



CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Fall Board Meeting

Hyatt Regency Suites, Palm Springs, CA

September 15-16, 2010

President: Maryanne Lucas

Host: Palms to Pines District

EXCUSED: Archibald; Bramhall; Craig; Dedini; Doerfling; Findley; Gould, J.; Hart; Hooper; Jackman; Lung; Mayo; Mellen; Nagy; Nielsen; Noth; Oberti; Paul; Radicchi; Reibel; Reid; Reiley; Roton; Smith, G.; Tebo; Thorne; Tjosaas; Unger; Walker; Walter; Wilson; Wixon; York; Zarnowski; Zimmerman

President Lucas called the meeting to order at 1:44 p.m.

The Recording Secretary, Greg Pokorski, was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America was led by Ron Lang, Palm to Pines District Co-Director.

The Inspiration was given by Linda Lang, Palm to Pines District Co-Director.

A Moment of Silence was observed in memory of board members Ruth Angevine, Virginia Bennetts, Sharon Guymon, Carolyn Johnson, and Wilma Parker who passed away since the last meeting.

President Lucas introduced CGCI Officers, former CGCI Presidents Mary Lou Goodwin, Beverly Brune, Robert Gordon and Robin Pokorski, Circle of Poppies Members Helen Gates and Angela Michaels, District Directors, and Pages Deedee Speer and Ron and Linda Lang.

President Lucas thanked the Palms to Pines District for hosting the meeting.

President Lucas appointed, without objection, Robin Pokorski as Timekeeper.

Recording Secretary Greg Pokorski called the roll and a quorum was established.

Parliamentarian Chuck Goodwin moved to dispense with the reading of the Rules of Order for Board Meetings (printed on page 6 of the Program and on page 38 of the 2010-2011 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*). **PASSED** Chuck Goodwin announced that motion forms should be utilized in the making of motions, and called attention to Rules 10 (procedure for obtaining the floor) and 14 (cell phones should be turned off or set to vibrate).

President Lucas advised that no vote was required to adopt the Rules of Order for Board Meetings because they were adopted at the Organizational Meeting in June, 2009 for this entire term.

Fall Board Meeting Chairman Pat Clayes presented a correction to the Fall Board Meeting Program, which was **adopted without objection** as corrected.

Fall Board Meeting Registrar Jane McKee gave the registration report (133 registered) for information only.

Without objection, the minutes of the June 4, 2010 Pre-Convention Board Meeting in Westlake Village were approved as distributed.

Without objection, the minutes of the June 7, 2010 Organizational Meeting in Westlake Village were approved as distributed.

President Lucas appointed, without objection, the committee to approve the minutes of this meeting: Lorraine Ornelas, Arbor Day Chairman, as Chairman, and members Gloria Aminian, Flower Show Symposia Chairman and Liability Insurance Chairman, and Emily Bueermann, Reimagine Chairman.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Treasurer Ed Dempsey reported:

Net Worth

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Total Cash including CD's: | \$ 345,875.19 |
| Other Assets including GG & Chase: | \$ 28,515.20 |
| Prepaid Deposits: | \$ 1,750.00 |
| Total Assets: | \$ 374,390.39 |
| of which Restricted Funds are | \$ 236,680.22 |
| Cash Balance Available | \$ 137,710.17 |

SPECIAL RATIFICATION:

President Lucas announced that per Article VI. Section 1. (d) of the bylaws Shane Looper was appointed to fill the vacancy in the office of Corresponding Secretary and that this was approved by the Executive Committee, subject to the ratification of the board of directors. **PASSED**

CORRESPONDENCE: Corresponding Secretary Shane Looper read thank you notes from Ruth Angevine (appointment to the Circle of Poppies), the Director of the Peregrine Fund (support of the California Condor Project), Deen Day Sanders (support of WAFA [World Association of Flower Arrangers] USA 10th World Flower Show) and Gerry St. Peters (support of WAFA USA 10th World Flower Show).

First Vice President Julie West moved that CGCI establish the Virginia Bennetts Memorial Fund, part of temporarily restricted funds. **PASSED**

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Recording Secretary Greg Pokorski presented the following recommendations:

RATIFICATIONS:

1. Ratify the appointment of Shane Looper as Policy Monitor. **PASSED**
Chairmen Ratifications
2. Ratify the appointment of Chelsea Wilson as 2011 Fall Board Chairman. **PASSED**
3. Ratify the appointment of Nancy Johnson as 2012 Winter Board Chairman. **PASSED**
4. Ratify the appointment of Ron Byrd as 2012 Convention Chairman. **PASSED**
5. Ratify the appointments of Donna Haddock and Pat Chaney as 2012 Fall Board Co-Chairmen. **PASSED**
6. Ratify the appointment of Rita Desilets to the Budget & Finance and Bylaws & Policy Committees. **PASSED**
Calendar Ratifications
7. 2011 Winter Board Meeting – Costa Mesa, February 3-6 – Host: Orange County District. Carole Lung, Chairman. Missy Schweiger, Treasurer. **PASSED**
8. 2012 Convention – Sacramento, June 3-7 – Host Sacramento River Valley District **PASSED**
9. 2013 Winter Board Meeting – Host: Golden Foothills District. **PASSED**
Payment Ratification
10. Approve the payment of up to \$39 for the CGCI Benefactor’s Award, money to come from the General Fund. **PASSED**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

11. Add an additional \$200 (over budgeted \$150) to Memorial Donations (#4003). **PASSED**
12. Accept a \$30 registration fee and a \$45 late registration fee for the 2011 Winter Board Meeting. **PASSED**
13. That liability insurance rates for the 2011-2012 policy term be as follows:
Reduce the per capita rate charged to \$.75.
Reduce the Minimum Premium for small clubs from \$25 to \$20.
No change to the Additional Insured Certificate charge of \$20 or the Late Fee of \$20. **PASSED**
14. That CGCI be a sponsor of the 2011 California State Flower, Food & Garden Show. **PASSED**

Recess at 3:14 p.m.

Reconvene at 9:37 a.m. on Thursday, September 16 (Session 2).

2010 Convention Co-Chairman Beverly Brune reported on the Westlake Village Convention. (See Attachment B)

OFFICERS’ REPORTS

Parliamentarian – Chuck Goodwin reported. (See Attachment A)

Golden Gardens Editor – Lynne Hansen reported. (See Attachment A)

Financial Secretary – Joelle Holford reported.

3rd Vice President – Rita Desilets reported. (See Attachment A)

Rita Desilets moved to ratify the following new groups:

5 Garden Clubs:

Sacramento Orchid Forum – Sacramento River Valley District – 34 members, Jose Rodriguez, President

Coastal Valley Orchid Society – Montana de Oro District – 30 members, Phil Rietz, President

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society – Arboretum District – 185 members, Buck Hemenway, President

Orange County Geranium Society – Orange County District – 46 members, Candace Nakanishi, President (changed from APS status to Club)

Conejo Valley Organic Garden and Herb Society – Channel Islands District – 53 members, Darcey Lober, President (changed from APS status to Club)

1 Associate Plant Society:

Sonoma County Orchid Society – 80 members, Susan Anderson, President

2 Affiliates:

California Rare Fruit Growers – CGCI Affiliate, Rose Arbuckle, President

Northern California Camellia Society – CGCI Affiliate, Robert Ehrhart, President

PASSED

2nd Vice President – Pat Clayes reported. (See Attachment A)

1st Vice President – Julie West reported. (See Attachment A)

Recording Secretary – Greg Pokorski reported. (See Attachment A)

Greg Pokorski moved to ratify Missy Schweiger and Janet Parsons as co-treasurers of the 2011 Winter Board Meeting in Orange County District. **PASSED**

President – Maryanne Lucas reported.

STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advisory Council – Robin Pokorski reported. (See Attachment B)

Board of Trustees/Scholarship – Dave West reported for Joan Craig, Chairman. (See Attachment B)

Endowment Committee – Robert Gordon reported. (See Attachment B)

Robert Gordon moved that CGCI follow Principal Financial's advice and invest the \$62,000 of CGCI scholarship funds into a "diversified portfolio of fixed income funds." **PASSED**

Recess at 10:40 a.m.

Reconvene at 2:20 p.m. (Session 3)

STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS continued.

Budget and Finance – Julie West reported for Joelle Holford, Chairman. (See Attachment B)

Convention 2011 – Cathy Biggins reported. (See Attachment B)

Nominating Committee – Dolores Moffat reported.

Slosson Fund – President Lucas reported.

Three-Year Calendars – Shane Looper reported.

Wildflower Weekend Encounter – President Lucas reported.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Recording Secretary Greg Pokorski presented the following recommendation which was tabled during the first business session, and was taken from the table at this session.

15. That money from the following Board Designated Restricted Funds be moved to create new fundraising opportunities with oversight charged to the Financial Security Team.

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|--|
| <u>Schools</u> | <u>\$1000</u> | <u>→ educational program for public (Schools Team)</u> |
| <u>Symposium</u> | <u>\$2000</u> | <u>→ floral design program or flower shows (FS Team)</u> |
| <u>Wildflower Conference</u> | <u>\$2000</u> | <u>→ wildflower or conservation (Horticulture/Conservation Team)</u> |
| <u>General Fund</u> | <u>\$2000</u> | |
| <u>Honor Book</u> | <u>\$1000</u> | <u>→ promote CGCI objectives (District Directors) (PR Team)</u> |
| <u>General Fund</u> | <u>\$1000</u> | <u>→ youth development (Youth Team)</u> |

PASSED

CHAIRMEN and TEAM REPORTS (See Attachment C)

First Vice President Julie West introduced the Chairmen and Team Liaisons who reported.

Shane Looper moved to ratify an Environmental Studies School sponsored by Palms to Pines District, Courses 1 and 2, May 3 to 6, 2011, Emily Bueermann, Chairman. **PASSED**

Recess at 3:17 p.m.

Reconvene at 3:35 p.m.

CHAIRMEN and TEAM REPORTS continued.

Landscape Design Council Chairman Mary Lou Goodwin moved that her report be printed in its entirety in the minutes. **PASSED without objection** (See Attachment D)

Symposia Chairman Gloria Aminian moved that the Flower Show Team would like to use \$1,500 from the Restricted Symposium Fund to make grants (regarding adopted motion above to move restricted funds) for the purpose of reducing the fees for registration for Symposium attendees. **PASSED** (See Attachment C)

IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption Chairman Chuck Goodwin moved to ratify the following 2 Clubs which have been certified to participate in the CGCI IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption program:

Pleasant Hill Instructional Garden

Tustin Garden Club

PASSED (See Attachment C)

Youth Awards & Administrative Chairman Beverly Switzer moved to ratify these new Junior garden groups:

Redding Wonderland Garden Club Youth Group...12 members...sponsored by Redding Wonderland Garden Club of Cascade District

Myrtle Farm Montessori Garden Project ...30 members...sponsored by Clayton Valley Garden Club of Diablo Foothills District

As yet to be named a Georgetown Elementary School group...100 members...sponsored by Divide Garden Club of Golden Foothills District

The Centipedes of Twelve Bridges Elementary School...20 members...sponsored by Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club of the Golden Foothills District

PASSED (See Attachment C)

DISTRICT DIRECTORS' REPORTS (See Attachment E)

Clara Petrosky, Roadrunner District, and Jane McKee, Palomar District, reported.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greg Pokorski moved that the Environmental Studies School ratified earlier today be ratified to show that it is being sponsored by Palms to Pines District and The Palms Garden Club. **PASSED**

President Lucas thanked Palms to Pines District Co-Directors Ron and Linda Lang and Fall Board Meeting Chairman Pat Claves for this Fall Board Meeting.

President Lucas announced that Julie West is now President-Elect.

There being no further business and no objection, the 2010 Fall Board Meeting of California Garden Clubs, Inc. was adjourned by President Lucas at 5:10 p.m.

Submitted

Greg Pokorski, Recording Secretary

Date

OFFICER REPORTS

Parliamentarian, Chuck Goodwin

Changes to the **Bylaws** which were approved at Convention 2010, can be found in the 2010-2011 CGCI Yearbook:

1. Art. IV, Sec. 1 defines the CGCI membership class of affiliates.
2. Art. IV, Sec 3 establishes that CGCI dues are due July 1 and delinquent October 1. Clubs and associate plant societies who are delinquent in dues payment become ineligible for CGCI liability insurance, participation in the awards program and in the CGCI 501(c)(3) IRS Group Exemption.
3. Art. V, Sec. 2 clarifies which officers are appointed by the President.
4. Art. VI, Sec. 2 clarifies that the notification of offices to be filled, made by the Nominating Committee at the Fall Board Meeting in odd-numbered years, will be published in *Golden Gardens*.
5. Art. IX, Sec. 6 is a new section that authorizes the President to appoint the Board meeting chairmen.
6. Art. X, Sec. 1 clarifies which chairmen of standing and special committees shall be appointed by the President.
7. Art. XII, Sec. 6 authorizes the President to appoint up to three additional members to the budget and finance committee.
8. Art. XII, Sec. 7 increases the amount of the president's annual reimbursement for verified expenses incurred for state travel and office expense.
9. Art. XII, Sec. 10 provides that a crime policy, including Employee Dishonesty coverage, be furnished by CGCI.
10. Art. XIV, Sec. 2 provides that the chairman and secretary of the board of trustees may be reelected for one additional one year term.
11. The following bylaw changes relate to *Golden Gardens* and the *Golden Gardens* editor and take effect at the close of the CGCI Convention, May 18, 2011. The overall effect is to make the *Golden Gardens* editor the Chairman of a permanent standing committee and no longer a member of the Executive Committee. The amendments affect Art. V, Sec. 1 and 8; Art VI, Sec. 1b(3); Art. VII, Sec. 1; Art. VIII, Sec, 1; and Art. XIII, Sec. 1, 3 and 5.

Golden Gardens Editor, Lynne Hansen

Golden Gardens has successfully gone to color and quarterly issues so don't hesitate to submit good high resolution graphics with your articles that you submit. In mentioning articles, I want to thank those who have submitted such great articles that I want to go out and work in the yard after reading them. That's the goal!

The deadline is September 15, but because we are at this board meeting on the deadline, a few days late won't make much difference. The next issue will be the winter issue. The deadlines are listed on page 2 of *Golden Gardens*. Publication information is on the website along with information about article requirements.

Thanks to the talent of CGCI members and great teamwork we have received good reviews on our first issue. This would not be possible without the knowledge and time our members gave by teaming up with *Golden Gardens*. The help from Maryanne Lucas, Pat Clayes, and Julie West has been a real asset for me by proofing *Golden Gardens* before going to press.

Angels and Season's Greeting are both being handled by Carol Mayo. I thank Carol for stepping up and filling Betty Taylor's shoes.

Deadline for Season's Greeting is October 15, so be sure to get your greeting in to Carol, with a copy to me if e-mailing, before then.

Joelle Holford and Joan Patten also have been very helpful to me as I learn the ropes of this job. I am very fortunate to have such a talented team.

I have put two different flyers in the District Director's Mail Box. One is a template for *Golden Gardens* articles. The other has key information for submitting your articles. These flyers are in the District Director boxes and extras are available here at the Fall Board Meeting. Anyone wanting a copy of the flyers in the future can contact me for a Word 2003 version of these flyers, or else get the free Office 2007 Compatibility Tool from Microsoft.com that will allow them to read Word, Excel, and PowerPoint files.

