

Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

December 2021 Vol. 6-14

Member:

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

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cgcpresident@cagardenclubs.org
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Golden Gardens eNews

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Award Winning—Golden Gardens eNews

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- Distributed electronically FREE
- To subscribe or view past issues:
californiagardenclubs.com/cgcnewsletters
- **Submit articles by 20th of month.**
- Distributed during first week of month.



Happy Holidays Gardeners,

I hope everyone had a beautiful, bountiful Thanksgiving filled with the people and things you hold dear. You are a blessing to your family, friends and the community you enhance, beautify and serve. Among the things I am most grateful for is the opportunity to lead CGCI in our vital work; thank you so much for your support. I did the "Gobble til you Wobble" routine with my brother and his family in Temecula. As Americans, Californians, and garden club members, we have so much for which to be thankful.



In October I made my first in person visit to a club outside of my own district. The Chicago Park Garden Club in the Golden Foothills District invited me to attend their annual Victorian Tea. What a fantastic affair! It is their principal fundraiser and was attended by 144 members and guests. In addition to decorating the venue, they set up vignettes all around the perimeter with period furniture and accessories. The tea reminded me of the many I enjoyed during my three years of teaching in the United Kingdom but was even more delicious. Thank goodness I was able to purchase additional scones and jam and other great items. In addition, they had a wonderful speaker Chris Enns who has written 54 books primarily histories about women in the American West. She spoke about her just published book on women's suffrage in California which was fascinating. I also want to thank Orange County District for inviting me to their Zoom district meeting. I heard so many great ideas as their clubs reported on their events and activities. I love to see what is happening around the state, so please invite me to participate in your in person or Zoom events. Have suitcase, will travel! Have computer, will Zoom!

I am so disappointed that winter board has had to be switched to a Zoom event. My two-year term will be half over before we get to see one another in person. We haven't even had the traditional President's champagne and dessert reception! As you know winter board was scheduled for the Airtel Hotel in Van Nuys. Because of covid, the hotel signed a contract with the city to provide housing and meals for homeless veterans and with the hospital to store PPE supplies in the ballroom. These contracts have just been renewed, so they have no room for us. The winter board chairman Rita Desilets informed me that she searched for an alternate hotel but was unsuccessful in finding one which met our needs. We are all so sorry and apologize for any inconvenience. If you have made plane reservations, hopefully they can be changed to a flight to San Diego for our convention in June.

I have just received the single largest donation from a garden club for my President's Project. A huge thank you to the La Jolla Garden Club for their \$500 donation. I also received the single largest donation from a district. I am so grateful to Palomar District for their \$500 contribution. In recognition of their donations, the La Jolla GC name and Palomar district will be on a plant identification sign at the garden. You can see your name displayed as well for a similar donation (which can be cumulative). San Diego River Park Foundation received a grant from a local philanthropist so all contributions will be matched for the next 8 weeks.

President's message continued page 2

CGCI Calendar

californiagardenclubs.com/calendar

- February 7-9, 2022**

Winter Board Meeting
ZOOM
Chairman: Rita Desilets

- June 6-10, 2022**

CGCI Convention
Hanblery Hotel, San Diego
Chairman: Sharon Tooley

CGCI Schools Chairmen

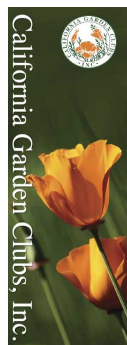
Environmental: Nancy Compton
ncompton43@att.com

Flower Show: Sandra Graff
sandgrf@sbcglobal.net

Gardening: Greg Pokorski
gregpokorski@earthlink.net

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

Course 1 January 15-16, 2022
Course 2 February 12-13, 2022
Course 3 February 26-27, 2022
Course 4 March 12-13, 2022
Host: Valley Lode District
Chairman: Bernie Hendrix
209-402-2351
schoolsvld@gmail.com

Promotional Materials

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

* Free materials
Online request forms

President's message continued

This is traditionally a season for giving, so I hope you will consider making a donation from your club, district, design group, your company, etc. Every little bit helps especially during this matching phase, so if you would like to make a personal donation or ask your friends and associates for a contribution that would be wonderful. A reminder that my President's Project will provide a sensory garden, ethno-botanic garden, and signage at the new Grant Park on the San Diego River in the Mission Valley area in central San Diego. You will be able to see this project when you come for convention in June!

