

# Golden Gardens eNews

NGC 1st Place winner for State Newsletter!

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

October 2020, Vol. 2-13

Member:

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

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[cgcpresident@cagardenclubs.org](mailto:cgcpresident@cagardenclubs.org)

President-Elect ..... Lynne Batchelor

2nd Vice President ..... Carol Vallens

3rd Vice President ..... Adele Kelly

Recording Secretary ..... Gail Vanderhorst

Corresponding Secretary ..... Milly Benson

Financial Secretary ..... Rita Desilets

Treasurer ..... George Perko

Parliamentarian ..... Greg Pokorski

Communications Director ..... Kathy Taylor

## Golden Gardens eNews

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## Golden Gardens eNews

- Published monthly
- Distributed electronically FREE
- To subscribe or view past issues:  
[californiagardenclubs.com/cgcinewsletters](http://californiagardenclubs.com/cgcinewsletters)
- Submit articles by 20th of month.
- Distributed during first week of month.



Autumn Greetings CGCI members:

I am delighted to receive so many of your newsletters and emails during the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing requirements. Many clubs and districts are having virtual meetings, but some clubs are finding creative ways by meeting in parks, public outdoor stadiums or even social distancing in members gardens. Where there is way to social distancing, garden club members can find it!



Thank you for sharing your creative newsletters. I have forwarded them to our CGCI Facebook Chairman, Pat Clayes, to share on CGCI's Facebook page. Pat is happy to share your informative and educational projects on our page.

Again, when making plans for your meetings and special events, please continue to check with your local City and County Health Department guidelines regarding COVID-19. We are all subject to local mandates that need to be followed.

Here are two examples of things this President has learned through club and district newsletters this month:

**Pinole Garden Club's** newsletter reports that they have obtained approval to install a Free Seed Lending Library at their local library. The idea is that the community will borrow seeds, grow them, harvest them and return seeds back to the library. Members of the club are now saving seeds for this project. A fun project for sure!

The **Valley Lode District** newsletter is full of creative advice. The district has reached out to its clubs to offer help in virtual conferencing and training. Their annual workshop featured three subjects- Social Media, Treasurer's Challenges and Document Storage - what to save and for how long. The newsletter also features activities of several clubs with lots of educational news shared among the district's clubs.

The Executive Committee is continuing their monthly telephone conferencing and is discussing possible ways we can meet in the future. There will be announcements shortly regarding CGCI meetings.

Remember donations are needed and welcome to help restore Big Basin Redwoods State Park (California's oldest state park) through CGCI's state project, Sempervirens Fund. Here is the link on CGCI's website for donations:

<http://californiagardenclubs.com/sempervirensfund>

Stay tuned for an online President's Project auction from the President's Jewelry Box being developed and coming soon!!! It will help raise funds for the President's project restoring *San Bruno Mountain Botanical Garden*.

Stay well and hope to see you soon!

**Shane**

**CGCI Calendar**

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

- **January 24-27, 2021:**  
CGCI Winter Board Meeting  
Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys  
Host: So. California Garden Club
- **May 30-June 4, 2021:**  
CGCI Convention  
Embassy Suites, So. San Francisco  
Co-Hosts: Santa Clara Valley and  
Bay Ocean Districts

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**CGCI Schools Chairmen**

**Environmental:** Michael and Leticia  
Biedenbender: mikeb.cvgc@gmail.com

**Flower Show:** Gudrun Kimmel  
gudrun56@att.net

**Gardening:** Greg Pokorski  
gregpokorski@earthlink.net

**Landscape Design:** Alexis Slafer  
aslafer@ca.rr.com

**NGC Schools**

All registration forms are on the  
CGCI website Calendar page  
[californiagardenclubs.com/calendar](http://californiagardenclubs.com/calendar)

**2020 CGCI Awards Program**

*By Pat Claves, Awards Chairman*

Because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, this chairman has received numerous inquiries about the 2020 Awards Program – specifically if the 2020 Awards Program will take place.

There are numerous awards for which a club member, club or district can apply during this unprecedented time. Below are the award categories:

**Special Awards**

Club Activities Awards

Environment & Horticulture Awards

Flower Show Awards – yes, there was one flower show held on March 8!

And do not forget about Award #37 – Flower Arranger of the Year Award

Photography Awards

Publications/Media Awards

Yearbook Awards

Youth Awards

Achievement Awards

All award judges will be taking the current circumstance into consideration when judging. For example, Award #10 Blue Ribbon Certificate of Achievement Award. If you feel that a category does not count because of the current situation, just add the points allowed (e.g., attending a district meeting, etc. and note with an asterisk and explain below the form about the “stay at home situation”).