I received a question about the paper used in *Golden Gardens*, and was it recyclable? The glossy paper we used is FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified and the printer uses soy inks for our magazines. This choice lets us save \$400 less per issue also.

Treasurer, Ed Dempsey: We met with our new auditor last month to get her the information she needed for our audit. With the great help from our Financial Secretary, Joelle, I am getting more of our income and expenses into the right categories. Please cash your club's award checks. We still have many outstanding checks. We must all learn the procedures to request money and to deposit money. Requests for repayment go to our Financial Secretary and she sends the warrant to me and I make out the check and mail it to the proper person. When you have money for me to deposit, fill out a cash receipt report and send the white copy with the money to me and the yellow copy to Joelle.

Recording Secretary, Greg Pokorski

The minutes of the Pre-Convention Board Meeting, the Convention and the Organizational Meeting were distributed on July 19. They are sent to most board members by email. They were hand-delivered to one board member and had to be mailed to only nine board members at a cost of \$14.04.

Minutes are posted on the CGCI website very soon after distribution.

Whether or not you attended previous meetings, you are encouraged to read and review minutes in order to be aware of what is going on in your organization. The reports that are attached to the minutes provide resource information and can educate as to how various chairmanships further the objectives of CGCI.

As of Tuesday, September 14, I have received Fall Board Meeting reports from only seven chairmen, and two District Directors. Whether you report orally or not, you are invited to submit written reports as discussed in the Guidelines Julie West emailed board members on August 14. You are especially encouraged to submit written reports to restate what you have reported orally and it is necessary to have a written report if you include ratifications in your report.

Reports to the Recording Secretary (other than from officers and the standing committees listed on pages 16-18 of the Yearbook) are to be in a condensed 100-word maximum format for distribution with the minutes.

You may send me your reports, preferably by email, until September 28.

The National Association of Parliamentarians offers an online training course, Minutes Made Easy, designed for people who are responsible for preparing minutes. This covers what goes in the minutes and what does not go in the minutes, among other things.

Third Vice President/Membership Chairman, Rita Desilets

As of September 13, 2010, **225 clubs** with **13,104** members; **42 associate plant societies** with **2,324** members and **16 affiliates** have paid their 2010-2011 dues. This leaves 59 clubs, 13 associate plant societies and 12 affiliates in danger of being delinquent if dues are not paid by October 1. Each District Director will receive a list of clubs in their district whose dues were not paid and will be ineligible for insurance and the awards program on October 1. Directors, please contact these clubs and remind them of the approaching deadline if you haven't already. Your efforts are appreciated.

Congratulations to the following Districts for having 100% of their dues paid: Channel Islands, Santa Clara Valley, Golden Foothills and San Fernando Valley District. The following Districts need to be recognized for having just one unpaid club: Cascade, Desert Empire, Greater LA, Luther Burbank, Mendo-Lake, Roadrunner and Top o' the State.

20,000 membership cards designed by Maryanne Lucas were printed. Cards for paid clubs are packaged and ready to be given to District Directors at this board meeting. Clubs paying their dues after Fall Board will receive their cards by mail. Additional cards will be mailed as clubs submit quarterly dues statements. Associate Plant Societies will receive one card for their records unless they request one for each member. Membership cards are good for discounts at businesses on the Participating Sponsors list and Arboreta/Botanic Gardens list that are available on the CGCI Website.

CGCI banners continue to be popular! To facilitate ordering, a Banner Order form is available on the CGCI Website. Until June 2011, a free banner bag will be given to clubs or districts ordering both the stand and banner. Several stands have been brought for orders taken at this meeting. Order forms are available at the Membership table. One garden club recently ordered 6 banners to identify the homes on their garden tour.

CGCI promotional materials: rack cards, bookmarks and brochures have been counted, bundled and are ready for pick up at the Membership table. Be sure to remind those who take these materials to put their club information in the space provide before using.

The Membership theme for this year continues to be "*One by One*". It was chosen because the personal touch is so important in gaining and retaining members. Look for articles in each issue of *Golden Gardens*. Membership Matters! Share your love of gardening and garden clubbing! You are an important part of the Membership Team.

Thirty "Invitation to Membership" packets containing a cover letter, membership application and list of benefits of membership are available at the Membership table. If you come across a potential candidate and don't have a packet to give them, please send this chairman their contact information and a copy of the new "Invitation to Membership" packet will be sent to the club or plant society.

Last year this chairman's project was to contact about 270 plant societies and clubs inviting them to join CGCI. This year's project is to create a new clubs organization packet to help individuals wishing to start a new garden club. Any materials you have to share would be appreciated.

Speaking of new cubs, it is my pleasure to introduce our eight newest additions:

5 Clubs:

Sacramento Orchid Forum – 34 members – Sacramento River Valley District
President: Jose Rodriguez

Coastal Valley Orchid Society – 30 members - Montana de Oro District
President: Phil Rietz

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society – 185 members –
Arboretum District President: Buck Hemenway

*The next 2 groups changed from APS status to Club.

Orange County Geranium Society – 46 members – Orange County District
President: Candace Nakanishi

Conejo Valley Organic Garden and Herb Society – 53 members – Channel Islands District
President: Darcey Lober

1 APS:

Sonoma County Orchid Society – 80 members
President: Susan Anderson

2 Affiliates:

California Rare Fruit Growers
President: Rose Arbuckle

Northern California Camellia Society
President: Robert Ehrhart

Madam President, I move to ratify these eight new clubs.

Second Vice President, Communications Coordinator, Pat Clayes

eNewsletter – Five percent of the membership have subscribed to the eNewsletter which is sent monthly (and sometimes bi-monthly when important information needs to be sent). Please encourage your club members to subscribe. CGCI would like to get the other 95% signed-up!

Yearbook, Manual, Roster – Eight hundred were printed this year. Fifty extras are here at this board meeting. Please stop by the Hospitality Room and pick up one or two at \$7.00 each.

Educational Brochures – This chairman will be working on more educational brochures/pamphlets this fall (one on Blue Star which was created by George Unrine and one on Penny Pines which was created by Pat York). Chairmen are encouraged to send drafts of their brochures/pamphlets to this chairman or the chairman of the Public Relations Team, Julie West.

Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose – The contest has been postponed until Winter Board in Orange County.

Fall Board 2010 – As you can see, it is here! All of us in the Palms to Pines district hope that you are having fun and enjoying the Palm Springs area.

First Vice President, Julie West

Madame President:

The Bylaws & Policy Committee has already received several suggested Bylaws changes for consideration as well as proposed Standing Rules amendments. Both will be presented at Winter Board. Members of the Bylaws & Policy Committee are: Pat Clayes, Joan Craig, Rita Desilets, Jane McKee and Dolores Moffat.

It appears when the Policy Book was reduced in 2006 to the current 1 ½ pages in the yearbook, the procedure books were abandoned at the same time. As a result, we will be reviewing the 1999 Policy Book, what was eliminated and what should be brought back into the Policy section of the yearbook that isn't addressed in the current Bylaws and/or Standing Rules. This will then go the Advisory Council and Executive Committee for review and approval to recommend to the Board of Directors at the Pre-Convention Board Meeting in May 2011.

I want to share with you, as an individual member, some tips that may be of interest and relevant to various clubs/districts that I learned about fundraising this summer when attending "Board Member Boot Camp for Nonprofit Organizations." I am NOT presenting it as tax advice from CGCI nor do I represent myself as having formal tax preparation expertise and recommend that each club/district consult with their own local tax advisor.

