

Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

October 2022 Vol. 3-15

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
Website Administrator2
Youth Awards3
GivingTuesday and IRS4
Club Newsletter Notes5
Penny Pines6
Special Awards6

Award Winning—Golden Gardens eNews

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



Greetings!

I recently attended the National Garden Clubs Board Meeting in St. Louis. The state Presidents met together to receive information about flower show schools and then attended the Board meeting where we heard our national leaders give an overview of what they have been doing and we voted on changes to by-laws and standing rules. My favorite speaker (via Zoom) told us about planting the trees at the 9/11 memorial site; what an amazing engineering and botanical feat that was. I believe his talk will be on the NGC website and I highly recommend it. We had a tour of NGC headquarters which is an absolutely beautiful mid-century building (housing interesting exhibits) surrounded by wonderful gardens and sculptures. After the conference I visited the magnificent Missouri Botanical Gardens complex. My favorite places were the Climatron, Victorian house, Chinese Garden, Sensory Garden, Ottoman Garden, Children's Garden and beautiful gift store (4 plants came home in my carry-on). The weather went from dry and 97 to rainy and 65, wow.

Roadrunner District invited me to their September meeting which was an outstanding event —beautiful venue, great box lunch, wonderful raffle baskets, lovely fall table arrangements, darling decorated pots for sale. All the district clubs attended and gave reports on their meetings and activities. What a busy district! It was exciting to meet so many members and to spend time with the five members who treated me to a yummy evening meal. Montana de Oro District invited me to their meeting via Zoom; I loved hearing about their projects. The three Vice-Presidents, Robin Pokorski and I Zoomed with members of the Luther Burbank district to answer questions about structure and purpose of districts. Thank you to Fallbrook for inviting me to do their installation.

Congratulations to Emily Troxell for organizing an amazing Symposium in San Diego and to Valley Lode District for their successful Flower Show School. A gigantic thank you goes to Robin Pokorski for producing our new environmentally friendly directory.

I hope to see everyone at fall board in Sacramento, October 16-18 at the Wyndham Hotel. Registration closes on October 6 and hotel bookings close on October 8. Plan to be there on Monday as Nancy Compton and her team from the Sacramento River Valley District are presenting 5 creative workshops that day.

Happy Halloween; may you get lots of spooktacular treats!

Lynne



CGCI Calendar

californiagardenclubs.com/calendar

- **October 16-18, 2022**
Fall Board Meeting
Wyndham Hotel, Sacramento
- **November 5, 2022**
Tri-Refresher *Cancelled*
Turlock - Contact: Berni Hendrix
schoolsvld@gmail.com
- **January 31-February 2, 2023**
Winter Board Meeting
Tentative until confirmed
Harrah's Resort, Valley Center
- **June 5-9, 2023**
CGCI Convention
Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys
Contact: Rita Desilets
4rita.desilets@gmail.com
- **Flower Show School**
Course 2 September 24-26, 2022
Course 3 April 14-16, 2023
Course 4 September 23-25, 2023
Modesto—Contact: Judi Picinini,
jpacinini@aol.com
- **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

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

Make your plans:

Fall Board Meeting
October 16-18, 2022

Wyndham Hotel, Sacramento
916-338-5800

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 **\$22,000**. Table/Benches will be available at the Fall Board Meeting in Sacramento in October! To be sure your Table/Bench is reserved just for you or for your club, place your order in advance with me.

As garden club gains momentum this autumn, I notice an uptick in my mail but it still doesn't take all day to process your checks. I need more to do. Start the garden club season off right by sending \$50 or \$100 to the President's Project.

We need to raise a little over \$3000 to meet our goal of \$25,000. TOGETHER, I am confident we can make this happen.

Generous Donors:

Desert Crossroads GC
Long Beach GC
Riverside San Bernardino Counties Orchid Society
Sunshine GC

Table/Bench Donors:

Nobody – not one of you wants a Table/Bench? Shall I tell Hank Vanderhorst he is out of business? That he should just pack up his tools and call it a day? Surely a couple more of you want to confound your friends by asking....."Is it a Table.....or a Bench?"

