

Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

February 2021 Vol. 6-13

Member:

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Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**

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cgcpresident@cagardenclubs.org

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Communications Director Kathy Taylor

Golden Gardens eNews

goldengardens@cagardenclubs.org

Editor Launa Gould

Assistant Editor Jane McKee

Proofreader Robin Pokorski

Proofreader Nancy Compton

Proofreader Julie A. West

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Golden Gardens eNews

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



californiagardenclubs.com

Greetings CGCI members!!

How are you doing with virtual conferencing? There are several telecommunications media available for you to choose from. CGCI just completed their first Winter Board Meeting by using *Zoom*. It was a successful conference with very few hiccups.



Over the last two weeks, virtual meetings took place for Standing Committees and Board of Directors handled CGCI business. The success of our Technical *Zoom* hosts clearly showed that we could continue CGCI's work virtually. In addition, we had a virtual President's Jewelry Box auction and a fun social hour. Our National Garden Clubs President, Gay Austin, joined us and we were delighted to hear her message to all who attended the meeting.

New state projects were presented with the first reading of the resolution for each project. The Board of Directors approved donating \$5,000 to the Sempervirens Fund for the "Big Basin Recovery Fund" at *Big Basin Redwoods State Park* that suffered significant fire damage to old-growth redwoods, signage and the historical visitors facility. CGCI, districts, clubs and individuals have contributed to this conservation project since 1973. You can read about additional historical redwood forest projects supported in CGCI's *The Diamond Years* available online on CGCI's website beginning on page 103: (<http://californiagardenclubs.com/sites/default/files/Publications/TheDiamondYearsOnline.pdf>) Watch for details in an upcoming eBlast on how CGCI will be matching donations made by districts, clubs and individual donations to provide additional funds for the Big Basin Recovery Fund.

Recently, I was able to virtually attend the *Southern California Garden Club's* January meeting. I was delighted to be able to see and talk to their members. An excellent speaker and workshop was included in their meeting. It was a fun time hearing about the activities of this club. I would be glad to attend your club's or district's meetings virtually - just send me an email or call me with your invitation. I look forward to attending the Diablo Foothills District virtual meeting in February.

Please continue to send me your newsletters as they are full of valuable information to share with fellow members. After all, CGCI's mission statement concludes with "the exchange of information and ideas."

Please continue to stay safe until we can meet in person again.

Shane Looper

CGCI President 2019-2021



CGCI Calendar

californiagardenclubs.com/calendar

- **May 30-June 4, 2021:**

CGCI Convention

Embassy Suites, So. San Francisco

Co-Hosts: Santa Clara Valley and

Bay Ocean Districts

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

2019-2021 President's Project

by Julie A. West, Chairman

We are in the last few months of raising funds to support restoration of the *San Bruno Mountain Botanical Garden*. Since the last issue, charitable contributions were received with gratitude from **Lili Aram-Bost, Mary Arakelian, Al and Pat Claves, George Perko and Phil Stanley** as well as an **Anonymous** donor. The good news is that members of CGCI have generously donated **\$15,200** since July 1, 2019.

When CGCI's virtual Winter Board Meeting was held at the end of January, President Looper asked after each business meeting that we virtually auction five items each day from the President's Jewelry Box. Two necklaces, four bracelets and four rings raised an additional **\$655** for this project bringing the total contributions to **\$15,855**. We thank the following high-bid donors: **Pat Claves, Rita Desilets, Myrtle Findley, Rosa Radicchi, Frankie Raymond and Carolyn Villi** for their warm-hearted support. Stay tuned for when the remaining 10 items from the President's Jewelry Box FUNdraiser will be auctioned.

We invite you to join us as we continue to raise \$4,145 needed for educational signage before the conclusion of President Looper's term of office in June 2021 to reach the \$20,000 goal established. Your benevolent contributions make it possible for everyone who visits *San Bruno Mountain Botanical Garden* to learn about the unique flora of *San Bruno Mountain*.

Please make checks payable to CGCI with "President's Project" noted on memo line and send to P.O. Box 75, Graton, CA 95444-0075. Feel free to contact this chairman for more information or visit CGCI's website: [President's Project](#)

CGCI has the opportunity to make a difference in this "island of habitat" with the *San Bruno Mountain Botanical Garden* project as well as educate park visitors upon its completion thanks to your charitable support.



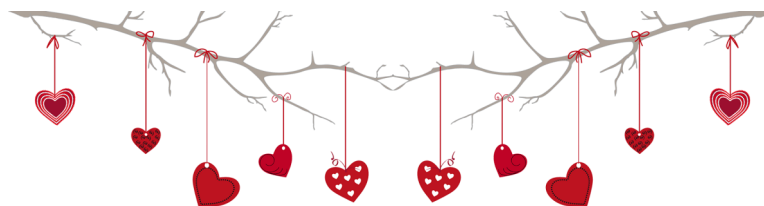
The CGCI Facebook is in need of videos.