I love this time of year—the food, parties, shopping, decorating, special religious services, carols and songs, seeing the traditional theater offerings, baking, concerts, sending and receiving cards, catching up with far away friends, the spirit of good cheer, etc. Sending everyone good wishes for a Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, Festive Kwanza, Special Winter Season and wishing all a productive and successful 2022.

Lynne

**Black Point Garden**

Shane Looper, Chairman Article by Natalie Korengold

We are incredibly proud to welcome the public to the newly-opened Black Point historic gardens in Fort Mason (San Francisco, CA). The gardens are about an acre in size and sprawl down the hillside between upper Fort Mason and Aquatic Park. These historic gardens date back to the 1850s, and spent years as private residential gardens, then military gardens, before they were fenced off and left unmaintained for decades. Finally, after 50 years behind fences, the historic pathways and unbeatable views of the bay are finally opened to the public.



Photos by Russell Bombon

Though the fences are down, we certainly still have a lot of work to do. With help from community volunteers, the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy (GGNPC), in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS) is working to restore the historic walking gardens to their old splendor. Stewardship goals include highlighting native plant and summer-dry landscaping, cultivating native pollinator habitat, and integrating in edible plants where possible. By partnering with local high schools, institutions of higher education, job readiness programs, and community partners like California Garden Clubs, Inc., we aim to build the next generation of eco-stewards.

You can explore volunteer opportunities and register at [Parks Conservancy.org](http://ParksConservancy.org). Please reach out to Program Manager, Natalie Korengold, at nkoren-gold@parksconservancy.org if you have questions.

CGCI donations to Black Point Historical Gardens total \$760.00.

Click here to donate: [Black Point Garden](#).

Thank you for donating:

**Carolands Garden Club, Garden Study Garden Club of the Peninsula,
Chuck Goodwin, Berni Hendrix, Robin Mitchell,
Southern California Garden Club, Elisabeth Tufo and Brad Welles.**

CGCI Programs & Projects

Go to californiagardenclubs.com
for details

- Membership**

Chairman: Marlene Kinney
315 Windmill Canyon Place
Clayton, CA 94517-1904

- Insurance**

Chairman: Shane Looper
213 Carmelo Lane
South San Francisco 94080-204

- Group Tax Exemption Program**

Chairman: Sue Bennett
7560 Shelborne Drive
Granite Bay 95746-8617
gtep@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 94080-204
[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](#)

NEWS FLASH!!! Winter Board February 7-9, 2022 will be held via ZOOM**Tech Notes**

by Jane McKee, CGCI Webmaster



A Virtual Tour of the CGCI Website: A short video demonstrating how to navigate the CGCI website, locate information and forms, and complete and submit forms is now available. Go to: californiagardenclubs.com/video.



If you are interested in serving on the CGCI Executive Committee, contact any member of the Nominating Committee:

Pat Claves, Roseann Constabile, Carolyn Hoyum, Nancy McDougal, Sharon Tooley, Elisabeth Tufo or Carolyn Villi.

Got Newsletters?

Please consider placing CGCI's Social Media Chairman's email address (patclaves@aol.com) on your newsletter distribution list. She would love to share some of your news all throughout California via the CGCI Facebook page (no names or contact information will be included). Photos will only be posted with permission. Thank you!, **Pat**

**Membership**

by Marlene Kinney CGCI 3rd Vice President; Membership Chairman

**Thank you garden Clubs and APS's for
Renewing your Memberships for year 2021-2022.**



Ron and Linda Lang created this stage arrangement for the City of Colton's Veterans Day Celebration.

They are members of the Riverside/San Bernardino Counties Orchid Society and Inland Empire Master Gardeners Club.

Awards, Honors & Recognition

californiagardenclubs.com/forms

- Awards Program**

Chairman: Pat Claves

• 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"

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Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.

Director: 2021-2022

Lana Finegold

Email: lanafinegold@msn.com

Publication: **WACONIAH**

Website:

PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

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

If not, you can subscribe here

californiagardenclubs.com/cgcnewsletters

2021 CGCI Awards Program

by Pat Claves, Awards Chairman

January 10, 2022 is the postmark deadline for the remainder of the awards (those not due on December 1, 2021).