Please note these two deadlines: **December 1, 2020** and **January 10, 2021**. See the 2020 Awards Manual for deadlines and specifics: [Awards Manual](#)

For all evaluation forms, see: <http://californiagardenclubs.com/awards>. The judges will use the evaluation forms to judge your entry. Make sure that your applications address all items listed on the evaluation forms so that no points will be deducted.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [patclaves@aol.com](mailto:patclaves@aol.com). I am here to help you, your club, and your district be recognized for your hard work and efforts on behalf of California Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc., Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.



The CGCI Facebook is in need of videos.

Do you have a video on any aspect of gardening, landscape design, floral design, environmental concerns or any other subject in which garden club members may be interested? If so, please send your video to the CGCI Facebook Administrator at [patclaves@aol.com](mailto:patclaves@aol.com).

By the way, if you are submitting for an NGC Facebook (Social Media) award, please note that NGC wants to see videos on your Facebook page.

**Like us on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaGardenClubsInc>

This word is both an adjective and the name of a flower.

*Answer on Page 6.*

**CGCI Programs & Projects**

Go to [californiagardenclubs.com](http://californiagardenclubs.com)  
for details

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- Membership**

**Chairman: Adele Kelly**  
P.O. Box 27179  
San Diego 92198-1179

- Insurance**

**Chairman: Robin Pokorski**  
512 Newton Street  
San Fernando 91340-2421

- Group Tax Exemption Program**

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

- Penny Pines**

**Chairman: Nina Blonski**  
Checks to US Forest Service  
Online form

- President's Project 2019-2021**

- Project Mission Blue**

**Chairman: Julie West**  
850 Grandview Road,  
Sebastopol 95472-2930

- Scholarship Applications**

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

- Stamps**

**Chairman: Terry Sampson**  
10596 Orchid Avenue  
Hesperia 92345-5380

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

California Garden Clubs  
P.O. Box 75, Graton 95444-0075  
Anza-Borrego Desert State Park  
Blue Star Memorials  
CGCI Endowments  
CGCI Scholarship Fund  
Sempervirens Fund

**Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP)**

*By Sue Bennett, Chairman*

If your club/district is a member of GTEP, then yes, you are a 501(c)(3) charity.

Under the Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act (Government Code section 12580 - 12599.8) charitable organizations are required to register with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts and to file annual reports.

Some clubs are getting letters/postcards from the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) stating: "The Attorney General's Office shows that your organization is not current with Registry of Charitable trusts (RCT) requirements."

If you haven't done so, your organization needs to first complete the initial registration process before the Registry can process your Form RRF-1. When the Registry of Charitable Trusts receives a Form RRF-1 for an organization that is not registered, the RRF-1 Form is returned to the organization with a Notice to Register.

If you are one of those lucky clubs, there is no need to contact the GTEP Chair. Follow the instructions on the letter; they tell you what to do. Scroll this website that walks you through the renewals and annual requirements; <https://oag.ca.gov/charities/renewals#online>.

**Environmental Art**

To continue our goal to protect the environment, all members of CGCI are invited to create an eco friendly art work. The only requirement is that the art work incorporate one or more recycled, repurposed objects into the design. Imagination is the only limit.

**Criteria for Submission:**

- All CGCI members are eligible to participate.
- There may be a small entrance fee.
- Notification of intent to participate must be received one month prior to exhibition.
- Include Title or Theme and description of your work. If highlighting an environmental issue, include a short synopsis.
- Identify the recycled or repurposed items used. Include a list of other materials and techniques.
- Categories are Fiber, Collage, Sculpture, Assemblage, Jewelry.
- Submit photos giving three dimensional views of art work.
- Deadline for submission to be announced.
- Delivery and installation of art work is responsibility of artist. Art must be removed at end of exhibition.
- Organization will not be responsible for damage or theft of artworks while on display.
- Insurance of the item is responsibility of artist.

For application contact Chairman:

Judy Unrine, [Judysgarden01@gmail.com](mailto:Judysgarden01@gmail.com) 310-378-0227





**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)

♥ **Awards Program**

Chairman: Pat Clayes

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

♥ **Business Commendations**

Chairman: Judy Bates

Online request form

♥ **California Consultants Council**

Chairman: Sue Bennett

[Sue\\_c\\_bennett@att.net](mailto:Sue_c_bennett@att.net)

Consultant of the Year,  
Environmental, Gardening, &  
Landscape Design awards.