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.

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>

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CGCI Programs & Projects

Go to californiagardenclubs.com
for details

- **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

- **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,
Sebastapol 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

Notes from Chairmen Reports**Stamps by Terry Sampson**

Boys Town has informed me that they are only collecting very rare and unique stamps so searching the internet I found a great place to send them to. It is the Postal Museum in Tucson, Arizona. I have been in touch with the moderator and she told me the museum uses the stamps working with teachers all over the US. The request is put in by the teachers on a certain subject. (for example, Presidents). The museum then sends that teacher stamps that have presidents on them. What a great way to learn. In addition to that service, they donate to clubs and organizations. Save your stamps.

Pollinators by Terry Sampson

Hesperia Garden Club has a Facebook page and I post so much information on that page for anyone to enjoy and I encourage everyone to plant for pollinations.

Environmental Art Exhibition and Competition by Judy Unrine

Because our President hopes to hold the 2021 CGCI Convention, applications and guidelines for the Art Exhibition and Competition have been mailed to interested members of California garden clubs. Incorporate a recycled or repurposed object into a design. There are five categories for competition including Fiber, Collage, Sculpture, Assemblage, and Jewelry. Prizes will be awarded. Those participating may sell their original art work. Contact this chairman for application if you are interested in participating:

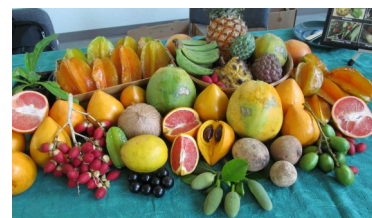
Blue Star and Gold Star by Shirley Lipa & George Unrine

Since the 2020 Winter Board Meeting, Blue Star Byway Markers have been ordered by Placerville GC, River Valley GC (dedicated 11/11/20), San Pedro GC, and So. Valley Fleurs GC (dedicated 11/11/20). Blue Star Memorial Markers have been ordered by Golden Foothills / Auburn GCs (dedicated 6/27/20) and So. California GC. And a Gold Star Byway Marker has been ordered by Tuolumne County GC (dedication planned 2/12/21).

**Arboretum District by Emily Wisneski**

The Year Round Garden Club of Whittier has been having ZOOM garden club and book club meetings. GinaRose Kimball, President, sold avocados from her orchard. The proceeds went to the club's philanthropies. A plant sale was also held in a member's driveway.

The California Organic Club grew winter veggies from seeds. The members were able to take some home and start their veggie gardens. The excess veggies were then sold at a farmer's market.



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

♥ Awards Program

Chairman: Pat Claves

californiagardenclubs.com/awards

♥ Business Commendations

Chairman: Judy Bates

Online request form

♥ California Consultants Council

Chairman: Sue Bennett

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

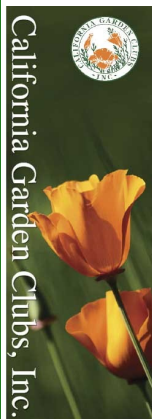
Chairman: Judy Bates

5075 Valley Crest Dr #246

Concord 94521-4914

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)

Project Mission Blue - Phase II

By Julie A. West, Chairman

As this project approaches its conclusion in June 2021, we appreciate the generous contributions from **President Shane Looper, San Pedro Garden Club** and **Walnut Creek Garden Club** received since the January issue. **\$6,243** has been raised since Phase II began July 1, 2016 to propagate twelve native nectar plants. Since the federally endangered mission blue butterfly is a poor flyer, the adults need these nectar sources as it fights for survival in the remaining fragments of its native Bay Area grasslands containing silver, summer or varied lupines - the only plants mission blue caterpillars can eat.

Preserving mission blue habitat protects other members of the grassland ecosystem, like birds, mammal and wildflowers as well. Restoring grasslands includes propagating and planting these twelve native nectar plants that a variety of adult butterfly species enjoy in addition to the mission blue butterfly.

Monardella villosa (Coyote Mint) featured here are free-flowering perennials that are long-lived in semi-dry conditions including dry slopes, rock gardens or containers. Lavender to rose-purple tubular flowers with dense heads rise above aromatic gray-green leaves.



This native nectar plant grows easily from Humboldt to San Luis Obispo counties enjoying full sun in well-drained soil. Its height is 1-2 feet with a spread of 1-2 feet and is drought-tolerant. Removing spent flowers improves their appearance and prolongs their season of bloom. Cutting plants back in fall or winter promotes denser growth for the following year. Coyote mints are excellent combined with buckwheats, penstemons and other drought-tolerant plants.