RAFFLES: Selling tickets for raffles is considered "gaming" and California has a 90/10 rule stating only 10% of the expected raffle revenue may be used to purchase raffle prizes because 90% of the proceeds must be used to pursue your organization's

objectives. The trick is to have all raffle prizes "donated" that eliminates the 10% restriction to purchase prizes. Then the proceeds collected are able to be used toward pursuing your club or district's objectives.

Reference

For more information on our law, check out the **California Attorney Generals' website**

<http://ag.ca.gov/charities/faq.php#raffles>

See questions under *Raffles*

- 50/50 RAFFLE:** Illegal in the state of California. The 90/10 rule applies to 50/50 raffles, in which 50 percent of ticket-sale revenue is awarded as the prize and 50 percent of the revenue is retained by the organization conducting the raffle. 50/50 raffles are illegal because 90 percent of the gross ticket-sale revenue is not used for charitable purposes.
- WINE:** May NOT be offered as a raffle prize. Wine may only be auctioned.
- AUCTIONS:** Silent and live auctions are not considered gaming but the proceeds generated are subject to sales tax including white elephant sales, plant table sales, etc.

Both the IRS and State Franchise Tax Board are watching the above activities carefully. These are all popular fundraising activities in many clubs and districts. Please do not jeopardize your club's tax exempt status by violating any of these laws. For more detailed information on these subjects and more, visit the websites of the California Attorney General, IRS, State Franchise Tax Board and Board of Equalization to review the various publications available and consult with your own local tax advisor.

STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advisory Council, Robin Pokorski: The Advisory Council is comprised of former CGCI Presidents. We are here to advise and mentor when requested. The Council congratulates the CGCI Executive Committee and commends them for their work on behalf of CGCI.

Board of Trustees, Dave West, Secretary

This committee reviewed the restricted funds list to handle the Endowment Funds, more on that subject from Bob Gordon Chair of Endowment Committee. Copies of the updated list will be distributed at this meeting.

We also reviewed and approved the draft copy of our CPA reviewed statement. The final copy will be available by Winter Board.

The Scholarship committee also met and all is ready for the applications we will be receiving this fall. More on that later from the Scholarship Chairmen.

Budget & Finance Committee, Joelle Holford

The Budget & Finance Committee unanimously approved the CPA's draft of CGCI's reviewed 2009-2010 financial statement. Budget & Finance Committee recommends to the Policy Committee that the Policy Page 144 in 2010-2011 CGCI yearbook regarding grants and loans be updated to comply with the Restricted Fund Guidelines adopted at Convention.

Convention 2010 Westlake Village, Chairmen Jean Reiley & Beverly Brune

Thank you all who attended the convention in Westlake Village and for the lovely notes that were received. Total attendance was 314 – that included 285 registered attendees plus 29 locals who didn't register but came to help with the many jobs. Jean Reiley and Beverly Brune co-chaired the convention and early on it was decided on specific duties for each. This proved to be a good way to organize the many responsibilities. The report has been forwarded to the next convention chairman. We are pleased to present CGCI with a check for \$2,911 from the convention.

Convention 2011, Cathy Biggins, Co-Chairman: The 2011 Convention, May 15-19, will be held at the Double Tree Hotel in Rohnert Park. There will be a tri-refresher course beginning late Sunday afternoon and concluding with the field trip on Monday. On the 19th there will be a post-Convention overnight tour to the Mendocino Coast. That tour is being organized by GinaBelle Smith.

Endowment Committee, Robert Gordon

The Endowment Committee made the necessary bylaw changes to include the Endowments and sent them to the bylaw committee. Established a procedure for accepting memorial gifts into the endowments and acknowledging them. Verified Charter Donor recognition - Yearbook, *Golden Gardens*, Event at Convention 2011 and an event in San Luis Obispo.

The following recommendation was presented to the Board: To follow Principal Finances advice and invest the \$62,000 of our endowment scholarship funds into a "Diversified Portfolio of Fixed Income funds." Passed

Received checks for the endowments totaling \$1,000 for Planned Giving and \$600 for Scholarships.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND TEAM REPORTS

Angel Fund, Carol Mayo: Here is a quiz question for you new volunteers to California Garden Clubs, Inc. meetings. Who was Frances Frenzel? Many years ago, this wonderful lady came up with an idea to help keep *Golden Gardens* financially solvent. At the time, the publication needed to be subsidized by the general fund of CGCI. Angel Fund was born with her contributions and she became the "Head Angel" for many years. With your help in taking advantage of honoring a special member of your club who has a birthday, anniversary or in memory of a beloved member of the club, our *Golden Gardens* publication will remain "in the black." So please, get out your checkbooks and fill out the information for a special acknowledgment in *Golden Gardens*. Don't forget this is your opportunity to send Season's Greetings to all of your club members. Our current issue will give you the size and cost of your greeting.

Arbor Day, Lorraine Ornelas: This chairman is pleased to report that there has been an increase in Arbor Day activities. This includes clubs and districts who have planted trees in public parks, historic sites and sponsored poster contests and essay contests. Many club and districts have chosen to donate funds to various environmental agencies such as TreePeople, Arbor Day Foundation, Save the Seals, wildlife protection groups, to honor deceased members. The district directors have been given information in their mailboxes and I wish to quote a portion of the information. "For the homeowner, Arbor Day is an excellent opportunity to take stock of the trees on your property and plan for the future. Inspect your trees. Note any broken branches or evidence of insect infestation. Think about how planting new trees might improve the look of your property or provide wind or heat protection. Take a trip to your local nursery to see what's available and to get new ideas. Walk around your neighborhood. Are there any public areas where tree planting or tree maintenance might make a real difference to your community? Talk with your neighbors. Find out what their opinions are. And, oh yes, plant a tree." The pages for their handouts are titled "Arbor Day," "The Confusion about Arbor Day in California."

Associate Plant Societies, Dorothy Dempsey: This chairman has noted that 36 of the 55 Associate Plant Societies are up to date with their dues. This chairman has reached all of the 19 remaining societies by phone or email finding out that Conejo Valley Organic Garden and Herb Society wishes to become a club. Of the 18 other societies, eight got back to me saying that dues were on the way. We have 1956 members paid with 18 societies to be heard from.

Awards Finance, Winifred Archibald: Award Sponsor Statements for 2010 awards were mailed on July 28. Payment received from 40 sponsors totals \$3,410.00. Reminders will be sent to 4 sponsors for non-payment of \$225.00 total. The balance for the Awards Restricted Fund is \$7,706.44, including a carryover balance of \$4,377.64. Two 2009 awards sponsors recently passed away: Ruth Angevine, B-2, and Wilma Parker, C-2. George Unrine will sponsor B-2 for 2010. C-2 has a 100% carryover balance for 2010.

Backyard Habitat, Margaret Strachan: This chairman prepared an exhibit for the 2010 convention covering the basic requirements of a backyard habitat with additional displays about amphibians, bats, bees and butterflies. There was information about bird houses with one on display. There were pamphlets and flyers from several organizations, such as the National Wildlife Federation, the North American Butterfly Association, Bat Conservation International, The Opossum Society of the United States and the California Native Plant Society. Many of the pamphlets and flyers were picked up by convention attendees. Most recently this chairman has submitted an article possibly to be used on the website. The topic is: The Five Basic Elements Needed for a Backyard Habitat.

Blue Star Memorial Markers – Southern California, George Unrine: Ruth Angevine, past Blue Star Memorials (BSM) Chairman, passed away this summer. Her family asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Blue Star Memorial Fund. Donations to date have totaled \$215. This chairman will still accept additional donations. On June 12th a BSM Marker has been placed in Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery located in Pt. Loma above San Diego. The sponsor, Pt. Loma Garden Club in the Palomar District, provided an inspiring ceremony in honor of our country's service men and women and designed the succulent garden at the foot of the marker. There is one BSM Marker scheduled for dedication this fall by the Ceres Garden Club on October 2. It will be located at the Ceres Community Center. I would like to commend the Chico Garden Club for agreeing to work with the VFW Post in Portola. The post has expressed interest in acquiring a marker.