♥ **Honor Book**

Chairman: Bette Langford

102 Calle Cuervo

San Clemente 92672-2423

♥ **Life Memberships**

Chairman: Carlotta Wixon-Welker

14216 Karry's Place

Grass Valley 95945-7934

♥ **Long-Term Certificates**

Chairman: Judy Bates

Online request form

♥ **Member Award of Distinction**

Chairman: Judy Bates

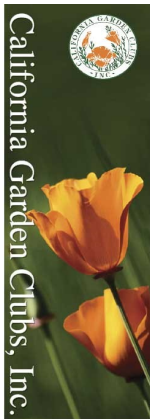
5075 Valley Crest Dr #246

Concord 94521-4914

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**Promotional Materials**

Did you know that CGCI offers  
promotional and informational  
materials and many are FREE\*!



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

(Check the website for  
ordering details)

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

**Eureka Sequoia Garden Club Planted Gazebo Hanging Baskets**

*Maria Krenek, President and Mary Lou Goodwin received thank you certificates from the Old Town Merchants Association who funded the project.*

A Eureka Sequoia Garden Club committee composed of Shelly Lusk-Sellers, Janet Biasca, Marcy Foster and President, Maria Krenek planted the Old Town Gazebo Hanging Baskets recently for the eleventh year. Darryl Aberbom, Garden Manager of Shafer's Hardware Garden Center, hosted the event. Charlotte Mc Donald, Executive Director of Eureka Main Street coordinated the project and ordered the materials consisting of Wave Petunias, Lobelia and Alyssum. The City of Eureka Maintenance Department transported the baskets to the city green house in Sequoia Park Gardens where they were grown until they were hung in the Gazebo around Memorial Weekend. Kevin Mc Donald from The Mission provided workers to water the plants every day until they are taken down in October. All of these baskets added a boost to our spirits this summer.

**Bylaw Reminder**

*By Carol Vallens, 2nd Vice President, Bylaws Committee Chairman*

In accordance with Article XX- Amendments Section 2 (page 95 of the 2019-2020 yearbook) "Proposed amendments to the bylaws must be submitted to the bylaws committee chairman by **November 1**".

You may email any proposed changes to this chairman as soon as possible, at:  
[cgci2ndvp@cgardenclubs.org](mailto:cgci2ndvp@cgardenclubs.org)

**Amazon Smile**

A number of CGCI members have found the Amazon Smile donation program to be easy to use and allow contributions to be made to CGCI. In 2019-20, CGCI received \$31.48 from this program.

To participate, you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and they will donate 0.5% of the price on eligible purchases to CGCI. This website has similar products at similar prices to the Amazon website. You select your favorite charity (CGCI) when you sign up. Amazon Smile automatically transfers the donations at regular intervals to CGCI. More information is available on the Amazon Smile website.

**President 2019-2021****Gay Austin****Headquarters:**

4401 Magnolia Avenue  
 St. Louis, MO 63110-3492  
 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)**Ongoing projects:**

- Plant America
- Ames Garden Tools
- Blue & Gold Star Memorials
- US Botanic Butterfly Garden
- School Gardens
- Spring Planting for Butterflies
- Water Projects

(Go to [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org) for details on these and other projects)

**Director: 2019-2021****Robin Pokorski****Publication:** *WACONIAH***Website:**[PacificRegionGardenClubs.org](http://PacificRegionGardenClubs.org)**Conventions:**

Aug. 9-12, 2021: Silverton, Oregon  
 2022: Washington

**Blue Stars Shine in the Pacific Region!**

California has been challenged to dedicate 5 Blue Stars each year (2019 - 2021). Will your club help California rise to the challenge?

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

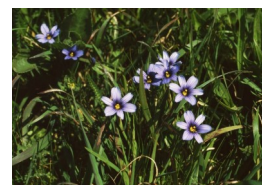
If not, you can subscribe here  
 (it's FREE):

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

**Project Mission Blue - Phase II***By Julie A. West, Chairman*

As CGCI enters the last year of this five-year partnership with *Golden Gate National Park Conservancy* project, we continue to solicit funds for Project Mission Blue - Phase II. Phase II propagates and plants twelve California native nectar plants to assist the federally endangered mission blue butterfly. Adult butterflies use these nectar sources in between patches of host larval lupines.

