

# Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

July 2022 Vol. 13-14

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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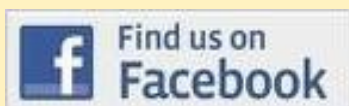
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**Award Winning—Golden Gardens eNews**

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



Happy Summer,

What a wonderful time of the year for gardeners! Everything is so lush and lovely, although you may be spending time watering! I hope you all enjoyed a celebratory 4<sup>th</sup> spending time and sharing a meal with family and friends. Although our freedom was not won lightly nor without sacrifices, it is wonderful to be able to rejoice in our survival as the land of the free. I love the cheerful red, white, and blue décor everywhere not to mention the fireworks!



Our CGCI convention, *A River Runs Through It*, was outstanding and such a privilege to be together for the first time during my term where we had our traditional champagne and chocolates albeit a year late. Thank you to everyone who attended, participated, presented or provided workshops. Our Convention Chair, Palomar District Director Sharon Tooley, did a fabulous job choosing a centrally located hotel with public rooms close together and plenty of room for sales, awards, meetings, meals, and displays and a hotel with a great chef. The Palomar District Clubs provided lovely, creative table decorations at every meal and staffed a room which was a veritable feast for the eyes of items for sale. I am indebted to Sherry Molinari for running the sales room for the President's Project, to Hank Vanderhorst for designing and building the table/bench for sale to benefit the project, and to Robin Pokorski for being our money making auctioneer. For the first time we offered members a chance to pay online and about half did. Thank you to Lisa Mercier, the Palomar District and Convention Treasurer, for arranging that service. Another new offering was to provide tours of the President's Project, the Gardens at Grant Park, so that members were able to see where my project is located and the progress made so far. Another first was to have Shane Looper (NGC Floral Arranger of the Year) autographing the new *Vision of Beauty* calendar featuring her design. Also a new departure was to present a fashion show with Board Members serving as models. A huge thank you to everyone who entered and judged our State Design Specialty Flower Show and especially to our Co-Chairs Sandra Graff and Kathy Taylor de Murillo. We provided a workshop for club leaders where 53 attendees received valuable information from state officers and committee chairs. A big thank you to Pat Clayes for a memorable awards presentation and congratulations to the club and individual winners. We gained new insights and knowledge from the reports of our chairmen, district directors, and officers and from presentations from our excellent speakers and workshop presenters. Our speakers provided a good balance of inspiration and entertainment. We couldn't have managed without the work of so many and especially Robin Pokorski (registrar), Greg Pokorski (credentials) and Rita Desilets (program). We welcomed the Pacific Region Director, Lana Finegold, as our guest for the convention. As always, the greatest joy was to be together with friends both newly made and of long standing. Looking forward to seeing you all in person at our Fall Board Meeting, October 16-19, at the Wyndham Hotel in Sacramento!

**Lynne**

## CGCI Calendar

[californiagardenclubs.com/calendar](http://californiagardenclubs.com/calendar)

- **October 16-19, 2022**  
**Fall Board Meeting**  
Sacramento
- **June 5-9, 2023**  
**CGCI Convention**  
Van Nuys
- **July 18,19, 2022**  
**Flower Show Symposium**  
San Diego  
Contact: Emily Troxell:  
[etroxell@sdsu.edu](mailto:etroxell@sdsu.edu)
- **September 24-26, 2022**  
**Flower Show School**  
**Course 2 April 14-16, 2023**  
**Course 3 September 23-25, 2023**  
Modesto  
Contact: Judi Picinini,  
[jpicinini@aol.com](mailto:jpicinini@aol.com)

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## 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

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## Breaking News

eNews is celebrating this award winning newsletter by taking an August vacation. Send your articles by August 20 for September. See you in September.



[californiagardenclubs.com](http://californiagardenclubs.com)

## 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 are closing in on **\$20,000**. We are still selling Table/Benches.....thank you for your support. We sold have **10 Table/Benches** at convention and "manufacturing" is working diligently to keep up with demand. We'll have **3 more Table/Benches** at the Fall Board Meeting in Sacramento in October!

Please remember to add the President's Project to your club and district's budget for next year! Together we can make the gardens at the River Center happen!

