

Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

May 2021 Vol. 9-13

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Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**

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californiagardenclubs.com/cgcinewsletters
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May Greetings CGCI Members:

You are invited to virtually attend CGCI's Annual Convention that begins Monday, May 24, 2021. **The last day to register is Wednesday, May 12, 2021.** In order to attend, you must register online. Go to CGCI's home page to select the information regarding the Convention. All members can attend as well as guests. Once you have registered, Zoom links and information will be sent to you prior to the meeting. See for yourself what CGCI members do at a Convention. Registration is now open and note there is no expense to attend.



Everyone is invited to join us for awards, workshops, presentations and all business meetings. Maybe you would like to participate in the President's Jewelry Box auction or be part of the social hour. Listen to the chairmen and district director reports to pick up tips for yourself and your club. Celebrate the accomplishments and creativity to the challenges presented to the 2019-2021 administration and welcome the new 2021-2023 administration including their installation. There is something for everyone.

Congratulations to Descanso Garden Club, Pacifica Garden Club, Potter Valley Garden Club and Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club for being awarded 2021 **Plant America Community Project Grants** from National Garden Clubs, Inc. CGCI is delighted to have four winners out of 51 grants awarded nationwide!!! Yeh!

Please take advantage of the Plant America Community Project Grants that NGC offers our clubs as a benefit of membership. Watch the NGC website (www.gardenclub.org) for the 2022 Plant America Community Project Grant application. I know many clubs work on community projects because your club newsletters have indicated all the work that clubs are doing in their community. Up to \$1,000 grants are available in support of your local efforts. It's an easy application and we can all use extra funds for our projects.

Just a note to "thank" each club that sent me their newsletters during COVID-19. Our clubs are strong and still very active either by using virtual meetings, working in small groups or even using public places to continue their gardening work. Remember, part of CGCI's mission statement includes "the exchange of information and ideas" and the *Golden Gardens eNews* is the communication tool we have available to us to accomplish it.

Be a part of CGCI's history by attending the first virtual Annual Convention. I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

Shane



CGCI Calendar

californiagardenclubs.com/calendar

- **May 24-29, 2021:**
CGCI Convention - Virtual
Register Now

CGCI Schools Chairmen

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

Flower Show: Gudrun Kimmel
gudron56@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

Membership Matters

Effective May 1 the **NEW CGCI MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN** is:

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

Dues for the 2021-2022 year are to be sent to the new chairman.

REMINDER: It's time to update your organization's contact information by submitting the Annual Contact Information Form. Here are the links for the forms:

[Garden Clubs](#)
[Associate Plant Societies](#)

To ensure that up to date information appears in the CGCI *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*, forms need to be received by June 1.

Liability Insurance

Effective June 1, 2021, I am soooooo pleased to turn the Liability Insurance Chairmanship back to your CGCI expert and Liability Insurance Queen, Shane Looper, SLooper@sbcglobal.net. I am sure you will be as patient and gracious with her as you have been with me these past two years!

Robin Pokorski

2019-2021 President's Project

By Julie A. West, Chairman

We're approaching the finish line raising funds for restoration of the *San Bruno Mountain Botanical Garden*. We hope you will join us Wednesday, May 26, 2021 for the *President's Project 2019-2021 Workshop* via ZOOM. Ariel Cherbowsky Corkidi, Director of San Bruno Mountain Watch will present a PowerPoint program including project progress. Immediately following the presentation, a President's Jewelry Box auction of six items will be conducted.

Generous donations since the April issue have been received from **Garden and Floral Arrangers Guild, Garden Study Club of the Peninsula in Honor of CGCI President Shane Looper, Karen Kipp, Lake California Garden Club, Multiflora Garden Club, Naples Islands Garden Club, Petaluma Garden Club and San Fernando Valley District**. These benevolent contributions total \$2,640 bringing the total raised to date: **\$19,877**.



WOW! We are within \$123 of the \$20,000 goal established in the Resolution. Wouldn't it be great to exceed it? All proceeds will go to *San Bruno Mountain Watch* for the project.

Donations payable to CGCI with "President's Project" noted on memo line may be sent to this Chairman at 2919 N 185th Street, Elkhorn, NE 68022-7123. Your charitable support to restore the *San Bruno Mountain Botanical Garden* is very much appreciated!