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

WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR

Position available for the 2023-2025 term

Domain Host: GoDaddy; Platform: WordPress

Requirements: Intermediate level skill, or higher, in general computer usage, websites and databases to include, but not limited to email, spreadsheets, Word and pdf docs, creating webpages (editing, drag & drop) and forms (web-based or pdf), uploading content (documents and images) to webpages, linking webpages or websites, data input to database records.

Duties: Manage content for all CGCI web pages and webforms; create "fillable" pdf forms as needed (requires Adobe Acrobat or comparable pdf software with full edit capabilities); upload or link documents, images or other websites/pages; update Organization Locator app (finding club by zip code); provide guidance for clubs and districts with hosted sites; manage CGCI Gmail-based email accounts.

NOTE: Shares admin duties with Technical Consultant: Technical items, i.e. site maintenance, WordPress upgrades, App upgrades/additions, are handled by the CGCI Technical Consultant under annual contract.

If you are interested and would like more information please contact Webmaster, Jane McKee, webmaster@cagardenclubs.org. To apply for the position complete and submit the [Webmaster Admin Application Form](#)

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
gtep@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](#)

YOUTH AWARDS

By Lisa Cosand, Youth Activities Chairman

Let's award more money this awards year!

Youth Awards #60 through #65 in the "Awards Manual" are worth \$1,260. At least half of the money is left on the table each year with no entries. The third and fourth graders are good about getting their entries to us, but where are the K-2nd and 5th – 9th grade entries?

Please encourage a child to write or draw and join the fun. The entry forms are due beginning December 1, 2022 through January 23, 2023, depending on the award. Please study the "Awards Manual" (that can be found on the CGCI Website under "Awards") and partner with a child to create a winning entry. This awards year let's give all the money to our future gardeners!



60. SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTER CONTEST—1st Place: \$25 in each section. Grades 1-5

61. SCULPTURE CONTEST--1st Place \$25 in each grade. Grades 4-8

62. POETRY CONTEST—1st Place \$20, 2nd Place \$15, 3rd Place \$10, in each grade. Grades K—9

63. YOUTH POLLINATOR POSTER CONTEST--1st \$25, 2nd \$20, 3rd \$15 in each grade. Grades: K—6

64. JUNIOR ESSAY CONTEST--1st \$20, 2nd \$15, 3rd \$10 in each section. Section A: Grades 1-3. Section B: Grades 4-5

65. SCHOOL GARDEN AWARD--1st \$25 in each section. Section A: Grades K-5. Section B: Grades 6-8. Section C: Grades 9-12

If you have questions, please contact the Youth Activities Chairman Lisa Cosand at sflowerplc@aol.com. For Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest, please contact Charlotte Tucker at ctucker@mlode.com.

**SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTER CONTEST**

By Charlotte Tucker, Chairman

Clubs must have all posters judged and the originals (four top winners from each grade (for a total of 20 posters maximum) sent to CGCI for further judging – entries must be received by January 23, 2023. Club's accompanying report must include: number of posters received; number of schools contacted; and a list of the winners. For more information, please see the "Awards Manual" on the CGCI website under "Awards" and the Evaluation form for Award #60. Please contact me if you have any questions -- ctucker@mlode.com or 209-533-9300.

Awards, Honors & Recognition

californiagardenclubs.com/forms

- Awards Program**

Chairman: Pat Claves

• 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/cgcnewsletter

GIVINGTUESDAY 2022

By Pat Claves, Board of Trustees Member

GivingTuesday will take place on **Tuesday, November 29**. The link to the donation form will be available on the home page of the CGCI website (www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org) on November 28 and stay active for one month. Thank you for your generosity.

WHAT TO DO IF THE IRS CONTACTS YOU

By Sue Bennett, GTEP Chairman

When an IRS letter or notice arrives in the mail, here's what you should do:

Read the letter carefully. Most IRS letters and notices are about federal tax returns or tax accounts. Each notice deals with a specific issue and includes specific instructions on what to do.