Butterflies, Jane Troutman: This is your big opportunity to become a famous wildlife photographer! The Pacific Region is offering all members of California Garden Clubs to participate in a competition for the best photograph and the best book of evidence of personal butterfly photos in the West. My deadline is October 20th. For more detailed information call me or email me at iris.Jane@roadrunner.com. My new phone number is 424-249-3441. So far they're offering only fame in WACONIAH; however just think of the fun you'll have chasing butterflies and placing their likenesses in the Halls of Garden Club Fame!

California Native & Invasive Plants, Donna Thomas: What is a native plant? Those that have not been introduced to a given area through the actions of humans. They are naturally adapted to their given area. What is a non-native plant? Those that occur outside their native ranges in a given place as a result of actions by humans. The term non-native can be used interchangeably with the terms alien, exotic, introduced and non-indigenous. Therefore, non-native plants can be thought of as foreign peoples who relocated to a new land. What is an invasive non-native plant? Those that spread, often very quickly, from their original point of introduction into surrounding natural ecosystems. The term invasive non-natives can be used interchangeably with wildland weeds, noxious weeds, or pest plants.

California Parks, Barbara Dodge: As a new chairman, I am still finding my way. The California Parks Foundation is an organization looking for members and supporters to help them establish a financial base for California's parks. A caution to those contributing financially to individual California parks, make sure your donation is getting to the right place, the park, not an overseer group. In the area near the Poppy Reserve, an outside group is trying to build a racetrack about a mile and half away. Locals are diligently fighting this.

Climate Change, Dwight Holford: Climate change has lost its sense of urgency because of all the other problems that are facing the world and our nation. But it has not gone away in any sense. It silently marches on. The world including California is keeping track. What are some of the climate change indicators? What does the EPA use for indicators? There has been no meaningful legislation at any level this last year. In fact, California will vote this fall on a proposition to delay the implementation of previously passed laws on reducing greenhouse gasses. Should CGCI adopt the position paper "CGCI supports strategies to slow climate change." As a delegate let your voice be heard.

Educational Schools Finances, Mary-Jo Noth: Flower Show School, Sacramento Valley District, requested and was approved for a CGCI grant for \$500 for course 1 from the Helen Minor restricted fund. Gardening Study School Series 21, Loomis, continues to be self-financing. Since Landscape Design School Series 23, sponsored by Palomar District, was profitable, the District has returned the grant amount of \$500 to the CGCI Eleanor Miller restricted fund. Series 24 Landscape Design School, Costa Verde District, requested and was approved for a grant from CGCI for \$500 for course 1 from the Eleanor Miller restricted fund. Environmental Studies School course 3 has not yet applied for a grant.

Flower Show Awards, Gudrun Kimmel: Guidelines for registering a flower show: inform the FS Awards Chairman, not the CGCI Awards Chairman, as soon as you have set a date of the following: name of Garden Club, number of members, show date, district, show title, location of show, contact information. If you wish to have the show evaluated, this chairman needs to have the following information at least three weeks in advance of the show: a list of judges that you have selected to judge your show. Only fully accredited judges can evaluate. The status of the judges is printed in the Judges Council rosters in our CGCI Yearbook.

Flower Show Judges Council, Judi Picinini: There are currently seven (7) Judges Councils in our state with a combined total of 108 judges (not including Student Judges). Of the 108 judges there are 35 Accredited, 15 Life, and 58 Master Judges. There are approximately 68 Emeritus Judges. A committee of four judges, working with recommendations from judges throughout the state, compiled the criteria for the new CGCI Judge of the Year Award. The first Judge of the Year will be announced at the Judges Council Banquet during the 2011 Convention. The criteria are in the hands of all Judges Council Chairmen. Also, entries have been received by this Chairman for the Flower Arranger of the Year Award. All photos must be taken in this awards year, 2010. Any member of CGCI may enter and more than one entry may be submitted.

Flower Show Symposia, Gloria Aminian: I am pleased to announce the next Symposium will be Thursday, April 28 through Saturday, April 30 at the Bakersfield DoubleTree Hotel, reservations made directly with the hotel will be \$89 per night. The Design and Allied Subject instructor is Harlin Turner. Stop-Look-Listen ...which will remind us what to look for in judging. Design Techniques will be the topic for the Allied Subject during which we will be shown Bundling and Weaving. The horticulture instructor is David Robson who will be teaching all about Daffodils & Heuchera. The brochures are about ready and will be going out shortly.

Garden Arts & Crafts, Janet Eyre: This Chairman would like all District Directors to go back to their Club Presidents and make sure all clubs have, and encourage all clubs to have, a Garden Arts & Crafts Chairman. A garden arts & crafts program in their clubs at least once a year, before the holidays at one of their fall meetings would be ideal to gift giving and making ideas. Remember all you grow in your yard or garden can be useable as some kind of garden art & craft project such as dried flowers, pine cones, nuts, seeds, leaves, berries, husks, seed pods and twigs are your media for garden arts and your cost for this craft is minimal – just add glue, Tacky Glue, Elmer's Glue or a hot glue gun is a great idea. So when you reap your harvest, think creative.

Gardening Study Schools (GSS), Greg Pokorski: Course III of Series 21, sponsored by Golden Foothills District, in Loomis is all set to take place next Tuesday & Wednesday, 9/21 & 9/22. There is still space available. Registration forms are available on the website or contact Local Chairman Patsy Jeffery or me. The list of Gardening Consultants, including their certificate expiration dates, has been updated in the Yearbook – we have 109 Gardening Consultants. See this chairman with any questions. We're looking for a district or club to sponsor Series 22. See the invitation on page 14 of the summer issue of *Golden Gardens*. There are suggestions for staging a GSS on page 22 of the summer issue of *The National Gardener*.

Home Grown, Myrtle Findley: This chairman has increased the financial awards for Best Green Recipe HT-3 to \$100 and has entered articles in *Golden Gardens* and the monthly Newsletter to support the Award. Also Home Garden HT-4 has been increased to \$100 in anticipation of more home gardens this year being planted by more garden club members. Those entering are encouraged to read the evaluation sheet before entering.

Honor Book, Cathy Biggins: Since our Convention in June, I have received \$770 in Honor Book donations from six individuals and four districts. Some of these were to honor members for the invaluable contribution of their time and talent, and some were in memory of the wonderful women we lost this summer.

Horticulture, Jim Bathgate: The design at the head table, courtesy of George Speer is composed of three kinds of persimmon relatives. The larger green fruit is *Disospyros kaki*, the edible persimmon. The small green fruit is or oriental date plum, *Diospyros lotus*, used as rootstock. The

small yellow fruit we call Golden Lotus, and unusual persimmon rootstock. We have some of each material available for sale. The major agriculture issues continue to be pest quarantines and water concerns. Significant quarantines continue to be the Light Brown Apple Moth and the European Grapevine Moth. When you live in or near quarantine areas familiarize yourself with the pest description. Report any suspicious pest to the local Ag Commissioner and observe quarantine protocol. **Bulb Report** – As most of you have heard or read, President Maryanne has located a nursery which will give garden clubs a discount on bulbs and a contribution to “Kids Growing Strong” based on orders. The bulbs selected are allium, amaryllis, daffodils, paper whites and bulbous iris. The bulb supplier is Sunshine Flower Bulbs and the website we need to order from is <http://happy.sunshineflowerbulb.com/coop.asp?coop=44542CDE10K>. The last date to order is October 27, 2010.

IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption, Chuck Goodwin: There are 123 Districts, Clubs and Affiliates participating in the program. For information go to the new CGCI website, click on the Club Service tab, then the 501(c)(3) tab. Those clubs and districts that are part of the 501(c)(3) Group Exemption program are under this tab, also. Participating Clubs have done an excellent job of filing the IRS Form 990-N (Electronic Postcard.) With the help of the CGCI Financial Advisor, only eight Clubs were listed on the IRS List of Organizations at Risk of Automatic Revocation. All have been contacted and are making their filings by November 15.

Landscape Design Credentials, Robert Schuler: Are you ready for some good news? In the last two years, your Landscape Design School Chairmen have recorded 162 CGCI students and 36 non-club members for a total of 198 students. Check your yearbooks to see if you need to take another class to finish the four classes to become a Consultant. Take more classes and become a Master Consultant! Inform your friends if you notice that they need to take more classes. You must refresh at one of our LD Schools every five years to maintain your accreditation. If you can't get to a class before the deadline, contact Alexis Slafer for a possible extension of time. Enjoy the Garden Patch Pointers and please send in questions to RHSchuler@frontier.com (this is a change from Verizon.net).

Landscape Design Study Program, Alexis Slafer: The Costa Verde District is sponsoring the next Landscape Design Study Program – Series 24, with Course 1 scheduled for November 4 & 5, 2010; with Course 2 to be held on January 27 & 28, 2011. The school will take place at the South Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula. The full course will be completed within one year. Look for handouts about the Landscape Design Study Program in your mailbox and on the CGCI website.

Legislation/Government, Chuck Goodwin: Important Election This November – This Chairman reported on the November, 2010, statewide election. Offices to be filled include one US Senator, all US Representatives, all California Constitutional officers, all State Assemblymembers and State Senators in even numbered districts. Additionally there are nine statewide ballot measures and, depending on the district, many local candidates and issues.

Liability Insurance, Gloria Aminian: Great news for our insurance. The rates are going lower!!! The cost per person will be \$.75 per club member for the new insurance year starting February 15, 2011. The Restricted Insurance Fund still has too much money so we'll have another year of wonderful prices. The minimum cost per club changes to \$20 while the Additional Insured Certificate remains at \$20. If any club would like to receive their insurance packet by email, send your email address to me at CGCIInsurance@bak.rr.com by October 1 so I have time to get the addresses into my address book.

Life Memberships, Carlotta Wixon: There has not been much in the way of activity since the Convention in June, but pleased that five (5) people have become CGCI Life Members and one (1) has become a National Life Member since that time. This Chairman presumes business will pick up after the first of the year, or closer to the approach of the end of terms. As always, this chairman has submitted articles to *Golden Gardens* and had a display set up at the convention, with applications available. New forms were distributed to all District Directors, which, hopefully, have been given to their Club Presidents. This chairman has received a few calls for applications, which were immediately sent out.

This chairman looks forward to receiving new applications, and promises a quick turnaround in the processing. Below are the names to be ratified (Recording Secretary's note: these were not presented for ratification at the FBM):

CGCI

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Durgerian, Ann | Sierra Madre G.C. | Arboretum Dist. |
| Doremus, Dorothy | Las Jardineras G.C. | Santa Clara Valley Dist. |
| Campbell, Cecile | Desert Rose GC of CA.City | Desert Empire Dist. |
| Switzer, Beverly | Conejo Valley G. C. | Channel Islands Dist. |
| Davis, Grace | Burbank-Valley G.C. | San Fernando Valley Dist. |
| NATIONAL | | |
| Giacomazzi, Lilia | La Casa G.C. | Sequoia Foothills Dist. |

Member Award of Distinction Program, Mary-Jo Noth: Publicity for this program continues on the CGCI website and in an illustrated article on page 24 of the Summer 2010 *Golden Gardens*. Since Convention, Sharon Thorne has been honored by the North Lake Garden Club, and Mary Tornborg by the Carlsbad Garden Club. An informational e-mail about the Program has been sent to the CGCI District Directors to inform them that they too could honor members of distinction.

National Garden Week, Victoria Lucido: Where would you be without your garden activities to enjoy? Where would gardens be without you as ambassadors to the community? Part of being an NGC member is making the public aware of our efforts. We also bring important information to

them and this identifies our mission as members of NGC. What have you personally been doing to remind our friends and neighbors of our efforts? Our National President's theme for National Garden Week is "The World Around Us – Love It, Beautify It, Protect It." Each state and garden club needs to issue a proclamation. Whatever the activity, keep area newspapers informed and get maximum publicity. Don't forget the first week in June.

NGC Schools Team, Greg Pokorski:

The Schools Team met and included in discussion that we will review the old Policy Book's schools and councils provisions and will submit updates to the Bylaws & Policy Committee. We discussed the proposed grant program. The team expressed concern that two team members who have multiple (CGCI) duties/roles are no longer listed with the team in the Yearbook and are not represented at our meetings. We will however seek the input of these chairmen, Shane Looper (Environmental Studies Schools) and Mary-Jo Noth (Educational Schools Finance). We developed some preliminary ideas regarding distributing grant funds in \$250-\$500 increments, but would encourage CGCI to provide a template and/or additional direction regarding the objectives and process of grant distribution, and we also have concerns about the time frame for announcing and completing this activity by mid-May. We will work with the Financial Security Team to seek further clarification.

Penny Pines, Pat York: Reporting on donations which clubs and members have purchased since last report, everyone is coming through with 110% participation. In June, when many clubs were shutting down for summer break, I was totally overwhelmed. I thought I would never get to the end of the many notices from our clubs of plantations that were purchased. I'm sure that Lynne Hansen, our *Golden Gardens* editor, was also overwhelmed. Club members, their friends, and even non-garden club members all donated many pennies, dollars really, to this great reforestation project. As we start another year of garden clubbing, let's pick up where we left off and continue our support of our Forest Service in their quest to replant the many burned areas of our Calif. forests where, deer, elk, bear, birds of all kinds, and all the other many kinds of wildlife make their homes. The fires have already begun so you need to get out your pennies, dollars really, and let's work together to keep California green & beautiful. If you are fortunate enough to live within driving distance of one of the forest service nurseries where the trees are grown to replant the burned out areas of our forest, please plan a special day and go and take a tour of these nurseries to see first-hand how these little trees are propagated to help keep California green and beautiful.

Permanent Files, Rita Desilets: The CGCI Permanent Files are being kept safely in a designated closet in my home. Additions to the files are welcomed and may be made at any time.

Program and Speaker Registry, Denise Davis, Co-chairman (Northern California): Since this committee was formed a year ago, letters and forms were sent out to the district directors of northern California in September 2009 and January 2010, requesting their participation in compiling the Speaker & Program Registry. Eight out of fourteen districts responded and 13 out of approx. 150 clubs responded (note: Golden Foothills District sent in their own program registry). The completed lists of programs were sent out in March. Emails were received from 2-3 district directors stating they loved having it and one who said she thought it was "a waste of time". No further feedback was received. Letters and forms will be placed in the directors boxes at this fall meeting.

Propagation "Free Plants", Lee Bathgate: Propagating Bulbs by Chipping and Scaling – Chipping and scaling are a useful method of propagating large or unusual bulbs to produce bulblets. For chipping, a bulb is trimmed of roots and stem and cut into segments each with a piece of the base. The segments are treated with a fungicidal solution and placed in a plastic bag or box of moist vermiculite or 50/50 peat and perlite. Scaling is used for lilies or fritillaries. The scales are pulled from the outside of the bulb and treated as for chipping. Bulblets usually appear at 12 weeks and when potted will produce flowers after 2 to 4 years.