Item #1
Sterling Silver Fresh Water Coin
Pearl Necklace 18"

President's Jewelry Box

Item #6
Signed Native American Indian
Style Pin or Pendant.
Sterling Silver with 14k. 2" long

CGCI Programs & Projects

Go to californiagardenclubs.com
for details

- **Membership NEW**

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

- **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
2919 N 185th St.
Elkhorn, NE 68022-7123

- **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 823
San Fernando, CA 91341-0823
Anza-Borrego Desert State Park
Blue Star Memorials
CGCI Endowments
CGCI Scholarship Fund
Sempervirens Fund

**Blue Star Memorial Restorations**

Shirley Lipa, CA Blue Star Restoration Chairman

Here is the latest email received on April 5 from our Blue Star Memorial restorer, Tom Stelling.

The virus is starting to calm down some but my friend who is with the Department of Health and Human Services in DC thinks that we have a way to go. So at this time I am not going to do a trip again this year. Hopefully this will pass and I can get back to work.

I am sure Tom wants to start restoring our memorials just as much as we would like to see them shining brightly once again. We will just have to be patient, as surely no one could have expected that the COVID-19 virus pandemic would have lasted as long as it has.

Environmental Art Exhibition

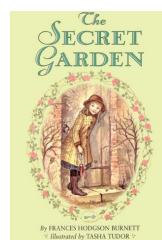
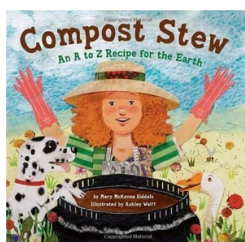
You are invited to view artists as they display their work, via Zoom, on May 25 from 3:30-5 p.m. during the CGCI 2021 Virtual Convention.

Any member interested in participating should contact us immediately. Your participation can help the environment while boosting your creativity. Any recycled or repurposed object can be incorporated into a design.

There are five categories for competition including Fiber, Collage, Sculpture, Assemblage, and Jewelry. We are looking forward to seeing how the different materials you use will create many variations on the theme of art. Carl Jung said, "The creative mind plays with the objects it loves." Join this exciting experiment by creating a new form from a found object.

Please contact this chairman immediately for an application and guidelines:

Judy Unrine: Judysgarden01@gmail.com, 1-310-378-0227



Toluca Lake Garden Club has an Outreach Book Drive. They have collected over 65 garden themed books for donation to the local elementary school.

Leslie Gores, President

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

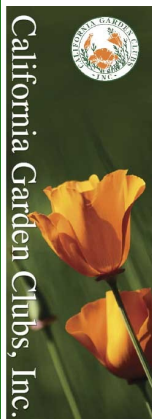
Chairman: Judy Bates

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)

Big Basin Recovery Fund

By Judy Unrine

Thank you for your generous response to CGCI's Big Basin Recovery Fund challenge. CGCI's commitment to match funds members donate, up to \$5,000, has been met. As of April 16, 2021, a total of \$7,460.40 has been received from members. Added to CGCI's original \$5000 and the \$5000 CGCI pledged to match members donations, a total of \$17,460.40 will be transferred to the Big Basin Recovery Fund.

Your response to the wildfires has made a critical impact on the recovery at Big Basin Redwood State Park. Amanda Krauss, Director of Tribute & Legacy Giving wrote, "...the Redwoods will survive the wildfire in Big Basin ... there is a lot of new growth on the trees."

Your donations to Big Basin Recovery Fund are being used to make it safer for crews to assess damage and begin repair. At the San Vicente Redwoods, a property owned by the Sempervirens Fund and impacted by the fire, 5,500 Redwoods and Douglas fir seedlings were planted recently.



For further updates on the Redwoods, you can access *Mt. Echo* newsletters on the Sempervirens website: <https://Sempervirens.org/about/publications/>

We highly recommend webinars being given by the Sempervirens Fund.

To register for webinars or see past webinars visit:

<https://Sempervirens.org/learn/under-the-redwoods/>.

On May 25, Chris Wilmers will discuss Pumas in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Your further support is needed. Please make checks payable to CGCI and mail to P.O. Box 823, San Fernando, Ca. 91341-0823. Notation for Big Basin Recovery Fund. Include donors name, address, email, and phone number.

As of April 27, 2021 thirty-eight donations have been received. The following donors will be added to the list of Big Basin Recovery Fund donors.

Anaheim GC	Berkeley GC
Pamela Lucia	Rosa Radicchi
San Fernando Valley District	The Gardeners' Club
West lake Village GC	Naples Island GC
Barbara Foster	South Valley Fleurs GC
Walnut Creek GC	Ramilla Lewis
Nadine Melberg	Garden & Floral Arr. Guild
Don & Betty Wells	

Co-Chairman: Judy Unrine: judysgarden01@gmail.com

Rosa Radicchi: raddichi@aol.com

**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/cgcnewsletters

Let the Roses Bloom

The Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club (LAVGC) was the fortunate recipient of a \$1,000 "Plant America" grant from the National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). LAVGC is an affiliate of Diablo Foothills District Garden Club, California Garden Clubs, Inc. and NGC.

