce\$68

Memory: Vivian Golightly\$68

Name Correction from June 2016:

Sanda Nutini, not Sandy Rutini

Paradise GC

Memory: Catherine Seivner . \$68

CASCADE DISTRICT

Lake California GC\$136

DIABLO FOOTHILLS DISTRICT

Clayton Valley GC

Memory: Irene Fitch-Kingsbury... \$68

Memory: Fred & Barbara Manss . \$68

Honor: Mitzi Schenke.....\$68

Honor: Linda Karp.....\$68

Honor: Lee Jordan\$68

Honor: Kay Lane\$68

Honor: Dot Schafhirt.....\$68

Honor: Diane Selmer.....\$68

Honor: Chris Callaghan\$68

Honor: Bob Hoyer.....\$68

GOLDEN FOOTHILLS DISTRICT

Colfax GC

Honor: Foxey McCleary.....\$68

LUTHER BURBANK DISTRICT

Petaluma GC

Memory: Phyllis McHale\$68

ORANGE COUNTY DISTRICT

San Clemente GC

Memory: Jay Johnson\$68

Memory: Nancy Makowsky....\$68

Memory: Tina Goodale\$68

PALOMAR DISTRICT

San Diego County Garden Guild...\$68

Poway Valley GC

Honor: Hedy Pieramico.....\$68

Temecula Valley GC

Memory: Mona McCullough

from Keelan McCullough.....\$68

SACRAMENTO RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT

Geranium City GC.....\$272

Pioneer GC

Memory: Dorothy M. Meyers ..\$68

Honor: Mary Graham.....\$68

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY DISTRICT

West Valley GC

Honor: Melinda Gejr.....\$68

Honor: Randall Montgomery ..\$68

SANTA CLARA VALLEY DISTRICT

San Jose GC.....\$68

SEQUOIA FOOTHILLS DISTRICT

Valley Oak GC

Honor: Terry Brazil.....\$68

Honor: Marisa Evans.....\$68

President's Travel Schedule:

- January 4: Tuolumne County Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Judging, Sonora, CA
- January 5: Folsom Garden Club
- January 12: CA State Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl Poster Judging, U.S. Forest Service, Sonora, CA
- January 30-Feb 2: Winter Board, Anderson
- February 27-28: Palomar District
- March 1: Ripon Garden Club
- March 27-29: Wildflower Conference
- April 10: Desert Empire District
- April 18-20: PR Convention, Washington
- May 16-21: NGC Convention, Virginia
- May 30-June 3: CGCI Convention

**President's Project Donations:**

♥ Auburn GC

♥ Roseville Better Gardens GC

Total to date: \$12,833.00