Review the information. If a letter is about a changed or corrected tax return, the taxpayer should review the information and compare it with the original return. If the taxpayer agrees, they should make notes about the corrections on their personal copy of the tax return and keep it for their records. Typically, a taxpayer will only need to take action or contact the IRS if they don't agree with the information, if the IRS requested additional information, or if they have a balance due.

Take any requested action, including making a payment. The IRS and authorized private debt collection agencies do send letters by mail. Most of the time, all the taxpayer needs to do is read the letter carefully and take the appropriate action or [submit a payment](#).

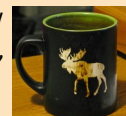
Reply only if instructed to do so. Taxpayers don't need to reply to a notice unless specifically told to do so. There is usually no need to call the IRS. If a taxpayer does need to call the IRS, they should use the number in the upper right-hand corner of the notice and have a copy of their tax return and letter.

Let the IRS know of a disputed notice. If a taxpayer doesn't agree with the IRS, they should mail a letter explaining why they dispute the notice. They should send it to the address on the contact stub included with the notice. The taxpayer should include information and documents for the IRS to review when considering the dispute.

Keep the letter or notice for their records. Taxpayers should keep notices or letters they receive from the IRS. These include adjustment notices when an action is taken on the taxpayer's account. Taxpayers should keep records for three years from the date they filed the tax return.

Watch for scams. The IRS will never contact a taxpayer using social media or text message. The first contact from the IRS usually comes in the mail. Taxpayers who are unsure whether they owe money to the IRS can view their [tax account information](#) on IRS.gov.

Moosed Yet Again.....What a delightful birthday surprise awaited my return home from the NGC Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis. I was "moosed" with a moose mug and several packages of hot cocoa, tea and coffee to be enjoyed under my warm throw "moose" blanket which was "moosed" to me previously. I love it! Thank you, Secret Mooser.....this is soooooo fun!!!! Robin



NOTES FROM YOUR NEWSLETTERS

Desert Rose Garden Club of California City visited a **Penny Pines Plantation** in Sequoia National Park.



Fortuna Garden Club. Each month VPs Annie and Doreen have the fun task of selecting a local landscape to honor as “Garden of the Month”. There are no rules or strict criteria to follow. We don’t judge the yard or expect perfection. Instead, we look for gardens that catch our eye and bring us pleasure.

Lake Oroville Area Garden Club asks members to BYOC - “Bring Your Own Cup” so we can eliminate using Styrofoam cups, and reduce the amount of trash we make.

Paradise Gardeners hosting Palomar District Meeting. We are striving to be a Zero-Waste club, so we encourage attendees to bring their own cups.

Lake Forest Garden Club. Meet and Greet this year’s Committee Chairs. See how/where you can plug in to add your skills to the FUN-ctioning of our garden club! Tables will be set for Meet & Greet with many committees represented.

Discovery Bay Garden Club President. “I’m relieved and gratified that the meeting was successful.... and that it’s over. Being home hostess, program speaker and workshop leader, President, and 1st VP was a lot to prepare for and keep track of for one person. Thank you for your patience .

Oasis Garden Club of Indian Wells Valley. A planned fundraiser is to produce a guide to native plants, with local photos, based on the collection of “On the Wild Side” articles from our *Sierra Wave* newsletters. We will make these available for sale and the proceeds will benefit Oasis projects.

Folsom Garden Club has a book club. Garden Club Readers: This month’s book: *Alcatraz Rose*, by Anthony Eglin.