### Generous Donors:

<b>Sue Bennett</b>	<b>Jane McKee</b>	<b>Del Norte GC</b>
<b>Milly Benson</b>	<b>Robin &amp; Greg Pokorski</b>	<b>Fallbrook GC</b>
<b>Lisa Cosand</b>	<b>Carol Vallens</b>	<b>Mission Hills GC</b>
<b>Marlene Kinney</b>	<b>Gail &amp; Hank Vanderhorst</b>	<b>Sherman Oaks GC</b>
<b>Walnut Creek GC</b>	<b>Southern California GC</b>	<b>Diablo Foothills District</b>

### Table/Bench Donors:

<b>Sue Bennett</b>	<b>Bob Gordon</b>	<b>George Speer</b>
<b>Milly Benson</b>	<b>Adele Kelly</b>	<b>Carol Vallens</b>
<b>Lorraine Chacon</b>	<b>Terry Sampson</b>	<b>Carolyn Villi</b>
<b>Brenda Higgins – 2 benches</b>		

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



Conventioneers visit the President's Project

## Special Award Winners

### Lifetime Achievement:

**Carolyn Hoyum** of Anderson Valley Garden Club, Cascade District

### Lifetime Service:

**Shizuko Strom** of Roseville Better Gardens Club, Golden Foothills District

### Person of the Year:

**Carol Vallens** of Southern California Garden Club, San Fernando Valley District

### CGCI Member Award of Honor:

**Steve Lane** of Clayton Valley Garden Club, Diablo Foothills District

### Award of Merit:

**Anita Urie** of Roseville Better Gardens Club, Golden Foothills District

### Gardener of the Year:

**Mary Ann Rush** of Westlake Village Garden Club, Channel Islands District

### Youth Leader of the Year:

**Reinhold Mueller** of Poway Valley Garden Club, Palomar District

**CGCI Programs & Projects**

Go to [californiagardenclubs.com](http://californiagardenclubs.com)  
for details

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- **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  
[gtep@cagardenclubs.org](mailto: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 94080-2204  
[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](#)

**Scholarship Winners**

*by Martha Smyser, Scholarship Chairman*

This year, **California students won \$20,500 in scholarships** from CGCI, Pacific Region and National Garden Clubs – a banner year!

- The \$2,000 Robert Gordon Scholarship goes to MADISON ROGER, a junior at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo majoring in Agriculture & Environmental Plant Science. Madison also won a National Garden Clubs scholarship for \$4,500.
- The \$2,000 Charlene "Shane" Looper scholarship goes to ADRIANA STAGNARO, a graduate student at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in the Environmental Sciences and Management Department.
- The inaugural \$2,000 Alberta Thiry Memorial Scholarship went to KATELYN WILCOX. She is a graduate student at Cal State Fresno in the Geology Department studying meadow restoration. In addition, Katelyn won \$1,000 from Pacific Region and \$4,500 from National Garden Clubs in scholarships for a total of \$7,500 - CGCI's triple scholarship winner!

And our third \$4,500 National Garden Club Scholarship was awarded to EMILY SAEGER, a California graduate student at the University of Washington where she is majoring in Landscape Architecture.

You and your club can help us support our scholarship fund. Every time you purchase a Life Membership the fee goes to support CGCI scholarships. Or you can make a donation to the Scholarship/Life Membership fund. These funds are available for use by the scholarship committee as soon as they are received in contrast to donations to the CGCI Scholarship Endowment Fund which are invested and the interest used as needed. Several individuals and clubs made generous donations to these funds and for this we say THANK YOU!

**"Ode To Convention"**

*by Cher Habriel, Writer-at-Large*

Seems so long since we were together  
Covid 19, one thing or another  
But now, we're in person again  
Anxious to see all our old friends.

Convention is more than just fun  
Vital CGCI work is done  
We connect and explore new ideas  
This yearly event provides a bridge

For new ways to improve our clubs  
Meet new people, new elbows to rub  
After our week of meetings are done  
We look back with joy on the fun

This only happens once a year  
But one thing is perfectly clear  
You need to attend as oft as you can  
For your presence makes convention grand!