Of most importance are the Special Awards:

Person of the Year

Lifetime Achievement

Lifetime Service

CGCI Member Award of Honor

Gardener of the Year

Youth Leader of the Year

Awards of Merit (3)

Consultant of the Year



Nominations for the Special Awards can be made by individual members, clubs and districts by January 10, 2022. Please complete a CGCI Application form and include up to three pages (front side only) describing why the person is worthy of the award. The Application form can be found here: [Application Form](#)

See the 2021 Awards Manual for deadlines and specifics: [Awards Manual](#)

For all evaluation forms, see: <https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/awards/>. The judges will use the evaluation forms to judge your entry.

**Sustainable Consumption**

by Gail Vanderhorst, Recording Secretary

It's time to think about sustainable consumption again. While you are out shopping at the mall or sitting at your computers shopping online for the Holidays, think about what items you can purchase that have more than one use or that were made naturally. For instance, there are products that are made from recycled products like wallets from recycled leather or plastic and jewelry made from recycled airplane parts, other metal pieces and even left-over military articles.

When shopping for food, think about buying from the local farmers markets or local food stands to prepare your home cooked meals. They are fresher and more organic than the food from big box stores. And for sure, save those turkey bones to make turkey soup, or turkey stock for adding to other meals.

Reduce, reuse and recycle....Toilet paper, paper towels, cardboard and greeting cards are all made from recycled paper. Look on the back of greeting cards to see if they are made from recycled paper and use them to send your greetings. Most of us are already doing these things but if we can add one more item to the to do list then we are improving our world.

Who is Drawing on the Walls at your House?

by Lisa Cosand, Youth Coordinator



Let's redirect that creative energy and support the two youth poster drawing contests sponsored by garden clubs.

First one is Smokey the Bear, "Only you Can Prevent Wildfires!" or Woodsy Owl, "Lend a Hand, Care for the Land!", promoting preservation of the forest and less litter. The signature statement needs to be on the poster. This contest starts at the garden club level, must be on an 11" x 17" paper and is due on **Jan. 23, 2022**. Winners can go up to the National Level contest.

Second poster contest is celebration of Pollinators featuring one kind of pollinator only (bees, bats, butterfly, etc.) on an 8 ½ x 11-inch paper and is due March 1, 2022 to the Pacific Region chairperson. This is a new poster contest for Pacific Region. Let's show some support.

Read the websites (California Garden Clubs, Inc. Youth Contests, and Pacific Region Garden Club, Youth Contests) before you instruct the children what to draw and how to enter the contest. Paper size is important, and no names on the front of the posters. Parents and Grandparents, enter the poster through your garden club, if they were drawn individually, instead of in school.

Looking forward to many artistic creations!

Questions: Lisa Cosand at sflowerpLc@aol.com



Sempervirens / Big Basin Redwoods

A Gift of Nature by Judy Unrine

People interested in conservation have been saving and preserving the redwoods of California over many years. Abe Lincoln protected the Giant Sequoias, the largest trees, in the Yosemite Valley, with a Public Trust in about 1849. The coastal redwood, *Sequoia Sempervirens*, the world's tallest trees, were protected with the dedication of Big Basin Redwoods State Park.

No one could have protected the trees from the August 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Fire. Habitat, man made structures, and redwoods were destroyed or damaged in the fires.

A gift of the holiday season is that redwoods are fire resilient. There are reports that the forests ravaged last year by wildfire are beginning to recover. Reports from the fire area tell us that the redwoods are regrowing along the trunks. This is called epicormic sprouting, a common response that redwoods make after wildfire.

While we cannot enter Big Basin Redwoods State Park, there are other parks maintained under the Sempervirens Fund in the Santa Cruz area. Castle Rock State Park has reopened with ample parking, wheelchair access, clean restrooms and well-maintained walkways. A favorite hike is the Castle Rock Falls trail. It is located in a beautiful, rustic setting, and is easily accessed from the Robert C. Kirkwood entrance.

Another gift of the season is that even if many of us can't venture out, your donation to the Sempervirens Fund or the Big Basin Redwoods Recovery Fund provides valuable support for the Coastal Redwoods.

