

Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

January 2022 Vol. 7-14

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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In this issue:

President's Message.....1
Calendar2
President's Project2
Parliamentary Tools3
GTEP4
NGC Membership Mondays4
Bats, Book.....5
Penny Pines6
Awards, Patches6

Award Winning—Golden Gardens eNews

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Happy New Year!

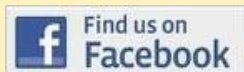
I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and are looking forward to 2022 with enthusiasm. Hopefully this year will see a much smaller negative effect from Covid and its various modifications. I am looking forward to a return to in-person meetings, which unfortunately for our CGCI board will not be until June. I am thankful that my garden club, Palomar District, Southwest Judge's Council and two of our local floral design groups have been able to meet in-person beginning this fall. I am also grateful that live theater has returned here and that half of my bridge groups and half of my AAUW groups are meeting in-person as well. I'm sending positive thoughts that more re-openings will be coming soon! In the meantime, please mark your calendars for our Winter Board Meeting via Zoom which will take place February 6-10. You received The Call via email earlier this week. Since I have been fully vaccinated, I would be very happy to attend your meetings, just send me an invitation. I am also available to attend club and district meetings via Zoom.

What a crazy weather pattern we are in. In Southern California we have had an overabundance of rainfall (which we desperately needed) while Northern California is suffering through road closures due to snow. Please drive carefully!

I am so appreciative of the members, clubs and districts who have contributed to my President's Project. We donated \$7,105 dollars to the San Diego River Park Foundation which will be matched. We can still get the matching funds as the giving deadline has been extended, so please think of making a contribution or another contribution. Robin Pokorski has worked diligently as my chair on this project for which I am so grateful!

Be safe, be happy, be brave, be bold, be positive, be creative, be resourceful, be productive, be thoughtful as we embrace 2022!

Lynne



CGCI Calendar

californiagardenclubs.com/calendar

- February 6-10, 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

2021 – 2023 President's Project

San Diego's River Center at Grant Park

by Robin Pokorski, Chairman

A big **THANK YOU** to those who have supported the President's Project. We have raised over **\$7,000**.

Donating to The River Center at Grant Park **CELEBRATE**s our support of civic beautification projects.

Supporting The River Center at Grant Park **CULIVATE**s valuable partnerships and increased public visibility.

Becoming a partner at the inception of The River Center at Grant Park project **COMMEMORATE**s and demonstrates CGCI's commitment to our communities, our state and our country.

Consider adding a line item to your annual budget to donate to the State President's Project.

Generous Donors:

Maria Krenek – in memory of Mary Lou Goodwin

Eureka Sequoia GC – in memory of Mary Lou Goodwin

Lynne Batchelor

Constance Forest

Kathy Hargrove

Brenda Pearson

Rosa Radicchi

George & Judy Unrine

Bonita Valley GC

Burbank-Valley GC

La Jolla GC

Long Beach GC

Riviera GC

San Clemente GC

San Pedro GC

Sunshine GC

Soledad Club

**Thank you for making a positive difference in the lives of others,
our community, and our state!**

The plan for gardens at the San Diego River Grant Park in Mission Valley was approved by the City of San Diego in December 2020 and this plan includes an opportunity for organizations to sponsor gardens in the park. A new Temporarily Restricted Fund has been designated to receive donations and pay expenses specifically for the 2021-2023 President's Project, CGCI gardens and signage at the San Diego River Center at Grant Park. The first of the projects will be a sensory garden.

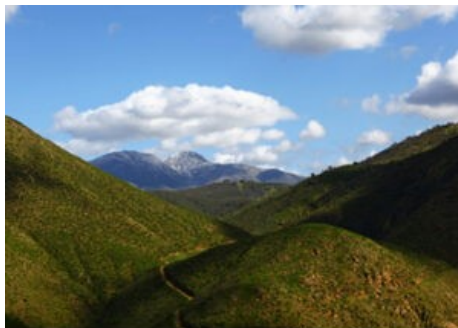


Photo: Shannon Switzer

River Headwaters



Mission Valley

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
gtp@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](#)

Winter Board February 6-10, 2022 will be held via ZOOM



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

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

Know and Use Your Parliamentary Tools

by Greg Pokorski, CGCI and Pacific Region Parliamentarian

At the recent virtual Fall Board Meeting of California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI), President Lynne Batchelor visited some of the committee meetings to thank members for their service and to benefit from the knowledge of what committees are doing and to be able to provide input in some cases. This has not been done much, maybe not at all, in recent years. Of course, historically we have had in-person state meetings and it is arguably harder to sit in on committee meetings at in-person meetings where two or three different meetings may be going on at the same time.