**Awards, Honors & Recognition**

[californiagardenclubs.com/forms](http://californiagardenclubs.com/forms)

- Awards Program**

Chairman: Pat Clayes

• [californiagardenclubs.com/awards](http://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*

**Website:** [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org)

**NGC Convention** May 2-5, 2023

White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia



**Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**

**Director: 2021-2022**

**Lana Finegold**

**Email:** [lanafinegold@msn.com](mailto:lanafinegold@msn.com)

**Publication:** **WACONIAH**

**Website:** [PacificRegionGardenClubs.org](http://PacificRegionGardenClubs.org)

**PRGC Convention** April 17-20, 2023

Lynnwood, WA

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

If not, you can subscribe here

[californiagardenclubs.com/](http://californiagardenclubs.com/cgcnewsletters)

[cgcnewsletters](http://cgcnewsletters)

**CGCI Project—Conejo Valley Botanic Garden**

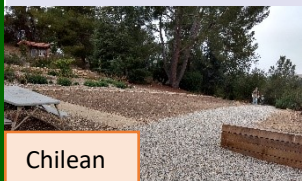
*by Beverly Brune, Chairman*

This garden is sometimes known as the Magic Mountain having been visualized in 1973 on a bare hill and developed in the coming years by all volunteers as the [Conejo Valley Botanic Garden](http://ConejoValleyBotanicGarden.org). The progress has come from the hearts of these volunteers then and now. The support of CGCI will enable us to continue to provide a place where visitors can view unusual plants and trees that typically thrive in our Mediterranean climate. With a recent addition of seven acres to the original thirty-three acres, the garden has more space to fulfill our

dreams. It enabled the volunteers to establish the Chilean Garden area that completed the collection of the five gardens in the world that have a Mediterranean climate. Donations and grants are the background to success, and we are grateful to be a Project of CGCI. Donations may be made [here](http://here).



Australian



Chilean



S California



S African



Mediterranean

**Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication**

*by Nina Blonski, Golden Foothills District Director*

June 14, the Golden Foothills District and Auburn Garden Club dedicated a Blue Star Memorial Marker in the beautiful Armed Forces Pavilion and Community Gardens in Auburn, California, with special guest speakers.



## Flower Arranger of the Year



First Place: Jeanne O'Hair of Shibui Arrangers Guild, Sacramento River Valley District

From Application: A Study of Yellow. Aucuba japonica (gold dust plant), grandiflora roses, red leaf Japanese maple, yellow African Iris Fortnight lily and a white tea rose in hand-painted containers with pin holders glued inside.

Second Place: Lisa Ayala of Fuyu Floral Designers, Santa Clara Valley District  
From Application: Hanging by a Thread. Container: 5-foot-tall wooden frame with self-supporting base (floor design). Branch was tied to the frame with jewelry wire to secure it. Flowers and plant material sit on oasis bases which were wired to the branch. Flowers and leaves were inserted into the oasis. Material: Branch (unknown type), lilies, Aralia leaves. Background: Felt material (fabric).



Third Place: Linda Sanderson of Shibui Arrangers Guild, Sacramento River Valley District

From Application: Purple Haze. Irises in a ceramic vase with Bergenia leaves and ting ting.

## Smokey Bear at the California State Fair

by Charlotte Tucker, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Chairman

Many of you might not realize that our CGCI top 15 Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl posters are on display in Camp Smokey at the California State Fair each year. Held In Sacramento July 15-31, 2022.

AND . . . the student artists are given free California State Fair tickets for their family along with a free parking pass for the Director's Day events and ceremony.

This ceremony takes place before the fair opens on Director's Day so they can enter early and then stay as late as they want.

These students from around our state have a wonderful time and enjoy the recognition they receive from many California agencies, including CGCI, Cal-Fire, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Indian Affairs, and many others.