Thank you, Southern California Garden Club, for your second donation.

Make your check payable to CGCI and mail to P.O. Box 823, San Fernando, CA. 91341-0823.

Note Big Basin Recovery Fund or Sempervirens. Include donors name, address, email, and phone number.

Sempervirens Co-chairs: Rosa Radicchi, raddicchi@aol.com

Judy Unrine, judysgarden01@gmail.com





Nina Blonski, Chairman
pennypines@cagardenclubs.org

[Penny Pines](#)

Year to date donations total: \$16,320

District	Club / Donor		Honor or Memory / To Whom		Amount
Bay Bridges	Pinole GC		Honor	Millicent Borland	\$68.00
Bay Ocean	Carolands GC				\$68.00
Cascade	Anderson Valley GC		Memory	Anne Capes	\$136.00
Cascade	Lake California GC		Memory	Joe & Mary Adams	\$136.00
Diablo Foothills	Livermore-Amador Valley GC		Memory	Nancy Cowan	\$68.00
Palomar	San Dieguito GC		Honor	Nancy McMahon	\$68.00
Palomar	San Dieguito GC		Memory	Jack Robinson	\$68.00
Sac River Valley	Shibui Arrangers Guild		Honor	Benicia Veterans Memorial Hall, American Legion Post 101, VFW Post 3928	\$68.00
Sac River Valley	Clarksburg GC		Memory	Shirley McDonald	\$68.00
Sac River Valley	Clarksburg GC		Memory	Ella Davis	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC		Honor	Burbank Printing	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	West Valley GC		Memory	Agnes Zippler	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	West Valley GC		Memory	Harry Halfpapp	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	West Valley GC		Memory	Amanda Halfpapp	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Southern California GC		Honor	Richard Armerding, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #2805	\$136.00
Sequoia Foothills	Sequoia GC		Honor	Christina Edwardsen	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Manteca Gc		Honor	Hank Wiegel	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Foothill GC		Memory	Raymond Wade	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ripon GC		Honor	All Firefighters & Volunteers	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ripon GC		Honor	All Firefighters & Volunteers	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ripon GC		Honor	All Firefighters & Volunteers	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ripon GC		Honor	All Firefighters & Volunteers	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ripon GC		Honor	All Firefighters & Volunteers	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ceres GC	James Casey	Honor	Friends of Francis M. Welsh	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ceres GC	Kathy Casey	Honor	Friends of Helen Marchy	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ceres GC	Stephanie Pino	Memory	Roger Dyer	\$68.00
Valley Lode	River Valley GC		Honor	Don & Debbie Kolmodin	\$68.00

Gardening for Spiders

by Ron Lang, Palms to Pines District Director

The first question I get when I suggest we should garden for spiders is a horrified “why would I want spiders in my garden?”. That is a good question and one I would like to explore with you. First, we need to be aware of a few spider facts. Spiders are a creature much like an insect, but they have eight legs rather than six legs and a few other differences that are not important to our discussion. The important thing to know about spiders is that they eat insects. Spiders may be the Tyrannosaurus rex by the insect population in our gardens. Spiders are estimated to eat up to 2000 insects a year. Think about that before you stomp on that spider running across your living room floor, you may not want 2000 insects swarming into your house!

Spiders are feared by many people and killed just because spiders exist. How sad not to have stopped and considered what an amazing creature we have living with us. A few spiders are poisonous to us such as Hobo or Aggressive House spider and Black Widows. We might choose not to live in close quarters with them. Wolf spiders can be poisonous depending on a person’s sensitivity, but are not likely to bite. They build no web and are constantly on the move.

There are at least 50,000 spider species in the world. To find out what common spiders live in your garden, house or area check it out online, go to the nearest Natural History Museum or read a book on spiders. Gardening for spiders is like gardening for butterflies, birds and other interesting creatures. The habitat is critical. Read up on the biology of spiders to understand their habitat needs. It is not difficult to provide spider habitat. It is likely that you have many places for spiders to thrive in your garden but with a bit of creative landscaping you may provide even more habitat. Remember just because a spider is poisonous does not mean it does not have a place in your garden. Spiders are the front guard of your garden against insect pests. Respect and give them space to do their job.