Being a long-time NGC board member, I know that NGC presidents have a history of dropping in on committee meetings to thank members for their service, and more recently because of Zoom to sit in on full meetings.

CGCI provides in its bylaws that "the president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee." This is a very standard provision for many organizations, including many or most garden clubs. If the organization's bylaws do contain such a provision the president is not counted in the quorum for the committee, but "without exception, ex-officio members of boards and committees have exactly the same rights and privileges as do all other members, including, of course, the right to vote." The president does not have the obligation to participate in the proceedings of the committees, but has the right to participate in the work of committees. Such provision means that the president may attend committee meetings without any special invitation to attend.



Taking advantage of this privilege when it is provided in an organization's bylaws can assist presidents who function as the chief executive officers of their organizations to better understand the work of the organization and can provide an opportunity to exercise leadership over the direction of the organization, as well as the opportunity to interact and work with board members. Of course, presidents should try to exercise impartiality and avoid micro-managing.

Robert's 47:20, 49:8-9, 50:16 and 56:47 and Robert's In Brief page 113.

Awards, Honors & Recognition

californiagardenclubs.com/forms

- Awards Program**

Chairman: Pat Clayes

• 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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Publication: *The National Gardener*

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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/cgcinewsletters

Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP) Reminder

by Sue Bennett, GTEP Chairman

Hello Club and District Treasurers & Presidents,

This is a reminder to get your GTEP Renewal Form, required documents along with check in by February 1, 2022. It must be postmarked prior to February 1, 2022; if postmarked after February 1, 2022 an additional \$15 Renewal Late Fee will be collected.

If you need to retrieve the correct paperwork for the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP) go to:

<https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/forms/>

scroll down to the GTEP Non-Profit tab, click on it.

scroll down to GTEP: Annual Renewal Form, click on it.

scroll down to GTEP: [Sample Activities & Financial Reports](#).

Thank you to the clubs/districts that have already sent in the paperwork, you should have received confirmation from this Chairperson.

If you think your paperwork has been submitted and haven't heard back from me, send me an email with your club/district name and I will double check my paperwork.

Contact your GTEP Chairperson at gtep@cgciagardenclubs.org with questions.

National Garden Clubs offer Membership Mondays

Membership Mondays is a free monthly Zoom event for all garden club members. Join us on the **2nd Monday of each month from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Eastern Time**. Learn new skills, share success stories, resolve commonly encountered issues, and brainstorm solutions with fellow members across the Americas.

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization, and we can all benefit when we help each other Recruit, Retain, and Revitalization our clubs. Together we are stronger!

The 3Rs Workshop on Membership Mondays will explore each aspect of Member Recruitment, Retention, and the Revitalization of shrinking clubs.

Each workshop will present a topic of the month with a special guest speaker, followed by an open mike for Q&A and member dialogue.

January - 1/10/22, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

RETAIN - Discover the keys to turning good members into great leaders through investment, skills training and mentorship.

February - 2/14/22, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

REVITALIZE - Are your meetings boring? Is your membership aging out? Time for a reboot? Join us as we explore the keys to revitalizing your club through rediscovery and renovation strategies.

Register in advance [HERE](#) After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Bats: A Love Story

by Nancy Compton, River Valley Garden Club



Who ever knew that bats were cute? Or that they resemble chihuahuas? Those who attended a recent meeting of the River Valley Garden Club now know that not only are they cute, they are important pollinators, they eat insects, and they are the fastest mammal on the planet with the ability to fly over one hundred miles per hour.

JoEllen Arnold, a bat expert who has traveled to six continents studying bat behavior, shared that bats control insects, are important seed dispersers, and interestingly there is not a single blind bat in the world. In fact, they have better eyesight than humans. Furthermore, since their noses are much more sensitive than humans or most animals, strong scents tend to scare them off – scents like cinnamon, eucalyptus, cloves, mint, and peppermint. Now you know what to put up in your rafters if you don't want bats to roost in your house.

Here is a new word for your vocabulary: *chiropterophily*. Although it sounds like a condition that could be cured by a quick visit to a chiropractor, it is actually the official term for pollination by bats. Bats typically pollinate tropical or desert flowers that are white or pale, nocturnal, and bloom at night. Of significant importance is that bats pollinate the agave plant, which is the principal ingredient of the margarita – an all-time favorite summer drink. So please say “cheers” and “thank you” to bats the next time you are enjoying a margarita with a little umbrella beside a swimming pool.

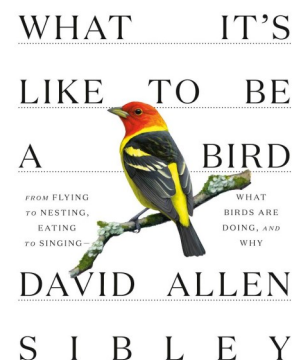
Along with so many other of our animal friends, our bats are in decline. For one thing, they are slow reproducers, birthing only one pup per year. They have also been negatively affected by climate change, human ignorance, habitat destruction, disease, and wind turbines. The key to their very survival is human understanding of their importance in our environment and the willingness to provide habitats for their continued existence.