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

District	Club / Donor		Honor or Memory / To Whom		Amount
Bay Bridges	Berkeley GC		Honor	Nancy Rhoda, Susan Saturno	\$136.00
Bay Bridges	Eden GC		Memory	Adrienne Stout	\$136.00
Bay Bridges	Pinole GC		Honor	Kathryn Gerk	\$68.00
Bay Ocean	Pacifica GC		Honor	Frances Wright	\$68.00
Bay Ocean	Pacifica GC		Honor	Frances Wright, Club president	\$68.00
Channel Islands	Pleasant Valley GC		Honor	Anita Kuzas, Linda Malone	\$272.00
Desert Empire	Oasis GC of Indian Wells Valley		Memory	Gisela Sotomayor	\$68.00
Desert Empire	Oasis GC of Indian Wells Valley		Honor	Merrilee Ray	\$204.00
Desert Empire	Oasis GC of Indian Wells Valley	Don & Lela Herigstad	Honor	Howard Herigstad	\$136.00
Diablo Foothills	Livermore-Amador Valley GC	Jeannine Carbino	Memory	John Carbino	\$68.00
Greater Los Angeles	Las Vedinas CG				\$68.00
Orange	Del Norte GC		Memory	Evelyn von Zabern	\$68.00
Orange	Lake Forest GC		Honor	Lake Forest Garden Club 2021-2022	\$136.00
Orange	Lake Forest GC	Elisabeth M.-Amirghahari	Memory	Anosh Amirghahari, Jandark Amirghable	\$136.00
Orange	Newport Hills GC		Honor	Arbor Day 2022	\$68.00
Orange	Newport Hills GC		Honor	Earth Day 2022	\$68.00
Orange	Newport Hills GC		Memory	Janice Marie Moore	\$68.00
Palms to Pines	Garden & Floral Arrangers Guild	Alfred & Patricia Claves	Memory	Joyce Dean	\$68.00
Palms to Pines	Garden & Floral Arrangers Guild		Memory	Joyce Dean	\$68.00
Palomar	Carlsbad GC		Honor	Mary Tornborg	\$68.00
Palomar	Point Loma GC		Memory	Margaret Cook, Dixie Hansen, Lindy Thomas, husband of Barbara Thomas	\$204.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC	Ron & Cheryl Reich	Memory	Barry Marr	\$68.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC	Robert & Sharon McCarthy	Honor	Family & Friends	\$68.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC	June Cianfrana	Memory	Connie Riebel	\$68.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC		Memory	Christine Curtis	\$68.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC		Honor	Deborah Stoddard	\$68.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC		Honor	Ruth Lozano, Sally Kirby	\$136.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC		Honor	Karen Budds	\$68.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC		Honor	Mary Irving	\$68.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC		Honor	Jane Payne	\$68.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC		Honor	Judy Sundermann	\$68.00
Palomar	Temecula Valley GC		Honor	Janice Rosner	\$68.00
Roadrunner	Hesperia GC		Honor	Patricia Kriske	\$68.00
Sacramento River Valley	River Valley GC		Honor	Vivian Baier, Pam McCabe	\$136.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC		Honor	Robin & Greg Pokorski	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC		Honor	Terry Davis, Charlene Allen	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC	Susan Eyraud	Memory	Hugh Gallagher	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC		Honor	The Joslyn Quilters	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC		Honor	Ray & Susan Law	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC		Honor	Marlene Osborne	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC		Honor	Joyce Davis	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Burbank-Valley GC		Honor	Sharon Springer	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Cherry Blossom GC		Memory	Fran Andrews	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Sherman Oaks GC		Memory	Gwendolyn Powell	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Southern California GC		Honor	Rita Desilets, Guyaneh Diana Eishakhanian	\$136.00
Santa Clara Valley	South Valley Fleurs GC		Honor	South Valley Fleurs Garden Club	\$204.00
Sequoia Foothills	Hanford GC		Memory	Mary Brasil	\$68.00
Sequoia Foothills	Hanford GC		Memory	Barbara Dodge	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Escalon Farmington Community GC		Honor	Judy Scheppmann, President, Linda Zier, Treasurer	\$136.00
Valley Lode	Foothills GC		Memory	Ben Dean	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Manteca GC		Memory	Jancie Spence	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Newman GC		Honor	Mary Ann Ventura, Titi Schouten, Pam Gomez, Nan Bunker, Robert & Jennifer Villalobos	\$340.00
Valley Lode	Newman GC		Honor	Ted Hawkins, Linda Ouse, Elsie Straits, Margie Hensley	\$373.00
Valley Lode	Newman GC	Eldon & Maria Hoffner	Memory	Albion Hoffner	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ripon GC		Memory	Ronald M. Alexander	\$68.00