CGCI continues to be grateful for your financial support assisting the survival of the mission blue butterfly. Contact this chairman for free brochures published by the National Park Service or visit the link on CGCI's website for additional information and donation form: <http://californiagardenclubs.com/projectmissionblue>

CGCI Facebook Page

If you are a member of CGCI (Executive Committee, District Director, Chairman, Club President, Club Member, etc.), please go onto the CGCI Facebook page and "like" our page. Here is the link: <https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaGardenClubsInc>. For districts and clubs, there is a lot of information on the site that you can share with your clubs.

If you would like to contribute to the page, send your posts to patclaves@aol.com.

And a "like" would be appreciated to our almost daily posts. Thank you!

**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**Publication:** *The National Gardener***Website:** 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 for details on these
 and other projects)

**Director: 2019-2021****Robin Pokorski****Publication:** *WACONIAH***Website:**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)

Gentle reminders for 2021

by Jane McKee, Webmaster

Mail distribution:

CGCI uses two bulk mail services:

Vertical Response: distribution of all newsletters (Golden Gardens eNews, Council Thymes, WACONIAH and selected NGC publications). Annually new CGCI board members and newly elected club presidents are automatically added. Individuals may subscribe using the form on the CGCI website. If you do not wish to receive the newsletters you may simply "unsubscribe."

Mail Chimp: all "official" correspondence (Call to meetings, minutes, special announcements and reminders). Depending on the type of communication the mailing list is divided into CGCI Board members or presidents and/or treasurers of member organizations. If you "unsubscribe" from this listing you will no longer receive official CGCI communications.

If you believe that you are NOT receiving mail from CGCI and did not "unsubscribe" check your SPAM or TRASH folders. Every email provider allows users to "white list" email addresses to prevent them from being blocked. Check your settings to see how your email account works. Example: You may add an address to your address book, or create a filter indicating that a specific email address is not to be deleted, blocked or sent to spam. All CGCI mail originates from this email address: cgc@cagardenclubs.org.

And don't forget: New Year – New You – New Passwords!

**Landscape Design Schools**

by Alexis Slafer

There are no Landscape Design Schools on the current calendar. However, we are currently planning Series 27, which we hope will take place in the classroom. The plans are for it to begin and end at the beginning of 2022...hosted by Valley Lode District.

We are well into the new Landscape Design curriculum...with a greater emphasis on residential design. And there has been excellent feed-back on this new perspective. While we are in this pandemic, NGC has not been waiting until we can meet in person. Several opportunities have been and will be available to attend schools to become a consultant or for consultants to refresh their credentials. Check the NGC website for upcoming events.

There are currently 47 landscape design consultants. Please encourage your club or district to sponsor a landscape design school. The Landscape Design Consultants who are members of the California Consultants Council are the perfect people to act as local school chairs. They bring their experience and expertise to the local committee. This chairman is happy to help in any way possible -- so it will be a lot of fun...and absolutely "pain free". Contact: aslafer@ca.rr.com



Nina Blonski, Chairman
pennypines@cagardenclubs.org

Some of the US Forest Service Offices are still closed due to the COVID-19 restrictions and/or the wildfire events around the state. Please contact your local Forest Service office to determine if they are able to accept and process checks and certificates.

History of the Marine Monument Garden at Park Semper Fi

by Launa Gould

In June of 2005, soon after being installed as President of the San Clemente Garden Club, I reviewed the New President's binder and came across a grant that was being offered featuring a civic development project honoring those who serve our country.

The community of San Clemente was in the process of designing and creating a tribute to the Marine Corp. I contacted Wayne Eggleston, founder of the Heritage of San Clemente Foundation and driving force behind the Marine Memorial Monument. Wayne was thrilled that the garden club was willing to participate in the design, planting and maintenance of the gardens around the monument.

With the exciting potential of our club contributing to this major community project, I approached our Executive Committee and was given the support to pursue this project. Club members were asked to participate in the design and implementation of the gardens which needed to be completed before the November 12, 2005 dedication date. A daunting task!

The ground breaking ceremony was held on September 7, 2005 which included the City Council, Marines and the San Clemente Garden Club among other contributors to the project.

On October 20, 2005 the Club organized a planting day and invited the Marines and community to participate. Club members, Marines, and community volunteers took this bare plot of land and through the process of design and planting, created a beautiful native garden that attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.

The Marine Monument was dedicated on November 12, 2005 at a ceremony organized by the Heritage of San Clemente Foundation to commemorate the 230th birthday of the US Marine Corp.

In March of 2006, our club was awarded a \$2000 grant sponsored by National Garden Clubs. The club matched the funds and major plantings began. In May, our club was presented an appreciation plaque by Mayor Wayne Eggleston. On July 4th, club members served as docents in the gardens during the fireworks celebration at the pier.

The Marine Monument Garden Project of the San Clemente Garden Club started out as an idea that the Club could become a significant part in creating this tribute to the Marine Corp. The significance and emotional impact on the community and neighboring Camp Pendleton has far exceeded the expectations of the original idea for the Marine Monument at Park Semper Fi.