Divide Garden Club President. September 17, 2022, the day after the evacuation orders were lifted on Georgetown, my husband and I took our dogs on a long walk after being cooped up for eight days. Our own personal struggle with evacuation has taught us so many things that could have only been learned from the experience itself. I’m proud of the fact that we kept cool heads despite the giant plume that towered over us as we loaded up that which is most precious to us, our dogs and cats. This past week has given me reflection to see the improvements that can be made in our preparedness. I’ve learned about wildfires as well. A website, <https://the-lookout.org/>, has been a very informative site covering wildfires in California and going deeper into fire behavior, firefighting tactics, histories of wildfire, and prescriptive burning. Events like the last week remind us of what matters to us, Life. So many heroes rallying to the aid of our community to preserve life in so many aspects, with respect for human and animal life alike. The only possible way I can think to repay the kindness of this community is by striving to be as dedicated myself to community service as those who have been such a shining example. Compassion is contagious. ~Rebecca Yellott

The Artichoke, was chosen for our logo because it symbolizes who we are; we have a meaty heart protected by layers of strong leaves, with hope, prosperity, and a tasty future!





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

District	Club / Donor		Honor or Memory / To Whom	Amount
Bay Bridges	Eden GC		Honor Kris Dempsey, Wood Badge Trainer	\$68.00
Cascade	Redding Wonderland GC		Memory Debra Scott	\$68.00
Golden Foothills	Divide GC		Honor Joan Mengelkock	\$68.00
Golden Foothills	Divide GC		Memory Mary Hoblit	\$68.00
Greater Los Angeles	Los Angeles GC		Memory June Schmeier	\$68.00
Montana de Oro	Cayucos GC		Memory Marvin Traylor, Ron Clark, Dick Moon	\$204.00
Orange	Niguel Shores GC	Robert Wollin	Memory Lee Sweeney-Long time member	\$68.00
Orange	Niguel Shores GC	Robert Wollin	Memory Carmen Murph Hospitality Chair of NSGC	\$68.00
Palms to Pines	"A" Garden Club of Big Bear Valley		Honor Chris Pane, Nancy Tyrell, Kay Wilcox	\$204.00
San Fernando Valley	Southern California GC		Honor Steve List	\$68.00
San Fernando Valley	Southern California GC	Harriet Vallens	Memory Jay Spencer	\$68.00
Santa Clara Valley	Green Thumb Garden Club of Milpitas	Roseann Costabile	Memory Ellen Miller	\$68.00
Sequoia Foothills	Valley Oak GC		Honor Connie Relph	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Oakdale GC	Vicki Godkin	Memory Tom Hunger, Paul Johnston	\$136.00

Attached at the end of this newsletter is the Plant America Community Grant Application in a fillable PDF form. The deadline for this grant is October 15th. If there are any questions, please contact David Robson, NGC Plant America Community Grants Chairman at plantamericagrants@gardenclub.org

SPECIAL AWARDS

Now is the time to submit nominations for CGCI's Special Awards. Complete information about applying for the Special Awards can be found in the Awards Manual:

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT—To a garden club member (exclusive of the CGCI president in office) whose accumulation of service over five or more years has contributed significantly to the overall objectives of CGCI.

LIFETIME SERVICE —To a garden club member in recognition of exemplary service in excess of ten years and selfless dedication to the mission and objectives of CGCI.

PERSON OF THE YEAR—In recognition of extraordinary services on behalf of the objectives of CGCI. The Candidate's membership in CGCI is not mandatory.

CGCI MEMBER AWARD OF HONOR —To a garden club member whose volunteer efforts over five or more years have made outstanding contributions to club and community in one or more of the following areas: civic development, horticulture therapy, youth activities, conservation, landscape design, floral design, horticulture or all-around excellence.

GARDENER OF THE YEAR—To a club member whose volunteer efforts have made outstanding contributions in horticulture to his/her club and/or community in one or more of the following: public education, beautification, conservation, youth activities, all-around excellence in horticulture.

YOUTH LEADER OF THE YEAR—To the district or club youth leader who has demonstrated the most ingenuity and dedication in working with youth groups.

AWARDS OF MERIT (3)—May be awarded to individuals who give exceptional service to their club and/or district. For meritorious achievement, creative vision, ingenuity or outstanding ability in any field which advances garden club objectives.

CONSULTANT OF THE YEAR—May be awarded to an environmental, gardening or landscape design consultant or master consultant in recognition of non-professional achievement, involvement and/or service as an environmental, gardening or landscape design consultant in either the community or the NGC Environmental, Gardening or Landscape Design schools.