The grant was awarded to assist with a LAVGC project to improve the respected Hansen Park Rose Garden.



Hansen Park Rose Garden is a small, highly visible and popular public park, located in Central Livermore, CA. The park is a rough triangle bordered on three sides by well-traveled streets. The rose garden has nearly 500 rose bushes, grouped in like clusters, with sidewalks between. The center of the park contains a small plaza with a large fountain and covered seating area. LAVGC has two monthly work parties to care for the roses by pruning, dead-heading and adding soil nutrients. The project's goal was to replace 38 missing and failing roses with new rose bushes selected to maintain the original theme and beauty of the garden while meeting the challenges of site conditions.

To accomplish the task, Jeri Stark, LAVGC President, Dana Boyd, Lois Barber, and Gayle Pawloski, chairs of the project and of the on-going care of the roses, pulled together a project team. The team was comprised of many LAVGC members, the City of Livermore Landscape Maintenance Division, essential to the project as they alone could legally access the site with vehicles and equipment, and Alden Lane and Western Garden Nurseries. Guidance for rose selection was made by Karen and Tom Jefferson, Mt Diablo Rose Society members, and the local nursery rose expert, Jacquie Williams-Courtright. Adherence to Covid 19 protocols limited other planned community and student participation.

The project budget was based on the \$1,000 National Garden Club "Plant America" grant and \$500 received by LAVGC in memory of a member of the pioneer Hansen family. Thanks to the generosity of the local nurseries and their suppliers all the soil amendments and fertilizer needed for the project was donated. The remainder of the costs were assumed by LAVGC. With the funding secured, materials in place, landscape maintenance staff and club members ready and eager to begin, the project was a "go."



The sunny Saturday of March 20, 2021 was rose planting day! Prior to the day the landscape crew had removed the failing roses and dug generous holes for the 38 new roses. Twenty-nine LAVGC members arrived on planting day to find the landscape crew had delivered roses, soil and fertilizer to the site, ready for members to get the new rose bushes planted. After a brief review of best rose planting practices, gardeners "dug in."

Within two and one-half hours the roses were in-ground, watered and ready to grow and bloom.

LAVGC (www.lavgc.com) is proud of the great partnership that resulted in the completed project. Because of the generous grant provided by the NGC "Plant America" program, and a strong dedicated team, the Hansen Park Rose Garden is renewed and ready to bloom.



Nina Blonski, Chairman
 pennypines@cagardenclubs.org
 Total amount donated in 2020 \$23,460

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.

Flowers All Year Round

By Cathy Wilson, Red Bluff Garden Club

Most gardeners agree that they want to have flowers all year long. It has taken me awhile to finally reach this goal but it has been well worth the wait. I am proud to show my gardens in any season.

The easiest way to accomplish this is by going to your local nursery monthly and selecting plants that are in bloom. To cut back on cost, choose your perennial or annual in the smallest container available. I find that the smaller sizes adapt easier into their new surroundings. You will be surprised how quickly they grow. For example, I bought two River Birch- es at the same time one in a five gallon container and one in a one gallon container. The smaller tree out grew the larg- est one and was much more robust. Plus, I saved money!

Of course, the trickiest season is winter. My flowering perennials during this time consist of 'Yuletide' camellia sasanqua, hellebores and daphne 'Aureomarginata'.

'Yuletide' has a profusion of bright red single camellias with bright yellow centers. It is stunning during Christmas through January.

Hellebores are long lived plants blooming during the winter months and into early spring. They can grow even in the darkest corners of your garden. I find that cutting back the previous year's leaves as the flowers emerge creates a showier display. Not too worry, the new leaves will soon follow.

The daphne bursts into bloom in January and the very fragrant flowers last for about three months. I even had additional new flowers after the flush of new growth.

Next comes the cool spring flowers followed by the warm spring flowers. This is also the time when you should resist buying tender annuals. There is always a chance of late frosts. I buy mine after April 15. Annuals are so important as they provide the longest display of color. You can see mealycup sage among the late blooming daffodils and plumbago ground cover in the picture. It is hardy to -40 degrees.

Most of the summer perennials and annuals last into fall until the first frost. This is the time to monitor your gardens closely as the windy days and hot scorching sun take their toll on all flowers.

Gardening is hard work, but the benefits outweigh the aches and pains, especially when you can show off your flowers all year long.



Sow seeds of kindness - and you will have - a perpetual harvest.