Public Relations Team: Approved idea presented by Pat York for Penny Pines flyer to send to Pat Clayes. Use the Blue Star Memorial Marker brochure George Unrine presented – Pat Clayes and he will refine. \$1,000 for 5 areas: Past CGCI Projects – 2 @ \$50 (\$100); Reforestation – 4 @ \$50 (\$200); Arbor Day – 2 @ \$125 (\$250); Blue Star Memorial – 3 @ \$100 (\$300); National Garden Week – 3 @ \$50 (\$150) for a total of \$1,000.

Reimagine, Emily Bueermann: Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the CGCI inaugural "Reimagine" Chair, which originated in response to remarks by President Maryanne Lucas during last June's annual convention, involving CGCI "reimagining" itself to appeal to members in the same way that the Getty Villa, toured by our members, was updated. The Reimagine Chair coordinates the process for CGCI's brand collective identity (its mission, objectives and vision) to be viewed as relevant in the lives of California gardeners and their respective communities. How can we make our garden clubs more relevant to attract members? We're eager to hear your views!

Roses, Jolene Adams: Roses Will Soon Be 'Homeless.' Have you noticed? A whole lot of nurseries that specialize in one or two types of flowers are going out of business. Competition with foreign growers and marketers is cited most often. It just costs too much to "farm" in California!! One of the small nurseries you might like to keep around is Burlington Nursery in Visalia. This is a new retail, wholesale and mail order rose nursery owned by Burling Leong who used to work for Ralph Moore – the 'Father of Miniature Roses.' The nursery comprises two acres, nestled among walnut, fruit and citrus trees. It is a retail and wholesale grower of roses, perennials and shrubs. Visitors are welcome by appointment only. Please call or email to make arrangements for a visit. Printed Catalog sent on request. 24865 Road 164, Visalia, California 93292, (559) 747-3624 [Information], (559) 747-3624 [Fax], (559) 747-3624 [Ordering], burlingtonroses.com Types of Roses: Hybrid Teas, Floribundas, Teas, Polyanthas, Shrub Roses, Miniatures, Miniature Tree Roses, and Three Foot Tree Standards. Size Containers: 3 inch Square Pot, 5 Inch Band, 5 Inch Round Pot, One Gallon

and Two Gallon Containers. Other Plants: Perennials and Ornamentals. Shipping by Priority Mail (Retail) Fed Ex and UPS (Wholesale). Shipping Days: Monday and Tuesday. But best of all ... she sells Robin's Rose!!!

Sempervirens Fund, Rosa Radicchi: Thank you to CGCI for their donation of \$500 for a Memorial Tree in honor of CGCI Past Presidents from 2000-2010. Dedication ceremony is being planned. To-date we have collected \$9,085.00 towards Grove #10, a 2.5 acre grove; with \$2,105.00 received from Jan 1, 2010 thru Aug 31, 2010. Sempervirens Fund endorses the California State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act of 2010, a measure scheduled for the November ballot and asks you to please consider it when voting. Thank you again for your support. I encourage you, your family & friends to visit Big Basin or a redwood forest near you soon!

State Pins & Miscellaneous Items, Gail Vanderhorst, Co-Chairman: The CGCI State Pins and Miscellaneous Sales were received from the previous chairman in good order and are ready to sell. They were inventoried and cataloged and will be available for sale at the Fall and Winter Board Meetings and at the annual CGCI Convention. A fill-in form has been prepared and placed on the CGCI website for easy ordering. Each District Director has been given an order form for each club in his/her district. This should facilitate ordering from the district and local levels.

Water Conservation in Home & Garden, Carole Lung: Desalination in Southern California! Currently Carlsbad, CA is installing a desalination plant next to their power plant. <http://www.carlsbad-desal.com/videos/chap1.html> for details that help the general public understand how the system works. The City of Huntington Beach (HB) is also in the process of having a plant next to the local power plant. It is essential that we citizens of California understand the value of potable water and where it comes from. In the late 60's/early 70's the Orange County Water district opened water station 21 as a prototype plant to process sea water. Due to the spike in the price energy, it was never used to process sea water, rather it processes already treated sewage water (actually drinkable but not allowed for drinking by state health laws). The treated water was treated again through an osmosis system, then percolated into the aquifer. That system was a prototype for the 'desal' plants around the world. Today the system has been upgraded and water continues to be purified and returned to the aquifer. Currently the city of HB is working with the Poseidon Company to erect a plant & the City Council is in the process of contracting with this company to bring desal water to our area. Environmental impact: <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/Planning/major/poseidon.cfm>. You also might like to take a water quiz. It applies to HB, but it will give you an idea of how we use our water. The population of HB is about 200,000. If you live in coastal communities a desal plant may be in your future. http://www.ci.huntington-beach.ca.us/Government/Departments/Public_Works/utilities/Quiz

Webmaster, Lynne Hansen:

Blogs: Get your User Name and password and start blogging. If you are not yet been set up to blog, just let me know and I will be happy to set you up. If you can email, you can blog. I hear how easy it is.

Chairman: There have been 15 submissions for websites and there are 7 clubs now with a website on board with us and 2 Districts, Golden Foothills and Palomar.

Hit Stats: Just in one week 7658. RSS Feed, Calendar, Member/Clubs, & Club Services most hit.

Youth Horticulture, Harry Dedini: Nothing positive to report at this time. Our Mission Statement: California Garden Clubs, Inc. promotes gardening, floral design, civic beautification, environmental responsibility and the exchange of information and ideas. (Between garden club members) We need to outreach this great source of experience and knowledge to the public and especially young people. Youth are the future. We waste a lot of time and resources patting ourselves on the back and attending meetings that accomplish nothing. The old dog told the puppy, barking at the tree stump, that it would not answer. Find another use for the tree.

Youth Team, Beverly Switzer: The Youth Team met and established and approved guidelines for the Team's \$1000.00 grant. The following new youth groups are presented for ratification

Redding Wonderland Garden Club Youth Group...12 members...sponsored by Redding Wonderland Garden Club of Cascade District.

Myrtle Farm Montessori Garden Project ...30 members...sponsored by Clayton Valley Garden Club of Diablo Foothills District.

As yet to be named a Georgetown Elementary School group...100 members...sponsored by Divide Garden Club of Golden Foothills District.

The Centipedes of Twelve Bridges Elementary School...20 members...sponsored by Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club of the Golden Foothills District.

I move the above Junior garden groups be Ratified.

CGCI 2010 Fall Board Meeting, Palm Springs – Attachment D

LANDSCAPE DESIGN COUNCIL REPORT, MARY LOU GOODWIN:

- July 17 Fred Cline of Cline Cellars, 24737 Arnold Dr. Highway 121, Sonoma, CA in the Luther Burbank District at the Cline Wine & Dixieland Jazz Festival. Recommended by Mary Lou Goodwin, Landscape Design
- August 19 City of Eureka and Mayor Virginia Bass for the Sequoia Park Zoo and Gardens at 3414 W St. Eureka, CA at the Eureka Chamber of Commerce meeting at the Zoo. Recommended by Ann Van Zandt, and Mary Lou Goodwin, LD Consultants and Sue Moran, Eureka Sequoia Garden Club President. Humboldt District
- September 15 Davidson Hotel Company, Memphis, TN for The Hyatt Regency Suites Palm Springs located at 285 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262 during the Fall Board Meeting of California Garden Clubs, Inc. Recommended by Pat Claves, LDC Palms to Pines District
- September 22 Dr. Warren Frankel, owner, Sculpterra Winery & Sculpture Garden at 5015 Linne Road, Paso Robles, CA 93446 during the Montana De Oro District meeting. Recommended by Chuck Goodwin, Parliamentarian, and Mary Lou Goodwin LDC
- September 22 Les Toma, owner of TomaScapes, garden designer for the Sculpterra Winery and Sculpture Garden at 5015 Linne Road, Paso Robles, CA 93446 during the Montana De Oro District meeting. Recommended by Chuck Goodwin, Parliamentarian, & Mary Lou Goodwin LDC
- September 27 Professor William Homy, Landscape and Nursery Technology of Southwestern College for the South Bay Botanic Garden at 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista during the Palomar District Board Meeting at the Garden. Recommended by Jane McKee, DD, George & Dee Dee Speer, LD Consultants.
- September 30 Mark Scribner Family for the Scribner Bend Vineyards at 9051 River Road, Sacramento, CA 95732 during the Sacramento River Valley District Meeting. Recommended by Debbie Chan, District Director and Mary Lou Goodwin, LDC.

DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS

Bay Ocean, Nancy McDougal: The clubs begin this year's activities with a variety of community outreach, floral classes, luncheons and programs relating to gardening and the environment. Most are struggling with the diminishing (personal) strengths and, in some cases, numbers of members; but, the commitment to keep as much variety and interest in the meetings has kept the members both busy and encouraged. The District 'president's coffee' introduced us all to each other & reviewed guidelines/timetables for clubs, district & CGCI activities. As our members age it seems that 'gardening keeps you young'---both physically and mentally, to judge by the vitality with which they work and play.

Channel Islands, Carol Amenta: Members of the Conejo Valley Garden Club program plan include herbs, bare roots, native gardening, native wildlife rehabilitation, field trips, hands-on workshop decorating bird houses and making teacup bird feeders, a mini flower show to learn rules of flower arranging and hosting a standard flower show planned for 2012, their famous Afternoon Tea, a garage sale/plant sale, continue the Senior Concerns Workshops, Flowers for Senior Concerns and Thousand Oaks Earth Day. Project "Grandparents and Grandkids Growing Strong with Gardening" will foster a love of gardening and nature.

Costa Verde, Ruth Brooker: Our clubs engage in this district are using mugs at meetings, they are making an effort to go green in many other ways. All the clubs received a Blue Ribbon certificate at the last convention as well as several other awards, a couple received money. In November we are sponsoring a Landscape Design School. The rest of the courses will be in the months of January, March and September of 2011. Alexis Slafer, CGCI Chairman, is working with us and our members are enthusiastic about having it here in our district.

Desert Empire, Joanne Latimer: After a very hot summer, we are all looking forward to the upcoming year. One of the biggest concerns for most of our members, the price of water in our valley is due to almost double very soon. We have all tried to conserve water through the years, however, this increase in price is quite disturbing. The local community is starting to plan a "Wildflower Festival" for the spring. Delegates from the local clubs have volunteered to work on this project. It should prove to be challenging and also, very interesting. At the suggestion of a member of the district, a few of our clubs are exploring the idea of changing the format of the yearbooks. The idea is to use a loose-leaf type book so that just certain pages can be changed as needed. This may be more cost effective. It will be interesting to see how this may work. One of our clubs has come up with the idea of having a drawing of the members present at the regular meeting for a plant potted from one of our yards. Hopefully this may increase the attendance.

Diablo Foothills District: Sandy Rogers: Thank you for allowing this Director of Diablo Foothill District (DFD) to serve on the California Garden Clubs Board. DFD has had a very productive summer of bringing its 12 Garden Clubs, including newly CGCI ratified club, the Northern Calif. Camellia Society and 5 affiliates together. During the DFD new board/old board meeting in July a cookbook fundraiser was decided upon and has already gone to print. As many as 150 garden club members submitted their favorite recipes. To encourage appreciation of natural beauty of our District and State, a DFD Delta Tour was voted on and will set sail on October 7, 2010 with approximately 65 DFD club members on board for a 3 hour commentary by a naturalist, learning about this specialized river system and why it's important to California's entire state ecosystems and at the same time viewing the beautiful scenery of the Delta.

Humboldt, Donna Haddock, Co-Director: Old traditions are 'reconstituted.' The Humboldt County Fair opening was kicked off with the hosting of the Preview Gala Night by Ferndale GC. This club fundraiser had discontinued for a number of years, but fortunately the time was ripe for its revival. A \$20 admit fee gave each ticket bearer a monogrammed wine glass with unlimited samples of North Coast Wines, hors d'oeuvres, conversation, and viewing of ribbon winners and contestants in the Fine Arts, photography, sculpture, and garden/flower competitions. Wonderful evening. All clubs have been busy with garden tours, honoring local gardeners and their supporters, and raising funds, including donating to a local school to buy text books! The Humboldt District Garden Clubs dug deep into its archives and discovered our 501 (c) 5 non-profit paperwork! Whew! We're relieved to have efficient people such as Chuck and Mary Lou Goodwin handling filings and details. With the weather's cooperation, garden-clubbers will be busy in their gardens as well as their communities throughout the Fall.

Roadrunner, Clara Petrosky: We lost a club. We will continue to invite them to join their sister clubs and district meetings in hopes that they will reconsider. A new club is planning to meet and elect officers this month. A program "Organic Gardening" was presented to the public at the local library. Hopefully this will be the start of a relationship that will provide gardening programs to the High Desert Community. Presently the clubs are working on their 9/11 community programs. A standard flower show will take place in October. Our publicity campaign will include a flower show workshop in the town libraries. The theme is "how to participate in a flower show". Three additional youth clubs were ratified at the State Convention in June. Our total is 6. The programs for the upcoming year are varied, entertaining and informative. It should be a great year for learning and sharing.

Santa Clara Valley, Sara White: San Jose GC continues to maintain a public strip of land, planted with 200 roses, in So. San Jose. The Gardeners' Club had great programs: Designing Your Edible Front Yard by Lisa McAndrews, Golden Love spoke on simple grey water systems for landscape & garden irrigation, Patty Connole showed fun gardening tips as they watched a DVD, "Great Gardening Tips" by Steve Brookes, a popular British TV gardening host & author, Creating Aromatic Gardens by Elizabeth Jones, author of *Awaken to Healing Fragrance*.

Mt. View GC members visited trees in Cuesta Park they had donated over 15 years, only to find half of them – the others must have died, possibly due to getting too much water. In September they will be given a tour of the Charles St. Gardens in Sunnyvale. A Santa Cruz GC member personally worked on a project for 5 years with the City of Watsonville, Santa Cruz County & the Army Corps of Engineers to gain approval for the levee vegetation project in her senior housing development. They are now taking donations to fund staff to keep the weeds down. South Valley Fleurs are on their way to becoming a 501(c)3. New programs: an educational grant to 3 elementary schools to help teachers include gardening in their curriculum and a wildflower planting project – in January, members will spread seeds on the roadside of Morgan Hill to beautify the run course for the 1000 Wildflower Run participants in the annual 2.5, 10K races. Sunnyvale GC is trying a new meeting format by having a board meeting one week prior to regular monthly meetings to take care of most of the business. They have a new ad poster and a new newsletter. Las Jardineras GC helped the San Jose Municipal Rose Garden win back its accreditation and be voted “The Best Rose Garden in America” by pruning its roses. So far the district has received three responses to its request to participate in an educational grant program whereby \$1,750 will be distributed from the estate of Arleen Chasson, former member of Furyu Floral Designers. The deadline is October 4.

Sequoia Foothills, Carolyn Villi: For most areas in California Spring Comes in March & April, for our Sequoia Foothills District, here in the San Joaquin Valley, it all begins in September with our first District meeting. That's when our members come together to celebrate the ending of summer and the beginning of a new year for our Sequoia Foothills Garden Clubs. Our garden clubs seem to be concentrating on youth programs, horticulture, gardening, home vegetable gardens and workshops this year. Yes fall in our valley is the very best time for trimming, planting, landscaping, and building memberships and new friends for us all.