Blue-Eyed Grass (*Sisyrinchium bellum*) featured here is one of the twelve nectar plants being propagated in Phase II:



It is widespread from San Diego to Humboldt counties.

Blue-Eyed Grass ranges in height from 4 -12 inches in full sun to partial shade. Vibrant blue-purple petaled flowers surround a central cone of yellow stamens on narrow, dark green grass-like leaves. Plant it in front of a mixed border, along paths or in containers. Plants re-seed generously and clumps can be divided in late fall or early spring.

We thank **Peninsula Succulent Club** and **Carolands Garden Club** for their generous contributions since the July 2020 issue. \$1,476 has been received since July 1, 2019 and a total of \$5,743.00 since July 1, 2016. This exciting project is made possible because of people like you and the charitable donations that you make in any amount. Your financial support to help the population of this endangered species survive is appreciated!

Visit this link on CGCI's website for more information and donation form:

<http://californiagardenclubs.com/projectmissionblue>

CGCI is grateful for your continued support for this state project that concludes June 2021!

**Special Awards***By Pat Claves, Awards Chairman*

Did you know that CGCI has Special Awards for special people? The deadline to submit nominations for these Special Awards is January 10, 2021. But why wait? Please send your applications for CGCI's Special Awards now!

- Lifetime Achievement
- Lifetime Service
- Man of the Year
- Woman of the Year
- Member Award of Honor
- Gardener of the Year
- Youth Leader of the Year
- Awards of Merit
- Consultant of the Year

A complete summary of each Special Award (and where to send your applications) can be found in the Awards Manual that is on line at:

<http://californiagardenclubs.com/awards>



Nina Blonski, Chairman  
 pennypines@cagardenclubs.org  
 Total January 1 to September 7, 2020 \$19,448

**Penny Pines update:**

All US Forest Service Offices are closed due to the COVID-19 restrictions and/or the wild-fire events around the state. Please do NOT send Penny Pines donations at this time. You may wish to continue collecting funds and hold until we are notified that the offices are open and able to receive donations.

| District                | Club/Donor                | Memory (M) or Honor (H) of Whom |   | Amount |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------|
| Bay Ocean               | Carolands GC              |                                 |   | 68.00  |
| Costa Verde             | San Pedro GC / Diane Laos | H                               | Birthday of Debbie Laos Skinner                         | 68.00  |
| Diablo Foothills        | Clayton Valley GC         | H                               | Ben & Alyce Shikano                                     | 68.00  |
| Diablo Foothills        | Clayton Valley GC         | H                               | Jesse Cruz  | 68.00  |
| Diablo Foothills        | Clayton Valley GC         | H                               | Paul Jordan   | 68.00  |
| Diablo Foothills        | Clayton Valley GC         | H                               | Ted Meriam  | 68.00  |
| Greater Los Angeles     | It's Garden Thyme GC      | H                               | Barbara Penland-Maun                                    | 68.00  |
| Greater Los Angeles     | It's Garden Thyme GC      | M                               | Marsha McCormick, Frances Murphy                        | 136.00 |
| Orange                  | San Juan Capistrano GC    |                                 |   | 68.00  |
| Orange                  | Del Norte GC              | M                               | Queen James   | 68.00  |
| Palomar                 | Bridge and Bay GC         | H                               | Bridge & Bay GC members                                 | 136.00 |
| Palomar                 | Bernardo Gardeners Club   |                                 |   | 68.00  |
| Palomar                 | Bernardo Gardeners Club   |                                 |   | 68.00  |
| Sacramento River Valley | Folsom GC                 | H                               | David Coolidge, Ron Byrd, Kathy Baker, Linda Kessemeyer | 340.00 |
| Sacramento River Valley | Folsom GC                 | M                               | Tinka Davi  | 0.00   |
| San Fernando Valley     | Southern California GC    | H                               | SCGC 93rd Anniversary                                   | 68.00  |
| Sequoia Foothills       | Sequoia GC                | H                               | Judy Silguero   | 68.00  |



Answer: Sweet pea



The 2021 Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest is dedicated to Woodsy Owl's 50th birthday! Children from first through fifth grade are invited to participate in the 2021 Poster Contest that is brought to you by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the US Forest Service. ONLY WOODSY OWL POSTERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO SMOKEY BEAR POSTERS.

Note: **January 23, 2021** deadline for California Woodsy Owl posters TO BE RECEIVED BY CGCI Chairman Charlotte Tucker: ctucker@mlode.com.  
 Flyer: <https://gardenclub.org/.../202.../smokey-bear-flyer-2021.pdf>