PLANT AMERICA

Community Project Grants Guidelines and Application



The **PLANT AMERICA** Community Project Grants Program is sponsored by National Garden Clubs, Inc. for new or existing club projects in their respective communities. Projects may be a joint venture with another organization/s. The scope of these projects may include but are not limited to:

- Beautification and/or restoration
- Community gardens
- Youth gardening
- Habitat for Humanity landscaping
- Landscaping projects
- Implementation of environmental practices
- A horticulture or environmental educational event for the public

Grant Amount: Up to \$1,000.00 is available to be used for direct expenses of 2023 projects.

Who May Apply:

- Individual or near-garden clubs that are members of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- **NOTE:** Recipients of previous PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants are **NOT** eligible to apply.

How to Apply using this PDF form:

- Application is limited to a **TOTAL** of **two (2) pages**. (This page does not count.)
 - **ONE (1) PAGE** - Application Form (Page 1)
 - **ONE (1) PAGE** - Budget (Page 2)
- *Applications of more than two pages will **NOT** be considered. NO PHOTOS/DIAGRAMS.*

- Save this form to your desktop and open it in Adobe Acrobat; it is not fillable with most internet browsers. Fill in, save the changes and email the completed **application form** and **budget** to:
PlantAmericaGrants@gardenclub.org.

Application Deadline: October 15, 2022

- Recipients of grants will be notified, and all money will be awarded by **January 31, 2023**.
- Projects must be completed by **February 28, 2024**; final report forms due by **April 1, 2024**.

Judging Criteria:

In evaluating grant applications, judging is based on the following Scale of Points:

Benefits and visibility in community	40	Collaboration with other community groups	15
Impact and scope of project	25	Application form complete	5
Involvement & participation by club members	15	TOTAL	100

Funding Guidelines:

Grants will not be provided for:

- Projects in which club does not participate in some aspect
- Purchase of Blue or Gold Star Markers
- Competitive Flower Shows
- Scout projects
- Salaries or benefits of personnel
- Political action programs
- Capital drives and/or fund building
- Scholarships and/or endowments
- Private gardens
- Lawsuits and/or litigation
- Overhead costs
- Projects completed before 2023.

Final Report:

1. **Deadline:** within two months after the completion of the project or by April 1, 2024.
2. Email the following:
 - A short two-to-three pages report describing the project including photos
 - A copy of the final financial report including all income and expenses
 - A copy of any publicity

NOTE: Please indicate if permission has been given for use of photos by NGC in print, website and social media. A release form for adults and minors can be found on the NGC website. <https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2020-05/ngc-publication-release-fillable-01.pdf>

PAGE 1 - APPLICATION
DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2022

Date of Application:

Name of State Garden Club:

Applicant (Club/s):

Contact: (Name of individual representing club/s)

Address:

Email:

Phone:

New Project: Yes ___ No ___ **Beginning date:** **Completion date:**

Number of Club Members: **Anticipated Number Members Involved in Project:**

Amount Requested (up to \$1,000): **Total Project Budget:**

Description of Intended Project: (Please use font size "10" or larger)

Brief description of how the funds will be used: (type of plants, hardscape items, construction, etc.)

Brief statement of any in-kind or volunteer services: (who, number of hours, function, etc.)

PAGE 2 - BUDGET
DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2022

Garden Club Name:

State:

EXPENSES

Plants (# X \$.00) (listed below)	\$
Delivery of plants	\$
Soil amendments/mulch	\$
Labor	\$
Other Purchases (listed below)	\$

*TOTAL	\$
---------------	-----------

INCOME

NGC Plant America Community Project Grant	\$
Approximate value of donated Labor/Services	\$
Approximate value of donated Supplies/products	\$
Club's Contribution	\$
Other Organizations' Donation/s	\$
Other (listed below)	\$

*TOTAL	\$
---------------	-----------

***Totals for income and expenses must be equal.**

Email APPLICATION and BUDGET (and Questions) TO:
PlantAmericaGrants@gardenclub.org