

Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

December 2022 Vol. 5-15

Member:

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

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Golden Gardens eNews

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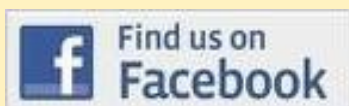
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Award Winning—Golden Gardens eNews

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



Happy Winter!

I hope everyone had a wonderfully fun-filled Thanksgiving with those you are grateful to have in your life.

Among the things I am grateful for is your support for my President's Project. I greatly appreciate your donations which have allowed me to reach my original financial goal of \$25,000, but alas that budget was established pre-Covid. As we have all experienced to our sorrow, the price of plants has sky-rocketed in the past 2 years. In order to establish the gardens as envisioned, I believe we need an additional \$10,000 minimum. I hope you are feeling that special holiday gift giving spirit and will consider making an additional donation to the Gardens at the River Center at Grant Park. The matching funds are still in effect and although the matching money does not benefit us (the funds go directly to the Foundation), it is a wonderful opportunity to support their on-going work. As a reminder you can still order a fabulous hand-made table/bench for a donation of \$300 to the President's Project.

Thank you to the many CGCI members for your generosity on Giving Tuesday. We are so lucky to have Pat Clayes spear-heading this project again this year.

All members are entitled to attend the business meetings at board meetings and conventions. I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity and join us for Winter Board at Valley Center. The Call will be distributed and the details will be available on the website on December 10. Join us!

I was reading the publication from the Garden Clubs of Ohio (they still print and mail) and was intrigued by a couple of their ideas. One thing they did to help the environment was that all clubs collected plastic lids which they sent to a facility (Plastics R Unique, Inc) who turned them into benches which the clubs then installed at schools. Another cute idea was a Garden Stake Painting Event in which they had children paint pictures of vegetables, flowers and herbs on large wooden spoons which the children took home to insert in the soil to identify plants in their home gardens. The spoons could also be a gift for Mother's/Father's Day, birthday, or other holidays. When you hear about great ideas, I would love it if you would share them with me.

NGC has requested that all states do a tree count by which they mean they want us to calculate how many trees were planted by our members during the past year, including both public plantings and home plantings. It would be so helpful if each club could give their count to their district director/district liaison by February 1. Thank you for your cooperation.

I can't believe the winter holidays are upon us already. Christmas is my favorite holidays for all kinds of reasons but the over-arching one is the general feeling of good will in the air. I hope you are able to experience that bonhomie as you celebrate with family and friends during this season of holiness, joy, beauty, optimism, and peace. Wishing you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, Festive Kwanza and a very happy, healthy, prosperous, serene 2023!

Lynne



CGCI Calendar

californiagardenclubs.com/calendar

- **Winter Board Meeting**

January 29-February 1, 2023
Harrah's Resort, Valley Center
Contact: George Speer
speerCGCI@brshp@aol.com

- **CGCI Convention**

June 5-9, 2023
Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys
Contact: Rita Desilets
4rita.desilets@gmail.com

- **Flower Show School**

Course 3 April 14-16, 2023
Course 4 September 23-25, 2023
Modesto—Contact: Judi Picinini,
jpicinini@aol.com

- **Flower Show Symposium**

March 27-28, 2023
South San Francisco

- **Environmental School**

Course 1 January 14-15, 2023
Course 2 February 11-12, 2023
Course 3 February 25-26, 2023
Course 4 March 11-12, 2023
Turlock Contact Bernie Hendrix
schoolsvld@gmail.com

- **Tri-Refresher**

March 29, 2023
South San Francisco

CGCI Schools Chairmen

Environmental: Shane Looper
slooper@sbcglobal.net

Flower Show: Sandra Graff
sandgrf@sbcglobal.net

Gardening: Greg Pokorski
gregpokorski@earthlink.net

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

2021 – 2023 President's Project

San Diego's River Center at Grant Park

By Robin Pokorski, Chairman

My Christmas wish was answered: surpassing our goal of \$25,000 and setting the bar a little bit higher because of price increases. We need to raise a little over \$1500 to meet our new goal of \$30,000. TOGETHER, I am confident we can make this happen.

A big **THANK YOU** to those who have supported the President's Project. Table/Benches will be available at the Winter Board Meeting in Valley Center in January! To be sure your Table/Bench is reserved just for you or for your club, place your order in advance with me.

Generous Donors

Roseann Costabile	Lake California GC
Jana Dudley	Lodi GC
Jeanne Johnson	Manteca GC
Adele Kelly	Mission Viejo GC
Maria Krenek	Paradise GC
Robin Pokorski	Patterson GC
Martha Smyser	Pleasant Valley GC
Carol Vallens	Point Loma GC
Bonita Valley GC	Stockton GC
Burbank-Valley GC	Tuolumne County GC
Calaveras County GC	Turlock GC
Carolands GC	Buttes District
Chula Vista GC	Cascade District
Escalon Farmington GC	Palomar District
Fallbrook GC	San Fernando Valley District

Table/Bench Donors:

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



The "Giving Tuesday" opportunity is extended until Dec 31 at the request of the Board of Trustees. This is an opportunity to support the **CGCI Endowment and Scholarship Endowment Funds**.