And let's dispel the rumor surrounding bats and vampires. There are three species of bats that do, indeed, feed on blood; however, it wasn't until the late 1800's when Dracula was popularized that the myth of bats turning into vampires came to be. In reality, they're cute little mammals that are an integral part of our environment and do their share to eat insects, pollinate certain species, and ensure that we have an unlimited supply of margaritas.

Book Recommendation

by Nancy Candee, Divide Garden Club, Georgetown, CA

A beautiful, comprehensive, fascinating bird book. From the first page, I was hooked on this new David Allen Sibley book. He worked on it for 15 years, originally starting with the idea of a bird guide for children, and ending up with a “comprehensive North American bird guide”. The introduction includes sections such as “The Diversity of Birds,” “Movement,” “Physiology” and many more, followed by two-page spreads of 84 different birds, complete with his incredibly beautiful and detailed drawings. These two sections are intimately connected with notated references to links between a general bird fact in the first section, and a detail in the 2- page spread. For example, the first paragraph of “The Diversity of Birds” starts with “Birds are dinosaurs” followed by a notation to refer to the bottom of page 81, the Roadrunner page, where he provides details about how dinosaurs and birds are connected. Every time I open this book, I learn something new!





Nina Blonski, Chairman
 pennypines@cagardenclubs.org
[Penny Pines](http://PennyPines.com)
 2021 total donations: \$20,944

District	Club / Donor		Honor or Memory / To Whom		Amount
Arboretum	California Organic Gardening Club		Honor	California Organic Gardening Club	\$340.00
Bay Bridges	San Leandro GC		Honor	Peggy Seaman	\$68.00
Bay Bridges	Eden GC	Verline Rice	Honor	John Anthony & Lisa Radzanowski	\$68.00
Bay Bridges	Eden GC	Verline Rice	Honor	Douglas Martin & Denise Radzanowski	\$68.00
Bay Bridges	Eden GC	Verline Rice	Honor	Juline Stacey Hobbs	\$68.00
Bay Bridges	Eden GC	Verline Rice	Honor	Arthur Julian & Verline Rice	\$68.00
Cascade	Lake California GC				\$68.00
Diablo Foothills	Clayton Valley GC	Loretta Nussbacher	Memory	Patty Remoy	\$340.00
Diablo Foothills	Clayton Valley GC	Kathleen Million	Memory	Patty Remoy	\$476.00
Diablo Foothills	Clayton Valley GC	Jeff Billstein	Memory	Patty Remoy	\$204.00
Luther Burbank	Petaluma GC				\$68.00
Montana de Oro	Los Osos Valley GC		Honor	Concetta Argentino	\$68.00
Montana de Oro	Los Osos Valley GC		Honor	Vita Miller	\$68.00
Orange County	San Clemente GC		Memory	Wilma Cogswell, Cindy Burns, Robert Crittendon, Bertie Lloyd	\$272.00
Palomar	Village GC of La Jolla				\$884.00
Palomar	Village GC of La Jolla				\$952.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC		Honor	Ingrid Nonnast	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Southern California GC		Honor	Gail Vanderhorst, Hank Vanderhorst	\$136.00
Valley Lode	Escalon Farmington Community GC		Honor	Guest Speakers for 2021-2022, Fire Fighters	\$136.00
Valley Lode	Escalon Farmington Community GC		Memory	Cindy Dunham, Lori Duncan, Friends of Cathy Gordon	\$204.00

CGCI Awards Program

by Elisabeth Tufo, Award Sponsors Chairman

At this time two awards need sponsors –

#51 Publications, Section 1 and Section 2.

Currently these are two separate awards but if a sponsor wished they may be reclassified as a single award. Sponsor has the right, with the approval of the Awards Committee, to determine how much is paid per place. See page 77 in the new CGCI yearbook for complete descriptions of each award.

Contact this chairman for further information elisabethtufo@earthlink.net

Patches

by Karen Burgesser, Eureka Sequoia Garden Club President



Eureka Sequoia Garden Club purchased Club logo patches to help make members more visible when volunteering in the community. Member Shelly Lusk proposed the idea and found a vendor who could make them. She ordered patches in two sizes, 3" and 5.5". The patches can be ironed or sewn to hats, shirts, jackets, book bags, and vests-let your imagination run wild. We wear our patches to get the word out about this great club with our wonderful and involved members! For more information contact Eureka Sequoia Garden Club at esgc@cagardenclubs.org.