The donation form is available on the CGCI website californiagardenclubs.com.
Make your tax-deductible donation directly online or by check.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

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 94080-2204

• Group Tax Exemption Program

Chairman: Sue Bennett
7560 Shelborne Drive
Granite Bay 95746-8617
gstep@cgardenclubs.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 94080-2204
[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](#)

Flower Show Symposium

By Emily Troxell, CGCI Symposium Chair

Attention Flower Show Judges: A symposium is being planned for March 27-28, 2023 in South San Francisco. Our instructors will be Sue Kirkham who will explore the world of Bulbs, Tubers, Rhizomes as well as Spring Blooming Branches. Lynn Fronk will demystify Line Mass and Panel Designs as well as providing our Allied Topic discussing The Mechanics of Floral Design. The days will be full and informative. Reservations can be made up to one month before the Symposium. For brochures and additional information, contact Emily Troxell, CGCI Symposium Chair etroxell@sdsu.edu or 858 748 1025.

Basic Information: CGCI Symposium 2023. Location: Embassy Suites by Hilton, San Francisco Airport Telephone: 650 589 3400

Cost: \$270 for the full course – more details in brochure

Registrar: Carolyn Hoyum, P.O. Box 380, Palo Cedro, CA 96073-0380 [<hoyum-shut@frontiernet.net>](mailto:hoyum-shut@frontiernet.net)

Credentials: Frankie Raymond, 759 N. 9th Street, Coos Bay Or 97420-2418, <raymond778@gmail.com>



Award Sponsors Needed

By Pat Clayes, Awards Chairman

Possible new CGCI Awards for the 2023 Awards Year

There are some NGC awards for which CGCI does not have corresponding awards. If you, your club, or your district are interested in sponsoring these possible new CGCI awards, please contact the CGCI Awards Chairman Pat Clayes. For the descriptions of these NGC awards, see the NGC Awards Handbook at <https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2021-09/awards-handbook-2021-23.pdf> or contact Pat at patclayes@aol.com. CGCI cannot offer these awards unless sponsors come forward to fund the monetary award part.

Beautification Project Award (NGC CE-5)
Community Gardens Award (NGC CE-1)
Digital Media Presentation Award (NGC MAE-3)
Floral Design Program Award (NGC FD-2)
Food Bank Donations Award (NGC CE-3)
Landscape of Historic Areas Award (NGC CE-9)
Landscape of Public or Religious Grounds Award (NGC CE-8)
Organic Practices Award (NGC EC-6)
Public Wildlife Gardens Award (NGC G-4)
Water Award (NGC EC-4)



Awards, Honors & Recognition

[Californiagardenclubs.com/forms](http://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"

NGC Headquarters:

St. Louis, MO
Telephone: 314-776-7574
Fax: 314-776-5108

Email: headquarters@gardenclub.org

Publication: *The National Gardener*

Website: gardenclub.org

NGC Convention May 2-5, 2023

White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia



Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.
Director: 2021-2023
Lana Finegold

Theme: "One Green World"

Email: lanafinegold@msn.com

Publication: *WACONIAH*

Website: PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

PRGC Convention April 17-20, 2023

Embassy Suites, Lynnwood, WA

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

If not, you can subscribe here

californiagardenclubs.com/cgcnewsletters

GTEP Reminder

Deadline for Group Tax Exemption Renewal (GTEP) NON-REFUNDABLE FEE(S)
RENEWAL: Postmarked prior to February 1, a check for \$15.00, payable to CGCI.
RENEWAL LATE FEE: postmarked after February 1, a check for \$30.00 payable to CGCI.

Questions? email: gtep@cagardenclubs.org

Save the Date

California Consultants Council (CCC) Committee will be hosting a Tri-Refresher
Date: March 29 with tour on March 30

Location: South San Francisco Embassy Suites Tri-Refresher

Chairman: Sue Bennett sue_c_bennett@att.net CCC Chairman Sue Bennett

Are You Up For Doing a Blue Star Restoration?

By Shirley Lipa, Blue Star Marker Co-Chairman

As I am sure you are all aware, our project of getting our CA Blue Star Memorials restored was unable to happen. San Clemente Garden Club took it upon themselves to restore their Blue Star Marker, and it turned out beautifully! Over several days, their member, Kim Neal, brought their marker back to life. The following directions are from Kim, and you can see the before and after photos below. For more pictures on her restoration project, you may look at San Clemente's webpage: <https://www.sanclementegardenclub.com/blue-star-memorial>

1. Clean marker and stone with a wire brush and paint stripper. Scrub well and let dry overnight. The overnight drying was to let the stone fully dry so that painter's tape would stick to it.
2. Tape off the marker from the stone.
3. Spray 2 coats of Rustoleum Spray Primer. Let dry well.
4. Spray 3 coats of Rustoleum Metallic Dark Copper paint. Spray #286525. Dry overnight.
5. Used Deco Art Acrylic paint bought at Michael's for the lettering and star.

Lettering is 24 Caret Gold Metallic paint

Star is Aqua Marine – Extreme Sheen

6. Used a tiny brush to paint the letters. Just painted the top of the letter, not down the side of them. Used 3 coats of paint.
7. Used a bit bigger brush to paint the star. Used 4 coats of paint.
8. Use Rustoleum Clear Triple Thick Glaze spray to seal the marker.



Before



After

Notes from Your Newsletters

50 Years of Garden Club Wreaths for Scholarships

The **Red Bluff Garden Club** “elves” are gearing up for their annual Scholarship Christmas Boutique & Green Sale. This year is the 50th Anniversary of this worthwhile project! All proceeds are designated to fund scholarships to high school seniors who are entering college and pursuing a career in plant/horticultural fields.

All items are created with fresh, local greens, often collected from our member’s and neighbor’s gardens. We use a variety of conifers such as pines, firs, spruce, junipers or redwood. Broadleaf trees such as magnolia, holly, laurel, bay, and eucalyptus are also available to be added to designs or wreaths. Each are artistically embellished with trim and ribbon to make them a unique one-of-a-kind décor. Items are sold to the public at a storefront for four days.



Fran Galantine with wreath

Desert Rose Garden Club of California City planted two Caltalpa trees at Inspiration Walk. Shade is really needed for the rose garden for next summer. Suggestions were a pergola, but that would need to be maintained. This seems to be a much more natural way to provide shade and introduce new trees to the Walk

Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club

Hansen Park Rose Garden spent blooms were deadheaded and the beds cleaned so the rose bushes can rest for the next several months. In January we’ll return to the garden for annual pruning of 420 rose bushes. Don’t worry about not knowing how to prune roses - we’ll teach you! It’s a pretty easy task, and roses are durable plants. The garden has given us so much pleasure with bountiful blooms and lingering fragrances, and simply been a visual delight.

I am just back from the Fall Board meeting for California Garden Clubs. It was very interesting to meet and work with members from around the state. I was very interested in the reports on the projects being sponsored around the state to help develop and/or refresh natural habitat in different parts of the state. Local projects are restoring Big Basin Park that suffered that massive fire two years ago and regenerating the Black Point Historic Gardens in San Francisco. I suggest that our club consider donating to one or both of these projects. Jeri Stark, President

Bernardo Gardeners Club School Gardens

Our club was pleased to give three schools \$500 grants each in Poway Unified School District. The three schools are very different. Connect Academy is a combination of at home and at school learning. They have managed to build their school garden from nothing to amazing. They are growing vegetables, have a butterfly garden and outdoor learning spaces. They even held a farmer’s market last year which some of our members attended.

Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society — Garden Gatherings

Club meetings are large making it hard to meet other members. Garden Gatherings are a great opportunity to socialize in small groups. Interested in meeting more club members while displaying your gardens?

- Host a Garden Gathering!
- Garden Gathering hosts graciously invite us into their homes.
- Only club members can attend. Hosts decide number of guests.
- Garden Gatherings are social get-togethers with food, talk and a garden tour as the event focus.
- A club member hosts the event at their personal garden.
- Hosts pick the event date and time. Events average 1½ hours.
- Garden Gathering chairmen capably manage event pre-planning, organization, sign-ups, and coordination.





Nina Blonski, Chairman
 pennypines@cagardenclubs.org
[Penny Pines](http://PennyPines.com)

District	Club / Donor	Honor or Memory / To Whom	Amount
Bay Bridges	Friends of Heirloom Flowers	Memory Anita Marting	\$68.00
Bay Ocean	Carolands GC		\$68.00
Bay Ocean	Pacifica GC		\$68.00
Bay Ocean	Pacifica GC		\$68.00
Cascade	Redding Wonderland GC	Memory Elizabeth "Betty" Ng	\$68.00
Costa Verde	Hermosa GC	Memory Gary Clark	\$68.00
Desert Empire	Oasis GC of Indian Wells Valley	Memory Glenda Finke	\$68.00
Diablo Foothills	Clayton Valley GC	Honor Sean McCarthy	\$68.00
Luther Burbank	Petaluma GC		\$68.00
Palomar	Chula Vista GC	Honor Michael & Tish Biedenbender	\$68.00
Roadrunner	Hesperia GC	Memory Marion Virginia Benson	\$68.00
Roadrunner	Hesperia GC	Memory Henry J. Kuykendall US Marine Corps	\$68.00
Roadrunner	Hesperia GC	Memory Charles J. Roberts - US Army Air Corps	\$68.00
Sequoia Foothills	Sequoia GC	Honor Nancy & Malcolm Jones	\$68.00
Valley Lode	River Valley GC	Memory Frank Hashorva	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Manteca GC	Memory Paula Elias	\$68.00



San Jose Garden Club recently celebrated 50 years of service to the San Jose Community. Shown here, left to right, are Roseann Costable, Santa Clara Valley District Director, and past presidents Sue Swackhamer, Natalie DiGrazia, Susan Mosher, Erna Siegel, Anita Calkins, Kathy Argabright, and current president Laura Carroll. Founded in 1992, the club exists to address local issues of food insecurity, promote the study of horticulture and landscape design, and participate in civic beautification projects. Its annual spring plant sale has become a major community event to raise funds for donation to various causes.